



LYTTON PARK RESIDENTS' ORGANIZATION INC.
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City Council Meeting September 30, 2020

Agenda Item IE15.11: Request to get Bike Lanes in Midtown along Yonge Street

There is no doubt that COVID-19 has changed the way we live. As the city re-opens, we have concerns about our ability to get around safely, especially along major transit corridors, where physical distancing will be challenging on subways and buses.

In Midtown, before the pandemic, 450,000 people used the Line 1 Yonge subway. During the reopening, if even a fraction of people who used transit opt for cars, our roadways would seize. As Mayor Tory has said, "We need a relief valve for transit." And in Midtown, that means a bikeway on Yonge Street is needed as soon as possible.

A bikeway on Yonge will relieve pressure on the Yonge subway and provide people with a safe alternative to transit, will offer an affordable and healthy way to get around, and will help local businesses recover by bringing more customers to street level. In Midtown, pre-pandemic, fewer than 33% of residents commuted by car – the majority favoured transit and active transportation. A safe, protected bikeway on Yonge will encourage people to transition to cycling and free up capacity on the subway and buses for those who have no alternative.

There is ample room for a protected bikeway in Midtown. CafeTO installations along Yonge would benefit from a protected bikeway providing a safety buffer between patio seating and vehicle traffic. Our local businesses are already experiencing a surge in people shopping by bike.

ActiveTO has shown us that Toronto can quickly implement innovative solutions for active transportation as part of the pandemic recovery. **We ask that Midtown also benefit from ActiveTO innovation with a bikeway on Yonge.**

Thank you for your consideration,

Maureen Kapral
Vice-President, Lytton Park Residents' Organization

c: Mayor John Tory
Councillors
Cycle Toronto Midtown, midtown@cycleto.ca

The Lytton Park Residents' Organization ("LPRO") is an incorporated non-profit association, representing member households from Lawrence Avenue West to Roselawn and Briar Hill Avenues, Yonge Street to Saguenay and Proudfoot Avenue.

<https://lpro.wordpress.com>