

IE15.9.1

From: [Gideon Forman](#)
To: [Infrastructure and Environment](#)
Subject: My comments for 2020.IE15.9 on September 17, 2020 Infrastructure and Environment Committee
Date: September 10, 2020 11:49:51 PM

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the September 17, 2020 Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting on item 2020.IE15.9, Improving Toronto's Bike Share Program

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

On behalf of the David Suzuki Foundation, I am writing to offer strong support for the proposal to improve Bike Share. We believe it essential – for many reasons – to give residents alternatives to the private gas-burning automobile. One excellent alternative is, of course, the bicycle. We applaud city council for building out the bike lane network this year. We are also delighted to see proposed enhancements to Bike Share. The proposal to increase the overcharge threshold to 45 minutes will make the program more attractive and likely bring in new customers. The proposal to implement a low-cost option will extend Bike Share's accessibility to low-income residents and help accomplish the city's equity goals.

We believe that cycling checks a whole range of "boxes": it improves air quality, promotes physical fitness, helps to bust traffic congestion and of course reduces greenhouse gas emissions. It is also extremely cost effective. The new Danforth bike lane, for example, cost very little to install and is already moving over 4,000 people a day. Anything that can safely promote additional cycling is commendable – including the proposals the Committee is considering on Bike Share. We urge you to approve them.

Thank you.

Yours,

Gideon Forman

Climate Change and Transportation Policy Analyst

The David Suzuki Foundation