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December 2, 2021

To: Infrastructure and Environment Committee

Re: Reviewing a pedestrian-cycling bridge over Allen Road

SUMMARY:

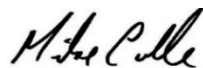
During the pandemic, cycling has increased across the City and more spaces encouraging active transportation and supporting the overall wellbeing of residents through cycling, walking, and jogging, have been urgently needed.

An opportunity exists to close a critical gap in between two of the City's great multi-use trails: the York Beltline Trail and Kay Gardner Beltline Trail are divided by the Allen Expressway and are widely used by pedestrians and cyclists alike. A pedestrian-cycling bridge spanning across the Allen would ultimately form a continuous, 9 kilometre park within the City, west of the Allen all the way to Mount Pleasant Road closing a significant missing link. This east-west connection would enhance the City's Cycling Network Plan which seeks to connect gaps and grow the current cycling network across the City.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. City Council request that the General Manager, Transportation Services undertake a preliminary review to understand the feasibility, constraints/impacts and cost of a pedestrian-cycling bridge over Allen Road to connect the York Beltline Trail and Kay Gardner Beltline Trail.

Thank you,



Mike Colle
Toronto City Councillor
Ward 8, Eglinton-Lawrence