



May 25, 2021

Jennifer McKelvie  
Chair, Infrastructure and Environment Committee  
10th floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2  
[iec@toronto.ca](mailto:iec@toronto.ca)

**RE: IE22.11 Cycling Network Plan - 2021 Cycling Infrastructure Installation - Second Quarter Update**

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

Among several recommendations in the *Cycling Network Plan - 2021 Cycling Infrastructure Installation - Second Quarter Update* are two projects within Ward 2- Etobicoke Centre; Martin Grove Road and Rathburn Road.

I have followed these initiatives closely for the past year, and have spent considerable time speaking with residents and studying their comments regarding the impacted roadways carefully through the seasons. Both of these streets have closely spaced houses with driveways, and several conflict points with the proposed infrastructure have prompted concerns.

Both the staff-led public consultation and my own consultation and interaction with residents along the routes indicate that the vast majority of residents in the vicinity of the projects are opposed to the introduction of precast concrete or flexi-post barriers for very specific reasons.

Concerns were raised about operations, maintenance, snow clearing, safety and sightline obstructions. Residents recognize these routes are infrequently used by cyclists, and have found the proposed barrier installations to be disproportionate to the low cycling ridership, and to the various negative impacts from the barriers.

The former City of Etobicoke installed bicycle lanes along this stretch of Rathburn Road prior to amalgamation. Upgraded recently in 2020, the wide-buffered bike lanes are currently functioning well despite very low ridership and therefore, I am asking that they remain as-is. I am certain that this is the overwhelming wish of the majority living nearby and most impacted.

Despite extremely low ridership, I support the staff proposed "Option B" from the consultation, which is the installation of new buffered bicycle lanes along the entire length of the Martin Grove Road segment. I am certain that this road improvement is supported by the majority living nearby who support new bikeways.

Through this letter, I am also asking that staff accelerate the safety review of Rathburn Road as requested in EY19.12, and that the consultation and planning of other cycling opportunities further west along Rathburn Road be accelerated because there are none there today.



Therefore I recommend to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee that:

1. **Infrastructure and Environment Committee amend recommendation 1 c by replacing the words "40 metres north of Donalbert" with "Rathburn" so that it reads as follows:**

**c. Martin Grove Road (from Rathburn Road to 92 metres north of Burhamthorpe Road).**

2. **Infrastructure and Environment Committee delete recommendation 2 e.**

**Recommendation to be deleted:**

**e. Martin Grove Road (from Rathburn Road to 40 metres north of Donalbert Road);**

3. **Infrastructure and Environment Committee refer recommendation 2 g back to the General Manager, Transportation Services for further consideration.**

**Recommendation to be referred back:**

**g. Rathburn Road (from Martin Grove Road to 100 metres east of The East Mall).**

4. **City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services, to accelerate review of the speed limit on Rathburn Road as requested through EY19.12.**
5. **City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services, to accelerate planning and consultation work on various potential bikeways near Rathburn Road and Centennial Park Boulevard.**

Sincerely,



Stephen Holyday  
Deputy Mayor  
Councillor - Ward 2  
Etobicoke Centre