



Safe streets  
Healthy city  
Vibrant voice

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December 2, 2021  
Mayor John Tory and Toronto City Council  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mayor Tory and City Councillors,

**RE: IE26.11 - Cargo E-bike Pilot**

On June 7th, 2021 Cycle Toronto sent a letter of support for IE22.15 - Regulatory Clarity for Cargo E-bikes. This came after Cycle Toronto co-signed [Pembina Institute's letter](#) dated July 2020 to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee showing support for regulatory clarity to allow pedal-assist cargo e-bikes, also known as e-cargo bikes or e-cargo cycles. E-cargo cycles can reduce congestion, make our streets safer, cleaner, and greener, and allow businesses to operate more efficiently.

Cycle Toronto is supportive of the staff recommendations brought forward under IE26.11 - Cargo E-bike Pilot, including the recommendations to:

**Cycle Toronto supports the motion to:**

- Amend the by-laws to opt-in to a provincial pilot that allows the use of cargo power-assisted bicycles outlined in the report titled "Cargo E-bike Pilot", running until March 2026
- Amend the definition of a "large cargo power-assisted bicycle or tricycle" to include "a continuous output power not exceeding 500 watts and weighing more than 120 kilograms unladen"
- Continue to "allow cargo e-bikes on roads, bike lanes, and cycle tracks, as well as permission to park like other commercial vehicles in designated on-street commercial loading and delivery zones"
- Support authorizing the General Manager, Transportation Services, to develop and implement agreements with large cargo e-bike participants to ensure safety and data collection for evaluating the success of pilot Cargo E-bike projects at the municipal and provincial levels

These recommendations are aligned with those identified in IE26.16 - TransformTO - Critical Steps for Net Zero by 2040.

We look forward to seeing e-cargo cycles on our streets, whether they are used by families, by couriers and urban freight, or for first- and last-mile logistical trips. E-cargo cycles can be a game changer towards shifting toward zero emission deliveries in both the downtown core and the inner suburbs. The sustainability and flexibility that e-cargo cycles bring as a convenient and cost-efficient option for deliveries will be a boon for businesses and consumers alike.

As more e-cargo cycles are adopted during this pilot program, Cycle Toronto would encourage City of Toronto Transportation Services to review its Bikeway Design Guidelines to ensure high-quality cycling infrastructure that can accommodate e-cargo cycles is part of bikeway projects going forward.

**Toronto can be a leader in creating a more sustainable urban freight sector.**

Let's keep this momentum going.



Keagan Gartz  
Executive Director, Cycle Toronto

*Cycle Toronto is a member-supported charitable organization that works to make Toronto a healthy, safe and vibrant cycling city for all. We are focused on advocacy, education and encouragement, as we work to shape policy and infrastructure, and build community to transform our city's cycling culture.*

