

From: [Deborah Green](#)
To: [Budget Committee](#)
Cc: [Councillor Perks](#)
Subject: Comments on city budget
Date: Sunday, January 23, 2022 10:27:28 PM

Please accept these comments on Toronto's upcoming budget from Parkdale High-Park for Climate Action. We are a group of environmentalists living in Ward 4. There are a number of areas related to transportation which we would like to see properly funded this year in order to reduce emissions and meet our TransformTO commitments.

Toronto's TransformTO plan lists transportation as one of our top 3 sources of emissions. Cycling, walking and use of public transit reduce emissions from transportation produced by passenger cars. Such measures are also relatively inexpensive compared to other city services. In addition to emission reduction, active transportation has spillover benefits. Cycling and walking support and encourage healthy local business areas. Research shows that business areas which have introduced bike lanes have seen an increase in sales on their shopping strips. In addition to contributing to the life of the city, thriving local businesses provide an important source of tax revenue to Toronto. Specifically we ask for the completion of the following routes from the 2021 Toronto Bike Plan:

- Weston Road (from Church to Eglinton)
 - Don Mills – Overlea – Broadview (from Eglinton to Danforth, though other streets such as Pape or Donlands could be considered)
 - Dundas Street West (from Aukland to The East Mall)
 - Yonge Street (from Finch Hydro Corridor to Steeles)
 - **completion of the Bloor West extension from Runnymede to Six Point**
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We would also suggest that plans for dedicated bus lanes be expedited and expanded. We know a healthy city needs an efficient transit system and prioritizing transit users over passenger cars achieves benefits for the transit system and for the environment. Specifically we ask that the Priority B and C bus lanes be added to Priority A. Specifically:

- Jane Street
- Steeles Avenue West, Finch Avenue East, Dufferin Street and Lawrence East

The types of transportation mentioned above do best alongside compact and concentrated housing, which also reduces emissions. Buildings are also identified as one of our top 3 emitters by TransformTO. Numerous world cities e.g. Paris, are working toward what is called the "15 Minute City". The "15 minute City" is a model of concentrated housing in proximity to

shops and other amenities which allow citizens to drive less or go car-free.

Debbie Green

for

[Parkdale High-Park for Climate Action](#)