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July 6, 2022

To the Chair McKelvie and Members of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee,

Re: Monitoring Traffic Congestion

Now that the COVID-19 pandemic is receding in the rear view mirror, people are returning to their regular travel patterns. Along with this we are seeing an increase in traffic congestion. While some traffic congestion is to be expected, many residents are experiencing much longer travel times compared to pre-COVID conditions, which will likely worsen as more people return to the workplace.

INRIX, a company that collects and analyses global data on traffic and congestion, found that in 2021 Toronto was the most congested city in Canada, the 22nd worst congested city in the world, and drivers lost 74 hours in traffic.

Traffic congestion patterns and trends must be monitored to fully understand changes in residents' ability to move about the city.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Infrastructure and Environment Committee request the General Manager, Transportation Services:

1. To report every two years on traffic congestion levels in Toronto, starting in Q2 2023, and,
2. Include data on time spent in traffic for major routes within the City, with comparative data for previous years.

Sincerely,

Denzil Minnan-Wong
Deputy Mayor and Councillor, Ward 16 Don Valley East