



March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Matthew Green  
10th floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: IE28.7 Cycling Network Plan - 2022 Cycling Infrastructure Installation - First Quarter and 2021 ActiveTO Cycling Network Expansion Project Updates: ActiveTO Complete Street Pilot on Yonge

Dear Mayor Tory, Councillors, Chair and Members, Infrastructure and Housing Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the South Eglinton Davisville Residents' association (SEDRA, formerly SERRA) regarding the ActiveTO Midtown (Yonge) Complete Street initiative and the proposed extension to Soudan. We believe the project offers a safe north/south cycling corridor, gives local diners the opportunity to enjoy our short summer season, offers a vibrant and intimate streetscape, supports local businesses, and contributes to a vision of a more pedestrian-friendly city.

Our board supports the ActiveTO Midtown Yonge Complete Street initiative, but also feel improvements could be made.

After participating in the Complete Street Pilot Stakeholder Meetings and consulting the Midtown BIA, Oriole Park RA, Walk Toronto's Michael Black and Kevin Rupasinghe from Cycle Toronto, we would like to share our recommendations.

As a community, we are very aware that moving to a complete street design will require compromises and adjustments, including but not limited to, adding transit time for locals using their cars, potentially reducing the ability of customers to access parking

while visiting stores/services on Yonge, reducing parking options for deliveries & pickup, and increasing vehicular traffic on residential side streets.

We feel very strongly that to enhance the success of the initiative, the city needs to:

- Ensure these changes support the needs of pedestrians for whom walking is by far the preferred mode of transportation in our neighbourhood;
- Consider the commuting needs of residents in the large apartment neighbourhoods (Davisville, Soudan) during peak travel times, easing flow and ensuring safety;
- Ensure any construction (street or development) does not compromise the integrity of the Complete Street by monitoring and enforcing Construction Management Plans accompanying new developments on Yonge Street;
- With limited resources available for snow removal, promote a "complete" approach to clearing, that includes bike lanes, residential streets and sidewalks;
- Ensure that the resources are available to quickly resolve problems that arise (e.g., in 2021 the medical building at Balliol and Yonge renovated their drop-off area, and the combination of this construction and the elimination of street parking caused huge drop-off issues for senior/disabled clients);
- Plan for negative feedback from vehicular traffic spillover onto neighbouring residential streets, ensuring resources are available to address speeding and dangerous driving;
- Once we are back to our "new normal" commuting patterns, support the provision for a traffic study that includes the entire neighbourhood, not just Yonge Street, to better understand the demands and travel patterns of pedestrians, cyclists and cars;
- Regarding the extension to Soudan, consider treating the extension as a pilot project in 2022 and that a temporary cycling bypass be created to ensure the safety of cyclists north of Soudan;
- Continue to monitor emergency response time as the amount of car traffic starts to increase;
- Monitor impact of large trucks (delivery, construction related) navigating traffic on Yonge;
- The Midtown BIA requests that more lead time be given to develop and review street design plans before implementing. For 2022, ensure that the restaurant owners do not incur additional expenses midseason switching from CafeTO to the Yonge Complete Street design.

SEDRA supports a safe and vibrant Yonge corridor. As an active residents' association, we are committed to the success of this initiative while at the same time mitigating any pitfalls associated with it.

Kind Regards,

Sue Simon, SEDRA Board member and representative to the Yonge Complete Street initiative

Cc: SEDRA Board, Councillor Josh Matlow, Councillor Jaye Robinson