

**From:** [anne freeman](#)  
**To:** [Infrastructure and Environment](#)  
**Cc:** [Ellen Manney](#); [Leslie Lindsay](#); [Nicole Jacobs](#)  
**Subject:** Dufferin Grove Farmers' Market supports Bartlett-Havelock-Gladstone Cycling Connection and Option 1  
**Date:** Monday, March 28, 2022 3:54:55 PM

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To the Infrastructure and Environment Committee, City of Toronto,

I am writing on behalf of the Dufferin Grove Farmers' Market Board of Directors to express our support for the proposed Bartlett-Havelock-Gladstone Cycling Connection, including Option 1 the closure of the intersection of Sylvan Avenue, Havelock Street and Dewson Street to through traffic.

The goals of the project are laudable and ones that this board can support: improving safety for pedestrians and cyclists, encouraging walking and cycling, and preventing traffic infiltration on residential streets.

Since November 2002 the Dufferin Grove Farmers' Market has fostered strong bonds between local and organic food producers and the people they feed. For more than 19 years the market has animated Dufferin Grove Park and strengthened community. The majority of market patrons - young families with small children, seniors, people with disabilities, youth and more - travel to and from the market on foot or bicycle (as well as stroller, wagon, scooter, skateboard, mobility device...). Safety for our market patrons, vendors and neighbours is paramount and it will be immensely enhanced by the Bartlett-Havelock-Gladstone Cycling Connection and Option 1.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the renovation of the north-west corner of the park, the market pivoted to an online shop in 2020 in order to continue to connect urban eaters with organic local food and community.

This year, in time for our 20th anniversary (making us one of the longest running farmers' markets in the city), we anticipate a return to the south end of Dufferin Grove Park, adjacent to Sylvan Avenue. In this location, the market will be within sight of the intersection of Sylvan Avenue and Dufferin Avenue where a young member of our community, Alexandra Amaro, was killed while riding her bicycle home from the Dufferin Mall in December 2020. Her tragic and preventable death deeply shook our community. Vulnerable road users need to be prioritized and protected and Alexandra Amaro's death should not be in vain.

We are looking forward to welcoming back market patrons to a safe in-person market experience and support the City's efforts to make the trip to and from Dufferin Grove Park safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

Sincerely,

Anne Freeman and the Dufferin Grove Farmers' Market Board of Directors