



Safe streets  
Healthy city  
Vibrant voice

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December 12, 2023

Toronto City Council  
100 Queen St W  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

**RE: TE9.45 1404-1428 Yonge Street Construction Staging Area**

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of Council,

Cycle Toronto is extremely concerned that Transportation Services is recommending a construction zone site that includes the extended closure of existing cycling infrastructure on Yonge St for the next 35 months. This defeats the department's own success at implementing Complete Streets and other key policies developed to protect people.

**It is imperative that the City provide people who walk, roll, and bike with safe ways to travel through construction sites - especially along one of the city's two subway lines.** When one of the city's few bike lanes becomes closed, people have no safe option. The volume of food delivery couriers, an equity deserving group that is particularly vulnerable to road violence, relies on the Yonge St bikeways for deliveries to customers throughout this area. With road violence and the climate crisis at a tipping point, we need to get more people to adopt active modes of transportation.

We urge you to find solutions that prioritize the safety of people who rely on active modes of transportation during construction. **The city should not be accepting construction site plans from contractors and companies that seek to close bike lanes and sidewalks without including a safe alternative.** The city should consider closing access to vehicular traffic on the city's subway lines and key TTC routes to prioritize the more efficient movement of the majority of people and emergency vehicles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alison Stewart".

Alison Stewart  
Director, Advocacy and Public Policy

*Cycle Toronto is a member-supported charity that works to make Toronto a safe, healthy, and vibrant cycling city for all.*