

20 Communications were received from December 12, 2023 at 12:39 pm to December 12, 2023 at 5:40 am with the following text:

Dear Mayor Chow and City Council,

I am writing with grave concern over Transportation Services' request to close the west sidewalk, the southbound bike lane, and the northbound bike lane on parts of Yonge Street to facilitate construction staging operations until 2026.

Construction is inevitable in a growing city like Toronto. Without it, new housing could not be built, roads could not be repaired, and transit could not be expanded. But none of this should come at the expense of safety and mobility.

We urge you to find solutions to maintain safe passage for people who rely on these bikeways during this construction – and ALL bikeways and sidewalks across the city. As someone who bikes and relies on bike lanes to get to where I need to go, 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.

The volume of food delivery couriers, an equity deserving group that is particularly vulnerable to road violence, relies on the dedicated Yonge St bike lane for making their 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. The lack of safety around construction zones deters many people from walking or biking. The protected Yonge St bike lanes are a critical north-south corridor for people to safely travel across the city.

Toronto's growth shouldn't come at the expense of the safety of vulnerable road users.

Thank you in advance for your support and consideration!

Grace Bannerman

Karen Koiter

Paul Genyk-Berezowsky

Chris Gapski

Azad Memon

Sean Cooper

Anne Cummings

Chris Sherriff

Jerry Newton

Paul Moser

David Taylor

Harold B. Smith

Shelagh Adamson

Felix Whitton

Susana Molinolo

Heather Armstrong

Jonathan Lear

Jennifer Argles

Avet Khachatryan

Gianmarco Segato