



Safe streets
Healthy city
Vibrant voice

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March 28, 2023
Deputy Mayor McKelvie and Toronto City Council
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE: MM5.6 - Fine Equity: Balancing Toronto Transit Commission Fare Evasion and Parking Fines

Dear Deputy Mayor McKelvie and members of City Council,

Cycle Toronto is writing to express support of Councillor Fletcher's motion, seconded by Councillor Bravo, to support the principle of fairness in fines related to City services.

The administration of fines and penalties should be reasonable, and financial penalties should be proportional to the offence committed. In addition to preserving faith in the administration of justice, it should be administered within an equity impact assessment.

As outlined in the motion, the current fines for fare evasion on the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) are disproportionately high (with fees beginning at \$195 and increasing up to as much as \$400) compared to just \$30 for failing to pay outright for parking, or exceeding the time limit utilized. The cost to take the TTC is just \$3.25 (\$3.35 as of April 3, 2023), versus the cost for hourly on-street parking, which ranges between \$1 and \$4. The current fine structure disproportionately penalizes transit riders compared to drivers. This is neither administratively fair, or equitable in the application of administrative justice.

If Toronto is serious about prioritizing public health, climate action, and transportation equity, making public transportation more accessible, affordable and convenient must be prioritized over private vehicular travel.

Thank you for your consideration on this important issue.

Sincerely,

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

Alison Stewart

Interim Co-Executive Director, Advocacy and Public Policy
Cycle Toronto

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