



Safe streets
Healthy city
Vibrant voice

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January 30, 2023

Executive Committee
City Hall, 2nd Floor, 100 Queen St. W.
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE: EX2.4 - CaféTO 2023 and Beyond

Dear Mayor Tory, Deputy Mayor McKelvie and members of the Executive,

In light of the current evaluation of CaféTO, Cycle Toronto is writing to **reaffirm our enthusiasm and support for the program**. We applaud the vibrancy this program has brought to streets all over the city. CaféTO, paired with complete streets design guidelines, has transformed the City by revitalizing main streets, drawing crowds, and supporting local businesses.

We support the recommendations outlined in the staff report which will advance the next phase of CaféTO from a temporary emergency response initiative into a sustainable program that will continue to contribute to improving the vibrancy of Toronto's public realm. We are particularly pleased that the recommendations include ensuring critical safety, accessibility and aesthetic requirements for the next phase of the program. By diversifying the streetscape, CaféTO has contributed to making streets more attractive, safer and accessible for people of all ages and abilities while balancing the needs of business owners.

The success of Bloor Street West, Destination Danforth, and Midtown Yonge has shown that rebalancing streets with protected bikeways and cafés creates safer, more vibrant public spaces. Where no bikeways are present or incorporated into the cafe designs, we ask you to ensure **all CaféTO activations maintain a minimum of 1.2m from the adjacent travel lane (and 1.5m from streetcar tracks)** to ensure consistent separation from motor vehicles for people riding bikes and the safety of all road users.

In addition to supporting the move to make CaféTO permanent, we support our coalition partner Walk Toronto's call to approve the measure to require platforms for CaféTO curb lane installations. By making the CaféTO patios more accessible to people of all ages and abilities, they will become even more economically valuable than the parking spots they replaced. A large percentage of patrons also travel to these restaurants by foot, public transit, or bike.

We look forward to seeing the next phase of this important initiative which has brought new

life and economic resilience to our city.

Sincerely,

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

Alison Stewart
Acting Co-Executive Director, Advocacy and Public Policy

Cycle Toronto is a charitable organization that works to make Toronto a safe, healthy, and vibrant cycling city for all.

