



17 January 2023

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From: Avoca Vale Residents' Association Attn: James Stephenson <[jstephenson@bengaloil.com](mailto:jstephenson@bengaloil.com)>

**RE: E.28.7 Cycling Network Plan – VOTE NO TO CYCLE TRACK ON MIDTOWN YONGE ST.**

We are writing as a neighbourhood Residents' Association to voice our position on whether to incorporate permanent bike lanes on Yonge Street in midtown Toronto from St.Clair Ave. to Bloor Street. We believe that this busy portion of Yonge Street is far too narrow (less than 20 m ROW) to effectively and safely accommodate the multiple demands placed on it. Currently it serves pedestrians, motorists, cyclists, emergency vehicles, busses, service vehicles, parking and CafeTO patios. It will soon encounter a significant influx of construction vehicles and sidewalk hoardings to service the many construction sites of approved or soon to be approved major condominium projects.

To be a safe and easy to navigate passageway for whatever mode of travel, a street needs to be clear and legible in its design to avoid confusion and potential mixed messaging. Yonge Street in its current configuration for this particular section of roadway is anything but this even without the soon to be heavy burden of construction activity. This is not an argument about whether one is for or against a bike lane network, but rather about the appropriateness of the selected routes based on acceptable design criteria. Simply put the roadway and sidewalk dimensions are too small and it doesn't work. Further, bike usage is minimal during winter.

The Avoca Vale Residents' Association strongly supports the need to have a robust, viable and coherent network of bike lanes in our city. We would urge the City as others have, to study Avenue Road as an alternative, where including bike lanes could have a positive impact in slowing down a dangerously fast section of oversized roadway.

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