



January 24, 2023

To: The Infrastructure and Environment Committee and Mayor John Tory
City Hall
100 Queen Street West, 2nd Floor
Toronto, ON
M5H 2N2

Re: ActiveTO Midtown Complete Street Pilot

Dear Mayor Tory and the Infrastructure and Environment Committee,

The Brentwood Towers Tenants' Association represents people living at 17, 19, 21, 23, and 25 Lascelleves Boulevard, near Davisville Station (almost 1,000 units). Councillor Matlow has called the Brentwood Towers a "NORC - a naturally occurring retirement community". One of the reasons for this is that once people move here, they do not want to leave. Our tenant members love the walkable neighborhood of Midtown and frequent Yonge street to do all their daily errands. The transformation of Yonge Street over the past two years has made our quality of life better. **We are writing to express the BTTA's support for a City Council decision to make the Midtown Complete Street permanent and to encourage your leadership to help make this happen.**

Our neighborhood has been transformed with this pilot. Simply walking on the sidewalks down Yonge street is a much more enjoyable experience for many in our community thanks to this Midtown Complete Street Pilot program and the CafeTO developments. The new cycle tracks have decreased crossing distances at lights and provided a buffer between the sidewalk and car traffic. Tenants now feel safe riding their bicycles on Yonge Street to get groceries, visit the library, or go to work. The streetscape on Yonge is now more lively, more colourful, and safer for all in our community. We thank City staff for all of their work and the changes they made throughout the pilot to improve traffic flow and mitigate our neighbour's concerns.

We urge the Infrastructure committee to follow City staff's recommendations to make these changes permanent, and in the future, to extend the complete street up to Eglinton Avenue. Going back to the previous configuration on Yonge Street would severely decrease the quality of life for us and for so many others in our community. The tragic death of Kartik Saini at the Yonge and St. Clair intersection showed us that speed and design can kill. We hope that Vision Zero can one day soon become a reality in our city. We urge the City of Toronto to prioritize pedestrian safety and safety for all vulnerable road users immediately, and that starts with **making the Yonge Street Pilot program permanent.**

Yours Truly,
Christine Skobe / President of the Brentwood Towers Tenants' Association



Copies:

Chair and Members, Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

Deputy Mayor McKelvie, Councillors Colle, Burnside, Morley, Perruzza, Saxe
Councillor Matlow

Becky Katz; Manager, Cycling and Pedestrian Projects

Yonge4All yonge4all@gmail.com