

January 26, 2023

Re: TTC Riders supports making the Midtown Yonge Complete Street Pilot Permanent

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of Toronto City Council,

As a community stakeholder that believes public transit is a right, TTCriders advocates for fully accessible, frequent, dignified public transit that connects all Toronto neighbourhoods equitably. When transit is frequent, reliable, and affordable, more people will use it and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Providing people with access to active modes of transportation such as biking and walking contributes to making public transit more accessible.

TTCriders enthusiastically supports making the Midtown Yonge Complete Street Pilot permanent. The success and popularity of programs such as ActiveTO, CafeTO and RapidTO have been important, innovative programs that have helped Toronto mitigate the challenges of the Covid pandemic. These programs should continue and be expanded.

The Midtown Yonge Complete Street Pilot has been successful in moving more people via active modes of transportation. The most recent <u>City staff report published in August/September 2022</u> highlighted an increase in pedestrian use up to 142% and bicycle use as much as 162%. These increases demonstrate the demand for safer, more walkable and bikeable streets!

In our view, the Midtown Yonge Complete Street pilot should be made permanent because it supports the city's TransformTO climate goals, and will also take pressure off the TTC by providing safe alternatives for people walking, riding bikes and using other mobility aids. As such, on behalf of TTCriders, I urge you to make the Midtown Yonge Complete Street Pilot permanent. Thank you for your consideration on this important matter.

Regards,

Shelagh Pizey-Allen

Executive Director, TTCriders