



Safe streets  
Healthy city  
Vibrant voice

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March 17, 2023

Toronto City Hall  
Infrastructure and Environment Committee  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

**RE: IE2.5 - Regarding the Gardiner East Project**

Dear Members of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee,

We are writing in support of the motion requesting an updated review of expenses related to the rebuilding of the Gardiner East “hybrid” project. When the decision was made to approve the project, the data indicated that more people were using transit to commute into the city. Travel data for 2011 found that of trips coming into the Downtown during the morning peak-hour, 68% were taken by public transit while only 28% by auto; and of those driving, just 3% used the Gardiner East.

We currently fund the city’s public transportation networks (TTC and Bike Share Toronto) in part by charging user fees. Why are we not leveraging similar cost recovery tools to help fund public infrastructure that benefits only those who have access to a car?

**Cycle Toronto urges the city to consider leveraging a cost recovery model and other revenue tools to take a more equitable approach to how it funds infrastructure that supports automobility versus active modes of transportation.** We look forward to reviewing the report outlined in MM3.5 - Reviewing Revenue Tool Options for Toronto, to see what revenue generating options are available under the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* with the objective of taking a more equitable and balanced approach to how the city subsidizes its transportation network.

Addressing the looming climate and public health crises should take precedence over maintaining the Gardiner.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

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

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.*