

**127 Communications were received from April 23, 2023 10:52am to April 25, 2023 at 2:29pm with text similar to the following:**

Please add my comments to the agenda for the April 26, 2023 Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting on item 2023.IE3.7, High Park Movement Strategy - Final Report

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

My name is (*Name of person submitting communication*) and I am a resident of Toronto Centre. I am writing you today regarding the High Park Movement Strategy and its newly released proposal.

I believe that High Park should be accessible for all. The suggested proposal would close West Road, making the only vehicle entrance off Parkside Drive, and thereby eliminating vehicle access from Bloor Street West. The proposal would also remove the majority of parking spaces within the park, including all spaces from the East side loop. This would result in accessibility issues on the West side of the park. People with young children and those with mobility issues would either be unable to use that part of the park, or would have to walk in.

Furthermore, closing West Dr and eliminating parking spaces without replacement would increase congestion in neighbouring communities and side streets. Due to vehicle free weekends, we have already seen an increased number of drivers idling and competing for parking spaces on adjacent streets. Many residents of the neighborhood surrounding High Park are unhappy with this situation, and taking away the majority of parking spaces within the park would exacerbate current frustrations.

Another concern is traffic congestion on Bloor St W as well as Parkside. There are already extreme back ups at the Keele and Bloor intersection, as well as at the Parkside and High Park entrance. The proposal, if enacted, is likely to create even more congestion, especially during the spring and summer seasons when there are more visitors to the park.

Regarding the High Park Movement Survey that is being referenced in support of the proposal, I would urge committee and council members to review the initial traffic study "Existing conditions Summary Report", released in 2022. This preliminary study states that, on average, over 8500 cars visit the park each day; a number which is not reflected in the High Park Movement Strategy survey. While a minority of vehicles entering the park are cutting through, the vast majority are park visitors who rely on parking within the park. The same study shows, in peak season (not average), only 800 cyclists use the space. This represents less than one tenth of visitors compared to those driving into the park. However, the High Park Movement Strategy survey states 48% of the users cycle and only 37% drive in. These numbers are not an accurate representation of visitors to the park and their modes of transportation. Until a proper survey is conducted, I would urge committee and council members to vote no on this strategy.

Traffic calming measures and pedestrian safety should take precedent. As things stand, there are too few traffic calming measures in the park. More speed bumps (extending the full width of roadways), and signage can be added to reduce speed. Cross walks are not properly indicated or signed, and many of the sidewalks are not accessible to people with mobility issues, lacking proper sloping for wheelchairs, walkers, or strollers. I would like to see proper traffic calming measures, enforcement, and better accessibility infrastructure put in place instead of the proposed plan

Please note the Keep High Park Open to Vehicles petition. As of (*date*) it currently has over (*number*) signatures.

<https://www.change.org/p/keep-high-park-open-to-vehicles>

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**EMAILS FROM:**

**Emily Pace  
Riley Croke  
Bryony Halpin  
Julie Wilson  
Jennifer Harris  
Dan Hawkes  
Jeff Leal  
Tanya Gomes  
Corrine Humphreys  
Anne-Marie Nowina  
Amanda Dring  
Janine Macey  
Denie Lane  
Colette Harper  
Keiko Chanderbhan  
Casey Chanderbhan  
Lindsey Williams  
Nadia Durcan  
Mona Corbett  
Jackie Skinner  
Yvetta Simek  
Jason Le Conte  
Corina Scott-Fisher  
Sarah Decator  
Lindsay Bevan  
Matt Rennick  
Mathias Tello  
Kendra Davidson  
Zorik Nitzan**

**Chelsey Gray**  
**Melanie Leitner**  
**Gabrielle Wilder**  
**Niri Carrill**  
**Tammy Eckenswiler**  
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**Herb Wong**  
**Jennifer Vo**  
**Reva Schachter**  
**Katrina Hord**  
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