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September 19, 2023 Toronto City Hall Infrastructure and Environment Committee 100 Queen Street West Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

## RE: IE6.2 On-Street Paid Parking Pilot - Mobile Only Zones

Dear Chair McKelvie and Members of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee,

Cycle Toronto supports the Toronto Parking Authority's (TPA) move to pilot innovative ways to modernize their programs and move to digital tools. IE6.2 On-Street Paid Parking Pilot - Mobile Only Zones represents an opportunity to reduce the street furniture that crowds the limited public realm dedicated for the movement of pedestrians of all ages and abilities. This said, **the penalty amount of \$30.00 for the offences related to car drivers not paying their parking fees should be increased.** 

With the city struggling to address a large budget shortfall, this on-street paid parking pilot represents an opportunity to begin 'right sizing' and balancing how Toronto's transportation network is funded. In contrast to the \$30 fines for failing to pay for parking, TTC riders who fail to pay a \$3.30 fare risk fines of up to \$425.

In 2017, City Council approved the <u>Curbside Management Strategy: Improving How Curbside</u> <u>Space Is Used</u>, which was guided by three principles: 1) mobility matters, 2) safe and reliable access, and 3) communication of value to all. Fast forward to today's context, Toronto is grappling with housing its growing population, debilitating traffic congestion that impacts productivity and economic growth, a significant budget deficit, economic uncertainty, a decline in public health outcomes, and the increasing urgency of mitigating the impacts of the climate crisis. Moving people by active modes of transportation requires prioritizing people over the movement of cars and **increasing the financial penalty of drivers who evade parking fees has a role in incentivizing people to change their mode of transportation.** 

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Alison Stewart Director, Advocacy and Public Policy