

May 23, 2024

City Council  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen St W  
Toronto, M5H 2N2

**Re: IE13.1 - A Micromobility Strategy for Toronto**

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of City Council,

Walk Toronto is writing to urge you to protect the vulnerable workers who work for food delivery on demand businesses by placing the responsibility for the licensing and liability onto the app companies that determine the working conditions and wages of their workers.

Beyond the impact of unfair wages, lack of job security, job safety and the economic-well being of gig workers themselves, the payment model used by vehicle-for-hire and delivery by demand companies creates incentives for couriers to take dangerous risks - which impacts their own safety and the safety of others. We believe that the solution to improve the safety of pedestrians on sidewalks is not to target vulnerable workers, but work with the app companies that have placed far too many risks, with little reward, on workers.

As such, we urge City Council to request the Ontario Ministry of Finance and the Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario to consult with the insurance industry and other relevant parties on developing mandatory first and third party insurance requirements for DELIVERY AND PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION PLATFORMS TO PROTECT OPERATORS USING MICROMOBILITY VEHICLES TO PROVIDE SERVICES THROUGH THEIR PLATFORMS.

It is Walk Toronto's position that the app-based delivery companies who are profiting from the use of public infrastructure must be required to take responsibility for their workers and the impact on our city.

The inequitable allocation of space favoring cars over active transportation is still the main issue. What is needed is adequate infrastructure that facilitates safe movement for those relying on active transportation, including pedestrians and cyclists. Providing people with accessible, affordable and sustainable transportation options that support the city's VisionZero and TransformTO climate action plan is critical to achieving 75% of all trips under 5 km from active transportation by 2030.

Sincerely,

Daniella Levy-Pinto, Member: Steering Committee, Walk Toronto [info@walktoronto.ca](mailto:info@walktoronto.ca)