

**From:** [Alison Stewart](#)  
**To:** [Infrastructure and Environment](#)  
**Cc:** [Michael Longfield](#)  
**Subject:** [External Sender] My comments for 2024.IE10.6 on January 9, 2024 Infrastructure and Environment Committee  
**Date:** January 8, 2024 4:09:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [IE10.6 - Delivering Improved Accessibility - Bike Share Toronto's Modernized Rate Structure Update Letter Cycle Toronto Jan 8 2024.pdf](#)

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To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the January 9, 2024 Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting on item 2024.IE10.6, Delivering Improved Accessibility: Bike Share Toronto's Modernized Rate Structure Update.

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.

Please confirm the receipt of this email as well as its addition to the public record once it is added to the agenda.

Warm regards,

Alison



**Alison Stewart** (she/they)

Director, Advocacy & Public Policy / Directrice, Sensibilisation et politique publique

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401 Richmond St. West, Office 215  
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401 Richmond St W, Office 215  
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January 8, 2024  
Deputy Mayor McKelvie and members of IEC  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

**RE: IE10.6 - Delivering Improved Accessibility: Bike Share Toronto's Modernized Rate Structure Update (Ward All)**

Dear Deputy Mayor and IEC Chair McKelvie and members of IEC,

Bike Share Toronto continues to be successful at moving more Toronto residents sustainably, affordably and efficiently; as well as dispelling the trope that no one bikes in the winter. Cycle Toronto is pleased that our advocacy efforts have contributed to the development of low fare passes for those living on low incomes, as well as the ability to access the annual memberships without having to pay in a lump sum.

As a valuable city-run program created to help move more people via active modes of transportation, **Bike Share Toronto should not be viewed as a revenue generating stream but rather as a public service that must ensure equitable access to all Torontonians**, regardless of their income or where they reside.

We are writing in support of initiatives outlined in IE10.6 and would like to reiterate our calls **asking City Council to direct the Toronto Parking Authority to make Bike Share Toronto more accessible by:**

- Providing the option to pay the annual memberships in monthly installments:
  - The option to pay in monthly installments will make a big difference between \$35 (the new option to pay in three installments) and \$8.75 (the monthly cost for the annual membership) for people who earn minimum wage or less.
- Expanding the 100 special Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) passes (which are distributed by the YMCA) to all those on ODSP interested in the program.
  - People living on ODSP represent some of our most vulnerable citizens who shouldn't have to choose between buying food or taking transit.
- Outlining how Bike Share will be promoting the special programs: \$5 annual membership to TTC fare pass holders and TCHC rent geared to income), as well as the seniors pass (65+ years) pilot.

- These programs are an excellent opportunity for people only if they are aware of these special discount programs.
- Reducing or waiving the .10 E-bike per minute charge to annual members who reside in Etobicoke, North York and Scarborough.
  - These areas of Toronto deserve the same equitable access to Bike Share Stations as the city centre.

The City of Toronto must revisit their cost recovery model for the Toronto Parking Authority in conjunction with their on and off-street parking with the objective of ensuring that the cost of Bike Share is priced equitably, and within the city's current economic context.

If Toronto is serious about prioritizing public health, climate action, and transportation equity, making public transportation more accessible, affordable and convenient must be prioritized and actively promoted. This includes keeping Bike Share Toronto very affordable and accessible for Torontonians across all wards.

Thank you for your consideration on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Alison Stewart  
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.*