



March 25, 2024

RE: IE12.4 - Cycling Network Plan: 2024 Cycling Infrastructure Installation - Second Quarter Update

To Councillor McKelvie, Chair, and members of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee

Cycle Don Valley Midtown is the ward advocacy group for Cycle Toronto in Ward 15 and Ward 16 and our comments relate to the cycling project in our area – the **Ferrand Drive Area Safety Improvements**. We are pleased to see this project come forward and support the proposal with reservations.

This project will do much for cycling utility in Flemingdon Park providing a complete neighbourhood bicycle network with safe connections to and from the bikeway on Eglinton Avenue East, the Don Mills/Eglinton shopping centre, the Aga Khan Museum as well as the Ontario Science Centre station for the Eglinton LRT, bus terminal and future Ontario Science Centre station on the Ontario Line. Once the approved bike lanes are installed on the Overlea Bridge, residents of Thorncliffe Park will have a complete protected cycling route to the Eglinton Avenue East bikeway and previously mentioned amenities. In addition, the project is the first step in mitigating the dangers facing pedestrians and cyclists at the ramps leading to, and from, Eglinton and the Don Valley Parkway. We look forward to seeing the safety measures proposed for crossing the southbound ramps implemented on the two northbound ramps.

While we are in support of the project, we have serious concerns about the option recommended for one portion of the project – the west segment of Ferrand Drive from Windom Road to Sonic Way. In this section, people cycling south on Ferrand Drive are expected to merge with moving traffic in order to preserve seven on-street parking spots on the west side of Ferrand Drive. This option does not prioritize the safety of people biking, most of whom will be moving at a significantly slower speed than the motor vehicles. We are concerned that drivers exiting Eglinton Ave to head south on Ferrand Drive may fail to adjust their speed from 50 km/hr to the new lower limit. We request that an Automated Speed Enforcement camera be installed to enforce the new lower limit and monitor safety in the segment to inform future adjustments to improve the safety of vulnerable road users.

We thank the project team and Councillor Jon Burnside for their work in bringing this project to implementation. We urge the Committee to support the project with the amendment to monitor safety and enforce speed in the one section where people cycling are at risk.

Respectfully submitted,
Geoff Kettel, Holly Reid and Najia Zewari
Cycle Don Valley Midtown Executive

C.c. Councillor Jon Burnside
Barbara Gray, General Manager, Transportation Services
Jacquelyn Hayward, Director, Project Design & Management, Transportation Services
Cycle Toronto