



Safe streets
Healthy city
Vibrant voice

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March 26, 2024

Infrastructure and Environment Committee (IEC)
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen St W
Toronto, M5H 2N2

Re: IE12.5 - Under Gardiner Public Realm Plan

Dear Chair McKelvie and Members of Infrastructure and Environment Committee,

Cycle Toronto is writing in support of Under Gardiner Public Realm Plan proposal to continue reimagining the public space underneath and adjacent to the Gardiner. The collaboration between the city and The Bentway is a world-class showcase of how designing public spaces for people benefits the vibrancy of the city at large.

Toronto's downtown has been growing and people have been increasingly flocking to the waterfront and other vibrant public spaces that are safe to gather and socialize. Investing in making the vast public space underneath the Gardiner Expressway is an investment that will benefit generations of Torontonians and those that choose to visit.

We urge you to capitalize on the opportunity to rehabilitate The Gardiner Expressway in such a way that will contribute to making Toronto an economically vibrant and enjoyable place to live, work and visit. Unless the "Ontario - Toronto New Deal " includes opportunities to improve the infrastructure connecting people to places, and not just on moving vehicular traffic, the City of Toronto should reconsider the deal. The Under Gardiner Public Realm Plan is consistent with the vision for public realm improvements for Lake Shore Boulevard East Public Realm Plan and is aligned with City policies, plans, guidelines, and strategies that contribute to making Toronto a more environmentally sustainable and comfortable city for people of all ages, abilities and incomes.

Thank you for your consideration on this important matter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alison Stewart".

Alison Stewart

Director, Advocacy and Public Policy

Cycle Toronto is a member-supported charity that works to make Toronto a safe, healthy, and vibrant cycling city for all.

