

**From:** [TorontoEast Cyclists](#)  
**To:** [Infrastructure and Environment](#)  
**Subject:** [External Sender] My comments for 2024.IE13.2 on May 2, 2024 Infrastructure and Environment Committee  
**Date:** April 30, 2024 9:15:06 PM

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To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the May 2, 2024 Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting on item 2024.IE13.2, eglintonTOday Phase 1 Complete Street Project: Bicknell Avenue to Mount Pleasant Road

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.

Comments:

April 30, 2024

Re: IE13.2 to implement 8 km of new bikeways on Eglinton Ave

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

Toronto East Cyclists is a grassroots volunteer group that has been advocating for cycling infrastructure in Scarborough for over a decade. Scarborough is the least served when it comes to access to active transportation and has the highest rate of collisions that impact vulnerable road users. Of the four cyclist fatalities that have taken place in 2024, two of them were killed in Scarborough. As an organization, we advocate for bringing transportation equity to Scarborough, Toronto's largest geographical land mass, by making our communities safer and more sustainable for people through improving access to affordable active modes of transportation. As such, **we urge you to support the city staff recommendations outlined in IE13.2 to implement 8 km of new bikeways on Eglinton Ave.** The successful implementation of phase 1 must take place so that phase 2, which includes extending the Eglinton Complete Street to Kennedy Station in Scarborough, might connect our communities to the rest of Toronto.

It is our wish for Toronto to meet its climate action targets by taking a more equitable approach to addressing social and transportation inequities. This begins by prioritizing active modes of transportation such as walking, biking, rolling, and taking public transit. Last month, we were extremely concerned to learn that Toronto is not on track to meet its climate action targets and achieve net zero by 2040. The rollout of Toronto's cycling network plan must be expedited. The 8 km of new bikeways outlined in this project are integral to completing the Council-approved 100 km 2022-2024 Cycling Network Plan this year, and it represents a critical step towards completing the 19 km of complete street that will connect people in Mount Dennis to Scarborough's Kennedy Station.

The people of Scarborough, Torontonians, deserve to have a safer, more comfortable and vibrant public realm that includes access to efficient and sustainable transportation options. Your vote for the EglintonTOday Complete Street is an important step towards achieving the city's commitment to improving the safety and connectivity for people who bike.

Studies consistently show the lack of safe, connected cycling network infrastructure remains the

biggest barrier to people biking and adopting active modes of transportation. In order to meet our TransformTO climate action goals of 75% of trips walked, transited or biked by 2030—less than 7 years away—Toronto will need an even more ambitious 2025-2027 Cycling Network Plan. We join organizations like Cycle Toronto and Toronto Community Bikeways Coalition in calling for a more rapid implementation of bikeways to meet those goals.

We hope to receive your unanimous support of the city staff recommendations outlined in IE13.2 to build a better Eglinton for all.

Jonathan Schmidt  
on behalf of Toronto East Cyclists

*Toronto East Cyclists is a group of Scarborough residents celebrating, promoting, and advocating for safe streets for cyclists, pedestrians, and drivers since 2010.*

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