

April 30, 2024

Via Email

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

Re: IE13.2 - EglintonTOday Phase 1 Complete Street Project: Bicknell Avenue to Mount Pleasant Road (Wards 5, 8, 9, 12)

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

Tenblock is a housing developer that is committed to sustainability, active transportation, design excellence, and complete communities. This includes ensuring that there is adequate cycling infrastructure in the communities we serve. Our projects enrich and connect with surrounding neighborhoods by delivering new public parks, upgrading streetscapes, increasing tree canopies and landscaping, opening new mid-block connections and trails, and limiting car-oriented infrastructure to create safe spaces for people of all ages and abilities.

As such, we urge you to expedite the rollout of the city's cycling network plan to reduce the number of single-car use occupancy trips and the emissions caused by vehicular traffic. The current implementation rate of the city's cycling network plan is not the ambitious build-out that we need to make riding a bike a better option for more people city-wide.

Tenblock welcomes any and all improvements to the City of Toronto's cycling network which improves the connectivity and safety for vulnerable road users throughout the city. Additionally, implementing cycling infrastructure will contribute to easing traffic congestion and give people access to affordable, efficient, and sustainable transportation options. Your unanimous vote for the staff recommendations outlined in IE13.2 EglintonTOday Complete Street is an important step towards achieving the city's commitment to its TransformTO climate plan while also improving safety and connectivity.

Studies consistently show the lack of safe, connected cycling network infrastructure remains the biggest barrier to people biking and adopting active modes of transportation. Additionally, in order to meet our TransformTO climate action goals 75% of trips walked, transited or biked by 2030 – less than 7 years away. Toronto must be more ambitious with the 2025-2027 Cycling Network Plan. We strongly support Cycle Toronto's call for having at least 150 km of new bikeways a year to complete the 500 km of the Major City-Wide Cycling Routes by 2030.

As a developer who is engaged in the partnership of the new development at Yonge and Soudan, we prioritize ensuring that our prospective residents have cycling networks. Yonge and Soudan is also home to Tenblock's head office and fostering a sustainable commuting culture and having the infrastructure to do so is important for our team members.



We strongly believe that the EglintonTOday bikeway project will encourage the City of Toronto to embrace active and sustainable transportation and hope to receive your unanimous support of the city staff recommendations outlined in IE13.2 to build a better city for people of all ages, abilities, incomes, and mobilities.

Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

Sincerely,

Tenblock

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Job". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stephen" and the last name "Job" clearly legible.

Stephen Job, AICP
Vice President

SJ/eg