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May 27, 2024

Infrastructure and Environment Committee

Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5G 1P5

Dear Infrastructure and Environment Committee Members,

RE: Support for E14.4 - Cycling Network Plan - 2024 Cycling Infrastructure Installation and the West Parkdale Cycling Connection

Safe Parkside is writing to show their support for the West Parkdale Cycling Connection.

We would like to thank the West Parkdale Cycling Connection team for their work in developing this very well-thought-out and important cycling connection. We fully support the changes being proposed and the many important city policies that helped guide this connection, including:

- Vision Zero Road Safety Plan: Prioritize the safety of our most vulnerable road users
- TransformTO: Climate Action Strategy
- Road to Health: Healthy Toronto by Design
- Complete Streets Guidelines: Streets are for people, placemaking and prosperity
- Bringing all Toronto residents within 1km of a designated cycling route
- Encouraging all ages and abilities to cycle
- Reduce reliance on motor vehicles

The West Parkdale Cycling Connection will serve to provide safety for cyclists on what has been a long-used and unofficial route while also bringing with it some much-needed traffic calming to the neighbourhood.

Although we fully support the proposed changes, we believe more traffic calming efforts are urgently needed. There has been long-standing community concern over traffic volumes and speeds throughout the neighbourhood. While conditions on the cycle route will improve significantly with the implementation of this cycling connection, many other problematic streets and intersections will remain unchanged.

With High Park, the Western Waterfront, Roncesvalles Ave and a large hospital with a \$1B planned expansion, our community experiences a lot of pedestrian and cycle traffic to go along with a very high volume of cut-through traffic. While the West Parkdale Cycling Connection is a positive and important step, a more thorough community-wide traffic calming approach is needed through the implementation of a Neighbourhood Streets Plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, connected strokes. The signature is positioned to the left of the typed name below it.

Faraz Gholizadeh on behalf of Safe Parkside