



Yonge4All is a diverse group of residents who live, work and shop in midtown Toronto. We believe that Yonge Street should be welcoming, safe and accessible for people of all ages and abilities, whether they walk, take transit, drive a car, ride a bike or use another mobility device.

May 27, 2024

RE: IE:14.4 Cycling Network Plan - 2024 Cycling Infrastructure and Missing Sidewalk Installation - Third Quarter Update

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

Yonge4All strongly supports the improvements recommended for Avenue Road between Davenport Road and Bloor Street that incorporate a complete street design and provide safe and comfortable connections for all road users to Bloor, Yorkville and University Avenue. However, we share the concerns of the Avenue Road Safety Coalition that improvements to address long-standing and urgent issues regarding pedestrian safety are not being prioritized.

Specifically, inadequate sidewalk space from Davenport Road to the railway tracks north of Dupont must be addressed and improvements expedited. Too many injuries and fatalities have occurred in this area and we need preventative measures now to ensure that there are no more tragedies due to unsafe and dangerous conditions.

Yonge4All joins with Avenue Road Safety Coalition in asking that:

- Vehicle lanes between Davenport and Dupont are reduced from six to four, incorporating turning lanes at Davenport and Dupont.
- The two curb lines are used to create a wider and safer buffered space for pedestrians, including those using wheelchairs and strollers.

- Maintain some loading zones and short-term parking spaces, available 24/7, to serve local businesses. However, on-street parking cannot be at the expense of measures to improve pedestrian safety.
- Incorporate curb extensions and radii reductions (where needed) to slow turning vehicles and shorten crossing distances to improve pedestrian safety
- Install a safe, signalized midblock crossing between Davenport and Dupont at the entrance to Ramsden Park to provide a safe crossing in this busy area.

We urge you to prioritize these measures along with the other complete street improvements from Bloor Street to Davenport Road that staff have recommended and expedite their implementation. The safety of pedestrians using Avenue Road, including those using wheelchairs and pushing strollers, is urgent and vital and needs to be prioritized along with the safety of all road users.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ken Brown

Stephen Job

Jacky Kennedy

Ann Kerwin

Marjorie Nicholl

Holly Reid

Robin Richardson

Lee Scott (Walk Toronto)

Maryam Siddiqi

Mary Helen Spence

Alison Stewart (Cycle Toronto)

Tom Worrall

Organizing Committee for Yonge4All

www.yonge4all.ca

Cc: Councillor Dianne Saxe

Avenue Road Safety Coalition