27May2024 Submission to IEC - IE14.3 - Cycling Network Plan Update (2025 - 2027)

This letter is being submitted on behalf of the over 200 members of the Etobicoke Cycling Club. We are primarily a road cycling club that offers our members multiple rides seven day a week.

We are pleased that staff are recommending that the City continue building out the Cycling Network. However, the targeted 100 kilometres of bikeway falls seriously short of what Toronto needs and deserves in order to meet the City's Vision Zero and TransformTO climate action strategies.

In particular, we draw attention to the need to greatly accelerate the design and build out of the Major City-Wide Cycling Routes. A collection of segments in the inner suburbs will not encourage large-scale adoption of cycling in these areas for the short, under 5 kilometre trips targeted in TransformTO.

A key factor impeding the take up of cycling in Etobicoke is the lack of safe crossings across Highway 401. Designing and implementing safe crossings across the 401 should be an immediate priority, not just in Etobicoke but for the entire city. The Finch bikeway crossing of Highway 400 shows it can be done.

In closing, let's continue to accelerate the growth of a bikeway network across the entire City so people have safe options to get to work, school and for errands. Please allocate more resources and clear the roadblocks to implement at least 150 kilometres of new bikeways in the 2025 – 2027 period.

Thank you,

Jay Brown Director, Etobicoke Cycling Club https://etobicokecycling.com 416-999-5839