



May 28, 2024

Deputy Mayor McKelvie
Chair, Infrastructure and Environment Committee
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Dear Chair and Members of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee,

I am writing to you with regard to a specific matter within *IE14.4 - Cycling Network Plan - 2024 Cycling Infrastructure and Missing Sidewalk Installation - Third Quarter Update*. Among the projects described in the staff report, item 1(f) *Mill Road from Rathburn Road to Burnhamthorpe Road, bi-directional cycle track* has an impact to the citizens of Ward 2 – Etobicoke Centre and has generated considerable interest.

The Mill Road project had a broad and substantive community consultation in April 2024. Much feedback was generated; some positive, some neutral, and also some opposition. My office is in receipt of a 55 name petition in opposition of the project, along with numerous calls outlining specific concerns, which prompt the need for adjustment.

The largest concern expressed is a new proposal to prohibit right turns on red at the intersection of Mill Road Southbound at Burnhamthorpe Road. This this particular turn movement is busy at all hours, since Mill Road is the connector route to Mississauga between Burnhamthorpe Road and Rathburn Road. The latter is an East-West minor arterial street which does not have a connecting bridge over the Etobicoke Creek for continuation westward within Mississauga. Travellers use the Mill Road route to Burnhamthorpe Road-right turn to access urban areas to the west including shops and services. There is concern that turn delays would contribute to congestion and local traffic infiltration, and that it is disproportionate to the anticipated vehicular and cycling volumes. In addition, many existing locations to the West in Mississauga with similar configurations of road and multi-use trail intersections demonstrate safe function without the turn prohibition. Therefore, I recommend that right turns on red be continued at the intersection.

Additional concerns were raised in the vicinity of Mill Valley School and the crosswalk, by the school, daycare and adjacent resident communities. This location is heavily congested with vehicles and their movements during drop-off and pick-up times, and the addition of cycle lanes and concrete separation barriers is seen as an additional risk factor to an already tenuous situation. Therefore I am recommending that the committee request staff to modify their infrastructure designs to address these concerns, to improve sight lines and vehicle movements, and to monitor for any concerns which may arise.

Finally, citizens expressed concerns that the significant narrowing of the travelled lanes on Mill Road to accommodate a cycle track would cause delay for emergency vehicles, particularly in situations where another vehicle is stopped at the roadside, as is commonly occurring from time to time. Assessment of this situation was not contained within the public consultation and remains an unresolved issue of concern. I therefore ask that the

Committee request staff to consult with emergency services, assessing this concern, and to post the results on the project website available to the public.

In response to the above concerns, I ask that the Committee adopt the following amendments:

- 1) City Council direct Transportation Services to maintain the right-turn on red movement at the intersection of Mill Road and Burnhamthorpe Road and monitor for safety concerns post installation and report any recommended adjustments, as needed.**
- 2) City Council request that Transportation Services make minor design adjustments to Mill Road based on local Councillor and public consultation feedback to ensure safe operations and to monitor for safety concerns post installation and make adjustments, as needed.**
- 3) City Council request that Transportation Services post on the project website a summary of consultation with Toronto Fire Services and Toronto Paramedic Service regarding emergency response times on Mill Road.**

Sincerely,



Stephen Holyday
Councillor - Ward 2
Etobicoke Centre