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May 28, 2024

RE: IE14.3 - Cycling Network Plan Update (2025 - 2027)

Dear Chair McKelvie and Committee Members,

I am writing to ask your consideration regarding continuing to study the feasibility of the West Scarborough Rail Path, and making the results of the study available to the public.

The West Scarborough Rail Path is a critical component of creating a Scarborough that is more connected for cyclists and pedestrians, allowing people to travel through their community in ways that are safe, healthy and reliable. The path would provide a vital connection between the Meadoway and Taylor Creek, connecting a trail network directly towards downtown Toronto while intersecting with three subway stations as well as the future Line 5 Eglinton.

As Councillor for Toronto-St. Paul's, I have seen how the Beltline Trail, also built along a former rail connection, creates a vibrant community space. It is so much more than just a trail – it connects neighborhoods throughout Midtown and provides residents a place for recreation, community connection and wellbeing. Scarborough residents deserve the more of these innovative and dynamic spaces too.

In conclusion, I want to highlight the hard work of so many community advocates, including those in the Scarborough Junction Community, along with the continued advocacy from Councillor Kandavel. This project deserves a public feasibility study, and ultimately, to be seen through to fruition.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Matlow". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

Councillor Josh Matlow
City Councillor
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