



Safe streets
Healthy city
Vibrant voice

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Infrastructure and Environment Committee (IEC)
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen St W
Toronto, M5H 2N2

Re: IE15.3 - Annual Winter Maintenance Report

Dear Chair McKelvie and Members of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee,

Cycle Toronto is writing to express support for the work being done to prepare the city for a major snow event that takes an equitable approach to maintain the mobility of vulnerable road users when their mobility will be particularly challenging. We support the recommendations laid out by the General Manager of Transportation Services, including granting the necessary delegated authority to close highways and roads to expedite the clearing of snow.

As a community stakeholder that represents vulnerable road users we weren't surprised to learn that those who completed the engagement survey launched in May, demonstrated that people who rely on active modes of transportation have high expectations for the prompt clearing of snow from transit stops, sidewalks and bikeways.

It is critical that the City's expanding network of cycling infrastructure remains accessible and safe year-round, as well as the entire active transportation network. It's essential that the Major Snow Event Response Plan for 2024-2025 incorporate the recommendations from [IE10.3 - Bike Lanes that are Safe and Passable for Bikes](#) so that all bikeways be cleared to bare pavement.

For people walking, taking transit, cycling, and people who rely on mobility and visual aids to get around, when sidewalks, transit stops and bike lanes are poorly cleared of snow, ice and other types of weather detritus, getting around becomes impossible.

Having a 2024-2025 Major Snow Event Response Plan that prioritizes snow removal routes around main street sidewalks, around pedestrian signals, at surface transit stops, school and hospital zones as well as cycling infrastructure will contribute to making the city more equitable 365 days of the year.

Alison Stewart

Director, Advocacy and Public Policy

Cycle Toronto is a member-supported charity that works to make Toronto a safe, healthy, and vibrant cycling city for all.

