

From: [Amanda O'Rourke](#)
To: [councilmeeting](#)
Subject: [External Sender] My comments for 2024.IA16.1 on March 20, 2024 City Council
Date: March 18, 2024 2:36:56 PM

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the March 20, 2024 City Council meeting on item 2024.IA16.1, New Linear Park for Scarborough in Review

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

Dear Members of Toronto City Council,

I am writing to express support for the motion *2024 IA16.1 New Linear Park for Scarborough* in review at the City of Toronto, focusing on the exploration of adaptively reusing city infrastructure for the creation of a linear park and active transportation corridor along the Scarborough Rapid Transit (SRT) line. This motion represents a significant step forward in enhancing the livability of Scarborough.

The proposed initiative holds immense promise for transforming the elevated right-of-way portions of Line 3 into a vibrant and accessible public space that not only serves as a recreational amenity but also addresses critical transportation challenges faced by Scarborough residents. With the longest TTC commutes, inadequate biking infrastructure, and alarming rates of pedestrian fatalities, Scarborough urgently requires innovative solutions to improve mobility and safety, public space and quality of life.

By repurposing existing city infrastructure to establish a linear park and active transportation corridor, Toronto can provide residents with safe and convenient access to essential destinations, including jobs, housing, cultural attractions, shopping centers, and green spaces.

A holistic and equitable approach to this kind of urban redevelopment can foster connectivity, promote physical activity, and enhance the overall quality of life for residents across Scarborough.

We commend the leadership of councillors who are bringing this motion forward and initiating a dialogue around the potential of adaptively reusing city infrastructure for the benefit of all residents. These kinds of city building projects are essential for improving health and wellbeing for residents, meeting sustainability targets, and advancing equitable access to active mobility and public space.

We look forward to active, meaningful, and equitable engagement approaches on this project from city leadership at all levels. We are optimistic that this kind of project can help address longstanding gaps and under investment in mobility and public space in Scarborough. Our organization is ready to engage and support a robust civic discourse and collaborate with stakeholders to realize the full potential of this transformative initiative.

Thank you for your commitment to advancing the well-being of Scarborough, Toronto and the community at large. We hope that the City Council recognizes the urgency of addressing these critical issues and prioritizes the exploration of adaptive reuse for the creation of a linear park and active transportation corridor in Scarborough.

Sincerely,

Amanda O'Rourke
Executive Director, 8 80 Cities