



Safe streets
Healthy city
Vibrant voice

401 Richmond St W, Office 215
Toronto, ON M5V 3A8
416-644-7188 | cycleto.ca

February 20, 2024

Toronto and East York Community Council (TEYCC)
100 Queen St W
Toronto, M5H 2N2

Re: TE11.19 - 950 King Street West - Construction Staging Area

Dear Chair Moise and Members of TEYCC,

Cycle Toronto is becoming increasingly concerned that Transportation Services is, once again, recommending a construction zone that includes the closure of existing cycling infrastructure. In this instance, a segment of the east side northbound bicycle lane, and the west side southbound bicycle lane on Strachan Avenue for up to 35 months. **If approved, the safety of people who rely on hard-fought and implemented cycling infrastructure will be imperiled.**

Strachan Avenue is an important connection to Wellington St and is a popular bikeway that provides people of all ages, abilities and incomes a comfortable route to popular destinations such as The Bentway, Exhibition Place, and the Martin Goodman Trail on the waterfront.

The city should not be accepting construction site plans from contractors and companies that seek to close bike lanes without including a safe alternative. When one of the city's few bike lanes becomes closed, people have no safe option. The volume of food delivery couriers, an equity deserving group that is particularly vulnerable to road violence, relies on the city's connected cycling network for deliveries to customers at all hours.

It is critical that the safety of all vulnerable road users be considered to mitigate the danger posed by construction zones. The increased number of large trucks circulating in the city is leading to deadly collisions involving people.

We urge you to find a holistic and systematic solution that will guarantee the safety of people who rely on active modes of transportation during construction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alison Stewart".

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.

