

June 6, 2024

Via Email Toronto and East York Community Council Toronto City Hall 100 Queen Street West Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Dear Chair Moise and the Toronto and East York Community Council:

RE: TE14.38 - Avenue Road Study - Interim Update and Proposed Site-Specific Road Safety Improvements

Tenblock has developed and managed multi-family apartment buildings in Toronto for over sixty-five years. As a company, we are deeply committed to building sustainable, complete communities. This includes promoting active transportation and connectivity options throughout the city.

We wish to express our <u>strong support</u> for the proposed road safety improvements to Avenue Road between Davenport Rd. and Dupont St. These improvements cannot come soon enough. Avenue Rd. is in dire need of upgraded, and <u>continuous</u>, road safety improvements for vulnerable road users.

After reviewing the proposed changes, we want to highlight a recommendation from our previous submission regarding the Avenue Road Study to continue extending improvements to the public realm, road safety, and cycling infrastructure further north, as far as Lonsdale Rd.

The proposed safety improvements before you include curb extensions, new medians, and new pedestrian zones but no improvements for cyclists within this stretch of the Avenue Rd. corridor. TE14.38 presents an opportunity to extend the recently approved dedicated cycle track between Bloor Street West and Davenport Rd. (IE14.4) further north to Dupont St. Ideally, cycling improvements are implemented alongside pedestrian safety improvements in order to avoid multiple changes to the right-of-way and ensure interventions that prioritize safety happen as soon as possible.

Ending the cycle tracks at Davenport Rd. limits residents of neighbourhoods further north from accessing safe cycling conditions. Using the right-of-way space gained by curb extensions for on-street parking places a hard northern cap on an otherwise fantastic, new cycling corridor. Establishing continuous cycling connectivity to Lonsdale Rd. (north of St. Clair Avenue West) would connect the cycling network to east-west connections and transit options on St. Clair Avenue West. As well, it would directly contribute to the walkability, safety, and connectivity of the Deer Park and Forest Hill neighbourhoods which include nearby K-12 schools.

Tenblock is very excited by the proposed road safety improvements to the Avenue Rd. corridor, and we look forward to safer conditions for vulnerable road users being implemented in the coming months. We believe that creating a safe pedestrian realm should be accompanied by safer cycling options to enhance connectivity citywide. It is our hope that successive phases of implementation will continue to expand safer cycling options further north from Davenport Rd. to Lonsdale Rd.

Sincerely

Graeme Kennedy Senior Associate, Development GK

Cc: Councillor Chris Moise, Ward 13 - Toronto Centre Councillor Josh Matlow, Ward 12 - Toronto-St Paul's Councillor Dianne Saxe, Ward 11 - University-Rosedale