



March 17, 2025

Committee Members
City of Toronto's Executive Committee
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON, M5H 2N3

Re: 2025.EX21.4 - Transit Priority on Queens Quay East

Members of the Executive Committee,

Established in 1998 by Toronto City Council, the Toronto Youth Cabinet is the official youth advocacy body to the city. We are a youth-led organization that promotes youth participation in municipal affairs and policy development. Toronto Youth Cabinet membership is open to youth between the ages of 13 - 24 who live, work or learn in the City of Toronto.

We are writing in strong support of the implementation of interim priority bus lanes on Queens Quay East. Buses are the backbone of the TTC. They connect people to jobs, schools, and essential services all across the city. If implemented, these priority bus lanes will provide immediate improvements to bus routes operating on the corridor and serve approximately 4,000 daily customers.

The 114 Queens Quay East bus, the main transit service on the corridor, has seen reliability issues throughout all times of the day. Recent data from the report has shown buses are operating at slower travel speeds, with trips taking 7 to 11 minutes longer than scheduled. Bus bunching and traffic congestion have made the 114 Queens Quay East bus a less desirable option for the neighbourhood, pushing residents to seek alternative modes of transit. However, priority bus lanes along the Queens Quay East corridor can win transit riders back, and improve travel times by up to 30%.

If implemented, the priority bus lanes would significantly support youth and students. The George Brown College Waterfront Campus is a major destination on the corridor. While many of its students rely on public transit to get to class, the existing transit service is not meeting their needs. Bus lanes have the potential to make a massive difference, as seen through the successful implementation of the RapidTO Eglinton East bus lanes during the pandemic. Speaking to students from the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus (UTSC), we have heard how their commutes, in regards to efficiency and speed, have significantly improved while travelling between campus and Kennedy Station.



We commend the City of Toronto, the TTC, and Waterfront Toronto for their efforts in improving rapid transit along this corridor. While the long-term goal is the Waterfront East Light Rail Transit (WELRT) project, these interim measures will have an immediate impact for transit riders in the community.

We urge the Executive Committee to adopt 2025.EX21.4 - Transit Priority on Queens Quay East and move forward with the implementation. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Zain Khurram

Transit Lead on behalf of the Toronto Youth Cabinet's **Transit Working Group**