



University of Toronto Rocket Riders — The Student Transit Forum

July 15, 2025

Re: EX25.4 - RapidTO: Transit Priority on Dufferin Street and Bathurst Street

Dear Executive Committee members,

As the only group dedicated to advocating for the transit needs of students across the University of Toronto's St. George campus, we believe dedicated transit lanes can greatly improve the lives of all who use transit to get from point A to B. We strongly support the proposed implementation of transit priority lanes south of Bloor; however, we also call on Council to vote YES for transit-only lanes on Bathurst and Dufferin north of Bloor as initially proposed.

Transit-only lanes on Bathurst would significantly speed up commutes for transit riders, especially for UofT students, many of whom live near or along the Bathurst and Dufferin transit routes. In a survey of St. George campus students we conducted earlier this year, which received nearly 250 responses, more than half of respondents said they take TTC buses as part of their daily commutes. When asked about the main problems facing the TTC today, an overwhelming 81 per cent of responding students indicated improving service reliability was paramount. We know that dedicated transit lanes on Bathurst and Dufferin would greatly improve service reliability on what are some of the City's most congested routes, improving commutes for students who are just some of the more than 35,000 people who take the 7 bus and 511 streetcar as part of their commutes every day.

Public transit service on Dufferin and Bathurst consistently ranks among the slowest in the city – transit priority lanes are needed to help alleviate the congestion and create faster commute times for all. Once you vote to approve these lanes, we also urge you to make them permanent, and not just a temporary measure for FIFA 2026. The need of students and residents for quick and effective transit options will remain even after the soccer fans have gone home.

Yours faithfully,

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