



Executive Committee Toronto City Hall 100 Queen Street West Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

July 15, 2025

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

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of Executive Committee,

Cycle Toronto joins our allies at TTCriders in supporting the original RapidTO recommendation to install priority transit lanes on Bathurst and Dufferin all the way to Eglinton, rather than stopping at Bloor.

While bus lanes are not a substitute for "all ages and abilities" protected cycling infrastructure, allowing people on bikes to use RapidTO lanes offers a modest but meaningful improvement. These lanes help make biking more comfortable for those already using these routes.

In the cycling advocacy space, we often hear the phrase "I'm an avid cyclist, but..." or "I'm not against bike lanes, but..." followed by a litany of excuses for maintaining the status quo. Opponents claim that too few people ride bikes to justify rebalancing road space, or that bike lanes delay emergency vehicles, despite clear evidence to the contrary.

It is revealing, then, that even when the city proposes measures like RapidTO that will improve the daily commutes of tens of thousands of people—and even help emergency services—opposition persists.

We urge the Executive Committee to approve the full RapidTO recommendation and extend transit priority all the way to Eglinton, supporting more multi-modal trips, particularly with the (imminent??) opening of the Eglinton Crosstown LRT and the installation of new surface bikeways.

Best regards,

Michael Longfield Executive Director

cc: Mayor Olivia Chow

TTC Riders

Cycle Toronto is a member-supported charity that has been leading the change for a healthier, more vibrant cycling city since 2008.