



February 27, 2025

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

RE: IE19.1 - Cycling Network Plan: Ellesmere Complete Street Improvements

Dear members of Infrastructure and Environment Committee and Toronto City Council,

On behalf of the Institute for Inclusive Economies and Sustainable Livelihoods (IIESL) at University of Toronto Scarborough Campus, we support the staff recommendations outlined in item IE19.1 and encourage you to move forward with the Ellesmere Complete Street project in Scarborough.

The UTSC campus is situated within this community and the proposed improvements to Ellesmere Road will benefit students, faculty and staff. We thank all the City staff, local City Councillors and stakeholders who have informed this plan as it is a great step forward in transforming Scarborough into a more connected, walkable, and bike-friendly part of the city.

The project will also bring much needed safety improvements to a busy, dangerous arterial roadway in Scarborough. More crosswalks will allow people to safely cross the road, and improved intersection designs will reduce speeding and force drivers to turn safely. The addition of physically separated bike lanes will allow people frequenting the UTSC campus to safely use their bikes, scooters, or other devices.

The Ellesmere Complete Street is part of a larger network that will connect the UTSC campus to important destinations locally and across the City including the Meadoway trail, bringing Torontonians closer to having a dedicated walking and cycling path that connects from the mouth of the Don River to the Scarborough Zoo. It also connects to important local business and destinations including the future Scarborough subway extension, Scarborough Town Centre, Centennial College, Scarborough Health Network, Highland Creek Trail and two GO stations.

On behalf of the IIESL, we fully support the staff recommendations outlined in item IE19. and encourage you to move forward with the Ellesmere Complete Street project in Scarborough. This is a huge opportunity to connect within Scarborough and across the entire city bringing additional benefits to students, faculty and staff at UTSC campus.

Sincerely,



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