

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Infrastructure & Environment Committee c/o Matthew Green
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2N2

Submitted by e-mail to iec@toronto.ca

Dear Members of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

RE: IE20.3 (Congestion Management Plan - 2025 Update)

We express our full support for TTC Riders' recent campaign calling for the implementation of full active transit signal priority for the Eglinton Crosstown and Finch West LRT lines when they open this fall. With the former having undergone construction for at least 14 years, it is critical that operations for the new transit line run as quickly and reliably as possible. Especially for the surface section east of Brentcliffe Road where the lack of signal priority as currently proposed will mean unnecessary wait times at intersections. Ensuring quick and reliable transit is needed to reduce the number of motor vehicles using Eglinton and help achieve our TransformTO climate action goals.

We also support Mayor Chow's call to increase enforcement of vehicles blocking streetcars including increased fines and towing; especially given the heavy snowfall we experienced in February. Not to mention, it's an injustice how one driver can block travel for a streetcar with more than 100 transit riders. The blocking of dedicated lanes is something Toronto's cycling community can also relate to with the frequent illegal parking of bike lanes. Something our organization has been calling for increased action on – including using license plate readers along bike lanes – given a 24-year-old female cyclist was killed on Bloor at Avenue Road in July 2024 due to a blocked bike lane.

While we appreciate the City's efforts to address gridlock, it's worth restating the only true way to address gridlock is to provide viable alternatives to driving. Therefore, we call on the Infrastructure and Environment Committee – and City Council – to amend this motion to adopt full active transit signal priority for the Eglinton and Finch LRT lines, as well as improved enforcement of illegal blocking of streetcar and bike lanes.

We thank you for taking these views into consideration and feel free to contact us should you have any questions.

Sincerely yours, Community Bikeways

Robert Zaichkowski

CC: Mayor Olivia Chow, TTC Riders

Community Bikeways (est. May 2020) is a grassroots organization dedicated to holding City Hall to account for implementing its cycling network, Vision Zero Road Safety, and TransformTO climate plans. We also strive to amplify community voices, offer policy solutions, and host community events that highlight the joy, affordability, and convenience of cycling.