



July 8, 2025

Toronto City Hall
Infrastructure and Environment Committee
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON
M5H 2N2

Re: IE23.11 Hesketh Court and Tinder Crescent - Proposed New Sidewalk Construction

Dear Chair Fletcher and committee members,

We are writing today to strongly encourage the Infrastructure and Environment Committee to *not* support the motion put forth under item IE23.11 and to fully support the construction of the planned sidewalks along Hesketh Court and Tinder Crescent.

The City of Toronto, through Vision Zero, has made a commitment to ensuring the safety of the City's most vulnerable road users and acknowledges that, "[F]atalities and serious injuries on our roads are preventable, and we must strive to reduce traffic-related deaths and injuries to zero."¹ The addition of sidewalks to Hesketh Court and Tinder Crescent would be a preventative and proactive action increasing the safety of anyone choosing or needing to walk in the area. This would include residents of Tinder Crescent who may want to take their children the 650m to Sloane Public School and the residents of Hesketh Court wanting to access Wigmore Park, 700m away, on foot.

The City of Toronto, through TransformTO, has also set the goal of having 75% of school and work trips under 5KM walked or cycled. To meet this goal, the City must provide safe means to do so. Providing sidewalks on residential streets that lead to parks, schools, and public transit (like the bus stops on Sloane Avenue), does this.

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<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/streets-parking-transportation/road-safety/vision-zero/vision-zero-plan-overview/>

The motion put forward to Committee today uses a survey of residents as the foundation of the argument to not provide sidewalks on these streets. While the survey was not included in the motion (making it impossible to see how the survey was designed, distributed and analysed) we can make the assumption from the numbers included that 13 residents on Tinder Crescent and 34 residents on Hesketh Court responded and/or received the survey. Given that there are approximately 188 units in the three apartment complexes on Tinder Crescent alone, we have to question if ALL residents on these streets were contacted and received the survey.

While we understand the desire to take constituents' wants into your decision making, we urge this committee to reflect on the precedent passing the motion may set for other plans across Toronto to increase the safety of vulnerable road users and to provide alternate transportation options to residents.

Sincerely,

Susan Bakshi

Walk Toronto