

Re 26.6 Network Plan

Hamish Wilson

Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing

Ministère des
Affaires municipales
et du Logement

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09-48704

March 3, 2010

Mr. Hamish Wilson
296 Brunswick Avenue
Toronto ON M5S 2M7

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Thank you for your letter of January 4, 2010, and enclosures, to my predecessor, the Honourable Jim Watson, about the City of Toronto's Bloor Corridor visioning study and the provision of adequate bike lanes, specifically along Bloor Street.

I appreciate your comments and your recognition that the Province, via the Growth Plan, is supportive of multi-modal transportation networks, with a growing emphasis on planning for pedestrians and cyclists. This emphasis is also contained in the Provincial Policy Statement and the more recent Regional Transportation Plan as well.

However, the Province recognizes municipalities as responsible governments, with the authority to make decisions dealing with matters within their jurisdiction and for which they are accountable to their residents. Further, from a practical perspective, municipalities are best positioned to determine where the most detailed planning that is necessary for addressing multi-modal transportation networks can occur, given the localized considerations that inform and affect them.

To that end, ministry staff have seen a significant increase in the emphasis municipalities are placing on pedestrian and cycling networks in their Official Plans and other relevant documents. Accordingly, I would encourage you to continue to pursue this matter with your municipal councillor and municipal officials. Continued advocacy from grassroots users is always an important voice in helping to shape the future of our communities. You may contact the City of Toronto by calling 311 (from within Toronto).

Again, thank you for taking the time to write to me about this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Bradley
Minister