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October 8, 2025

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

Dear Councillor Carroll, Mayor Chow, and members of City Council,

## Re: MM33.5 - Protecting Public Investment & Advancing Interim Solutions Along Sheppard Avenue East

We are writing to express our strong support for completing the Sheppard Avenue East Complete Street project as originally approved by City Council in June 2023. We urge you to reject MM33.5.

There is currently nothing in the province's *Bill 212, Reducing Gridlock, Saving You Time Act, 2024* that blocks the City from moving forward with the Sheppard Avenue East Compete Street or any cycling infrastructure project, even those involving lane reconfigurations (though the majority of this project would not). Toronto is not a "prescribed municipality", and to date no regulations have been issued requiring Ministerial approval:

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply to a municipality in respect of a bicycle lane if, on the day the municipality is prescribed for the purposes of subsection (1), a contract has already been awarded or entered into for the construction, installation or marking of the bicycle lane or, if the construction, installation or marking of the bicycle lane is to be done by the municipality and not by any party under contract, such work has already commenced.<sup>2</sup>

Cycle Toronto's recent legal win challenging the constitutionality of the Province's attempt to remove and reconfigure the bike lanes on Bloor, Yonge, and University makes clear that the underlying legislation is arbitrary and reckless.<sup>3</sup>

Bundling these improvements on Sheppard with planned road work is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for North York. We cannot let fear or uncertainty of provincial bullying block our progress. Any delays to the approved Cycling Network Plan by the City effectively hand your power to the Premier and undermine your authority.

Michael Longfield
Executive Director

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<sup>1</sup> https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.IE4.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-43/session-1/bill-212

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://ecojustice.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Cycle-Toronto-v.-AGO-Reasons-for-Judgment-PBS-July-30-2025.pdf