



January 22, 2026

Mayor Olivia Chow and Members of the Budget Committee  
City of Toronto  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Sent by email: [mayor\\_chow@toronto.ca](mailto:mayor_chow@toronto.ca) and [buc@toronto.ca](mailto:buc@toronto.ca)

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of the Budget Committee,

On behalf of Parachute, Canada's national charity dedicated to injury prevention and safer mobility, we are pleased to express our strong support for the Open Streets Toronto campaign and the important work of 8 80 Cities.

Parachute has a long-standing and valued partnership with 8 80 Cities. Together, we share a commitment to creating safer, more inclusive streets that protect people of all ages and abilities while supporting public health, sustainable communities, and community well-being. Open streets initiatives such as OpenStreetsTO and ActiveTO are approaches that advance these shared goals by prioritizing people over vehicles and enabling safe walking, cycling, and physical activity in urban environments.

From a road safety and injury prevention perspective, open streets programs play a critical role in reducing risk, promoting safer speeds, and normalizing streets designed for people rather than cars. They also provide tangible opportunities for residents to experience the benefits of safer street design firsthand, building public support for longer-term road safety and mobility improvements. The strong public participation and high satisfaction rates associated with Toronto's previous open streets programs demonstrate their value and popularity.

We recognize that the City of Toronto is facing significant fiscal pressures. However, as outlined by Open Streets Toronto and 8 80 Cities, these programs deliver strong returns on investment by advancing multiple City priorities simultaneously, including public health, climate resilience, active transportation, and economic vitality for local businesses. Dedicated and stable municipal funding is essential to ensure the long-term success and sustainability of open streets initiatives.

Parachute fully supports the request for City funding to enable open streets programming in 2026 and strongly encourages Council to commit to permanent funding beginning in 2027. Continued leadership from City Council and the Mayor's Office will be key to ensuring Toronto remains a city where safety, health, and livability are central to transportation and public space decisions. We commend Open Streets Toronto and 8 80 Cities for their leadership and advocacy, and we thank the Budget Committee for considering this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "P. Fuselli".

Pamela Fuselli  
President and CEO

cc: Councillor Moise ([Councillor\\_Moise@toronto.ca](mailto:Councillor_Moise@toronto.ca)) and Saxe ([Councillor\\_Saxe@toronto.ca](mailto:Councillor_Saxe@toronto.ca))