

Tuesday, May 30, 2023
(with signatures during the period May 1, 2022 to April 25, 2023)

Acting Mayor Jennifer McKelvie and City Councillors
City Hall, 2nd Floor
100 Queen St. W.
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Acting Mayor McKelvie and City Councillors,

Re: We Belong on Bloor - finishing the job of creating a people-friendly Bloor Street

We, the undersigned, support the extension of the Bloor bike lane westward to the Mississauga border, as well as related streetscape improvements, including lower speed limits, narrower motor lanes, and an enhanced public realm for the safety and enjoyment of all residents and road users.

The recent beautification of Danforth Avenue and midtown Yonge Street (pilot) with patios, bike lanes, and flower planters demonstrated the potential of our public streets as places for people – to stroll with family or friends, to ride a bicycle to work or for leisure, or to enjoy a meal. ActiveTO and CafeTO dramatically changed the way we share our roads to address the social distancing imperative of the pandemic, while building a healthier, more equitable and more resilient city.

A re-designed Bloor from Runnymede Road (where the bike lane now ends) to the city's western border would contribute to the achievement of city policies, including the Vision Zero Road Safety Plan, which prioritizes human life in transportation decision-making; Complete Streets, which aims for a balanced sharing of public space; and TransformTO which seeks to convert car trips to active modes to reduce emissions that are destroying our climate.

The Bloor Street segment in question measures eight kilometres, excluding bike lanes already in place at Six Points. In fact, new sidewalks and protected bike lanes were installed along parts of both Bloor and Dundas Street West as part of the reconstructed Six Points intersection – investments that should be optimized with proper cycling links and public realm improvements. A new bike lane between Runnymede and the city border would safely link neighbourhoods in Bloor West Village, The Kingsway, Bloor-Islington, Bloor-Kipling, and Markland Wood as well as many planned developments such as the Housing Now initiative. Thousands of new residents who move into these areas, and many residents already there, will (or would with safe conditions) travel by foot, bicycle or transit, as is the trend in the city.

The Bloor-Danforth bike lane, after decades of delays, now stretches 15 kilometres from Dawes Road in the east to Runnymede. Bike counts on Bloor-Danforth demonstrate the popularity of

this bike lane, while previous studies showed a substantial decrease in road collisions (near misses), to the safety benefit of all road users.¹

The westward extension of the Bloor bike lane and related improvements will improve air quality, safety, and health while allowing residents to access shopping areas and attractive destinations along Bloor-Danforth.² A bikeway extension along Bloor would also connect with the existing north-south bike lanes on Royal York and Renforth Roads, as well as provide safe access to recreational trails along the Humber River. In fact, extending the bike lane to Toronto's western boundary would link with a planned bike lane on Bloor Street in Mississauga.

As part of a proper cycling network, we also urge you to immediately begin planning for a westward extension of the bike lanes on Dundas Street West (already in place from Six Points to Auckland Road) to the city border near Highway 427. This stretch of Dundas Street includes dozens of new and planned residential towers along a wide roadway --- served by the TTC subway with westward bus connections and a planned Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) --- that could easily accommodate bike lanes.

The next step is to begin consultations and design work to make these revitalized streets a reality while addressing the accessibility concerns of persons with disabilities and the need for loading zones for businesses. We believe it's time to finish the job of converting Bloor into a people-friendly street, and to build a resilient, healthy, climate-friendly city.

We therefore urge you to move forward now on converting Bloor Street West (and Dundas Street) from a hazardous motor thoroughfare to a safe, inviting road that supports vibrant commercial areas, liveable neighbourhoods, and opportunities for healthy, active transportation.

We believe that we (all) belong on Bloor.

Sincerely yours,

Signature

Name/business name (please print)

Date

Email or contact (optional)

¹ "[Bloor Street West Bike Lane Pilot Project Evaluation](#)," Transportation Services, City of Toronto, 2017.

² "[An economic impact study of Bloor West Village](#)" by The Centre for Active Transportation (TCAT) in 2010 (pre-bike lane), showed that only 20% of patrons at local shops arrived by car. (The figure was only 10% on Bloor in the Annex and Koreatown.) In addition, public surveys show that a [majority of Toronto residents support lower speed limits and bike lanes](#), and that a majority of city residents identify walking, cycling, and transit as their primary mode of travel.

For more information, community.bikeways.toronto@gmail.com

LIST OF SIGNATORIES (as signed during period May 1, 2022 to April 25, 2023)

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Businesses along Bloor West

1. *ACE Barber Shop*
2. *B and G Law Professional Corp.*
3. *Bake Sale (three locations on Bloor West)*
4. *Beauty Wax Room*
5. *Bill Miles for Men*
6. *Bloor Meat Market*
7. *Bloor Optical*
8. *Bloor Tailoring*
9. *Blyth Academy Etobicoke*
10. *Brown's Sports & Cycle*
11. *Bucks Hard Goods*
12. *Cards 'N' Such*
13. *Cecil Ward and Sons*
14. *Cellar and Smoke*
15. *Chatr Mobile*
16. *Cocos on Bloor*
17. *Coffee Tree Roastery*
18. *Cora Couture*
19. *Daniel J Lokun, Barrister & Solicitor*
20. *Designer Exchange (3A Wendover at Bloor)*
21. *Dominos Toronto*
22. *Eclectic Gallery, The*
23. *Essence of Life Chiropractic*
24. *expedia.ca (Bloor franchise)*
25. *Falafel World*
26. *Fat Bastard Burrito Co.*
27. *Film & Event Solutions Inc (212 Norseman St)*
28. *Friendly Financial Coach*

29. *Fruteria*
30. *Gigapex Computer Inc (4 Brentwood Rd at Bloor)*
31. *Gold'n Clock Shoppe*
32. *Guys Hair Design (Durie Rd)*
33. *Harrison + Harrison Accountants (Beamish Rd)*
34. *Harmony Hair Salon*
35. *Images and Frames Gallery*
36. *Jenny Craig - Bloor West*
37. *Kenzo Ramen*
38. *Kingsmill Dental Hygiene*
39. *Kingsway Boxing Club*
40. *Kingsway Hair Design*
41. *Lemonwood (Kingsway)*
42. *Monarch Paints*
43. *New Balance Toronto*
44. *Noodle Me*
45. *Optical Showcase Ltd*
46. *Osmow's Shawarma*
47. *Pharmasave Swansea Village*
48. *Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen*
49. *Repair Station, The*
50. *Revel Medical Beauty Club*
51. *Rowe Farms*
52. *Ruffins Pet Centre*
53. *Salon Allure Spa*
54. *Say Tea*
55. *Second Cup*
56. *Sherwood Digital Copy and Print - Islington*
57. *Simardine Family Dental*
58. *Solanaa Luhtala Body Shop*
59. *Spirit Leaf Bloor West*
60. *Tahini's*
61. *Telus and Koodo- authorized dealer (Mastercom)*
62. *Toronto Faculty of Music (3820 Bloor W)*
63. *Toronto Hearing Consultants*
64. *Village Juicery*
65. *Wealth Strategies (Ukrainian Credit Union)*

[Residents' and other local groups in Bloor West area](#)

66. *Bloor West Village Residents' Association*
67. *Chain Reaction (Dundas and Royal York)*
68. *Community Bikeways (TCBC)/Bells on Bloor - We Belong on Bloor*
69. *Cycle Butik*
70. *Etobicoke Climate Action*
71. *Etobicoke Cycling Club*
72. *Etobicoke South Cycling Committee*
73. *Green 13*
74. *Islington Ratepayers & Residents Association*
75. *Parkdale High Park Bikes*
76. *Parkdale High Park 4 Climate Action*
77. *Sunnylea-Stonegate Neighbourhood Association*
78. *Velocity Cycling Club*

City-wide and other groups and businesses

79. *Blacksmith Cycle*
80. *Bike Brigade*
81. *ClimateFast*
82. *David Suzuki Foundation*
83. *Doctors for Safe Cycling*
84. *Friends and Families for Safe Streets*
85. *Friends of Silver Creek*
86. *Green Neighbours Network (GNN) of Toronto*
87. *Oxygen Bike Co. (Lakeshore W, Etobicoke)*
88. *Progress Toronto*
89. *RideFair Toronto Coalition*
90. *Toronto Public Space Committee*
91. *Toronto350*
92. *TTC Riders*
93. *Walk Toronto*
94. *Zero Waste Hub Toronto*

Residents directly on Bloor W (west of Kipling Ave)

95. *Ankna Desai*
96. *Andrew Boosey*
97. *Prasad Bolla*
98. *Harris Culic*
99. *Derek Evers*
100. *Marjorie Melnik*
101. *Les Vegrytsky*
102. *Toribio Orozco*

103. *Nossa Behaz*
104. *Cynthia Szilagyi*
105. *Ruzica and Ivan Mlachak*
106. *Andy Li*
107. *Savariyan Augustine*
108. *Caitlin McDonald*
109. *Jancey Hudson*
110. *Michael Stephan*
111. *David Simpson*
112. *N Hilmi*
113. *Brandon Cha*