



**Complete
Streets**

tcat toronto centre for
active transportation 



June 18th, 2013

RE: June 19th Public Works and Infrastructure Committee Meeting

Dear Chairman Minnan-Wong and Members of the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Toronto Centre for Active Transportation (TCAT), a project of Clean Air Partnership. TCAT conducts research and education that supports a vision for cities that are safe, convenient, and enjoyable communities to walk and bike.

I would like to express the support of TCAT for PW24.8 Implementation of the Shaw Street Bikeway. This Bikeway, as previously approved by Council, provides a critical north-south link between existing cycling facilities south of Davenport Road. The proposal is a local-context-sensitive series of bikeway types (bicycle lanes, contraflow lanes, sharrows, and signage) that uses a non-arterial street to provide connectivity while maintaining resident's parking based on extensive community consultation.

Indeed, Council had previously been prepared to install the indicated lanes and lacked only clarification that contraflow bike lanes were in conformity with the Highway Traffic Act. Now confirmed by the Ministry of Transportation to be consistent with the Act, and having been installed with much success across North America, contraflow bike lanes are an excellent way to mitigate the barriers to cyclist accessibility that one-way streets can pose – and instead turn the streets into key cycling corridors.

This project will allow Torontonians who travel by bicycle to do so safely and avoid more unsafe roads such as Bathurst, Ossington, and Dufferin. It will also allow our residents to travel swiftly through the city – to do their shopping, reach work, and return home more safely and quickly. The Shaw Street Bikeway is a project with significant benefits that responds to local concerns and broad needs for improved cycling infrastructure. I urge you to support this motion to link our many cycling routes with this convenient, context-sensitive, common-sense project.

Sincerely,



Nancy Smith Lea
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