

Monday, March 12, 2018

Ms. Barbara Gray
General Manager, Transportation Services
Toronto City Hall
24th Floor, 100 Queen St. E.
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Sent by regular mail and electronically.

Dear Ms. Gray,

Re: Concern about lack of progress on Bloor Corridor Study

We congratulate you and your staff for your comprehensive work on the 2.4 km Bloor bike lane pilot, which was made permanent by council vote of November 2017.

The issue that prompts this letter is our understanding that the Bloor Corridor bike lane study has not been initiated. The success of the most recent ten-year bike plan hinges on the completion of eight corridor studies, divided into seventeen street segments. Three of those segments are on Bloor and Yonge Streets. When council in June 2016 adopted the new plan, it deferred all studies, except those for Yonge and Bloor. (The Yonge studies are presumably driven not by the bike plan but by separate revitalization initiatives for Yonge in North York and in downtown Toronto.)

Since the Bloor Corridor study was to be informed by the Bloor pilot study --- which was impressively comprehensive in its breadth and depth --- we do not understand the current lack of progress. We presume that the Bloor study could be completed by an independent consultant and that neither staff resources nor budget are the reason for the delay. We note that Bloor has previously been studied in 1978, 1992, and 2008, and in each case identified as ranking among the city's most popular bike routes.

The current ten-year plan --- with only eight percent of planned bike lanes to be completed by the end of year three (assuming the proposed 2018 projects are all approved) --- is currently on a trajectory that very much resembles the failed 2001 Bike Plan. (See our table at: <http://dandyhorsemagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Bike-Plan-Tracking-2016-2025-lanes2Fcycle-tracks2Fcontra-flow2Fblvd-trail.xlsx-Feuil1.pdf>)

We have written to Acting Manager of Cycling Infrastructure, Shawn Dillon to request a meeting, but did not hear back. We therefore turn to you for a response.

Sincerely,

Albert Koehl