



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Toronto Staff Report on Midtown Yonge Complete Street Shows Pilot Project is a Success

Community group Yonge4All commends City staff on work to make Yonge more accessible

Toronto, January 25, 2023 – The City of Toronto’s staff report on the [ActiveTO Midtown Yonge Complete Street pilot project](#) was published today and staff are recommending the pilot become permanent city infrastructure. Community advocacy group [Yonge4All](#), which has been championing the project since it launched, is pleased to see this recommendation, which supports local residents’ own lived experiences with the redesigned stretch of Yonge between Davisville Avenue and Bloor Street.

The pilot project includes expanded outdoor dining areas, bike lanes, elevated bus stops, an increase in safe crossings, landscaping and other improvements to the street design. Yonge4All is grateful for the work City staff have done through the 18 months of the project, working with community members on consultations and using both feedback and a data-driven approach to make adjustments.

Among the conclusions found in the [staff report](#):

- After 18 months of installation, the data demonstrates increases (ranging between 57% and 250%) in cycling trips and increases in pedestrian trips (ranging between 59% and 145%)
- Support for local business includes an increase from 10 CaféTO patios in 2020 to 21 patios on the corridor in 2022
- Motor vehicle travel times in both directions on Midtown Yonge Street during most times of the day have increased by less than 70 seconds
- The most recent data from the TTC indicates the customer experience for those that use the Line 1 shuttle buses is now comparable to pre-pilot conditions

“We’re grateful to the leadership shown by the City and the excellent communication by City staff to work with the community on this pilot project,” says Robin Richardson, spokesperson for Yonge4All. “Transforming Yonge Street with this pilot project has been an asset to the local communities, and has made travelling along the route, whether on foot, bicycle, transit or car, a safer experience.”

Beyond an increase in pedestrians and cyclists, and minimal disruption to the flow of traffic, the project has found support from local residents associations, community groups and businesses, like [Zelden’s Deli and Desserts](#), [Pantry](#), [B Stretched](#), [Ava Pharmacy](#), [PawMart](#) and [Mr. Thai](#).

And in a letter to Mayor John Tory and Councillors Dianne Saxe and Josh Matlow, Ian Carmichael, co-chair of the ABC Residents Association (Avenue to Yonge, Bloor to the CPR tracks in Summerhill), wrote: “ABCRA supports the goals of Complete Streets to provide a range of transportation options, create safe, more healthy and vibrant public spaces and improve the City’s environmental sustainability. A Complete Street on Yonge Midtown is important to the success of the program and to support Vision Zero 2.0 and TransformTO goals.”

Yonge4All has collected support from more than 7,000 Torontonians who want to see the pilot project made permanent, and is presenting the mayor with the [results of their petition](#) on Jan. 23. Of the signatures collected, 70% of supporters live within five kilometres of Yonge Street.

Yonge4All is a diverse group of residents who live, work and shop in midtown Toronto. We believe that Yonge Street should be welcoming, safe and accessible for people of all ages and abilities, whether they walk, take transit, drive a car, ride a bike or use another mobility device. To learn more about the group, please visit [yonge4all.ca](#).

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To arrange an interview or for more information, please contact:

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