



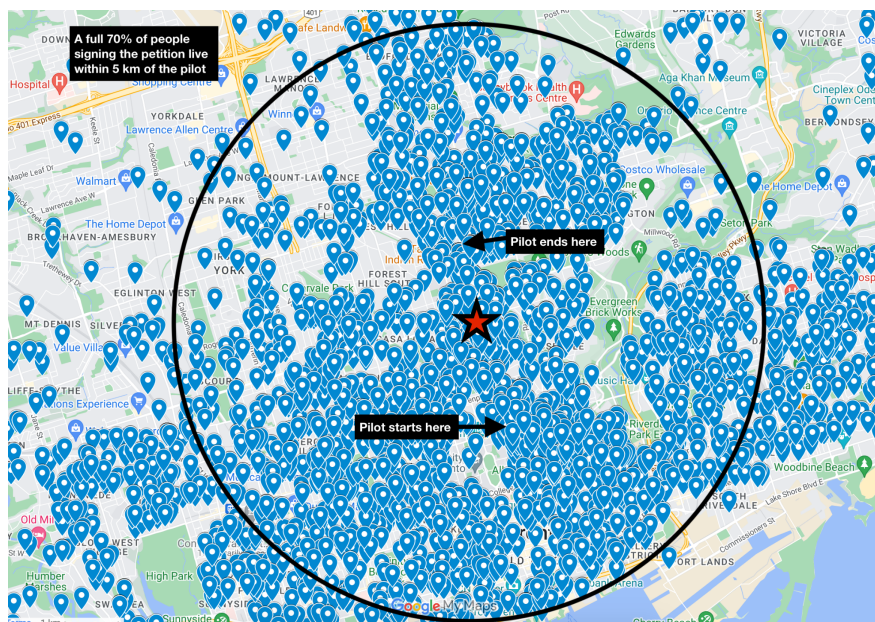
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Thousands of Torontonians Ask City Council to Make the Midtown Yonge Complete Street Pilot Project Permanent**

*Community group Yonge4All delivered petition to Mayor John Tory's office*

**Toronto, January 30, 2023** – Community advocacy group [Yonge4All](#), which has been championing the [ActiveTO Midtown Yonge Complete Street pilot project](#) since it launched, held a press conference this morning at City Hall to share details about the project's widespread support. Before delivering its petition in favour of the project to Mayor John Tory's office, the organization announced that almost 8,000 people have signed the petition asking that City Council make this redesigned stretch of Yonge between Davisville Avenue and Bloor Street permanent infrastructure.

“We're here to let the Mayor know the Midtown Yonge Complete Street pilot has the support of thousands of Torontonians. The City's data conclusively show that the pilot has succeeded at what it set out to do: increase walking and cycling along Yonge Street, support local businesses through the CafeTO program, and make it safer for everyone who lives in or visits the area – no matter how they get around,” said Robin Richardson, a representative from Yonge4All.



Joining Yonge4All at the event were urbanist Ken Greenberg, vice president of development firm Tenblock Stephen Job, and Councillors Brad Bradford (Ward 19), Chris Moise (Ward 13), Amber Morley (Ward 3) and Dianne Saxe (Ward 11).

Alison Stewart from Cycle Toronto, Ingrid Buday from Friends and Families for Safe Streets and Lyn Adamson from ClimateFast were also in attendance.

“The transformation we have made as a city has been important, and it hasn’t been without challenges. How Yonge4All has rallied support is an example of how to lead change,” said Councillor Bradford. “Midtown is a destination not just for those in local neighbourhoods, but for the entire city.”

“There’s no doubt that the pilot has proven its worth,” said Mr. Greenberg. “It’s hard to overstate the difference this has made on Bloor-Danforth. I would urge City Council and the Mayor to take this next important step and make this pilot permanent.”

“I want to live in a safe walkable and bikeable city,” said Councillor Moise. “We know that when people feel safe in their modes of transit they will visit our neighbourhoods and businesses more.”

The City’s [staff report](#) of the pilot shows multiple benefits of the complete street:

- Increases in cycling trips (ranging between 57% and 250%) and increases in pedestrian trips (ranging between 59% and 145%)
- Support for local business (CaféTO patios increased from 10 in 2020 to 21 patios on the corridor in 2022)
- Average motor vehicle travel times in both directions on Midtown Yonge Street have increased by less than 70 seconds

The pilot project has also found enthusiastic support from local [residents associations](#), [community groups](#) and businesses, including [Uber](#), [Oxygen Yoga and Fitness](#), and [Pawmart](#).

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](http://yonge4all.ca).

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

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