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Cycle Toronto Comments on Draft Bikeway Design Guide

Dear Robyn Shyllit and the Draft Bikeway Design Guide Team,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the City of Toronto's Draft Bikeway Design Guide. We've included some general comments here and more specific line by line comments on the first two chapters attached. We hope to provide comments on subsequent chapters later this week.

We believe the Draft Bikeway Design Guide starts off strong, but tends to regress on progressive ideas (such as the varied design cyclists). A lot of the infrastructure detailed in the Guide is not All Ages and Abilities infrastructure (AAA), though it's much better than the current City of Toronto standard.

While the guide is very detailed, information is not always readily extracted. It is easy to miss key points. More emphasis on critical bits and especially summaries with key info or design matrices would be a welcome addition (similar to Table 2.1 and Table 3.1)

Best practices evolve over time and we believe the Guide should be a living document. When is the next review? When will updates be released? Especially as new types of infrastructure are added and people can experience them (advisory bike lanes, protected intersections), the City should have a straightforward process for updating the Guide.

We're concerned about how this guide will play a role within City projects as we regularly see a lack of coordination between departments and projects. It is not clear how other departments will buy into this, and how other documents and processes will be updated to be consistent with this guide. We would encourage the City to continue work in this area.

Sincerely,

Kevin Rupasinghe and Clayton Rudy, Cycle Toronto Advocacy Committee

Jared Kolb, Cycle Toronto Executive Director