

INFO@CSCA-ORG.COM

As concerned residents and members of the Cottingham Square Community Association (CSCA), we think we should not restrict traffic to two lanes on Yonge Street from Davisville to Bloor, especially where there are side streets with no alternative access (Birch, Alcorn, Walker, Shaftsbury, Summerhill, Price Street etc. and other landlocked streets outside of the CSCA area.

The Active TO Midtown pilot allows for patios and bike lanes to replace a lane of traffic both north and southbound. We're big fans of cycling and walking, and welcome safer bike paths, better pedestrian movement and patios, but the confluence of all 3, with 1 lane north and south on Yonge will bottleneck the street.

The CSCA was successful in getting a similar proposal cancelled a few years ago due to these limitations.

Unfortunately, based on a presentation to the community on April 27th via a city WebEx platform, there were many unanswered questions by the personnel in charge to our concerns below.

A **major** concern for the CSCA community is Birch access because:

- a) it is a blind access
- b) it is at the bottom of a downhill acceleration slope for vehicular traffic (both cars and bikes)
- c) it is the narrowing of probably one of the most congested legs of Yonge Street due to the CNR bridge
- d) there is a very active daycare and a public school on the street which has pickups and drop-offs by multiple vehicles at peak hours
- e) imminent construction projects on Yonge will add constant obstruction to all movement – not just cars

We are sure that Birch is not the only street that will suffer from reduced egress and access due to a singular artery out of a side street. Here is a very recent link highlighting the disaster on the Danforth.

<https://www.blogto.com/city/2021/04/drivers-toronto-complaining-danforth-bike-lanes>

Many businesses on this corridor have no back lane for deliveries or take-out so rely exclusively on illegal parking/double parking for their continued supply and demand.

Most importantly access for emergency vehicles have no alternative routes when trying to go north or south on Yonge Street to access our side streets, which is a danger for all.

If you feel strongly please –

- Leave your comments here - <https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/get-involved/public-consultations/infrastructure-projects/activeto-midtown-complete-street-pilot-project/>
- Contact Josh Matlow's office and express your opinion. 416 392-7416 or councillor_matlow@toronto.ca

- Sign the petition at change.org - <https://www.change.org/p/mayor-s-office-city-of-toronto-stop-traffic-congestion-in-our-neighborhood?redirect=false>

There is a stakeholder meeting on May 11th which your CSCA executive will attend. We want to speak on behalf of our neighbourhood, but we encourage you to voice your concerns directly. The pilot is scheduled to begin shortly, we must let the city know – We Need to Rethink Bike Lanes on Yonge Street.

If you have comments, please forward them to info@cscs-org.com before May 7th so we can raise them at the May 11th meeting.

Please keep our neighbourhood as safe as possible and make the city revisit this pilot project.

Your CSCA Executive