From: Andrew Hunniford

Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2023 8:19 PM

To: CWC < cwc@london.ca>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item 4.3 July 18th, Mobility Master Plan Update Strategies, Mode Share

Target Options and Project Evaluation Frameworks

Andrew Hunniford

London Ontario

Civics Works Committee

Subject: Recommendation to Increase Targets and Goals for Active Transportation in London

Dear Members of the Civics Works Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the consideration of increasing targets and goals for shifting the mode of transportation from single passenger vehicles to active modes, such as cycling, walking, and other forms of sustainable transportation. As an engaged resident of London and downtown business owner, I believe that prioritizing active transportation is not only crucial for the well-being of our community but also for the overall sustainability and livability of our city.

While there is no definitive deadline, it is widely recognized that urgent action is needed to mitigate the impacts of climate change and transition to a more sustainable future urgently. We took the steps to declare an emergency and should be looking to act accordingly.

https://getinvolved.london.ca/climate#:~:text=London's%20Climate%20Emergency%20Action%20Plan,and%20Make%20London%20More%20Resilient%E2%80%9D.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a leading international body for climate science, has emphasized the importance of limiting global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, having exceeded 1.5 degrees Celsius warming this year achieving this goal will require substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions within the next few years and far sooner than 2050 tragically.

I would like to commend the committee for its efforts in fostering a cycling culture and establishing Active Transportation Infrastructure. However, I strongly urge the committee to take bolder steps in light of the rapidly changing situation by setting higher targets and goals for active transportation, particularly cycling, and recommend the following measures:

- 1. Expand and Enhance Thames Valley Parkway: I recommend prioritizing the expansion of the Thames Valley Parkway network by adding new paths, improving existing routes, and ensuring better connectivity. This will create a more comprehensive and accessible network that connects key areas of the city, including residential, commercial, and educational zones. By doing so, we can encourage more residents to choose cycling as a safe and efficient mode of transportation.
- 2. Safety Upgrades: To increase the appeal and safety of cycling infrastructure, I recommend investing in safety measures along the cycling routes. This includes implementing protected

bike lanes, improving intersections, installing clear and visible signage, and providing adequate lighting. Enhancing safety will not only attract more cyclists but also contribute to a sense of security and comfort for those already utilizing the cycling infrastructure.

3. Collaborative Partnerships: I suggest fostering collaborative partnerships with local businesses, organizations, and community groups to promote active transportation. Initiatives such as bike-sharing programs, incentives for cyclists (e.g., discounts or rewards), and partnerships with employers to encourage cycling to work can significantly boost the adoption of cycling as a primary mode of transportation.

Increasing the targets and goals for active transportation aligns with our city's commitment to sustainability, public health, and environmental stewardship. By prioritizing cycling, walking, and other sustainable modes of transportation, we can reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality, enhance public health, and create a more vibrant and connected community.

I kindly request the Civics Works Committee to present this recommendation to the City Council and advocate for their support in setting higher targets and goals for active transportation. By doing so, we can pave the way for a healthier, more sustainable, and livable future for the residents of London.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your dedication to improving our city's infrastructure.

sincerely,
Andrew Hunniford

<u> Andrew Hunniford</u>