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To: Mayor Matt Brown and Members of Council
From: London Cycle Link
Re: 2015 Budget Submission

City of London 2015 Budget Consultations
February 19, 2015

The London Plan designates cycling second (after walking) as a transportation priority for the city of London over the next several decades. In order to get more Londoners to choose cycling as their primary or secondary mode of daily transportation significant investment will be needed to develop and improve the city's cycling infrastructure. With this in mind, London Cycle Link suggests the following budget considerations:

1. The 2015 draft budget of \$800,000 for bicycle lanes is a great beginning. We urge council to adopt this measure and increase it by 50% to \$1.2 million in 2015 (in agreement with Cycling Advisory Committee recommendations).
2. Furthermore, we urge council to direct these funds towards developing an integrated network that features protected bicycle lanes, neighbourhood routes, and bicycle-friendly intersections to ensure the most effective use of these and future funds over the long term.
3. From a base of \$1.2 million this year, we recommend indexing the annual cycling infrastructure budget to inflation at an average of at least 2.5% per annum to ensure stable and sustainable planning and funding.
4. To improve cycling safety immediately, we recommend directing maintenance funds towards achieving service levels equal to that of motor vehicle roads for all on-street cycle routes and recreation trails, including snow and ice removal in winter and improved lighting and drainage where necessary.
5. We recommend that council and staff look for ways to develop cycling infrastructure in tandem with improvements to the TVP (\$1.2 million, 2015, and \$8.5 million, 2016-2024), and new investment in rapid transit (SHIFT).
6. In support of increased funding, we would like council to bear in mind the numerous studies showing that improved cycling infrastructure invariably leads to increased ridership, increased property values, improved local business conditions, improved city reputation, improved community health, and a generally more livable city for all. Cycling is an investment in London's future, not an expense!

For more on these studies and other cycling related policy, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address above.

Sincerely,

London Cycle Link Steering Committee and Membership