

**From:** Marco Prado  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2019 2:50 PM  
**To:** SPPC <[sppc@london.ca](mailto:sppc@london.ca)>  
**Cc:** Kayabaga, Arielle <[akayabaga@london.ca](mailto:akayabaga@london.ca)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Special Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee Meeting: Transportation projects

I am writing as a resident of Ward 13. I am also Faculty at Western and use a bicycle for my daily commute and other transportation needs in the City of London. I am a resident of London Ontario since 2008.

I would like to express my strongest support to the 5 core nodes of the BRT plan, as well as improving cycling infrastructure in the city. The rapid link between Masonville, the campus and downtown will serve our students, many of whom are relying on bus transport already and have to deal with crowded buses, infrequent connections and delays. The northward BRT link plays a crucial role in the Universities current open space plan that aims to reduce vehicular traffic on campus, and make the campus a place more friendly to pedestrians and cyclists.

I am a supporter of all plans for increasing cycling infrastructure. By increasing the viability of these alternative transport options, car drivers benefit too as there will be fewer personal cars on the road. Especially important and beneficial here are the planned projects in the Old East Village, the Dundas place to TVP connection, downtown bike parking, and the installation of protected bike lanes throughout the city.

I am conscious of the current issues related to global warming and now it is time to act. London is the perfect city to implement widespread cycling infrastructure to decrease our carbon footprint with transportation. London is quite flat and already has some infrastructure in place. However, this infrastructure is far from ideal and myself and most other cyclists have had too many close encounters with cars. Protected bike lanes are the standard in all modern cities and they should be prioritized. Cycling has an important added benefit. It also improves the well-being of citizens.

These projects should be a priority for the city in the years to come, no matter if they are included in the current bid for federal and provincial funding or not.

I urge the City Council to use the federal and provincial funding for truly transformational projects, and make London a national leader in supporting alternative transportation options.

Recent publications on the added health benefits of cycling for communities can be found here:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27799235>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26930213>

<https://momentummag.com/urban-cycling-health-benefits-2018/>

Dr. Marco A.M. Prado, Ph.D.

Scientist, Robarts Research Institute  
Professor Department of Physiology and Pharmacology and Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology

Chair of the Local Host Committee 2019 ISN-ASN Meeting

**Join us for the next ISN-ASN Meeting August 04-08, 2019 in Montreal**

<https://www.neurochemistry.org/2019-isn-asn-meeting/>

Robarts Research Institute Room # 3207  
1151 Richmond St. N, N6A 5B7  
The University of Western Ontario  
London, Ontario, Canada  
Tel: 519-9315777 Ext. 24888

<http://www.robarts.ca/marco-antonio-maximo-prado>

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