



January 22, 2020

Dear City Council,

Our transportation system has many ills that we need to address: **personal cars are the number one emitter of GHGs in London**, our roads and parking lots use up valuable land, most of us don't get enough exercise, congestion adds stress and cost, there are too many serious injuries, we spend too much money on getting around, and Londoners have very different access to jobs and activities if they can afford a car or not.

For too long we've accepted that driving is the only way and Londoners won't give up their cars. But that's a false narrative. If we provide great alternatives to driving such as frequent, reliable transit and a network of safe and convenient cycling lanes, Londoners will gladly choose the alternatives. After all, we have money to save, health benefits to gain, and emissions to be reduced.

London Cycle Link and Western Active Transportation Society are proposing an expansion of the safe cycling network by 40km over the next 4 years. This will attract the many Londoners who are **interested in cycling but are concerned about their safety**. An Ontario survey commissioned by Share the Road found that 32% of Ontarians want to cycle to and from work. Add the fact that 64% of all trips made in London are less than 5km (or a 15-minute bike ride) and there is a substantial latent demand for more cycling.

Funding this proposal would cost \$30 million over the next 4 years, or an additional \$19 million from what is already proposed. **We propose that this be funded from the existing road widening budget (\$220 million) or from relevant reserve funds.** We have declared a climate emergency and we need to take the necessary steps to reduce our emissions.

Our second ask is for City Hall to hire a cycling and walking manager. **This would add staff capacity, design expertise and provide an internal champion at City Hall further encouraging cycling and walking in London.** Kitchener has three permanent positions working on active transportation and Hamilton has two. London could save on consultant fees through this position while maximizing impact with the cycling budget.

We have a choice to make and we ask that you consider our proposal for expanding the safe cycling network and hiring a cycling and walking manager. We have attached the list of signatures and comments on our petition for safe streets for a healthy, vibrant London.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D Hall".

Daniel Hall

On behalf of the London Cycle Link Board and Western Active Transportation Society