



Promoting Safe Cycling Throughout Durham Region

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To - Durham Regional Chair and local Mayors

RE: AMO AGM and Annual Conference/new Hwy 407/412 & 418 impacts on DR cycling

On behalf of the cycling groups we represent, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support regarding the road safety issues that have been caused by the new Highway 407 East development. We appreciate the letters that you have issued to the Honorable Steven Del Duca, Minister of Transportation, in support of incorporating cycling into this provincial roadway development. **We feel that the theme of this year's Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference – Bridging the GAP** – is particularly pertinent for further conversation on this issue: **Bridging the GAPS**.

The DRCC feels that this conference is an excellent opportunity for Durham Regional leadership to meet face to face with MTO Minister and discuss the missed opportunity that has transpired for safety and the development of a cycling network with the 407 East Project. Most importantly, we feel that this is an opportunity to discuss how cycling can be effectively incorporated into Phase 2 of the project and to express our disappointment at the impact the 407 Phase 1 and 412 has had on our long term cycling network. We also believe that future CycleON, Climate Change funding and other similar grants **should not** have to be used to correct these past errors. Local cyclists also strongly believe that local municipalities should NOT be expected to pay for correcting these errors.

We have been in touch with Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Eleanor McMahon, who suggested she would also like to attend any meeting you may arrange.

This new 407 East project is an important infrastructure improvement for our region. It is also a major symbolic infrastructure project undertaken since the announcement of CycleON Action Plan 1.0, which includes plans to ***“incorporate design features for cyclist and pedestrian facilities and safety improvements on provincial road and bridge projects using appropriate criteria”***. When you meet with Minister Del Duca at AMO, we hope that you will take the opportunity to encourage the MTO to view this project through the CycleON lens and to maximize the value of provincial infrastructure development for all road users, including those who bike.

Thank you for your considerations.

Bruce MacDonald
Executive Director
Durham Region Cycling Coalition

CC: Share the Road Coalition

Durham Mountain Bike Association, Clarington Cycling Club, Durham Cycling Club, Oshawa Cycling Club, Uxbridge Cycling Club