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November 1, 2024

Mayor and Members of Council:

The following is a copy of a recommendation adopted by the City of Orillia's Transportation and Parking Working Group at its meeting held on October 30, 2024:

"THAT, further to the submission dated October 17, 2024 regarding the **restriction of bike lanes** by the Province, the Transportation and Parking Working Group recommends to Council that correspondence be created to support the City of Guelph comments related to this matter by the November 20, 2024 deadline for comments."

The Bill has been introduced as [Bill 212, Reducing Gridlock, Saving You Time Act, 2024](#). The Working Group discussed the potential impact of the proposed provincial oversight specifically with respect to a municipality's ability to create and implement new bike lanes. The summarized impacts from the City of Guelph effectively capture the sentiments of the Working Group. The City of Guelph adopted the following resolution at its meeting held on September 24, 2024 which reads:

"That the mayor be directed to write a letter to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Transportation, AMO, OBCM and MPP Mike Schreiner on behalf of Guelph City Council to oppose the media reported planned provincial legislation to restrict municipal bike lane placement as counter to: Guelph's Vision Zero goals; best practices in transportation management; climate change initiatives; cost management for future infrastructure maintenance; Bill 185's development goals; and economic benefits to businesses.

Further that the mayor request the provincial government instead invest in funding public transportation goals to reduce traffic congestion and aide future developments to be built with less parking."

The Working Group respectfully requests that Council consider and provide a letter of support for the City of Guelph resolution to be submitted to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario and the Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. As previously noted, the deadline for comments on the proposed bill is November 20, 2024.

Regards,

Brandon Amyot, Meeting Facilitator
On behalf of the City of Orillia Transportation and Parking Working Group

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