



Hamilton Bike Share Inc  
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## Added Item 5.1.a

March 26, 2019

Dear Members of Hamilton City Council,

On behalf of Hamilton Bike Share and the Everyone Rides Initiative, we support the removal of local streets from the list of permitted routes for heavy traffic in the City of Hamilton truck route bylaw. Our organization's mission is centred around increasing access to bike share and cycling in Hamilton, and the presence of large trucks has a detrimental impact on the neighbourhoods we serve and the riders and prospective riders who live, work, and play in those neighbourhoods.

The Everyone Rides Initiative is our equity program that is dedicated to removing barriers to bike share, and in particular we work with marginalized Hamiltonians in key neighborhoods to enable them to reap the many benefits of cycling. Participants in the Everyone Rides Initiative report that safety concerns are a major factor that prevent them from cycling more, even though many of these same people do not have access to a car and they want to ride a bike to their destinations and for recreation and wellness. Many of these participants report that they feel unsafe and vulnerable alongside large trucks that share lanes or are next to them when they are in a bike lane, especially as most of these routes lack proper separated bike infrastructure. Trucks pose a particular threat to our most vulnerable road users because of their large blind spots, and they contribute to poor air quality in corridors where our 20,000+ members ride and walk each day.

Safety and livability should not come at the expense of trucking companies that can choose to circumvent these local "shortcut" streets by using the surrounding highways. We look to you, our elected representatives, to demonstrate leadership and to implement people-centred policies that protect the well being of residents. The current truck route bylaw is incompatible with Vision Zero, the City of Hamilton vision "To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully", and the values of our organization.

Thank you for receiving our input and we hope you will join us in working to improve the quality of life for the people of Hamilton by updating the truck route bylaw to permit fewer local streets for heavy truck traffic.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Cox

General Manager  
Hamilton Bike Share

Thea Jones

Program Manager, Everyone Rides Initiative  
Hamilton Bike Share