

CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

Council Date: November 13, 2024

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR C. KROETSCH.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR C. CASSAR.....

**Opposing the Proposed Provincial Initiative that Seeks to Restrict or Limit the
Autonomy of Municipalities in Implementing Road Safety Measures**

WHEREAS, the safety of all road users, including cyclists, is a paramount concern and a fundamental responsibility of both provincial and municipal governments;

WHEREAS, crashes involving motor vehicles pose significant risks to cyclists, pedestrians, and other vulnerable road users, leading to serious injuries and fatalities;

WHEREAS, the implementation of safe road infrastructures, such as bike lanes, is a proven measure to enhance the safety and accessibility of roadways for cyclists, promoting healthier and sustainable transportation options;

WHEREAS, the Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario (“OCC”) conducted the Cycling Death review, which was the most comprehensive death review into the causes of cycling deaths in Ontario;

WHEREAS, the OCC made its primary recommendation to the province the adoption of “Complete Streets” which emphasize the need for comprehensive planning and design of roadway infrastructure to safely accommodate all users, including through the installation of more cycling networks including bike lanes;

WHEREAS, municipal governments have the local knowledge and contextual understanding necessary to effectively address specific community transportation needs, including the development and maintenance of safe cycling infrastructure within their cities;

WHEREAS, any provincial initiative that seeks to prevent or preclude municipalities from implementing necessary road safety measures, such as bike lanes, undermines local governance and the ability of municipalities to protect the well-being of their residents and ensure compliance with their obligations that roadways are reasonably safe for all users; and

WHEREAS, this resolution expresses the City of Hamilton’s commitment to supporting municipal autonomy in enhancing road safety and emphasizes the importance of integrating protective measures for cyclists through locally tailored infrastructure solutions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That Hamilton City Council formally oppose any proposed provincial initiative that seeks to restrict or limit the autonomy of municipalities in implementing road safety measures, including the establishment and or removal of bike lanes or bike infrastructure;
- (b) That Hamilton City Council supports the empowerment of municipal road authorities to independently assess and recommend the best methods to ensure the safety of all road users within their jurisdictions and responsibilities; and
- (c) That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, the Minister of Transportation; the Honourable Paul Calandra, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the area MPPs and MPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario Municipalities.