

2019 11 07 Williams Parkway widening letter to BikeBrampton members by David Laing

From: David Laing

Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2019 4:09 PM

Subject: Williams Parkway widening

Hello all,

In the past couple of months our City Council has spent considerable political capital supporting the 2040 Vision; the same vision that so many residents in this City applauded and endorsed less than two years ago. A walkable and bikeable city; a safe city; a green city.

Among other things, Council has passed the Active Transportation Master Plan. They have earmarked over \$2M in the 2019 budget for building bike lanes and other active transportation infrastructure. And, perhaps most controversially, they have put a hold on the 6-lane widening project for Williams Parkway. The Williams Parkway widening project will cost over \$130M. Contrary to common thinking, the road widening will do little to improve traffic congestion. Studies indicate that widening roads provides only temporary relief as it encourages more driving leading to more cars on the road, leading to ever more congestion. We must implement different solutions if we expect different results.

Brampton is quickly becoming an urban centre and we need urban style transportation solutions not 6-lane road behemoths that are only efficient at killing pedestrians. We must be vocal in support of our Council members who are taking on a big risk to change the trajectory of our City away from the status quo. Here is a poll where you can voice your support, <https://www.bramptonguardian.com/news-story/9678263-brampton-pauses-williams-parkway-widening-after-councillors-question-6-lane-roads/> . Better still, call your local Councillor to let them know you've got their back.

David