

Greetings. I first wrote expressing my interest in and support for this proposal in October of 2016. I had hoped to be riding/walking on this bridge by now but, at least we are getting closer to that day.

I have been cycling or walking in this city for 30 years and am well aware of the shortcomings and high points in our infrastructure. This bridge will be a very positive addition and encouragement for active transportation. There have been letters in Guelph Today this past week about bike riding on sidewalks – which I admit that I have done on busy streets like Speedvale Avenue (which at times could be renamed “Speedway” Avenue. This bridge will provide a safe and scenic way to cross the river and remain on quiet, safer residential streets. It will result in more people (including me) staying out of my car when I need to go to that part of the City.

I urge Council to approve the staff recommendation.

Please include this message with Agenda item 2.3 Decision Report City Initiated Official Plan Amendment, Emma to Earl Pedestrian Bridge -2022-198.

Rick McDonald