

Dear Mayor Guthrie and Members of Council,

Yes, the following message is copied from a prompt provided by Guelph community for active transportation. But this matters to me specifically as somebody who does not own a car and whose wife does not have a driver's license. So our family of three relies on biking and walking for many of our trips year round. Multiple times last winter, I felt I was in even more danger than usual on the roads on my bike because I could not use the poorly maintained bike lane.

I want to continue doing my part to reduce noise, pollution, congestion, and other vehicle related woes in our city, but I cannot do that, and I fear for my family's safety, if the active transportation infrastructure we need is not maintained or, worse, does not exist.

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the 2026 budget reductions to Guelph's cycling and active transportation programs. To address these concerns, I am asking Council to take three specific actions in the 2026 budget: 1) restore winter bike lane snow removal to ensure year-round safe travel for cyclists, 2) reinstate dedicated funding for sustainable transportation, including new sidewalk construction (RD0404), cycling pavement marking (RD0452), and sustainable transportation programming (RD0392), and 3) add funding to Vision Zero to compensate for the loss of automated speed enforcement cameras and development charges (TF0028). These are essential investments in safety, accessibility, and environmental and healthcare responsibility.

Please stand up for a city where everyone, regardless of income, age, or ability, can move safely and affordably.

Sincerely,

Matt Brodie