

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

Please do not scale back cycling and trail investments in the 2026 Budget Update.

Specifically, please do not remove the winter plowing of bicycle lanes. Bicycle lanes are critical infrastructure in our city. Stopping plowing of bicycle lanes means that they will no longer be usable, negatively affecting myself and many others in this city.

I use those bicycle lanes regularly during the winter (for commuting, seeing friends, grocery shopping etc.). Cycling around the city is my main form of transportation during the winter (partly because the transit system is too slow). If the bicycle lanes are not plowed, I will be forced to ride in the driving lane which is very dangerous (and annoying for car drivers).

I will also point out that preventing people from cycling (or taking transit) does not make a city affordable. Stopping snow removal on bicycle lanes will make our city more unaffordable. Encouraging more people to cycle (or take transit) allows people to save their income. With higher disposable incomes, people will be more likely to spend their money locally, improving the sustainability of Guelph's tax base.

Again, I implore you to keep plowing the bicycle lanes in the city and to not scale back cycling infrastructure upgrades.

Thank you,
Chris Greyson-Gaito
Resident of Ward 5