

Dear Mayor Guthrie:

As you know, I've been involved with Speedvale EAs for a few years now -- and with transportation EAs since 1993. I can tell from council votes that you and many city councillors want active transportation (AT) folks off the road where these folks are legally entitled to be -- even to the point of spending millions of additional tax dollars and contravening the city's own bike policy (which states bike lanes be added whenever new road construction takes place).

It is really too bad that council has no interest in new multi-modal road designs for fear they might slow down traffic flow. We could have easily had a Speedvale road diet pilot done by now and had real data to see if these fears are founded.<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, other municipalities are taking steps in this direction: Toronto just completed a year-long Bloor Street road diet/bike lanes pilot project with incredible results.<sup>2</sup> Mayor John Tory will be voting this month to make the road diet permanent.

I had a letter to the editor published in Thursday's Tribune<sup>3</sup> which was based on my Oct 2 council deputation promoting a "Barrier Free" Speedvale between Marlborough Road and the west side of the bridge.<sup>4</sup> Besides giving city staff an alternative that supports their recommendation not to build the underpass, this school zone-like design gets AT folks (and car drivers and emergency vehicles) across and along Speedvale safely, saves river habitat, renders the Emma-Earl Bridge redundant and saves at least \$4 million. These savings can be re-allocated to all the other unsafe trail crossings throughout the city (e.g. Eramosa, MacDonnell, etc.).

If council is truly committed to safety for all road users, private property owners, fiscal responsibility and environmental protection, a "Barrier Free" Speedvale or a road diet is the best answer. More info at <http://www.martincollier.ca/news.html>.

Sincerely,

Martin Collier, MES (Pl.)  
Director, Healthy Transport Consulting  
Founder, Transport Futures

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.change.org/p/guelph-city-council-vote-for-safe-speedvale-avenue-test-a-road-diet-design>

<sup>2</sup> <https://vimeo.com/237848270>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.martincollier.ca/assets/Speedvale%20Bridge%20Underpass%20-%20Letter%20-%20Oct%205%202017.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.martincollier.ca/assets/Speedvale%20Crosswalk%20Solution.pdf>