From: William Wright

To: Freedman, Richard; Rinaldi, Mary Lou; Alswanger, Geoff; Burwick, Laura; Mahoney, Dennis; McMullen, J.R.

Cc: <u>Donoghue, Tracy</u>

Subject: Support for funding for bicycle and pedestrian facilities implementation (CP8705)

Date: Thursday, March 23, 2023 10:25:49 AM

Dear Members of the Board of Finance,

I am writing to express my strong support for the inclusion of \$500,000 in funding for bicycle and pedestrian facilities implementation (CP8705) in the City's budget. As an advocate for safer streets and a concerned parent of young children, I believe that this funding is critical for improving the safety and livability of our community, particularly for children and other vulnerable populations.

The benefits of safe streets funding are clear. This funding will be used to support infrastructure improvements such as sidewalks, crosswalks, bike lanes, and traffic calming measures, which help reduce the number of crashes and fatalities on our roads. These improvements are necessary for the City to achieve its Vision Zero goal of eliminating all roadway deaths and serious injuries by 2032. They will also help ensure that children like mine can walk to school or bike around their neighborhood without the constant risk of serious injury or death.

Investing in safe streets has a positive impact on the environment and public health. By promoting alternative modes of transportation such as walking, cycling, and public transit, we can reduce the number of cars on the road and improve air quality. This has the additional benefit of reducing traffic congestion as well.

I urge you to support the inclusion of \$500,000 in safe streets funding in this year's budget. It is an investment that will pay dividends for years to come in terms of improved safety, livability, and public health.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Will Wright 228 Pepper Ridge Road