CANADA PULSE INSIGHTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Nearly Two-Thirds (62%) of Torontonians Support Province's Removal of Bike Lanes on Major Streets

*Mayor Chow's supporters are evenly split (50% support, 50% oppose), while more than three-quarters (77%) of Brad Bradford's supporters back the move*

**Toronto, Canada, October 13, 2026 –** As Ontario moves ahead with removing bike lanes on Bloor Street West and cycling advocates prepare to seek leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada, a new Canada Pulse Insights poll conducted for Rogers CityNews finds that nearly two-thirds (62%) of Torontonians support the province's move to convert bike lanes on major Toronto streets back into lanes for motor vehicles. This includes nearly one-third (32%) who strongly support the change. More than one-third (38%) oppose the move, including one in five (20%) who strongly oppose it.

The dispute centres on the province's stated aim of reducing traffic congestion and cycling advocates' concerns about the risks to cyclist safety. A lower-court judge initially blocked the removal plan, finding it posed an unconstitutional risk to cyclists. The Ontario Court of Appeal overturned that ruling in August, concluding that the judge had misapplied the law and strayed into the legislature's policy-making role. Cycling advocates now plan to ask the Supreme Court of Canada to hear the case.

The poll was conducted between September 14 and 24, after the province announced it would remove bike lanes on Bloor Street, Yonge Street, University Avenue, Queen's Park, Queen's Park Crescent and Avenue Road, but before removal work was scheduled to begin on Bloor Street West and advocates announced their intention to seek a Supreme Court appeal.

With Toronto's municipal election set for October 26, the issue divides supporters of the two leading candidates for mayor. Supporters of Mayor Olivia Chow are evenly split: 50% support the move and 50% oppose it. Among supporters of Councillor Brad Bradford, three-quarters (77%) support it and 23% oppose it. Nearly two-thirds (63%) of undecided voters support the move.

### Key findings

- **62%** of Torontonians support the province's move to turn bike lanes on major Toronto streets back into lanes for motor vehicles; 38% oppose it.
- **32%** strongly support the move; 20% strongly oppose it.
- **50%** of Mayor Olivia Chow's supporters support the move and 50% oppose it — 35% strongly.
- **77%** of Councillor Brad Bradford's supporters support the move — 55% strongly; 23% oppose it.
- **63%** of undecided voters support the move; 37% oppose it.

## Nearly two-thirds (62%) support turning bike lanes on major streets back into lanes for motor vehicles; 38% oppose

Respondents were told that in early September 2026 the Ontario government announced it would begin the process of “restoring motor vehicle lanes” by removing bike lanes on Bloor Street, Yonge Street, University Avenue, Queen’s Park, Queen’s Park Crescent and Avenue Road. Asked about the move to turn the bike lanes on these streets back into lanes for use by motor vehicles, 32% of Torontonians strongly support it and 30% somewhat support it; 18% somewhat oppose it and 20% strongly oppose it.

Q. In early September 2026, the Ontario government announced it would begin the process of “restoring motor vehicle lanes” by removing bike lanes on Bloor Street, Yonge Street, University Avenue, Queen’s Park, Queen’s Park Crescent and Avenue Road. Do you support or oppose the move to turn the bike lanes on these streets back into lanes for use by motor vehicles?

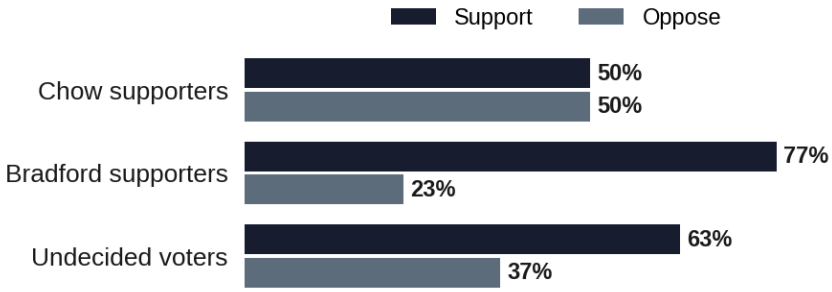



Source: Canada Pulse Insights for Rogers CityNews, September 14–24, 2026 (Toronto n=510). Online sample and data management by Sago. Base: Toronto residents n=510.

## Chow supporters are evenly split (50% support, 50% oppose); three-quarters (77%) of Bradford supporters support the move

The poll was conducted before Chris Alexander withdrew from Toronto’s mayoral race. The results below are for supporters of the two leading candidates, incumbent mayor Olivia Chow and Toronto city councillor Brad Bradford, and for voters who are undecided. Chow supporters are evenly split, with 50% supporting the move and 50% opposing it. Bradford supporters are more likely than Chow supporters to support it (77% vs. 50%). Among undecided voters, nearly two-thirds (63%) support the move and 37% oppose it.

Percent who support (strongly + somewhat) and percent who oppose (somewhat + strongly) the move to turn the bike lanes back into lanes for motor vehicles, by mayoral vote (leaners included).



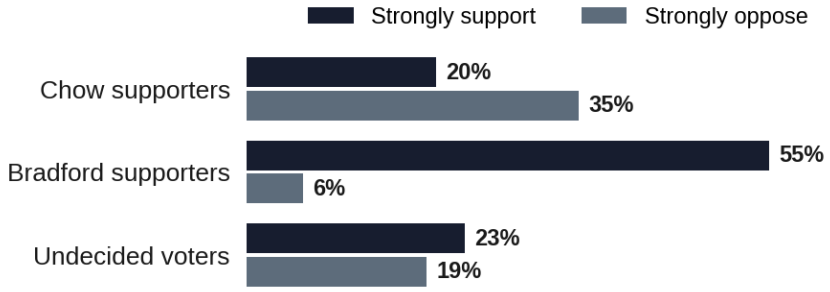

Source: Canada Pulse Insights for Rogers CityNews, September 14–24, 2026 (Toronto n=510). Online sample and data management by Sago. Base: Toronto residents who support or lean toward Olivia Chow n=200, Brad Bradford n=126; undecided voters n=101.


© Canada Pulse Insights 2026

## More than one-third (35%) of Chow supporters strongly oppose the move; 55% of Bradford supporters strongly support it

Chow supporters are more likely than Bradford supporters to strongly oppose the move (35% vs. 6%). Bradford supporters are more likely than Chow supporters to strongly support it (55% vs. 20%). Among undecided voters, 23% strongly support the move and 19% strongly oppose it.

Percent who strongly support and percent who strongly oppose the move to turn the bike lanes back into lanes for motor vehicles, by mayoral vote (leaners included).




Source: Canada Pulse Insights for Rogers CityNews, September 14–24, 2026 (Toronto n=510). Online sample and data management by Sago. Base: Toronto residents who support or lean toward Olivia Chow n=200, Brad Bradford n=126; undecided voters n=101.

## About the Survey

This survey was conducted among adult (18+) residents of the City of Toronto (n=510) by Canada Pulse Insights between September 14 and 24, 2026. A random sample of adult respondents was invited to complete the survey through an online panel platform managed by Sago, one of the world's largest and most respected sample and panel suppliers. The data were weighted to 2021 Census benchmarks, so the sample aligns with the city's adult population by age and gender. The margin of error for a probability-based sample of this size is ±4.3 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. Any discrepancies between the detailed tables and published results are due to rounding.

Both Canada Pulse Insights and Sago are accredited members of the Canadian Research Insights Council (CRIC) and adhere to its Canadian Code of Market, Opinion, and Social Research and Data Analytics, which incorporates international ESOMAR standards and Canadian public opinion disclosure requirements. The detailed tables and full question wording for this survey are posted on the Canada Pulse Insights website as a companion to this release, consistent with CRIC's transparency standards for research released into the public domain.

**–30–**

**For further information:**

John Wright, CEO, Canada Pulse Insights
Email: johnwright@canadapulseinsights.com
Phone: 416-700-4218
Website: CanadaPulseInsights.com


© Canada Pulse Insights 2026