

2013 11 29 David Laing to Neal Smith re Mayfield Rd Environmental Assessment

From: David Laing
Sent: Friday, November 29, 2013 11:22 AM
To: neal.smith@peelregion.ca
Cc: BBAC members
Subject:

Hello Mr. Smith,

My name is David Laing and I chair the Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee, a volunteer based advocacy group that promotes active transportation in Brampton and Peel Region. We are interested in seeing the development of appropriate bicycle facilities in our community. As such and, on behalf of the committee, I am sending you the attached comments on the proposed roadway development along Mayfield Rd.

The bicycle facilities that are currently available on regional roads in Brampton are both limited and lack the necessary level of continuity and safety elements. Only the diehard cyclists feel safe riding on the regional roads in Brampton. Mayfield has the potential to be a significant east-west cycling commuter route as additional residential and commercial development continues along Brampton's northern boundary and in Caledon South. I applaud the region's foresight in incorporating multi-use pathways and bike detection systems in the current Mayfield preferred plan. That said, given our member's experiences cycling the Region's current pathways, our comment is that the Mayfield implementation will need to be an improvement from the current standard.

I want to emphasize that other communities in Ontario have seen reduced traffic congestion and achieved substantial road development and maintenance cost savings, (both current and future), by building effective bicycle infrastructure; one that encourages even a relatively modest modal shift from cars to active transportation. I see no reason why the same opportunity should not be made available to residents of Peel.

Sincerely,
David Laing
Chair, Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee