

BBAC minutes

April 21, 2014 - 6:30pm – 8:30pm

16 George Street North (Brampton Safe City Association offices)

Attendees: Members: Councillor John Hutton, David Laing, Dayle Laing, Pauline (Polly) Thornham, Stephen Laidlaw, Kevin Montgomery, John Van West, Tricia Prato, Paola Rico (new member)

Guests: Erica Duque (Peel Active Transportation), Victoria Kaye (Enrich Magazine), Ian McGillivray

Regrets: Gerald Pyjor, George Shepperdley, Jerry Prato

Meeting Started: 6:38 pm

Review and approve minutes from last meeting Motion to approve minutes: Kevin, seconded Polly – carried

Actions arising from previous minutes None

BBAC Project Updates

1. Downtown bicycle revitalization project including updated signage, bicycle parking, downtown signed bike routes etc.

John reported on Brampton Guardian article regarding active transportation. Dayle posted to website: <http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/04/21/active-lifestyles-reengineered-cities-bramptons-future-apr-16-2014/> Erica noted the article references Dr. Mowat's one minute video clip for TCAT, which is worth viewing and posting link on our website. **Action:** Dayle to post link.

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/04/24/its-your-move-video-by-dr-david-mowat/>

Polly commented that Brampton Guardian has more content relevant to biking since the new editor arrived. Polly suggested last meeting that a letter be written to the editor of the Brampton Guardian regarding the future of cycling and growth in Brampton.

Action: Polly to raise as action item for next meeting

BBAC minutes

Action: John to send relevant U of T article to Dayle for posting.

Kevin and David attended Fletchers Creek residents' meeting regarding removing bike lanes. Discussion ensued about importance of bike routes connecting to schools, and retail, importance of connectivity overall in planning and importance of giving residents time to get used to changes, rather than having Council react prematurely to complaints. It was explained that "urban curbs" are a compromise that provide narrow lanes with bump-outs to calm traffic and that can be shared with parked cars and cyclists. It is important to engineer correctly from the onset to avoid spending money to remove bike lanes and hold information sessions to listen to residents. David has requested Mike Parks and Nelson Cadete get BBAC involved for improved input that will result in better outcomes for road construction and residents' satisfaction. There was discussion about changing culture and the need for education. David cited the example of Copenhagen with a similar climate that made a conscious decision to change the culture and the resulting satisfaction, preference for biking and the preferential maintenance of bike lanes even during winter. There was more discussion about need for modal shift to bicycling in Brampton to accommodate increased population. David reported that Peter Vansicle has invited BBAC members to ride onto the Rose Theatre stage at the beginning before the **Gil Penalosa** keynote (**8-80 Cities** <http://8-80cities.org/> Wednesday, April 23rd, 6-8pm. Those who can come for 3:30pm can help bring over bicycles from Cyclepath. They will be hung in the air for props. This is an opportunity to listen to an internationally recognized expert in urban planning and bicycle infrastructure. Dayle posted to Events-GTA on website: <http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/03/24/8-80-cities-presentation-rose-theatre-april-22-2014/>

2. Safe bike routes to schools pilot project PEEL Bike Rodeos committee (now called the Peel Bike Education Workgroup)

Polly reported that funding will likely be approved for the Rodeo to be held at our Bike the Creek event June 21st.
Action: Polly to update BBAC at next meeting on Rodeo status.

BBAC minutes

Action: Defer Councillor Hutton's idea about inviting the press to Rodeo until after confirmation of Rodeo event.

Action: Tricia to review Bike Rodeo materials with David after meeting -done

3. Bike recycling program for disadvantaged families
(Adaoma Patterson, Peel Poverty Reduction Strategy)

Gerald reported he and David are co-presenting April 18th to Region of Peel group. They will be presenting various strategies. Erica noted that there are programs in Toronto for lending bikes and mentorship for both new and established Torontonians of lower incomes.

Action: Gerald to report back at our May 12th meeting.

Action: David to send invite to Erica for someone from her office to attend presentation.

4. Bike the Creek (Etobicoke Creek Trail nature interpretive bike ride) June 21st

Dayle posted link for registration through either City of Brampton or TRCA: <http://bikebrampton.ca/events-2/>

David reported that the planning group including BBAC, Brampton, Region and TRCA (Toronto and Region Conservation Authority) is now meeting every 2 weeks. Registration has surpassed 100! We have 8 ½ weeks left.

Discussion about more **promotion** and use of business card size of postcards for ease of putting in pockets, less paper and less printer ink used.

Action: Dayle to design simple business cards with Bike the Creek logo, print, cut and mail to those in group who are not attending Rose Theatre event on Wednesday.

Action: Kevin to send Dayle QR code link to incorporate in design

Action: Dayle to send Erica the design file for her to print for promotional coverage by Peel Walk & Roll

The city has put up posters at Cyclepath, Sportchek, libraries, Walmart, recreation centres, YMCA

Action: David to get additional posters from city and distribute to Bramalea Community Health Centre and Punjabi Community Health Services

Action: David to supply Councillor Hutton two posters for Rotary Club Heart Lake and City Hall

BBAC minutes

David reported that Caledon is participating in Bike the Creek, and will have a portable toilet at the north end of the ride at Valleywood. Caledon OPP will also participate.

Action: Councillor Hutton will speak with Caledon Councillor to coordinate and encourage Caledon residents' participation.

David reported that we have 23 of the required 40 volunteers – for marshalling, registration, and lunch. Volunteers will receive lunch.

Action: BBAC members to recruit volunteers and get request forms from David.

David supplied Councillor Hutton with list of essential curb cuts for Bike the Creek path as requested at March meeting.

Action: Councillor Hutton to follow up with staff on progress of curb cuts.

Action: Erica to forward meeting minutes on outcome of February 12th meeting with Waterfront Trails Trust and representatives from Peel and Brampton re Greenbelt trails signage requirements along the Etobicoke Creek Trail.

5. Brampton Cycling Pamphlet

Kevin reported he still had not heard back and there does not appear to be funding available for pamphlets.

Motion: Polly moved to drop this as a priority. Kevin seconded. Carried.

6. Social Media and Website

Action: Kevin to report website and social media traffic next month.

7. Mayfield Road Environmental Assessment

David reported that at Chinguacousy, there are two sections that are changing from 4 lanes to 6 lanes. Bike lanes are described in the Environmental Assessment in a general way only. David heard back from Margie Chung (Region of Peel) regarding implementation of Book 18 elements on Mayfield Rd. They are waiting for MTO (Ministry of Transportation) to approve as a pilot. It is still subject to funding. David advised Margie that BBAC will continue to advocate and we will not accept a bike path starting and stopping without continuity on Mayfield. David

BBAC minutes

received a voicemail from Neal Smith stating he will apprise David of dates for public information feedback.

8. Develop a prioritized list of infrastructure projects

David proposed a list of current priorities:

- a. Active transportation crossing of Queen St. at Scott St.,
- b. Repair of railway level crossing at James and John Streets
- c. Replacement of stairs at Wellington Street with an accessible ramp.
- d. Curb cuts along the Etobicoke Creek Trail as identified in a note by David
- e. Additional signage along Etobicoke Creek Trail
- f. Kennedy Valley Trail Extension
- g. Bicycle Facilities along County Court, Fernforest, Richvale Drive
- h. Multi-use trail signs and marking along McVean Drive, Clarkway Blvd and Chinguacousy Road in accordance with OTM Book 18

Kevin prepared and printed large 3'x4' map with bike routes for ongoing use and discussion at each meeting. The group thanked Kevin for this initiative.

Action: Erica to send Kevin link to KML file for inclusion in map.

Tricia commented on problem crossing #410 safely. Kevin suggested using Vodden or Glidden. Both Bovaird and Sandalwood at #410 are considered provincial, not local. Tricia mentioned issue of Etobicoke Trail P-gates at Vodden, where cyclists are supposed to dismount due to low bridge. This may be partially resolved with curb cuts requested for Bike the Creek by offering an alternate option to cross Vodden at grade rather than using the underpass. Erica reported that 3 students at Sheridan College are building a trails map for a credit.

John suggested BBAC members plan a group ride, section by section and prepare list of good trails and issues for city attention. Discussion about whether we can survey a section at a Critical Mass ride. (Next Critical Mass

BBAC minutes

Ride is Friday Apr 25th 6:15pm at Gage Park --- every last Friday of the month)

Motion: to survey Brampton sequentially by section for cycling route issues for the attention of city staff –by John, seconded by Kevin, carried.

Action: David to bring map to subsequent meetings for ongoing updates

Action: BBAC members to note issues from sections and provide list to David

Action: David to consolidate and send section issue list to Councillor Hutton for city staff.

New Business

1. Motorists and Cyclists Education

David has tried numerous times to contact Sergeant Tom Murray (Peel bike patrol) to discuss safety program implementation in Brampton

Action: David will continue to attempt contact his replacement, Sergeant Tony Hart

2. Ontario Bike Summit (Apr 14-15, 2014)

Eleanor McMahon invited David to present at two of the breakout sessions, and gave him a complimentary entrance for the day. David reported that this was excellent visibility for BBAC. He reported about the presentations he did hear when he wasn't speaking himself. Share the Road Coalition has more than 5000 members. 24 Bicycle Friendly Communities represent 57% of the provincial population. There was no one from the City of Brampton in attendance at the summit. One of the keynote speakers, Minister of Transportation Glen Murray spoke about proposed changes to the Ontario Traffic Act Bill 173 (already reported on our website):

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/03/25/keeping-ontario-roads-safe-act-march-17-2014/> Minister Murray is proposing committing 1% of the \$13 billion road spending to cycling infrastructure. He said cycling is to be included in all road projects, and that complete street strategies are to be used. Personally, he has lost more than 30 kg since he switched from driving a car to biking.

BBAC minutes

Lawyer Belinda A. Bain, Partner & Co-Head Insurance and Professional Liability Group, Gowlings, spoke about municipal liability. Based upon her presentation, municipalities do not need to be afraid about liabilities regarding bicycle facilities. When David asked her about curb cut liability specifically, she responded that curb cuts do not add additional liability, and they are mandatory under the disabilities act (AODA).

The Mayor of Pittsburgh William Peduto spoke about changes in his city. In 2003, Pittsburgh was the 5th worst biking city in the US. It is now amongst the top 30. He cited their complete streets program, that they work well with partners, and that they combined their river redevelopment with bicycle infrastructure. He noted Pittsburgh actually has more hills than San Francisco. The city pays attention to the triple bottom line: people, product, and planet. They have attracted tourism as a result. The CEO of Google told the Mayor that bike infrastructure is an important part of attracting and retaining employees.

Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) members should be aware that assistance is provided for bicycle problems!

3. Project BEAT (Built Environment and Active Transport)

Erica reported that Dr. Ron Buliung, professor at U of T, co-principle investigator on Project BEAT, will be releasing the results of his latest study on April 24th. This research is related to children and active transportation.

http://www.physical.utoronto.ca/Beat/Who_we_are/Dr_Ron_Buliung.aspx

Action: Erica to provide information once study is published.

4. Bike Paths along LRT Route

Discussion was held about the necessity of having a continuous bike path along the Main Street LRT line. Councillor Hutton reported that the bike path is to be a raised grade along the Mississauga section, while the Brampton section is to be at grade. At grade is less expensive to maintain, but is not as safe for cyclists. Councillor Hutton noted that the LRT route in Mississauga is

BBAC minutes

defined while the route in Brampton is not yet defined. Bridges at highways 403 and 407 are to be widened.

5. Proposed Amendment to Highway Traffic Act

Kevin announced MTO (Ministry of Transportation) has proposed a Keeping Ontario's Roads Safe Act to increase fines on "dooring", to enforce the one metre rule (drivers passing cyclists), and to allow cycling on road shoulders of non-restricted highways.

Action: Dayle to write and post article with link:

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/03/25/keeping-ontario-roads-safe-act-march-17-2014/>

6. GPS Cycling Study has been presented to Region of Peel Council and study officially published

Dayle posted on our Bike Brampton website:

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/04/02/peel-region-gps-cycling-study-january-2014/>

7. GPS for General Cycling Route Planning

Kevin and George reported a 6-year old application that gives people advice if they are not familiar with a bicycle route. Members have uploaded millions of rides, which can be exported.

Action: Dayle to post the link on our website useful links:

<http://ridewithgps.com/>

Kevin launched an App to "Exist with a Car-Free Life":

www.carfree.kemosite.com

8. Etobicoke Trail south end connection to Greenbelt Trail

There was discussion about the trail status. David reported that the trail currently ends at the Powerade Centre and starts again approximately 2.5 km south at Courtney Park Drive. This project is already funded and delay has been caused by waiting for approvals from Ministry of Transportation and other levels. Trail construction will commence this summer, to be hopefully

BBAC minutes

ready for PanAm games. #410 is slated for widening, which is a threat to trail construction completion and staying open. There is a future tourism opportunity, which is in keeping with the #CycleON strategy of the provincial government. <http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/02/10/cycleon-ontarios-cycling-strategy/>

9. Brampton BikeFest, Saturday June 14th, 11am-4pm

David reported that the city has asked BBAC to participate, as we did last year. David was invited by MTO (Ministry of Transportation) to apply for a grant of \$1000 for safety equipment to be distributed to residents at BikeFest as part of our booth activities.

Action: David to complete the application and submit by the deadline of April 30th.

Action: David to provide more details about BBAC member responsibilities once city staff has organized the event.

10. Snelgrove Association Picnic, Sat. July 5th

Councillor Hutton invited BBAC to have a booth at the picnic

Action: Councillor Hutton to provide more details so that BBAC can assign volunteers and responsibilities

Events

Gil Penalosa presentation at the Rose Theatre, Wed April 23rd, 6:00-8:00 pm

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/04/21/gil-penalosa-brings-urban-expertise-free-rose-theatre-presentation-apr-23-2014/>

Brampton Long-range transportation plan, City Hall 4-8:00 pm

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/04/10/brampton-transportation-master-plan-update-apr-23-2014/>

BBAC minutes

Greenbelt Trail Leaders Ride and Seminars May 5-9th

David and George have selected Mar 7th to participate in the Georgetown to Aurora ride and workshops in this invitation-only event.

Action: George to report on event at next meeting.

Bike to Work Day Breakfast May 26th, Garden Square, 7:30-9am

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/05/02/bike-work-day-brampton-garden-square-may-26-2014/>

Brampton Bike Fest (Celebrampton) Saturday June 14th, 11am-4pm

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/04/21/celebrampton-flower-city-parade-june-14-2014/>

Ride don't hide June 22nd

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/03/11/ride-dont-hide-canadian-mental-health-association-ride-june-22-2014/>

Western GTA Live Task Force Presentation

Action: David to acquire more details

Beth Savan, Partner at Think Do Tank presents research study results on Cycling Economic Impact – June 9th, DTZ Barnicke office, 90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W (just south of Square One) 6pm.

Action: Dayle to post link on website

Referred Matters List

1. Discussion with Nelson Cadete re specifications for including pedestrians and cyclists in design for traffic roundabouts

Deferred until Nelson present

2. John suggested we send questions to Brampton politicians to determine cycling position for upcoming

Deferred until candidates announced and BBAC formulates questions based

BBAC minutes

election

on the infrastructure priorities list

3. Brampton Ward Rides

Discussion about deferring until after election due to confusion with multiple candidates.

Motion: Defer Ward Ride planning until January 2015 by Tricia, seconded Steve, carried.

Action: Bring forward to January 2015 meeting

Meeting Adjourned 8:45p.m.

Moved by Polly, seconded by Kevin, Carried

Next meeting Monday May 12th, 6:30 p.m.