

BBAC minutes

June 23, 2014 - 6:30pm – 8:30pm

16 George Street North (Brampton Safe City Association offices)

Attendees: Members: David Laing, Dayle Laing, Stephen Laidlaw, Kevin Montgomery, Paola Rico, George Shepperdley, Ernst Braendli
Guests: Erica Duque (Peel Active Transportation), Andria Oliveira, Lisa Stokes, Michael Stokes

Regrets: Councillor John Hutton, Gerald Pyjor, Jerry Prato, Tricia Prato, Pauline (Polly) Thornham, John Van West

Meeting Started: 6:38 pm

Review and approve minutes from last meeting

Motion to approve minutes: Kevin, seconded George – Carried

Actions arising from previous minutes

Action: Dayle to send Robert Rules of Democracy to interested BBAC members. Done

Action: David to contact Sergeant Curtis in 22 Division. - Done

– discussed bike safety blitz not yet rolled out in Brampton.

– discussed need to coordinate with BBAC to message share the road strategy rather than focusing only on cyclists.

Action: Dayle to write article on the Rotary Glen presentation and post photos to website:

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/05/15/cycling-future-presentation-apr-28-2014/>

Action: Kevin to post the slide deck for Fight Gridlock

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1VgiBRqoIYz8kGa9nCj_UVKSJS4QROoJ-pWtqZu5IMc/edit?usp=sharing

BBAC Project Updates

1. Downtown bicycle revitalization project including updated Dayle reported on Beth Savan presentation “Pedal Power = Economic Prosperity” on June 9th at Western GTA Summit LIVE Taskforce. Her presentation highlighted the economic benefits of increased

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signage, bicycle parking,
downtown signed bike routes
etc.

cycling in Professor Savan's research and from studies around North America. She is planning next phase of study for a smaller community than Toronto. <http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/06/16/pedal-power-equals-economic-prosperity/>

David gave update on 8-80 Cities Project in Brampton. <http://8-80cities.org/> Three "doable" neighbourhood projects are being considered from area bounded by Centre, Wellington, McMurchy and Vodden streets. Peter VanSickle is meeting with the 8-80 Cities team on July 3rd. Endorsed projects will be presented to BDDC (Brampton Downtown Development Corporation) Board on July 17th. Work will be scheduled to commence shortly after.

David reported that Alex Taranu, City of Brampton, Manager, Architectural Design Services, presented to both TRCA (Toronto and Region Conservation Authority) and to City Council the long-range \$100 million plan to revitalize Etobicoke Creek in Brampton downtown (Roselea Park).

Discussion about Downtown Brampton needing to become a destination for cycling to increase the vibrancy of the community. Concern expressed about losing momentum for the vision and strategy of cycling in the downtown for both 8-80 Cities Project and Roselea Park, should BDDC be discontinued.

Motion: That BBAC supports the 8-80 Cities Project and that David is to send letter on behalf of BBAC to John Corbett, City of Brampton, Chief Administrative Officer stating BBAC support for the continuation of the BDDC. Moved by Kevin, seconded by George. Carried

David reported on behalf of Polly, that she continues to work with Pam Douglas of the Brampton Guardian regarding an article/letter to the editor about the future of cycling and growth in Brampton.

Action: Polly to complete article for publishing in the Brampton Guardian.

David reported on new Bike Route signage in downtown at: Chapel, Wellington, Church, Union streets. David has sent thank you email to Nelson Cadete. –Discussion about this signage being a positive step.

David reported he has been in discussion with Angela Bennett, Community Partnerships, Brampton Board of Trade about implementing a "**Bike Friendly Business**" program including: signage and discounts that would encourage cyclists to shop in downtown Brampton.

Action: David to continue making contacts with Brampton Board of Trade and BDDC to see if this idea gains traction, then approach Rotary Glen Brampton which has offered to provide a signage sponsorship.

Kevin reported that Brampton's 311 telephone program has been responding to requests from citizens for ring and post installation sites. <http://bikebrampton.ca/ring-post-request/>

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2. Safe bike routes to schools pilot project PEEL Bike Rodeos committee (now called the Peel Bike Education Workgroup)
- David reported on behalf of Polly to have BBAC endorse participation in project now called “**Brampton Kids on Bikes**”
- Background:** Since the last meeting David was invited to apply for an Advocacy grant through the Heart & Stroke Foundation. The proposal submitted would involve research to understand why Brampton students are not riding or walking to school more, followed by the creation of an advocacy message designed to influence key stakeholders and decision makers to set aggressive student active transportation targets. The grant application was accepted. Polly will be the project lead with Polly and David doing the primary research. David is currently working through contract details.
- Discussion** ensued:
- about the extremes of AT participation: many cyclists at David Suzuki Secondary School compared to no riders at other schools.
 - about school board driven policy versus the current status of leadership within a school being the driver of policy.
 - about 2/3 to ¾ of neighbourhood children at one school being driven a longer distance than if they directly walked or biked.
 - about the high value of the Safety Village program but the low number of children being educated due to lack of capacity of the facility.
- Motion: BBAC supports the advocacy of Safe and Active Routes to School and further research being done with Brampton Kids on Bikes – moved by Kevin, seconded by Steve. Carried**
- Action:** Erica to provide information on BEAT project – Done (this research will be part of the review of literature for the above project.)
- Erica reported that a Peel Children’s Safety Village event will be offered on the following Wednesdays during the summer: July 2nd, July 9th, August 6th and August 16th.
<http://www.peelsafetyvillage.on.ca/events/events.html>
- Action:** Dayle to post event: <http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/06/27/summer-childrens-safety-village/>
- Erica reported that the (DPCSDB) Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board’s “Ecoschool Certification” now has an option of awarding points for walking or biking to school.
<http://www.dpcdsb.org/cec/news/news+archives/ecoschool+certification.htm>
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3. Bike recycling program for disadvantaged families Now to
- David reported in Gerald’s absence that a bike clinic pilot project is being created as a result of Gerald and David’s presentation on April 18th to the Peel Poverty Reduction Strategy Committee. The
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be called “Bike Clinic Pilot Project”

presentation linked the benefits of bicycling to lower income families, breaking the cycle of inactivity which leads to increased health risk which in turn leads to loss of income. The presentation outcome was agreement that Peel Region Health and Social Services would support starting a pilot program involving a clinic to teach bike maintenance to high-school students who in turn would offer, training, and mentoring to younger students plus potentially other social services but in a neutral nonjudgmental setting. Gerald will lead the pilot project. Ernst and Paola volunteering to act as facilitators. Gerald is following up with Peel Regional Police regarding potential bikes or parts donations. Adaoma Patterson has written a report to scope the project and is looking for partner sponsors to provide space for the clinic. Polly agreed previously to contact Air Cadets regarding their participation **Action: Polly to follow up**

Lisa offered 2 bikes for donation **Action: Gerald to follow-up with Lisa when appropriate**

Erica mentioned that a Bike Clinic is being held on Saturday June 28th from 11:00-2:00 at the Brampton Curling Club parking lot. **Action:** Dayle to post <http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/06/25/community-bike-clinic-june-28-2014/>

BBAC may also want to publicize bike donation, **Action: Gerald to follow-up as appropriate**

David will plan on presenting a delegation to Regional Council on this and other BBAC initiatives in the fall after the municipal election. **Action: David to follow-up with Janet Menard as appropriate**

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

David reported that the event was a resounding success with 185 attendees, a beautiful day, and lots of positive feedback by participants, organizers and volunteers. [Cyclepath Brampton](#) defrayed most of the cost of printing the Passport. [Tim Hortons](#) 156 Sandalwood Parkway E provided breakfast coffee and donuts. City of Brampton installed additional permanent trail signs along the Etobicoke Creek Trail, which were larger and clearer than previous signage. Draw prizes were donated by Region of Peel, TRCA, City of Brampton, Metrolinx, and SmartCommute Brampton Caledon. Registrations for the event had been capped at 300 due to concern about overrunning the trail. The organizing committee will debrief to understand the cause of the drop-off from registration to participation and to identify areas for improvement for next year’s event.

Discussion: feedback that the trail was not at capacity and could handle 2-3 times the participants next year. Also feedback about volunteer potential areas for improvement. Feedback about positive comments from participants, volunteers and organizers.

Dayle posted photos to website: <http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/06/22/bike-creek-brampton-success/>

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and shared photos with City of Brampton, Region of Peel and Toronto and Region Conservation Area. David and Dayle sent thank you notes to stakeholders of the event, including Dennis Cutajar, Chief Operating Officer City of Brampton, who attended the Bike the Creek opening. Councillor John Hutton made a draw at the prize table following the ride. All City of Brampton Chiefs were invited to attend.

Attached documents: email letter from Julian Patteson, City of Brampton Chief Public Services Officer wishing us well for the event; email letter from Vince D’Elia, TRCA Project Manager Etobicoke & Mimico Creek Watersheds congratulating us on a successful event; document of social media comments from Facebook and Twitter about Bike the Creek; and TRCA published an accomplishment sheet for the event.

Action: Dayle to note QR code information for next year for printing of promotional business cards.

5. Social Media and Website

Kevin reported overall traffic on bikebrampton.ca has been increasing steadily, requiring increased bandwidth limits. Hits have been received from locations in Brazil, Germany, Netherlands and Columbia. There has been a small dip in referral links from other sites but overall traffic is up 400%! Newsletter subscriptions now over 400. **Action: David and Kevin to discuss strategy for complying with the new anti-spam law after July 1st.** Kevin mentioned we already have a double opt-in for subscribers.

Twitter followers have increased from 41 to 58 by the end of May, and people are using #bikebrampton on both Facebook and Twitter.

6. Develop a prioritized list of infrastructure projects

David reported Nelson Cadete indicated the Active transportation crossing of Queen St. at Scott St. and the James St, realignment has been put on indefinite hold due to inability of the city to reach agreements with affected land owners. Also the All-way Stop at Church St. and Ken Whillans Drive is on-hold. **Discussion:** whether the more appropriate Etobicoke Creek Trail route would be for a signed bike route east from Rosalea Park on Nelson to Centre Street South below the railway overpass to reconnect with the greenbelt at Duggan Park. Concern that a benefit of the current routing of the trail through Brampton downtown streets (Union, Chapel, Wellington), was more engaging with the downtown core. Traffic was not a concern during the Bike the Creek event on city streets even with Main St. being closed due to the farmer’s market.

Discussion: Need to be working on a continuous 3 year plan of development projects. The provincial government will likely reintroduce legislation in support of the #CycleON cycling strategy. Municipal

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funding will be made available for those that have a plan and “shovel-ready” projects

Discussion: about lack of curb cuts at pathway road intersections creating a barrier and safety problem for cyclists. According to Brampton Traffic Engineering Services current city policy prohibits mid-block curb-depressions at roadway/multi-use pathway intersection points. Current intersection curb depressions are often not placed to accommodate cyclists. The current policy and bylaws regarding curb cuts and curb depressions are scheduled to be reviewed at Committee of Council meeting September 8th. Lisa Stokes volunteered to present a delegation to Council at that meeting to provide a cyclist’s perspective on why curb-depressions are legal.

Motion: BBAC to present a delegation to City Council on September 8th lead by Lisa Stokes, moved by Lisa, seconded by George -- carried

Motion: BBAC members to send their list of curb cut requirements to David Laing by July 30th for integration into the delegation, moved by Kevin, seconded by Steve -- Carried

7. Brampton CeleBrampton
BikeFest, Saturday June 14th,
11am-3pm

Dayle reported BBAC exhibited with a booth in the Bike Fest location of Celebrampton, staffed by 5 member volunteers. David received a grant from the Ontario Ministry of Transportation to purchase safety items to be drawn from tickets earned by participating in the Road Safety Challenge. Dozens of items were distributed in the draws. Safety items were purchased at a generous discount from [Canadian Tire Brampton Trinity Common](#). A BBAC banner was printed at a discount from [Letter Rip](#) in Orangeville. We were able to use posters and Safety Tips sheets developed for event last year. Since BBAC is yet to be an official organization, this grant was made to David personally, and expenses have to be accounted for directly to MTO by way of a report. Dayle created a booth set up list for next year, and noted that BBAC will ask more questions to obtain better clarity on details. We were very pleased to be included in the event. We noted an increase in destination vs. recreational cyclists, more adults and children cycling to the booth, better questions, more cyclist engagement than last year. Dayle posted to website: <http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/06/16/bike-fest-celebrampton-jun-14-2014/>

8. Brampton Bike to Work Day,
May 26, 2014

BBAC exhibited with a booth and 5 volunteers in Garden Square outside Rose Theatre. Safety Tip sheets were handed out and Bike the Creek was promoted. BBAC Chair David Laing was invited to speak at the event. Dayle posted to website: <http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/05/26/bike-work-day-may-26-2014-2/>

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9. Snelgrove Association Picnic, Sat. July 5th Steve and Lisa agreed to attend the event
Action: David to confirm details with Councillor Hutton and communicate to Steve and Lisa
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New Business

1. Active Network Transportation Coordinator position update Andria provided a report to City Council May 29th, on the status of the Active Network Transportation Coordinator position. Due to service delivery efficiencies this position can now be funded and Andria and Michael Wong, Executive Director Engineering & Development Services, Planning & Infrastructure Services indicate that the city will initiate the hiring of this position. The recommendation was received by Council.

http://www.brampton.ca/EN/City-Hall/meetings-agendas/Committee%20of%20Council%202010/20140611cw_110.pdf
Discussion: about the background regarding the budget process for this position and the commitment by the CAO to hire the position by mid-year
Action: David to call Henrik Zbogor for clarification
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2. Homestead Public School Bike Rodeo June 11th, 2014 George reported that Deepa Nanjiani, member of the parent's council, had invited BBAC to attend this rodeo and that he and 3 others from Brampton Cycling Club were in attendance. Mostly 7-8 year olds attended and many were not wearing helmets properly.

George also brought up that Brampton Bicycle Club, Le Tour de Terra Cotta and Caledon Hills Cycling jointly donated 16 bikes to the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Peel reported in the Brampton Guardian <http://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk//launch.aspx?eid=a822edd8-f8e6-48f9-939c-2a8513fed66d>
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3. Heritage Heights Transportation Master Plan Public Information Centre, June 4th David reported that he and Dayle attended the Heritage Heights PIC open house at the Peel Regional Police Association building on Mississauga Road. The recommended transportation option for the "complete community" includes significant Active Transportation facilities including an Active Transportation/Transit bridge crossing the CNR line between Heritage Road and Winston Churchill Road. <http://www.brampton.ca/EN/City->
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<Hall/Documents/Planning%20Notices/Heritage%20Heights%20Transportation%20Master%20Plan.pdf>

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4. Gore Road Active Transportation Improvement Meeting June 16th
- David reported he was invited to participate in this meeting at the Region of Peel for early discussion about design options for Gore Road improvements that would include Active Transportation. David indicated that it represented significant progress for BBAC to be invited, that the engineering staff were quite interested in the different AT road engineering options. Next steps will be to look at detailed road designs in the Fall of 2014.
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5. FUSE Brampton Idea maker mentorship opportunity
- David was invited to speak at FUSE Brampton event at PAMA on May 22nd to challenge youth to develop socially innovative ideas and solutions to local issues. <http://www.bramptonbot.com/home-slide/2260928-join-fusebrampton-ca-and-get-involved> David indicated BBAC members are being invited to participate as mentors in this program. Mentors would assist young idea makers in preparing a video presentation through the winter/spring 2014-2015. Videos and proposals would be judged at a social innovation community event in April 2015. Top idea makers would be awarded a micro-grant and additional resources as part of a broader social innovation event. <http://www.fusebrampton.ca/may-22nd-call-for-young-social-innovators/>
- Mentors would team up with mentees at an event on October 2nd 6:30-8:30pm at PAMA. Mentorship would involve monthly meetings of 2 hours each to work on the pitch and development of the video
- Action: Interested BBAC members should contact David for further information.**
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6. Fall meeting schedule
- Agreed it would be the 3rd Monday of each month starting in September
- Summer BBQ pot-luck **Action: David to send out Doodle Poll to select a date for members and guests to attend.**
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7. Reminders
- Comments on the Brampton Long-range Transportation Plan due by June 24th
- Critical Mass this Friday June 27th, Gage Park starting at 6:30pm
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Referred Matters List

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| 1. Discussion with Nelson Cadete re specifications for including pedestrians and cyclists in design for traffic roundabouts | Action: Deferred until Nelson present |
| 2. Questions for Brampton politicians to determine cycling position for upcoming election | Action: Deferred until all candidates announced and BBAC formulates questions based on the infrastructure priorities list |
| 3. Brampton Ward Rides | Action: Bring forward discussion to January 2015 meeting, once new Councillors are in place |
| 4. Mayfield Road Environmental Assessment | Action: David to hear from Neal Smith regarding dates for public information feedback. |

Meeting Adjourned 9:07p.m.

Moved by George, seconded by Kevin - Carried

Next meeting Monday September 15th, 6:30 p.m.