

BBAC minutes

February 23, 2015 - 6:30pm – 8:30pm

16 George Street North (Brampton Safe City Association offices)

Attendees: Members: David Laing, Dayle Laing, Stephen Laidlaw, Kevin Montgomery, Lisa Stokes, Pauline (Polly) Thornham, John Van West, Gerald Pyjor, Peter Bolton, Ernst Braendli, Erica Duque (Peel Active Transportation), Councillor Jeff Bowman, Ranjana Mitra ([Community Environment Alliance](#), CEA)

Regrets: George Shepperdley, Tricia Prato, Jerry Prato, Paola Rico, Chris Spinney, Jason Hammond (Community CarShare)

Meeting Started: 6:30 pm

Review and approve minutes from last meeting

Motion to approve minutes: Kevin, seconded Gerald – Carried

Brampton City Update

BBAC members welcomed Councillor Jeff Bowman and Ranjana Mitra to their first meeting.

Councillor Jeff Bowman reported that City of Brampton's budget will be finalized by April 1st.

Action: BBAC members to make BCAC budget requests known to David for inclusion in a list to be submitted to the Councillor – asap. (See funding list below related to issues raised during meeting)

Eg. Funding for Active Transportation Coordinator position, update PathWays Master Plan of 2002, budget for curb cuts in special areas initially (such as the Flowertown Trail), budget for postcard & poster promotion for Bike the Creek, project funding for Kennedy Valley Trail extension, project funding for Centre Street trail connection from Peel Wellness Centre to the Etobicoke Creek Trail.

David reported that he spoke with Nelson Cadete who provided an update. There was no BFIP (Bicycle Facilities Implementation Program) meeting since the new sitting of Council due to budget and other planning pressures of the new term. They typically meet once / month.

BBAC members reported that no one has yet to be contacted regarding selection for BCAC.

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Regional Update

Erica and Ranjana Mitra, Executive Director of the Community Environment Alliance, announced that CEA has been selected for the Peel Region Community Based Social Marketing project by TCAT (Toronto Centre for Active Transportation), which will be called “Bike Project”. (See Bike Clinic update)

Erica reported that Bike Month 2015 will be from May 25th to the end of June, with a [new website](#) (not yet active): <http://bikemonth.ca/> There will be a calendar and webpage for each municipality. The program will commence with Bike to Work Day on May 26th with celebration and breakfast in Brampton’s Garden Square adjacent to Rose Theatre. Participants can sign up for bike-to-work and/or a specific event. They will have a chance to win a donated free bike or VIA rail vouchers. Bike to School Week is May 26-29th. It is GTHA (Greater Toronto & Hamilton Area) wide, with a separate website: biketoschool.ca (also not yet active). Schools can register for the event to qualify for a plaque and prizes. It will be promoted through school nurses and posters. There will be a separate municipal postcard with event info such as our Bike the Creek, June 20th event. There will also be bike month promotional T-shirts.

Action: Dayle to supply Erica with information for Brampton’s municipal webpage for bikemonth.ca

Action: Dayle to supply Erica with Bike the Creek information for the Brampton bikemonth postcard.

Erica reported on the Metrolinx HUB event (see Brampton Kids on Bikes update)

Erica reported that she has organized a [Bicycle Facilities and Municipal Liability Workshop](#) for regional, city and school board **staff only** for Feb 26th. Belinda Bain, from Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP will be providing expert legal opinion on liability associated with cycling infrastructure. Dave McLaughlin from MMM Group will be presenting Ontario Traffic Book 18: Cycling Facilities. Toronto Constable Hugh Smith will present the police perspective and clarify rules about e-bikes and how they judge sidewalk cycling based on child age rather than wheel size. The event is to be video recorded.

Action: Erica to provide Dayle with link to video following event, once publically available

Action: John to send Erica question regarding handling of waivers to query at event

BBAC Project Updates

1. Downtown bicycle revitalization David reported that BDDC will be winding down by March 3rd. Peter VanSickle has been a significant

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project including updated signage, bicycle parking, downtown signed bike routes

supporter of BBAC and cycling in Brampton's downtown and we will miss his championship of AT. Councillor Jeff Bowman reported that BDDC will be replaced with a series of BIAs (Business Improvement Associations), such as the one in Port Credit area of Mississauga. There will likely be BIAs created in Heart Lake, Mount Pleasant as well as Downtown, with cycling likely benefiting in each area. Peter VanSickle is to be honoured at the 8-80 Cities Community Innovator Awards on March 31st in Toronto.

Action: Dayle to create Brampton bike parking (facilities) blog post.

2. [Brampton Kids on Bikes Project](#)

Polly reported that she, David and Dayle (and Erica) attended the GTHA Active and Sustainable School Transportation Regional Metrolinx HUB meeting in Toronto on Jan 23rd. Some of the participants of the Dec 4th workshop were also there. The gathering of 50+ people from the whole area was impressive, and it is good to have them all in one room on a regular basis. The terms of reference and main aims will be determined at the next meeting on Mar 5th.

Uzma Irfan, Community Development Coordinator of the Punjabi Community Health Services arranged to have David present Brampton Kids on Bikes to the Brampton Springdale Network at Louise Arbour SS on Feb 19th. The network consists of representatives of Punjabi Community Health Services, Peel Health, and various youth and immigrant services groups. David's [presentation](#) (pdf link) was very well received. Mr. Baldev Mutta, CEO of PCHS, and Chair of Brampton Springdale Network, expressed support for the BKOB project and several recommendations for the project were suggested.

As a result of the BSN presentation, Polly and David attended the Brampton East Youth Advisory, at the Centre for Education and Training on Feb 20th. They made contact with several youth and adults who may potentially volunteer for Bike the Creek and become members of BBAC.

The next BKOB workshop "[Moving Peel Kids Safely](#)" has been organized and scheduled for Apr 20th. We have Bill McBain co-facilitating from Heart & Stroke, George Mammen, UofT doctoral candidate presenting his 4yrs of AT research and members from York Region sharing how they are successfully sharing resources for effective school travel planning. Michele Robinson has found space for our meeting at Century Gardens Rec Centre. There is an event [poster](#), and stakeholders are to rsvp to david@bikebrampton.ca

Ranjana suggested that BBAC partners with Rogers Communications. Sponsorship could possibly be arranged, translation arranged and partnering with Humber or Sheridan's animation departments.

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Action: David to contact Ranjana to discuss next steps

Action: David and Lisa to arrange to speak at RJ Lee parent council meeting in May.

3. [Bike Clinic Pilot Project](#)

Gerald reported on the Feb 19th debriefing meeting of successful completion of the 1st Bike Clinic for 6 youth at McHardy Court. Three of the participants have since got bike-related jobs based on their clinic experience. The Region feedback has been positive. The plan is to repeat the success with another group at McHardy Court. Dayle posted a [blog article](#) on our website.

Action: Gerald to follow-up as appropriate on publicizing bike donation for future Bike Clinic projects.

Action: Discuss at next meeting donation possibilities: Kennedy Road Tabernacle, other faith-based organizations.

Action: David will follow-up with Janet Menard (Commissioner, Region of Peel), to arrange delegation to Peel Regional Council on the Bike Clinic and other BBAC initiatives.

Action: David to invite Bike Clinic graduates to our Mar 30th meeting for presentation of their certificates.

Erica reported that part of the “Bike Project” pilot program that TCAT is conducting will be partnering with Ranjana at CEA. They sought a partner that is ‘embedded’ in the community. Grant applications are being requested to finance program. “Bikeworx” is the name given to the part of the project for repairing bikes. CEA has garage space and already has experience as a licensed Microsoft recycler of computers. People will be trained to repair used bikes and people will be taught how to cycle safely through a program called “Pedalwise”. There will be a ‘train the trainer’ program first and the launch will be early June. The result will be a “Community Bike Centre” with the goal of increasing the number of cyclists in Brampton by 10x. This should enhance local cycling business, as new cyclists on used and inexpensive bikes will likely trade up to new bikes as their skill and confidence builds. Erica is coordinating this through various departments at the Region: AT, public services and public health.

Action: CEA/TCAT is looking for BBAC members who can volunteer to learn how to train. Contact Erica.

4. [Bike the Creek - June 20, 2015](#)

The planning committee continues to meet once a month and deadlines are being met. Dayle has posted the new logo created by our partner TRCA, to [Bike the Creek – June 20, 2015 – Save the date](#). The box of ‘save the date’ promo business cards was circulated for BBAC members. The [route maps](#) have been posted to our events page. A [description of each route](#) has also been posted. The registration

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link at Eventbrite is almost complete and will be posted as soon as it is ready for registration.

Action: Dayle to post posters, information, articles, and newsletters as developed, for our website.

5. Promotion:
Business Cards
Social Media and Website

Kevin reported that Sportchek is pleased to display our posters once available. He contacted Elysia at 8-80 Cities regarding handle bar promotion. The minimum \$390/1000 is too steep and discussion ensued about using more cost-effective VistaPrint for door hanger promotion.

Action: Dayle to bring box of business cards to each meeting to allow members to refill their supply.

Action: BBAC members to look for opportunities to use business cards to promote “Save the date” for Bike the Creek on one side, and subscribe to BikeBrampton.ca on the other side. Ask Nick to put some cards on counter at CyclePath. Request City Hall main foyer display. Erica to display cards in Regional office in brochure location. Kevin to request display at Main Library by contacting Katherine, the new Community Engagement Coordinator. (Katrina Doktor has moved to Bramalea Library branch and can be contacted there.) Lisa to contact Gore Meadows Library for display request. Also: Metro stores.

Discussion about advantage of having something a bit larger for display on bulletin boards.

Action: Kevin to design a new logo for Bike Brampton.

6. Advocacy campaign to change
City curb-cut policy

David reported that he spoke with Nelson Cadete today. OTM Book 15 and Bill 31 Transportation Statute Law Amendment Act (Making Ontario’s Roads Safer) has been reintroduced in the Ontario Legislature and is currently in 2nd reading debate. There is a strong possibility that Eleanor McMahon will announce passing of the bill at the Ontario Bike Summit April 1st. Attendance at the Liability workshop by Brampton traffic senior staff, to acquire a legal opinion will also be necessary for changes to Brampton’s current policy.

Action: Messrs. Parks and Cadete committed to looking at each situation as described in Lisa’s report of 59 documented and photographed infrastructure deficiencies.

Action: Lisa and David to follow up with Messrs. Parks and Cadete regarding the prior commitment from last July to make a joint delegation. The appropriate committee would now be PIS (Planning & Infrastructure Services), in April 2015.

Action: David and Lisa to discuss & edit delegation PowerPoint to address up-front, the concerns raised at the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) delegation and to get on PIS delegation list for April.

There was discussion about whether city or region is responsible for the multiuse pathways on regional

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roads and that this responsibility may be changing. Lisa reported that Bovaird has a multiuse path that is intersected by high curbs where new businesses have ignored the pathway. There was also discussion about the confusion of plowing multiuse paths and sidewalks and that the policy is not consistent across the city. **Action:** defer until new BCAC established.

7. Prioritized list of infrastructure projects

Update on projects: BBAC identified bicycle infrastructure priorities:
BBAC priorities

- a. Curb cuts:
 - i. along the Etobicoke Creek Trail – David
 - ii. along the Flowertown Trail – Lisa
 - iii. at 384-398 Balmoral Drive and 30 Avondale Blvd - as identified by Kevin
 - iv. Peel Village -as identified by Richard Poersch (Pres. FSNA Peel Halton & Area)
- b. Installation of traffic calming Stop signs at Heart Lake Road and Countryside Drive – David and Dayle. David and Dayle attended a staff meeting with Councillor Michael Palleschi, Heather MacDonald and Dan Kraszewski to discuss on Jan 21st. There is an active transportation component to this issue as well as the cultural heritage landscape and protection of turtles crossing the road. 560 homes are planned for the east side, south of Countryside Drive, and there will be a Khalsa school on Heart Lake Road, just south of Mayfield. An intermediate and longer term solution is being proposed and presented to PIS committee on March 30th. **Action:** David to report update at April meeting.
- c. Kennedy Valley Trail Extension –David has followed up with city staff and will forward a letter to City Council requesting that project funding already in place be preserved.
- d. Installation of bike lanes along Bramalea Road to the Bramalea GO station – Kevin
- e. Active transportation crossing of Queen St. at Scott St. -John
- f. Repair of railway level crossing at James and John Streets – John
- g. Additional signage along Etobicoke Creek Trail – **Action:** George to forward Etobicoke Creek signage locations to David (deferred until spring 2015).
- h. Peel Memorial Wellness Centre bicycle facility connection to Etobicoke Creek Trail – Kevin reported that he has not had any response to his [letter to Neil Davis](#), on the Board of Directors, William Osler Health System, with copies to Chief Marilyn Ball and

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senior planning staff at the city. Both Councillors Bowman and Medeiros confirm they received the letter. **Action:** Kevin to follow up.

- i. Bovaird Drive – has high curbs at locations of new businesses along multiuse path - Lisa
- City Priorities**
- j. Bicycle Facilities along County Court, Fernforest, Richvale Drive – The City has adjusted aligned along County Court based on queries from Kevin and John. Previous discussion about making comments on Twitter using: [.@bramptontransit](#) This address reaches the city officials monitoring Twitter and is also broadcast to one’s own followers. Kevin reported that he has requested Brampton Transit to educate bus drivers on how to deal with bike lanes on County Court. He has noticed an improvement in bus driver behaviour as a result.
 - k. Multi-use trail signs and marking along McVean Drive, Clarkway Blvd and Chinguacousy Road in accordance with OTM Book 18.
 - l. Esker Lake Trail pathway extension across Hwy 410 (Franchesini bridge)

Action: David to bring Kevin’s 3’x4’ map with bike routes for ongoing use and updates at each meeting.

Action: BBAC members to continue to note issues from their areas of the city and provide list to David

Action: David to consolidate and send section issue list to Councillor Jeff Bowman for city staff – or to select new channel in light of formation of BCAC.

8. Bike Friendly Communities

- a. Bike Friendly Business Program
- b. Active Network Transportation Coordinator

a. David reported that he presented to the Brampton Downtown Development Corporation board meeting on Jan 20th and was granted funding for the Bike Friendly Business Program. A cheque was picked up Friday and mailed to Share the Road. David will continue to work this program with Adam Arnold from SmartCommute. David is presenting to a major Brampton corporation next week to request participation. Brampton and Hamilton will be the first communities in Ontario to be part of this program.

Action: Once program has been developed, David to approach Rotary Glen Brampton, which has offered to provide a signage sponsorship.

b. Dayle reported position is not yet posted.

Action: Dayle to research the quote from “Bikeconomics” about cost savings and modal shift benefit.

Action: Dayle to create poster on cost saving benefit.

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New Business

1. BBAC member in the News
Kevin reported that he was interviewed by Ryan Doyle on Newstalk 1010 today, following the article by Tess Kalinowski in the [Toronto Star](#) on February 20th: Car-less in the 905: One family's quest for automotive freedom. BBAC members congratulated Kevin!
Action: Dayle to post an [article](#) on our website.
2. Road Safety Challenge Grant
David reported that there is an opportunity to apply for a MTO \$1000 grant, which is due by the end of March. We used this money last year for safety items for distribution & education at our booth at Celebampton. Discussion about new ideas for our Celebampton BikeFest booth: a punchboard of safety questions, a foam pit (?).
Action: BBAC members to send innovative suggestions to David
3. Ontario Book 18 Committee
Nelson Cadete, who sits on this committee, has requested that David present to this committee – date to be determined.

Events

1. Critical Mass Rides
Critical Mass Friday February 27th, Gage Park starting at 6:30pm (arrive by 6:15) – (last Friday of every month) – friendly bike ride no matter the weather! Dayle posted an [article](#) about our 1st anniversary of Critical Mass last month. Our moto was: “*Cycle for Cake*”... (See photo of the beautiful cake we ate... ☺)
2. Bike the Creek Planning Meeting
Next meeting: March 2nd 1:00pm-2:30pm – Loafer Lake Recreation Centre
3. [Toronto International Bike Show](#)
March 6-8th, Better Living Centre, CNE. BBAC has a display booth. BBAC volunteers have responded to David's doodle-poll request. We have the use of 3 passes.
Action: David to coordinate the volunteers and setting up and taking down the display.

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4. [Ontario Bike Summit](#) March 31 -April 1st, Toronto. David reported that he has been accepted for a presentation about our Bike Clinic program success.
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Referred Matters List

1. Discussion with Nelson Cadete Re: specifications for including pedestrians and cyclists in design for traffic roundabouts
Action: Deferred until Nelson present
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2. Brampton Community Rides George reported that the Humber Valley Trail could be an appropriate spring or fall community ride from Malton all the way south to Lake Ontario.
Action: Bring forward this and other ride possibilities for discussion to March 2015 meeting
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3. Mayfield Road Environmental Assessment **Action:** David to hear from Neal Smith regarding dates for public information feedback.
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4. PAMA (Peel Art Gallery Museum + Archives) PAMA has applied to become the first bicycle friendly attraction in Brampton (maybe even in Peel).
Action: Dayle to post article about PAMA once this becomes official
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5. Heritage Heights transportation public meetings **Action:** BBAC members should be alert for announcements of the next round of Heritage Heights transportation public meetings early in 2015, and should report dates so that Dayle can post to website. Members are encouraged to attend meetings to voice their comments.
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6. Website Analytics Strategy **Action:** Kevin to work on an analytics strategy for 2015, possibly including seasonal messages.
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7. Promotional Ideas Other types of promotion were discussed, pending a budget: bike handlebar tags, rubber band bracelets, promotion of Bike the Creek on Metro Morning CBC, Rogers Cable 10 South Asian shows.
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Action: David is connected to host Matt Galloway on Twitter, and will tweet BTC event info as available.

Action: David to send list of event topics to Urz for her Heer and Now Cable 10 program.

8. Snowclearing Priorities

Clearing of multiuse paths and sidewalks is inconsistent throughout the city. Request a policy and determine responsibility.

**Next meeting Mon March 30th -
6:30 pm**

BBAC continue to meet monthly 3rd Monday. March 16th is spring break week – changed to 30th to be able to hand out certificates for Bike Clinic graduates.

Action: May 18th is Victoria Day – change date at next meeting

Meeting Adjourned 8:45p.m.

Motion: Polly, seconded Gerald – Carried
