

BikeBrampton minutes

Nov 21, 2016 - 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Century Gardens Recreation Centre, 340 Vodden Street East (at Rutherford) Rm#2

Attendees: Members: Stephen Laidlaw, George Shepperdley, Alina Grzejszczaki, Erica Duque (Peel Active Transportation), Ernst Braendli, Pauline (Polly) Thornham, Peter Bolton, Sarah Verma, David Laing, Dayle Laing, Natalie Lappos (Peel Public Health)

Regrets: Kevin Montgomery, John Van West, Lisa Stokes, Lorie Miller, Leslie Benfield, Carolyn Clubine, Gerald Pyjor, Gaspard Ndayishimiye, Jocelyn Cann, Leo Romano

cc: Nelson Cadete (Brampton AT)

Meeting Started: 6:36 pm

Review and approve minutes from last meeting

<http://bikebrampton.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/2016-10-17-BikeBrampton-Meeting-minutes.pdf>

Motion to approve minutes: George – Carried

Brampton City Update

Brampton Active Transportation Master Plan – Consultant IBI Group led workshop at BCAC meeting Nov 17th. Discussion re: IBI appears qualified, good opportunity to present ideas, connectivity to overcome “loops & lollipops” of unsigned pathway system. Existing pathways need more connectivity. On-road facilities vital to achieving significant mode shift – need direct not winding connections for commuting, and pedestrian/cycling path-sharing becoming increasingly problematic as volumes increase. Potential of university being a positive driver for change. Depends where university is located – best near down town to help revitalize. Mega-mall NW corner Bovaird & Mississauga would negatively impact down town. Concluded workshop went well, and outcome comes down to dollars and council support. David set the stage at the start of the workshop with a presentation: [Planning Active Transportation for our Future Health and Happiness](#).

Current Etobicoke Creek Trail Condition: discussion about trail (just west of Jim Archdekin rec ctr) closed for repair. Sign at closure point only – no advice on recommended detour - where to pick up trail again. Perceived lack of respect for commuting cyclists. New surface will be much appreciated. Suggest that contractor have detour instructions written into their specifications. This was handled well at trail closing seen in May.

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[Valleywood Interregional Trail Connection opening](#) David, Lisa, Dayle & Vince (TRCA) met the master trail builder who is currently working on north end Heart Lake CA trail. The trail is beautifully smooth with only fine aggregate showing. He confirmed the drought caused inability to properly roll ECT after construction. Hence the larger stones on the surface, which will be swept /re-rolled in the spring.

Action: members to monitor over winter and defer action until spring after sweeping.

Discussion about possible themes for 2017 [Community Rides](#). Discussed heritage themes – Bonny Braes, Churchville Village, Bovaird House. Discussed railway theme – riding to each of the 4 railway stations in Brampton. One ride to coincide with Doors Open.

Action: Lisa to send Dayle blog post link of Lisa’s experience of **riding from Brampton to Hamilton** – infrastructure improved as she travelled west through Mississauga, Oakville, Burlington, Hamilton.

Action: Nelson requested members’ help on parts of his application for **Share the Road’s Bicycle Friendly Community** status. Successful communities will be recognized at OBS2017.

Action: John continuing his follow-up on ‘no bike’ sign at **Alderlea** and installation of bike rack.

Regional Update

[Integrating Health Considerations into Transportation & Planning Projects in the Region of Peel](#) –

After David’s presentation last month re: **ROPA27** (see Sept minutes pp.4-5), he and Dayle met Natalie Lappos, Region of Peel Public Health, who is an RN, BScN, MN (Masters of Nursing). Natalie is one of 3 research & policy analysts in the built environment team, with responsibility for the transportation piece. There is a natural synergy between health and active transportation, so members welcomed Natalie at our meeting. She [presented](#) statistics to document the effects of rapid growth in Peel. More than 50% of residents were born outside Canada. AT lobby conflicts with the “goods movement” lobby, both of which are mentioned in Peel Long Range Transportation Plan as being of importance. Transit is considered part of AT since users connect with some AT. Air quality has a large influence on disease. Diabetes rate is now at 15.4%! “AT is superior to recreational activity.” Nutrition and genetics can determine risk, but physical activity is considered a “modifier” that affects the outcome. *“If we increase public transit use by 9.8% points, increase AT by 5% points to work and 5% points to school, and substitute 5% of current short trips by car with AT; then we will prevent 338 premature deaths/year (\$2.2 billion), prevent over 1,000 cases of diabetes/year, prevent over 90 hospitalizations from heart and lung conditions/year, and prevent other chronic diseases, improve transportation equity, social*

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connectivity, reduce injuries and create more supportive communities for an aging population.” Public Health must partner to effect change! Developed with researchers from St. Michael’s Hospital, [Region of Peel Healthy Design Assessment User Guide](#) is the document behind ROPA27. Increased density supports AT. Tighter connectivity supports a grid design and AT. More support for transit supports higher density and therefore AT. The important point is how AT users feel about the experience. Sufficient shade, scale of signage, minimum amount of vehicle parking, both long and short term bike parking, esthetics of bike parking, reducing heat-island effect of having too much asphalt pavement are all considerations for increased enjoyment for cyclists. Health is now a category in EAs (Environmental Assessments). In response to question: potential #413 highway would have to go through health assessment, avoid sensitive areas, avoid senior residences and schools, not bisect communities, and consider AT. Mega-mall would also have to go through health assessment. Discussion that the current wording of ROPA27 does not force health assessment to be taken into account during EA. This was the point that David made in his delegation to Regional Council. He encouraged strengthening of language. Members thanked Nicole for her excellent presentation and encouraged her to come to BikeBrampton meetings regularly or whenever she is available.

Action: Members can review the [documents](#) associated with ROPA27 and make their comments known to the [Integrated Planning Division](#), prior to this going to Regional Council in January 2017.

[Peel Long Range Transportation Plan – PLRTP Update 2012](#) is the current plan. IBI Group has been retained to consult on LRTP 2017, with visions, goal plans to 2021 and 2031. Peel Transportation Vision: *“Because transportation is interconnected with health, quality of life, social equity and the environment, road improvement cannot be the sole answer to our congested roads. Instead, we need to promote transit, carpooling, cycling and walking. In supporting our economy, we also need to ensure that businesses will have access to efficient transportation routes that minimize environmental and community impacts. This means that we need to make our transportation system safe and convenient for everyone to use. Ultimately, we need to make a fundamental shift in mindset from an auto-oriented lifestyle to a more sustainable way of living.”*

Action: Members are encouraged to comment on PLRTP 2017 by contacting [Sabbir Saiyed](#), Manager Transportation System Planning.

Sustainable Transportation Workshop – Erica reported that last week, region hosted workshop for staff to create synergy between departments. IBI Group is supporting this initiative.

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Community Bike Centre Sarah reported CBC is planning for 2017 programs: Earn a bike, Borrow a bike, DIY bike repairs, Learn to ride. They are also considering winter workshops. David is writing a blog to incorporate the latest flyer.

Action: Community Bike Centre to report on their Sept 27th presentation results regarding their offering for **McHardy Court bike mechanic clinic** (as follow up to our [bike clinic partnership project](#) in Dec 2014).

All: Drop off Donated bikes: [Community Environment Alliance](#), 7-222 Advance Blvd.

Erica reported that she is in process of having Pedalwise Final Report posted onto Walk+Roll website, so that TCAT and BB can link to pdf.

Action: Erica to send Dayle link of **2015 Pedalwise Report** – Dayle to post on website

Action: Erica to provide **B2SW 2016 fact sheet** pdf once it is finalized – Dayle to post on website

Bike to School Week 2016 Smart Commute School Travel Award Nov 24th - announced at HUB that top performing school in each of 6 GTHA regions will be honoured at Smart Commute Awards evening.

PEYA EcoBuzz Nov 9th at Louise Arbour SS – Erica reported that partners Peel AT, Public Health, and David & Dayle from BikeBrampton held 3 workshop sessions for 300 [Peel Environmental Youth Alliance](#) students. [10 Step Handbook for High School Bike Projects](#) was used to guide students through exercises to encourage cycling at their schools. It focussed on overcoming barriers and engaging student leaders to create their own tailored programs. Students responded very positively and indicated they mostly were driven to school and all had bikes!

Action: Dayle to create PEYA EcoBuzz blog post.

Community Engagement

Brampton Springdale Network – David reported that he and Polly attended Nov 17th meeting. Included in group are: Big Brothers Big Sisters, newcomer associations, job fair organizing, skills training, etc. BSN is working on proposal to support a community hub via a Trillium grant. Polly drew a suggested floor plan indicating requirements. This initiative would support underserved Springdale community and be used as a model for other communities in Brampton. Space for the hub is an issue, as there is no room at local schools.

Brampton Northeast Connects – N/A

Brampton Northwest Connects – meets quarterly

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Updates

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1. [Legacy Cycling Infrastructure](#)
“Big Ask” for Brampton /Peel

Big Ask projects were suggested at BCAC ATMP workshop Nov 17th. These coincide with items discussed over the last few years at BB meetings. Kevin attended Peel Memorial Hospital open house and reportedly is pleased with bike facilities. Discussion about positive on-campus facilities need to be connected to surrounding network.

Action: Kevin to report on Peel Memorial bike parking follow up

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

PSARTS – next meeting Nov 24th. **Action:** Polly / David to report at next meeting.

Action: Erica to find out how many schools have signed up for school travel planning

Erica reported that [Ontario Traffic Council](#) held **School Zone Safety Workshop** Nov 15th in Vaughan. [Program](#) Chaired by Nelson Cadete, President of Board of Directors. 80-100 people attended from across GTHA. Erica & Sebastian presented School Travel Planning on behalf of Peel AT.

 3. [Bicycle Friendly Business Program](#)

Peel Public Health is reinvigorating this program. David met with Olha Dobush, Sandra Fitzpatrick and Maria Grace Morais on Nov 21st. They discussed using community based social marketing as outreach to business community. Business support could encourage more AT support from Council.

 4. Promotion:
Social Media & Website

Kevin provided [report](#) on the social media survey results. The only alerts that were considered useful are those for high winds. He will keep the survey up and continue to monitor. Discussion about weather reports and whether to keep, keep only high winds, or turn off reports. Members encouraged to actively tweet **#bikebrampton** cycling news.

Motion: for Kevin to turn off all weather reports on BB Facebook page – carried.

 5. Prioritized list of infrastructure projects

BikeBrampton priorities:

 - a. Heart Lake Road Mitigation strategy – David reported that consultant retained and mitigation report work should commence next week. David & Dayle cycled HLR last Friday and found TRCA
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crew installing winter caps on fencing and laying mulch to better secure from winter plowing. Experts were training local staff in techniques. Northern wetlands just south of Countryside Drive have dried up during summer drought. Wetlands south of Nursery are at risk. TRCA hydrology experts are at a loss to explain reason why this was starting to occur before summer drought. City construction engineers were surveying previous week to prepare for EA for water main under HLR. This is despite road bed being too unstable to allow 2 of the 3 recommended wildlife culverts! Discussion about explanation being needed for this apparent discrepancy.

- b. Kennedy Valley Trail extension progress – David. Work slated for early spring 2017. **Action:** Lisa to bring up request for asphalt surface at BCAC meeting.
- c. Etobicoke Creek Trail signage –part of audit by Ford & Associates **Action:** Dayle to update once report available – December BCAC meeting
- d. Worn pavement lines on existing infrastructure (eg. Bonny Braes Road, Rutherford, McMurchy)

City Priorities:

- e. Esker Lake Trail pathway extension across #410 (Franchesini bridge) – hurdle of land-swap settled – scheduled to begin Spring 2017.
- f. Fernforest, Richvale Drive, Mountain Ash Rd and Edenbrook Hill Drive – slated for traffic calming which will include bicycle infrastructure option as per BFIP.
- g. Queen Street Densification Corridor.

6. Bike Month 2017

[Bike the Creek - June 24, 2017](#) - *Save the Date!* Two BTC planning rides (+ 2 more informal planning rides) have been held to plan the longer ~65km route for experienced cyclists. Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVC) has agreed to host one of the SNAP pavilions showcasing Fletchers Creek, part of the Credit watershed. Next meeting Nov 24th. Use #bikethecreek to promote.

Manitou Park Bike Parade - 'Save the date' for Jun 3, 2017 – Lorie organizing in partnership with Brampton Parks.

Action: Dayle to post on BB events page

Action: David to ask Michele Robinson how Lorie's Manitou Bike Parade could tie-in with Live 5-2-1-0

Bramalea CycleFest – Apparently Lorie has been in contact with Pastor Finu re 2017 plans.

Action: Lorie to report on Bramalea CycleFest at next meeting.

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7. Critical Mass Bicycle Tags

Action: Lisa to report if this is working

New Business

1. Suggestions from Kevin

- a. Discussion about creating a page of "Heroes" page -- a way for the public to ask targeted questions to people who are prepared to answer them...such as club cycling, utilitarian cycling, riding with kids. Anyone interested in having a profile summary on BikeBrampton website, and being contacted? Alina volunteered to be profiled for her daily cycling on Vodden. George volunteered to be profiled for his cycling on Hurontario. **Action:** Kevin to coordinate interviews
 - b. Is it possible to organize a Winter Cycling workshop before the snow falls, perhaps at the Library? Would Katrina Doctor be able to help with this? Discussion about [Quebec winter cycling workshop](#), which occurred on Oct 26th.
 - c. In light of increased awareness of Vision Zero
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2. Bike Repair Café – Nov 12th

Peter reported that he and Gerald attended **Sheridan College Mission Zero** Bike Repair Café at Brampton Four Corners Library. Lisa & a group of cyclists dropped in early and David & Dayle dropped in later to this well-attended event. Discussion about excellent partnership opportunities with Brampton Libraries. David and Dayle were Spelling Bee Judges, on behalf of BB, on October 19th at Four Corners.

3. BikeBrampton meeting schedule

Proposal to move the meeting dates from the 3rd Monday of each month to the 1st Thursday of each month starting in January 2017. Century Gardens is not available for this new time. Tentative hold on dates for **Chris Gibson Recreation Centre** craft room, 125 McLaughlin Road North 6:30-9pm

Motion: George moved to make the change to 1st Thursday of each month. - Carried

Action: Dayle to confirm 2017 dates with Brampton Recreation: Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1, Sept 14, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7. Dates have been [posted](#).

4. Ernst is moving!

Ernst announced he is moving to Guelph Dec 10th. Members congratulated and thanked Ernst for his years of valuable contribution to BikeBrampton. Ernst championed the Peel Waste Pavillion at Bike the

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Creek 2016, which diverted significant waste and educated cyclists on recycling in Peel! He led one of the 2016 Bike to Work Day rides to city hall. He supported our advocacy at numerous booth displays, where his calm knowledgeable presence was always appreciated. His wife Susanne supported us by volunteering at Bike the Creek and attending events. We are going to really miss their support! We hope to maintain contact to keep their very valuable friendship. Thanks, Ernst!!!

Events

1. [Critical Mass Ride](#) – Nov 25th Last Friday of every month. Cyclists meet at Gage Park (corner of Main & Wellington) at 6:15pm and set out at 6:30pm. [BikeBrampton webpage](#) This is free-flowing and not organized by BikeBrampton.
 2. [Bike the Creek](#) – Jun 24, 2017 Save the date!
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Referred Matters List

1. Bicycle Lending Discussion about possibility to create bike lending through the library system as done by some other communities. City of Hamilton, Mohawk College & McMaster University. All have bike-lending programs despite a Hamilton bike share. Discussion about bicycles owned and perhaps not being used by Brampton Bylaw as a potential for lending.
Action: bring forward to next month to discuss action plan
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- Next meeting Monday Dec 19th
6:30 pm – 9:00pm**
Meeting Adjourned 8:46p.m.
- Location: Century Gardens Recreation Centre, Room #3 upstairs on right – **guests & kids welcome**. We'll have pot-luck along with a very light meeting! Hope Ernst & Susanne can come so we can say goodbye!
Motion: Polly – Carried
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