

2015 01 21 letter to Neil Davis re Peel Memorial Centre Active Transportation Opportunity

From: kemosite@gmail.com [mailto:kemosite@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Kevin Montgomery
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 12:35 PM
To: Neil.Davis@daviswebb.com
Cc: Henrik.Zbogar@brampton.ca; Oliveira, Andria; Marilyn.Ball@brampton.ca; Nelson Cadete; john.spencer@brampton.ca; David Laing; Dayle Laing
Subject: Opportunity to incorporate Active Transportation into design of new Peel Memorial Centre

Mr. Neil Davis,
Director, Board of Directors of William Osler Health System

Re: Opportunity to incorporate Active Transportation into design of new Peel Memorial Centre

The Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee is a voluntary group of citizens who support, encourage, promote and advocate for increased safe recreational and transportational cycling in the City of Brampton. Our goal is to have Brampton obtain Bicycle Friendly Community status.

The Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee has recommendations following the November 24, 2014, public information session about the development of the Peel Memorial Centre for Integrated Health and Wellness. Due to the urgency of ongoing planning, the Committee wanted to express its comments now without the delay of waiting for Brampton Cycling Advisory Committee (a new committee of Council) to be formed and fully functional.

We are very supportive that planners for Peel Memorial Centre have worked with Brampton Transit to ensure public transit connection and access to the property. It is encouraging that cycling pathways are also planned on the site. Where the plan could be significantly enhanced is in connecting the property to the rest of the city through an active transportation corridor. The benefit is increased cycling active transportation and reducing city traffic congestion. Air quality on the site would also improve with fewer cars.

We believe that active transportation alternatives could be easily engineered into this plan. On Saturday, November 29, 2014, preliminary measurements were taken by one of the BBAC members. The area documented was along Centre Street, from south of John Street to the crosswalk south of the railway overpass. Observations have been compiled into a technical appendix, available on Google Drive at this URL:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1429Uf9dc-CcMF79cRN4M5hhR7pmh8mglvK7nBQ8tdTM/edit?usp=sharing>

To summarize the appendix, there appears to be enough space for a bike lane on Centre St. to connect the Etobicoke Creek Trail to the Peel Memorial Rebuild. Another alternative might be to create a multiuse pathway extension from the existing Etobicoke Creek Trail, running south of the railway tracks to the existing Truman Street bridge, adjacent to the site. If this option were selected, bylaws would need to be adjusted to allow cycling on the bridge.

Peel Region and the Province of Ontario encourages Active Transportation, as does Brampton's Pathways Master Plan. Connecting a meaningful bike route to a health facility is an ideal place to start encouraging people to ride their bikes more instead of driving. The Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee recommends that City of Brampton planners consider pursuing this matter in more detail to take advantage of this excellent opportunity for the future of Brampton. BBAC would be pleased to work with project planners. This matter will also be referred to the new BCAC committee for their follow up.

Sincerely, on behalf of the Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee,

Kevin Montgomery R.G.D.

Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee Member

bikebrampton.ca