

Report of Joint Committee of Western Lake Ontario Cycling Advisory Committees

May 28, 2016 meeting at Mississauga City Hall

- MCAC hosted the event, followed by a Mississauga Community Ride, specifically designed to start at City Centre, immediately following the meeting.
- Kevin Montgomery, Pauline Thornham and Dayle Laing were directed at Apr 21st meeting to attend on behalf of BCAC and all three represented Brampton.
- David Laing attended on behalf of BikeBrampton

Representation:

- There was representation from regional Niagara AT Committee, Hamilton, Burlington, Oakville, Mississauga, Peel and BikeBrampton. Absent were reps from Milton, Guelph, Haldimand and Waterloo.
- Regions updated with their status showing a wide range of infrastructure and programs.
- In summary, Brampton has programs, while other communities have substantially better infrastructure.

Vision Zero

- Vision Zero (zero cycling/pedestrian fatalities) was presented.
- This has been gaining traction throughout North America and recently as reported in Toronto.
- The cost associated with vulnerable road users cannot any longer be assumed to be a 'cost of doing business' by favouring automobiles in cities.
- Narrow lane widths & lower speed limits to 30khr are the main strategy
- Vision goes hand-in-hand with Complete Streets policy
- Remove design conflicts for various road users
- References on Netherlands [Crow Design Manual for Bicycle Traffic](#) (2007):
- US progress on the bicycle agenda can be found by searching "National Association of Chief Transportation Officers"
- Janet Sabat Khan's "Street Fight", success in New York City

Sobi Bike Share Program

- program was started in Hamilton
- stands for 'Social Bicycle'. Each bike has an individual name.
- Hamilton bought the bikes – Sobi operates the fleet
- 750 smart bikes – largest in the world – fleet replaces equivalent of 2 city buses
- The fleet runs for less than cost of 2 bus drivers annually!
- Hubs (bike stands) are located on city property in wide boulevards
- A bicycle was brought into the meeting to demonstrate features
- Huge benefit to city is reduction of number of 2km trips – the cause of huge pollution
- self-locking capability, can reserve use ahead of time

Report of Joint Committee of Western Lake Ontario Cycling Advisory Committees

- 250 passes were given to low income and refugee groups
- Annual membership \$85
- RFID cards are used (like a credit card)
- Average ride is 17 minutes / day
- \$1 charge for locking up at other than a docking station
- People are rewarded with a \$.57 credit for finding and returning to docking stations.
- Because as many docking stations are not required, therefore much less expensive.
- The brain is in the bike – powered by solar power
- GPS tracking for locating and collecting aggregate data to show traffic patterns.
- *“Data is king!”*
- Kevlar layers on the tires to make them puncture resistant
- No chain to come off or leave marks on trouser legs
- *“riding a bike gives you confidence, not only makes you healthier”*



Improving Encouragement Cycling Strategies

- political support and champions required to supplement staff and advisory groups
- encouraging cycling support, particularly at election time

Report of Joint Committee of Western Lake Ontario Cycling Advisory Committees

- emphasis on partnerships at regional level (Police, Public Health, Active Transportation and Poverty Reduction)
- Active Transportation Master Plan must be part of Official Plan update to have proper impact
- Infrastructure, particularly for tourism and connections to transit
- Bike maps and neighbourhood bikeways
- “*Sharrows are what you do when you can’t do what needs to be done*”, was a comment made that drew agreement from the group.
- Importance of ‘road diets’ and putting in bike lanes for 30 day pilot project
- Engage residents and Councillors in assessment
- Increase off-road trails
- Establish safe and active routes to school
- Mississauga has new staff member tasked with marketing walking & cycling
- Importance of logging cycling trips online to gather data. Mississauga will be doing this in 2017
- MTO overpasses in the GTHA were a source of difficulty in most communities.
- Mississauga will be building a dedicated AT bridge over a 400 series highway in 2018
- MCAC considers their Community Rides their #1 achievement
- MCAC sought sponsorship to remove restrictions of Ward boundary and Councillor schedules
- Ice cream is the main draw that attracts cyclists to Mississauga Community Rides.
- Mississauga rides average 100 cyclists (May 21st had 155 riders)
- Tour de Mississauga had 3,800 riders in 2015, with routes of 120, 80, 50, 30 and 15km
- Tour de Mississauga to be held in September – first week had 369 registrations

Motion regarding Cycling Education

- Brampton City Council endorsed the motion requesting the adoption of mandatory cycling education in the Ontario Elementary and Secondary School curricula, on a graduated basis, integrated with existing curriculum, from grade one to grade ten, including both safety and skills training, as approved by Council on April 25th. The report is to be sent to Peel District School Board, Dufferin-Peel Roman Catholic Separate School Board, Region of Peel and Ontario Ministry of Education. Similar motions are working their way through the civic process in other communities of Western Lake Ontario. Pauline was congratulated on leading this initiative in her community, which staff then directed through Committee to Council.

Next Meeting

- Groups were requested to step forward to host meeting for next year

Discussion and Suggestion Motion:

- Discuss whether BCAC and City of Brampton wish to host meeting next year