

# BikeBrampton minutes

**May 26, 2021 – 6:30pm – 7:30pm**

ZOOM Video Conference call

**Attendees:** Yvon Rochefort, Dayle Laing, David Laing, Cindy Evans, George Shepperdley, Gurpreet Nagi, Wayne Noble, Lisa Stokes, Steve Maxwell, Kevin Montgomery, Alina Grzejszczak, Sonia Maset, Hieu Do, Steve Laidlaw, Peter Bolton, Tracy Zason, Rob Muller, Bruce Marshall

**cc:** Nelson Cadete

**Meeting Started:** 6:34pm

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**Review & approve minutes** [April meeting minutes](#) - Cindy moved, approved

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## **Brampton City Update:**

1. **Streets for People** – City has posted signs for bike lanes scheduled for 14 roads (nearly 30km of new infrastructure coming to Brampton this season). Check out David's [delegation video](#) to Council regarding a question raised about Glenvale Blvd. – [Blog Post](#)
2. **Bicycle Friendly Community** – City will be applying for Silver status from Share the Road Cycling Coalition. We have made considerable improvements (eg. ATMP and bike lanes), since the City was awarded Bronze in 2017. Up for discussion at June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of BCAC.
3. **Brampton Environmental Alliance (BEA)**, formerly **Grow Green Network** – David reported that this offshoot of Environmental Advisory Committee (BEAC), has received its letters patent for a not-for-profit organization and will be applying for charitable status. Volunteers are needed for some positions on the Board of Directors to get the organization off the ground. (President, Fund Raising, Secretary) The focus will be on key environmental issues for advocacy and community outreach. Next meeting is June 23<sup>rd</sup>.
4. **Centre for Community Energy Transformation (CCET)** – David has been elected Chair of this new organization that will be transforming the City with deep energy retrofits to lower our carbon emissions – 30% by 2030; 50% by 2040; 80% by 2050. Sheridan College's District Energy is part of this organization. Transportation accounts for 60% of Brampton's emissions.
5. **Multi-Use Path & Urban Shoulders** – Lisa reported on her [correspondence with Staff](#) regarding the mostly gravel Mount Pleasant Trail, an important north-south trail connection in northwest Brampton. Lack of paving makes this inaccessible to wheelchairs, parenting pushing strollers, etc.

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and to cyclists and pedestrians in wet weather. Gravel cannot be maintained in the winter. Part of our ATMP deals with year-round maintenance so that commuting is possible. Discussion about DC (Development Charges) and if 80% can be covered. The urban shoulders that are being installed this year are legacy decisions. Going forward, bike lanes are the default, according to City policy.

6. [Heart Lake Road & Countryside intersection EA](#) - Environmental Assessment announced in October on City Website. This is a traffic calming opportunity to **install a roundabout** at intersection of Heart Lake Road and Countryside Drive. Slowing traffic will help protect the wildlife on this road, situated within a Provincially Significant Wetland. HLR has been designated a Cultural Heritage Landscape. City has adopted the short-range action items of the [Design and Function Review of Heart Lake Road Corridor Report](#): installing 2 more wildlife culverts, and wildlife fencing. The roundabout was the longer-range action item. **Action:** members to familiarize themselves with this link to [HLR background](#) which has links to all the relevant documents since 2011. Please open City link and click on [Notice of Study Commencement](#) and make comments known to Dave Hallman and/or Soheil Nejatian. Timeline for comments not specified, but sooner is better.

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## Regional Update:

1. [Bike the Creek – Registration](#) open June 1<sup>st</sup>. Event runs virtually June 9-30<sup>th</sup>. Register for chance at prizes. Routes range from 5-65km and include Brampton, Caledon and Mississauga. Dignitary ride for civic leaders on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Routes stencil-painted in teams during week of June 7-11<sup>th</sup>. **Action:** contact David if you are available to help. Registered cyclists use cellphones to read QR codes from signs along routes. Linked to content provided by 3 municipalities and TRCA. BikeBrampton has supplied 7 QR Code links to pages with our Cycling Safety Tip Videos. (See BB Projects #3 below) Take selfies and tag #bikethecreek21
2. **Regional Infrastructure** – Lisa reported on her [correspondence with Staff](#) regarding Mayfield Road multi-use path. The best section is from Torbram to Airport Rd. “Elephant footprints” (pavement marking for crossrides) are being painted for cyclists. Given that planning times are long, BikeBrampton members should make Staff aware of issues and suggestions well in advance of construction schedules. An example of a positive outcome is Bovaird Trail crossing Hwy #410. An example where repeated reminders are required is cyclist detours for LRT construction. The Hwy #7 overpass at #400 in Vaughan is an excellent example of what is possible to make cyclists feel comfortable at interchanges.
3. **PSARTS (Peel Safe and Active Routes to School)** – David reported that the May 7<sup>th</sup> leadership team

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meeting committee discussed whether there is an appetite to change the Terms of Reference. Currently it is a strategic committee without a budget or continuous representation from stakeholders. They need to decide whether it becomes action oriented and has partners commit resources and budget to effect change to get kids to walk/bike to school. Current pandemic cycling momentum could yield positive changes.

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## **BikeBrampton Projects:**

1. [BikeBrampton in the Brampton Guardian](#) – David interviewed for Streets for People ‘good news’ story.
2. **(CCP) Community Cycling Program** – Sonia is making an Equity in Transportation presentation on May 27<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm to groups across GTA. Lisa will be delivering 4 Route planning virtual workshops, every Thursday 7-8:00pm in June. [Registration](#) Sonia is working with mentors, protégés and bike mechanics to get the COVID-dependent BikeWrX schedule set up for this season. In person BikeWrX Pop-ups will be allowed in Phase 2 opening. She had 4 **Virtual BikeWrX** ZOOM events - Mar 27, Apr 3, 24, May 2.
3. **Safety Videos** - [Be Courteous](#), [Be Seen](#), [Be Heard](#), [Be Predictable](#), [Be Aware](#), [Be Comfortable](#), [ABC Quick Check](#). Volunteers are thanked for their demonstrations for the videos! These were prepared for Bike the Creek, and for our CCP commitments for the program. As more videos are completed, they will be posted to Youtube, linked to these pages.
4. [Claireville Trail North](#) – Dayle’s Apr 30<sup>th</sup> delegation to [TRCA Board Agenda Package Delegation Slides](#), [Speaker Notes](#) Delegation was well received and provided balance to other delegations by local residents who want to limit access to an approved public trail and Conservation Area. **Action:** Members invited to write to TRCA Project Manager with their comments: [adam.dembe@trca.ca](mailto:adam.dembe@trca.ca) Discussion about risk management and issue with chipmunks digging holes on gravel trails. Discussion about Caledon Trailway potentially being paved between Innis Lake and Mountainview, and in Palgrave, to allow year round maintenance for kids to walk to school from new neighbourhoods.
5. **National Bike Count** [Pedal Poll Website](#) Steve reported on their webinar. Bell Canada received a federal grant. They have 800 volunteers from 70 cities. Despite our long relationship and membership with Velo Canada Bikes, Brampton is listed in the “other” category. Paper forms can be printed from the website. The Counterpoint App is designed for smartphone use. – **Action:** members to access the link 2 occasions, from June 1-6 on a fair-weather day (7-9am, 11-1 or 4-

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6pm), to count all the cyclists they see out and about! Include sidewalks. Include bikes, ebikes, trikes, with trailers, with kids, not scooters.

6. **Velo Canada Bikes** – David reported that the cross-country checkup with 20 communities showed how progressive Brampton is for cycling infrastructure. Some communities are struggling to get any infrastructure and to get a 1-metre law passed. Charlottetown, BC Cycling Coalition, Guelph, Ottawa, EcoCounter, Hamilton, Calgary were on the call. Yvon reported passing law in Quebec is 1.5m and there are many signs informing drivers. Vision Zero is a must! Paint is an advisory only. Drivers can cross the yellow line. Discussion about need for explanation of the differences amongst crossrides, crossovers, crosswalks. Drivers do not have to be further tested once they receive their drivers license or renew their vehicle permit.
7. **Etobicoke Creek Trail under #401 is open!!!** – construction and landscaping completed.
8. **Etobicoke Creek Trail – Kennedy Valley** – under #410, 407 asphalt is being repaired. Paving starts May 27<sup>th</sup>. Should be completed before Bike the Creek starts.
9. **“Etobicoke Creek Trail Connector”** – Wayne reported that on-road sections between ECT and Caledon Trailway has been named. It includes Kennedy Rd, Olde Base Rd, Heart Lake Rd. Olde Base will be having paved shoulders redone to widen for better safety.
10. **Etobicoke Creek Trail @Wexford Rd** – TRCA is repairing section for erosion control. Detour signs are up and keep improving. Ramp needed for trail access.
11. **Etobicoke Creek Trail under QEW** – Wayne reported that Sherway Trail scheduled for 2022.
12. **Hydro Corridor from Ponytrail to Dundas** – Wayne reported it is completed.
13. **David Suzuki Foundation** – reached out to BikeBrampton to coordinate AT advocacy assistance for City of Brampton to achieve and exceed its Active Transportation targets for 2021. BB & DSF have started meeting with Councillors to inform them about bike lanes coming to their Wards this year.

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## Referred Matters List

1. **Goreway – Countryside to south of Steeles** – Lisa to report next meeting
2. **[BCAC Delegation to Regional Council](#)** –**Action:** David to invite Senior ROP Staff and Regional Councillors to cycle this infrastructure (in a safe, controlled manner that educates without scaring and displays positive changes as well as areas for improvement).
3. Ryerson University Sustainability – David
4. **[Arts, Culture and Creative Industry Development Agency](#)** - David

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5. **[Future Ground Network](#)** – BikeBrampton has joined this grass roots not-for-profit organization that builds cooperatively on everyone’s strengths. “supporting local action for a sustainable future”. FGN is a “hub of groups taking action in their communities to secure healthier, more viable futures in the areas of climate justice, biodiversity, waste reduction and sustainable systems. Joining the network means connecting with organizers from other groups to share best practices, find inspiration and work together to achieve common goals. Network members will gain access to free training and digital tools to help mobilize their communities and amplify their voices.” They offered us a free welcome session to discuss our needs, since we have a quorum of 3. **Action:** Additional BikeBrampton members are encouraged to sign up for this valuable resource.
6. **Orangeville-Brampton Rail Trail Update** – (see [January minutes](#) for background.) Orangeville, Caledon, and Brampton are all interested in MUP for pedestrians and cycling. Another rail company has submitted a proposal to continue the line for trains, which would potentially be good for connecting goods and people movement inter-regionally. We need to advocate for 3 communities and Region of Peel to all contribute to make a rail trail happen. If it is sold to private enterprise, this opportunity will be lost. Caledon Trailway is perfect example of collective action for public benefit. **Action:** members to contact their Councillors to request the rail trail.
7. **Mentor training** – **Action:** Lisa and Steve to finalize re-certification training for existing and new mentors. This will include advanced skills for the practicalities of cycling – on-going.
8. **Protégé training** – **Action:** Lisa with assistance from Steve and Kevin conducted two series of 4 ZOOM calls to educate protégés. Response was excellent. This series will be scheduled for 2021.
9. **Bike-a-thon** – Anu Sharma, PCHS Chair and President approached us re PCHS bike-a-thon activity for next year – **Action:** discuss possible date and time in May. David to contact Ms. Sharma to start the organization of the event. – carry forward to 2022
10. **BikeBrampton Introduction Video** – it was suggested that David’s introduction to the BikeBrampton background be captured on a short video clip that can be posted on our website.
11. **Trail signage** – trails have been audited for signage. – Esker, Chinguacousy, Don Doan – some sign installation along Esker Lake Trail – incomplete – **Action:** bring forward to future meeting

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## Events

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1. [Critical Mass Rides](#), last Fri of every month      Check [BikeBrampton webpage](#) for information to this casual ride. Group rides limited to current COVID-19 standards. Cyclists who wish to ride solo may do so.

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2. **World Bicycle Day**      June 3rd

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3. **National Bike Count**      Jun 1-6<sup>th</sup> Register [Pedal Poll Website](#)

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4. [Bike Month](#)      May 31 – June 30

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5. [Bike the Creek](#)      Virtual event June 9 -30<sup>th</sup>. Check the [website](#).

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6. [Brampton Plan](#) – June 21<sup>st</sup> 5:00-7:00pm      Environment / Climate Change / Transportation Public Townhall

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- Next meeting Jun 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30-7:30pm**      Meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.