

BikeBrampton minutes

May 26, 2021 – 6:30pm – 7:30pm

ZOOM Video Conference call

Attendees: Steve Laidlaw, Cindy Evans, Rob Muller, Peter Bolton, Sonia Maset, George Shepperdley, Alex Srdoc, Heidi Berki, Alina Grzejszczak, Dayle Laing, David Laing, Simran Gill, Polly Thornham, Lisa Stokes, Wayne Noble, Tracy Zason,

cc: Nelson Cadete

Meeting Started: 6:34pm

Review & approve minutes [May meeting minutes](#) - George moved, approved. June meeting is normally our summer party 'meeting'. Due to COVID, we are still meeting virtually.

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). Paint supply issue has delayed the start of striping. Councillor Williams' EA reported they are getting positive comments coming into their office.
2. **Brampton Electric Fire Truck** – Council approved one of the first purchases in Canada. David delegated in support. Positive statement about City's environmental leadership. Chief Bill Boyes requested BikeBrampton's input on how their department can increase its involvement with AT. This aligns with Councillor Santos' Apr 21st Council endorsed motion re: Creating an Active Transportation Culture at the City of Brampton. Discussion of ideas resulted in **Action:** Dayle to send [email to Chief Boyes](#). Councillor Santos also suggested that new recruits be taken on a bike tour so they can learn the City, particularly the trails.
3. **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. June 15th meeting of BCAC discussion resulted in committee support for application.
4. **Centre for Community Energy Transformation (CCET)** – David has been elected Chair of this task force that will be transforming the City with deep energy retrofits (heat pumps, solar panels, roof insulation, efficient doors & windows) to lower our carbon emissions – 30% by 2030; 50% by 2040; 80% by 2050. Transportation accounts for 60% of Brampton's emissions. Sheridan College's District Energy is part of this task force. A group from the Netherlands came to a meeting on Jun 14th. They

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will be sharing their experience to help Brampton with home retrofits. Sheridan College has established district energy which may be expanded across the city, including projects such as Shoppers World and Bramalea City Centre.

Regional Update:

1. **Bike the Creek** – Event runs virtually June 9-30th. Register for chance at prizes. Routes range from 5-65km and include Brampton, Caledon and Mississauga. David and Dayle led the Dignitary ride for civic leaders ran on June 7th. They are good sports and to be commended for coming out on a very hot day and riding the 20km route. Routes stencil-painted in teams during week of June 7-11th. Discussion about additional or damaged painted stencils. Registered cyclists use cellphones to read QR codes from signs along routes. Turn on camera and hold up to code. The link appears at the top of the screen. Click on link to content provided by 3 municipalities and TRCA, plus BikeBrampton supplied 7 QR Code links to pages with our Cycling Safety Tip Videos. (See BB Projects #3 below) Take selfies and tag #bikethecreek21 **Action:** Dayle to share video view rate and Bike the Creek results at next meeting.
2. **Regional Infrastructure** – Lisa reported on **Goreway** construction at Humberwest Pkwy, which has a nice new multi-use path north for 1st 150m. South of Steeles, there is a level crossing at CN tracks. Road will go under tracks. MUP will be on west side only. Road under tracks is dark, steep and narrow, so MUP is same width as sidewalk. The paved shoulder runs up to Castlemore, past the new entrance into Claireville Conservation Area (North). The speeds and volumes are low. On Castlemore, between Goreway and McVean, there is a MUP on both sides with crossrides. Queen St has a MUP. Goreway will be widened from Castlemore to Countryside, with a MUP on both sides. These plans were made many years ago. Although not to our current standards, these paths are adding significantly to the cycling network. Most of the MUP (multi-use paths) are 3.5m wide and constructed of better quality than in the past. Wayne added that the asphalt spreaders work well on paths. The issue is that the base may be insufficient to prevent heaving and that there is no crown in the middle for proper path drainage.
3. **Partnerships with Places of Worship** – David reported that at the Bramalea Community Network meeting, a Peel Regional Police Constable connected BikeBrampton with Heart Lake Baptist and Bramalea Baptist Churches. They are hosting events to give out bikes. They will want help with safety messaging and are organizing something for the near future.
4. **Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Project** – BikeBrampton has been approached by staff from

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TRCA for Bramalea SNAP and from CVC for Fletchers Creek SNAP. Both organizations want to coordinate promotion with our BikeWrX pop-up events.

5. **Caledon** – George rode refinished Olde Base Line Rd and reported that it is great. Wayne reported that there is no stencilling for Bike the Creek permitted on Olde Base due to Regional road status. Wayne reported that work is being done on Caledon Trailway crossover at Winston Churchill. The paved shoulder is being added between King Rd and Terracotta on Winston Churchill. Avoid McLaughlin from Wanless north to Olde Base until this fall due to construction. Chinguacousy also closed for construction north of Wanless. Feedback from Gerald on Torbram new surfacing is that it is an improvement. Heat may make the surface still smoother. Mississauga Rd bridge near Caledon Trailway is under construction. Ideal to apply for infrastructure funding for a Caledon Trailway bridge over Olde Base Line (near Caledon Golf Club). The steep hills in either direction from the road make this a difficult trail crossing. Wayne reported that the new blue benches on Caledon Trailway are being well used. A public washroom is being added at Belfountain Park entrance and another bike repair stand will be installed. Use Ping Street app on your phone to report infrastructure issues to Caledon. If it is a potential liability, response will be faster.
6. **Bike Month t-shirts** – Steve reported that Cycle Toronto has shirts online for \$10.

BikeBrampton Projects:

1. **(CCP) Community Cycling Program** – Sonia reported that Canada Bread (Grupo Bimbo), a local business has selected CCP for a \$3,000 good neighbour community grant. This is our first corporate sponsor! The money will be used to purchase the bike trailers that summer students will use to haul the BikeWrX equipment to the events! Sonia and David worked with WIKE to specify the sizes for the trailers. WIKE is a Guelph-based company, that has helped sponsor Bike the Creek in the past. Subsequently, COVID permitting, a picnic/AT celebration will be planned with Canada Bread. Lisa will be delivering 4 Route planning virtual workshops, every Thursday 7-8:00pm in June.
[Registration](#) Sonia has applied for permits with Brampton for [BikeWrX event series](#), allowed in Stage 2 opening. She had 4 **Virtual BikeWrX** ZOOM events - Mar 27, Apr 3, 24, May 2.
2. **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.
3. **National Bike Count** [Pedal Poll Website](#) - Lisa and George reported that website kept crashing.

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George counted 29 riders on Etobicoke Creek Trail while it was raining. On the sunny next day, there were 96 riders in 2 hrs. Steve reported that paper list was simple to file. Velo Canada Bikes will complete the analysis in a month.

4. **Bike Month column, Bramptonist** – Dayle was invited to submit a column about [“Are you Enjoying June #BikeMonth?”](#)
5. **Etobicoke Creek Trail – Kennedy Valley** – under #410, 407 asphalt is being repaired. Paving started May 27th. Official opening will be the week of July 5th. Mayor and Councillor photos will be taken on July 6th and cyclist photos will be shot on Jul 9th, as organized by the City. BikeBrampton recognizes this milestone of advocacy since David first started in 2014. Vince from TRCA was already working on this for years prior. It has taken many levels of government funding and involvement to complete the project. The result is a major safe AT connection between Brampton and Mississauga for commuting and recreation. Caledon is connected through these communities. It will eventually connect to the Waterfront Trail once the Sherway bridge is completed.
6. **Circumnavigate Lake Simcoe** – Tracy, Heidi and Peter cycling 220km circuit this Saturday, yes, in one day!
7. **Ryerson University Sustainability** – David spoke with student who is organizing a [Brampton Sustainability Tour](#), a virtual walking or cycling event that is promoted on our Events page.

Referred Matters List

1. [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).
2. [Arts, Culture and Creative Industry Development Agency](#) - David
3. [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.

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4. **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.
5. **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.
6. **Protégé training** – **Action:** Lisa with assistance from Steve and Kevin conducted two series of 4 ZOOM calls to educate protégés. Response was excellent.
7. **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
8. **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.
9. **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

Events

1. **[BikeWrX Pop-ups](#)** Start Jul 9th – minor bike repairs, route planning, ABC Quick Check, bell installation, education. Obstacle courses at some locations (mini bike rodeos). All as per COVID allowed provincial protocols. Let Sonia@bikebrampton.ca know if you are available to volunteer!
 2. **[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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3. [Bike the Creek](#) Virtual event June 9 -30th. Check the [website](#).

4. [Brampton Plan](#) – Jun 21st 5-7pm Environment / Climate Change / Transportation Public Townhall

5. **Claireville Conservation Webinar** Tues Jun 22nd 7-8:30pm [Registration](#) history, habitat, conservation –who knew?

- Next meeting Sep 30th 6:30-7:30pm** Meeting adjourned 7:45p.m.