

BikeBrampton minutes

January 19, 2022 – 6:30pm – 8:30pm

ZOOM Video Conference call

Attendees: George Shepperdley, Wayne Noble, Heidi Berki, Barry Lavallée, Sonia Maset, Kevin Montgomery, Lisa Stokes, Dayle Laing, David Laing, Steve Laidlaw, Gerald Pyjor, Raymond Murray, Tryon Nimalakumar, Ewa Milewska, Ray Ramdayal, Alina Grzejszczak, Peter Bolton, Bruce Marshall, Cindy Evans, Tracy Zason

cc: Nelson Cadete

Meeting Started: 6:34pm – Indigenous Land acknowledgement

Review & approve minutes [December minutes](#) – moved by Wayne, minutes approved

Brampton City Update:

- 1. Eastern Avenue City response to BikeBrampton comments** – BikeBrampton position [letter](#) & City response [letter](#). City went with bi-directional cycle tracks with separate sidewalks, as per staff recommendation. Kevin reported a large associated cost & long timeline before construction. Lisa reported this infrastructure is better than what we are used to. We do not want ‘perfect to be the enemy of the good’. Steve reported there is a creek running along Eastern (Rutherford to Hansen), which affects the road alignment. There are industrial lands along the road, and a green ‘Greenway’ set back on the north side.
- 2. Brampton Community Ride Program Update** – Lisa reported that the Cycling Advisory Committee (BCAC) is planning 14 rides for 2022. Both 5 and 15km options, from May to October, on Tuesday evenings and Sunday afternoons. [Link to descriptions](#). Where possible, routes will link to Brampton Bike Hub BikeWrx pop-ups. Refreshments, compliments of City of Brampton. We need leaders, marshalls and sweeps – a minimum of 6 volunteers for each event. The City will be providing walkie-talkies and T-shirts for communication and visibility of volunteers. Extra volunteers are needed for riders who might need to be escorted on a shortcut. **Action:** Be in touch with Lisa to volunteer. Peter suggested starting at Decathlon (Bramalea City Centre bike shop). **Action:** Lisa to be in touch with Decathlon community representative for discussion.
- 3. Brampton Williams Pkwy Wall Public Art** – Lisa’s [video delegation](#) Jan 26th - Lisa reported that Williams was slated to be widened to 6 lanes from 4. Trees were cut down and a noise wall installed behind homes. Advocacy kept road at 4 lanes. Discussion about it being impossible to build enough

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lanes to address congestion now, let alone by 2040. There have been numerous complaints about the appearance of the noise wall, which has blue mountains. Staff came back with options, which were put to a vote. Option 5 would commission \$300,000 worth of public art near intersections, and where there would not be planned trees blocking. Given Brampton Council passed an Arts and Culture plan, public art is a priority. Both art and trees would tend to slow current speeding traffic. Lisa selected 70 of her many favourite public art photos from around southern Ontario, for her Youtube video delegation. Steve commented that public art is a matter of civic pride in small towns. eg. Islington Village murals along Dundas, west of Islington. Lisa has a Strava route, if you are interested. Wayne commented that tagging is rare due to artist respect. Brampton Firehall on Mississauga Road is an excellent example of recent City public art (along with their bio-organic food shed). Kevin commented that wall art tells a positive story about our City. Williams Pkwy public art will go to Council next Wednesday, Jan 26th. **Action:** members to email their Councillors.

4. **Budget 2022 discussion** – discussion about what is committed for AT in 2022. Due to paint shortage and pandemic backlog, the 2021 AT infrastructure was not completed. Agreement on importance of keeping schedule on track for network roll out. **Action:** Staff report coming to BCAC on Feb 17th.
5. **Crossride Pilot** – Pinecone Way – Lisa’s [video demonstration](#) – Lisa reported that her video has been sent to traffic services. She is requesting that this pilot be removed as her video indicates the current crossride lights are confusing and dangerous. If there are no reports of collisions at Countryside and Red Willow (where crossride bike heads synchronize with vehicle lights), then this should be the template for standardizing across the City. Steve reported that Toronto synchronizes their lights for cars and bikes. In some instances, pedestrians have advance green timing. Lisa added that crossrides are useful for MUPs so cyclists do not have to dismount and walk their bikes across the intersection. We need a 7% AT mode share to visibly impact traffic congestion. Tyron added that for both young and older people, cycling is faster for short distances than taking transit. There needs to be a focus on new immigrants. We are doing this with our Brampton and Caledon Bike Hubs, where cycling is promoted to all, including targeting specific underserved groups.
6. **Different Spokes** – Downtown Brampton Bike Hub – Sonia reported that proposed downtown location is being changed due to rental circumstances. Negotiations are on-going.
7. **Orangeville-Brampton Rail Trail** – Brampton has purchased land adjacent to the tracks in downtown Brampton. The train has recently stopped running and it appears that progress is being made on next steps, but we do not have any information. David suggested an LRT and AT corridor

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would satisfy multiple needs. (See [January 2021 minutes](#) for background.) Orangeville, Caledon, and Brampton are all interested in MUP for pedestrians and cycling. The Mayor of Orangeville is pro turning it into a rail trail. 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. The trail area needing infrastructure is the bridge at the Forks of the Credit. The bridge at #401 was completed with the road widening. This rail trail could potentially extend north to Owen Sound. Wayne said the Caledon Trailway is perfect example of collective action for public benefit. Lisa cited the excellent example for emulating what Quebec has done with the Petit Train du Nord. **Action:** members to contact their Councillors to request the rail trail.

8. **Steeles Ave. MUP** – Wayne reported that multi-use path is being added to south side of Steeles bridge over #410. This is a repeat of what MTO constructed on Bovaird Dr. Discussion about importance of multiple infrastructures that cross the major AT east-west barrier in Brampton.

Regional Update:

1. **Bike the Creek** – David reported the routes are planned. They will be adjusted for construction, and to highlight new infrastructure. Wayne and Dayle are working on sponsorship subcommittee, and awaiting the event budget to help with promotion. **Action:** members with potential sponsor contacts, advise us. Looking for volunteers to touch up pavement stencils in the spring.

BikeBrampton Projects:

1. **Nomination for Share the Road Wheels of Change award** – Dayle has submitted our nomination.
2. **NE Sunday morning rides**, leaving from McDonald's (Bramalea and Sandalwood Pkwy) at 9:30am. Lisa will start up once hospital COVID numbers go down.
3. **Bike Parking** – Steve is targeting Lakeridge Mall. He has support from one of the tenants. **Action:** Steve to keep us updated and let us know if assistance is needed. City is taking inventory of municipal bike racks. Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) standards are advised for rack designs.

Caledon Update

1. Wayne reported that Sabrina Davidson is new AT Staff member in the Town.

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2. Caledon approved AT budget. Many construction quotes coming in at 40% higher than previous. Some projects will be deferred until prices come down again. Challenges similar in all municipalities. More signed routes in Caledon and all projects to include wide paved shoulders as standard.

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. [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.
3. **Bike-a-thon** – Anu Sharma, PCHS Chair and President approached us re PCHS bike-a-thon activity for next year – **Action:** Sonia to contact Ms. Sharma to see if there is still interest for an event in the spring of 2022
4. **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.
5. **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. [Critical Mass Rides](#), last Fri of every month Check [BikeBrampton webpage](#) for information to this casual unstructured ride. Group rides limited to current COVID-19 standards. Cyclists who wish to ride solo may do so.
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2. [Bike the Creek](#)

June 18th 2022. Check the [website](#). Registration will be open soon.

**Next meeting Wednesday February
16th 6:30-7:30pm**

Meeting adjourned 8:43p.m.