

# BikeBrampton Meeting Minutes

Wednesday March 20, 2024 – 6:30pm – 8:00 pm Virtual Meeting

**Attendees:** Dayle Laing, David Laing, Cindy Evans, David Meyer, Steve Laidlaw, Ewa Milewska, Sonia Maset, Lisa Stokes, Lorraine, Heidi Berki.

**Meeting started: 6:35pm**

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**Review & approve minutes from last meeting**

**Indigenous Land Acknowledgment**

February [Meeting Minutes](#) Steve moved to approve. Passed

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**Claireville – Greenbelt Route**

**David Meyer**, Project Director, Waterfront Regeneration Trust (which has a signature project: [Great Lakes Waterfront Trail](#))

- Purpose is to create a signed Greenbelt Route between Bolton and Brampton, hopefully connecting to Claireville Trail in Claireville Conservation Area.
- David is focusing on the area above Steeles for current part of project.
- They partner with more than 170 communities and First Nations to create dedicated trails as close to the water's edge as ecologically feasible.
- Started in Toronto 30 years ago. From Quebec border to Sault Ste Marie.
- 3,200 km signed; 600 km ongoing.
- Urban river valleys – 20 connectors that run north-south from Waterfront Trail to Greenbelt Trail.
- Humber Valley is one of the last gaps in this area.
- Connection to Guelph-to-Goderich (G2G) Trail started last year.
- David wants to work with municipal staff and cyclists who have experience in this region.
- They will sign lower-volume roads when a suitable trail is not yet available.
- Greenbelt signage leverages communities to continue their AT development of the network.
- Steve commented that TRCA's Claireville Trail Phase II needs a bridge over the Humber River. (Wiley bow bridge is stunning!)
- Largest issue is Albion and Steeles. There is a big fence and gate at Indian Line and Albion (desire lines further north).

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- Lisa commented that Goreway has paved shoulders to Cottrelle. We showed David the East-West Cycling Corridor in Brampton that will soon connect the bridge at Cottrelle over to Etobicoke Creek Trail. Cottrelle continues east to Langston Rd and then to Kipling Ave in Vaughan. The Cottrelle bridge is vital to this connection.
- Goreway to Innis Lake Road might be feasible.
- CycleON 1.0 listed the Humber Valley as one of the provincial cycling routes. Etobicoke Creek Trail was subsequently added due to our advocacy.
- Discussed the importance of OBRY rail trail development to tie in Orangeville.
- Wayne is David's primary contact in Caledon.
- **Action: Please notify Dayle if you want to provide input to the planning map for Brampton (north of Steeles), and she will send you link from David.**

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## Brampton City ATAC Update

### Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC):

1. **Winter Maintenance** – Steve & Lisa – ATAC meeting with 4 Staff members. All the points we have mentioned over time were discussed. Both Brampton Parks and subcontractors have responsibilities. **Action:** Members to report maintenance and By-Law issues to [Brampton 311](#). It is easier to install free Brampton 311 app on cellphone, to make log-in quick and convenient on the spot. Take a photograph first before you use the app. Use 'locate me' feature. Keep app open while uploading to wait until it is finished. If you close app early, report will not be submitted. Possible to report later, but more effort to remember all the details. Thanks Lisa, for these tips! Also, see "[Report Damage or By-Law Issues](#)" on our website.
2. **Illegal Parking in Bike Lanes** – **Action:** continue reporting on Brampton 311 app! **Action:** update expected next month!
3. **[Underreported Cyclist and Pedestrian injuries](#)** – Steve reported that Staff is working to acquire ER data in addition to police data and present back to committee a more complete picture of cycling injuries in Peel.
4. **Pedal Poll** – 2023 numbers are underreported due to all the hand-collected data not being included in the Brampton report. Staff is reaching out to Velo Canada Bikes to have this rectified.

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5. **Park Path Maintenance** – there is an inconsistency in information being received about frequency. Members told maintenance performed 12-13 times/year. Previously told once/year. Our experience is that several path areas are overgrown to the point of path being more than half covered with vegetation. Eg. trail around Kenpark pond. Massey Woods trail asphalt was replaced a few years ago, when it looked still fine. Etobicoke Creek Trail from Loafer’s Lake to Conservation Drive has been severely crumbling for more than a decade. Apparently, this is to be replaced as part of the **Etobicoke Creek Wetland Enhancement Project**, which is receiving \$2.5 million in provincial grant, as announced on March 4<sup>th</sup> at Loafer’s Lake.
6. **Community Rides** – Lisa has put together a spreadsheet for volunteer positions. Heidi volunteered to sweep 12 of 15km; to lead in 2 rides.
7. Dayle reported on the [Bike the Creek](#) event, June 8, 2024:
  - a. Registration open
  - b. Regional Route check ride March 27<sup>th</sup> – Jim Archdekin 9am
  - c. Ride lengths from 5-71kms along new routes. Regional route goes south to Meadowvale Village, Streetsville, then north into Caledon.
  - d. David’s promo video: <https://youtu.be/zRQNsQGAXY>
8. **Follow up Action: City By-law regarding bicycles on sidewalks** has not been changed to reflect ATAC recommendations to change from wheel diameter to age. **Action: Lisa to send Tammi ATAC minutes that include recommended changes to the By-law.**

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## Regional Update

1. **[Different Spokes](#) – Downtown Brampton Bike Hub** –
  - a. Sonia reported that Lilly, an experienced pro from B!ke in Peterborough is here for 4 weeks to help Sonia boost the program to the next level. Mechanics focusing on guiding DIY repairs.
  - b. [Different Spokes Policy](#) is being updated effective April 2024 with a new membership policy. Donations can be made using “square” retail payment technology. Members can renew prior to April and their membership will be good until 2025. Fees will be \$50 annually. Membership fees for Algoma University students are included in their tuition fees.

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- c. Bike has a similar agreement with Trent University where students pay Bike memberships in their fees.
  - d. 65% of our bike hub members are international students, and they have signed up since last September.
  - e. **Weekly workshops** are running Thursday evenings.
  - f. Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> will be the first **Saturday** hub is open! – 8 hours! Bidhan has been hired to run Saturday sessions. He is an international student, who helped out at Outdoor Adventure Show in Feb. Book appointments in advance for this busy day.
  - g. **Meet you mentor ride** will be on Apr 3<sup>rd</sup> 6:30pm
  - h. Sonia has been engaged to run the **bike valet** at Earth Day (Apr 20<sup>th</sup>), Bike the Creek (Jun 8<sup>th</sup>) and Caledon Day (Jun 15<sup>th</sup>). She has ordered folding bike racks that support 200 bikes.
  - i. **Algoma U** will be a sponsor at Bike the Creek.
  - j. Sonia and other members reported the **Toronto Bike Show** was disappointing and that we made the correct decision to exhibit at the **Outdoor Adventure Show**.
2. **Regional Crossrides** – Lisa reported she is making progress working with regional staff on Bovaird crossride timing to synchronize with auto traffic during rush hour.

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## BikeBrampton Projects

1. [BikeBrampton Website](#) **NEW LOOK!** David reported he used ‘case design’ to make navigation on website more intuitive in the new theme. Google rankings have been maintained. Dayle has repaired the broken links that have occurred over the past 10 years since the website was first designed by Kevin.
2. [Earth Day Ride-ins](#) – April 20<sup>th</sup>. Four locations: Rosalea Park, Paul Palleschi Rec Centre, Bramalea City Centre, Chinguacousy Wellness Centre. Register from BikeBrampton link. Register for free lunch on city website.
3. **Bike Parking Update** – see above
4. **E-Bike Battery Certificate Update** – Steve reported that ebikes need a **CE or UL certification** label to be able to travel on GO trains. This is due to inexpensive unregulated batteries causing fires on subway! [CBC article](#)

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5. **GO train Service** – effective April 27<sup>th</sup>, Toronto – Kitchener line will run every half hour! Staff on the platform are checking tickets or scanning your Presto cards to ensure payment made.
  6. **GO train bike car Service** – discussion about bike tourist cars Toronto to Mississauga to Niagara. Seems to be large demand. Currently only fits 18 bikes per car. Needs to be redesigned to carry many more.
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## BEA Projects

1. **[BEA Annual General Meeting](#)** March 13<sup>th</sup> – David reported several new board members elected, attendance of 36. Keynote presentation by President of Unifor Local 1285 Vito Beato well received. MPP Graham McGregor (Brampton North) engaged with attendees. BEA will be applying again for Ontario Seniors Community Grant.
  2. David reported **[Rooted in Hope Tree Monitoring & Maintenance Training](#)** – Sun Apr 21<sup>st</sup> 10am – 2pm Gore Meadows Recreation Centre. Register: [milandeep.bhutta@hotmail.com](mailto:milandeep.bhutta@hotmail.com) Targeting participation from at least 3 secondary schools, 16 students and 5 seniors. Encouraging students and seniors to cycle to the training. Collected data from training sessions will feed into the City of Brampton’s Urban Forest Management Plan.
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## Caledon Update

1. **[Velocity](#)** – June 15<sup>th</sup>. Dayle posted on BikeBrampton events. Registration open
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## EVENTS:

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### **[Different Spokes](#) Rides & Workshops**

**BikeWrX Workshops & Rides**, Different Spokes: [Registration to attend events](#)

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### **[Ontario Bike Summit](#)**

Apr 3-5, 2024, Waterloo, 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary – Share the Road

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### **[Bike the Creek](#)**

Registration open for 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary signature cycling event: June 8, 2024

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Adjourned 8:16pm.

Next meeting April 17, 2024 – 6:30-8:00pm

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