

BikeBrampton Meeting Minutes

Wednesday December 18, 2024 – 6:30pm – 8:00 pm Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Wayne Noble, Makhan Singh, Dhesi, Heidi Berki, Steve Laidlaw, Dayle Laing, David Laing, Lisa Stokes, Barry Lavallee, Cindy Evans, Meghan Coleman, Ewa Milewska, Alina Grzejszczak, Tracy Zason, George Shepperdley, Roger, Jasdeep Singh Bhattal.

Meeting started: 6:30pm

Review & approve minutes from last meeting

Indigenous Land Acknowledgment

[November Meeting Minutes](#) – Steve moved to approve minutes. Passed

Memorial

1. Bruce Marshall passed away unexpectedly. The funeral is tomorrow, Dec 19th, Emmanuel United Church, visitation 11:30-1pm. Service at 1pm. Bruce was a long-time member of BikeBrampton, from early days of the Pedalwise program. He took videos and photos of several of our events, and could be counted on to speak his mind about the benefits of active transportation. Our sympathies to his widow, Christina Rose.

BikeBrampton Projects

1. **Update on Ontario Bill 212**
 - a. A [protest ride & rally](#) is being organized for **Sat Jan 25th** from downtown Brampton to Transportation Minister Prabmeet Sarkaria's constituency office. A ghost bike will be installed on public property along Main Street, in anticipation of the increased number of vulnerable road users who will be killed or seriously injured because of Bill 212. **Friends and Families for Safe Streets, Advocacy for Respect for Cyclists** and **Cycle Toronto** will be joining BikeBrampton.
 - b. Bill 212 prevents municipalities from installing bike lanes where a vehicle lane is to be removed.
 - c. Ontario has announced delay of Bloor, Yonge and Avenue Rd bike lane removal until after Mar 20th.
 - d. Discussion about the [2012 Coroner's Report](#) that investigated the 129 cycling deaths from 2006-2010. The report recommended complete

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streets, cycling networks, bike lanes, community safety zones with reduced speed limits and increased fines.

- e. Bill 212 also fast-tracks Hwy 413 and Bradford Bypass, eliminates Environmental Assessment, and provides huge fines for landowners that obstruct construction. It also absolves the province from litigation in the event of injury/death of AT user.
 - f. Cycle Toronto and Ecojustice are mounting a charter challenge against the province, to prevent the removal of bike lanes.
 - g. Discussion of populist decision vs one driven by data. We are hopeful this negative course will be reversed.
 - h. Fridays for Future – are organized rides on Friday evenings in Toronto downtown Annex neighbourhood.
2. **Velo Canada Bikes** – announced [Canada Active Transportation Fund](#) for safe infrastructure. Applications accepted until Feb 26th. They posted their [2024 Impact Report](#).

Brampton City Update

1. **The Atmospheric Fund** (see [blog post](#)) – Dayle reported their 2018-2023 data showing the number of Brampton cycling trips increased 57% to 3.5 million annually. Distance cycled increased by 73% from 9.5 million km annually. Brampton excelled compared to GTHA. Our programs and infrastructure are likely driving these positive numbers! Dayle delegated to ATAC [Carbon Emissions in GTHA – Brampton AT numbers shine brightly](#).
2. **Etobicoke Creek Trail Rainstorm Damage** – Steve reported he will be delegating on behalf of ATAC to Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee about the continued trail impacts of the July 16th storm. **Action:** Steve to add a slide showing ECT under QEW.
3. **ON Safe Passing Law** – Steve presented lane width illustrations that show motor vehicles need to change lanes to safely pass bicycles giving 1 metre.
4. **Orangeville Brampton Rail Trail**
 - a. There is a survey on the COB website. [Please fill out](#).
5. **Standardizing bike lanes at intersections** - Lisa reported she followed up with City staff.

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6. **Winter Maintenance** – Lisa reported she followed up with City staff. Action: send Lisa your areas needing attention, so she can consolidate.
7. **Vodden St bike lane** – Alina reported the City swept the bike lane of leaves and debris. The new green paint application at Vodden & Rutherford, makes bike lanes more clear, therefore safer.

Regional Update

1. **Different Spokes**
 - a. Bike hub will be closed for December. Sonia will set January hours once schedules of her student volunteers become available.
2. **Regional Roads** – roads and their maintenance to be downloaded at the end of the year, apparently. Water & sewers are to be kept within the region. Mississauga will be exiting regional waste collection. Police and Public Health remain the same. Apparently, bureaucracy will be reduced. The Task Force is wrapping up their analysis.
3. **Bike the Creek** – June 7, 2025 – Our region-wide signature cycling event. ([2024 blog post](#)) Discussion about marquee event being for city only. BtC is a model of partner collaboration. David had Markham reach out for advice on how they could emulate our event. Planning for 2025 has begun. We will be displaying with City at Outdoor Adventure Show, Feb 21-23. Tracy and Alina will be volunteering, looking for others! Town of Caledon also displaying at this show. We were side-by-side last show.

BEA Projects

N/A

Caledon Update

1. The Canadian Open is scheduled for Osprey Valley for same date (Jun 7th) as Bike the Creek. May affect routes and staffing levels. Wayne is on the BtC planning committee along with Caledon Staff, as are David & Dayle for BikeBrampton.
2. New kiosks have been designed to replace the vandalized wooden ones. A prototype has been installed in Caledon East. Palgrave will be next.
3. Caledon Trailway service level improved due to patrolling by gater. Leaves removed to make gravel & bridge surfaces less 'greasy'.

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4. Town is looking at consistent signage, and treatment options for trail crossings at roads.
5. Caledon Rail Trail (OBRY section in Caledon) phase one consultation completed. Completion date approximately 2030.
6. We are disappointed to hear Guelph is removing bike lanes. Mayor Guthrie was supportive during mayors' panel discussion at 2024 Ontario Bike Summit.

Deferred Items

1. [Underreported Cyclist and Pedestrian injuries](#) – Steve reported that Staff is working to acquire ER data in addition to police data and present back to ATAC committee, for a more complete picture of cycling injuries in Peel.
2. **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.

EVENTS:

1. [Bill 212 Ghost Bike Ride & Rally](#) – Sat Jan 25th 1:30pm – leaving from Different Spokes
2. [Outdoor Adventure Show](#) – Feb 21-23rd, International Centre – looking for volunteers for organizing & shifts
3. [Ontario Bike Summit](#) – May 27-30th, Windsor, Share the Road Cycling Coalition – Canada's largest cycling and active transportation conference
4. [Bike the Creek](#) – save the date June 7, 2025

[Different Spokes](#) Rides & Workshops

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

Adjourned 8:43pm.

Next meeting January 15, 2025 – 6:30-8:00pm