

BikeBrampton Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 15, 2025 – 6:30pm – 8:00 pm Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Barry Lavallee, Dayle Laing, David Laing, Heidi Berki, Sonia Maset, Ewa Milewska, Steve Laidlaw, Meghan Coleman, Cindy Evans, Jasdeep Singh Bhattal, Makhan (Mike) Singh Dhesi, Alina Grzejszczak

Meeting started: 6:30pm

Review & approve minutes from last meeting	Indigenous Land Acknowledgment December Meeting Minutes – Steve moved to approve minutes. Passed
Memorial	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Memorials to be held for Lisa’s father and Polly’s husband. The members of BikeBrampton expressed their deepest sympathies.
Brampton City Update	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bill 212 Impact on Brampton – discussion about some agitation to remove/replace some bike lanes with more expensive in-boulevard options. Consensus that this diverts attention from ATMP goal of building out the network, which is progressing but incomplete. Budget meetings indicate a need for funding in other areas, instead of removing what is already has data to prove the bike lanes work: ie. lowers speed, lowers driver transit time, improves safety, increases number of cyclists. Alina and Cindy went to visit Minister Williams in her riding office to discuss her survey that asked constituents which bike lanes they want removed. They reminded the Minister how important the bike lanes are to the health, safety and equity of all road users. Action: Complete Charmaine’s survey.2. Vodden/Howden bike lane maintenance – Members who have issues with maintenance are urged to use the 311 app on their phone, or the city’s website via their computer/tablet, rather than making phone call. This gives a tracking number. The extra personel in By-Law should start to make a difference in handling these issues. Steve wrote to Councillor Power to remark on the perfect clearing of bike lanes on Hanover after recent snow.

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3. **Brampton Community Rides** – subcommittee of ATAC has started planning 2025 rides. Date established. Keeping same format of 5 & 15km, Tues evening and Sun mornings. Mostly Ward rides, but at least one ride is themed: ‘Bike the Bees’, Loafer’s Lake – Sun Jun 22, 9:45am. Parks-Forestry will be hosting a talk at the new pollinator garden, followed by a BBQ adjacent to the parking lot.
4. **Williams Parkway Environmental Assessment** - study complete. See David’s [BEA blog](#). This appears to be a combination of Option 2&3. Multi-use path to have road-quality asphalt. Recently, Alina found Williams to be under construction from Dixie to Torbram. No accommodation for pedestrians, with bus stop removed and no sidewalk. **Action:** Alina to contact 311.
5. **Etobicoke Creek Trail Rainstorm Damage** – Steve delegated on behalf of ATAC to Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee about continued Etobicoke Creek trail impacts from July 16th storm. Cindy and Brenda attended meeting. ECT under the QEW is Toronto’s jurisdiction. Steve noted MCAC is chaired by a rotating pair of Councillors. Atmosphere was friendly. They have a bike-parking department with a 2025 budget of \$200,000. Dropped from \$350,000 in 2024. They have a fix-it program for bike parking. A heat-map shows where parking is being installed and where there is demand. Mayor Parrish on behalf of MCAC, sent a letter to Minister of Transportation about the bike lanes. Meddling in municipal planning is not appreciated. “Vision Zero has priority over congestion.” All Mississauga MPPs were copied on letter. No responses received. Mississauga has many projects underway. Their focus has been on multi-use paths that separate cycling and pedestrians. MCAC is organizing a Feb 14th International Bike Ride. David and Dayle were at Ward 1,5 Budget Townhall last night. The Mayor mentioned active transportation a couple of times in his budget speech. There were no questions from the public about bike lanes. People are focussed on rooming houses, fair-share of property taxes based on occupancy, and winter maintenance.
6. **Vélo Canada Bikes** – announced [Canada Active Transportation Fund](#) for safe infrastructure. Applications accepted until Feb 26th. – Dayle wrote Staff, suggesting ECT from Loafer’s Lake to Conservation Dr. While it has been in rough shape for more than a decade, the recent wetland construction project

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has heavy equipment damage that has reduced the broken asphalt to as narrow as 30cm in some places. The wetland project budget originally included repairing the trail, but this was removed as the project progressed.

7. [Outdoor Adventure Show](#) – Feb 21-23rd, International Centre. BikeBrampton will be helping City with Brampton display. Steve and Tyron are coordinating. They are looking for volunteers for shifts. So far, we have Sonia, Barry, Ewa, Steve, Heidi, Alina, Meghan. New people will be paired with experienced ones. MCAC will be attending the e-bike show in early March. Caledon and Brampton have selected OAS, as we found the attendance excellent last year.

Regional Update

1. [Different Spokes](#) **Downtown Brampton Bike Hub update** – Sonia reported winter hours: M & F 12-5pm, Sat 10-1 & 2-4pm. Wednesday nights are build nights. Lease extension on Nelson St is month to month until July. Sonia needs a shipping container for bike valet. She is working on WHMIS compliance certification. She is applying for grants.
2. [Bike the Creek](#) – June 7, 2025 – Our region-wide signature cycling event. We are looking for sponsors. Please forward the [Sponsorship Package](#) to any businesses you think would be a good fit. Registration to be open prior to Outdoor Adventure Show, so attendees can register from QR code on site. Dayle has secured The Biking Lawyer to display. David is working on the routes, which will be posted on City's Tourism Ride with GPS account.

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 Hurontario Street (beside Court House), in anticipation of the increased number of vulnerable road users who will be killed or seriously injured because of Bill 212. Tone is to be educational not angry. **Friends and Families for Safe Streets, Advocacy for Respect for Cyclists** and **Cycle Toronto** will be joining BikeBrampton. Sonia is having volunteers prepare the ghost bike and create signs at the hub next Wednesday evening.

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- b. **Cycle Toronto, Ecojustice and Paliare Roland LLP** are mounting a charter challenge against the province. They seek an immediate injunction (effective Mar 11th) to prevent removal of bike lanes on Bloor, University and Yonge. Province targeted removal to start Mar 20th. Court date for challenge hearing is Apr 16th.

BEA Projects

1. **Brampton Environmental Alliance Annual General Meeting** March 19th – save the date. [Sign up for, or renew your membership](#). It's only \$15/yr. (\$10 for youth or seniors; \$20 for organizations).

Caledon Update

1. Wayne will update next month.

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. Registration to open by Feb 21st.

[Different Spokes](#) Rides & Workshops

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

Adjourned 8:05pm.

Next meeting February 19, 2025 – 6:30-8:00pm. Sonia to chair.