



MINUTES

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

MISSISSAUGA CYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2009 - 7:10 PM

COMMITTEE ROOM A

2ND Floor, Civic Centre
300 City Centre Drive, Mississauga, ON L5B 3C1
Internet Address - <http://www.mississauga.ca>

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeff Wachman (Chair)
Craig Laferriere (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Pat Mullin
Andrew Hamilton-Smith
David Bell
Allan Harder
Dorothy Tomiuk
Paul Price
Ania Halliop
Kelly Willis
Rajendra Singh
John Sabiston
Hazel McCallion (Ex-Officio)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Nazrul Islam

Page 2....

STAFF PRESENT:

Anne Farrell, Planner, Community Services

Andy Harvey, Manager, Traffic Engineering & Operations

Jacqueline Hunter, Traffic Operations Technologist

Wendy Alexander, Director, Transportation & Infrastructure
Planning

Alexis Fung Fook, Public Affairs Consultant, Communications

Sacha Smith, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk

INDEX – MISSISSAUGA CYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE – October 13, 2009

CALL TO ORDER – 7:10 PM

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT (OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST

PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS:

- A. Alastair Russell, Airstream Technologies Corp. with respect to Electric Bikes and Rental Bike Stations Program.
- B. Mayor Hazel McCallion with respect to cycling safety issues.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

- 1. Administrative Matters:
 - 1.1 Items to be added under “Other Business”
 - 1.2 Minutes of Previous Meeting – September 8, 2009
- 2. Tour de Mississauga Debrief
- 3. 2009 Cycling Facility Work Plan Update
- 4. Cycling Master Plan Workshop
- 5. Crossride Pilot Project Promotion
- 6. Bells on Bicycles
- 7. Bike Lanes in Mississauga
- 8. Phil Green Award

Cont’d...

INDEX – MISSISSAUGA CYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE – October 13, 2009
CONTINUED

9. Suggestions for Education/Awareness Programs

10. Information Items

11. Action List, September 8, 2009

Date of Next Meeting – November 10, 2009

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT 9:15 PM

CALL TO ORDER – 7:10 PM

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT (OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST - Nil

PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS

- A. Alastair Russell, Airstream Technologies Corp. with respect to Electric Bikes and Rental Bike Stations Program

Mr. Russell appeared before the Cycling Advisory Committee to provide general information about electric bikes and bike stations program. He advised that electric bikes in Canada have the highest speed allowance at 32 km/hr. Electric bikes are defined by three kinds: pedal electric, classic electric and stand up scooters.

Mr. Russell commented on the use of lithium batteries for electric bikes and noted that it was not permitted in Canada to charge the battery on the bike. Approximately 30,000 electric bikes were sold in Canada which is 2.5% of the market share, and it is expected to grow next year. Mr. Russell advised that the Ontario government in October 2009 approved the use of electric bikes on the road.

Mr. Russell advised that there would be new bike stations in Britain that would accommodate 6-8 bikes which is equivalent to 1 parking space. He advised that corporate buildings in the downtown Toronto area are looking at bike stations that would cover approximately 6 car spaces.

Kelly Willis enquired about the safety concerns for electric bikes. Mr. Russell advised that the concerns are related to the ability to stop the bike at full speed within 9 metres at 30 km/hr.

- B. Mayor Hazel McCallion with respect to cycling safety issues

Mayor McCallion advised that she was impressed with the participation in the Tour de Mississauga cycling event and that she is looking forward to more participants next year.

She expressed concern with the safety of cyclists on the road. She explained that she had concerns with the width of the road to include bike lanes and noted that she did not want to have roads reconstructed without enough space available for bike lanes.

Jeff Wachman, Chair advised that staff has put in a lot of time to decide whether there should be bicycle lanes off road or on road. Andy Harvey, Manager, Traffic Engineering & Operations agreed and noted that the Cycling Master Plan would ensure that cycling facilities were implemented appropriately.

Mayor McCallion enquired about the use of bikes on sidewalks. Mr. Harvey replied that a by-law allows up to 20 inch bikes on the sidewalk and noted that it may need to be amended. He explained that some cyclists may choose to use the sidewalk to get to another bike route. Mayor McCallion noted that some cyclists are not conscience of people walking on the trails. She suggested that the trails could be divided for walking and cycling. Councillor Pat Mullin noted that there is a small area in Jack Darling Park where the trail is divided for walking and cycling. Anne Farrell, Planner advised that there will be facilities on The Queensway that will be built separately for walkers and cyclists.

Mr. Wachman noted the importance for a cycling department at the City that would have dedicated staff for cycling matters.

Wendy Alexander, Director, Transportation & Infrastructure Planning advised that the recommended width for bike lanes is 1.5 metres, which is equivalent to the width of a sidewalk and the standard to aspire to. The challenge is to determine when, if and where we can go smaller than 1.5 metres. Staff will review what are the factors that would have to come into play to recommend less than 1.5 metres as this would be critical to make a good recommendation to Council.

Ms. Alexander advised that there are new development charges for dedicated cycling facilities which will assist with achieving the cycling program.

MATTERS CONSIDERED:

1. Administrative Matters:

1.1 Items to be added under "Other Business"

Councillor Pat Mullin moved the motion to approve the agenda, which was voted on and carried.

Approved (Councillor P. Mullin)
MG.25

1.2 Minutes of Previous Meeting – August 11, 2009

Andrew Hamilton-Smith moved approval of the minutes for the September 8, 2009 Cycling Advisory Committee meeting, as presented.

Approved (Councillor P. Mullin)

MG.25

2. 2009 Cycling Facility Work Plan Update

Memorandum dated October 5, 2009 from David Marcucci, Manager, Park Planning regarding an update on the 2009 Cycling Facility Work Plan.

Mr. Marcucci advised that there were four (4) new boulevard projects added to the cycling facility work plan. He further advised that some park paths would be widened to 3 metres (10 feet) to include pedestrians and cyclists. In total there would be 40 km of new cycling facilities to be completed.

Ania Halliop expressed concern about the height of the curbs and how they affect bikes. Andy Harvey, Manager, Traffic Engineering & Operations advised that barrier curbs are in place to provide some protection for vehicles not jumping the curb. Wendy Alexander, Director, Transportation & Infrastructure Planning encouraged everyone to make note where curbs may be an issue and curb cuts can be done as time and budget permits.

John Sabiston requested that Allan Harder put the completed infrastructure in the subject memorandum on the committee website.

John Sabiston moved the following motion, which was voted on and carried:

Recommendation

That the memorandum dated October 5, 2009 from David Marcucci, Manager, Park Planning with respect to an update on the 2009 Cycling Facility Work Plan be received.

Received

Recommendation MCAC-0019-2009 (J. Sabiston)

MG.25

3. Tour de Mississauga Debrief

Committee to discuss the Tour de Mississauga event on September 20, 2009 and make suggestions for improvements next year.

The Legislative Coordinator distributed the Tour de Mississauga event report to the Cycling Advisory Committee.

Dorothy Tomiuk advised that it would be important for the committee to start planning early for next year. She reminded the committee that the Network & Technical Subcommittee suggested that the Tour de Mississauga event focus on quadrants of the City which would have routes that flow through the City Centre. Ms. Tomiuk noted that the Mississauga News coverage on the event was excellent.

Ms. Tomiuk suggested that for next year, more tour leaders would be needed and also some presence for emergency response.

Jeff Wachman, Chair commented that the City of Mississauga has done beautiful work on the trails and that splitting the City into quadrants is an excellent idea. He noted that permanent signage is needed. He noted that when there are events in the City Centre the signage could help it to be more cycling friendly and boost cycling tourism.

Councillor Pat Mullin noted that she found it interesting to see different types of people that participated in the Tour de Mississauga which included families and avid cyclists. She further noted that the route maps were excellent and that the increase in participation was great.

Ms. Tomiuk moved receipt of the Tour de Mississauga event report. This motion was voted on and carried.

Received (D. Tomiuk)

MG.25

4. Cycling Master Plan Workshop

Anne Farrell to provide an update with respect to the Cycling Master Plan Workshop.

Ms. Farrell distributed a memorandum with respect to the draft cycling network that the committee would discuss at the Cycling Master Plan workshop. She requested that committee members review their favourite route and evaluate it with the evaluation criteria provided in the subject memorandum.

Craig Laferriere enquired if cycling facility projects were included in the capital budget. Ms. Farrell confirmed that cycling projects are included in the capital budget and that staff take advantage of any opportunities that are present.

5. Crossride Pilot Project Promotion

Jacqueline Hunter, Traffic Operations Technician to provide an update on promotional strategies for the Crossride Pilot Project.

Ms. Hunter advised that the Crossride Pilot Project have now been implemented at Sheridan Park Drive and Homelands Drive/Speakman Drive and Sheridan Park Drive and Fifth Line West. Andy Harvey, Manager, Traffic Engineering & Operations advised that other municipalities are interested in the Project.

John Sabiston enquired about the crossride for cyclists near Ontario Place in Toronto. Mr. Harvey advised that there are cycling signals at the intersection near Ontario Place that permit the crossride to happen, as pedestrians and cyclists are separated. Mr. Harvey noted that it is challenging to implement the project at signalized intersections, but that it may happen shortly. Wendy Alexander, Director, Transportation & Infrastructure Planning agreed that the signalized intersections are critical and we would want the Ministry of Transportation Ontario to agree with our plans. Mr. Harvey confirmed that staff are working on how to make crossrides at a signalized intersection safe and practical. He noted that driver's education about the program is very important. Ms. Alexander advised that the City has to ensure that the infrastructure is safe in order for people to utilize it.

Jeff Wachman, Chair requested that staff consider implementing raised crosswalks at intersections. Mr. Harvey advised that through the Safe Driving Committee, staff are preparing an updated report about traffic calming which would include raised crosswalks. John Sabiston advised that the Network & Technical Subcommittee can review this matter at the next meeting as it could be considered on the Queensway Trail

MG.25

6. Bells on Bicycles

At the request of Councillor Mullin, committee to discuss safety issues related to cyclists not utilizing bells to alert pedestrians.

Craig Laferriere commented that in his experience when ringing the bell on his bike, pedestrians interpret that as moving out of the way. He suggested that there needs to be some education as how to respond to a bell on a bike. Paul Price suggested that there could be a by-law that would prohibit the sale of bikes without a bell. Allan Harder suggested that some educational material could be posted on the committee website to remind people that there is legislation to have a bell on bikes. Wendy Alexander, Director, Transportation & Infrastructure Planning suggested that the committee could review having a bike shop distribute bells at the Tour de Mississauga next year.

Andrew Hamilton-Smith moved the following motion which was voted on and carried:

Recommendation

That the Mississauga News article dated September 22, 2009 entitled, "Ring that Bell" be received and referred to the Network & Technical Subcommittee of the Cycling Advisory Committee to review and report back on the feasibility for a by-law to require that bikes be equipped with a bell when utilized in City parks and trail systems.

Received/Referred

Recommendation MCAC-0020-2009 (A. Hamilton-Smith)
MG.25

7. Bike Lanes in Mississauga

Councillor Maja Prentice has requested that the committee discuss the letter dated August 13, 2009 by Kelly Willis that was received in the Ward 3 office.

Paul Price moved the following motion which was voted on and carried:

Recommendation

That the letter dated August 13, 2009 from Kelly Willis, Citizen Member, Cycling Advisory Committee be received and referred to the Cycling Master Plan team for consideration.

Received/Referred

Recommendation MCAC-0021-2009 (P. Price)

MG.25

8. Phil Green Award

Committee to discuss nominations for the Phil Green Recognition Award.

No new nominations were presented. Allan Harder moved that this matter be deferred to the next meeting. This motion was voted on and carried.

Referred

MG.25

9. Suggestions for Education/Awareness Programs

Email dated September 25, 2009 from Jacqueline Hunter, Traffic Operations Technician with suggested education/awareness campaigns for the Committee to consider.

Jacqueline Hunter, Traffic Operations Technician advised that there were promotional items on the City of Toronto's website for cycling. She displayed some of the items and suggested the committee could look into creating similar items. Jeff Wachman, Chair suggested that the items could be sent out to the committee's distribution list as a news bulletin. Alexis Fung Fook, Public Affairs Consultant suggested that the committee could distribute a quarterly newsletter.

Ms. Hunter and Ms. Fung Fook advised that they could assist committee members when creating the promotional items.

Dorothy Tomiuk moved the following motion which was voted on and carried:

Recommendation

That the Cycling Advisory Committee create a quarterly newsletter for distribution starting in Spring 2010 and that the Communications and Promotions Subcommittee of the Cycling Advisory Committee review the newsletter prior to distribution.

Approved

Recommendation MCAC-0022-2009
MG.25

10. Information Items

10.1 Toronto Star article dated October 2, 2009 titled, "Ontario unveils e-bike rules".

10.2 Mississauga News article dated September 17, 2009 titled, "Charge and Ride".

10.3 Mississauga News article dated September 20, 2009 titled, "Cyclists Tackle Tour".

Received

MG.25

11. Action List, September 8, 2009

Action List of the meeting held on September 8, 2009, provided to Committee to update on the status of initiatives raised at prior meetings.

The committee agreed that a subcommittee to plan the Tour de Mississauga event should be formed. Jeff Wachman, Dorothy Tomiuk, David Bell and John Sabiston volunteered to be on the Tour de Mississauga Subcommittee.

Allan Harder moved the following motion, which was voted on and carried:

Recommendation

That a subcommittee of the Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee named "Tour de Mississauga" be formed to coordinate future Tour de Mississauga cycling events.

Approved

Recommendation MCAC-0023-2009
MG.25

Date of Next Meeting – November 10, 2009

OTHER BUSINESS

Paul Price noted that he would be attending a map and cue sheet making workshop on Thursday November 12, 2009 and if anyone was interested they could contact him.

ADJOURNMENT 9:15 PM