

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of the Toronto Cycling Committee

Meeting 2

Monday, February 13, 2006

The Toronto Cycling Committee met on Monday, February 13, 2006, Committee Room No. 2, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present:

Councillor Adam Giambrone, Chair
Ian Thomson, Co-Chair
Clay McFayden, Co-Chair
Dr. Judy Adler
Colin J. Biggin
Paulette Blais
Derek Chadbourne
Steve Crossman
Nancy Grieveson
Martin Koob
Crawford Murphy
Brigitte Nowak
Charles O'Hara
Michael Paulin
Hamish Wilson
Andrew Wood

Regrets:

Craig Barnes
Peter Michael Dziak
Margaret Hastings-James
Joe Hendry
J. Richard Nelson
John A. Sherk

Also Present:

Sergeant Brian Bowman, Traffic Services, Toronto Police Service
Stacy Douglas, Bike Week Facilitator, Transportation Planning, City Planning Division
Daniel Egan, Manager, Pedestrian and Cycling Infrastructure, Transportation Services Division

Barb Wentworth, Bicycle Safety Planner, Transportation Planning, City Planning Division
Pauline Craig, Cycling and Transit Project Organizer, City Planning Division,
Transportation Planning

Councillor Adam Giambrone in the Chair until 8:30 p.m.

Ian Thomson in the Chair until 9:40 p.m.

There were no declarations of interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Ian Thomson, the Minutes of the January 17, 2006 meeting were confirmed.

2.1 Current Policies and Practice for Accommodating Cyclists in Construction Zones

On motion by Ian Thomson, the verbal update on current policies and practices for accommodating cyclists in construction zones was deferred until the next regular meeting of the Toronto Cycling Committee to be held on March 20, 2006.

2.2 Street Furniture Harmonization

Andy Koropeski, Director, Transportation Services and Robert Millward, R. E. Millward Associates Ltd. presented a verbal update on the Street Furniture Harmonization Project.

By consensus, the Toronto Cycling Committee received the verbal update from Andy Koropeski, Director, Transportation Services and Robert Millward, R. E. Millward Associates Ltd., for information.

2.3 2006 Operating Budget – Planning and Transportation Committee

The Toronto Cycling Committee considered a communication (January 23, 2006) from the Planning and Transportation Committee requesting the Cycling Committee to submit to all Members of City Council literature respecting the Cycling Education Awareness Program.

By consensus, the Toronto Cycling Committee requested the Bicycle Safety Planner, Transportation Planning, City Planning Division to compile information respecting the Cycling Education Awareness Programme and to forward it to all Members of Council.

(Bicycle Safety Planner, Transportation Planning, City
Planning Division – February 15, 2006)

2.4. Request to Develop Alternative Standards for the Width of a Bike Lane

The Toronto Cycling Committee considered a communication from the Chair, Cycling Committee and Toronto Cycling Committee program staff regarding why the Toronto Cycling Committee has made the recommendation regarding the 1.5 metre width for a bike lane and adherence to the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) Bikeway Geometric Design Guide.

The Toronto Cycling Committee also considered a communication (January 23, 2006) from the City Clerk advising that the Toronto Cycling Committee at its meeting on January 17, 2006, recommended that:

- (1) the following recommendation from the Bikeway Network Subcommittee be endorsed and forwarded to the Planning and Transportation Committee:

“The Toronto Cycling Committee advise the Planning and Transportation Committee that the minimum width of a bicycle lane adjacent to a curb should be 1.5 metres, regardless of other factors.”; and

- (2) the Chair and Toronto Cycling Committee program staff, prepare a one-page accompanying letter of explanation, for submission, together with Recommendation (1), to the Planning and Transportation Committee, on why the Toronto Cycling Committee has made the recommendation regarding the 1.5 meter width for a bike lane and adherence to the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) Bikeway Geometric Design Guide; and such letter be submitted to the Toronto Cycling Committee meeting on February 13, 2006, for review and approval, prior to its submission to the Planning and Transportation Committee.

On motion by Steve Crossman, the Toronto Cycling Committee:

- (1) recommended to the Planning and Transportation Committee that the minimum width of a bicycle lane adjacent to a curb should be 1.5 metres, regardless of other factors and that the Toronto Cycling Committee supports the existing City Standard which calls for bike lane widths between 1.8 and 2.0 metres, with a minimum of 1.5

metres – the national Transportation Association of Canada standard, for the following reasons:

- (a) 1.5 metres includes the width of the gutter (about 30 cm adjacent to the curb), an area which is unsuitable for cycling and should not, therefore, be considered as part of the bike lane itself;
- (b) bike lanes can include catch basins and poor pavement conditions on the right hand edge of the road. All of these conditions can effectively reduce the width of the bike lane;
- (c) creating bike lanes that are less than the national standard can open the City of Toronto up to the possibility of accident liability claims in much the same way as the City was found partly responsible in a recent ruling involving a bike route on Queen Street West;
- (d) Toronto has not been successful in consistently removing snow from its bike lanes. The 1.5 metre bike lane is effectively reduced in width because of the accumulation of snow by the curb;
- (e) and cyclists in bike lanes need a safety buffer between themselves and car traffic to their left and part of the 1.5 metres would be considered by many cyclists as part of this safety buffer.

(2) advised the Planning and Transportation that:

- (i) the Toronto Cycling Committee would welcome an effort by the Planning and Transportation Committee to reduce the width of car lanes to allow the creation of more bike lanes across Toronto.
- (ii) alternatively, the “Bicycle Friendly Streets” section of the Toronto Bike Plan states:

“Where existing widths do not accommodate bike lanes, restriping lanes to provide more space in the curb lane is a cost effective measure to improve cycling conditions on arterial roads. A 4.0 to 4.3 m width gives cyclists and drivers more space to share

the curb lane...”

- (3) requested the Chair to prepare an accompanying letter of explanation, for submission, together with Recommendations (1) and (2), to the Planning and Transportation Committee, on why the Toronto Cycling Committee has made the recommendations regarding the 1.5 meter width for a bike lane and adherence to the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) Bikeway Geometric Design Guide; and
- (4) requested the General Manager, Transportation Services be requested to report to the Works Committee, in consultation with the Toronto Cycling Committee on guidelines for the use of shared-use lane markings for roads where there is not sufficient width to provide bicycle lanes.

(Planning and Transportation Committee; Councillor Adam Giambrone, Chair; General Manager, Transportation Services – February 15, 2006)

2.5 Toronto Cycling Committee – Representation on Different Groups and Organizations

The Toronto Cycling Committee considered a survey of groups or organizations, which have a representative from the Toronto Cycling Committee as a member or a representative from the Toronto Cycling Committee who is a liaison between the Toronto Cycling Committee and the organization.

The Toronto Cycling Committee also considered a communication (January 23, 2006) from the City Clerk, recommending that Councillor Adam Giambrone, Chair, Martin Koob, Member, Toronto Cycling Committee, and the Committee Secretary, Toronto Cycling Committee, bring forward to the Toronto Cycling Committee meeting on February 13, 2006, a list of all groups or organizations, which have requested a representative from the Toronto Cycling Committee, and such list to indicate which member of the Toronto Cycling Committee is presently the representative on such group or organization.

By consensus, the Toronto Cycling Committee:

- (1) appointed Colin Biggin as the Toronto Cycling Committee representative on the Tommy Thompson Park Advisory Committee;
- (2) appointed Margaret Hastings-James as the Toronto Cycling Committee representative on the Car Free Day Working Group; and

- (3) referred the issue of Toronto Cycling Committee representation on various groups on which it is currently not represented such as, but not limited to, the Toronto Youth Cabinet, Toronto Public Space Committee, the Toronto Environmental Alliance and the PS Kensington Working Group, to the Promotions Sub-Committee requesting that they contact these groups on their potential interest in having a Toronto Cycling Committee representative attend their meetings, and to report back to a future meeting of the Toronto Cycling Committee.

(Colin Biggin; Margaret Hasting-James; Promotions Sub-Committee – February 15, 2006)

2.6 Update on the Development of an Automated Second-Hand Goods and Pawn Electronic Transaction Reporting By-law for Information

The Toronto Cycling Committee considered a summary of two community consultation meetings held by the Municipal Licensing and Standards Division of City Planning regarding the development of a draft by-law to require electronic reporting (an Automated Reporting System (ARS)).

By consensus, the Toronto Cycling Committee received the Update on the Development of an Automated Second-Hand Goods and Pawn Electronic Transaction Reporting By-law, from the Bicycle Safety Planner, Transportation Planning, City Planning Division, for information.

2.7 Union Station Precinct Study Public Forums

The Toronto Cycling Committee considered a Notice of a Public Forum regarding the Union Station Precinct Study.

By consensus, the Toronto Cycling Committee received the Notice of a Public Forum regarding the Union Station Precinct Study, for information.

2.8 Cyclometer Update

The Toronto Cycling Committee considered a summary from Barb Wentworth, Bicycle Safety Planner, Transportation Planning, providing a summary report about website use during 2006. Cyclometer has 3,093 subscribers to date. Future stats will be provided on a regular basis to the Cycling Committee.

By consensus, the Toronto Cycling Committee received the summary from the Bicycle Safety Planner, Transportation Planning, for information.

2.9 Outstanding Items List

The Toronto Cycling Committee considered a communication (February 3, 2006) from the City Clerk, providing the Outstanding Items List for the information of the Toronto Cycling Committee.

By consensus, the Toronto Cycling Committee received the communication (February 3, 2006) from the City Clerk regarding the Outstanding List for information.

2.10 Toronto International Bike Show

The Toronto Cycling Committee considered a communication (January 30, 2006) from the Bike Week Facilitator, Transportation Planning, City Planning Division, advising that The Toronto International Bike Show will take place between Friday, March 3, 2006 and Sunday, March 5, 2006, at the National Trade Centre, Hall A, Exhibition Place; submitting a sign-up sheet; and requesting members to sign up for the times that they will be available to staff the Bike Show display.

By consensus, the Toronto Cycling Committee received the communication (January 30, 2006) from the Bike Week Facilitator, Transportation Planning, City Planning Division for information.

2.11 Bike Week 2006

The Toronto Cycling Committee considered a communication (January 9, 2006) from the Community Cycling Organizer, Transportation Planning, City Planning Division, providing key dates and information regarding Bike Week 2006.

By consensus, the Toronto Cycling Committee received the communication (January 9, 2006) from the Community Cycling Organizer, Transportation Planning, City Planning Division, for information.

2.12. Resignation of Richard Nelson

The Toronto Cycling Committee considered a communication (February 2, 2006) from Richard Nelson, advising that he is withdrawing from his appointment as the Toronto Pedestrian Committee's representative to the Toronto Cycling Committee.

By consensus, the Toronto Cycling Committee:

- (i) received the communication (February 2, 2006) from Richard Nelson, for information; and
- (ii) recommended that the Chair, on behalf of the Toronto Cycling Committee, forward a letter of appreciation to Richard Nelson for having served on the Toronto Cycling Committee.

(Councillor Adam Giambrone, Chair, Toronto Cycling
Committee- February 15, 2006)

2.13 Subcommittee and Workgroup Minutes

The Toronto Cycling Committee had before it the following minutes:

- (a) Promotions Subcommittee Minutes dated January 18, 2006;
- (b) Education and Safety Subcommittee Minutes dated February 1, 2006;
- (c) Bikeway Network Subcommittee Minutes dated January 25, 2006; and
- (d) Cycling and Transit Working Group Minutes dated February 7, 2006.

On motion by Nancy Grieveson, the Toronto Cycling Committee

- (i) received the Minutes of the Promotions Sub-Committee dated January 18, 2006; and
- (ii) requested each Sub-Committee to review the following Recommendation from the Minutes of the Promotions Sub-Committee dated January 18, 2006 and to forward comments to the Chair, Promotions Sub-Committee for her to prepare a request to staff:

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“that the City of Toronto support a number of organised bicycle races in Toronto through full support and easier acceptance by mandating the Parks Department’s participation and Transportation Services; and financial breaks on the police fees to bicycle race organisers.”

(Promotions Subcommittee; Education and Safety Subcommittee; Bikeway Network Subcommittee; Cycling and Transit Working Group – February 15, 2006)

On motion by Brigitte Nowak, the Toronto Cycling Committee

- (i) received the Minutes of the Education and Safety Sub-Committee dated February 1, 2006; and
- (ii) requested Alex Shevchuk, Parks and Recreation Planner, Policy and Development, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to provide an update to the Education and Safety Sub-Committee on the draft signs, for information and comment, at its meeting to be held on February 20, 2006.

(Alex Shevchuk, Parks and Recreation Planner, Policy and Development, Parks, Forestry and Recreation – February 15, 2006)

On motion by Steve Crossman, the Toronto Cycling Committee received the Minutes of the Bikeway Network Sub-Committee dated January 25, 2006.

On motion by Clay McFayden, the Toronto Cycling Committee received the Minutes of the Cycling and Transit Working Group dated February 7, 2006.

Next Meeting Dates for the Toronto Cycling Committee, Subcommittees and Working Group

Toronto Cycling Committee
Monday, March 20, 2006
7:00 p.m.
Committee Room 2
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West

Bikeway Network Subcommittee
Wednesday, February 22, 2006
7:00 p.m.
Committee Room 3
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West

Promotion Subcommittee
Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Education and Safety Subcommittee
Monday, February 20, 2006

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7:00 p.m.
Committee Room 1
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West

7:00 p.m.
Committee Room 3
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West

Cycling and Transit Working Group
Tuesday, March 7, 2006

6:30 p.m.
Committee Room 3
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West

The Toronto Cycling Committee adjourned its meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Chair

Co-Chair