



Adam Giambrone

City Councillor
Ward 18 — Davenport



Memo

Date: 6 September 2006

To: Economic Development and Parks Committee Members

From: Councillor Adam Giambrone, Ward 18 Davenport

Re: **12 September 2006 Meeting agenda**
Item 32: Parks, Forestry and Recreation 2007 Capital Budget Request

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing in my capacity as Chair of the Toronto Cycling Committee (TCC) to explain and modify the TCC's communication about the 2007 capital budget request.

As you know, City Council has adopted the 2001 Bike Plan, committing us to measures that will achieve a more bike-friendly city, including a 1000 km comprehensive bikeway network on our roads and on our parks trails and paths.

Currently, the Bikeway Network trails and paths are included in the general "state of good repair" or "Capital Asset Management Program" (CAMP) queue, which at our current rate will take roughly **80 years** to complete. Bikeway Network trails and paths are not prioritized as such.

We cannot wait 80 years to expand our bikeway network in parks, given the City's pressing need to improve the viability of cycling as a mode of transportation and recreation.

In addition, we originally projected that by 2007, \$1.5 million annually should be budgeted to build and upgrade the Bikeway Network in parks. The Bikeway Network Expansion budget in 2006 was only \$500,000.

For these reasons, we are now asking that you:

1. Restore the budget for building and upgrading the Bikeway network to \$1.5 million.
2. Take the trails and paths identified for Bikeway Network expansion *out* of the general CAMP queue and provide a new budget line item ("Bikeway Network State-of-Good-Repair") to move ahead with them more quickly. Working with staff, the TCC has identified three projects for inclusion in

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the 2007 budget totaling \$655,000 (to be taken from the \$1.5 million total expansion budget.) Please note that this approach not only speeds up the rate of bikeway network expansion, but speeds up the general CAMP program as well, by removing the Bikeway Network paths and trails included in it.

3. Once the \$655,000 has been reallocated to Bikeway Network *State of Good Repair*, allocate the remaining \$845,000 for Bikeway Network *Expansion*.

The paths and trails identified for state-of-good repair work are:

1. Berry Road Park	\$ 80,000
2. Etobicoke Creek Parklands	345,000
3. Chalkfarm Park	<u>230,000</u>
Total:	\$655,000

Please note that this is \$40,000 *less* than the request before you in the transmittal from the TTC, reflective of subsequent clarification of costing and identification of the appropriate paths and trails.

The remaining \$845,000 will allow us to provide the \$1.5 million necessary to meet our Bike Plan commitments and put us back on track to make Toronto a more bike-friendly City.

In summary, we are requesting that you:

1. Create a line item for "Bikeway Network State of Good Repair" and provide \$655,000 in it in 2007 to complete the Berry Road Park, Etobicoke Creek Parklands and Chalkfarm Park projects
2. Keep the existing \$600,000 for general Trails and Paths State of Good repair
3. Increase the Bikeway Network Expansion budget to \$845,000, which, when added to the \$655,000 for the Bikeway Network State of Good Repair (#1, above,) will bring us back in line with our \$1.5 million target for Bikeway Network Expansion in 2007.

Thank you for your kind consideration. I would be happy, of course, to meet with you to discuss this request and answer any questions you may have.

Yours truly,



Adam Giambrone
Toronto City Councillor
Ward 18 Davenport
Chair, Toronto Cycling Committee

