

2008 Bikeway Network Program – Phase 5 Installation of Bicycle Lanes

Date:	November 7, 2008
To:	Public Work and Infrastructure Committee
From:	General Manager, Transportation Services
Wards:	Wards 37, 38, 43, 44
Reference Number:	p:2008\ClusterB\tim\tra\pw08023tim

SUMMARY

This is the fifth report to obtain approval for installing bicycle lanes as part of the Toronto Bike Plan – 2008 Bikeway Network Program. This report recommends that bicycle lanes be installed on both sides of Lawrence Avenue East, from Victoria Park Avenue to Rouge Hills Drive. Bicycle lanes on both sides of this 16.1 km section of Lawrence Avenue will add 32.2 km to the Bikeway Network and will increase the total length of bicycle lanes approved by City Council in 2008 to 102.2 km. This will increase the total length of the approved bicycle lanes to 249 km.

The final section of the 2008 Bikeway Network Program represents a significant east-west bikeway on Lawrence Avenue East crossing the entire Scarborough District. There are several design and operational issues which need to be addressed during the detailed design process. It is recommended that the General Manager, Transportation Services, be authorized to develop and implement the detailed design and introduce amendments to traffic and parking regulations as necessary, in consultation with the Ward Councillors and T.T.C. staff.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Transportation Services recommends that City Council:

1. Approve the installation of bicycle lanes on both sides of Lawrence Avenue East, from Victoria Park Avenue to Rouge Hills Drive;

2. Authorize the General Manager, Transportation Services to develop and implement the detailed design for the Lawrence Avenue East bicycle lanes, including amendments to traffic and parking regulations, in consultation with the Ward Councillors and T.T.C. staff; and
3. Authorize and direct appropriate City officials to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, including the introduction of all necessary bills.

Financial Impact

Funds to implement the bicycle lanes recommended in this report are provided within the Transportation Services Division 2008 Capital Budget in the Cycling Infrastructure Account CTP 808-05.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council, at its meeting on July 24, 25 and 26, 2001, adopted the Toronto Bike Plan (Clause No. 3 of Report No. 8 of the Planning and Transportation Committee). One of the key recommendations of the Toronto Bike Plan is to implement a 1,000 kilometre Bikeway Network.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

By adopting the Clean Air, Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Action Plan in June 2007, Council has directed Transportation Services to complete the infrastructure elements of the Toronto Bike Plan by 2012, including the Bikeway Network. The Network consists of three bikeway types: bicycle lanes; shared roadway routes; and off-road paths.

COMMENTS

2008 Bikeway Network Program

In order to complete the bicycle lane sections of the Bikeway Network by 2012, Transportation Services has established annual targets. The target for 2008 is to install bicycle lanes on 50 kilometres of roadway, which represents approximately 100 km of bicycle lanes, as measured by lane kilometre. With the adoption of this report, the fifth of five reports on the 2008 Bikeway Network Program, Council will have approved bicycle lanes on 52.8 km of roadways, representing 102.2 km of new bicycle lanes in 2008. A further 6.0 km of bicycle lanes recommended by Transportation Services were deferred or not approved by Council. The summary of the 2008 bicycle lane projects are presented in Table 1 below.

Table 1 - 2008 Bicycle Lane Projects

Street	Location	Ward(s)	Road Km	Lane Km
Bicycle Lanes Approved By Council				
Rogers Rd.	Old Weston Rd. to Oakwood Ave.	12, 15, 17	2.4	4.8
Royal York Rd.	Delroy Dr. to Mimico Cr.	5	1.5	3.0
Eastern Ave.	Logan Ave. to Leslie St.	30	1.1	2.2
Logan Ave.	Gerrard St. East to Dundas St. East	30	0.4	0.8
The Pond Rd.	Sentinel Rd. to Shoreham Dr.	8	0.9	1.8
Finch Ave. East	Neilson Rd. to Morningside Ave.	42	1.2	2.4
Vaughan Rd.	St. Clair Ave. West to Winona Dr.	15, 21	1.6	1.6
Birchmount Rd.	Kingston Rd. to St. Clair Ave. East	35, 36	2.5	5.0
Royal York Rd.	Cavell Ave. to Manitoba St.	6	0.8	1.6
Stephen Dr.	The Queensway to Berry Rd.	5	0.8	1.6
Marlee Rd.	Roselawn Ave. to Del Park Ave.	15	1.4	2.8
Wellesley St.	Queen's Park Crescent West to Parliament St.	27, 28	2.0	4.0
Renforth Dr.	Bloor St. West to Rathburn Rd.	3	2.5	5.0
Annette St.	Dundas St. West to Jane St.	13, 14	2.5	5.0
Dupont St.	Dundas St. West to Lansdowne Ave.	18	1.0	2.0
Simcoe St.	Queen's Quay West to Front St.	20	0.6	1.2
Yonge St.	Queen's Quay to Front St.	28	0.6	1.2
The Queensway	East of High St. to Windermere Ave.	5, 13	1.7	3.4
Carlaw Ave.	Simpson Ave. to Riverdale Ave.	30	0.3	0.3
Logan Ave.	Gerrard St. East to Simpson Ave.	30	0.1	0.1
Shaw St.	Barton Ave. to south of Acores Ave.	19, 21	0.8	0.8
Stanley Ave.	Royal York Rd. to Superior Ave.	6	0.6	0.6
Pharmacy Ave.	Denton Ave. to Alvinston Rd.	35	3.4	6.8
Conlins Rd.	Ellesmere Rd. to Sheppard Ave. East	44	1.9	3.8
Brimorton Dr.	Brimley Rd. to Scarborough Golf Club Rd.	38	4.1	8.2
Sub-total Bicycle Lanes Approved By Council			36.7	70.0
Bicycle Lanes Recommended in this Report				
Lawrence Ave. East	Victoria Park Ave. to Rouge Hills Dr.	37, 38, 43, 44	16.1	32.2
Sub-total Bicycle Lanes Approved and Recommended			52.8	102.2
Bicycle Lanes Not Approved By Council				
Horner Ave.	Browns Line to Judson St.	6	3.0	6.0
Sub-total Bicycle Lanes Not Approved By Council			3.0	6.0
Total Bicycle Lanes Reported to Council			55.8	108.2

Lawrence Avenue East

With a total length of 32.2 km, the proposed bicycle lanes on both sides of Lawrence Avenue East, from Victoria Park Avenue to Rouge Hills Drive, will provide a significant east-west bikeway spanning across all of Scarborough. The attached drawing No. 412P0119, dated October 2008, entitled “Toronto Bike Plan – Context Map: Lawrence Ave. East – Proposed Bicycle Lane”, illustrates the significance of this proposal in terms of its length and its connectivity to existing and proposed bikeway facilities and destinations. The Lawrence Avenue East bikeway will ultimately connect from the Rouge River to Yonge Street. In 2009, Transportation Services will review the section west of Victoria Park Avenue to extend this bikeway to the full extent recommended by the Toronto Bike Plan.

Lawrence Avenue East between Victoria Park Avenue and Rouge Hills Drive is a two-way major arterial road. Between Victoria Park Avenue and Kingston Road it operates as a 7-lane cross-section with three lanes in each direction and a centre left-turn lane. Between Kingston Road and Port Union Road, it operates with two lanes in each direction. East of Port Union Road, Lawrence Avenue East is a two-way collector road, which operates with one lane in each direction.

Parking is prohibited at all times on both sides of Lawrence Avenue East between Victoria Park Avenue and Bennett Road, except for Sundays and holidays on the north side between Victoria Park Avenue and Warden Avenue and on the south side between Warden Avenue and Underwriters Road. Stopping is prohibited on the north side in the morning peak period between Victoria Park Avenue and Markham Road. East of Bennett Road parking is permitted on both sides at anytime.

Lawrence Avenue East is scheduled for re-construction from Manse Road to Beechgrove Drive in 2009 and from Kingston Road to Manse Road in 2010. As part of the re-construction, the roadway will be widened by approximately one metre and the existing lanes widths will be adjusted in order to provide bicycle lanes and still maintain the existing general purpose lanes. A staff report will be submitted to Community Council to obtain authority for the road widening when the detailed design has been completed, prior to construction commencing. In the other sections of Lawrence Avenue East, west of Kingston Road and east of Beechgrove Drive, the bicycle lanes will be provided within the existing roadway width.

The T.T.C. operates the 54 – Lawrence Avenue East bus route on this section of Lawrence Avenue East. If Council approves the bicycle lanes on Lawrence Avenue East as recommended in this report, Transportation Services staff will work closely with T.T.C. staff through the detailed design process to mitigate any impacts on T.T.C. bus service, to the extent possible.

The affected Ward Councillors and the T.T.C. have been advised of this proposal. There are several design and operational issues which will need to be addressed during the detailed design phase. It is recommended that the General Manager, Transportation Services, be authorized to develop and implement the detailed design and introduce amendments to traffic and parking regulations as necessary, in consultation with the Ward Councillors and the T.T.C.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Drawing No. 421P0119