



City Clerk's Office

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Date: October 6, 2009  
To: Toronto Cycling Advisory Committee  
From: Public Works and Infrastructure Committee  
Subject: Changes to the Official Ministry of Transportation of Ontario Driver's Handbook

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**Committee Decision:**

The Public Works and Infrastructure Committee referred the letter (September 25, 2009) from the Toronto Pedestrian Committee to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee and the Toronto Cycling Advisory Committee with the request that they provide advice to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee and City Council on potential changes to the Official Ministry of Transportation of Ontario Driver's Handbook.

**Background:**

The Public Works and Infrastructure Committee on October 6, 2009, considered a letter (September 25, 2009) from the Toronto Pedestrian Committee entitled "Changes to the Official Ministry of Transportation of Ontario Driver's Handbook".

**Background Information:**

PW27.10-Letter from Toronto Pedestrian Committee  
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pw/bgrd/backgroundfile-23815.pdf>)  
PW27.10-Attachment Letter from Councillor Joe Mihevc  
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pw/bgrd/backgroundfile-23816.pdf>)

**Communications:**

(October 2, 2009) Letter from Councillor Joe Mihevc, Ward 21 - St. Paul's (PW.New.PW27.10.1)

**Speakers:**

Yvonne Bambrick, Executive Director, Toronto Cyclists Union  
Lock Hughes

*C. Davidovits*

for City Clerk

Candy Davidovits/lv  
Item PW27.10

c. Yvonne Bambrick, Executive Director, Toronto Cyclists Union





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Ulli S. Watkiss  
City Clerk

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Belinda Bains  
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September 25, 2009

To: Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

From: Toronto Pedestrian Committee

Subject: Changes to the Official Ministry of Transportation of Ontario Driver's Handbook

**Recommendations:**

**The Toronto Pedestrian Committee recommended to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee:**

1. **The General Manager, Transportation Services, be requested to review the Official Ministry of Transportation of Ontario Driver's Handbook and recommend changes to the Handbook, for consideration by the Government of Ontario, that would better educate drivers on sharing the road with cyclists, pedestrians, and public transit vehicles with an eye towards a safer and more inclusive road environment for all users.**
2. **The General Manager, Transportation Services, be requested to develop recommendations, for consideration by the Government of Ontario, to improve the ongoing training of Driving Instructors on sharing the road with cyclists, pedestrians and public transit vehicles with an eye towards a safer and more inclusive road environment for all users.**

**Background:**

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee on September 22, 2009, considered a communication (August 6, 2009) from Councillor Joe Mihevc, requesting that the Committee request staff to review the Driver's Education Manual and suggest changes to the Province that would better educate drivers on sharing the road with cyclists, pedestrians, and public transit vehicles with an eye towards a safer and more inclusive road environment for all users.

*B. Bains*  
for City Clerk

B. Bains/bb  
Item 1  
Attachment





**Councillor Joe Mihevc**

Toronto City Hall  
St. Paul's West  
Ward 21

## MEMO

TO: Toronto Cycling Committee, Toronto Pedestrian Committee  
FROM: Councillor Joe Mihevc, Ward 21, St. Paul's West  
CC: Yvonne Bambrick, Executive Director, Toronto Cyclists Union  
RE: Changes to Driver's Education Manual  
DATE: August 6, 2009

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I understand that the provincial Driver's Education manual has not been revised in several years.

We are seeing a significant "modal shift" in how we use and share our roads here in Toronto. As Vice Chair of the Toronto Transit Commission and as an advocate for both pedestrians and cyclists, it is clear to me that drivers in this province need to be better educated about the transportation realities in Toronto and be better equipped to share the roads with pedestrians, cyclists, and public transit vehicles.

I therefore request that your committee request staff to review recommendations to the province on amendments and alterations to the Driver's Education Manual to better educate drivers on sharing the road with cyclists, pedestrians, and public transit vehicle with an eye toward a safer and more inclusive road environment for all users.

Sincerely,

Councillor Joe Mihevc  
Ward 21, St. Paul's West



**Councillor Joe Mihevc**

Toronto City Hall  
St. Paul's West  
Ward 21

October 2, 2009

RE: PW127.10 "Changes to the Official Ministry of Transportation of Ontario's Driver's Handbook"

Dear Public Works and Infrastructure Committee members,

I regret that I am not able to be present to discuss my memo of August 6, 2009 regarding "Changes to the Driver's Education Manual."

That memo resulted from discussion and request from Yvonne Bambrick, Executive Director of the Toronto Cyclists Union. The Toronto Cyclists Union, whose mandate is to provide a "vibrant and amplified voice to achieve the common goals of safety, legitimacy and accessibility of cycling in Toronto," has been advocating for some time now that a key element of improving cycling in Toronto is to better educate all road users on the rules of the road and how to share it.

One element of the Cyclists Union's multi-faceted education campaigns is to request the Ministry of Transportation to update the Driver's Education Manual to include additional information about cycling safety and sharing the road with cyclists, pedestrians and transit users.

I am pleased that Public Works and Infrastructure will be taking up this request and look forward to seeing staff's recommendations on appropriate updates to the manual. I would encourage the Committee and staff to include members of the cycling, pedestrian, and public transit advocacy communities in their discussions on appropriate changes.

Sincerely,

Councillor Joe Mihevc

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