



CITY COUNCIL REFERRAL OF MEMBER MOTION

Request for Report on a Bicycle Licensing System

Date:	July 25, 2016
To:	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
From:	City Council
Wards:	All Wards

City Council Decision

City Council on July 12, 13, 14 and 15, 2016, referred Motion MM20.18 to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee.

Recommendations

Councillor Stephen Holyday, seconded by Councillor Justin J. Di Ciano, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services to report to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee by the first quarter of 2017 on options to permit/licence/register bicycles with the following goals:
 - a. generate revenue to fund infrastructure maintenance, expansion and improved service levels;
 - b. gather ridership data;
 - c. increase health and safety awareness, equipment standards and compliance; and
 - d. promote the City's Cycling App;

and such report to consider, but not be limited to:

1. limitations to target only adult riders and consider commuter vs recreational use;
2. partnering with clubs and organizations;
3. reducing overhead and administrative burden by using distribution partners, including retailers;
4. use of a validation sticker and/or technology and information systems including RFID;

5. integration with cycling infrastructure performance standards and continuous improvement; and opportunities for Big Data gathering;
6. incentives to promote ridership and membership to cycling organizations; and
7. cost considerations, human resource impact, pricing, validity intervals, potential revenue, and data/information value.

Summary

On June 24, 2016 Forum Research (www.forumresearch.com) released a poll indicating that a 56 percent majority of Torontonians surveyed agreed that bicyclists should be licensed.

Given the public interest, this Motion requests an information report be prepared for the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee which examines the potential for a registration, license or permit system for bicycles within the City of Toronto.

A new system may provide several benefits including new revenues which could enhance the existing bicycle network system, and new opportunities to gather data which will aid in planning for current and future expansion needs. The implementation of a system may also generate opportunities to promote cycling, increased safety awareness, improved safety equipment utilization, and support cycling oriented clubs and organizations.

While there have been some past initiatives to explore licensing cyclists over the previous decades with an emphasis on enforcement, this report would focus on registering the equipment itself, and include recent contextual changes and opportunities including technology, big data, collaboration with partners and revenue opportunities.

Communications (City Council)

(July 8, 2016) E-mail from Patti Gardner (MM.Supp.MM20.18.1)

(July 9, 2016) E-mail from Colan Mitchell (MM.New.MM20.18.2)

(July 12, 2016) E-mail from Hamish Wilson (MM.New.MM20.18.3)