



REPORT FOR INFORMATION

Supplementary Report: Accessibility Review - On-Street Bikeway Design Guidelines

Date: May 14, 2019

To: Infrastructure and Environment Committee

From: General Manager, Transportation Services

Wards: All

SUMMARY

At the April 11, 2019 meeting of the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee, a presentation was made by WSP Consulting, the City's consultant responsible for producing the On-Street Bikeway Design Guide. The presentation focused on the accessible design of cycling facilities. The Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee requested that a special consultation session be held to further understand accessibility concerns, and have it further guided by the Toronto Complete Streets Guidelines before finalizing the On-street Bikeway Design Guide.

The overarching principles of the Guide are to prioritize safety and accessibility within design, and make cycling a comfortable experience for all ages and abilities.

The Guide is intended for practitioners involved in the development of cycling infrastructure in Toronto, and will also be helpful for key stakeholders who have a special interest in understanding the process and rationale for the various design strategies.

Throughout the development of the Guide, multiple Technical Advisory Committee meetings, focused meetings with City staff design practitioners, and meetings with stakeholders, including those with pedestrian advocates and the accessibility community, have been held to inform the development of the guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

DECISION HISTORY

On April 11, 2019, the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee recommended that the Infrastructure and Environment Committee direct the General Manager, Transportation Services to consider the communications received on item D11.5, and establish a special consultation session of accessibility and pedestrian advocates to further understand technical concerns and have it further guided by the Toronto Complete Street Guidelines before finalizing the report on the On-street Bikeway Design Guide: <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.D11.5>

COMMENTS

The On-Street Bikeway Design Guide are intended to lead to better design outcomes, consistency in design, and more efficiency in cycling facility selection and design implementation. The Guide build on lessons learned from on-street cycling projects in Toronto, such as Wellesley, Bloor and Sherbourne cycle tracks, Queen Park Circle, as well as the Queens Quay multi-use trail.

The overarching principles of the guidelines are to prioritize safety and accessibility within design and make cycling a comfortable experience for all ages and abilities. The guidelines represent best practices in the field of universally accessible bikeway design.

The Guide is intended for practitioners involved in the development of cycling infrastructure in Toronto, and will also be helpful for key stakeholders who have a special interest in understanding the process and rationale for the various design strategies.

Throughout the development of the Guide, multiple Technical Advisory Committee meetings, focused meetings with City staff design practitioners, and meetings with stakeholders, including those with pedestrian advocates and the accessibility community, have been held to inform the development of the guidelines.

Below is a list of meetings held in the development of the On-Street Bikeway Design Guide:

- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) #1 – April 28, 2016
- TAC #2 – July 13, 2017
- Public Realm / Traffic Operations / Engineering & Construction Services follow-up meeting – Oct. 3, 2017
- Solid Waste, Road Operations, Emergency Services follow-up meeting – Oct. 3, 2017
- TTC / Wheel Trans follow-up meeting – Oct. 17, 2017
- Equity Diversity & Human Rights Accessibility Consultant meeting – Dec. 4, 2018
- TAC #3 – December 13, 2018
- Traffic Management Centre (Signals) meeting – Jan. 7, 2019

- External Stakeholder Meeting – Jan 29, 2019
- TTC Advisory Committee on Accessible Transit Meeting – April 3, 2019
- Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee – April 11, 2019

All of the meetings above included discussion of accessibility considerations, and the majority included focused feedback on accessibility and pedestrian safety, from City staff with expertise in pedestrian accessibility, TTC & Wheels Trans staff, Equity, Diversity and Human Rights Division staff, and external stakeholders, such as Walk Toronto.

All relevant technical and external stakeholders were invited to either a Technical Advisory Committee or External Stakeholder meeting, and all of the planned attendees to these meetings were sent a draft of the Guide to review. Transportation Services staff received comments at the meetings, as well as detailed comments on the drafts from these representatives and incorporated the feedback into the Guide. A summary of comments received regarding accessibility is included in Attachment 1.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Summary of Stakeholder Comments Received Regarding Accessibility (May 2019)