

# Humber Bay Shores Park Trail Improvements and Bicycle Connections

## April 16, 2014 Public Consultation Event

### Comment Summary



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June 12, 2014*

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# Overview

The City of Toronto is working on several projects to improve the trails and cycling connections in and around Humber Bay Shores Park, to improve access to the Waterfront and along Lake Shore Boulevard West:

## 1. Humber Bay Shores Park & Trails Improvement

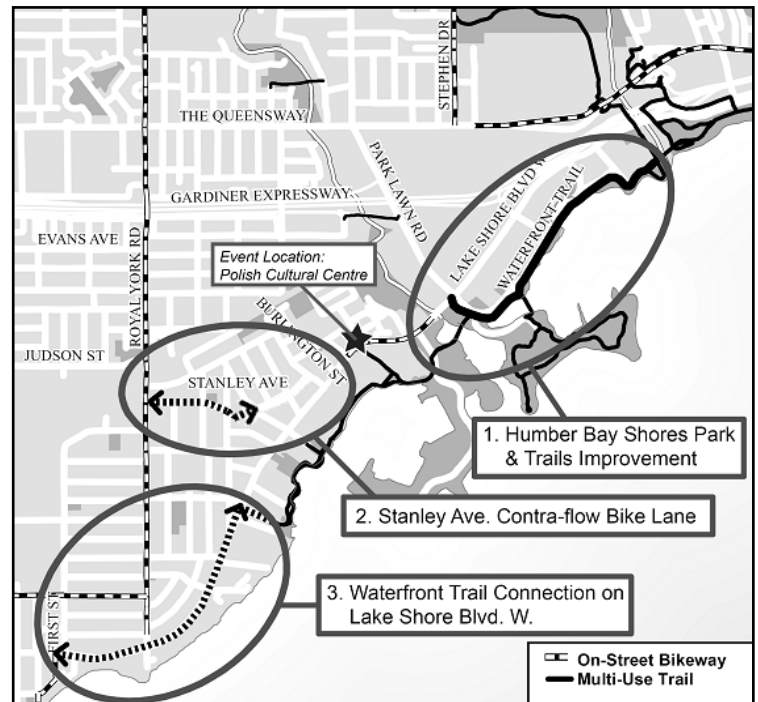
Upgrades are needed to accommodate the increased popularity of this important waterfront park and trail system. Park improvements that are being considered include trail upgrades, as well as possible on-street cycling connections along Marine Parade Drive and Waterfront Drive. Planting and restoration in the garden area immediately south of Jean Augustine Park will also be discussed.

## 2. Stanley Ave. Contra-flow Bicycle Lane

The City is planning the installation of a contra-flow bike lane on Stanley Avenue. No negative impacts to parking or traffic operations are anticipated. The contra-flow bike lane will allow bicycles to travel two-ways, but remain one-way for motor vehicles. This project was approved by Council in 2008 and is planned for installation in 2014.

## 3. Waterfront Trail Connection on Lake Shore Blvd. W.

We are investigating potential cycling improvements along Lake Shore Boulevard West to close a gap in the Waterfront Trail between Norris Crescent and First Street.



## April 2014 Stakeholder & Public Consultation

As a preliminary stage of information gathering, City staff conducted two meetings to gather feedback from the local community on the project proposals:

### Stakeholder Workshop - April 7, 2014. (Long Branch Library - 47 Station Rd.)

A small informal round table discussion took place to gather feedback on the draft slide presentation for the upcoming public meeting. Summary notes from the meeting are included on the project web page.

### Public Consultation - April 16, 2014. (Polish Cultural Centre - 2282 Lake Shore Blvd W)

Staff presented information in an open house and presentation format about all three projects. Over 70 participants attended the event, asked questions, discussed opinions, and provided many insightful comments and suggestions.

This report summarizes the key comments received from the public. Answers to some of the key questions raised will be posted on the project web page, along with this report.

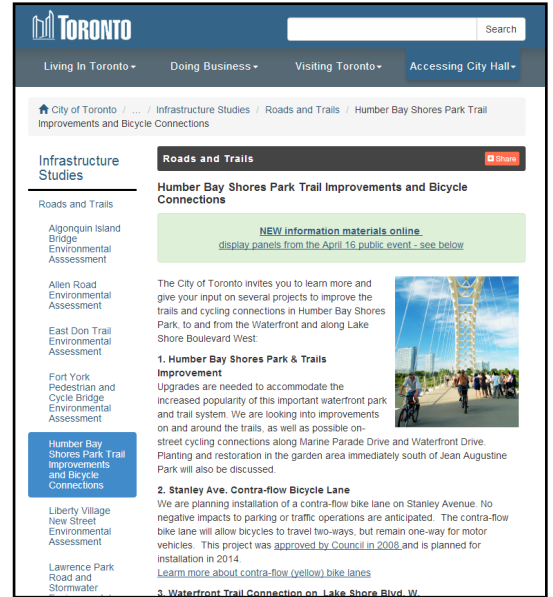
# Public Communications

The following communications were used to advertise the public meeting:

- April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014      **Project Web Page:**  
Live on Toronto.ca
- April 10, 2014      **Notice of Public Consultation Event:**  
Advertised in Etobicoke Guardian South
- April 3-7, 2014      **Flyers:**  
12,000 flyers delivered by Canada Post to mail boxes in Mimico and around the sections of road under study –

At the Public Consultation event, staff presented information on display panels related to all projects and slides related to Humber Bay Shores Park & Trails Improvements, including proposed on-street cycling connections on Marine Parade and Waterfront Drive. These materials are available for download on the project web page:

[www.toronto.ca/humberbayshores](http://www.toronto.ca/humberbayshores)

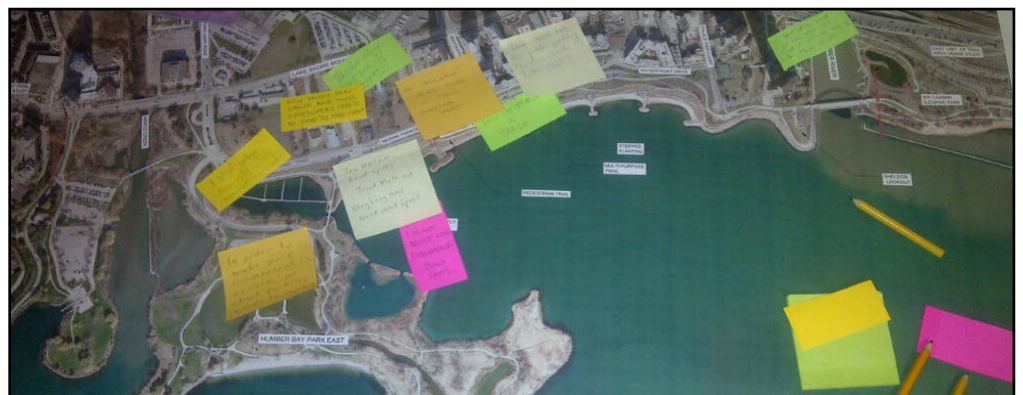


## Comments Received

The following submissions were received from residents and stakeholders related to these projects:

- Over 25 email messages
- 34 idea rating sheets
- About 20 unique comments made on the aerial map
- 30 question cards during the question and answer period following the presentation

The comments received are summarized in this document.



# Who Participated

Over 70 people signed-in and participated at the April 16, 2014 Public Consultation Event. Below are two completed 'about you' collaborative forms provided at the registration table. These forms invited participants to fill-in dots to anonymously record where they live and how they travel the trails.

Where do you live?	
Please fill in <u>one dot</u> below	
I live on Stanley Ave.	●●●●○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○
I live / work on Lake Shore Blvd. W. between Norris Cres. & First St.	●●●●●○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○
I live within a 2 minute walk of Humber Bay Shores Park	●●●●●●●●●●●● ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ●●●●●○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○
I live within a 5 minute walk of Humber Bay Shores Park	●●●●○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○
I live within a 10 minute walk of Humber Bay Shores Park	●●●●●●●○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○
I live <u>more</u> than a 10 minute walk from Humber Bay Shores Park	●●●●●●●●●●● ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ●●●●●○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○○

In the warmer months, how do you travel on Humber Bay Shore Park trails and how often?			
Please fill in <u>one dot</u> for each mode of travel you use			
	Daily (5 or more trips/week)	Weekly (1-4 trips/week)	Occasionally (1-3 trips/month)
Walk	●●●●●●●●●● ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ●○○○○○○○○	●●●●●●●●● ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○	●●●●●●●●● ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○
Walk with dog	●●●●●○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ●○○○○○○○○	●●●○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○	○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○
Bicycle	●●●●●●●●● ●●●●●○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○	●●●●●●●●● ●●●●●○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○	●●●●●●●●● ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ●○○○○○○○○
Inline skate	●○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○	●●●○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○	●●●●○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○ ○○○○○○○○○○
Other (please specify)	. Jog ..... scooter bike daily ..... . Run ..... . Dog (Kun) ..... . Nordic walking ..... . Dog daily .....		

Participants were a good balance of residents who live within a 2 minute walk of the park and those that live more than 10 minutes away. Three (3) residents were recorded as living on Stanley Ave. and 5 noted they live or work on Lake Shore Blvd between Norris Cres. and First St.

Participants travel habits were a balanced range of daily to occasional walking/joggers and cycling, with a slight majority of people who daily/weekly cycle on the trails, just over a dozen daily dog walkers and a handful of individuals who in-line skate.

## Summary of Public Feedback

The following points present an aggregated summary of comments received from all sources during and following the April 16, 2014 public event. Comments have been organized under headings relating to key themes and are listed below. Comments were provided voluntarily and as such not all participants are assumed in agreement with the comments listed here. Images of "Idea Rating Sheets" are included here to give a sense of the levels of agreement on particular ideas/comments. Numbering of statements is provided for referencing convenience and does not necessarily represent the priority of importance for each item.

Please note: Public feedback does not determine study outcomes. The recommendations made by City staff will be determined in accordance with technical design criteria and City policy. These recommendations will be informed and interpreted by the insights, suggestions and opinions provided through the public consultation process.

## Key Feedback in 30 Words or Less

**Reduce conflicts on the trail with cyclists going too fast, people walking dogs, and crowds of pedestrians. Plough the snow. Improve bridge connections. Consider a bike lane on Marine Parade Drive.**

### Humber Bay Shores Park Trails: Existing Conditions and Suggestions

1. The trail should be ploughed and maintained through the winter. This is especially important because there are no sidewalks along Marine Parade Drive.
2. Cyclist travel too fast on the mixed-use trail.
3. More enforcement is needed to address the breaking of by-laws e.g.
  - a. Cyclists going more than 20km/h.
  - b. Motorized bikes and scooters on the trail.
  - c. Dogs off leash or on leashes that are too long (i.e. exceeding 2.4 metres).
4. Multi-use trail is too narrow for the volumes. Split the trail into separate pedestrian & bike/rollerblade trails to make it safer for everyone. Increase parkland if necessary.
5. Overgrown bushes make blind corners and block views. Lower tree branches need trimming (e.g. west side of Mimico Bridge).

Write one idea here in large letters:

Overgrown bushes make blind corners & block views.

Do you agree? Fill your one dot below & sign on the right:

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Strong Agreement	<input type="radio"/> Agreement	<input type="radio"/> Neutral	<input type="radio"/> Disagreement	<input type="radio"/> Strong Disagreement	<input type="radio"/> Confusion
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Strengths & Opportunities      Optionally add brief comments:      Concerns & Weaknesses

Yes! Especially near the intersection of the trail and the road to the west.

Write one idea here in large letters:

PLEASE PLOW THE MAIN PEDESTRIAN & CYCLING TRAIL - WINTER

Do you agree? Fill your one dot below & sign on the right:

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Strong Agreement	<input type="radio"/> Agreement	<input type="radio"/> Neutral	<input type="radio"/> Disagreement	<input type="radio"/> Strong Disagreement	<input type="radio"/> Confusion
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Strengths & Opportunities      Optionally add brief comments:      Concerns & Weaknesses

MAKE THE TRAIL ALL SEASON

Need more winter park to not have a concrete path or road. Absolutely want to park stroller and sled.

Write one idea here in large letters:

Split the current Humber Bay multi-use trail into separate pedestrian and bike/rollerblade trails to make it safer for everyone.

Do you agree? Fill your one dot below & sign on the right:

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Strong Agreement	<input type="radio"/> Agreement	<input type="radio"/> Neutral	<input type="radio"/> Disagreement	<input type="radio"/> Strong Disagreement	<input type="radio"/> Confusion
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Strengths & Opportunities      Optionally add brief comments:      Concerns & Weaknesses

Or make it wider for more right now. Not enough space to do so.

Separate walking and wheeling.

6. Walking groups should be discouraged from walking abreast such that they dominate the whole trail and prevent safe passing.
7. Improved accessibility (i.e. for the disabled) must be included in the improvements, e.g. accessible parking, benches, ramps, intersections.
8. Pavers are bumpy and thus not very suitable for wheelchairs, in-line skates, strollers, etc.
9. The benches along the trail are in disrepair.
10. Consider adding lighting to the trail.
11. The interface between Village Court and the park needs to be redesigned.
12. People use unofficial trails (desire line) to avoid looping around Sheldon Lookout. Consider formalizing it.
13. Need more waste receptacle bins beside the trail.
14. Path at east side of Mimico Bridge is too muddy too often.
15. Bridges:
  - a. Bridge decks need an inline skating friendly surface.
  - b. Mimico Bridge Surface is slippery and dangerous when wet.
  - c. The Humber Bridge needs repainting and should have painted lines on pavement to indicate lanes.
  - d. Area around Mimico Bridge is too narrow.
  - e. Signs that say "cyclist's dismount" are not effective.

16. Signage

- a. Signage needs to be improved, with balanced messaging for both pedestrians and cyclists.
- b. Promote 20 km/h speed limit.
- c. Promote etiquette e.g. cyclist should use their bell.
- d. Communicate that faster travelers must yield to slower travelers.

Write one idea here in large letters.

~~Signage~~ regarding cyclist etiquette (I've seen grown men on speedbikes berate old ladies with canes for 'being in the way!')

Do you agree? Fill your one dot below & sign on the right:

Strong Agreement	Agreement	Neutral	Disagreement	Strong Disagreement	Confusion
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Optionally add brief comments:

Strengths & Opportunities: INCREASE BIRCHMOUNT POLICE PRESENCE

Concerns & Weaknesses: Stop walking in the middle of the trail & let faster users pass

## On-street: Marine Parade Drive, Waterfront Drive)

17. Suggestion for a dedicated bike lane on Marine Parade drive. E.g. space could be found by removing parking along the south side.
18. Parking should be on the north side of the road, closer to the retail.
19. Overgrown plantings make blind corners and block views, especially where the trail meets the road.
20. Parking

The form is titled "Do you agree?" and includes a Likert scale with five options: Strong Agreement, Agreement, Neutral, Disagreement, and Strong Disagreement. Below the scale are two sections: "Strengths & Opportunities" and "Concerns & Weaknesses". The form also has a section for "Write one idea here in large letters:" and a "Sign" section on the right.

Handwritten feedback in blue ink:

- Write one idea here in large letters:** Remove parking from Marine Park Drive and provide bike lanes rather than sharrow (eliminate clearing hazard)
- Do you agree?** (Marked under "Strong Agreement")
- Strengths & Opportunities:** Parking available on Alouette Bay later.
- Concerns & Weaknesses:** I love the wood sharrow - be my friend! Keep parking for visitors to park commercial.

- a. Parking signage needs to be improved. Currently it is not obvious that there is parking available under the condos
- b. During major events and popular weekends there is often traffic as drivers seek parking.
- c. Drivers looking for parking sometimes conflict with cyclists traveling through and pedestrians crossing.
- d. In areas along Marine Parade Drive many car break-ins have happened.
- e. Local businesses desire on street parking needs to remain.

## Out-of-Scope / Park Beyond Trails

21. Add signs: do not feed the water fowl (white bread).
22. Would be nice to have a location in the park for small performances e.g. a band-shell for theatre and music.
23. Park is lacking trees and shade.
24. A lot of garbage accumulates on the shore and in the water at the west end of the storm water management facility.



## Lake Shore Blvd. W. between Norris Cres. and First St.

25. Strong support for connecting the waterfront trail on Lake Shore Blvd. W. using a (uni or bi-directional) cycle track.
26. Need a better way to cross the street car tracks on Lake Shore Blvd. W. at First St.
27. Ensure wide clearance of motorists from cyclists.
28. Need much more ring-and-post bike parking in this section.

Write one idea here in large letters:

*Extend Connect the waterfront trail on Lakeshore with a cycle track or bidirectional cycle track to make cycling this route safe for families*

Do you agree? Fill your one dot below & sign on the right:

Strong Agreement	Agreement	Neutral	Disagreement	Strong Disagreement	Confusion
Strengths & Opportunities			Concerns & Weaknesses		

Optional add brief comments:

*- Lake Shore Blvd is wide and any parking loss would have minimal impact on our community*  
*- create recreational and commuter cyclists*  
*- agree that cycle track is safest*

## Stanley Ave. Contra-Flow Bike Lane

29. Strong support for Stanley Ave. contra-flow lane.
30. Add shared lane markings ("sharrows") on Superior Ave. to improve way-finding to/from Stanley Ave. and waterfront.
31. Cyclists would prefer a cycle track.
32. Concern that Stanley Ave. has blind corners and is steep.
33. Why not use Mimico Ave, which is straight and flat?
34. What consultation was done prior to approving the contra-flow lane on Stanley Ave.?
35. One person had concerns the bike lane would hinder emergency response vehicles and have other safety concerns with schools.

Write one idea here in large letters:

*A contraflow bike lane on Stanley, connecting the Mimico GO Station to the Waterfront Trail + Humber Bay Shores, is a great idea!*

Do you agree? Fill your one dot below & sign on the right:

Strong Agreement	Agreement	Neutral	Disagreement	Strong Disagreement	Confusion
Strengths & Opportunities			Concerns & Weaknesses		

Optional add brief comments:

*It was passed already, why has it taken so long to build?*  
*Totally agree - Great idea!*  
*Has about the same for mimico Ave*

The presentation materials and a summary of a number of question and answers that addresses some of these issues are included on the project web page:

[www.toronto.ca/humberbayshores](http://www.toronto.ca/humberbayshores)