
May 2021

2021 Cycling Network Plan Update: Progress, Prioritization, and Near-Term Program

On June 9, 2016 Toronto City Council approved the [10 Year Cycling Network Plan](#) to connect, grow and renew infrastructure for Toronto's cycling routes. On July 17, 2019 Toronto City Council approved the [Cycling Network Plan Update](#), which provides a new timeframe to improve road work coordination, accountability, and implementation.

The [Cycling Network Plan](#) now consists of a longer-term overall proposed network, as well as a detailed three year rolling Near-Term Implementation Program. A map illustrating Toronto's Major City-Wide Cycling Routes has been developed to identify the significant projects completed, underway, and proposed, which serve as the backbone of the cycling network.

The purpose of the upcoming report, the **2021 Cycling Network Plan Update**, is to provide information on completed projects in 2019 and 2020, implementation progress for 2021, and to seek endorsement of proposed projects in 2022 and 2023, as well as the initiation of new Major City-Wide Corridor studies. The **2021 Cycling Network Plan Update** report will also include responses to a number of recent cycling-related City Council motions, as well as metrics, goals, and targets outlined in City policies such as *TransformTO*, *Vision Zero* and the *Toronto Office of Recovery and Rebuild COVID-19: Impacts and Opportunities Report*. The report will also include information on opportunities and challenges with cycling infrastructure and ActiveTO delivery projects.

Prioritization Framework

The 2019 Cycling Network Plan Update included enhanced analysis of cycling suitability, based on nine categories: current cycling demand, potential cycling demand, trip generators, connectivity, network coverage, barrier crossings, transit access, safety, and equity (specifically the Neighbourhood Improvement Areas). The 2019 to 2021 Near-Term Program was prioritized using these scores, though heavily influenced by previous commitments, feasibility constraints, and the State of Good Repair road program.

The prioritization framework for the rolling Near-Term Implementation Program is evolving. New and emerging analyses related to COVID-19, for example, are now being considered in a new prioritization category related to Aligned Initiatives. One of the key focus areas under Aligned Initiatives is health, including data sets such as density of COVID-19 cases, overcrowded transit routes, and parkland deficient neighbourhoods. The **2021 Cycling Network Plan Update** will provide further detail on the evolving prioritization framework and how it is shaping Transportation Services' recommendations going forward.

Stakeholder Engagement

The **2021 Cycling Network Plan Update** is another iteration of the foundational work of the 2016 Ten Year Cycling Network Plan. The 2016 Plan included extensive public consultation in its creation – including a public survey with over 10,000 respondents, digital draft map with 7,000 respondents, eight public drop in events, 12 workshops, six bike rides, and 90,000+ trips collected by the Cycling App. The 2019 Cycling Network Plan Update included substantial targeted stakeholder engagement, including with the Planning Tables of the Neighbourhood Improvement Areas. Priorities for the overall Cycling Network Plan were established through these consultation processes and informed by the public and stakeholder groups.

While public and stakeholder engagement has been limited for the 2021 Update at the plan level, every individual bikeway project will have a focused public consultation and engagement program made available online on the City's Cycling & Pedestrian Public Consultations webpage as each project advances:

<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/streets-parking-transportation/cycling-in-toronto/cycling-public-consultations/>

Online and virtual engagement options will be used in accordance with COVID-19 guidance from Toronto Public Health.

Next Steps

Transportation Services is briefing City Councillors, hosting a presentation and Q&A session with invited external stakeholders, and finalizing mapping and capital coordination for the Near-Term Program.

The **2021 Cycling Network Plan Update** report will be brought to the July meeting of the Infrastructure & Environment Committee.

Contact:

Matthew Davis
Manager, Capital Projects & Program
Transportation Planning & Capital Program
Transportation Services Division
Tel: 416-397-7507
Email: matthew.davis@toronto.ca

Becky Katz
Manager, Cycling & Pedestrian Projects
Project Design & Management
Transportation Services Division
Tel: 416-392-9065
Email: becky.katz@toronto.ca