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2013 Report on the Cycling Plan

Shifting Gears for a Healthier City

Mississauga's Cycling Master Plan is an ambitious strategy that sets out to transform Mississauga into a city that is conducive to cycling for daily transportation needs.

Approved by Council in 2010, the Plan outlines a proposal to build a 900 kilometre cycling network as part of a multi-modal transportation system, as well as a wide range of accompanying policies and programs to enhance cycling.

Mississauga has a long-standing commitment to an off-road trail system, having built over 250 kilometres of pathways and trails in parks and greenspaces across the city. Pathways in our neighbourhood parks provide cycling and walking friendly connections to schools, community centres and libraries. Trails in our river valleys like the Credit River and the Etobicoke Creek provide cyclists and others with opportunities to experience the natural environment.

In order to transform Mississauga into a city that is conducive to cycling for daily transportation, the Cycling Master Plan calls for a shift in focus to building a network of on-road cycling facilities and boulevard multi-use trails that connect major destinations and improve links to public transit.

Becoming a cycling-friendly city is a key part of the City's Strategic Plan. The Cycling Master Plan supports the Strategic Plan's goals of Developing a Transit Oriented City, Completing our Neighbourhoods and Living Green.



Increasing the Use of Cycling for Transportation Benefits our Community

- **Improved health and wellness**
- **Improved mobility options and reduced traffic congestion**
- **Reduced air pollution and greenhouse gases**
- **Reduced transportation and public health costs**

Cycling Master Plan Vision

Cycling will become a way of life in the City of Mississauga that supports vibrant, safe and connected communities. Mississauga will be a place where people choose to cycle for recreation, fitness and daily transportation needs; enhancing our overall health and quality of life.

Bicycle Friendly Community Award

The City of Mississauga has adopted the goal of achieving a Silver designation after being awarded with the Bicycle Friendly Community - Bronze Designation by the Ontario-based Share the Road Cycling Coalition in 2012.

Putting the Plan into Action

The Cycling Master Plan's implementation strategy identifies 17 recommendations and 79 actions to be implemented over 20 years. The recommendations and actions are grouped under three goals:

- 1) Foster a culture where cycling is an everyday activity**
- 2) Build an integrated cycling network as part of a multi-modal transportation system**
- 3) Adopt a “safety-first” approach to cycling in Mississauga**

The estimated capital cost for the entire plan is \$200 million, including \$49 million to fund major structures for which funding will be sought from other levels of government.



How we've moved forward in 2013:

Foster a Culture where Cycling is an Everyday Activity

- The City was the first workplace to introduce a bike fleet program in Mississauga's downtown as part of the Smart Commute Mississauga program. The CycleLoan bikes are available for employees to use to get to nearby meetings or personal errands over lunch.
- Mississauga's Bikeway and Trails map is updated annually; 30,000 copies are distributed each year at events, community centres, libraries and bike shops. The map is supported online by the Walk and Roll Peel interactive map and the integration of bicycle routes into Google Maps.
- Community participation in Mississauga cycling events has been growing rapidly:
 - **Bike to Work Day / Bike to School Day event:** 800 participants
 - **Tour de Mississauga:** 2,300 participants
 - **Community rides held throughout the City:** 500 participants, over 14 rides
- How do we measure success? Automatic bicycle counter equipment has been installed at several locations in an effort to monitor the uptake of cycling. Routine traffic counts now include bicycles as part of their normal data collection process.

Bicycle Lanes



Boulevard Multi-Use Trails



Marked Shared Use Lanes



Off-Road Multi-Use Trails and Paths



Signed Routes



Total 2011-13
57km

Total all time
474km



Build an Integrated On-Road and Off-Road Cycling Network as part of a Multi-Modal Transportation System

- Approximately 57 km of cycling facilities have been built over 2011 – 2013, since the approval of the Cycling Master Plan. In 2013, bicycle lanes were introduced along Bristol Road, Constitution Boulevard, Ridgeway Drive and Unity Drive – largely in combination with other planned road work. A new multi-use trail along Southdown Road now connects cycling commuters to the Clarkson GO Train station.
- The completion of the Credit River Parks Strategy identified a plan for a continuous trail system along the Credit River including new links to neighbourhoods as well as bridges to support walking and cycling along the trail.
- A Feasibility Study is underway for pedestrian and cycling bridges in the area of the Queen Elizabeth Way and the Credit River in cooperation with the Ontario Ministry of Transportation.

- Detailed design has been completed for 13 km of multi-use trails that will be constructed in upcoming years as part of larger infrastructure projects like the Mississauga Transitway and the Region's Hanlan Water Project.
- Preliminary design for the Hurontario-Main Light Rail Transit project includes bike lanes and paths along the corridor.



Adopt a “Safety-First” Approach for Cycling in Mississauga

- A new Mississauga Cyclists Handbook provides residents with tips for safe cycling and an introduction to the rules of the road. It is available in seven languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, Punjabi, Somali, Spanish and Urdu. More than 6,000 handbooks were distributed to residents through more than 40 community agencies.
- Camps and “CAN-Bike” Classes: Programs available include bike summer camps for youth as well as learn-to-ride and advanced commuter-cycling skills classes for adults.

- A City of Mississauga social media campaign has been spreading the word about “8 Simple Cycling Habits that can save your life” including wearing a helmet, using a bell and not riding on sidewalks which are meant for pedestrians.
- Through a partnership between Road Safety Mississauga and the Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee, the City's fleet vehicles now have a magnet reminding drivers to share the road with cyclists.
- The City's Active Transportation Office staff played a part in the development of new provincial standards for designing safe cycling routes. The Ontario Traffic Manual Book 18: Bicycle Facilities standard is now approved by the Ministry of Transportation.

Working Together

In order to implement the Cycling Master Plan, the City of Mississauga works in partnership with the Province of Ontario, Region of Peel, neighbouring municipalities and the community. Over 1,000 Mississauga residents and stakeholders contributed their thoughts and ideas to the development the Cycling Master Plan. Residents on the Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee (MCAC) were active stakeholders in the development of the Plan and continue to be involved in its implementation.

Information about our partners:

Ontario Cycling Strategy: www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/pubs/cycling

Peel Active Transportation Plan: walkandrollpeel.ca

Mississauga Cycling Advisory Committee: mississaugacycling.ca



For more information:

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