

Burlington Mayor's Millennial Advisory Committee Meeting Delegation – 8 March 2021

RE – 5.1 City of Burlington Cycling Plan (TS-01-21) - Endorsement

Mayor's Millennial Advisory Committee Members participating in this delegation:

Mark Mikkelsen-McGuire, Nick Morrison, Julia Ricottone, Darcy Oberding, Karl Wulf, Sille N Mikkelsen, Christa Papavasillou, Zahan Khursigara, Catherine Oberding, Katherine Krolicki.

Executive Summary

The Millennial Advisory Committee is made of up a diverse range of individuals aged 21-41 who drive, bike, walk, and take transit (train, bus, plane). We believe that the Burlington Cycling Plan benefits all road users and strongly supports the recommendations of report TS-01-21. This provides greater opportunity to all residents of Burlington to have the freedom to choose how they transport themselves around the city by ensuring the development and maintenance of cycling facilities.

We want to improve the safety of both drivers and cyclists and see a protected barrier to increase safety. Increase the number of bike lanes and racks throughout the city. This could be further supported through public-private partnerships with investments made by commercial and multi-residential properties.

Historical Considerations

Despite being named a Bicycle-Friendly Community in 2016, the City of Burlington does not have protected on-road bike lanes. The Burlington Cycling Plan 2021 proposes changes that factor in the needs of residents that bike within our community – from students getting to school, workers commuting, and cyclists out for exercise. A network of protected bike lanes demonstrates that the City of Burlington emphasizes the safety of all road users that do not rely on a car. This is key to providing equitable access to work opportunities, local businesses, and recreation. When reflecting on the 2009 plan, it is critical to note that the plan recommended 373 km of new cycling facilities; to-date, Burlington has implemented approximately 186 km of cycling facilities – less than 50% of the goal which could be met with connected painted lanes.

Vision

The Millennial Advisory Committee endorses the Cycling Plans vision of - A cycling culture within the City of Burlington is encouraged and achieved through the implementation of cycling facilities that allow all people to feel confident, comfortable, and safe using a bike as their mode of transportation. A cycling culture within the City of Burlington is created and sustained by focusing on a cycling network that is connected, useful and joyful.

Key Considerations

- Reaching a 10% transit & 8% active transportation modal split by 2022.
- Decreasing community greenhouse gas emissions; a goal committed to in the Burlington Climate Emergency Declaration which the BMMAC also recommended the City Council endorse.
- To keep the public informed on the progress of the plan, a progress bar be placed on the Burlington website along with easily accessible details on what's been done, and what will be done. This can be used to measure the kms of bike lanes installed and maintained to date.
- Providing cost-effective alternatives for all residents of Burlington through maintaining the freedom of choice when it comes to biking, walking, driving, or taking public transit.
- Protected on-road bike lanes on each side of the street flowing with traffic on arterial roads provide safe and easy access to destinations.
- Safer north-south connections across the QEW/403 and train tracks.
- The basis of a minimum safe cycling grid to be developed and maintained.
- Creation of intersection bike lanes to ensure safe travel through all intersections.

The Burlington Cycling Plan is a necessary step to acting on climate change and financial equity within our city. We hope this plan will lead to more decisions that put the most vulnerable road users first and make it easy for residents and visitors to choose to leave their car at home.