
To:
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL]Brampton Bike Lanes and Infrastructure

From: PETER BOLTON
Sent: 2024/11/12 10:19 AM
To: City Clerks Office <City.ClerksOffice@brampton.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Brampton Bike Lanes and Infrastructure

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Hello,

I am respectfully requesting that the following comments be published in the Nov 13 agenda for the Committee of Council meeting.
Thank you for considering the request.

I am a 66 year old cyclist who rides my bike for commuting, utilitarian and recreational purposes. I own several bicycles, and also own a car, and use the appropriate vehicle for transportation while considering weather conditions and distance. I also use public transit, especially to get in and out of the city. I defer to these modes of transportation rather than my car. I have lived in Brampton for over 40 years and witnessed substantial growth in the city over those years. A consequence of the growth is significant increase in car use, traffic flow and congestion, resulting in loss of life, countless personal injuries and tremendous property damage.

I am active in promoting the many benefits of cycling and am a passionate advocate for the bicycle as practical active transportation. While I occasionally use the bike trails I generally ride on the roads when commuting or riding for utilitarian purpose, i.e. shopping. I was happy to see that The City of Brampton is establishing a network of interconnecting bicycle lanes and other infrastructure that make travel by bike within the city practical and safer. This is now in jeopardy due to proposed legislation and obstructionism by the ill informed and misled public.

The data is clear on personal car use in cities, it is unsustainable. Building more highways encourages more cars, i.e. "induced demand" - new roads attract more drivers. Vehicles are getting larger and more deadly, especially to vulnerable road users. One person using an oversize SUV to go 10km, or less, is causing congestion, not bicycle lanes. Improved public transit, walking and other active/micro modes of transport are part of the solution to the bottlenecks on our roads.

Major cities of the world have begun to promote active transportation and restrict car use. Public policy trend is towards progressive polices aimed at reducing air pollution, improve public health and relieving traffic congestion and gridlock. What we need is bold, progressive "outside the car" thinking and action from our elected politicians, not legislation designed to serve personal car drivers.

Please review the data regarding bike lanes and traffic congestion and make evidenced based decisions. It's time to think outside the car

Thank you for reading and considering my comments.

A concerned voting citizen

PSB