

DRAFT RESOLUTION TO COUNCIL RE BICYCLE ACTION COMMITTEE'S 'COBOURG CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE COMPLETION PROPOSAL'

Approved at June 2, 2021 SCEAC Meeting with proviso to be reviewed at future SCEAC Meeting When BAC Closer to Having their Final Presentation

WHEREAS on June 2, 2021 the Sustainability and Climate Emergency Advisory Committee (SCEAC) received a presentation from the Bicycle Action Committee (BAC) on their Cobourg Cycling Infrastructure Completion Proposal; and

WHEREAS Cobourg Council on December 2, 2019 declared a Climate Emergency recognizing that we are facing an unprecedented crisis requiring unprecedented climate mitigation measures, and

WHEREAS road transport is the top 3 of the 15 most important sources of human-made greenhouse gases which are causing the Climate Emergency; and

WHEREAS enabling people to move from using their cars to cycling will have a significant effect on reducing GHG emissions in addition to achieving physical and mental health benefits; and

WHEREAS a study published January 20, 2021 in the *Journal of Urban Health*, found "...how investments in climate-friendly transportation options like biking and walking can reap huge health and economic benefits at the local level," and

WHEREAS in order for people to move to cycling they must feel safe and the Town must have cycle friendly infrastructure; and

WHEREAS given the benefits of cycling as a sustainable form of transportation compared to travel by car, the Town of Cobourg needs to give much higher priority to cycling in its transportation infrastructure, moving rapidly to improve and increase cycling-friendly infrastructure;

NOW THEREFORE SCEAC recommends that the Town of Cobourg implement the request of the BAC as well the additional request from the SCEAC which is number 7 below, namely that:

1. Council and Administrative Staff of the Town of Cobourg adopt **BAC's Cobourg Cycling Infrastructure Completion Proposal** as guidance to complete the town's cycling network, especially, that the spines and ribs described by the BAC's Proposed Network Map be incorporated into the **Transportation Master Plan**.
2. The cycling infrastructure described and delineated on the map be incorporated into all future applicable infrastructure projects, including:
 - Road repair and reconstruction; linear utilities: electric transmission corridors, gas and water supply lines and sewers;

- All park development and reconstruction projects;
 - All new land development projects.
3. The quality of any new or repaired/rebuilt cycling infrastructure reflect the CANBICS safety performance standard of Medium Comfort or higher.

Note: In the event that the above requirements cannot be met, or need to be modified, the Town of Cobourg is required to obtain “BUY-IN” from the cycling community including the BAC before proceeding.

4. **Within the next year, 2022, and for the following years, 2023-24**, the Town budgets for and completes:
- the Kerr Street Spine between Ontario and William; between William and Burnham
 - the Brook Road North Rib between King St. East and the Kerr Street Spine
 - a bike and pedestrian path from the Kerr Street Spine through the Cobourg Conservation Area to the rear of the YMCA building
5. Within the next year, the Town establish/hire a **Cycling & Accessibility Coordinator** whose role will be to liaise with the cycling community and collaborate with Planning & Development, Public Works and Parks & Recreation to ensure ongoing implementation of the Proposal.
6. As an interim measure regarding item #5, Council and Town Staff keep BAC apprised of all future capital, infrastructure, park development and reconstruction projects and, before any are initiated, be consulted as to what cycling infrastructure should be included. **Likewise, Cobourg to ask developers to consult BAC when they do their site plan for new developments and have them include in their site plan application to the Planning Department how they accommodated BAC input.**
7. In the event developments presently underway have moved past the site plan approval stage, that the BAC be consulted on all developments that are presently underway such as: Rondeau/Tribute Lands, East Village Phase 5, Nickerson Woods, New Amherst Stage 2 subdivision, West Park Village Phase 5, Cedar Shores, Densmore Meadows Subdivision, Sobeys Foodland, Brook Road North and King Street East Commercial Development, Holiday Inn Express Hotel, SmartCentres Commercial Development, and Northumberland Hills Hospital new ‘medical clinic’; **with the developer informing Cobourg staff how they have accommodated such BAC input and Town of Cobourg staff using the means at their disposal to encourage full accommodation by the developer if the BAC recommendations are at all feasible.**