

City of Mississauga Corporate Report



Date: June 4, 2021

To: Chair and Members of General Committee

From: Geoff Wright, P.Eng, MBA, Commissioner of
Transportation and Works

Originator's files:

Meeting date:
June 23, 2021

Subject

Cycling Master Plan 2020 Report Card – All Wards

Recommendation

That the report entitled “Cycling Master Plan 2020 Report Card – All Wards”, dated June 4, 2021 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, be received for information.

Executive Summary

- The Cycling Master Plan (CMP) was endorsed by Council in 2018. The cycling network includes a mixture of on-road and off-road infrastructure designed to create a safe, connected, convenient and comfortable experience that helps residents to feel confident using a bicycle for transportation.
- The CMP includes a performance monitoring framework based on the goals and objectives of the plan; this allows the progress of its implementation to be evaluated at regular intervals.
- The City addressed each of the four goals of the CMP in a variety of ways in 2020: installing new bike signals at intersections; launching a *Share the Trail* safety campaign; implementing new on-road and off-road cycling infrastructure; analysing automated counter data; and engaging virtually with the public to improve safety for cycling.
- Implementation of the Cycling Master Plan continues with a focus on safety, regular capital investments, and robust public engagement. The 2020 Report Card highlights this by reporting on performance monitoring metrics identified in the Master Plan.

Background

The Cycling Master Plan (CMP) was endorsed by Council in 2018. The CMP calls for 897 kilometres (557 miles) of cycling infrastructure to be built out over 27 years with an average

annual Roads Service Area capital commitment endorsed by Council of \$5.2 Million. The ultimate network includes a mixture of on-road and off-road infrastructure designed to create a safe, connected, convenient and comfortable experience that helps residents to feel confident using a bicycle for transportation.

The CMP includes four primary goals:

- Improve safety for cycling;
- Increase the number of cycling trips in Mississauga;
- Build a connected, convenient and comfortable bicycle network; and
- Foster a culture of cycling.

A robust performance monitoring framework, based on the goals and objectives, is part of the CMP. This allows the progress of its implementation to be evaluated at regular intervals.

Comments

Each of the various metrics in the CMP performance monitoring framework has a reporting frequency. Some metrics are meaningful to report on annually, such as annual investment, kilometres of new infrastructure installed, and public participation in cycling events and programs. Other metrics represent monitoring of long-term trends and therefore are reported less frequently, either every other year or every five years. Examples of these metrics include those associated with the goal of increasing the number of cycling trips in Mississauga, or those associated with the objectives of reducing bicycle collision rates or severity of bicycle collisions. The 2020 performance metrics reported below are organized by the CMP's goals.

Improve safety for cycling

In 2019, the City activated its first bicycle signals and crossrides. By the end of 2020, the City had activated 18 sets of signals, and the Region had activated nine in an effort to improve intersection safety for all users. Staff continue to distribute social media posts and educational materials informing residents of the new infrastructure.

In 2020, the *Share the Trail* campaign and pilot program was launched. The City frequently receives concerns from residents regarding conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists using the City's shared trail network. In response to these concerns, *Share the Trail* pilot signs were installed at 25 locations along the Lake Aquitaine and Lake Wabukayne trail systems, and a *Share the Trail* webpage was created to allow residents to access key *Share the Trail* messaging. The webpage includes a tool to collect feedback on the pilot signage. In addition to signage, a social media campaign was rolled-out through the City's Twitter and Facebook social media channels.

Increase the number of cycling trips in Mississauga

The number of cycling trips in Mississauga are counted and reported in two different ways: mode split, as measured in the Transportation Tomorrow Survey (TTS) conducted every 5 years; and trips logged by counters installed on multi-use trails and bike lanes across the City.

In 2018, the CMP reported that the TTS results showed that the number of cycling trips in Mississauga had doubled between 2011 and 2016. This metric will be reported on as part of the next iteration of the CMP, using data from the next TTS scheduled for 2021.

In an effort to collect cycling trip data, the City has purchased and installed automated counters on various multi-use trails and bike lanes across Mississauga. There were 955,729 cyclists counted on the Etobicoke Creek and Waterfront Trails in 2020, up 122% from 2019.

Build a connected, convenient and comfortable bicycle network

The City invested a total of \$5.62 Million in cycling infrastructure in 2020, including projects that were started and budgeted in previous years. This figure represents the total dollar amount spent by the City on cycling infrastructure projects in the 2020 calendar year, including projects led by both the Transportation and Works and Community Services departments.

The cycling investments made in 2020 included 14.5 kilometres (9 miles) of new infrastructure to the cycling network. This figure includes some projects that were started in previous years but completed in 2020. The lengths of each type of infrastructure installed were as follows:

- Multi-use Trails (within the road right-of-way): 4.5 km (2.8 miles)
- Separated Bike Lanes: 0.7 km (0.4 miles)
- Bicycle Lanes: 2.6 km (2 miles)
- Shared Routes: 0.9 km (0.6 miles)
- Off-Road Trails (within parks, green spaces, hydro corridors etc.): 5.8 km (3.6 miles)

Some specific infrastructure highlights include:

- Five kilometres (3 miles) of temporary active transportation lanes installed as part of the City's COVID-19 response plan; and
- As of 2020, the City of Mississauga has four bike repair stands available for public use along trails across the City.

A full list of 2020 cycling infrastructure projects can be found in Appendix 1.

Foster a culture of cycling

Public awareness of cycling increased in a variety of ways in 2020:

- The City recorded 17,000 engagements on the City's social media posts about cycling programs, infrastructure, and services;

- In-person events were cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19, but three virtual cycling webinars were held with just over 100 participants; and
- Bike shops in Mississauga reported record sales in 2020 with stores averaging sales of over 1,000 bikes at each of the 13 bike shops in the City.

Communications

In an effort to provide key reporting metrics to the public in a way that is effective, select metrics have been incorporated into an info-graphic format, included in Appendix 2. The info-graphic will be posted online and distributed through the City's corporate communications channels.

Strategic Plan

The CMP aligns with the *Move* pillar in the City's Strategic Plan. In addition, it also aligns with other key City strategies:

- Mississauga Transportation Master Plan – A policy framework and Action Plan to guide the development of Mississauga's transportation system for the next 25 years;
- Vision Zero – The City's commitment to Vision Zero includes a focus on providing safe and comfortable infrastructure for vulnerable road users such as cyclists; and
- Climate Change Action Plan – Enhanced active transportation infrastructure supports the long-term goals of the CCAP, to achieve goals for mode split and the co-benefits of active transportation (improved air quality, improved health outcomes, et cetera).

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts resulting from the adoption of the recommendation in this report

Conclusion

Implementation of the Cycling Master Plan continues with a focus on safety, regular capital investments, and robust public engagement. The 2020 Report Card highlights this by reporting on performance monitoring metrics identified in the Master Plan.

Attachments

Appendix 1: 2020 Cycling Project List

Appendix 2: Cycling Master Plan 2020 Report Card Infographic



Geoff Wright, P.Eng, MBA, Commissioner of Transportation and Works

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