

City of Oshawa,
50 Centre Street South,
Oshawa, Ont.

Oct. 25, 2023

Attention: Service Oshawa- Transportation and Parking

Re: Safe Access to Thornton Road Multi-Use Path from Dryden Blvd Bicycle Lanes

Dear Reader

As a Durham Safe Cycling Coalition Director, I am writing regarding a safety concern at the intersection of Dryden Blvd. and Thornton Road.

At this time, cyclists trying to access the multi-use path (MUP) on the east side of Thornton Rd, from the bike lanes on Dryden Blvd. increase their risk of injury because they must either:

1. dismount to get up and over the curb on east side of Thornton, thereby remaining in a north-bound traffic lane for a longer period of time; or,
2. cross and ride in the north-bound lanes of Thornton Rd., to reach and turn right, into the golf club driveway, which allows for access to the MUP. This option however, may result in potential conflicts between cyclists and cars entering/exiting from the golf club parking lot.

Please reference attached photos.

As an immediate solution, we would like to suggest an upgrade to include 'Curb Cuts' on the east side of Thornton Rd., directly across from where Dryden Rd. and its bike lanes connect to Thornton Rd. This could alleviate the problem of both scenarios mentioned above and further enhances cycling infrastructure by:

1. connecting the Dryden Blvd bike lanes with other routes
2. supporting /increasing the use of the newly constructed MUP on Thornton Rd
3. supporting safer access to the newly constructed Oshawa BMX Bike Park.

Ideally, a controlled signal crossing would soon follow this curb cut, further supporting cyclists and pedestrians wishing to cross at Thornton Rd at Dryden Blvd. Other benefits of a signal light include a safer left-hand turn for drivers wishing to travel north on Thornton Rd., and traffic calming and support for reducing speeds to that of posted speed limits. At this time, no crossings of any type exist on the long stretch of Thornton Rd. between Rossland and Taunton Roads.

On behalf of everyone at DRCC, I thank you for acknowledging our concern and considering our proposed solutions. Please contact me if you wish to discuss any part of this information further.

Kind regards,

Chris Arnott

Director
Durham Region Cycling Coalition
www.durhamsafecycling.ca



C.C. Ron Lalonde- Executive Director, Durham Region Cycling Coalition



