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## Advocating Safe Cycling Throughout Durham Region

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Metrolinx  
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1B-701 Rossland Road East  
Suite 629  
Whitby, ON  
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December 5, 2019

Attention: Kristin Demasi, Project Manager

Dear Sir,

Re: Proposed Bus Rapid Transit System, Oshawa to Scarborough

Various members of the Durham Region Cycling Coalition attended the recent open houses in Oshawa, Whitby and Ajax for the public consultation #2. The data on display was very informative and on-hand staff were helpful in responding to questions.

We would therefore like to take this opportunity to reiterate some of the points we raised.

1. The existing bus and bike lane configuration in Ajax and Pickering does not work because vehicles turning right at driveways and traffic lighted intersections ignore or do not see cyclists. We have heard from many individuals that this is the reason they will not use these bike lanes. We have been given to understand that construction modifications will provide cyclists with a protected bike lane and that MTO Book 18 cross rides (conflict paint, cycle traffic lights etc.) will be installed at vulnerable intersections.
2. Due consideration must be given for routing cyclists through the four pinch points. A bike lane that suddenly merges with traffic will only deter cyclists from using them. Multi-use paths or minor detours to quieter, bike friendly streets are options for consideration.
3. Bus stops have been suggested at distances averaging 760 m based on an acceptable pedestrian walking distance of 800 m. Consider also that people will cycle 3 to 4 km to access transit and some form of bike parking at the bus stops should be provided.

In conclusion we fully support the Metrolinx objective of financing and constructing a continuous and safe cycle track along the entire Durham – Scarborough corridor including the known pinch points.

Yours truly,

Bruce MacDonald,  
Executive Director

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*Durham Mountain Bike Association, Clarington Cycling Club, Durham Cycling Club, Oshawa Cycling Club, Uxbridge Cycling Club*