

**AJAX CYCLING IMPROVEMENTS**

**DRCC Aug. 2020**

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**From:** Derek Lee  
**Sent:** August 7, 2020 11:45 AM  
**To:** Armi De Francia <armi.defrancia@ajax.ca>  
**Cc:** Durham Region Cycling Coalition <durhamrcc@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Ajax Cycling

Good Morning Armi,

I see you have been busy staring in cycling videos. I hope many people will take the time to view them especially those newer to cycling.

On Wednesday I had a virtual meeting with other members of the Durham Region Cycling Coalition executive and a few points came up regarding Ajax that I'd like to share with you as well as following up on some previous items we've discussed.

1. The MUP on Bayley St E has been closed from Shoal Point Rd to Audley Rd S for some time. At Shoal Point there is a sign saying "Sidewalk Closed" without any further signage for an alternate route. At Audley there is an additional sign saying "Pedestrians please use other sidewalk".

The concerns are that the MUP is not just for pedestrians, there is no redirection signage at Shoal Point and cyclists are not supposed to ride on sidewalks. If this closure is to continue can some measures be taken to accommodate redirecting all MUP users?

2. The catch basin on Pickering Beach Rd that I've previously mentioned has had a patch of asphalt added which has no affect in reducing the concerns previously expressed, i.e., a cyclist is forced to swerve around it. Yesterday, I took the approach of taking the middle of the lane. A bus passed me (safely) by moving partially into the outside lane and a car in the outside lane yielded to the bus. What went through my mind was did both those drivers understand why I'm in the middle of the road or think I'm just another idiot cyclist.

I believe the only remedy to this situation is to raise the catch basin cover level with the pavement.

3. I've previously mentioned that on Audly Rd S there is one raised centre island with a vertical curb whereas the other islands have sloping curbs to allow vehicles to drive over. The vertical curb creates a narrow lane and a pinch point.

Do you have any idea when this danger might be rectified?

4. In your video Ajax Trail Adventure you mention all the proposed cycling improvements coming in the next 30 years. This seems an awfully long time for relatively low cost infrastructure to improve the well being of Ajacians.

On the subject of trails my wife has just returned from a ride and informs me that the Trans Canada Trail alongside Annandale Golf Course is closed north of the bridge due

to a wash out of the creek embankment and, where the trail continues on the west side of Church St it too has been closed. Do you have any updates on this?

5. You have previously mentioned an upcoming video aimed at motorists making them aware of cyclists. In my experience a major problem is motorists turning right on a red light and only looking left as well as not stopping at the white line. Other issues: overtaking a cyclist and immediately turning right; overtaking on the outside a cyclist making a left turn having signaled and moved to the outside of the lane; not giving the one meter passing clearance and overall not aware of cyclists and having an attitude problem. The latter is a minority but are still there.

6. Do you know what cycling infrastructure improvements the Town will implement this year?

Sorry to keep harping on stuff but two cyclists have been killed on the roads in Durham this year and I believe we should be doing everything we can to improve the safety of all cyclists at all levels which includes education and safe cycling infrastructure

Stay well and safe,

Derek



