



Website: [durhamsafecycling.ca](http://durhamsafecycling.ca)  
Email: [durhamrcc@gmail.com](mailto:durhamrcc@gmail.com)  
Mail: 1B-701 Rossland Road East  
Suite # 629  
Whitby ON, L1N 9K3

Advocating for Safe Cycling Throughout Durham Region

---

Region of Durham  
605 Rossland Road East  
Whitby, ON  
L1N 6A3  
Attention: Anthony Caruso

Via E-Mail: [Anthony.Caruso@durham.ca](mailto:Anthony.Caruso@durham.ca)

March 19, 2021

**Re: Draft Regional Cycling Plan Update**

Dear Anthony,

As a registered stakeholder, Durham Region Cycling Coalition (DRCC) is pleased to offer feedback with respect to the draft Regional Cycling Plan presently available for public review. In consultation with our broad-based membership, we have completed an extensive review of the draft plan and would first off like to say THANK YOU for undertaking this long overdue plan update.

Upon analysis, we see a significant number of goals have been established which are very comprehensive, inclusive and wide reaching. From a user's perspective - and in the interest of keeping our most vulnerable segment of the population safe - we would like to suggest the attached detail comments for your consideration.

More broadly here is the summary of our comments.

- **Continuous and Connected Core Spine Network**
  - We believe of the main flaws in the **existing** regional cycling network, are the major and often unsafe gaps in the spine network. We are also concerned with the infill project strategy within this plan and deferment of the implementation time frame (rear loaded schedule) that will leave the core incomplete for many years to come.
  - This will remain a barrier to any increase in ridership rates due to unsafe cycling connections. As a priority goal, DRCC would strongly recommend the Region focus on closing the major core spine network gaps over the next three-five years based on available funding. Please see our attachment with further detailed suggestions.



Website: [durhamsafecycling.ca](http://durhamsafecycling.ca)  
Email: [durhamrcc@gmail.com](mailto:durhamrcc@gmail.com)  
Mail: 1B-701 Rossland Road East  
Suite # 629  
Whitby ON, L1N 9K3

Advocating for Safe Cycling Throughout Durham Region

---

- **Best Practices in Design and Management**

- As we reviewed this plan, we note the commentary includes broad based references such as engineering standards, such as the guideline found in OTM Book 18 and a focus of safe infrastructure for all ages and abilities.
- We believe the plan should also include support at intersections and trail crossings, such as the installation of cross rides or midblock crossing (including adding cross rides) at Regional controlled intersections and Regional road crossings as identified during the Vision Zero planning.
  - We understand that the Vision Zero improvements maybe impended and funded by a different plan/department, but it should be significantly referenced in the RCPD
  - With Vision Zero playing a more important Regional role while working in unison with the municipalities to achieve a common outcome.
  - Regional support is needed at Regional controlled intersection where they meet local municipal cycling infrastructure (example Garrad at Rossland in Whitby)
- We are very happy to see the inclusion of the Durham Meadoway and we believe this one project maybe the legacy to support active and healthy citizens, like the Water Front Trail has been over the past 25 years.
- We are also pleased with your attempt to seek input from local AT committees

In closing, please see our attached detailed comments. We are of the opinion that the overall plan is well conceived, comprehensive and addresses many of the goals inherent in any meaningful Cycling Plan.

On behalf of every-one at DRCC, thank you for taking our feedback into consideration. We hope you find our comments constructive and are always available to provide additional input and support.

Yours truly for DRCC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. MacDonald", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bruce MacDonald, Executive Director.

[bruce@durhamsafecycling.ca](mailto:bruce@durhamsafecycling.ca)

**C.C.** Steven Kemp     Manager - Traffic Engineering and Operations at Regional Municipality of Durham  
Rick Kerr            Regional & City Councillor – Regional AT Committee Representative

Attached – additional detailed comments