

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cycle Barrie consultation invites residents to share feedback on bike lanes and active transportation options

(Barrie, ON) – The City of Barrie is focusing efforts on completing the design of 20 kms of new bike lanes, starting this year. These bike lanes will be implemented by narrowing travel lanes and removing on-street parking. This reallocation of space will allow the creation of buffered bicycle lanes, conventional bicycle lanes or urban shoulders.

The locations for these new bike lanes have been identified through the Council-approved 2019 Transportation Master Plan. Starting this year, the City will begin to install the new cycling lanes. This upcoming consultation supports City Council's strategic priority of "Improving the Ability to Get Around."

A virtual Public Information Centre (PIC) meeting will take place at 7 p.m. on February 24, 2022. The PIC will provide information on corridors planned for bike lanes and illustrate network gaps. The project team will be seeking public feedback on:

- popular cycling routes
- input on cycling route prioritization
- barriers that prevent residents from cycling (or cycling more often)
- suggestions to get more residents cycling
- identify gaps in existing cycling routes

Learn more, share your ideas, review the frequently asked questions, and register for the PIC meeting at <u>buildingbarrie.ca/CycleBarrie</u>. For more information about active transportation in Barrie, visit <u>barrie.ca/ActiveTransportation</u>.

Background

The City launched the Cycle Barrie Infrastructure Program (CBIP) to implement a connected network of cycling facilities across the city, based on recommendations in the City's 2019 Transportation Master Plan (TMP). While the City continues to implement cycling infrastructure with major road reconstruction projects and with the construction of new collector and arterial roads in the City's secondary plan areas, the CBIP is a standalone effort to accelerate implementation and develop a connected network by right-sizing roads, using low stress, low volume streets and addressing strategic network gaps. The first five years of the program will focus on the implementation of bike lanes on streets within Barrie's cycling network that are wide enough to accommodate them without the need for costly construction projects.

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