



SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL

July 18th, 2018

TO: Madhuri Seera, Project Manager, South Shaganappi Study

Bike Calgary Comments on Short- and Long-Term Recommendations, South Shaganappi Study TT2018-0822

Deer Madhuri,

Bike Calgary requests that you include this letter, with comments focusing on the bicycle-related aspects of the Study, as part of the information given to Council along with Agenda Item 7.2 of the July 19th, 2018 Standing Policy Committee, Transportation and Transit Meeting.

Engagement Process

Bike Calgary thanks you for including us in the Community Advisory Group ("CAG") for the South Shaganappi Study and commends you and your team on your efforts to solicit feedback CAG members, understand concerns and find balanced solutions.

Short-term Recommendations

While Bike Calgary believe bicycle-specific facilities (i.e. cycle tracks) are optimal for the safety, comfort and mobility of all street users, we support recommendations for multi-use pathways along both sides of Bowness Road, with the understanding that the project team will:

1. Ensure that pathways, as the designated cycling accommodation, are designed and maintained to support the operating envelope (travel speeds up to 30km/h¹ and maneuverability) of cyclists, while promoting safety and comfort for all users.
2. Follow through on an intent to design and regulate crossings and intersections as multi-use², so as to satisfy Complete Streets Policy³ in promoting safety, as well as ease of use and equity for all modes.
3. Ensure transitions between off-street pathways and the roadway provide clear guidance for cyclists, with the intent of encouraging proper use and fostering predictability.

If the above conditions can be met, and, in the final design, the project team recognizes that, for cyclists, off-street pathways will essentially serve the same purpose as cycle tracks on

¹ City of Calgary, 2008 Bicycle Policy and Needs Report.

² City of Calgary, Traffic Bylaw 26M96 Section 41.1.

³ City of Calgary, Complete Streets Policy and Guide, Section 3.7.



the street itself, we feel they can offer improved travel conditions for Calgarians travelling the area by bicycle.

Further, we believe that cycling accommodation along this portion of the corridor will provide an essential complement to the Montgomery Main Street initiative by setting the stage for a safe and inviting street environment for all users, including providing Montgomery residents, visitors and businesses the opportunity for all ages and abilities bicycle access to Bowness Road.

While improvements to Bowness Road have been recommended, Bike Calgary is disappointed that 43rd Street NW, and the associated options for improvement, particularly crossing upgrades at 16th Avenue, were removed from the scope of this project.

Long-term Recommendations

We are encouraged by plans for cycle tracks along Bowness Road. We believe these, along with the proposed network of multi-use pathways, will help preserve and grow an efficient active travel corridor between the communities of Montgomery and Parkdale.

While we also appreciate the inclusion of multi-use pathways along Shaganappi Trail, we remain concerned that the scale of the road network will create an uninviting environment to active travel and potentially deepen the physical divide between adjacent communities. Should the long-term recommendations advance, we recommend:

1. Making sure intersections are safe, easy to understand and equitable for all travel modes, particularly that robust bicycle crossings are part of the design and function.
2. Ensuring pathways are sufficiently separated from roadways away from intersections so as to create a comfortable and inviting environment for those using them.

We also encourage the City to consider revisiting the long-term recommendations from a concurrent land-use and transportation perspective, to best leverage this valuable area as well as foster an improved connection between the communities it separates.

Sincerely,

Brent Clark
Infrastructure Lead - Bike Calgary