

VICTORIA AVE CYCLE TRACK



April 20, 2021

Community Information Session – Summary Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On Tuesday April 20, 2021 from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. a Community Information Session was hosted by Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann for the proposed Victoria Ave Cycle Track. The event was attended by staff from Sustainable Mobility, Transportation Operations and Maintenance and the Ward 3 Office. A commenting period of two weeks followed, allowing for those that could not attend an opportunity for input.

A number of recurring themes were apparent by comments received during and after the session:

- **There is strong support for providing safe cycling infrastructure on Victoria.**
 - The current cycling experience on Victoria was described as “scary”, “unsafe”, “not comfortable” and “a last resort”.
- **The need for larger and more barriers along the corridor.**
 - The community felt that the high truck volumes and high automobile speeds warranted larger barriers than the standard used on other roadways.
- **The cycle track should be moved to the west side of the road.**
 - Community members proposed moving the cycle track to the west side of the road, where on-street parking currently is and making the cycle track parking protected.
 - *Staff noted that the decision to place the cycle track on the east side took into account a number of factors, including prevailing turning movements and design considerations for the future link south of Cannon St*
- **Intersections need to be designed safely for cyclists.**
 - Safety concerns at intersections was raised as a result of the higher volumes of automobiles/trucks, the large number of turning vehicles and high vehicle speeds.

Based on the feedback received, no major revisions are being recommended to the preliminary design. Opportunities to use larger (18”) concrete barriers should be considered.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Victoria Ave has an existing northbound buffered bicycle lane from Barton St to Ferrie St and a southbound bicycle lane from Burlington St to Ferrie St. Victoria Ave is being considered for additional cycling infrastructure between Cannon St and Birge St, just south of the rail tracks. Additional consultation with CN Rail is required to complete the gap of cycling infrastructure between Birge St and Ferrie St.

The proposed design includes a new two-way cycle track on the east side of Victoria Ave between Cannon St and Birge St. The cycle track would be defined with flexible delineators (i.e. flexposts), pre-cast concrete curbs and painted buffers in order to separate bicycles and automobiles. Additional signage, pavement markings, signals and a raised bus stop are also being proposed.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION (CIS)

The CIS was held virtually over Zoom and had approximately 35 registrants. The consultation included a presentation by staff which provided information on:

- Background
- Strategic Rationale
- Design Concept & Features
- Cross-Sections
- Outcomes & Next Steps

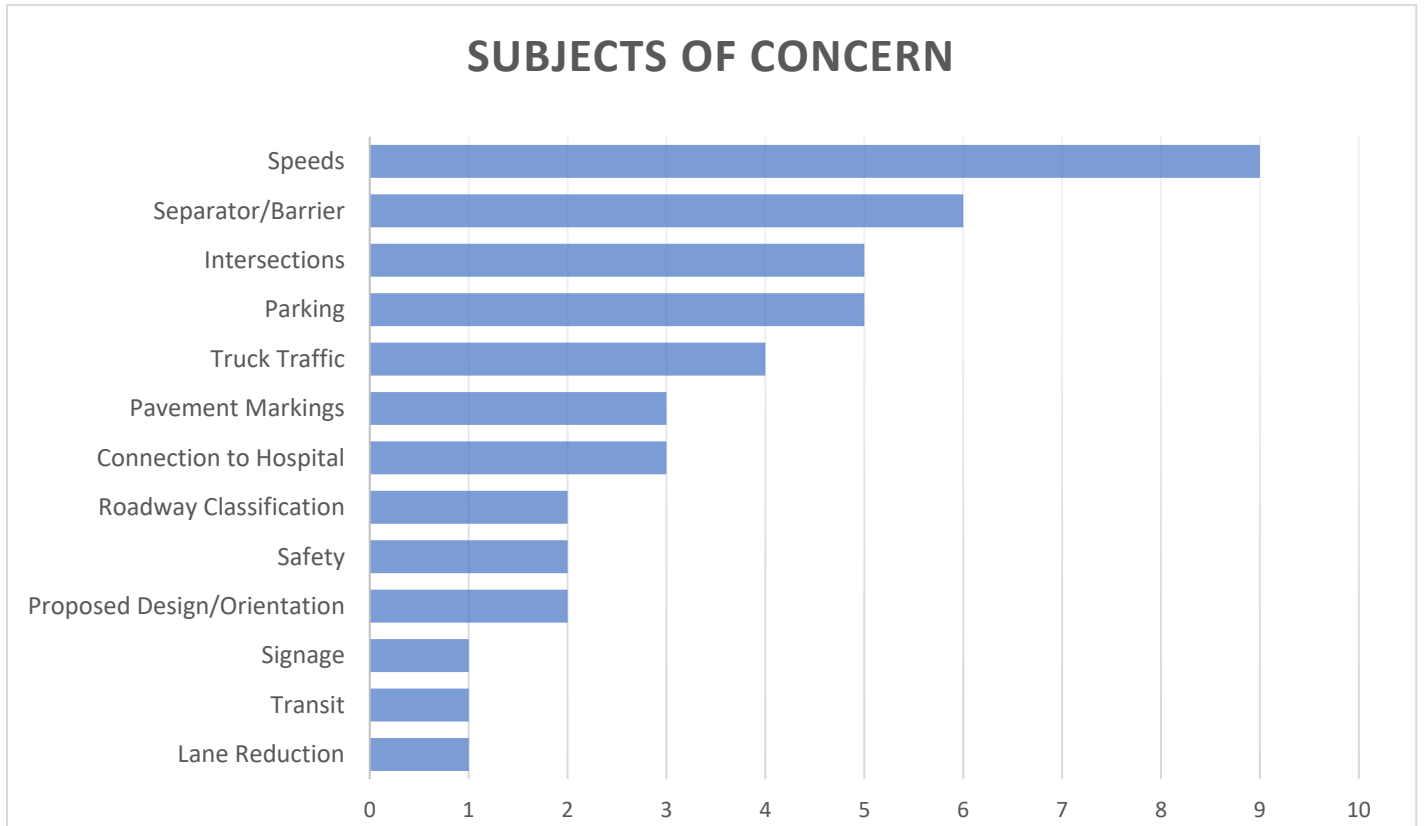
Following the presentation, participants asked questions for clarity on the information presented. Additional questions/comments for staff were asked after the session, or within the chat feature of Zoom. City staff provided and asked participants for their feedback on four questions:

1. How do you feel cycling in this corridor today?
2. What are the positive aspects of this design?
3. What would motivate you to use the cycle track?
4. Do you anticipate any challenges using the cycle track?

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS

1. How do you feel cycling in this corridor today?
 - scary
 - parallel streets are better
 - unpredictable
 - unsafe/unhealthy
 - not comfortable
 - nervous
 - lack of connection
 - too wide/fast
 - last resort
2. What are the positive aspects of this design?
 - Connection to Burlington St
 - Connection to Cannon St
 - North/south route
 - Protected
 - New barrier standards
 - Two-way cycling connection
3. What would motivate you to use the cycle track?
 - Bikeshare station on NW corner Barton/Victoria
 - Safe infrastructure
 - Useful connections
4. Do you anticipate any challenges using the cycle track?
 - Did not get to this question due to time

GENERAL CONCERNS



Speeds & Truck Traffic

- Includes typical vehicles as well as truck traffic
- Enforcement and inclusion in speed camera program (i.e. ASE)
- Reduction in the posted speed limit
- Removal/restriction of truck traffic on Victoria

Separator/Barrier/Intersections/Connection to Hospital

- Based on the speeds and truck traffic, proposed barriers are not enough
- Barriers should be included for the whole project including right up to intersections
- Radius reductions as intersections
- Signal operations and lane reductions
- Connection to hospital and crossing Barton St is concerning/confusing

Parking/Orientation/Proposed Design

- Should be on the west side and not the east side
- Eliminate or reduce the size of parking stalls