November 2021

Re: Victoria Avenue Cycling Project

By now you may be noticing some activity on Victoria Ave as the City begins installing bi-directional bicycle lanes (also referred to as a cycle track) on the east side of Victoria Ave between the CN rail tracks (beside the Hamilton General Hospital) southerly to Cannon St. A barrier of flexposts and precast concrete curbs will provide extra comfort for cyclists adjacent to auto traffic. Crews have been posting signs and marking where bicycle lanes will be painted. There should be minimal disruption to residents and businesses along this stretch of Victoria Ave while the cycle track is installed. The installation is planned to be complete by late November. There are no current plans to include planters in this project.

The City has developed experience with the operations of cycle tracks given existing facilities, including Cannon St and Bay St; sharing a few of these details below.

Recycling & Garbage:  
Please continue to place your garbage, green bin, and blue box at the existing curb for weekly collection. Do not place items in the cycle track. Regard the cycle track as an active lane of traffic – for bicycles only.

Street Sweeping & Snow Clearing:  
The City will continue to clean the street and salt and plow the street in the winter as usual. The cycle track will also be swept, salted, and plowed by City services.

HSR customers & ATS/ DARTS clients:  
At HSR stops, the cycle track will incline to a raised platform that’s level with the sidewalk. Cyclists will cross over this platform. The raised platform enables transit users, including those who use a personal mobility device, to easily board transit vehicles. When your transit vehicle is arriving, wait on the sidewalk until the vehicle has fully stopped. It will stop on the other side of the cycle track at the edge of the raised platform. Transit users
boarding or alighting do have the right-of-way, but still look both ways for approaching cyclists before crossing the cycle track to board the vehicle.

As a temporary condition, until the raised platforms can be constructed, transit vehicles will pull into a yellow hatched area and continue to service passengers from the existing curb and sidewalk. Signage will be posted for cyclists to stop where designated when a transit vehicle is approaching or pulled into the yellow-hatched temporary transit stop within the new cycle track.

**Vehicle Access:**
Existing driveways along the cycle track will be maintained. With the cycle track installed, please be aware to give right-of-way to cyclists in both directions when turning into OR exiting driveways.

**Parking & Taxi Services:**
On-street parking will continue to be permitted as it currently exists along the west curb of Victoria Ave. Motor vehicles are not permitted to drive nor idle in the cycle track to service passengers; please use driveways or side streets at intersections.

**Sidewalks:**
The cycle track will act as a buffer separating auto traffic from pedestrians using the sidewalk on the east side of Victoria Ave. When crossing the street, pedestrians are reminded to be aware of cyclists riding in both directions.

The City's Transportation Master Plan (2018) and Cycling Master Plan (2018) identify the need for cycling facilities to provide an efficient and safe network to encourage cycling. The promotion of cycling fosters a healthier community through reduced reliance on automobiles (less congestion and reduced vehicle emissions) and increased physical activity levels for residents. The design should also encourage cyclists to not ride on the sidewalk, making the sidewalk more comfortable for pedestrians.

If you have any questions, please contact City Transportation Planning staff responsible for Active Transportation ([sustainable.mobility@hamilton.ca](mailto:sustainable.mobility@hamilton.ca) or 905.546.2424 x 2066). If you are a tenant, please share this information with your landlord.

Kind Regards,

Sustainable Mobility Office, Transportation Planning
Planning and Economic Development Department
City of Hamilton

cc: Councillor Nrinder Nann – Ward 3