



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Mayor and Members General Issues Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	June 17, 2015
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Cannon Street Bi-directional Cycle Track Pilot Project (PW14031(a)) (Wards 2 and 3)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Wards 2 and 3
PREPARED BY:	Daryl Bender (905) 546-2424 Extension 2066
SUBMITTED BY:	Gary Moore, P.Eng. Acting General Manager Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

Council Direction:

GIC Report 14-007 was approved by Council on March 26, 2014, and included the following:

- “11. *Cannon Street Bi-Directional Cycle Track Pilot Project*
- (b) *That the General Manager, Public Works, be directed to report back at least annually through the budget process on the performance of the Bidirectional Cycle Track on Cannon Street pilot project, and to include actual operating cost;*
- (e) *That staff be directed to provide a status report to the General Issues Committee on all costs, expenditures and benefits, including labour impact on GFL and contingencies, involved during the period of the pilot project.”*

Information:

In March of 2014 Council approved the implementation of the Cannon Street Bi-Directional Cycle Track three-year pilot project. This facility was opened for public use on September 12, 2014.

While the majority of the installation of this project was completed in September 2014, some additional elements of the project will be completed in 2015 which include:

1. Additional pavement markings at intersections,
2. Minor intersection modifications at Sherman Avenue/Cannon Street,
3. Installation of a permanent bicycle counting device, and
4. Final as-built design drawings.

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The initial estimated cost of the Cannon Street Bi-directional Cycle Track was \$867,200 as identified in the March 2014 report. The total expenditures to date are \$477,000. It is estimated that \$225,000 will be required to complete the four tasks in 2015 for the projects listed above. The final implementation costs for this project are expected to come in under budget.

Actual expenditures to date (as of April 30, 2015) include:

ITEM	BUDGET	ACTUAL
Street modifications (markings, signage, & signals)	\$430,200	\$263,000
Planters	\$ 41,000	\$ 27,000
Consultant design work	\$216,000	\$ 82,000
* Contingency & Administration:	\$180,000	
Roadway resurfacing		\$105,000
TOTALS:	\$867,200	\$477,000

* **Note:** Contingency items were not individually listed in the functional design. To date only the roadway resurfacing item has been identified, including actual costs.

Winter maintenance costs are being tracked and will be included in future reports as this data is not, as yet, finalized.

Maintenance experience for the Cannon Cycle Track includes:

- 1) Planters: The planters were removed for the Winter months to facilitate snow clearing and they will be reinstalled and planted this Spring, planned for late May.
- 2) Winter maintenance: Road Operations staff have developed various methods to address Winter maintenance of Cannon Street with the addition of the cycle track.
- 3) Waste collection: Waste Collections have tried various means to provide waste collection services to properties along the south side of Cannon Street. The current practice is to undertake waste collection activities very early in the morning or during off-peak traffic periods (i.e. not during 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.), when traffic is less busy in the travel lanes for auto traffic and in the bike lanes. At this point, it is too early to assess labour and contract implications. This information will be included in future reports.
- 4) Temporary closures: Staff have been finalizing unique practices to accommodate temporary closures of the cycle track to accommodate residents with restricted mobility and services such as moving vans and utility maintenance. Temporary closures of the cycle track direct cyclists to divert to parallel streets, or cyclists could choose to dismount and walk their bicycle around a closure. Staff continue to review other closure considerations as various scenarios develop.

Since the implementation of the cycle track last Fall, staff have had an opportunity to observe and experience overall traffic operations along Cannon Street. As a result, staff have determined the need to add additional markings to improve cyclist safety, including chevrons and green queue boxes. Chevrons, which look like the head of an

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arrow, have been added at all intersections along the cycle track to stress to drivers the two-way cycling traffic operations on Cannon Street. Green queue boxes have been added at critical intersections to improve operations for westbound cyclists making right turns. Some traffic lanes are planned to be modified approaching Hess Street to improve operations for auto motive traffic. These measures are being implemented this Spring and will be included in future summary reports for this project.

Staff will continue to monitor the operations of the Cannon Street Bi-directional Cycle Track as a critical part of the three-year pilot project. Fifteen metrics are included in the monitoring including various aspects of traffic operations, usage, cost implications, and community feedback. Details are currently being finalized to install a permanent counter along the cycle track to collect continual daily activity, and this counter is planned to be installed this year; however tasks associated with the Pan Am Games may delay this installation until after July.

Some of the highlights of monitoring thus far include:

- Preliminary count data from autumn 2014 suggests that the cycle track is accommodating approximately 250 to 400 daily bicycle trips at various locations.
- Some drivers have expressed that, in their opinion, auto traffic on Cannon Street now flows slowly.
- The City has recorded approximately 120 comments related to this pilot project, with 23% being positive, 17% being negative, and the remaining 63% being general feedback or inquiries for additional information.
- Hamilton has received inquiries from professionals across North America inquiring about this project.