

Update: Hamilton Cycling Advisory Committee (Dec 2019)

Prepared by: Share the Road Cycling Coalition

1. New private members bill on “dooring”

- On November 21, Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) Jessica Bell introduced a new private members bill that would require the province to track dooring incidents as collisions
- Note: dooring is the commonly used term for being hit with an opening car door while riding a bicycle
- At present, the province does not consider dooring incidents to be “reportable collisions” because the motor vehicle is not in motion. This means that police are not required to track dooring incidents as collisions and the province does not record them as part of their Annual Road Safety Report. This bill seeks to change that.
- Dooring incidents are extremely painful and have been fatal here in Ontario. In 2015, the province recognized the seriousness of dooring and increased the related fine from \$110 to \$365
- Some police forces (ex. Toronto Police) have chosen to track dooring collisions, but most forces across the province only track what is mandated
- The bill was supported by Share the Road, Cycle Toronto and Friends & Families for Safe Streets. Updates will be provided throughout the year as the bill makes its way through the legislative process.
- **Questions for committee consideration:**
 - Does Hamilton Police choose to track dooring collisions and is that information included in the Annual Collision Report?

2. E-Scooter Pilot in Ontario

- On November 27th, the Government of Ontario released a new framework for a 5-year pilot on kick-style e-scooters in Ontario. This framework has been in development for most of 2019 and the province consulted directly with municipalities and with stakeholders. Share the Road was supportive of launching an e-scooter pilot and pleased to see many of our recommendations included in the framework.
- Important note: this is for kick-style e-scooters (like the ones you see operated by Lime and Bird that you stand on, NOT for the Vespa-style e-scooters that you sit on).
- Until last week, e-scooters were not permitted on roads where the Highway Traffic Act applies.
- Under this pilot, the province has set some broad rules and municipalities can now choose to pass by-laws to allow their use and determine where they can operate safely.
- Some of the provincial requirements include (but not limited to) a maximum speed of 24km/h, helmets for riders under 18 years of age, minimum operating age of 16, no cargo can be carried, no passengers allowed, e-scooters must have a horn or bell and lights (etc.).

- Check out Share the Road's (attached) e-scooter briefing note for more background and sample recommendations around governance, education, etc. Please note that this briefing note was also shared with City of Hamilton Public Works Committee as part of a staff report earlier this year.
- **Questions for committee consideration:**
 - Is the City of Hamilton planning to pass a by-law allowing for e-scooters? What would the timeframe of the pilot look like and what specific local recommendations are being considered.

3. Ontario Bike Summit Registration Open

- Registration is now open for the 12th Annual Ontario Bike Summit taking place on April 6 & 7, 2020 in Toronto. Registration info and rates available at www.sharetheroad.ca/OBS
- As noted in our November report, the Call for Proposals closed today (Dec 4th).
- **Questions for committee consideration:**
 - Did any City of Hamilton projects get submitted?

4. Reminder: Provincial Bike Light Order

- Share the Road will coordinate another provincial order of bike lights in 2020, which provides partners with a bulk discount of \$3.59 per set + HST. Orders must be placed by February 2020 by contacting bfc@sharetheroad.ca