

**From:** 613 Update // Parkways for People talk@socialmotion.ca  
**Subject:** One Action to Connect All the Bike Lanes Near the Rideau Centre  
**Date:** December 9, 2021 at 9:07 AM  
**To:** Concerned Citizens test@socialmotion.ca



## Power of the Crowd for an Active City Agenda

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## 1. Parkways for People: Traffic, Reconciliation, Accessibility, Winter

A handful of themes keep coming up in our Parkway consultations. So for **our next community discussion**, we will be talking about addressing four issues key to reimagining any parkway: **traffic, reconciliation, accessibility and winter.**

If you have something to say about these topics, including potentially as a lead speaker, please let us know.

We're planning that community discussion for **early February**. Details to follow in the new year.





## 2. Word on the Street

Some of what the community has been talking about recently.

- At **Lebreton Flats**, the NCC has put out a **call for ideas** for developing major attractions on two parcels of land (1 and 6 acres in size). Do you have ideas for what Ottawa could really use?
- Would you help **transform South Keys Centre**: "today a strip mall, tomorrow a beautiful urban space"? If so, join the **Better South Keys discussion** on Dec 9 at 7:30pm.
- If you have concerns with **Ottawa's official plan** -- such as the expansion of the urban boundary -- see the **letter** to the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs (who has to approve the plan) from the 21 civil society organizations behind the People's Official Plan.
- **Lansdowne Park's** skating rink and **Christmas market** are open. **Indoor skateboarding** coming this winter.
- The **Christmas lights** are up around **Parliament Hill** and Wellington St.
- Doesn't **the world need more of this**, from New Brunswick?
- Ever wonder why so many **business owners assume curbside car parking** is good for business? It turns out owners typically drive to work and assume their customers do the same - but that's not normally the case.

## 3. Make Your Dent in the Universe: Help Connect All

## 5. Make Your Dent in the Universe: Help Connect All the Bike Lanes Near the Rideau Centre

Last week, we talked about the City proposal to connect the Mackenzie Ave bike lane to the Colonel By pathway, but which did NOT take the opportunity to connect to two other nearby unconnected bike lanes, on Rideau St and Sussex Dr. See the [map](#) from last week on Twitter.

If enough voices reach out to City staff, we can get this right. **Please consider taking a few minutes to send an email to staff, asking that this project connect all four nearby bike lanes.** A sample email is below and this [Google doc](#) has the original text which you can COPY, MODIFY AND SEND before **Dec 19**.

**Advice for any message:** 1- keep it short, 2- start by saying something nice, 3- **make your point as simple as possible**, and 4- copy the implicated councillors as well as our advocacy friends at Bike Ottawa.



**Neil Saravanamuttoo**

11:38 AM

Comments on Mackenzie Ave/Canal Cycling Link

To: mahsa.sharba@ottawa.ca, Cc: Mathieu Fleury & 3 more

[Details](#)

Ms. Sharba

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Mackenzie/Canal cycling link.

Connectivity is a core principle of any bike network and the City has made steady progress in linking up our bike infrastructure.

While I am pleased to see this proposal come forward, I do have one important suggestion. This project connects 2 unconnected bike lanes, however within 100m of the project, there are an additional 2 unconnected bike lanes.

Accordingly, my suggestion is to **extend the project to connect all 4 bike lanes;** Mackenzie Ave, Canal pathway, Sussex Ave north of George, and Rideau St east of Sussex.

A bike network is only as good as its weakest link, and this project is fixing one of those weak links when it could address three weak links.

Please, **extend the project to connect all 4 bike lanes.** Let's get this done right and let's get this done now.

Yours.

## 4. They Want to Hear From You

The Powers That Be want to hear from you.

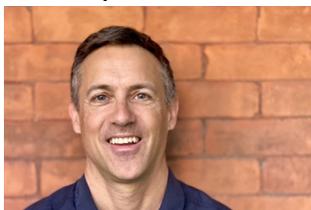
- City **consultation** on **McFarlane Rd** traffic calming, including better bike and pedestrian facilities, until Dec 10.
- NCC is looking for feedback on a **replacement to the Alexandra Bridge**. They ask you **review** the proposal, and they fill out a **survey**, until Dec 12
- Councillor Kavanagh is holding an **open house** on Dec 13 at 6:30pm to discuss the proposed **Richmond Rd Renewal** (Bayshore to Pinecrest).
- The city is proposing **cycle lanes from Daly to Mackenzie** (i.e., Shaw Centre to Chateau Laurier). **Proposal**; submit comments until Dec 19. See a sample letter above in Section 3. There is also a **survey**.

## About

The 613 Update sets out to connect, narrate and amplify the voices thinking big for a more active Ottawa. It also serves as a regular briefing for the Parkways for People initiative. It normally comes out on Thursdays.

## SOCIAL MOTION PROJECT

613 Update is maintained by the **Social Motion Project**, an initiative to build sustainable and healthy communities, by helping change makers achieve more in the active transportation and recreation space.





Neil Saravanamuttoo, the former chief economist of the G20's Global Infrastructure Hub, is the chief curator of the 613 Update and principal behind the Social Motion Project. He is also a co-lead of Parkways for People. Neil can be reached at [neil@socialmotion.ca](mailto:neil@socialmotion.ca)

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