

From: 613 Update // Parkways for People talk@socialmotion.ca
Subject: More Stuff Ottawa Can Do Better
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To: Concerned Citizens test@socialmotion.ca



Feedback, suggestions? Hit [Reply](#) to let us know.

613 Update will be taking a summer break. Look for us in your inbox in the second half of August.

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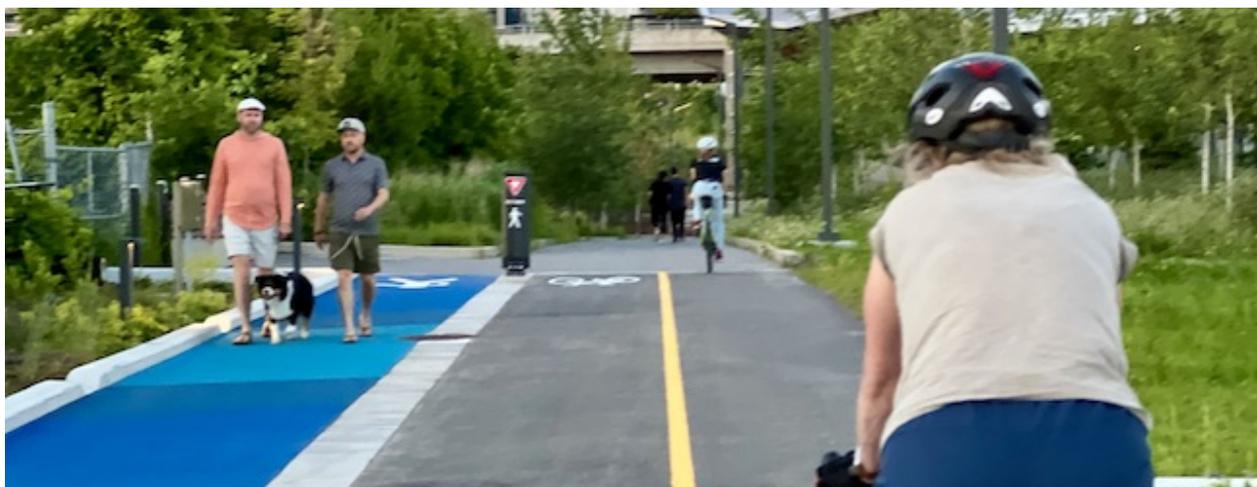


1. Parkways for People: More Ideas for a Champlain

Lookout Bistro

Some of us made it up to Champlain Lookout this weekend, alongside the NCC's opening of the summer Gatineau Park shuttle (which we [live-tweeted](#)) along the parkways.

It was hot and there was little shade, and unprompted, people were talking about their wishes for a bistro at the Lookout. Above is an artist's sketch of what that bistro could be. See the full transformation in [before and after](#) shots.



2. Word on the Street

- A beautiful new [bike and walking path](#) opened between Bayview and Pimisi LRT stations.
- [Scott St bike lanes](#) also officially opened this week, complete with pool noodles.
- The NCC [free weekend shuttle to Gatineau Park](#) got off to a roaring start.
- [2022 Best Places to Bike](#), according to People For Bikes, ranks Ottawa 52nd out of 1,105 North American cities surveyed for "low stress biking connections".
- New Yorkers love their [open streets](#).
- Free transit in Ottawa on [Canada Day](#).
- [Bike lanes on Carling](#) are back (from around Bronson to Sherwood).
- As a stand-alone it's expensive, but [burying hydro wires](#) should become standard practice when we are already digging up roads for integrated sewer works.
- The [Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation](#) says we need to build [5.8m new homes by 2030](#) for affordability -- 3.5m more than the 2.3m we are on pace to build.

- Big news that the Ottawa Senators look set to move to **Lebreton Flats**. Any implications for the Lansdowne 2.0 proposal?
- Montreal's Av. **Mont-Royal is closed to cars and open to people** for the summer.
- Colonel By Drive at Main AT investment: nice, but maybe **better access in both directions**.
- **Retractable bollards** seen in the wild in Ottawa.



3. This Week's Big Idea: More "We've Always Done It That Way" Bike Stuff That Ottawa Can Do Better

Last week, we published **5 Standard Practices in Ottawa Bike Infrastructure It's Time to Rethink**, based on what **Twitter had to suggest**. This week, we're diving in a little deeper and adding another 5 ways we do bike infra that deserve a rethink.

1. **Stop Posting "Dismount Your Bike" Signs. Start Providing Proper Crossings, or Use "Cyclists Yield to Pedestrians" Signs.** The Ontario Ministry of Transportation knows that DYB signs have a very low compliance and recommend they be used a last resort.
2. **Stop Making Bike Lanes that Suddenly Stop and Push You into Traffic. Start Making Bike Lanes that Connect to Other Bike Lanes.** We need to stop building stand-alone bike infra projects, especially when they abruptly end and shoot you into traffic. We need our councillors and responsible city staff to fight for proper bike connectivity.
3. **Stop Building Bike Infra and Not Telling Anyone About It. Start**

Celebrating our Wins. We like to complain about the less-than-ideal state of our bike infra, but new stuff is coming online all the time, and we should be celebrating these wins, like the groovy LRT path in Lebreton Flats.

4. **Stop Using Ugly Dividers for Protected Lanes. Start Using a Landscaped Buffer in that Space.** **Technology exists** to keep those trees healthy.
5. **Stop Using Paint and Green Thermoplast that Fades Away After a Season. Start Using Dyed Asphalt.** What we are doing now is gone too quickly. Let's find a more permanent solution to road markings.

More great ideas on Twitter.



4. Stand Up For Something

(new listings first)

The City is starting a process for making **St Laurent Blvd** more transit and active transportation friendly. **Survey** open until July 11.

There will be a **public information session on July 5** to discuss improving the safety of three intersections on the O'Connor bike lanes. Comments open until July 19.

The City of Ottawa wants your feedback on "**Road and Transit Project Evaluation Criteria**", for use in the Transportation Master Plan. Provide comments by 30 June, such as the ideas explored in this **thread**.

For anyone looking for a **social bike ride around Ottawa**, #ottbikesocial will be out

every Thursday evening starting at 7pm from these departure points.

Ecology Ottawa is giving away free tree saplings (22 native species) over the summer, with many different pick up options.



5. Bike Ottawa Suggested Reading

- **Rome's Urban Wilderness.**
- Colours and **greenery boost moral.** Where are some of your favourite colour places in Ottawa?
- Where are your **"favourite" desire lines** in Ottawa? Did you know you can add desire lines to the Bike Ottawa maps?
- There's lots of great things in the GMH project. However, ignoring the **Main/Hawthorne intersection** is a huge oversight.
- Largely **over-looked, sounds and smells** are important to livability and place making.
- **Drivers crashing into buildings** (hydro poles and traffic lights are also 'popular'), happens a lot more than people thought.
- ~40% of **Ottawa's GHG emissions** are from transportation. Those emissions impact you on a daily basis. #ClimateEmergency



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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. See back issues and [subscribe here](#).

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.

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