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ring & post

Welcome to Cycle Toronto's Ring & Post newsletter, your guide to Toronto cycling news.

At right: Pop up bike lane on Bloor St at Open Streets TO



September 2015

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About Us

We are Toronto's largest member-based cycling advocacy organization working toward creating safer streets. The more people we represent, the more power we have in creating a safe cycling city. Please [join Cycle Toronto](#) to make Toronto a better place to ride, and save money with [member discounts](#) around the city.

Share This



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Cycle Toronto Rides Bloor-Danforth

Cycling is the best way to get around Toronto but we need safer streets. On Saturday Oct 24 at 4:00pm Cycle Toronto

Platinum Business



Help us raise \$50,000 to support our work!

Rides Bloor-Danforth, a fundraising ride to support Cycle Toronto's advocacy work.

We've launched new campaigns this year

calling for bike lanes on Bloor, Danforth and Yonge. What better way to support these campaigns than to ride these streets and raise some money to support our advocacy efforts? Help us raise \$50,000 to support our work!

Spots are limited - learn more and [register now!](#)

City of Toronto proposes 44% capital budget increase, 41 per lane kms of on-street bikeways including Bloor pilot in 2016

This week, Transportation Services staff announced their plans for 2016 including increasing cycling's annual capital budget by 44% from \$9.5 million to \$13.6 million, 41 kms* of new on-street bikeways as well as a pilot bicycle lane on Bloor St. The last time the City of Toronto installed so many bicycle lanes was in 2008. There's still a long way to go before approval and implementation of these projects. We must continue to advocate that each of these projects lives up to the highest design standards and continue building support for our Danforth Loves Bikes campaign. Nonetheless, it's important to recognize the work that City staff in Transportation Services have proposed. Read full details of this important announcement on our [website](#).



Pop-up bike lane on Bloor St a big success

On Sunday Sept 6th at Open Streets TO, Cycle Toronto staff and volunteers rolled out our pop-up bike lane on Bloor St and it was a huge success! People from across Toronto got a chance to experience a protected bike lane on Bloor St. Our [Bloor](#)

[Loves Bikes Pledge](#) is now nearing 4,000 signatures. We're calling on City Council to include the Bloor St corridor in the new 10 year bike plan and launch a pilot project on Bloor in 2016. If you haven't signed it yet, click [here](#) to learn more.

Are bike lanes good for business?

We've heard it before: we can't remove on street parking on main streets to make way for new bike lanes because it's bad for business. It turns out that a growing number of studies are demonstrating that the opposite is true. Read more about the growing case for why [bike lanes mean business](#).

Groups demand Vulnerable Road User Law in Ontario

Members





A coalition of groups, including the 300,000- member United Senior Citizens of Ontario, Kids at Play and Cycle Toronto, is calling on the Province of Ontario to follow several U.S. jurisdictions by implementing a Vulnerable Road User Law. Together, we held a press conference last week with victims' families calling on the Province to take action. The law would see harsher penalties for motorists who injure or kill a pedestrian or cyclist. The new penalties would include licence suspensions, road safety training requirements, and community service. In addition, motorists would be required to attend court for sentencing to listen to Victim Impact Statements. A 'vulnerable road user' is generally defined as a pedestrian, cyclist, road worker, or person using a mobility device. Learn more about [our campaign](#) and how you can help.



Back to School - Bike to School!

Students at 32 schools will have improved bike parking this fall, as the Toronto District School Board installs 130 more racks. 100 of these were donated by the City of Toronto, as a legacy project of the Pan-Am Games. The Toronto Catholic District School Board has also received racks from the City under this program and is developing its own cycling program. "You'd be happy to know that our bike racks are already being put to use by our students!" says one teacher at West Hill CI, while Harbord CI posted a photo of a full new rack, tweeting "harbordci back and biking to school".

Higher fines for dooring cyclists, distracted driving and riding without lights in effect Sept 1, 2015

Fines for a variety of offences have recently increased. [Familiarize yourself with the fine increases](#) and how they impact your ride.



Cycle Toronto Volunteers handing out FREE lights to passing cyclists

Get Lit!

In October, our Street Smarts on-street outreach team will flag down cyclists without lights after dark and give them a free set of bike lights! Join us on Tuesday nights at dusk in one of four different locations to learn about why it's so important to be well-lit and chat with our volunteers about cycling issues. Street Smarts wouldn't be possible without the support of our Community Partners: Toronto Police Service, McLeish Orlando, Urbane Cyclist Co-op, and Sweet Pete's Bike Shop. [Click here](#) to learn more about Get Lit! program and check out our [Event Calendar](#) for a full list of dates and locations.

Morning Glory Cycling Club & Gears Used Bike Drive

The **Our partner, Morning Glory Cycling Club**, is teaming up with **Gears** bike shop to host a bike rally on October 4, 2015 from 1-4pm at 100 High Park Avenue with the goal of donating 150 used bikes! Drop by the rally to show your support and meet Olympic Medalist Curt Harnett among other high profile athletes. If you are interested in donating a bike for the drive, used bikes can be dropped off at any of Gears' 3 locations in Toronto, Mississauga and Oakville.



Join us at the Toronto East Bicycle Festival

Come celebrate cycling in the east end on Sep 19 at the Toronto East Bicycle Festival! Cycle Toronto will be set-up at the festival along with other great community partners for a celebration of all things cycling from 10am-4pm! There will be a bike rodeo, activities for kids, flax fix demos, live music, a marketplace and more. There will also be two group rides leading to the festival along Bloor St and Danforth Ave - make sure to check out [their website](#) for full event details and follow the event on [Facebook](#).



Public Lecture with Veronica O. Davis: Out of the mouths of babes: How a little girl started a revolution

The Toronto Centre for Active Transportation (TCAT) is hosting an intimate **evening discussion** with Veronica O. Davis, Founder of Black Women Bike (BWB) on September 30 at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre. Veronica is a dynamic American transportation guru who uses her knowledge and skills to spark progressive social change. In July 2012, the White House recognized her as a Champion of Change and Transportation Innovator for her accomplishments and community advocacy in the District of Columbia. Hear Veronica's inspiring story about BWB's successful and unique advocacy campaign. TCAT is offering Cycle Toronto members a limited number of discounted tickets! Get yours for just \$5 with the discount code FRIEND on the [event page](#).

Ward Advocacy in Action!

Cycle Toronto Ward 14 is spearheading a transportation survey in Parkdale, in collaboration with other policy and research minded groups. The study will look at Queen Street between Dufferin and Roncesvalles. They are providing volunteers with training in data collection for a transportation survey, qualitative research methods, and the opportunity to get involved with some amazingly dedicated people. To volunteer, or for more information, please contact Laura or Aliza at surveyparkdale@gmail.com

Cycling in the news

Check out these recent news stories on cycling:

- [This 2-minute video shows how bike lanes can be built without clogging up traffic](#) (VOX Transportation)
- ['Vulnerable' road users protest outside of Queens Park](#) (Metro News)
- [Coalition calling on Ontario to bring in Vulnerable Road User Law](#) (Global News)
- [City of Toronto proposes 44% capital budget increase, 41 per lane kms of on-street bikeways including Bloor pilot in 2016](#) (Cycle Toronto)
- [Toronto too slow to replace cycle track bollards, riders say](#) (Metro News)
- [Toronto needs more than just fines to make roads safe](#) (Metro News)
- [Ontario drivers to face higher set fines for distracted driving, dooring a cyclist](#) (The Globe and Mail)

Upcoming Events

Sat Sep 19 - [Toronto East Bike Festival](#) - Warden Hilltop Community Centre, 10:00am-4:00pm

Sat Sep 19 - [Bike Valet at Grand Opening of Markham House City Building Lab](#) - 610 Markham St, 11:00am-6:00pm

Sun Sep 27 - [Bike Valet at Word on the Street](#) - Harbourfront Centre, 11:00am-6:00pm

Sun Sep 27 - [10th Annual Greg's Ride](#) - Milton, ON, 9:30am-3:00pm

Wed Sep 30 - [Public Lecture with Veronica O. Davis. "Out of the mouths of babes: How a little girl started a revolution"](#) - Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, 7:00pm-9:30pm

Sun Oct 4 - [MGCC & Gears Bike Rally](#) - 100 High Park Avenue, 1:00pm-4:00pm

Tues Oct 6 - [Get Lit!](#) - Art Gallery of Ontario, 6:30-9:30pm

Tues Oct 13 - [Get Lit!](#) Boulton Drive Parkette, 6:30-9:30pm

Tues Oct 20 - [Get Lit!](#) College-Shaw Library, 6:00pm-9:00pm

Sat Oct 24 - [Cycle Toronto Rides Bloor-Danforth](#) - 4:00pm

Tues Oct 27 - [Get Lit!](#) - Castle Frank Station, 6:00pm-9:00pm

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