

ROUND ONE CONSULTATION SUMMARY

December 18, 2018





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1 ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

The City of Greater Sudbury initiated the engineering design of the Paris-Notre Dame Bikeway to extend the existing bikeway along Paris Street to Regent Street (Four Corners) in the south and Turner Avenue in the north. There is an existing section of facility on Paris Street between Walford Road and York Street. The study area is provided in **Map 1**. As this project will affect the public realm on the Paris-Notre Dame corridor, receiving feedback and ideas from the public is very important in guiding and informing the preferred engineering design. To help achieve diverse and meaningful engagement, the City planned two rounds of public engagement for the Project. The first round concluded on December 7, 2018, and presented design alternatives for the new facility as well as obtained feedback from the public about key issues along the proposed route. The second round is planned for Winter 2019.

Multiple associations and groups were contacted through diverse platforms throughout the first round of engagement. On November 20, 2018, face-to-face engagement took place in the form of a stakeholder meeting and a public drop-in event. Online feedback forms were available to the public from November 16 to December 7, 2018. The general consultation process is diagrammed in **Figure 1**.



Figure 1: Consultation process.

1.1 Stakeholder Meeting

The first stakeholder meeting occurred on November 20, 2018 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00p.m. At the meeting, representatives from the team presented the study process, opportunities and constraints, design objectives and examples of potential design alternatives. After the presentation, attendees were welcomed to provide their feedback on the provided roll-plan as well as provide feedback on the utility of the existing facility, which was shown in a "virtual tour" slide show presentation. This meeting had over 15 attendees representing multiple stakeholders from the community:

City of Greater Sudbury City of Greater Sudbury Housing Sessions Ride Company Coalition for a Livable Sudbury Canada Revenue Agency Sudbury Cyclists Union Science North Rainbow Routes Association Sudbury Cycling Grannies

Friends of Sudbury Transit
Councilor-elect Ward #4
Councilor Ward #5
Councilor Ward #8
Councilor Ward #12
Public Health Sudbury and Districts





1.2 Public Drop-In Event

The public drop in event was hosted in Science North from 5:00p.m. to 7:00p.m. on November 20, 2018. Over 50 members of the community attended the event where a route roll plan and a virtual bike tour of the existing bike facility along Paris Street. Photos from the event are shown in **Figure 2**.









Map 1: Map of the future bikeway route











Roll plan at the public meeting

Public meeting venue

Virtual bike tour at the public meeting

Figure 2: Photo gallery of the public meeting at Science North

1.3 "Over to You" Survey

The City offered an online survey that accepted comments beginning on November 16 up to December 7, 2018. The survey mirrored the feedback panels used at the public meeting and asked similar questions about design preferences for the bikeway. More than 20 participants filled out the survey, answering questions including:

- What type of cycle track do you prefer and why?
- What do you like/dislike about;
 - Mountable curb cycle tracks?
 - o In-boulevard cycle tracks? and
 - Raised cycle tracks?
- Is there anything else you would like to share with the project team?

2 OUTREACH AND ADVERTISING

Ensuring that the public was well informed of the upcoming study and engagement opportunities was a key element of this phase of engagement. Multiple different avenues were pursued to reach out to the public about the study, upcoming public event and online survey. Outreach occurred from early November until December 6, 2018. Methods to spread the word about the project have been summarized into three categories: print, online and digital media.

2.1 Print

The study team promoted the public event through multiple print resources. 600 notices that advertised the upcoming public event were printed and mailed to property owners and tenants along the study corridor. Two local newspapers also promoted the study: an advertisement was placed in The Northern Life and The Sudbury Star ran a promotional article for the event on November 18, 2018. At the Sudbury Cyclists Union Winter Social (November 26, 2018), representatives from the study team handed out postcards promoting the study and online survey opportunities. The notice is attached to this summary in **Appendix A**.





2.2 Online

Online advertisement consisted of social media promotion on the City's Facebook and Twitter accounts as well as information available of the City of Greater Sudbury website. A digital Public Service Announcement was also released on the City's website on November 15, 2018.

2.3 Digital Media

Digital media outreach consisted of TV/radio interviews, digital billboard advertisements and online newsletter promotion. Representatives from the study team conducted two interviews with local news outlets after the public event, including CBC Morning North and CTV News. An advertisement for the Over to You Survey was placed on the City's digital billboard on Paris Street at Bell Park. This advertisement ran from November 20 until December 7. Finally, the advertisements were circulated to 500+ subscribers of the City's online active transportation newsletter Momentum both prior to the public event and the day before the online survey closed.

3 ENGAGEMENT MATERIALS

3.1 Presentation

At the stakeholder meeting, WSP staff gave a presentation to the stakeholders that summarized the study purpose and timeline, design objectives and route. The presentation mirrored the information that was later presented in panel-format to the public.

3.2 Panels

The drop-in event displayed information panels that explained study purpose and timeline, design objectives and the proposed route. The study team presented eleven panels (in English, with French versions available upon request). Four of the panels were designated for feedback, however all panels could be marked-on. The format of the panels is included below, in **Table 1**. The panels are attached in **Appendix B**.

Table 1: Summary of Panels

Panel	Description	#of Panels
Introduction + Timeline	Introductory panels with the name, date and time of the event and the timeline.	2
Study Summary	A background panel describing what is a bikeway and where the bikeway will be	1
Design Objectives	A panel that describes the four main design objectives for the bikeway	1
Opportunities and Challenges	A panel showing the current opportunity and challenges associated with the proposed bikeway route	1
Examples of Design Alternatives	A panel with three design alternatives from Ontario: in- boulevard cycle tracks, mountable curb cycle tracks and raised cycle tracks (shown in Figure 3)	1





Panel	Description	#of Panels
We Want to Hear From You!	Four panels with three different engagement opportunities: the first panel invited	4
Next Steps	Concluding panel explaining the next steps of the study and contact information for key team members	1
Total		11







In-boulevard Cycle Track Photo

Mountable Curb Cycle Track
Photo

Raised Cycle Track Photo

Figure 3: Photos of design alternatives presented on the panels

3.3 Roll Plan

In addition to the panels there was also a roll plan that displayed the proposed route on a map. There were two roll plans at the engagement, one for the stakeholder meeting and one for the public meeting. Post it notes were available so attendees could leave comments directly on the map (**Figure 4**). A pdf version of the roll plan is included in **Appendix C**.



Figure 4: Roll plan at the stakeholder meeting

3.4 Virtual Bike Tour

The study team presented the virtual bike tour to attendees to help visualize the bicycle conditions on the existing route and prompt ideas about comfortable bikeway design. A presentation of the virtual bike tour occurred at both the stakeholder and public meeting (**Figure 5**). A printout of the virtual tour is attached in **Appendix D**.



Figure 5: Virtual bike tour at the public meeting





4 SUMMARIZING THE FEEDBACK

4.1 Key Theme Overview

Four main design objectives were originally proposed for the bikeway: separated, continuous, well-designed and comfortable to use. From the implementation perspective the first three objectives will amount to the fourth: a bikeway that is comfortable to use.



To help guide the implementation and link the design objectives to the findings of the consultation, the public comments were grouped based on the first three design objectives: separated, continuous, and well-designed.

90% of the comments related to one of the four design objectives. However, 10% formed two new themes not originally considered as a bikeway design objective. Some comments relate directly to the design of the roadway and not to the bikeway; these comments were grouped as "Slowed and aware vehicles". Secondly, some comments relate to the education and awareness of the bikeway and bicycle culture in Sudbury, these comments were grouped as "Educated users". The breakdown of the six final themes, and the range of comments they represent are shown in **Figure 6** below:

SEPARATED: Any comment that relates to the grade or physical separation of the bikeway

WELL-DESIGNED: Any comment that relates to the pavement condition, signage, intersection treatment or landscaping along the route

CONTINOUS: Any comment that relates to the connection of the bikeway to other segments of the route

SLOWED AND AWARE VEHICLES: Any comment that relates to changing vehicle behavior through infrastructure interventions (such as traffic calming)

EDUCATED USERS: Any comment that relates to changing vehicle or bicycle behavior through education and programming

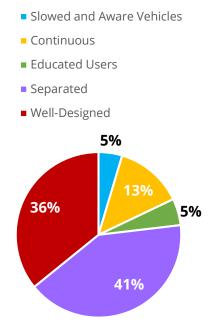


Figure 6: Key Theme Overview





4.2 Key Theme Breakdown

Over **170** comments were received from the roll plans, panels, emails and online survey. Each theme included a range of comments. The trends are summarized in this section.

4.2.1 Separated

The study team received more than 70 comments that related to the separation of the bikeway. Specifically, comments related to:

- **Physically separated with a buffer from vehicle lanes:** ensure the bicycle lane is a comfortable distance from the vehicular traffic lanes and includes a physical barrier that would detract from distracted drivers from swerving into the bikeway, such as a bollard, planted vegetation or another physical barrier. This was the most commonly heard comment from the engagement.
- **Grade separated:** separate the bicycle lane from the vehicle lane by levelling it with the sidewalk. During the engagement, this was preferred as it reduces the risk of vehicular conflicts; however, a small portion of comments also preferred no grade separation as they found it was more useful to have a physical buffer than a grade separation.
- **No mountable curb:** do not pursue the mountable curb option as it would encourage vehicles to park or complete pick-up drop-off activities in the bikeway.
- **Physically separated from pedestrian infrastructure:** for alternatives that were grade separated from vehicles, delineate the bikeway from pedestrian infrastructure to reduce conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians.

4.2.2 Well-Designed

The study team received over 60 comments that related to the design of the bikeway. Specifically, the comments related to:

- **Intersection treatments:** continue the design of the bikeway through intersections to ensure visibility, safety and comfort of cyclists that are interacting with vehicles.
- **Signage:** construct more directional and cautionary signage along the route so that cyclists know where they are going/how long it takes to get there and so cars are more aware of cyclists in the bike route.
- **Landscaping:** include plants and streetscaping both for practical (storm drainage) and aesthetic (shade, beauty) benefits.
- **Pavement material and condition:** design a smooth bike path (no bumps or uneven pavement) with a high-traction material to reduce slippage.
- **Maintenance:** ensure the bikeway is well-maintained all-seasons, including during the winter
- **Clearly Marked:** design the bikeway so it is easily recognizable and usable for cyclists of all capabilities.
- **Transit integration:** design the bikeway to reduce conflicts with transit and incorporate transit stops.





- **Removing obstructions from the bike path:** when placing signage, or other infrastructure do not block or obstruct the bikeway.
- **Ensuring a comfortable width:** design the bikeway so that cyclists feel have a comfortable buffer. This was especially noted as a concern on the segment that crosses the Bridge of Nations.
- **Accessibility/Comfort for all users:** consider the accessibility of the bikeway for all ages/capabilities and design accessible curbs for on/off access.
- **Lighting:** design the bikeway to be well-lit and visible.

4.2.3 Continuous

The study team received more than 20 comments related to the continuity of the bikeway, including:

- Reducing/minimizing impact of driveways along the route (make the bikeway height uniform): design the bikeway so that the up-and-down conditions of the driveways along Paris Street do not affect cyclists. This comment represented 60% of the "continuous" comments.
- Midblock bicycle crossings: where there a long route segments between intersections, consider adding bicycle/pedestrian crossings to improve connectivity.
- **Linking gaps in the network:** address any gaps that exist in the network so that cyclist does not encounter uncomfortable conditions.
- **One-way bicycle travel:** Two-way cycle tracks can make it difficult for cyclists to cross the road/access all amenities destinations. It is recommended that the bikeway be designed to be on one-way.
- **A Bikeway on both sides of street:** design the bikeway to be on both sides of the street to support cyclists travelling in either direction.
- Connecting to local amenities: Ensure the route connects and is well integrated to important route amenities such as the grocery stores along Paris Street and Loach's Road/Regent Street.
- **Connecting to other trail/cycling facilities:** connect the facility to other trails and bikeways so that the route of a cyclist can be continuous throughout the city.
- **Extending the network:** consider extending the proposed route to connect to more areas of the city and adjusting the Phase 1 and Phase 2 constraints.
- **No abrupt ends:** when approaching an intersection, or the end of the route, ensure the bikeway has preemptive and clear signage/infrastructure conditions that inform the cyclist the lane will be ending.
- **Integrating the new facility with the existing facility on Paris Street:** ensure the new bikeway connects and is continuous to the existing facility from Walford Road to Regent Street.





4.2.4 Educated Users

The study team received approximately 10 comments related to the education of road users. Specifically, we heard comments related to:

- **Education on the rules of the road:** invest in education initiatives so that both cyclists and drivers are aware of the rules of the road and how to share the road.
- **Promotional materials about the bikeway:** distribute promotional materials about the bikeway so that drivers are informed of the changes and tourists can be aware of the facility.
- **Enforcement along the route:** increase enforcement along the route to improve safety.

4.2.5 Slowed and Aware Vehicles

The study team received approximately 10 comments related to the vehicle behavior and infrastructure. These comments related to:

- **Traffic calming:** slow traffic on Paris Street so the bikeway is safer no matter its design. Although this was heard throughout the engagement, a small proportion of comments preferred that the bikeway not affect the adjacent vehicular traffic.
- **Reconfigure centre turn lane:** remove the centre turn lane to reduce vehicle priority/lanes.
- **No right on red:** do not permit vehicles to turn right during a red light at intersections where they could be conflicting with a cyclist using the bikeway.

5 KEY TAKEAWAYS

5.1 Frequently Heard Comments

The engagement allowed for multiple different perspectives and preferences to be heard about the future design of the bikeway. Overall, the following seven comments were most common, with physically separated with a buffer from vehicle lanes being the most common:

- Physically separated with a buffer from vehicle lanes
- Intersection Treatments
- Grade Separation
- Pedestrian Separation
- No Mountable Curb
- Signage
- Landscaping

Four of the seven top comments related to the separation of the bikeway from other traffic modes. More so, intersection treatments were commonly preferred to reduce conflicts between cyclists and motorists. Accommodating dedicated space for the bikeway is a key takeaway from this round of public consultation. Further, an attractive bikeway, with signage and landscaping is also a key takeaway from the consultation. Pedestrian separation was also desired. Finally, wayfinding along the route is important to guide cyclists of all capabilities along the route.





5.2 Comments on the Study Design

In the next phase of engagement, it was recommended that any online survey include photos of the proposed alternatives so that comments could be better informed.

6 NEXT STEPS

The comments received in the first round of consultation will help inform the detailed engineering design of both phases of the bikeway, recognizing that some feedback received is applicable corridor-wide. A second round of consultation will be undertaken when the Phase 1 design has progressed to 60% to show how the comments have been incorporated and to receive any final input to the design. During this second consultation round, the initial design drawings for Phase 2 will also be displayed to gain public feedback. The Phase 2 design drawings will be at the 30% or less design level in order to be flexible enough to incorporate feedback into the design.

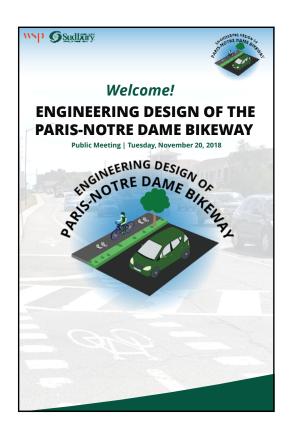
APPENDIX A

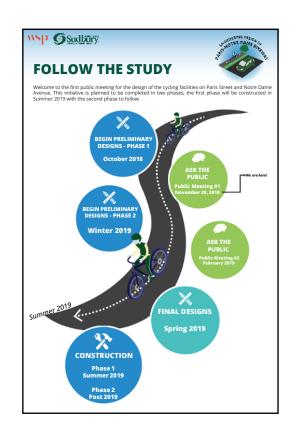
NOTICE TEMPLATE



APPENDIX B

PANELS

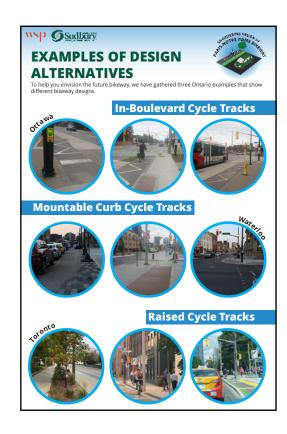


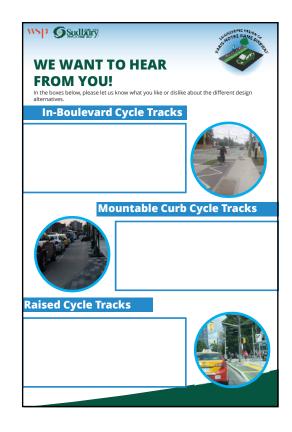


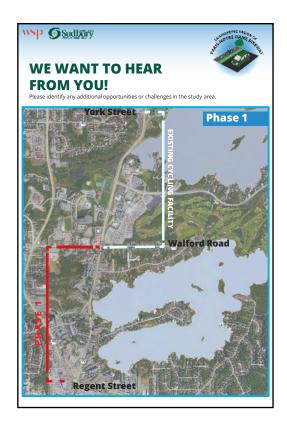


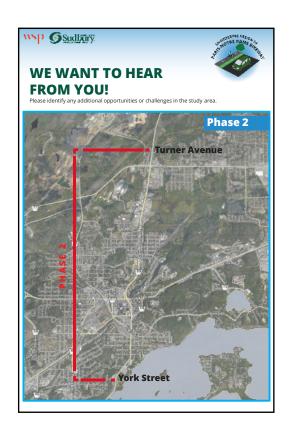




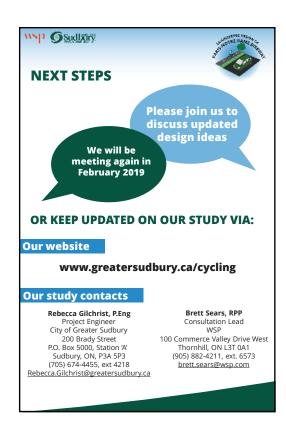




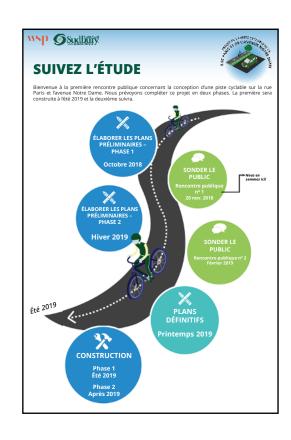


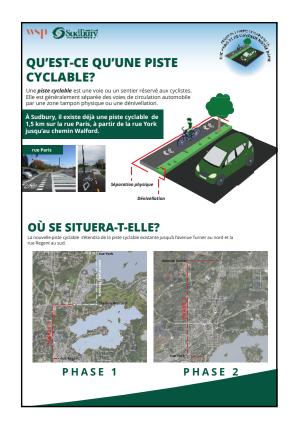












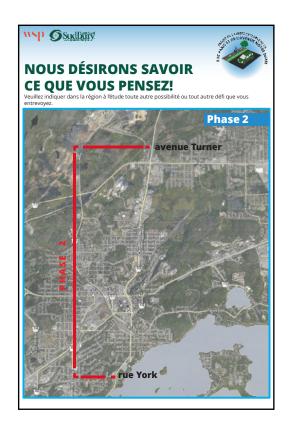
















APPENDIX C

ROLL PLAN







APPENDIX D

VIRTUAL BIKE TOUR



