

Engagement process for a Cycling Strategy

Scoping Report for Cycling Strategy – Approved by Council June 2010

Purpose: Develop a comprehensive cycling strategy that identifies actions The City will take in the short, medium and long term in order to make Calgary a bicycle-friendly city for all – a city where cycling is a great option for transportation and recreation.

To be completed with a report by Parks on the safety review of the existing multi-use pathway system.

The two reports are linked: a comprehensive cycling strategy will include pathways as a key piece of infrastructure and a pathway safety review will include cyclists as one of their multiple user groups.

Cycling Strategy engagement

Utilizing the engage! Spectrum of Strategies and Promises, the project team engaged at the “Inform”, “Listen and Learn”, and “Consult” levels to identify barriers to cycling in Calgary and prioritize those barriers for The City to address.

Telephone survey

Statistical tool used to gather input from Calgarians.
- included cyclists and non-cyclists
- results placed on the cycling strategy website
Asked: What are barriers to cycling? What would encourage you to cycle?

Online survey

Tool used to gather input from any interested Calgarians.
- included Volunteer Cycling Committee members and those who applied
- included cyclists and non-cyclists
- results placed on the cycling strategy website
Asked: What are barriers to cycling? What would encourage you to cycle?

Volunteer Cycling Committee

Committee formed to help identify, categorize and prioritize barriers.
- representatives from Bike Calgary, Calgary Pathway & Bikeway Advisory Council, Elbow Valley Cycle Club, Calgary Tour du Nuit Society
- 1 youth representative, and
- 9 Calgarians that represent a variety of cycling skill and comfort levels, ages, cycling interests and family status.
- results placed on cycling strategy website
Asked: What are the barriers to cycling? What are the most important barriers to address?

Prioritize cycling barriers

All three inputs were used to identify the most important barriers to address.

City develops possible actions

Research and review best practices of other bike-friendly cities in North America and Europe. Meet internal stakeholders to explore ways to address the barriers that were identified by external stakeholders and develop a plan of short, medium and long term actions, in accordance with the Scoping Report. These new actions combine with current practices and projects underway to build a bike-friendly city. Development of a comprehensive cycling strategy aligns with the 2009 Municipal Development Plan and the Calgary Transportation Plan, and builds on the 2008 Bicycle Policy and the 2001 Pathway and Bikeway Plan.

Volunteer cycling committee review

City Planners shared the draft actions with the committee and answered questions from the committee. This met the criteria set out in the agreed Terms of Reference and fulfilled the engagement obligation of advising “how the consultation affected the decisions and outcomes”.

Report to Committee of Council in May 2011

The report to Standing Policy Committee on Land Use, Planning and Transportation is scheduled for May 18, 2011, in combination with the Parks report on the safety review of the existing multi-use pathway system.