

# **Bike Winnipeg Executive Director's Report September 2015**

## **Fundraising**

### **Fall Concert**

Tickets are now available for the show at the West End Cultural Centre, Into the Music and Music Trader, as well as on our website. The concert is listed on our website and FB, and I've posted it to a number of sites. The poster has been created and is being printed. I will hire someone to put those up. I have also ordered a number of hand bills to promote the show (with an advocacy message on the flip side).

I have sent out a number of sponsorship requests, and will work on getting requests out for raffle prizes. Let me know if you have a contact at a restaurant, store or other business that you can ask for a raffle prize from, and I will set you up with a letter from Bike Winnipeg.

Finally, I will put out a press release this week. Hopefully we can get some kind of feature article to help promote the show (and our advocacy work).

### **Ways to help promote the concert:**

Facebook – Share the concert event and invite your Facebook friends to the concert. Our Facebook Event for the concert is here (<https://www.facebook.com/events/1460309547611041/>)

Handbills – We are printing out handbills to help promote the concert (along with some proposed cross sections of Fort Street that we are advocating for as part of the 2015 AT Action Plan), and could use some help with distribution. They should arrive next week prior to the Sherbrook Street Festival & Ciclovía, and we will have them there if you'd like to pick some up for distribution.

### **Grants/Partnerships**

I will send out a request to renew our partnership with MEC this week, and will also try to get a grant put together for MB Liquor & Lotteries.

### **Memberships**

Membership sales have slowed. We are offering a \$10 membership for anyone purchasing an advance ticket, and I am hopeful that we will be able to sell a number of memberships at our upcoming events.

### **Current #'s**

- Paid Members: 79
- Mailing List: 1866
- Facebook Likes: 1221
- Twitter Followers: 2065

## AGM

I have booked the ACU Room in the West End Cultural Centre (where we held the AGM last year) for the afternoon of Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup>. We will need to end the AGM by 3pm. Last year, the AGM went from 12:30pm-3pm, and I think it would be good to do that again this year.

### Motion to Change Fiscal Year

Be it Resolved that the fiscal year end of Bike Winnipeg be changed to December 31 effective December 31, 2015.

The Fiscal Year end is defined in section 1.2 of our [bylaws](#), and is currently March 31<sup>st</sup>. We will need to include the motion (and the existing language from the by-laws) in our Notice of AGM, which needs to go out to our membership at least 30 days in advance (i.e. before October 8<sup>th</sup>).

The rationale for moving the year end date to December 31<sup>st</sup> is that it is a better fit for our activities, and that it will allow us to have our AGM in late winter or early spring, when the information being reported on would be much more recent and relevant. With the current year end date, we end up reporting on activities that took place the prior summer rather than the most recent summer, which is a bit confusing. A spring AGM would allow us a better opportunity to engage our members and to discuss plans for the upcoming season.

## Advocacy

### City of Winnipeg Infrastructure Projects

#### *RFP for Consultations on Downtown Protected Bike Lanes/Assiniboine-Forks Connection/Northwest Hydro Corridor/McDermot Bikeway*

The contract to manage public consultations and design for the Fort & Garry protected bike lanes has been awarded to MMM Group, who will be working with HTFC Planning & Design.

#### *CPR Yards Crossing Study*

Two open houses have been scheduled to showcase the two options that have been developed by the stakeholder and design team.

Thursday September 17th, 2015

3:00pm to 8:00pm

Health Sciences Centre

Wellness Marketplace

700 William Avenue

(main entrance, just past reception desk)

Saturday September 19th, 2015

12 noon to 4:00pm

North Centennial Recreation & Leisure Centre

90 Sinclair Street

(activities by "Fit Kids Healthy Kids")

I will be at the Thursday meeting, but cannot be at the Saturday meetings. I think Laura is planning to attend that one.

I have teamed up with the Daniel McIntyre St. Mathews Community Association to put together a community meeting to review options for a protected bike lane along Arlington and for a neighbourhood greenway along Ruby/Banning. See the end of this report for details about this meeting.

There are two options moving forward. Both include a rebuilt Arlington Bridge with divided pedestrian and cycling lanes.

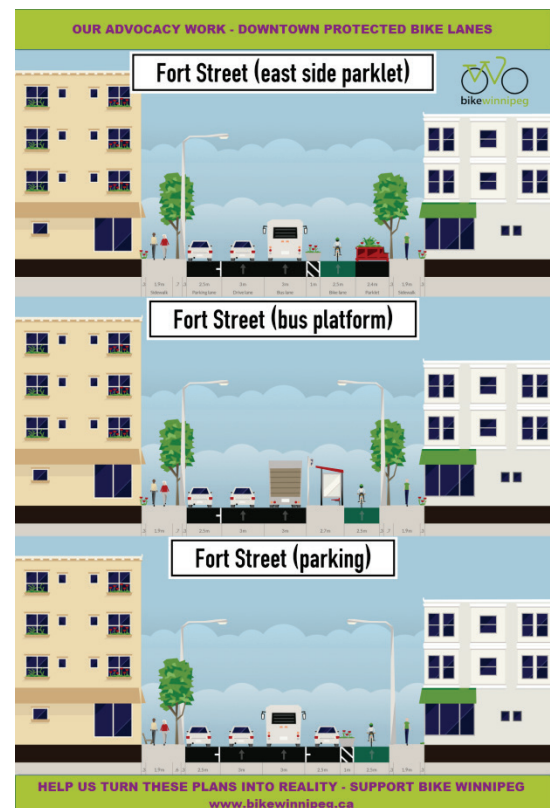
- Option One would also widen the McPhillips Underpass, and would present an opportunity to connect the proposed Northwest Hydro Corridor Greenway under the CPR main line.
- Option Two could add a tunnel connecting McGregor to Sherbrook, but people on foot and bike would be prohibited from user the tunnel. That's obviously an issue.

There are also some significant issues with connections to and from the Arlington Bridge. To help alleviate this, I have been working on a proposal to install protected bike lanes on Arlington. Arlington would then replace Ruby/Banning and McPhillips bicycle network spine. I have serious concerns about the likelihood of the McPhillips sections of this route this ever being developed, so I think this makes for a good trade off. A few other modifications to the routing in and around the Weston Yards area would provide needed connectivity. See the Sasatchewan Avenue Omand's Creek Bridge report below for details.

## ***Downtown Protected Bike Lanes***

Dustin and I had a good meeting with the Downtown BIZ. I followed up with a presentation to the Downtown BIZ's transportation committee that went well. The Downtown BIZ helped set up an after work casual meeting with their membership at Carbone Pizza that also went well, although there were not a huge number of people present. Dustin and I have continued to fine tune designs and documentation for the project. Key issues will be ensuring that:

- we get proper width on the bike lanes;
- the lanes provide direct routes
- connectivity is maintained (for instance to Main Street and the Forks via St. Mary and York
- there is equitable treatment of people on foot and bike in terms wait times
- there is proper protection of people on foot and bike at the intersections
  - I will be asking that the traffic signals be phased such that there are no possible conflicting movements between people driving and those on foot or bike.
- Parking is kept in perspective
- Traffic Volumes/Capacity is kept in perspective
- EMS Vehicles are accommodated
- Place making is considered to add vibrancy to the streets.
  - Parklets
  - Trees
  - Benches



I included a bit of a downtown protected bike lanes public service announcement on the back of the hand bills I printed up to advertise the fall concert, so that should help get word out and inspire people with the potential for this project to vastly improve things downtown.

## ***Marion Widening & Grade Separation***

No new news.

## ***Southwest Rapid Transit Corridor***

The meeting with Transit and Councillor Lukes has still not taken place (the holdup is with Transit). I still have to put together my recommendations for the plan.

## ***Northwest Hydro Corridor***

MMM & HTFC have been awarded the contract to hold public consultations for this project. See the item below on the Saskatchewan Avenue Bridge over Omand's Creek for news of an opportunity to improve connectivity to the south of the greenway. See the CPR Yards crossing item above for more news on another opportunity to improve connectivity to the south of the greenway.

## ***City of Winnipeg AT Coordinator***

The city has still not hired a new AT Coordinator.

### *Saskatchewan Avenue Bridge over Omand's Creek*

The bridge on Saskatchewan Avenue over Omand's Creek is slated for replacement in 2016. The City is hosting an open house on Wednesday September 10<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 8 pm at the St. Thomas Anglican Church, [1567 William Avenue West](#). There is a \$3 million budget for the project.

The bridge is on the proposed bicycle network, where Saskatchewan Avenue serves as a connector between north/south bike routes along Keewatin/Berry and Empress. Unlike the Keewatin/Berry route, the Empress route seems to dead end at Saskatchewan on the proposed bicycle network. As I have pointed out in our [Northwest Hydro Corridor Greenway proposal](#), we should be striving to make a connection to Empress from the Northwest Hydro Corridor Greenway.

The basic route for this would be:

- Cross the CPR rail lines via a new AT bridge over the rail lines just west of McPhillips or along an improved AT path within the McPhillips underpass
- An off road pathway linking the CPR AT Bridge/Underpass to the corner of Yeomen & Logan or Winks & Logan
- Cross Logan at Yeomen or Winks facilitated by a new Half Signal
- South along Winks to Alexander
- West along Alexander to the CPR La Riviere Rail Line
- **South along a new Rail with Trail path on the west side of the CPR La Riviere Rail Line**
- Northwest on Winnipeg Ave West to Flint
- Southwest on Flint to Notre Dame where there is an existing traffic signal
- Connect Midland to Flint – a short two way protected bike lane connector on the south side of Notre Dame would be a potential way to make this connection.
- South on protected bike lanes along Midland
- East on Saskatchewan to Empress, with the option of biking through Westview Park, where we hope that you would eventually be able to cross the rail line via an AT bridge that would connect you to Wellington Avenue.

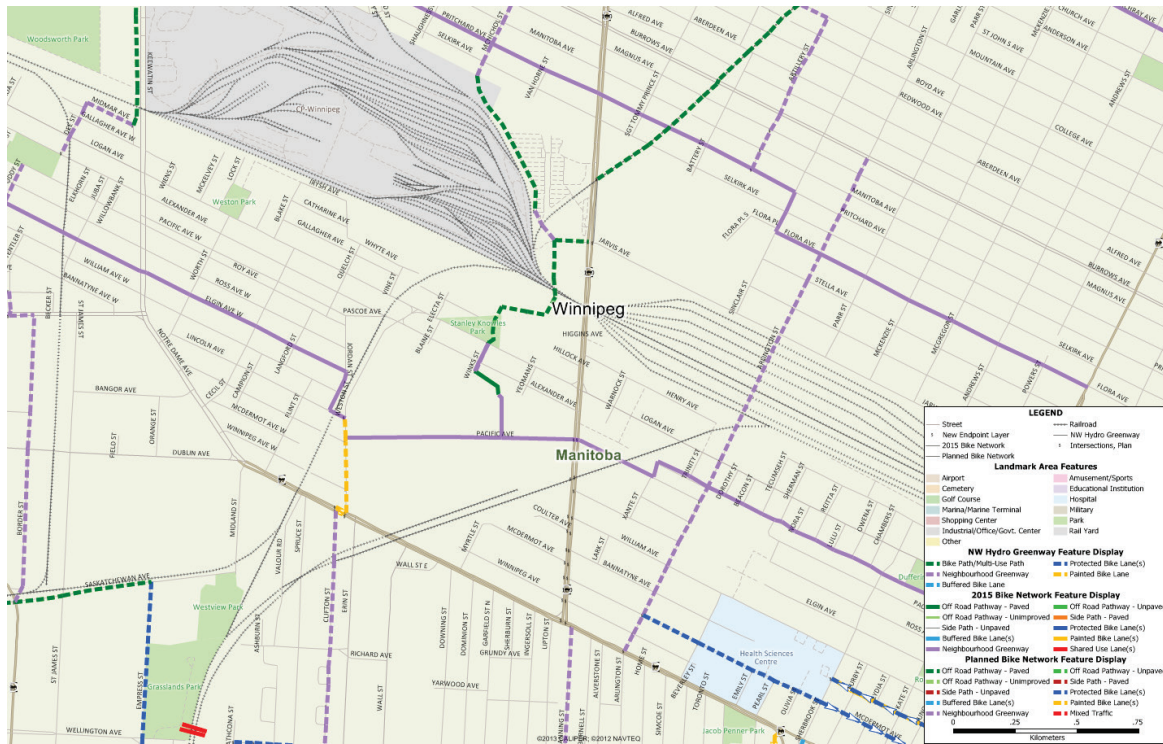
Worth noting:

- Empress is slated for a full rehabilitation between Jack Blick Ave and St. Mathews in 2017
- Protected Bike Lanes are proposed for Empress in the City's Bicycle Network Plan.

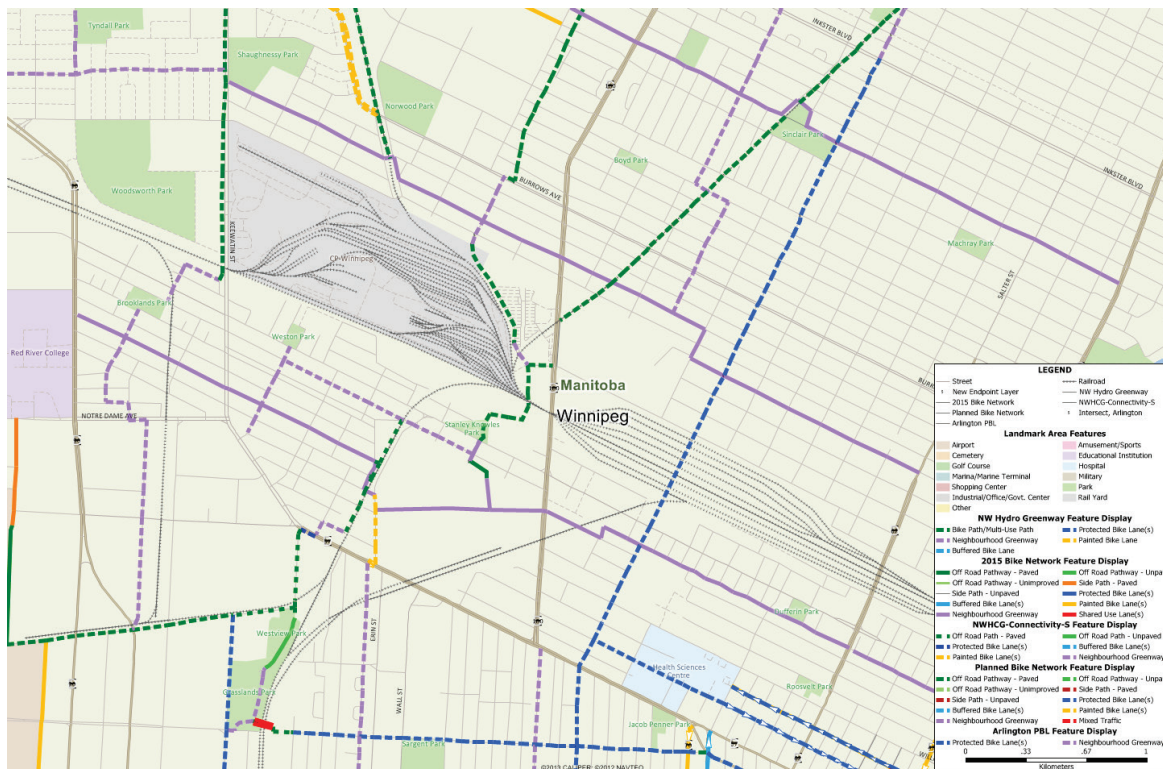
See the next page for some maps I have put together to help illustrate the need to include this connection (and protected bike lanes along Arlington).



## Planned/Proposed Bicycle Connections in and around the Weston Yards



Connectivity is an issue in the Planned Bicycle Network if McPhillips is not made bike friendly



Connectivity can be greatly improved by following the La Riviere Rail line to make a Connectin to Empress, Saskatchewan and Wellington

## City of Winnipeg 2016 Budget

The City of Winnipeg's 2016 Budget process should be getting under way soon, so we need to start planning for that.

## City of Winnipeg 2016 AT Action Plan

As part of the budget process, an AT Action plan will be made up based on the newly proposed bicycle network and strategies. The promise is that this will be much more open than in past years, with a better public engagement process. I've started preliminary work on this, but we should start thinking about how to engage our membership in the process.

## Outreach

We have a number of activities scheduled in the coming month:

- [Cycle 4 Recycle Presentation](#) – Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm
- [Sherbrook Street Festival](#) – Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup> – Noon until 7pm
- [ArtRide – Manyfest Downtown Lights](#) – Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup> @ 8pm
- [ArtRide – Ciclovía from Assiniboine Park](#) – Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> @ 10am
- [Ciclovía](#) – Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> – Noon until 6pm
- [Arlington Bridge Replacement/Arlington Protected Bike Lanes Community Meeting](#) – Wednesday September 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm
- [Dirty Catfish Brass Band Concert](#) – Friday October 9<sup>th</sup> @ 7:15pm

## Volunteer Opportunities

We will be needing volunteers to help put with these events. You can view a listing of our volunteer opportunities on our website [here](#) (you have to click on the volunteer opportunities tab).

A volunteer specific newsletter highlighting our upcoming volunteer opportunities is on its way out..

## Display Trailer

Bill has taken the trailer over to Amanda & Joey's and checked to see that it would fit onto one of the Bikes at Work trailers that Bicycle Valet Winnipeg use. Joey will install the trailer box onto one of these trailers to get us back up and running.