

More bike lanes and hiking trails on the way in Halton Hills

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When you're on a bike you go wherever it's convenient to go, said Fogal. It's optional, you've got choices — people can choose to be on those trails and that's fantastic.

Currently, the town is designated as a bronze-level Bicycle-Friendly Community by the Share the Road Cycling Coalition.

We've applied in the past and were designated as bronze. In order to move up to silver we have to redo the entire application. It asks for every detail like how many bike racks are there, how many bike lanes we have and how many off-road kilometres and so on, said Fogal.

Unlike the trail system, which is more schedule-based, the Cycling Master Plan started with bike lanes on Delrex Boulevard a few years ago and council has been adding to the infrastructure as regular road maintenance or repair projects come up.

What we've been doing is then whenever there are road projects coming up,

we look and see if that road is part of the cycling master plan. If it is, then we have to develop some cycling infrastructure. If it's not part of the plan, we really don't have to do anything, she said.

While there is no set expansion schedule for bike lanes, the committee laid out some general plans for the next five years which include the addition of lanes on Atwood and Berton, Barber Dr. East and West, Halton Hills Dr. and both North and South Tanners Dr.

The plan also includes upgrades to crosswalks in the area.

Fogal added residents can also expect direction and distance signage in both Acton and Georgetown along existing bike lanes come spring.

The plan is much more than just the infrastructure. It includes all the aspects of encouraging people to cycle; we try to educate them how to do it properly, we try to educate drivers how to treat the cyclists. We want everyone to be safe, said Fogal.

Visit haltonhills.ca/initiatives/cyclingMP.php to view the Cycling Master Plan in its entirety.

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