

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 6, 2014**

25 **ONTARIO TRAFFIC MANUAL BOOK 18: CYCLING FACILITIES**  
**CITY-WIDE**

- 1) That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works and the Director of Development / Transportation Engineering, dated April 29, 2014, be approved; and
- 2) That Ontario Traffic Manual, Book 18, titled “Cycling Facilities” be received.

1. That this report regarding Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) Book 18: Cycling Facilities be received for information purposes.

**Objective 3.3** *Reduce single occupant vehicle (SOV) trips by supporting active transportation, car pooling and public transit*

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**Background - Analysis and Options**

**The Ontario Traffic Manual is made up of a number of Books that provide information and guidance for transportation practitioners**

The Ontario Traffic Manual is a traffic engineering and traffic control publication that is made up of a number of Books. These Books provide information and guidance for transportation practitioners, particularly at municipalities. The series is being generated over a period of time, and updated on a regular basis. Some of the Books are new, while others incorporate updated material from the Ontario Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and the King's Highway guide Signing Policy Manual (KHGSPM). As of 2014, nine of the 22 Books have been completed, and the MTO has established a process for updating the Books as required. The Books encompass guidelines on different traffic control devices, including signs, temporary conditions, markings and delineations, traffic signals, advanced traffic management systems, pedestrian crossing facilities, and the latest Book, which covers cycling facilities.

**The City of Vaughan contributed financially and through the participation of City key staff in the development of OTM Book 18: Cycling Facilities**

The Ontario Traffic Council retained MMM Group to develop OTM Book 18 with technical advisors from Vélo Québec, Alta Planning + Design, and Intus Road Safety Engineering. To help guide the development of the manual, the Ontario Traffic Council also formed a technical committee, which included experts in the field from the MTO and from 13 municipalities and regions across Ontario, including the City of Vaughan and Regional Municipality of York. The City representatives included Geoffrey Haines, Sustainable Transportation Specialist and Selma Hubjer, Manager of Transportation Engineering over the period of two years. The City of Vaughan contributed \$10,000 in the development of OTM Book 18: Cycling Facilities.

**OTM Book 18: Cycling Facilities provides guidance on the planning, design and operation of on- and off-road cycling facilities within the road right-of-way**

In March 2014, the MTO completed their review and released OTM Book 18. Which addresses the design of on- and off-road facilities within the road right-of-way. Off-road trails through parks, Hydro corridors or open space are outside of its scope. Book 18 is for use by transportation practitioners, and promotes a uniformity of approaches across Ontario. The other objectives of the OTM are to provide a set of guidelines consistent with the intent of the Highway Traffic Act and to establish a basis for municipalities to generate or update their own guidelines and standards.

In addition, OTM Book 18 consolidates material provided in other OTM Books as applicable to cycling facility planning, design and traffic control. Book 18 contains information on legal requirements, standards, best practices, procedures, guidelines and recommendations for the justification, planning, design, timing and operation of cycling facilities and control measures.

**In Vaughan, OTM Book 18 will be used to design new cycling facilities, and inform the City's upcoming Cycling Strategy Study**

In Vaughan, OTM Book 18 will be used to design consistent and safe cycling facilities in new and existing communities. All Vaughan residents who travel by bike will see the most benefit. OTM Book 18 has already been used to design the proposed bike lanes for Napa Valley Avenue, Peter Rupert Avenue, Confederation Parkway, Staffern Drive and North Rivermede Road.

OTM Book 18 will also inform the City's upcoming Cycling Strategy Study, which will be an update to the 2007 Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan.

## **CITY OF VAUGHAN**

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#### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020 / Strategic Plan**

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council. The necessary resources have also been allocated and approved.

Specifically, this report supports the following Vaughan Vision 2020 initiatives:

*Demonstrate Excellence in Service Delivery* – the development of OTM Book 18 will help establish a predictable roadway environment in Ontario, and will be essential for effective delivery of the upcoming Vaughan Cycling Strategy;

*Promote Community Safety, Health and Wellness* – safe cycling facilities will assist in making Vaughan's streets more cycle-friendly and promote active transportation; and

*Manage Growth and Economic Vitality* – OTM Book 18 will establish uniform and safe cycling facilities across Ontario, which will increase cycling trips with the implementation of new cycling facilities in Vaughan, and reduce automobile dependency and traffic congestion.

#### **Regional Implications**

The Regional Municipality of York contributed financially to the development of OTM Book 18 and Regional staff participated on the technical committee.

#### **Conclusion**

The City has participated in the development of OTM Book 18: Cycling Facilities, which was released by MTO in March 2014. The OTM incorporates best practices, procedures, guidelines and recommendations for the justification, planning, design, timing and operation of cycling facilities and control measures. OTM Book 18 will promote a uniform approach across Ontario, which will help establish a predictable roadway environment and safe driving behaviour making Ontario's municipalities more cycle-friendly and promoting active transportation. In Vaughan, OTM Book 18 will be used to design new cycling facilities, and inform the City's upcoming Cycling Strategy Study.

#### **Attachments**

N/A

#### **Report prepared by:**

Geoffrey Haines, Sustainable Transportation Specialist - Ext. 8026  
Selma Hubjer, Manager of Transportation Engineering - Ext. 8674