



ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE JACQUES CARTIER BRIDGE BICYCLE PATH

MINUTES

Meeting held Tuesday, June 19, 2018 (6:30 p.m.)

Administrative Offices of The Jacques Cartier and Champlain Bridges Incorporated
1225 Saint-Charles Street West, Office 500, Longueuil, QC J4K 0B9

Representatives present

ASSOCIATION DES PIÉTONS ET CYCLISTES DU PONT JACQUES-CARTIER (APCPJC)

- + François Démontagne
- + Mike Muchnik

COALITION VÉLO DE MONTRÉAL

- + No representative

COLLECTIF TRANSPORT ACTIF RIVE-SUD

- + No representative

THE JACQUES CARTIER AND CHAMPLAIN BRIDGES INCORPORATED (JCCBI)

- + Denis Jacob, Director, Operations and Maintenance
- + Nathalie Lessard, Director, Communications
- + Claudia Carbonneau, Communications Advisor
- + Pascal Villeneuve, Director, Projects
- + Andy Woo, Director, Planning

RÉSEAU DE TRANSPORT DE LA VILLE DE LONGUEUIL (RTL)

- + No representative

SOCIÉTÉ DU PARC JEAN-DRAPEAU

- + Patrick Léveillé

SÛRETÉ DU QUÉBEC (SQ)

- + Gilles-Philippe Vachon

VÉLO MONTRÉAL

- + Marc Jolicoeur, Director, Research and Consulting

VILLE DE LONGUEUIL

- + Normand Williams

VILLE DE MONTRÉAL

- + No representative

Agenda

- + Call to order
- + Network operation
- + Ongoing and upcoming work
- + Next steps

Call to order

To start the meeting, everyone was welcomed and the agenda was presented.

Advisory Committee – Review of goals

- + Formalize and structure discussions about the Jacques Cartier Bridge bicycle path network with cyclist groups and partners.
- + Track current issues and projects on a quarterly basis.
- + Help promote active transportation with paths that are safe, accessible and user-friendly.

Network operation (follow-up on suggestions for improvement)

- + Analysis of reflector installation to reduce glare on the path: these reflectors cannot be safely installed on our concrete edges. In terms of installation on the rub rail, this would compromise the railing. This project has been put on hold.
- + Installation of a repair station near the Île Sainte-Hélène pavilion on May 31. Signage for the station will be put up soon.

Ongoing and upcoming work

- + Pilot project for painting and steel work that will have an impact on traffic on the multipurpose path and sidewalk (end of July to end of November).
- + Waterproofing of the path and sidewalk (finished); friction tests have been performed and the results will be issued soon.
- + Work on the Île Sainte-Hélène ramps (closures to come).

To perform all of this work, JCCBI will try to limit the number of closures, particularly at peak hours; however, there will be closures at night.

Replacement of guard rails

Work status

- + Replacement of 500 guard-rail sections along the multipurpose path and sidewalk is finished.
- + Inspections and finalization of the work to come (more closures possible).

Modification of chicanes

- + Goal of the chicanes
 - o Reduce speed
 - o Enhance everyone's safety
 - o Choice of chicanes to help with the maintenance of the multipurpose path.
- + Modifications ongoing
 - o One of 3 barriers was opened on each of the 5 chicanes (May 25).
 - o Installation of yield right-of-way signs on the chicanes (May 25).
 - o With 2 barriers per chicane, the goal has been met to slow traffic to 15 km/h.
 - o The third barriers will be definitively removed soon (since the date may be decided upon or modified at the last minute, JCCBI informed the committee that it wants to announce this date on social networks first, and then the bicycle associations can communicate this information to their members).

Discussions on the following issues:

- Yield right-of-way signs for the chicanes (priority to the person going up a hill) are not clear.
- It was noted that the chicanes cause minor incidents.

- These incidents are due to bicycles either going too fast or slowing down too much (and becoming unbalanced).
- Small incidents are preferable to accidents: in some areas between the chicanes, speeds of 67 km/h have been recorded, which is much too fast for the path and can cause serious accidents, and even loss of life.
- Slower speeds save lives and reduce the severity of bicycle-related injuries. On city streets, speed bumps slow down cars: we also need similar measures to slow down traffic on the path.
- Will radar speed signs be put up? Yes, radar speed signs will be installed.
- One of the chicanes has a concrete protrusion that makes it difficult to get through the chicane; JCCBI is aware of this and is planning to correct the situation.
- The Association des piétons et cyclistes du pont Jacques-Cartier surveyed its members about the opening of the third barrier on the chicanes: 54% are satisfied, 46% think the chicane barriers are still too close together.
- We are discussing the possibility of a safety and awareness campaign for users of the multipurpose path. JCCBI could deploy the campaign and communicate the information to the committee's groups, who can then share it with their members.

Testing and data collection

More testing on the chicanes will be done in the coming weeks:

- + Installation of cameras for 5 days to collect various types of data (completed).
- + Evaluation of how different bicycles get through 2 barriers instead of 3 (completed).
- + Installation of information boards at the path entrances (to come). The Committee members offered their assistance to define the messages.

User awareness

- + Awareness activity for the users of the multipurpose path (date to be confirmed).
- + Signal lights to be distributed.
- + Specific instructions for the path will be given out.
- + Comments collected.

Next steps

- + Modifications to the chicanes, testing and data collection.
- + Report on winter maintenance to come at the end of the summer and will be tabled with JCCBI's Board of Directors.
- + Next meeting in the fall: Don't hesitate to send us your ideas for meeting topics by email.

Final discussion on some winter maintenance issues:

- It is very difficult to remove snow from Section 7 of the bridge (superstructure) due to structural issues.
- To clear snow from the entire bridge, we must also consider elements below the bridge: roads, inhabited areas, the river, the seaway and Parc Jean-Drapeau.
- The winter maintenance report will be tabled with JCCBI's Board of Directors at the end of the summer. The adopted orientations will be communicated to the committee at the next meeting in the fall.

- Someone asked whether counters will be installed on the network: The plan is to install a counting system on the Jacques Cartier Bridge, at Parc Jean-Drapeau, on Lafayette Boulevard in Longueuil and in Montreal (in 2019).
- At the top of the stairs on Saint-Charles Street, someone reported that a broken slab can cause accidents.
- Finally, the possibility of “no pedal down” zones was discussed to address the speed problem. The idea is a good one and must be studied.

Next steps

Education activity to make pedestrians and cyclists aware of the need to get along.

Results of the multipurpose path winter maintenance pilot project to come.

Next meeting: In the fall (a Doodle poll will be sent to the attendees)

