



REPORT TO

CORPORATE AFFAIRS, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

BICYCLE RACK DONATION FROM CITY OF TORONTO INFRASTRUCTURE (ALL WARDS)

*"I can do all this through Him who gives me strength."
Philippians 4:13 (NIV)*

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
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<h3>RECOMMENDATION REPORT</h3>		

Vision:

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

Mission:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.



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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As a component of the City of Toronto's Bicycle Parking Strategy the City has approached school boards with an offer to provide free bicycle parking racks.

This report recommends that Associate Directors' Council approve an Active Transportation Charter to assist with the expansion of bicycle parking infrastructure at school Board sites.

This report also recommends that Associate Directors' Council direct Board Staff to enter into discussions with the intent to form an Agreement with the City of Toronto for the placement of bicycle racks on Board sites. Any agreement reached with the City will require subsequent approval by Associated Directors Council.

B. BACKGROUND

1. In October 2014, the City of Toronto contacted TCDSB Facilities Department to partner for the expansion of bicycle parking facilities under the City of Toronto Bicycle Parking Strategy (**Appendix A**).
2. On December 1, 2014, Facilities Staff met with City of Toronto representatives to solidify the potential partnership. For the Board to meet the City's criteria, the Board has to provide:
 - evidence that the TCDSB has or is creating policies and/or programs for supporting active living/ cycling to school;
 - a work plan to include the number of bike racks required; implementation timelines/strategy and existence of an operating budget to maintain the racks.
3. In December 2014, various stakeholders within TCDSB Facilities, Planning, Transportation and Curriculum Services met to discuss the partnership offered by the City of Toronto.

As a result of this meeting, and in consultation with the Transportation and Planning Departments for the placement of bicycle racks at Board locations the Facilities Department issued a survey to all school Principals requesting information on the following items:

- number of bicycle racks currently installed at the school;
- schools interested to have bicycle racks installed;
- location of current bicycle racks;
- is there congestion and traffic issues;
- Percentage of students live within a reasonable cycling distance with the majority of the students living within the defined 1.5 km walk radius;
- School has School Transportation Plan in place;
- School participates in the EcoSchools program;
- School has an in-school Bike to School Program;

The Facilities Department received one hundred and forty one (141) responses to the survey: Forty- five (45) schools that currently do not have bicycle racks requested bicycle racks and nineteen (19) schools have requested the installation of additional bicycle racks at their locations.

4. In January 2015, the City of Toronto notified Board Facilities staff that the City can provide fifty (50) single one-sided bike racks for TCDSB schools. These bike racks have the capacity to hold eight (8) bicycles/per bike rack. The Board's Maintenance department would install the racks.
5. Installation methods would vary by site and will require site drawings and sign off by the current school Principal. Installation methods could involve bolting the racks to a concrete surface or using asphalt spikes. Proposed locations for bike rack installation are to include: accessibility; lighting; out of the elements; access points; at the same time minimizing interactions between pedestrians and vehicles.
6. In January 2015, Facilities staff drafted the Active Transportation Charter. This draft was reviewed by Risk Management, Curriculum, Transportation and Facilities staff (**Appendix B**).

7. TCDSB Schools may incorporate the activities of this proposed Charter into Health Action Teams; the Foundations for a Healthy School Framework; the Ontario Curriculum; Health and Physical Education (Appendix D); Active Living Strand; School Travel Planning Ontario EcoSchools Environmental Stewardship Program and Bike to School Month in May.
8. Facilities Staff have been collaborating with the Curriculum Staff to create a Bike to School Program to support the partnership with the City of Toronto. In addition, selection criteria was developed with Curriculum Staff for allocation of the first fifty bike racks as follows:
 - a) Schools that currently do not have any bicycle racks and have cycling infrastructure in place;
 - b) Schools that have a School Transportation Plan (STP) but that do not have bicycle racks already installed or requested additional racks;
 - c) Schools that have traffic congestion issues and do not have bicycle racks in place – this may assist in alleviating some of the traffic issues;
 - d) Schools that are have a higher percentage of student population within the defined 1.5 km radius;
 - e) Estimated number of students that were within walking distance, based on school population;
 - f) Schools that are EcoSchools are taken into consideration as a priority;
 - g) Schools that currently have bicycle racks that have requested additional racks;
 - h) Distribution through Trustee and City Councillor Wards as best as possible.
9. In July 2015 the City of Toronto adopted the motion to donate the bicycle racks to the TCDSB. Fifty (50) bike racks have been received and are awaiting installation at the list of schools noted in **Appendix C**.
10. Facilities staff will be meeting with the City of Toronto staff in the late fall of 2015, to initiate the next phase of this program, and to request additional bike racks for 2016. Initially the City proposed a 3 year program, however they have advised Board staff that they did not secure funding for the Year 2 or Year 3 at this point.

C. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Active Transportation Charter be approved, as detailed in Appendix B.
2. That the Board authorize the Director of Education to negotiate further agreements with the City of Toronto for the placement of bicycle racks on Board sites.
3. That the Selection Criteria as noted in the report continue to be used for the allocations of future bike rack placement.