



Vote for a Liveable Ottawa!

Kids riding to school, fitness, experiencing nature, local errands, relaxation, family fun... bikes are for everyone.

But, do you and your family feel comfortable riding in your own neighbourhood? The candidates we elect on October 27 will determine how strongly cycling-friendly projects and programs are championed in your community.



Citizens for Safe Cycling (CfSC) has developed this 4-point cycling platform that can be implemented in the next term of council to make cycling safer and more accessible to people of all ages and abilities.



1. Link spending to ridership:

- Ottawa's Cycling Plan calls for 5% of all trips to be made by bike by 2031^[1], up from 2.4%^[2] in 2011.
- From 2011-2014, Council invested \$28 million in cycling^[3], which represents less than 0.85% of all transportation spending, or about \$7.30 on the average residential annual tax bill^[4].
- CfSC recommends allocating \$20 million annually to cycling. That is only 2.5% of overall mobility spending, and is a commitment that is equal to the number of people who already ride.

2. Collaboration:

Lack of coordination between different jurisdictions results in disconnected and inconsistent infrastructure.

- Establish a formal committee that meets regularly, including representatives from the City of Ottawa, National Capital Commission, Ville de Gatineau and CfSC, to identify opportunities for collaboration when new cycling facilities are planned.
- Collaborate with local businesses to promote the value of bike-friendly streets, and to improve bicycle parking and access to our city's businesses and workplaces.



3. Support “Vision Zero”:

The Vision Zero approach to road safety: no loss of life is acceptable. Focus on education, enforcement, and engineering to protect all road users from harm.

- Reduce speed limits in residential areas to 40km/hr or less.
- Separate bike traffic from trucks and buses.
- Continue to support positive educational partnership efforts such as Safer Roads Ottawa, programs like "Lights on Bikes", and bike rodeos.
- Work with the Ottawa Police Service Board to promote cycling awareness amongst all road users and to focus enforcement on the most serious safety hazards.



4. Projects:

- Make every neighbourhood bikeable: Complete missing links and community connections for a more continuous cycling network. Segregated facilities provide greater security than paint.
- Bikes are for all ages: Create ‘Complete Streets’ for all road users, and design new communities with safe routes to schools, parks, and recreational facilities.
- Let’s go to Lansdowne: Build the Fifth-Clegg footbridge, make improvements to the Bank Street Bridge.
- Park it: Expand the popular bicycle corral parking program to more business districts.
- Bus it: Encourage multimodal trips, with bike share, secure bike parking, and safe and convenient bike access at transit stops and stations.

Discussion points for your candidates:

1. What piece of cycling infrastructure is needed next in this ward?
2. What would you do to help achieve Vision Zero?
3. Do you support funding cycling at a level that is equal to the proportion of trips made by bike?

From every perspective, creating a bike-friendly city makes sense. More mobility choices, a healthier population, less competition for road space and parking, a more appealing streetscape... The leadership to shift just a few more dollars into creating quality space for cycling could spark enormous change during this term of council. Let’s not shortchange ourselves by making only minimal progress towards creating a liveable city. Tell your candidates that you intend to make your vote count towards prioritizing the fun, active, and sustainable Ottawa lifestyle!

See what your candidates have to say at: bikeottawa.ca/elect2014

References:

- [1] [2013 Ottawa Cycling Plan](#) section 3.1.2
- [2] [2011 Origin-Destination Study](#), table 3
- [3] [City of Ottawa news release](#), August 8, 2014
- [4] City of Ottawa adopted capital and operating budgets, [2011](#), [2012](#), [2013](#), and [2014](#)

