Multiple Users on the Highway Network

Ontario Good Roads Association
Managing Winter Operations Workshop
October 19, 2017

Overview of MTO’s Road Users

- Bicycles
  - Municipal Cycling Incentives
  - Province Wide Cycling Network

- MTO Horse Drawn Carriages & Snow Plow Guidelines
  - Horse Drawn Carriage Operations
  - Winter Maintenance Equipment Around Horse Drawn Carriages
  - Horse Drawn Carriage Operators
Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program (OMCC)

- The Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program (OMCC) is a multi-year program with $42.5 million available in the first year.
- OMCC funding will cover up to 80% of costs associated with implementation of eligible commuter cycling projects:
  - New commuter cycling infrastructure
  - Enhancements to existing cycling infrastructure to better support commuting cyclists
  - New cycling plans

- All municipalities were invited to apply for OMCC funding. The province received about 116 submissions for funding during the 2017 application window.
- The tentative deadline for 2018 applications is April 30, 2018.

Province-Wide Cycling Network

- The Ministry of Transportation is working to identify a long-term aspirational network of cycling routes across Ontario.

- The draft province-wide cycling network was posted on the Environmental Registry for public comment from April 12 to May 26, 2017.
  - Revisions are underway based on comments received.
  - MTO expects to publish the final network later in 2017.

- Identification of the network represents the first step in a long-term plan.
  - Next step will be to develop an implementation strategy for the network in consultation with stakeholders.
Horse Drawn Carriage Operations

- Slow moving
- Tend to travel on the right hand side of the road or shoulder when possible
- Horses typically wear blinders restricting their vision
- Horses are easily startled
- Horses are flight oriented and may dart to the ditch or onto the road
- Horses have difficulty with curbs which can cause them to fall and sustain injuries

Winter Maintenance Equipment Around Horse Drawn Carriages

- Do not make sudden motions
- Do not use the horn
- When approaching
  - Slow or gear down without heavy breaking or use of engine brakes
- When approaching from head on
  - Slow down and stay to the Right
- When approaching from behind
  - Stay well back until they are able to pull off the road safely and the snowplow can pass safely
  - Continue plowing and spreading
Horse Drawn Carriage Operators

- Always err on the side of caution
- Winter Maintenance Equipment
  - Large, heavy vehicles travelling in extreme winter conditions
  - Can’t change speed or direction quickly
  - Create flying snow reducing visibility
- Pull off the road as soon as possible to let the maintenance vehicle pass
- Be seen
  - Head lights
  - Tail lights
  - Reflective tape

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