



# Pelham Active Transportation Newsletter



Spring 2014 Edition

PATC - the Pelham Active Transportation Committee – promotes walking and cycling in our community. We invite you to join the many residents who regularly take advantage of our beautiful surroundings by walking and bicycling in and around Pelham.

## The Top 10 List: Old and New

This issue is focused on the "Top 10 List" - both the old and the new. This is a report on the progress made with the current Top 10 list and an invitation to create a new Top 10 List.

The PATC developed the Active Transportation Top 10 list several years ago. Based on resident input and suggestions, collected at many community events such as the Farmers Market, Home Show and through the completion of the Walkability Checklists, the list reflected the most urgent active transportation issues in Pelham. The list was shared with Town Council and the community and it served as a guide for the PATC's discussion and action.

Since the Top 10 list was published in 2010, the PATC has been advocating for these improvements and providing Town Council with related ideas and suggestions. The list also prompted further discussion with Town staff and residents on many different occasions.

The PATC is pleased to report that many of the items on the Top 10 List have been fully or partially addressed. Other items remain ongoing, particularly as our community develops further. These results reflect the input and collaboration of Pelham's residents, elected officials and Town staff.

Top 10 List	Results	Comments
#1 - Improvements to Pelham St.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sidewalk added from Elizabeth St. to Brock St.</li><li>• Sidewalk added from Port Robinson Rd to Pancake</li><li>• Signalized crosswalk at G. A. Green school added</li></ul>	Additional sidewalks desired for Pelham Street, both sides of street, to Quaker Road
#2 - Improvements for pedestrians in Downtown area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Signalized crosswalk at Church Hill and Pelham</li></ul>	To be installed in 2014
#3 - Hwy 20 & Pelham St. intersection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intersection improved in 2010</li><li>• Sidewalks added to Highway 20</li></ul>	
#4 - Traffic calming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Haist Street speed humps installed</li><li>• Measures planned for Pancake &amp; Haist St. North</li></ul>	No notable actions taken by Niagara Regional Police
#5 - Crossing Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Signal at Pelham St. and Port Robinson Rd. installed</li><li>• Crossing signal installed on Haist Street at A. K. Wigg school</li><li>• Signalized crosswalks at Pancake &amp; Pelham St., Bacon Lane and Pelham St.</li></ul>	To be installed 2014



Top 10 List	Results	Comments
#6 - New sidewalks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New sidewalks added in several locations</li></ul>	Route to E.L. Crossley still required
#7 - Rural areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Input from residents, no significant result to report</li></ul>	Several areas of concern, including Effingham between Welland and Pancake
#8 - Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Municipal snow removal-all sidewalks</li><li>• 15 additional benches installed</li><li>• Restroom signage installed on municipal buildings</li></ul>	
#9 - Bike paths and multi-purpose paths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New trail under construction in Fenwick</li></ul>	Trail between Fonthill and Thorold remains a priority
#10 - Steve Bauer Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintained regularly, new benches added in several locations</li><li>• New Steve Bauer Trail map with bike racks, benches and restrooms noted</li></ul>	Connection to East Fonthill is a priority

Considerable progress has been made on the existing Top 10 list. The PATC appreciates and recognizes the support of residents, members of Town Council and staff.

#### **A New Active Transportation Top 10 List:**

Help us develop a new Top 10 List! Tell us your ideas and suggestions by:

- emailing PATC at [active@pelham.ca](mailto:active@pelham.ca)
- stopping by the PATC kiosk on Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Pelham Farmer's Market
- completing a "Walkability Checklist", available at Town Hall or the Fonthill Library

The existing list focussed on the urban area of Fonthill. There is need as well to examine areas of concern outside this urban core. To that end we request residents of all our constituent towns and hamlets to provide their views of need from the perspective of active walkers and cyclists. For example, the sidewalk in Ridgeville stops across from the cemetery. Would there be a need to continue it to Centre Street so that walkers could then turn on to Centre to reach Centre Street School or go north to Memorial Drive? For cyclists, there is an S bend and a slight hill on Effingham Street between Welland Road and Pancake Lane. Would paved shoulders and a Share the Road sign make this area safer?

While we see some immediate plans for cycling facilities on Port Robinson Road, is there need to engage the City of Thorold for their section? There will soon be a flyover created across the 406 to gain access to the Greater Niagara Circle Route.



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Finally, do we need to think outside the box to create opportunities that do not exist today? For example, the Bruce Trail Club traverses most of the trail through agreements with the property owners. Could we envision a Bruce Trail loop that goes from the John Nemy Trail, to the Lathrop trails.

How about a return loop from the Shorthills Park Roland Road parking lot to Effingham and Ridgeville? This is our community; together we can work to make it the best walkable and cyclable community in Niagara.

### ***We invite your ideas, suggestions and feedback!***

Please forward your comments to the Pelham Active Transportation Committee at any time. We look forward to hearing from you!

The Pelham Active Transportation Committee meets the third Tuesday of every month, September to June, from 6pm to 8pm at Town Hall.

#### **The PATC members are:**

- Bea Clark, Chair
- Bob Fish
- Lisa Gallant
- Bill Gibson
- Joe Marchant
- Don Nelson
- Dave Swan
- Councillor Catherine King
- Regional Councillor Brian Baty
- Town Staff Jessica Ruddell
- Two members of Mayor's Youth Advisory Council

#### **Contact PATC by email anytime at:**

[active@pelham.ca](mailto:active@pelham.ca)

**Check PATC information on our website at:** [www.pelham.ca/active](http://www.pelham.ca/active)

OR

**Contact the Recreation, Culture and Wellness Coordinator, Town of Pelham at:**

Box 400,  
20 Pelham Square,  
Fonthill, ON LoS 1E0  
Tel: 905-892-2607 ext. 341

**GET ACTIVE!** The Town of Pelham offers a variety of activities including a walking club – check the website for details [www.pelham.ca](http://www.pelham.ca)

Also, a number of local organizations offer activities in Pelham involving an active lifestyle. The Niagara Bruce Trail Club organizes hikes, while the Freewheelers organize bicycle rides in and around the Niagara Region with many in Pelham. Details can be found on their websites:

**Niagara Bruce Trail Club:** [niagarabruce-trail.org](http://niagarabruce-trail.org) **Freewheelers:** [thefreewheelers.com](http://thefreewheelers.com)