

Pelham Active Transportation Committee

We are a citizen's group dedicated to improving the accessibility, walkability and bikeability of Pelham. The PATC reports to Pelham's Town Council.

The Top 10 List-as identified by residents of Pelham

Background:

As public awareness of the PATC's role and activities increased in the Town of Pelham, residents often approached committee members with comments or suggestions to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety and enjoyment in Pelham. At a meeting of the PATC in early 2009, members agreed to actively solicit input from residents in order to prepare a **Top 10 List**. This list would reflect the areas identified by residents as those requiring attention, improvement or continued investment.

Once prepared, the **Top 10 List** would be forwarded to Town Council for consideration during the 2010-2011 budget preparations. It could also be used by Council to identify longer term investments and perhaps areas which might qualify for grants or extraordinary funding that become available from time to time. While some items listed require significant investments, many of the items identified will require a very small investment to immediately improve the situation. Council and staff are urged to examine low cost alternatives which will have a maximum impact on pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Input and suggestions from the residents of Pelham were obtained throughout the spring and summer of 2009. Healthy Living Niagara provided exceptional support to this initiative. First, the iCANwalk surveys prepared by HLN were used extensively to solicit input from residents. Results of all surveys were tabulated by HLN staff. Second, HLN provided a grant which allowed the PATC to distribute bookmarks, fridge magnets and other items to create awareness of the benefits of walking and cycling in Pelham.

Method:

PATC members decided to engage as many residents as possible in the discussion about walking and cycling in Pelham. Residents were invited to complete the iCANwalk survey either on line or by sending it to HLN. PATC members spoke to residents at a number of community events (Pelham Home Show, Farmer's Market, Canada Day Parade, Band shell concert night) and asked everyone to comment on their concerns, suggestions or ideas for walking and cycling in Pelham. Flipcharts were also used to capture these ideas and comments.

Input from residents who raised issues via email, letters to the local newspapers or interested groups such as the Parents' Council at Glynn A Green was also considered. Council also forwarded letters and emails from residents for PATC review and action.

PATC members also talked to neighbours and friends, encouraging them to complete the survey.

In total, 90 residents completed the iCANwalk survey as of October 1st, one of the highest completion rates among the municipalities in Niagara.

Overall, more than 300 residents expressed their points of view.

Finally, PATC members reviewed all of the input received and prepared the Top 10 list. It is a fair representation of the viewpoints expressed by residents of Pelham. The list, however, is not exhaustive and does not include many of the individual situations noted by residents.

Pelham Active Transportation Committee

To find out more about the PATC:

Email: walkON@Pelham.ca

Visit: www.pelham.ca/walkon.htm

Call: 905.892.2607 ext 312

Write: Manager, Community Services, Town of Pelham,
20 Pelham Town Square, Fonthill, ON L0S 1E0

Members-2009-2010:

Brian Baty, Regional Councillor

Sharon Cook, Councillor, Town of Pelham

Bea Clark, Chairperson

Bob Fish

Emily Frost-Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee

Lisa Gallant

Andrew Gemmel-Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee

Kerry Kennedy

Don Nelson

Dave Swan

Vickie vanRavenswaay- staff, Town of Pelham

Top 10 List

1. Improvements to Pelham Street

- Sidewalk needed-from Elizabeth to Brock (already in process)
- Pelham Street from Port Robinson Rd to Quaker Rd needs bike lanes and sidewalks or a multi-purpose lane, on both sides of the street
- Pelham Street requires safe pedestrian cross walks, particularly at Glynn A Green school and major intersections

2. Improvements to Downtown Area

- Resolve pedestrian safety – Pelham Street and Town Square
- Traffic lights needed- Pelham Street and Church Hill
- Town Square – implement CIP (Community Improvement Plan)

3. Highway 20 and South Pelham Intersection

- Highway 20 and Pelham Street-implement CIP
- Highway 20 intersection - redesign, improve surface/evenness of sidewalks
- Highway 20 – continuity of sidewalks required

4. Traffic Calming

- Increased law enforcement of posted speeds to ensure traffic calming in Fenwick, Pelham Street, Haist Street. A number of other streets and areas were mentioned.

5. Crossing Safety

- Pedestrian crosswalks required on Pelham Street
- Traffic lights required - Port Robinson Road and Station Street
- Marked crossing on Welland Road and Haist Street
- Traffic lights at Pelham Street and Port Robinson Road required (in process)
- Traffic lights at Pelham Street and Pancake required

6. New Sidewalks

- Canboro - Vinemount to Haist Street-north side is below grade, reconstruction required
- Wilson Crossing to Pelham Street
- Station Street to Shorthill Place
- Sidewalk or trail along Welland Ave from Pelham Street to Line Ave.
- New sidewalks along Station Street, also cycling lanes and storm sewers
- A route to E.L. Crossley – e.g. Pancake to Effingham to Highway 20, or through farmer's field (off Canboro there is an informal route used with permission from the farmer)
- Highway 20 connection to E.L. Crossley
- Place emphasis on improved sidewalks along Canboro Road or Church Hill instead of Highway 20 (sidewalks there are too close to the road)
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7. Rural Areas

- Metler by Avondale –sidewalk required- noted in survey
- The use of gravel or stone dust paths could be used in outlying areas instead of concrete sidewalks
- Rural connection - multipurpose lane on Canboro Rd, Fonthill to Fenwick.
- Remove rumble strips on Canboro Road-dangerous for cyclists, pedestrians with strollers
- Rural connectors - multipurpose lane, Welland Ave and Deborah to Canboro Rd and North Pelham

8. Accessibility - benches, washrooms, lighting, snow and debris removal

- Park bench required on Church Hill road. This hill is tough for seniors to climb
- Public washroom in Town Square
- Improved lighting along Strathcona Drive, Daleview, Moot Lane and Highland Ave
- Snow and debris removal on all sidewalks

9. Bike paths and Multi-purpose Paths

- Complete the cycling trail between Fonthill and Thorold
- Bike paths should be marked everywhere
- Multi-purpose path south side Port Robinson Rd, Station to Pelham Street

10. Steve Bauer Trails

- Link to Steve Bauer Trail by Line Ave from John Street, from Wilson Crossing
- Steve Bauer trails – additional signage and maps required,
- Join trails to St. Catharines, Welland, Port Colborne
- Extend Steve Bauer Trail and path on Station Street from Port Robinson Rd to Highway 20 on west side