

# Norfolk Pathways for People & Accessibility Advisory Committee

Joint Deputation to  
Norfolk County Council

Presented by: Rob Luke and Debbie Pike  
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# PROMOTING pathways

FOR WALKING AND CYCLING IN NORFOLK

- A community coalition that advocates for the development and improvement of connected pathways in Norfolk County.
- We also promote the regular use of trails, sidewalks and roadways for health, recreation and active transportation.

# Active Transportation [AT]

AT refers to people-powered transport such as walking, cycling, using a wheelchair, in-line skating or skateboarding.

Public Health Agency of Canada



# Our Objectives

- Advocating for new and improved trails and pathways in Norfolk County.
- Building a healthier, accessible and connected community.
- Promoting the safe use of local trails and pathways.
- Providing input to the Norfolk County Trails Advisory Committee

# Why walking?

- From a transportation perspective, walking is recognized as the only mode of travel that is universally affordable, and allows children and youth, older adults and people using mobility aids, to travel independently.
- But we need walkable communities to do so.

**LOT  
FOR SALE**

Call:  
**(905) 521-1144**

**LOT #21**  
Sidewalks  
will be placed here

# Walkable Communities have...

- street lighting, availability of **continuous sidewalks**, and a variety of shops, services, parks, schools, and workplaces within walking distance of homes.
- safe, direct, comfortable, and convenient walking routes for all pedestrians.







SALE

MASAVE

IF YOU SEE THIS SIGN  
NO PARKING  
EXCEPT  
FOR  
DELIVERIES  
AND  
LOADS

NO PARKING

EXCEPT FOR  
DELIVERIES  
AND  
LOADS

# Walkable communities...

- Are an important aspect of a healthy and vibrant community.
- Encourage citizens to rely on their cars less and choose walking more often, when the environment in which they live, work, learn and play supports walking as a form of everyday transportation.

# Walking to school?

**Sidewalk**



**No sidewalk**



# Health...

**28.9% of adults in Haldimand  
Norfolk are obese (2011-12)**

Source: CCHS, Statistics Canada, Ontario MOHLTC

# Equity...

## INCOME

11.4% or 12, 030 Haldimand Norfolk residents lived in low income households in 2011

Percent of the population in low income by age group, Haldimand Norfolk, 2010



*This after-tax low income measure translates to a single person earning less than \$19,930 or a family of four earning less than \$39,860*

# Accessibility...

- Norfolk County's population is aging
- Higher than provincial average proportion of older aged residents, with **19%** of the County's current population over age 65, and **35%** over 55
- Port Dover, Simcoe and Delhi have the highest proportion of older residents.

Source: Population Projection Study, 2014

# Other benefits...

- **Environment** – improved air and water quality
- **Safety** – more walkers reduce road congestion
- **Society**- discourage crime, eyes on the street!
- **Economy**-reduce health care costs
- **Community Cohesion and Vitality**- social interaction

# Policies and Infrastructure

- AT Master Plan and Official Plan are key policy documents for shaping the infrastructure future of Norfolk County
- County Staff are driving force



**GROW NORFOLK**  
**FIVE YEAR OFFICIAL**  
**PLAN REVIEW**  
2015





# Commitment to Accessibility

The Corporation of Norfolk County is committed to eliminating barriers and improving accessibility for persons with disabilities in a manner that respects dignity, independence, integration and equal opportunity.

Norfolk County recognizes the diverse needs of all our residents and customers and will respond by striving to provide services and facilities that are accessible to all. Norfolk County is committed to meeting the needs of people with disabilities in a timely manner, and will do so by preventing and removing barriers to accessibility and meeting accessibility requirements under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).



# Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)

- 13 members of the public
- Required by municipalities with a population of 10,000 or more
- Committee of Council
  - Advise council on requirements/implementation of accessibility legislation, accessibility reports, other matters which council may seek advice
  - Review site plans and drawings (S.41 Planning Act)
  - Performing all other functions specified in Regulation

# Why Accessibility? It's Just Good Business



**now**

1 in 7 people in Ontario have a disability,  
that's **1.85 million Ontarians**.

1 in 7



**soon**

By 2036, that number will rise to  
1 in 5 as the population ages.

1 in 5





# Why Accessibility? It's Just Good Business

Customers with disabilities are a growing market no business can afford to overlook.

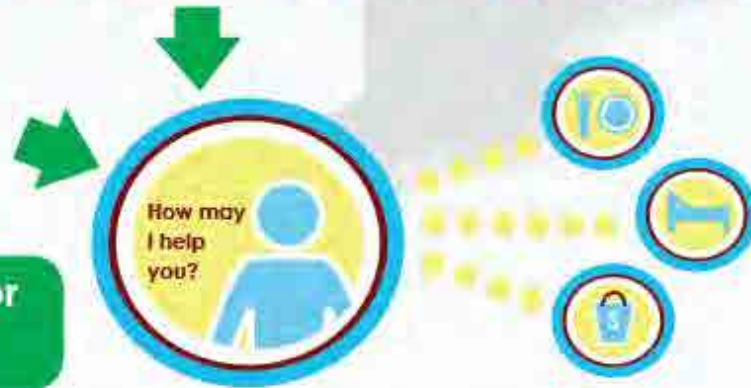


In the next 20 years, an aging population and people with disabilities will represent **40% of total income in Ontario** — that's **\$536 Billion**.

**360,000**

Ontario businesses and organizations affected by Ontario's accessibility law. It helps them meet the needs of people with disabilities and **attract their growing spending power.**

A more accessible Ontario is good for our economy and our communities.



Improved accessibility in Ontario can help generate up to:

**\$9.6 Billion** in new retail spending & **\$1.6 Billion** in new tourism spending



# Legislation

Ontario Human Rights Code

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

Integrated Accessibility Standard

Accessible Customer Service Standard

Transportation

Information and Communications

Employment

Design of Public Spaces

# Accessibility Improvements

- Barrier Free Access Program
  - Capital Budget
- Accessibility Design Guidelines



# Norfolk County... building a legacy!



Thank You!



access  
NORFOLK