

Proposed Pathway - Rudd Avenue to Serpentine Lane

Engagement Summary September 21, 2020

Starting early July 2020, a large poster, describing the project, was installed at the top of the existing footpath that connects Rudd Avenue down to Serpentine Lane.

The City had received feedback from 17 residents during the summer and early fall.



Follow up correspondence, phone call discussions and meetings have occurred with many of the respondents to further understand the concerns.

Summary of Feedback on the proposed pathway:

- The footpath has been regularly used by residents to go to the school bus, mailboxes, to visit friends and for walks out on to Abbey Dawn Road and Highway 2
- The pathway improvement is much needed and important.
- Kids ride their bicycles on the existing foot path
- There was concerns about the safety of the pathway connection at the top of the hill near Rudd Avenue because of limited visibility on the corner.
- Steep slope at the bottom of the hill currently a challenge to users
- The aesthetic of the space is important as the site is currently natural. Some residents preferred a natural surface material on pathway.
- A better integration of the pathway into the natural space is preferred.
- Less change and disruption to the site is preferred
- Naturalization and habitat for wildlife is important
- Some felt the bench was unnecessary
- Concerns over privacy and increased usage by people from outside the neighbourhood.
- Pathway a little close to neighbouring residents

Response to Feedback on the proposed pathway:

- **What is the purpose of the pathway upgrade?**
This connection will be a short pedestrian link within the neighbourhood. The project will improve accessibility for people of all ages and abilities. It is expected

that the current pathway users, such as children who take the bus, people visiting friends at the top or bottom of the hill and people going for a walk to Abbey Dawn Road, Madoma Park, Treasure Island or the marina will continue to be the primary users of the pathway.

The improvements are not intended to create a new gateway to the Esplanade Park located nearby in the neighbourhood. The project poster has been changed to reflect that this pathway upgrade is to serve as a local community connection.

- **How can a cyclist use the pathway with steps proposed?**

A narrow smooth surface next to the steps is proposed to allow people to walk their bicycles up and down the route.

- **How will the safety concerns of the connection at Rudd Avenue be addressed?**

A pedestrian gate is proposed at the top of the hill.

- **Why is a bench proposed?**

The bench is proposed to provide a resting place for people who may need to stop and rest after climbing the hill.

- **Will water runoff be an issue from this improvement?**

No, the pathway is designed to have minimal impact on the current runoff. The design has been modified, based on feedback, to improve the dispersion of runoff. The proposed asphalt surface will withstand the local drainage where more natural materials like limestone screenings would wash out over time.

- **Is existing wildlife in the area being considered? Will Species at Risk be impacted?**

Yes, wildlife will be considered. An ecologist will assess the site for potential impacts.

- **Can the pathway be adjusted or is the design final?**

Based on feedback, the pathway design is proposed to better fit in the public pathway lands and reduce the impact on immediate neighbours' privacy and concerns for the environment. Landscape screening and additional trees to add diversity to the existing wood stand is proposed to be added to the design.

Other Community Concerns:

- Trees removed in the Esplanade Park recently and no trees yet replanted.

- Use of Esplanade Park increased this summer.
- Some interested in improving Esplanade Park in the future, but some concerned about this.
- General parking and traffic on Rudd Avenue.
- Drainage on Rudd Avenue and local flooding.
- Condition, configuration and width of Rudd Avenue.
- Lack of signalized intersection at Highway #2
- Pothole repairs on Rudd Avenue.
- Snow plowing on Rudd Avenue.

Response to Other Community Concerns:

- **Why were trees removed in Esplanade Park?**
8 Ash trees were removed this winter to control the [Emerald Ash Borer](#) infestation and to address future safety risks of tree failure near residents and park users.

Replanting of trees in the park will be prioritized for next year.

- **Will Esplanade Park be improved?**
There are no immediate plans to improve the park. Esplanade Park is identified in the [Waterfront Master Plan](#) as a future project and it is part of the City's long-range planning.
- **Can parking restrictions, drainage and road/ intersection upgrades be considered?**
The Parking, Engineering and Transportation departments have been provided the detailed feedback from residents and will be looking into the concerns and following up as required.
- **How do I alert the City of road maintenance needs?**
Road maintenance concerns such as potholes can be reported to the City through customer service at 613-546-000 or online through Contact US. Details can be found on the [City's website](#).
- **Does the City plow the snow on Rudd Avenue?**
Yes. The City's east end snowplow contract service covers Rudd Avenue.