

## **Pelham Active Transportation Committee**

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

6pm to 8pm

**Via Zoom: see email for details**

### **AGENDA**

1. Attendance
2. Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof
5. Approval of Minutes – December 15, 2020
6. Business Arising from Minutes – December 15, 2020
  - 6.1. PATC 2020 Budget update: printing of cycling map – staff
  - 6.2. Review of Trails and trail development document – all
  - 6.3. Discussion of trail apps - all
  - 6.4. Pelham Street Reconstruction Update including Phase 2 design - staff
  - 6.5. PATC Budget Request 2021 – staff
  - 6.6. Funding opportunities Update
    - Healthy Communities Fund
    - MTO – Road Safety Community Partnership program
  - 6.7. Timing of pedestrian signals update from C. Ryall
  - 6.8. Venture Niagara Cycling Map update – staff
  - 6.9. Bicycle Friendly Community Renewal application – Bea
  - 6.10. Paved Steve Bauer Trail – Councilor Wink
  - 6.11. Concerns re Steve Bauer Trail nomenclature - Dave
7. Committee Events and Reports
  - 7.1. Summerfest - Bea
  - 7.2. Seniors' Advisory Committee – Dave
  - 7.3. Active School Travel – Lisa

7.4. Active School Travel walk abouts - Lisa

## 8. New Business

8.1 Notice re Environmental and Detailed Transportation Assessment for Reg. Road 37 (Merritt Rd.) and Reg. Road 54 (Rice Rd.) - attached for information

8.2 Delegation: B. Heska, correspondence attached

8.3 PATC debrief regarding Steve Bauer Trail – Dave

8.4 Requirement for AT database - Dave

## 9. Adjournment

### Upcoming Meetings, 2021:

February 16 (check for conflict)

March 16

April 20

May 18

June 15

Correspondence from Bill Heska, resident, Town of Pelham  
Delegation: Pelham Active Transportation Committee, January 19, 2021 meeting

**Email #1 from B. Heska**

Good afternoon Bea,

I am sending this email for the Pelham Active Transportation Committee, to you since you are the Chair. The reason for the PTAC as stated on the Town's website "acts as an advisory capacity to the Pelham Town Council and staff on issues specific to the active transportation, walking, cycling, and other forms of human powered transportation ..... in Pelham. Community outreach and education, trails and destinations, accessibility and planned capital improvements are key issues for the PATC."

I am sure you are aware there are the DRAFT Development Plans for the west (Kunda Park Phase 4 ) and east (Forest Park) sides of the Steve Bauer Trail by Sterling Realty.

A requirement of the Planning Development process is that the Planning Dept. must hold a public meeting (PM) for residents within a specified maximum distance (120m?) of a development and present them with DRAFT plan details. Below is a brief summary of each:

**Kunda Park Phase 4-** PM was held Oct. 13, 2020 and the minutes of the meeting are attached- I have hilted in yellow the Public comments presented relating roads, Safety, SBT, etc. The information that the town mailed out before the meeting was very limited and lacked details. When I reviewed, I was shocked that they only showed one entrance into the new subdivision (west side) off Stella St. just south of G.A. Green school. I contacted Curtis Thompson- Planner and he confirmed that there were also 2 additional roads to be constructed on the east side of the subdivision- connecting to the new Station St. extension, east of the SBT. GREAT! **I then asked him if the PATC had reviewed and approved or agreed to the proposal and his comment (not exact quote but summary) were that they had been presented details and that they had received no comments or concerns.** I had other concerns which I thought the PATC would be concerned about for Pedestrian and Traffic SAFETY which we also discussed- Station St. and Port Robinson Rd. (proposed traffic circle), the Storm Water Management Pond and flood channel, Public Park location, etc.

Since the PM, I have been supporting the Pelham Tree Conservation Society (PTCS) and I have met Dave Nicholson who is a member of the PATC. We have discussed the roads crossing the SBT and he has shared with me the minutes of your meetings (June, Sept. & Nov.). The Planning Dept. presented Kunda Park Development Plans to the PACT back on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 and based on the minutes and discussion with Dave no detail review of the plans were made. I have also talked Brian Baty and he affirms. Both agree that the presentation was hard to

follow in virtual environment and as a result they did not realize the scope of challenges with the proposed plan and as a result a PATC follow-up review and discussion never occurred. I have also talked with John Wink on the proposed DRAFT plan and issues that should impact the PATC.

**Forest Park-** PM was held on Nov. 23 , 2020 and are in the following link. Many of the same issues were discussed as in the Kunda Park meeting since the two subdivisions are being processed concurrently through the Planning Dept. since they are being proposed by the same Agent (UCC ) for Owner (sterling Realty).

<https://events.pelham.ca/Meetings/Detail/2020-11-23-1730-Public-Meeting-Under-the-Planning-ActNov232020/9a109193-f4b1-4ef9-8d9a-ac9300bfb7ce>

In conclusion, I suggest that the PATC prioritize a review of the Kunda Park Phase 4 DRAFT Plan and provide feedback to the Planning Dept. I know the challenges of 2020 with COVID and virtual meetings has made meetings more challenging, but we must ensure we understand and provide action when necessary.

Regards,

Bill Heska

**Response #1 to Bill:**

Good morning, Bill. Thank you for your email. The next meeting of the PATC will be held, via Zoom, on Tuesday, January 19th from 6 to 8pm. You are welcome to present this information and your concerns to the committee directly at that time. I will also forward your email to the PATC members, along with the agenda for the meeting. Please let me know if you are interested in participating as a delegation at that meeting. Normally 15 minutes are allotted for delegations and discussion. Residents often tell PATC members how much they enjoy the entire Steve Bauer Trail system throughout town and the PATC is aware that many residents are concerned about the impact of the proposed developments on this section of the Steve Bauer Trail. The PATC identified and discussed these issues with staff both during our meetings and at a subsequent site visit with staff and the consultants engaged by the property owners. Councilor Wink attends the PATC meetings regularly as the liaison with Council and has heard the issues. I hope you will bring your concerns forward at the meeting on the 19th. Please confirm your participation with me by tomorrow, Friday, January 8th. The meeting agenda will be issued on Monday. Thank you. I look forward to hearing from you. Bea Clark

**Email #2 from Bill Heska**

Good morning Bea & John,

I appreciate that you have TAKEN ACTION to address the roadway crossings of the SBT, and HOPEFULLY Council will approve your comprehensive motion at Council meeting on Jan. 11, 2020.

The concern I have is that this proposed plan for the roadways which was presented to the PATC back on June 16, 2021 by Barb Wiens & Curtis Thompson and that the PATC did NOT express (verbally and /or writing) any concerns about the DRAFT plan. As a result the Planning Dept. assumed that the PATC supported the plan and proceeded to work on the DRAFT development plan with the Agent

(UCC) and OWNER (Sterling Realty). At the Public Planning Meeting on Oct.13, 2020 the Planning Dept. and UCC presented to DRAFT plan and the (2) crossroads were presented as primary access routes to Kunda Park Phase 4. The Public and Committee (Mayor & Councillors) expressed concerns, but received NO Planning Dept. support. Another (3) months have almost passed and we now have an **Agenda Item 14.2 Motion: Town of Pelham Trail System.**

Based on the above it will have taken (7 ) months to STOP the DRAFT plan and the crossroads. As a result much work has been done, and now the Planning Dept. has to rethink the access to the subdivision. I expect that the Agent and Owner will NOT accept this decision well.

The PATC needs to consider this as PRIME learning experience.

There are several other issues that the PATC need to consider relative to the Kunda Park Phase 4 and Forest Park DRAFT Plan subdivisions. What will 1. the intersection of Port Robinson Road & Station St. be- a traffic circle, traffic lights, etc. 2. Pedestrian Safety (2 elementary schools in the area)- crossing of Port Robinson Road, etc. 3. The need for a TRAFFIC study of the area- as a result of MAJOR urbanization east of Station St. to Rice Rd along Port Robinson Rd. It should be the Planning Dept. responsibility to provide the PATC detailed information in a timely manner early in Planning process so you can provide input.

Please review the above comments and concerns, and I look forward to your reply. Based on John's response do you still want me to attend PATC meeting on Jan. 19, 2020.

Regards, Bill

### **Response #2 to Bill:**

Hello Bill, Thank you for your comments. The invitation to join the PATC meeting on January 19th still stands, as you have a number of points in your email and it would be helpful if you presented these at the meeting. I will share your email with PATC members, as well. I will send out the agenda and Zoom meeting details next week. Thank you. Bea

# Environmental Assessment and Detailed Transportation Assessment for Regional Rd. 37 (Merritt Rd.) and Regional Rd. 54 (Rice Rd.)

[All Niagara Region projects](#)

## About the Project

Niagara Region is undertaking a Schedule C Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, including a detailed transportation assessment for Regional Rd. 37 (Merritt Rd.) and Regional Rd. 54 (Rice Rd.) in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and the City of Welland.

Wood Canada Limited has been retained to undertake this study on behalf of Niagara Region.

Following the planning phase and approval of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, a separate assignment will be initiated to implement the improvements approved through the process.

## Purpose of the study

This study will provide an opportunity to reimagine the two corridors (Merritt Rd. and Rice Rd.) so they will meet the future needs of the surrounding community from the perspective of all road users, supporting multi-modal travel and improve safety. The City of Thorold's Transportation Master Plan, completed in 2020, recommends that capacity improvements be undertaken on Merritt Rd.

This project was initiated to:

- Identify and evaluate a range of alternative solutions to accommodate growing traffic volumes along both corridors, including:
  - Geometric and intersection improvements
  - Complete streets and urban design concepts
  - Access management and transit
- Provide a key transportation link that will allow for direct access between Rice Rd. and Hwy. 406 (via Merritt Rd.) in view of the environmentally sensitive lands
- Address active transportation needs by providing a dedicated facility for pedestrians and cyclists that is safe, attractive and keeps with the changing land use in the study area

## Project Timeline

**DEC. 2, 2020 - COMPLETED**

Study commencement

*Retrieved on January 11, 2021:*

*<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37/default.aspx>*