

Walkways – Update to Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee

Presented By: Craig Morton, Sr. Manager of Operations,
Roads, Stormwater and Fleet



Walkway Winter Maintenance – Follow up From September Meeting

Active Transportation Committee requested:

1. Priority locations that could be easily accessed in their current state to carry out a winter maintenance pilot.
2. Information of requirements to provide winter maintenance on priority walkways close to schools.



Active Transportation – Winter Maintenance

- Sidewalks adjacent to streets are maintained to Provincial regulations and City of Barrie standards
- On road cycling facilities are maintained as per Provincial regulations and City of Barrie standards
- Walkways and other off-road facilities are not maintained
- Future physically separated (from roads) cycling facilities will be assessed for the provision of winter maintenance based on location and use

Assess and Prioritize Community Needs

- May not be desirable to clear all street-to-street walkways due to cost
- Some street-to-street walkways offer little (if any) pedestrian travel convenience vs utilizing the existing sidewalk network
- Who is using the walkways and for what purpose?
- Are there walkway related public safety issues that can be addressed?

Improving Pedestrian Access to Schools

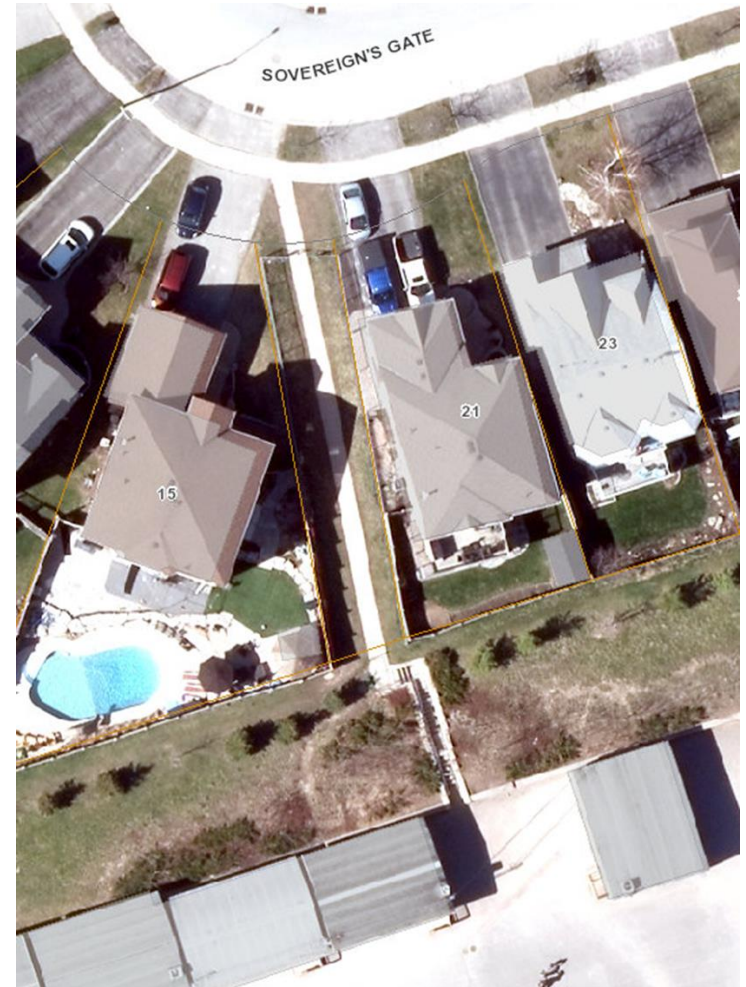
- Many complaints regarding winter walkway maintenance are related to school access
- Schools in Barrie require students to walk to school (some are walking only, no buses)
- 'Kiss and rides' are very busy
- Parents/caretakers dropping off or picking up children from school often queue on to busy roadways creating public safety concerns
- Improving the winter condition of walkways adjacent to schools will lessen the impact of these issues and improve safety for pedestrians walking to schools

Improving Pedestrian Access to Schools

- Staff reviewed the pedestrian travel network in the vicinity of schools
- Staff looked at street to school walkways, street to street walkways, and park pathways as connection options
- Improving pedestrian connections to schools can be achieved using a combination of these available connections

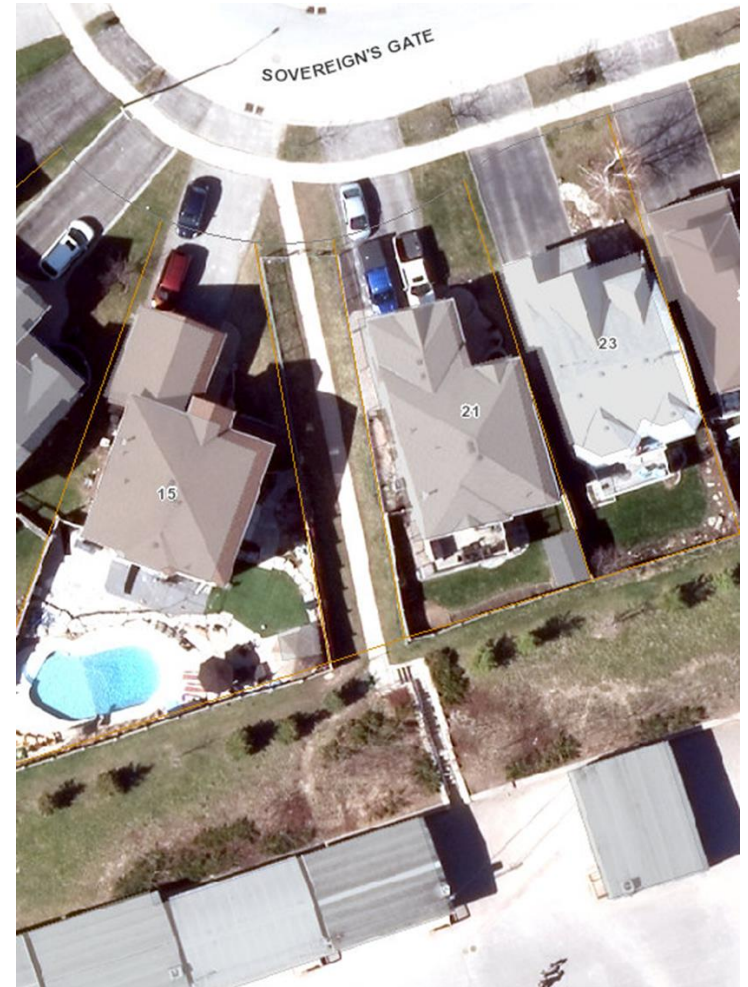
Street to School Walkways

- 14 street to school walkways have been identified as maintainable in winter
- 6 are owned by the school
- 8 are owned by the City
- Other walkways to schools were identified, however they lead to grass or granular surfaces that cannot be maintained in the winter and were omitted from further analysis.



Street to School Walkways – Things to Consider

- Consultation with school boards required
- Walkways may be owned by more than one party
- Potential maintenance and liability legal agreements
- City does not provide maintenance to dedicated pedestrian or vehicular access in any other situations (i.e. sidewalks into commercial plazas and shopping malls)

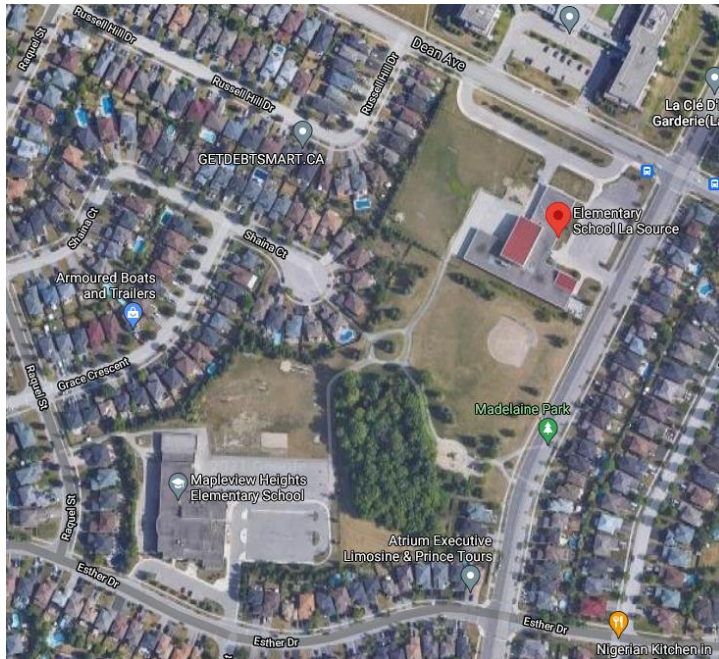


Parks Pathways to Schools

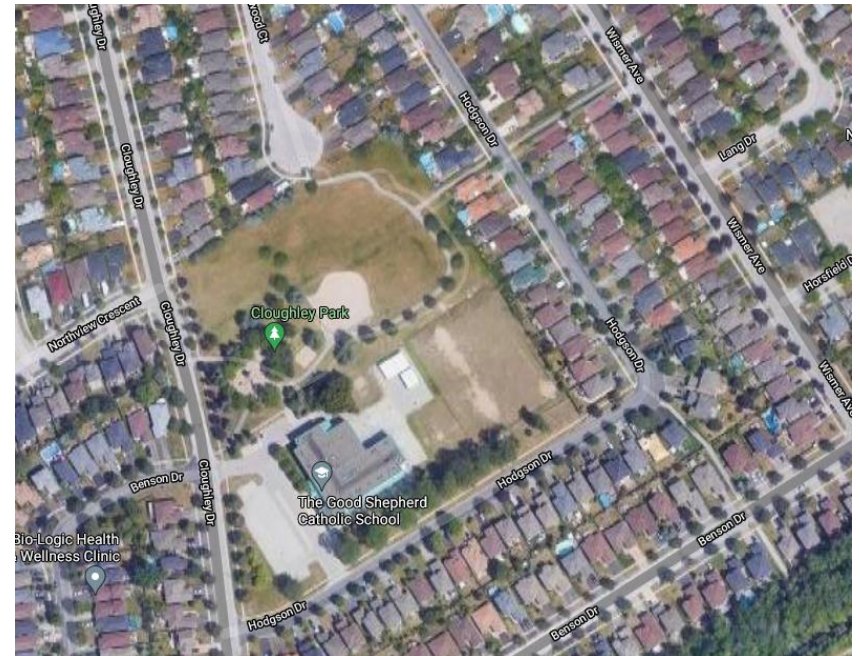
- Many schools have pedestrian connections via park pathways
- Most park pathways have multiple connections from different streets and provide a neighbourhood connection
- 13 schools can be connected by maintaining some of the connected park pathways
- In some cases, schools would need to clear some pathways connecting the school to the park pathway. School board consultation and commitment to maintain the path is required.

Parks Pathways to Schools - examples

Madelaine Park Pathways (connecting Mapleview Heights and La Source)



Cloughley Park Pathways (connecting The Good Shepherd)



Street to Street Walkways Near Schools

- Thirteen (13) street to street walkways were identified in the relative immediate vicinity of schools that would increase the convenience of pedestrian travel to school connections
- The same work and challenges would exist for these street-to-street walkways
- It is anticipated that requests from the public will be received to add walkways to the winter maintenance inventory, requiring further resourcing if Council approves.

Park Pathways and Street to Street Walkways

Combination of park pathways and street to street walkways provides multiple logical and convenient pedestrian connections for this neighbourhood.



Cloughley Park Pathways

Street to Street Walkway
(Wismer to Hodgson)

Street to Street Walkway
(Benson to Hodgson)

Snow Clearing Challenges

- Limited snow storage within narrow walkways
- Potential of damage to private fences and shrubs from snow loading
- Walkways are designed for pedestrian traffic, not heavy equipment. Over time, walkway surfaces will degrade and will require replacement.
- Many walkways already require surface replacement, however sufficient budget does not exist.
- Noise complaints

Spring Cleanup and Summer Maintenance

- Sand placed during the winter will need to be collected and removed
- Included in the sand will be other debris (leaves, litter)
- Will require a sidewalk sweeper, mini-dump truck and staff
- Will need to increase trimming frequency to maintain full width for winter maintenance
- Currently, walkways are trimmed and cleaned once per year



Spring & Summer Maintenance



Improving School Pedestrian Access – Benefitting Schools and Wards

School	Ward	School	Ward
Johnson Street*	1	Trillium Woods*	7
Codrington*	1	WC Little	7
Eastview	1	Holly Meadows	7
Maple Grove	2	St. Bernadette	7
Cundles Heights	3	Willow Landing*	8
Sister Catherine Donnelly	3	Innisdale	8
Monsignor Clair	3	Assikinack	8
The Good Shepherd	4	Allandale Heights	8
Emma King*	5	Mapleview Heights*	9
Andrew Hunter	5	La Source	9
Ferndale Woods	6	Hewitts Creek	10
Ardagh Bluffs	6	Algonquin Ridge	10
St. Catherine of Sienna	6	Hyde Park	10

***Denotes school with a school owned walkway that should be maintained by the school**

Improving School Pedestrian Access - Costs

- Initial Access/Egress reconfigurations = \$400,000
- Capital Costs For Equipment = \$400,000
- Average annual operating = \$310,000

Walkway Winter Maintenance - Pilot

36 Lay to 36 Marion
(neighbourhood connection
of convenience)

- 87m long
- \$650



Walkway Winter Maintenance - Pilot

Lennox Park Path (Widgeon to Big Bay Point Roads IPS for Willow Landing Elementary School)

- 475m long
- \$3500



Walkway Winter Maintenance - Pilot

Marsellus Park Path (14 Victor Way to Marsellus Drive beside St. Bernadette Catholic Elementary School)

- 273m long
- \$2000



Walkway Winter Maintenance - Pilot

1. 36 Lay to 36 Marion, 87m - \$650
2. Lennox Park Path 475m – \$3,500
3. Marsellus Park Path 273m long - \$2000

Total cost of pilot for priority locations that are easily accessible - \$6150



Summary of Winter Walkway Options and Cost

All City Walkways – Capital (Equip.)\$3,400,000
Operating \$ \$822,000/Yr.

Priority to Schools – Capital \$800,000
Operating \$310,000/Yr.

Pilot Schools - Operating \$6150/Yr.

Thank you!

QUESTIONS?