

Memorandum

PWC-C 2-2025

Subject: Recommendation from the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee Meeting on February 12, 2025

Date: March 4, 2025

To: Public Works Committee

From: Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk

At its meeting held on February 12, 2025, the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee Meeting passed the following motion for consideration by the Public Works Committee:

Minute Item 8.1

Spur-Bauer Multi-use Trail, Town of Pelham

That the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee **REQUESTS** that the Fonthill Spur-Bauer multi-use trail, Town of Pelham, continue to be a recognized trail in the 2051 Transportation Master Plan.

The minutes and agenda items from the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee meeting held February 12, 2025, are attached to this memorandum.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY STEERING COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

TSSC 1-2025

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

**Council Chamber - In Person and Electronic Meeting
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee: T. Baldinelli (Municipal Councillor - Niagara Falls)*, J. Baradziej (Committee Chair), B. Blue (Public Member)*, T. Brunet (Committee Vice Chair)*, G. Bruno (Municipal Councillor - Port Colborne)*, D. Dodge (Municipal Councillor - St. Catharines)*, K. Forgeron (Public Member), B. Grant (Regional Councillor – Wainfleet)*, P. Inman (Public Member)*, M. McCrea (Public Member)*, W. Olson (Municipal Councillor - Pelham), W. Redekop (Regional Councillor – Fort Erie)*, C. Thompson (Public Member)*, A. Vizzari (Municipal Councillor - Niagara-on-the-Lake)*, M. West (Public Member)*, T. Whalen (Regional Councillor – Thorold)*

Non-Voting Members: S. Fraser, Associate Director, Transportation Planning, G. Guthrie, Associate Director, Transportation Engineering, N. Rosati, Manager, Traffic Systems, F. Tassone, Director, Transportation Services

Absent/Regrets: M. Artiga (Public Member), R. Burroughs (Public Member), G. McIlhone (Public Member), A. Moote (Municipal Councillor - Welland), W. Reilly (Municipal Councillor – West Lincoln)

Staff: M. Elmadhoon, Manager, Transportation Planning, R. Hill, Legislative Assistant, D. Morreale, Director, Growth Management and Planning, T. Ricketts, Commissioner, Public Works*, J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator

* indicates members who participated electronically, all other members participated in person

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Baradziej called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Committee Chair Baradziej read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Transportation Master Plan (TMP) 2051

Diana Morreale, Director, Growth Management and Planning, provided information respecting the 2051 Transportation Master Plan. Topics of the presentation included:

- Transportation Mater Plan (TMP) Background
- TMP Goals
- TMP Objectives
- Next Steps

5. DELEGATIONS

5.1 Multi-use Rail Trails

Bruce Timms, Rotary Club of St. Catharines Lakeshore, and Frank Adamson, Rotary Club of Fonthill, appeared before Committee to provide information respecting the Rotary Club's involvement in trails and parks throughout Niagara Region and asked that the multi-use rail trail in Pelham remain in the 2051 Transportation Master Plan that is currently underway.

6. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

There were no items of consideration.

7. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There were no consent items for information.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Spur-Bauer Multi-use Trail, Town of Pelham

Moved by M. McCrea
Seconded by D. Dodge

That the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee **REQUESTS** that the Fonthill Spur-Bauer multi-use trail, Town of Pelham, continue to be a recognized trail in the 2051 Transportation Master Plan.

Carried

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Councillor Baradziej
Committee Chair

Jenna Spratt
Legislative Coordinator

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

Transportation Master Plan (TMP) 2051

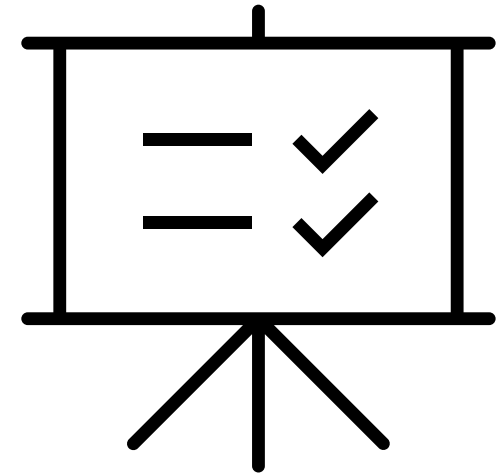
Goals and Objectives

Transportation Strategy Steering Committee - February 12, 2025

Diana Morreale, Growth Management and Planning

Presentation Outline

- Project background
- Review draft TMP objectives and goals
- Next steps



TMP Background

- Long-term transportation vision to 2051, supporting growth and infrastructure decisions.
- Previous TMP guided transportation to 2041; update needed for new policies, studies, and data.
- October 2024 presentation introduced TMP update.
- Today's presentation provides an update on work since October, focusing on the upcoming request for proposal.



TMP Goals

- Guide the development of a robust, cohesive, and sustainable transportation system to support Niagara's growth and future needs through 2051.
- Balance mobility, environmental sustainability, and efficiency, while prioritizing safety and access for all travelers.
- Explore the impact of emerging technologies and evolving travel services on the future of transportation in Niagara.

TMP Components



TMP Objectives



Address growth by assessing and modelling travel demand, aligning the 10-year capital forecast with growth needs, and advancing infrastructure projects to meet future population and employment growth.



Advance a sustainable transportation system by boosting transit ridership, expanding GO Transit, prioritizing key pedestrian and cycling corridors, and integrating climate resilience strategies.

TMP Objectives (Continued)



Optimize roadway design by balancing diverse needs in constrained areas, improving design standards, and recommending capital projects.



Develop a strategic goods movement network linking Niagara, the GTHA, and U.S., improve freight infrastructure, and optimize downtown routes for both people and goods.



Improve Vision Zero by including and updating the Road Safety Strategic Plan, prioritizing data-driven actions, and developing framework to reduce fatalities/serious injuries on Regional roads.

TMP Objectives (Continued)



Coordinate with local municipalities to confirm continued Regional road jurisdiction, manage uploading/downloading responsibilities, and integrate municipal plans to support a cohesive transportation system.



Develop key performance metrics to track progress on TMP objectives and evaluate the effectiveness of recommendations through regular reporting and analysis.

Next Steps

- RFP will be released in Q1 2025
- TMP update will take approximately 2 years – 2025 to 2026
- The Transportation Strategy Steering Committee will provide input to key elements of the TMP as it develops.





Questions!

From: [Niagara Region Website](#)
To: [Clerks](#)
Cc: [webincominq](#)
Subject: Online Form - Enquiry from Region website
Date: January 10, 2025 1:39:27 PM

Enquiry from Region website

To reply, copy the email address from below and put into 'To'. (if resident entered their email address)

name

Bruce Timms

phone

[REDACTED]

email

[REDACTED]

municipality

St. Catharines

subject

Regional Council/Clerk

comments

we would like to present to the Transportation Steering committee on Feb. 12 2025, 3 pm, as representatives of the Rotary club of Fonthill, Rotary Club of St.Catharines Lakeshore, Thorold Lions Club and Fonthill Lions Club. We would present a plan for building a Multi-use Rail Trail on the Fonthill Spurline and along Beaverdams Rd, RR 67, from Ormond St South in Thorold to RR 20 in Fonthill, town of Pelham please advise on the proper procedure and place us on the agenda Bruce Timms, Rotary Club of St.Catharines Lakeshore, Frank Adamson, Rotary CLub of Fonthill John Wilson Lions Club of Thorold.

reply

yes

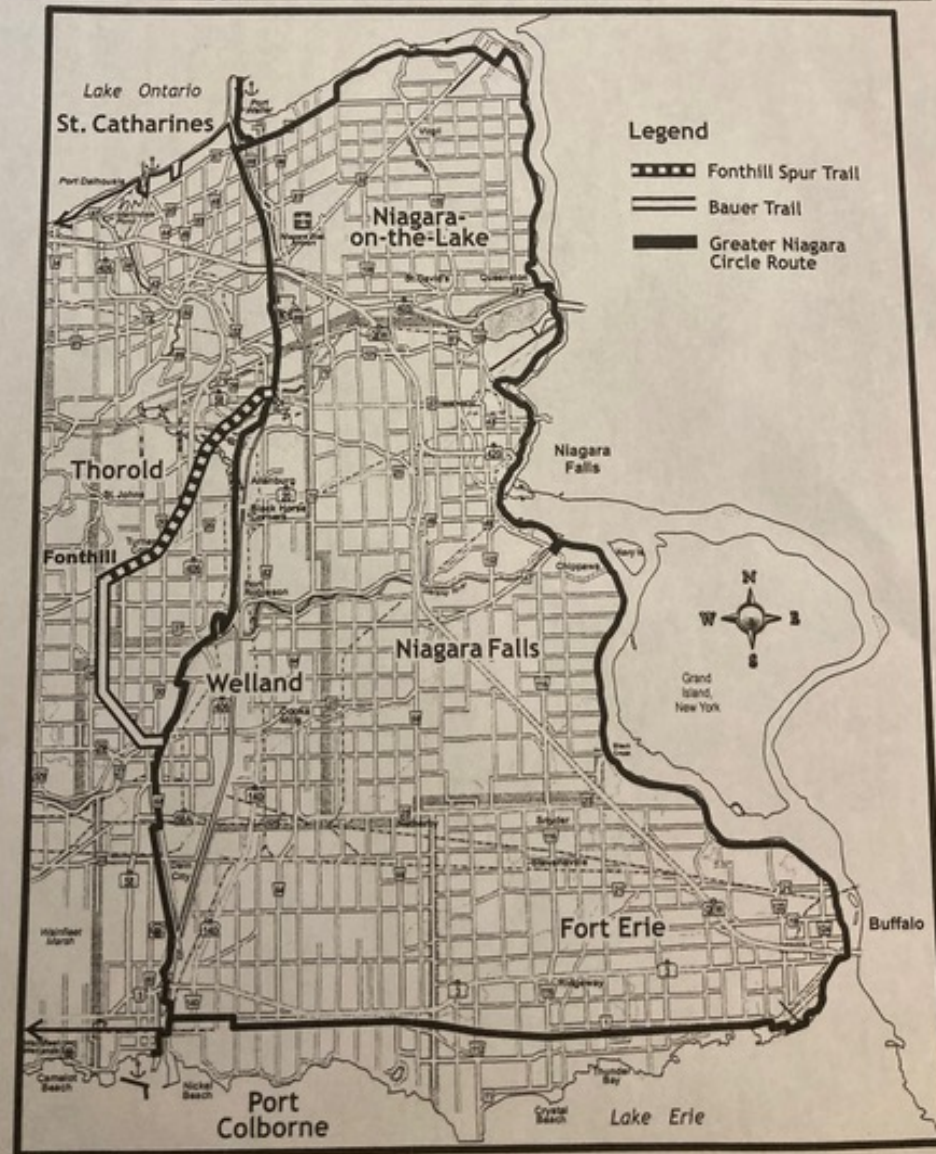
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https://www.niagararegion.ca/Forms/Get_Form_Values.aspx



Rail Trail on Fonthill/Thorold Spurline as a Loop to the Greater Niagara Circle Route Trail







- Supported by Rotary Clubs of
- Fonthill, St.Catharines Lakeshore, St.Catharines South, St.Catharines, Welland and Niagara Falls and the
- Lions Clubs of Thorold & Fonthill



Rotary History in Parks Trails and Bridges

TSSC-C 1-2025

- Pedestrian Bridge in Thorold, Greater Niagara Circle Route
- Charles Ansell Park at Lock One
- 100th Year Anniversary Park Welland on Greater Niagara Circle Route
- Millenium Trail Niagara Falls
- Steve Bauer Trail, Fonthill

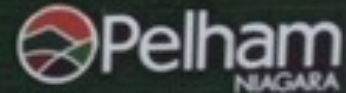






STEVE BAUER

Trails



THE ONTARIO
TRILLIUM
FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION
TRILLIUM
DEL' ONTARIO









Cycling Pelham

The Town of Pelham is home to unique experiences as cyclists will discover welcoming loops and interconnected routes that feature a range of rolling hills and farmlands to scenic villages and off-road trails. Along the designated loops are roadside stands, local shops and unique dining; the perfect pauses while you cycle picturesque Pelham.

— North and South Connecting Routes
 — Barkhous Trail Riverfront Loop - 18 km
 — Short Hills Loop - 15.4 km
 — Villages Loop - 16 km

With a large section of the trail following a decommissioned rail line the route provides cyclists with mainly flat terrain surrounded by country views. Following the winding River Road section will enable cyclists to enjoy views of the airport, conservation area and waterway.

A moderate to advanced ride travels along scenic locations, roadside stands and rural farmland providing escarpment views. The route includes significant hills while rewarding cyclists with access to off road trails, Short Hills Provincial Park and Carolinian forest views.

This easy to moderate loop provides cyclists with modest to moderate hills and features the Fenwick and Ridgeville areas. With roadside stands and unique shops along the route cyclist can enjoy a leisurely pace while exploring.



Lions Club History in Parks

- Lions Club Park, Richmond Street Thorold, sold to the City for Basciano swimming pool
- Lions Club in Fonthill, rail corridor on rear property line
- Lions Club parks across the Region



Region's Transportation Strategic Plan schedule B12

- Fonthill Spurline is on this schedule
- Please keep it in new plan
- An application for a Federal Active Transportation Fund for Rail-to-Trail Projects is supported by MP Vance Badaway



Regional Roads

- Rail crosses RR 67, Beaverdams and
- RR 50, Merrittville HWY and RR 20
- Trail may use Beaverdams Rd road allowance in Thorold
- Please ask Regional PW staff to comment on road crossing configurations and designs where the trail would cross



Trail Connections to Steve Bauer Trail

- Steve Bauer Trail is a paved multi-use rail trail from Port Robinson Rd in Pelham (Fonthill) to Colbeck Rd. and Prince Charles Drive in Welland

Welland streets connect it to the Recreational Canal and a Rotary Park on Lincoln St.



Town of Pelham

- Town of Pelham have plans to build a multi-use trail on the Rail corridor along Station St, across RR 20 and up to town limits at Rice Rd. They are applying for a Trillium grant to complete this in 2025.

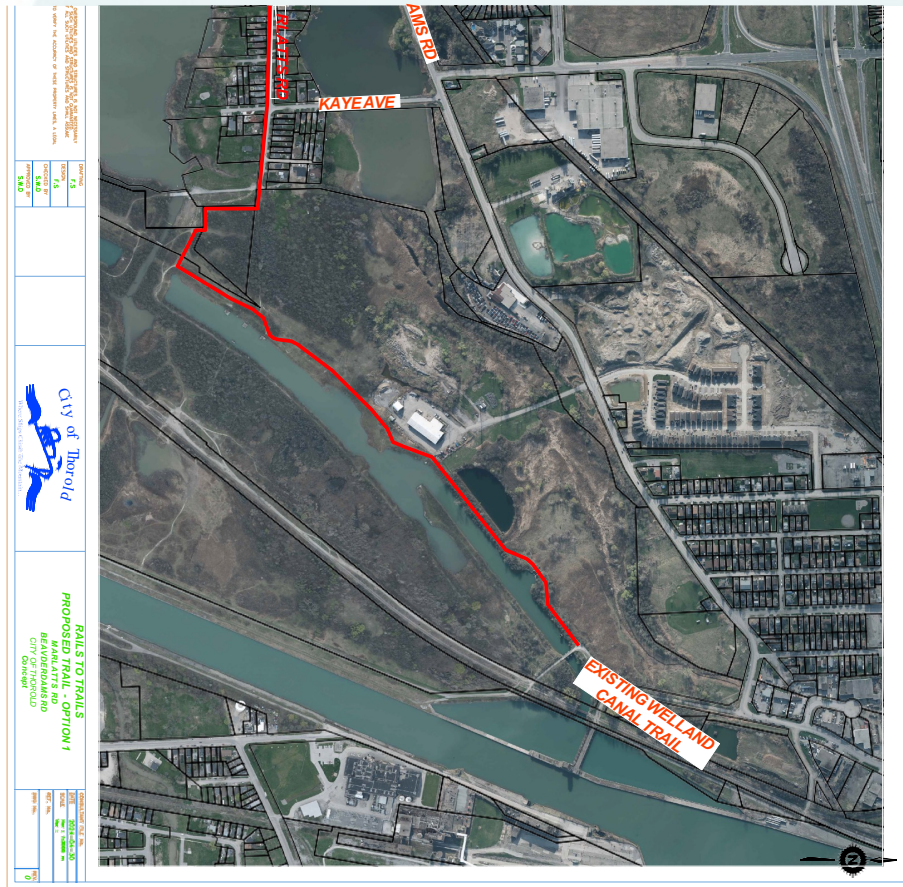


City of Thorold

Thorold has launched a study to determine an alignment for the trail between Marlatts Road and the Canal trail, Greater Niagara Circle route and a preliminary design study to transform the existing rail trail into a primary multi use trail from Marlatts Road to Town of Pelham boundary



Thorold Option



Close the loop

- The Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs, Pelham Advocates for Trees and Habitat (PATH) and Free Wheelers Cycling Club are supporting a project to close the loop from The Greater
- Niagara Circle Route in Thorold through Fonthill to Welland to provide a safe off road
- active transportation corridor connecting urban Thorold to Fonthill and downtown Welland



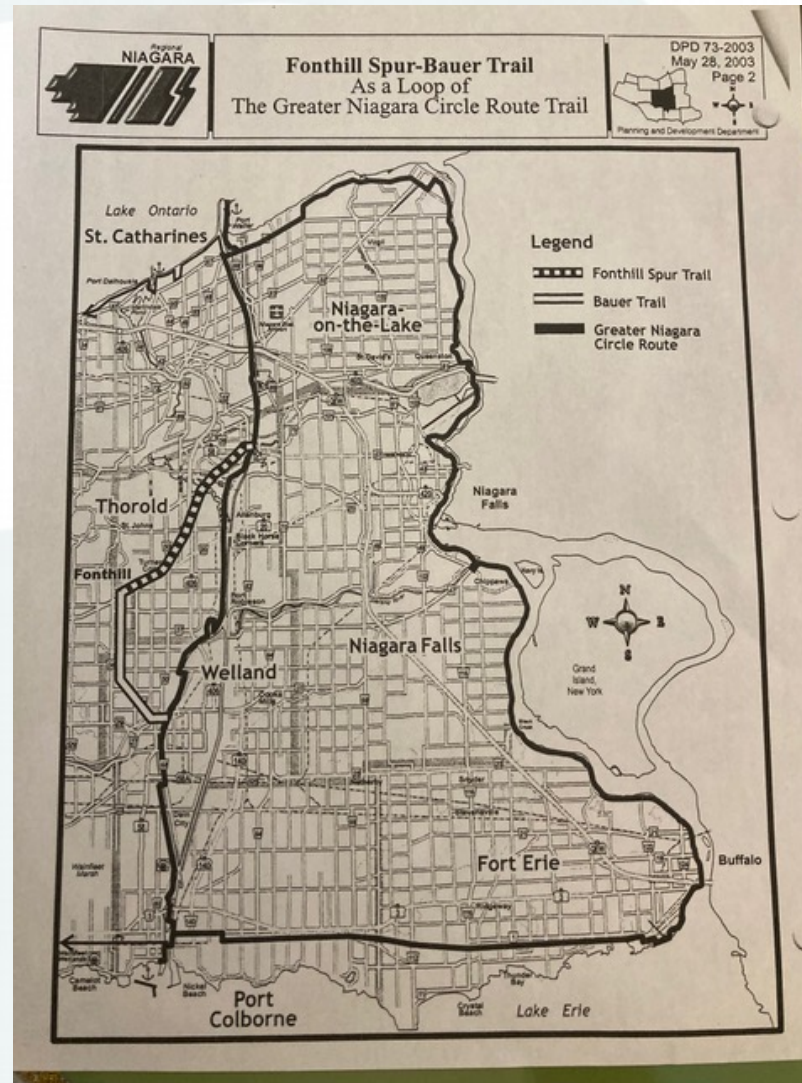
The ask

We ask that the Fonthill Spur-Bauer multi-use trail from 2003, remain in the new Transportation Strategic Plan which is being developed for 2027 and help in planning this project, with engineering advice on crossings and use of RR 67 road allowance

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2003



Thank you for hearing
us today