

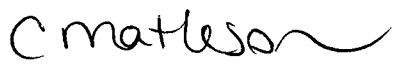
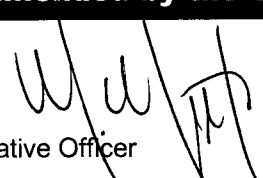
Request for Decision City Council



Type of Decision											
Meeting Date		June 28, 2006				Report Date		June 21, 2006			
Decision Requested			Yes		No	Priority			High		Low
		Direction Only			Type of Meeting			Open		Closed	

Report Title
Municipal Pedestrian Charter

Budget Impact / Policy Implication	Recommendation
<p>This report has been reviewed by the Finance Division and the funding source has been identified.</p> <p>None</p>	<p>That City Council endorse the Municipal Pedestrian Charter as prepared by the Sudbury Heart Health Coalition for the City of Greater Sudbury and utilize the Municipal Pedestrian Charter as a guideline in the planning and development of walking opportunities within the City of Greater Sudbury.</p>
Background Attached	Recommendation Continued

Recommended by the Department	Recommended by the C.A.O.
 Catherine Matheson General Manager, Community Development	 Mark Mieto Chief Administrative Officer

Report Prepared By	Division Review
Chris Gore Manager of Community Partnerships	Real Carre Director of Leisure Services

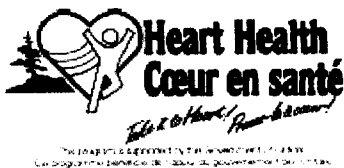
The Municipal Pedestrian Charter represents the culmination of a planning process initiated and implemented by the Sudbury Heart Health Coalition in the fall of 2005. The Sudbury Heart Health Coalition researched existing pedestrian Charters both nationally and internationally to assist in the preparation of charter suited to the specific needs of our community.

The Municipal Pedestrian Charter echoes the values for active living and healthy lifestyles as defined by one of the four pillars of the Healthy Community Strategy identified as a priority by the City of Greater Sudbury. The Municipal Pedestrian Charter was endorsed by the Sudbury and District Board of Health in March of 2006 and by the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities in May of 2006.

The Municipal Pedestrian Charter reflects the principle that a community's 'walkability' is one of the most important measures of the quality of its health and vitality. Walkability is a term for the extent to which walking is readily available as a safe, connected, accessible and pleasant mode of transport. The Charter will serve as a reminder to decision-makers, both governmental and non-governmental, that walking must be valued as the most sustainable of all forms of travel, and that it has enormous social, environmental and economic benefits for a community.

The Municipal Pedestrian Charter will serve as a useful tool to assist in helping to address the low level of physical activity within our community and the well publicized obesity concerns which have been identified within the youth of our community. The Charter also complements the investment the City has made in trail development in partnership with Rainbow Routes to enhance the trail network within the community.

The endorsement of the Municipal Pedestrian Charter would be a first for Northeastern Ontario and will once again allow the City of Greater Sudbury to help set an example for other Municipalities across the province.



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RECEIVED
APR 13 2006

April 10, 2006

Angie Hache
City Clerk
PO Box 5000
Station A
P3A 5P3

Dear Angie Hache,

I was given your name and address as a contact to write regarding the Municipal Pedestrian Charter our Sudbury Heart Health Coalition has recently developed. This charter focuses on the promotion of walking, improvement of safety and accessibility of walking locations and the improvement of overall health and safety of the residents of Sudbury. We have been in contact with a number of Councilors for feedback regarding the charter. Recently the charter has been endorsed by the Sudbury & District Board of Health and our next step is to move to City Council for input and hopefully endorsement / adoption. I am asking for your assistance and direction in how to best accomplish this next goal. I have attached a copy of the Municipal Pedestrian Charter. Please feel free to contact me at the telephone number or email above if you have any further questions or advice.

Thank you,

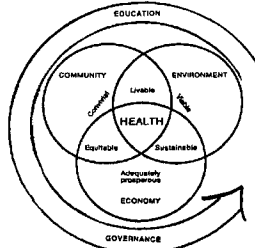
Craig Duncan
Chair
Sudbury Heart Health Coalition

Municipal Pedestrian Charter

Walking is a basic human need, a method of active transportation, and a beneficial way to be physically active and improve health.

Walking is an enjoyable and invigorating way to relax and an opportunity to spend time with family and friends.

A pedestrian is a person moving from place to place either by foot or by using an assistive mobility device. Pedestrians include residents and visitors to the city of all ages and abilities. In order to travel safely, conveniently, directly, and comfortably, pedestrians require an environment and infrastructure designed to meet their travel needs.



Hancock, T., Labonté, R., & Edwards, R. (2000).

The Municipal Pedestrian Charter plays a vital role in improving the overall physical and mental health of the people in the community as well as improving the health of the environment by:

- ❖ Promoting walking for travel, recreational, and exercise purposes.
- ❖ Improving the safety, and accessibility of walking locations within the municipality.
- ❖ Reducing vehicle use, and promote environmentally friendly means of transportation within the municipality.

To ensure walking is a safe, comfortable, and convenient mode of travel, the following guiding principles must be respected:

Accessibility

Walking is a free and direct means of accessing local goods, services, community amenities and public transit.

Equity

Walking is the only mode of travel that is universally affordable, and allows children, youth, adults, older adults and people with specific medical conditions to travel independently.

Health and Well-being

Walking is a proven method of promoting personal health and well-being.

Environmental Sustainability

Walking has negligible environmental impact.

Personal and Community Safety

An environment, in which people feel safe and comfortable walking, increases community safety for all.

Community Cohesion and Vitality

A pedestrian-friendly environment encourages and facilitates social interaction and local economic vitality.

Working with citizens, community groups and agencies, businesses, and all levels of government, the Municipal Pedestrian Charter encourages the creation of walker friendly environments by:

Accessibility

- ✓ Upholding the right of pedestrian of all ages and abilities to safe, convenient, direct, and comfortable walking conditions;
- ✓ Ensuring that residents access to basic community amenities and services does not depend on car ownership or public transit use;

Equity

- ✓ Supporting and encouraging the planning, design, and development of walking environments in public and private spaces (both interior and exterior);
- ✓ Setting policies that reduce conflict between pedestrians and other users of the public right-of-way;

Health and Well-being

- ✓ Encouraging research and education on the social, economic, environmental, and health benefits of walking as a form of travel, recreation, and exercise;
- ✓ Creating and maintaining an outdoor environment that promotes shade and protection from ultraviolet radiation (UVR) exposure;

Environmental Sustainability

- ✓ Providing and maintaining infrastructure that gives pedestrians safe and convenient passage while walking along and crossing streets;

Personal and Community Safety

- ✓ Promoting laws and regulations that respect pedestrians' particular needs;
- ✓ Providing a walking environment within the public right-of-way and in parks that encourages people to walk for travel, exercise and recreation;

Community Cohesion and Vitality

- ✓ Creating walkable communities by giving high priority to mixed land use;
- ✓ Advocating for improving the provincial and federal regulatory and funding frameworks that affect the City of Greater Sudbury's ability to improve the pedestrian environment.

