

## **APPENDIX 3**

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PRECEDENT PROJECTS

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### A) The Canadian Pacific Railway Pedestrian Bridge

Milton, Ontario

As part of the Master Planning process, community members requested an investigation into elevated pedestrian walkways over railway tracks in two locations near the Pipeline Trail. The two locations were:

- a) the Escarpment Rail Trail connection near the intersection of Lawrence Road and Ottawa Street South.
- b) the rail crossing on Parkdale Avenue between Mahony Avenue and Brampton Street.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Pedestrian Bridge in Milton was reviewed as a precedent project for the following reasons:

- i) it is a current example, having been completed in August 2013, consequently the construction cost will be relevant. The construction cost for the bridge was estimated to be \$2.5 million, with a completed cost of approximately \$3.5 million.
- ii) the bridge is located on an urban multi-use trail, connects two neighbourhoods, and provides improved access to a number of destinations in the Town .
- iii) should community members wish to visit the site it is within driving distance.
- iv) it includes accessible pedestrian circulation (in the form of ramps) and met current accessibility requirements at the time it was designed.

The bridge consists of stairs, elevated walkways and ramps for all bridge users. It is constructed of metal with glass side panels where the bridge spans the CPR tracks. During the winter months the ramps, stairs, and walkways are shovelled by hand. This method of snow clearing is more costly than mechanical snow removal.

O'Connor Mokrycke Consultants (OMC) obtained schematic drawings of the bridge from Town of Milton staff and overlaid them in the areas under review at Parkdale Avenue and at Lawrence and Ottawa Streets. In both cases, it appeared that there was not sufficient ground space to accommodate a bridge of this nature.

At the public meeting of June 25, 2015, there were mixed reactions from the community with respect to the proposed crossings – some people felt that the crossings would be worth implementing, while others felt that the cost and spatial limitations precluded them as desirable options.



## Pipeline Trail Master Plan

The Parkdale Avenue crossing has warning signals and gates for vehicles. The crossing near Lawrence Road and Ottawa Street South does not. Some community comments included the desire for a simple grade level crossing across the tracks at the Escarpment Trail connection with safety improvements such as warning signals and gates.

All options will require detailed investigation with full examination of alternatives and exploration of such issues as cost, safety, and regulations.

Other municipal documents such as the Hamilton Recreational Trails Master Plan and the Cycling Master Plan have relevance with respect to this crossing.



*Figure A - View of bridge entrance with accessible ramps and rest stop at base, OMC Photo*



*Figure B -View of track crossing – glass panels. Remaining pedestrian circulation areas indicate railings, OMC Photo*

Reference:

[https://www.milton.ca/en/play/cp\\_railwaypedestrianbridge.asp](https://www.milton.ca/en/play/cp_railwaypedestrianbridge.asp)



B) Urban Trail Examples

The following urban trails were reviewed as precedent projects. They provided a rich source of ideas and inspiration for the Pipeline Trail. Excellent concepts and ideas relating to connectivity, sustainability, public art, education and wayfinding were among the ideas found in these examples.

When considering urban trail precedents it must be understood that most funding contributions are based on public and private partnerships. The Pipeline Trail will be redeveloped, constructed and maintained with municipal funding with the exceptions of the community gardens that are being designed, installed and maintained by community volunteers. Future grants from other public or private sources may be available.

1) Downtown Heritage Trail, Washington, DC  
<http://www.culturaltourismdc.org>

2) Emerald Necklace Trail, Boston, MA  
<http://www.emeraldnecklace.org>

3) Freedom Trail Boston, MA  
<http://www.thefreedomtrail.org>

4) Indianapolis Cultural Trail  
<http://indyculturaltrail.org>

5) High Line, New York City  
<http://www.thehighline.org>

6) Philadelphia Public Art Project  
[http://www.planphilly.com/eyes on the street](http://www.planphilly.com/eyes%20on%20the%20street)

*What can be learned from these precedent projects is that every community has its own unique qualities and it is essential that these qualities be used to celebrate what is relevant to that community, within its available funding framework.*

