Alton's Sidewalks

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ALTON’S SIDEWALKS

Jenna Flemming
Inaccessibility

*** ALL pictures seen in this PowerPoint are real photographs taken within Alton. They are not images from the web.
Introduction

In Alton, we have a large number of:

- Seniors and others with mobility issues that uses walking aids,
- Parents with young children and strollers
- People with disabilities

All of the high curbs, lack of ramps, cracks in the sidewalks and misplaced crosswalks all pose barriers and dangers to everyone especially seniors and those with mobility issues.
Holes and Over-Growth

The conditions make it hard for mobility aids or strollers to get around town without getting stuck at every few feet.
Cracks
Real Story

Local Resident:

The sidewalks are cracked and in pieces on Queen St. West, making Alton look run down, which is bad for tourist that come to the local businesses.
Curbs

- The cracks and over-growth within the curbs makes it hard to navigate.
- It is hard to get up the curb due to depth of slope.
Curbs
Real Story

Local Firefighter:

- At the moment the children have to pass in front of the fire hall, and they usually cut right through the parking lot to get to school. He would like to see it moved to ensure the safety of the children as well as better productivity of the fire hall.
The crosswalk that is there does not have a proper ramp.
Real Story

Mother of twins, owner of local business:

- When she had the stroller, she stated it was really difficult getting around.

- It was dangerous as the stroller was heavy with the girls and she couldn’t lift it up the curbs or it would get struck.
The ramp to cross the street does not line up with the crosswalk. The crosswalk has no ramp.
Help our Seniors

All seniors I spoke with stated they were not happy with the sidewalks;

- bumpy,
- limited access,
- couldn’t get across the road at times,
- got stuck,
- difficult to navigate,
- had issues in the winter especially,
- a few seniors avoided going on them.
Issues and Recommendations

The sidewalks are poorly maintained and inaccessible:

- I believe we should repair/replace the sidewalks to ensure that residents of Alton have the freedom to get around safely and without hassle.
- Due to the large volume of repairs, it will be very costly to fix.
- I also believe that the sidewalks should be maintained on a bi-annual basis to keep cost of repairs down and maintain accessible status.
Issues and Recommendations

- A lot of business owners did not want to fix the sidewalks as Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities (AODA) regulation sidewalks would be put in as in would cut back on parking and effect profit.

- To avoid disrupting the local businesses, could we fix the sidewalk that are already there instead of tearing them out.
Issues and Recommendations

- Move the crosswalk at Main-McClellan, so to does interfere with the fire hall and ensure safety of the children and others using that crosswalk.
  - Make McClellan a three way stop with the crosswalk.
  - *Move the crosswalk at Main-Queen East in ensure accessibility and safety for all.*
Please help make our community safe for all and family/senior friendly.
THANK YOU

Jenna Flemming