

Petition for Pedestrian Crossing Signal – Kent Street and Aberdeen Avenue

Whereas, Aberdeen Avenue is a very busy roadway, with significant traffic volumes and speeds, exacerbated by Hamilton Mountain traffic via the Queen Street Hill, proximity to Highway 403, HSR bus traffic, and the busy Dundurn and Locke Street corridors, especially during the morning and afternoon rush hours, and;

Whereas, Kent Street and Aberdeen Avenue is a much-used crossing by pedestrians (including many families with young children) traveling northbound to destinations including Ryerson, St. Joseph's and Earl Kitchener schools, the HAAA park, and the Locke Street shopping area; and southbound to Beulah, Spruceside and Highland Gardens parks, and;

Whereas, the pedestrian experience walking along Aberdeen Avenue to the stop lights at Locke Street and/or Queen Street is unpleasant and dangerous due to the speeding traffic, narrow sidewalk abutting the roadway, and unevenness of the roadway resulting in splashing during precipitation, with the Queen Street intersection providing particular safety challenges for pedestrians, and;

Whereas, Hamilton City Council has made commitments to improving walkability in the city by signing the International Charter for Walking, and through City Council's vision statement with the goal of making Hamilton the best place to raise a child, and;

Whereas, the Public Health Services department is undertaking programs to promote walkability (i.e., Active and Safe Routes to School), and;

Whereas, supporting and encouraging active transportation (e.g., walking) may result in increased physical activity, increased social cohesion, decreased risk of injuries and decreased levels of air pollution, and;

Whereas, several City departments are committed to the Hamilton Strategic Road Safety Program, and;

Whereas, the Public Works department is working with other City departments to develop a city-wide Pedestrian and Walkability Master Plan, and;

Whereas, streets and roads are not only for cars.

Therefore:

The undersigned urge the City of Hamilton to install a pedestrian crossing signal at Kent Street and Aberdeen Avenue as soon as possible, facilitating walkability and pedestrian safety.

