

THE TORONTO PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

DEFINITION OF PEDESTRIANS:

Pedestrians are people moving by foot from place to place or at a walking pace (for example, users of assistive mobility devices, children on tricycles).

OBJECTIVES:

1. To promote the implementation of the City's Walking Strategy and the spirit of The Pedestrian Charter.
2. To promote a culture of walking.
3. To work for improved pedestrian safety and better pedestrian access to public transit, schools, workplaces, shops, libraries, community centres, parks, including roads and other public spaces.
4. To provide pedestrian-oriented input to the allocation, design and use of public space.
5. To provide City council and staff with comments and recommendations relating to standards to street and sidewalk lighting, guidelines, and general design of the public realm, including roads, and the capital and operating budgets with the understanding that Council may, from time to time, request direct input from the Toronto Pedestrian Committee on any general or specific issue it so chooses.
6. To provide a forum for public consultation on pedestrian health and safety, convenience and comfort, including working with Community Councils on local neighbourhood concerns, working with the Toronto Transit Commission (T.T.C.) on transit-related issues, the local School Boards on student pedestrian issues, and other related agencies, e.g. Toronto Public Library Board.
7. The provision of educational programs to the general public and special needs groups.

MEMBERSHIP: (16)

Sixteen (16) representatives from the following groups:

Two (2) Members of Toronto City Council.

Four (4) citizens:

One (1) from each of the Community Council Districts
(Toronto East York, North York, Etobicoke York, and Scarborough)

One (1) representative appointed by the Toronto District School Board; and
One (1) representative appointed by the Toronto Catholic District School Board,

If they so wish. (Alternates may also be nominated by the School Boards)

One (1) representative from each of the following groups:

Pedestrian and/or active transportation advocacy organizations;

Seniors' groups;

Disability groups; and

Design groups or associations.

Four (4) members at large.

The Committee seeks to have a membership representative of Toronto's diverse communities and all types of pedestrian interests including and not limited to the following:

Wheelchair users, physically-handicapped, blind or hearing-handicapped persons;

Students/Youth;

Walking/hiking organizations;

Transit advocacy groups or interests;

Parks, trails and the waterfront groups or interests;

Cycling interests.

It is desirable that committee members and alternates be people who regularly walk, cycle and/or use public transit.

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee will strike a Nominating Sub-Committee which will recommend new citizen appointments to the Committee. The Nominating Sub-Committee may also wish to draw up a list of alternates to be used if sitting members resign. Vacant positions on the Committee will be advertised through a variety of media. The Sub-Committee will: review the submitted applications; short-list the candidates to be interviewed; interview and select the successful candidates; and recommend the nominees to the Toronto Pedestrian Committee. A report will be forwarded to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee and/or Civic Appointments Committee for subsequent submission to Toronto City Council. Citizen members will be appointed for a term of four years. Reappointments will be permitted, however, the maximum length of service is 8 consecutive years.

QUORUM:

The quorum shall be five (5) members.

STAFF RESOURCES:

Assigned staff from the Transportation and Planning Departments, TTC, Police and Public Health Officials to be invited as required or as interested. The committee and staff may agree that, from time to time, staff will look into an issue informally in order to help the work of the committee move along in a timely way. Recording secretary to be assigned from the City Clerk's Department. Mailings for meetings to be maintained.

MEETINGS:

Meetings to be held monthly, or at the call of the Chair. Where possible, the time of the meetings shall attempt to accommodate the needs of all committee members. All meetings to be open to the public and advertised.

From time to time, the Committee may meet in different locations across the City to deal with local concerns and to promote walking, and use other forms of engagement in lieu of monthly meetings to engage Torontonians, where appropriate. These may include summits/idea forums, showcases, policy workshops, blogs, budget planning meetings, annual reviews, survey and polling and RSS feeds.

Small working groups may be set up as needed. Also individual members may be designated to liaise with other groups or organizations (e.g. the Toronto Cycling Committee).

REPORTING:

The Toronto Pedestrian Committee will report to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee or the appropriate Standing Committee as circumstances indicate.

June 21, 2010