

December 14, 2019

To Mayor Bondy and Town Councillors

The neighbourhood of River Ave would like Town Council to consider this request at their 2020 budget deliberations. The Town of Lasalle prides itself in the extensive trail system it has developed, unfortunately, this trail system is not accessible to all, especially the residents of River Ave.

River Ave residents have no safe access to any active transportation system. As a dead end street our only access out of the neighbourhood is via Front Road. I'm sure Town Council is fully aware of the high rates of speeds encountered on Front Road. These speeds, along with the lack of cycling infrastructure and sidewalks along Front Road makes accessing the trail system for River Avenue residents extremely difficult for all but especially youth and seniors.

My husband is an avid cyclist and has had many near misses (and has been clipped by a school bus) trying to navigate Front Road on his way to accessing the multi-use trail that the City of Windsor has brought to the Town boundary.

I'm also aware of seniors on our street attempting to cross Front Road to access public transit. In my experience, crossing Front Road is a challenge; I worry about seniors with less mobility trying to cross during peak hours.

The Town of Lasalle's "Connect to an Active Lifestyle: Parks & Recreation Master Plan" includes Trails as a high priority for Town Council. The following recommendations in the Plan speak to my requests:

#### *4.5.1 Trails - High Priority*

##### *Recommendation – Trails*

*That the town continue to allocate funding to increase linkages and connectivity in all Family of Parks.*

*That the town establish a priority to acquire and naturalize lands along major drainage features and other natural corridors to support future trail development*

#### *4.7.9 Trails - High Priority*

##### *Recommendation – Trails*

*That the town continue to make trail connections and explore private public partnerships and grant easements to allow for safe trail access across the town.*

## Requests

- 1) **Provide a pedestrian and bike crossing at the ETR tracks to allow for access to the LaSalle trail towards Ojibway Oaks Park/Ramblewood, which currently requires dangerous travel down Front Road.**

I realize that this crossing will require a partnership and easement from ETR. However, there are a number of examples of where pedestrian crossings have been undertaken in the region on much more heavily used tracks.

- 2) **Provide options for active transportation on Front Road. This would allow cyclists and pedestrians to connect to City of Windsor and Town of Lasalle trails for recreation as well as commuting. This should include protected/separated bike lanes, or desirable alternative routes.**
- 3) **Provide safe pedestrian crossing of Front Road for users of public transit near River Avenue.**

Recommendation 3 may not be required if access across the ETR tracks suggested in 1) is available, as a safer alternative may be to catch the bus along Morton.

I initiated this request to Town Council based on my personal experiences. However, numerous neighbours have shown their support by signing this below.

Request Initiated and Signed by,

*K. Richters*



Karina Richters  
[REDACTED] River Ave



*S. Johnson*

# Request to Town Council for improved Active Transportation Connections to/from River Ave

## Additional Signatories from River Ave residents

Name	Address	Signature
Matthew Curtis	[REDACTED] River Ave	
Nancy Brown	[REDACTED] River Ave	Nancy Brown
LEIGH RUMBALL	[REDACTED] RIVER AVE	
DANIEL WRIGHT	[REDACTED] RIVER	Daniel Wright
Lorrie Coates	[REDACTED] River	L Coates
PAUL PARDEAN	[REDACTED] RIVER	