

Oaklands Rise News

Progress—and opportunity—on our Living Streets Woonerf



Sod turning...it's fun! Are you in the picture?

Neighbours helping neighbours ...

Sunshine, sod, elbow grease...shovels, sangria and sweets!

Thanks to Robin, Russ, John S, Pat, Ed, Bonnie, Andrew, Martin, Merrie Ellen, Madeline, Grant, Eric, Rosemary, John O and Rob for donations of time, plants, labour, refreshments and enthusiasm. The encouragement of so many passersby—Susan, Merrie, John H, James, Catherine, Claire and others kept us going. Time flew and on May 12, we were all amazed at what a bunch of motivated neighbours can do in about 45 minutes!

Are you a reader? Or do you like to see plans? Some want text, others slides. Just about everybody seems to like the see-touch-smell opportunity of real-life plants! We're doing a bit of everything to make the vision real for people—everyone who wants to can help shape the proposal that we are required to create for City Hall—let YOUR voice be heard!

1

EASY CARE PLANTS

It's time for dividing clumps in the garden. Extras? Please share!

2

WALK 'N WEED

Strolling by weeds? Get limber: bend, stretch, take 'em out!

3

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Most important: spread the word, invite input. Be visible, be counted!

Walkabout with City Staff Delayed—dates to be determined

Cold season took its toll – City contacts are not immune! Date TBD

Reading & Research

There is a wealth of material for insights into safety, traffic calming, community wellness, etc.

In the street calming

One example of a typical woonerf street calming



method—or would you prefer a flashing light outside your place?

Ideas for communications?

Share your ideas, issues, concerns & dreams with the Core Planning group. Chat with Madeline, Pat, John O, Ed, Rob, Robin or email to: oaklandsrise@gmail.com



Like a village lane, not a highway to elsewhere ...

Traffic engineer Hans Monderman “envisioned a dual universe. There was the ‘traffic world’ of the highway, standardized, homogenous, made legible by simple instructions to be read at high speed. And there was the “social world,” where people lived and interacted using human signals, at human speeds. ... ‘I don’t want traffic behavior, I want social behavior.’ ” Vanderbilt, 2008. *Wilson Quarterly. The Traffic Guru*

History has shown ...

- ☑ Stop signs: inexpensive, but “up to 68% of drivers ignore four-way stop signs” Boles, 1966. *Palm Beach Post. City Hopes to Curb Your Driving Passion.*
- ☑ Speed bumps: controversial & problematic from a safety & accessibility viewpoint: increased noise and pollution as cars slow, then speed between bumps. *Vanderbilt, 2008. Wilson Quarterly. The Traffic Guru.*
- ☑ Roundabouts: need careful planning to avoid increase of neighbourhood emergency response time; slalom driving reduces effectiveness as a traffic calming element. *Vanderbilt, 2008. Wilson Quarterly. The Traffic Guru.*
- ☑ “In many communities streets are overdesigned for the traffic they have to carry.” Appleyard, 1981. *University of California Press. Liveable Streets.*
- ☑ “Not everybody is convinced. A survey in Ashford published by the University of the West of England found that 80% of respondents felt safer under the previous road layout” yet “a study of seven European Shared Space projects from 2004 to 2008, backed by the European Interreg IIIB North Sea Programme, supports Hamilton-Baillie’s view. ‘There are fewer accidents,’ it concludes. ‘When a situation feels unsafe, people are more alert.’ “There is a constant dilemma in this field; whether we are seeking improvements in perceptions of safety or improvements in actual safety.” *Tulloch, 2012. Allianz.com Why making streets risky improves road safety: Mixing cars, cyclists and pedestrians may appear more dangerous, but ‘Shared Space’ approaches are reducing accidents across Europe.*
- ☑ Calgary’s sidewalks ice up due to snow...in Victoria, it’s the humidity! “...emergency rooms are looking pretty full this week due to treacherous, slippery sidewalks.” *Ward, 2018. CBC News interview, Dr. Eddy Lang, Calgary ER doctors seeing hundreds of icy sidewalk injuries*

It’s time to look more deeply into how we want to achieve a safe, accessible, people oriented neighbourhood. To protect what we have & guide what will be, we need you.

ACTION ITEM: provide views to oaklandsrise@gmail.com

- The Core Planning Group has asked John O to create the City-required draft plan by June 15.
- Get your thoughts and vision, pro or con, to us **BEFORE June 4 to be included in this draft.** What does a woonerf mean to you: the most successful are uniquely fit to neighbourhood—us!
- Want to know more, share plants, donate your lottery win? Just drop an email and let us know.

Help build a plan the City can approve—join the discussion!