

Port Credit Walkability Audit: Results and Recommendations Summary

The following document was prepared by the Region of Peel and includes a summary of comments made by participants during our breakout discussion as well as verbatim comments taken from the Map Exercise.

Section	Average Score	Comments & Recommendations
Overall	80.30% (~138.11/172)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This neighbourhood is walkable, but some improvements could be made to increase walkability.

Section	Average Score	Comments & Recommendations
Destinations	85.76% (~27.44/32)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Port Credit Arena is great. Memorial park is beautiful and has a nice open area away from Lakeshore Road with play areas, proximity to a recreation centre, picnic tables, lots of plants, great trails for walking with lots of lights, nice views, and easy access to the river, and covered areas to sit. Memorial Park is has many amenities such as a basketball court, playgrounds, skateboard park, free parking, and a library. There are all kinds of amenities for daily life. A lot of storefronts on Lakeshore Road are not accessible.

- Recommendations**
- To get to Riverside Public School, you must go down to Lakeshore Road. An added bridge would make the travel much shorter and would relieve congestion.
 - If there was a good pedestrian and cycle bridge at C.N.R, it would be much easier to get to Riverside Public School on John Street N.
 - Add more benches and seating areas near destinations
 - A large grocery store such as No Frills is required to accommodate all income.
 - Add more public gym facilities and another walkable recreation facility.
 - A store directory is required for the stores along Lakeshore Road.
 - GO access signs are required along Helene St N.
 - Port Hotel needs maintenance and beautification.

Section	Average Score	Comments & Recommendations
Mix of Destinations	86.11% (31/36)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are walkable dentists, pharmacies, health facilities, and banks. • Not all buildings are accessible by wheelchair. • The balanced mix of destinations is impressive.

- Recommendations**
- Some needs such as a major grocery store and a hardware store are not met.
 - Finding destinations can be difficult without wayfinding signs.
 - To help reduce cars, implement more bike parking in safe places.
 - Preserve what is already there while continuing to build the history and diversity.

Section	Average Score	Comments & Recommendations
Street Layout	87.22% (~17.44/20)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The distance between intersections is well-spaced and short. • The grid layout of the streets makes navigation easy. • The Port Credit Bridge walkway is close to traffic but safe with the fencing barrier. • There are alternative walkways under the bridge, but that area is sometimes flooded and cannot be used. • Lakeshore Road has lots of traffic, and Mississauga Road is too crowded at the intersection. • High traffic area causes multiple minor car accidents. • Areas with regular traffic congestion need relief. • The extended outdoor summer patios are great for forcing cars to slow down. • There is not enough public parking (e.g., at the south of Waterside Hotel).

- Recommendations**
- Restrict left turns during AM and PM rush hours at Stavebank Road and Lakeshore Road.
 - Move traffic light from John Street to Front Street where pedestrians cross.
 - Provide an extra lane for cars to relieve congestion on Lakeshore Road.
 - Widen Mississauga Road.
 - There is an overflow of GO parking on the north end of

the Port Credit Arena. Accommodate pedestrians with a crosswalk to the GO station.

- Install perpendicular signs or a lit up store directory at each corner of the village for better navigation of the stores.
- Add designated bike lanes to the roads.
- Eliminate car parking spaces along Kim Gym.
- Encourage drivers to park outside the centre of Port Credit and walk. Beautiful boulevards can help to encourage this.
- Advertise the “vicinity card” better.
- Walkways are too narrow and need repair in some places.
- Port Street needs beautification including cyclist and pedestrian markings, green boulevards, colourful banners, cycle parking, benches, and trees.
- The Lakeshore Bridge is currently too narrow for cars and bikes and cannot safely accommodate large cyclist groups in Port Credit village. Construct two pedestrian and cyclist bridges over Credit River: one on the south side of the railway bridge, joining the existing trails at Front St and Memorial Park; and a second one added to the existing Lakeshore Bridge.

Section	Average Score	Comments & Recommendations
Walking experience	71.06% (~34.11/48)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The art and walk-up frames at Memorial Park is great. • The whimsical piano keys crosswalk and the lighthouse are great features. • The walk in Memorial Park is comfortable and pleasant. • Front Street does not have easy access to Memorial Park. • The walkway over the Port Credit Bridge is noisy and crowded. • The alternative walkway under the bridge is flooded with water. • The west side of the bridge has a very different feel than the east side, as if not as much care has gone into it. • The main streets are very loud and you can't always hear the crosswalk beeps. • There are uneven pavements and curbs, and barriers like street parking, garbage cans, and traffic poles on some sidewalks.

- Some routes are very narrow with bad slopes and other protrusions like trees that disrupt pedestrians.
- The trail at the harbour has multi-use confusion with no designated bike and walk sections.
- There are lots of people crossing in the middle of the road at Lakeshore Road and Mississauga Road.
- Flagstones at St. Lawrence Park need repair.
- Light posts should have barriers around them.
- Lighting in some areas could be improved.
- Port Street has no clear sidewalk on either side.
- Library accessibility access is hidden behind trees and is not clearly marked.
- Park sign and stairs should be lit for better visibility.
- There is a variation in building design with some high rise mixed with lower buildings.

Recommendations

- The walk to Memorial Park needs lights on the corners, more wayfinding signage, and more seating along the perimeter.
 - Install benches with backs on the west side of Port Credit Library for readers to face the lake.
 - Picnic tables need to be made more accessible.
 - Create more accessible placement of planters and seating.
 - Improve the green space on the west side of the bridge.
 - John Street N needs wider sidewalks and bike lanes.
 - Add a pedestrian signal at Starbucks.
 - Lengthen pedestrian cross time at the Lakeshore Road and Mississauga Road traffic light.
 - Extend the walking and cycling trail along the west side of the river and connect it to the GO station.
 - The waterfront trail should guide cyclists to the GO station to promote biking in Port Credit.
 - Add GO station signs on Lakeshore heading east.
 - Add pod lights, tree grates, and planter boxes that allow sitting to sidewalks.
 - St. Lawrence Park flagstones are breaking apart and need repair.
 - Paint a crosswalk coming out from Port Credit Harbour onto Port Street.
 - Put up signs for public washrooms in Port Credit
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Harbour.

- Port Hotel needs exterior improvement.
- Side streets should have traffic lights.
- The pedestrian bridge needs to clearly indicate pedestrian and biker mixing zones.
- Have a pedestrian-only zone for silent hours and holidays.
- Add consistent garbage/recycling bins throughout the area as some places have garbage on the ground.
- Add character to garbage receptacles by making them more visually appealing.
- Green space is required between the road and sidewalk on Lakeshore Road.
- Add bike racks to multiple places close to destinations.
- Install animal relieving and drinking stations, as well as water bottle refill stations along the trails
- The walking experience throughout the area was very different from one small stretch to the next, thus improving the less desirable areas will create a consistently positive experience.
- Ensure a good representation of the heritage of the community.

Section	Average Score	Comments & Recommendations
Sidewalks	73.33% (~14.66/20)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The sidewalk barrier on the bridge feels safe and forces pedestrians to cross at the lights.• There is confusion along the multi-use trail on Credit River Bridge by both walkers and cyclists.• There are dangerous walkways at the temporary decks on Lakeshore Road.• There are sidewalks on both sides of most streets but the sidewalks are too narrow and full of obstacles.• Some sidewalks are uneven and have steep slopes.• Curb ramps are not well done in some areas.• There are parking metres in the middle of the walkway.• Sidewalks are uneven at Port Street and Hurontario Street.• There is illegal sidewalk parking in some places such as at Skinner & Middlebrook Funeral Home.• Patios are great but they are rough and unsafe for people with certain accessibility needs.• There are great city flower pots along Lakeshore Road.

- Port Street has poor pedestrian facilities including lack of visual interest and seating.
- There are multiple cyclists on the sidewalk because they feel unsafe on the road.
- St. Lawrence Park is nicer and well-maintained with nice water views.
- Wall seating has no backs or arm rests for people who need them.

- Recommendations**
- Add more bike stations, especially ones not blocking the sidewalks.
 - Stavebank Road and Lakeshore Road intersection needs realignment.
 - Create a bike lane on the road to keep bikers safe and off the sidewalks.
 - Crosswalk required at Stavebank Road and Port Street.
 - Some sidewalks need repair and a paint job.
 - Assign cyclist and pedestrian routes on wide segments such as on Port Street.
 - Improved accessibility is required at Velocity Rehab.

Section	Average Score	Comments & Recommendations
Nature	84.02% (~13.44/16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are not enough trees and vegetation along the road at Lakeshore Road and John Street. • The blue seating at the Harbour is often covered in seagull droppings so people may not use them. • There are water activities on the river. • There are beautiful hanging flower baskets.

- Recommendations**
- Maximize some small green spaces to create a special local focal point.
 - Add more trees to areas that are lacking.
 - Keep the trees along the streets healthy.
 - Eliminate the boat storage in Port Credit Harbour Marina and replace with public trails and greenspace.
 - The west side of the river requires pruning.
 - Add some picnic tables in Cenotaph Park.
 - Increase landscape seating.
 - Provide safer access to the water's edge for fishermen.

Notes from Map Exercise

Port Credit Memorial Park

- Park is open and accessible with lots of walking paths.
- Love the art, signage, and walk of fame.

Lakeshore Road

- Great coffee smells near Starbucks.
- Nice decorative flower pots and hanging baskets along Lakeshore Road.
- Love the extended summer patio space onto Lakeshore road. Add more patios and eliminate parking in the restaurant area along Lakeshore Road.
- Add more prominent GO station signs and more bike parking on Lakeshore Road.
- Uneven sidewalks need repair.
- Create an alternative walkway across the river on the north side of the Lakeshore bridge.
- Water facilities for dogs needed in coordination with water fountains.
- Add public washroom signage at the lighthouse.
- Add signs for schools consistent with other public signage.
- Add tree grates to make sidewalks more walkable.
- The intersection at Stavebank Road and Lakeshore Road is a pedestrian disaster. Add a “no left turn” sign northbound at PM rush hour.
- Two traffic lights are required at Front Street & Lakeshore Road and Helene Street & Lakeshore Road
- Relocate the lights at John Street & Lakeshore Road to Front Street.
- South side of Lakeshore Road W sidewalk is very uncomfortable with no trees and is close to traffic.
- Add a bike lane to Lakeshore Road.

Lakeshore Bridge

- The trail off of the bridge is very interesting because of landscaping and curved trail
- Could develop the West side of the bridge green space to be something interesting
- The sidewalk is too close to the road. It feels uncomfortable between Credit River and Mississauga Road

Mississauga Road

- The heavy traffic flow up Mississauga Road from Lakeshore Road is impeded by curb side parking.
- Eliminate the five parking spots north of Lakeshore Road & Mississauga Road.

Port Street

- Trash bins needed on St. Lawrence Drive at Port Street.
- Signs needed on the side of the streets informing of traffic lights at Lakeshore Road on Port Street.
- Add shuttle buses for pedestrian mobility around Port Credit.
- Add pavement markings at Stavebank Road and Port Street for crossing.
- Keep cyclists on Port Street instead of Lakeshore Road.

Port Credit Harbour Marina

- Public washroom signs are needed.
- A crosswalk is needed when exiting Port Credit Harbour Marina.
- Eliminate all boat storage and replace them with greenery and trail space.
- The wide walkway is good but it needs markings to differentiate pedestrian and cycle zones.
- Architecture needs to be more focused on a historical and contemporary mix (e.g., the post office refurbish is wonderful).

Helene Street

- Add a “Go To Waterfront” sign at Helene Street.
- Improve streetscape and bike lanes.

West River

- Pedestrian and cycling trails are required along West River.

Stavebank Road

- Safe crossing needed at Stavebank and Park St E
- Paint crosswalk on road between Port Credit Arena and GO Parking

GO Station

- Bike Share required at GO station

Port Credit Railroad

- Add a pedestrian/cycle bridge and connect it to trails.
- No Frills was a great loss to Port Credit because it encouraged walkability. You could arrive from work at the GO station, pick up groceries, then walk home.