

Vision Highlights

Renfrew-Collingwood Today

Renfrew-Collingwood is a dynamic, family-oriented neighbourhood, known for its active community spirit and remarkable diversity. Its residents value the area's single family neighbourhoods, views from public places, and open sections of Still Creek and Renfrew Ravine. The area's parks offer precious open space and are heavily used as are the community centre, pool, neighbourhood house, and community policing centre. The Vision seeks to maintain these community assets.

The Renfrew-Collingwood Vision also seeks to improve the community. Residents want more actions to protect the environment and daylight Still Creek as well as new initiatives to improve community safety and increase the attractiveness of parks, school grounds, streets and lanes. Primary arterials should be made safer and easier to cross and several secondary arterials should be reclassified as collectors. Residents seek increased input to decisions which affect them, enhanced walking/biking routes, and expanded recreation programs for youth, seniors, and families. The Vision supports additional seniors housing and new housing variety around more attractive shopping areas.

Create More Attractive Parks, Streets, Lanes, and Public Places



There should be more variety in park design, appearance, and activities to serve the diverse population of the community. School grounds should become attractive, usable community spaces. More park space should be added in poorly served areas of Renfrew-Collingwood and along restored areas of Still Creek. Renfrew Ravine should be enhanced and all parks should be better maintained. More attention should be paid to safety in parks. Streets should be enhanced as pleasant green links that connect the neighbourhood and there should be greener alternatives to fully paved lanes. Views from public places like parks and streets should be protected. Existing major public buildings with heritage character should be retained with compatible renovations and additions.

Create a Cleaner Community, Focus on Environmental Initiatives

Residents and businesses, with City support, should work to create a clean and litter free Renfrew-Collingwood. Individuals and businesses should increase recycling and composting and improve their conservation of energy and water. The quality of community streams like Still Creek and Renfrew Ravine should be improved. The City should work with other levels of government to incorporate sustainable practices in their own operations and to regulate noise, emissions, and water/energy use.

Enhance Community Safety

Individuals, the community, and the police should increase their efforts to create a safer community. Prevention initiatives, especially for youth and around SkyTrain stations, should be increased. The City should initiate a comprehensive look at prostitution to reduce its negative community impacts.



Create Neighbourhood Centres around Important Shopping Areas



Collingwood Village, Norquay Village, and select mini-nodes (22nd/Rupert, 22nd/Renfrew, and 29th/Rupert) should be enhanced to act as the heart of their adjacent neighbourhoods. New housing should be added to help support the shopping areas. On the commercial streets improvements should make them more convenient, safe and comfortable: shops and services should be continuous along the ground floor of buildings and there should be more street trees and sidewalk merchandise, improved pedestrian safety, additional convenient parking, more attractive store fronts, and cleaner streets and lanes.

Make Streets Safer

Conditions and safety for residents, pedestrians, and transit users should be substantially improved on all arterial streets in Renfrew-Collingwood. Sidewalks and pedestrian crossings should be improved, traffic speeds controlled, intersection safety enhanced, and the adverse impacts of trucks reduced. Several secondary arterials should be reclassified as neighbourhood collectors and more local streets should have traffic calming and parking reserved for residents. Buses should be more frequent, comfortable, and convenient and they should be given more priority on streets.

Improve Community Involvement in Decision-Making

Residents should have greater and more timely input into decisions about changes in their community involving matters ranging from major items like SkyTrain stations and prostitution to recurring decisions on transit and park planning, street and traffic changes, and development proposals (including the location of drug treatment centres). The City and the community should form more partnerships when planning and implementing community projects. An annual community capital program should be established to be spent on unique community priorities.

Maintain and Enhance Single Family Neighbourhoods

Residents want to maintain the single family character of most of Renfrew-Collingwood while introducing design controls for new homes across the community. Incentives should be developed to retain the community's heritage and character homes. Resolution of complaints arising from rental suites should be handled more consistently and efficiently.



Enhance Community Services

Additional affordable services for seniors, youth, and families from a range of cultural backgrounds are desired in new or upgraded facilities. Library services should be reviewed and modified to better serve the public. Information on all services provided either by the City or others should be available in languages, forms, and locations which are convenient for residents and businesses.

Add New Housing Opportunities

Homes with a legal rental suite should be permitted in more areas of the community, provided they have adequate parking, pay their fair share for services, and are accompanied by the community facilities and services needed by the additional population. Housing variety should also be increased around Collingwood, Norquay Village, and a few smaller commercial nodes to help support shops and services and put people close to shopping and transit. Some small developments designed for seniors should be permitted near parks, shopping, and transit to allow seniors to stay in the community as their housing needs change.

Improve Walking and Biking Routes

Popular walking and biking routes which link destinations like schools, community facilities, and parks within Renfrew-Collingwood should have safer crossings of busy streets, more greening, and other improvements.