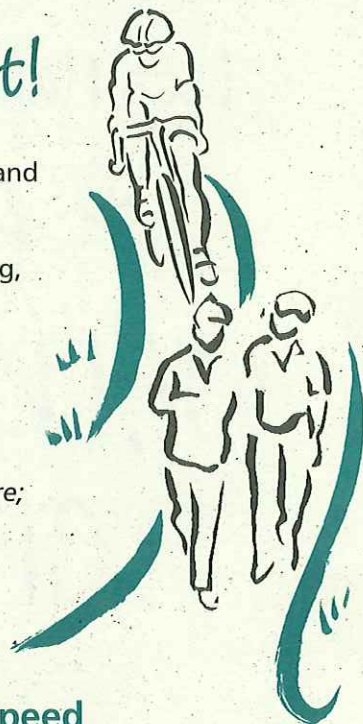


We Can Do It!

Walk - it helps our own and the city's health

Take Green Ways - cycling, skating, transit

Lobby Councillors - for wide sidewalks with boulevards, shade trees, benches, bike lanes and traffic calming *everywhere*; with less space for car speeding and parking



Speed Kills - Kill Speed

In 1996, 75% of Metro road fatalities were pedestrians and cyclists. Lower signed speed limits will permit road design changes; such as narrower car lanes, wider sidewalks with shade trees, boulevards, bicycle lanes and traffic calming. Red-light cameras and the elimination of righthand turns on red lights will make walking safer.

Square All Corners

Street corners are currently rounded into wide ramps which encourage speeding vehicles. This makes street crossings for walkers longer and less safe. Returning this space to pedestrians will force drivers to navigate corners more slowly and more cautiously.

Make Intersections Safe

Crossing times for walkers are far too short, especially for seniors, children and the disabled. With pinch points, street corners can be put as close together as possible. Drivers are required to yield to pedestrians! Walkers need continuous, friendly pedestrian routes on all city streets.



Walking School Bus, 1996 - Greenest City's first "walking bus" organized by parents and students from John Wanless School. Greenest City's Active & Safe Routes to School promotes safe, clean and healthy transportation. This is to become a national program promoted by Health Canada & Go For Green! For information, call 977-7626.

Reduce Motor Vehicles to Frugal, Necessary Use

- Currently 65% of motor vehicle journeys are less than 5 km.
- Most motor vehicles have only one occupant.
- Cars are increasing in numbers twice as fast as people!
- The effect of "cleaner" new cars is totally negated by this increase.
- Many errands using the car (the average is 11 times per day!) can easily be accomplished by other means. Full user pay systems and road design changes are effective ways of reducing this traffic.

Sidewalks Should Not Be Ramps for Cars

Sidewalks are often turned into severely sloped ramps for parking. This creates unsafe conditions for walkers. The City must permit short term parking only for necessary, emergency vehicles. Other parking facilities should be phased out, and this precious urban space returned to green uses. Bicycle parking should be placed on the road; with as many bicycle units as are provided for cars. Walking space on sidewalks should be maximized.

Beautify and Green the City

Walking, public transit and cycling should be the chief forms of transportation for most people, most of the time. A major effort must be made to widen sidewalks and create boulevards with large, mature trees everywhere, so that walkers are protected in summer and winter from the elements, and the air is cleaner. The availability of cheap, free and readily accessible car parking undermines public transit as well as creating vast, dangerous and ugly urban spaces. Most of this dead, dangerous space must be returned to city dwellers for green space and other productive uses.



Kensington Street Festival - Pedestrian Project, July 27, 1997. Community members are working to improve walking conditions. For information: 921-1365.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

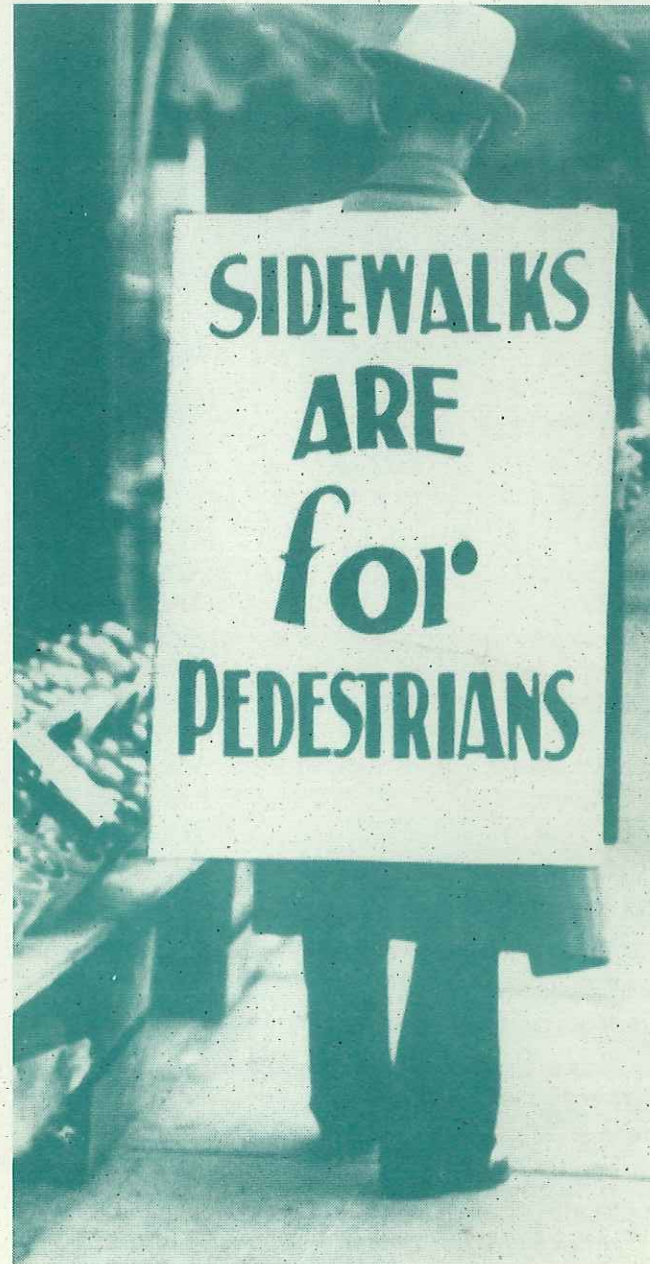
- Walk, cycle or take public transit whenever possible.
- Whenever you experience pedestrian difficulties or observe hazardous street conditions, contact your municipal councillor.
- Join the Sustainable Transportation Educators team, and make Toronto a greener city by working with neighbours, schools and local clubs. For information, telephone Gillian Kranias, (416) 504-3934.
- Contact Feet on the Street.

FEET ON THE STREET is a group of concerned Toronto residents who have organized to promote walking and street environments that are safe, healthy and comfortable.

FEET ON THE STREET supports:

- Pedestrian safety and health
- Traffic calming
- Road narrowing
- Sidewalk widening
- Public transit
- Decreasing automobile use in the city
- Shade trees and benches
- Street fairs
- Safer crosswalks
- Pedestrian walkways
- Walking school buses
- Safe routes to school

FEET ON THE STREET is affiliated with Environmentalists Plan Transportation, a caucus of the Toronto Environmental Alliance (TEA). For more information, telephone (416) 596-0660 or (416) 929-5483; or fax (416) 596-0345.



Sidewalk Picket, ca. 1920 - City of Toronto Archives



Produced by the Healthy City Office, City of Toronto.

97B78623

Let's Make Toronto A WALKABLE CITY

