

## **Re - West Beach Rd. Safety Concerns**

To Clarington Council Members,

The Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee at its January 24 meeting, discussed ongoing concerns for the safety of West Beach Rd. pedestrian and cyclist users.

Specifically, the concerns are with the road section where the Waterfront Trail coming from the Bowmanville Valley trail connects to West Beach Rd. and picks up again approximately 150m west of the Bowmanville Dog Park entrance.

There are no sidewalks or bike lanes on West Beach Rd. and this particular section exposes pedestrians and cyclists to fast moving vehicle traffic. Approximately 1400 vehicles use this road on a daily basis and it is estimated that approximately 10,000 cyclist trips used this segment of West Beach Rd. in 2023 based on Strava data.

There are also concerns with the sight lines for users entering the road from both trail sections. Reduced visibility occurs during the twilight hours which come earlier in the spring/winter/fall seasons. Night time illumination (streetlighting) may also be deficient and should be assessed.

The Committee realizes that there are limitations to road improvements that can be undertaken as explained by staff. However, the Committee would like to see the implementation of stronger traffic calming measures to slow traffic and increase awareness of the trail access points. This could include speed bumps/boards, bollards, or more visible signage.

The Committee would also like to see more aggressive brush removal where the Waterfront Trail connects to West Beach Rd. west of the Bowmanville Dog Park entrance to improve sightlines for trail users and motorists.

We ask that Council make our concerns a high priority and request a review by staff to ensure that safety improvements are implemented in advance of summer 2024.

Thank you!  
AT&SR Committee