



Mobility Audit Recommendations

Introduction

The Aging-friendly Advisory Committee conducted a mobility audit on Wednesday morning of July 17th, 2019. They were joined by Kady Hunter, a Healthy Community Facilitator for Interior Health, and a resident of the Parkview Manor using a scooter. An interview was also conducted with a resident of Parkview Manor who uses a wheelchair but was unable to attend the audit.

The 2.5 km walking tour made a loop reaching the majority of typical destinations. The loop used the shortest routes between destinations and frequently followed desire lines, the informal paths created by people without the benefit of formal walkways or sidewalks. The actual route walked deviated from the planned route to include walking along a stretch of Fifth Avenue.

Appendix A provides a map of the route with destinations listed.

Volunteer participants were asked to assess and rank one each of the following categories:

1. Crossings / crosswalks:
 - Painted crossing or sign
 - Can see traffic
 - Driver's give right of way
 - Lighting at night
2. Facility access:
 - Doorway width
 - Safe ramp (if applicable)
 - Automatic door

Village of Midway Mobility Audit Recommendations

- Accessible washrooms
- 3. Pleasant and supportive routes for walkers
 - Route is natural with rivers, trees, wildlife
 - Route is clean
 - Benches available in convenient places
 - Comfortable and accessible public washrooms
 - Can get a drink at water fountains
- 4. Personal safety
 - Streets are well lit
 - I feel safe because other people are around
 - Free of suspicious people, vandalism, graffiti
 - Dogs are controlled by their owners
- 5. Roadways, sidewalks & paths
 - Sidewalks/ paths
 - Width
 - Level
 - Safe in winter
- 6. Traffic
 - Space between sidewalk / path from traffic
 - Drivers obey speed limit
 - Drivers are careful
 - Traffic is light enough to make walking pleasant

Appendix B contains the ranked results and comments of each category.

General observations

With a few notable exceptions, the Village is a walkable and peaceful place with local streets so smooth and free of traffic that pedestrians frequently walk safely down the middle of residential streets, which are relatively narrow and lack sidewalks. However, most public facilities fall short of providing adequate access: they lack accessible ramps, automatic push-button doors, and accessible public washrooms.

Marked crosswalks are virtually non-existent. Separated sidewalks or pathways along the busier streets (Florence and Fifth Avenue) either are merely shoulder extensions of the asphalt pavement with painted lines of

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demarcation or don't exist at all. Benches aren't accessible or located where they could be useful. There are no public drinking fountains in any park.



Figure 1 The audit participants discuss the situation at Florence & Fifth

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Recommendations

Crossings / crosswalks:

1. Install signage and painted crosswalks with pedestrian crossing warning signs at these locations: 1) the crossing of Florence Street immediately south of Highway 3 between the Mile Zero Restaurant and The Spot, and 2) at the crossing of Florence on the south side of Ninth Ave.
2. In order to safely join the north and south sides of the Village for pedestrians, install crosswalk and pedestrian crossing warning signs at a point crossing Highway 3 near Florence Street at a location jointly agreed upon with the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure (MOTI).

Facility access:

3. Access ramp for the Community Hall –should be included as part of its anticipated renovation. Note: that an access ramp is not currently in the renovation plans; instead, a wheelchair lift is proposed.
4. Automatic push-button doors at the following locations:
 - a. Library –button would activate both exterior and interior doors,
 - b. Pharmacy—button would activate both exterior and interior doors,
 - c. Medical clinic,
 - d. Village Office,
 - e. McMynn’s Grocery Store,
 - f. Mile Zero Restaurant, and
 - g. Community Hall (included in the renovation plans).
5. Replace and rebuild sidewalk adjacent to Post Office to adequately support scooter use—wider and level.
6. Replace concrete corner of the sidewalk at the northeast corner of Florence Street & Fifth Avenue with an accessible ramp embedded in the sidewalk.



Figure 2 The offending curb at the northeast corner of Florence & Fifth

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Pleasant and supportive routes for walkers

7. Construct a fully accessible public washroom in a central location such as a future 'town square' or 'linear park' within the unimproved right of way of Eighth Avenue between Florence Street and Chamblet Street.
8. Include a *universal washroom* on the main floor of the proposed Community Hall renovation plans. Note that a *universal washroom*, with its own lockable door, accessible sink and toilet, is currently proposed in the basement only. Accessible stalls are proposed in all washrooms.
9. Encourage washroom renovations for full accessibility in the following facilities:
 - a. Medical clinic
 - b. Senior's centre
 - c. Mile Zero Restaurant
10. Construct wheelchair accessible benches in the following locations:
 - a. Florence Street near Fifth, Seventh and Fifth Avenues; and
 - b. Additional locations within McMynn Park, ideally linked with future pathway network.
11. Construct hard surface pathways in McMynn Park connecting entrances, the Parkview Manor, playground, and benches, and the Community Hall; a circular walking route within the Park could be an affordable and valued asset for walkers of all abilities and ages.

Roadways, sidewalks & paths

12. Construct a fully separated and/ or raised concrete sidewalk or asphalt pathway along both sides of Florence Street between Highway 3 and Fifth Avenue.
13. Construct a separated asphalt pathway along the north side of Fifth Avenue between Florence Street and Thomet Street.

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Figure 3 Participants on Florence Street near the library

14. Pave with asphalt the existing desire lines at:
 - a. the southeast corner of Ninth Avenue and Florence Street between the street and the McMynn's Grocery store parking lot; and
 - b. the southeast corner of the McMynn's Grocery store parking lot and the northwest corner of Eighth Avenue (right of way) and Chamblet Street. This will require a partnership with McMynn's Grocery.

Traffic

15. Install a pedestrian crossing warning sign for vehicles travelling in the eastbound right turn lane of Hwy 3 approaching Florence Street.

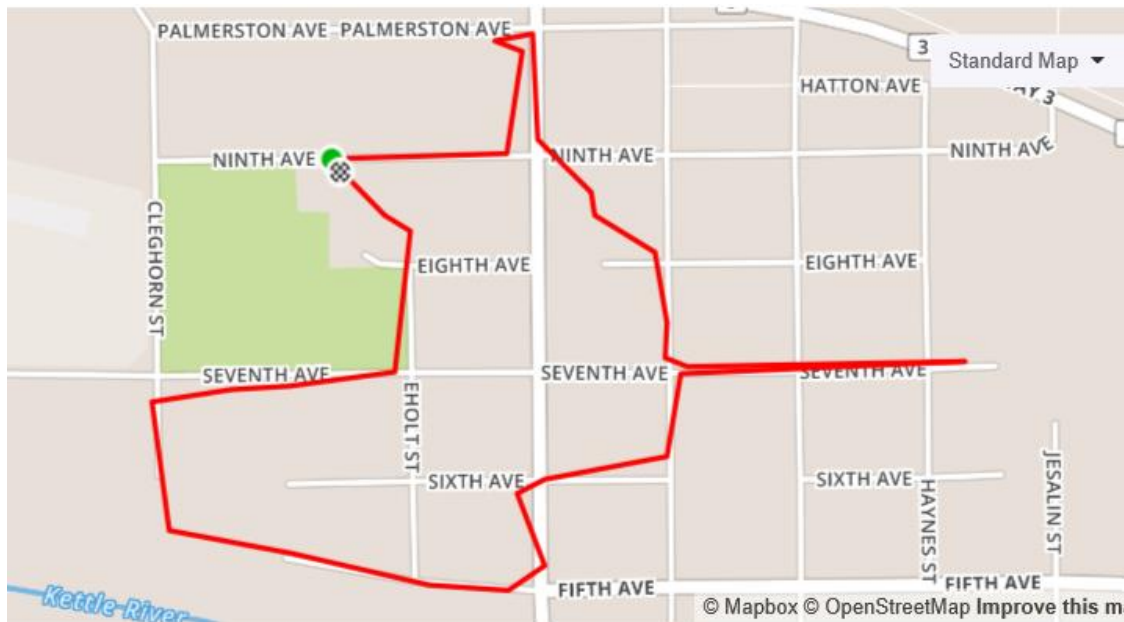
Appendix A – Mobility Audit Route

Village of Midway

Mobility / Accessibility Audit, 3 –5 pm, Wednesday, July 17

Start: Parkview Manor

Route distance: 2.5 km



Route destinations:

- Start at Parkview Manor
- Mile Zero Restaurant
- McMynn's Grocery
- Senior's Centre
- Medical clinic
- Library/ pharmacy
- Post office / hardware store
- Riverfront Park
- Curling rink
- Community Centre
- Village (McMynn) Park
- Village Office
- Return to Parkview Manor

Route designed to:

- Maximize the number of destinations
- Take shortest routes between destinations
- Not avoiding known difficulties such as gravel roads and paths

Appendix B --Mobility Audit Ranked Results

Village of Midway Walkability / Mobility Audit

Facility Access					
Ranking:	1= many problems	2 = some problems	3= OK	4 = good	5 = very good
	Doorway width	Safe ramp (if applicable)	Automatic door	Accessible washrooms	
Parkview Manor	4	5	4	3	
Mile Zero Restaurant	1	1	1	1	
McMynn's Grocery	4	4	4	1	
Senior's Centre	4	4	4	5	
Medical Clinic	4	5	1	1	
Library	3	3	1	1	
Pharmacy	3	3	1	1	
Post Office	3	3	1	1	
Hardware Store	2	2	1	1	
Riverfront Park	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	
Ice Rink	1	1	1	1	
Community Centre	1	1	1	1	
Village Office					

Comments:

- * The Stop is easy and helpful at all times
- * We need sidewalks
- * Benches are not accessible

Interview with Anita @ Midway Manor

- * Mile Zero washroom --toilet height too low, bar too far, not enough room to turn around
- * McMynn's -- no push button doors
- * Medical clinic: washroom too small
- * Senior's Centre: washroom too small
- * Library --outside doors need push button, inside doors too heavy
- * Post Office --sidewalk too narrow and can't turn around
- * Can't go through grass in parks, not safe

- * No public washrooms in park (McMynn's)
- * Roads too bumpy --9th Ave. 'sidewalk'

Village of Midway Walkability / Mobility Audit

Roadways, Sidewalks & Paths

Note: completed by Linda using a scooter

Ranking:	1= many problems	2 = some problems	3= OK	4 = good	5 = very good
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	Sidewalks / paths	Width	Level	Safe in winter
Ninth Avenue	4	4	1	1
Florence (9th-Palmerston)	4	5	2	2
Florence (Palmerston-McMynn's)	4	4	4	2
McMynn's--8th	1	2	1	1
8th Ave. (Chamblet to Senior's)	none	road		no traffic
7th Ave. (Clinic to Senior's)				
Chamblet (7th to 6th)				
6th (Chamblet to Florence)				
Florence (6th to 5th)				
Campground road	3	4	3	2
Cleghorn Street	3	3	3	1
7th Ave. (Cleghorn to Eholt)	3	5	4	2
McMynn Park				
Eholt (7th to 8th)				
Village Office to Parkview Manor				

Comments:

- * wheelchair or scooter cannot enter Mile Zero Restaurant without a walker and assistance (the only restaurant in town); it's very narrow inside, cannot enter washroom
- * the Spot is better for access
- * desire line shortcut to McMynn's is across a ditch from Florence
- * the short-cut from McMynn's to 8th is only useable in dry season.
- * access to the medical clinic is excellent
- * NOTE: most people walk in roadways. Very little traffic and drivers are considerate.
- * On 5th avenue (hwy. to border) walking on shoulder only. Linda with scooter won't go there -- too dangerous. More traffic including trucks going to the border. A sidewalk would need MOTI agreement.

* No wheelchair access from crosswalk at Florence & Fifth, at major crosswalk to Post office (concrete should be pulled --replaced--but it is public access on private property)

* On Florence near pub (hotel) sidewalk the lines disappear into a parking area --ambiguity problem

* Benches: one bench of Florence at Library, none further up.

* Benches at municipal campground not accessible to s

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7th Ave. (Clinic to Senior's)				
Chamblet (7th to 6th)				
6th (Chamblet to Florence)				
Florence (6th to 5th)				
Campground road	3	4	3	2
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McMynn Park				
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V A N H E M E R T & C O .

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* On Florence near pub (hotel) sidewalk the lines disappear into a parking area -- ambiguity problem

* Benches: one bench of Florence at Library, none further up.

* Benches at municipal campground not accessible to wheelchairs

* Washrooms at campground accessible to walkers, but not larger scooters. No hand bars in campground washrooms. One is large enough though.

* No automatic doors at Arena--otherwise good accessibility with wheel-chair parking

* No access to curling rink

* McMynn Park has access, but grass might let wheelchair sink in

* 5th Avenue --High School students and public use narrow shoulder. Logging trucks from mill (and chip trucks) use 5th in transit to USA border crossing.

wheelchairs

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Village of Midway Walkability / Mobility Audit

Traffic

Ranking:	1= many problems	2 = some problems	3= OK	4 = good	5 = very good
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	Space between sidewalk / path from traffic	Drivers obey speed limit	Drivers are careful	Traffic is light enough to make walking pleasant
Ninth Avenue	4	4	4	5
Florence (9th-Palmerston)	3	4	4	5
Florence (Palmerston-McMynn's)	3	4	4	5
McMynn's--8th	no sidewalks	4	4	5
8th Ave. (Chamblet to Senior's)	no sidewalks	4	5	5
7th Ave. (Senior's to Clinic)	no sidewalks	no traffic	no traffic	5
Chamblet (5th to Library)	no sidewalks	4	4	4
Post office to Frank c. Park	crosswalk 4	no traffic	no traffic	5
F.c. Park to campground	dirt road 4	no traffic	no traffic	no traffic
Cleghorn Street to McMynn Park	no sidewalks	no traffic	no traffic	5
McMynn Park				
Eholt (7th to 8th)				
Village Office to Parkview Manor				

Village of Midway Walkability / Mobility Audit

Personal Safety

Ranking:

1= many problems	2 = some problems	3= OK	4 = good	5 = very good
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	Streets are well lit	I feel safe because other people are around	Free of suspicious people, vandalism, graffiti	Dogs are controlled by their owners
Florence Street	5	2	5	4
All other local streets				
McMynn's Grocery parking lot	4	4	4	4
Riverfront Park trail (campground access)	2	5	5	5
McMynn Park	5	2	4	3
Other --5th Avenue Highway	5	2	4	4
Other				

Comments:

- * McMynn's desire line Florence to 9th
- * McMynn's desire line Florence to 8th
- * 4th Avenue Highway -- too narrow for pedestrians
- * 5th and Florence sidewalk access ramp within sidewalk

Village of Midway Walkability / Mobility Audit

Pleasant & Supportive Routes for Walkers

Ranking:	1= many problems	2 = some problems	3= OK	4 = good	5 = very good
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	Route is natural with rivers, trees, wildlife	Route is clean	Benches available in convenient places	Comfortable and accessible public washrooms	Can get a drink at water fountains
Florence Street	3	4	1	1	1
All other local streets (5th)	3	4	3 --picnic bench at library	1	1
McMynn's Grocery parking lot	3	4	picnic table in front of store	1	1
Riverfront Park trail--campground road		3 --some garbage	4 benches not accessible	1--not accessible	1
McMynn Park	5	4 --garbage bins	2	1	1
Entwined Tree Park	5	4	4	1	1
Other --Chamblet	3	4	1	1	1
Other					

Comments:

* Access into McMynn Park might be difficult for walker or scooter as no paved or gravel path and ground / grass covered and uneven in places for visually impaired, no paths through park

Village of Midway Walkability / Mobility Audit

Crosswalks

Ranking:	1= many problems	2 = some problems	3= OK	4 = good	5 = very good
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	Painted Crossing or sign	Can see traffic	Driver's give right of way	Lighting at night
Ninth Ave. & Florence	2	4	no (1)	4
McMynn's Parking Lot	none	5	5	5
8th & Chamblet (Senior Centre)	none	5	5	5
Chamblet & 7th	none		5	5
Florence & 6th	none	5	5	5
Florence & 5th	5 (X4)	5	5	5
7th Ave & Eholt	none	5	5	5
Other				
Other				

Comments:

- * Florence @ Mile Zero --traffic too fast to cross safely
- * Florence @ Ninth --would be natural place for crosswalk
- * 5th & Florence --great crosswalks