

Executive Summary

Topic and Purpose

This report aims at understanding how urban design features can be used to help create more livable and beautiful waterfront areas by focusing on the design of the Waterfront Trail running through Beachway Park in Burlington, Ontario. In June 2014, the Region of Halton released a Request for Proposals for consulting services to develop a new Master Plan, environmental management and restoration plan, implementation plan and communication strategy for the Burlington Beach Regional Waterfront Park. Amongst all these future changes and revitalization of the Waterfront, it will be important for planners to develop the most effective urban design strategies to improve the Waterfront Trail in order to meet the overall vision for this public space. The report will utilize a variety of research methods with the ultimate objective to provide recommendations for future trail design that will contribute to creating a more vibrant public realm and improve the Waterfront Trail to build a better, more attractive park.

The following research question will be addressed:

What design and planning interventions could be implemented to improve the Waterfront Trail running through the Beachway Park in Burlington, Ontario, to contribute to the creation of a vibrant and successful public space?

Study Area:

The study area is located at the Beachway Park in Burlington, Ontario, close to the downtown area

Recommendations

1. – Provide additional seating along the walkway that is uniform in design and material.
2. – Provide signage that is legible, clear and provides good information to