

Chronology of the Millennium Trail

- Oct. 1993** City's Official Plan was approved which sets policy and guides development within the City. The Official Plan encourages the linkage of open space areas that offer recreation or scenic amenities, promotes pedestrian walkways, bicycle paths and passive recreational use.
- Dec. 1994** Strategic Plan for the Provision of Parks, Recreation, Arts & Culture approved by Council stated four areas require attention and one was "development and enhancement of a trail system to link existing parks to each other, to major community facilities and to the Niagara Parks Commission Parkland".
- Oct. 1997** Trails & Bikeway Master Plan approved by Council included a network of off-road pathways and a recommendation that the City secure a recreation easement with Ontario Hydro along transmission corridors and power canals.
- Dec. 1998** City's Trails & Bikeway Committee formed consisting of local citizen volunteers.
- Jan. 1999** Federal Government announces Federal Millennium Partnership Grant program to commemorate celebrations of the new Millennium.
- Feb. 1999** Trails & Bikeway Committee submits an application for funding assistance to the City's Civic Committee to construct a recreational trail along the Power Canal.
- Sept. 1999** Report R-99-53 Council supports funding of \$172,500 for recreational trail development along the Power Canal.
- Oct. 1999** Public Open House held on the Millennium Trail. A number of residents backing onto the Power Canal expressed concerns with the proposed trail.
- Dec. 1999** Report R-99-75 Council approves the hosting of a Public Forum.
- Mar. 2000** Public Forum held at Niagara Falls Public Library (approximately 100 people in attendance for the afternoon and evening forum).
- Apr. 2000** Notices provided and meeting held with 5 residents residing along Ronnie and Redhaven who expressed concerns with the proposed trail along the east side of the Power Canal.
- May, 2000** Report R-2000-27 approved the development of Millennium Trail as follows:
- South of Lundy's Lane to Dorchester Road (with area south of McLeod Road being on the west side of the Power Canal and linking to the east by a pedestrian bridge).
 - Whirlpool Road to Morrison Street to be developed when funds were available.
 - Area between Morrison Street and Lundy's Lane not be developed.

May, 2000	Federal Government advised of revision to the proposed Millennium Trail and funding request.
Aug. 2000	Federal Government advised construction of trail south of McLeod Road not to proceed due to lack of funding for the pedestrian bridge.
Oct. 2000	Contract awarded for Hardrock Paving to construct Millennium Trail from McLeod Road to Lundy's Lane.
June, 2001	Grand Opening of Phase 1 of the Millennium Trail.
Oct. 2002	Report R-2002-53 Council approves the hosting of a Public Meeting with residents of the Ronnie and Redhaven Crescents because of high cost of pedestrian bridge.
Nov. 2002	Public Meeting held at Niagara Falls Memorial Arena. 38% of the property owners from Ronnie & Redhaven Crescents in attendance.
Mar. 2003	Report R-2003-18 to Council outlines development options for Phase 2, south of McLeod Road and Council supports Phase 2 on the west side of the Power Canal and construction of a pedestrian bridge.
Oct. 2003	Report R-2003-68 Council approves the preparation of Terms of Reference for the design of the pedestrian bridge.
Jan. 2004	Council Priorities for 2004-2006 includes trail development.
Jan. 2004	Engineering Consultant hired to carry out design of the pedestrian bridge.
June 2004	Report R-2004-36 Cost estimates provided to Council for development of the Millennium Trail on the east and west sides of the Power Canal. Council confirms the construction of the trail on the west side of the Power Canal.
Aug. 2004	Staff learn of possible canal on the west side of the Power Canal to address water fluxuation levels of the Welland River.
Oct. 2004	Letter received from Ontario Power Generation that the City not pursue the development of the Millennium Trail on the west side of the Power Canal south of McLeod Road.
Jan. 2005	Report R-2005-03 Council defers staff report pending outcome of a Public Meeting to discuss the future of the entire Millennium Trail.
Apr. 2005	Public Meeting held at Niagara Falls Optimist Club.