

The Downtown Paris Master Plan was adopted by Council in October 2019. It was developed over a two year period and included four public consultations and extensive stakeholder consultations to gather valuable feedback.

The Downtown Paris Master Plan offers a strategy to adapt downtown Paris into an inclusive place for people of all ages and abilities while protecting its unique historic and charming character. As the Town of Paris looks to the future, this plan addresses challenges of future growth, environmental concerns and takes a people first/community first approach.

Components of the strategy include:

### **Design and Functionality**

The plan recommends improvements to the overall function of the downtown core. This area will address concerns of parking, pedestrian safety, accessibility and traffic congestion. The design of the downtown will celebrate the history, cultural heritage and the unique two rivers that meet and flow around the downtown of Paris.

### **Streetscape Elements**

Streetscape elements create a consistent look and feel throughout the downtown area. The look is created by the use of specific paving, planters and tree grates, bio-swales, trees, bike lanes and street furniture. Features also include the use of rest areas, noise buffering plants and creation of space for people with strollers, assistive devices and services animals.

### **Parking**

Parking in the downtown core is consistently a challenge for residents and visitors of Paris. The plan suggests maximizing the use of current parking areas without paving over valuable public space.

### **Low Impact Development**

Low impact development (LID) uses the natural landscape available downtown to manage rainfall and protect water quality. The plan suggests LID's can improve the streetscape, protect animal habitats and improve water retention that protect the quality of the town's groundwater and watersheds. Municipalities that invest in these systems generally experience reduced operations and maintenance costs when compared with traditional storm water management systems.

The implementation of the Downtown Paris Master Plan is expected to begin in 2022. The implementation strategy will carefully review the design, address accessibility, and will phase and time construction to ensure the least amount of disruption to the downtown. Further public consultation will occur at each stage of detailed design and implementation.

For more information about the County of Brant Downtown Paris Master Plan, visit [www.brant.ca/plans](http://www.brant.ca/plans).