

4.0 Opportunities and Constraints

Through public, Town Staff, and stakeholder consultation, a number of opportunities and constraints were identified related to the Town-wide pathways and trails system.

Constraints include:

- Discontinuity of the existing system
- Safety of Trail and pathway crossings on existing busy roads and highways - safety
- Maintenance
- Lack of bridges over major water courses
- Private property barriers
- Railroad crossings
- Valley Topography

Opportunities include:

- Access to significant open spaces and parks
- Interpretive potential of significant locations to create experiences (Unionville, German Mills, Toogood Pond, Parks Woodlot, Storm water management, etc.)
- East to west connection across Town – hydro corridors with ORC as a willing partner
- Pathways and trails as an alternative transportation mode
- Potential pathways and trails coordinated in new development areas
- The Rouge Park
- Federal open space and airport lands
- Future development areas
- Existing floodplain areas

4.1 Destinations and Barriers

As part of the process, major destinations, attractions and barriers to trail use were mapped. Primary destinations include: schools, major employment centres, civic centres, major retail centres, recreational facilities, libraries parks, tourist attractions and transit terminals.

Significant barriers include: Highway 407, active rail corridors, major arterial roads, private properties and major creek and watercourse crossings. Destinations and barriers are shown on **Map 2**.



Major roads are a barrier to pathways and trails



Destinations include tourist attractions such as the Markham Museum and schools





Photograph: Milne Conservation Area with significant natural open space features for Bike and Trail linkages