

# Youth-led Active Transportation Infrastructure



**Youth-led Active Transportation (AT) Infrastructure Initiatives** are a final step in our Youth AT workshops and programs. For schools and groups that are interested in taking their ideas for AT to the next level, our youth-led AT infrastructure initiatives might be the right choice for you!

Youth-led AT Infrastructure initiatives can range from short-term to long-term commitments. Sometimes, after conducting a Youth Mobility Audit, we work with youth to set up a presentation to their local Council, Band Council or Active Transportation Committee. In these circumstances, it is an opportunity for youth to deliver their idea to decision makers and “pass the torch” if their idea is approved and written into a plan. From there, they can ask to be updated on the issue and stay informed, but issues such as funding, planning and implementation are now in the hands of their community.

Youth-led AT Infrastructure projects that require long-term commitments tend to be for projects that are not on municipal land (school grounds, private property, etc). For AT ideas that look to develop supporting infrastructure on non-municipal land, projects require a bit more time to develop connections and partnerships, to gather funding (although municipal support is helpful here!) and ensure all the proper approvals have been sorted out and so on. The EAC plays a guiding role, along with community partners, throughout.

Engaging youth from start to finish in such initiatives is a tremendous hands-on way for them to learn how community development works. When you have a group of keen youth, who can provide a fresh insight into an AT initiative, this is also a great reminder to decision makers on how important it is to keep youth connected to how their community grows.

