

## Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy | 2008-2058

A community oriented strategy with a focus on preserving and enhancing the unique, culture, charm, and environment of the Dundas Valley area.

# Enhancing the Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of Dundas Valley Communities

Goal: Ensure pedestrian, bicycle, and transit friendly Valley communities



Paddy Green Lane; Photo Courtesy of Sandy Bell

## Strategic Direction

- Support the implementation of the City of Hamilton's 'special character' roads through the Valley

The Dundas Valley area has unique, character filled roadways, streets, and coinciding scenery. The area's history, and heritage value is of outstanding significance to the community furthered through this strategic direction.

*"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference" - Robert Frost.*





## Summary

Special character roads are identified by their unique structural, topographic, and visual characteristics, as well as surrounding environment including built features, vegetation, cultural landscape, historical significance and their location within heritage areas.

The Dundas Valley area contains natural, cultural, and historical features such as the Sulphur Springs fountain seen from Sulphur Springs Road. Roads criss-cross at a number of junctions near trails that connect to a larger trail system.



Highway 8; Photo Courtesy of Sandy Bell

Roads such as Old Dundas Road add value to the overall character of the Dundas Valley area, providing a local distinctiveness that should be protected and managed while at the same time facilitating opportunities to appreciate features that border each road.



Harvest Road; Photo Courtesy of Sandy Bell

## **Actions**

- **Identify criteria for ‘special character road’ designation**
- **Implement policies to protect from expansion/widening where feasible**
- **Prevent through traffic from utilizing special character roads**
- **Ensure safety of special character roads**
- **Ensure no new roads or highways through Environmentally Significant Areas or Areas of Natural or Scientific Interest**
- **Close in opened road allowances which go through Environmentally Significant Areas, Areas of Natural or Scientific Interest and Natural Heritage Lands.**
- **Obtain information from community on why they value the roads**
- **Reduce and restrict development on these roads**
- **Affix plaques detailing the nature of the ‘special character’ to foster awareness.**

For the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy to be realized and its actions fulfilled, the community needs to take a leadership role. On the back page are a few links, of established resources and organizations currently working on, or with the potential to work on, the fulfilment of these actions, and the realization of the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy’s strategic direction of recognizing and sustaining the special character roads through the Valley.

## **Notes**

# Resources



**Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation;** [www.greenbelt.ca](http://www.greenbelt.ca)

A charitable grant-making organization working to help farmers, strengthen local economies and protect and grow natural features.

**City of Hamilton;** [www.hamilton.ca](http://www.hamilton.ca)

Regulates, and maintains, roads highways and biways throughout the City of Hamilton, including scenic and special character roads within the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision area.

**Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA);** [www.omafra.gov.on.ca](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca)

Focuses on the representation of agriculture, rural, and food related issues and programming.

**Environment Hamilton;** [www.environmenthamilton.org](http://www.environmenthamilton.org)

Working to inspire people to protect our environment through leadership, education and advocacy.

**Fieldcote Museum;** [www.hamilton.ca/attractions/hamilton-civic-museums/fieldcote-memorial-park-museum](http://www.hamilton.ca/attractions/hamilton-civic-museums/fieldcote-memorial-park-museum)

Dedicated to historical preservation and promotion possesses information and resources related to the historical usage and significance of many of these special character roads.

**Dundas Museum and Archives;** [www.dundasmuseum.ca](http://www.dundasmuseum.ca)

A museum that possesses information and exhibits highlighting the significance of many portage routes and streets still used today. Many of which are recognized as potential heritage, scenic, or special character roads.

**Prince Edward Island, Scenic Roads Program;** [www.tourismpei.com/pei-scenic-heritage-roads](http://www.tourismpei.com/pei-scenic-heritage-roads)

An established and ongoing program, along with legislation to promote and simultaneously protect scenic roads throughout the province.

**Ontario Heritage Trust;** [www.heritagetrust.on.ca](http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca)

Dedicated to the recognition, preservation, and promotion of Ontario's heritage amenities. A resource of legislative guidelines, policy, funding, and programs for heritage, including scenic and heritage road consideration.

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