
Mayoral Direction

Direction Number:	2026-01A
Date:	September 17, 2026
Subject:	Welcome Streets Initiative in Welland

I, Frank Campion, Mayor of the City of Welland, pursuant to Section 284.16 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, hereby direct staff to prepare a report on how the City might partner with the Niagara Region on a Welcome Streets Initiative in Welland. This report shall:

- Provide an overview of the Welcoming Streets Initiative (WSI), including its objectives, service model, governance structure, funding framework, and outcomes achieved through the current pilot project operating in downtown St. Catharines.
- Identify opportunities for the City of Welland to partner with Niagara Region and other community stakeholders to support the implementation of a Welcoming Streets Initiative within Welland.
- Assess how the Welcoming Streets Initiative could support the City's strategic objectives related to community safety, downtown revitalization, business supports, homelessness response, mental health and addictions support, and community well-being.
- Review available data related to community safety and social disorder concerns within Welland's downtown core, including Niagara Regional Police Service calls for service associated with mental health, addictions, homelessness, welfare checks, disturbances, trespassing, and related matters.
- Outline the potential benefits of the initiative for vulnerable individuals, local businesses, residents, visitors, and the broader community.
- Engage with Niagara Region, the Welland Downtown Business Improvement Area, social service providers, community organizations, and other relevant partners to identify opportunities, service gaps, operational considerations, and partnership requirements.
- Identify potential resource requirements, funding strategies, staffing considerations, and governance models necessary to support implementation of a Welcoming Streets Initiative in Welland.

- Provide recommendations respecting the City's role in supporting or participating in the initiative, including any next steps required to advance discussions with Niagara Region and community partners.

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Frank Campion
Mayor