

# **Inaccessible bus stops study (Wards 2&6 of Brampton)**

**Bus stops are the points of entries for people to the Brampton Transit network.**

**For people with physical accessibility issues, people using mobility aids, or people pushing strollers or assisting others, it is important that bus stops are accessible and free of any obstacles that can cause inaccessibility.**

**This study was conducted to find obstacles to accessibility affecting bus stops, and to identify inaccessible bus stops in Wards 2&6 of Brampton.**

# Inaccessible bus stops study (Wards 2&6 of Brampton)

## ***METHOD:***

- 1) Obtain maps of area (Wards 2&6 of Brampton)
- 2) Using Brampton Transit maps, highlight bus routes on maps
- 3) Using google maps, locate bus stops, and mark locations on maps
- 4) Go to each bus stop, and mark down whether or not it is accessible
- 5) If bus stop is inaccessible, take a photo

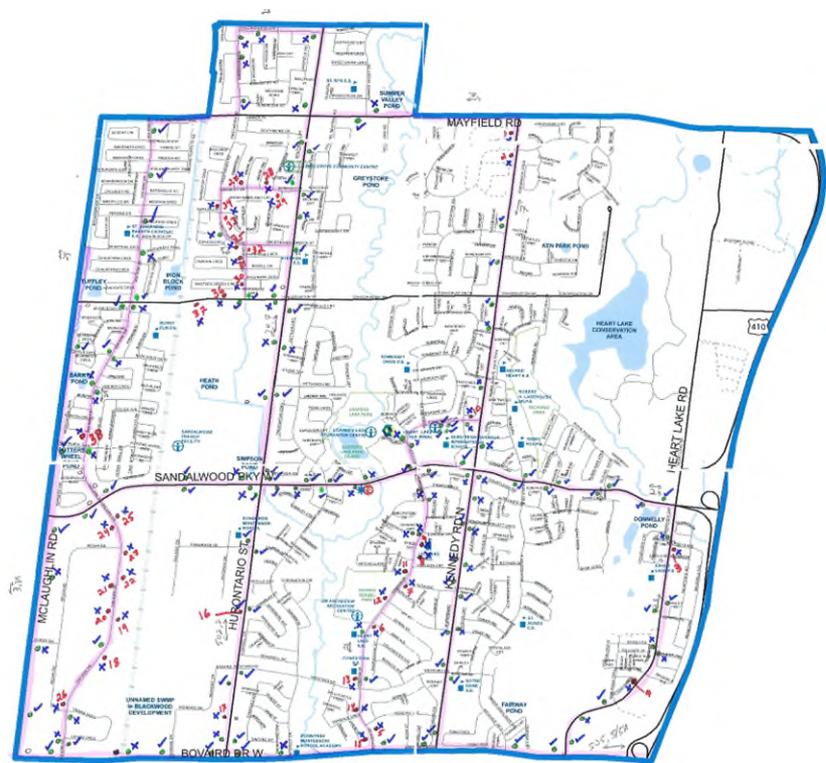
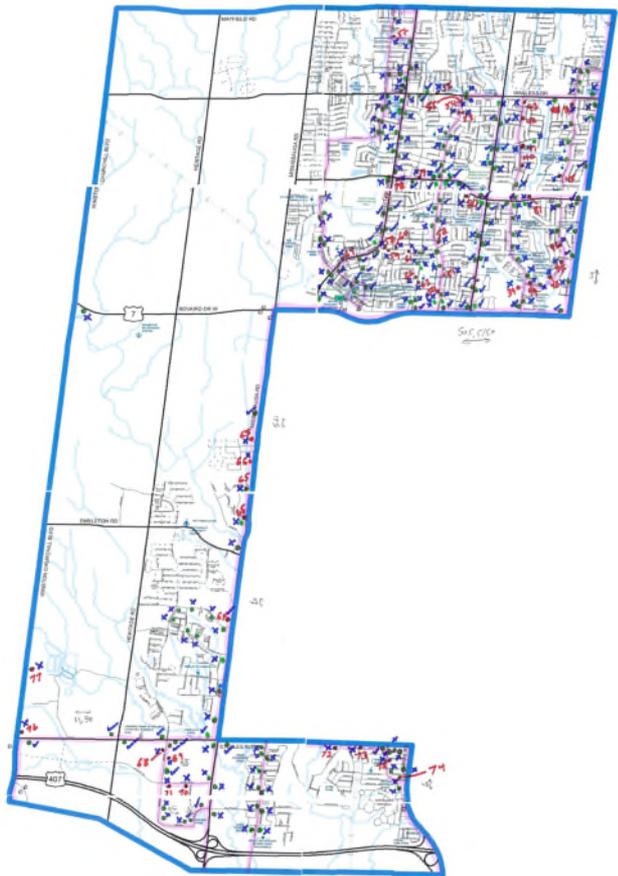
In this experiment, bus stops were assessed as inaccessible due to:

- there being no paved connection from the bus stop to the sidewalk or paved walkway
- the bus stop was not connected to any walkway at all



**OBSERVATIONS:** Please see the maps in the appendices of the study. Please note:

- **Green** dot means that the stop is accessible
- **Red** dot means the stop is not accessible
- **Blue** check mark means that there is a bus shelter at the bus stop
- **Blue** 'x' means there is no bus shelter at the bus stop
- **Red** number beside inaccessible stop indicates its appendices number.



# Analysis

- 20% of bus stops (81/405) in this study were deemed to be inaccessible
- Of the 145 bus stops that had a bus shelter, 144 of them were also determined to be accessible

Based on the maps from this study, inaccessible bus stops were commonly found concentrated in close proximity. This was found in several areas, such as:

- Van Kirk Drive, South of Sandalwood Parkway (bus line #24)
- Brinkley Drive, Cresthaven Road, Tournament Drive (bus line #24)
- Conestoga Drive, South of Sandalwood Parkway (bus line #21)
- Mississauga Road, North of Embleton Road (bus line #1)
- Edgeware Road (bus line #58)
- Queen Mary Drive, South of Sandalwood Parkway (bus line #25)

## Conclusion

As there are 81 inaccessible bus stops in Wards 2&6, over 5 ward pairings, there are **potentially hundreds of inaccessible bus stops** in Brampton. This is unacceptable, as it causes the marginalization of people with physical accessibility issues. Which is only exacerbated when considering that Brampton Transit primarily serves already marginalized communities.

# Conclusion

An inaccessible bus stop can prevent someone with mobility issues from accessing a certain location. In this study, inaccessible bus stops were found near homes and other places of interest, such as:

- Heart Lake Secondary School, Jim Archdekin Recreation Centre, Morris Kerbel Park (appendices number #6, 7, 11, 12)

By having inaccessible bus stops, we risk preventing a person with mobility issues from accessing these places. If an inaccessible bus stop is the nearest to someone's home, they might be prevented from accessing the Brampton Transit network entirely. Furthermore, if someone with mobility issues encounters an inaccessible bus stop, they may be discouraged from using the public transit system in the future.

# Recommendations

- 1) Brampton Transit and City of Brampton should immediately identify all inaccessible bus stops in Brampton, and fix them so that they can be used by riders with mobility issues
- 2) Work towards adding bus shelters to all bus stops
- 3) Examine other obstacles to accessibility, and make improvements to every aspect of the transit network