



## Eden Mills Going Carbon Neutral

Transportation Workshop – Saturday, October 16, 2010

### A Conversation Café

Local Transportation is one of the key sources of carbon emissions in Eden Mills.

We got together to talk about all aspects of local transportation and the possibilities for change – from car pooling to public transportation, from zip cars to flying carpets. We had some hard information on innovative ways other communities are making transportation more efficient. We heard everyone’s suggestions.

## Summary of Common Themes discussed

### Short Term

Idea	Why Bother	What would need to happen
1. Car pooling to work	Many people in the village go to work everyday in the same vicinity as their neighbour. Sharing a ride will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- save \$</li> <li>- reduce emissions</li> <li>- provide intrinsic benefit of connecting with neighbours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Invite interested people to declare where they work and what time they go to work</li> <li>- connect those who have the potential to car pool to work it out</li> <li>- issue questionnaire? who administers?</li> </ul>
2. Sharing rides	We all make trips (mostly to Guelph) for our chores, and to the gym or yoga class etc... what if we did that with one or two others? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- save \$</li> <li>- reduce emissions</li> <li>- have company</li> <li>- encourages us to be more intentional and organized when we get in the car</li> </ul> Sometimes we need irregular trips (for example): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to the hardware store/dump etc. (and we might need a van or truck)</li> <li>- to Toronto (or longer trips to, say, Ottawa or Montreal)</li> <li>- for our elderly and/or disabled neighbours no longer able to drive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Invite interested people to declare if they would be interested in the idea by declaring where they go to shop regularly. A community bulletin board (of sorts) could be created so people could match themselves to others.</li> <li>- as above</li> <li>- Establish a “buddy system” to post “I need a ride” OR “I would like company and share costs” on “the board”</li> <li>- Have a designated STOP in town. When someone is standing there – they need a lift.</li> </ul>

3. Car share	Many of us (especially multi-vehicle owners) have vehicles that are not used very often. A “car share” program in the village could save those people a lot of money (monthly payments, insurance, depreciation, maintenance etc...). This is quite popular in urban centres, but it could work with as few as four participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Invite interested participants to declare how often they need a car, what kind of car (or truck) they need.</li> <li>- Come to agreement on the car, how those costs will be shared and logistics of use.</li> <li>- Ask how many people might be interested (questionnaire again?). How many have potential ‘extra’ vehicles. Provide potential costs under various scenarios.</li> </ul>
4. Bring our errands to Eden Mills	What if enough us shop in one place and the shop came to us? (eg. The farmer’s stand on #29 could come here for a couple hours, or we could even place an order at Zehrs which they could deliver to the Community Hall).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Invite interested participants to declare where they do their regular shopping.</li> <li>- Approach vendors as 1. above</li> </ul>

Longer Term solutions

4. Bussing	If there was regular bussing services, there would be a lesser dependence on car use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small passenger van (like Red Car) or small city of Guelph bus.</li> <li>- this has been discussed with council and will need continual pressure to make happen</li> </ul>
5. Trails	Having more accessible opportunities for us all (not just our kids) to bike – particularly to Rockwood. The trail at the end of Indian Trail is now open to us!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Have a “community bike” or two (much like Ed Langevin’s) with a big basket available at the Community Hall.</li> </ul>