

West Hants Active Transportation and Trails Strategy

Final Plan Presentation

September 9, 2025

Presentation Overview



- 1 Introduction
- 2 Community Engagement
- 3 Design Guidelines
- 4 Active Transportation Network
- 5 Other Details
- 6 Questions?

01

Introduction

About the Project



This new **Active Transportation & Trails Strategy** provides a holistic suite of recommendations aimed at improving **human-powered transportation options**, such as walking and rolling, cycling, rollerblading and skateboarding.

Some assistive forms of transportation like e-bikes and electric wheelchairs are also considered.

About the Project



The project seeks to improve how residents and visitors move throughout the Municipality, creating a **more sustainable community** where active transportation is not only **safe and accessible** but also enjoyable!



By **improving connectivity**, the project will **strengthen social cohesion** and improve connections among communities, creating **a vibrant, well connected network** for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities.



About the Project

The Plan is a 128 page comprehensive document, including:

- Existing Conditions Section
- Community Input and Vision
- Design Guidelines
- Recommendations on:
 - AT and Trail Networks Improvements
 - Education, Programming + Policy Improvements
- Implementation details on phasing, costing and funding opportunities



02

Community Engagement

Engagement Overview



- **Online Public Survey** with 131 responses
- **Stakeholder Engagement** with 13 community members
- **Online Presentation and Recording** with 48 views
- 4 In-person **Public Information Sessions** with 101 engaged community members
- **Online Interactive Map** with 104 contributions
- 2 Sidewalk Needs Assessment **Walk & Roll Sessions** with 17 participants

Community Vision + Guiding Principles



Vision

West Hants is a community where active transportation is the **easy, safe, and accessible** choice for everyone. A connected network supports all ages and abilities, enhances everyday experiences, and removes barriers to mobility.

With inviting infrastructure, diverse options, and seamless integration into daily life, active transportation fosters **wellness, community connection, and a deeper relationship with the natural environment.**

Guiding Principles

1. Prioritise **Safety** and Eliminate Barriers
2. Support **Diverse** Active Transportation Options
3. Ensure **Access** for All Ages and Abilities
4. Improve **Connectivity** and Infrastructure
5. Enhance Amenities and User **Experience**
6. Expand **Programming** and Resources

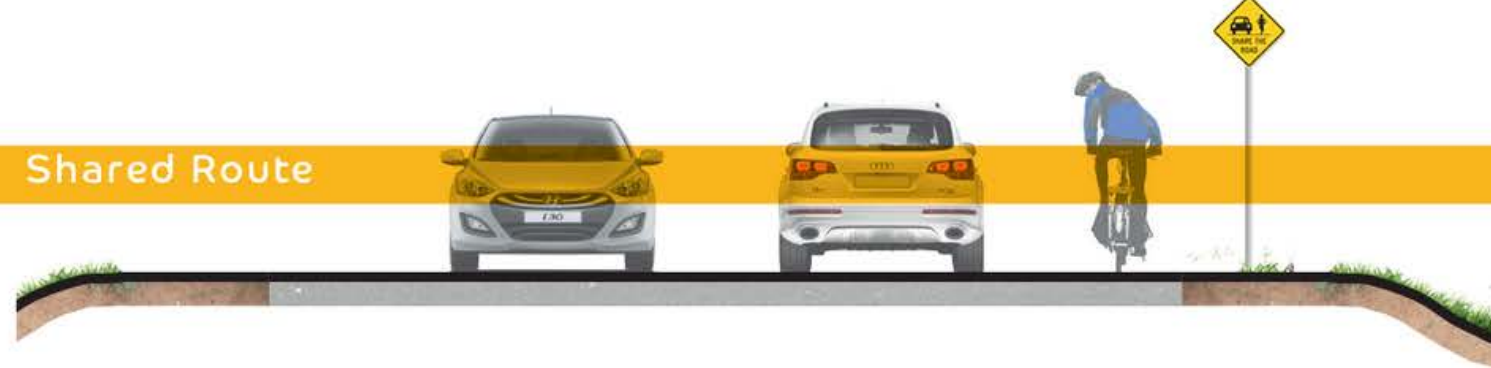
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Design Guidelines

On Road Facility Types

SR

Shared Route



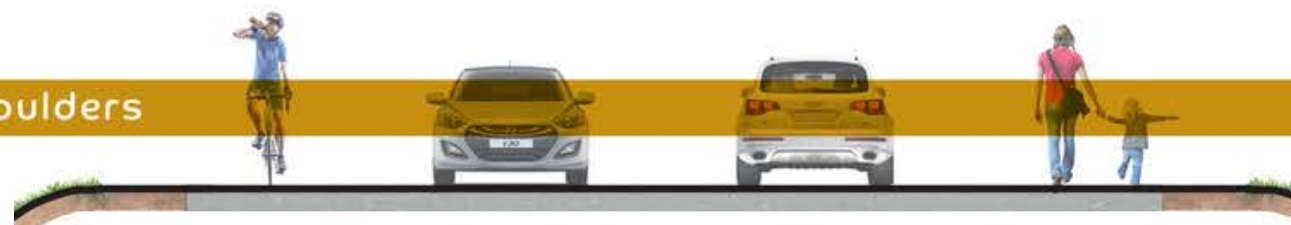
LSB

Local Street Bikeway



PS

Paved Shoulders



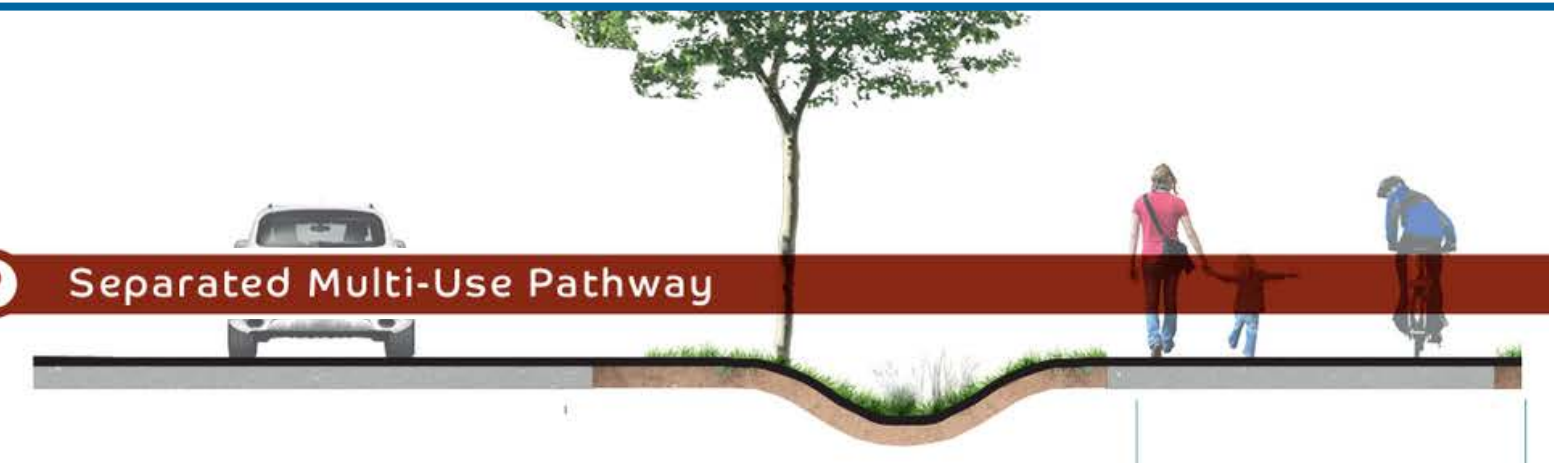
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Sidewalks

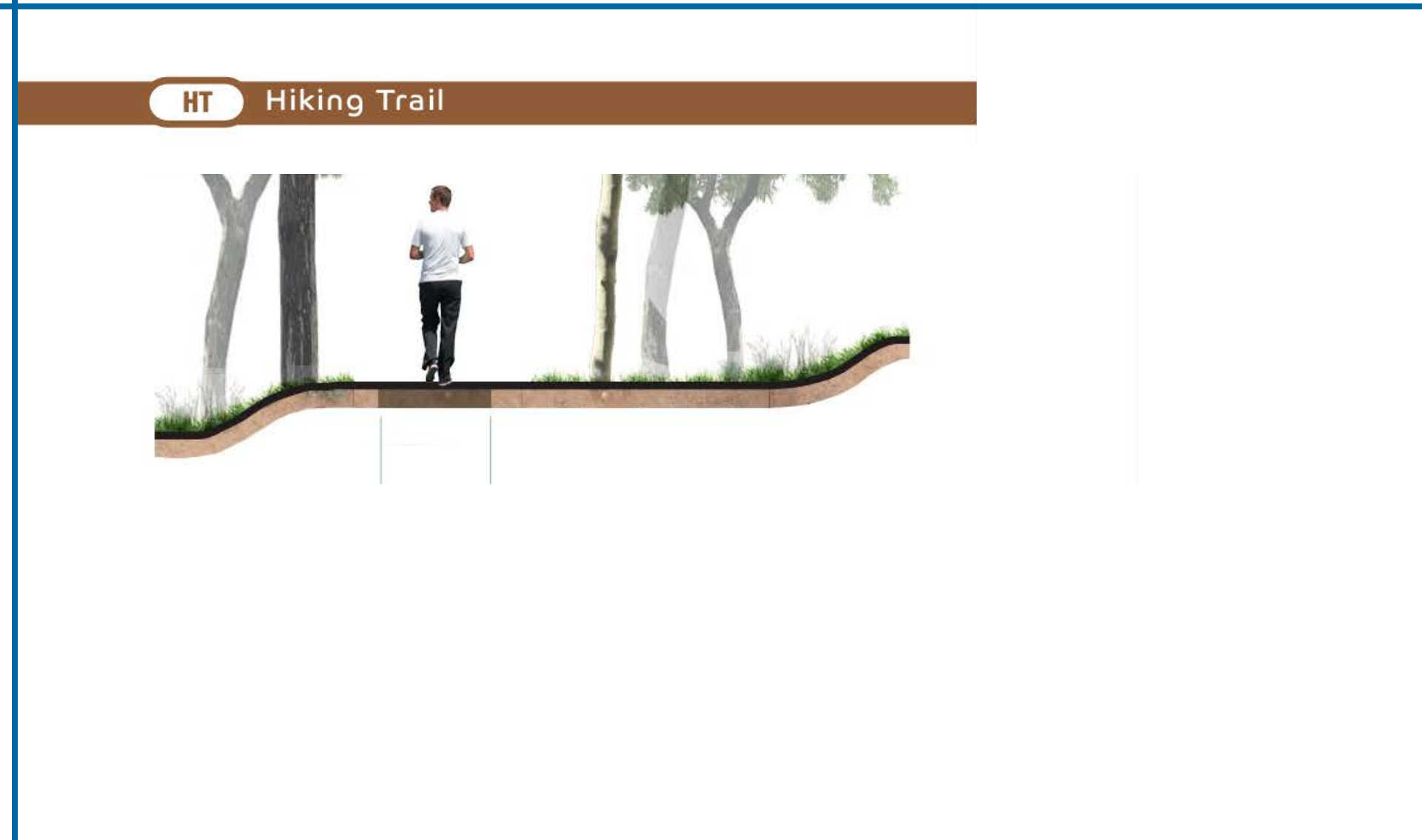
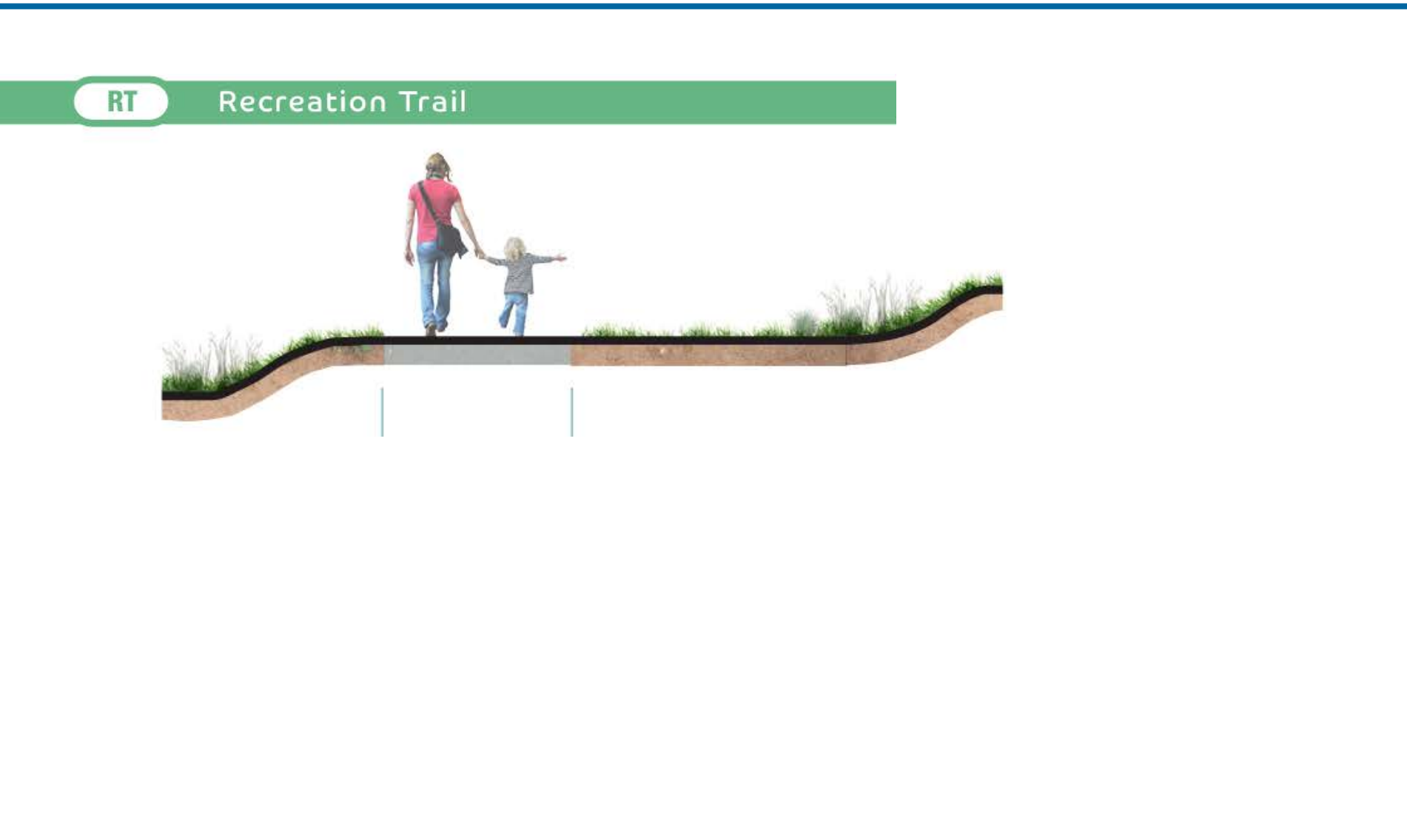
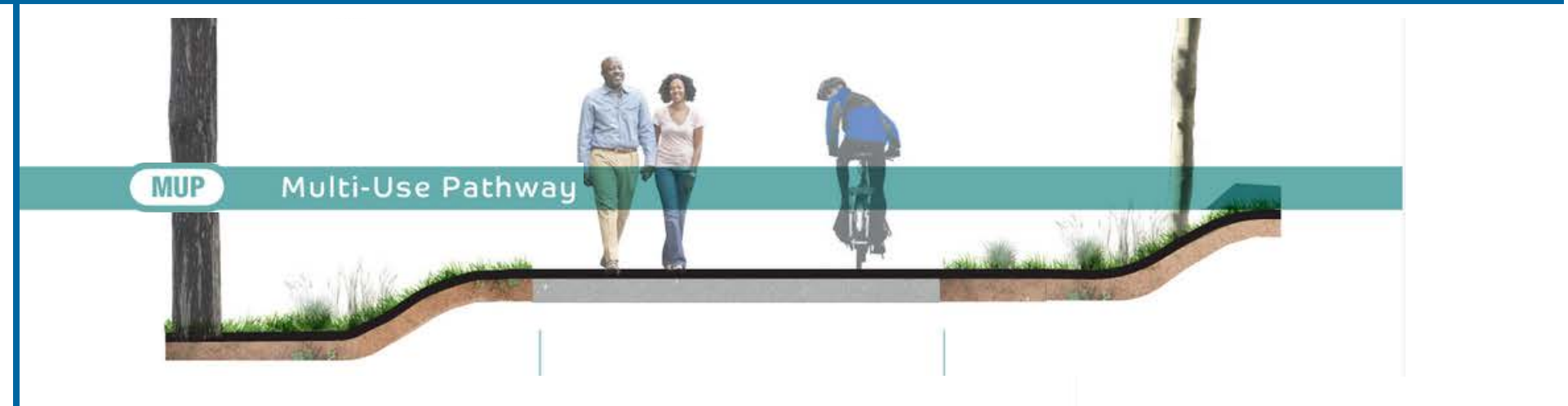


SMUP

Separated Multi-Use Pathway



Off Road Facility Types



Active Transportation Amenities

A1 Bicycle Parking



A2 Sheltered Bicycle Parking



A3 Benches / Seating



A4 Bike Repair Stations



A5 Water Stations



A6 Pedestrian Oriented Lighting



A7 Waste / Pet Waste Stations



A8 Charging Stations

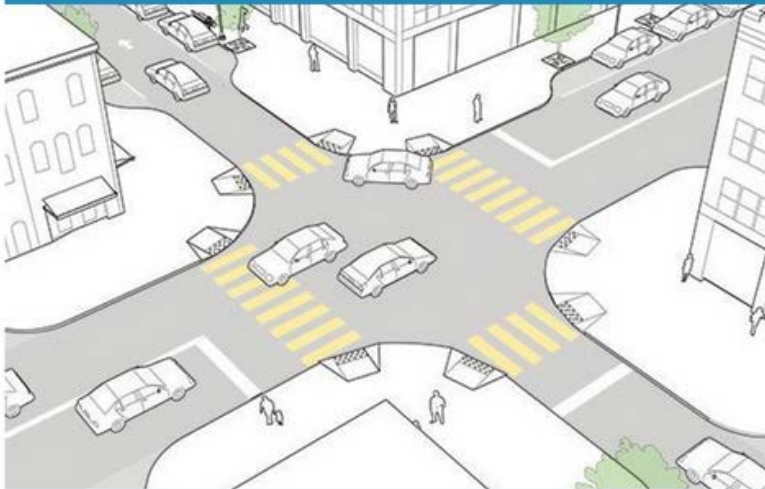


A9 Wayfinding Signage



Intersection Treatments

IT1 Curb Extensions



IT2 Accessible Signals / Indicators



IT3 Leading Pedestrian Intervals



IT4 Roundabout Crossings



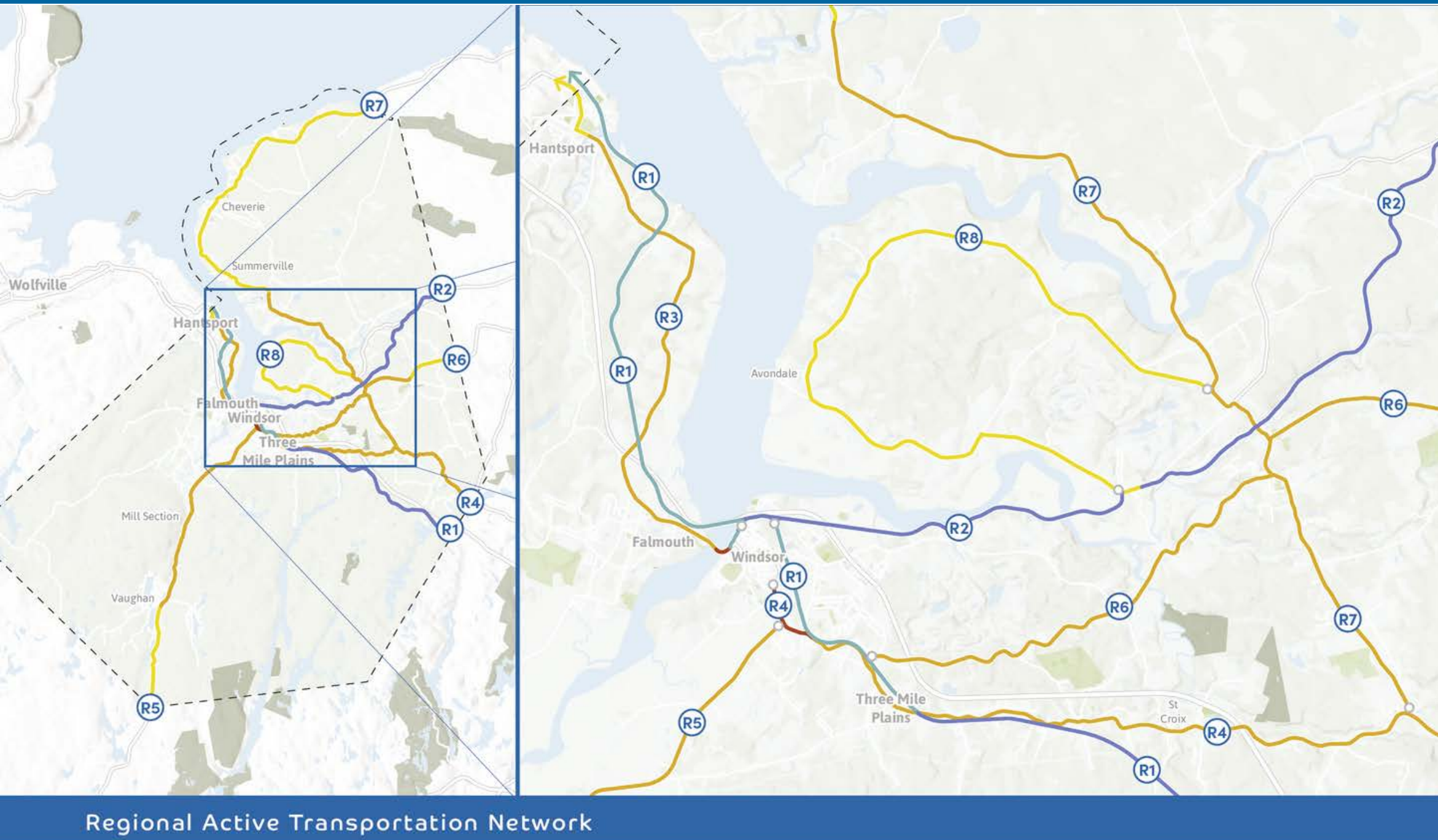
IT5 Cross-Rides



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Active Transportation Network

Regional Active Transportation Network



ON-ROAD FACILITIES

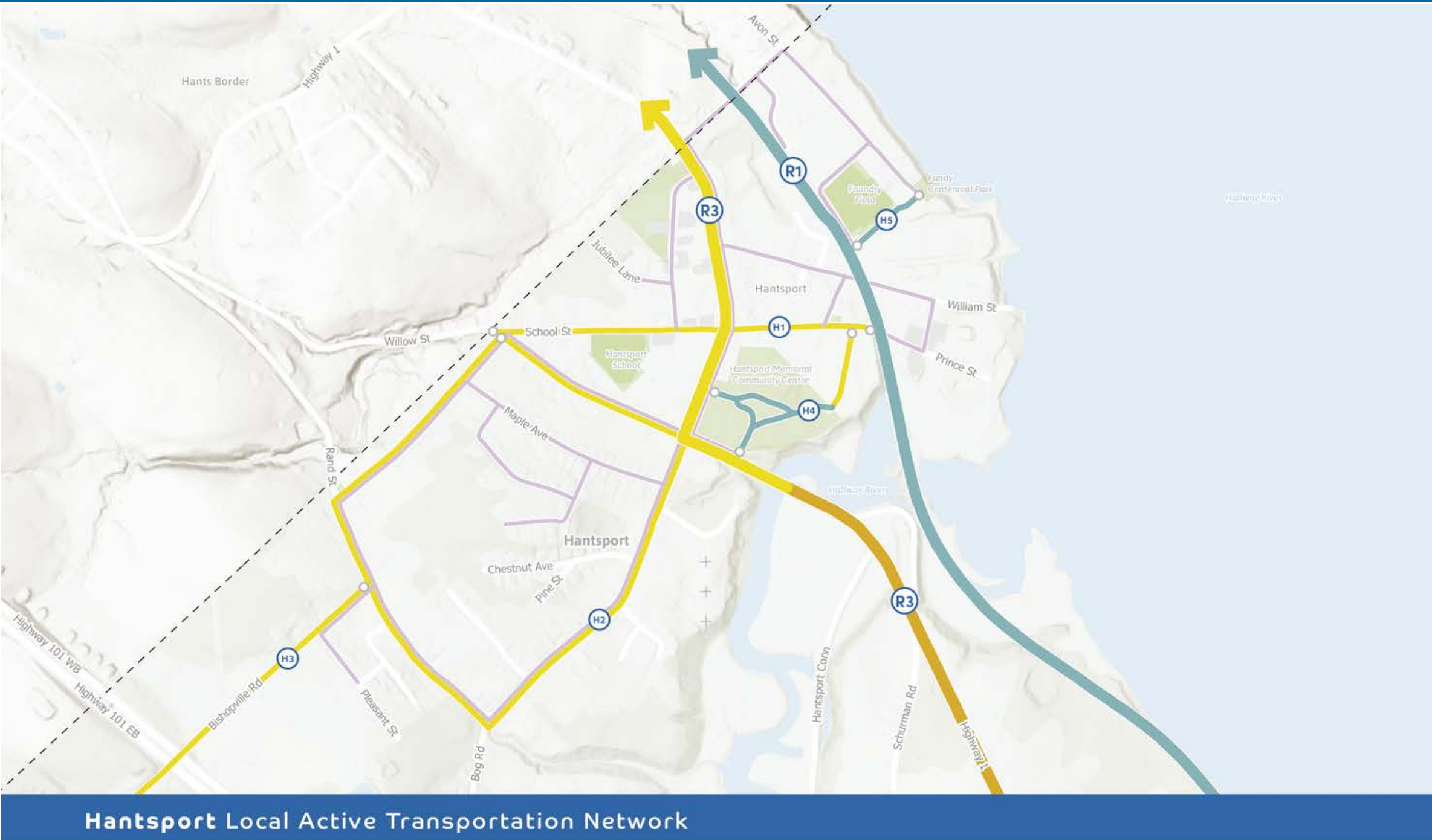
- SR SHARED ROUTE
- PS PAVED SHOULDERS
- SMUP SEPARATED MULTI-USE PATHWAY

OFF-ROAD FACILITIES

- SUP SHARED-USE PATHWAY
- MUP MULTI-USE PATHWAY

- Makes up the “spine” of the West Hants AT Network
- These are longer, uninterrupted routes that may also provide connections to neighbouring municipalities
- Consist of a strong combination of on-road routes (paved shoulders on secondary highways) and off-road trails on the rail corridors

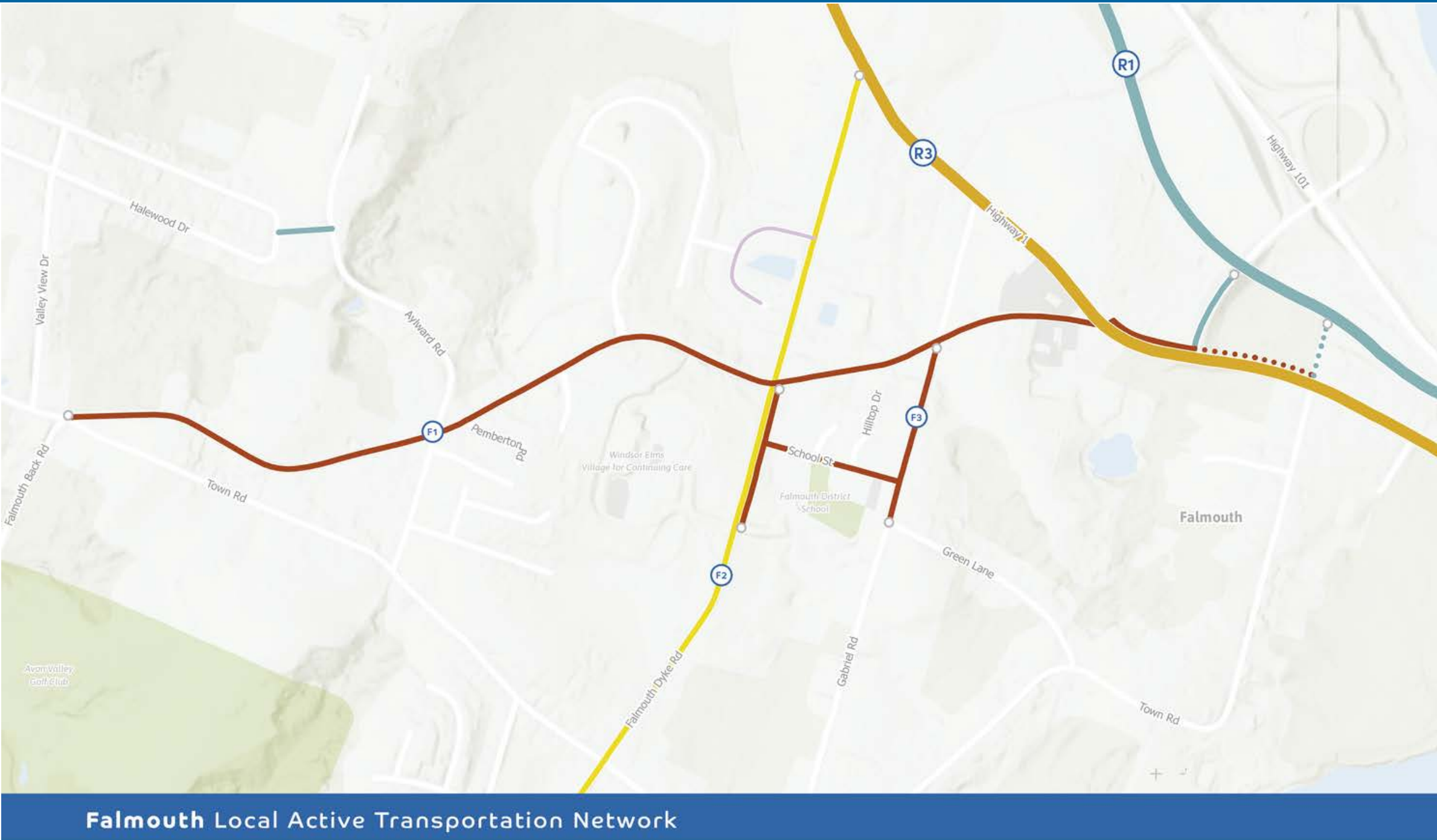
Local Network: Hantsport



Highlights:

- Regional connections via Trunk 1 and the rail trail
- Local street bikeways (traffic calming) throughout Hantsport
- New multi-use pathway connections through Hantsport Memorial Community Centre and Fundy Centennial Park

Local Network: Falmouth



Falmouth Local Active Transportation Network

ON-ROAD FACILITIES

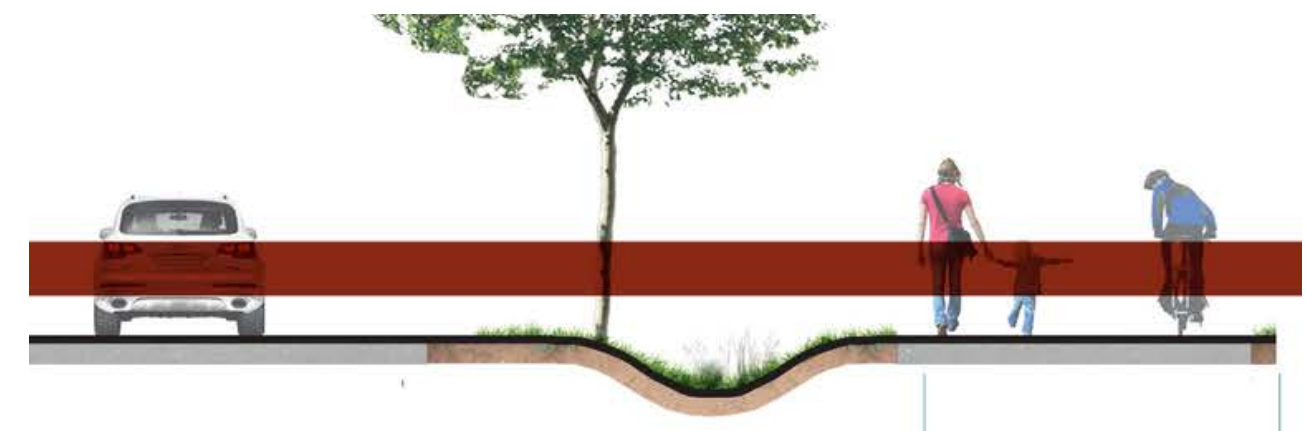
LSB	LOCAL STREET BIKEWAY	S	SIDEWALK
PS	PAVED SHOULDERS	SMUP	SEPARATED MULTI-USE PATHWAY

OFF-ROAD FACILITIES

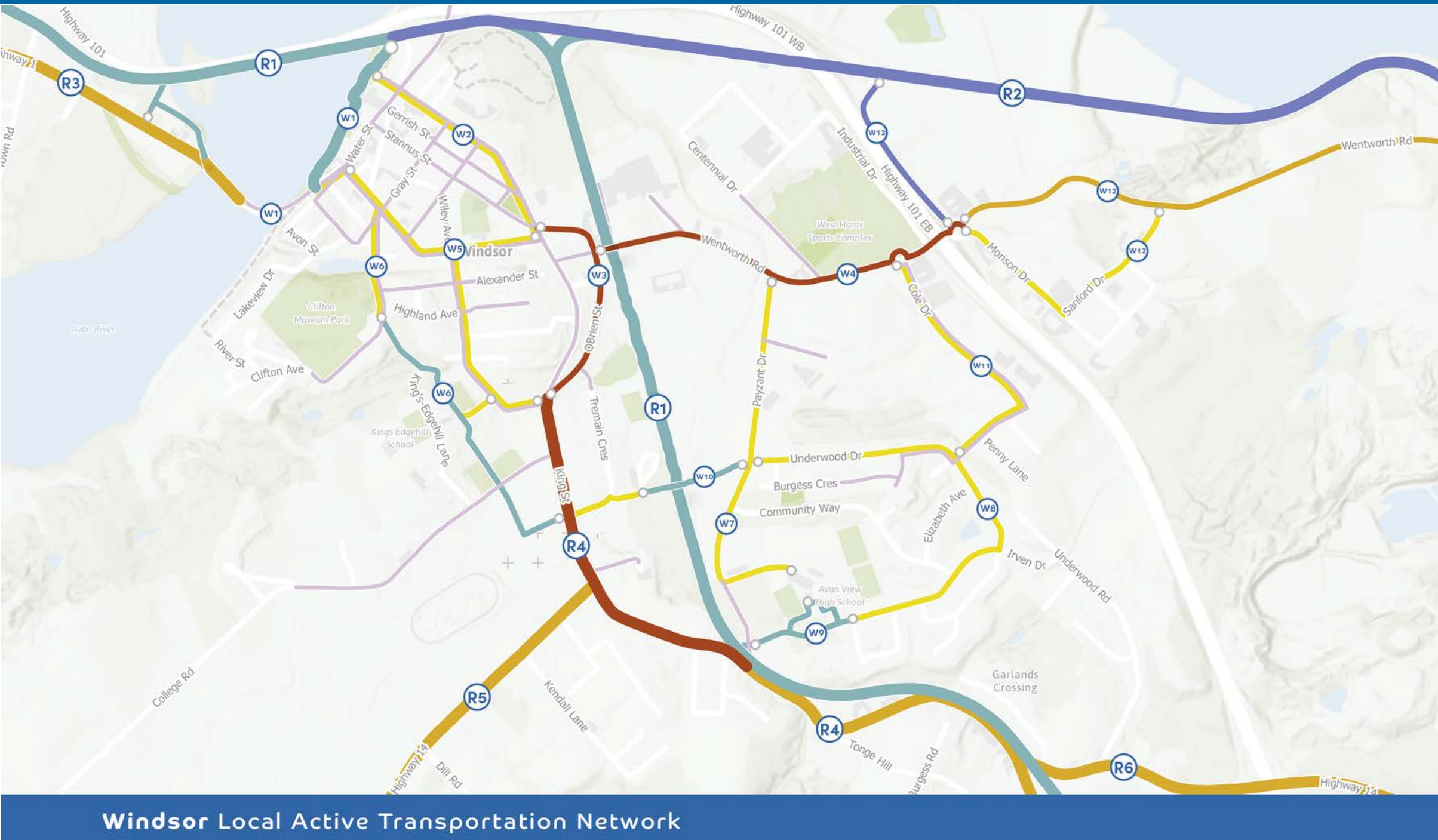
MUP	MULTI-USE PATHWAY
SUP	SHARED-USE PATHWAY

Highlights:

- Regional connections via Trunk 1 and the rail trail
- Shared route on Falmouth Dyke Road
- New separated multi-use pathways on Falmouth Back Road and around School Street



Local Network: Windsor



ON-ROAD FACILITIES

LSB	LOCAL STREET BIKEWAY	S	SIDEWALK
PS	PAVED SHOULDERS	SMUP	SEPARATED MULTI-USE PATHWAY

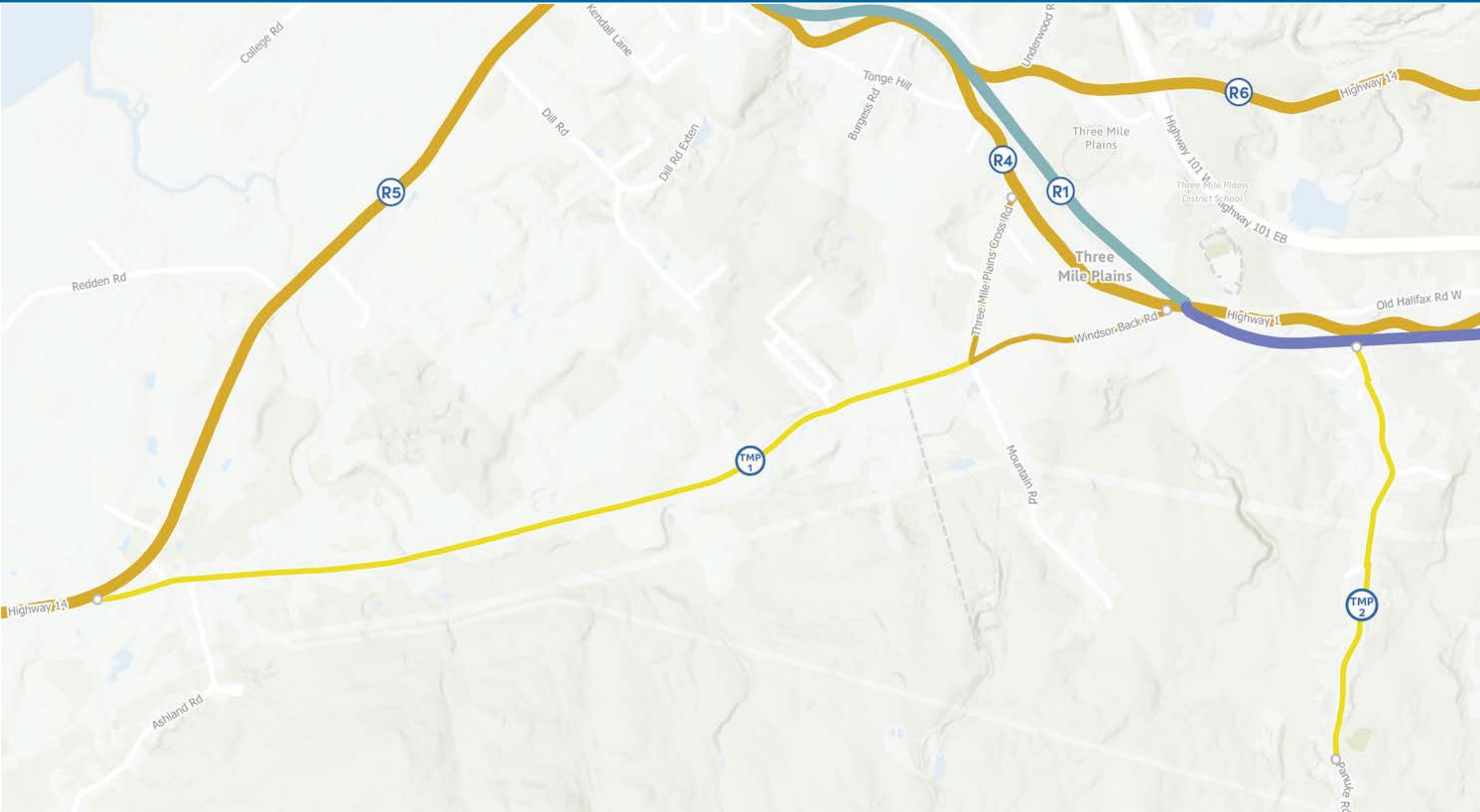
OFF-ROAD FACILITIES

MUP	MULTI-USE PATHWAY
SUP	SHARED-USE PATHWAY

Highlights:

- Regional connections via Trunk 1, Trunk 14, and the rail trails
- New separated multi-use pathways on O'Brien Street and King Street
- Multi-use pathway connecting west side of Windsor and Kings Edgehill School
- Local street bikeways (with traffic calming) throughout

Local Network: Three Mile Plains



Three Mile Plains Local Active Transportation Network

ON-ROAD FACILITIES

LSB	LOCAL STREET BIKEWAY	S	SIDEWALK
PS	PAVED SHOULDERS	SMUP	SEPARATED MULTI-USE PATHWAY

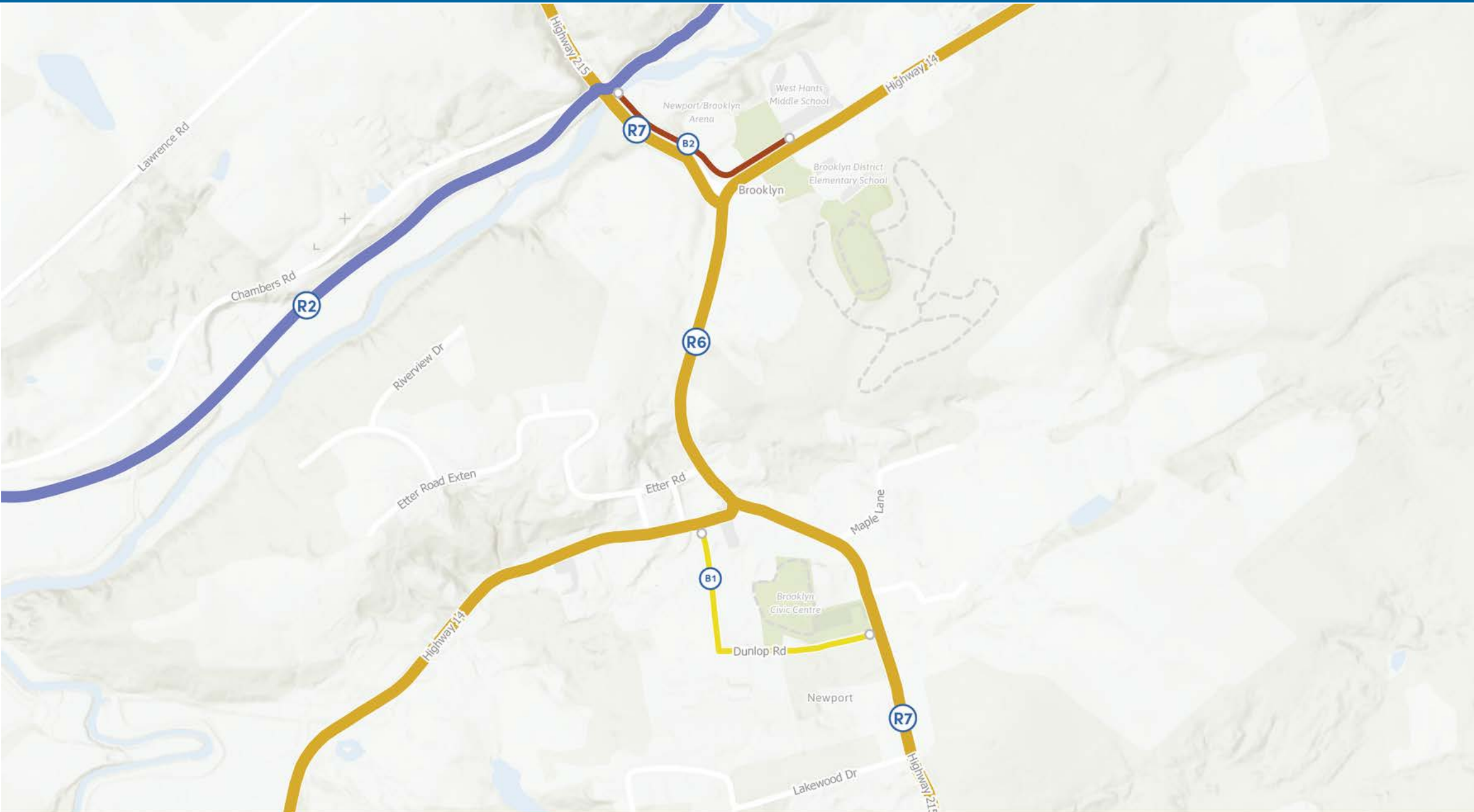
OFF-ROAD FACILITIES

MUP	MULTI-USE PATHWAY
SUP	SHARED-USE PATHWAY

Highlights:

- Regional connections via Trunk 1 and the rail trails
- Paved shoulder loop on Three Mile Plains Cross Road and Windsor Back Road
- Shared routes on Windsor Back Road and Panuke Road

Local Network: Brooklyn



Brooklyn Local Active Transportation Network

ON-ROAD FACILITIES

LSB	LOCAL STREET BIKEWAY	S	SIDEWALK
PS	PAVED SHOULDERS	SMUP	SEPARATED MULTI-USE PATHWAY

OFF-ROAD FACILITIES

MUP	MULTI-USE PATHWAY
SUP	SHARED-USE PATHWAY

Highlights:

- Regional connections via Trunk 14 and Route 215, and rail trail
- New separated multi-use pathway connecting rail trail to the schools
- Local Street Bikeway along Dunlop Road

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Other Details

Other Plan Recommendations



- **Education, Programming and Policy Recommendations**

- **Community Programs and Events**, such as creating a bike-friendly business program, facilitating walking, rolling and cycling groups, and developing an active routes to school program
- **Marketing and Awareness** initiatives, such as print resources/maps and online active transportation maps
- **Planning and Policies** adjustments that aim to support active transportation via the Municipal Municipal Planning Strategy, Land Use Bylaw and Subdivision Bylaw

Implementation



- **Phasing Plan** that breaks down network projects into
 - **near-term** projects (1-3 years)
 - **medium-term** projects (4-6 years)
 - **long-term** projects (7-10 years), and
 - **opportunity-based** projects
- **Cost Estimates** and future engineering studies for network projects
- **Funding Opportunities** that can be leveraged, including federal and provincial grants

West Hants Active Transportation and Trails Strategy

Questions?



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

Information ☐	Recommendation ☒	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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To: West Hants Regional Municipality Committee of the Whole

Submitted by: Kathy Johnston-Isenor, Manager, Recreation & Community Engagement

Date: August 28, 2025

Subject: Active Transportation & Trail Strategy Recommendation

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act section 65 & 47

RECOMMENDATION

Committee of the Whole recommends that Council approve and adopt the West Hants Regional Municipality Active Transportation & Trail Strategy 2025 as presented.

BACKGROUND

Property ☒	Public Opinion ☐	Environment ☒	Social ☒	Economic ☒	Councillor Activity ☐
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In August 2024 Council approved the award of tender WHRMCD24-06 Request for Consulting Services for the West Hants Regional Municipality Active Transportation & Trails Strategy contract to UPLAND Planning and Design.

The plan objectives included improvements to the WHRM active transportation network; assessing the needs of the community in relation to Active Transportation, Trails and sidewalk infrastructure; further improvements to the Active Avon Active Transportation Plan, Trails Strategy Mapping and a Future Sidewalk Needs Assessment.

DISCUSSION

Over the past year UPLAND Planning and Design have met with stakeholders, completed community consultations and reviewed best practices of operations of similar size to WHRM.

Community consultation played a key role in shaping the direction of the Active Transportation & Trail Strategy. Through surveys, online presentations, in-person information sessions and Sidewalk Needs Assessment Walk & Roll Sessions, residents and community partners provided meaningful input that helped identify priorities, highlight concerns and suggest opportunities for improving the active transportation network in WHRM.

This plan aims to enhance mobility for both residents and visitors, and create a more sustainable, accessible and enjoyable transportation network. By improving connectivity, this strategy will not only make active transportation safer and more convenient but will also strengthen social ties and better link communities, establishing a vibrant, inclusive network for people of all ages and abilities.

Another key focus of this project was assessing whether the current trail network effectively met the diverse needs of its users. This Strategy identifies existing gaps and opportunities to ensure a well-rounded, accessible system that supports various forms of active transportation throughout WHRM.

NEXT STEPS

- 1) Pending approval of the WHRM Active Transportation & Trail Strategy staff will proceed with the implementation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All financial requests would be submitted to Council for review and approval as part of the annual budget process.

ALTERNATIVES

Committee of the Whole can choose to not recommend the approval and adoption of the Active Transportation & Trail Strategy 2025.

ATTACHMENTS

Active Transportation & Trail Strategy 2025

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW

I look forward to a thorough review of the strategy and its implementation.

I support the recommendation.

Report Prepared by: _____

Kathy Johnston-Isenor,
Manager, Recreation and Community Engagement

Report Reviewed by: _____

Kathy Kehoe, Director Community Development

Report Reviewed by: _____

Carlee Rochon, Director Financial Services

Report Approved by:  _____

Mark Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer