

Active Transportation and Trails Master Plan

Discussion Paper #3
Engagement Summary



City of Temiskaming Shores
Draft November 2021





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ROUND 1 ENGAGEMENT

1.1 BACKGROUND

The City of Temiskaming Shores is developing an Active Transportation Plan to expand access to walking, cycling and wheeling for residents of all ages and abilities. This plan builds on the City's existing network of physical infrastructure, which is centred on the STATO Trail as well as its network of social infrastructure to support active transportation, supported by partners such as the Timiskaming Health Unit, Downtown BIA, Bicycle Friendly Communities Committee and more. Engaging with the existing community in Temiskaming Shores is a vital part of the development of the ATP, and the results of the first round of engagement are the focus of this Discussion Paper.

1.2 ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

This plan has been developed in accordance with the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) process and practices, as illustrated in **Figure 1** below. The IAP2 Process outlines the preparation, management, and evolution of engagement tactics based on a spectrum of involvement tailored to the wants and needs of the anticipated or desired audiences. There are five levels of commitment, which are known as the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation.

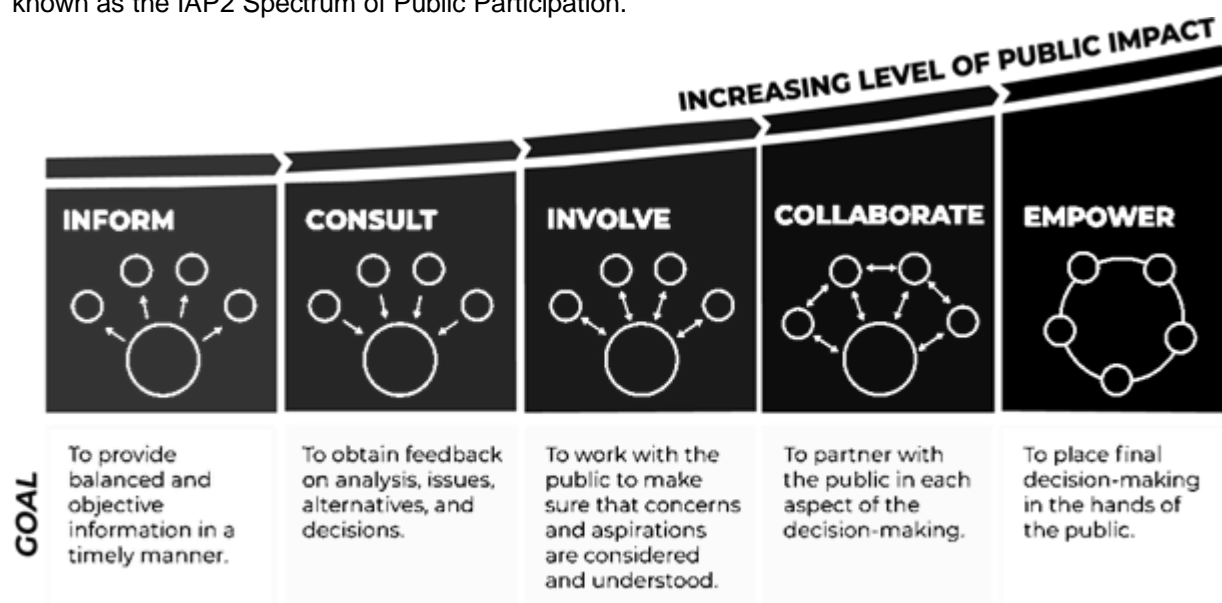


Figure 1. IAP2 Spectrum of Audience Involvement

The amount of information sharing, gathering and integration increases as you “move up” the spectrum. The intent is to recognize that not all stakeholders will have the same level of involvement in the project or need the same amount of information to inform their involvement. The IAP2 approach emphasizes the importance of a consultation plan which is tailored to the understanding, commitment and contribution of each of the unique groups. By identifying the stakeholders early in the study process the project team will be able to anticipate, identify, plan for and communicate the expectations based on the intended audience.

For the Temiskaming Shores ATP, the project team identified four distinct audiences, and established their projected level of commitment to the project. That audience analysis is presented below in Table 1.

Table 1. Overview and Analysis of Stakeholder Groups

STAKEHOLDER	DESCRIPTION & MEMBERSHIP	LEVEL OF INTEREST	OBJECTIVES	IAP2 LEVEL OF INVOLVEMENT
Core Project Team	City staff members who will be coordinating the implementation, monitoring and maintenance of the ATP. Their strong knowledge of the City, existing conditions and municipal processes will be vital to the success of the project.	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide the group with key background information on the project and updates on project status. To gather input to inform key project milestones and on project deliverables. To generate buy-in and confirmation from the committee on project deliverables and public facing information. 	Inform, Consult, Involve & Collaborate
Stakeholders / Stakeholder Working Group	Representatives from groups who have interest in active transportation or who would have a role in supporting the City in future promotion and outreach initiatives. They have access to significant historical knowledge and local resources within the community and typically have a higher level of interest from a community perspective.	Medium to High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide background information on the project and to demonstrate how input provided has been integrated into project outcomes. To identify “Quick Wins” that can be submitted for funding under the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative funding stream. To review and help confirm the overall vision and objectives for the ATP. To identify future opportunities for collaboration as well as capacity to support education and outreach tactics for long-term culture change. 	Inform, Consult, Involve & Collaborate

Members of the Public	Residents include the people who live, work and play in Temiskaming Shores.	Low to High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide background information on the project and to demonstrate how input provided has been integrated into project outcomes. • To gather input on interests, needs and preferences within the community including opportunities, challenges and existing / potential routes. 	Inform & Consult
City Council	Councillors represent the opinions and interests of their constituents and typically have a greater appreciation for and understanding of the key issues of the City.	Medium to High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide the group with key background information on the project and updates on project status. • To ensure that the project is in-line with overall objectives and strategic opinions of decision makers. • To generate buy-in and confirmation on project deliverables and public facing information. 	Inform, Consult, & Empower

By identifying audiences early in the process and ensuring that engagement activities are held regularly and meet the needs of each audience, the community engagement approach is helping to ensure that the actions identified in the final ATP are appropriate, ambitious and community-supported, leading to a plan that is more likely to be implemented in a meaningful way as the City continues to develop its walking, cycling and wheeling networks.

ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

Engagement is a major component of the City of Temiskaming Shores Active Transportation Plan (ATP) project and has been divided into two rounds. Throughout the first half of 2021, the project team worked closely with the City of Temiskaming Shores to facilitate a number of engagement activities with key stakeholders and members of the public for the first round of engagement. These activities were completed to gain input on existing conditions; strengths and gaps in the current active transportation network and the City's efforts to support active transportation; and potential improvements and priorities for active transportation going forward. The following sections summarize the Round 1 engagement activities, the input that was received, common themes that emerged, and how the Project Team will use this information to guide the development of the ATP.

STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP WORKSHOP #1

The Project Team hosted a Stakeholder Workshop on May 27, 2021 with stakeholders from the Stakeholder Working Group, including representatives from various committees, organizations, agencies, and Town departments. The Workshop was held to help develop a "Quick Wins Strategy" which identified projects that could be implemented immediately, potentially through an application to the newly launched Canada Healthy Communities Initiative. The Workshop also provided an opportunity for stakeholders to provide input about strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to future successes, building upon the Project Team's initial assessment of Temiskaming Shores' existing active transportation system.

STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

The Consultant Project Team hosted interviews with key stakeholders in April and May 2021 to gain a better understanding of existing conditions and opportunities for improving active transportation in Temiskaming Shores. Similar to the Stakeholder Workshop, the stakeholders were asked questions that provided input about strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to future successes. Key stakeholders included representatives from local committees and organizations that will be impacted by the ATP.

PUBLIC SURVEY

A public survey was posted online to provide members of the public an opportunity to provide feedback regarding active transportation in Temiskaming Shores. The survey focused on existing travel patterns and travel choices, potential enhancements to the City's existing active transportation network, and priority gaps and challenges regarding current conditions.

COUNCIL SURVEY

In addition to the public survey, the Project Team developed a Council survey. This survey was used to help identify potential challenges and inform and involve Councillors in the process.

1.3 WHAT WAS SAID

The following sections summarize the input that was received during the first Round of engagement.

STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP WORKSHOP #1

The Project Team held a Workshop with stakeholders from the Stakeholder Working Group including City staff, City Councillors, local committee members, Health Unit staff, and other key representatives. During the Workshop, the Project Team used an online whiteboard tool, Miro, to facilitate various activities and allow stakeholders to provide input and contribute to discussions surrounding the future of active transportation in Temiskaming Shores. The activities included:

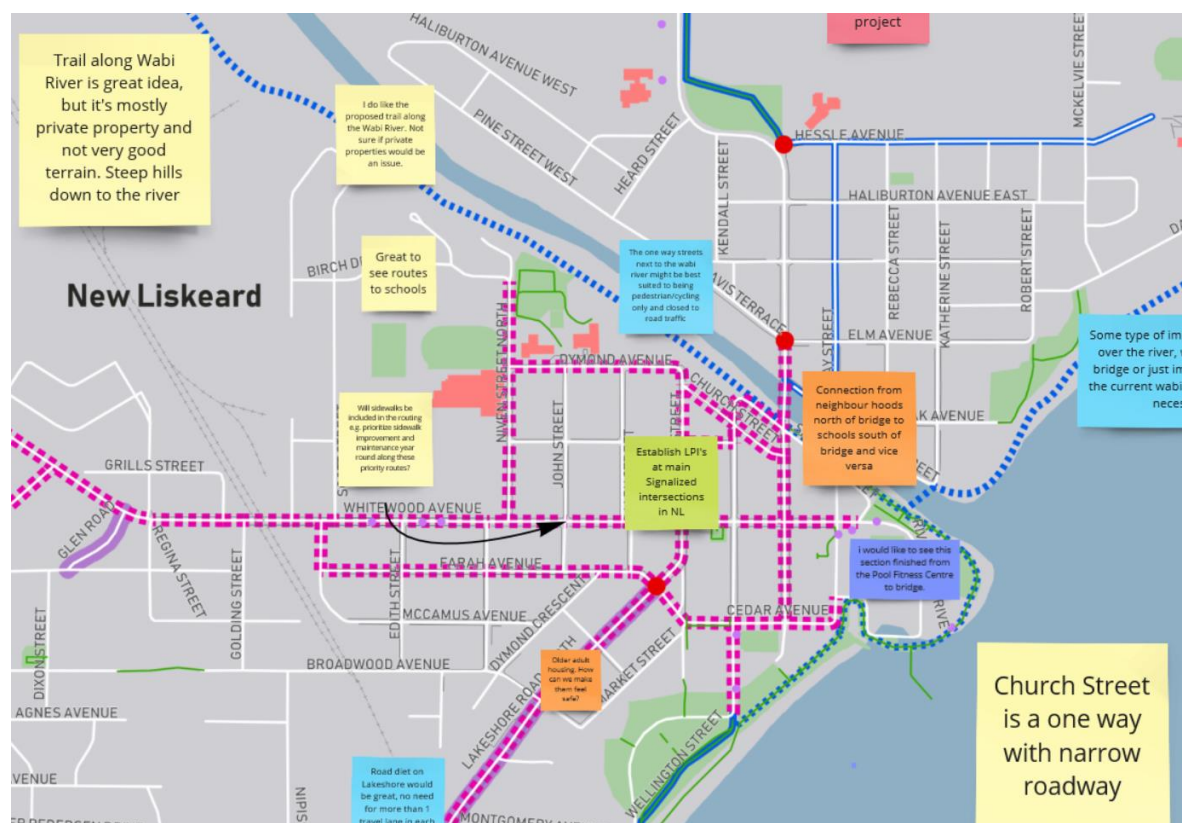
- 1 **Candidate Active Transportation Routes and Potential Improvements** – the Project Team presented maps of the candidate routes and proposed improvements to the active transportation system. The stakeholders were asked to identify any additional:
 - Candidate routes;
 - Locations/crossings for enhancement; and
 - Routes/projects that should be prioritized in the short term.

During the Candidate network Review, feedback received largely confirmed much of what had been identified for implementation by the project team leading up to the workshop. Key items identified for improvement included:

- Intersection improvements within the downtown areas of Haileybury and New Liskeard should be implemented to create safer access for people walking and cycling
- Safety enhancements on the STATO Trail should be considered, particularly on Lakeshore Road, by reducing vehicle speeds and adding additional physical separation where possible
- Connections to schools and areas with a high density of destinations should be enhanced to connect the STATO Trail to the places people want to go in the City
- Concerns with the proposed routing for the trail extension to Pete's Dam – including property ownership and difficult terrain
- A desire to see enhanced connectivity over the Wabi River, either through improvements to the existing bridge or through the construction of a new pedestrian and cycling bridge at the foot of Katherine Street
- Enhancing connections on the STATO Trail into North Cobalt to connect those residents to Haileybury and beyond
- The importance of effective wayfinding to highlight the connections between the STATO Trail and the proposed routes to connect with community destinations

An example of the types of feedback provided during the Workshop can be seen in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1: A Section of the Candidate Routes and Potential Improvements Map with Post-It Notes from Stakeholders



2 Quick Wins Project Builder – The Project Team identified a potential opportunity for the City to receive funding from the Government of Canada through the Healthy Communities Initiative fund to improve public spaces as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Project Team presented the Healthy Community Initiatives goals, shown in Figure 2, and asked stakeholders to identify potential “quick wins” projects that would meet these goals and qualify for funding.

Figure 2: Healthy Community Initiatives Goals



**Create safe
and vibrant
places**



**Improve
mobility
options**



**Provide
innovative design
solutions**

The stakeholders listed a variety of potential quick wins projects, such as:

- Implementing wayfinding to support new riders and walkers;
- Increasing connections to schools and other public facilities (i.e., grocery stores, hospital, etc.);
- Adding traffic calming tools in designated residential and downtown areas to improve safety for people crossing the road;

- Implementing bicycle parking in the downtown cores;
- Introducing a bike hub with bike rentals and repairs;
- Improving cycling and pedestrian facilities along the Wabi Bridge; and
- Enhancing street beatification (i.e., murals, etc.).

3 Action Planning Worksheet – After reviewing the input regarding potential quick wins projects, the stakeholders were asked to identify one project that the City could apply for funding to implement. The stakeholders collectively identified the following project:

- Downtown beatification and expansion of public space in downtown New Liskeard and Haileybury, including:
 - Enhancing pop-up patios/public seating areas; and
 - Adding bike racks, benches, crosswalk, painted murals, etc.

The stakeholders determined that this project would help build a sense of community and draw tourists to Temiskaming Shores. These improvements would also provide all community members with a place to walk, bike, and stay in touch in the downtown areas, while reducing and calming vehicle traffic. The stakeholders identified some key elements that should be included as part of the project, such as:

- Bike racks and more bicycle parking in lieu of car parking in key destinations;
- Stop signs and safe crossings in Haileybury;
- Clear signage and pavement markings;
- Greenery and trees; and
- Mid-block crossings and bump-outs at former Giant Tiger and between existing crossings in New Liskeard and Haileybury (this was identified as a “nice-to-have” element rather than a “must-have” element).

STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

The Project Team held interviews with 8 key stakeholders including representatives from the City, local committees (i.e., Bicycle Friendly Communities Committee, Age Friendly Committee, and Active Travel Committee), the Health Unit, and the Business Improvement Area. The stakeholders were asked to answer the following questions to provide input about strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities regarding active transportation in Temiskaming Shores:

1. What is your vision for active transportation in the City?
2. What are the top 3 network priorities for an active transportation network?
3. Who is the network serving and who is it not?
4. What are some successes in the City?
5. What are some of the challenges?
6. What are some programs and who are the partners?
7. What are some programs you think the City should explore?
8. Who should lead program development and who should support?
9. Of the programs identified, are there any priorities?
10. Is there anything else you would like to add?

Some notable comments that emerged during the stakeholder interviews are listed below:

- “The [STATO] Trail is well designed and well used. Seniors, kids, parents families, racers, - they're all on the STATO Trail”;
- “I'd like to see us expand upon what we've done already – we already have this great linear route in the STATO Trail, so we should complete those missing links and then lay out a plan to connect

the trail to other areas. [We should focus on] connecting and finishing the trail and then expanding”;

- “More signage and wayfinding would be great. More green paint on the roads too to help delineate the cycling facilities. [Bicycle] parking downtown – a couple in New Liskeard and one uptown by the stores, and maybe one in Haileybury”;
- “I think adults more than kids are being served well [by our existing infrastructure] in terms of comfort, especially downtown. Commuters are well served generally. Leisure riders who aren't afraid of riding outside of the trail – experienced riders are pretty well served. I've heard from other people who would ride more, but they don't feel comfortable riding in traffic, so they are being left behind. Students are really being left behind too because we only have one school that we can get to from the trail. The majority of our schools have nothing to connect them, so students are on their own”;
- “[We should have more] shaded seating areas downtown. I'd like to see a lot more green. We live in a beautiful area surrounded by trees and our downtown doesn't reflect that at all. So if we could see more planters, more flowers, more of those natural elements – it really provides so much benefit. We have nice buildings downtown, but we need more natural streetscaping”;
- “If you want to encourage people to cycle, you need to have a place for them to store their bikes! We should also have employee change rooms and showers so that people can change”; and
- “We have a good transit system but the connection between transit and cycling is lacking. We need to build that connection better. Not all the busses that we have available are equipped with racks”.

Table 1 provides an overview of some of the common themes that emerged during the Stakeholder Interviews.

Table 1: Stakeholder Interview SWOT Analysis Summary

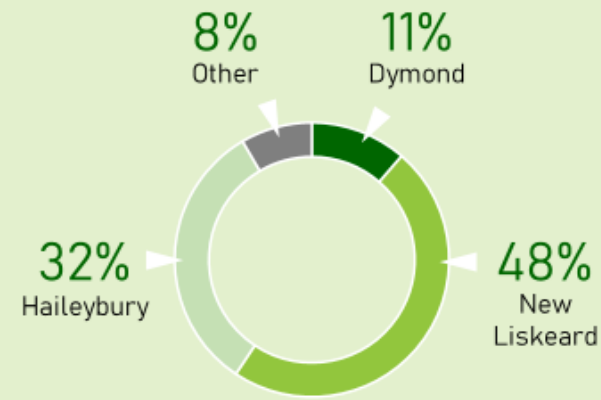
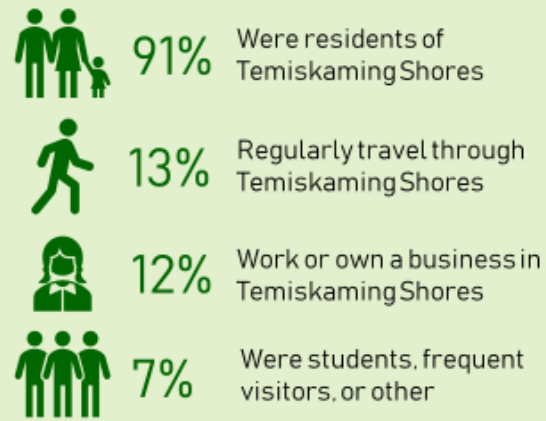
	Common Themes
Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing STATO Trail • Strong history of local fundraising and funding applications • Encouragement and education efforts • Radio, Newspaper, Social Media, Bike Festival, etc. • Supportive staff and local stakeholders • Local parks provide good access to nature and trails • Strong transit ridership • Winter maintenance of sidewalks • Existing work done by the Committees
Weaknesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speeds on connecting corridors • Rorke, Lakeshore, Whitewood, Armstrong • Few All Ages and Abilities (AAA) routes for walking and cycling • Lack of seating, shade and bike parking in downtown areas • Crossing Lakeshore in Haileybury • Wabi Bridge • School connectivity to existing trails • Lack of safe access to downtowns

Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike parking and beautification in downtown areas • Multi-modal integration: more walk / bike / transit trips • Expand bike exchange into bike hub / bike rental • Broaden BFCC mandate to focus on active transportation • Traffic calming and speed limit reductions • Introduce wayfinding and signage to encourage new ridership • Trail apps and updated info online
Threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road widths may limit options, particularly on rural and older roads • Low revenue and financial capacity means improvements are often reliant on grants and other funding streams • Many programs rely on volunteers – staff support may need to expand

PUBLIC SURVEY

The online survey was available on the project website from May to June, 2021 and received 283 responses in total. The following section uses infographics to summarize the main input that was received through the survey.

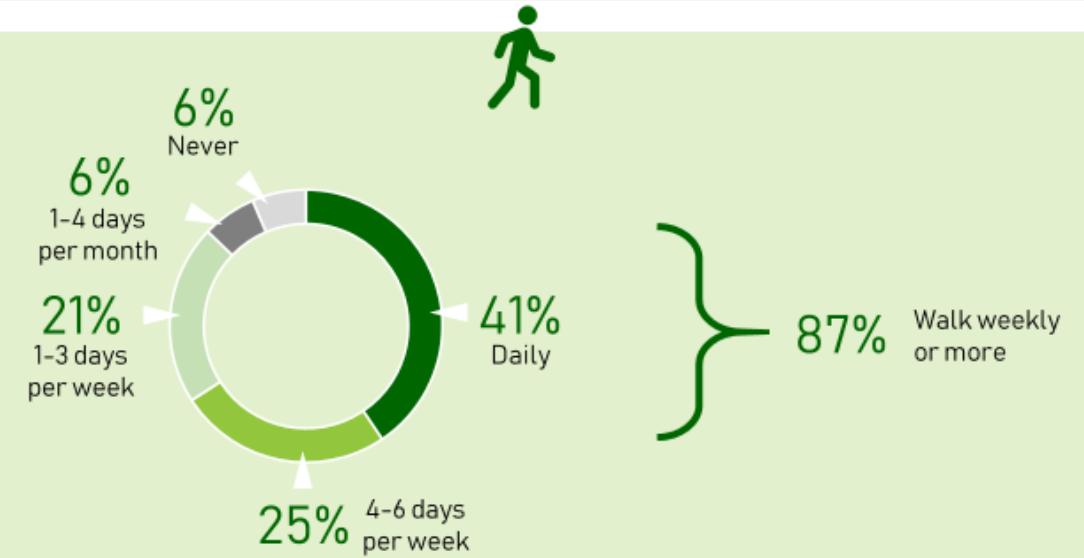
Who participated in the survey?



Temiskaming Shores Active Transportation Master Plan – Survey Results

1

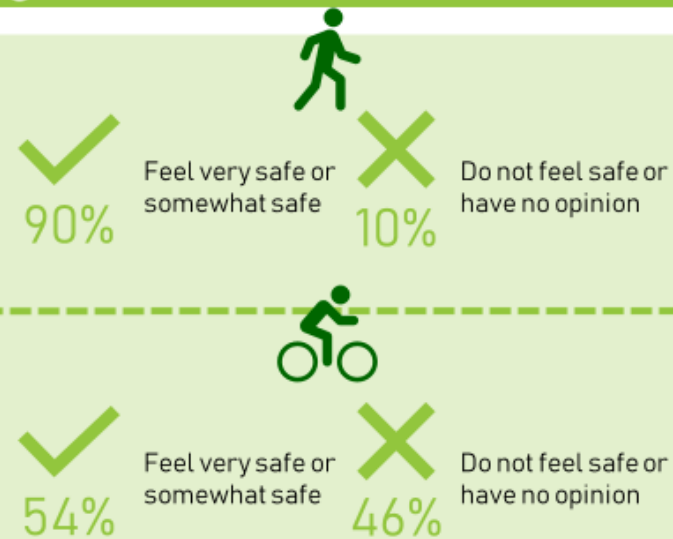
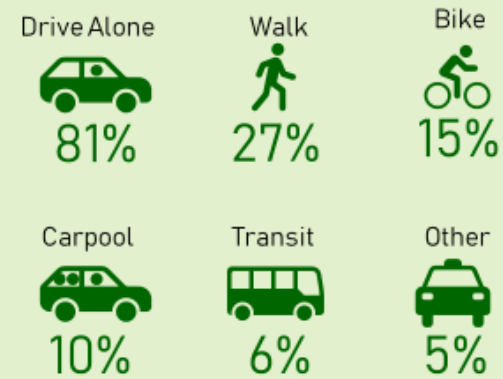
How often are people walking?



Temiskaming Shores Active Transportation Master Plan – Survey Results

3

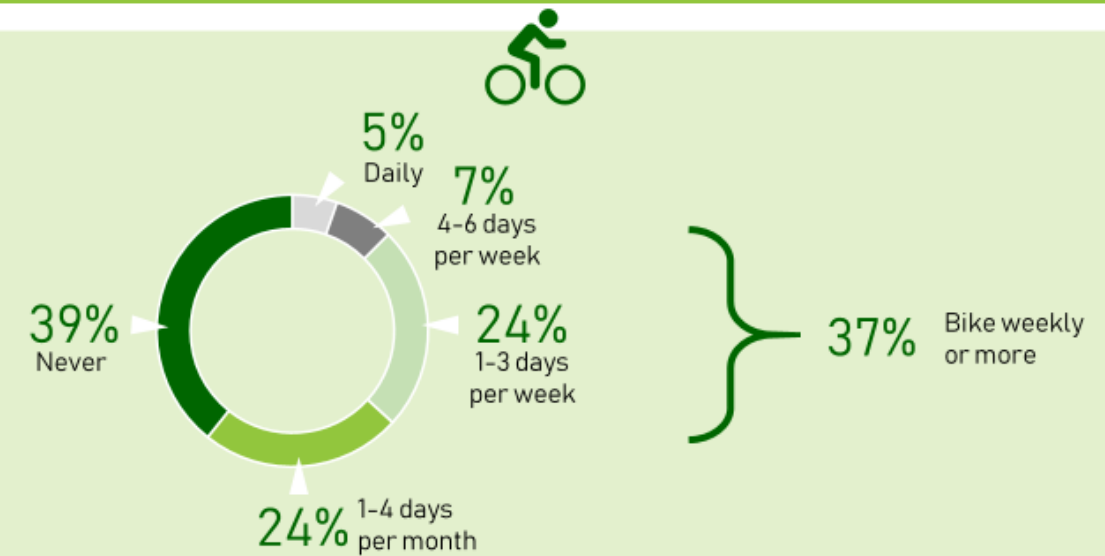
How are people commuting in Temiskaming Shores?



Temiskaming Shores Active Transportation Master Plan – Survey Results

2

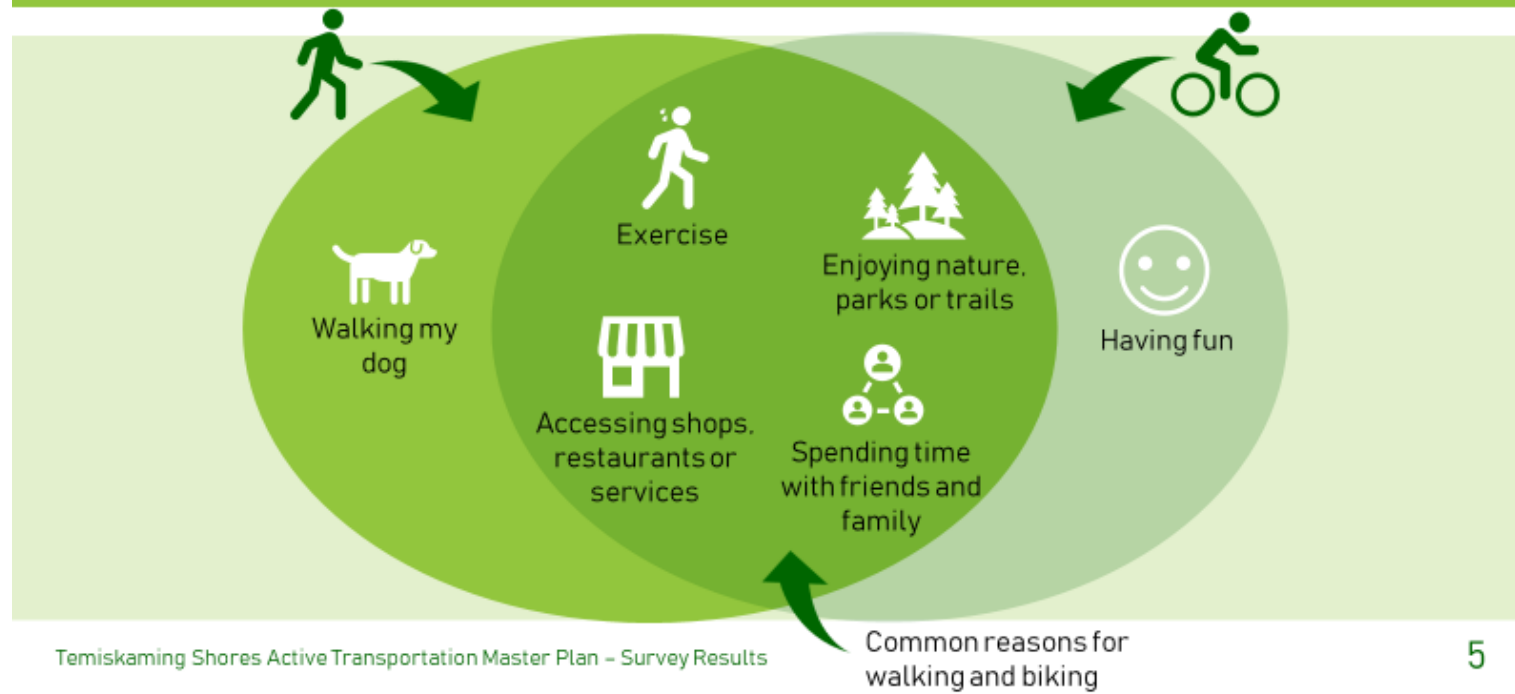
How often are people biking?



Temiskaming Shores Active Transportation Master Plan – Survey Results

4

Why are people walking and biking?



5

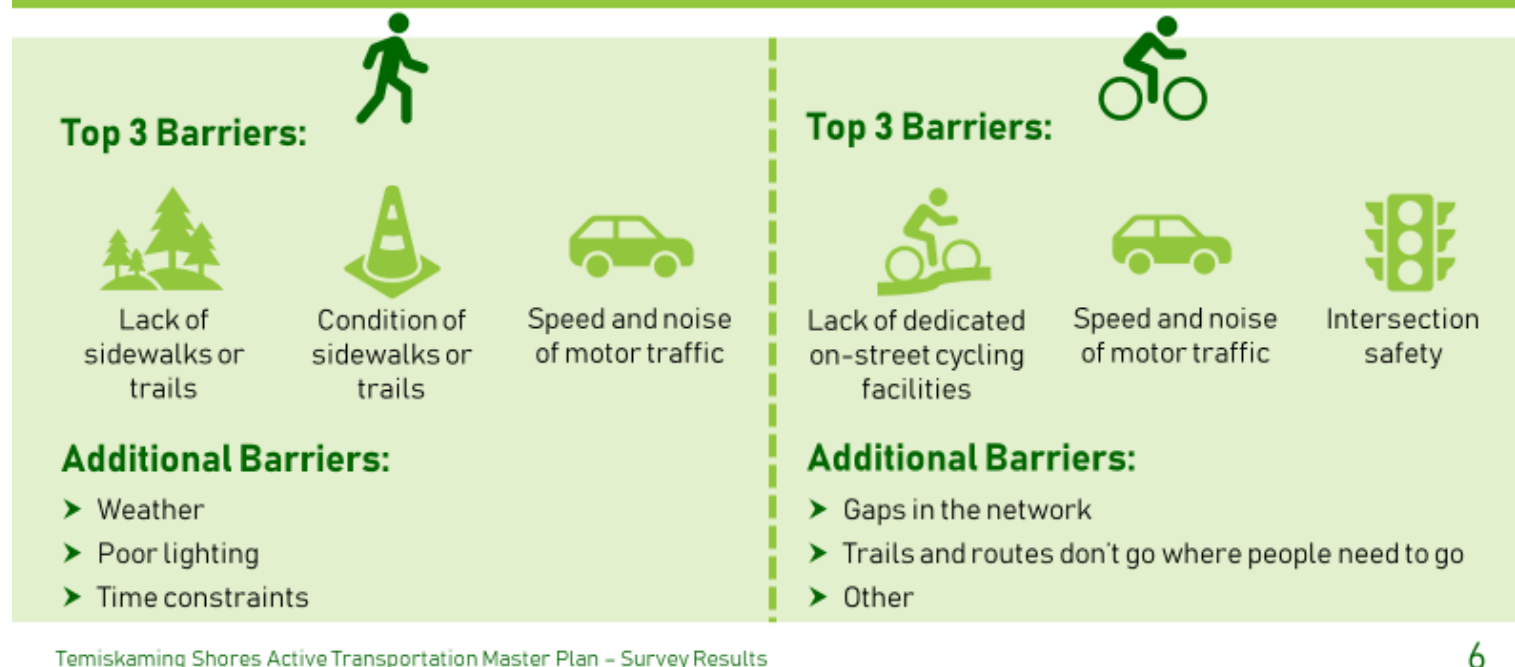
How far are people willing to travel?

	Walking	Biking
Work or School	9 minutes	10 minutes
Shops & Services	8 minutes	11 minutes
Local parks or trails	11 minutes	14 minutes
Entertainment or leisure	10 minutes	12 minutes
Transit	5 minutes	6 minutes

Temiskaming Shores Active Transportation Master Plan – Survey Results

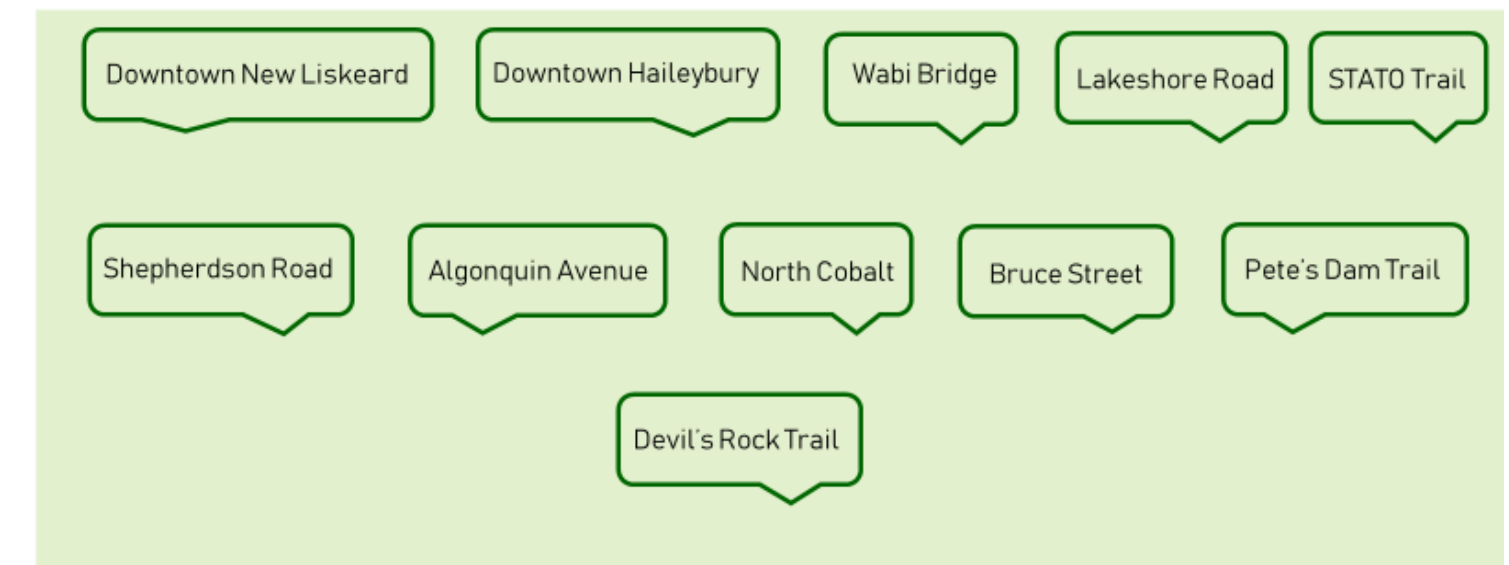
7

What are the main barriers?



6

What locations would people like to see improved?



8

What actions would people target for investment?

Top 3 Priorities:



Improve maintenance on existing sidewalks, multi-use paths, cycling facilities, etc.

Additional Priorities:

- Intersection upgrades, including improved crossings, signals, and lighting
- Build more sidewalks
- Provide more amenities along active transportation routes (benches, water, fountains, bike racks, etc.)
- Expand off-street cycling network (more mountain biking trails, etc.)

Temiskaming Shores Active Transportation Master Plan – Survey Results

9

How do people describe active transportation in Temiskaming Shores now?

- ✓ Quite good for the size of the Town, but room for improvement
- ✓ STATO Trail is amazing
- ✓ Too much focus on cycling over other modes (roller blading, skate boarding, scootering, walking, etc.)
- ✓ Need to make areas more walkable (i.e., improve, maintain, and add more sidewalks)
- ✓ Need to focus more on safety, especially on busy streets
- ✓ More education is needed on how to share the road with cyclists
- ✓ Active transportation network is very limited to New Liskeard – need to provide connections to other communities

Temiskaming Shores Active Transportation Master Plan – Survey Results

10

What should be the priority for the Temiskaming Shores Active Transportation Plan?

- ✓ Safety (i.e., crossing the street, on-street cycling facilities, etc.)
- ✓ Maintenance (i.e., improve and maintain existing sidewalks, trails, and roads)
- ✓ Accessibility
- ✓ Connectivity
- ✓ Community education and awareness
- ✓ Traffic calming

Temiskaming Shores Active Transportation Master Plan – Survey Results

11

Some notable comments that emerged through the public survey are listed below:

- “I am impressed with what we have for such a small community, especially the STATO Trail”;
- “Active Transportation in Temiskaming is quite good along quiet roads/parks, but requires serious attention/changes along busy routes”;
- There aren't enough dedicated paths connecting all ends of the community to promote biking. [...] More sidewalks (or paths) need to be added to increase walking as well”;
- “Active transportation in the City of Temiskaming Shores has come a long way but we tend to forget that more people walk than cycle - pay as much attention to the making it walkable as you do cyclable. Maybe we need a Temiskaming Shores Walking Committee to get our sidewalks fixed”;
- “Upgrade current infrastructure, start to build multi use trails, and [increase] maintenance of the existing ones”;
- “Slow the traffic down”;
- “[The] priority should be to make it a safe and convenient way to get around, from all areas of the city”;
- “Speed limit reductions and traffic calming in multiple areas - downtown, around schools/residential areas, Lakeshore, Rorke”;
- “Ensure that walking/bicycling paths are safe from vehicular traffic - in terms of speed, proximity, and exhaust fumes”;
- “More signage advising walkers and cyclists where to walk or cycle” and
- “Improve existing trails for nature fans, offer more safe biking lanes for cyclists, and enforce/educate the driving public as to cyclists' rights to the roads”.

COUNCIL SURVEY

To gain a stronger understanding of what the priorities for the Municipal Council was for this project, a City Council-specific survey was developed and distributed to all members of Temiskaming Shores' City Council. Responses were anonymous, with responses being received from five of the seven current members of Council. The questions posed, and the responses received, are detailed below.

When you think of the current state of active transportation (walking, cycling and wheeling) within the City of Temiskaming Shores, what are some of the first words that come to mind?

- Good but a few improvements could make it great.
- Much better than it was 10 years ago. Many areas are accessible by walking or cycling
- Safety
- Improving, more education to the public that don't use the trail or a bicycle etc.
- A work in progress. Small but important steps being taken. Old infrastructure hinders much of the progress.

When you think of the future of active transportation in the City of Temiskaming Shores, what do you think is important to consider and reflect?

- Pedestrian safety, more bike/active travel routes to main areas of the community.
- Make sure that people can enjoy our great outdoors.
- Connectivity
- Keep an open mind and don't try to make too many changes at once.
- We have a population that, regardless of age, want to become or remain active. Important consideration for any future planning.

In a few sentences, what are the primary outcomes you would like to see emerge from the Active Transportation Plan?

- I would like to get an outline of what routes would be best and find out where we are lacking as far as active travel.
- Provide a safe community for people of all ages to move about our city.
- I would like to see a safe trail connecting the various parts of the City with a resulting mutual sharing of safety and respect between trail and highway users.
- There MUST be more use of the STATO Trail before we spend more dollars or obtain grants as the majority of taxpayers have to buy into it.
- Become recognized as a destination for an active population.

What concerns do you have about the development of the Active Transportation Plan?

- No real concerns I just want people to be able to travel safely throughout the city.
- People must still abide and learn the rules of the road. Signally, sharing the road.
- Mutual safety of all
- Any attempt to change the speed limits between New and Haileybury again must include public meetings and even consider adding a question on a ballot to all voters on the upcoming election in June 2022.
- Our older infrastructure means we must take small cautious steps rather than large bold steps. Current infrastructure is not built for active transportation.

We have been doing extensive community stakeholder outreach but are always looking for additional contacts to expand the level of access for engagement related to this plan. Are there any community groups or key stakeholders that we should contact as we develop this plan?

- Bicycle friendly community, age friendly, get active group.
- Have OPP been involved
- People that travel on the roads for work purposes, bus drivers, taxi operators and general public.
- Cyclists, seniors, people that walk. Sightseeing groups, tourism reliant business.

Do you have anything else you would like to share with us?

- Changes need to be slowly incorporated into future developments in housing and transportation

- Adding more stop signs throughout the City must be done carefully with public input as well as adding cross walks they must be put in the most dangerous parts of the city if it's going to work.

1.4 WHAT WAS HEARD

The Round 1 Public Engagement activities provided the Project Team with an excellent sense of existing conditions and potential opportunities for improving active transportation in Temiskaming Shores. Several key ideas and common themes emerged from these activities which be used to guide the development of the ATP and set priorities for the City. Some of the key ideas and themes that emerged are summarized below.

KEY IDEAS

- Temiskaming Shores is a fairly multi-modal City. Although driving is still the main mode of transportation, many community members stated that they walk and/or bike weekly or more, indicating that the Community has already started to build a strong culture of active transportation;
- The main barriers to walking and cycling that were identified through the public survey were all infrastructure-related, as opposed to being related to environmental factors (distances, topography, weather). This can be seen as a significant opportunity for the City to improve the condition of active transportation infrastructure to enhance safety, comfort, and accessibility;
- Community members emphasized a clear desire for the City to prioritize walkability by improving and maintaining sidewalk infrastructure and improving safety at key intersections; and
- Based on the amount of time people are willing to spend travelling, most destinations in Temiskaming Shores could be easily reached by walking or cycling if the appropriate infrastructure were in place.

COMMON THEMES

- The existing STATO Trail is excellent and serves a lot of people quite well. With that said, there are still many opportunities to improve the Trail by addressing gaps and providing connections to other trails and key destinations;
- An overall lack of infrastructure that feels safe and inviting is limiting the number of active transportation users in Temiskaming Shores. There is a need for better crossings and on-street cycling facilities to enhance safety and comfort. Traffic calming tools should be considered for busy streets to help reduce traffic speeds and make roadways more comfortable for pedestrians and cyclists;
- There is a need to improve connectivity to key destinations and between communities in Temiskaming Shores;
- There is a lack of all ages and abilities cycling and walking routes. The City needs to focus on making active transportation more accessible to a wider range of people; and
- Public spaces could be improved by increasing bicycle parking, seating, wayfinding signage and shaded areas, especially in the downtown cores. These changes would also help to encourage more people to use active transportation.

1.5 WHAT WE DID

An important aspect of any project is the collection of feedback from key stakeholders to inform both the broad directions of the project and the specific elements of its implementation that will improve user experience. In the case of the Temiskaming Shores Active Transportation Plan, the collection of stakeholder and public input was used to inform several key aspects of the final plan. The feedback received so far has helped to:

- Guide the development of the proposed Active Transportation Network for Temiskaming Shores, including the addition of proposed sidewalk extensions and enhancements.
 - Sidewalk expansions within the community of Dymond emerged as a priority, and were included on the final map of proposed sidewalk locations
 - East-west routes through New Liskeard were refined to include Whitewood based on a desire to enhance streetscaping in the Downtown and reconsider how overall parking utilization in the downtown area is evaluated
 - Routes connecting Haileybury to North Cobalt were added to enhance connections to the City's existing transit services
- Develop a network of cycling facilities that would result in a complete, connected network throughout the communities of Temiskaming Shores, with priority projects identified to achieve short-term connectivity
 - Capital forecasts helped to determine which projects should be completed in 2021 and 2022 based on the City's upcoming works schedule
 - Key gaps were identified and prioritized, including areas along Lakeshore Road, Rorke Avenue and Albert Street
 - Additional design work was completed for the Wabi River Bridge to provide an interim connection to link the STATO Trail
- Refine proposed trail alignments for additional STATO Trail extensions, including alterations to the route heading north from New Liskeard to Dymond and the route connecting New Liskeard to Pete's Dam
 - The proposed route for the STATO Trail from New Liskeard to Dymond east of the existing alignment was removed, as the cost for this project were deemed to outweigh the benefits
 - The proposed route along the Wabi River to connect to Pete's Dam was removed due to challenging terrain and land ownership challenges
- Develop and submit a memo outlining the potential improvements that could be achieved through a submission to the Healthy Communities Initiative
 - Through collaboration with stakeholders, a project to enhance the livability of the City's Downtown areas through expansion of public spaces was submitted to the HCI
- Identify key locations where crossing improvements are necessary to improve safety for people walking and cycling

- Locations such as Main St and Ferguson in Haileybury, Crossings of Highway 65 and crossings on Hessle Avenue were added based on feedback from stakeholders and the public.

Based on the conversations with City Staff and key stakeholder and public input from the online survey, the ATP is being developed to meet the needs of the growing community of people in Temiskaming Shores who want to walk, bike and wheel more often. Public support for these measures will be key to ensuring that they move forward in a timely and effective manner, and that they are sustainable in the long term.

1.6 EVALUATION AND LESSONS LEARNED

Feedback for the consultations has generally been positive, including the use of tools like SurveyMonkey for the public survey and Miro for the Stakeholder Workshops. Miro provided most attendees with the opportunity to participate in an interactive setting without requiring in-person participation in compliance with COVID-19 public health measures.

Attendees of the Workshop were asked about how the workshop was delivered, and feedback was universally positive. In the future, The City may wish to allocate time for two separate workshop sessions – one during working hours to accommodate those who can include attendance as part of their daily responsibilities (eg. Agency partners and those who work on active transportation issues as part of their paid roles) as well as one in the evening to accommodate those who want to support the ATP from a volunteer standpoint.

The public outreach for this project has been very strong, with a significant number of responses gathered, and a general consensus that the survey met the needs of the community with regards to gathering input about priorities for the City's ATP. As the City continues to grow its community engagement practices, it may be prudent to consider an all-in-one engagement platform for future projects that can include ideation boards, mapping tools and budgeting tools to help assist in gathering feedback from the community.

1.7 CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

Community Engagement for the Temiskaming Shores Active Transportation Plan is a vital component of the success of the Plan as it moves into the implementation phase. Based on the strong response rate and the support from both internal and external stakeholders for the types of projects and programs being recommended as part of this Plan, it is clear that the community has a strong interest in seeing this project succeed. As the project moves towards completion, Phase 2 Consultations will provide stakeholders and members of the public with the opportunity to comment on the priorities for the City's active transportation network, will further develop strategies to make education and encouragement efforts more widely accessible and will begin assigning roles and responsibilities to bring those projects to fruition.