

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Envision St. John's Municipal Plan

Our goal is to support growth and development in the City through an efficient and effective transportation network and investment in water and wastewater infrastructure.



The provision of infrastructure is a key consideration in city planning. Municipal infrastructure – roads, water and wastewater systems and treatment - are the underlying building blocks that support growth and liveability in the City. How we plan and develop them affects our daily lives as well as how and where new growth in the City can occur and when.

Today, more and more cities are re-imagining the street as an important component of increasing mobility options. This can be accomplished by creating walkable streets surrounded by higher density, mixed-use development at key locations along major transit corridors and ensuring that neighbourhoods are connected to these areas by the network of local streets, sidewalks, pathways and trails. Council recognizes the role that the transportation network can play in community building and that urban streets can be an important component of “place making.”

The City plans, builds and maintains the municipal water supply, sanitary sewers, storm sewers and treatment plants that provide for the distribution of safe drinking water and collection of wastewater. Over the past decade, the City has made significant upgrades to water treatment plants at Bay Bulls Big Pond, Windsor Lake and Petty Harbour Long Pond and efforts have also been taken to conserve water. We must continue to renew and maintain existing infrastructure while monitoring and planning for future needs with respect to regional systems.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE :

- Increase transit ridership by supporting public transit initiatives.
- Ensure that areas for urban expansion have transit supportive design.
- Update the 1998 St. John's Transportation Study.
- Participate with the region's municipalities to undertake a regional transportation study.
- Work with various partners to expand and create new pedestrian and bicycle routes.
- Facilitate the creation of road networks that support and connect neighbourhoods.
- Focus infrastructure investment on the upgrading and replacement of aging infrastructure.
- Ensure that urban expansion is carried out in a manner that does not add a financial burden to the City.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION

As the City has grown, so too has the City's street network. The regional road network, set out in a plan developed in the 1970s, will be completed with the final segment of the Team Gushue Highway. And while the network provides convenient access into and out of the City the time has come to work with other regional municipalities and the Province to undertake a Regional Transportation Plan that will:

- identify regional traffic patterns;
- include a regional traffic model for evaluating the impact of proposed developments;
- evaluate the potential reducing our reliance on the automobile transit; and
- identify necessary improvements in the regional road network.

Airport and public transit policies and guidelines are also included.

TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

- Over the planning period, emphasis will be placed on developing "complete streets" - where the focus is on the movement of people instead of vehicles only, increasing safety for all users and resulting in attractive streetscapes.
- There is an emphasis throughout the plan on improved walkability; improved street design for safety, comfort and accessibility; and incorporating infrastructure for public transit.

PARKING

- Parking standards for downtown will be maintained, as identified in the *2009 Downtown Parking Study*.
- Envision will address requirements for parking in areas identified for intensification and will permit lower levels of parking in new mixed-use development projects where shared parking among compatible uses is possible and desirable.
- We will also require that parking in large, commercial and mixed-use developments incorporate measures to ensure the safe movement of pedestrians within and between retail sites.

WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICING

- We will invest in our existing infrastructure, upgrading and maintaining what we've got and maximizing the use of what we have before expanding systems to service new areas.
- The Goulds Ultimate Service Area policy is retained with the intent that new, serviced development will be encouraged once the infrastructure is upgraded to accommodate it.
- Coordinate with utility providers the location, maintenance and renewal of utilities and services within public right-of-ways.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES

- We will work with utility providers to properly position and to minimize the visual impact of utilities, particularly in heritage areas, new development areas and areas identified for intensification.
 - We will support the use of alternate energy production by permitting small-scale wind turbine structures in appropriate districts, subject to a land use report.