

A Connected & Mobile City

Discussion Paper

our **Niagara Falls** plan



A connected and mobile city has a transportation network that balances the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, transit users, and drivers. A connected and mobile city improves safety, equity, accessibility, and mobility for all who use the transportation network.

Things to Think About



Mobility is More than Cars, Trucks & Trains

- Establish a variety of travel choices to support people's different travel requirements.
- Review parking strategies to encourage development, and to reduce land required for parking lots.
- Evaluate development applications based on the walkways provided, and links to transit stops and trails.
- Prepare guidelines to ensure a well-connected off-street system of multi-use trails to encourage cycling for all ages and abilities.
- Ensure residents have easy access to green space to increase physical activity.
- Plan the transportation network to support affordable, convenient, and reliable public transit to enhance the way all residents can move around the city.
- Establish priority areas for development near existing and planned transit stops and stations.
- Create safe and comfortable pedestrian and active transportation links among residential and employment areas, the downtown, tourist nodes and transit stops and stations.
- Monitor and assess the potential of new and emerging technologies related to mobility and identify their impacts to health, safety, travel conditions, the environment, and the economy as input to decisions on new transportation infrastructure.



What Does a Complete Street Entail?

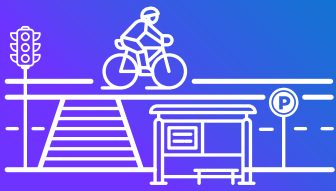
- Street design should efficiently and safely move people and goods on roads, sidewalks and cycling routes, with ready access to transit stops while facilitating snow clearing and access by emergency vehicles.
- Streets should be designed based on the characteristics of the area to help create beautiful streets and a strong sense of place.
- Tailor speed limits on streets based on their specific contexts and pedestrian activity.
- Implement the principles of universal design for all streets so they are easy to use for everyone.
- Connections between local and regional transit service should be user-friendly to improve connectivity.



First and Last Mile

- Areas around transit stations should be developed with higher density development to increase ridership, and the viability and sustainability of transit systems.
- Active transportation links among a variety of nodes improves access to amenities without the need of a vehicle. This leads to more balanced system, as choosing to travel without a car becomes more attractive.
- Consideration of first and last mile strategies and solutions across the entire transportation network leads to larger catchment areas for transit ridership, as it improves the ease of access to and from transit





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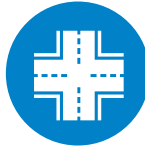
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Things to Think About (cont.)



Trails

- Provide connections to active transportation networks within developments to enhance the attractiveness of walking as a viable mode of transportation.
- Thoughtful implementation of a well-connected off-street system of multi-use trails encourages cycling for all ages and abilities. It will create a complete, cohesive, and comprehensive network that is separated from vehicles and trucks on the road.



Street Connectivity

- Efficient transportation networks increase the attractiveness of active transportation, as finer grain networks provide multiple ways to travel, reduce travel time and allow people to capitalize on a larger variety of amenities within walking and cycling distance.
- The ability to transfer between local and regional transit services creates cohesion across networks, ultimately increasing the destinations one can travel to via transit.
- When designing a road, it is important to understand the classification, use and need of each road. Thoughtful consideration to the movement of goods and deliveries through the city maximizes the safety and efficiency of the road network.



Connecting the Transportation Network

- First and last mile solutions increase the attractiveness of transit as a viable choice as it allows people to navigate to and from their destination regardless of origin.
- Residents, businesses, and tourists's needs should be given priority in designing mobility solutions.
- Give priority to investments in public transit, cycling infrastructure and pedestrian-friendly spaces near Major Transit Station Areas.

