

CONNECT SALMON ARM

SMALL CITY, GREAT CONNECTIONS

YOU HELPED PAVE THE WAY

The City of Salmon Arm is committed to making it safer, easier, and more enjoyable to walk, bicycle, and use other forms of active transportation. The City, strongly supported by regional partners, has been exploring opportunities and implementing projects and programs, including the development of a network of trails, sidewalks, and biking facilities to encourage active transportation. Over the years, several studies and reports have been developed to better understand and address issues and concerns related to active transportation.

This Active Transportation Network Plan (ATNP) is intended to help compile all the hard work and ideas of community members, stakeholders, and committee members in one place to guide investments and inform decision making over the next 20 years.

What is Active Transportation?

Active transportation includes any form of **human-powered transportation**, such as walking, bicycling, or rolling using a skateboard, in-line skates, scooter, mobility aids such as a wheelchair, and other modes. It may also include winter-based active modes (e.g., cross-country skiing and snowshoeing), water-based active modes (e.g., canoe, kayak, and stand-up paddle boarding), and even horseback riding. There are also several new and emerging transportation modes that can fit in this category and may use the same trails and pathways, such as e-scooters, electric skateboards, and other small, one-person electric vehicles.

Study Purpose and Objectives

The ATNP was developed over an 8-month process through a robust community and stakeholder engagement process. Building on best practices and community and stakeholder input, the plan identifies **policies, programs, and initiatives** to encourage active transportation based on three themes: **Connect, Experience, and Encourage**.

The plan includes an active transportation network that builds on the city's existing trail network and identifies **infrastructure projects, implementation priorities, and cost estimates**. The infrastructure will help increase comfort and safety for walking and biking in the community and will include sidewalks, crossing improvements, on-street bicycle routes, and multi-use pathways.

The goal of the Active Transportation Network Plan is to create an accessible, safe, comfortable, and connected network for people of all ages and abilities.



Community Engagement

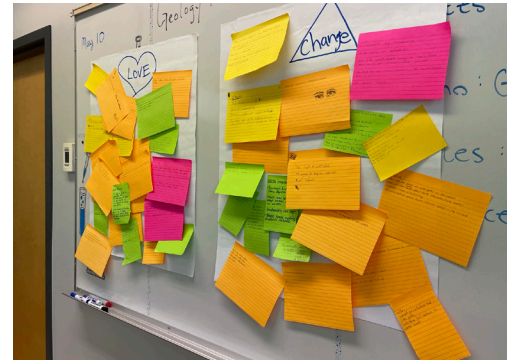
An effective and meaningful communications and engagement strategy is critical to the success of the ATNP. The City's Active Transportation Task Force (ATTF) played a critical role in guiding the direction of the ATNP. Ensuring the City heard from a diverse range of voices through a robust engagement process was key to developing a ATNP that is inclusive, forward-thinking, and reflects the needs and desires of the community. Salmon Arm residents and visitors were given the opportunity to help shape the development of the plan through two rounds of engagement. Through this process we engaged with thousands of residents through a series of events and engagement opportunities.



Future Directions

Three key themes were identified to enhance active transportation in Salmon Arm. The three overarching themes are: Connect, Experience, and Encourage. Each of these theme areas are intended to support the City to achieve the project goal.

- **Connect:** Focuses on providing safe and comfortable connections between destinations within Salmon Arm and identifies opportunities improve integration of active transportation with transit, other modes, and other projects. A well-connected network of both on- and off-street active transportation facilities can significantly improve the ease of moving around the community, increase recreation opportunities and make traveling by active transportation safer and more practical transportation choices.
- **Experience:** Focuses on ensuring that all residents and visitors will have a comfortable, safe, and enjoyable experience when walking, rolling, and bicycling in Salmon Arm. This includes designing and building safe and accessible facilities, ensuring routes are well maintained, providing key amenities that encourage active transportation, and creating great streets that people want to visit.
- **Encourage:** Focuses on helping to build a supportive culture for active transportation in Salmon Arm, making it easier and more enjoyable to get around. Encouragement initiatives are important and cost-effective measures that ensure residents and visitors have a safe, enjoyable, and convenient experience when using active transportation to navigate the city.



Next Steps and Priorities

The strategies and actions developed as part of the ATNP are intended to guide Salmon Arm's policy, planning and capital investment decisions as well as on-going operations and maintenance activities in support of active transportation over the next 20 years and beyond. While the ATNP has been developed as a long-term plan, it will require financial investment, staff resources, and an implementation strategy to prioritize improvements as immediate (0-3 years), short-term (3-10 years), medium-term (10-20 years) and long-term (20+ years). The ATNP chapter also includes a monitoring strategy to ensure that the plan is implemented as intended and that progress towards the goal is being made.



STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

The plan includes 37 actions to enhance walking, cycling and rolling in Salmon Arm. The following is the list of actions that have been identified priorities to be initiated within the immediate (0 to 3 year) timeframe. This does not mean that others can't be started earlier, just that these are the priority areas to focus on initially:

WHAT WE WILL DO FIRST

CONNECT

- Begin filling high priority gaps in the pedestrian network.
- Update the bicycle and pedestrian facility requirements in the City's Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw.
- Begin developing a complete and connected bicycle network (starting with the high priority projects).
- Work with the School District and Shuswap Trail Alliance to formalize trail connections to schools.
- Monitor and address pedestrian and bicyclist safety concerns at intersections.
- Begin to understand and address the impact of new and shared mobility on the active transportation network, facility design, and City policy.
- Develop an Active Transportation, Trails, and Accessibility Working Group.

EXPERIENCE

- Require short-term and long-term bicycle parking and end-of-trip facilities through development by updating the City's Zoning Bylaw.
- Develop and adopt a Universal Design Policy to ensure best practices in accessibility are considered for new transportation infrastructure projects and upgrades.
- Enhance visibility through lighting improvements along sidewalks, pathways, trails, and intersections where appropriate. Starting with completing a CPTED review of commuter trails throughout the community.
- Apply an intersectional, equity-focused lens to the planning, design, and implementation of all active transportation facilities, amenities, and programs to support equity-seeking groups.
- As new active transportation infrastructure is built, improve maintenance practices and procedures for the active transportation network.

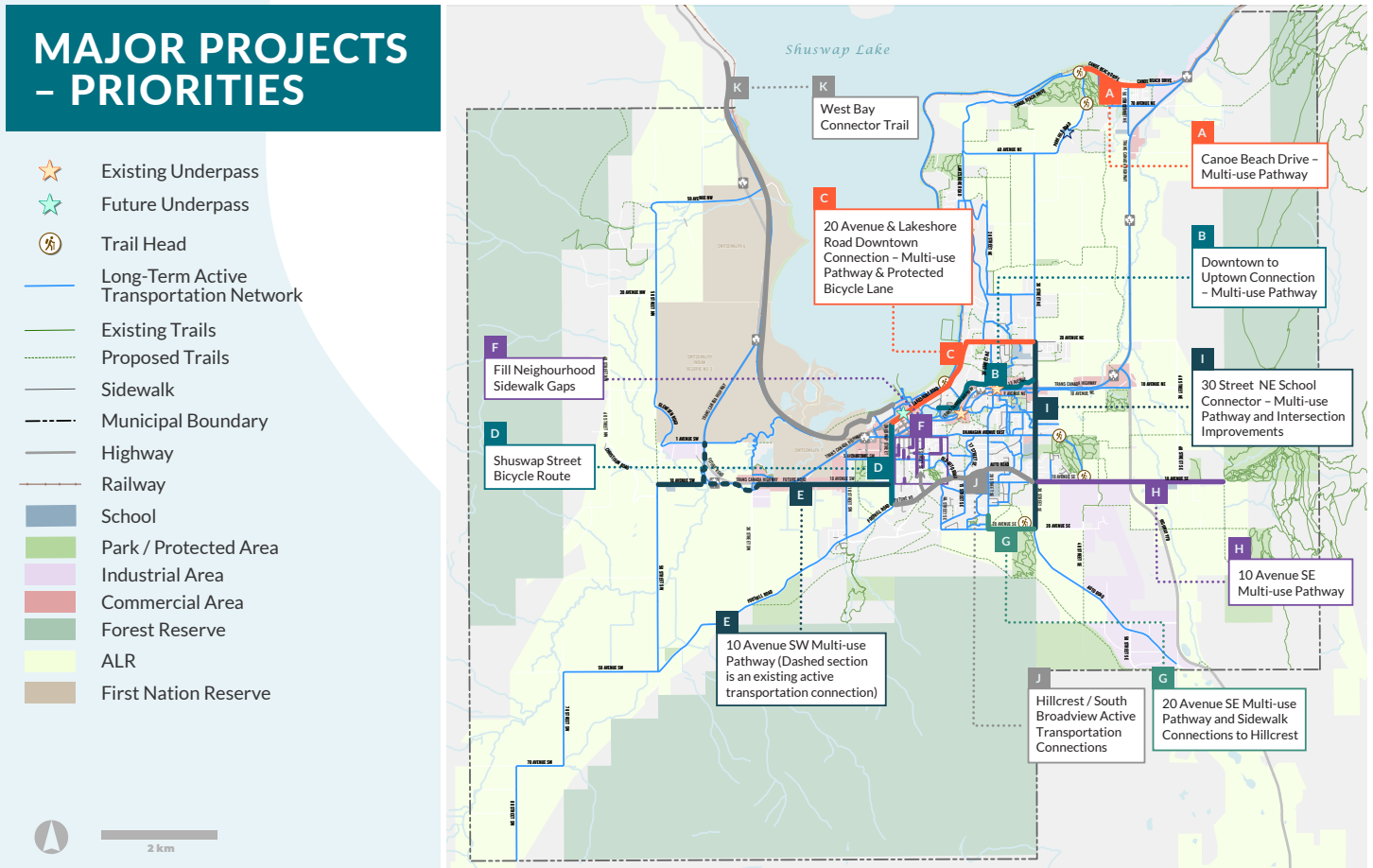
ENCOURAGE

- Work with partners to develop engaging maps to promote active trips and key destinations.
- Support Active and Safe Routes to School programs and initiatives.
- Begin celebrating active transportation as new infrastructure projects are implemented.
- Develop a five-year Active Transportation Action Plan that aligns with City Council's priorities.
- Develop mode share targets and a time line for achieving them.

PRIORITY PROJECTS

The ANTP proposes over 200 kilometres of new sidewalks, bicycle routes, multi-use pathways and trails. Several projects were identified by community members, stakeholders, and City staff as priority projects, as shown below.

Projects were selected to fill priority gaps, connect key destinations, and spread projects across the City's neighbourhoods. Many more projects will need to be implemented to complete the City's active transportation network, but these will be longer-term projects. The projects identified here can be implemented through rapid implementation techniques and lower-cost treatments.



The ATNP is just one step towards implementing the vision for walking and cycling in Salmon Arm, and it is not the last. The themes and actions identified in the ATNP are intended to lay the groundwork for implementation over the long-term. However, it is important to recognize that implementation will require investment and resources. This includes investments in new infrastructure, upgrades to existing infrastructure, ongoing maintenance of existing and new facilities, resources for development of new standards and policies, funding for new programming and public education, and staff resources. It will also require ongoing coordination between local planning processes and between various stakeholders and levels of government, especially when it comes to implementing inter-jurisdictional projects.

The City of Salmon Arm would like to thank all community members and the ATTF for their participation in the process and valuable input developing the ATNP.