

BEDFORD HIGHWAY FUNCTIONAL PLAN

Existing Roadway Character

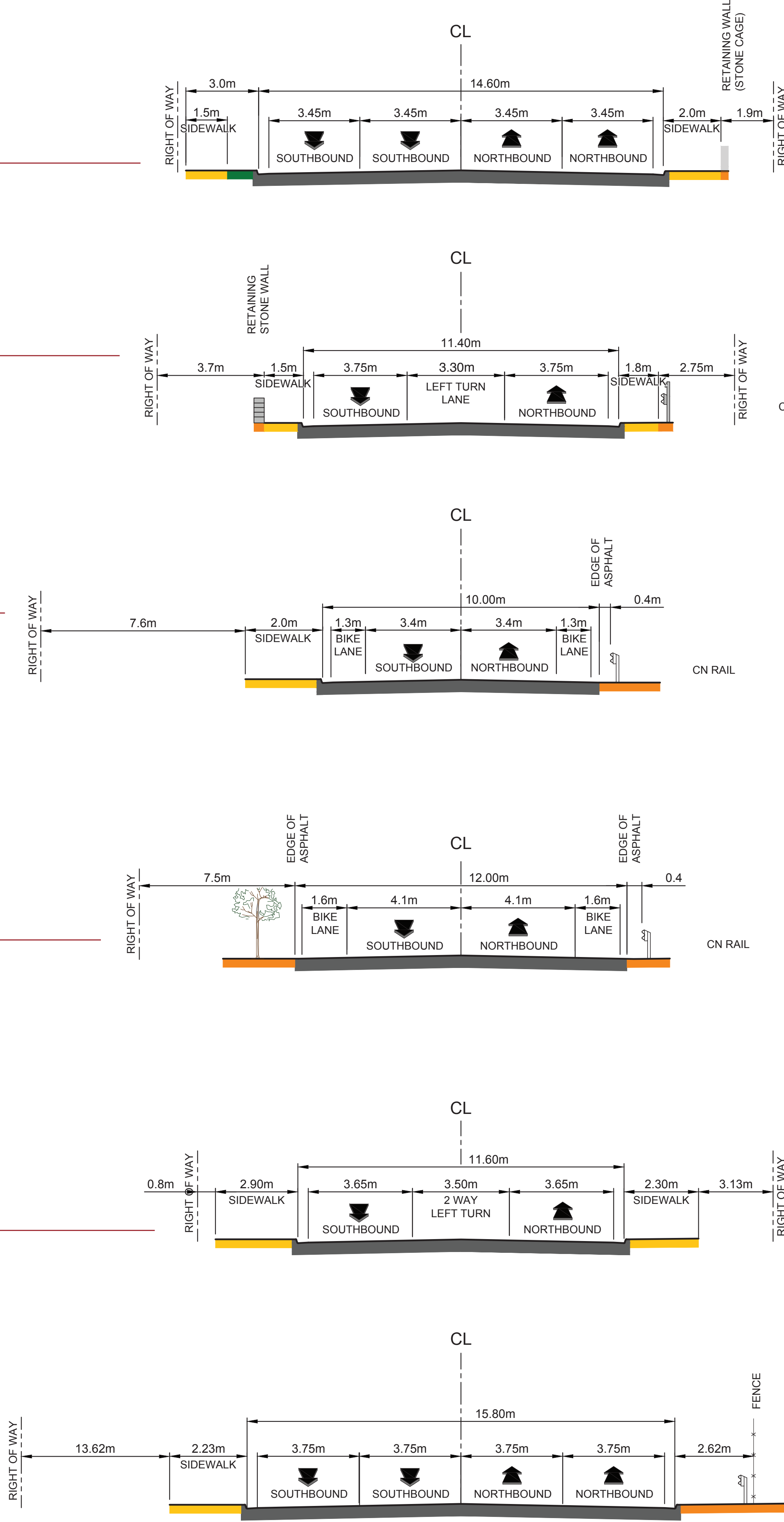


The Bedford Highway is an arterial road that runs between Windsor Street in the south and Highway 102 in the north. Its primary function is to move people and goods as smoothly as possible. The roadway is a key commuter route and connects with many other important streets, including Dartmouth Road, Hammonds Plains Road, Larry Uteck Boulevard, and Kearney Lake Road. It also provides access to many neighbourhoods and commercial areas, as well as Mount Saint Vincent University.

The Bedford Highway has an inconsistent cross section that varies considerably in width, and ranges from two lanes to up to five lanes. Sidewalks and bicycle infrastructure are disconnected and limit the potential attractiveness for active transportation. Rush hour traffic congestion and the lack of prioritization for transit forces buses to sit in traffic, increasing delays and impacting service reliability. There are also areas where turning on and off the roadway is chaotic or difficult. There are many constraints along the roadway corridor, including:

- The adjacent CN Rail line
- Narrow right-of-way
- Closely abutting development
- Overhead and underground utilities on one or both sides of the roadway
- Retaining walls and steep slopes
- Proximity of the Bedford Basin shoreline

The active rail line bordering Bedford Highway is a major consideration. It is a physical barrier that restricts the roadway, and is also a potential opportunity for future commuter rail. Commuter rail could quickly transport many people to and from the regional centre, and relieve localized travel pressures from Bedford Highway. Decision making for the feasibility of commuter rail is being explored outside the scope of this project.



- Average of 16,400 vehicles per day
- 4 Traffic lanes
- Sidewalk on both sides
- No bike lanes



- Average of 21,500 vehicles per day
- 3 Traffic lanes
- Sidewalk on both sides
- No bike lanes



- Average of 19,500 vehicles per day
- 2 Traffic lanes
- Sidewalk on the west side
- Bike lane in each direction



- Average of 19,500 vehicles per day
- 2 Traffic lanes
- No sidewalk
- Bike lane in each direction



- Average of 23,500 vehicles per day
- 3 Traffic lanes
- Sidewalk on both sides
- No bike lanes



- Average of 48,300 vehicles per day
- 4 Traffic lanes
- Sidewalk on the west side
- No bike lanes

