

ANSCAP and the Suburban Plan

What is ANSCAP?

Established in 2023, the [African Nova Scotian Community Action Program](#) (ANSCAP) collaborates with key partners to work with historic African Nova Scotian (ANS) communities to help develop community action plans. These plans are roadmaps to address gaps in municipal services and find long-term solutions to meet community needs.

ANSCAP process



ANSCAP and the Suburban Plan

Both the Suburban Plan and ANSCAP teams recognize that work between ANS communities and the municipality must be based on mutual trust and partnership. As such, the municipality is committed to understanding community needs, advancing community priorities and fostering a relationship that is built on consistent communication and trust.

In the Suburban Area, work has been ongoing in the Beechville community. Community Planning staff will work to coordinate with ANSCAP staff to ensure the two processes are aligned.

How does the ANSCAP program work?

The municipality's ANSCAP team works together with the African Nova Scotian Road to Economic Prosperity (REPP) team to build capacity in ANS communities and prioritize strategic actions for each community. African Nova Scotian communities determine what their municipal concerns and priorities are. A community action plan is developed to address those priorities through municipal services, such as:

- municipal land-use planning: review current municipal land use by-laws and propose changes to best reflect community's current priorities;
- enhance transportation services: collaborate with municipal business units to advocate for community's priorities, such as enhancing transit services;
- transfer land: identify and transfer municipal land to ANS community organizations;
- review community boundaries: work with community to undertake historical research and review current community boundaries;
- heritage programming: partner with community to celebrate institutions and protect buildings with historical significance;
- infrastructure development: collaborate with community to identify specific infrastructure improvements that enhance local quality of life; and
- parks and recreation: improve the quality of parkland, natural habitats and waterbodies within African Nova Scotian communities.

Diverse voices are crucial to ensuring community action plans work for everyone within ANS communities. ANSCAP will pursue meaningful engagement with different organizations, leaders and community members in establishing plans. These plans will be developed in partnership with organizations such as:

- the African Nova Scotian Road to Economic Prosperity (REPP);
- the Halifax Partnership;
- the municipality's African Nova Scotian Affairs Integration Office (ANSAIO); and
- local ANS community organizations.