

Active Transportation Plan:
Porters Lake &
Surrounding Communities

Public Consultation #1

Monday
September 30, 2013

Agenda

- **(7 - 7:10) Welcome Introductions and review of project and consultation agenda**
- **(7:10 – 7:25) Project Background Presentation: Jeffry Haggett and Mike Connors**
- **(7:25 – 8:45) Breakaway Session Topics**
Tables of approximately 4-8 people discuss topics for approximately 15 minutes, followed by a 5 minute session to report back to the group (notes recorded by moderator)
- **(8:45 - 9:00) Summary, Discussion and outlining of next steps**
Remind all participants to:
 - *Complete the online survey*
 - *Attend upcoming session #2 (October 28, 2013)*
 - *Contact us with any additional comments or questions*

Project Background

September 29, 2013

Updated: September 29, 2013 | 7:46 pm

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HRM hosts public consultation for first rural active transportation plan

By Geordon Omand for Metro Halifax

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Residents in the Porters Lake area will have the opportunity Monday night to weigh in on the creation of Halifax's first rural active transportation plan.

The Halifax Regional Municipality is hosting a public consultation session to gather community input for the development of the Porters Lake and Surrounding Communities Active Transportation Plan.

"Basically we want to hear from the local residents to make the community a safer place to walk and bike in," said district councillor David Hendsbee.

"This is going to be setting the tone for other communities," he said, adding that the plan is

Features

iTunes Festival

Enjoy 30 days of live music from artists from Lady Gaga to the Pixies.

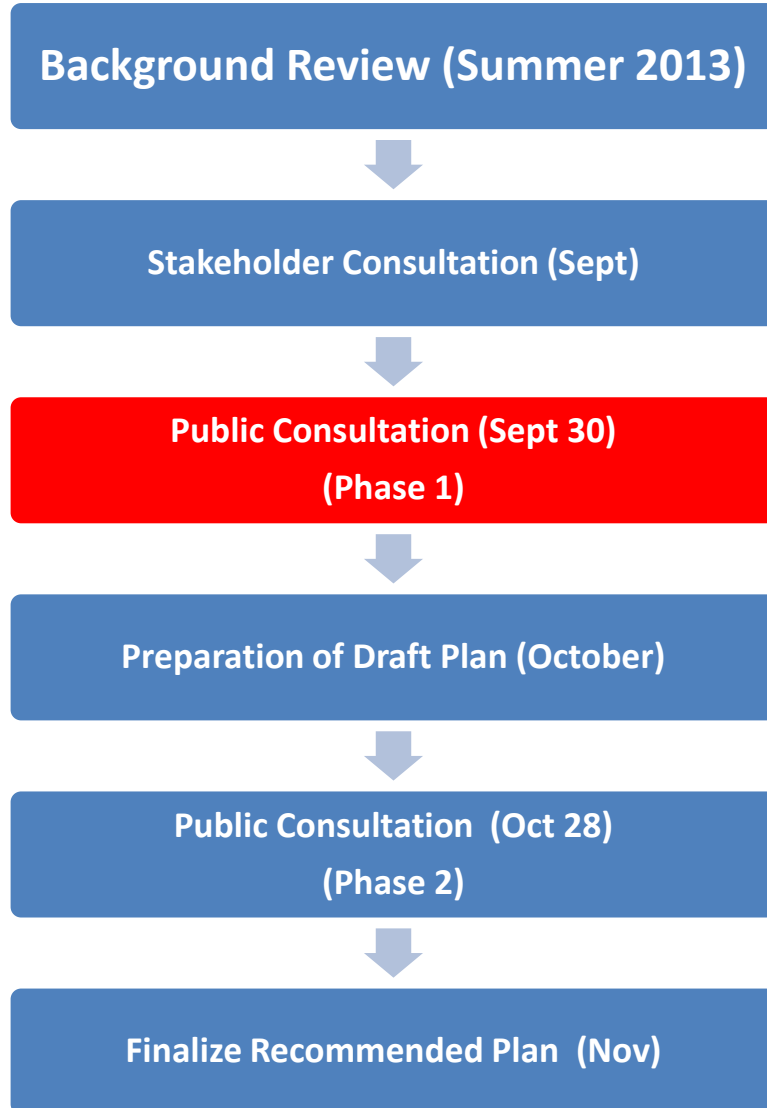
Project Background

- Project Steering Committee:
 - Shore Active Transportation Association
 - HRM Initiative (Transportation Planning, Trails)
- Project Objective:
 - Develop an Active Transportation (AT) Plan that aims to increase the use of non-motorized transport options in Porters Lake and the surrounding communities through:
 - Infrastructure upgrades
 - Public education/awareness

“We want more people to be active, cycling and walking – let’s connect the community and develop its understanding of Active Transportation”

[SATA member: March 11, 2013]

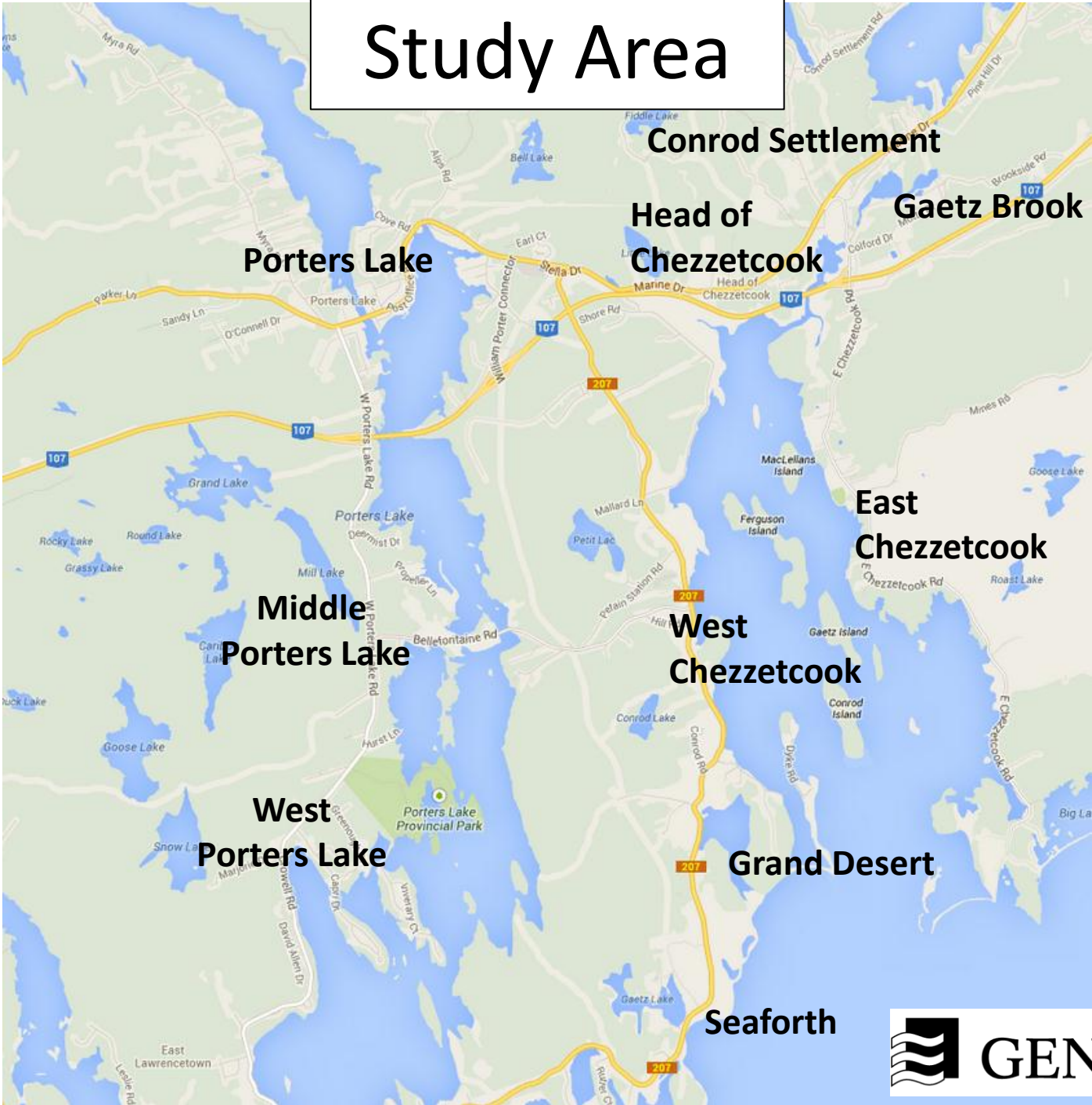
Project Approach



Public Consultation (Phase 1)

- Introduce project to the community
- Present preliminary options
- Workshop activities
 - Identify AT barriers and opportunities
 - Establish priorities

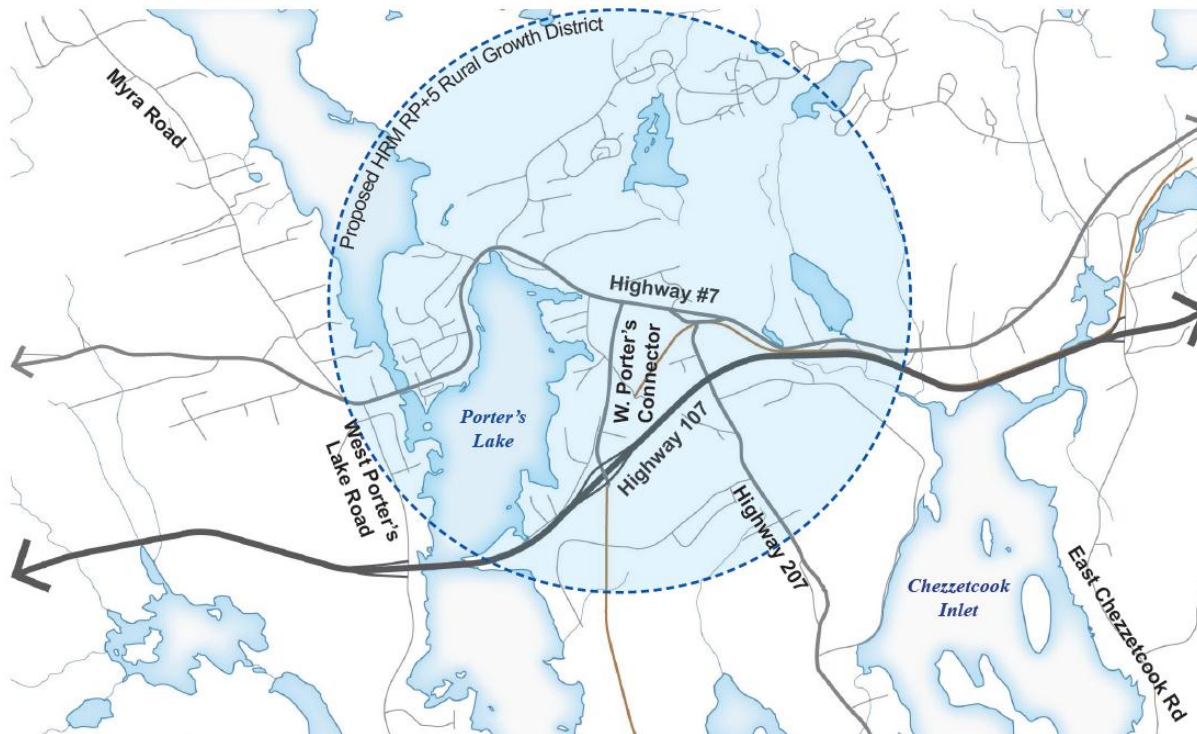
Study Area



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Porters Lake and Surrounding Area

- RP+5: Proposed Rural Growth District
 - 600+ Residential Units over next 15-20 years
 - MetroX Transit Service

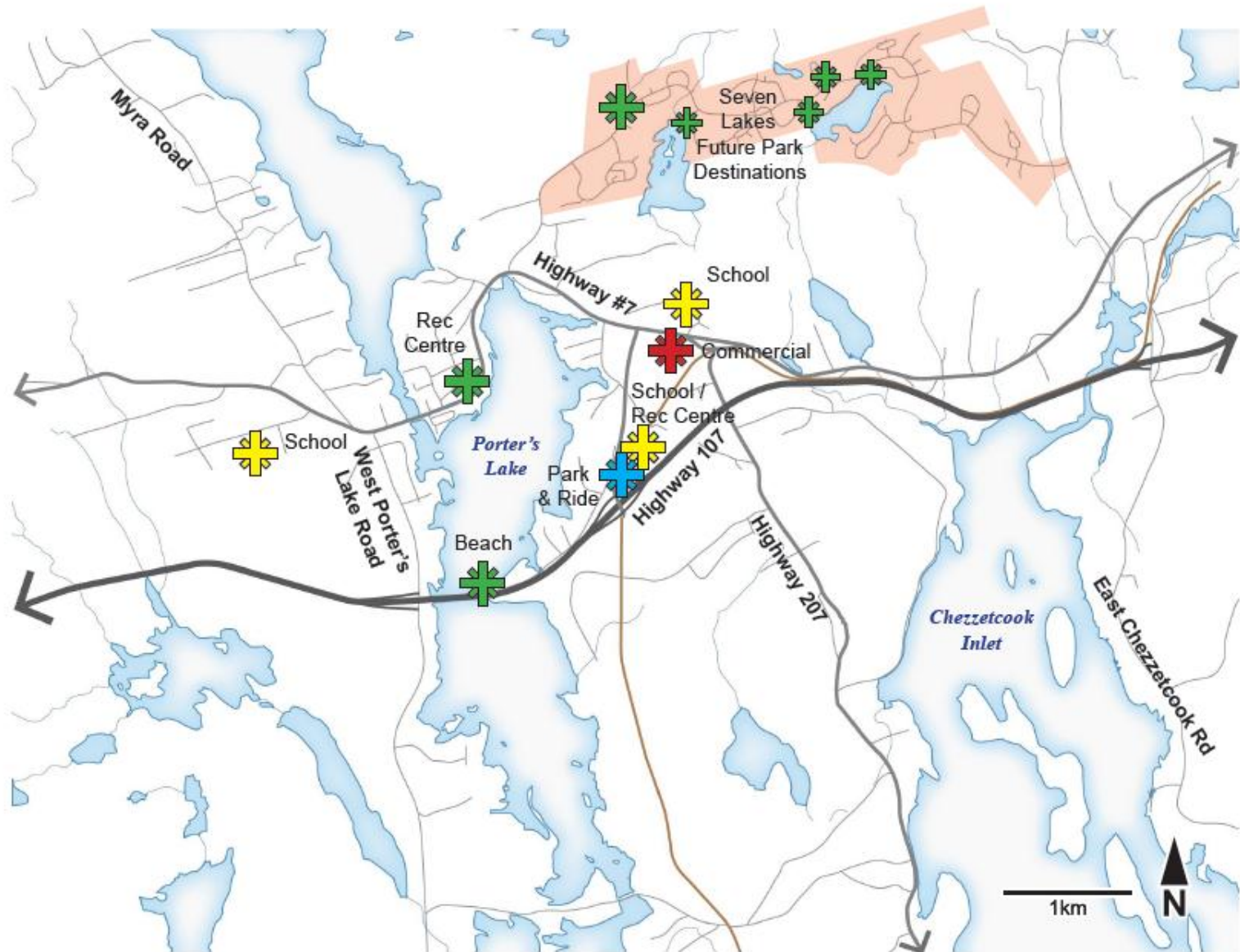


What is Active Transportation?

- Using 'human power' to get around:
 - Walking
 - Cycling
 - Rollerblading
 - Skiing
 - Snowshoeing
 - and more
- Benefits
 - Health & fitness
 - Economic
 - Environmental
 - Tourism



Destinations



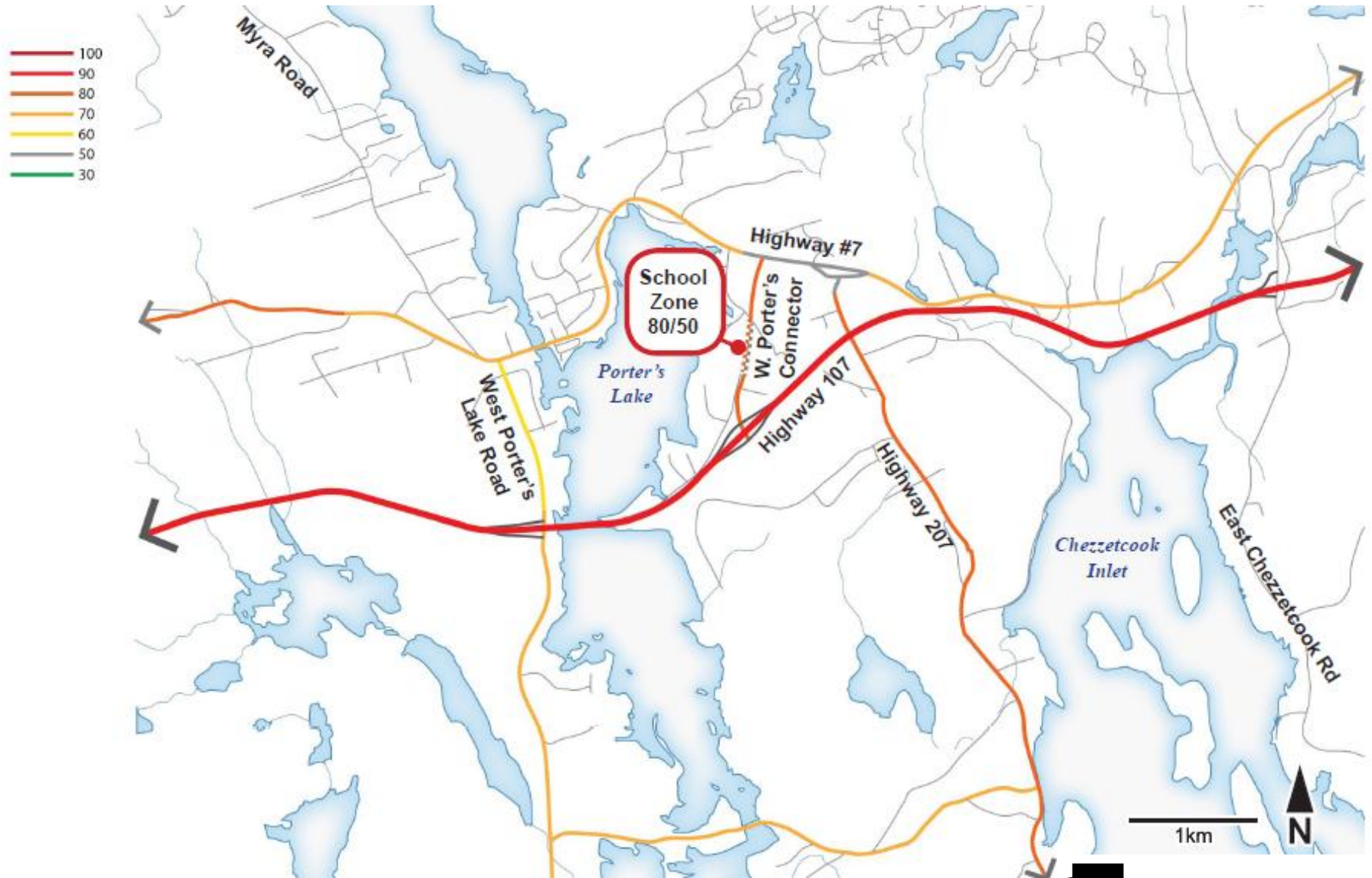
Rural Challenges:

- Less population density
- Destinations often spread out geographically
- Road infrastructure:
 - Built primarily for cars
 - Extensive network to maintain
- ‘Car Culture’
 - Attitudes and awareness

Active Transportation Barriers

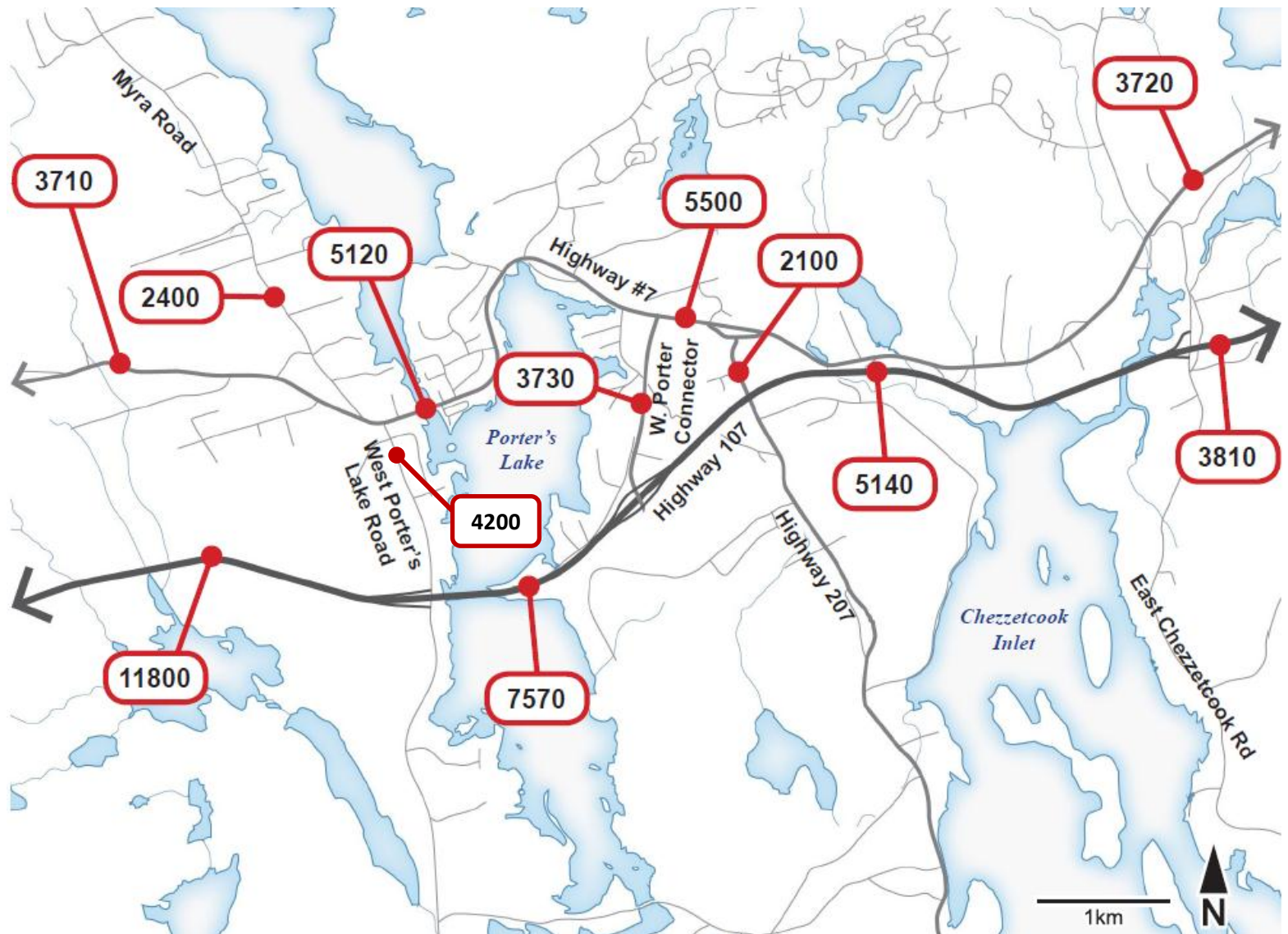
- Existing Road Infrastructure:
 - Traffic volumes and speeds
 - Minimal space for pedestrians and cyclists
 - Safety concerns
- Lack of AT Infrastructure:
 - Few routes
 - Shared with motorized traffic
 - Poor connectivity

Traffic Speed



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Traffic Volumes



Highway 107



Trunk 7



Trunk 7



GENIVAR

Former Rail Bed



Porters Lake Station Road Tunnel



Intersections

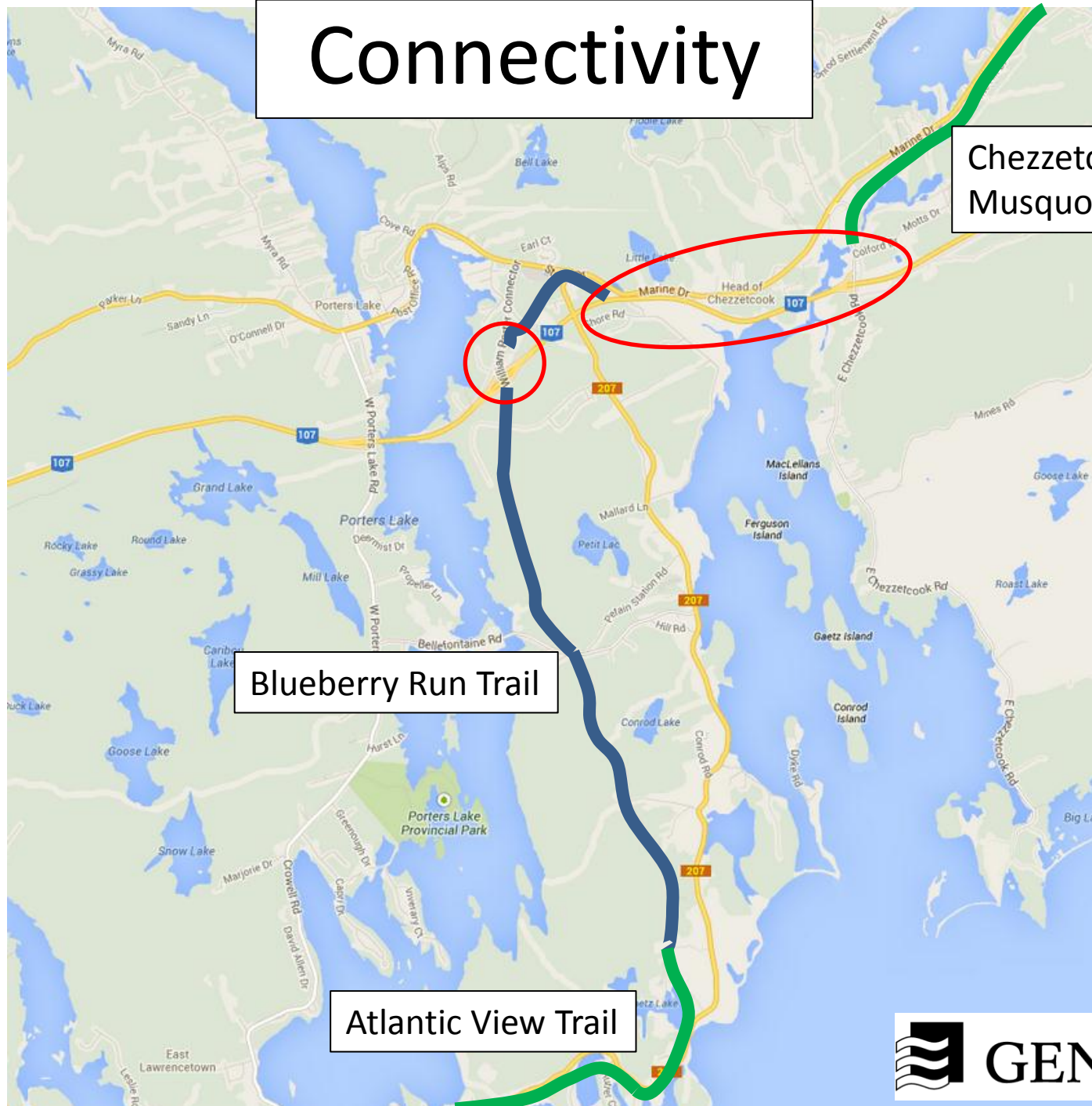


Connectivity

Chezzetcook-
Musquodoboit Trail

Blueberry Run Trail

Atlantic View Trail

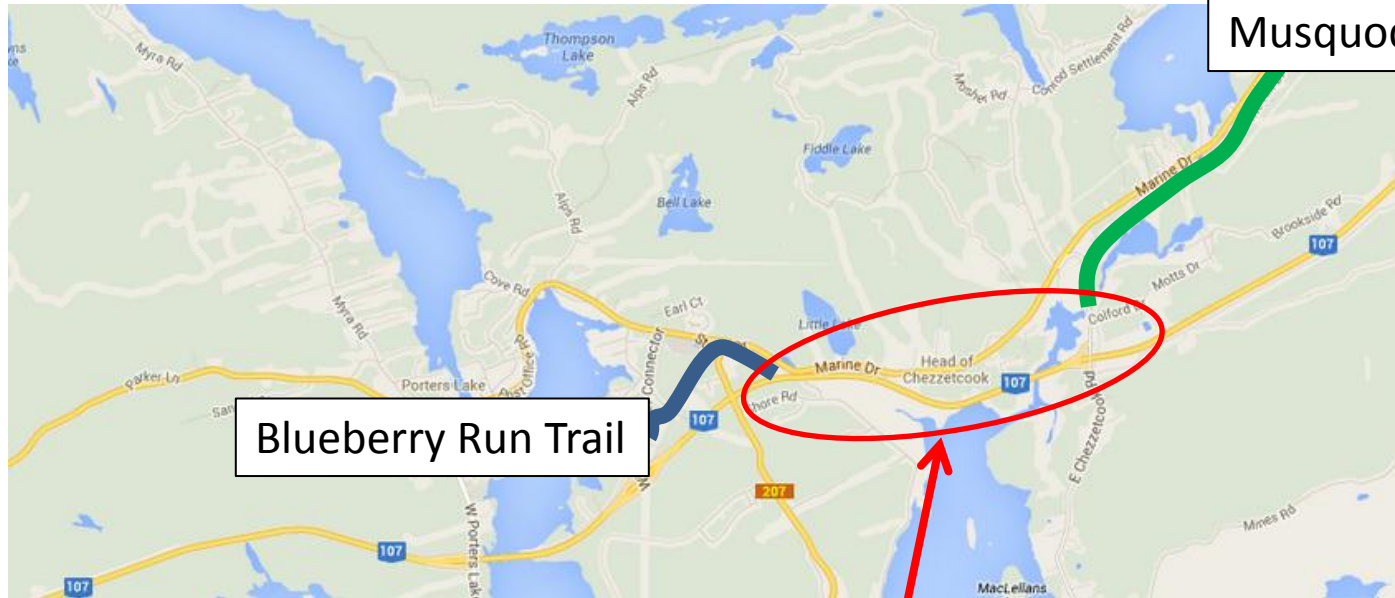


Active Transportation Opportunities

- Upgrade on-street facilities
 - Improve comfort and safety
- Integration with Transit
- Develop AT Route Network
 - Upgrade former rail corridor
 - Add missing link to Trans Canada Trail
 - Connect community with regional AT network

Greenway Connections

Chezzetcook-
Musquodoboit Trail



Marsh Greenway Connection



Paved Shoulders



Today's Objectives

- Introduce the project
- Listen to the community
- Hear your ideas for healthy and safe routes to get around Porters Lake and surrounding communities.
- Identify opportunities, constraints, barriers, etc. that have not yet been considered
- Prioritize projects

Breakaway Session Topic #1

A successful AT Plan results in community members walking and cycling more, both for recreation and as an alternative to taking a vehicle.

- ***What changes would encourage you to walk and bike more?***

List destinations/connections/ programs important to you.

Breakaway Session Topic #2

Considering the opportunities we have discussed and destinations you would like to be connected to:

- ***What routes would best encourage the community to walk and cycle more?***

Consider what would these routes look like.

Breakaway Session Topic #3

An important objective of this plan is that it can be implemented and lead to positive changes over short, intermediated and longer terms.

- *From the ideas and goals we have heard this evening which ones are you most excited to see realized?*

Contact Information

We invite and welcome continued community ideas, comments and input.

- Online Survey and HRM Engagement Portal
<http://shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/PortersLake-ATPlan>
- October 28 Public Consultation #2, 7-9:00 PM,
Rec centre
- Jeffry Haggett at GENIVAR
Jeffry.haggett@genivar.com | 902.719-7489
- SATA: shoreat.ca/
- HRM (311) and/or Councillor Hendsbee
david.hendsbee@halifax.ca