

BEDFORD HIGHWAY FUNCTIONAL PLAN

About This Project



STUDY AREA

The study area for this project includes the section of the Bedford Highway between Windsor Street and Highway 102, as well as the lands near the roadway.



OUTCOMES

The project outcome will be conceptual options for transportation and land use scenarios. Each scenario will show drawings of how the roadway could be configured and how buildings could be arranged.

More specifically, the Bedford Highway Functional Plan will:

- Describe existing conditions and constraints.
- Identify options to improve consistency and quality of infrastructure for all users.
- Identify how future land use should align to the corridor scenarios.
- Demonstrate how different modes of travel can be accommodated, as well as trade offs, implementation requirements, and costs associated with various options.
- Lay out a course for phased improvements.

OBJECTIVE

A Functional Plan for the Bedford Highway will provide a corridor-wide vision that informs how transportation infrastructure is built and maintained. The plan will examine how the right-of-way is used and how space can be allocated to serve all modes of travel, including autos, trucks, transit, pedestrians, and cyclists. The plan will also inform land use along the roadway and surrounding areas.

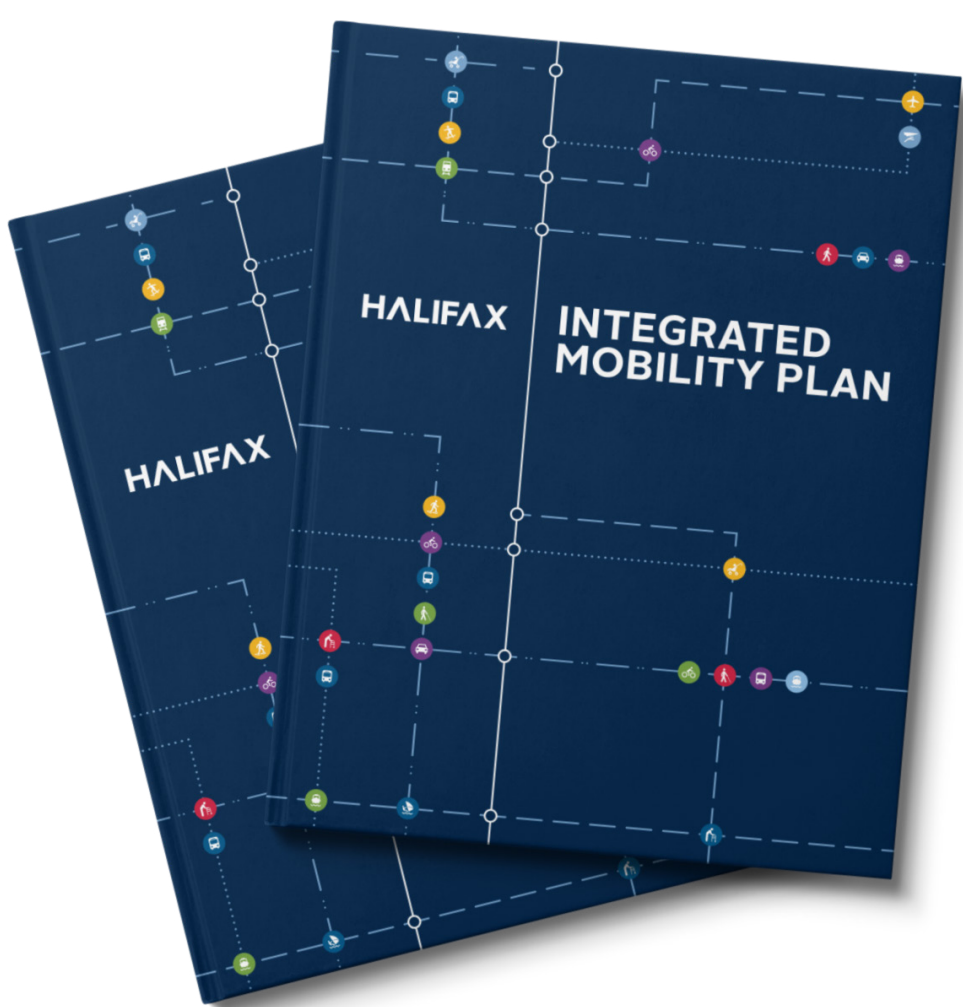
NEED

The Bedford Highway is among the most important roadways in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). It provides a key north-south connection for both local and regional travel, directly linking the regional centre and the suburbs. Despite its significance in the regional transportation network, there is currently no clear vision for how the Bedford Highway should look, feel, and function. A purposeful plan is needed to guide investment in this crucial roadway, direct future land use, and build a transportation system that shapes communities in the area in a desirable way.

APPROACH

This project is being undertaken in the context of the Integrated Mobility Plan (IMP). Adopted by Council in 2017 after extensive community consultation, the IMP sets a new approach for how people move throughout the region, aimed at improving travel choices and creating Complete Communities. It sets targets to increase the number of trips made by walking, bicycling or transit, and recognizes the inter-relationship of transportation and land use.

The IMP provides the direction to develop long-range plans for particular roadways in the region identified as Strategic Corridors; the Bedford Highway is the first strategic corridor to undergo this planning process. The IMP also encourages pursuing Transit Oriented Development in strategic corridor planning.



KEY DEFINITIONS

Strategic Corridors are transportation corridors that are important based on their role in traffic operations, transit, goods movement and active transportation.

Complete Communities are places where it is possible to work, shop, learn and play within an attractive walking distance of where people live.



Transit Oriented Development is an approach to development that integrates land-use planning and transit, and focuses a range of uses and housing options around a transit terminal or along a transit corridor.

