

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE**Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Task Force Final Report****Report Purpose**

This report provides the final report and recommendations of the Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Task Force.

Background

Council established the Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Task Force in 2023 with the following mandate:

- a. develop a report for Council with advice and opportunities from a community and active transportation user perspective for pedestrian and cyclist safety and functionality; and
- b. advise and support administration to ensure the active transportation user lens is considered as the County implements identified plans, strategies, and priorities to enhance safety while achieving accessibility and transportation goals for all road users through strategic infrastructure and operational improvements

Public Members

Koreen Anderson
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Members of Council – nonvoting members

Councillor Bill Tonita
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Report

The Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Task Force (the “Task Force”) offers the following report intended as guidance and support to increase active transportation and improve vulnerable road user safety in Strathcona County and fulfill the Task Force’s mandate.

Summary of recommendations

Based on the barriers/concerns identified by the Task Force, 21 actions have been recommended. These recommendations were ranked based on five criteria determined by the Task Force: potential to increase safety for vulnerable road users, alignment with the Integrated Transportation Master Plan (ITMP) priorities, scope of impact, complexity and cost of implementation.

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Highest priority/short-term recommendations

The top ten recommendations were all rated eight or nine against the criteria on the ten-point scale. As safety, cost and complexity accounted for over half of the points on the scale, these recommendations rated highly because they are relatively easy to implement actions ("quick wins") that should provide a measurable increase in safety for a significant number of road users in the short-term.

1. *Reduce residential speed limits to 40 km/h for safety and consistency with other greater Edmonton Region municipalities.*
2. *Create a new position for an Active Transportation Coordinator in the County.*
3. *Develop a dedicated tool for ongoing reporting/tracking issues with active transportation safety concerns to Strathcona County.*
4. *Facilitate a study to identify a priority bike lane network for a commuter route.*
5. *Identify, develop and promote rural, recreational cycling routes that are most conducive to safe cycling.*
6. *Provide secure bike storage on site at Strathcona County events.*
7. *Provide more information on the transit website regarding storage options for bikes and micromobility devices.*
8. *Offer opportunities for people to try out the bike racks and storage options on Busses.*
9. *Encourage active transportation and promote sharing the roads and trails safely to adults/seniors through ongoing and coordinated education/engagement.*
10. *Provide support to local school boards and local schools that are interested in increasing active transportation.*

Medium-term recommendations

These recommendations rated from five to seven on the priority matrix. These recommendations are still considered important to action but scored lower on the matrix because they related more to facilitating active transportation than to safety, impact fewer road users, or are more complex/expensive to implement.

11. *Incorporate coordinated improvements to multi-modal transportation infrastructure with road upgrades/maintenance.*
12. *Ensure that a complete streets approach is considered in redevelopment plans and standards reviews.*
13. *Work with Economic Development and Tourism to explore business opportunities for introducing a bike share program to Strathcona County.*
14. *Council direct administration to prepare a report to investigate the potential use of next generation AI for traffic signals to optimize travel times for both vehicles and active transportation users.*
15. *Advocate with the province through municipal organizations for supportive legislation/driver education and infrastructure for active transportation.*
16. *Review and update trail standards to better support accessibility and active transportation. Review trail network to identify where retrofits are needed to align to the updated standards and create a plan to bring the existing network into compliance.*
17. *Review and update the Land Use Bylaw for bike parking requirements to ensure they reflect best practice.*
18. *Provide information to local businesses on the standards for installation of bike racks to encourage compliance.*
19. *Enhance public transit opportunities between rural hamlets and Sherwood Park.*

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20. Consider rural priority routes for infrastructure upgrades to enhance safe active transportation.

21. Explore policy and bylaw options to encourage active transportation.

Council and Committee History

July 4, 2023 Council gave three readings to the Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Task Force Bylaw 15-2023 (Motion 2023/203).

January 17, 2023 Council approved an extension in time for the preparation of the draft Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Bylaw.

September 27, 2022 Council directed administration to bring back a bylaw for Council's consideration to enact an Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Task Force.

Enclosures

- 1 Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Task Force presentation
- 2 Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Task Force Final Report