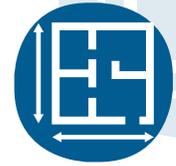


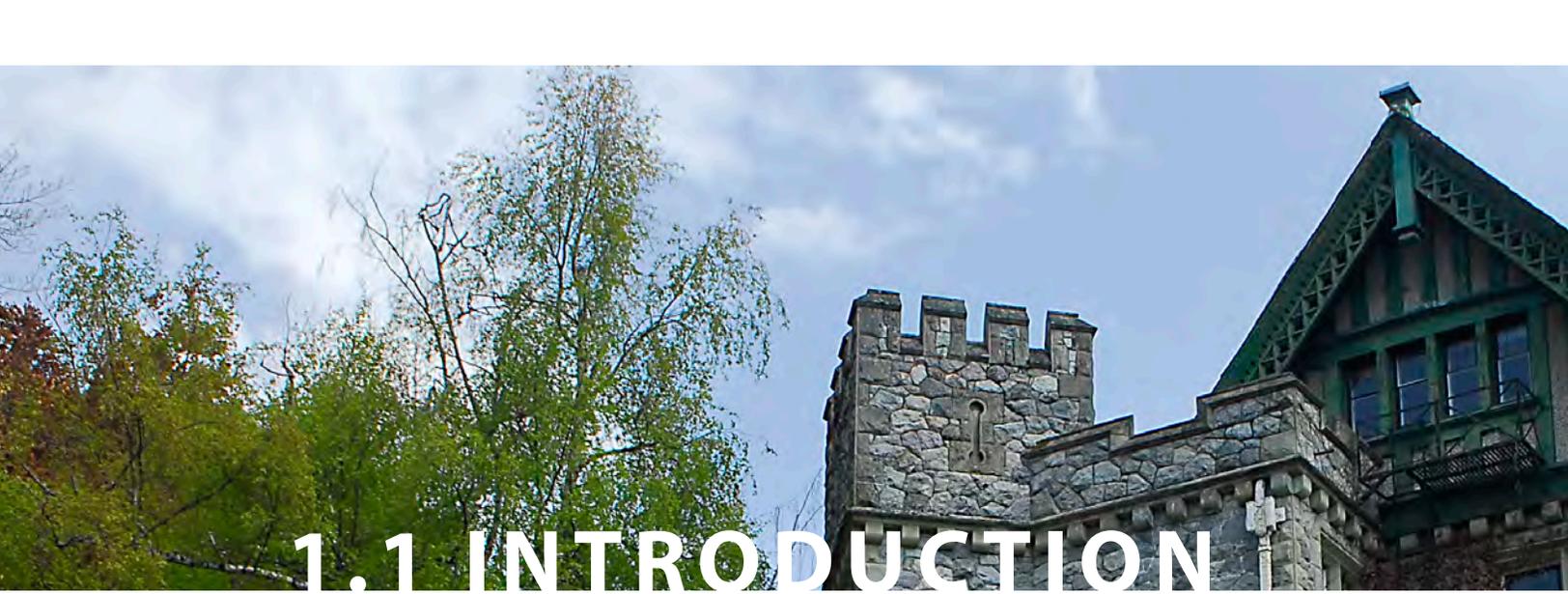


[1.0 **SETTING THE STAGE**]



- 1.1 Introduction
- 1.2 Study Purpose
- 1.3 Study Process





1.1 INTRODUCTION

The City of Colwood is a vibrant, young, and family-oriented community located on the south coast of Vancouver Island. Within the Capital Regional District (CRD), Colwood has historically been a bedroom community in the region, with predominantly low density single-family development. The City is currently experiencing strong growth and development that is set to position it as a key community to live, work, and visit within the region. This growth has significant implications for transportation infrastructure demands, local housing needs, community sustainability, and economic development opportunities. In the face of these changes, the importance of managing Colwood's local transportation system is a priority.

Community and key stakeholders identified a number of existing transportation challenges, including:

- ▶ **Many major roads and intersections are congested at peak travel time;**
- ▶ **Speeding on neighbourhood streets, particularly in school and park zones;**
- ▶ **Intersection safety, particularly at high volume and multi-modal locations;**
- ▶ **Traffic flow issues, particularly at non-signalized intersections;**
- ▶ **Car-oriented, low density neighbourhoods** that continually require more road improvements and parking, and are difficult and expensive to provide attractive transit service to; and,
- ▶ **Many local neighbourhood road networks** that were planned largely around vehicles, and generally do not make walking and transit convenient.



The Transportation Master Plan will guide the development of a multi-modal transportation network that can effectively and efficiently respond to these challenges and serve a growing community over the next 25 years and beyond. Through this process, Colwood's transportation network will become a platform for building **vibrant neighbourhoods**, creating **enjoyable streets and trails**, **reducing community GHG emissions**, and supporting **economic development** opportunities. This transportation network will need to offer a range of transportation options that are crucial to achieving Colwood's local goals and objectives and to ensuring a high quality of life in our neighbourhoods.

Setting the Stage



Shaping Influences



Overall Directions



Strategic Directions
and Actions



Implementation





1.2 STUDY PURPOSE

The City of Colwood began developing its first comprehensive Transportation Master Plan in September, 2013. From the outset, the Transportation Master Plan was designed to support the City's aspirations for **community well-being, economic diversity, and environmental care** as outlined in the City's 2020 Vision and other overarching documents. The actions within the Transportation Master Plan support and help implement the economic, social, cultural and environmental principles that will contribute toward a more sustainable Colwood.

The Transportation Master Plan is a policy guide to inform and shape City Council decisions on transportation and land use. Ultimately, the Plan is Council's commitment to:

- ▶ Provide the **leadership** needed to support a sustainable future.
- ▶ Work in **partnership** with businesses, educational institutions, community organizations, transportation providers, and municipal and regional governments.
- ▶ **Invest in sustainable transportation modes** that are consistent with the directions and priorities of the plan.
- ▶ **Integrate with other decisions** as identified through other plans, policies and initiatives.
- ▶ **Communicate clearly** to the residents of and businesses in Colwood the transportation priorities for the City.

For the Transportation Master Plan to be successful, the City will need to work with both public and private sector partners. The Plan will be used as a guide to work with residents, businesses and institutions on land use decisions and transportation improvements to enhance mobility choices and to support quality of life in Colwood.



The Plan is separated into five parts:

PART 1 SETTING THE STAGE



... highlights the overall purpose, process, and community involvement that has taken place to develop the plan.

PART 2 SHAPING INFLUENCES



... describes the features that have influenced the plan, including connections to other plans, policies and initiatives, regional context, land use and demographic trends, travel patterns, and what we heard through public input.

PART 3 OVERALL DIRECTIONS



... summarizes the overarching vision for the City's transportation system and describes the City's commitment toward increasing mode share for sustainable travel.

PART 4 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS AND ACTIONS

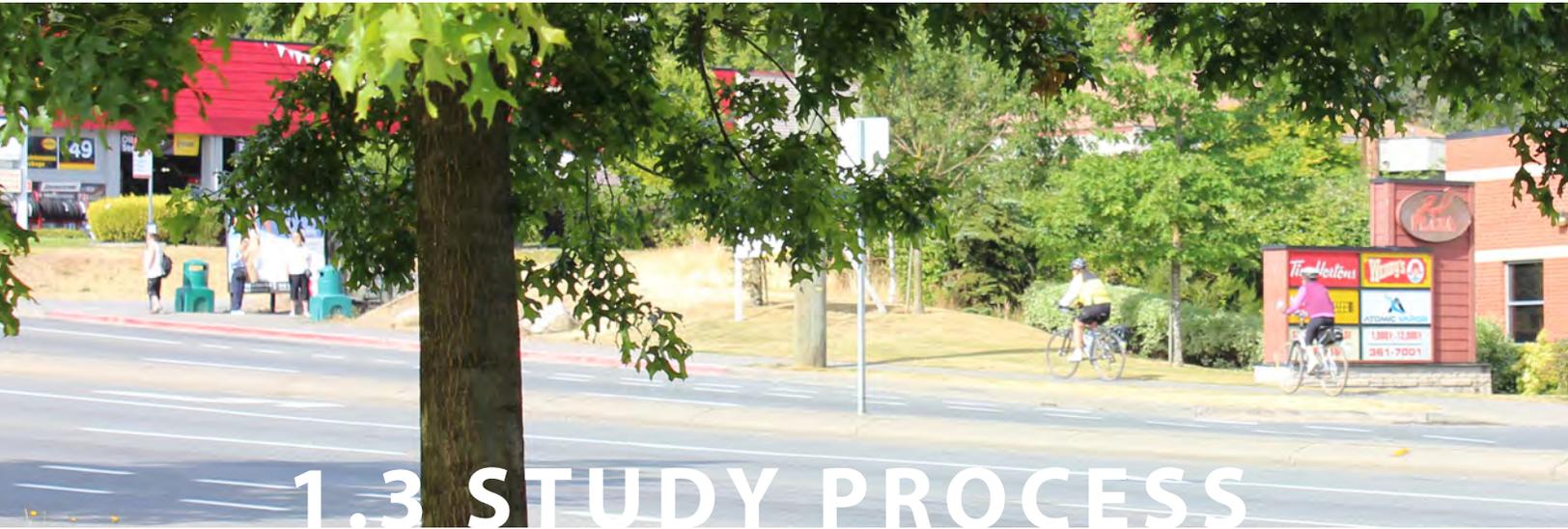


... describes the long-term plans for each theme and mode of transportation that will support sustainable growth and transportation choices. These themes are: Network of Vibrant Centres, Liveable Neighbourhoods, A Walkable Community, Comfortable Cycling, Convenient and Attractive Transit, and Complete Streets.

PART 5 IMPLEMENTATION



... provides recommended cross sections to implement complete streets. This section also prioritizes the plans, policies, and projects that the City should implement over the short, medium and long-term and introduces a monitoring strategy.



1.3 STUDY PROCESS

The City worked with the community for over a year to develop a comprehensive ‘made in Colwood’ plan that serves as the guide for planning and implementing transportation improvements in Colwood. The development of the Transportation Master Plan evolved over a four-phase process that included background research, technical analysis, visioning and goal setting, and policy and implementation planning.

The Transportation Master Plan has been developed with the participation of the Colwood community and stakeholders to ensure that it addresses current transportation issues and reflects the values and interests of residents and key stakeholders. Communication and engagement activities included:

- ▶ **Public Workshops.** Two public workshops featured keynote speakers and interactive break-out group discussions.
 - **Colwood Transportation Café** was held in November 2013 with Gordon Price, Director of Simon Fraser University City Program. Participants learned about the Transportation Master Plan, and then discussed and shared ideas.
 - **Creating Vibrant Neighbourhood Centres** was held in February 2014 to identify opportunities to integrate the Transportation Master Plan and the Economic Development Strategy. Todd Litman, Founder and Executive Director of the Victoria Transport Policy Institute, presented on creating an economically vibrant community.
- ▶ **Public Open House and Committee of the Whole Public Meetings** were held in April 2014 to present and obtain input on the preliminary directions of the plan.



Setting the Stage 

Shaping Influences 

Overall Directions 

Strategic Directions and Actions 

Implementation 

01 PHASE

- Build community awareness
- Identify community concerns and aspirations
- Develop a shared vision, goals and target for transportation in Colwood

02 PHASE

- Understand existing conditions for walking, cycling, transit and automobile use
 - Identify issues and opportunities
- Confirm what's needed to achieve goals and targets

03 PHASE

- Forecast growth
- Prepare travel projections
- Identify the gaps for each mode
- Confirm long-term plans

04 PHASE

- Assess and prioritize projects
 - Develop phasing plan
 - Create monitoring plan



- ▶ **Surveys.** Two surveys were administered to the public to identify key transportation issues, opportunities and priorities and understand travel patterns and to obtain input on the preliminary directions of the Transportation Master Plan.
- ▶ **Council.** Throughout the course of the project, Council members provided input through the Transportation and Public Infrastructure Committee, Cycling Advisory Committee, Intermunicipal Advisory Committee on Disability Issues, and Committee of the Whole meetings.
- ▶ **Stakeholders** participated in Stakeholder Advisory Committee and individual consultation. Participants included representatives from the Capital Regional District, RCMP, BC Transit, Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure, and adjacent municipalities.





Setting the Stage



Shaping Influences



Overall Directions



Strategic Directions
and Actions



Implementation

