

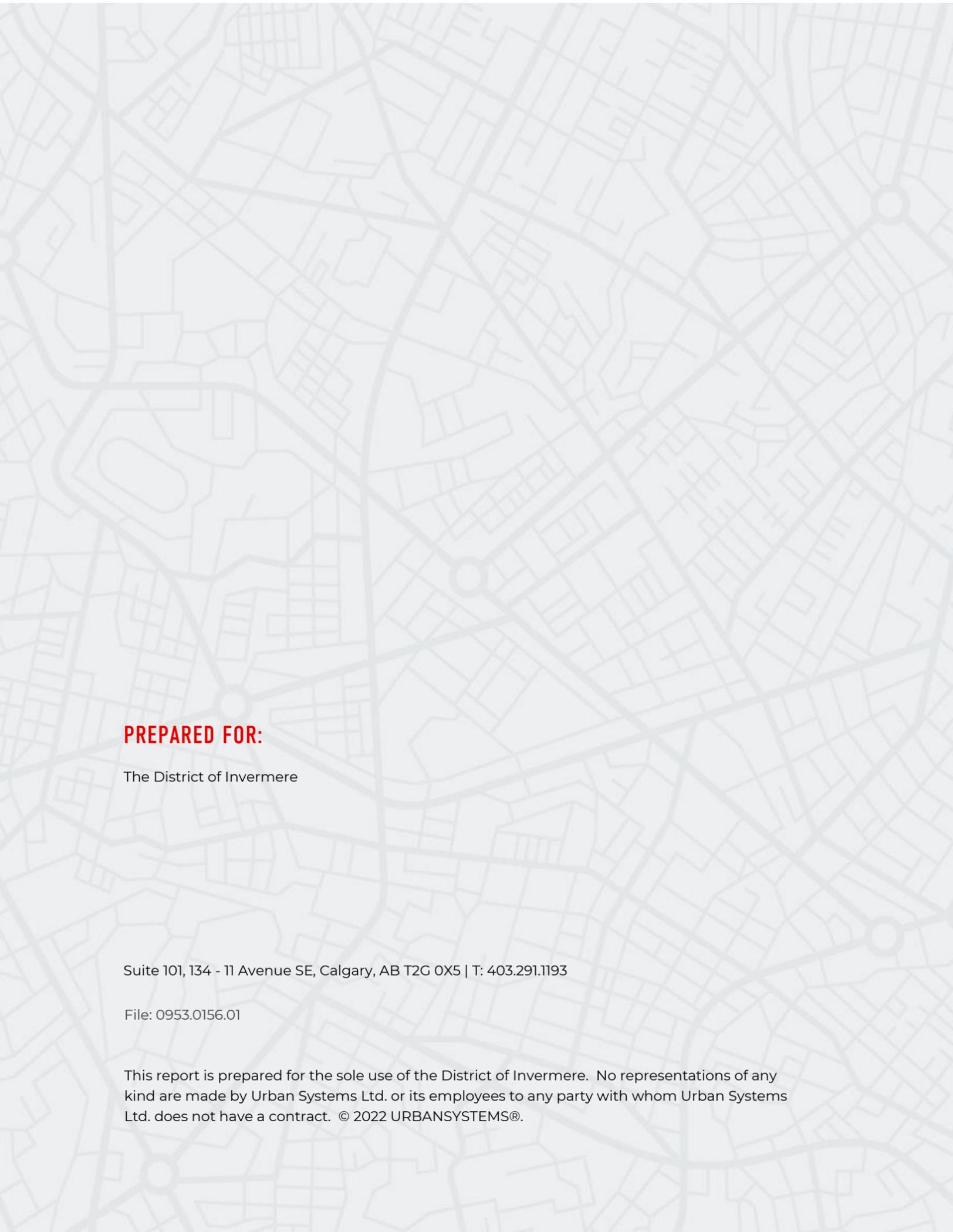
INVERMERE TRANSPORTATION

MASTER PLAN

WHAT WE HEARD REPORT

March 22, 2022

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PREPARED FOR:

The District of Invermere

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1.0 BACKGROUND

The District of Invermere (District) is updating a Transportation Master Plan to shape the future of all transportation modes in the District and respond to new transportation needs, projected growth, and development in the community.

Transportation is a big part of our daily lives, it affects how we move throughout Invermere, how our community looks and feels, and how we interact with one another. The District has identified various strategies and projects to improve the transportation network for all users and requires your input to ensure that they align with the community's transportation vision.

Previously, an online survey was hosted between January 17th to 31st, 2022. The purpose of this survey was to share the draft Transportation Vision Statement, and the corresponding goals and objectives to achieve that vision. It also shared some potential road network improvements and policies that required public input. A total of 366 respondents participated in this survey. To review the full results of the survey, please review the **2022-02-24-What We Heard Report** which is available on the District of Invermere Transportation Master Plan website <https://invermere.net/invermeres-transportation-master-plan/>.

The purpose of this round of engagement was to provide an additional opportunity for the community to provide further input on the potential improvement projects and any other concerns related to the Transportation Master Plan update. It was also an opportunity for people to ask questions about the project.

This round of engagement featured a short online survey and a virtual public information session. The online survey included two (2) open-ended questions and was responded to by six (6) participants. The survey was available from March 3 to March 23, 2022. The virtual public information session was held on March 2, 2022, from 3:30 to 4:30 pm on Zoom. The event featured a presentation about the project and was followed by a questions period. One (1) participant joined that event. Due to low turnout, the event was recorded and posted on the project website so that it could be accessed publicly at any time for those who were unable to attend.

2.0 SURVEY RESPONSES

The online survey included two (2) questions and was hosted on Momentive between March 3 to March 23, 2022. Six (6) participants filled out the survey.

1. *Please review the map of the Improvement Projects. Are there any additional locations that we may have missed? If so, please indicate the location(s) and explain your concern(s).*

Most participants decided to share additional locations, and the locations included.

- **Athalmer.** Participants highlighted that they felt re-routing truck traffic from Panorama Drive through Athalmer on Fourth Avenue (through the residential area) was not an appropriate solution for the area.
- **The intersection of 14th Street and 15th Avenue beside JA Laird Elementary School.** Participants identified that a larger stop sign is needed at the intersection of 14th Street and 15th Avenue because there have been many near misses between pedestrians, vehicles, and bicyclists.

- **7th Avenue between 10th Street and 13th Street.** Participants highlighted that they felt this section of 7th Avenue needed further consideration, although specific challenges were not provided.

2. *Are there any additional comments you would like to share? (If no, please skip this question).*

All participants decided to share comments about the project with us. The themes that arose included.

- **Reiteration of opposition to truck traffic being re-routed from Panorama Drive through Athalmer.** Participants felt that this was not an effective solution due to the negative impacts of truck traffic through the residential area, as well as existing confusion for motorists regarding the:
 - existing area road network (there are a number of dead ends);
 - parking at the commercial area; and
 - intersection configuration at Third Avenue.
- **More support for active transportation.** Participants were keen to see more infrastructure for walking and bicycling, through improved sidewalks and more bike lanes throughout the community.
- **Maintenance should be a priority.** Participants highlighted that more work needs to be done to maintain the current road infrastructure, especially paving and patching potholes.
- **Vehicle-free downtown.** Participants were interested to see the Downtown become a pedestrian-only zone.

3.0 PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

On March 2, 2022, a virtual public information session was held between 3:30 to 4:30 pm. The event was held on Zoom and was attended by one (1) participant. The event featured a presentation about the project and provided participants with the opportunity to ask questions and share their perspectives with the District of Invermere and Urban Systems. The presentation was recorded and posted on the Invermere Transportation Master Plan website <https://invermere.net/invermeres-transportation-master-plan/>. As of March 25, 2022, the recording has been viewed thirty-one (31) times. One participant has 'liked' the video and no comments have been received. To review the presentation please refer to **Appendix A**.

One question was raised by the participant during the session, the question asked for more information about the projects that will take place on 10th Avenue. The question was responded to both in the chat function and verbally. The participant was informed that the 10th Avenue improvements involve intersection upgrades at 4th Street and 10th Avenue by the Sobey's and Pharmasave, at 10th Avenue and 13th Street. These projects will help to better manage the flow of traffic in the area.

3.1 ATHALMER RESIDENTS' FEEDBACK

Following the public information session, the District received some additional feedback regarding Athalmer area improvements. The feedback was compiled by an area resident who went door-to-door surveying their neighbours with questions they had developed. There were 32 responses. The following is a summary of the questions and responses to that survey:

- “Do you agree or disagree with diverting traffic through Athalmer?”
 - 31 participants “disagreed” or “strongly disagreed” with diverting traffic through Athalmer.
 - One (1) participant was “neutral”.
- “Would you like to see a 30 km/h speed limit signs for all of Athalmer?”
 - 30 participants said “yes”.
 - One (1) participant said “no”.
 - One (1) participant said that they would like to see 20 km/h signs.
- “Are there any improvements you would like to see in Athalmer?”
 - Common responses included improvements to road and sidewalk conditions, a stop sign at Fourth Avenue and Borden, and installation of speed humps.
- “Do you have any ideas that can help improve the traffic flow?”
 - Responses to this question mainly referred to areas outside of Athalmer.
 - Common responses included improvements to the intersection of 13th Street and 7th Avenue, modifications to traffic signal timings at the intersection of Laurier Street and Third Avenue and turning 7th Avenue into a one-way street.
- Participants were asked to rank given topics in order of importance. The topics provided were “Housing, AirBnB”, “Environment Climate Change”, “Traffic Flow”, and “Wildlife”.
 - Nine (9) participants ranked “traffic flow” as their number 1 topic and 10 participants ranked “traffic flow” as their number 2 topic indicating that “traffic flow” is one of the top priorities for residents in the Athalmer area.

A summary of the feedback received is provided in **Appendix B**.

Appendix A: Public Information Session Presentation



Transportation Master Plan District of Invermere

Public Information Session

March 2, 2022



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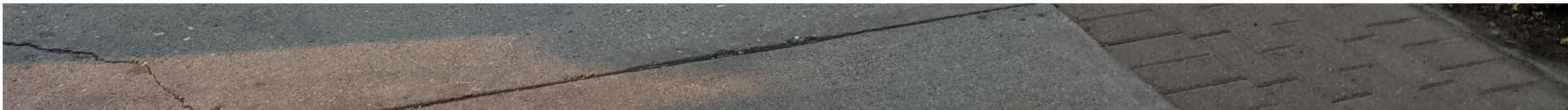
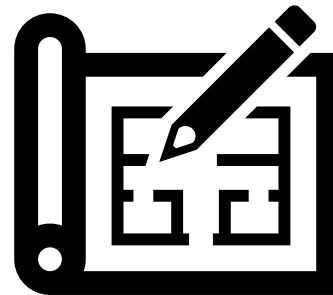
How to Participate in Zoom





What is a Transportation Master Plan?

- A **long-term** plan for the municipality's transportation network
- Considers all transportation modes (walking, bicycling, driving)
- Gives an idea of **what** improvements will be required and **when**
- Considers **population and employment** growth
- Considers new and emerging **technologies, trends and policies**



Why are we updating the 2006 Transportation Study?



To reflect changes in expected growth patterns which have resulted in changing needs for road network improvements



To improve safety for walking, rolling, bicycling and driving, through innovation and new industry standards

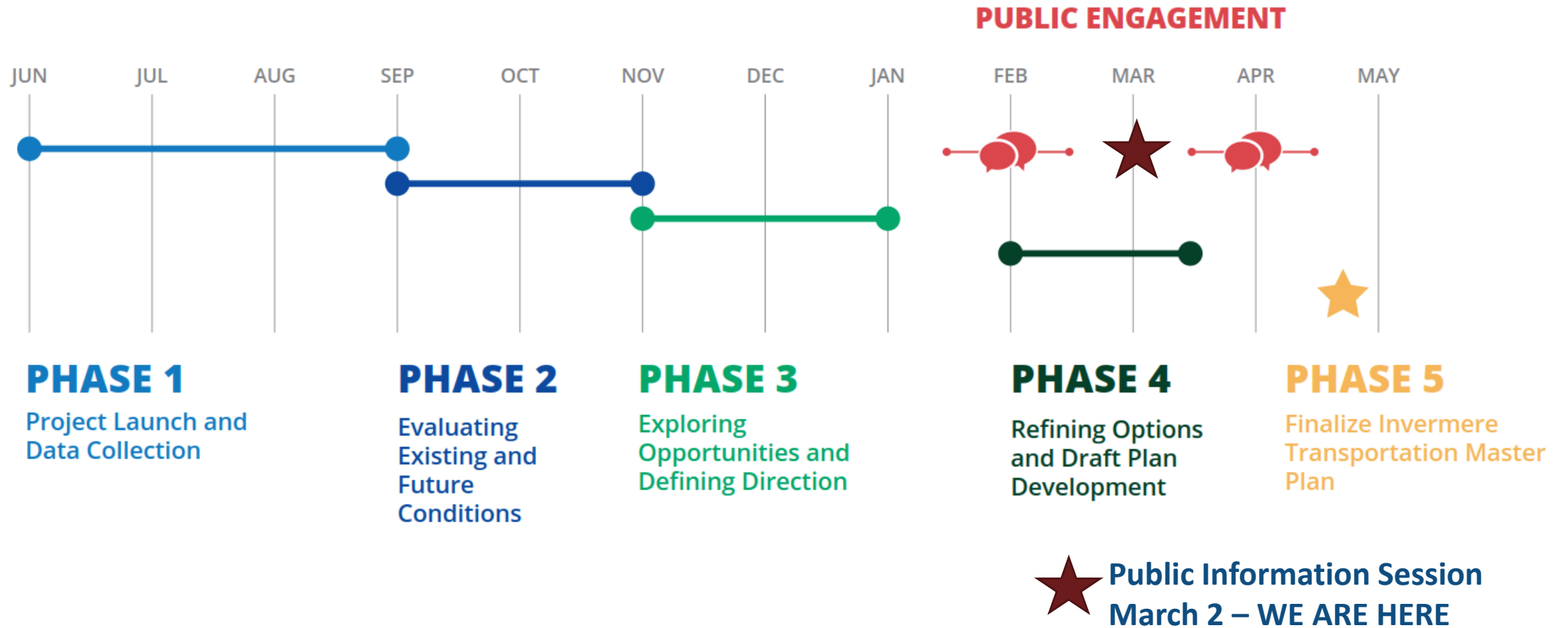


To develop a strategy for prioritizing new transportation improvement projects and policy changes



To ensure that there's a continued effort to integrate transportation improvements with the Joint Active Transportation Plan recommendations

Project Progress





Phase 1 – Project Launch & Data Collection



DISTRICT OF INVERMERE

UPDATED TRANSPORTATION STUDY



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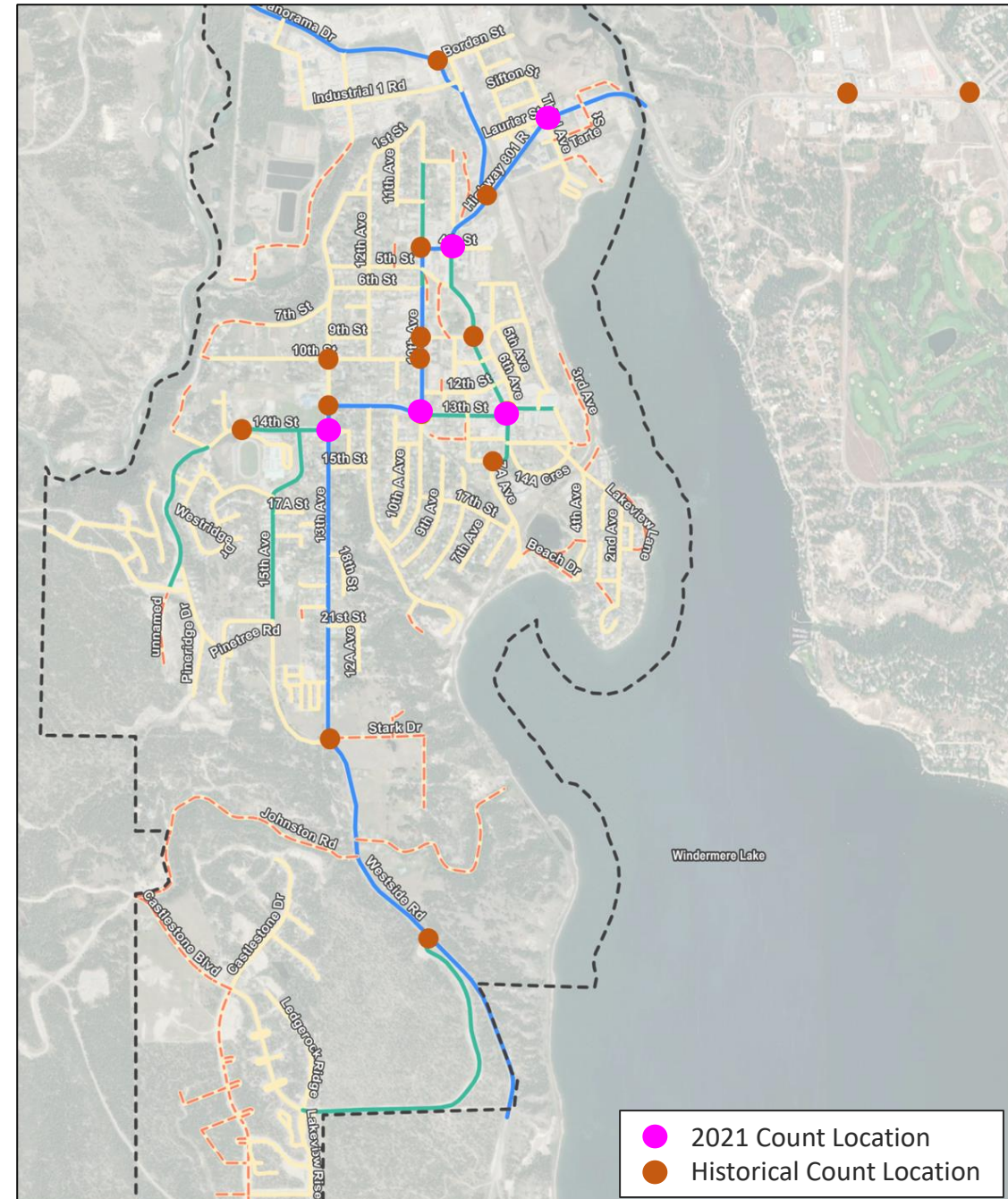
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Phase 1 – Project Launch & Data Collection

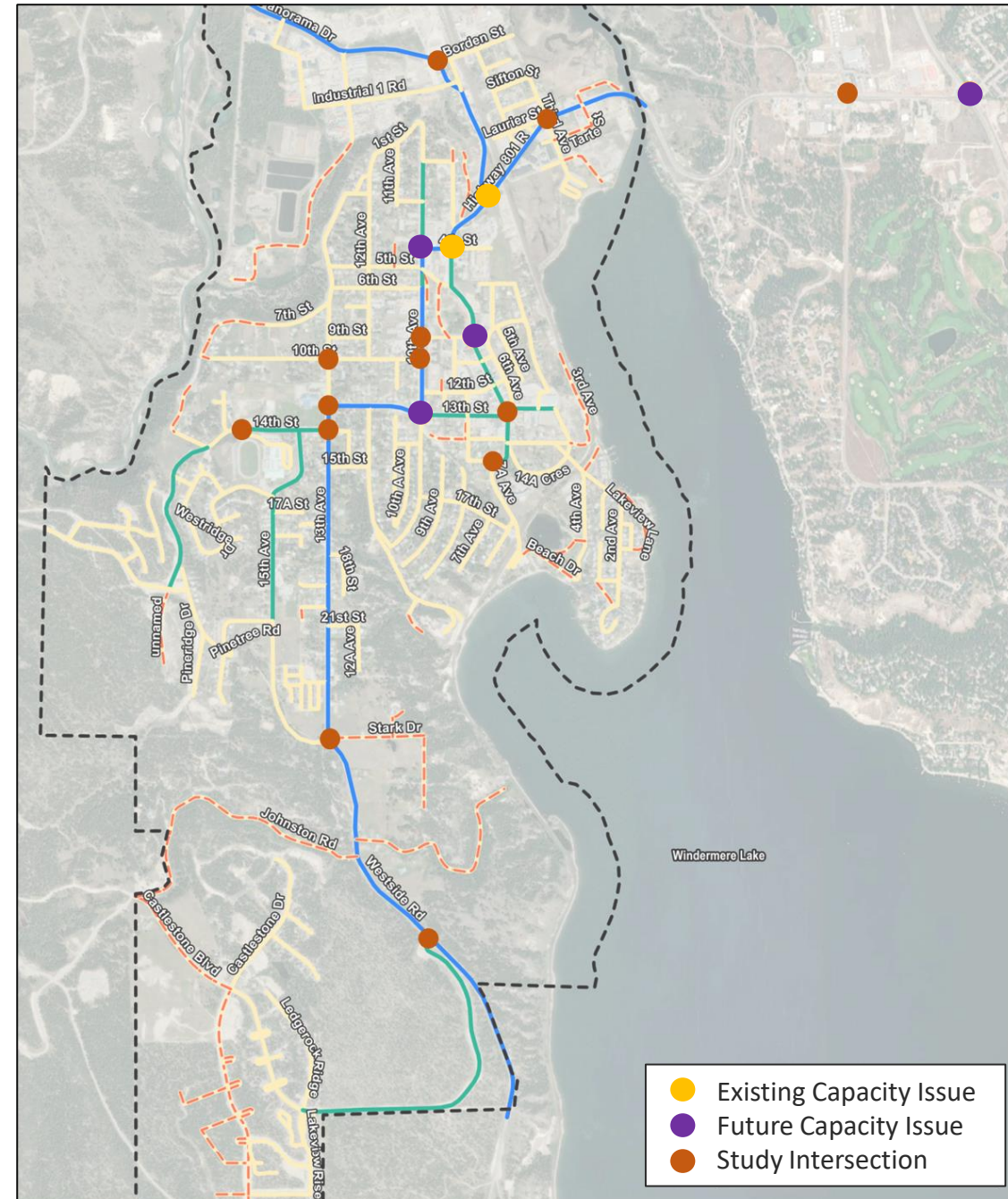
- Traffic counts
- Historical traffic counts
- Road and trail network inventory
- Review of census data





Phase 2 – Evaluating Existing & Future Conditions

- Existing traffic capacity issues at
 - Panorama Drive and Third Street
 - 7 Ave and 4 St
- Future traffic capacity issues at
 - Highway 95 & Athalmer
 - Panorama Drive and Third Street
 - 7 Ave and 4 St
 - 10 Ave and 4 St
 - 7 Ave and 9 St
 - 10 Ave and 13 St





Phase 3 – Exploring Opportunities and Defining Direction



Transportation Plan Vision Statement

Invermere's transportation network is safe, accessible, connected, and **sustainable**. It provides **healthy** and **economical** mobility options where residents and visitors alike can travel accessibly by their mode of choice, experiencing the small-town character in a **beautiful mountain setting**.





Phase 3 – Exploring Opportunities & Defining Direction - Goals



Safe

Improve the safety and accessibility for all road users, prioritizing vulnerable road users.

Connected

Provide both direct and enjoyable route options to destinations within the community.

Ecologically Sustainable

Commit to sustainably growing and improving its transportation network to ensure the well-being of the current and future community.

Economically Sustainable

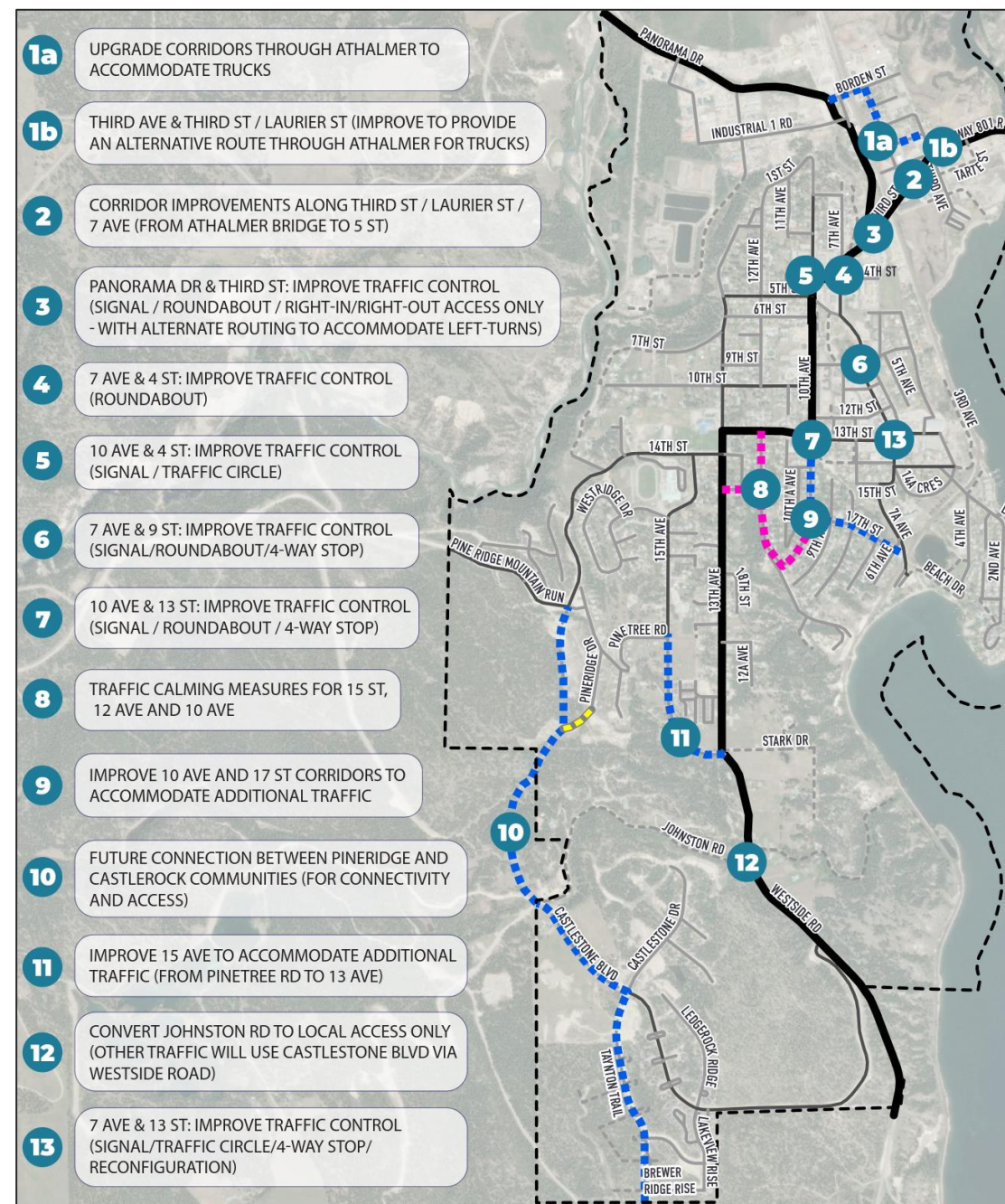
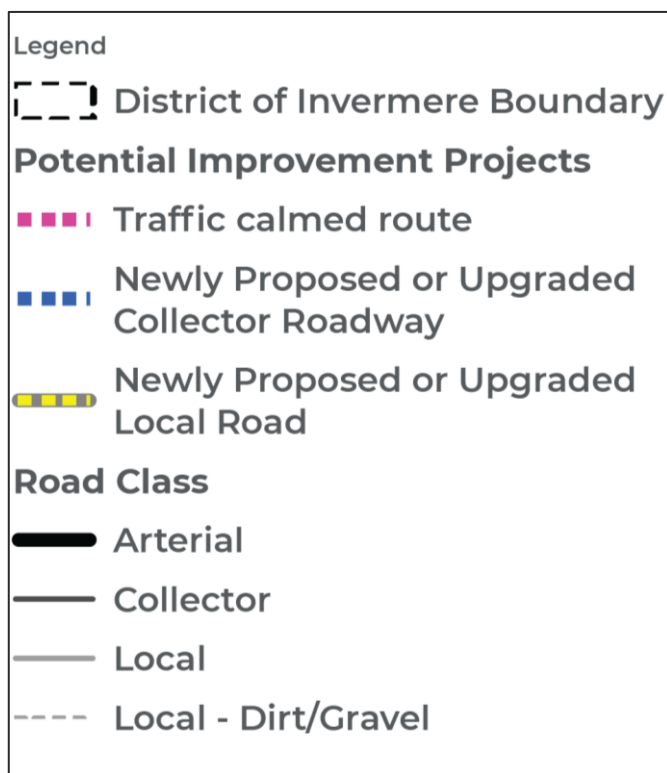
Ensure cost-effective and reliable infrastructure improvements by coordinating improvements with other asset renewals.

Innovative

Explore emerging and innovative methods for managing present and future transportation demands and technologies.



Phase 3 – Exploring Opportunities & Defining Direction





Community Engagement Process

■ Completed

○ Online Survey

- January 17th to 31st, 2022
- 366 responses
- What We Heard Report (online)

■ Ongoing

○ Webpage:

- <https://invermere.net/invermeres-transportation-master-plan/>

■ Upcoming

- Follow up online survey (March 3rd to 14th, 2022)
- Virtual Public Information Session #2 – Draft Plan (mid April)



Search site

WEATHER IN INVERMERE

BROKEN CLOUDS

2°C

17 FEB, 2022

Invermere, CA

We're updating the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) to shape the future of all modes of transportation in Invermere and respond to ongoing growth and development. A previous comprehensive Transportation Study was completed in 2006 and can be accessed [here](#). The update will include a more wholistic transportation approach, considering recommendations outlined in the Joint Active Transportation Plan (JATP) which was developed in partnership with the Shuswap Band in 2021. The JATP can be accessed [here](#).

Transportation is an essential part of everyday life, affecting our community's health, environment, and economy. An efficient transportation network allows people and goods to safely move in and around Invermere.

Why are we updating the Transportation Study?

WHY we're updating the Transportation Study

- To reflect changes in expected growth patterns which have resulted in changing needs for road network improvements
- To improve safety for walking, rolling, bicycling and driving, through innovation and new industry standards
- To develop a strategy for prioritizing new transportation improvement projects and policy changes
- To ensure that there's a continued effort to integrate transportation improvements with the Joint Active Transportation Plan recommendations

Important Links

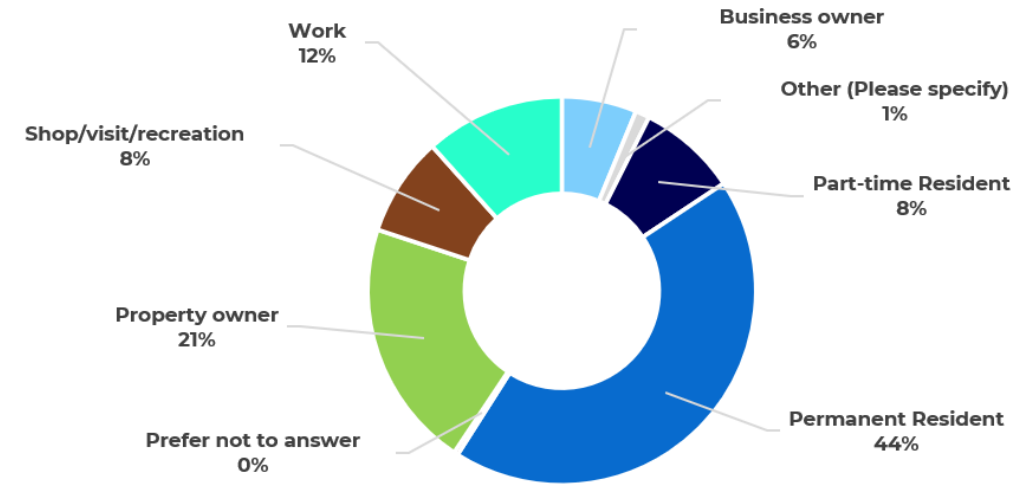




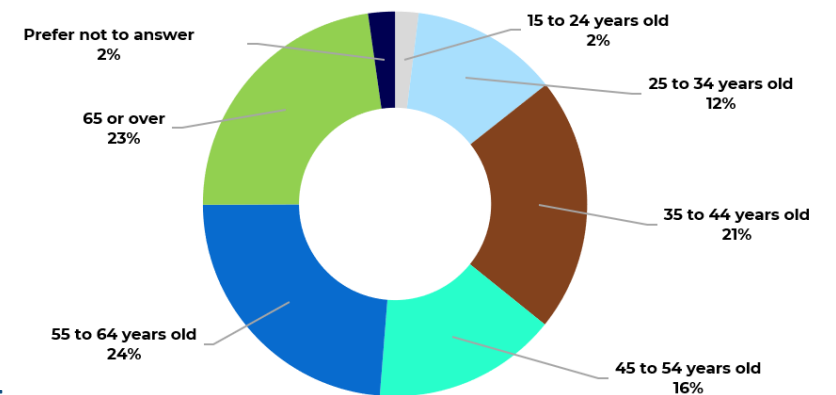
Summary of What We Heard

(from Online Survey #1)

- Diverse set of respondents
- Visitors, property owners, permanent residents
- Range of ages
- Fairly split between male and female respondents
- Single family homes (74%)
- Household of two people (50%)



ABOUT THE
RESPONDENTS



AGE OF
RESPONDENTS

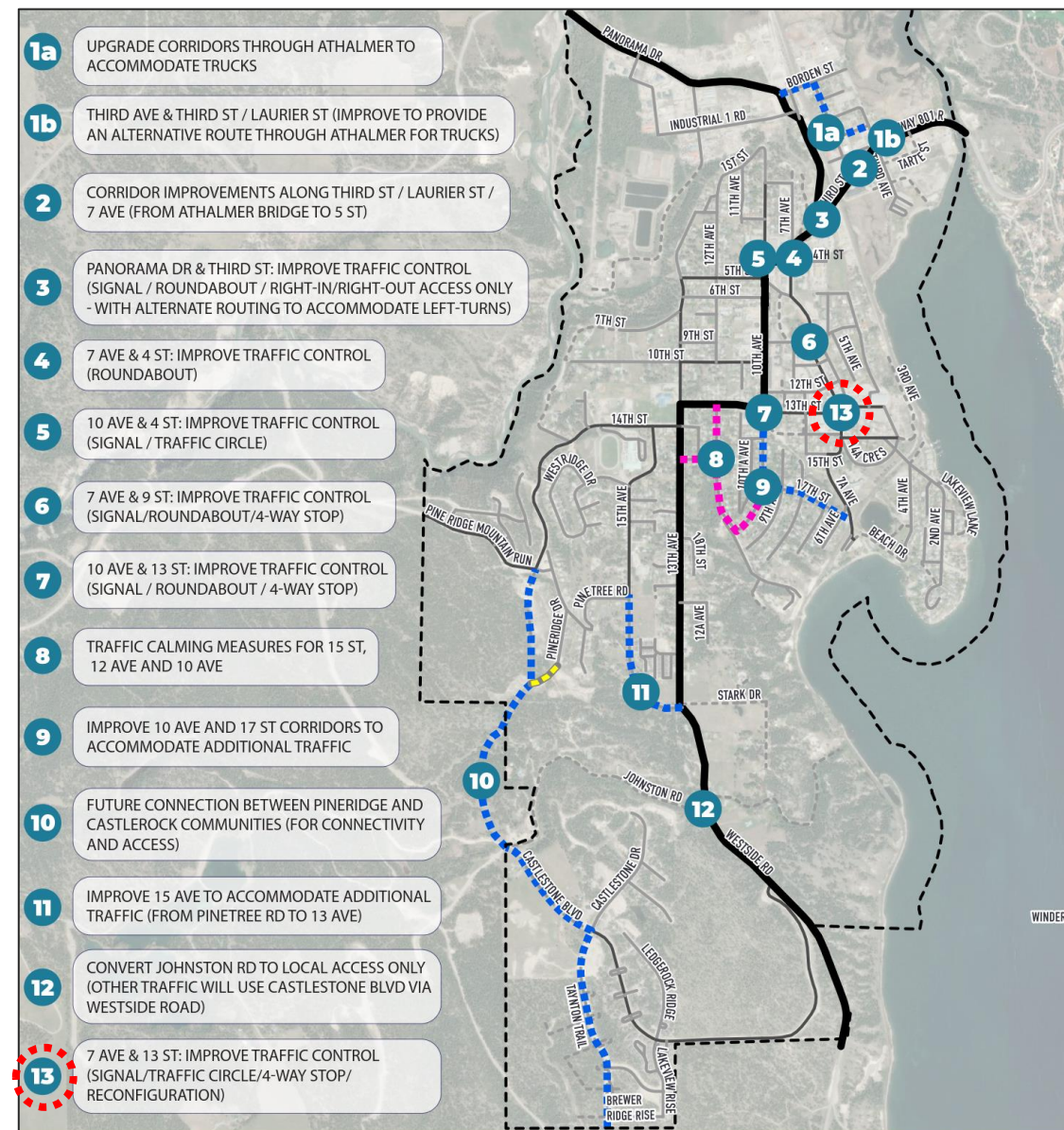




Summary of What We Heard

(from Online Survey #1)

- Responses supportive of:
 - Vision (approximately 60%)
 - Goals (over 90%)
 - Objectives (over 80%)
- Proposed Network
 - Top three ranked priorities are:
 - Improvement Project 3
 - Improvement Project 1a & b
 - Improvement Project 2
 - Next three were projects 4, 5 and 10
 - Projects 6, 8 and 9 received the lowest rankings
 - Addition of 7th Avenue and 13th Street





Summary of What We Heard

(from Online Survey #1)

SUPPORT FOR STRATEGIES

A Safe Community

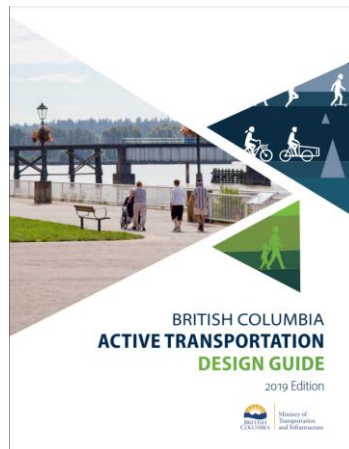
Most important:

- Review sidewalk requirements on roadways and update to reflect best practices

A Connected Community

Most Important:

- Connect new bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure to existing infrastructure





Summary of What We Heard

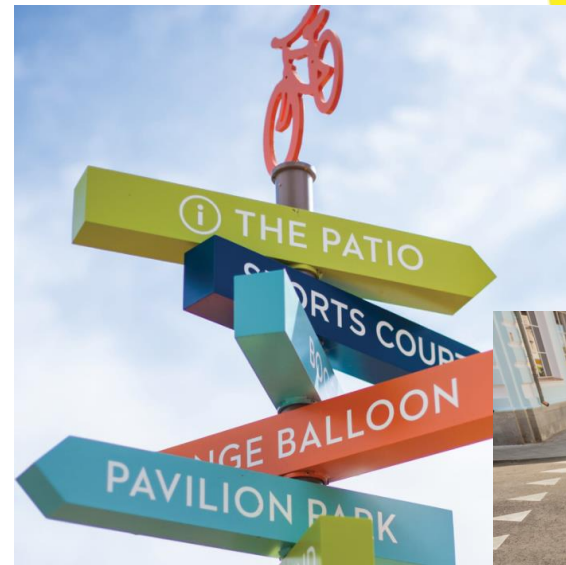
(from Online Survey #1)

SUPPORT FOR STRATEGIES

An environmentally sustainable community

Most important:

- Develop support programs and initiatives that encourage people to walk and bicycle. Include wayfinding improvements, walking clubs, and the Safe Routes to School Program





Summary of What We Heard

(from Online Survey #1)

SUPPORT FOR STRATEGIES

An economically sustainable community

Most important:

- Implement a road and active transportation network improvements in conjunction with each other and/or other infrastructure projects

An Innovative community.

Most Important:

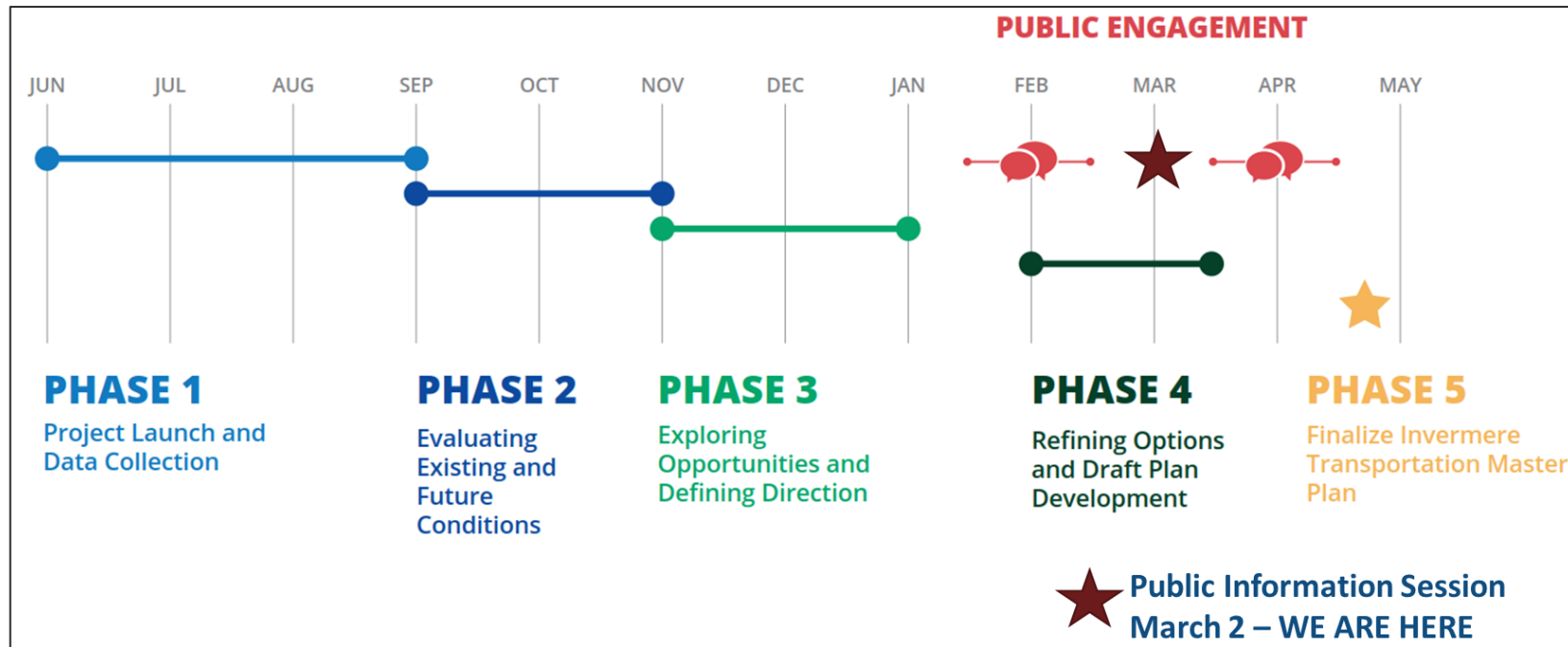
- Provide unique infrastructure to facilitate the use of e-bicycles and e-scooters (ex. E-bike share or e-scooter share, charging stations)





Next Steps

- Online Survey #2 – Follow up survey (March 3rd to 14th)
- Phase 4 - Refining Options and Draft Plan Development
 - Present Draft Plan to Council and public mid April
- Finalize Plan, present to Council (end of April)





Transportation Master Plan District of Invermere

Thank you



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Appendix B: Athalmer Area Residents' Feedback

TABLE B.1: ATHALMER AREA RESIDENTS' FEEDBACK

Respondent	Number of ppl in Household	Number of Childen	1. Agree or disagree with Diverting Traffic Through Athalmer?	2. 30km/h Speed Limit in Athalmer?	3. Additional Improvements in Athalmer?	4. Ideas to Help Improve Traffic Flow?	5. Ranking of Importance of Traffic Flow Topic
#1	2	0	Strongly Disagree	Yes	Stop Sign 4th/Borden Instead of Yeild	Better Road Maintenance	1
#2	3	1	Strongly Disagree	Yes	Fix flooding issue by hostel	Intersection at CIBC	2
#3	1	0	Disagree	Yes	Roads fixed / sidewalk	No lights all through traffic turning lanes	3
#4	5 to 6	3	Disagree	Yes	Sidewalks	Round-about at CIBC	4
#5	1	0	Disagree	Yes	Slow down traffic for kids	-	2
#6	3	1	Disagree	Yes	Too much traffic	One way 7 Ave starting at Lordeo	2
#7	2	0	Strongly Disagree	Yes	Sidewalks, move bus (school) to Cartwright safer	Round'a'bout Panarama Rd.	2
#8	2	0	Disagree	Yes	Speed bumps & speed limits/stop sign at Borden & 4th, garbage cans	Clearer traffic signage	4
#9	3	1	Disagree	Yes	Speed bumps	Road resurfacing	3
#10	2	1	Disagree	Yes	Road maintenance, sidewalks	Clear signage by CIBC	1
#11	2	0	Disagree	Yes	Garbage cans, road maintenance, speed limits	Better signage at intersection at CIBC	3
#12	2	0	Disagree	20 km speed limit	Speed bumps	Synchronize lights at A&W & Sobey's to allow trucks out of Panorama Dr.	3
#13	3	2	Disagree	Yes	Sidewalks / Road Repairs	Speed bumps / lower speed limit	1
#14	2	0	Strongly Disagree	Yes / Law enforcement	Left turn advance onto Third Ave	Flooding issue by Hostel, Sifton & Third Ave	1
#15	3	2	Totally Disagree	Yes	Road maintenance, speed bumps, school bus signs	Better layout of flow, signage	1
#16	3	1	Strongly Disagree	Yes	Road mainenance, garbage cans, sidewalks	Turn 7 Ave into a one way street in the summer from CIBC to 4 St., better signage at intersections. Synchronize the lights at Third Ave (A&W) and 4 St (Sobey's) so vehicles can turn left off Panorama Rd. easier.	2
#17	3	1	Definate Disagree	Yes	Flooding by Hostel, road maintenance	No	2
#18	5	3	Disagree	Yes	Crosswalks, bus stop sign, playground sign, change yeild to stop sign at Sifton & 4th Ave	Road maintenance, potholes	4
#19	1	0	Disagree	Yes	Road maintenance	Less traffic	2
#20	3	1	Disagree	Yes	Sidewalk, fix roads	Nothing	4
#21	2	0	Strongly Disagree	Yes	Fix Third Ave & Sifton corner, dust control through alley ways	Nothing at this time	2
#22	2	0	Strongly Disagree	Not worried about it	Fix roads not patched	Divert through town	3
#23	2	0	Neutral	Yes	Nothing right now	No	3
#24	3	2	Disagree	Yes	Road maintenance	Thinking about it	2
#25	3	2	Disagree	Yes	Speed limits	Synchronize traffic lights	3
#26	2	0	Heavily Disagree	Yes	Pot holes fixed, road maintenance	Road maintenance	1
#27	3	1	Disagree	Yes	Sidewalks, speed bumps	Nothing now	1
#28	2	0	Disagree	Yes	Road maintenance	More parking, one way loop trthough town	1
#29	2	3 to 5	Definitely Disagree	Yes	Road maintenance, speed bumps	Nothing for now	1
#30	0	0	Disagree	Yes	Local traffic only signs, road maintenance speed limits	Change some intersections to round-about.	4
#31	3	2	Definitely Disagree	Yes	Road maintenance	No idea	4
#32	5	3	Disagree	Yes	-	-	2

19

ranked 1 9
ranked 2 10
ranked 3 7
ranked 4 6
total 32

Summary of Results

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1. Diverting Traffic Through Athalmer?	0	1	19	12
	Yes	No	20km/h	
2. 30km/h Speed Limit in Athalmer?	30	1	1	
3. Common imporvements wanted:	Fix / maintain roads and sidewalks, flooding issue by hostel, stop sign at 4th & Borden, speed bumps			
4. Common ideas to help improve traffic flow:	Clear signage or round-about at CIBC, synchronize lights at A&W & Sobey's, turn 7 Ave into one way			