An Overview of

Moving Forward

the 2018 Transportation Master Plan
Moving Forward is the Region of Waterloo’s Transportation Master Plan

Moving Forward guides how roads, public transit, and facilities for walking and cycling will be improved, now through 2041. The plan also provides direction for new policies to support more sustainable and healthy modes of travel, and improved transportation choices.

Exciting things are happening here

- ION Light Rail Rapid Transit Service is now operating
- Ride-Sharing and Other New Mobility Services
- Technology, Education and Economic Centre Growth

What we heard from the public

- Viable, healthy and sustainable transportation choices are key to a livable community.
- Barriers to pedestrian, cycling and transit facilities or accesses need to be reduced.
- Effective transportation of goods is important to the economy.

Investment in transportation is needed

The Region must continue to invest in transportation, and create new policies to support the growing economy and keep the region a great place to live, work and play.

A plan reflecting community input

Moving Forward is a product of a collaborative effort from the Region, local and provincial governments, transportation experts, local stakeholders, a steering committee and the public.

With community input, a new vision was developed to shape transportation

The Moving Forward Vision Statement

Waterloo Region will be a prosperous, sustainable, and healthy community, with viable transportation choices for people of all ages and abilities, and for the goods supporting our economy.

Four Goals to achieve the Vision

- Promote Travel Choice
- Foster a Strong Economy
- Support Sustainable Development
- Optimize the Transportation System
The plan provides actions and strategies to 2041

Attaining the goals and vision for transportation is a significant challenge. The following strategies were developed through a rigorous study of opportunities and extensive consultation with the public, stakeholders, and agencies.

**Promote a healthy community by providing high quality walking and cycling facilities**
- Complete the network identified in the Active Transportation Master Plan
- Provide separated cycling facilities
- Integrate the walking, cycling, transit, and road networks

**Build a road network that supports all modes of travel**
- Expand the road network to support new developments
- Prioritize road widening projects that accommodate all modes of travel
- Use design guides and standards that support higher-density developments

**Develop a fast and frequent transit network**
- Expand ION and iXpress Networks
- Allow buses to move around traffic
- Provide flexible transit to underserved areas
- Connect to GO Transit

**Use supporting strategies**
- Plan for new mobility technologies
- Manage travel demand
- Improve road safety
- Develop a goods movement strategy

An implementation plan was developed to monitor progress and success

**Follow a four step cycle**
- Transportation master plans are part of a cycle:
  - Plan
  - Study the details
  - Make a change
  - Monitor

**Total cost**
Expected costs of implementation are estimated to be:

$1.3 Billion over 22 years
Promote a healthy community by providing high quality walking & cycling facilities

We’ve learned that many residents of the region are interested in using sustainable modes of transportation such as walking and cycling, but are concerned about aspects such as safety and gaps in the existing network. Moving Forward has incorporated the Region’s Active Transportation Master Plan to implement extensive walking facilities across the region. The plan also provides new policies and strategies to support active transportation, including a new emphasis on bicycle facilities to encourage more cycling.
What does it mean?
Walk Cycle Waterloo Region is the Region’s Active Transportation Master Plan (2014) for how walking and cycling facilities will be improved through the year 2031, including new or upgraded trails, bike lanes, crossings, and connections to public transit.

Strategies and Actions
Moving Forward proposes a number of measures to support the vision of a healthy and sustainable community.

- Identify and map the existing transportation network to track the progress of the network proposed in Walk Cycle Waterloo Region
- Evaluate the potential to upgrade planned on-road cycling facilities to be separated by physical space or barrier from vehicle traffic lanes, to enhance comfort
- Review and integrate the planned road and transit networks with the cycling network
- Identify longer-term active transportation network needs and ways to expand the network through to the year 2041

Other Considerations
Define and measure health benefits of walking, cycling and public transit, for people travelling in and around the region

For more information on Walk Cycle Waterloo Region, visit: regionofwaterloo.ca/2014ATMP.

Cost
$120 M
2019-2031

$50 M
2032-2041
A fast and reliable transit network is essential to support growth and to provide residents a sustainable travel choice. Transit vehicles carry more passengers than cars, and are linked to increased walking trips, and more broadly linked to healthy communities. Moving Forward builds on ION LRT with expansion of the bus network and new priority measures to reduce wait times and increase transit speeds.

The map shown depicts the planned transit network to 2041.
What does it mean?
The plan proposes several upgrades to the Region’s public transit network to improve the way people travel throughout the region and connect to other regions. The improved transit network also supports new growth areas and the redevelopment of existing parts of Waterloo Region.

Strategies and Actions
Moving Forward proposes several investments and policies to expand transit and better serve the population.

- Extend ION light rail to Cambridge, and identify new rapid transit corridors to be protected for future planning
- Establish an all-day frequent transit network, using existing and new iXpress routes
- Prioritize transit vehicles on all regional roads, allowing buses to move around traffic on busy corridors
- Explore smaller-scale, more flexible transit options for the region and in particular the townships
- Support and promote inter-regional transit options and connections, such as GO Rail and GO Bus.

Outcomes by 2041
- 10 minute service or better on all high-frequency GRT routes
- Expand GRT fleet from 270 to 550 buses including new high-capacity articulated buses
- More than double transit service hours across Waterloo Region to 1.7 million hours annually

Cost
- $247 M 2019-2031
- $271 M 2032-2041
Moving Forward enhances the Region’s road network to address gaps and bottlenecks and to accommodate growth. Some previously planned road projects were deferred to ensure that new roads or widening are aligned with all of our community goals and objectives. Road projects are also prioritized where they serve multiple modes of travel.

The map shown depicts the planned road network to 2041. All projects will undergo an EA process and are subject to Council approval.
What does it mean?

The Regional road network consists of all arterial roads in Waterloo Region, which carry high volumes of traffic and are used by several major transit routes. New roads, extensions, and widenings are planned to support future growth and development, but should be timed and scaled appropriately to ensure roads are not “overbuilt”.

Outcomes by 2041

- 2 new road corridors
- 5 extensions of existing roads
- 32 widenings on existing road segments to accommodate additional vehicle lanes
- 6 road diets on roads with excess capacity by reconfiguring existing travel lanes to accommodate new cycling facilities or dedicated transit lanes

Strategies and Actions

Moving Forward proposes a number of policies and actions to support movement along Regional roads for the coming years.

- Match road expansion with future growth and development
- Prioritize road projects that benefit multiple modes of travel
- Review corridor design guidelines to ensure they support higher-density developments (e.g. condominiums, apartments, and townhouses)
- Complete a transportation network study for southwest Kitchener

Cost

- $299 M 2019-2031
- $288 M 2032-2041
Moving Forward encompasses all aspects of transportation planning in the region, and identifies a number of areas to monitor, study, and invest to support the vision and goals.

### New Mobility

*a collection of emerging transportation technologies and services.*

**examples:** bike-sharing, ride-hailing, driverless cars

- Explore opportunities to pay for new mobility services together with public transit
- Develop a New Mobility Action Plan, updated annually to reflect the latest changes in new mobility technologies and services
- Test smaller-scale and more flexible transit options, including on-demand transit and ride-hailing, for underserved areas
- Plan a pilot program to test driverless cars and shuttles

### Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

*a set of policies and programs that help travellers make more sustainable travel decisions.*

**examples:** travelling in off-peak times, making fewer trips by car

- Actively encourage transit use, travelling in off-peak times, and improving workplace TDM programs
- Support new High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) or High-Occupancy Toll (HOT) lane projects on provincial highways (i.e. Highway 401)
- Review minimum parking requirements for new developments
- Investigate mobility pricing policies, such as road user charges or parking costs

### Road Safety

*a program aimed at reducing collisions and protecting all road users with infrastructure improvements.*

**examples:** roundabouts, crosswalks, cycling lanes

- Emphasis on safe, active travel options for children and students
- Emphasis on safety in road design, monitoring, and traffic enforcement practices

### Goods Movement Network

*maintaining the transport of goods through and within the region.*

- Support goods movement with improved infrastructure and updated policies
- Perform a goods movement study to better understand how vehicles and freight move through the region
An implementation plan was developed to monitor progress and success

Implementing and updating a transportation master plan is an ongoing cycle.

Here is how the Region of Waterloo will implement Moving Forward.

**Plan**
Identify solutions to known transportation challenges

**Monitor**
Check project success and note improvements needed

**Study the Details**
Study potential benefits and impacts of projects

**Make a Change**
Construct projects, relocate or purchase new transit vehicles

We are here now.
Moving Forward is the current transportation master plan for the Region of Waterloo.

The Region will use **25 Performance Measures** to monitor the success of the plan, such as:

- Reduction in travel times and traffic;
- Shift towards transit, cycling, and walking;
- Number of roads with improved cycling and walking facilities.

**Update Every 5 to 10 years**
to account for changes to conditions in the region, keep track of progress, and assess the success of implemented changes.

**Total Cost**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year Range</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-2031</td>
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<tr>
<td>2032-2041</td>
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For more information on 
*Moving Forward*, the 2018 Transportation Master Plan

Visit the website
www.regionofwaterloo.ca/MovingForwardWR

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