

4.4 Transportation Network

INTRODUCTION

The effective integration of transportation modes such as automobile, transit, cycling and walking creates well connected communities and results in other significant benefits. Communities that have good active transportation facilities that are well connected with other modes such as public transit, have lower rates of obesity and chronic illness. In addition, transportation networks that provide alternatives to automobile travel help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The recreational trail system is addressed in section 4.1 of this Plan and is part of the overall transportation network. Movement around the Plan Area by foot or bicycle can include a combination of road shoulders and off-road trails.

Island Highway No. 19A had long been the sole vehicular route connecting north and south Island communities until the completion of the Inland Island Highway No. 19 in the late 1990's. Today, both of these highways accommodate passenger, freight and service transportation up and down the Island. The Plan Area includes two major intersections connecting the Inland Island Highway with Island Highway No. 19A: at Horne Lake and Cook Creek Roads. The highways and major roads in the Plan Area are shown on Map No. 3.

Emergency access to neighbourhoods with only one road in and out is a concern for residents. New road connections are desired in two key locations where Gainsburg Road is the only access: new access connecting Highway 19A with the western portion of Gainsburg Road, and a connection between Thompson Clark Drive and Ocean Trail.

TRANSPORTATION NETWORK POLICIES

1. The Regional District supports improvements to the efficiency and safety of Island Highway No. 19A including the safety of those travelling by foot, bicycle or other non-vehicular means on the road shoulders.
2. The Regional District supports the eventual upgrading of Inland Island Highway No. 19 intersections to overhead interchanges at Horne Lake and Cook Creek Roads.
3. The Regional District shall seek the opportunity to coordinate with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for developing bicycle and pedestrian routes along Island Highway No. 19A and other roads to implement the Active Transportation Plan, 2017.
4. Known priorities for active transportation facilities in the Active Transportation Plan, 2017 must be considered at the time of rezoning for community amenity contribution pursuant to policies in Section

OBJECTIVES

1. *Accommodate* safe and efficient passenger, freight, and service transportation throughout the Plan Area.
2. *Enable* non-vehicular mobility through improved walking and cycling trails or routes between neighbourhoods, schools and commercial areas.
3. *Improve* bicycle and pedestrian routes on Island Highway No. 19A.
4. *Support* the visual protection of the Inland Island Highway Corridor with buffer areas including setbacks, greenways, and landscaping requirements.
5. *Encourage* appropriately located wayfinding and tourist and attraction signage on Island Highway Nos. 19 and 19A.
6. *Encourage* second road accesses to neighbourhoods with only one way in and out.

6.2 of this Plan. At the time of adoption of this Plan, key priorities for active transportation facilities include:

- a. Pedestrian crossings of Highway 19A in Bowser near Magnolia Court, at Coburn Road, and near Lions Way
 - b. Paved shoulder on all of Highway 19A with a higher priority on the section from Crosley Road to just north of Fisheries Road
 - c. Creation of advisory lane on Faye Road
 - d. Trail construction on unopened Jackrabbit Road that connects the end of Faye Road to the Thompson Clark Ocean Trail Community Trail
 - e. Shoulder widening on Gainsburg Road
5. Preserve the natural visual character of the rural portions of Highway Corridors on Highways 19, and 19A.

ADVOCACY POLICIES

6. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is encouraged to improve bicycle and pedestrian routes on Highway No. 19A in coordination with the Regional District and pursuant to the Active Transportation Plan, 2017.
7. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is encouraged to coordinate with the Regional District and local business community to ensure that wayfinding and tourist and attraction signage is current and best serves the needs of the local community and travelling public.
8. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is encouraged to construct or require through subdivision, roads that provide a second access to neighbourhoods with only one way in and out.
9. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is encouraged to improve the safety of Horne Lake Road between the Highway 19 and Highway 19A which may include realignment.