Regional Sustainable Transportation Master Plan

By Elizabeth Szymanski, BA, CET & Stéphane Thibodeau, P. TECH

INTRODUCTION
Transportation is the lifeline of a community. It is more than just moving people, goods and services. It is an integrated system that connects people, influences their daily activities and promotes a healthy, sustainable and vibrant community now and in the future.

Destination Moncton Dieppe Riverview

Multi-Modal Options
Accessibility
Efficient Public Transportation

REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION growth exceeding 25%. The dominant choice for commuting is the auto 7.4% among all CMAs. The highest rate of increase was in Dieppe, with a healthy, sustainable and vibrant community now and in the future. Transport is the lifeline of a community. It is more than just moving people, goods and services. It is an integrated system that connects people, influences their daily activities and promotes a healthy, sustainable and vibrant community now and in the future.

Population
In 2011, the population of the Moncton Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) was 138,644, an increase of 7.9% from 2006, making it the fastest growing CMA in Eastern Canada over this time frame. In Canada as a whole, by comparison the national growth was 5.9% nationwide and 7.4% among all CMAs. The highest rate of increase was in Dieppe, with a growth exceeding 25%. The dominant choice for commuting is the auto drive mode which captures 86% of all trips.

Master Plan

SUMMARY / RESULTS
Issues and plan directions identified by the public:

• There is a need for a culture shift away from a “car at all costs mentality”. People want to see shared clarity toward a system that reflects the overall evolving needs of the population.
• Choice and Ease should be designed into transportation networks (including transit, cycling and walking) so that options are available, clearly communicated, and easy to navigate.
• Connectivity is required between the three communities; through roads, public transportation routes, cycling and walking trails to link communities and destinations, and connectivity between modes of transportation.
• Densification and Complete Neighbourhoods Municipalities should be integrating decisions around land use planning and urban design with transportation planning.
• Multi-Modal Options are needed including Park and Rides, a thorough bicycle network, walking systems, and efficient Public Transportation should be bringing people between destinations and communities in a direct, frequent, and timely manner.
• Accessibility is imperative, including affordability and ease of access for people with disabilities and seniors.
• Safety is necessary for people of all ages and abilities, using all modes of travel in all seasons.

Future transportation system will be built on the framework of:

• Intently land use patterns
  • Include density planning in development plans
  • Create walkable outdoor shopping areas
  • Develop complete (mixed-use) neighbourhoods
  • Provide urban amenities in suburban areas
• Manage travel demand
  • Increase parking charges
  • Provide incentives for downtown
  • Add park and ride lots on Dieppe and Champlain Blvd
• Maximize network efficiency
  • Reduce space allocated to parking downtown
  • Integrate transport and land use planning
  • Improve traffic operational efficiency
• Build a multimodal network
  • Add transit to airport
  • Develop all-mode hubs
  • Connect trails to commercial districts
• Improve connections between communities
  • Provide regional transit suitable communities
  • Connect trails to parks and green spaces
  • Improve auto connections
  • Develop alternatives to congested link roads
• Provide for safety and ease of use
  • Hold public education and awareness campaigns
  • Improve cycling safety
  • Add more separated bike lanes
• Promote environmental sustainability and reduce GHG emissions
  • Reduce volume of cars in urban areas
  • Encourage active transportation as a healthy alternative
  • Provide programs in support of walking and transit use

This vision is supported by seven planning principles, a set of strategies, performance indicators and measures that will be used to gauge the effectiveness of actions and decisions leading to fulfilling the vision.

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Travel Demand Model
Attaining the objectives of the plan will require informative outputs from the travel demand forecasting model. The travel demand forecasting model developed for the study is designed as a macroscopic model suitable for strategic planning applications, macro-scale forecasting, and identification of network needs across the Tricommunity.

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