

5 TRANSPORTATION VISION STATEMENT, PRINCIPLES, OBJECTIVES, AND PROCESS

5.1 Transportation Vision

The City's Official Plan's casts a vision for Greater Sudbury as a modern and vibrant city that is healthy, sustainable and green. Greater Sudbury is open for business with the downtown core acting as the vibrant hub of this dynamic city.

The vision for the Transportation Study Report is to support this city-wide vision through the development of a sustainable, multi-modal transportation system that provides mobility options to all residents and the necessary infrastructure to support economic activity and daily life.

To remain an effective document, the Transportation Study Report must be regularly updated and modified in order to respond to changes in the economy, social goals, and the external environment.

Several major changes have occurred following the approval of the 1992 Transportation Plan and were included in the 2005 Transportation Study Report:

- The expanded boundaries of the City of Greater Sudbury;
- The development of the City of Greater Sudbury as the major retail 'big box' market destination within Northeastern Ontario;
- The new College Boreal Campus;
- The centralization of hospital services to the former Laurentian Hospital campus (now called Health Sciences North);
- The completion of the Highway 17 by-pass; and
- The completion of the Brady Street extension.

As part of the Official Plan Update, this 2015 Transportation Study Report must take into account not only the evolving character of the area but also the changes in the external components of the various transportation networks. Intra-municipal rail links are being removed with more goods being delivered by truck. The role of air traffic has also changed; with airports now being free of many federal constraints, there is a new opportunity to build activity as commercial hubs.

This Transportation Study Report builds upon the 2005 Transportation Study by:

- Reviewing and repositioning transportation priorities given current conditions, forecasts and extensive consultation with the general public and interest groups; and
- Setting forth a vision for a sustainable, multi-modal transportation network for 2031.

5.2 Transportation Principles

There are three main principles guiding the development of the future transportation network:

- **Healthy communities** with on- and off-road networks that facilitate active transportation, such as cycling and walking, and that consist of 'Complete Streets' that are designed, constructed and maintained to support all users and all modes of transportation;
- **Sustainability** based on integrated transportation and land use planning that minimizes the use of private automobiles and, in particular, the number of single-occupant vehicle trips; and



- **Economic vitality** associated with reduced congestion on roads so that people and freight can access destinations with limited delay.

5.3 Transportation Objectives

The objectives of this study are to develop a comprehensive plan that supports the transportation vision and principles through:

- Improvement of the existing road network;
- Enhancement and expansion of active transportation facilities; and
- Incorporation and development of additional transportation policies.

The purpose of the document is to present background information, policy changes and network improvements to be considered during the process of creating a new Official Plan.

5.4 Problem Statement

As part of the EA Master Plan process, the following problem/opportunity statement has been developed to encapsulate the thrust of the Transportation Study Report:

Greater Sudbury's current transportation system needs to be enhanced to address current deficiencies, and to accommodate growth in population, employment and commercial activity to the horizon of 2031. Developing a multi-modal system is a key component of that change; multi-modal mobility is also needed to address the directions set by the Province and by City Council, reflecting greater sustainability and intensification. Sustainability must encompass the goals of an active community, a healthy environment and economic vitality.

Key opportunities in Greater Sudbury related to these needs include:

- *Creating transportation choices to better support biking, walking, and transit;*
- *Implementing short-term solutions for intersections and corridors of traffic congestion;*
- *In the longer term, creating a transportation network which offers more direct routings; and*
- *Providing the transportation network needed to support intensified land use in designated growth areas.*

This statement was reviewed with attendees of the first Public Information Centre.

5.5 City of Greater Sudbury Transportation Study Report Process

The study process used to develop the Transportation Study Report is shown in **Figure 28**. Specific to the City of Greater Sudbury, the study process was unique and innovative in that it was:

- Integrated and coordinated with the active transportation master plan completed as part of this assignment;
- Based on a set of principles to guide the selection of the preferred solution that has been evaluated against a quantifiable and qualitative framework;
- Built around a 'Complete Transportation' approach to address capacity deficiency to meet growth demands; and
- Focused on engaging residents and stakeholders throughout the study.



Figure 28: Transportation Master Plan Process

