# ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION POLICY CASE STUDIES SUMMARY



## **PARTNERS**

A key theme underpinning all cases was the need for cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary collaboration in active transportation policy work most often involving public health, engineering, planning, city council members, community advocates, businesses, private consultants and researchers.<sup>1</sup>

## LOCAL STAFF (E.G., TRANSPORTATION, PLANNING, ENGINEERING, HEALTH, ETC)

### **POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION<sup>2</sup>**

Information on existing plans and priorities; technical expertise for the situation assessment; evaluating alternatives and implementation; funding and financial resources; monitoring and evaluation support.











# **ALL CASES**

Across the cases, city staff would educate council in special sessions, and at times brought in experts or partners from public health or the university to assist with these efforts.



Many city departments were expected to be involved throughout the pilot and, as stated earlier, a project steering committee was formed that involved them (e.g., Transit Department, Public Works, Engineering, Planning, Recreation, Parks and Culture Department, and Communications).

Having the Medical Officer of Health be supportive of active transportation really enables [us] to do the work that we're doing to support Public Works and other departments. So both our [Chronic Disease Prevention Section] and our Healthy Living [Section from our Public Health Service Division] supplied some of their support to Public Works.

## **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

#### POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION<sup>2</sup>

Political support and leadership; technical expertise





# RED DEER, AB

Council approved \$800,000 as part of the 2011 annual budget to support the infrastructure and develop the project action plan.

# VANCOUVER, BC

Council promoted green initiatives and was proactive about sustainable transportation.

Some council members were advocates of active transportation, which helped to shift the mindset of some other decision-makers [on council] to get things done.

# **PARTNERS**

### **REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS**

#### POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION<sup>2</sup>

Funding; outreach and communications; technical support; critical implementation support; monitoring and evaluation









RED DEER, AB

A Walkability Roadshow facilitated by Alberta Health in partnership with Walk21, Canada Walks, the City of Red Deer, and Green Communities Canada helped generate awareness for walking.

# VANCOUVER, BC

Partnerships are critical to the success of Transportation 2040, including federal level organizations, the provincial government, regional municipal partners, TransLink the regional transportation agency, and city-level partners.

## **ADVOCACY GROUPS**

#### **POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION<sup>2</sup>**

Outreach for broader community engagement; input in AT alternatives for consideration; support for implementation; monitoring and evaluation







RED DEER, AB

Community groups that advocated for the bike lanes were also invited by the Engineering Department to join the Steering Committee (e.g., the Primary Care Network, the Red Deer Association for Bicycle Commuting, Safe Communities Central Alberta, Rethink Red Deer, the RCMP).

## VANCOUVER, BC

HUB launched a whole initiative around bikes for business to try and encourage businesses to find ways to be more bicycle friendly, to influence them to offer bike racks, or to promote cycling within their workplaces. HUB has played a strong role in trying to allay the fears and controversies, or respond to controversies in a positive way.

The Social Policy Research Council advocated for complete streets policy through the development of a council briefing. At the time, complete streets policies had been adopted in over 500 communities within North America.

## BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS (E.G., CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATIONS)

#### **POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION<sup>2</sup>**

Funding; outreach and communications; implementation support; situation assessment input; political/community support











The Hamilton Chamber of Commerce played an important role in the policy process by providing evidence illustrating the linkage between active transportation and improvements in the economy.

# **PARTNERS**

## SCHOOLS AND POST SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

#### POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION<sup>2</sup>

Staff and student support; facilities; outreach and communications; monitoring and evaluation support









VANCOUVER, BC



In Vancouver and Hamilton, university researchers attended council meetings to provide relevant evidence to support policy change, and conducting research – asking relevant questions and gathering data that is locally-relevant.

### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

#### POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION<sup>2</sup>

Technical support; professional expertise







## **ALL CASES**

Across all cases, private consultants played a key role in supporting the policy development process. City staff received support from consultants in planning because they had very specialized expertise in particular issues related to active transportation (e.g., age-friendly cities, parking etc).

## RED DEER, AB

The Red Deer Primary Care Network took on the role of public engagement, and were key in adoption of the bike pilot.

Propel Centre for Population Health Impact. (2014). Understanding healthy public policy processes: A multiple case study of the use of road modifications to improve active transportation. Propel Centre for Population Health Impact, University of Waterloo.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Transport Canada. (2011). Active Transportation in Canada: A resource and planning guide. Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, Ministry of Transport.