



## REPORT

### Council

**Meeting Date: October 23, 2023**

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**FROM:** Transportation and Engineering Department

**DATE:** October 10, 2023

**SUBJECT:** **Urban Mobility and Transportation Study and Transportation Master Plan**

**LOCATION:** Town-wide

**WARD:** Town-wide

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#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the report titled Urban Mobility and Transportation Study and Transportation Master Plan dated October 10, 2023, be received for information.

#### **KEY FACTS:**

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- The Urban Mobility and Transportation Study (UMTS) was developed to assist all of Oakville to transition to a town that is more sustainable, livable, and prosperous by creating viable and thriving mobility alternatives in conjunction with supportive urban environments at the growth nodes and corridors as per the Council-adopted Urban Structure.
- UMTS public consultation feedback was positive and included suggestions that aligned with the overall mobility vision as laid out in UMTS.
- The UMTS and all feedback from public and stakeholders, will be inputs to the Transportation Master Plan (TMP).
- The UMTS public consultation concludes the UMTS, and officially launches the TMP to the public.
- The first round of TMP public engagement will begin November 30, 2023, with an in-person public information centre meeting, followed by a pop-up event at the central library branch, and an online interactive engagement platform.

**BACKGROUND:**

A comprehensive review of transportation planning is underway: first with UMTS, then followed by Transportation Master Plan, all of which are under the guidance of the Council Strategic Plan and Livable Oakville Plan and in coordination with other master plans.

At the [Special Planning and Development Council meeting on February 15, 2022](#), the [Urban Mobility and Transportation Study \(UMTS\)](#) was presented. This town-wide initiative helps align mobility with land use planning, and the Council-adopted town's Urban Structure. The UMTS was developed to assist all of Oakville to create viable and thriving mobility options, and to emphasize the importance of people and goods movement. The report was received, with a Council motion stating: "refer the report back to staff to conduct public consultation on this complex and significant strategy, and then report back to Council for further discussion prior to endorsing."

At the [Special Council meeting on March 8, 2023](#), a report on the master plan approach under the Provincial More Homes Built Faster Plan was received. The report describes the master plan process, with three key areas for review: 1) Fire Master Plan; 2) Parks, Recreation and Library Facilities Master Plan; and 3) Transportation Master Plan. The public consultation processes for various master plans and the town, Region, and province will be coordinated and include multiple opportunities for engagement with residents, businesses, community groups, agencies, and Council.

At the [Council meeting on July 11, 2023](#), a memo on Urban Mobility and Transportation Study and Transportation Master Plan – Public Engagement was provided. The memo introduced the June 22, 2023 public open house for the Urban Mobility and Transportation Study (UMTS) and the Transportation Master Plan (TMP).

The purpose of this report is:

- 1) to summarize the public and stakeholder feedback on UMTS to conclude work on the UMTS, and be considered as an input into TMP; and
- 2) to official launch TMP and provide an overview of the public engagement activities starting November 30.

**COMMENT/OPTIONS:**

Public and stakeholder feedback on the UMTS was positive, and with suggestions that aligned with the overall mobility vision as laid out in the UMTS.

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In response to Council's motion regarding public and stakeholder consultation, staff conducted a public open house on June 22, 2023 and an online consultation period from June 22 to August 13, 2023. The outcome of the consultation includes:

- technical advisory committee meetings, attended by approximately 50 government agencies representatives such as municipalities and school boards, non-government agencies such as Business Improvement Areas and Chamber of Commerce, and advocacy groups, such as Safe Streets Halton;
- public open house attended by 14 public members, with diverse representation such as a parent with a child, young adults, seniors, a recent retiree, and employed individuals; and
- UMTS project website with approximately 900 view counts from 600 unique visitors during the 3-month consultation period.

Altogether, approximately three dozen feedback submissions were received.

In summary, the feedback was positive in supporting the UMTS, with suggestions to further strengthening and implementing UMTS' mobility visions. These suggestions are categorized into the following topic areas:

- Safety and security
- Use of travel demand data to better understand the changing travel patterns (e.g. due to COVID/telecommuting)
- Emerging Transportation Technologies (e.g. electric vehicles, e-scooters)
- Mobility for all ages and abilities
- Vehicle movement and roadway infrastructure
- Active transportation infrastructure
- Transit services and infrastructure
- Mixed-use neighbourhoods
- Climate and emission goals

These suggestions aligned with the UMTS' people-focus approach with integration of mobility and land-use planning. A detailed summary of feedback can be found in Appendix A.

UTMS and all feedback from public and stakeholders, will be inputs to the Transportation Master Plan and other plans.

The UTMS public inputs will be considered in detail and be further developed into recommendations under the TMP and other plans and studies (e.g. master plans, planning studies, future projects). This approach ensures that the input could be comprehensively reviewed, because of the holistic approach of the master plans, e.g. integrates all modes of transportation (i.e. driving, active transportation, transit, goods movement) supported by best practices; empirical and contextual information; growth forecasts assumptions; integration with other town's master plans, budget and studies; and extensive public consultation. The UMTS public consultation concludes all the work on the UMTS.

Oakville Transportation Master Plan will be a comprehensive multimodal transportation plan up to 2051, with planned completion by end of 2024.

The Transportation Master Plan was initiated in the beginning of 2023, and is planned to be completed by the end of 2024. Past 2013 and 2018 TMPs concluded that there are limited opportunities to widen roads for car traffic due to environmental constraints and resulting in more congestion by attracting more cars. A balanced approach to improve all people movement would be the best solution. Building on this, the current Oakville TMP will be a comprehensive multimodal transportation plan up to 2051 that will:

- Recommend policies, programs, and infrastructure improvements to enhance mobility and safety for all road users, with a focus on improvements to more sustainable modes of travel, such as by foot, cycle, and transit.
- Serve as an input to the future 10-year Capital Forecast and Development Charges Background Studies.
- Include a detailed implementation plan.
- Includes an expansive public engagement plan, with multiple opportunities for public input and engagement over the two-year study period.

TMP will have an expansive public and stakeholder engagement process with the first round of public engagement starting on November 30, 2023.

Effective public engagement is critical to the successful development of the TMP. Therefore, an expanded public and stakeholder engagement process will be introduced. In addition to the traditional public information centres approach (i.e. inviting public to come to the Town Hall), the TMP public engagement will be complemented by an outreach approach (i.e. reaching out to the places of gathering). To mitigate engagement fatigue, staff will find opportunities to coordinate and combine with others and organize focused groups for streamlined and facilitated meetings.

There will be three rounds of public consultation for the TMP. The first round will present the background and existing policies, beginning on November 30, 2023 at the Town Hall South Atrium from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, followed by a pop-up event at the Oakville Public Library Central Branch. There will also be an online interactive engagement platform to provide the public opportunities to provide inputs.

The second round will be in Spring 2024 and will present the draft infrastructure and programming recommendations. The third round will be in Fall 2024 and will present the implementation plan and the final draft report. Each round of public consultation will have pop-up events. Selection of locations will be prioritized to those that has the greatest variety of activities and geography widespread across the town, to ensure a broad outreach to diverse groups of residents.

The material presented in all rounds of public consultation will be in the fashion of fact-sharing and educational, as well as seeking public feedback on draft recommendations in an interactive manner. The project website <https://oakville.ca/transportation-master-plan> will contain all information presented at the Public Information Centre in digital format. As well, there will be a questionnaire survey <https://arcg.is/05qyX5> to seek public feedback to guide the development of the Transportation Master Plan. It is anticipated that the TMP final draft report will be presented to Council by the end of 2024. The TMP draft report will be made available at the project website for a 60-day of public consultation period. All final public feedback will be consolidated and report back to Council at the beginning of 2025.

In conclusion, a comprehensive review of transportation planning has been underway, with extensive technical reviews, diligent coordination with other master plans, and expansive public consultation. The outcome of these efforts will ensure a holistic, public-friendly and implementable plan, with output and outcome that are impactful and measurable on their effectiveness and alignment with the Council Strategic Plan and Livable Oakville Plan.

## **CONSIDERATIONS:**

### **(A) PUBLIC**

The public will be engaged expansively and interactively from now to end of 2024 during the TMP development. Draft reports developed throughout the TMP process will be shared with the public for review and input. Material related to fact- and educational-base will be informed in an easy-to-understand manner; material related to recommendations will be packaged in an interactive and digestible manner. Prior to all public meetings or pop-up events, expansive advertisement methods will be explored to disseminate the event details.

### **(B) FINANCIAL**

Implementation of the recommendations from the TMP, such as delivery of municipal programs, services and infrastructure, will be assessed with financial implications in the final TMP report. These assessments will be considered in the future capital and operating budgets for approval through the regular annual budget approval processes, as well as through the Development Charge By-law process.

### **(C) IMPACT ON OTHER DEPARTMENTS & USERS**

Master planning involves interdepartmental coordination. The implementation of the UMTS and TMP will impact, and be impacted by, most town departments, such as Transportation and Engineering, Asset Management,

Roads and Works Operations, Oakville Transit, Planning Services, Parks and Open Space, etc.

**(D) CORPORATE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

This report addresses the four Strategic Priorities from the [Oakville Council Strategic Plan and 2023-2023 Action Plan](#): 1) Growth Management; 2) Community Belonging; 3) Environmental Sustainability; and 4) Accountable Government. Each of these priorities contains subject areas that are directly and indirectly related to transportation, such as complete and connected communities; infrastructure; greenspace parks and trails; and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

**(E) CLIMATE CHANGE/ACTION**

Transportation is one of the biggest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions. The actions to reduce climate change impacts are to reducing mobility dependency of automobile driving, and integrating transportation and land use. The outcome of these actions would create a safer, more convenient, harmonic, welcoming and complete communities that residents and visitors would find mobility choices of walking, cycling, taking transit a preferable choice all year round.

**APPENDICES:**

Appendix A – Summary of public consultation and feedback

Prepared by:  
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Recommended by:  
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Submitted by:  
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