



Town of The Blue Mountains Transportation Master Plan

Public Information Centre 2

Summary Report

Report Date

Prepared for:



Sign-off Sheet

This document entitled Town of The Blue Mountains TMP: Public Information Centre 2 Summary Report was prepared by Stantec Consulting Ltd. ("Stantec") for the account of The Town of The Blue Mountains (TBM) (the "Client"). Any reliance on this document by any third party is strictly prohibited. The material in it reflects Stantec's professional judgment in light of the scope, schedule and other limitations stated in the document and in the contract between Stantec and the Client. The opinions in the document are based on conditions and information existing at the time the document was published and do not take into account any subsequent changes. In preparing the document, Stantec did not verify information supplied to it by others. Any use which a third party makes of this document is the responsibility of such third party. Such third party agrees that Stantec shall not be responsible for costs or damages of any kind, if any, suffered by it or any other third party as a result of decisions made or actions taken based on this document.

Stantec Consulting Ltd.

Prepared by 

(signature)

Nevena Gazibara, B.Sc., MREM, ENV SP.

Stantec Consulting Ltd.

Reviewed by 

(signature)

Joe Olson, P.T.O.E.

Transportation Master Plan Public Information Centre 2 – Summary

May 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
2	PURPOSE OF ONLINE PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE 2	2
3	NOTIFICATION	2
4	LOCATION, DATE AND TIME	3
5	REFERENCE MATERIALS	3
6	FORMAT	4
7	PARTICIPATION	5
8	PIC 2 COMMENTS	5
9	PIC 2 THEMES	6
10	NEXT STEPS	7

Transportation Master Plan Public Information Centre 2 – Summary

May 2022

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Study Area	1
Figure 2: Number of Unique Visits to Online PIC 2 Website	5

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Online PIC 2 Notification Methods	2
--	---

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A: Online Public Information Centre 2 Notice	
Appendix B: Online Public Information Centre 2 Presentation	
Appendix C: Online Public Information Centre 2 Comments	

Transportation Master Plan Public Information Centre 2 – Summary

May 2022

1 INTRODUCTION

The Town of The Blue Mountains (Town) is undertaking the development of a comprehensive Transportation Master Plan (TMP). The TMP will be an important resource for the Town as it continues to adapt to changing needs, growth and development, and new opportunities. The TMP will shape how we travel, help us further understand and define our regional connections, and support the movement of goods and services throughout the region. As part of the TMP study process, a vision will be established, actions and policies will be defined, and a financial strategy will be developed to address the short, medium, and long-term transportation needs of the community. A comprehensive engagement process is being undertaken as part of the TMP process.

The study area for the TMP includes the entire Town of The Blue Mountains, within Grey County, as shown in **Figure 1**.



Figure 1: Study Area



Transportation Master Plan

Public Information Centre 2 – Summary

May 2022

The second of three planned Public Information Centres (PICs) was held as part of the TMP for the Town of The Blue Mountains. The Notice of Online Public Information Centre (PIC) 2 for this study was issued via email to agencies, interested persons and groups, and First Nations on April 12, 2022. The purpose of the notice was to announce the period of time Online Public Information Centre 2 would be available for public review and comment, and to inform readers about the purpose and format of the PIC, as well as the two in-person PIC 2 events planned in the Town. A copy of the Notice of Online PIC 2 and the notification email is included within **Appendix A**.

2 PURPOSE OF ONLINE PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE 2

The purpose of the second online Public Information Centre (PIC) was to present and gather feedback on proposed travel mode targets (i.e., via transit, active transportation, and cars), identified deficiencies in the transportation network, proposed improvements to the transportation network, preliminary policy recommendations, and next steps in the TMP process.

3 NOTIFICATION

The Notice of Online PIC 2 was distributed to the public, agencies, utilities, stakeholders and First Nations through the three methods outlined in the Table 1 below:

Table 1: Online PIC 2 Notification Methods

Method of Distribution	Date of Distribution
Emailed electronic copy to study mailing list	April 13, 2022
Emailed electronic copy to TMP subscribers	April 13, 2022
Project Website and Town Website Notice	April 12, 2022
Posted in the local newspapers (Blue Mountains Review & Collingwood Connection)	April 14, 2022 and April 21, 2022
Reminder email to study mailing list	April 27, 2022
Reminder email to TMP subscribers	April 27, 2022

Study team member contact information was also provided within the notification, and on the study webpage.



Transportation Master Plan

Public Information Centre 2 – Summary

May 2022

A copy of the Notice of Online PIC 2 and the notification email is included within **Appendix A**.

4 LOCATION, DATE AND TIME

As mentioned, the second PIC was held online and at two in-person sessions. The online PIC consisted of a recorded presentation that was hosted on the study website (<https://www.thebluemountains.ca/planning-building-construction/current-projects/strategic-projects-initiatives/transportation>), from April 18 to May 7, 2022. The two in-person PIC sessions were held on May 5th from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM and May 7th from 9:00 AM to 11: 00 AM at the Town of The Blue Mountains Town Hall at 32 Mill Street in Thornbury.

5 REFERENCE MATERIALS

The following displays were presented as part of the online PIC presentation:

- Welcome
- TMP Revised Objectives & Study Area
- Master Planning Process
- Consultation Process
- What We've Heard: Growth and Demand
- What We've Heard: Transit
- What We've Heard: Active Transportation and Complete Streets
- What We've Heard: Intersection Improvements and Goods Movement
- What We've Heard: Speed Management
- What We've Heard: Parking
- TMP Revised Vision Statement
- Regional Context – South Georgian Bay
- Existing Road Classifications
- Existing & Target Mode Shares (All Trips)
- Existing & Target Mode Shares (Urban Trips)
- Traffic Growth to 2032
- Travel Demand Model (Existing, 2032, 2042)



Transportation Master Plan Public Information Centre 2 – Summary

May 2022

- Existing Transit Services
- Draft Transit Long-Term Objectives
- Draft Transit Recommendations
- Existing Active Transportation Network
- Proposed Active Transportation Network
- Complete Streets Principles
- Road Design Examples
- Road Classification Guidelines
- Proposed Speed Limit Changes
- Traffic Calming Policy
- Off-Road Vehicle Permitted Use
- Parking Strategy
- Goods Movement Strategy
- Evaluation of Alternatives
- Next Steps

A copy of the Online PIC 2 presentation is included within **Appendix B**.

6 FORMAT

The PIC was hosted online via the study website (<https://www.thebluemountains.ca/planning-building-construction/current-projects/strategic-projects-initiatives/transportation>). A recorded presentation, including the transcript and displays, were available for review, and members of the public were encouraged to complete the online comment forms, and to contact the project team to ask questions and/or share any ideas with respect to the study. Comment form links were imbedded in the Online PIC 2 presentation where interested persons could submit their input and feedback on particular topics in the Online PIC content or general comments as well. Comment forms were provided as embedded links via Microsoft Office Forms in the online PIC presentation. Online PIC 2 participants were encouraged to submit their comments online, either within the online comment forms, or by email and/or telephone by May 7th, 2022. Interested persons were also encouraged to contact the study team directly, should they have any additional comments, concerns and/or wished to be added to the study mailing list.



Transportation Master Plan Public Information Centre 2 – Summary

May 2022

The two in-person PIC sessions were held on May 5th from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM and May 7th from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the Town of The Blue Mountains Town Hall at 32 Mill Street in Thornbury. Attendees were able to speak directly to members of the project team and look at printed PIC 2 display boards in the room.

7 PARTICIPATION

Statistics were gathered during the online PIC period (i.e., from April 18 to May 7th, 2022) to determine the number of viewers of the online presentation. A total of 278 unique visits to the project website were made during the PIC time period. The most number of unique visits to the website in a day was 57 visits on April 27, 2022. **Figure 2** shows the unique visits by date.

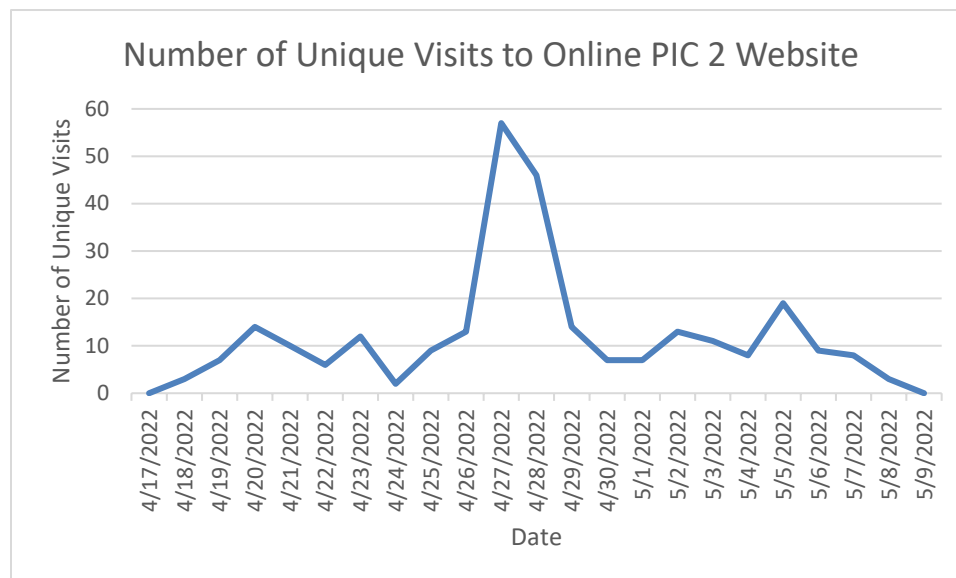


Figure 2: Number of Unique Visits to Online PIC 2 Website

During the two in-person PIC events, a total of 16 people attended the events.

-

8 PIC 2 COMMENTS

During the Online PIC 2 period, participants submitted comments via the online survey questions embedded within the recorded PIC presentation and/or via the email address provided on the Town's engagement website. In total, six people submitted comments via the embedded comments links provided within the PIC presentation. A summary table of all comments submitted, and a complete comments package is provided in



Transportation Master Plan Public Information Centre 2 – Summary

May 2022

Appendix C. A total of four email comments were submitted during the Online PIC period and a total of 62 survey responses were submitted for the combined targeted survey question links. No comments were submitted during the two in-person PIC events.

During the two in-person PIC events, the following topics and comments were discussed during conversations between attendees and the project team:

Cycling

- Cycling proponents agreed that having a AAA facility connecting north-south and the Thornbury and Clarksburg would be helpful. Otherwise, paved shoulders were a good base, in particular at Grey Road 2.
- Strong opposition to rumble strips, but understand that a level of protection is required, without a clear answer as to what that is, since snow complicates the use of sticks.
- May be some ascents that should have 'climbing lanes'
- Cycling behavior issues (e.g., side by side riding, not giving way)

Agriculture

- Movement of both livestock/ agricultural equipment and supplies is significant in a few areas. They benefit from paved shoulders

Speed Limits

- People are most concerned about the impact to their travel time where they oppose speed reductions
- Highway 26 (in particular) has had many speed limit changes, it should be a consistent speed limit (60kph)

Highway 26 Bypass - Thornbury/Clarksburg

- Proponents are in favour of the saving in travel time, easing the bridge pressure point
- Opponents concerned both about cost, and taking away people from the Town's business areas

Transit

- Transit has a huge opportunity to tie in with resort TDM programs (e.g., bus pass includes ski lift tickets)

Higher level of service between hotels, towns and resorts

9 PIC 2 THEMES

Based on the comments submitted via email, the online survey responses and discussions at the in-person PIC 2 events, the following themes were identified:

- Increase road capacity not AT infrastructure
- Excessive speeding on Highway 26 and unsafe passing



Transportation Master Plan Public Information Centre 2 – Summary

May 2022

- Highway 26 and 10th Line intersection is not safe for pedestrians and cyclists due to excessive speeding and traffic.
- Support for Alternative 3 from the Evaluation of Alternatives
- Highway 26 should be re-routed and should bypass Town of Blue Mountains
- Support for improvements to AT network
- Road quality where AT is being proposed must be improved
- Support for roundabouts
- TMP must consider future modes of transportation like e-bikes
- Support for a traffic calming policy
- Support for speed limit reductions (improved safety for pedestrians, cyclists and agricultural equipment)
- Opposed to speed limit reductions (reduced speeds will lead to more accidents because of aggressive driving, increase travel time, local urban speed of 30 km/h is too low)
- Transit recommendations/improvements are too costly and money should be spent on fixing existing infrastructure
- Not in favour of paid parking near and in the Blue Mountain Village and resort area- will result in bigger parking issues on local streets
- Thornbury has parking capacity and parking signage issues
- Improve parking signage and improve trailhead parking
- Agricultural communities should be considered as part of TMP and agricultural equipment on roads need to be accommodated
- Paved shoulders on roads for cyclists
- Consider time of day/night restrictions for ORV use on roads

10 INCORPORATING PIC 2 FEEDBACK INTO THE TMP

As part of the TMP process, all the comments and feedback received during PIC 2 will help the project team refine the proposed policy recommendations and infrastructure improvements presented at PIC 2. Updates will be made to each of the focus areas of the TMP including parking strategy policy recommendations, traffic calming policy recommendations, transit recommendations, Off-Road-Vehicle policy recommendations, speed limit changes, and safety and active transportation infrastructure improvements. The details of these revisions and updates will be



Transportation Master Plan Public Information Centre 2 – Summary

May 2022

documented in the TMP Report. There will be opportunities for additional input from the public and stakeholders once the draft TMP report is made available for comment as part of PIC 3.

11 NEXT STEPS

All comments received to date since commencement of the study have been reviewed and considered by members of the study team and will continue to be considered as the TMP progresses. As a next step, PIC 3 will be held to present and gather feedback on the draft TMP report anticipated to take place in August 2022. The format of PIC 3 is yet to be determined, but may have both online and in-person opportunities for participation.



**Transportation Master Plan
Public Information Centre 2 – Summary**

May 2022

Appendix A: Online Public Information Centre 2 Notice

Appendix B: Online Public Information Centre 2 Presentation

Appendix C: Online Public Information Centre 2 Comments

