

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE -

MARCH 17, 2025

COMMUNICATIONS

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<u>Item</u>

C1. Presentation material.

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Presentation Outline

Study Context and Overview

Project Consultation – Feedback Received

Assessing Transportation Solutions

Preferred VMC Multi-Modal Networks

Proposed Cross-Sections

Supportive Transportation Policy Elements

Next Steps

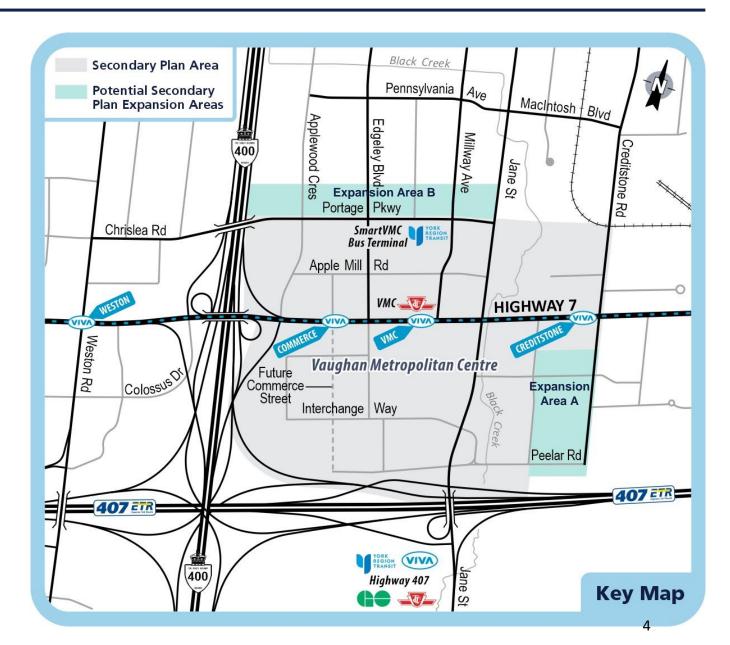




Study Context and Overview

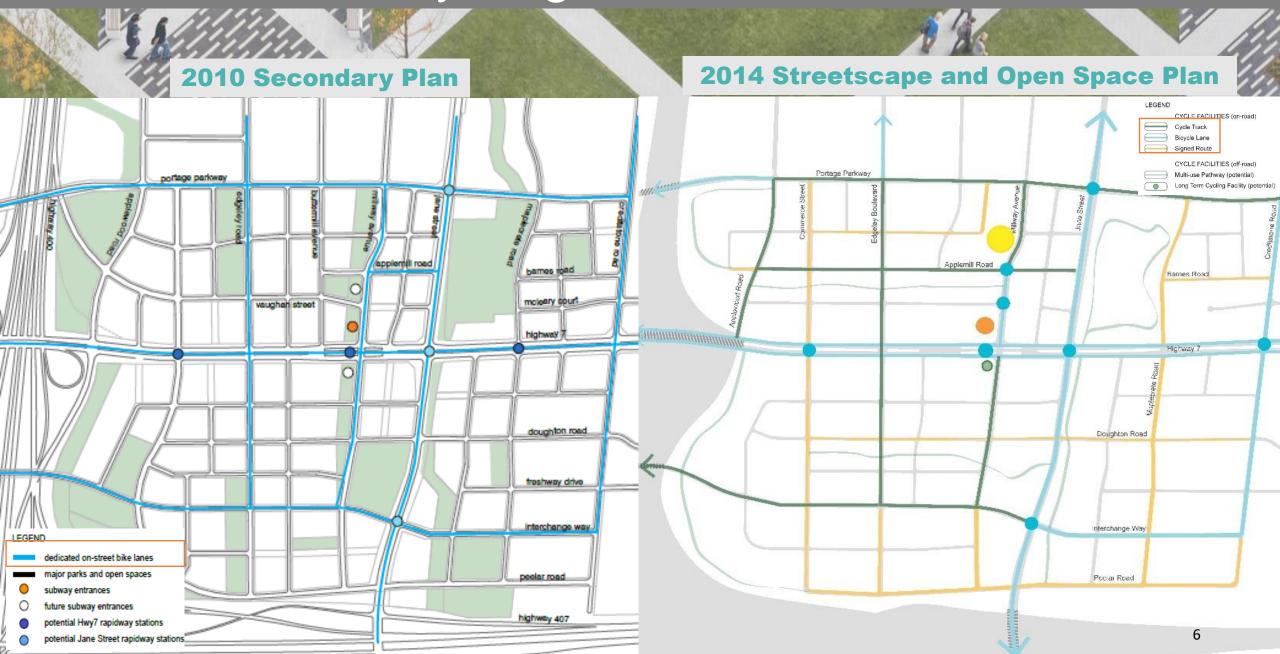
Why Update the VMC TMP?

- Current VMC Transportation Master Plan (TMP) is over 10 years old.
- The TMP update will confirm transportation needs, supportive policies and a phasing strategy to 2051.
- The TMP update is being carried out concurrently with the update of the VMC Secondary Plan.

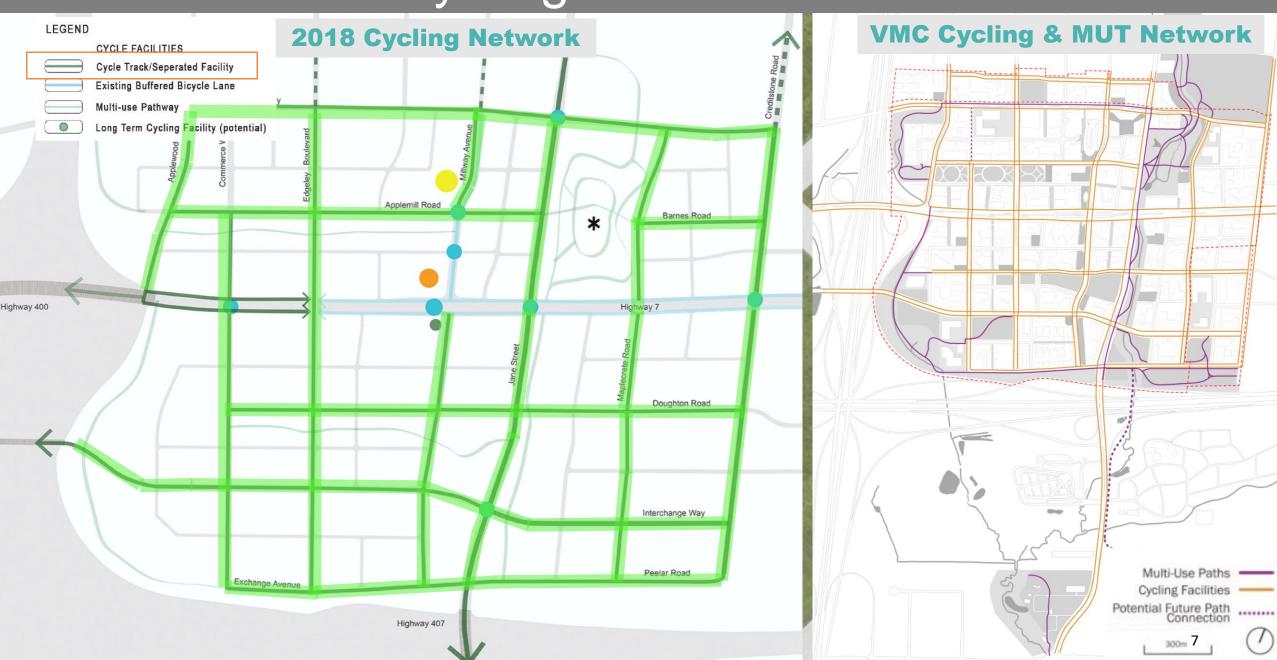




VMC Cycling Network Evolution



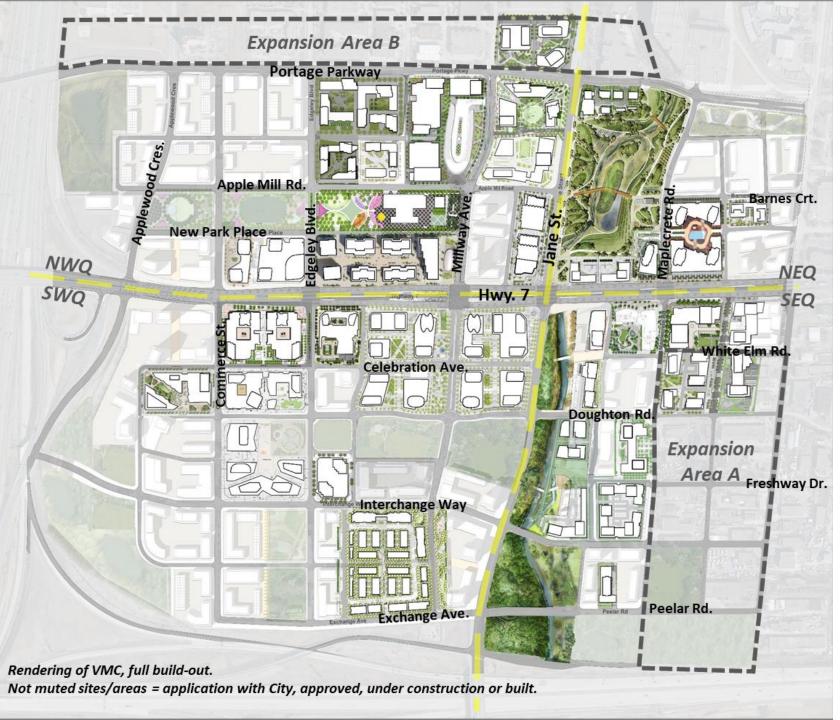
VMC Cycling Network Evolution



Existing VMC Secondary Plan



- The VMC Secondary Plan began in **November 2008**
- Official Plan 2010 including the VMC SP first was adopted by Council in **September 2010**
- The Plan established the context, planning framework and the policies that guided development of the VMC over the past 15 years 8



Development Activity

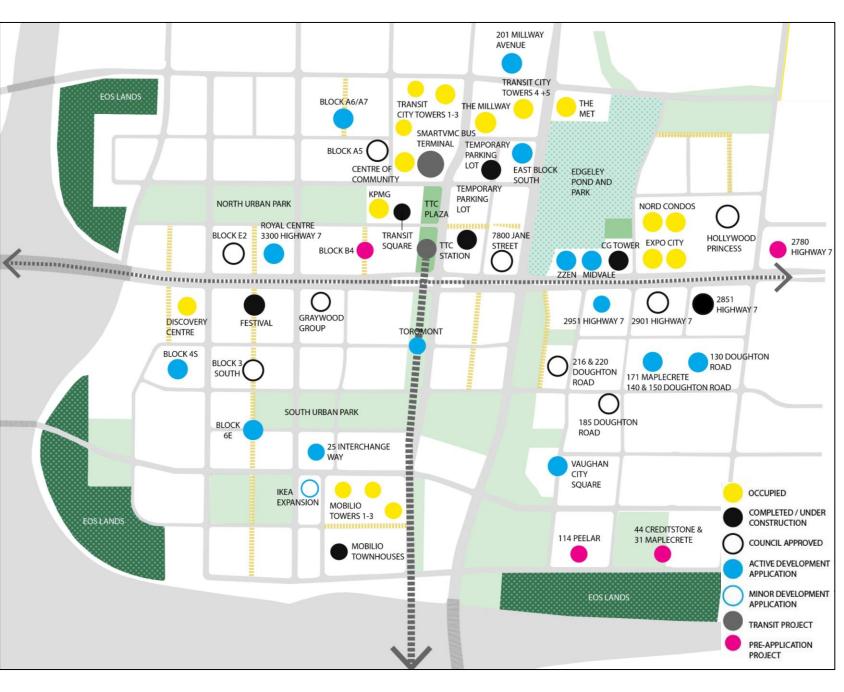
VMC – Four (4) Quadrants:

Northwest (NWQ) Southwest (SWQ) Northeast (NEQ) Southeast (SEQ)

Updated Secondary Plan Area:

Expansion Area A Expansion Area B





Development Activity

VMC – Four (4) Quadrants:

Northwest (NWQ) Northeast (NEQ)
Southwest (SWQ) Southeast (SEQ)

Updated Secondary Plan Area:

Expansion Area A Expansion Area B

Ongoing Developments:

326% Residential Units 310% Population 111% Office 92% Retail

*2023 numbers compared to the originally projected full build-out populations in the VMC Secondary Plan.



VMC Conceptual Vision



TMP Study Timeline

May/June 2025

February – March 2025

PIC #3: January 2025

We are here!



Part 5

Final TMP and Council Presentation

PIC #1: February 2023

PIC #2: December 2023

Part 4

Develop a TMP implementation plan and policy framework, draft the TMP report

July 2020 – February 2023

Droop

Present alternative network options and preferred network, along with supporting programs and strategies

Part 2

Engage and gather input from residents and stakeholders on existing conditions, previously proposed transportation improvements in the 2012 TMP, and ideas to update the 2012 recommendations

Part 1

Understand current travel patterns in the VMC Study Area and existing challenges and opportunities

Part 3



Project Consultation - Feedback Received

Stakeholder Groups and Public Consultation

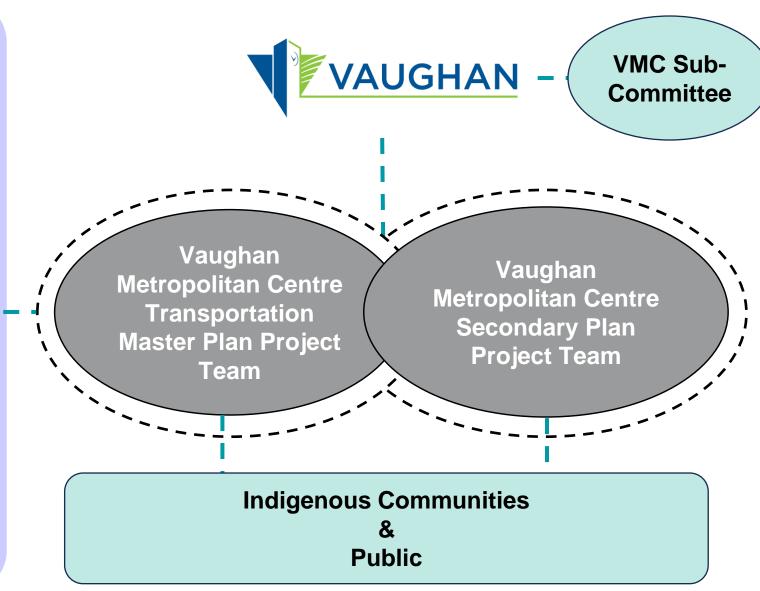
Stakeholder Groups

Technical Agency Committee

- Federal, Provincial, and Regional Agencies
- City of Vaughan Internal Stakeholders
- Ministry of Transportation
- Metrolinx
- 407 ETR
- York Region
- York Region Transit
- York Region Rapid Transit Corporation
- TRCA
- Utilities

Landowner Group

Property Owners and Developers within the Secondary Plan Area



What We Have Heard - Active Transportation

Category	Suggestions
Mixed-Use Trails	 Promote wide trails for both pedestrians and cyclists in areas with lower pedestrian traffic.
Bike Lanes and Cycle Tracks	 Replace bike lanes with cycle tracks along arterial and collector roads. Install better-protected bike lanes or cycle tracks with physical barriers to prevent cars from encroaching. Add flexible posts or cordons to existing cycle lanes. Develop a citywide network of bike lanes to encourage use as the population grows. Prohibit stopping on Highway 7 for subway drop-offs to maintain bike lane accessibility.
Sidewalks/ Access	 Widen sidewalks beyond current neighbourhood standards. Install a central sidewalk on Highway 7 for better pedestrian access, reducing waits at Applewood traffic lights. Enhance pedestrian access to transit stops with shelters and wayfinding.
Underground Connection	 Create an underground link from the YMCA Community Centre to TTC subway and YRT bus terminal.
Safety on Hwy 7/ Jane	 Improve cyclist and pedestrian safety at the Hwy 7/ Jane junction, especially during low visibility periods in the evening.
Parking	 Address cars parking over bike lanes with physical barriers Ensure proper winter maintenance.



PIC #1 - What We Have Heard - Transit



Category	Suggestions
Shuttle Service	Introduce a shuttle service for convenient mobility between local developments and transportation hubs.
Transfer Stops	 Establish a transfer stop connecting the Viva BRT on Highway 7 to the Barrie GO Train line, enhancing access to the VMC for GO line commuters.
Bus Stops	 Relocate YRT bus stops from Highway 7 to the middle bus lane, since traffic congestion is caused when YRT bus stops in live traffic lanes. Improve transit connectivity with new stops on Edgeley Boulevard and Interchange Way for development sites.
Drop-off Zones	 Implement a drop-off zone at the Vaughan Metropolitan subway station, similar to existing zones at Finch and Sheppard West subway stations. Address challenges from Walmart's inconvenient relocation and limited transit access. Consider potential retail developments like a grocery store, superstore, and Shoppers Drug Mart in the area.
Coordination	 Improve coordination within the VMC and with neighboring municipalities (including Toronto).

PIC #1 - What We Have Heard - Roads



Category	Suggestions
Traffic / Road Enhancements	 Widen Edgeley Boulevard, adding a centre left-turn lane from Highway 7 to Portage Parkway to alleviate congestion. Explore traffic solutions such as extending Portage Parkway and widening Apple Mill Road.



Assessing Transportation Solutions

Problem & Opportunity Statement

The vision of the VMC TMP is to accommodate transportation needs, supportive policies and a phasing strategy to 2051 with a focus on street connectivity, accessibility and support for multi-modal mobility, and integration of parking management with TDM (for example, walking, cycling, transit, ride share). The TMP will enhance the sustainable and multi-modal transportation system for the City with a network that supports all users and all modes of transportation. The City's transportation system will be accessible and promote connectivity, leveraging existing rapid transit infrastructure and service within and to and from the broader area.

The vision for VMC's transportation future integrates FOUR key principles:



Promoting Sustainability



Enhancing Accessibility



Improving **Connectivity** for All Modes of Transportation



Supporting Mobility for All Modes of Transportation

Regional Network Scenarios and Results

- Regional network modeling examined the capacity of regional roadways and arterials to accommodate a range of development levels
- ALL Scenarios assumed a 2041 horizon year for background traffic and a combined population and employment of 26,000 in the adjacent Weston 7 Secondary Plan Area, in line with W7 TMP recommendations

Local Network Solution Scenario	Combined VMC Population and Employment	Transportation Assumptions	Result
Scenario A	42,000	Existing Regional Network	
Scenario B	42,000	Future Base Network	
Scenario C	105,000	Existing Regional Network	
Scenario D (Threshold)	105,000	Future Base Network	
Scenario E	156,000	Future Base Network	0
Scenario F	156,000	Second Stage Network	

Recommended Future Base Network Improvements

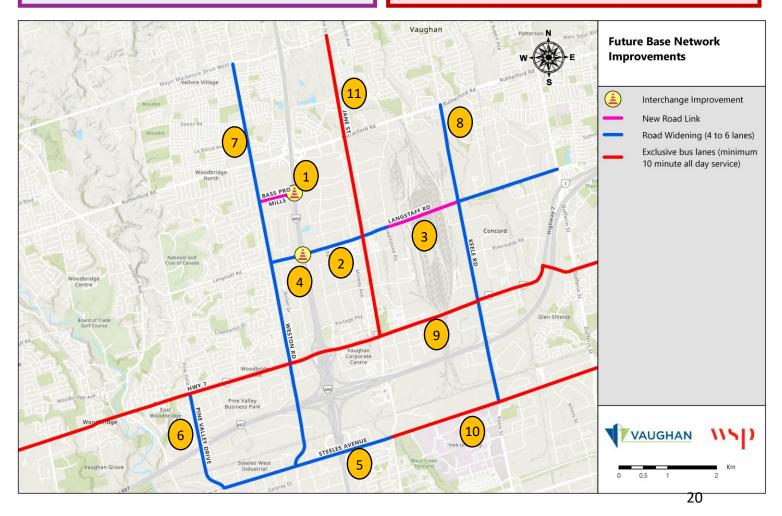
Broad network improvements are REQUIRED to accommodate background traffic growth and must be in place by 2041 to accommodate any degree of further development at VMC

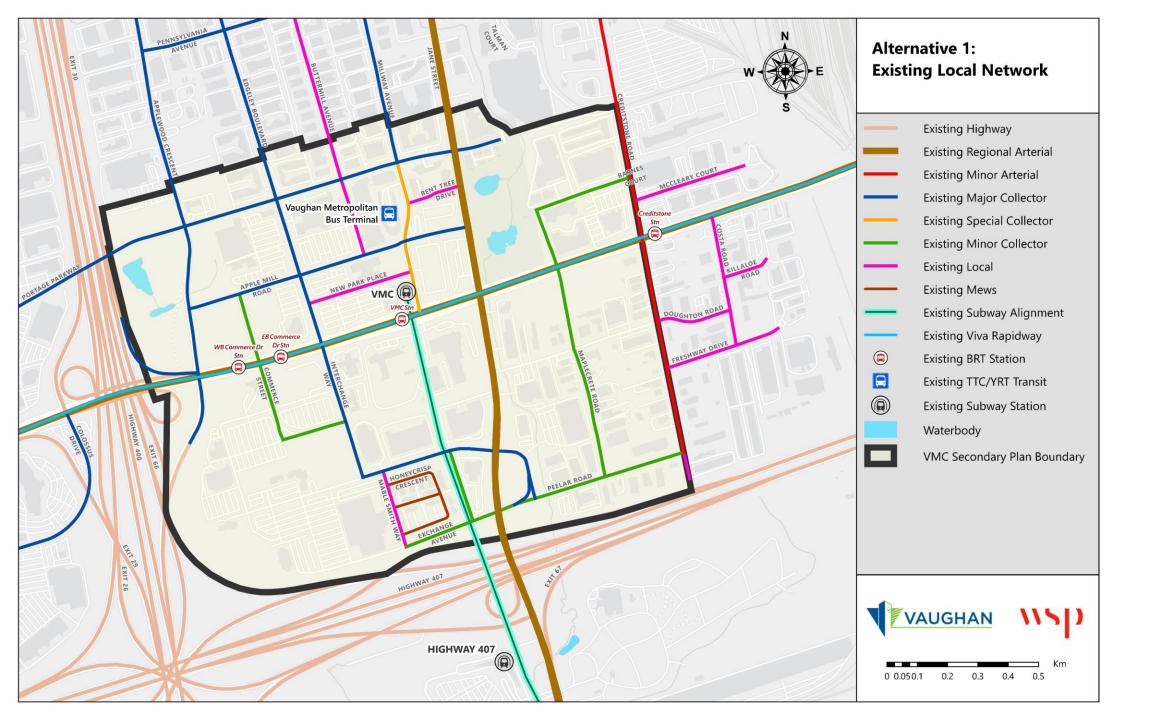
Future Base Network Improvements Include:

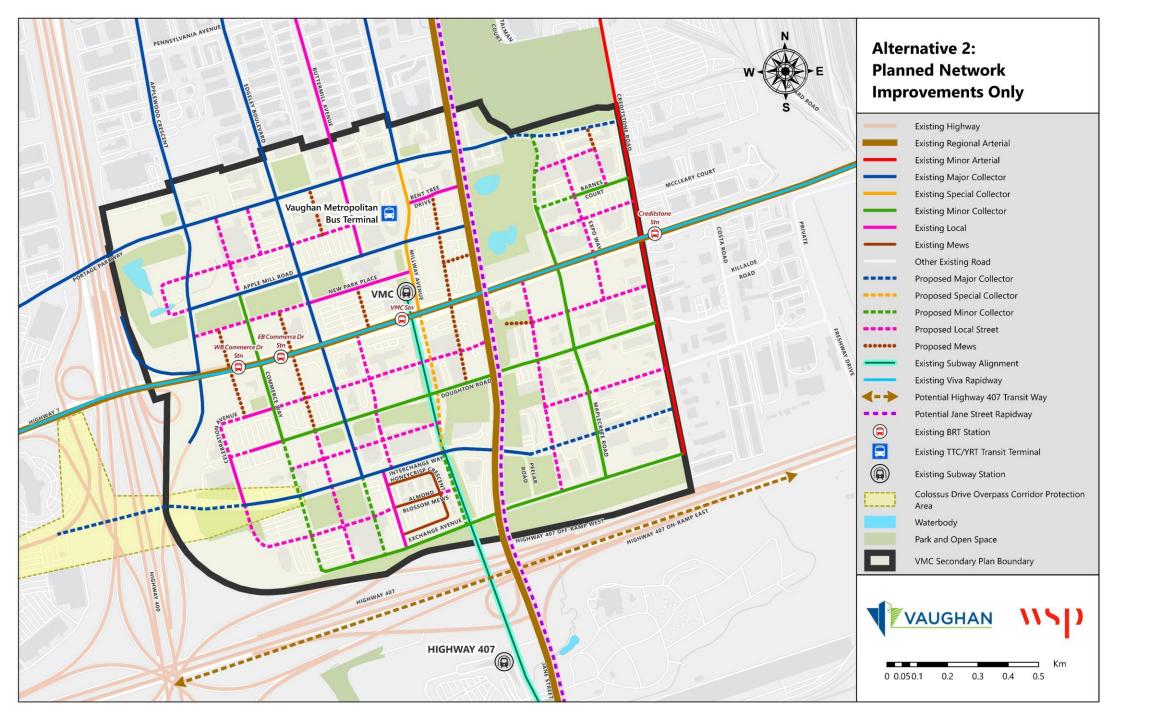
- 1. Bass Pro Mills extension: Highway 400 to Weston Road
- 2. Langstaff Road widening: Weston Road to Creditstone Road (4 to 6 lanes)
- 3. Langstaff Road connection over CN Yard
- 4. Langstaff Road full interchange at Highway 400
- 5. Steeles Avenue widening west of Jane Street (4 to 6 lanes)
- 6. Pine Valley Drive widening: Highway 7 to Steeles Avenue (4 to 6 lanes)
- 7. Weston Road widening: north of Steeles Avenue (4 to 6 lanes)
- 8. Keele Street widening: north of Steeles Avenue (4 to 6 lanes)
- 9. Highway 7 rapid transit corridor (Viva, 10-minute headway)
- 10. Steeles Avenue Transit Corridor: 4 mixed traffic lanes + transitway east of Jane Street
- Jane Street Transit Corridor: 4 mixed traffic lanes + transitway, Highway 7 to Major Mackenzie Drive (10minute headways)

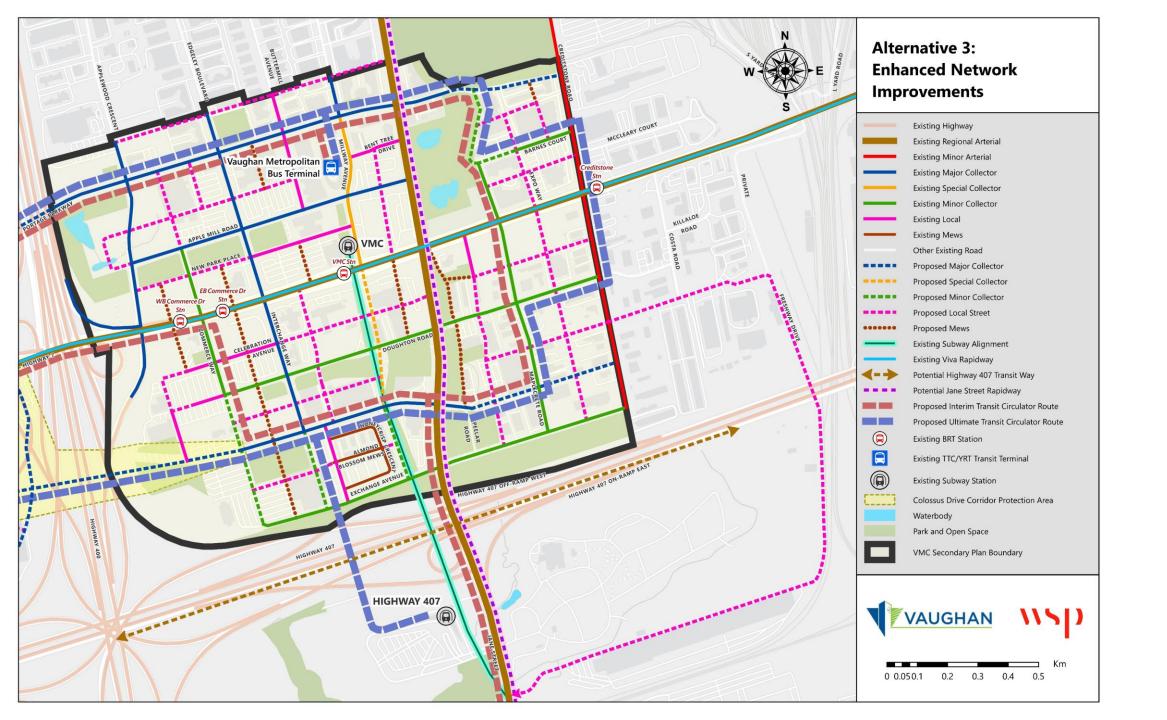
A 105,000 population and jobs maximum threshold is identified through regional network modeling

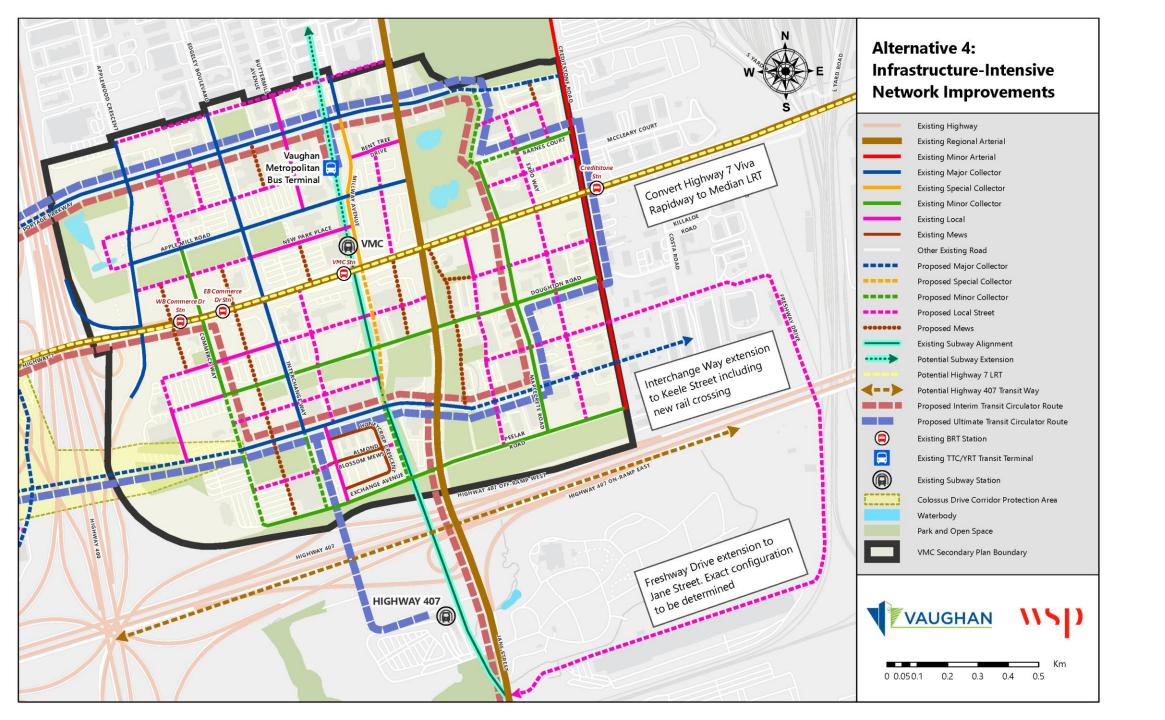
A 156,000 population and jobs were evaluated and cannot be accommodated based on the tested improvements











Approach: Multiple Account Evaluation

	Criteria	Motivation
	Multi-Modal Network Elements	Describes the supply and coverage of pedestrian, cycling, and transit elements
		Assessed quantitatively relative to baseline conditions
	Travel Demand and Traffic Impacts	 Responds to the need for a multimodal transportation network in the VMC study area and identifies how the alternatives impact both transit and auto demand
111		 Assessed quantitatively relative to baseline conditions
	Planning and Policy Context	 Scenario alignment with Provincial, Regional, and City directions for integrated sustainable transportation, as outlined in their respective guiding policy documents
		 Assessed qualitatively relative to baseline conditions
	Safety for Pedestrians and Cyclists	 Highlights safety implications of network modifications for cyclists and pedestrians Assessed quantitatively relative to baseline conditions
	Natural Environmental	 Assesses emissions and impacts to the natural environment generated by each alternative
		 Assessed quantitatively and qualitatively relative to baseline conditions
	Equity Considerations	 Highlights impacts for defined user-groups to capture advantages and disadvantages across a broad range of people
		Assessed qualitatively relative to baseline conditions

Methodology: Multiple Account Evaluation

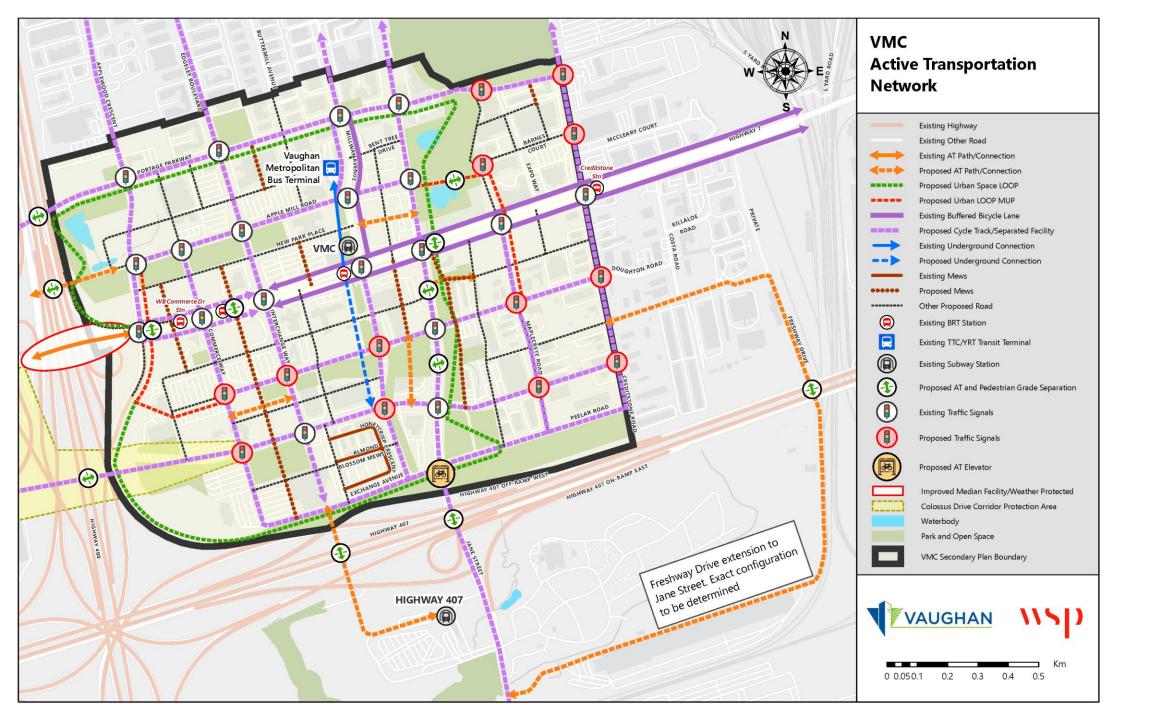
(Preferred)

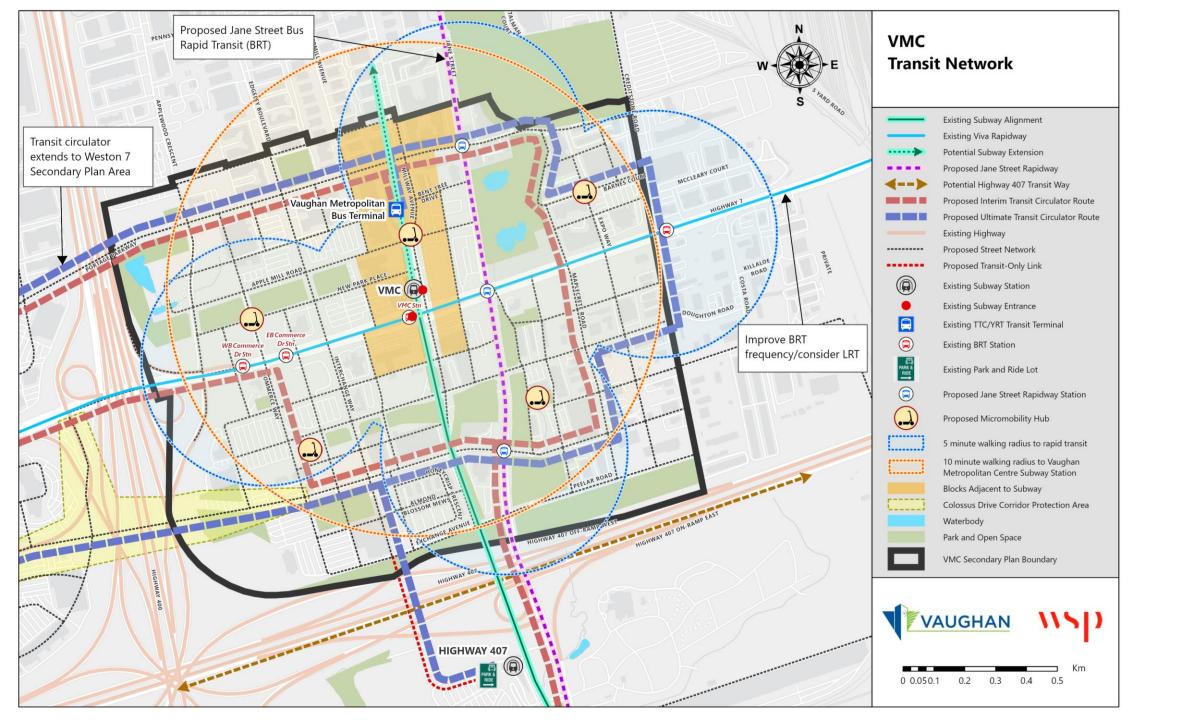
Criteria	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
Multi-Modal Network Elements				
Travel Demand and Traffic Impacts				
 Planning and Policy Context				
Safety for Pedestrians and Cyclists				
Natural Environmental			•	0
Equity Considerations				

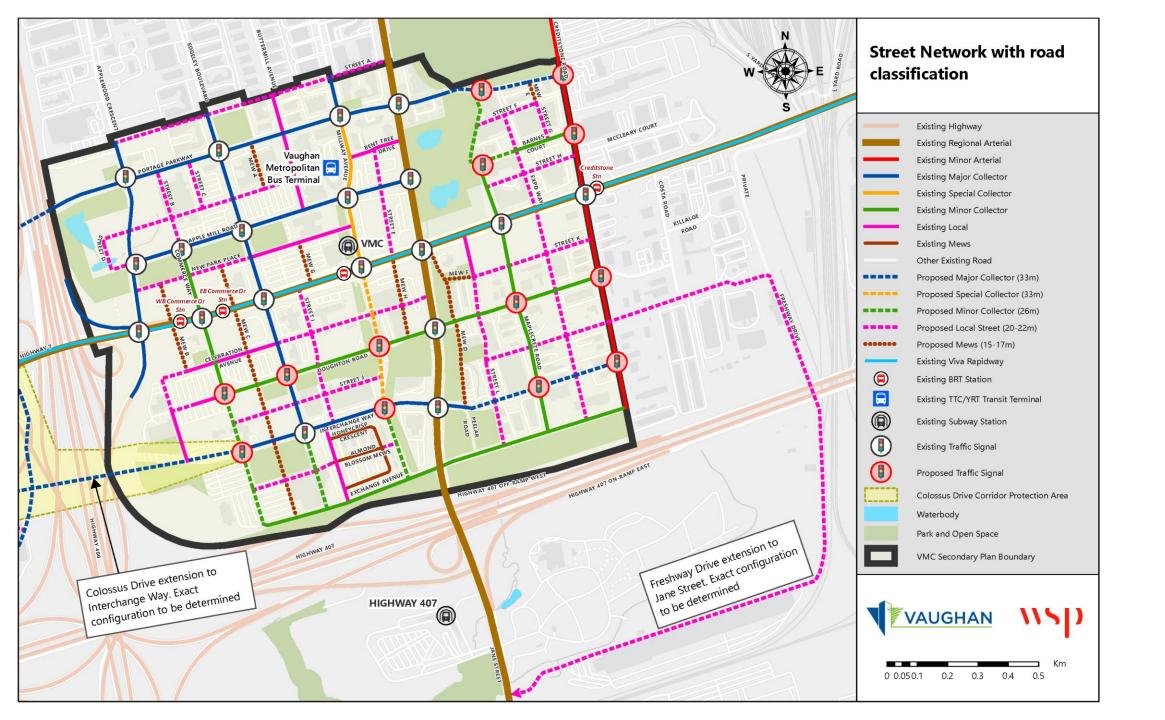




Preferred VMC Multi-Modal Networks



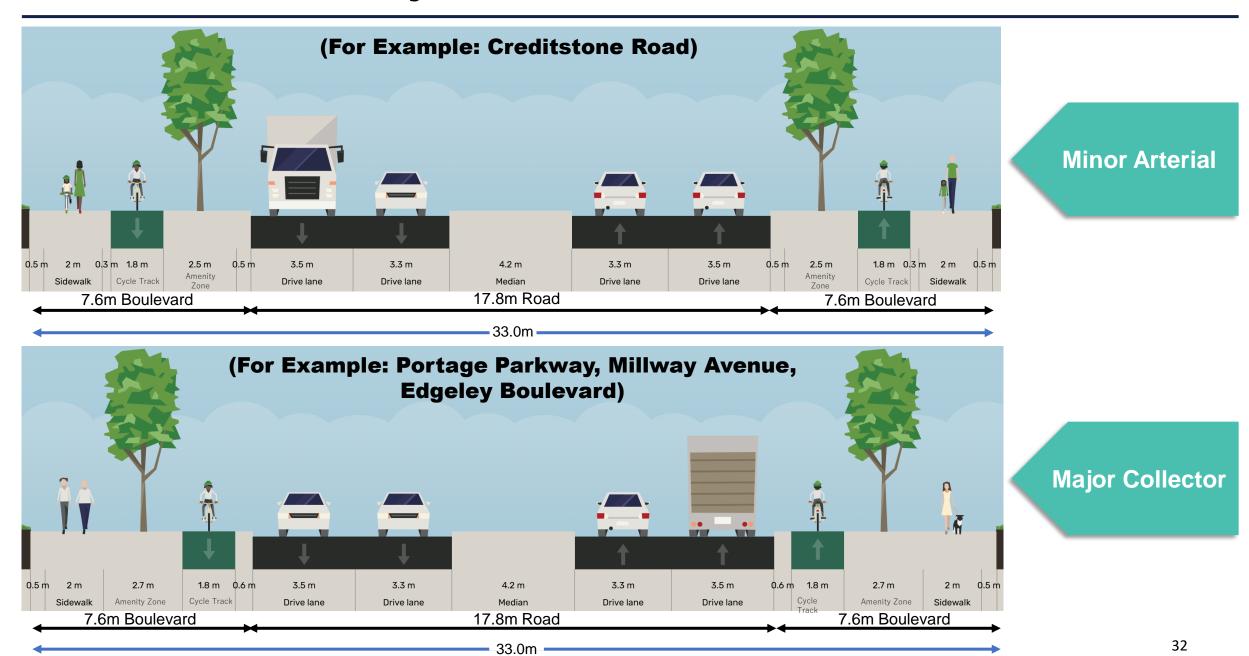






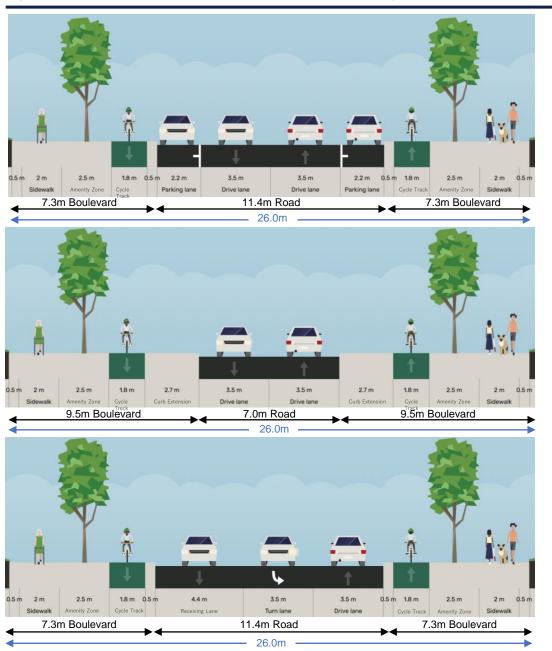
Proposed Cross-Sections

Minor Arterial and Major Collector



Minor Collector - Parking on Both Sides

(For Example: Maplecrete Road, Doughton Road, Peelar Road)



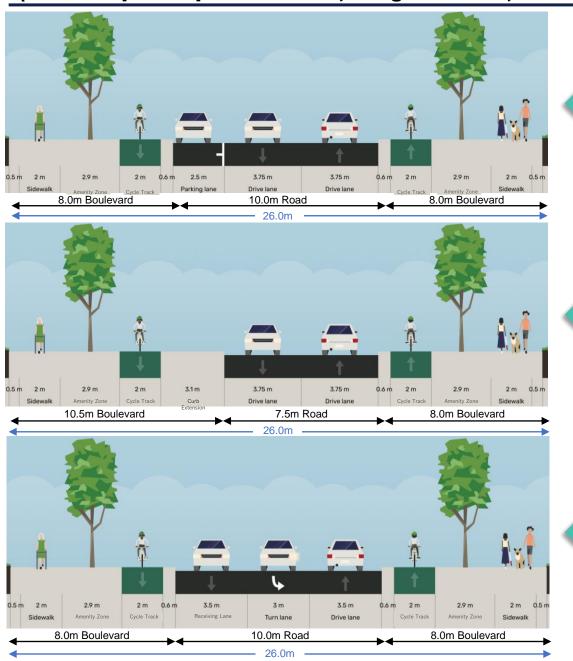
Midblock

Midblock Pedestrian Crossing

Intersection

Minor Collector - Parking on One Side

(For Example: Maplecrete Road, Doughton Road, Peelar Road)

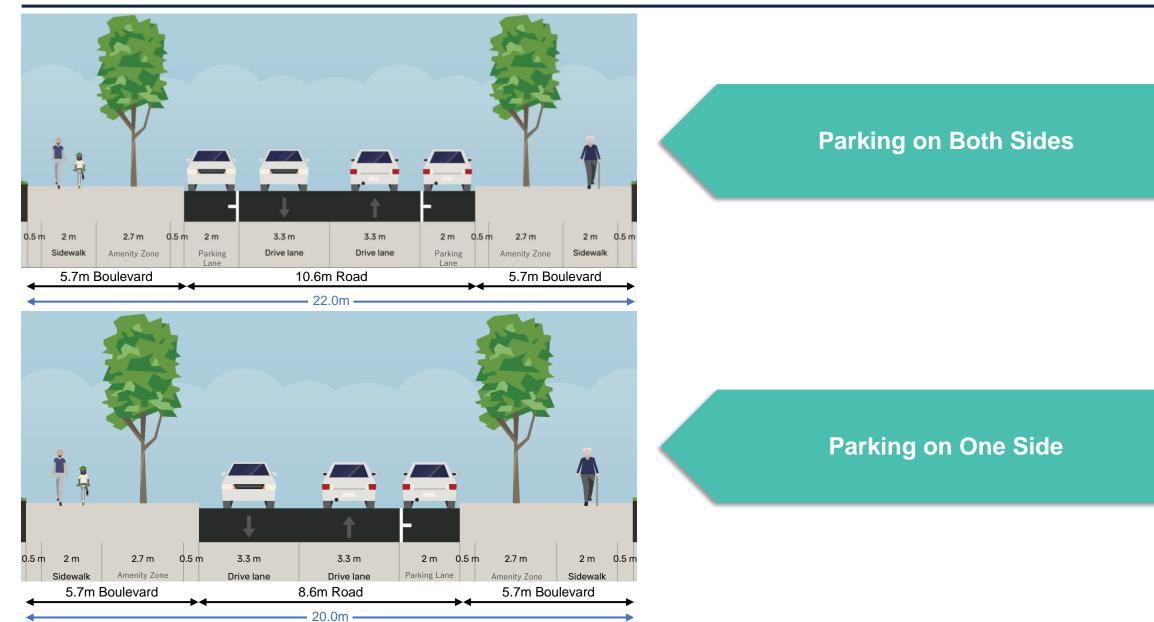


Midblock

Midblock Pedestrian Crossing

Intersection

Local (For Example: New Park Place, Mable Smith Way, White Elm Street)



Vehicular and Non-Vehicular Mews

Mews Street with Laneway





Mews Street without Laneway



min 15.0m



Supportive Transportation Policy Elements

Transportation Demand Management







Policy Recommendations

- Implement TDM measures for City employees and City-owned facilities.
- Explore bike/scooter share program feasibility.
- Work with the Region to enhance transit frequency and service and incentivize Smart Commute partnerships.

Education & Outreach Recommendations

- Inform new residents and employees of TDM programs and incentives.
- Emphasize active school travel starting at a young age and train educators through the Making Tracks program.
- Promote MyRide Travel & MyTrip to ensure people are confident riding transit.
- Offer transit vouchers, schedules, real-time information, bicycle shop certificates, or micromobility discounts to encourage sustainable travel.







Infrastructure Recommendations

- Design pedestrian-oriented spaces and streets, such as carfree and car-light realms
- Improve active transportation connections
- Ensure universal design for all ages and abilities
- Work with the Region to improve transit stop design
- Consolidate/eliminate driveways and accesses on major collector and arterial roads where possible







Parking

New Parking Recommendations

- Remove minimum parking requirements and reduce maximums.
- Expand the area for paid parking and consider raising parking fees.
- Develop a curbside management strategy that considers micromobility hubs and parking, pick-up drop-off facilities, and short-term parking uses.



Eco-friendly Short Distance Transport

New Recommendations

- Encourage residential and public e-mobility (e-bikes, e-scooters) unit charging.
- Plan and commission a carshare and e-bike / escooter share service for residents and visitors.





Next Steps

- Summarize and process input received
- Adjust and refine improvements to the transportation network and prepare TMP Report
- Present Report to Council

 Committee of the Whole
 (May/June 2025)
- File the TMP Report and initiate the 30-day commenting period

Extended Presentation

Watch an extended online presentation and consultation materials for more information via:

www.vaughan.ca/VMCTMP

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