



# The Corporation of Haldimand County

## Trails Advisory Committee Agenda

**Date:** January 21, 2026

**Time:** 4:00 P.M.

**Location:** Haldimand Room - Haldimand County Administration Building  
53 Thorburn Street South, Cayuga

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Pages

**A. Call to Order**

**B. Land Acknowledgement**

**C. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest**

**D. Approval of Previous Trails Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

1. Trails Advisory Committee Minutes - November 25, 2025

1

That the minutes of the November 25, 2025 Trails Advisory Committee meeting be approved as circulated.

**E. Items for Consideration**

1. Update to Trails Master Plan

Update to be provided by Planning Staff.

2. Development Summary

A summary to be provided by Planning Staff.

3. Revision to Trails Advisory Meeting Schedule 2026

Proposed Meeting Dates for Trails Advisory Committee 2026:-

<b>Scheduled Meeting Dates</b>	<b>Proposed Meeting Dates</b>
January 21 <sup>st</sup> 2026, Wednesday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	January 21st, 2026, Wednesday 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
March 18 <sup>th</sup> 2026, Wednesday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	March 25 <sup>th</sup> 2026, Wednesday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
May 20 <sup>th</sup> 2026, Wednesday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	May 27 <sup>th</sup> 2026, Wednesday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
July 15 <sup>th</sup> 2026, Wednesday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	July 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2026, Wednesday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
September 16 <sup>th</sup> , Wednesday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	September 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2026, Wednesday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
November 18 <sup>th</sup> , Wednesday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	November 25 <sup>th</sup> 2026, Wednesday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

THAT to \_\_\_\_\_ the Proposed Meeting Schedule for Trails Advisory Committee for 2026.

4. New Business

5. Next Meeting Date - March 2026,

Pursuant to Approval of the Proposed Meeting date.

**F. Adjournment**

THAT this meeting is now adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.



# **Haldimand County**

**THE CORPORATION OF  
HALDIMAND COUNTY**

## **Trails Advisory Committee Minutes**

**Date:** November 26, 2025  
**Time:** 4:00 P.M.  
**Location:** Haldimand County Administration Building - Haldimand Room  
53 Thorburn Street South, Cayuga

### Members Present

J. Pack, Chair  
D. McKay, Member  
L. Rollinson, Member  
P. Freeman, Member  
L. Bell, Member  
A. Elek, Member

**Staff Present** S. VanDalen, Manager, Planning and Development  
V. Navandar, Planning Technician, Planning and Development

### **A. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

### **B. Land Acknowledgement**

The Chair assigned Shannon VanDalen to read the Land Acknowledgement.

### **C. Disclosures of Conflict of Interest**

None.

### **D. Approval of Previous Trails Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

1. Trails Advisory Committee Minutes - October 29, 2025

#### **Recommendation 1**

Moved By: A. Elek, Member  
Seconded By: L. Bell, Member

That the minutes of the October 29, 2025 Trails Advisory Committee meeting be approved as circulated.

**APPROVED**

**E. Delegations**

None.

**F. Items for Consideration**

1. Update on Trails Master Plan

- The public engagement process is scheduled to begin on December 1, 2025.
- An overview of the proposed trail network and next steps.
- Visioning exercise for Committee was followed to encourage their feedback on proposed routes and connections.
- Key areas were identified where new routes are being considered.

1.1 Discussion

- The Committee discussed opportunities for interconnections within rural areas, off-road trails systems and communities throughout the County. The connection between hamlet and varied settlement areas was raised as an item for further exploration. Members emphasized the importance of prioritizing community-service connections.
- Members highlighted the importance of maintaining continuity within the existing mature trail system and ensuring connections to adjacent municipal areas are preserved and strengthened.

2. Trails Advisory Committee Schedule 2026

**Recommendation 2**

Moved By: L. Rollinson, Member  
Seconded By: D. McKay, Member

THAT the meeting schedule for the Trails Advisory Committee , as attached to this item, be approved for the 2026 calendar year.

**APPROVED**

3. Discussion : Trail Safety

3.1. Verbal Update : Bridge Construction in Cayuga

An Update provided by Kris Franklin, Manager on associated items of discussion related to safety and pedestrian access on Bridge removal project in Cayuga. Other items of consideration included discussion of Capital Budgets framework and operations.

4. Overview : Planning Staff

Matter deferred to January 21, 2026.

5. Other Business

1. Thompson Road, Haldimand County

The Committee discussed concerns related to trail access near Thompson Road, noting associated safety considerations that may require further review. Members also discussed about how the Trails Master Plan will integrate with departmental priorities and how key action items will be identified and coordinated across relevant departments.

2. Railway Corridor

A committee-led discussion with Planning Staff about current Haldimand County owned parcels for future trail development.

**Recommendation 3**

Moved By: L. Bell, Member

Seconded By: A. Elek, Member

THAT Planning Staff investigates current County owned Parcels with the GIS Division for trail connections.

**APPROVED**

6. Next Meeting Date - January 21, 2026

**G. Adjournment**

**Recommendation John Pack**

Moved By: A. Elek, Member

Seconded By: P. Freeman, Member

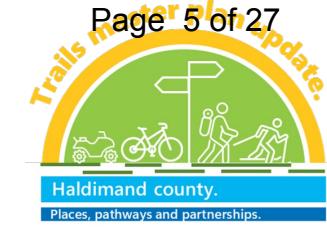
THAT this meeting is now adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

**APPROVED**



# Haldimand County Trails Master Plan

Trail Committee Update | November 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2025



# Agenda

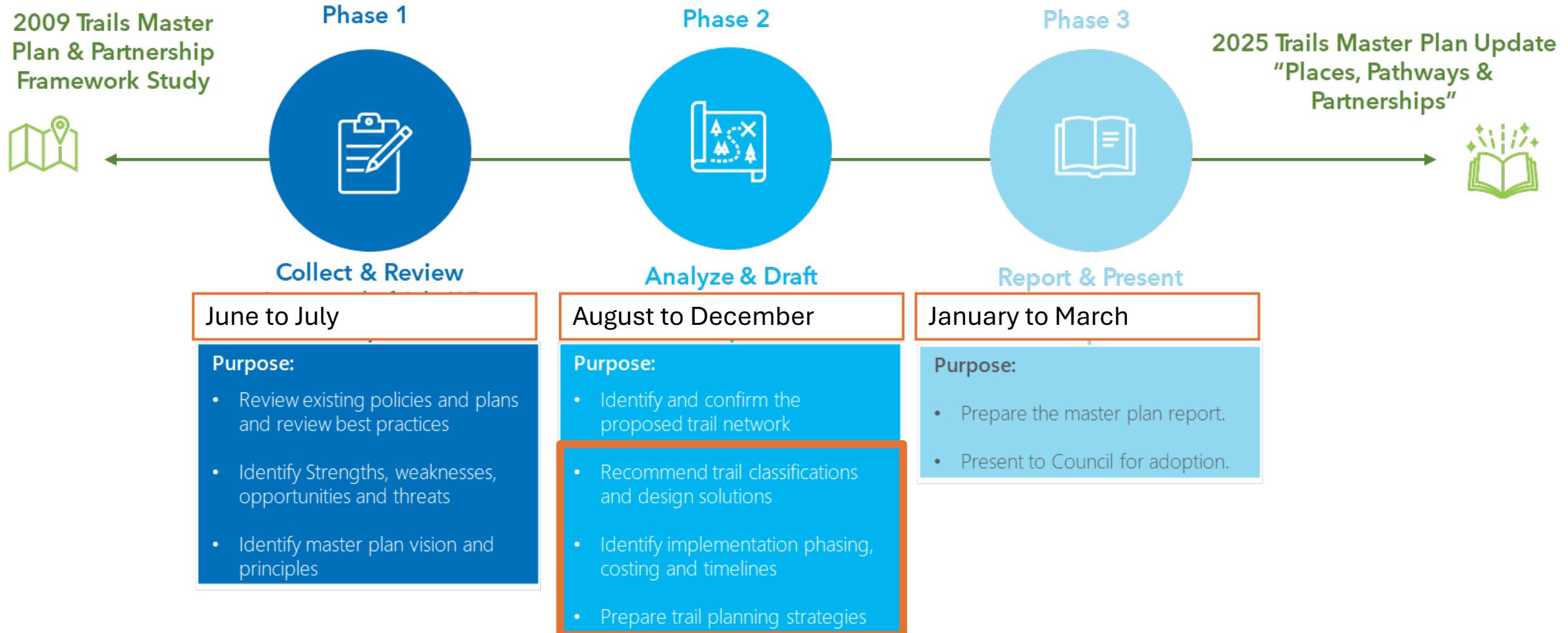
- **Project Schedule Update**
- **Vision**
- **Trail Design Classifications**
- **Candidate Trail Routes**



# Project Schedule Update



# Project Process



# Upcoming Events and Actions

## 1. Collect additional feedback from staff

- Meeting for on-road routes and tourism
- Collect feedback on trail classifications and mapping drafts

## 2. Trail Field Truthing

- **Monday, December 1st (10 am to 4 pm)**
  - **Visit select areas with the Trail Committee (Optional)**

- Review select sections with Staff

## 3. Public Engagement on **Thursday, December 11**

- Collect feedback on the following draft materials:
  - Vision and Goals
  - Trail routes and classifications
  - Options implementation and phasing strategy
  - Highlight special project areas and feasibility (opportunities and constraints)

## 4. Additional Outreach, focus on partnerships (Early January)

## 5. Draft Plan (January → February)

# Vision + Goals



# Goals & Objectives

## 2025 Vision Statement (Draft)

Explore • Connect • Thrive

**“To create a connected, accessible, and inspiring trail network that showcases Haldimand County’s natural features, supports recreation and active travel, and links people to the places they live, work, and explore.”**

### 1. Build Meaningful Loops and Routes

- Expand and link existing trail segments to create longer, continuous routes.
- Prioritize looped connections wherever possible to enhance user experience and encourage repeat use.

### 2. Highlight the County’s Natural Features

- Develop more trails along rivers, woodlots, and scenic landscapes.
- Strengthen connections between neighbourhoods and nearby natural areas to bring nature closer to residents.

### 3. Provide Safe, Off-Road Routes to Key Destinations

- Create off-road trails that link people to employment areas, schools, parks, recreation facilities, and community services.
- Support safe and comfortable active travel options for all ages and abilities.

### 4. Improve Trail Experiences Along Road Corridors

- Set clear goals to align roadside multi-use facilities with Book 18 standards.
- Elevate user comfort and identity through enhanced landscaping, buffers, and wayfinding.

### 5. Strengthen County-Wide and Settlement Area Connectivity

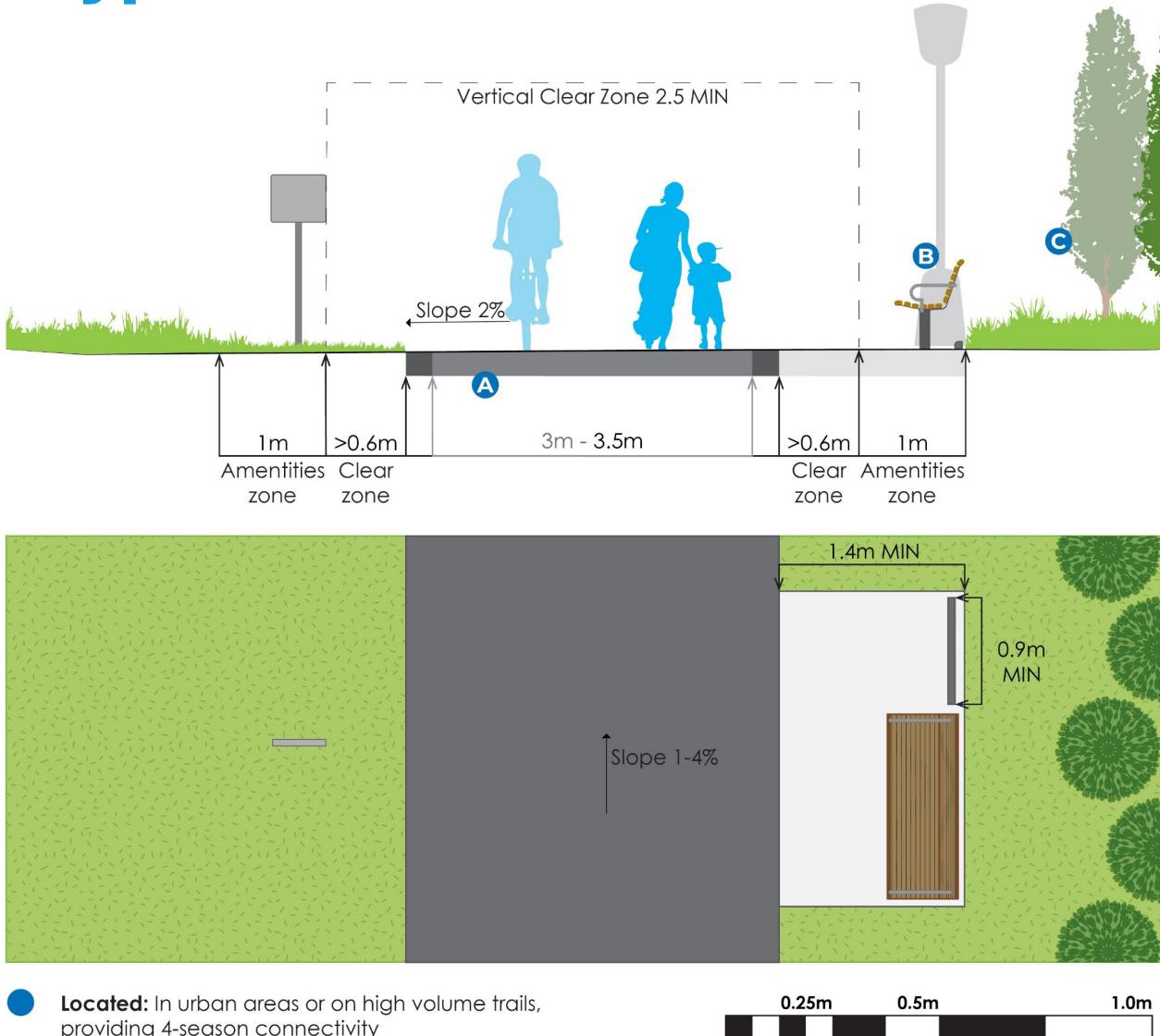
- Rely on cycling network improvements to support broader County-wide travel.
- Explore opportunities along former rail lines and utility corridors for new off-road routes, recognizing long-term ownership and regulatory considerations.

# Trail Design Classifications



# Type 1: Multi-Use Trail

Page 13 of 27



**Located:** In urban areas or on high volume trails, providing 4-season connectivity

**Infrastructure:** Asphalt, lighting

**Amenities:** Benches, waste receptacles, signage

**Landscape:** Shrub and tree planting where possible

## 1. Application

- High volume trails in urban areas. Routes that provide winter connectivity

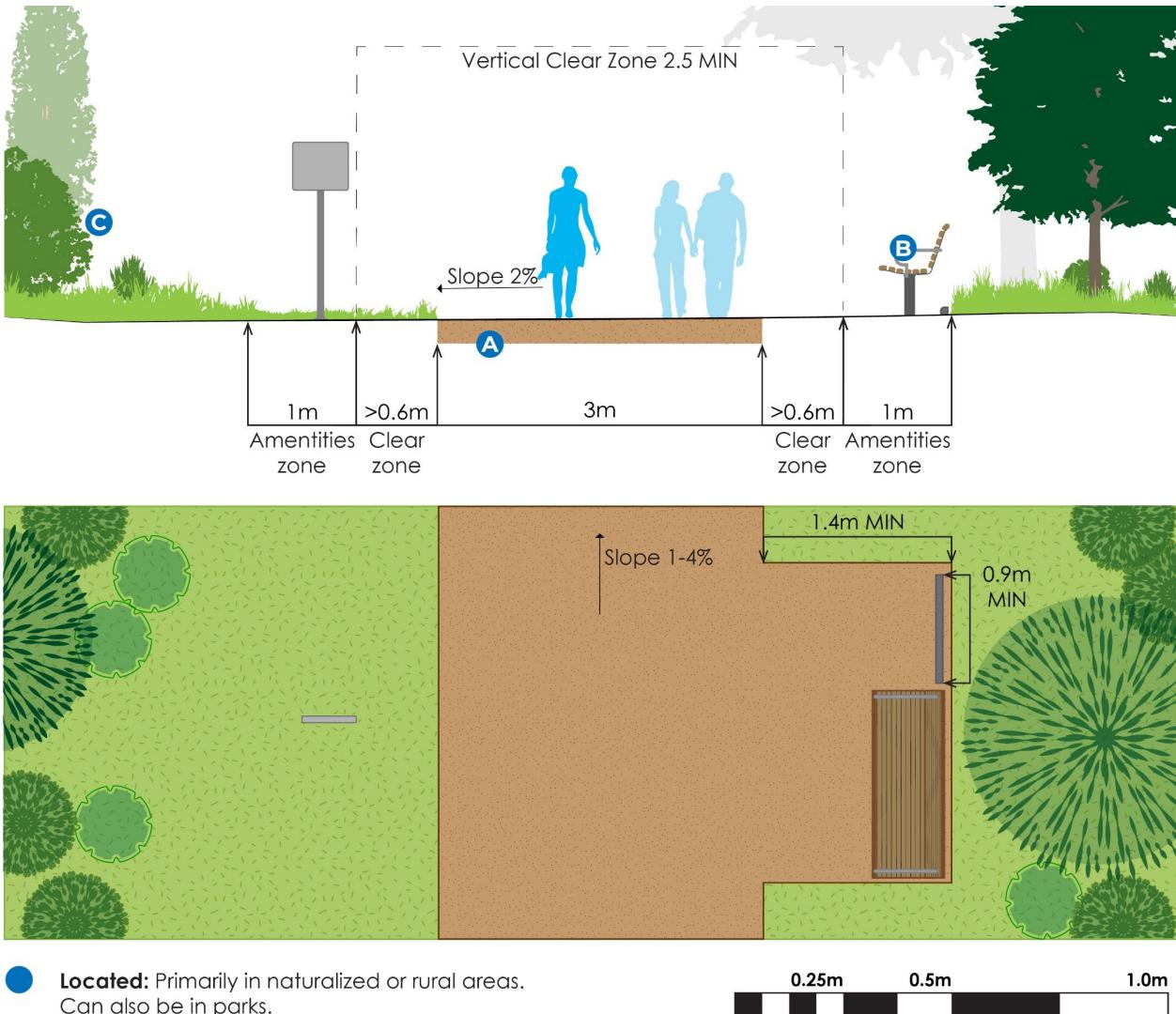
## 2. Accessibility + Amenities

- Asphalt
- Benches every 100m
- Lighting (dedicated or street lighting)

## 3. Programming + Operations

- Winter Snow Removal

# Type 2: Greenway Trail



**Located:** Primarily in naturalized or rural areas. Can also be in parks.

**Infrastructure:** Compacted screenings

**Amenities:** Benches, waste receptacles, signage

**Landscape:** Meadow condition, shrub and tree planting where possible

## 1. Application

- Naturalized areas, river corridor
- Smaller parks
- Do not serve as a key route in winter

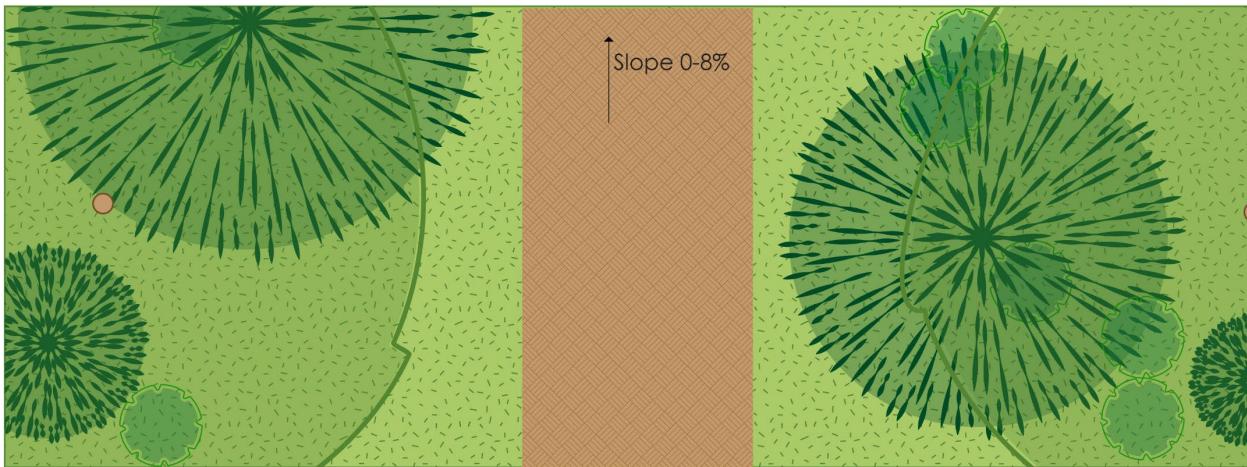
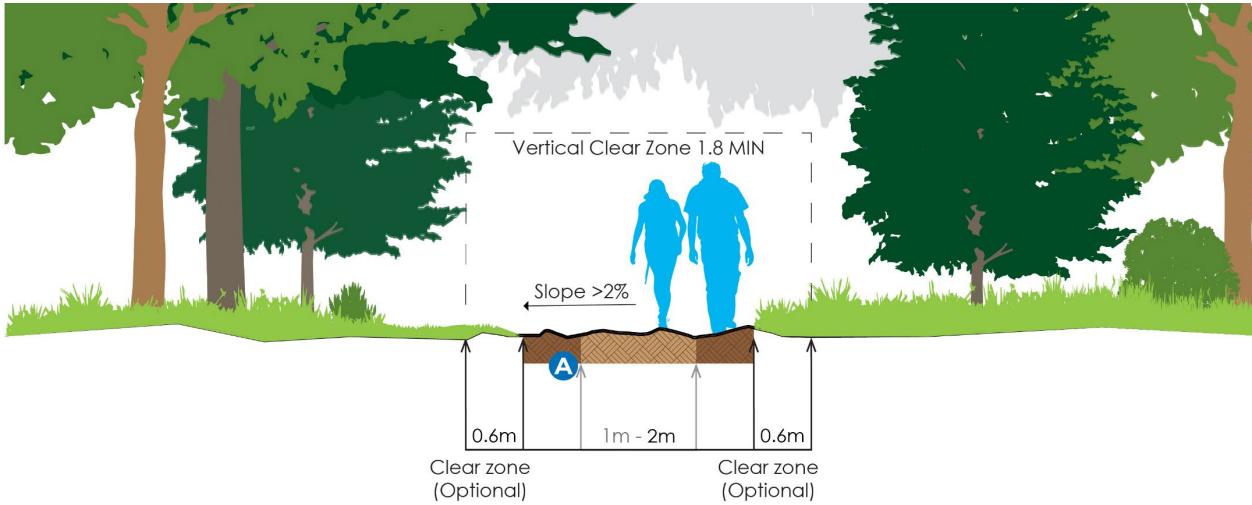
## 2. Accessibility + Amenities

- Compacted stone dust
- Benches every 100m
- No Lighting (at trailheads and parking where feasible)

## 3. Programming + Operations

- No Winter Snow Removal

# Type 3: Adventure Trail



**C** Located: Eco sensitive areas where accessibility is facilitated through other trails.

**A** Infrastructure: Earthen irregular with mulch in select areas

**B** Amenities: Benches, waste receptacles at entry/exit only

**C** Landscape: Naturalized or woodland context

## 1. Application

- Woodlots
- Isolated routes that do not form a connection with a greater loop

## 2. Accessibility + Amenities

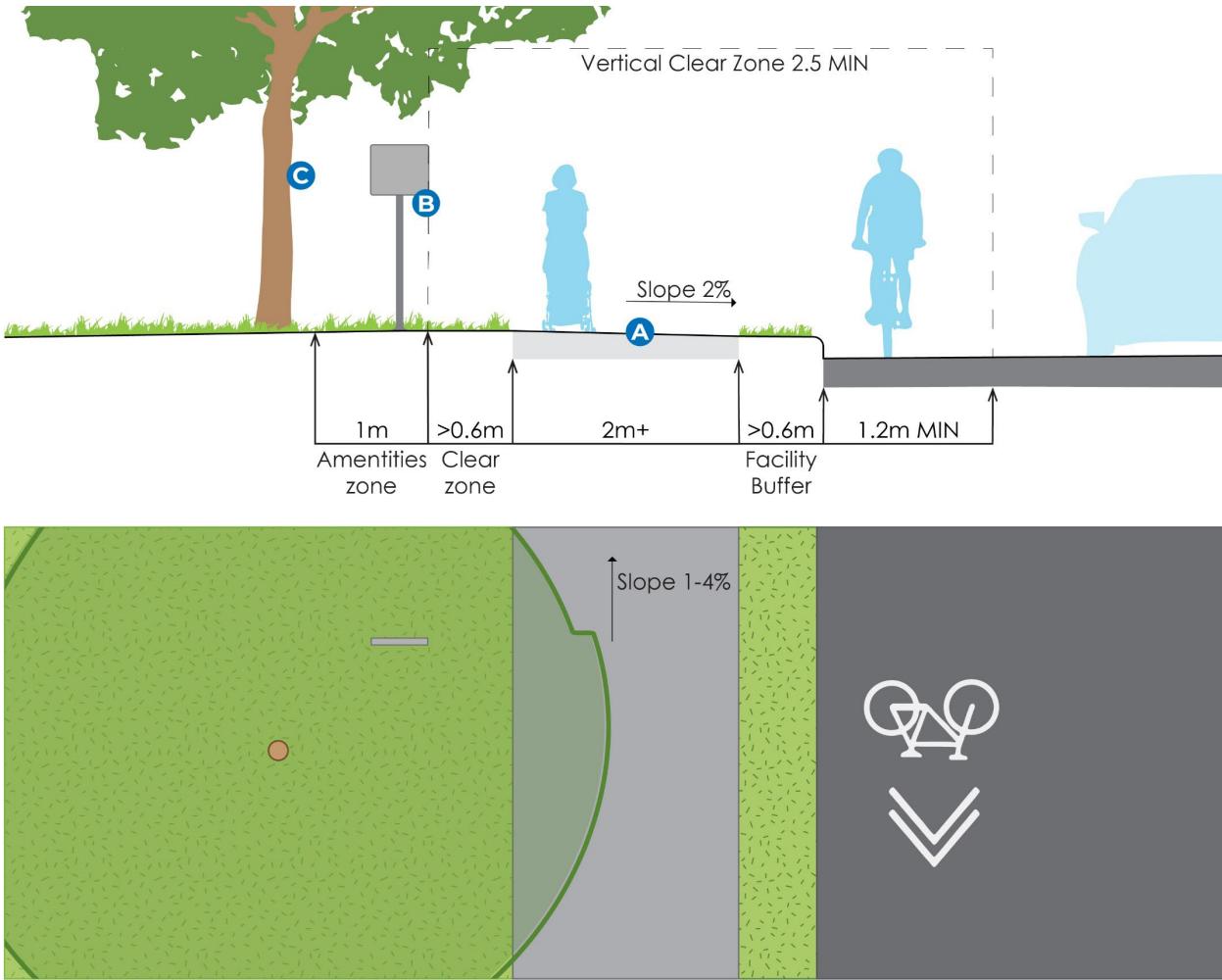
- Mulch or earthen surface
- Benches at points of entry only
- No lighting

## 3. Programming + Operations

- No Winter Snow Removal

# Type 4: On-Road Facility (A: Urban Residential Route)

Page 16 of 27



**C** Located: Residential roads in urban areas.

**A** Infrastructure: Asphalt. May have lighting

**B** Amenities: Signage. Any wayfinding should visually distinguish that the section is a part of a trail.

**C** Landscape: Lawn. Shrub and tree planting where possible

## 1. Application

- Residential roads in urban areas.

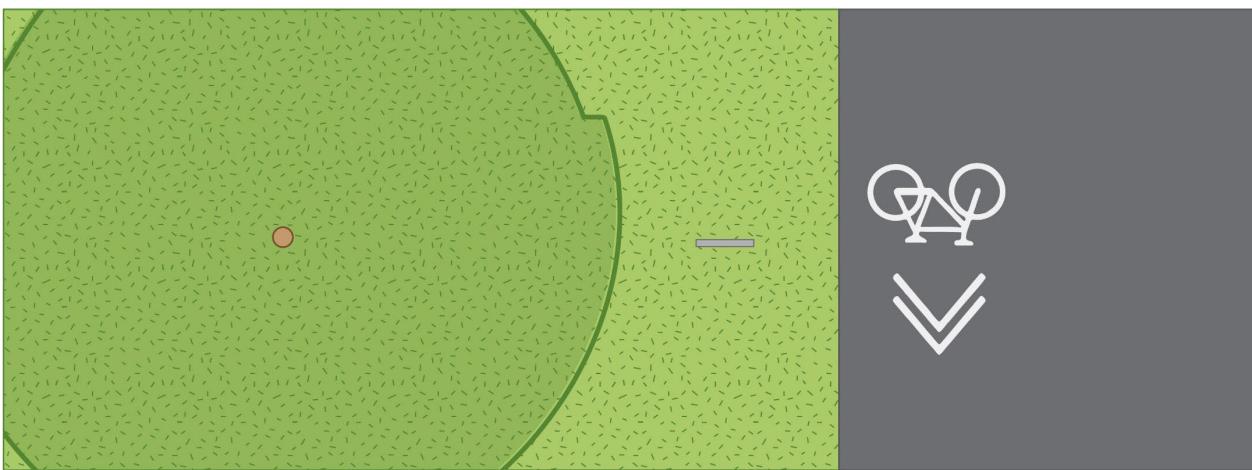
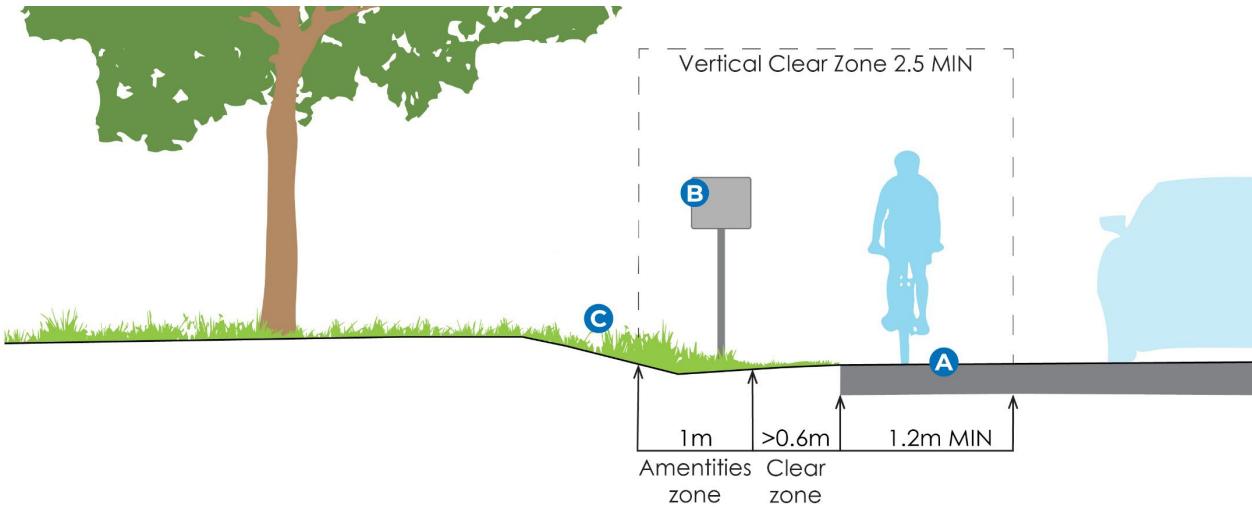
## 2. Accessibility + Amenities

- Asphalt
- Lighting (optional)

## 3. Programming + Operations

- Winter Snow Removal

# Type 4: On-Road Facility (B: Rural Residential Route)



**B** Located: Residential roads in rural areas.

**A** Infrastructure: Asphalt

**B** Amenities: Signage. Any wayfinding should visually distinguish that the section is a part of a trail.

**C** Landscape: Mix of manicured and naturalized conditions.

## 1. Application

- Residential roads in rural areas.

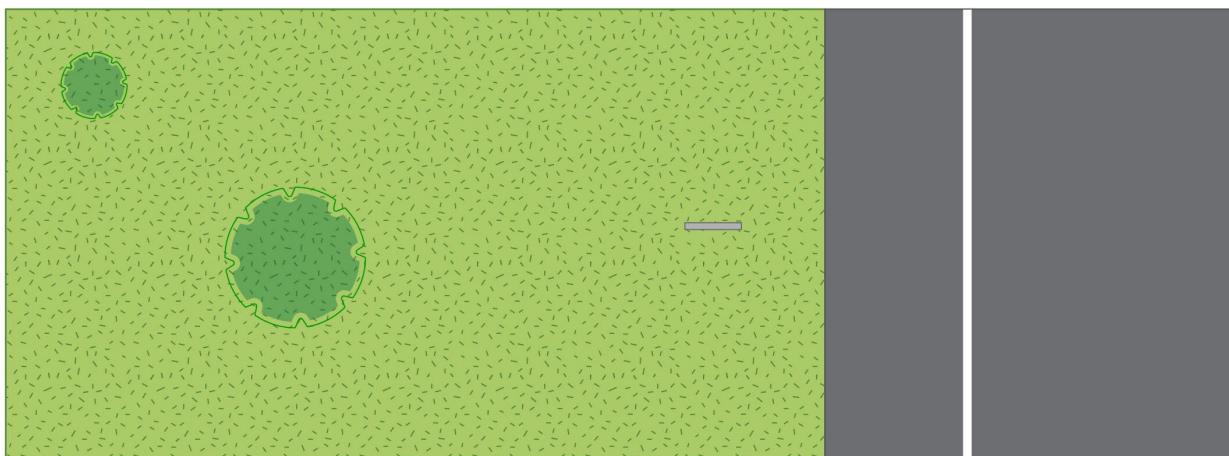
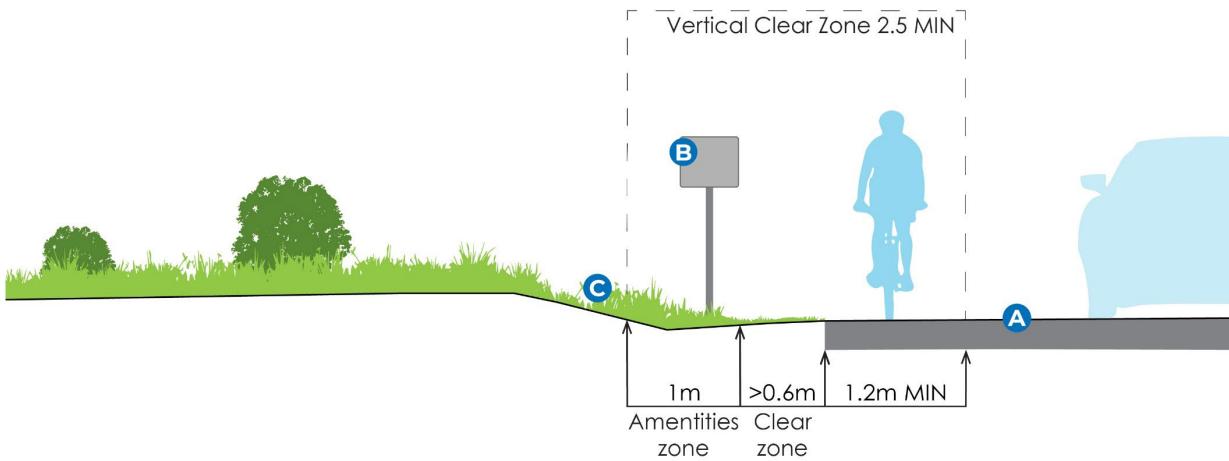
## 2. Accessibility + Amenities

- Asphalt

## 3. Programming + Operations

- Winter Snow Removal

# Type 4: On-Road Facility (C: Rural Collector Route)



**● Located:** Rural arterial County roads.

**● Infrastructure:** Asphalt

**● Amenities:** Signage. Any wayfinding should visually distinguish that the section is a part of a trail.

**● Landscape:** Naturalized or rural roadside condition.

## 1. Application

- Arterial county roads in rural areas.

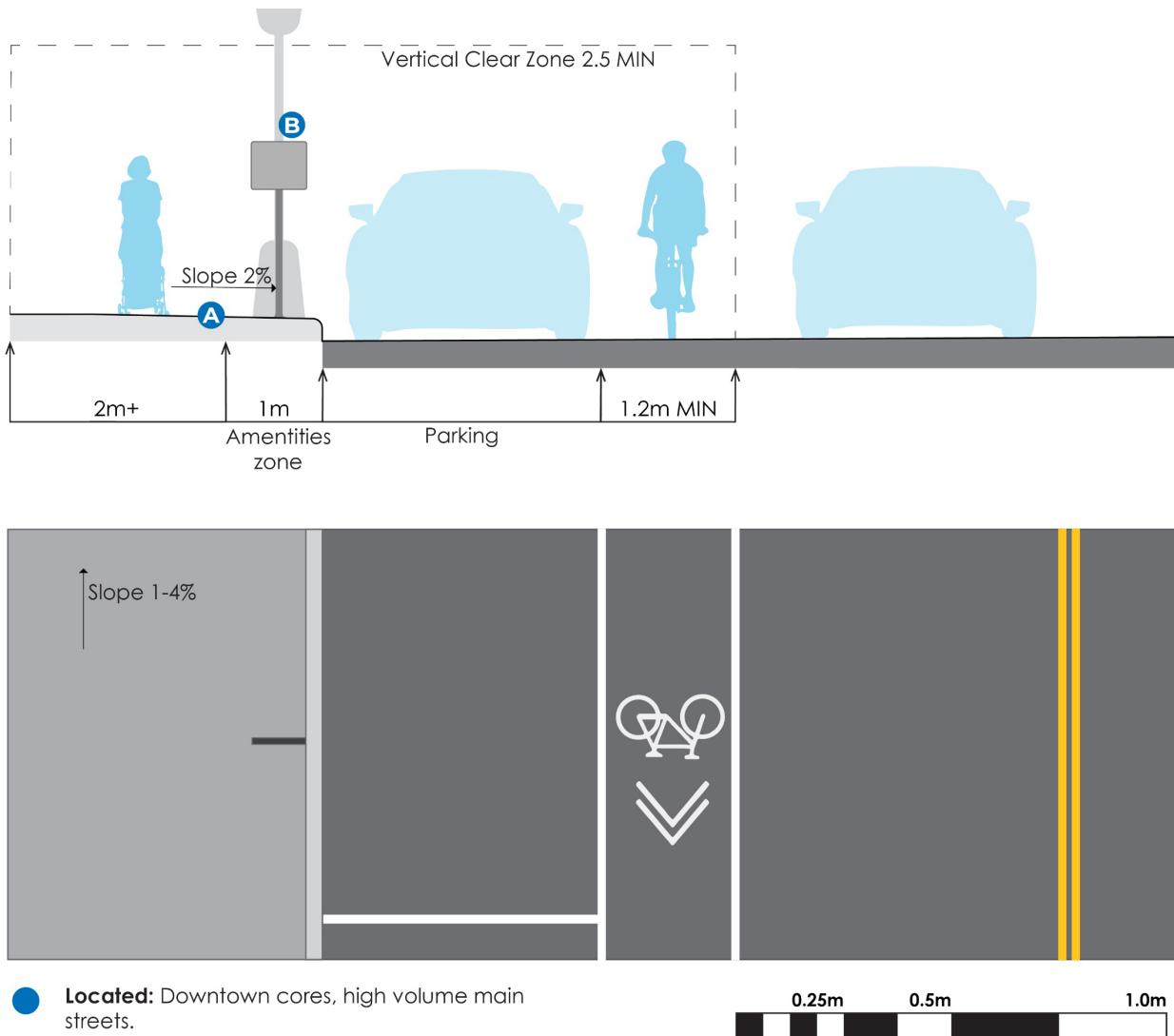
## 2. Accessibility + Amenities

- Asphalt

## 3. Programming + Operations

- Winter Snow Removal

# Type 4: On-Road Facility (D: Urban Core Route)



**Located:** Downtown cores, high volume main streets.

**Infrastructure:** Asphalt, Lighting

**Amenities:** Signage. Any wayfinding should visually distinguish that the section is a part of a trail.

**Landscape:** Planter boxes or small pockets of ornamental plantings

## 1. Application

- High-volume main streets or downtown cores.

## 2. Accessibility + Amenities

- Asphalt
- Lighting

## 3. Programming + Operations

- Winter Snow Removal

# Candidate Route Workshop Session



# Haldimand County

## Existing & Proposed Trail Network



- Proposed Route within ROW
- Proposed Route on Private Property (Acquisition Land Use Agreement Required)
- Proposed Route on Municipal Land
- Proposed Route within Woodlot
- Existing Forestry Route

### Current Haldimand Trail Classifications

- Cycling Route
- Walking Path
- Multi-Use
- In Development / Proposed Trail
- Inactive Route

### Context

- Town Owned Land
- Hydro Corridor
- Waterbody / Waterway
- Wetland
- Woodland
- Settlement Area Boundaries
- Railway
- Provincial Highway
- Haldimand Highway
- Haldimand Road

### Points of Interest

- Campground
- Conservation Authority
- Park
- Provincial Park

### Amenities

- Parking (Existing)
- Parking (Proposed)
- Waterfront Access (Proposed)

## Candidate Routes

- ↔ Proposed Route within ROW
- ↔ Proposed Route on Private Property (Acquisition Land Use Agreement Required)
- ↔ Proposed Route on Municipal Land
- ↔ Proposed Route within Woodlot
- ↔ Existing Forestry Route

## Current Haldimand Trail Classifications

- Cycling Route
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- Inactive Route

## Context

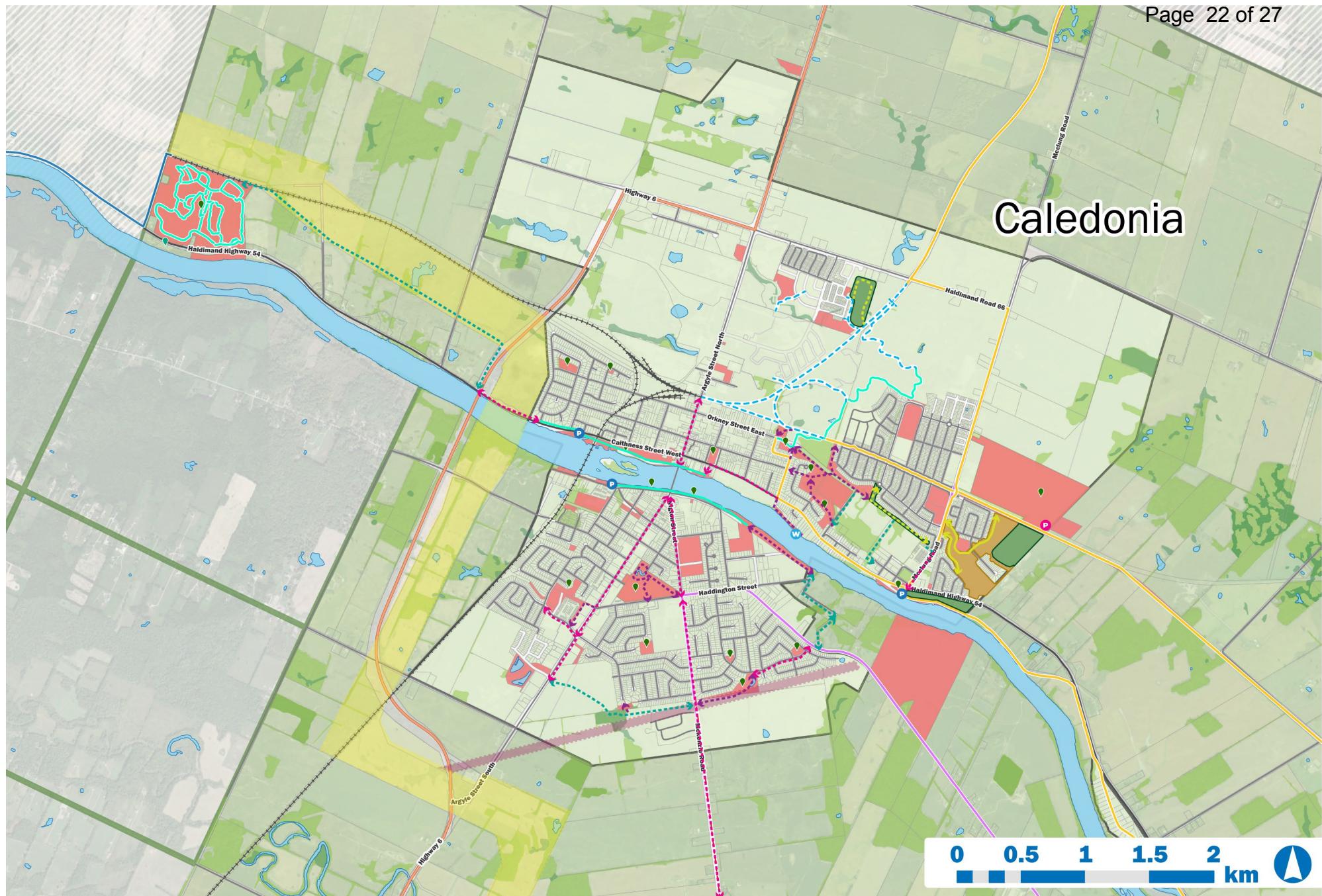
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- Provincial Highway
- Haldimand Highway
- Haldimand Road

## Points of Interest

- Campground
- Conservation Authority
- Park
- Provincial Park

## Amenities

- Parking (Existing)
- Parking (Proposed)
- Waterfront Access (Proposed)



## Candidate Routes

- ↔ Proposed Route within ROW
- ↔ Proposed Route on Private Property (Acquisition Land Use Agreement Required)
- ↔ Proposed Route on Municipal Land
- ↔ Proposed Route within Woodlot
- ↔ Existing Forestry Route

## Current Haldimand Trail Classifications

- Cycling Route
- Walking Path
- Multi-Use
- In Development / Proposed Trail
- Inactive Route

## Context

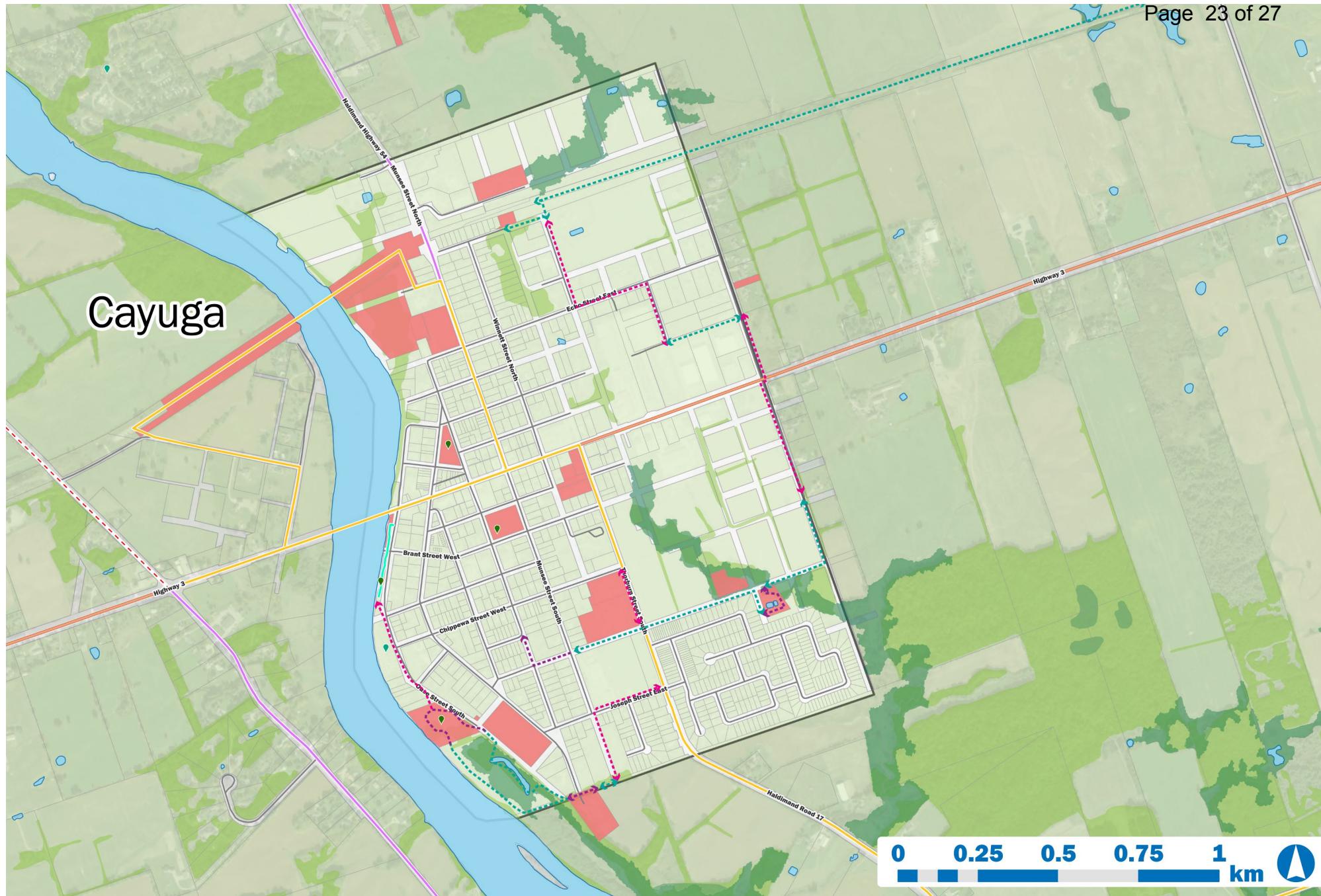
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- Provincial Highway
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- Haldimand Road

## Points of Interest

- Campground
- Conservation Authority
- Park
- Provincial Park

## Amenities

- Parking (Existing)
- Parking (Proposed)
- Waterfront Access (Proposed)



0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 km

## Candidate Routes

- ↔ Proposed Route within ROW
- ↔ Proposed Route on Private Property (Acquisition Land Use Agreement Required)
- ↔ Proposed Route on Municipal Land
- ↔ Proposed Route within Woodlot
- ↔ Existing Forestry Route

## Current Haldimand Trail Classifications

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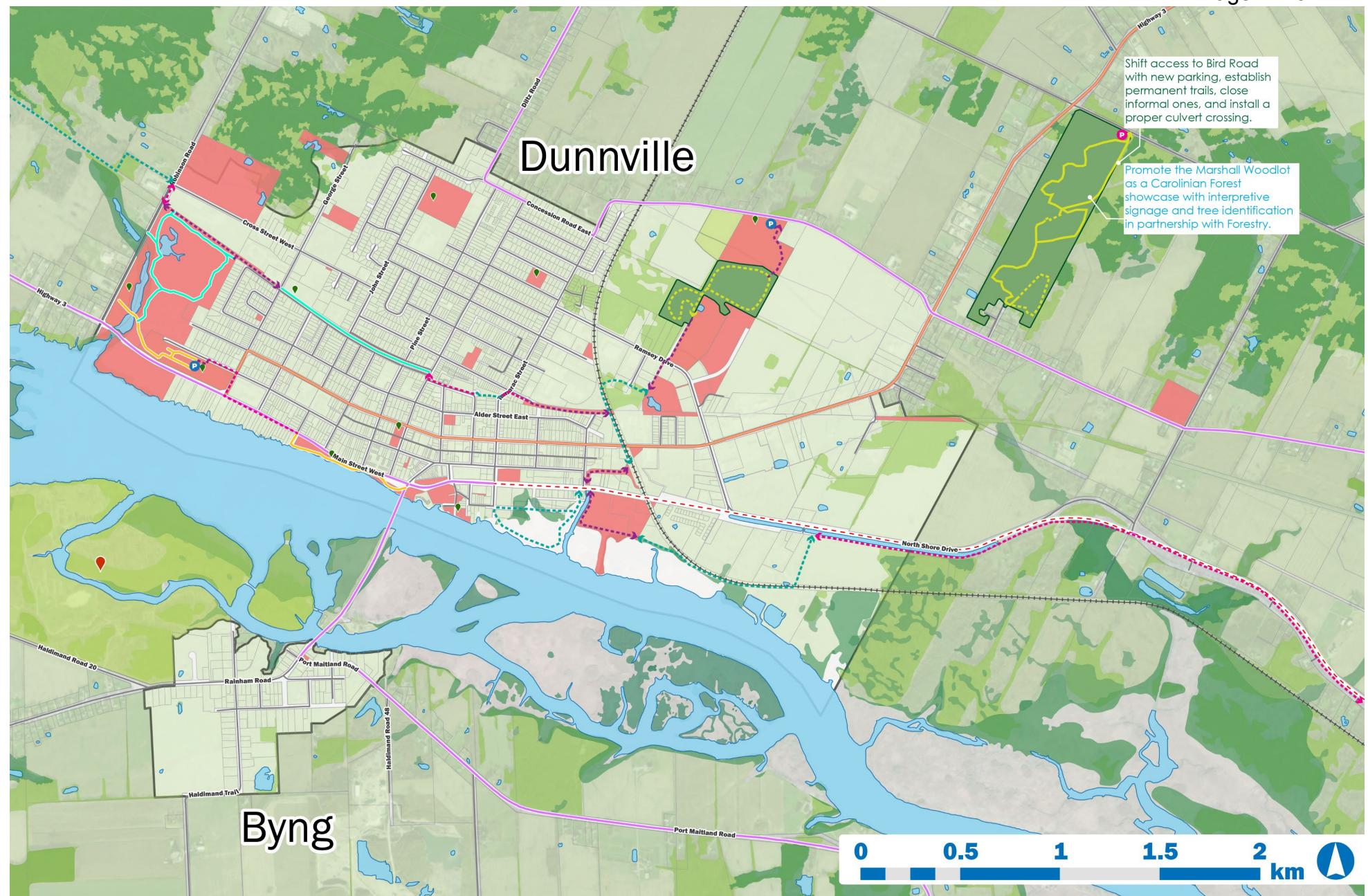
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## Points of Interest

- Campground
- Conservation Authority
- Park
- Provincial Park

## Amenities

- Parking (Existing)
- Parking (Proposed)
- Waterfront Access (Proposed)



## Candidate Routes

- ↔ Proposed Route within ROW
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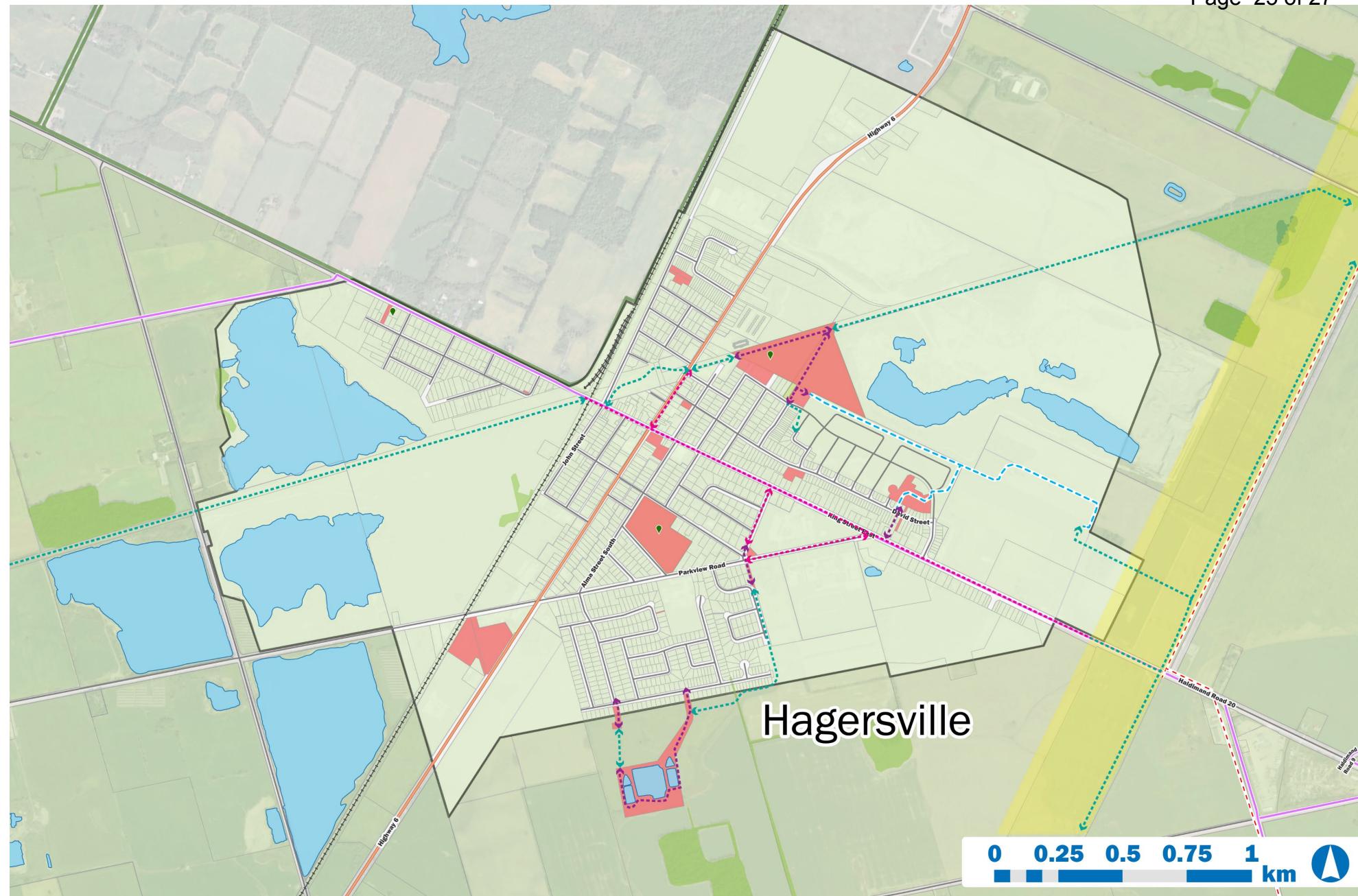
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- Haldimand Road

## Points of Interest

- Campground
- Conservation Authority
- Park
- Provincial Park

## Amenities

- Parking (Existing)
- Parking (Proposed)
- Waterfront Access (Proposed)



## Candidate Routes

- Proposed Route within ROW
- Proposed Route on Private Property  
(Acquisition Land Use Agreement Required)
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- Proposed Route within Woodlot
- Existing Forestry Route

## Current Haldimand Trail Classifications

- Cycling Route
- Walking Path
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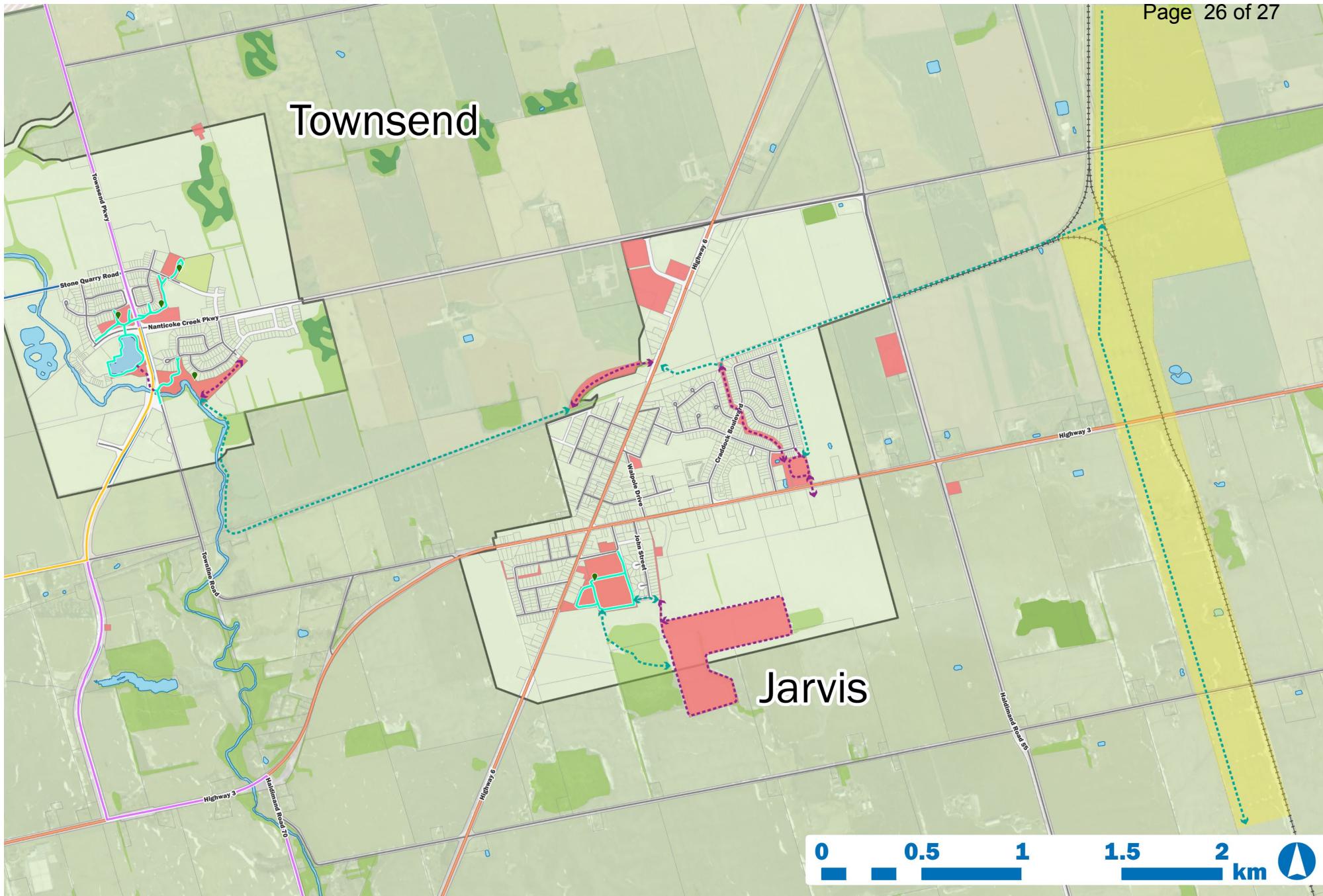
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## Points of Interest

- Campground
- Conservation Authority
- Park
- Provincial Park

## Amenities

- P Parking (Existing)
- P Parking (Proposed)
- W Waterfront Access (Proposed)



## Candidate Routes

- Proposed Route within ROW
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## Amenities

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