



BELCARRA ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK PLAN

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Your Village, Your Move: Shaping Belcarra's Pathways

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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| What is active transportation? | <p>Active Transportation (AT) includes any form of human-powered or power-assisted transportation, and it is often synonymous with cycling and walking. There are other forms, such as skateboarding, in-line skating, skiing, and skating.</p> <p>Advancements in technology have introduced new forms of transportation, including pedal assist or fully electric bicycles, electric scooters, and skateboards and other mobility assistance devices, known as micro-mobility. These micro-mobility devices expand the number of people who can make use of active transportation networks.</p> |
| How close will the potential new sidewalks or bike paths be to our homes, especially along Bedwell Bay Road? I'm worried about losing privacy and the impact of having more people walking or cycling so close to my front yard. | <p>At this early stage, we are considering a variety of design recommendations. Any improvements to the active transportation network will be tailored to the local context, and community input will be crucial in shaping these decisions. We're aiming to ensure any changes respect privacy while also enhancing safety and accessibility. There are options such as buffered paths and shared streets that will be evaluated.</p> |
| What will be done to address the potential increase in noise and foot traffic near residential areas? How can we be assured that our peace and quiet won't be disturbed? | <p>We understand concerns about noise and increased traffic. As part of the plan, we are looking into traffic calming measures and the design of paths that fit the Village's quiet nature. At this point, all options are being considered, and we'll aim to keep the community atmosphere intact.</p> |
| In the past, large infrastructure projects have been stopped because they didn't fit the scale of our Village. How can we trust that this project won't turn into something too big or invasive, changing the character of our community? | <p>The goal of this plan is to develop context-specific solutions that align with Belcarra's rural character. We will be identifying near-term, easy-to-implement improvements and longer-term projects that address gaps in the current network. The scale of any infrastructure will be carefully considered to match the needs of the Village, and nothing is finalized yet.</p> |

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| What guarantees do we have that the Village's natural landscape won't be disrupted by these new developments? | Preserving Belcarra's natural beauty is a key priority. The plan will explore low-impact infrastructure like walkable and bike-accessible shoulders or trail access improvements. Every proposed improvement will be designed with the aim of minimizing disruption to the landscape, and we'll be seeking community feedback throughout the process. |
| I'm concerned that adding new infrastructure will bring more people—both pedestrians and cyclists—through our quiet streets. How will this affect our safety and the atmosphere of the neighborhood? | Safety is a core component of the plan. We're evaluating options like advisory bike lanes, crossing improvements, and speed humps to ensure that any increased activity is managed in a way that keeps everyone safe and maintains the Village's peaceful character. We are still gathering information and considering all possibilities at this stage. |
| With narrow roads already in place, what specific measures will be implemented to prevent accidents or unsafe conditions as more people start using these new paths? | We're aware of the challenges presented by narrow roads, and the plan will include strategies like spot treatments for safety, pedestrian flashers, and road shoulder improvements. However, the specifics are still being worked out, and we will continue to engage with residents to determine the best approaches. |
| Belcarra is known for its quiet, rural atmosphere, and I'm worried that this project might lead to urbanization or higher population density. How can we be sure that these changes won't transform our Village into something we don't recognize? | The plan is focused on enhancing connectivity and safety while preserving the Village's rural character. Any infrastructure improvements will be designed to fit within the existing environment and serve the needs of the current community, not to increase density or urbanize the area. We are considering all options and will work closely with residents to maintain Belcarra's charm. |

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| Will this infrastructure push us toward becoming more urban, losing the peaceful, remote charm that many of us moved here for? | The intent of the plan is to improve active transportation options without compromising the peaceful, rural nature of the Village. We are in the early stages, and we will ensure that any decisions made reflect the values of the community and the desire to maintain Belcarra's unique atmosphere. |
| How will this project be funded? Will we as residents see an increase in taxes to cover the costs, and if so, how much should we expect? | We are exploring a variety of funding opportunities, including provincial and federal grants. At this point, no decisions have been made regarding costs, and we'll continue to provide updates as we identify potential funding sources. |
| What plans are in place to cover the long-term maintenance of this infrastructure? I'm worried that this could lead to higher costs down the line, which could burden the community financially. | Maintenance is an important part of the plan, and we are considering options like regularly scheduled inspection and maintenance programs for pathways. The specifics of funding and maintenance responsibilities are still being developed, and we are considering all options to minimize long-term financial impacts. |
| How will these changes impact the capital plans and projects that are already being contemplated in our community, such as the Bedwell Bay Upgrade Project (BBUP)? | The ATNP will complement existing capital plans like the Bedwell Bay Road Upgrade Project (BBUP) by ensuring that improvements are consistent with the broader vision for active transportation in Belcarra. The ATNP will help gather and incorporate community feedback into design options, as well as facilitate funding through provincial and federal grant programs. By integrating existing capital plans with long-term improvement strategies, the ATNP will help provide cohesive and sustainable transportation options while also considering community values such as safety, cost-effectiveness, and maintaining the rural character of the area. |

