

# Planning for Healthy Communities

## Planning Primer Elective

Planning and Growth Management  
Ottawa Public Health  
April 2016

# Today's Topics

- Ottawa Public Health
- Planning Objectives
- Activity
- BREAK
- Zoning
- Active Transportation
- Why Nature Matters to Health

A background image showing a dense forest of trees with light green foliage, viewed from a low angle looking up. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter.

# Planning Objectives

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April 2016

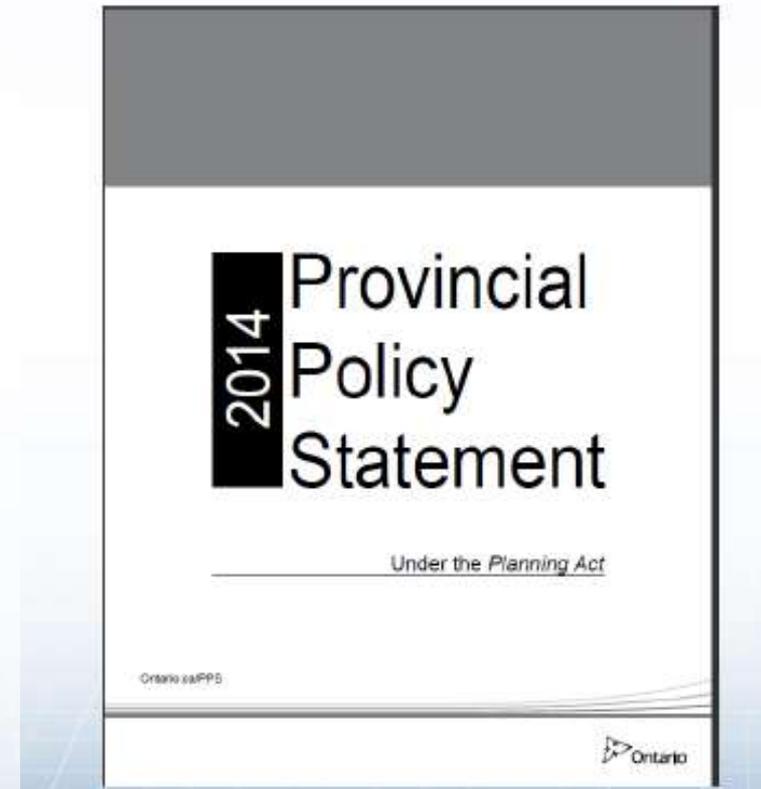
# Background



- The future landscape of Ottawa is changing
- Unprecedented period of growth and transformation
- Enhancing a world-class transit system

# Planning Act

- Provides the Legislative Framework
  - How the planning system will work
  - Who the decision makers are
  - How disputes are resolved
  - How public can provide input
- Provincial Policy Statement



# Bill 73 Bringing Extensive Change to Ontario Planning Legislation

- Smart Growth for Our Communities Act, Dec 2015
- Inclusion of urban design as a matter of provincial interest
- Increasing capital cost recovery for transit from development charges



**“WE WORK TOGETHER  
TO SHAPE THE GROWTH  
OF THE CITY”**

# Planning for Ottawa's Future

- Intensification
- Design excellence as part of city building
- Integrate urban design and transportation
- Public places and spaces
- Cycling and walking priorities



source: en.wikipedia.org (thug images)

DEVELOPMENT HOTSPOTS

**488**

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

**195**

Site Plan Control

**83**

Zoning By-law Amendment

**30**

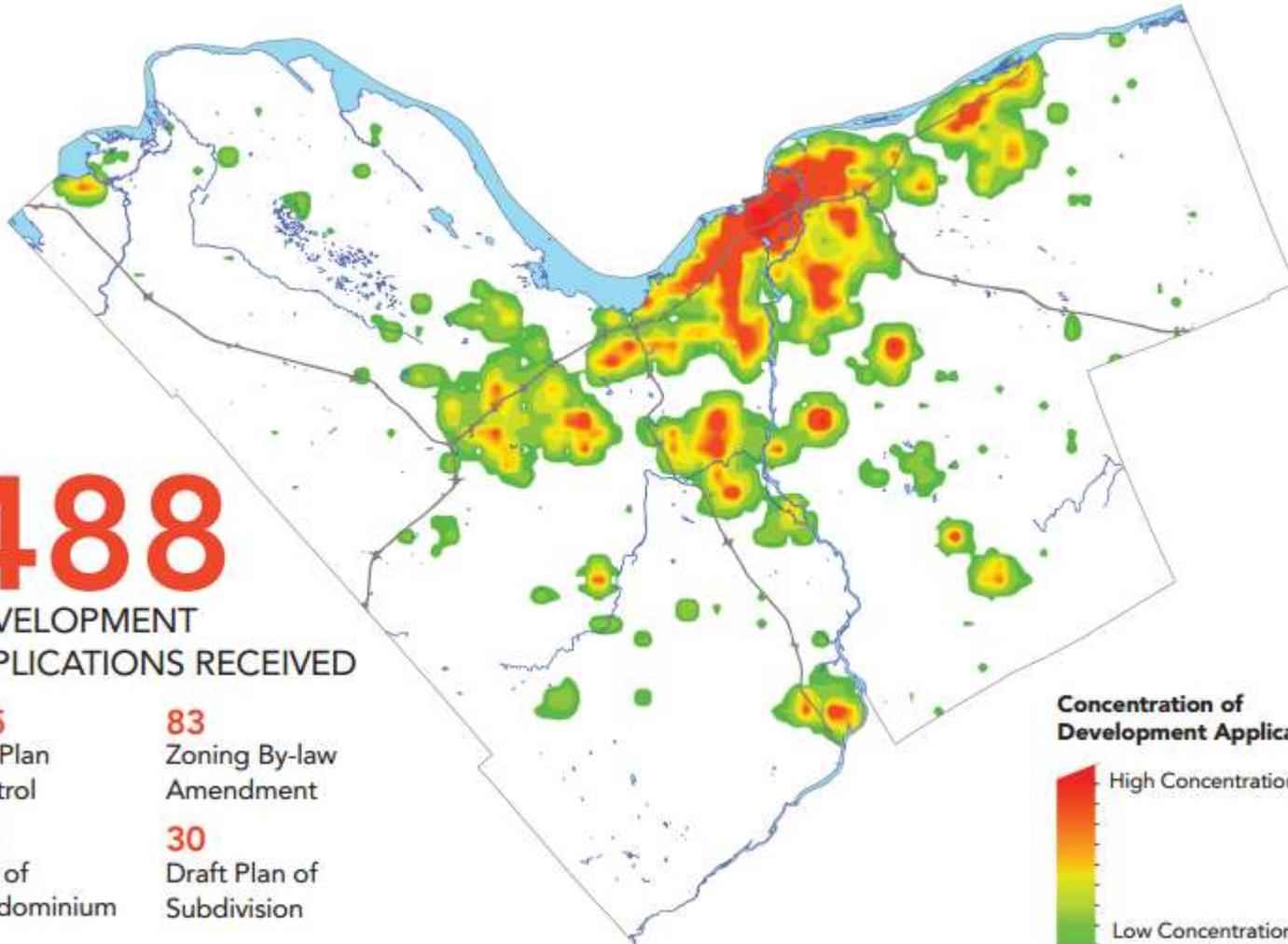
Plan of Condominium

**30**

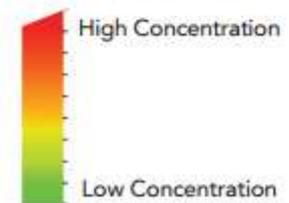
Draft Plan of Subdivision

**9**

Official Plan Amendment



Concentration of Development Applications



# Role of Planning – Official Plan



“Ottawa will meet the challenge of growth by managing it in ways that support liveable communities and healthy environments.”

# Planning & Health

- Higher building density and mix of uses leads to shorter trips, walking and cycling
- Street trees are identified with people's decisions to walk
- Children with more nature have more self-esteem and less anxiety



Planning Healthy Communities Fact Sheet  
Canadian Institute of Planners

# Transportation Master Plan and Active Transportation

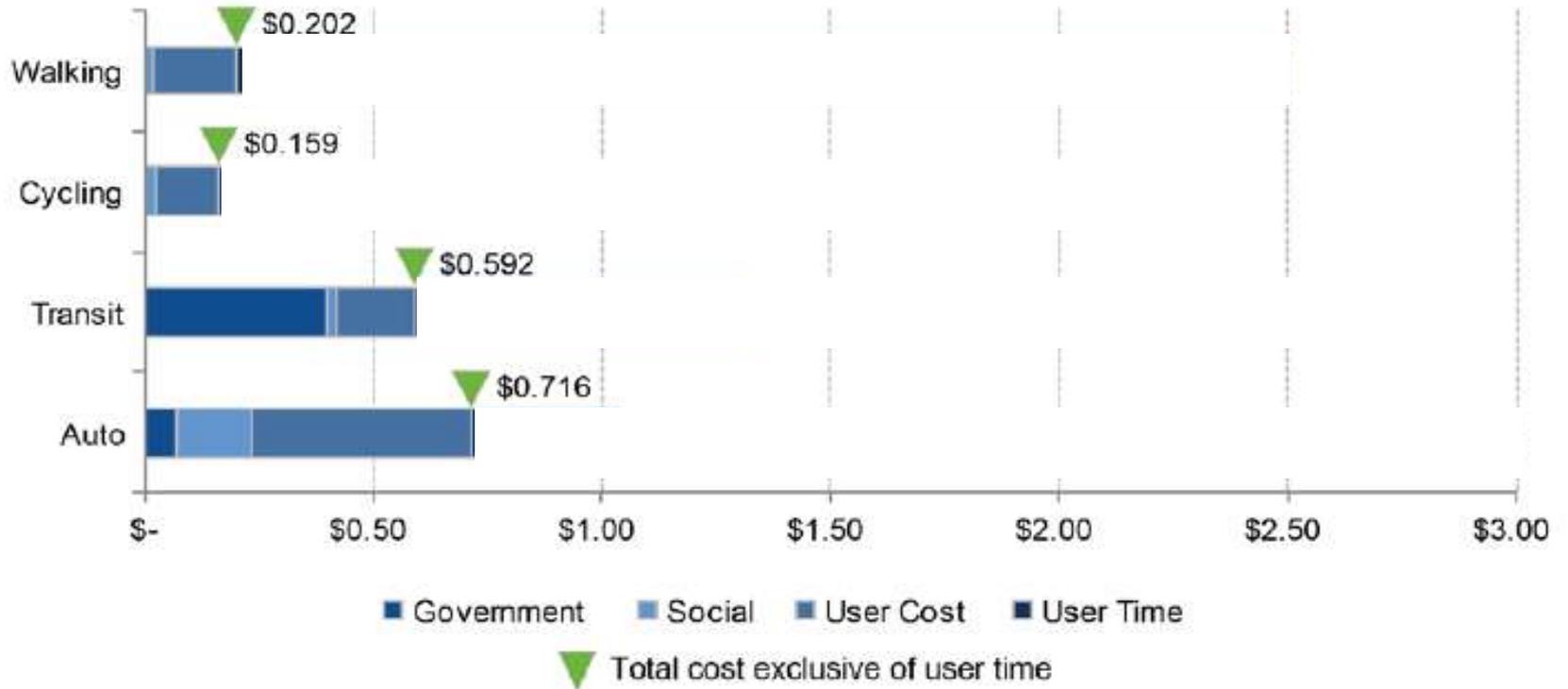
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# The Cornerstones of TMP

1. Cost of travel by various modes
2. Land use and transportation (intensification)
3. Transit investments
4. Active Transportation and Complete Streets

# 1. Cost of Travel

**Exhibit 2.9 Cost of Travel in Ottawa (\$/person-km)**



## 2011 Cost of Travel Study

# TMP Funding

Investments (2014–2031)	Capital (2013 \$)
Rapid Transit and Transit Priority Network	\$2,995M
Roads Network	724M
Cycling Projects <sup>1</sup>	70M
Pedestrian Projects <sup>1</sup>	26M
Multi-Use Pathway Structures	40M
Various network modifications, intersection control measures, studies and programs	140M
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,995M</b>

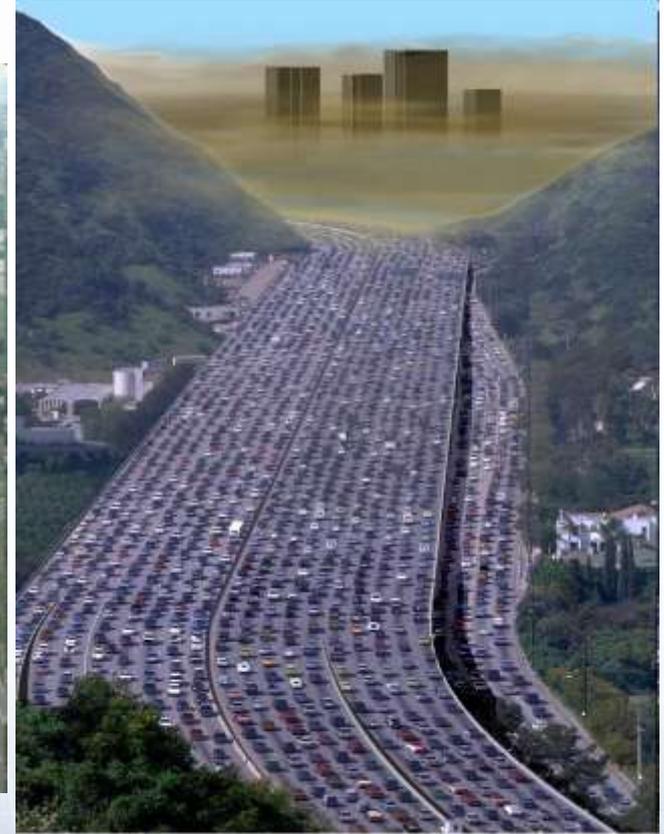
<sup>1</sup> Cycling and pedestrian projects not included in road and transit funding (i.e. off-road facilities)

## 2. Transportation and Land Use



Low density  
single use development  
and auto oriented  
transportation

# Is this the Future that We Want?

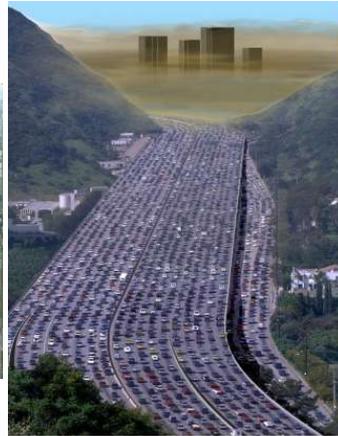


...or this?



Mixed use development, multi-modal transportation

# Future Choices



Courtesy Transfuture.net



Divorce land use and transportation

Build more roads to solve congestion

Spread out the development to reduce congestion

Design roads for peak traffic (15 min)

➡ Marry land use and transportation

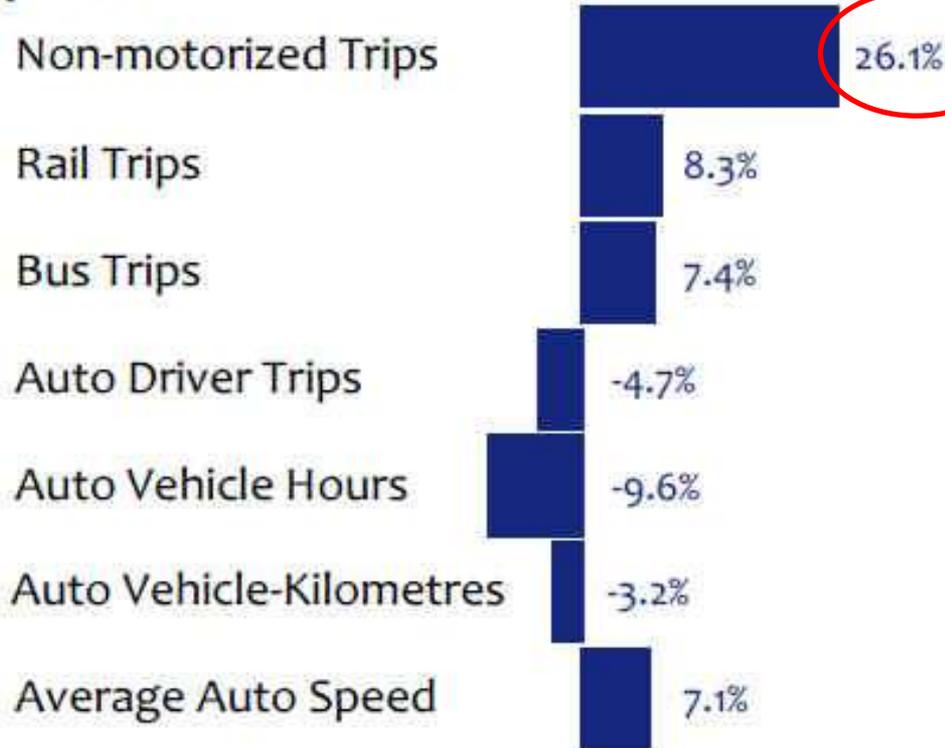
➡ Reduce the distance to travel and rely on walking, cycling and transit

➡ Concentrate development to facilitate walking, cycling and transit

➡ Accept congestion during the peak period

# Sprawl vs. Intensification

## The Impact of Land Use: Compact vs. Spread



Note: Modelled difference between compact and spread scenarios.

# 3. Transit

# The Transitway Downtown



Crushed under our own success:  
180 buses per hour clogging the downtown core and capping transit capacity

# Confederation Line LRT

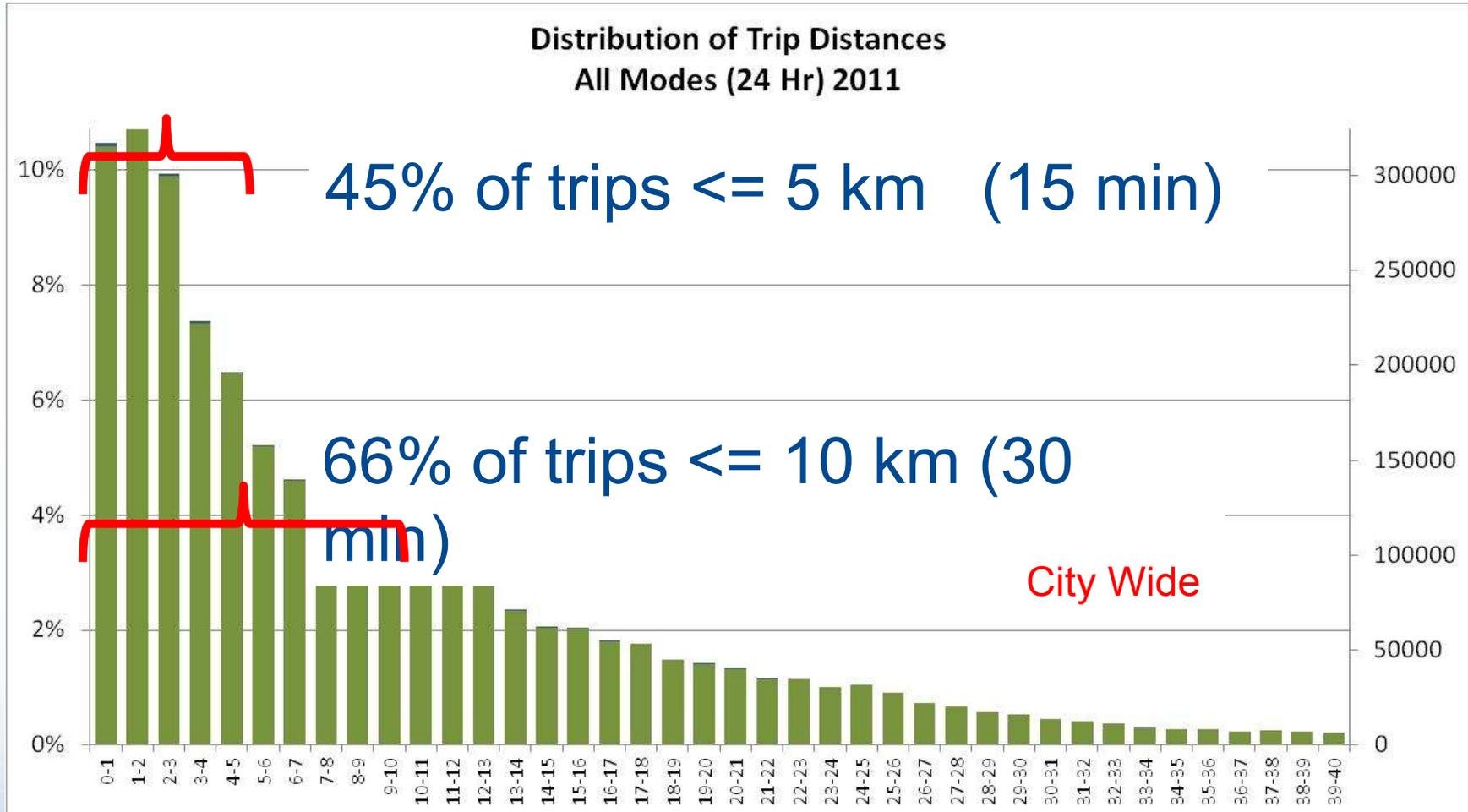




# Active Transportation and Complete Streets

- Why are Complete Streets important?
- How to build them?

# How Far Do We Travel?

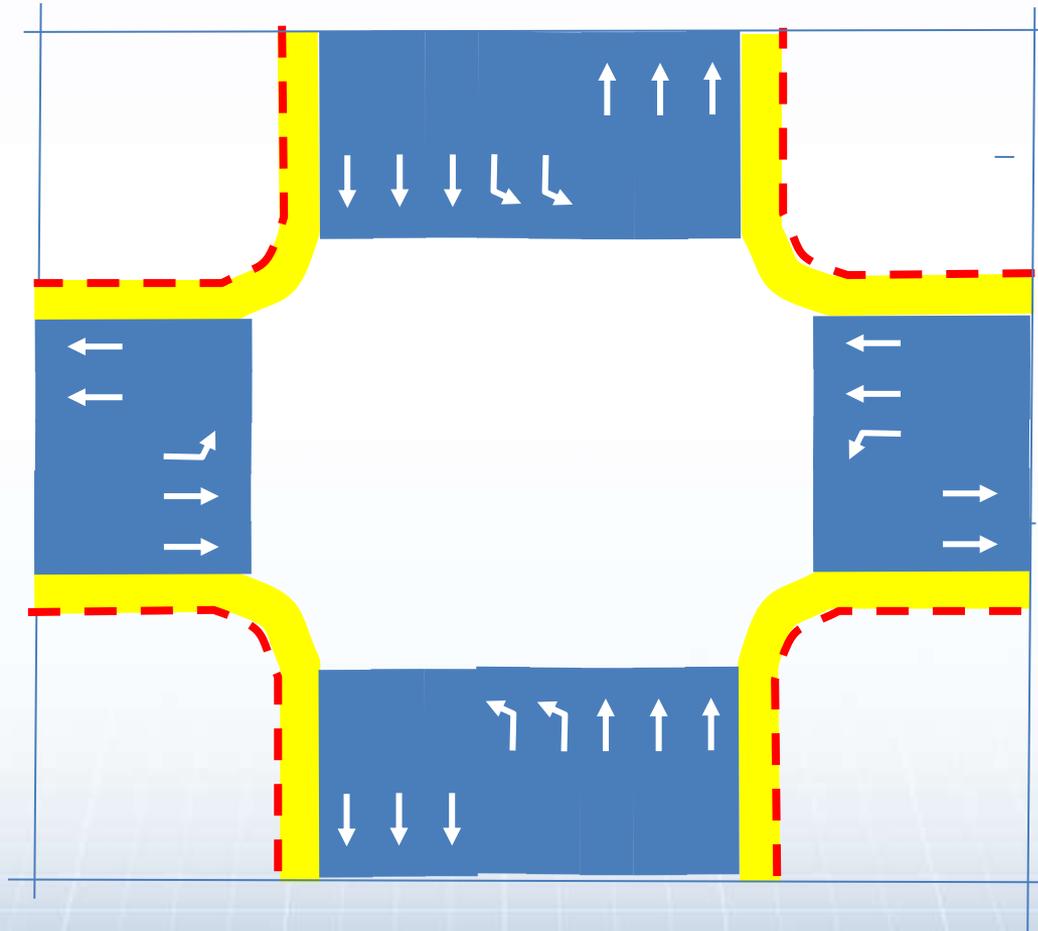


Source: 2011 OD Survey , Ottawa

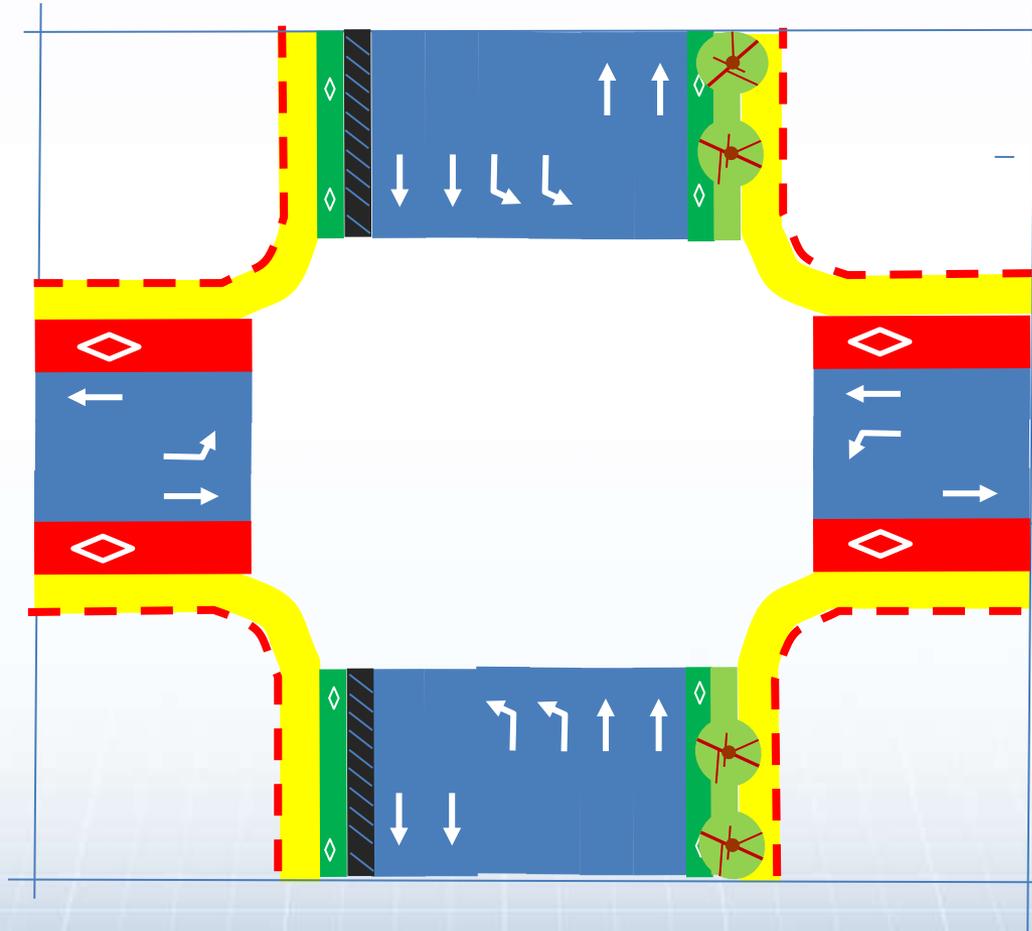




# Auto Centric Approach

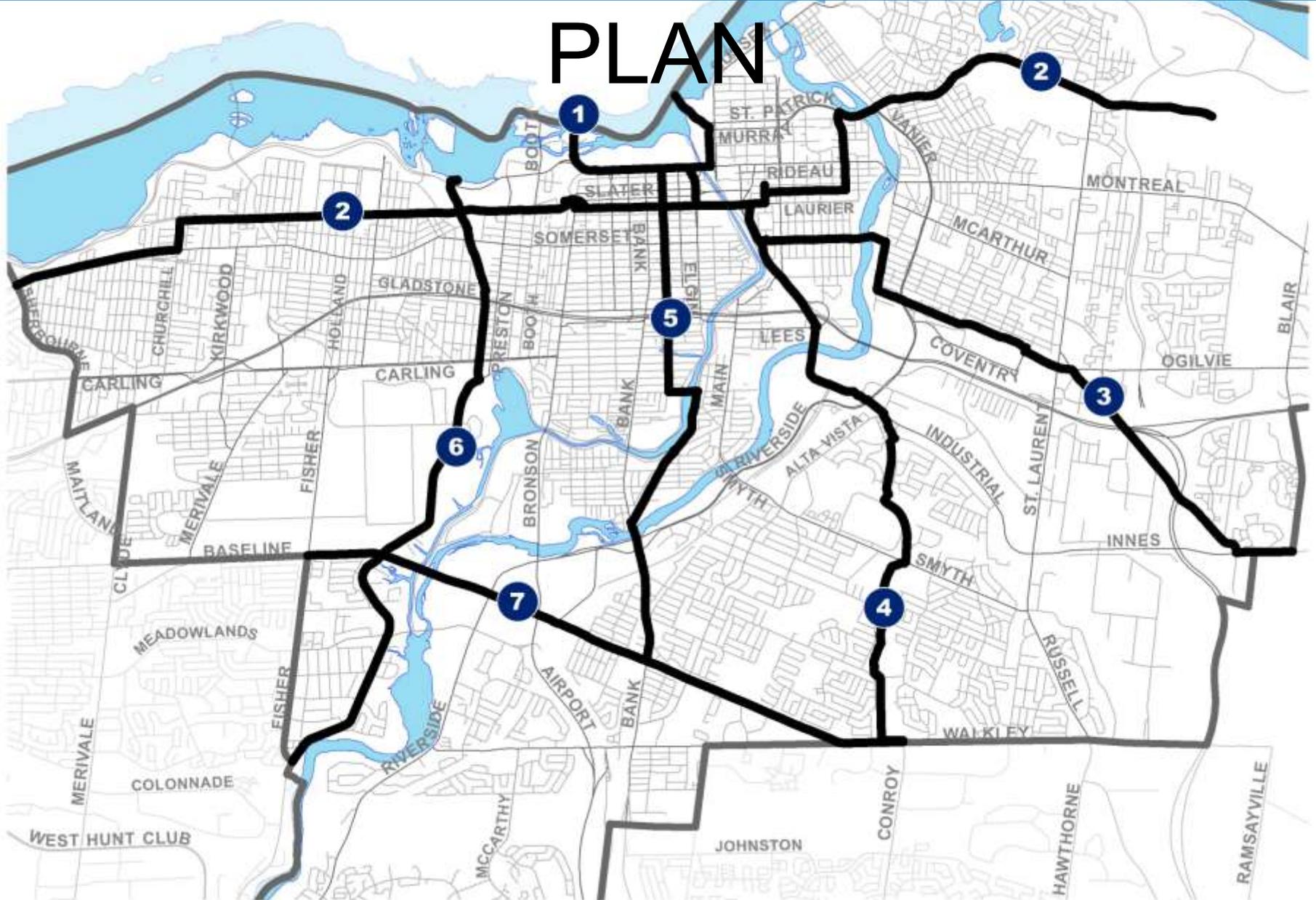


# Complete Street Approach



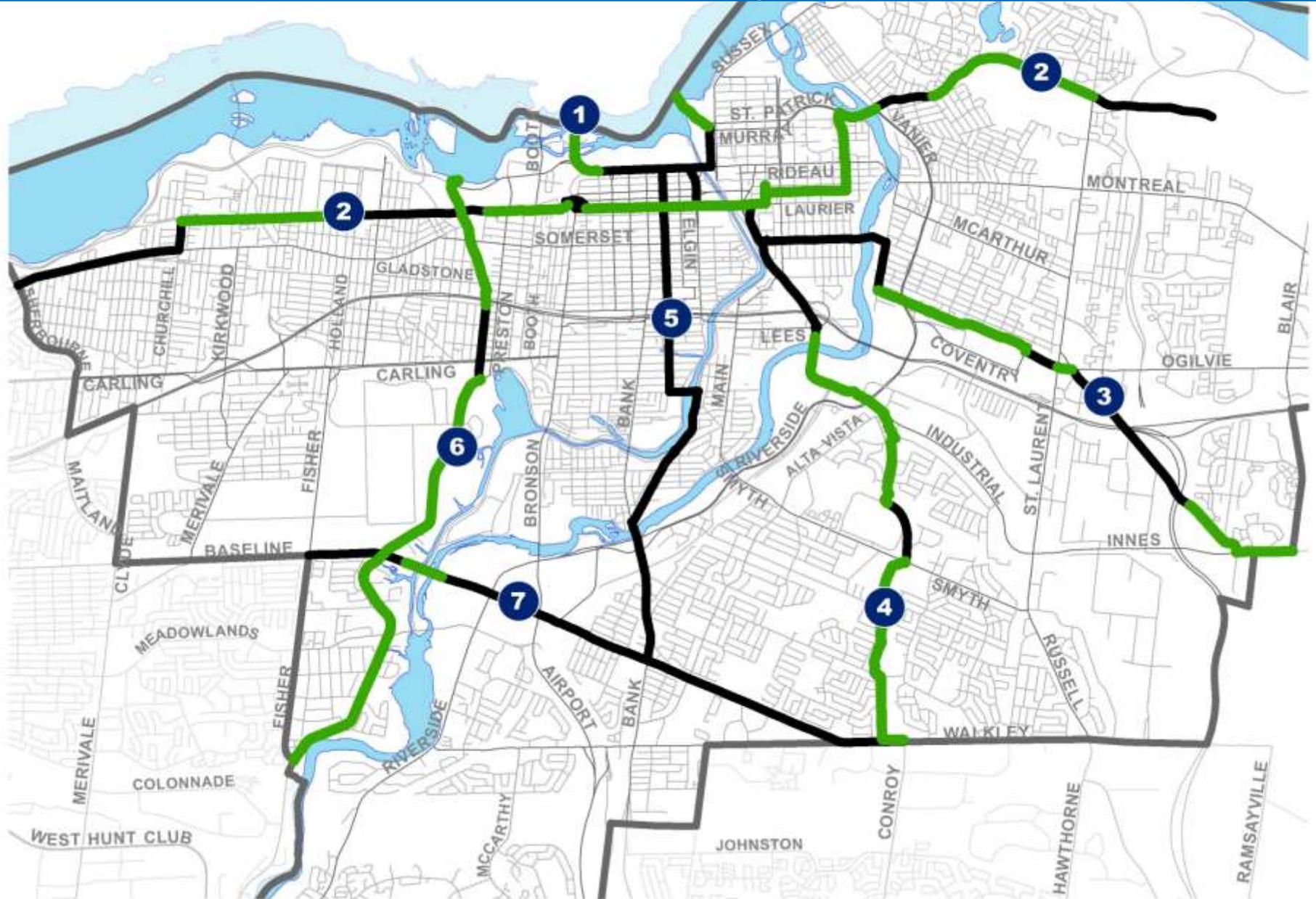
# Central Area Bikeway Network

## PLAN

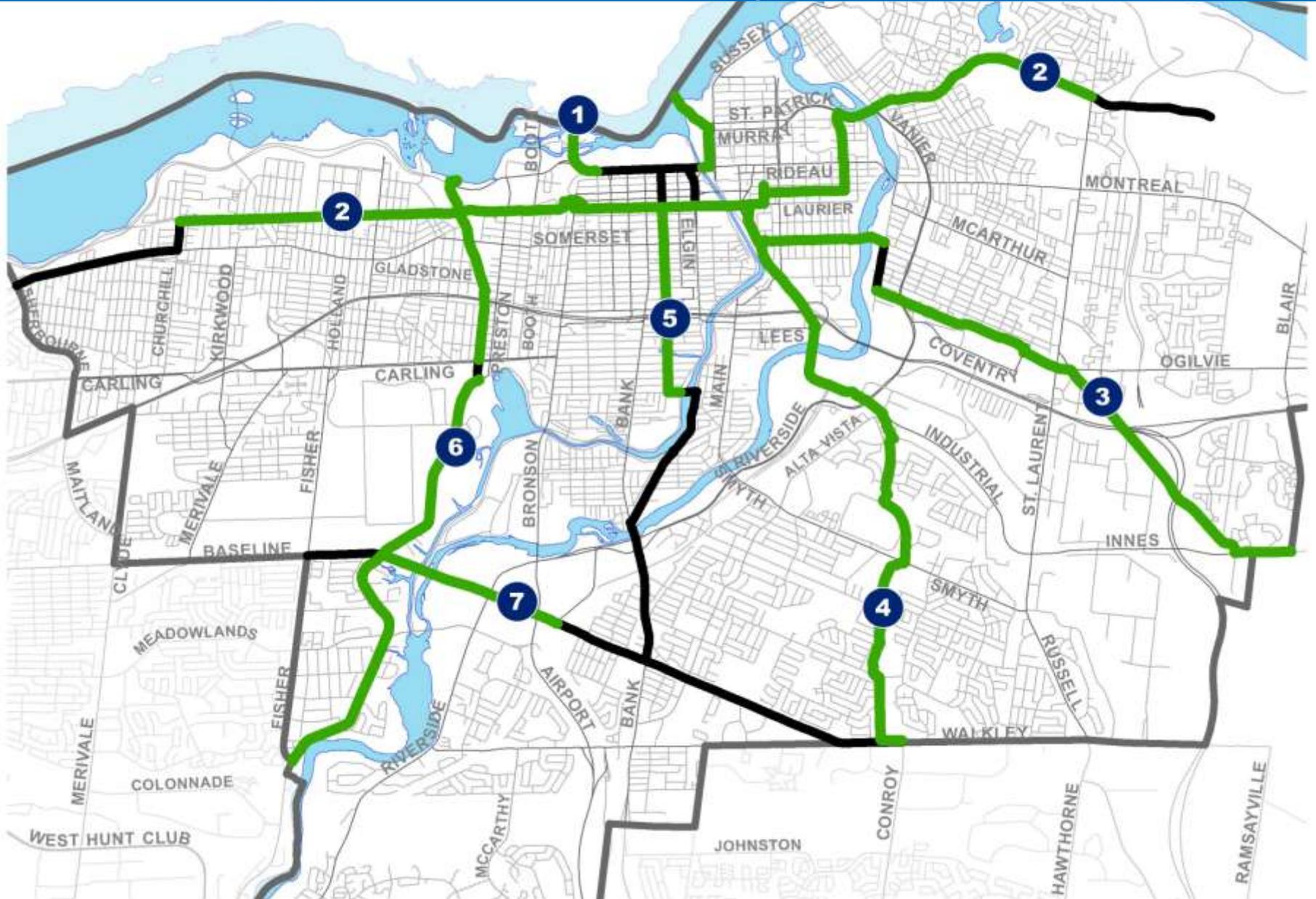




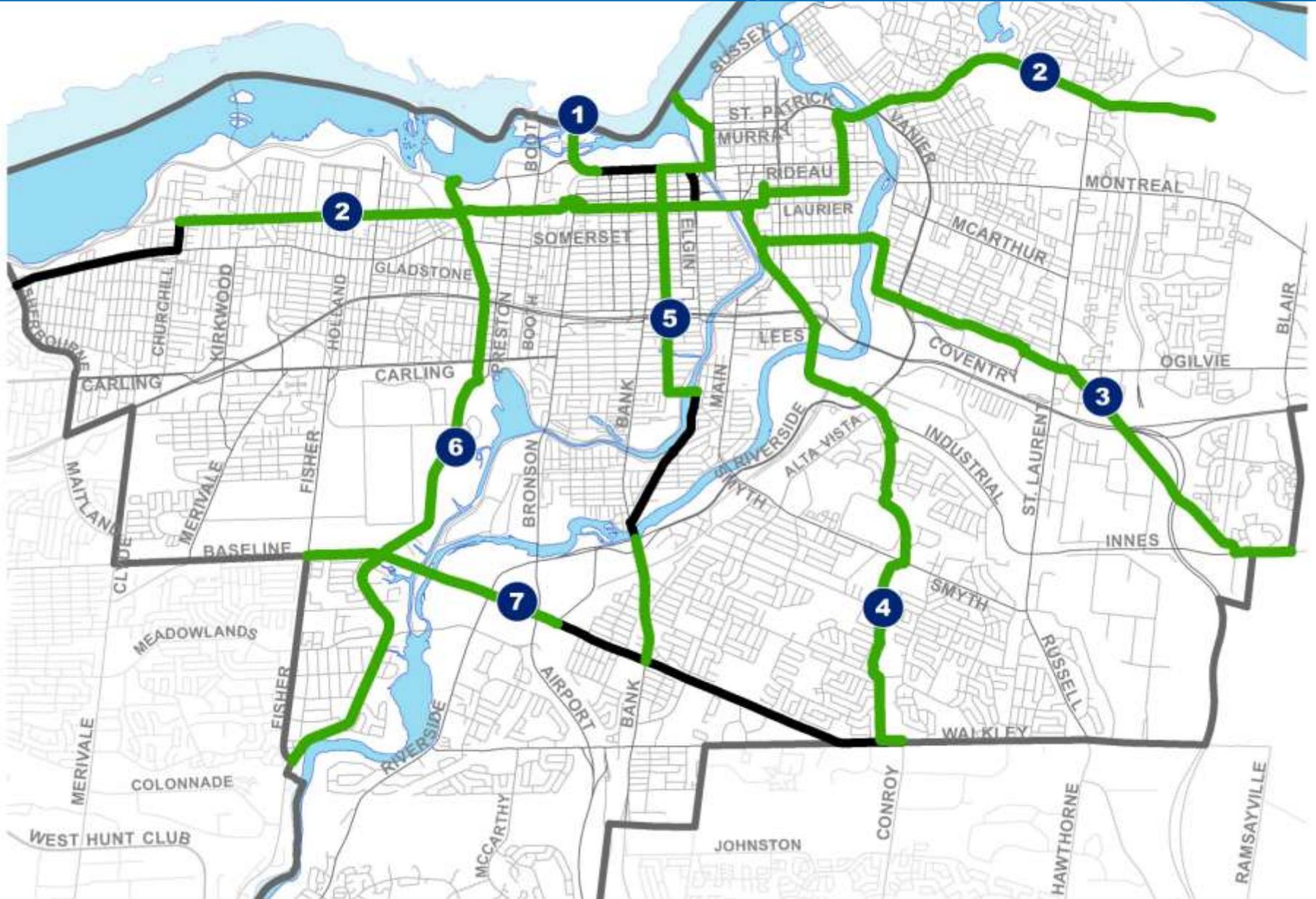
# Central Area Bikeway Network 2014



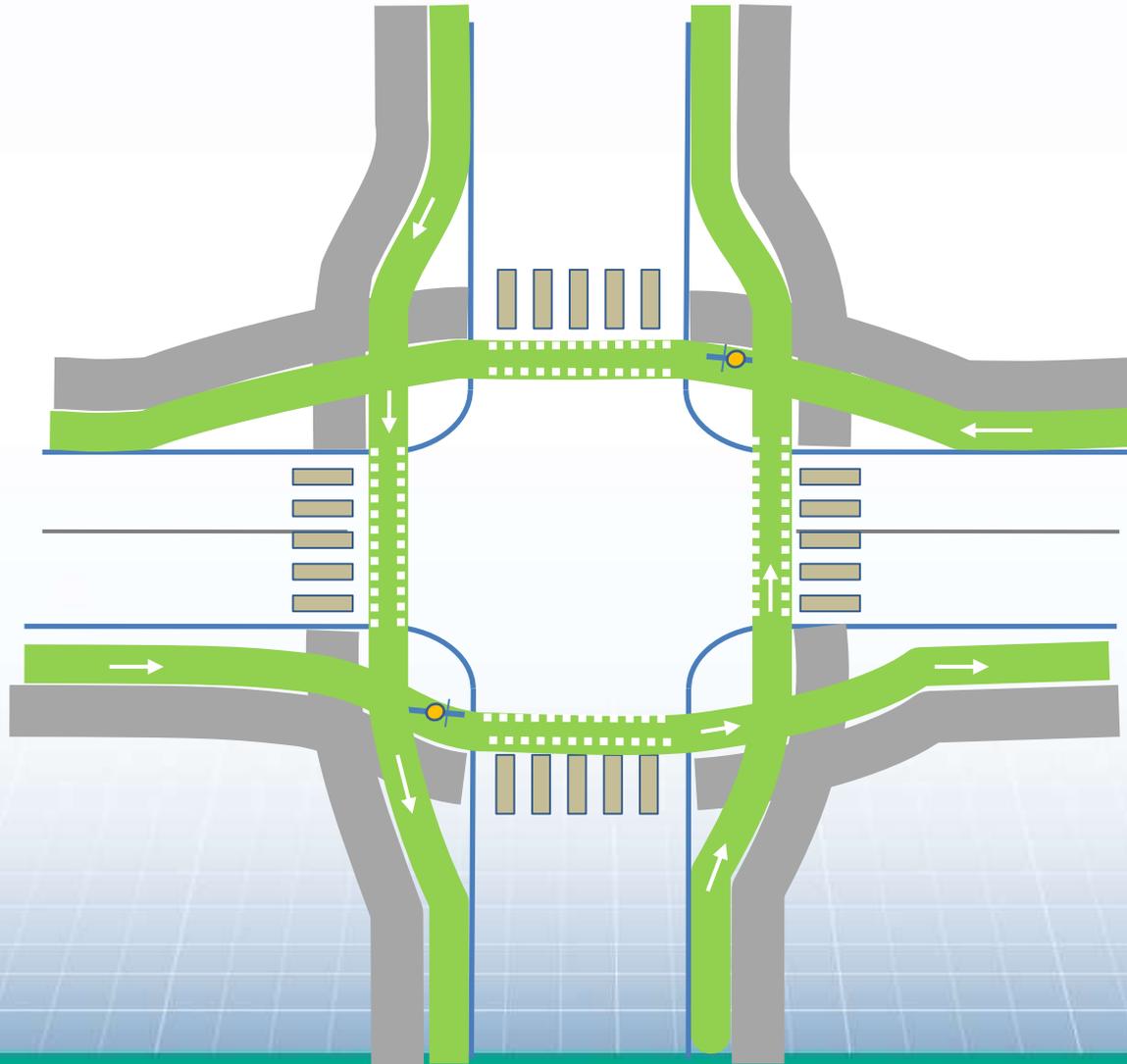
# Central Area Bikeway Network 2018



# Central Area Bikeway Network 2022



# Protected Intersection Concept





# Ottawa's 1<sup>st</sup> Protected Intersection

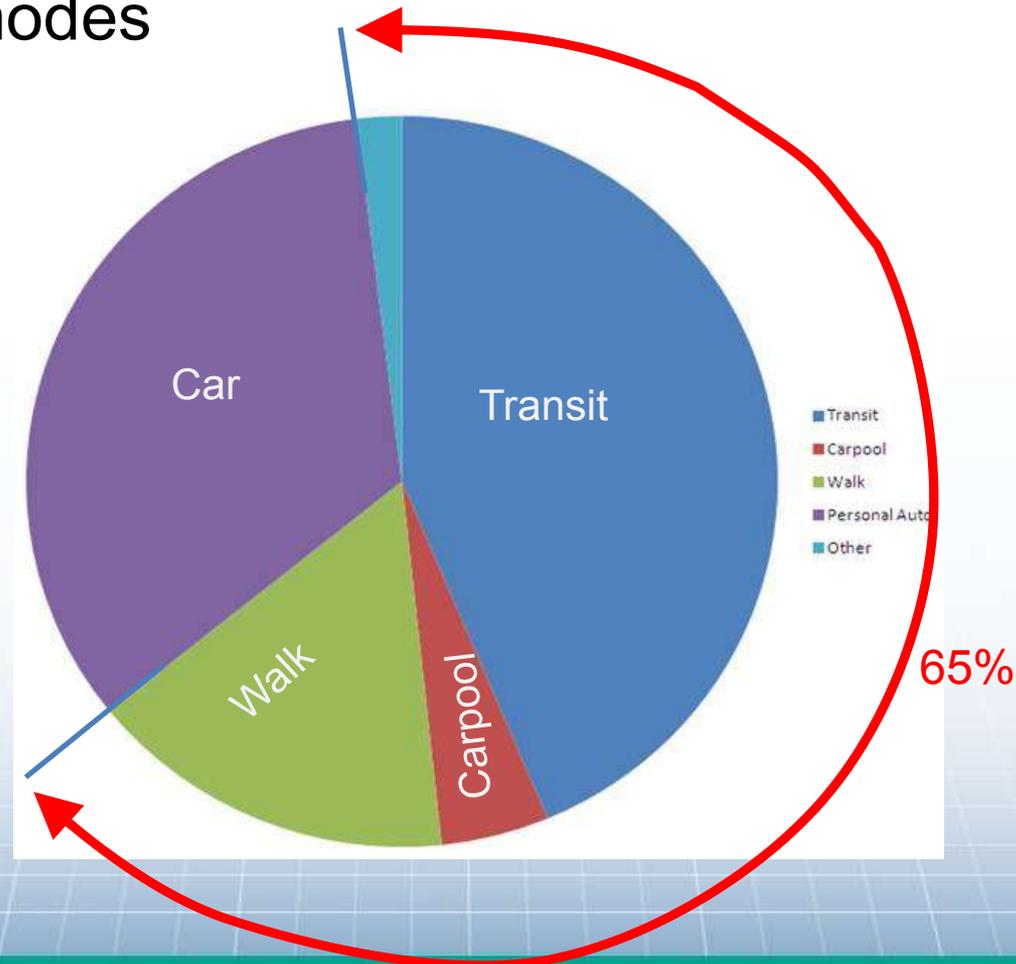


# Winter Cycling



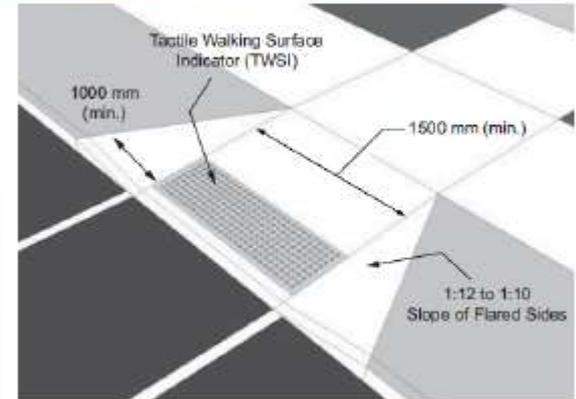
# Winter Cycling?

65% of cyclists who stop cycling in winter switch to sustainable modes

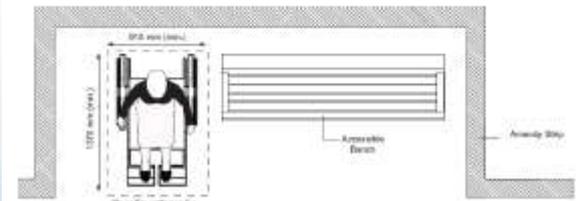


# Accessibility for All

- Accommodating people of all abilities is integral to the design of pedestrian friendly streets



Source: Accessibility Design Standards, City of Ottawa, November 2012



Source: Accessibility Design Standards, City of Ottawa, November 2012

# Recent Complete Streets Projects

# St. Laurent Boulevard



Shared lane



Painted bicycle lane

# Adawe Bridge



Seasonal bridge



Permanent bridge

# Coventry Road



Shared lane



Cycle track

# Montreal Road



Shared lane



Painted bicycle lane



Cycle track

# St. Patrick Street



Shared lane



Cycle track

# Fifth Avenue



Shared lane



Painted bicycle lane

# Churchill Avenue



Shared lane



Cycle track

# Future Complete Street Projects

# O'Connor Street



# Main Street



An aerial perspective of a modern urban street. A multi-lane road with a central white median runs vertically. A red and white tram is stopped at a station on the right side of the road. Several cars are visible on the road. To the right, there is a large, modern building with a grid of windows and a glass facade. In the foreground, there are green trees and a paved area. The word "Questions" is overlaid in large yellow text in the center of the image.

Questions

A background image showing a dense forest of trees with light green foliage, viewed from a low angle looking up. The image is semi-transparent and overlaid on a grid pattern.

# Zoning

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# Proposed Zoning Amendments

- Increase the number of zones where a farmer's market is a permitted use
- Broaden the meaning of the land use term **community garden** to include urban food production
- Allow residents to grow food and share, donate or sell it
- Allow residents to lease yard



Photo: Edible Ottawa

# Building Better and Smarter Suburbs

- BBSS is an ongoing initiative to **resolve spatial conflicts** in new **greenfield suburbs** while improving **urban design & liveability**
- Project components that will contribute to **healthier communities**:
  - ✓ More connected street networks that support active transportation
  - ✓ Traffic calming built in as part of initial road construction
  - ✓ Improved tree planting in marine clay soils
  - ✓ New park typologies for smaller sites
  - ✓ Better retention of mature trees



# Zoning Study on Local Shops and Services in Residential Neighbourhoods



A background image of a dense forest of trees with light green foliage, overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. The image is framed by a blue and green geometric border at the top and bottom.

# Why Nature Matters

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# Natural Areas | Espaces naturels



# Ottawa's Forests

## City-managed Forests

- 300,000 plus street trees
- 10,000 ha of Community Forests
- 900 parks with trees

## Privately-managed Forests

- Farm woodlots
- Privately-owned trees
- Commercial forests, maple syrup operations

# Examples

- Main Street Complete Street – Greystone
- Richardson Ridge, Kanata
- Community Sugar Bush in South Kanata
- Stewardship of Natural Areas



# Summary

- Contact with nature benefits people of all ages, income groups and abilities
- Trees buffer noise, offer shade, reduce effect of heat islands, lower air pollution
- Contact with green space increases physical activity
- Time outside strengthens family relationships and gives a sense of community

