

TOWN OF MIDDLETON	
CODE C - COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
Subject: Active Transportation Policy	Number: 3.2
Coverage: Staff, Council	Approved by: Council
Effective Date: June 18, 2018	Revision Date:

Purpose

Active transportation includes any form of human powered movement such as walking and biking as well as jogging, skateboarding, canoeing, kayaking, inline skating, snowshoeing, skiing and any other form of non-mechanized wheelchairs.

The purpose of The Active Transportation Policy is to optimize the people of Middleton’s opportunities to be active regardless of age, ability or socio-economic status, enhance the health, happiness and wellbeing of our community while being environmentally conscious by decreasing the impact on the ecosystem.

Guiding Principles

- a. We will both create and satisfy demand by building facilities, infrastructure and programs that people will want to use.
- b. Parents and children of school communities are vital in rebuilding a culture that wants to use active transportation.
- c. Embracing the ideas that come from all users is imperative to building an active and healthy community.
- d. When real or perceived barriers are removed, people will make an easy choice to participate in active transportation.
- e. Middleton can be a Recreational Hub in the Province of Nova Scotia and will set a positive example for other communities as we reach our active transportation goals.
- f. We recognize that walking and cycling are social activities and will encourage people to interact. This will help strengthen our community even further as we build stronger bodies and stronger minds.

Goals

While utilizing the natural resources in Middleton and surrounding area we can promote active transportation and improve the health, wellbeing and happiness of our residents through encouraging active lifestyles, regardless of age, ability and socio-economic status. With our current Recreational Program, we can build the foundation for a strong healthy community that can be the hub of the Valley and a recreational model for other communities.

Partnering with local businesses to encourage active transportation and highlighting points of interest in the community using active transportation as a focus, will contribute to economic and tourism development in our area. Achieving a well connected and comprehensive active transportation program to encourage healthy lifestyles, enhanced social and environmental conditions will attract new families, businesses and workers to our community.

- To promote physically active lifestyles.
- To encourage community involvement.
- To encourage a partnership between the Town, community and local businesses to work together to promote active transportation as a lifestyle.
- To add to the image and vitality of our community and promote tourism and local business.
- To attract new families to the area.
- To connect the community with pathways and trails to connect parks, schools and businesses.

Policy Statements

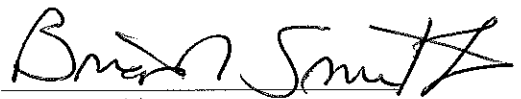
- a. The Town of Middleton recognizes that active transportation infrastructure includes but is not limited to: sidewalks, paved shoulders, bike lanes, multi-use trails, bike racks, floating dock, safe crossings, groomed trails, gravel shoulders, safe streets, street lighting.
- b. The target population in Middleton is people of all ages, children, youth, seniors and disabled populations. This means we will be considerate of wheelchair / motorized scooter access and access for parents walking with strollers as well as able bodied persons.
- c. The Town of Middleton will adopt the Walking Charter, developed through Walk 21 (attached).
- d. The Town of Middleton will strive to provide a network of pathways for walking and cycling with dedicated and usable space providing greater visibility, safe lighting, stable pathways, predictable traffic movements, appropriate functional speeds and options for selected routes.
- e. Active Transportation will be incorporated into existing roads but should be considered in the initial phases of all new street and public space projects to avoid the expense of retrofit costs later.
- f. The Town should annually review the active transportation improvement opportunities as part of the capital and operating budget process.
- g. Active Transportation Principles should be considered when land use planning policies are being reviewed in the Municipal Planning Strategy.
- h. The Town should establish an infrastructure maintenance program to ensure all trails, paths, docks etc. are kept in good repair and remain accessible, safe and upgraded as needed.
- i. Raising awareness of the benefits of active transportation options and the benefits of active, healthy living, recreation and sustainable communities through advertising, social media, community involvement and special event campaigns is an important part of our AT Policy.

- j. Educate the public about their rights and responsibility as drivers, cyclists and pedestrians through outreach and educational campaigns.
- k. Improve signage and road markings for existing pedestrian and cycling pathways and end of trip facilities and repair stations.

Certification

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that this policy was duly passed by a majority vote of the whole Council at a duly called Council meeting held on the 18th day of July 2018.

GIVEN under the hand of the Interim CAO and under the seal of the Town of Middleton this 18th day of July 2018.



Brian T. Smith
Interim Chief Administrative Officer



International Charter for Walking

**Creating healthy, efficient and sustainable communities
where people choose to walk**

We, the undersigned recognize the benefits of walking as a key indicator of healthy, efficient, socially inclusive and sustainable communities and acknowledge the universal rights of people to be able to walk safely and to enjoy high quality public spaces anywhere and at anytime. We are committed to reducing the physical, social and institutional barriers that limit walking activity. We will work with others to help create a culture where people choose to walk through our commitment to this charter and its strategic principles:

1. *Increased inclusive mobility*
2. *Well designed and managed spaces and places for people*
3. *Improved integration of networks*
4. *Supportive land-use and spatial planning*
5. *Reduced road danger*
6. *Less crime and fear of crime*
7. *More supportive authorities*
8. *A culture of walking*

Signed **The Town of Middleton**

Name **Sylvester Atkinson**

Position **Mayor**

June 4th, 2018



www.walk21.com