

Meeting Notes

New Minas Secondary Plan

2021.02.22, 6:30pm to 8:00pm

Louis Millett Centre

1. Opening

- » Market Demand Study is complete, with the final report attached to the agenda.
- » Urban Design + Active Transportation study is at preliminary results phase, which is the focus of today's meeting.
- » Transportation Study has collected traffic data and is working to build a traffic model for New Minas. This will be used to inform decisions about potential development scenarios.
- » Formative engagement is just about complete. UPLAND is following up with a few stakeholders. A preliminary engagement report will be available for next meeting.

2. Project Update

- » Survey results generally showed support for contemporary suburban style development
- » A lot of support for multi-use pathways see
 - Q: do results show correlation among survey answers? E.g. where is support for multi-use pathways coming from?
- » Positive sentiment about new multi-units
- » People indicated preference for commercial closer to street
- » Discussion: Wayfinding signage is really important
- » Discussion: concern about mixed-use trails with mixing of bicycles and pedestrians
 - Maybe it's an issue of standards and needing to have trails that are wide enough.
 - AV Trails Coalition is going to do a "trail etiquette" campaign
 - Some conflict on Harvest Moon Trail may be result of mix of recreation users + people using it for transportation
- » Discussion: Proposed multi-use should connect to Falcon Drive
 - Highbury School Road could use a connection too
- » Discussion: Did Horton High connection get considered?
 - Outside New Minas, but UPLAND will consider as part of county-wide AT plan
- » Discussion: Multi-use trail on Commercial Street between Prospect Road and New Minas Connector?
 - Property lines make it challenging, will take a lot of will

3. Urban Design + Active Transportation Preliminary Results

- » Discussion: did electrical wire undergrounding come up?
 - A little bit in open responses to survey
- » Discussion: Any possibility of at connection for maple drive down to commercial
 - Was a planned roadway at one point
- » Discussion: Any possibility of more connections into Harvest Moon Trail?
 - Connection past Lafarge plant? Outside of New Minas but can consider in wider AT plan
 - Connection at end of garden court?
- » Discussion: Cornwallis Avenue is sometimes is gated past the church
- » Discussion: Connection into Kentville Ravine could be done from Kent parking lot area.
 - Is there a GIS shape file for Ravine trail?
- » Discussion: From an AT perspective there will need to be connection under highway to expansion lands.
 - Culvert by water tower?
- » Discussion: Existing pedestrian beg buttons at signalized intersections don't work well and crosswalk lighting is hard to see
- » Urban design recommendations:
 - Access control
 - Pedestrian connection
 - Landscaped setback
 - Mixed-use intensification
 - Reduce parking requirements in Land Use By-law
- » **Action:** UPLAND to circulate presentation to Working Group
- » **Action:** UPLAND to forward Cornwallis River idea to WSP

4. Market Demand Study

- » Discussion tabled until next meeting, in which we will start laying the foundation of a direction for the Secondary Plan

5. Closing

- » Next scheduled meeting is March 15th