

January 8, 2024

Dear property owner(s),

Musquodoboit Harbour has been prioritized for construction of a sidewalk or multi-use pathway on Trunk 7 in the centre of the community. The next step in the implementation process is community engagement on the possibility of adding an area tax rate to enable Musquodoboit Harbour's eligibility for the sidewalk or multi-use pathway. You are being contacted because property(s) you own is/are within the proposed area rate boundary.

This project is part of the new Rural Active Transportation Program to help create safe, sustainable, and accessible places for people to walk and potentially bicycle. The area tax rate would be \$33 per \$100,000 of assessed property value to property owners within the approved area rate boundary. This rate would be applied in perpetuity after the sidewalk or multi-use pathway is substantially completed. Regional Council will make the decision on the area tax rate and area rate boundary based in part on community feedback.

You can learn more about this initiative and share your feedback between January 15 and February 15, 2024:

- 1) Review **Project Overview** and **Proposed Area Rate Boundary Map** included in this letter.
- 2) Attend one of the **in-person public engagement sessions** noted below.
- 3) Visit the **project website** and fill out the **survey** at: [www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/rural-active-transportation](http://www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/rural-active-transportation).
- 4) Contact the **Project Manager** identified at the end of this letter, to discuss or obtain a paper copy of the survey by mail.

## In-Person Public Engagement: Open house and Presentation

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

**Session One:** 1:30PM to 3:30PM

**Session Two:** 6:00PM to 8:00PM

**Old School Community Gathering Place, 7962 Hwy# 7, Musquodoboit Harbour, NS**

Refreshments will be provided.

Meeting will be re-scheduled to **Wednesday, February 7, 2024**, if schools and/or municipal services are closed for the day due to inclement weather.

### Project Overview

The Halifax Regional Municipality's new Rural Active Transportation Program was approved by Regional Council on February 8, 2022. This program prioritizes construction of new sidewalks or multi-use pathways (wider paved pathways for both walking and biking/cycling) in rural communities to provide safer places for people to walk, roll (e.g., use a mobility device), or bike and support overall community development.

On February 7, 2023, Council adopted the Administrative Order Number 2022-008-ADM Respecting the Implementation of Area Rates to Fund Sidewalks Outside of the Urban Tax Area in the Halifax Regional Municipality to direct the implementation of the Rural Active Transportation Program.

Five rural communities in the municipality have been prioritized for implementation of a sidewalk or multi-use pathway on the mainstreet of their community centre and are now being engaged on the area tax rate and proposed area rate boundary. If approved for Musquodoboit Harbour, the next step would be to plan, design and build the sidewalk or multi-use pathway. The planning and design phase will build on work already completed by the Musquodoboit Harbour & Area Chamber of Commerce & Civic Affairs in the Musquodoboit Harbour Community Development Plan.


### Proposed Area Rate Boundary

The proposed area rate boundary (as shown in the attached map) for Musquodoboit Harbour includes Musquodoboit Harbour; West Petpeswick; East Petpeswick; Smiths Settlement; Ostrea Lake; Pleasant Point; West Jeddore; Head of Jeddore; Myers Point.

This proposed boundary was determined using data such as:

- travel patterns as determined by travel monitoring data;
- school catchment boundaries; and
- concentration and use of community amenities (e.g., grocery stores, regional services, recreation, etc.).

The boundary proposed to Council will be informed by community and stakeholder feedback.

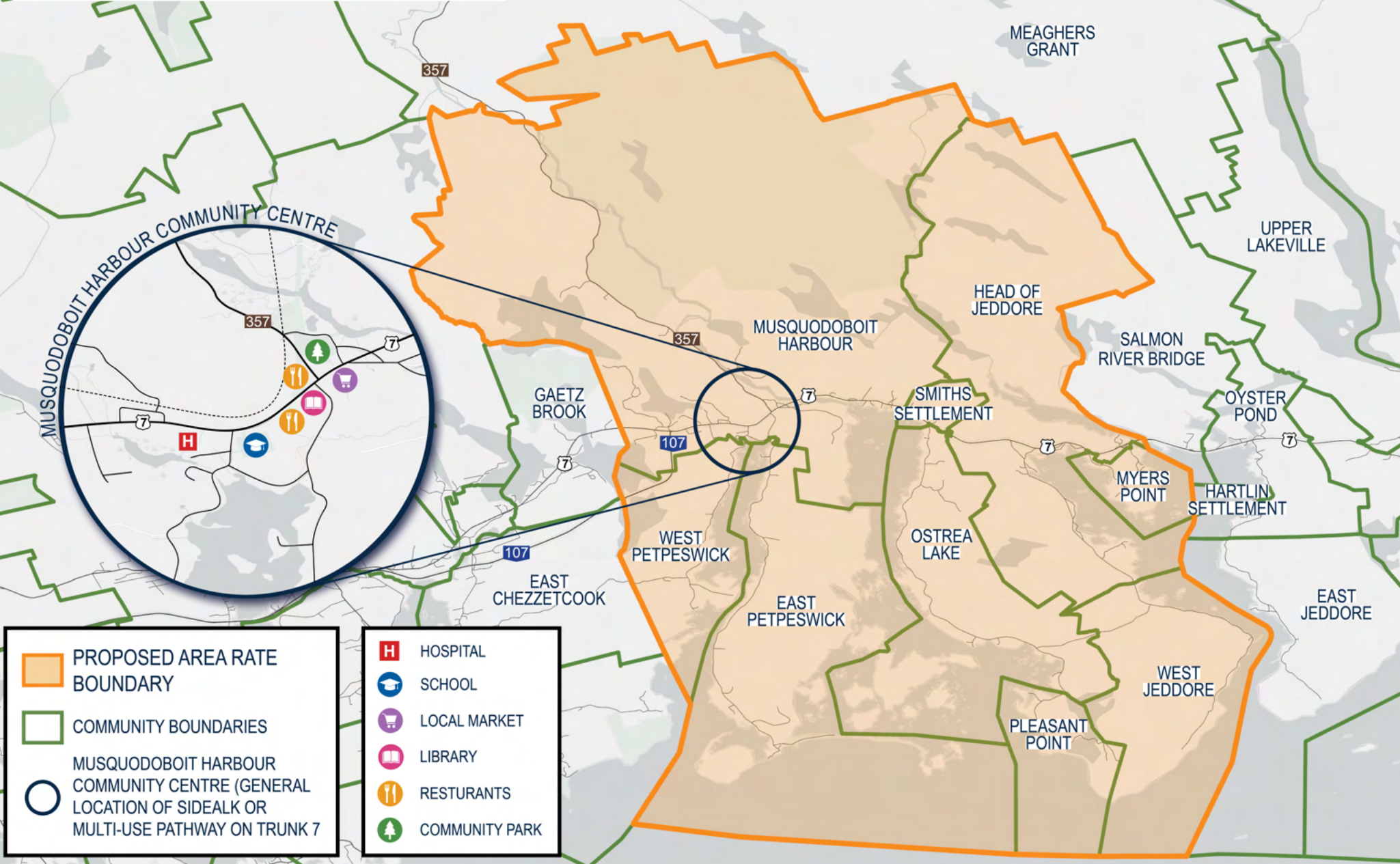
Sincerely, 

Emma Martin, Project Manager, Active Transportation Rural Area Rate Project

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# MUSQUODOBOIT HARBOUR PROPOSED AREA RATE BOUNDARY



- PROPOSED AREA RATE BOUNDARY
- COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES
- MUSQUODOBOIT HARBOUR COMMUNITY CENTRE (GENERAL LOCATION OF SIDEWALK OR MULTI-USE PATHWAY ON TRUNK 7)

- HOSPITAL
- SCHOOL
- LOCAL MARKET
- LIBRARY
- RESTURANTS
- COMMUNITY PARK