



January 8, 2024

Dear property owner(s),

Porters Lake 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 Porters Lake's eligibility for the sidewalk or multi-use pathway. You are being contacted because property(s) you own 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.
- 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

Monday, January 22, 2024

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

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

Porters Lake Community Centre (Bingo Hall) 4693 Hwy# 7, Porters Lake, NS

Refreshments will be provided.

Meeting will be re-scheduled to **Monday, February 5, 2024** only 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 Porters Lake, the next step would be to plan, design and build the sidewalk or multi-use pathway. The planning and design phase would build on work already completed by the Porters Lake Business Association in the Porters Lake Infrastructure Investment Plan.

Proposed Area Rate Boundary

The proposed area rate boundary (as shown in the attached map) for Porters Lake includes Porters Lake; Middle Porters Lake; West Porters Lake; East Lawrencetown; Three Fathom Harbour; Lower Three Fathom Harbour; Seaforth; Grand Desert; West Chezzetcook; Head of Chezzetcook; East Chezzetcook; Lower East Chezzetcook; Conrod Settlement; and Gaetz Brook.

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

Telephone 902.490.4920

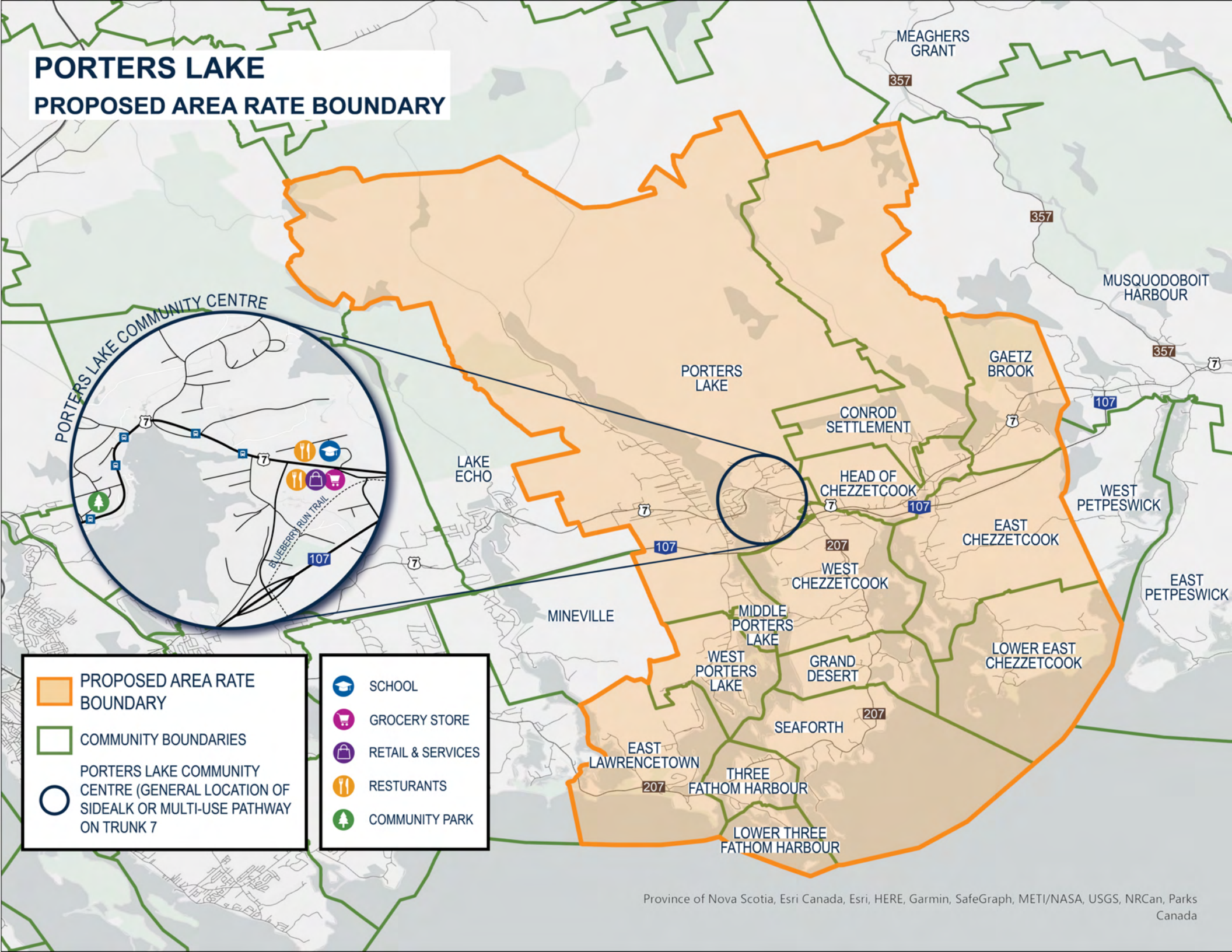
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HALIFAX

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PORTERS LAKE PROPOSED AREA RATE BOUNDARY



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

-  SCHOOL
-  GROCERY STORE
-  RETAIL & SERVICES
-  RESTURANTS
-  COMMUNITY PARK