



A Connected City

How We Move & How We Grow

What is A Connected City?

A Connected City is about connecting how we grow with how we move. It is about getting around easily, sustainably, and safely to the places and spaces that matter to us most.

How we live and move are connected.

Kitchener is growing. By 2051, we are planning to become a city of up to 450,000 people. New residents will need places to live, work, and play, and options to connect to these needs.

The distance between our everyday needs shapes the way we move between them. By focusing places we live, work, and play closer together through intensification, we can create opportunities for people to travel conveniently in more sustainable ways: walking, rolling, cycling, and transit, in addition to cars. By designing the connections between these places to prioritize safety, we can create healthier and vibrant communities that accommodate all road users.

The city-wide plans which guide how we move and grow are outdated.

Kitchener's current Transportation Master Plan was completed in 2013 and current Official Plan in 2014!

This is why we are coordinating the timing of our new Official Plan and Transportation Master Plan projects – presenting a huge opportunity to fully integrate the planning of growth, land use, and transportation infrastructure. Together these two documents will guide future decision making, investment, and implementation for years to come.



Did you know...

Transportation expenses are typically the second largest expense for households, following housing costs. By planning for housing and transportation together, we can help reduce the overall cost of living.

We are committed to designing safer, more complete streets, and building a network of active transportation routes across the whole city.

In recent years, and in response to new city-building challenges such as road safety and climate change, the City has also put in place many new transportation-related strategies – including the Vision Zero Strategy, Cycling and Trails Master Plan, and Complete Streets Guidelines, which will be carried forward through our new Transportation Master Plan. These three tools have affected big changes to how we plan and design our streets and trails.

What are 'Complete Streets'?

Complete Streets should be safe, comfortable, and convenient for all. Through every road reconstruction or new road project, we take the opportunity to improve the design and functionality of a street for all users – including pedestrians, cyclists, transit users, and drivers.



What is 'Vision Zero'?

We believe that no loss of life on our streets is acceptable. We want to eliminate serious injuries and death due to traffic collisions. Our Vision Zero strategy is a multi-year plan to get there by creating safer streets.

New energy-efficient homes, and other uses, closer to transit

Traveling in more sustainable ways, like public transit and shared cycling infrastructure

Weather-protected bus shelters and bike parking

Complete Streets that are comfortable for everyone

Planning for micro-mobility like bikes, electric scooters, and skateboards

Safe and accessible streets and trails that support active transportation, walking, and rolling