

The Welcome Lot

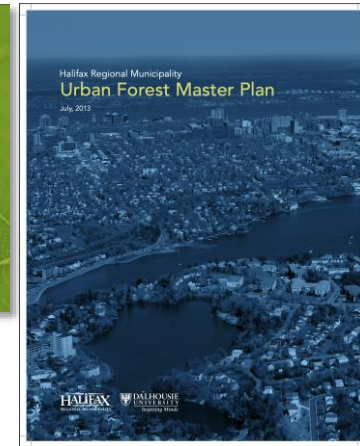
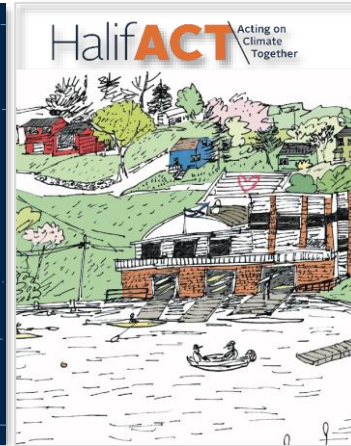
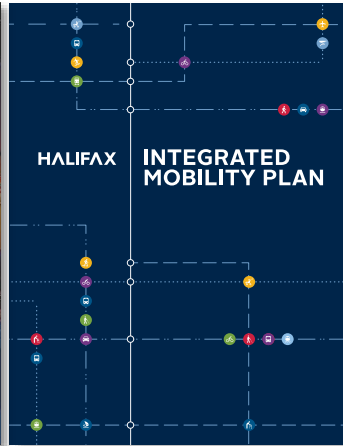
How parking lots can contribute to the Halifax low carbon pathway.

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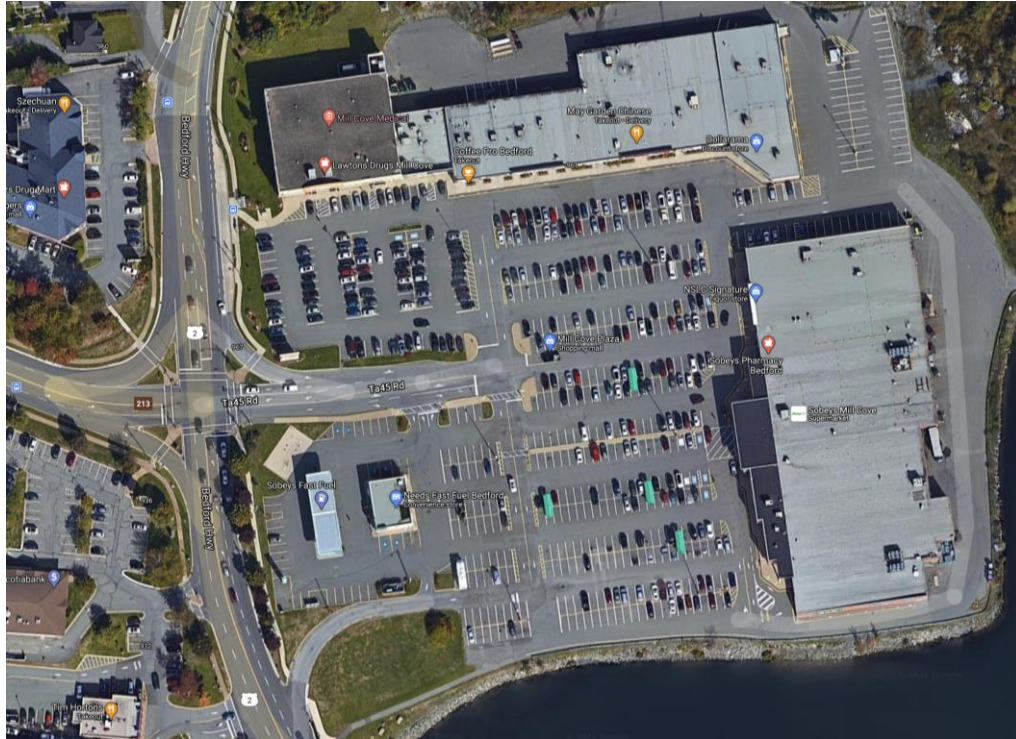
February 4th, 2021

Important plans and initiatives are in place to enhance the quality of life and improve resilience in Halifax.



The problem:

Parking lot design is working against these goals and plans.



Sobey's Mill Cove

The problem:

Parking lot design is working against these goals and plans.

Climate

- Discourages active transportation
- Encourages carbon-intensive trips in single-occupancy vehicles
- Limited support for natural systems
- Heat island effects

Water

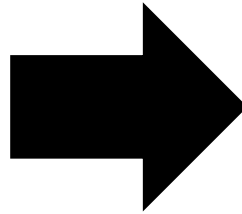
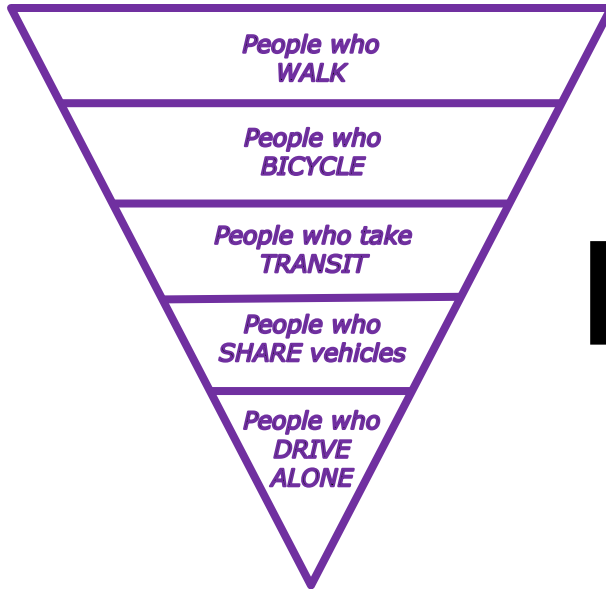
- Stormwater runoff
- Flood damage
- Local water pollution

Public Safety and Equity

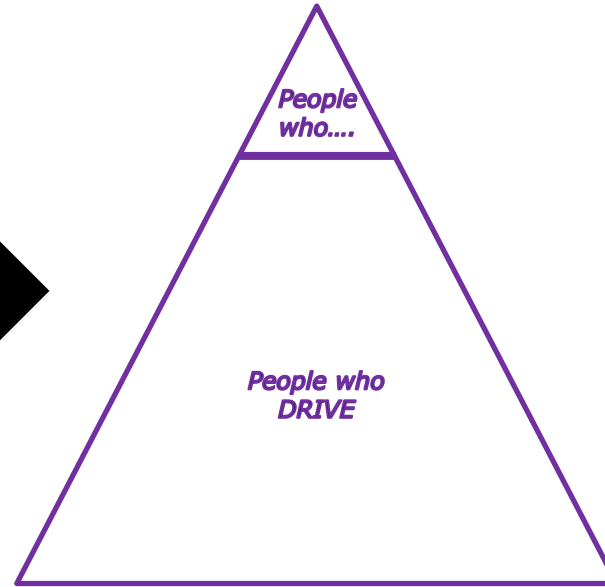
- Vulnerable users not protected
- Pedestrians and active transportation users at risk of dangerous conflicts with vehicles
- Cars and car movements are prioritized

The Complete Streets hierarchy is not followed in parking lots.

Complete Streets Hierarchy



Parking Lot Hierarchy?



The good news:

Parking lots offer significant, well-situated space to radically improve resilience in Halifax

Retail



*Shoppers Drug Mart
Almon St.*

Schools



*Caledonia Junior High School
Caledonia Road*

Community buildings



*Dartmouth North Community
Centre and Public Library
Highfield Park Dr.*

The Welcome Lot

Parking lots designed to encourage active transportation, improve connectivity, safety and comfort.

Active transportation prioritized

- Protected infrastructure for active transportation users
- Connections to on-street protected infrastructure
- Adequate, convenient racks / storage



Permeable surfaces and natural systems

- Deliver stormwater into the groundwater table, rather than storm drains
- Support additional natural systems for shade, air quality and biodiversity



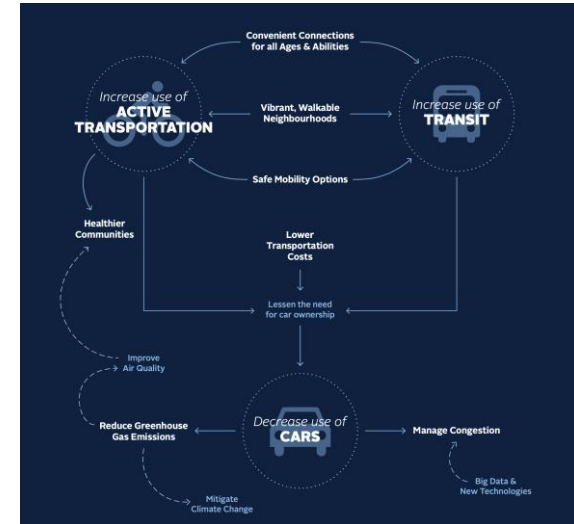
Safety and equity for all

- Vulnerable users protected
- Active transport users protected and prioritized
- Improved accessibility for all



The Welcome Lot can help create a more liveable, safer, resilient Halifax.

1. Encourage active transportation trips by eliminating a broken node in the active transportation network
2. Support the ability of Halifax residents to make personal mobility choices
3. Reduce stormwater runoff and improve local water quality
4. Reduce car trips and reduce GHG emissions
5. Improve support for the urban tree canopy



Many benefits for residents and the municipality.

Financial

- Reduced damage from stormwater runoff and flood damage
- Reduced investment in downstream climate mitigation
- Annual 'green dividend' from enhanced natural systems
- Reduced safety incidents






Environmental

- Reduced GHG emissions
- Positive contribution to Paris Agreement targets
- Enhanced urban tree canopy
- Improved water quality
- Improved air quality
- Reduced urban heat island effects
- Reduced car mode-share

Social

- Improved public space and social environments for citizen access
- Increased equity for all

Project team

	Planning and design	http://schollenandcompany.com
	Landscape and construction management	https://www.chandos.com/
	Sustainability advisor	http://sa-footprint.com/
	Permeable pavement supplier	https://www.purepave.ca/
<i>MJ Bemister Contracting</i>	Dartmouth-based PurePave installer	n/a
	Professional services	https://thisisthirdparty.com/

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brand utility.



Michael Szego

Founder, Third Party

- Michael is a consultant and founder and CEO of Third Party
- Third Party helps organization build tangible value for clients
- Focused on initiatives that build climate resiliency and support active transportation

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<https://thisisthirdparty.com/>

What are the next steps?

Desired outcome: 'pilot to policy' - a successful Welcome Lot implementation to influence Halifax infrastructure design policy

1. Identify candidate sites for a parking lot 'retrofit' as well as new development sites
2. Engage broader Halifax stakeholder groups
3. Determine funding sources (municipal, provincial, federal, commercial etc.)
4. Select two sites for development
5. Engage local non-profit organization for project stewardship
6. Develop project plans for approval

Discussion and Q & A

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