

Sustainable Rural Roads Master Plan

Public engagement summary report

February 2020



Strathcona County Sustainable Rural Roads Master Plan update

Public engagement: November 2019 to January 2020

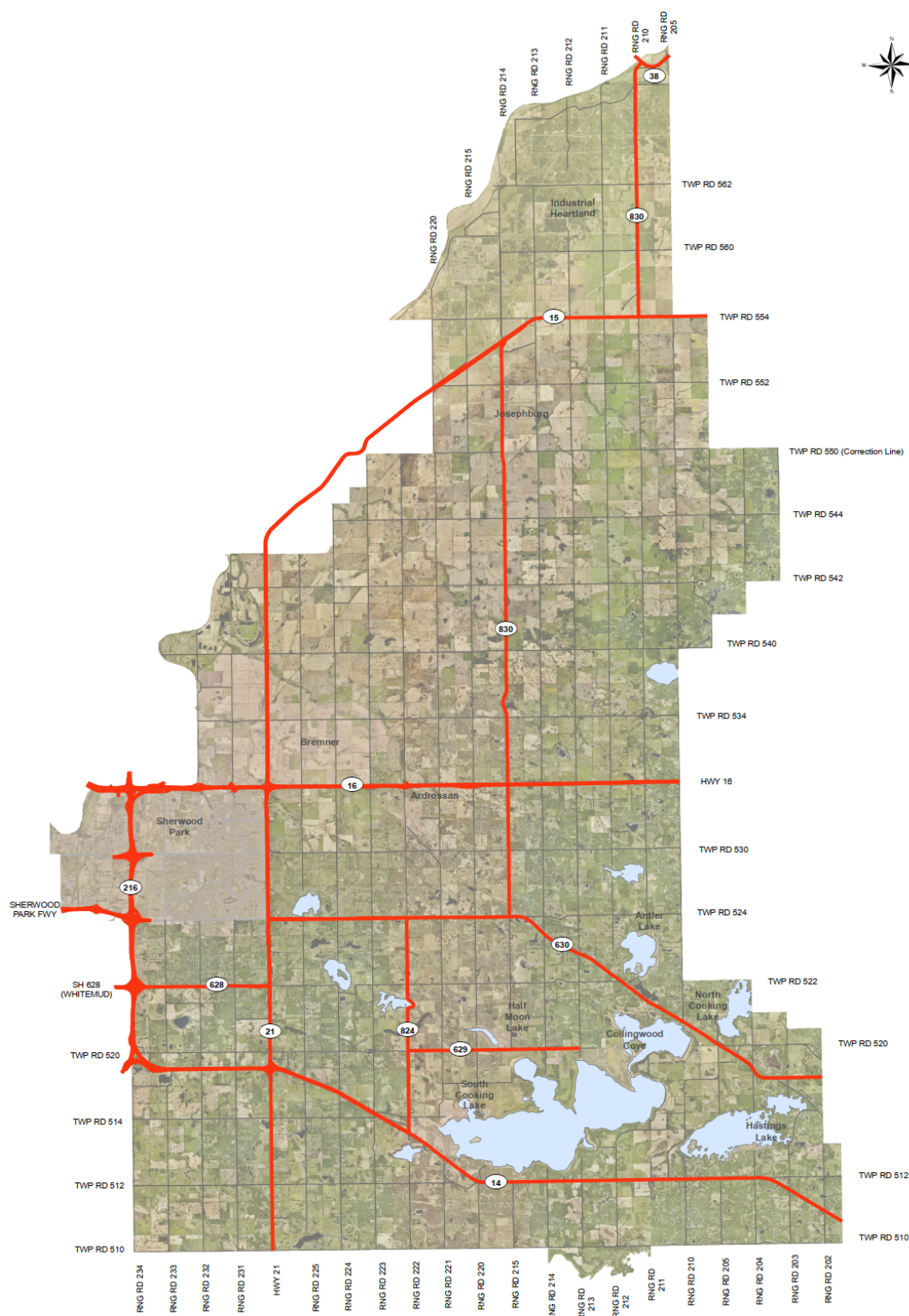
The Sustainable Rural Roads Master Plan (SRRMP) guides how Strathcona County's 1,300 kilometres of rural roads are maintained and rehabilitated. These rural roads include range and township roads, roads within country residential subdivisions and rural hamlets.

Strathcona County is working to update the SRRMP in 2020. The update will include:

- A review of the principles and recommendations of the 2010 SRRMP
- A review of the classification system for the rural roads
- A review of the prioritization strategy for improvements
- Alternatives for maintenance or short-term upgrade strategies while awaiting funding or conditions for full improvement
- Treatment of rural hamlet streets or other special areas (e.g., Heartland)
- It is important to understand the local conditions and experiences of the users that travel the roads each and every day. The information provided from the public will help gauge satisfaction of the state of the current roads and guide direction of County practices for rural road maintenance and be used to inform the decisions for updates to the (SRRMP).
- This survey and the SRRMP does not pertain to provincial highways, as they are outside of Strathcona County's jurisdiction. A map has been provided on the next page illustrating the roadways that are outside of the SRRMP scope, highlighted in red.



Figure
1 - Map
of



Provincial Highways Within Strathcona County - Shown in Red

Engagement / survey summary

Online survey

- An online survey was available for the residents of Strathcona County to complete from November to December 2019. This survey was made available through the County's website via SCOOP and Survey Gizmo.
- A total of 666 online surveys were completed by residents of Strathcona County.

Open houses

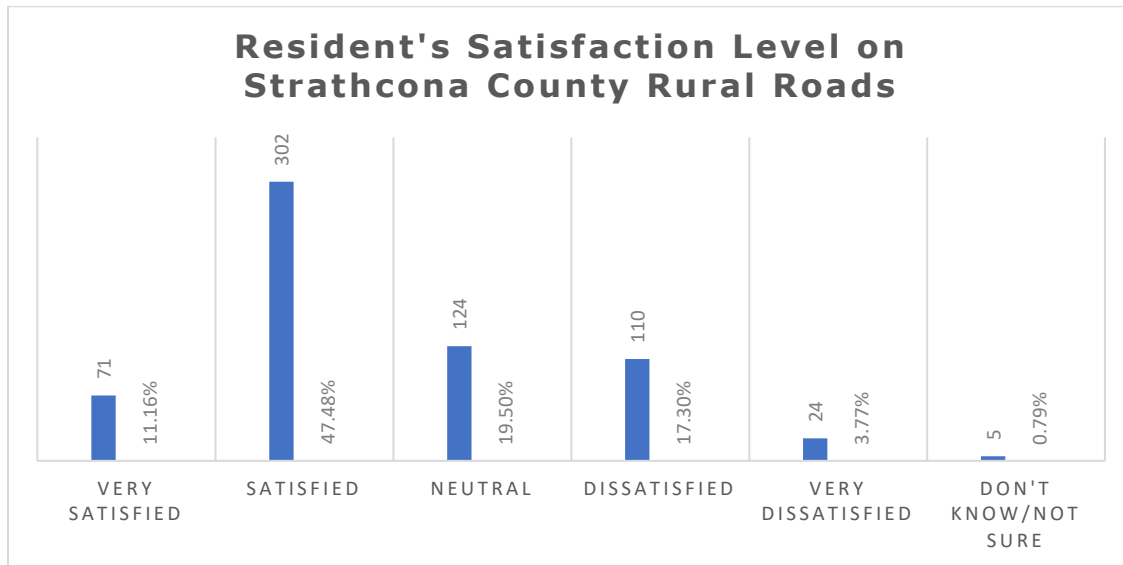
- A total of six open houses were held in various locations throughout Strathcona County in November and December 2019. The residents were informed of the open house schedule by methods such as roadside message boards, postcards, newspaper advertisements, social media, among others.
- Attendees were welcomed to join in the discussion to provide local knowledge of the road network, as well as identify opportunities for improvement to the road network.
- During the open houses, attendees were encouraged to engage with members of Strathcona County and Al-Terra Engineering, where they could discuss issues, concerns and potential solutions they felt could improve the overall condition and safety of rural roads within Strathcona County.
- The layout of each open house was similar, with the following layout at each:
 - Presentation boards provided to inform the residents of the history of the SRRMP, the process to update the SRRMP, and what information the public could provide to help inform the decisions when updating the SRRMP.
 - Maps of the road network in Strathcona County were provided for the residents to record their feedback on the overall road network, as well as any areas that could be considered for improvement.
 - Print surveys were provided for the attendees to complete.
 - Members of Strathcona County and Al-Terra Engineering were available to engage in discussion with the residents and handle questions, comments or concerns.

Highlights

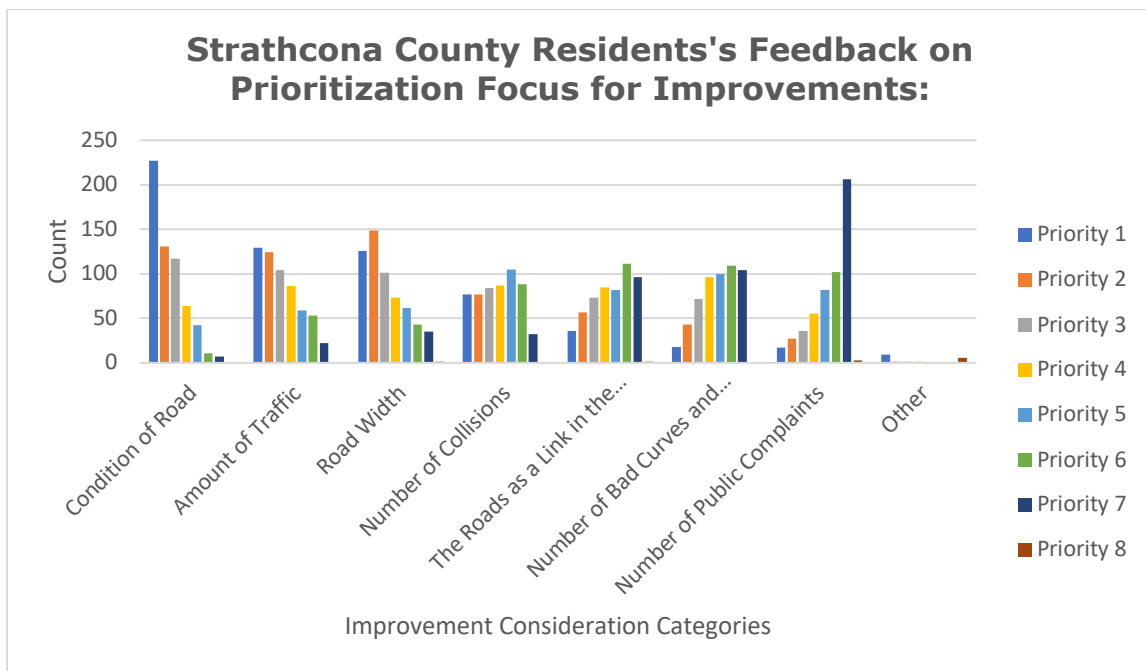
- 246 participants attended the open houses
- 223 residents' comments were received on the Strathcona County maps provided
- 116 surveys were filled out at the open houses

What we heard

- In general, 78 per cent of residents felt neutral, satisfied or very satisfied with rural roads within Strathcona County.



- We also asked the residents to inform us what they felt the most important factors should be when considering an upgrade to a rural road in Strathcona County. The top three priorities received from the residents' feedback were: 1) condition of road; 2) amount of traffic; and 3) existing road width. These are summarized in the chart below.



What's next?

The information provided from both the open houses and the survey will be compiled and used to help inform the decision-making process moving through the next steps of the SRRMP update.

More detailed information on how the feedback provided by the residents aided in informing the decisions will be provided when the draft plan is developed in Spring 2020.

More information

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