



# CITY OF PORT ALBERNI UPDATE: Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan Transportation Master Plan

Presentation to ACRD Accessibility Committee, Feb. 10, 2026

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# 2025 Engagement Efforts

- Open House events (Mar. & Nov.)
- Draft Strategy Public Presentations (Nov.)
- Public Surveys (Mar. & Dec.)
- Presentation to Community Interest Groups (Mar.)
- City Council Presentations (Feb., Jul., Nov.)
- Consultation with Schools and PACs (May-Jun.)
- Project pages on City's Engagement Website ([letsconnectpa.ca](https://letsconnectpa.ca))
- Print & online ads, mailouts, social media, radio, public posters





# Transportation Engagement Highlights

<p><b>TOP 3 TRANSPORTATION ELEMENTS TO IMPROVE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Pavement Conditions</li> <li>2 Pavement Markings</li> <li>3 Road Safety for Pedestrians</li> </ul>	<p><b>TOP 3 ROAD SAFETY MEASURES TO IMPROVE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Crossing Treatments</li> <li>2 Sight Lines</li> <li>3 Street Lighting</li> </ul>
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Low support for reduced speed limits

A number of participants called for more bus stop amenities (shelters, benches)

Strongly divided opinion on:

- traffic calming measures
- road narrowing
- cycling facilities

High levels of public support, and very high support among transit users, for:

- improving pedestrian crossings and pedestrian intersection safety
- installing sidewalks where absent
- improved street lighting, particularly at pedestrian crossings

A number of participants suggested a need for road safety education for pedestrians, cyclists and mobility device users.

Survey respondents:

- 8% regular transit users
- 5% mobility aid users

Improving the condition of road pavement and pavement markings was rated as a high priority among most respondents, including transit users and mobility aid users

Many people identified need for better, affordable regional transit connections (*not in project scope*)





# Draft Master Plan Strategy Accessibility Highlights



# P2 PLAY SPACES AND SPRAY PARKS

Systematically replace, renew, and add play structures and spray parks with a focus on enhancing inclusive play and equitable access across the community.

STRATEGIES	TIME FRAME	PARTIES	RESOURCING
P2.1 <b>Distribution:</b> Distribute playground development and investment in the City to improve access to playgrounds within a target walk time of ~5-minutes (~400 m distance) for most residents.	🕒 ONGOING	PRC, Dev Services	👤 Staff Time
P2.2 <b>Funding:</b> Seek funding through fundraising, provincial and federal grants, and community partners for new playgrounds and playground enhancements with a focus on accessibility and inclusivity.	🕒 ONGOING	PRC, Finance	👤 Staff Time
P2.3 <b>Cooling Zones:</b> Integrate small-scale water misting cooling zones in select playground/park areas without access to spray parks with the goal of serving each area of the City (north, central, south). Prioritize these amenities in locations near higher concentrations of multi-family housing, ease of access by trails or transit, and available connection to water service. Candidate sites: Gyro Park, Weaver Park, Eleventh Avenue Park.	🕒 ONGOING	PRC, Eng	💰 \$/project ~\$20K each 👥 Staff Increase
P2.4 <b>Destination Inclusive Playground:</b> Confirm a preferred site and develop an inclusive/accessible destination playground for all ages. Site should have access to parking, washrooms, and shade. Candidate sites: Blair Park, Lower Roger Creek Park, Gyro Park.	▷ MEDIUM	PRC, Dev Services	💰 \$1M-\$2M 👥 Staff Increase
P2.8 <b>River Road Park Play Upgrades:</b> Upgrade play amenities within River Road Park. Consider these upgrades in relationship to other future planned play amenities to be provided in the Westporte neighbourhood area.	▷ MEDIUM	PRC	💰 \$\$\$\$ \$250-\$400K



## P2 PLAY SPACES AND SPRAY PARKS

- Create an inclusive/accessible destination playground for all ages at an existing park, with accessible parking and washrooms, and shade
- Replace Harbour Quay play structures with inclusivity-enhancing features
- Invest staff resources to pursue funding opportunities and community partnerships to establish additional accessible playgrounds and enhancements
- Incorporate accessibility/inclusivity into park & playground design standards to be used for all future replacements



## P4 PUBLIC WASHROOM ACCESS

- Renovate older park washrooms at key locations, to meet current accessibility standards
- Install an accessible vault toilet or full-service washroom at **John Douglas Park at tiipis**

## P7 WATERFRONT RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Accessible water access pathways at **John Douglas Park at tiipis** and **River Road Park**



## S6 INCREASE ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVITY

- Establish a dedicated annual budget in Financial Plan for accessibility retrofits at City facilities and parks.
- Adopt accessible design guidelines for construction and renovation of public facilities, parks, trails, and signs.





# Draft Master Plan Strategy Accessibility Highlights

# Vision Zero/Safe Systems Design Policy

## TRADITIONAL APPROACH

Traffic deaths are **INEVITABLE**

**PERFECT** human behaviour

Prevent **COLLISIONS**

**INDIVIDUAL** responsibility

Saving lives is **EXPENSIVE**

**VS**

## VISION ZERO

Traffic deaths are **PREVENTABLE**

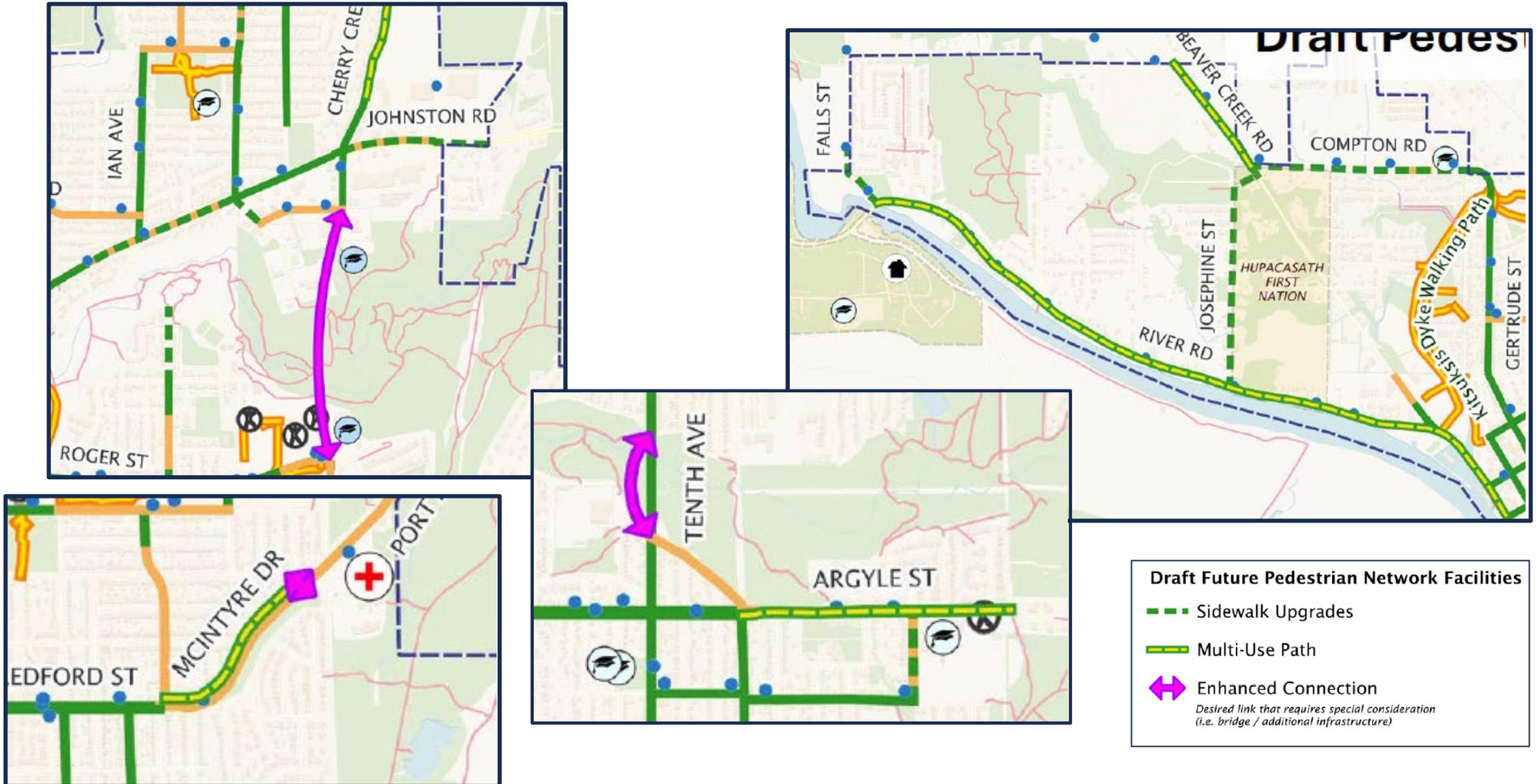
Integrate **HUMAN FAILING** in approach

Prevent **FATAL AND SEVERE CRASHES**

**SYSTEMS** approach

Saving lives is **NOT EXPENSIVE**

# Sidewalk Infill and Expansion of Multi-Use Pathway Network



# Pedestrian Crosswalk Safety Improvements

- Pedestrian-activated protected crossings at traffic signals
- Leading pedestrian Intervals (LPIs)
- Additional Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs)
- New or upgraded curb ramps (sidewalk letdowns)
- Tactile surface markers
- Audible signals
- Crosswalk realignment to improve sight lines and shorten crossing distances
- New or upgraded streetlights

# Next Steps

Milestone	Anticipated Timing
Transportation Survey on Draft Strategies	March
Parks, Recreation & Culture Round 2 Engagement Summary Report	March
Parks, Recreation & Culture Draft Master Plan Report (Published for Feedback)	May
Transportation Round 2 Engagement Summary Report	May
Transportation Master Plan Report (Published for Feedback)	July



# City of Port Alberni Master Planning Update

- <https://www.letsconnectpa.ca/master-planning>
- Email to [master\\_plans@portalberni.ca](mailto:master_plans@portalberni.ca)

Thank you!

