

A summary of the current CWATS network, the process that was applied to review and update the network and key network elements.

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CHAPTER 6 | STRATEGY #2: NETWORK

The County-wide active transportation network is a significant component of the CWATS Master Plan Update. While the original 2012 CWATS Master Plan recommended an AT network that helped to achieve the objectives identified within the plan, this update provides the opportunity to confirm what has been implemented to date and identifies new recommended segments and associated facility types to the CWATS network to be implemented in the future. The strategic goal of updating the CWATS network is to enhance the active transportation experience in the County by aligning the network with the current best practices and applying lessons learned since 2012.

The CWATS network is not new. It encompasses the routes and facility types identified in the 2012 CWATS Master Plan along with infrastructure built since this time. As part of the process to update the master plan, the CWATS network also incorporates proposed modifications to the 2012 approved facility types and proposed new links.









6.1 UNDERSTANDING THE CURRENT CWATS NETWORK

The 2012 CWATS Master Plan harnessed previously completed initiatives and studies in the County of Essex, including the County's Official Plan (2014) and the Regional Transportation Master Plan (2005), to support future investments and prioritization for active transportation within the County and its local municipalities. As a result, a key objective of the 2012 plan was to develop a comprehensive active transportation network which would consist of both on and off-road facilities, and connect urban and rural communities.

The CWATS network was adopted by County Council as well as the seven Local Municipal Councils as part of the 2012 CWATS Master Plan, and has since undergone ten years of implementation. During this time, significant progress has been made in building out the CWATS network. As noted in **Section 3.1**, approximately 556 kilometres of active transportation routes have been built. Stope

6.2 UPDATING THE CWATS NETWORK

A key objective in updating the CWATS Master Plan was the identification of a revised CWATS network that reflects current best practices and design standards that have emerged since 2012. The following section outlines the process that was used to update the CWATS network including an overview of proposed modifications to the 2012 approved facility types and new route additions to form part of the CWATS network.

Network Development Process

The CWATS network was reviewed and updated using an iterative process that was informed by the input gathered by County staff, local municipal staff, the CWATS Committee and members of the public over the course of the study. This process is similar to the steps used to develop the 2012 network with slight modifications to reflect the CWATS infrastructure built to date, current best practices and lessons learned since the original plan. The network development process included five steps.

A brief overview of each step and the outcome of each step are provided below:

Step	55	Results
1	Identify existing features of the AT network including facilities that have been recently constructed.	Table 4: Existing and Previously Proposed (in 2012) CWATS Network by Facility Type Figure 53A + B: Existing and Previously Proposed Conditions
2	Apply the existing route selection criteria from the 2012 plan to help assess and refine routes.	Table 5: CWATS Route Selection Criteria
3	Identify potential new routes to be investigated and that could form part of the CWATS network.	Figure 55: Proposed New Candidate CWATS Routes
4	Undertake field work to investigate existing routes and locations for potential new routes.	Field Work Documentation Figure 57: Field Work Photo Locations
5	Confirm the preferred CWATS network including the proposed facility types.	Table 8: CWATS Network by Facility Type Figure 61A+ B: CWATS Network by Facility Type

Results

A detailed overview of each step from Figure 52 is on the following pages.

Figure 52: CWATS Network Development Process

Collect and consolidate digital and spatial data related to transportation, recreation, land use and CWATS in the County, its local municipalities and surrounding municipalities. Assemble this data in GIS and maintain on an on-going basis throughout the study process to reflect new information.

Confirmed

Network Map

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Consolidate the existing conditions mapping with route selection criteria and feedback from the CWATS Committee to determine potential new routes for the CWATS network.

Candidate Route Map

Investigate candidate routes to collect additional information on the viability of adding new routes to the CWATS network.

Database

Inventory

Existing

Conditions Map

Review existing routes, previously proposed routes, and new routes using the updated OTM Book 18 facility pre-selection tool to determine the appropriate level of separation for all on-road facility. Document any suggested modifications to the approved 2012 facility types based on the review of OTM Book 18.

Once the network and facility types have been confirmed, identify potential phasing horizons that build upon the 2012 implementation strategy and current information including future capital projects, input received from County staff, local municipal staff and the CWATS Committee as well as any secondary plan areas. Refer to **Chapter 9** for additional details on implementation and budgeting for CWATS. Consult with both the CWATS Committee and the public to determine the most suitable routes to be added to the CWATS network.

> Facility Type Map

> > Project Phasing Map

STEP 1: ASSEMBLE DATA AND REVIEW EXISTING CWATS CONDITIONS

The first step when updating the CWATS network consisted of consolidating all available datasets in order to establish a base network of the existing CWATS conditions in the County. The base network included the previously proposed CWATS routes as well as other datasets indicated below:

Primary Data Sets

Data received from the County that could directly influence the CWATS network updates and decisions.

- The approved 2012 CWATS network, facility types, and phasing
- Local municipal active transportation networks and off-road trails
- Significant regional trail / route systems such as:
 - The Great Lakes Waterfront Trail
 - CASO Corridor / Cypher Systems Group Greenway
 - Chrysler Canada Greenway
 - Province-wide Cycling Network
 - The Trans Canada Trail
- Road network and classification
- Average annual daily traffic (AADT)
- Location and types of County traffic signals
- Posted speed limits

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Secondary Data Sets

Data that was reviewed from other sources and considered when updating the CWATS network.

- Local municipal sidewalks and walkways
- Points of interest and attractions (including recreational facilities, healthcare facilities and schools)
- Trailheads
- Lakes and rivers
- Provincial parks, municipal parks and Conservation Authority Areas
- Railroads (active and inactive)
- Adjacent active transportation networks from the City of Windsor and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent
- Recent ortho-photography of the County
- Parcel fabric

Assembly of this data was critical in establishing the existing conditions of active transportation across the County and determining how much of the CWATS network has been implemented since 2012. The data was assembled within a Geographic Information System (GIS) and utilized during the network development process.

The existing and previously proposed CWATS routes and facility types are illustrated on **Figure 53A** (County-wide Map) and **Figure 53B** (Built-up Areas Map). A summary of the CWATS network, including the existing and previously proposed facility types, is presented in **Table 4**.





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Facility Type	Existing (km)	Previously Proposed and Not Yet Implemented (km)	Total (km)
Off-Road Multi-use Trail	117.7	52.5	170.2
Two-Way Multi-use Pathway	62.8	19.8	82.6
One-Way Cycle Track	6.7	0.0	6.7
Separated Bike Lane	1.3	0.0	1.3
Bike Lane	17.8	11.5	29.3
Context Sensitive Solution	0.0	12.5	12.5
Paved Shoulder	138.5	154.3	292.8
Signed Route	211.3	89.3	300.6
Total (km)	556.1	339.9	896.0

Table 4: Existing and Previously Proposed (in 2012) CWATS Network by Facility Type

Note: The original 2012 CWATS Master Plan envisioned approximately 780 kilometres of on and off-road routes as part of the CWATS Network. Since 2012, a number of additional routes have been added by the County and its local municipalities as new opportunities have emerged.



STEP 2: REVIEW AND CONFIRM ROUTE SELECTION CRITERIA

Prior to developing new criteria and identifying potential new linkages, the criteria originally used in the 2012 plan were reviewed. After reviewing and assessing the CWATS vision and objectives, as well as current best practices, it was confirmed that the original 2012 route selection criteria were still applicable. The criteria were used throughout the network development process to review, update and confirm the preferred routes and facility types to build out the remaining segments of the CWATS network.

In addition, the route selection criteria are meant to be used by County staff as future opportunities arise and / or when changes to the CWATS network are being investigated.

How were the criteria informed?

- 2012 CWATS route selection criteria
- Vision and objectives (refer to Chapter 2)
- Existing guidelines and best practices such as OTM Book 18

How were the criteria applied?

Potential new linkages (candidate routes) were assessed using the route selection criteria*
 *New candidate routes selected are not intended to fulfill all criteria but can satisfy multiple criteria

What were the results?

- Any candidate routes that were considered during the network development process were assessed using the route selection criteria
- The criteria are meant be applied beyond the lifespan of the master plan the criteria can be used in the future by the County and its partners to assess potential new linkages and opportunities that come up

Table 5: CWATS Route Selection Criteria

Safety	Reducing risks to users and providing comfortable and safe facilities is a key consideration when selecting routes for the network. Confidence and acceptance of the network can be instilled in users by reducing real and perceived risk.
Visible	The active transportation routes should be a visible component of the transportation system (e.g. signage / markings, illustrated on maps, located on key local and County roads etc.).
Direct / Connected	The County network should link communities, key destinations and connect with all on and off-road networks.
Destinations	Active Transportation routes should provide access to major destinations in the County and its local municipalities including town and city centres, natural, cultural and service facilities, as well as routes to school, community and neighbourhood parks, shopping facilities and employment areas.
Modal	The active transportation network should be integrated with other modes of transportation, including public transit.
Attractive / Scenic	Active Transportation routes should take advantage of attractive and scenic areas, views and vistas.
Diverse Experience	The active transportation network should provide a diverse on and off-road walking and cycling experience throughout the County and local municipalities.
Locally Integrated	Active Transportation routes should well integrated into local neighborhoods within the County and its local municipalities. Every effort should be made to connect to existing and future routes of the local municipalities.
^v Variety of Routes	The system should be designed to appeal to a range of user abilities and interests and support transportation choice and equity.
Cost Effective	The cost to implement and maintain proposed AT network facilities and supporting programs should be phased over time and designed to be affordable and appropriate in scale for the County and its individual municipalities. Opportunities for partnership funding from other non-local government sources (e.g. Provincial and Federal Governments, Essex Region Conservation Authority and the private sector) should be pursued.
Supportive Services	Supportive services and facilities such as benches and bicycle parking should be available along routes and at destinations. Routes should be selected that provide opportunities to develop supportive facilities.
Universal Access	The network should strive to improve the mobility of all, including those with specific accessibility considerations.

STEP 3: IDENTIFY NEW CANDIDATE ROUTES

A candidate route represents a potential connection that could form part of the CWATS network. Candidate routes were identified using the route selection criteria (see step 2) and input received over the course of the study. Candidate routes were assessed based on their ability to complete gaps in the existing and previously proposed CWATS network, connect to surrounding municipal AT networks (such as Windsor) and enhance connections to regional trail systems.

All of the potential candidate routes were mapped and reviewed by County staff, local municipal staff, the CWATS Committee and members of the public. The new candidate routes identified for inclusion in the CWATS network are summarized in **Table 6** and illustrated in **Figure 55**.

Table 6: Summary of New Candidate CWATS Routes

Proposed Segment ID	Route Name	From	То	Municipal Jurisdiction	Length (km)	Proposed Facility Type	
Amh-26a	County Road 10	County Road 20	2nd Concession North	Amherstburg	2.3	Buffered Paved Shoulder	
Amh-26b	County Road 10	2nd Concession North	Cypher Systems Greenway	Amherstburg	8.6	Buffered Paved Shoulder	
Amh-26c	County Road 10	Cypher Systems Greenway	County Road 11	Amherstburg	1.0	Buffered Paved Shoulder	
Amh-27	County Road 10	Cypher Systems Greenway	County Road 11	Amherstburg	1.0	Multi-Use Path	
Amh-29a	County Road 20	County Road 50	Edge of Urban Area	Amherstburg	0.4	Paved Shoulder	
Amh-29b	County Road 20	Edge of Urban Area	County Road 20	Amherstburg	2.9	Paved Shoulder	
Ess-30	Concession Road 11	County Road 11	Chrysler Greenway	Essex	1.5	Signed Route	
Ess-31	County Road 20	County Road 20	County Road 13	Essex	6.6	Paved Shoulder	
Ess-32	County Rd 34	Wilson Sideroad	County Road 8	Essex	2.4	Buffered Paved Shoulder	
Ess-33	North Malden Road	Batten Road	Highway 3	Essex	0.5	Paved Shoulder	
Ess-34	Batten Road	County Road 12	North Malden Road	Essex	2.1	Signed Route	
Ess-36	County Road 12	County Road 15	Battem Road	Essex	6.1	Paved Shoulder	
Ess-37	Maidstone Trail	Amherstburg-Essex Greenway	County Road 8	Essex 0.9 I		Multi-Use Path	
Ess-38a	Iler Road	County Road 50	County Road 20	Essex	4.1	Paved Shoulder	
Ess-38b	County Road 20	County Road 23	ller Road	Essex	1.9	Buffered Paved Shoulder	
Ess-38c	County Road 23	County Road 20	Chrysler Greenway	Essex	0.3	Buffered Paved Shoulder	

Proposed Segment ID	Route Name	From	То	Municipal Jurisdiction	Length (km)	Proposed Facility Type	
Ess-39	Concession Road 5	County Road 15	Chrysler Greenway	Essex	0.4	Paved Shoulder	
Ess-40a	County Road 11	Chrysler Canada Greenway	3rd Concession Road	Essex	0.7	Paved Shoulder	
Ess-40b	County Road 11	3rd Concession Rd	County Road 15	Essex	2.2	Paved Shoulder	
Tec-25	Lauzon Parkway	291m north of the centreline of Hwy 401	291m south of the centreline of Hwy 401	Tecumseh	1.1	Multi-Use Path	
Tec-27	Lauzon Parkway / Hwy 401 & A/T Bridge	wy ~291m north of the ~291m south of the centreline of Hwy 401 centreline of Hwy 401		Tecumseh	0.9	Multi-Use Path	
Tec-29	Concession Road 9	South Talbot Road	County Road 8	Tecumseh 3.4		Signed Route	
Tec-32	Lauzon Parkway	County Road 46	Sexton Side Road (~440m south Hwy3)	Tecumseh	2.8	Multi-Use Path	
Tec-28	Tecumseh Road	Lacasse Boulevard	City of Windsor	Tecumseh	1.3	Protected Bike Lanes	
Tec-30	Lesperance Road	Tecumseh Road	McNorton Street	Tecumseh	0.5	Bike Lanes	
Tec-31	Dillon Drive	Windsor Border	Lesperance Road	Tecumseh	0.4	Signed Route	
Tec-33	8th Concession Road	County Rd 46	Windsor Boundary	Tecumseh	0.6	Signed Route	
Tec-34	North Talbot Road	O'Neil Street	9th Concession Road	Tecumseh	2.0	Multi-Use Path	
Tec-22	County Road 42	200 W of Concession Road 11	Concession Road 11	Tecumseh	0.1	Multi-Use Path	
Tec-23	County Rd 42	215m west of County Road 42 / County Road 43 (south) intersection	15m west of County Road 42 / County Road 43 (south) intersectionProposed County Road 42 / County Road 43 intersection		0.1	Bike Lane	
Tec-24	County Road 42	Proposed County Road 42 / County Road 43 intersection	County Road 19	Tecumseh 2.1		Bike Lane	
Tec-35	County Road 42	City / County Jurisdictional Boundary	215m west of County Road 42 / County Road 43 (south) intersection	Tecumseh 0.6		Multi-Use Path	

Proposed Segment ID	Route Name	From	То	Municipal Jurisdiction	Length (km)	Proposed Facility Type
Tec-36	County Road 42	City / County Jurisdictional Boundary	215m west of County Road 42 / County Road 43 (south) intersection	15m west of County Road 42 / County Road 43 (south) intersection		Bike Lane
Lake-39a	County Road 42	County Road 19	220m east of County Road 19	Lakeshore	0.2	Paved Shoulder
Lake-39b	County Road 42	220m east of County Road 19	750m east of County Road 19	Lakeshore	0.5	Paved Shoulder
Lake-40a	County Road 42	750m east of County Road 19	9th Concession Road	Lakeshore	0.8	Paved Shoulder
Lake-40b	County Road 42	9th Concession Road	County Road 21	Lakeshore	0.5	Paved Shoulder
Lake-41a	County Road 42	Lakeshore Road 105	West Puce Road	Lakeshore	2.2	Paved Shoulder
Lake-41b	County Road 42	West Puce Road	County Road 25	Lakeshore	0.5	Paved Shoulder
Lake-42	County Road 31	County Road 2	County Road 42	Lakeshore	2.7	Paved Shoulder
Lake-43	County Road 42	County Road 31	65m West of Aimee Street	st of Aimee Lakeshore 0.4		Separated Bike Lane
Lake-47	East Ruscom River Rd	County Road 2	County Road 42	Lakeshore	2.6	Signed Route
Lake-49	County Road 42	65m West of Aimee Street	East Ruscom River Road	Lakeshore	0.2	Paved Shoulder
Lake-44	County Road 31	County Road 42	Highway 401	Lakeshore	4.3	Paved Shoulder
Lake-45	County Road 31	Highway 401	S Middle Road	Lakeshore	4.1	Paved Shoulder
Lake-46	County Road 31	S Middle Road	County Road 8	Lakeshore	3.1	Paved Shoulder
Lake-48a	Puce Road / County Road 25	County Road 42	County Road 46	Lakeshore	6.9	Paved Shoulder
Lake-48b	County Road 46	County Road 25	County Road 23	Lakeshore	1.3	Paved Shoulder
Lake-48c	County Road 23	County Road 46	County Road 8	Lakeshore	1.2	Paved Shoulder
Lake-50	Renaud Line Road	Shoreline Avenue	County Road 22	Lakeshore	0.2	Signed Route
Lake-51	Lilydale Avenue	Waterfront Trail	Puce Road	Lakeshore	1.1	Signed Route
Lake-52	Puce Road	Lilydale Avenue	County Road 22	Lakeshore	0.3	Signed Route
Lake-53a	County Road 2	St. Clair Road	250m east of St Clair Road	Lakeshore	0.2	Paved Shoulder
Lake-53b	County Road 2	250m east of St Clair Road	730m west of Hale Street	Lakeshore	2.1	Paved Shoulder
Lake-53c	County Road 2	730m west of Hale Street	Claireview Drive	Lakeshore	2.5	Paved Shoulder

Proposed Segment ID	Route Name	From	То	Municipal Jurisdiction	Length (km)	Proposed Facility Type	
Lake-54	Renaud Line Road	Rosewood Drive	Earthwalk Trail	Lakeshore	0.2	Multi-Use Path	
Leam-33	County Road 34	Fraser Road	Crest View Drive	Leamington	1.2	Buffered Paved Shoulder	
Leam-34	Sherk St	Oak Street	Seacliff Drive West	Leamington	0.1	Bike Lane	
Leam-35	County Road 33	County Road 34	Seacliff Drive East / Mersea Road 1	Leamington	2.1	Buffered Paved Shoulder	
Leam-36	Talbot Road	Meadow Brook Church driveway	County Road 33	Leamington	0.4	Cycle Track	
Leam-37	County Road 37	County Road 34	Mersea Road 5	Leamington	2.0	Paved Shoulder	
Leam-38a	Mersea Road 19	Talbot Road	Deer Run Road	Leamington	2.1	Paved Shoulder	
Leam-38b	Deer Run Road	Mersea Road 19	Mersea Road 19	Leamington	0.5	Paved Shoulder	
Leam-38c	Mersea Road 19	Deer Run Road	Mersea Road 2	Leamington	1.4	Paved Shoulder	
Leam-39	Erie St	Talbot Road	Marlborough Street East	Leamington	0.3	Signed Route	
Leam-40	Multi-Use Trail	CASO Corridor	County Road 46	Leamington	1.2	Multi-Use Trail	
Las-16a	Matchette Rd	Morton Drive	Sprucewood Avenue	LaSalle	0.7	Separated Bike Lane	
Las-16b	Matchette Rd	Laurier Drive	Morton Drive	LaSalle	1.8	Separated Bike Lane	
Las-17	Morton Drive	Front Road	Matchette Road	LaSalle	1.2	Multi-Use Path	
Las-18	County Rd 3	Normandy Street	Reaume Avenue	LaSalle	1.1	Multi-Use Path	
Las-19a	Trail Connection along Railway	Martin Lane	Front Road	LaSalle	5.0	Multi-Use Trail	
Las-19b	Trail Connection along Railway	Martin Lane	County Road 3	LaSalle	2.4	Multi-Use Trail	
Las-20a	Chrysler Greenway	MUP north of Todd Lane	Neighbourhood Trail near Delmar Street	LaSalle	0.7	Multi-Use Trail	
Las-20b	Chrysler Greenway	Neighbourhood Trail near Delmar Street	County Road 9	LaSalle	4.7	Multi-Use Trail	
Las-20c	Chrysler Greenway	Todd Lane	Windsor Boundary	LaSalle	0.3	Multi-Use Trail	
Kings-28	Mccain Sideroad	Chrysler Greenway	County Road 50	Kingsville	2.0	Paved Shoulder	
Kings-29	Conservation Boulevard	County Road 20	County Road 50	Kingsville	1.6	Paved Shoulder	
Kings-30	County Road 20	Mccain Sideroad	Heritage Road	Kingsville	2.8	Paved Shoulder	
COE-16	County Road 20	County Road 20	County Road 20	County	1.5	Paved Shoulder	

Proposed Segment ID	Route Name	From	То	Municipal Jurisdiction	Length (km)	Proposed Facility Type
COE-17a	County Road 33	350m south of Monarch Lane	Mersea Road 12	Leamington	1.7	Multi-Use Path
COE-17b	County Road 33	350m south of Monarch Lane	Mersea Road 12	Leamington	0.8	Signed Route / Advisory Bike Lanes
COE-17c	County Road 33	350m south of Monarch Lane	Mersea Road 12	Leamington	0.9	Paved Shoulder
COE-17d	County Road 33	Mersea Road 12	Mersea Road E	Leamington	1.4	Paved Shoulder

Figure 55: Proposed New Candidate CWATS Routes



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Approximately 150 kilometres of new candidate routes were identified. These routes were further assessed using the route selection criteria (refer to step 2) and through field investigations (refer to step 4). In addition, the routes were screened based on input provided by County staff, local municipal staff and the CWATS Committee. Building upon the field work findings and feedback collected, a refined CWATS network was then identified (refer to step 5).

Similar to the approach used for the 2012 plan, the proposed pedestrian component of the AT network focuses on trails, connections to local municipal sidewalk systems and the development of a set of pedestrian supportive actions and guidelines for both the County and its local municipalities.



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STEP 4: UNDERTAKE FIELD INVESTIGATIONS

Field investigations were undertaken to better understand the locations of existing routes, previously proposed routes and new candidate routes for the CWATS network. Photos and information were documented for each route and the locations investigated, including observed traffic speed and volume, roadway width, on-street parking, surrounding land uses and local destinations. These field investigations were supplemented by a desktop review using both GIS data from the County and online street-view imagery allowing the team to revisit specific routes throughout the study process.

Information gathered during the field investigations and desktop reviews informed the refinement of potential candidate CWATS routes and preferred facility types (refer to step 5). Field observations were also used to help identify potential locations where consideration could be given to enhancing the intersection between an existing on-road route and off-road trail crossing and the roadway. **Figure 57** illustrates the location of photos taken during field investigations.

Example of field data collected:

Observed traffic speed Observed traffic volume Truck traffic Available road platform / width Presence of users Density of driveways Use of on-street parking

Example of desktop data collected:

Posted speed Recorded traffic volume Road classification Curb-to-curb road width Proximity to existing routes Boulevard space

Figure 57: Field Work Photo Locations



STEP 5: CONFIRM THE CWATS NETWORK AND FACILITY TYPES

A key component to the update of the CWATS Master Plan included reviewing, validating and revising the following components of the CWATS network:

- Existing facility types;
- Previously proposed facility types; and
- Proposed new routes.

Based on the findings from Steps 1 to 4 and feedback collected from County staff, local municipal staff, the CWATS Committee and members of the public, the CWATS network and preferred routes were confirmed. Once the CWATS network was confirmed, all facility types (existing and proposed) were reassessed to determine their appropriateness based on current best practices and design standards. The reassessment was completed by taking into consideration the current roadway context and the 2021 edition of OTM Book 18's facility selection process.

Apply OTM Book 18: Multi-Step Approach

The original (2013) OTM Book 18 facility selection process took into consideration the operating speed (how fast motor vehicles are travelling on the road) and volume (how many cars are on the road) to determine an appropriate level of separation for an on-road facility (Step 1). As part of this 2021 update, the step has now been refined to take into consideration different thresholds for levels of separation based on the road type (rural roads vs urban / suburban roads). For example, the need to have designated or separated cycling facilities will be identified on roads that have lower traffic volumes and speeds compared to what was identified in the 2013 edition of OTM Book 18.

The outcome of Step 1 is not conclusive by itself. It is very important that the pre-selected facility types be validated through Step 2 and Step 3. A set of application heuristics or knowledge-based criteria have been developed to aid practitioners in Step 2. The conclusions and potential next steps should be documented as part of Step 3. The updated three-step process is presented in **Figure 58**.

In addition to the 2021 OTM Book 18 three-step facility selection process, the following factors were taken into consideration to refine and confirm the preferred facility types:

- Findings from field investigations and desktop analysis;
- Input from County staff, local municipal staff, the CWATS Committee and members of the public;
- Planned CWATS infrastructure projects; and
- Sound engineering and planning judgement.

OTM Book 18 Step 1: Pre-select facility type options





Figure 58: OTM Book 18 Three-Step Facility Selection Process



Desirable Cycling Facility Pre-Selection Nomograph Urban/Suburban Context (2021)

Average Daily Traffic Volume (Thousands)

The nomograph on the top-left corner illustrates the 2013 edition. Since this time, the nomograph has been updated for two different contexts: urban / suburban (top-right corner) or rural (bottom-left corner). The updated nomographs have been applied for the updated CWATS Master Plan. Within the context of Essex County, roads located within defined Settlement Areas (as per the County's Official Plan) will be considered urban/suburban, while other areas we be considered rural.

How to use the nomograph(s):

- Determine the average daily traffic volume of the road.
- Determine the motor vehicle operating speed of the road.
- Plot the volume and speed on the appropriate nomograph to determine the appropriate level of separation for a facility.
- Continue to validate findings through Steps 2 and 3.

OTM Book 18 Step 2: Detailed and contextual evaluation

In Step 2, practitioners should conduct desktop reviews and field investigations to better understand the context of the corridor. The intent is to have sufficient evidence to confirm whether or not the level of separation and facility type preselected in Step 1 are suitable for the context of the roadway. A set of rules, also known as "application heuristics" in OTM Book 18, has been developed to link between specific site conditions and the appropriate facility types and supplementary design features.

Key li	nputs	Process Overview
 Roadway Characteristics Speed Volumes Function Vehicle mix On-street parking Pedestrian activity Intersection frequency Operations 	 Feasibility Available space Project type Attractiveness User skill level and stress tolerance Level of bicycle use Cycling route function 	 Apply and evaluate the key inputs to the corridor. Determine the most appropriate facility type by using the heuristic summary to rank each relative to the characterizes listed adjacent (see Figure 59: OTM Book 18's Roadway Characteristics Application Heuristics Evaluative Form). The appropriateness of each facility type is reflected in the scores received. Conduct field investigations and create documentation including photos to address rankings
		requiring context specific evaluation.

Outcomes

- Identify an appropriate level of separation and facility type that matches the context of the road.
- Identify road contexts that require a higher level of separation or unique mitigation actions.

OTM Book 18 Step 3: Detailed and justify

- a. If the result of Step 2 differs from the level of separation and facility type options in Step 1, prepare a rationale for selecting a different facility type or separation option.
- b. Identify the specific application heuristics that were applied and reviewed in detail to come to a conclusion and rationale.
- c. Identify potential design treatments and enhancements that may mitigate potential issues identified through the review of the application heuristics.

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	Shared Roadway	Neighbour- hood Bikeway	Rural Paved Shoulder	Advisory Bike Lane	Bicycle Lane	Buffered Bicycle Lane	Separated Bicycle Lane	Cycle Track	Multi-Use Pathway
Motor Vehicle Speed									
30 km/hr or less									
40 km/hr									
50 km/hr									
60 km/hr									
70 to 90 km/hr									
Over 90 km/hr									
Motor Vehicle Volumes									
<1,500 vehicles/day									
1,500 to 3,000 vpd									
3,000 to 6,000 vpd									
6,000 to 10,000 vpd									
>10,000 vpd									
Function of Street / Road	/ Highway								
Access roads (local streets)									
Both mobility and access									
roads (minor collectors)									
Mobility roads (major									
collector and arterials)									
More than 30 trucks/buses									
Bus stops located along									
route									
Pedestrian Activity		I		1					
Low Pedestrian Volumes									
High Pedestrian Volumes									

Typically appropriate for context Requires further context specific evaluation

Figure 59: OTM Book 18's Roadway Characteristics Application Heuristics Evaluative Form

Modifications to Approved CWATS Proposed and Existing Facility Types

This process was applied to the entire CWATS network including on and off-road routes in both urban and rural contexts to determine if facility types are considered appropriate given the roadway context, based on OTM Book 18. **Table 7** provides a summary of the CWATS route segments in which changes in facility types are proposed. This includes routes that have been implemented since the 2012 Plan and are proposed to be upgraded as part of this 2023 Update. These routes are illustrated in **Figure 60**.

It is recognized that the CWATS network will change with time as new opportunities arise. Any modifications to the approved CWATS routes and facility types will need to be reviewed and approved by the CWATS Committee and the County before next steps can be undertaken including future feasibility / detailed design studies and implementation. To respond to new opportunities or route modifications, municipal staff should continue working with the County and the CWATS Committee to review and approve potential new routes and / or modifications to facility types.

Current Approved CWATS Route and Facility Type				Proposed Change					
CWATS ID	Route Name	From	То	Municipal Jurisdiction	Length (km)	2012 Facility Type	Updated Book 18 Step 1	Proposed Facility Type Change	
Amh-6	Alma Street	Fryer Street	Meloche Road	Amherstburg	1.3	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Amh-7a	County Road 20	Texas Road	Thrasher Drive	Amherstburg	3.0	Context Sensitive Solution	Urban	Separated Bike Lane	
Amh-7b	County Road 20	Thrasher Drive	N Side Road	Amherstburg	1.7	Context Sensitive Solution	Urban	Cycle Track	
Amh-7c	County Road 20	County Road 3	N Side Road	Amherstburg	2.7	Context Sensitive Solution	Urban	Buffered Paved Shoulder	
Amh-8	County Road 20	Texas Road	180m north of Brunner Avenue	Amherstburg	0.8	Context Sensitive Solution	Urban	Separated Bike Lane	
Amh-9	Sandwich Street North	180m north of Brunner Avenue	Alma Street	Amherstburg	1.0	Context Sensitive Solution	Urban	Separated Bike Lane	
Amh-13	County Road 5	County Road 10	260m South of Texas Road	Amherstburg	1.6	Signed Route	Rural	Paved Shoulder	
Amh-16	Sandwich Street	Alma Street	Pickering Street	Amherstburg	1.5	Signed route	Urban	Bike Lane	
Amh-18	2nd Concession North	County Road 8	County Road 10	Amherstburg	4.8	Signed Route	Urban	Paved Shoulder	
Ess-1b	County Road 11	County Road 18	County Road 18	Essex	1.8	Paved Shoulder	Rural	Buffered Paved Shoulder	
Ess-12	County Road 8	320m west of Allen Avenue	180m west of Bell Avenue	Essex	0.7	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Ess-13	County Road 8	180m west of Bell Avenue	Bell Avenue	Essex	0.2	Bike Lane	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Ess-16	Maidstone Avenue E	Bell Avenue	Talbot Road North	Essex	0.2	Bike Lane	Urban	Multi-Use Path	

Table 7: Proposed Modifications to Approved CWATS Facility Types based on OTM Book 18 Step 1 Results

	Current Approved CWATS Route and Facility Type				Proposed Change					
CWATS ID	Route Name	From	То	Municipal Jurisdiction	Length (km)	2012 Facility Type	Updated Book 18 Step 1	Proposed Facility Type Change		
Ess-28	County Road 8	175m west of South Talbot Road	485m east of South Talbot Road	Essex	0.7	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Ess-29	County Road 8	Pinkerton Road	175m west of South Talbot Road	Essex	0.2	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Kings-5	County Road 34	100m east of Elgin St	County Road 31	Kingsville	1.9	Paved Shoulder	Rural	Buffered Paved Shoulder		
Kings-9b	County Road 51	Lake Drive	Conservation Boulevard	Kingsville	0.7	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Signed Route with Sharrows		
Kings-10	County Road 34	County Road 45	100m east of Elgin Street	Kingsville	0.5	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Buffered Paved Shoulder		
Kings-11	County Road 29	Palmer Drive	Water Street	Kingsville	0.7	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Kings-13A	County Road 20	Greenway	100m west of Greenway	Kingsville	0.1	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Kings-20	County Road 34 E	County Road 27	Clark Street	Kingsville	0.2	Signed Route	Urban	Paved Shoulder		
Kings-22b	Main Street W	Heritage Road	Queen Street	Kingsville	0.8	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Kings-22d	Main Street	Spruce Street	Chrysler Canada Greenway	Kingsville	1.2	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Kings-17	County Road 27	County Road 8	Road 10	Kingsville	2.1	Signed Route	Rural	Multi-Use Path		
Kings-21	County Road 27	County Road 34	110m east of Whitewood Avenue	Kingsville	0.8	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Kings-24d	Division St S	Park Street	Mill Street	Kingsville	1.0	Signed Route	Urban	Separated Bike Lane		
Kings-24c	Wigle Avenue	Main Street East	Lakeview Avenue	Kingsville	0.9	Signed Route	Urban	Signed Route with Edgeline		
Lake-18a	Patillo Road	County Road 22	Railway Tracks	Lakeshore	1.8	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Lake-18b	Patillo Road	Conway Crescent	County Road 22	Lakeshore	0.3	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Lake-21	County Road 21	Rail Corridor	County Road 42	Lakeshore	0.5	Signed Route	Urban	Paved Shoulder		
Lake-22	County Road 22	Duck Creek Boulevard	County Road 2	Lakeshore	0.3	Signed Route	Rural	Paved Shoulder		
Lake-25a	County Road 22	Terra Lou Drive	215m west of Terra Lou Drive	Lakeshore	0.2	Signed Route	Urban	Paved Shoulder		
Lake-25b	County Road 22	Eleventh Street	Terra Lou Drive	Lakeshore	0.7	Signed Route	Urban	Paved Shoulder		
Leam-2	County Road 34	County Road 31	Crest View Drive	Leamington	0.6	Paved Shoulder	Rural	Buffered Paved Shoulder		
Leam-5a	County Road 33	900m north of Mersea Road B	Monarch Lane	Leamington	1.7	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Leam-5b	County Road 33	Monarch Lane	350m south of Monarch Lane	Leamington	0.4	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Buffered Paved Shoulder		
Leam-7a	County Road 33	Mersea Road 2	County Road 20	Leamington	1.4	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Buffered Paved Shoulder		
Leam-7b	County Road 33	County Road 34	Mersea Road 2	Leamington	1.3	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Buffered Paved Shoulder		

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	Current Approved	CWATS Route and Facilit	у Туре	Proposed Change					
CWATS ID	Route Name	From	То	Municipal Jurisdiction	Length (km)	2012 Facility Type	Updated Book 18 Step 1	Proposed Facility Type Change	
Leam-10	Bevel Line Road	Seacliff Road	County Road 33	Leamington	0.2	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Leam-13a	Oak Street	Fraser Road	100m east of Industrial Road	Leamington	1.2	Bike Lane	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Leam-13b	Oak Street	Erie Street	60m East of Victoria Avenue South	Leamington	0.3	Bike Lane	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Leam-16a	Mersea Road 1	County Road 33	Mersea Road 12	Leamington	0.8	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Leam-16b	Mersea Road 1	County Road 33	Mersea Road 19	Leamington	0.7	Signed Route	Urban	Paved Shoulder	
Leam-16c	Mersea Road 1	750m east of County Road 33	Mersea Road 12	Leamington	1.2	Signed Route	Rural	Multi-Use Path	
Leam-16d	Mersea Road 1	750m east of County Road 33	Mersea Road 19	Leamington	4.6	Signed Route	Rural	Paved Shoulder	
Leam-17a	County Road 33	350 m south of Monarch Lane	Mersea Road 12	Leamington	1.7	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Leam-17c	County Road 33	350 m south of Monarch Lane	Mersea Road 12	Leamington	0.8	Signed Route	Urban	Paved Shoulder	
Leam-17d	County Road 33	350 m south of Monarch Lane	Mersea Road 12	Leamington	0.9	Signed Route	Urban	Paved Shoulder	
Leam-17b	County Road 33	Mersea Road 12	Mersea Road East	Leamington	1.4	Signed Route	Urban	Advisory Bike Lanes	
Leam-17e	County Road 33	Mersea Road 12	Mersea Road East	Leamington	1.4	Signed Route	Rural	Multi-Use Trail	
Leam-18	County Road 34	County Road 48	60m west of Fader Avenue	Leamington	0.7	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Leam-19	County Road 48	100m east of Industrial Rd	Sherk St	Leamington	0.2	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Leam-20	Talbot Street West	60m west of Fader Avenue	Rail Corridor	Leamington	0.6	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Leam-22a	Seacliff Drive West / East	Erie Street South	Cherry Lane	Leamington	0.6	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Leam-22c	Seacliff Drive West / East	County Road 33	Bevel Line Road	Leamington	0.5	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Leam-24	Dear Run Road	Milo Road	Chatham-Kent Boundary	Leamington	0.2	Signed Route	Rural	Paved Shoulder	
Las-2	County Road 7	Broderick Road	County Road 9	LaSalle	2.8	Context Sensitive Solution	Rural	Paved Shoulder	
Las-3a	County Road 3	Reaume Avenue	County Road 8	LaSalle	3.3	Context Sensitive Solution	Rural	Paved Shoulder	
Las-3b	County Road 3	Reaume Avenue	30m south of Martin Lane	LaSalle	1.3	Context Sensitive Solution	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Las-4	County Road 7	Sandwich West Parkway	Laurier Parkway	LaSalle	1.2	Context Sensitive Solution	Urban	Multi-Use Path	
Las-5	County Road 7	Disputed Road	Sandwich West Parkway	LaSalle	0.5	Context Sensitive Solution	Urban	Multi-Use Path	

	Current Approved CWATS Route and Facility Type				Proposed Change					
CWATS ID	Route Name	From	То	Municipal Jurisdiction	Length (km)	2012 Facility Type	Updated Book 18 Step 1	Proposed Facility Type Change		
Las-6	County Road 6	Tenth Street	Huron Church Road	LaSalle	0.3	Multi-Use Path and Bike Lane	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Las-7	County Road 20	County Road 3	320m south of Martin Lane	LaSalle	2.5	Signed Route	Rural	Separated Bike Lane		
Las-8a	County Road 20	320m south of Martin Lane	Gary Avenue	LaSalle	2.1	Signed Route	Urban	Separated Bike Lane		
Las-8b	County Road 20	320m south of Martin Lane	Gary Avenue	LaSalle	2.1	Signed Route	Urban	Separated Bike Lane		
Las-9a	Front Road	Laurier Drive	Morton Drive	LaSalle	2.2	Signed Route	Urban	Separated Bike Lane		
Las-9b	Front Road	Gary Avenue	Laurier Drive	LaSalle	1.0	Signed Route	Urban	Separated Bike Lane		
Las-10	Sprucewood Avenue	85m west of Abbot Street	Malden Road	LaSalle	1.4	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Las-12	Laurier Drive	Front Rod	Matchette Road	LaSalle	3.6	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Tec-4a	Manning Road	86m south of St Gregory's Road	114m south of Tecumseh Road East	Tecumseh	0.4	Bike Lane	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Tec-4b	Manning Road	Riverside Drive East	86m south of St Gregory's Road	Tecumseh	1.2	Bike Lane	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
Tec-10	Brighton Road	Rail Corridor	Old Tecumseh Road	Tecumseh (Cost Shared with Lakeshore)	0.3	Signed Route	Urban	Paved Shoulder		
Tec-11a	South Talbot Road	County Road 11	County Road 19	Tecumseh	7.9	Signed Route	Rural	Paved Shoulder		
Tec-11b	South Talbot Road	County Road 9	County Road 11	Tecumseh	2.9	Signed Route	Rural	Paved Shoulder		
Tec-17	Riverside Drive	Manning Road	Brighton Road	Tecumseh	2.0	Signed Route	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
COE-1	County Road 9	Seventh Concession Road	County Road 8	LaSalle / Tecumseh	3.9	Paved Shoulder	Rural	Buffered Paved Shoulder		
COE-2A	County Road 19	240m south of County Road 42	85m north of County Road 46	Tecumseh / Lakeshore	6.4	Paved Shoulder	Rural	Buffered Paved Shoulder		
COE-2B	County Road 20	ERCA 12	South Talbot Road	Tecumseh / Lakeshore	2.4	Paved Shoulder	Rural	Buffered Paved Shoulder		
COE-6	County Road 9	Sixth Concession Road	Seventh Concession Road	LaSalle / Tecumseh	1.4	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Buffered Paved Shoulder		
COE-7	County Road 19	85m north of County Road 46	CASO Line	Tecumseh / Lakeshore	2.1	Paved Shoulder	Urban	Buffered Paved Shoulder		
COE-10	Manning Road	County Road 22	VIA Railway Corridor	Tecumseh / Lakeshore	0.6	Bike Lane	Urban	Multi-Use Path		
COE-11	County Road 3	County Road 20	County Road 8	LaSalle / Amherstburg	1.9	Signed Route	Rural	Buffered Paved Shoulder		
COE-12a	County Road 8	County Road 11	County Road 19	Tecumseh / Essex	7.4	Signed Route	Rural	Buffered Paved Shoulder		

Current Approved CWATS Route and Facility Type				Proposed Change					
CWATS ID	Route Name	From	То	Municipal Jurisdiction	Length (km)	2012 Facility Type	Updated Book 18 Step 1	Proposed Facility Type Change	
COE-12b	County Road 8	County Road 3	County Road 9	LaSalle / Amherstburg	5.8	Signed Route	Rural	Buffered Paved Shoulder	
COE-12c	County Road 8	County Road 9	County Road 11	Tecumseh / Amherstburg	2.8	Signed Route	Rural	Buffered Paved Shoulder	
COE-12d	County Road 8	County Road 19	Highway 3	Essex / Lakeshore	2.3	Signed Route	Rural	Buffered Paved Shoulder	
COE-15	Kent County Road 1	Mersea Road 7	400m north of Concession Line 3	Leamington / CK	0.5	Signed Route	Rural	Paved Shoulder	
COE-14	Kent County Road 1	200m south of Middleton Line	Deer Run Road	Leamington / CK	2.2	Signed Route	Rural	Paved Shoulder	

Figure 60: Proposed Modifications to Approved CWATS Facility Types



The CWATS Network

The routes and facility types recommended within the CWATS network have been confirmed based on the iterative network development process outlined in **Section 6.1.1**. The recommended CWATS network is shown on **Figure 61A** (County-wide Map) and **Figure 61B** (Built-up Areas Map). **Table 8** gives an overview of the CWATS network by facility type. Detailed maps for each local municipality can be found in **Appendix 1**.

As noted in the original 2012 plan, County and municipal boundaries are usually not apparent to cyclists and pedestrians, however, a municipal boundary can sometimes become the "end of the road", simply because the active transportation connection has not been made to the neighbouring municipality. A key component of the network development process was to build upon existing and planned CWATS linkages by enhancing connections within and between surrounding urban areas and closing gaps in the rural areas. Updating facility types to be consistent with provincial best practices will also provide greater levels of separation for people on bikes and on foot.

CWATS is a spine network of routes that provides continuous and direct regional connectivity that is supported by municipal active transportation networks to enhance localized travel and recreation options. In short, the CWATS network is intended to connect to the network of seven local municipalities and surrounding areas such as the City of Windsor and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent so pedestrians, cyclists and other multi-modal users can engage in active forms of travel and recreation regardless of municipal boundaries and jurisdictions.

The updated CWATS network is proposed to include 1,073.8 kilometres of active transportation routes. Of the total, 554.3 kilometres are existing routes and 519.5 kilometres are proposed routes.

Table 8: CWATS Network by Facility Type

Facility Type	Existing [2023 Report] (km)	Previously Proposed and Not Yet Implemented [2012 Report] (km)	2023 Update Proposed [2023 Report] (km)	New Total [Existing 2023 + Proposed 2023] (km)
Off-Road Multi-use Trail	117.7	52.5	63.8	181.5
Two-Way Multi-use Pathway	62.8	19.8	65.6	128.4
Separated Bike Lane	1.3	0.0	16.2	17.5
One-way Cycle Track	6.7	0.0	2.3	9.0
Buffered Paved Shoulder	0.0	0.0	77.6	76.6
Paved Shoulder	138.5	154.3	215.7	354.2
Bike Lane	17.8	11.5	8.5	26.3
Context Sensitive Solution	0.0	12.5	0.0	0.0
Signed Route	211.3	89.3	60.5	271.8
Total (km)	556.1	339.9	510.2	1066.3

Notes:

1. The original 2012 CWATS Master Plan envisioned a network of approximately 780 kilometres. Since 2012, a number of additional routes have been added by the County and its local municipalities as new opportunities have emerged.

2. For segments along common municipal boundaries, it is assumed that 50% of the distance would be attributed to each of the local municipalities.



County Wide Active Transportation System (CWATS) Master Plan Update



County Wide Active Transportation System (CWATS) Master Plan Update

A detailed breakdown of the CWATS network by facility type and jurisdiction is provided in **Table 9** and the distribution

	County Share (km)	Local Share (km)	Provincial Share (km)	ERCA Share (km)	Total (km)
Amherstburg	47.9	16.4	0.0	0.0	64.3
Essex	47.0	14.2	0.9	2.0	64.1
Kingsville	46.6	9.5	0.0	0.0	56.0
Lakeshore	74.0	25.4	0.0	36.4	135.9
LaSalle	19.4	27.5	0.0	0.0	46.9
Leamington	41.4	25.0	6.4	0.0	72.8
Tecumseh	36.1	26.5	0.0	7.5	70.1
Total	312.4	144.5	7.3	45.9	510.2

Table 9: Proposed CWATS Network by Facility Type and Jurisdiction

Note: local municipal shares of segments along common municipal boundaries have been included in local municipal totals, where applicable.

Figure 62: Distribution of the CWATS Network by Local Municipality



of routes is shown in Figure 62.

The updated CWATS network is made up of on and off-road routes designed to respond to the needs of different user groups, trip purposes, varying ages and skill-levels. Given there is no one facility type that meets the needs of all users, the proposed CWATS network was reviewed by County staff, municipal staff, the CWATS Committee and members of the public throughout the study process to balance the needs of the various users and take into consideration the amount of space available. The CWATS Committee played a key role in the updated of the CWATS network. Throughout the network development process, working meetings were held with the CWATS Committee to collect input on the network and proposed facility types. The input and comments collected from the CWATS Committee were incorporated and used to refine the network through a number of network iterations.

The CWATS network should be viewed as a connected system of different facility types that are designed to be comfortable and convenient for both existing and future users. The recommended network is also intended to be flexible. The implementation strategy identified in **Chapter 9** provides a recommended process to review and confirm any given route at the time it is scheduled for detail design and implementation. For example, the feasibility process may determine that a route on a roadway that is proposed to have bike lanes in the master plan may be built with a physical separation such as pre-cast concrete curbs, rubber delineators, etc. This flexibility allows planners and designers to tailor the facility type to the user needs at the time of implementation, to develop facility types that complement the surrounding community fabric, and to implement new facility designs that are specific to the surrounding road context.



The CWATS network is more than routes and facilities. There are a number of additional considerations that can be implemented and integrated into the design of active transportation infrastructure to enhance the overall user experience and encourage more people to engage in active forms of travel and recreation. The following sections provide an overview of current resources and considerations that are recommended to be addressed when planning, designing and implementing the CWATS network.



Figure 64: Photo of a protected cycling facility within the County of Essex (June 29, 2019) Source: WSP Canada

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