

Municipality of Harrison Park

Visions for Age-friendly Communities



Chris Hampson-Curtis



Carolina Herrera



Chad Rempel



Steve Nuttall



**University
of Manitoba**

Email Contact: afstudio.hp@gmail.com

Department of City Planning
Faculty of Architecture
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Prof. Richard Milgrom
TA Ryan Segal

Visions for Age-Friendly Communities - Municipality of Harrison Park

Agenda

9:00 - Introductions

9:05 - Buildings & Open Spaces

9:15 - Transportation

9:20 - Housing

9:25 - Social Participation

9:30 - Questions

9:45 - Regional Group Presentation

10:00 - Questions

Introduction

Municipality of Harrison Park



Newdale



Sandy Lake



Onanole

Growth

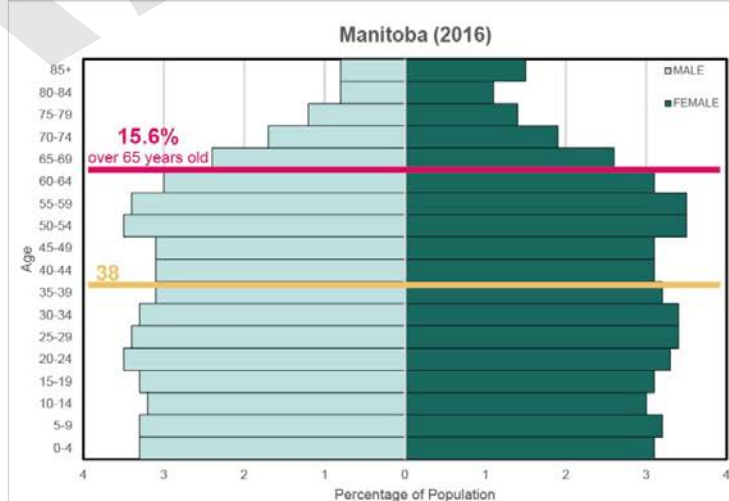
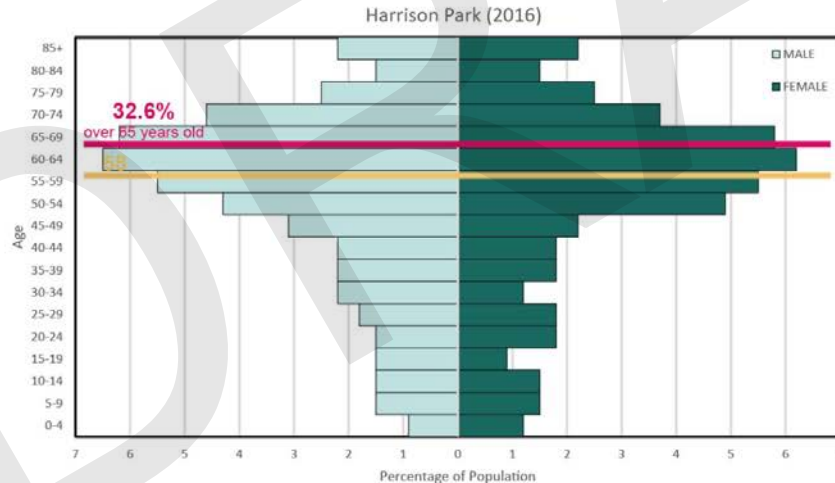
Harrison Park has a population of 1,622 people, which has been declining at a rate of 1.96% per year over the past 5 years from 2011 to 2016 (Statistics Canada, 2016).

Income

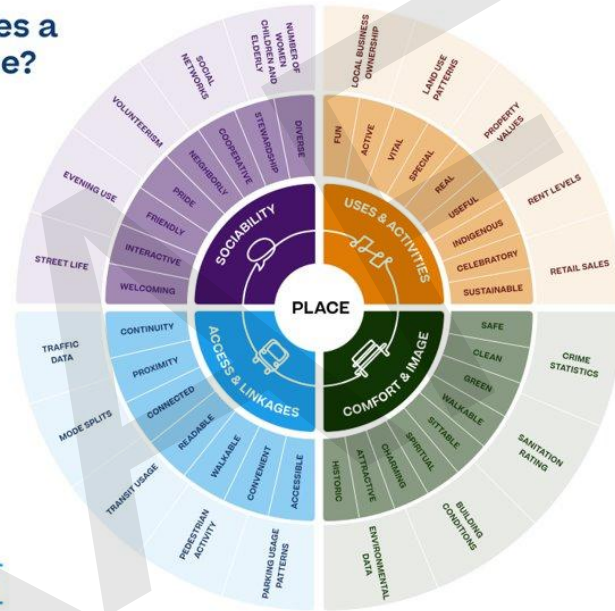
The median annual household income in Harrison Park is \$62,080 per year, which is lower than the national household median income in 2015 (Statistics Canada, 2016).

Demographics

The largest population of Harrison Park is the age group between 60 and 64 years old, comprising 13% of the population. The least populated age group is between 20 and 24 years old. The municipality has a median age of 58 years old (Statistics Canada, 2016).



Project for Public Spaces



"Reimagining and reinventing public spaces as the heart of every community...paying particular attention to the physical, cultural, and social identities that define a place and support its ongoing evolution" (pps.org)

Buildings & Open Spaces



What We Heard

Age Friendly Initiative Committee encourages businesses and organizations to improve accessibility.

- Ramps
- Automatic doors
- Wheelchair accessible restrooms



Restaurant in Onanole. (Richard Milgrom).

***Committed in the pursuit of an
Age Friendly Facility***



***Harrison Park
Age Friendly Initiative Committee***

Sticker for accessible buildings in the program.
Age Friendly Committee.

Newdale

-  Water
-  Green Space
-  Commercial
-  Industrial
-  Institutional/Civic
-  Recreational
-  Residential
-  Seniors' Housing
-  Existing Sidewalks
-  Highways
-  Railroads
-  Landmarks
-  Benches



Buildings & Open Spaces

Municipality of Harrison Park



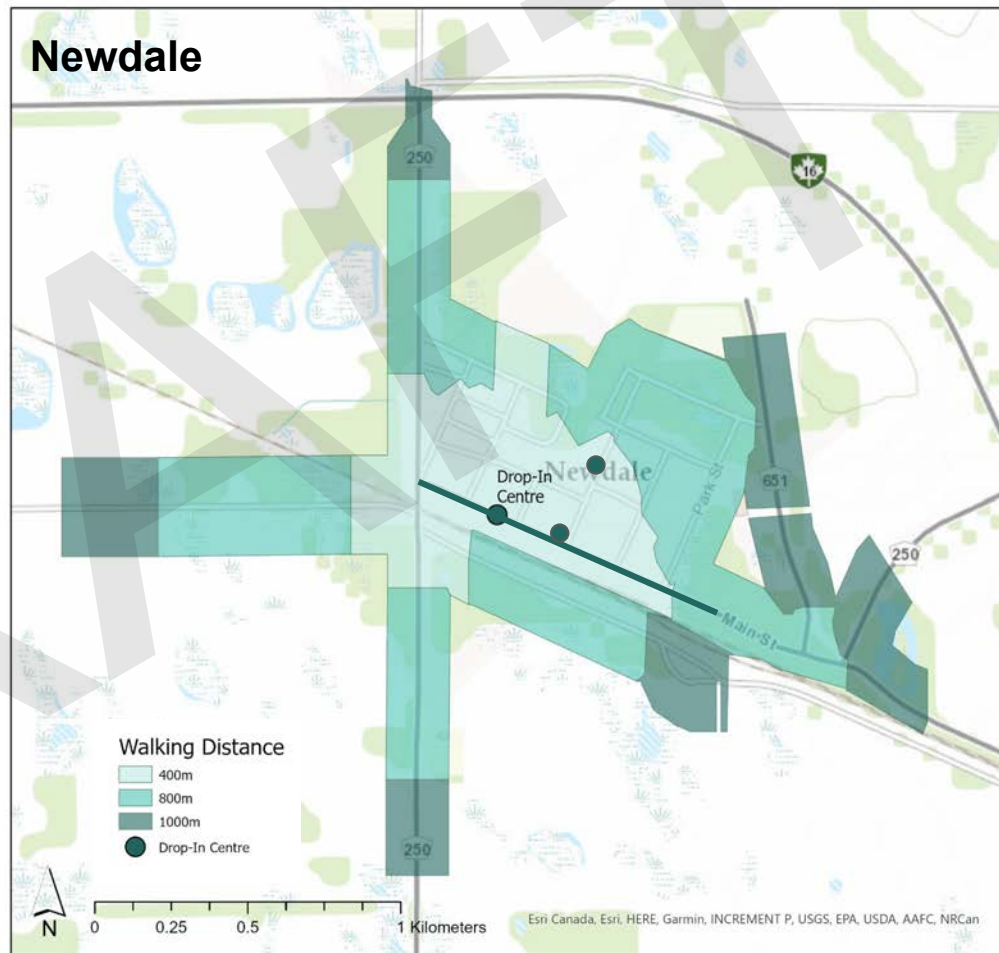
Drop-In Centre. Google Earth.



Community Hall, Google Earth.



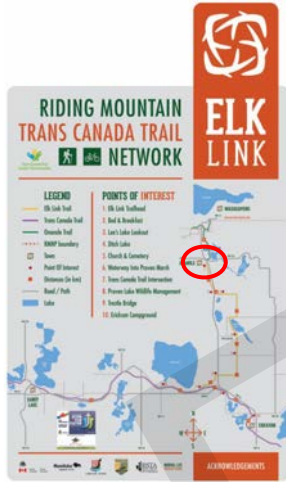
Memory Garden. Google Earth.



Buildings & Open Spaces

Municipality of Harrison Park

Onanole



- Water
- Green Space
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Institutional/Civic
- Recreational
- Residential
- Seniors' Housing
- Existing Sidewalks
- Highways
- Trails
- Railroads
- Landmarks
- Benches
- Public Washrooms
- Trail Access Point



Buildings & Open Spaces

Municipality of Harrison Park



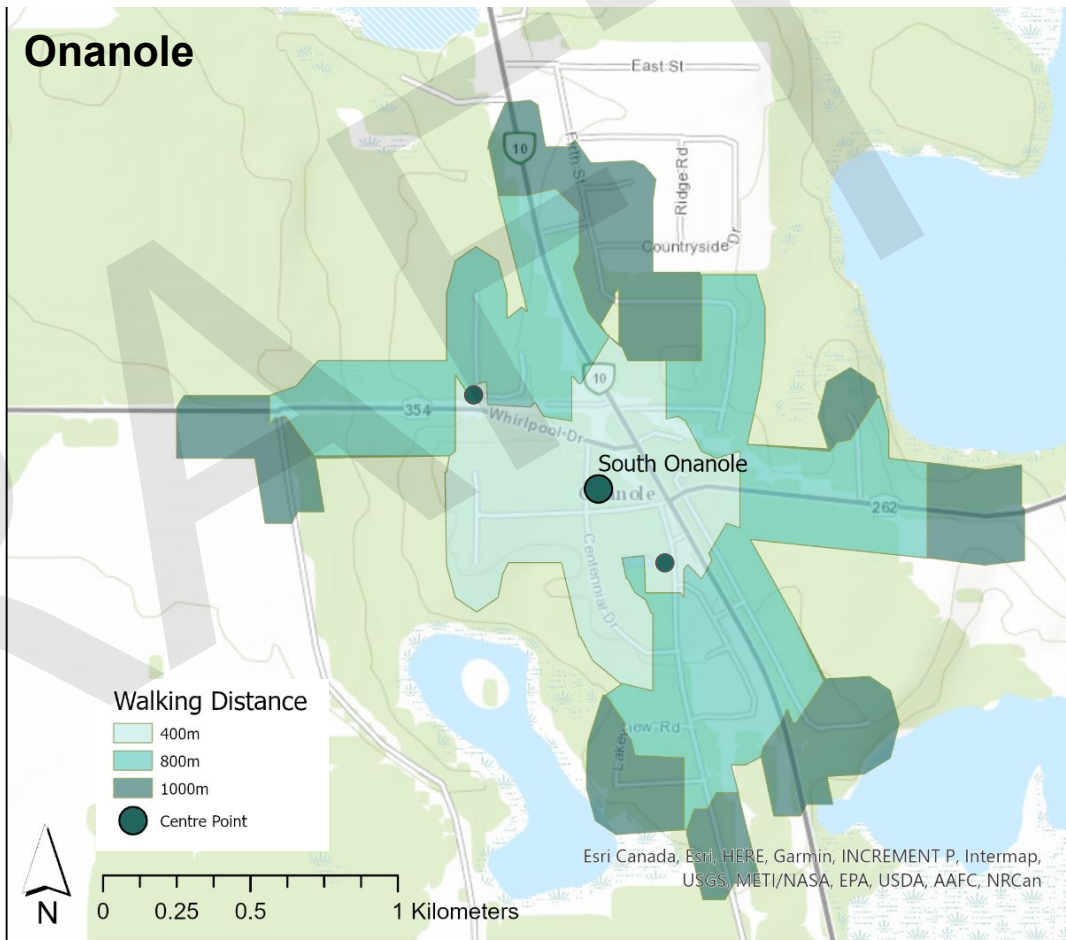
Post Office. Google Earth.



Rec-Centre. Google Earth.



Golf Course. Google Earth User.

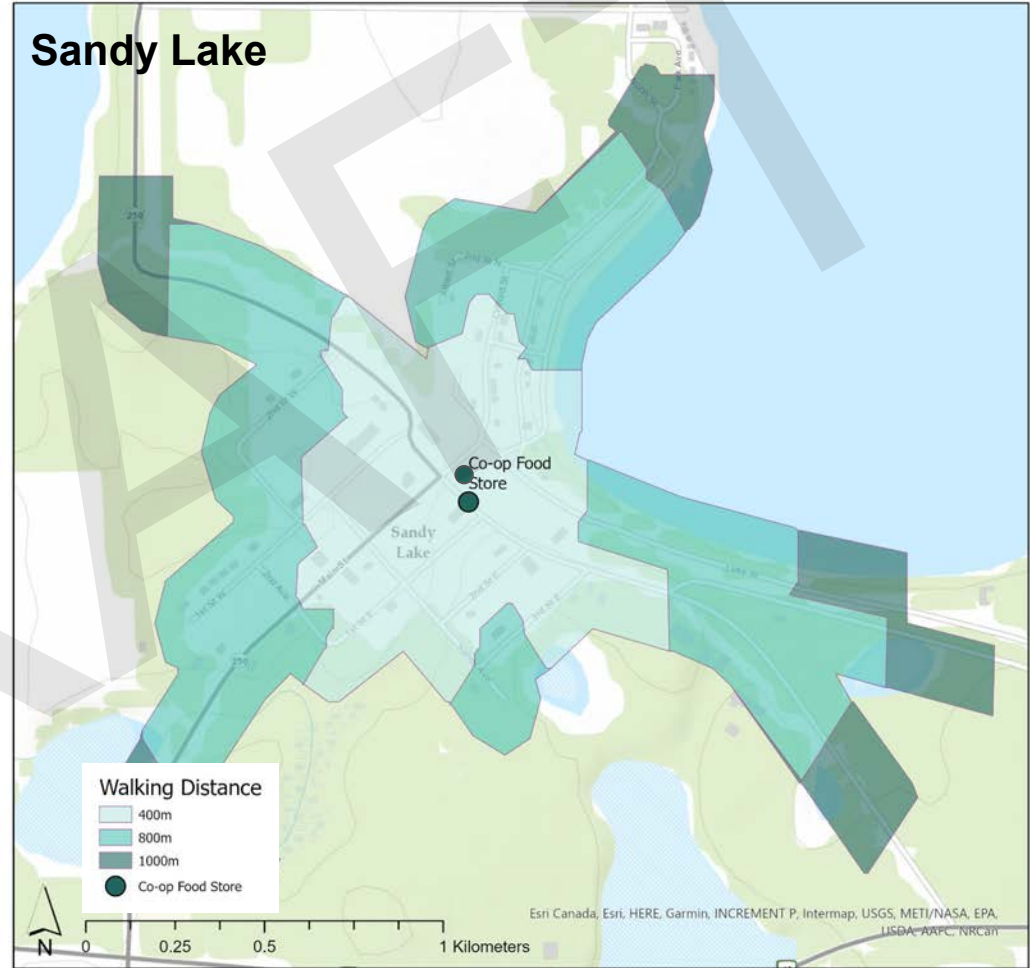


Sandy Lake



Buildings & Open Spaces

Municipality of Harrison Park



Possible Strategies

- Main Street Revitalization Program
 - Accessibility Guide for Buildings
 - Reinforce landmarks, wayfinding
 - Streetscaping Design Guide



Main St. Revitalization, Ontario.
<https://regenerationworks.ca/downtowns/>



Main St. Revitalization, Project for Public Spaces.
<https://www.pps.org/article/rural-placemaking-and-main-street>

Possible Strategies

- Gathering Spots Enhancement & Connection
 - Vacant lots and remanent spaces
 - Pocket Plazas to rest and socialize
 - Seasonal programs and activities



Pocket Plaza, Stevens Creek.
<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=22935>



Multi-purpose Plaza, Winchester Boulevard Urban Village.
<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument?id=32893>

Possible Strategies

- Trail Accessibility and Connection
 - Improve or add access points
 - Amenities
 - Wayfinding elements and signage



Access Point, Buffalo Valley Rail Trail.
<https://unioncountytails.org/trails/>



Trail Restroom, Austin, Tx.
https://www.archdaily.com/433316/trail-restroom-miro-rivera-architects/52485a2ae8e44eff020002c4-trail-restroom-miro-rivera-architects-photo?next_project=no

Newdale

- Pocket Plaza
- Water
- Green Space
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Institutional/Civic
- Recreational
- Seniors' Housing
- Existing Sidewalks
- Proposed Sidewalks
- Proposed Network
- Highways
- Railroads
- Landmarks
- Benches



Buildings & Open Spaces

Municipality of Harrison Park



Buildings & Open Spaces

Municipality of Harrison Park



Onanole

- Pocket Plaza
- Water
- Green Space
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Institutional/Civic
- Recreational
- Seniors' Housing
- Existing Sidewalks
- Proposed Sidewalks
- Proposed Network
- Highways
- Trails
- Trail Extension
- Railroads
- Landmarks
- Benches
- Public Washrooms
- Trail Access Point



Sandy Lake



Transportation



What We Heard

- Municipality has a great public works department that cleans sidewalks regularly
- Sandy Lake has good sidewalks; Onanole and Newdale could use more. Pedestrians walk on roads when sidewalks absent
- Cyclists use streets
- Sandy Lake has the Trans Canada Trail (Great Trail) running through it. Onanole has an extensive trail network as well, connecting to Riding Mountain National Park
- Driving is easy for those who do it. Drivers are respectful and careful
- Handi-Van service and volunteer drivers help those who do not drive, but the handi-van is limited in travel distance and serviceable range.



Golf cart on trail in Lyons, Colorado

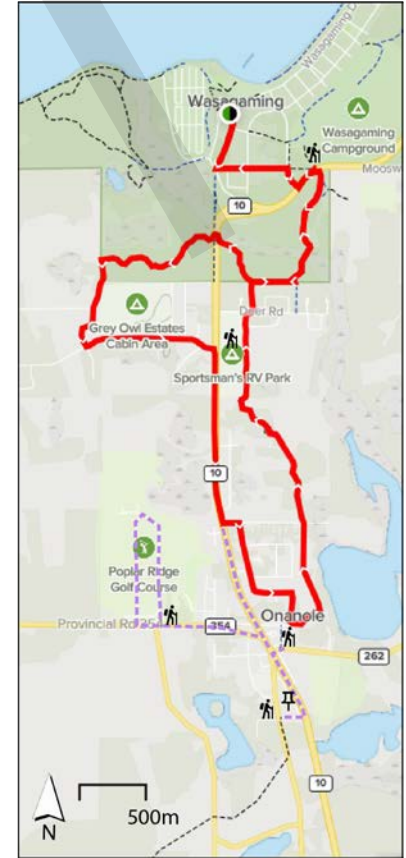
Possible Strategies

The following is a list of implementations for the municipality to consider, created based on our research into Harrison Park, precedents, WHO guidelines and feedback from the AF Committee.

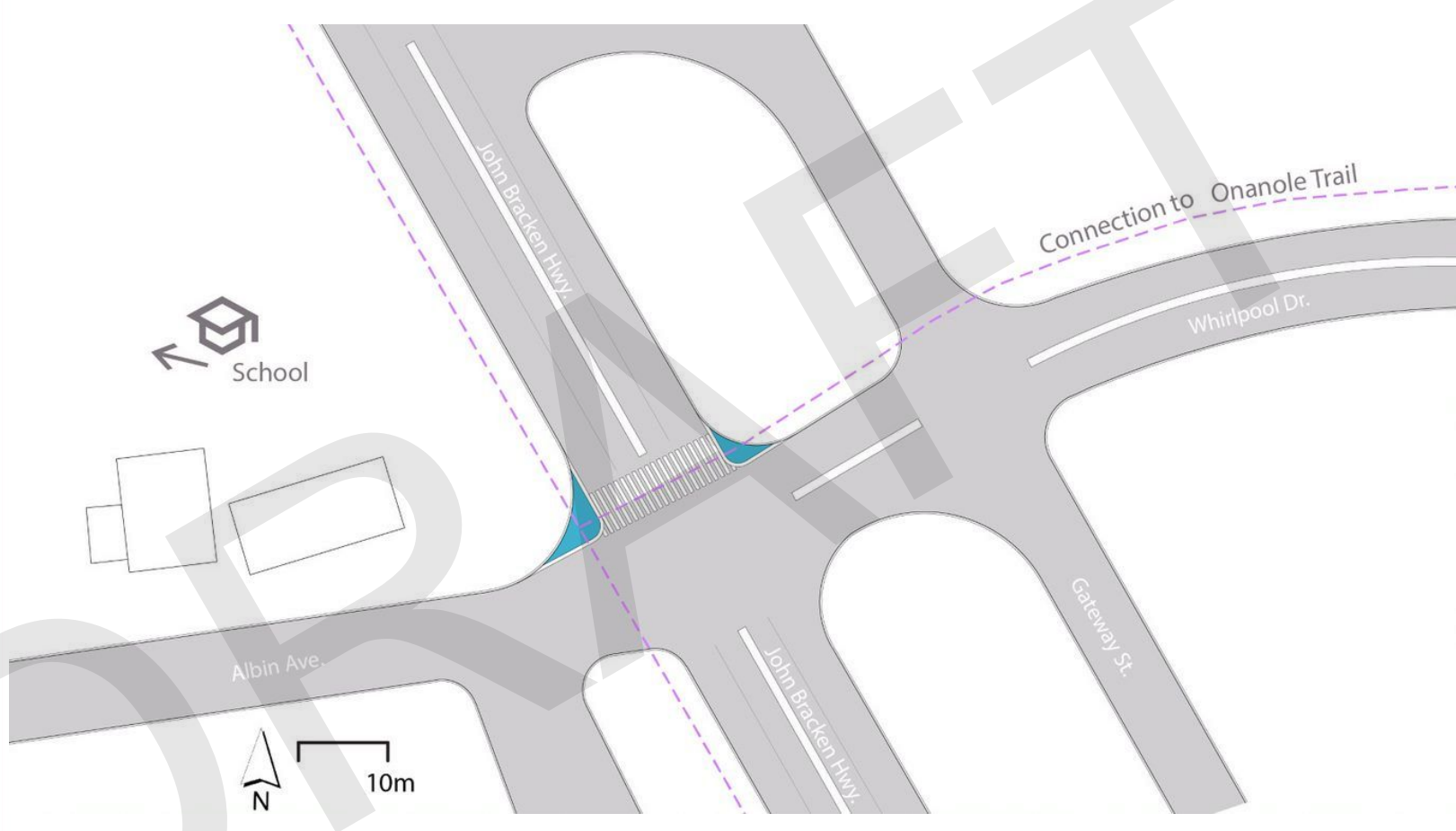
Connect trails to villages and vice versa to establish placemaking

- Great Trail and other trails running through nearby villages encourages understanding that trails are a staple feature of the municipality
- Streets as part of a trail bring new meaning streetscapes as trail users are led into the town centre as part of the placemaking efforts
- Connect the Onanole Trail with the Elk Link Trail in Onanole with new paths and create safer crossings that link East Onanole to the Onanole Trail

- Onanole Trail
- Elk Link Trail
- Proposed Trail Extension
- ⌘ Landmark
- ⌘ Proposed Trail Access Point



Map of proposed trail extension in Onanole



Trail connection with safer crosswalk. Curb extensions slow traffic and ease pedestrian crossing.

Possible Strategies

Seek legalization for golf cart and utility task vehicle (UTV) use on municipal streets

- Enjoyable and safe alternative to car use for those who cannot or do not drive
- Other small towns in North America have adopted golf cart use on municipal roads
- Implement small vehicle pathways beside provincial highways. (A golf cart and UTV pathway following Highway 10 would bridge the northern and southern sections of Onanole)
- UTVs help overcome the barriers of cold weather, with four-wheel-drive and heated cabins



Polaris Ranger UTV



Golf Cart and Bike Lanes in Surprise, Arizona



Golf Cart in Golf Cart Lane

Possible Strategies

Introduce a bike share program, including electric assist bikes, three-wheel tandem bikes and wheelchair bikes

- Bicycles available for rental or lending are a good alternative to cars during warmer months
- Encourage physical activity and outdoor exposure
- Bike share programs can be touted as features for areas that experience tourism, such as Sandy Lake and Onanole



Wheelchair Bike



Senior on Electric Assist Bike



Tandem E-Bike

Possible Strategies

Create multimodal trails and pathways to increase transportation convenience and accessibility

- Diversifying trail usage can increase usership and accessibility



Multimodal Trail in Peachtree City, Georgia

Housing

“It’s always sad to see
when someone has to
leave because they
can’t find suitable
housing.”



What we heard

Municipal leaders and AF committee are active and work closely with seniors and their families to identify and reduce the barriers to ageing in their community.

- The main reason elderly leave HP is housing
- Need for intermediate housing
- Need for affordable, Age-Friendly apartment and condominium options in all communities
- Universal design
- Co-housing was well received
- Difficulty getting lenders & developers to commit
- Reliability issues with Manitoba Housing (Sandy Lake)
- Very few subsidized housing in HP

Possible Strategies

Based off what we heard about HP housing needs, we determined the following strategies

Housing Needs Survey

- Determine specific housing need
- Response to lending & developer issues
- Creating 'buy in'

APPENDIX A

Sample Housing Supply and Demand Assessment Survey

Housing Needs Survey for _____ (community name) _____

The _____ (name of organization doing survey) _____ is doing this survey to identify housing needs and issues in the community. The information will help us address the housing issues in our community. We thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

Date _____ Survey ID # _____

1. What is your age group?

- ☐ 18-24 years
☐ 25-44 years
☐ 45-54 years
☐ 55-64 years
☐ 65-74 years
☐ 75+

2. ☐ Male

☐ Female

3. Do you rent or own?

- ☐ Rent
☐ Own

4. What is your family living arrangement?

- ☐ Married or common-law couple
☐ Single parent
☐ Single person living alone
☐ Multiple-family household

Possible Strategies

Based off what we heard about HP housing needs, we determined the following strategies

Affordable Housing - 3-Plex

- Medium-Short term
- Precedent from Baldur, MB
- Age-Friendly
- Universal design
- High need in Sandy Lake & Onanole



Baldur Manitoba. (2021). Live in Baldur. Town of Baldur, MB website.

Possible Strategies

Based off what we heard about HP housing needs, we determined the following strategies

Transitional Housing - Secondary Suites

- Short-term
- Downsize
- Affordable
- Maintain independence
- Settle in family/friend groups



Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU). UNC School of Government website.

Possible Strategies

Based off what we heard about HP housing needs, we determined the following strategies

Cohousing Community

- Long-term vision
- Community focus
- Intergenerational
- Accessibility
- Communal Design
- River Song Cohousing in Oregon, USA



River Song Cohousing. Cohousing.org.

This is a very
supportive community
where friends and
neighbours are willing
to step up and help one
another.”

Social Participation





What We Heard

- Opportunities to socialize are abundant throughout the villages of Harrison Park.
- Social time happens at drop in-centres, during school events, or anywhere food is offered.
- The population fluctuates seasonally as cottagers take up summer residence and tourists flock to the nearby Riding Mountain National Park.
- This unique context allows Harrison Park to offer different activities to meet the desires of multiple audiences.

Enhancing Existing Social Spaces

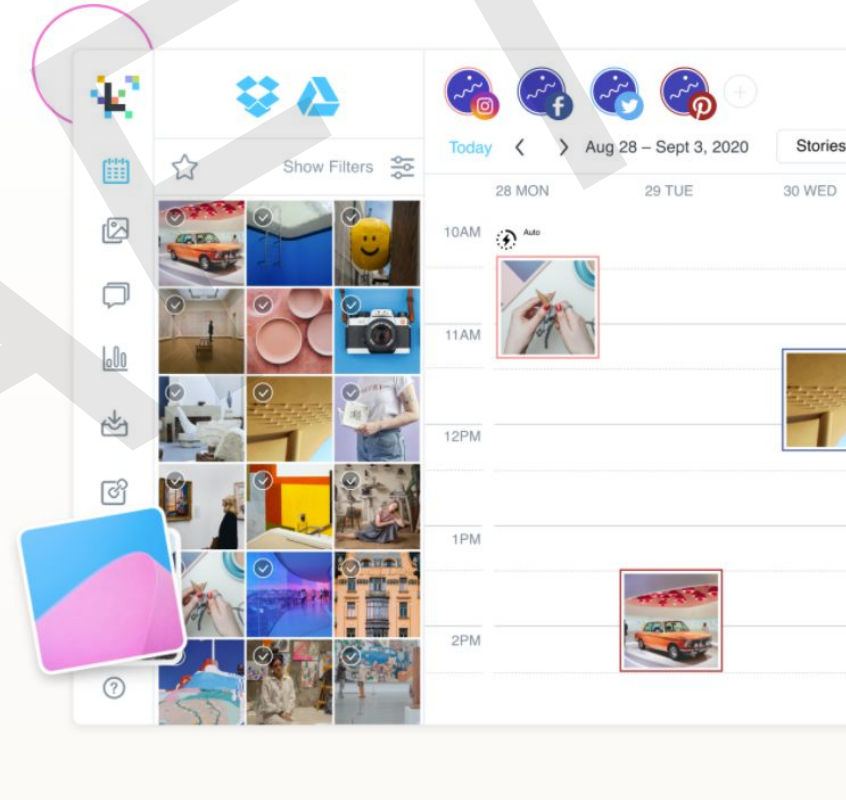
- *Protection from the elements* in the form of canopies fixed to buildings above doorways, umbrellas placed along sidewalks and open spaces. They provide relief from sun and rain, making it more comfortable to remain outdoors.
- Combining this feature with *moveable furniture* in the form of tables and chairs makes the space adaptable, comfortable, and inclusive for those with difficulty standing for extended periods.
- Spaces may be further enhanced by *increasing visual appeal* through plantings and **murals**. Adding greenery to storefronts and sidewalk makes a space more interesting to look at, and murals provide an opportunity to showcase the talent of local artists.



Sandy Lake Co-op Food Store before and after beautification

Bolstering Community Event Communication

- Free software like **Later** or subscription software like *Hootsuite* can *manage social media postings across multiple platforms*. Uniform postings maintain consistency and ensures all information reaches its audience regardless of their chosen platform.
- Social media is an opportunity to *showcase community events*. Designating a photographer or inviting photo submissions from residents to be shared on social media platforms raises awareness of events.
- Images should be *shared with hashtags for exposure purposes*. #ExploreMB is the provincial tourism hashtag, but #ExploreHarrisonPark could be used in tandem. Sharing photos of Harrison Park sights and events using these tags can promote the municipality to outsiders and further attract tourists.



An example of *Later*, which helps manage multiple social media accounts.

Strengthening Intergenerational Ties

- Run a series of **learning circles** to share skills on a variety of topics. Sessions are led by community members of all ages and abilities with something to share.
- Work with high school students to lead *technology literacy learning sessions* for seniors. Student can log these hours for a volunteer credit toward graduating high school.
- Seniors and other adults can *teach life skills* like job interview prep, cooking, or any talent they would like to share with others.
- Create *hybrid virtual and in-person events* so no one is left out by bad weather, lack of transportation, or health issues.

Conclusion & Questions



Sources

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<https://cohousing.ca/about-cohousing/senior-cohousing/>

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<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (access March 18, 2021)