



Sackville Greenway Development Initial Community Engagement October 2012 Final Report November 10, 2012

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Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
Overview of Situation and Report	2
Survey Results & Analysis	
• Attendance & Survey Counts.....	3
• Demographics of Survey Respondents (Question 1)	4
• Reaction to the Proposed Greenway (Question 2).....	5
• Perceived Benefits of the Proposed Greenway (Question 3).....	6
• Concerns around the Proposed Greenway (Question 4).....	7
• Desired Amenities on the Proposed Greenway (Question 5)	9
Conclusion	10
Appendix 1 – Survey Results for Sackville Greenway	
• Question 1 (Tell us about yourself)	11
• Question 2 (What is your reaction to the proposed greenway?)	11
• Question 3 (What do you like about the proposed greenway?)	12
• Question 4 (What concerns do you have?)	16
• Question 5 (What amenities do you want?).....	22
Appendix 2 – Survey Results for Existing Trail Use	
• Question 6 (Which existing greenways do you use?).....	23
• Question 7 (How often?).....	23
• Question 8 (How and why?)	24
• Question 9 (What concerns do you have?)	25
• Question 10 (How did you hear about this survey?).....	28
Appendix 3 – Photo Index of Community Open Houses	29
Appendix 4 – Blank Survey	31

Executive Summary of Sackville Greenway Development Initial Community Engagement

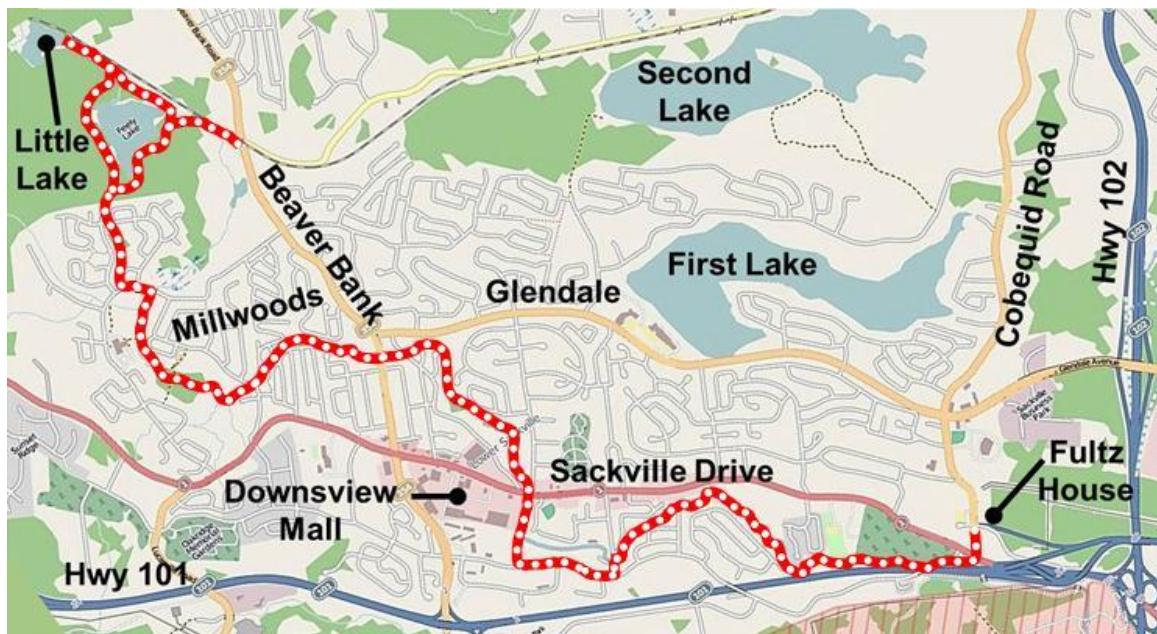
Sackville Rivers Association (SRA) is proposing to develop the Sackville Greenway, a trail along the length of the Little Sackville River (LSR) from Little Lake to Fultz House. This ten year project will cost approximately \$7,000,000, will progress in five sections, and will be done in partnership with all levels of government, private funding and private landowners.

In fulfillment of HRM's Community Engagement Strategy, SRA informed and consulted with the Sackville community through two open houses and an online survey in October 2012. Those who live beside the Little Sackville River were given special notice, with 850 residents and businesses receiving flyers in their mailboxes.

From a total of 113 completed surveys, 77% of respondents were in favour of the proposed Sackville Greenway development, 11% were opposed and 12% were undecided.

The primary perceived benefits of a greenway are that it will promote Active Transportation, the enjoyment and preservation of the Little Sackville River, and physical and community health. However there are strong perceived negative impacts on property owners who live beside or near the LSR, such as loss of privacy and increase of trespassing and vandalism. These concerns need to be addressed through working closely with private property owners, public education on the actual impact of trails and ongoing public engagement as the greenway progresses over its lifetime.

SRA can confidently go forward with the proposed Sackville Greenway development, however with the awareness that it needs to work with private property owners to address their concerns.



Overview of Situation and Report

Over the last 24 years the Sackville Rivers Association (the SRA) has been creating and building a system of multi-use Active Transportation trails along the Sackville River Watershed, with 5 km finished of the proposed 40 km Conservation Corridor.

Currently the SRA is proposing to develop a trail called the Sackville Greenway (SG) along the full length of the Little Sackville River (LSR) that starts at Little Lake and ends at Fultz House. The Sackville Greenway Multi-Year Development Plan will develop the SG through five sections or phases:

- Section A – Riverside Walk
- Section B – Downsview Park Link
- Section C – Beaver Bank Connector
- Section D – Millwood Common Loop
- Section E – Feely Lake Loop

This report describes and analyzes community feedback from surveys collected at two open houses and an online survey during the early part of October 2012 in Lower Sackville.

Additional details were collected as part of the survey (ex. uses and concerns about existing greenways); these are not part of the report, however the results are located in the appendix.

Survey Results

Attendance and Survey Counts for Two Open Houses and Online Survey

Promotion for two open houses and an online survey happened in late September. This included delivery of 850 flyers to every property bordering the Little Sackville River; 25 letters to landowners of property on the proposed greenway; posters; billboard signs; community newspapers; email invitations; websites; and social networks (Facebook and Twitter).

Two open houses were held, one on Monday October 1, 2012 at Knox United Church and one on Wednesday October 10, 2012 at Vineyard Christian Fellowship, with a total attendance of 89 people.

Sackville Greenway Open House Attendance		
	Oct. 1 Attendance	Oct. 10 Attendance
2:30-3:30 pm	24	14
3:30-4:30pm	0	5
4:30-5:30pm	7	1
5:30-6:30pm	1	4
6:30-7:30pm	15	4
7:30-8:30pm	2	2
Attendance totals	49	30
	89	

The online survey was open for input September 17-October 15 using www.surveymonkey.com. A total of 113 surveys were submitted through the open houses and the online process.

Sackville Greenway Survey Count			
Oct. 1 Surveys	Oct. 10 Surveys	Online Surveys	Total Surveys
35	13	65 (58%)	113
48 (42%)			

Analysis

From a public engagement perspective, it seems that an online approach can open up new doors or avenues for public input. The downside of online surveys, however, is that there is no chance for information sharing with respondents. It would be interesting to see, for example, how many respondents at the open houses changed their mind from the time they walked into the open house, to when they had a chance to learn what the greenway proposal looked like and could talk with SRA representatives firsthand.

Survey Results/Analysis – Demographics of Survey Respondents (Question 1)

The first question on the survey invited respondents to give some basic information.

Demographics of Survey Respondents (Survey Question 1)						
	Open Houses		Online		Total	
# of completed surveys	48	42%	65	58%	113	100%
youth (18 or younger)	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
adult (19-50)	17	15%	39	35%	56	50%
older adult (51+)	28	25%	25	22%	53	47%
I live beside or near the Little Sackville River.	27	24%	21	19%	48	42%
I am visiting today, representing government or non-profits (ex.staff, elected officials)	8	7%	2	2%	10	9%

The demographic makeup of respondents was split roughly 50/50 between adults (ages 19-50) and older adults (ages 51+), with no youth at all. Of the 113 respondents, 42% live beside or near the LSR, 9% were elected officials or government staff, and the remaining 49% are either residents of Sackville or farther afield.

Analysis

Only 48 (42%) respondents are direct neighbours of the Little Sackville River. This seems lower than one might hope for from a public engagement process, given that over 850 flyers were delivered directly to all neighbours of the LSR, both residents and businesses, and all landowners were sent individually addressed letters.

However, using the perspective that people are generally vocal when they are concerned about something and that they are generally silent when they have little or no concerns, this low attendance by immediate neighbours might indicate overall agreement or acceptance of the proposed greenway development.

Survey Results/Analysis – Reaction to the Proposed Greenway (Question 2)

Respondents were asked, What is your reaction to the proposed greenway? They were given three choices: support, oppose or undecided.

What is your reaction to the proposed greenway? (Survey Question 2)				
	Open Houses	Online	Total	%
I support the greenway	36	51	87	77%
I oppose the greenway	4	8	12	11%
I am undecided	4	6	10	9%
skipped this question	3	1	4	4%

Overall there is large support for the proposed greenway, with 3 of 4 respondents in favour. Although 11% of respondents are opposed to the greenway, almost the same number are undecided.

Analysis

Given that 58% of survey respondents do not live beside or near the LSR, the question arises, what do people who live beside or near the Little Sackville River think of the proposed greenway? We can track this concern with 27 respondents at the open house surveys who identified themselves as living beside or near the LSR. (Unfortunately the online tool has changed its format recently and no longer allows tracking between questions.)

What is your reaction to the proposed greenway? (Survey Question 2)		
Open House Respondents who identified themselves as living beside or near the LSR (from a total of 27)	Total	%
I support the greenway	18	67%
I oppose the greenway	4	15%
I am undecided	4	15%
skipped this question	1	4%

There is less support (67% vs. 77%) for the greenway among those who live beside or near the LSR than the general average (which includes both visiting elected officials and government staff). In all likelihood, the support for the proposed greenway among those who do not live beside or near the LSR is higher than the general average.

This difference of support between immediate neighbours of the SG vs. visitors of the SG may simply highlight the obvious; neighbours of the greenway think of the impact on their own property while those who visit the greenway are more focussed on the greenway itself, rather than its impact on neighbours.

Survey Results/Analysis – Perceived Benefits of the Proposed Greenway (Question 3)

Respondents were asked, What do you like about the proposed greenway development? They were invited to write a comment; these comments were sorted according to various keywords or themes.

What do you like about the proposed greenway development? (Survey Question 3)		
Comments	# of comments	%
Active Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• walk/hike/bike, trails, access, recreation• commuting/connectivity	54	48%
Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• stewardship, preservation• enjoyment of nature	32	28%
Health <ul style="list-style-type: none">• health/exercise• community wellbeing, including safety	16	14%
General positive response	9	8%
Tourism (promotion of and an expanded view of Sackville)	7	6%
Miscellaneous comments	3	3%

The proposed greenway development is perceived as a very strong benefit to the Sackville community, specifically in the area of Active Transportation: a place to walk, bike or hike; trail development; recreation; and connectivity to other trails. Another perceived main benefit of the greenway is the preservation, stewardship and enjoyment of the natural environment in and around the LSR. Health, both individually and of the community, is the third main benefit.

Sample Comments

- We live right along where the trail will be in Millwood on Sawyer. It will provide a wonderful area for our family to walk/bike together and promote the care of the area and river.
- The fact that it connects numerous communities without roads and sidewalks.
- It will make our area more attractive. It will encourage tourists to come to our area.

Analysis

These results are what you would expect from a proposed greenway development that is in your neighbourhood, that capitalizes on a natural asset such as the LSR and allows for its enjoyment and preservation. It is encouraging to see that people recognize a greenway as a means for community wellbeing; as Don Ambler, HRM Trails Specialist says, “Communities create trails. Trails connect communities. Trails create community.”

Perhaps surprising is the perceived tourism benefit of the greenway. It highlights residents’ views that as a suburban community Sackville may not always have lots of draw for outside visitors beyond the business/shopping district.

Survey Results/Analysis – Concerns around the Proposed Greenway (Question 4)

Respondents were asked, What concerns do you have about the proposed greenway development? They were invited to write a comment; these comments were sorted according to various keywords or themes.

What concerns do you have about the proposed greenway? (Survey Question 4)		
Comments	# of comments	%
Private property issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • loss of privacy/proximity of trail/disruption (noise, traffic)/need for fencing • damage/vandalism/trespassing • property value loss/increased taxes • expropriation of land 	40	35%
Greenway Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unlikelihood of completion (funding, opposition, project duration) • maintenance/sustainability of finished greenway • cost 	27	24%
Greenway Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general trail vandalism/crime, policing, safety • garbage • environmental damage/impact/flood plain issues 	23	20%
Miscellaneous comments	7	6%
Miscellaneous concerns	5	4%

By far the greatest concerns for respondents are private property issues of those who would be directly impacted with a greenway beside or on their property:

- loss of privacy and disruption of lifestyle by having greenway users cross near or on riverside properties
- property damage by greenway users, including trespassing and vandalism
- perceived property value loss and resale value, along with fear of increased taxes to fund greenway development
- fear of expropriation of land by either SRA or HRM

The second concern is about the greenway development as a project:

- will it come to fruition, given the substantial hurdles such as time frame, people resources and community reactions?
- will it be maintained upon completion?
- will it cost too much?

The third concern is about the impact of the greenway on crime, trail safety, garbage and the LSR itself.

Sample Comments

- My concerns regarding this proposed greenway development is that it will traverse through the rear section of my private property. It will impede on my privacy, it will affect the resale value of my property.
- Trespassing on private property, crime, noise, litter, lack of privacy hang out area for kids.
- I am concerned that the trail will not be built. I believe overall it is a good idea and I hope all issues can be addressed so the trail can be built and enjoyed for years to come.

Analysis

The private property concerns need to be addressed with the proposed greenway development. For example, SRA and HRM should explore the possibility of building fences along properties of concerned residents, with cost sharing between HRM and the property owner. Also CPTED principles (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) should be used in the greenway design.

SRA needs to continue to use a public engagement approach with the greenway development over the 10 year span and the five sections. This will build the community goodwill required for the success of this project. For example, as each section begins to be developed, all residents/landowners along the section can be informed and invited into the decision-making process through another open house or perhaps online response. Then as the section is finished, it should be promoted widely throughout Sackville. During the process of developing, finishing and promoting each section, residents' comments should be captured; these comments can be shared with residents/landowners of the next proposed greenway section, as a way of illustrating the benefits of the greenway and SRA's openness to partner with the community.

Finally education will help allay residents' fears. For example, SRA can be clear that it has no plans to expropriate land. Or it can clearly identify the source for greenway funding and that it does not directly affect the local area rate. Also it can point to studies that show that generally crime goes down and safety goes up when trails and greenways are developed.

In terms of the greenway development, its sustainability and feasibility, SRA needs to assess for itself if it has enough supports and funding to successfully complete the SG. Some strategies to ensure long-term sustainability as a volunteer led organization may be to:

- continually develop a strong core of volunteers who can move this project forward over the projected 10 year span. Otherwise volunteer burnout will occur.
- secure grants to hire 1-2 staff people, given the scope of the SG and the wide berth of activities that SRA engages in.
- reduce some of SRA's overall activities so that it can focus on SG development.
- explore partnerships with local businesses to help sponsor/support the greenway development efforts.

Finally in terms of greenway impact on crime, safety, the LSR and garbage, most of these can be addressed by greenway design. For example, garbage receptacles can be installed. Also the greenway needs to be built with the flood plain in mind.

Survey Results/Analysis – Amenities on Proposed Greenway (Question 5)

Respondents were asked, What amenities would you like on the greenway? They were given several options, with space to write in additional ideas.

What amenities would you like on the greenway? (Survey Question 5)				
	Open Houses	Online	Total	%
benches	39	48	87	77%
trail maps	34	45	79	70%
interpretive signs	25	31	56	50%
lighting	24	27	51	45%
washrooms	21	30	51	45%
winter maintenance (ex. snow clearing)	16	29	45	40%
exercise equipment	5	6	11	10%
other	8	18	26	23%
garbage receptacles/cans			5	4%
parking			4	4%
fences			4	4%
safety/security monitoring			4	4%
trail etiquette signs/bicycle awareness			2	2%

Analysis

Respondents are in favour of typical amenities on greenways. The two most popular choices, benches and trail signs, are relatively inexpensive to do but substantially add to the user's experience. Other amenities, such as lighting, washrooms, winter maintenance and garbage receptacles, may be prohibited by expense and/or the need for ongoing maintenance.

Given that the greenway is located near streets, parking may not need to be addressed except in cases near Little Lake, Feely Lake or Cobequid Road. Fences will need to be addressed with specific property owners.

Conclusion

Survey respondents were mostly in favour (77%) of the proposed Sackville Greenway development, with only 11% opposed. Respondents perceive that the SG will promote Active Transportation, the enjoyment and preservation of the Little Sackville River, and physical and community health.

However there are strong perceived impacts on property owners who live beside or near the LSR. These need to be addressed through creative solutions (ex. building fences) and ongoing public engagement as the various sections progress. Also for the Sackville Greenway to become a reality SRA may need to strengthen its volunteer and funding bases to sustain its efforts across the next 10 years.

From a public engagement perspective, the Open Houses and online surveys were moderately successful:

- 79 people attended the two Open Houses
- a total of 113 surveys were filled in, about 42% at the Open House and 58% online

SRA can confidently go forward with the proposed Sackville Greenway development, however with the awareness that it needs to work with private property owners to address their concerns.

Appendix 1 – Survey Results for Sackville Greenway

How to read the data

- Written answers were transcribed directly and not edited, except in the case of spelling/grammar errors.
- Comments for questions #3, 4, 9 are identified according to:
 - proximity to the trail – EITHER near to the Little Sackville River OR not near to the LSR OR unknown [for online users]
 - reaction to trail – EITHER supportive OR opposed OR undecided OR unknown [for online users]
 - unfortunately the online survey tool did not allow tracking of each respondent with all of their answers. This accounts for the “unknown” category.
- In some cases respondents included their names, addresses or phone numbers. These have been replaced with xxx in this document for privacy reasons.

1. Tell us about yourself.

	Open Houses	Online	Total	%
youth (18 or younger)	0	0	0	0%
adult (19-50)	17	39	56	50%
older adult (51+)	28	25	53	47%
I live beside or near the Little Sackville River.	27	21	48	42%
I am visiting today, representing government or non-profits (ex.staff, elected officials)	8	2	10	9%
# of completed surveys	48	65	113	100%

2. What is your reaction to the proposed greenway?

	Open Houses	Online	Total	%
I support the greenway	36	51	87	77%
I oppose the greenway	4	8	12	11%
I am undecided	4	6	10	9%
skipped this question	3	1	4	4%

3. What do you like about the proposed greenway development?

Note that there were 12 negative comments (ex. “nothing good about this development”) in response to this question. These are included in the table below, however they did not appear in the list of items in the main report, since they did not address Question 3 directly. Nor were they included in Question 4 answers, since they did not contain any new information that wasn’t already identified there.

What do you like about the proposed greenway development? (Survey Question 3)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
Active Transportation – walk/hike/bike, trails, access, recreation (40 comments)		
near LSR	undecided	A place to walk.
near LSR	supportive	Options for recreation, a chance to hike without the concern of traffic in a more woodsy setting.
near LSR	supportive	Opportunity for recreation and to explore areas of Sackville and beyond that I have yet had the opportunity to see.
near LSR	supportive	Ease of access to green spaces, outdoors, wildlife.
near LSR	supportive	I enjoy all the present trails and would enjoy more.
near LSR	supportive	A place close to home where you can walk or exercise your dog and hopefully a pleasant place to ride your bike and use your walker.
near LSR	supportive	We live right along where the trail will be in Millwood on Sawyer. It will provide a wonderful area for our family to walk, bike together and promote the care of the area and river.
not near LSR	supportive	Great addition to the trails network in HRM. Now is the time to do it before it loses its natural look.
not near LSR	supportive	Ease of access from many residential areas. General ease of elevation.
not near LSR	supportive	Access to streams & lakes in the local area.
not near LSR	supportive	Active transportation.
not near LSR	supportive	Great way to use an existing utility corridor base to provide a greenway corridor for the HRM/Bedford Sackville community. The residents will benefit from the outdoor experience of being connected.
not near LSR	supportive	I like width of trail – accessible to power wheelchairs, motorized scooters, etc. and that it is constructed with crushed gravel or pavement, also for strollers and wheelchairs, etc. Makes the trail accessible to all users.
not near LSR	supportive	Its accessibility.
not near LSR	supportive	Provision of active transportation and recreation.
not near LSR	supportive	The active trails are great. Not everyone plays sports but a lot do like to walk, hike or bike.
not near LSR	supportive	I enjoy walking with my grandkids and prefer to be away from cars. The greenway is through the heart of the community.
not near LSR	supportive	Central location, needed Active Transportation facility in community
not near LSR	supportive	Will allow access to many users eventually – most users will be able to feel safe and enjoy outside experience.
unknown	unknown	Passive recreation.
unknown	unknown	That it follows the Little Sackville River; opportunity for walking, biking, etc.; preserves the area near the river for public use
unknown	unknown	I like that there will be a way to bike or walk between Bedford, Sackville and Mount Uniacke, and a place to enjoy nature. This will encourage active transport, and lead to healthier life styles. I think this is absolutely necessary to creating a better community!
unknown	unknown	Opportunity to be in nature while still close to home, and have access to an environment where I can exercise and walk my dog and chat with my friends.
unknown	unknown	It will get more people around the river active and walking and allow the general public to enjoy the lovely landscapes, etc. around the river.

What do you like about the proposed greenway development? (Survey Question 3)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
unknown	unknown	I love the idea of more trails in the Sackville area. I am a big user of the trails around First and Second lake. I tell all my friends and family about them and take a lot of people there who haven't seen them before. I am originally from St. John's, which has a trail along every river and around every pond in the city. With this new trail system, Sackville will rival St. John's with its trails! I highly support them!
unknown	unknown	Great to have more trails!
unknown	unknown	Opportunities for activity within the community and conservation aspect.
unknown	unknown	Freedom to walk without fighting traffic and noise and those objecting to walkers.
unknown	unknown	Natural Area Active Transportation Bringing community to the River.
unknown	unknown	Any trail for public use is a good thing any way I can get off the paved sidewalk and onto a green space is a huge improvement for wanting to be outside for encouraging activity and enjoying the area.
unknown	unknown	I like the idea of having more trails to enjoy some outdoor activities.
unknown	unknown	Biking, running, and walking access to areas of Sackville without having to be on a highway.
unknown	unknown	Active transportation and re-use of sections of the old rail line.
unknown	unknown	I celebrate any bit of public access, flat land, with no traffic that enables me to get a bit of exercise, enjoy nature, that's near where I live that I don't have to have a car to get to, but can access it by walking, biking, or taking transit.
unknown	unknown	It provides a means for people in the area (and visitors) to experience green space and allow them to get a bit of pleasant exercise.
unknown	unknown	Developed nature trails.
unknown	unknown	Trails for walking.
unknown	unknown	I like keeping green spaces in Sackville, and recognize the beauty of the river.
unknown	unknown	My son and I love to go for walks and I'm always looking for a great and beautiful place to walk! Every community needs a gathering place and green space.
unknown	unknown	I live in the Millwood area and it would be a fantastic opportunity to have some trails in the local area to walk my dog on Feely and Little lake are beautiful and should be able to be enjoyed by all.

Active Transportation – commuting/connectivity (14 comments)

near LSR	supportive	The fact that it connects numerous communities without roads and sidewalks.
near LSR	supportive	To show Sackville and meet people.
not near LSR	supportive	A connection to significant location – Fultz, Library, Parks, picnic areas.
not near LSR	supportive	Connecting communities.
not near LSR	supportive	A connected route for safe cycling.
not near LSR	supportive	This is a long needed route, so people can access their community without being on roads. It will also connect to the other trails in the community and eventually be part of the network of trails all the way to the Valley.
not near LSR	supportive	Connecting Sackville along the historic Sackville River.
not near LSR	supportive	Connect residents with important community destinations creating potential for Active Transportation
unknown	unknown	I live in Bedford so the links to the connector is critical and essential
unknown	unknown	Hoped that it will become a popular alternate route to the Millwood Wetland, schools, seniors housing, major shopping centres, heritage sites, HRM parks and trans it stops/terminals, and the Bedford Sackville Greenway Connector.
unknown	unknown	I very much like the idea of an active transportation route through a busy area such as downtown Sackville, especially because it is along a natural heritage feature.
unknown	unknown	Will be easier to get to the Mall.
unknown	unknown	The development of the Greenway is essential to connecting the community and our neighbors with a means to be active and commute with in and out of our community.
unknown	unknown	How it extends the current Sackville-Bedford Greenway Connector, makes Sackville Drive more accessible, and protects the Little Sackville River.

What do you like about the proposed greenway development? (Survey Question 3)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
Environment – stewardship, preservation (17 comments)		
near LSR	supportive	It brings a very long trail to Sackville which facilitates access to the outdoors without causing environmental damage. It also promotes awareness for nature and the Sackville River
near LSR	supportive	Possible cut down on pollution.
near LSR	supportive	Hopefully a trail along the LSR will bring problems of siltation (?) to more people's attention.
near LSR	supportive	New development. Good for the environment.
near LSR	supportive	We live right along where the trail will be in Millwood on Sawyer. It will provide a wonderful area for our family to walk, bike together and promote the care of the area and river.
near LSR	supportive	Sackville desperately needs protected green corridors for wildlife and plants. Multi-use trails are a way to get support to protect habitat.
not near LSR	supportive	Beautification of the area.
not near LSR	supportive	Environmental protection and preservation.
unknown	unknown	The more green space being protected in HRM the better.
unknown	unknown	The trail also preserves nature and provides information about Sackville and the benefits of greenways. This also offers habitat for a number of species of birds, which only add to the ambiance of the trail. The general population become more aware of nature and its inherent benefit.
unknown	unknown	Opportunities for activity within the community and conservation aspect.
unknown	unknown	The Little Sackville River has been damaged in the past and not only does the trail protect the areas along the river from further impacts, it also brings local people to the river to appreciate its beauty and value.
unknown	unknown	Helps protect the river and provides access.
unknown	unknown	It protects the Sackville River.
unknown	unknown	Access to the water's edge, increased attention to the Little Sackville River.
unknown	unknown	Protects the Little Sackville River.
unknown	unknown	Protected and cared for water areas and greenways .
Environment – enjoyment of nature (15 comments)		
near LSR	supportive	A place to walk that is a natural surrounding not a street with asphalt and concrete
near LSR	supportive	It will allow people to be closer to nature.
near LSR	supportive	As an avid outdoorsman, I thoroughly enjoy nature away from traffic noise, congestion and engine fumes. The present trail system and proposed Sackville Greenway Development will allow for expanded use and enjoyment of the natural beauty of the wetlands in our Sackville Community.
not near LSR	supportive	It will allow people to enjoy the Little Sackville River and interact with nature.
not near LSR	supportive	Excellent for experiencing nature.
unknown	unknown	Appreciation of nature promoted which is all to the good for our mental health and enhancement of life.
unknown	unknown	Opportunity to be in nature while still close to home, and have access to an environment where I can exercise and walk my dog and chat with my friends.
unknown	unknown	It will get more people around the river active and walking and allow the general public to enjoy the lovely landscapes, etc. around the river.
unknown	unknown	Let's you enjoy nature and get some exercise close to home.
unknown	unknown	A more natural connection of the Sackville Community.
unknown	unknown	It provides residents a means to get outside and enjoy our area.
unknown	unknown	The length of the trail, beauty of the river.
unknown	unknown	I live in the Millwood area and it would be a fantastic opportunity to have some trails in the local area to walk my dog on Feely and Little lake are beautiful and should be able to be enjoyed by all.
unknown	unknown	HRM needs more places for people to connect with Nature.
unknown	unknown	Having more trails in our community is fabulous and having it snug along the river is even better. There is something very calming about hearing running water while you

What do you like about the proposed greenway development? (Survey Question 3)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
		are walking on a trail.
Health - health/exercise (11 comments)		
near LSR	supportive	It will provide good exercise for my self and my dog.
near LSR	supportive	Walkways for health.
near LSR	supportive	A place close to home where you can walk or exercise your dog and hopefully a pleasant place to ride your bike and use your walker.
near LSR	supportive	Also provides exercise opportunities.
not near LSR	supportive	Opportunity for people to exercise away from roads and traffic.
not near LSR	supportive	Encouragement of physical activity.
not near LSR	supportive	Excellent for promoting a healthy lifestyle and overall fitness.
unknown	unknown	Provides community with outdoor activities that can be healthy and a drawing card for people to move into the community.
unknown	unknown	More trails to walk for exercise.
unknown	unknown	I like that it will greatly contribute to good health in Sackville. It will fill a much needed void in Sackville now, and will encourage exercise, and not solely relying on cars for transportation.
unknown	unknown	We need kids, and adults to get involved in outdoor activities.
Health – community wellbeing, including safety (5 comments)		
near LSR	undecided	A safe place to walk not near traffic, not to hear too much traffic.
near LSR	supportive	Great for community health.
unknown	unknown	Government benefits due to people walking, biking exercising and people more healthy - less hospital visits.
unknown	unknown	I like that there will be a way to bike or walk between Bedford, Sackville and Mount Uniacke, and a place to enjoy nature. This will encourage active transport, and lead to healthier life styles. I think this is absolutely necessary to creating a better community!
unknown	unknown	Transportation, sense of community, progress, well-being, security with walkers reporting criminal activity.
Overall positive (9 comments)		
unknown	unknown	I like the idea.
unknown	unknown	Everything let's build it right away.
unknown	unknown	Integrated Resource Management.
unknown	unknown	I love it. Good job.
unknown	unknown	Everything. I do recommend paving the stretch from the Cobequid Terminal to Old Beaver Bank Road.
unknown	unknown	Love it!
unknown	unknown	It looks like a retrofit to a development plan. If approved, it would be an example of what should be done in the expansion of our urban/suburban areas.
unknown	unknown	The work SRA has done thus far has been amazing! More trails needed around HRM. Way to go!!
unknown	unknown	I love the SG and lets start building it--- now I hope the government will fund this, its worth every penny.
Tourism – promotion, expanded view of Sackville (7 comments)		
near LSR	supportive	It will make our area more attractive. It will encourage tourists to come to our area.
near LSR	supportive	I like the idea that it will promote the beauty of Lower Sackville as most people probably only think of the business section along Sackville Dr.
unknown	unknown	Linkage with other trails a tourism benefit.
unknown	unknown	Provides community with outdoor activities that can be healthy and a drawing card for people to move into the community.
unknown	unknown	It will help people to see Sackville in a different way.
unknown	unknown	Explore more parts of Sackville on foot with limited interactions with vehicles!
unknown	unknown	It will help make Sackville attractive from a real-estate point of view, similar to other

What do you like about the proposed greenway development? (Survey Question 3)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
		neighborhood with great walking trails. I very much look forward to seeing this proceed.
Miscellaneous comments (3 comments)		
near LSR	supportive	Planned and extensive.
near LSR	supportive	A good information poster for Sackville people.
unknown	unknown	That it is close to home, much needed here in Sackville.
Nothing good about this development (12 comments)		
near LSR	opposed	My opinion regarding the proposed greenway is it is a development to harass law abiding citizens who live adjacent to the proposed development. (Responses from a second survey filled out by same person: I don't like anything about the proposed greenway. In my opinion it will only cause harassment to the private property owners. I am sure the people that are proposing and supporting this greenway can find better projects to use up their time if they are bored.)
near LSR	opposed	Nothing.
near LSR	opposed	Do not like it. It crosses my property at xxx Beaver Bank Crossroads.
near LSR	opposed	Nothing is desirable.
near LSR	opposed	More taxes?
near LSR	undecided	Depends on how the homes along the pathway are protected.
near LSR	supportive	Increase house value.
unknown	unknown	Nothing, leave things as they are.
unknown	unknown	Nothing. I have lived on the river side for over thirty years and believe that any of this type of development would be a travesty to the wildlife that inhabits the river area.
unknown	unknown	Nothing.
unknown	unknown	I own a house that backs onto the proposed trail and as a homeowner I am vehemently opposed.
unknown	unknown	Nothing.

4. What concerns do you have about the proposed greenway?

Note that there were 17 comments indicating “no concern” in response to this question. These are included in the table below, however they did not appear in the list of items in the main report, since they did not address Question 4 directly. Nor were they included in Question 3 answers, since they did not contain any new information that wasn’t already identified there.

What concerns do you have about the proposed greenway? (Survey Question 4)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
Private property – loss of privacy/greenway proximity/disruption (noise, traffic)/need for fencing (24 comments)		
near LSR	opposed	It's on part of our land, xxx Krista Drive (landowner).
near LSR	opposed	My concerns regarding this proposed greenway development is that it will traverse through the rear section of my private property. It will impede on my privacy, it will affect the resale value of my property.
near LSR	opposed	Passes through my property/value would go down/no privacy. (xxx Beaver Bank Crossroads, not a landowner, property next to trail).
near LSR	undecided	My backyard faces the river, if it's made into a walkway, I would like to see a high fence installed to protect my property.
near LSR	undecided	It is going too close to my property.
near LSR	undecided	Excess traffic in our neighbourhood and based upon my experience increased break and enters.
near LSR	supportive	Be respectful of private property owners who border on the trail.

What concerns do you have about the proposed greenway? (Survey Question 4)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
near LSR	supportive	Would also like a fence. I live right on the trail. xxx Sawyer Cres. (not a landowner, property next to trail)
near LSR	supportive	My concern is that this opens our backyard to a lot of public traffic as we back onto the trail. We are hopeful that a privacy fence (visual barrier) will be installed so that we can still enjoy our backyard as we do now. Sitting on our deck for supper with everyone walking by would not be enjoyable.
not near LSR	supportive	Fencing of existing residential developments.
unknown	unknown	My backyard abuts the HRM property along the Little Sackville River. Already we have people cutting through our property using it as a shortcut & in one instance to hide from the police. I feel if an official trail is put in it will just mean more people & perhaps property damage for me & my neighbors. I feel that HRM & the SRA should be putting fences up to protect our properties if they plan on opening this up to the public.
unknown	unknown	More garbage ending up in the river, opening up my quiet subdivision to the trail means more access, more traffic and potentially more problems.
unknown	unknown	We have lived in our present home (xxx Gloria Court) since 1985 and have seen many changes to the river and the flood plain (not 20 feet from our back deck). When we first moved in, the area was scarred up by construction on our side of the river and soon to have the same occur on the other with the construction of the Sunnyside subdivision. My memories were of kids throwing lumber from construction sites into the river and dirt bikers using the open flood plain, the proposed (2012) trail site, as an all-hours travel and recreation zone. After several years the flood plain grew back in and, with the exception of adjustments to the main trunk sewer line, has remained a relatively "natural" feature backing unto my property. The neighbourhood children, as they are permitted to roam the area more, discover the woods behind my home and it becomes a part of their upbringing on Gloria Court. The dirt bikers have long since grown up and moved on. The proposed trail location has recovered (adjustments to the main trunk sewer line) and adjusted back to a natural flood plain. It floods regularly. Our wet September was witness to many floods of various depths. I do not wish to have this area altered and opened up to whomever wishes to wander through at whatever time of day. I have concerns as to the quiet enjoyment and security of my property.
unknown	unknown	Will I lose some of my back yard. My survival peg is 2-3 feet from the river and if you make it a path on my side of the river it will lower my home value, but the other side of the river there is no one there would be fine.
unknown	unknown	Keep the development away from the back yards in Millwood, too close to homes.
unknown	unknown	Concerned that it will cause a lot of traffic, litter, and noise on private property.
unknown	unknown	Our privacy will be disrupted and the resale value of our property will be affected.
unknown	unknown	Trespassing on private property, crime, noise, litter, lack of privacy hang out area for kids.
unknown	unknown	People being close to my backyard. I don't want my privacy invaded.
unknown	unknown	I have no concerns with this trail. Any security issues that have arisen can be fixed by installing fencing and vegetation cover.
unknown	unknown	Path would be cut close to my property line, would cause increased foot traffic in my yard
unknown	unknown	Possible impact to privacy of property bordering the proposed trail route.
unknown	unknown	My yard backs onto a greenbelt currently used as HRM Water Commission access. If the trail is to pass through this area, I would like to see a fence installed in this area. I've spoken with my neighbours who all share the same thoughts. We would not like to see an increase in traffic through our property.

Private property – damage/vandalism/trespassing (8 comments)

near LSR	undecided	Excess traffic in our neighbourhood and based upon my experience increased break and enters.
near LSR	supportive	I live right behind Millwood High School, and right now there are lots of high school

What concerns do you have about the proposed greenway? (Survey Question 4)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
		kids that hang out behind my house and they litter, smoke drugs, swear, and I would like that to stop. My concern is that it will get worse, so hopefully the RCMP will put a stop to this this.
not near LSR	supportive	Find some way to control people who let their dogs go loose.
unknown	unknown	My backyard abuts the HRM property along the Little Sackville River. Already we have people cutting through our property using it as a shortcut & in one instance to hide from the police. I feel if an official trail is put in it will just mean more people & perhaps property damage for me & my neighbors. I feel that HRM & the SRA should be putting fences up to protect our properties if they plan on opening this up to the public.
unknown	unknown	Much of the trail will be away from houses and hidden from view. It will be going through the poorer sections of town where young people tend to gather and cause disturbances and property damage.
unknown	unknown	Misunderstandings, negative feedback, vandalism.
unknown	unknown	Property damage caused by the public who will have access to this so called greenway development trail.
unknown	unknown	Trespassing on private property, crime, noise, litter, lack of privacy hang out area for kids.

Private property – property value loss/ increased taxes (8 comments)

near LSR	opposed	My concerns regarding this proposed greenway development is that it will traverse through the rear section of my private property. It will impede on my privacy, it will affect the resale value of my property and I don't want every Tom, Dick and Harry and his dog travelling through my property. In short I don't want it. I wish to be contacted before any decisions are made and during the planning of this proposed Greenway Development. My name is xxx, xxx Beaver Bank Cross Rd., phone xxx (not a landowner, property does not back onto trail or river). <i>(Responses from a second survey filled out by same person:I have a private property the same as my neighbours. A sewer easement runs through the rear section of my property as well as my neighbours there we don't want people walking and bicycling through our private property. It will affect our privacy and our property values.</i>
near LSR	opposed	Passes through my property/value would go down/no privacy. (84 Beaver Bank Crossroads, not a landowner, property next to trail).
near LSR	supportive	I really don't have any. Except my property taxes will probably go up.
not near LSR	supportive	Ensuring properties are protected through design.
unknown	unknown	Will I lose some of my back yard. My survive peg is 2-3 feet from the river and if you make it a path on my side of the river it will lower my home value, but the other side of the river there is no one there would be fine.
unknown	unknown	Where the trail crosses private land, negotiations with land owners will be required for right of way access.
unknown	unknown	Our privacy will be disrupted and the resale value of our property will be affected. We will not be able to sit on our deck or near the river - that is the reason we purchased the property - for the peace and quiet that the river provides - having numerous people passing by each day will ruin all that.
unknown	unknown	The proposed costs are high, to be shared by the local area rate.

Private property – expropriation (1)

unknown	unknown	Because HRM indirectly has cost our family thousands of dollars by their actions I have a grudge against HRM. If and when HRM tries to take any of our property for any purpose we plan to play "hardball". Name: xxx, xxx Maplewood Court, phone xxx. If you want to discuss this farther, call me. (not a landowner, property does not back onto trail or river)
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Greenway Development – unlikelihood of completion (16 comments)

near LSR	supportive	Opposition, people tend to fear wooded areas will create crime. This is not supported.
not near LSR	supportive	That it gathers the enthusiasm and support to see it happen.

What concerns do you have about the proposed greenway? (Survey Question 4)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
not near LSR	supportive	It will take too long to complete.
not near LSR	supportive	Money available to the group from different levels of government.
not near LSR	supportive	Lengthy time delay for the start and end of the expansion.
unknown	unknown	That narrow minded individuals will try to slow down or cancel this project.
unknown	unknown	That it will take a long time to finish; that it be safe for users.
unknown	unknown	That it won't be completed quick enough.
unknown	unknown	Possible difficulty getting the support of all adjacent property-owners. Funding.
unknown	unknown	I am concerned that the trail will not be built. I believe overall it is a good idea and I hope all issues can be addressed so the trail can be built and enjoyed for years to come.
unknown	unknown	None except they won't build it.
unknown	unknown	I am concerned it will take longer than need be to fund this important project.
unknown	unknown	The length of time to complete it and maintenance.
unknown	unknown	Build it sooner :-)
unknown	unknown	Only concerns would be funding and getting it done on time.
unknown	unknown	That it won't get built.

Greenway Development – maintenance/sustainability of finished greenway (7 comments)

near LSR	supportive	Ongoing maintenance.
near LSR	supportive	Maintenance.
not near LSR	supportive	Maintenance.
unknown	unknown	Maintaining it once it is developed and safety.
unknown	unknown	My concern is that the trail would be built but not maintained properly.
unknown	unknown	Ongoing sustainability.
unknown	unknown	Cost initially followed by maintenance costs and getting an association with volunteers to keep it ongoing.

Greenway Development – cost (4 comments)

unknown	unknown	Cost initially followed by maintenance costs and getting an association with volunteers to keep it ongoing.
unknown	unknown	Cost.
unknown	unknown	The proposed costs are high, to be shared by the local area rate.
not near LSR	supportive	Cost.

Greenway Impact - general trail vandalism/crime, policing, safety (11 comments)

near LSR	supportive	People using it as a hangout, vandalism. Presently where I live there is little usage of the paths but some years there are people using it to smoke or drink and whatever but other years there is little activity. With easier access this could increase.
not near LSR	supportive	Policing.
not near LSR	supportive	Possibility of vandalism
not near LSR	supportive	Vandalism to benches and signs.
not near LSR	supportive	A few residents will not be good citizens but this happens regardless of environment they find themselves in.
unknown	unknown	Improper use of green area by youth.
unknown	unknown	Crime/drug dealing.
near LSR	supportive	Very pleased to hear about the preventative measures to create a safe area. As a woman, and a leader of an all-woman girl organization (Girl Guides), this is an important aspect to me.
unknown	unknown	That it will take a long time to finish; that it be safe for users.
unknown	unknown	I am concerned that it may be too dark at night. Having more than adequate light would be good, even some solar powered or wind powered lights might be of value.
unknown	unknown	Much of the trail will be away from houses and hidden from view. It will be going through the poorer sections of town where young people tend to gather and cause disturbances and property damage. Couples with young families, retirees, professional people don't walk, run or bike in downtown Sackville, only the poorer

What concerns do you have about the proposed greenway? (Survey Question 4)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
		people who live in the apartments above the businesses travel there. The others stay in their residential sections. Most of the board Members of the SRA have probably not even walked along Sackville Drive, which is an open, safe place to be. Let alone walk along the secluded River bank.
Greenway Impact - garbage (7 comments)		
near LSR	opposed	There is trash on the developed trails already. It will be another garbage disposal dump in our backyards and constant noise for good citizens who despise noise in a residential neighbourhood.
near LSR	supportive	Garbage receptacles should be covered to prevent wildlife from eating garbage and spreading it around.
not near LSR	supportive	Cleaning, garbage.
unknown	unknown	It could become littered or graffitied.
unknown	unknown	More garbage ending up in the river, opening up my quiet subdivision to the trail means more access, more traffic and potentially more problems.
unknown	unknown	More litter along the river banks and river.
unknown	unknown	How to keep it clean and protected.
Greenway Impact - environmental damage/impact/flood plain issues (5 comments)		
near LSR	supportive	Would the trails be paved? This could cause some damage.
not near LSR	supportive	Keep it as natural as possible – go around trees, etc. Don't cut them down just to (say) make the pathway straight.
unknown	unknown	Security of the trail surface in some of the flood plan sections.
unknown	unknown	Does it have 30 metre setbacks? The Little Sackville is identified in the Provincial Statements of Interest in the Municipal Government Act as a flood plane. Is this being considered?
unknown	unknown	I have huge concerns. Over the years I have watched people abuse the wildlife that live in and on the river and I believe that opening it up to the public with absolutely no type of supervision will cause havoc to the peace and tranquility the river exudes now. Over the years many schools have brought their classes to the river and taught them to respect it and this is good. Our river is small and this type of development would never work or be kept up. It's hard enough to keep the river cleaned up from all the stuff thrown in and this would just give more to trash it with. There are lots of lakes and bigger water ways that could support this, our little river should be left alone!!!!!!!
Miscellaneous comments (7 comments)		
near LSR	supportive	Would any amenities be anchored down in case of high winds or possible vandalism?
near LSR	supportive	To have people understand that their property value goes up – not down – when trails are put in their neighbourhood.
not near LSR	supportive	Trail is accessible to all. A formal trail will provide restrictions and regulations on these green spaces.
unknown	unknown	It would also serve as a way to educate the public on alternate energy sources.
unknown	unknown	There is a large piece of land owned by the Roman Catholic Church (as far as I know) along the Beaver Bank Rd next to Windgate Drive that will make an excellent parking lot and multi-mode terminal location for commuters to the city and parking for the adjacent parks and trails. Is the rail line ever going to be used for a commuter rail or is it too late for that? I.e. Are they ripping it up and giving access to the public for trails?
unknown	unknown	Parking to access the trails should be a must.
unknown	unknown	I only wish the trail would continue along Realty Ave. to Hallmark Ave. There is enough room to accommodate a trail and, in fact, there was recently some work done there and is partially cleared already!
Miscellaneous concerns (5 comments)		
near LSR	supportive	Rules of greenway are not obeyed ie. dogs, bicycles
unknown	unknown	A little about improper construction and slow progress.
unknown	unknown	I would be concerned if ATV's were allowed to use it, otherwise none.

What concerns do you have about the proposed greenway? (Survey Question 4)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
unknown	unknown	Misunderstandings, negative feedback, vandalism.
unknown	unknown	My perceived definition of a greenway suggests that trees, nature and woodlands are the key to a greenway. The map suggests a lot of street with homes, paved streets, etc...I am confused.

No Concerns (17 comments)

near LSR	supportive	No concerns – the more traffic the less likely for groups just hanging out
near LSR	supportive	Personally none.
near LSR	supportive	None.
near LSR	supportive	As for myself, I know that some people may have concerns but I see more possible positive points for this proposal.
not near LSR	supportive	No concerns – the more traffic the less likely for groups just hanging out
not near LSR	supportive	Nothing. This is a great concept that will be a huge benefit when it becomes a reality. Congrats to the SRA for keeping with this idea and pushing on.
not near LSR	supportive	None, if Walter Regan is involved, he always has the best interests of the community and the protection of the environment uppermost in his actions/mind.
not near LSR	supportive	None.
not near LSR	supportive	None.
not near LSR	supportive	None.
unknown	unknown	None.
unknown	unknown	None.
unknown	unknown	I don't have any concerns.
unknown	unknown	None.

5. What amenities would you like on the greenway?

	Open Houses	Online	Total	%
# of completed surveys	48	65	113	100%
benches	39	48	87	77%
trail maps	34	45	79	70%
interpretive signs	25	31	56	50%
lighting	24	27	51	45%
washrooms	21	30	51	45%
winter maintenance (ex. snow clearing)	16	29	45	40%
exercise equipment	5	6	11	10%
other	8	18	26	23%
garbage receptables/cans			5	4%
parking			4	4%
fences			4	4%
safety/security monitoring			4	4%
trail etiquette signs/bicycle awareness			2	2%
Comments				
Garbage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garbage cans, many, that are emptied often!!!! • Garbage cans and doggie bags to keep Sackville clean • Garbage cans for dog poop! • Garbage cans that are maintained throughout the year • Garbage receptacles 			
Fences (4 respondents)				
Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reasonable places for parking at various locations. • Central parking somewhere along the line • parking (2 respondents) 			
Safety/security monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some sort of security? • Cameras (maybe....), to help encourage safety. • Would like to see good surveillance even cameras at critical points and bicycle police or security in critical areas. • emergency phones 			
Proper trail etiquette signs/bicycle awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bicycles must have bells or horns • Bicycle-friendly markings (like a center line where paved). Trail Etiquette signs to encourage shared use. 			
Miscellaneous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dogs on leash • All the above would be good but I'd rather see it built without washrooms than not be built at all! Would like to have been able to prioritize this list. • Water fountains • Lighting should be designed to minimize light pollution skyward • Riparian buffer • A washroom likely is not necessary if it was possible to have a side trail to the Library, plus people will likely use the fast food washrooms. • None they would just end up in the river over time leave the river alone and focus on bigger waterways. • None (2 respondents) • Basic needs to start...the other things come later. 			

Appendix 2 – Survey Results for Existing Trail Use

6. Which greenways do you use?

	Open Houses	Online	Total	%
# of completed surveys	48	65	113	100%
Bedford Sackville Connector Greenway	26	48	74	65%
First Lake trails	22	36	58	51%
Second Lake trails	20	33	53	47%
other	7	16	23	20%
Comments				
HRM Trails in general	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any we can find around HRM we use. Many others in the HRM and the Province Other trails in HRM HRTA trails (2 respondents) Little Sackville River 			
Specific Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COLTA, BLT, Eastern HRM trails future BBK to Mt Uniacke rail line Mt. Uniacke & Bell Park Salt Marsh Trail/Shearwater Flyer, Portlant Estates trails The rail line behind Barrett Lumber. All of the Regional Trails that can be easily accessed by Metro Transit. Cole Harbour trails Salt Marsh Trail I also used Chain of Lakes and the Bedford Waterfront. This trail should be like the former. The old Hantsport Railway 			
Miscellaneous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When I visit the area...not really in my backyard at the moment. None (3 respondents) I walk 4 kms/day and do it all on city sidewalks We did initially however we haven't in the last several years. We know it is there and we have a busy lifestyle. 			

7. How often do you use the greenways?

	Open Houses	Online	Total	%
# of completed surveys	48	65	113	100%
daily	2	11	13	12%
weekly	19	26	45	40%
once a month	13	18	31	27%
rarely/never	7	9	16	14%
winter	16	12	28	25%
spring	22	22	44	39%
summer	26	25	51	45%
fall	23	23	46	41%

8. How and why do you use the greenways?

	Open Houses	Online	Total	%
# of completed surveys	48	65	113	100%
walking	36	49	85	75%
cycling	13	21	34	30%
jogging/running	3	17	20	18%
wheelchair/strollers	3	5	8	7%
dog walking	11	20	31	27%
to exercise	22	35	57	50%
to experience nature	28	42	70	62%
to relax	19	34	53	47%
active transportation				
to work	0	4	4	4%
to Downsview Mall	0	3	3	3%
to restaurants	0	0	0	0%
to schools	0	0	0	0%
to Sackville Library	0	1	1	1%
to bus terminals	0	6	6	5%
to other communities	2	6	8	7%
by myself	16	29	45	40%
with others	22	30	52	46%
other _____	3	10	13	12%
Comments				
Other Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I never use the Greenway, I pay part of my taxes for a sidewalk • Access to hunting grounds • Bird watching • Any trail in Nova Scotia I like to experience it at least once • I use roadways that's what they are for. • Nature appreciation with others. • Good walking trail linkage between communities 			
Other Destinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Centre – Swimming • Sackville • New Sobeys on First Lake Dr • The only place that I can "Get to" via a greenway, in Sackville, that I can't get to by walking on the sidewalks, is to Bedford. We don't have any trails to stores or the Library or the Downsview Mall, so at this point, this is not really a good question. Look offs • Bedford for biking. 			

9. What concerns do you have about existing greenways, such as maintenance, safety, etc.?

Respondents were invited to write a comment; these comments were sorted according to various keywords or themes.

Themes	# of comments	%
Existing Greenway Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General trail vandalism/crime, policing, safety (19 comments) Garbage (5 comments) Environmental damage/impact/flood plain issues (3 comments) 	27	24%
Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Maintenance (14 comments) Lack of Winter Maintenance of Greenways (5 comments) 	19	17%
Dog Concerns	4	4%
Private Property concerns	3	3%
Miscellaneous comments	9	8%
No concerns about existing greenways/trails	13	12%

What concerns do you have about existing greenways, such as maintenance, safety, etc.? (Survey Question 9)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
Existing Greenway Impacts – general trail vandalism/crime, policing, safety (19 comments)		
near LSR	opposed	Who polices the conduct of the people who are proposing to use the greenway? <i>(Responses from a second survey filled out by same person: Who is going to police the greenways?)</i>
near LSR	undecided	Want open space for safety, good lighting, patrolled for safety.
near LSR	undecided	Protection of neighbouring properties!
near LSR	supportive	Lighting in the trails for safety reasons.
near LSR	supportive	I am reluctant to walk along/by myself as some areas are secluded – as this is a natural aspect of a greenway, but it is a real concern.
near LSR	supportive	Cleaning and safety.
not near LSR	supportive	Regular police monitoring for underage drinkers and makeshift shelters set up in the woods where people are living.
unknown	unknown	Some areas are darker than others. Although it is nice to experience nature minimal human impact, a few lights here and there would make it feel much safer at night.
unknown	unknown	Possibility of crime in the dark. I heard people take hookers there.
unknown	unknown	The lack of lights
unknown	unknown	I've seen the Sackville Drive Business Association plant trees, place benches and garbage cans, only to have them totally destroyed in less than five years because there's no way to safeguard them. I am against spending money on any trail amenities because it's a poor investment. Save the money for maintenance of the trail surface. No benches. Seniors who need benches, will not be using this trail.
unknown	unknown	Teen unsupervised partying. It goes on in the park right behind our house and has for years this just gives another place to hide. Off topic why don't we open some of our schools in the evening for the teens to have a place to go other than the streets and parks to drink & do drugs. Now there's an idea that should be acted on how about it. Leave the little old river alone and focus on another problem that needs fixing more.

What concerns do you have about existing greenways, such as maintenance, safety, etc.? (Survey Question 9)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
unknown	unknown	Lack of lighting in certain areas ie. under bridge/highway.
unknown	unknown	Safety, garbage clean up
unknown	unknown	People being attacked.
unknown	unknown	Also all underpasses should have lighting for increased safety.
unknown	unknown	Safety mostly. You wouldn't catch me walking on a trail at night.
unknown	unknown	Concerns with graffiti.
unknown	unknown	Not suitable after dark, even if lighting present.

Existing Greenway Impacts – garbage (5 comments)

near LSR	opposed	Who picks up the dog stool? (<i>Responses from a second survey filled out by same person: Who is going to clean up the litter and the dog stool?</i>)
near LSR	opposed	Increased litter (friends tell me there are wrappers and trash everywhere).
near LSR	supportive	Litter is a concern: garbage, broken bottles, dog feces.
near LSR	supportive	Garbage cans for litter.
unknown	unknown	Garbage along the trails and into the water, not enough garbage cans.
unknown	unknown	The lack of garbage disposal site (people leaving their doggy bag everywhere).

Existing Greenway Impacts – environmental damage/impact/flood plain issues (3 comments)

not near LSR	supportive	Mostly a concern about drainage so that pathways are not eroded in heavy precipitation.
unknown	unknown	The trails should be maintained as such to not damage the nearby environment. Trail material should stay on the trail and features to keep people on the trail should be used if needed.
unknown	unknown	I worry about development in the Riparian buffer, but would rather have low impact development than a shopping mall. In an environmentally ideal world, there would be nothing within 30 metres up the river but having a park like a greenway is so much better than having a parking lot.

Maintenance of Greenways (14 comments)

near LSR	supportive	The walkways (should) be clear of roots and things to trip over
near LSR	supportive	Ongoing maintenance is important.
near LSR	supportive	Cleaning and safety.
not near LSR	supportive	Ongoing maintenance as the HRM trail network expands.
not near LSR	supportive	Primarily maintenance – haven't big concerns re: safety.
not near LSR	supportive	Maintenance must be kept up.
not near LSR	supportive	Maintenance, safety, only to a small degree.
unknown	unknown	That it will not be maintained and fall into disrepair and become unsightly (1st and 2nd Lake trials esp.), I hope they stay as well maintained as they have been, I understand why they can't be maintained in winter but that would be so nice, then I could run without fear of falling on the ice. I so appreciate all the up keep after the heavy rains and the benches etc. Thank you whoever is doing that!
unknown	unknown	Maintenance of the Bedford Sackville Connector mostly on the Bedford side by the football field.
unknown	unknown	That they are maintained.
unknown	unknown	More maintenance but anything is better than walking on the road crushed rock.
unknown	unknown	The primary concern is the level of commitment by municipal, provincial and federal governments towards long term maintenance support - either in-kind work or direct funding. I suspect all levels of government will continue to download this responsibility to the already overstretched volunteer community groups.
unknown	unknown	Maintenance and safety.
unknown	unknown	Concerns about maintenance. They should be maintained properly and given the same respect as roads.

Lack of Winter Maintenance of Greenways (5 comments)

near LSR	supportive	That they're not cleared in winter and therefore could easily be used by disabled persons. Also the places where they wash-out are difficult to traverse by disabled persons
----------	------------	---

What concerns do you have about existing greenways, such as maintenance, safety, etc.? (Survey Question 9)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
		(speaking of the BSCG)
unknown	unknown	Winter snow clearing
unknown	unknown	Winter maintenance, flooding
unknown	unknown	Winter maintenance would be nice.
unknown	unknown	No winter maintenance... I think it would go a long way to increasing physical fitness in the community to have them accessible year round.
Dog Concerns (4 comments)		
near LSR	supportive	Too many offleash dogs at Second Lake and Bell Park.
unknown	unknown	Dogs off leash that are not controlled by their owners.
unknown	unknown	Dog owners not picking up after pets. Cyclists not respectful and not warning or yielding to pedestrians. Graffiti.
unknown	unknown	Trail etiquette especially concerning dog walkers.
Private Property concerns (3 comments)		
near LSR	opposed	Ok, good idea as long as it doesn't cross or go through my yard.
unknown	unknown	I have concerns about the quiet enjoyment and security of my property as the proposed trail passes within a very short distance of my back deck/basement entrance.
unknown	unknown	Fences should be installed at the expense of the trail on the edge of peoples' property so that people cannot wander onto private property and peoples' privacy is maintained.
near LSR	opposed	Increased taxes, litter (friends tell me there are wrappers and trash everywhere), and noise.
Miscellaneous (9 comments)		
near LSR	supportive	We need business to come on our side.
near LSR	supportive	No safe area to park to get to trail with children.
not near LSR	supportive	We must ensure that there will always be a volunteer group to look after the trail long after it has been installed. The early excitement of creating a new trail will abate when only maintenance remains.
not near LSR	supportive	Signs for entry to the greenway on the Old Sackville Road – hard to find.
unknown	unknown	As always the Cost.
unknown	unknown	It would be nice to see washroom facilities somewhere along the trails.
unknown	unknown	It's important to make the trails useful for all ages.
unknown	unknown	None that I can think of at the moment, but I do think they should all have benches along the way
unknown	unknown	The Sackville trail (off the Old Sackville Rd) is a hard entrance to get to. You wouldn't even know it was there, unless you stumbled across it. There is no nearby parking on the Sackville end..... Unlike the Bedford portion of the trail.
No concerns about existing greenways/trails (13 comments)		
near LSR	supportive	None.
near LSR	supportive	None.
near LSR	supportive	I use the present trail system throughout the four seasons and have not seen anything of concern to me personally.
not near LSR	supportive	None – I would hope users will accept responsibility to report unacceptable behaviours, misuse, etc.
not near LSR	supportive	None.
unknown	unknown	None
unknown	unknown	Have been using First Lake regularly and other than some damage recently from heavy rains, it is very well maintained. We use it in the daylight and it seems very safe and well used.
unknown	unknown	None, they are very well kept
unknown	unknown	None.
unknown	unknown	None.
unknown	unknown	None.

What concerns do you have about existing greenways, such as maintenance, safety, etc.? (Survey Question 9)

Proximity to Trail	Reaction to Trail	Comments
unknown	unknown	No concerns - During the winter, let common sense guide you as to whether or not you want to risk walking on ice.
unknown	unknown	None- like what you did to the bridge on the main trail

10. How did you hear about this community open house/online survey?

	Open Houses	Online	Total	%
# of completed surveys	48	65	113	100%
email invitation	17	25	42	37%
flyer in my mailbox	11	10	21	19%
friend	8	11	19	17%
other	5	10	15	13%
poster	8	5	13	12%
personal invitation	3	11	14	12%
school notice	1	0	1	1%
landowner letter	1	0	1	1%
Other				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • roadside sign • SRA website • trail volunteer contact • guest speaker at Saint Mary's University 				

Appendix 3 – Photo Index of Community Open Houses



SG Open House,
@Knox United Church,
Monday Oct.1, 2012

**SG Open House,
@Vineyard Christian
Fellowship,
Wednesday Oct.10, 2012**



Appendix 4 – Sample Survey



SRA Sackville Greenway Development Open House Participant Survey October 2012



Your responses are voluntary.

1. Tell us about you. Check as many as apply.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> youth (18 or younger) | <input type="checkbox"/> I live beside or near the Little Sackville River. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> adult (19-50) | <input type="checkbox"/> I am visiting today, representing government or non-profits (ex.staff, elected officials) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> older adult (51+) | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ |

Proposed Greenway Development

As described on the maps, the proposed Sackville Greenway will be a trail along the Little Sackville River, from its headwaters at Little Lake to Fultz House. Tell us what you think and would like on the proposed greenway development along the Little Sackville River.

2. What is your reaction to the proposed greenway development? Check only ONE.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I support the greenway | <input type="checkbox"/> I am undecided |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the greenway | |

3. What do you like about the proposed greenway development?

4. What concerns do you have about the proposed greenway development?

5. What amenities would you like on the new greenway? Check as many as apply.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> benches | <input type="checkbox"/> washrooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lighting | <input type="checkbox"/> winter maintenance (ex. snow clearing) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> trail maps | <input type="checkbox"/> exercise equipment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> interpretive signs | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ |

YOUR USE OF OTHER GREENWAYS IN SACKVILLE

Please tell us about your use of greenways (trails) in Sackville.

6. Which greenways do you use? Check as many as apply.

- Bedford Sackville Connector Greenway
- First Lake trails
- Second Lake trails
- other _____

7. How often do you use the greenways? Check as many as apply.

- daily winter
- weekly spring
- once a month summer
- rarely/never fall

8. How and why do you use the greenways? Check as many as apply.

- | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> walking | <input type="checkbox"/> to exercise | <input type="checkbox"/> by myself |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cycling | <input type="checkbox"/> to experience nature | <input type="checkbox"/> with others |
| <input type="checkbox"/> jogging/running | <input type="checkbox"/> to relax | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> wheelchair/strollers | <input type="checkbox"/> active transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dog walking | <input type="checkbox"/> to work | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> to Downsview Mall | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> to restaurants | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> to schools | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> to Sackville Library | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> to bus terminals | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> to other communities | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ | |

9. What concerns do you have about existing greenways, such as maintenance, safety, etc.?

10. How did you hear about this community open house?

- email invitation friend
- poster personal invitation
- flyer in my mailbox school notice
- other _____

OPTIONAL: Would you like to be on the SRA email list?

If so, please PRINT your email address: _____

Thank you for your time and input

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