

Okotoks Local Transit Implementation Plan

Phase 2 Public Participation Summary

Dec.
2018

With the need for public transit growing over recent years, the Town of Okotoks has been developing the Local Transit Implementation Plan over the past 6 months. The plan will entail what service will look like for Okotoks. Using feedback provided by residents during numerous public participation opportunities during Phase 1, the project team developed a draft framework for a proposed transit system and presented it to residents at several recent public participation activities. The following information shows what was done and what we heard from residents.

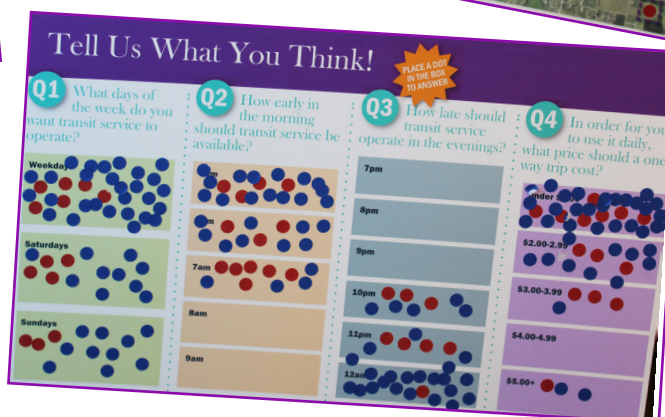
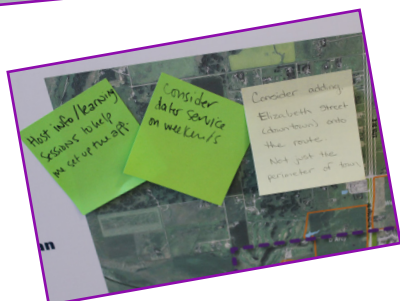
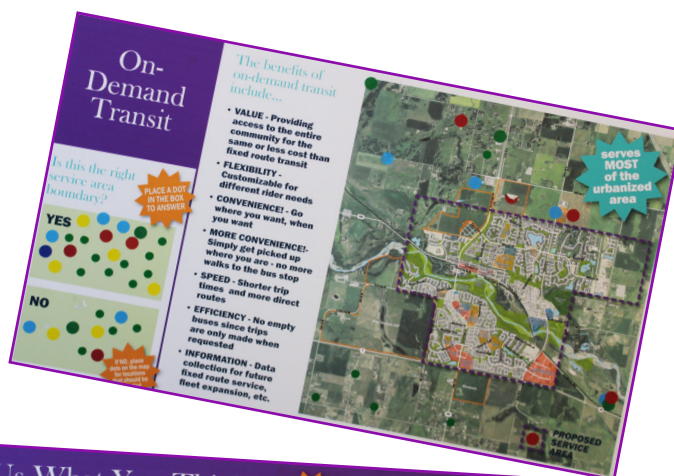
This second phase (Oct-Nov 2018) consisted of public engagement activities where the project team provided information in person as well as having information boards (graffiti boards) set up at various Okotoks locations for residents to leave their input. An online survey was also hosted on the Town's website from October 24 to November 9. Feedback was gathered using these public participation opportunities as well as from the Town's social media pages.

2000+ reached
through events and
online engagement



200+ survey
respondents

Our graffiti boards were a huge hit!



What are the Key Takeaways?

1 Service Area

54% liked the proposed service area

46% of respondents indicated other areas that the boundary should be expanded to, such as north and east along Highway 2A to include St. James Church and Holy Trinity Academy.

2 Fares

74% prefer fares under \$3

Fares – and monthly passes – will need to be affordable to boost daily ridership.



3 Schedule

72% would use transit most on weekdays



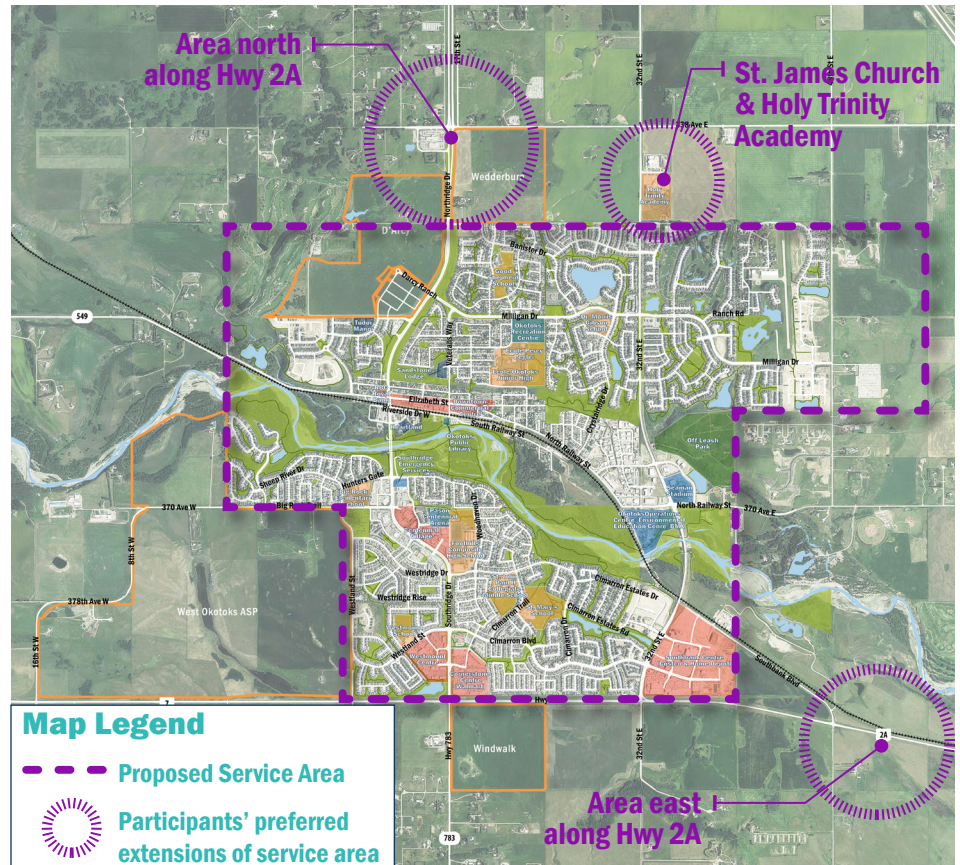
Schedules will need to consider both weekday and weekend users.

4 Service Hours

27% would use transit as early as 7AM on weekdays

36% would use transit as late as 12AM on weekends

Service hours will need to be long (7 AM – 12 AM), especially on weekends.



5 General Comments

- Transit should be on-demand and user-friendly
- Consider an app-based payment system
- On-demand is particularly useful for persons with disabilities
- Transit should be child-friendly and senior-friendly
- Consider discounts or free service for children, seniors, students, and low-income households
- Concerns expressed about scheduling, routes, and practical connections to existing regional transit systems
- Encouragement to use environmentally-friendly vehicles
- Plan transit stops as pick-up/drop-off loops to avoid disruptions to flow of traffic
- Participants expressed interest in using service to go out to restaurants, professional services (e.g. doctor, dentist), and shopping
- Consider special routes for game days or other public events
- Concerns that Okotoks is too small to necessitate public transit
- Do not increase taxes to pay for public transit