

Participants made it clear that communities have a desire to be continuously informed about and involved in the Flats planning process. Currently there is an interest in receiving information about studies that have or are being undertaken, and the status of current transportation policies/plans. Participants indicated they wanted to be consulted at various points in the planning process especially on particular aspects of the plans (movement in particular) before decisions were finalized. Each group recommended individuals for June workshop participation; a number of participants themselves offered to participate. Meeting participants will be among the initial key contacts for receiving additional information.

5 NEXT STEPS

By the time of the release of this report, meeting participants will have had an opportunity to review and comment on a draft. Providing such review opportunities at various stages of the planning process is part of the City's overall planning strategy. Near future next steps include:

- Follow-up with various stakeholders/stakeholder groups and with Strathcona community residents in particular (under-represented in meetings)
- Developing a comprehensive communications plan (incorporating ideas discussed above)
- Studies reporting (see Appendix D for current studies and status)
- Multi-stakeholder Scoping Workshop (Phase 1, Step 3): June
- Preparation of a Terms of Reference for Phase 2 (Phase 1, Step 4): July (draft); September (Council)
- Visioning Process (Phase 2): October

Although not within the City's purview, it is anticipated that local groups will be increasing awareness within their communities and providing information regarding the Flats planning process.

6 FINAL REMARKS

The main goal of the current Work Program is to establish a vision for the Flats that ensures environmental health, social well-being and an economic future in the long term. Various rail, industry and employment studies (completed or underway); transportation plans and transit studies; as well as ongoing consultations with various stakeholders, will help inform the planning process.

The City's community meetings have provided information useful to the overall scoping phase of the Work Program. They have also helped to facilitate awareness, interest and involvement in ongoing planning; and established critical vehicles and partners for ensuring continued stakeholder participation in the process. The overall success of the Work Program will depend on the degree to which stakeholders continue to be meaningfully involved in the Flats planning/decision-making, and, together with the City, how well they are able to negotiate mutually agreeable outcomes.