

**Community Planning and Economic Development
May 8, 2014**

TO: Chair and Members of Community Planning and Economic Development

SUBMITTED BY: Original signed by

Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: March 28, 2014

SUBJECT: Downtown I'm In – Urban Core Community Engagement Event

ORIGIN

March 22, 2011 – MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Streach that Halifax Regional Council endorse the 2011-2016 Economic Strategy for Halifax Regional Municipality.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

HRM Charter, S.N.S. 2008, c. 39, section 71(1) respecting the promotion of the Municipality and the establishment and development of new, and the expansion of existing institutions, industries and businesses.

HRM Charter, S.N.S. 2008, c. 39, section 75(1) respecting agreements for the provision of a service or a capital facility.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council accept the Downtown...I'm In report, acknowledge the short and long term activities being carried out that respond to ideas raised at Downtown...I'm In and direct staff to pursue actions described in Table 1.

BACKGROUND

In March of 2011, Council endorsed *A Greater Halifax, Economic Strategy 2011-2016*. The strategy calls for building a vibrant and attractive urban core. It outlines a number of urban core¹ strategic priorities, including the following:

- directing and overseeing a pro-development policy environment;
- furthering liveability and attractiveness;
- reinventing the current approach to mobility; and
- celebrating and enabling a rich variety of cultural and creative opportunities.

Downtown I'm In was a project that was developed to advance these strategic priorities by meaningfully engaging a cross section of HRM citizens. The primary intent of the engagement project was to:

- conduct a meaningful public engagement about urban core
- solicit public input on low cost/high impact opportunities to improve the urban core
- inform the public about municipal policies and activities related to the urban core

The “Downtown I'm In” event blended public consultation with a public event.

On January 15th, a “Downtown, I'm In” presence went live on HRM's Shape Your City portal, inviting community input on how to make HRM's urban core more vibrant, welcoming and attractive. The pre-event communications strategy encouraged people to attend the February 8th event and/or to fill out an online urban core survey. See Attachment 3 for the marketing and communications overview.

Hosted simultaneously on February 8th at both City Centre Atlantic and Alderney Landing Market, the day-long community engagement event included keynote speakers (Charles Montgomery, Mark Brand, Gordon Stevens and Zane Kelsall) who spoke live at either Halifax or at Dartmouth and were simulcast to the other side of the harbour. Community engagement took place throughout the day of the event through facilitated table top discussion, a visioning wall and roving pollsters collecting survey responses on site. To further enrich and enliven the attendee experience, subject matter experts were on-site to answer questions on the urban core. See Attachment 3 for a detailed event overview.

¹ For the purposes of this community engagement project, staff used the graphic definition of urban core from the Economic Strategy 2011-2016. See Attachment 1 for an urban core map.

DISCUSSION

All data were collected and analyzed including survey responses, discussion group contributions, and social media commentary. See Attachment 3 for data collation and analysis. Survey, discussion group and social media data sets are being made available to members of the public at downtownimin.ca. To protect participants' privacy, all unique identifiers have been removed.

Although revitalizing the urban core will require sustained attention and longer term interventions, the emphasis of this report is on taking immediate steps towards enlivening the urban core.

A wide variety of urban core revitalization actions have been identified as part of this project that are within HRM's existing scope of authority, only require direct municipal action, can be completed within the current fiscal year, can be completed with funds currently allocated in the 2014-2015 budget, and have immediate, tangible impacts.

These actions are detailed below in Attachment 1. They include such actions as:

- installing additional bike racks and bike repair stations,
- installing more picnic tables,
- having outdoor playing surfaces for chess or checkers,
- improving lighting, and
- having more benches and places to sit in public spaces.

Some larger scale initiatives already in progress address ideas and input gathered from Downtown...I'm In and could be enhanced with the feedback received from Downtown...I'm In. These include:

- A number of responses to the Downtown...I'm In consultation referred to improved lighting in the urban core. There is a plan to upgrade all municipal streetlights to LED lights. As part of this implementation, the successful proponent will have to design a lighting plan to current, recognized lighting standards for replacement lighting across the municipality including in the urban core.
- Throughout Downtown...I'm In, the idea of streets closed to motor vehicles and geared towards pedestrians was frequently raised. HRM's street closure policy for special events and parades is under review in response to a motion brought forward at Transportation Standing Committee. A report is expected to come to Transportation Standing Committee in summer 2014 in response to this motion. Feedback from Downtown...I'm In is being considered in this review.
- "Municipal WiFi through the downtown core" came up frequently as an initiative of interest. HRM staff is currently exploring the feasibility of providing free WiFi in the urban core. A free WiFi initiative would strengthen the bid to have HRM be declared a Smart City. The project is still in the exploratory stage. Staff anticipates that a recommendation report on free WiFi in the urban core will be put before Council in

October 2014. Free WiFi has also been included as an eligible project in the 5 Year \$50 million investment for the downtown.

- “Bike lanes into the downtown.” is representative of many comments supportive of more bike lanes and a more bike friendly urban core generally. HRM’s Active Transportation (AT) program aims to help residents bike, walk, roll, blade and use “human power” to walk and bicycle more around the municipality. An AT Functional Plan provides policy direction for the development of an AT network in HRM. A 5-year review of the 2006 AT Functional Plan is ongoing and is expected to be completed in June 2014. The 5-year review will identify suggested bike lanes in the urban core with a focus on continuity/connectivity of bicycle infrastructure. Winter maintenance will also be included in the AT Functional Plan review. At the direction of Council and following from the Mayor’s conversation on a healthy liveable community, staff will work to champion the development of a solution to the cycling connectivity challenges related to the Halifax Harbour Bridges re-decking project.
- Parking awareness was raised several times through the process, an example: “Automatic parking inventory of parking spaces (automated meter), better system to identify parking areas.” Staff is currently engaged in an assessment of parking technologies as part of an ongoing review of the Regional Parking Strategy. Pay-by-plate parking solutions are being considered that may support automated, real-time communication of parking availability. Private sector and quasi-private sector parking providers in the urban core are also currently assessing the feasibility of real-time communication of parking spot availability. Staff will continue to work with the private sector to explore options for tracking and communicating parking inventories.
- “Active transportation trails (ATT) should be encouraged.” Staff is currently working on the Dartmouth Canal Greenway Project to complete the Active Transportation connections in the Regional Trails System. The project envisions an integrated open space, park and trail system stretching from the Dartmouth waterfront to Lake Banook.
 - The Canal Greenway will be the centre of many activities that include recapitalization of the storm water system, improvements to the existing intersection, and traffic control. HRM is working with partners, including Halifax Water Commission, Waterfront Development, Shubenacadie Canal Commission and private developers, to coordinate multiple projects and minimize disruptions to the public.

A number of items require work with partners, more consideration of policy or operational implications or additional information and analysis in order to implement.

Table 1	
Issues	Actions
“More access for boaters to moor boats.”	<p>The Halifax waterfront has over 1 km of public berth space, including 1500' of floating docks that are free to access during the day. Public boat launches are available at Mill Cove (in Bedford); Jubilee Road (in the Arm); Horseshoe Island (in the Arm); and at Seaview Park (in the Harbour).</p> <p>Staff will explore the possibility of opening up additional harbour access to boaters (boat slips and boat launches). Waterfront Development is currently in discussions with HRM to manage the wharves and docks at Alderney Landing in Dartmouth. Further discussions will be held with the Port of Halifax regarding the feasibility of expanded harbour access.</p>
More activation of public spaces including temporary commercial uses in public spaces.	Staff will look to activate public spaces including by giving consideration to temporary commercial uses to encourage more public use of public spaces.
“Make downtown more dog-friendly” “Allowing dogs on ferry...”	Staff will investigate the operational impacts and consider the feasibility of allowing dogs on the ferry.
Clear active transportation corridors (bike lanes and trails)	HRM currently plows approximately 35km of paved Active Transportation (AT) trails and unpaved linear park trails (located both within the urban core and outside of the urban core). Staff will consider the feasibility/advisability of Fall/Winter maintenance of additional urban core AT corridors, in particular the Dartmouth waterfront trail. Consideration of winter maintenance will be included in the AT Functional Plan Review.

Next steps:

HRM staff will develop a an operational plan that will: (1) ensure organizational participation and support to implement initiatives; (2) manage and track progress on directives/actions related to the urban core; (3) maintain on-going communication/reporting back to Council and citizens on progress. Staff will also continue to review all of the ideas put forward to include them as appropriate in the operational plan.

The Downtown...I'm In event elicited an enthusiastic and positive response from participants and on social media. Members of the public demonstrated an interest in the downtown areas, in contributing to their vitality and in knowing more about initiatives and municipal actions in the downtown areas. As such, the Downtown...I'm In website will be maintained in order to

provide a vehicle to communicate ongoing activity around the urban core.

In addition, ideas whose implementation would involve partners were surfaced during the engagement process. In the interests of retaining valuable public input, those ideas are being collated and will be shared appropriately.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The projects noted in Attachment 1 will be completed within approved 2014-2015 business unit budgets. Other projects under consideration may be eligible for funding under the Parking Strategy Reserve which will be coming forward to council for approval of a business case in 2014. Per the approved 2014-2015 Reserve Budget, an amount was placed in the reserve at year end which is intended to be used to support the parking strategy and projects identified through Downtown...I'm In.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement took place before, during and after the day of the event. Public feedback was collected through electronic surveys (online forms and on-site pollsters), facilitated table discussions, question-and-answer (Q&A) periods, and vision walls. Approximately 200 people took part in the facilitated table discussions and 290 surveys were filled out on the Shape Your City Portal. Every electoral district was represented by survey respondents. The event garnered considerable social media attention, with over 500 individual interactions on Twitter (not including re-tweets). Online traffic was significant, with more than 6,500 site visits on downtownimin.ca. The project was also responsible for 219 new Shape Your City user registrations. Live radio broadcast of the event on Radio 96.5, and other paid and unpaid media coverage further enhanced the event's impact. See Attachment 2 for additional community engagement details.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications from this report.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Committee could recommend that Council reject one or more staff recommendations.
2. Committee could recommend that Council add to the staff recommendations.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 Table of 2014/2015 Low Cost/High Impact Actions
 2. Attachment 2 Urban Core Map
 3. Attachment 3 Downtown I'm In – Urban Core | Community Engagement Report
 4. Attachment 4 Verbatim Comments from Downtown...I'm In Participants
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A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/cc.html> then choose the appropriate Community Council and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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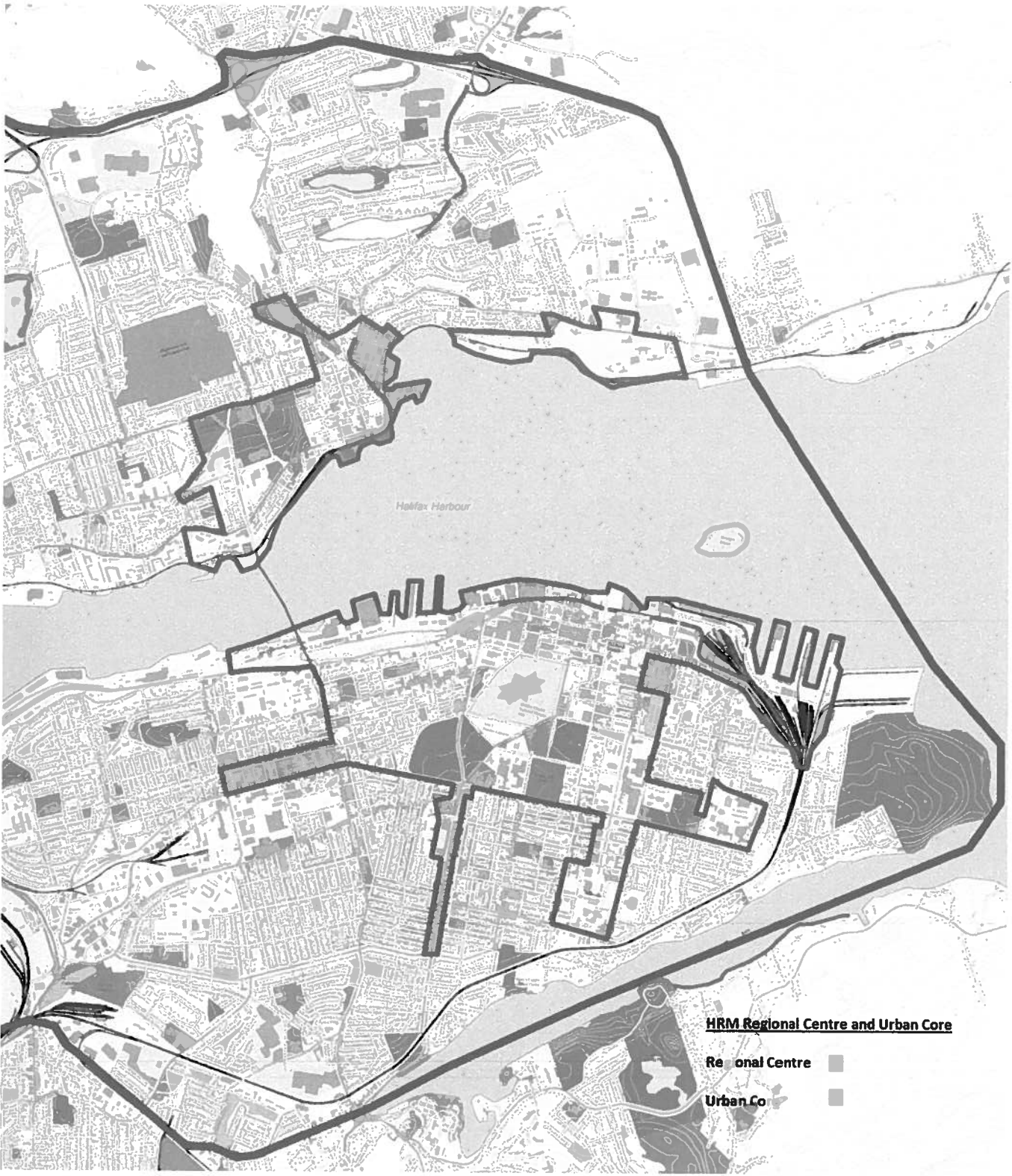
Financial Approval by: Original signed by

 FOR Greg Keefe, Director of Finance & ICT/CFO, 490-6308

Attachment 1

Table 2 – 2014/2015 Actions	
Participant Comment	Response
“Bike racks.”	<p>HRM's AT group has been responsible for installing 350 bike racks in the urban core over the past eight years. Private sector developers have also installed additional bike racks.</p> <p>Up to 50 additional bike racks will be installed in the urban core during the upcoming fiscal year.</p>
“Bike parking stations and quick repair stations.”	<p>HRM has one existing bicycle repair station on South Park Street. It is equipped with a tire pump and various basic bicycle tools. Dalhousie University has also installed bike repair stations at several locations on their campuses.</p> <p>2 bike repair stations (one at each ferry terminal) will be installed in the urban core during the upcoming fiscal year.</p>
“Picnic tables in more places to encourage al fresco eating and bring more people together.”	<p>10-15 picnic tables will be installed in the urban core during the upcoming fiscal year.</p>
“Oversized board games.” “Outdoor tables with checkered patterns to play chess/ checkers.”	<p>2-3 gaming sites be “installed” in the urban core during the upcoming fiscal year. These gaming sites may include playing surfaces for outdoor play of chess, checkers or other commonly played board-games.</p>
“More benches/ seating.”	<p>20-25 benches will be installed in the urban core during the upcoming fiscal year.</p>
“Beautifying functional things (like bike racks, benches).”	<p>Wherever feasible, artistic elements will be incorporated into municipal street furnishings purchased for installation in the urban core.</p> <p>This may include, but is not limited to, benches, tables, bike racks and gaming installations/surfaces. Purchasing decisions are to be made with a view to increasing the amount of functional art in the urban core.</p> <p>Four additional Dolphin Bike Racks will be installed at the Dartmouth Ferry Terminal.</p>
“Better Lighting for Safety!” “Lighting that is tailored	<p>Staff have conducted a lighting audit along Barrington Street (between Duke Street and Spring Garden Road) and Argyle Street (entire length).</p>

to the pedestrian..."	<p>Lighting will be upgraded in at least 3 locations in the urban core.</p> <p>Lighting will be installed along the Dartmouth waterfront trail.</p>
"More public art."	<p>4 pieces of public art will be installed in the urban core during the upcoming fiscal year. "Public art" could be, but is not limited to, murals, 3-D art on buildings, sculptures, and art installations (including interactive art). The public art would be placed on municipal property, or, where permissions are secured, publically facing/publically accessible private property that abuts the right-of-way.</p>
"More garbage containers and frequent collection."	<p>HRM staff has implemented a strategy to improve litter collection efficiency. A new supervisory structure has been implemented and scheduling and routing changes have been made to make better use staff resources. Locations of litter bins have been reviewed with downtown stakeholders. HRM has also renewed financial support of an enhanced maintenance partnership with HRM's urban core Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). This partnership makes it possible for the BIDs to hire people in the Spring and Summer to collect garbage and remove graffiti in the urban core.</p>
<p>"Better advertising of events like for movies in the park, etc."</p> <p>"Advertise them [parks] more, as the place to be!"</p>	<p>Staff will consider options for better communicating events programming and HRM recreational opportunities to residents and visitors. Use of publicly accessible spaces to advertise urban core events will be explored.</p> <p>Mounting screens at the ferry terminals to improve communication with the public is in planning stages.</p> <p>Use and promotion of Apps and improved use of the HRM website to communicate urban core programming and recreational assets will also be explored as part of the HRM web transformation strategy and re-design.</p>
"Better parking wayfinding signage."	<p>Staff will work with the Waterfront Development Corporation and Downtown Halifax Business Commission on parking wayfinding signs on Hollis, Sackville and Bishop Streets.</p>



HRM Regional Centre and Urban Core

Regional Centre ■

Urban Core ■



Downtown... I'm in

Urban Core Community Engagement Report



Executive Summary

Share your ideas

In March 2011, Council endorsed A Greater Halifax, Economic Strategy 2011-2016. The strategy calls for building a vibrant regional centre and furthering the livability and attractiveness of the urban core. HRM staff were directed to develop a project to engage a cross section of HRM citizens to solicit ideas to improve the urban core. The primary objectives of this engagement project were:

- to conduct a meaningful public engagement about the urban core;
- to solicit public input on low cost/high impact opportunities to improve the urban core; and
- to inform the public about municipal policies and activities related to the urban core.

To meet these objectives, a public engagement process, called “Downtown...I’m In”, was designed to generate conversation and capture as many quality urban core renewal ideas as possible. The focal point was a public event on February 8, 2014 in Halifax and Dartmouth featuring two visiting and two local “Downtown Champions”.

The role of the champions was to inform, challenge and inspire event participants to define a shared future for HRM’s urban core. The champions were:

- Mark Brand, Vancouver-based restaurateur and social entrepreneur (and Dartmouth native);
- Charles Montgomery, Vancouver-based author of Happy City;
- Zane Kelsall, Dartmouth-based restaurateur and founder of I Love Dartmouth;
- Gordon Stevens, Halifax-based entrepreneur and founder of I Love HFX.

Public engagement methods used before, during and after the event, included input through HRM’s Shape Your City portal downtownimin.ca, via Twitter, and with pollsters, volunteers and subject matter experts at the event.

The event was supported by Emera, the Mayor’s Office, the Downtown Halifax Business Commission, the Greater Halifax Partnership (GHP), Telus, Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission, Alderney Landing, Spring Garden Area Business Association, and the Quinpool Road Business District.

The engagement project was supported by the Strategic Urban Partnership, and by a wide range of urban partners including: NSCC, Waterfront Development Corporation Limited, GHP, Halifax Water, Breakhouse Design, the Ecology Action Centre, Fusion, Common Roots Urban Farm, Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project and the Discovery Centre.

Engagement statistics from Downtown I’m In include:

- 219 new registrations on the Shape Your City portal;
- More than 6500 site visits and over 10,000 page views on Downtownimin.ca;
- 290 people completed online survey;
- 1816 viewed three promotional videos produced for the event;
- 207 people participated in table talks;
- Every electoral district was represented in feedback;
- 90 volunteers participated on the day of the event.



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Feedback from the event and engagement process was generally positive. Volunteers and participants expressed interest in working cooperatively towards improved outcomes for the urban core, and made valuable connections through the event. Some community projects gained momentum as a result of the engagement. Members of the public demonstrated an interest in the downtown areas, in contributing to their vitality and in knowing more about initiatives and municipal actions in these areas.

More than 2,700 separate comments were logged by Dunn and Associates, the consultant engaged to help coordinate the project. The most frequently repeated comments were in the categories of: Business, Transportation, Parks & Recreation, Active Transportation, and Infrastructure.

Frequently heard comments included:

- Citizens should participate and use the downtown more;
- Create more parks or green spaces;
- Create more public spaces;
- Create pedestrian-only streets, or streets closed to traffic for periods;
- Install more public washrooms;
- Make improvements to all forms of transportation;
- More benches and greenery;
- More local cafés, restaurants and other small businesses;
- Provide free Wifi access;
- Provide indoor play facilities or more activities for families with young children;
- Provide more winter activities.



HRM staff sorted and identified ideas as follows:

- work already in progress;
- ideas for immediate consideration and recommended action; and
- ideas for future consideration or action (including those which may require working with partners).

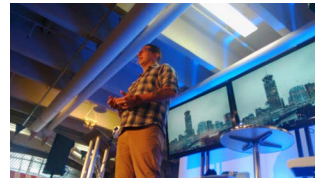
To maintain and build on the event's momentum, HRM staff has created an operational plan to assist with tracking and reporting on progress.

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1.0 Overview

1.1 Urban Core as Corporate Priority



In March 2011, Council endorsed A Greater Halifax, Economic Strategy 2011-2016. The strategy calls for building a vibrant and attractive urban core that attracts \$1.5 billion of private investment and 8,000 more residents by 2016. It outlines a number of urban core strategic priorities, including the following:

- directing and overseeing a pro-development policy environment;
- furthering liveability and attractiveness;
- reinventing the current approach to mobility; and
- celebrating and enabling a rich variety of cultural and creative opportunities.

Aligned with this process, Regional Council approved the three priority categories for federal/provincial infrastructure funding on June 11, 2013. The three priorities included the urban core investment campaign, public transit and water and wastewater.

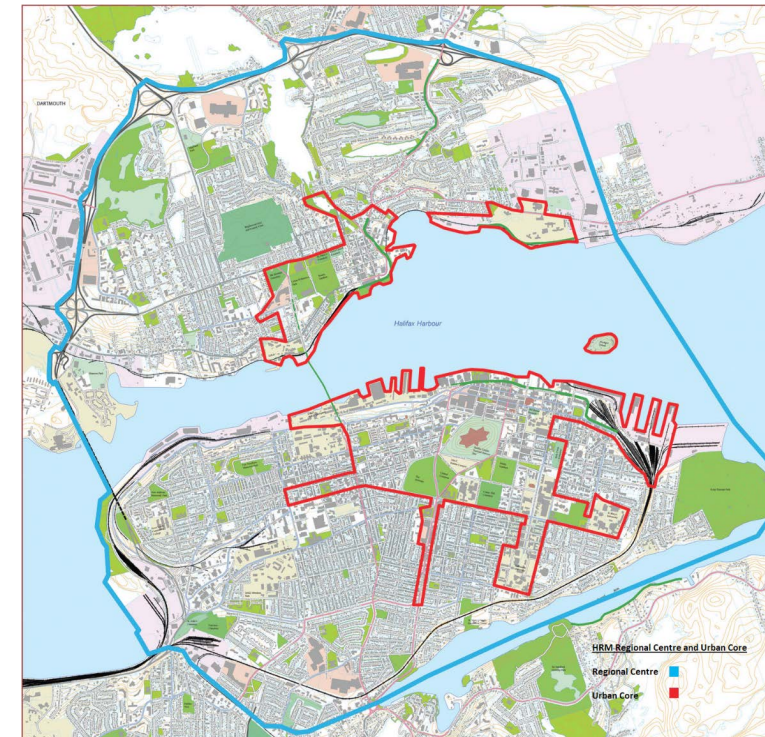
HRM's urban core is representative of the broader community's economic health, culture, history, and community pride. Its function and appearance are important to the attraction and retention of commercial, retail and industrial businesses; as well as the recruitment and retention of what is one of the economy's most important assets – people. The urban core is the nucleus of the hub city of the Atlantic Provinces and the showcase for greater Halifax because of its concentration of historic, cultural and economic assets.

According to the 2013 City Matters survey produced by MQO Research for the Greater Halifax Partnership (GHP) and Metro News, the urban core is important to a broad cross section of HRM residents. Results showed 44% of the respondents indicated that revitalizing the downtown is very important, and an additional 41% considered it somewhat important.

1.2 Defining the Urban Core

This report uses the definition of urban core developed for A Greater Halifax, Economic Strategy 2011-2016. Urban core means the core business areas of downtown Halifax and Dartmouth, including Spring Garden Road, Agricola and Gottingen Streets north to Young, Quinpool to Connaught and the areas encompassing Saint Mary's, Dalhousie and King's College universities. The urban core is graphically represented in Figure 1.0.

Figure 1.0



1.3 Engagement Project Origins and Objectives

In the summer of 2013, HRM staff were asked to develop a project that would advance urban core strategic priorities by meaningfully engaging a cross section of HRM citizens. The intent was to encourage HRM residents to feel comfortable, reflect and share their best ideas.

The primary objectives of the engagement project were:

- to conduct a meaningful public engagement about the urban core;
- to solicit public input on low cost/high impact opportunities to improve the urban core;
- to inform the public about municipal policies and activities related to the urban core.



2.0 Engagement & Event Concept & Plan

1.4 Policy Context

The municipality has a variety of means by which it can influence the use of and growth in the urban core. These include direct investment (undertaking capital projects, maintenance and operations, activating downtown spaces, hosting or supporting events), regulatory framework (e.g. planning policies and by-laws), and fiscal tools (e.g. taxation or incentives).

While materials prepared in the course of this event made reference to a variety of ways the municipality influences the urban core and various indicators of urban core health, the focus of the event was on low cost, high impact changes. Many of these fell into the realm of municipal support of, and investment in, the urban core, in areas such as public realm improvements to parks and public spaces, more activation of public spaces and improvements to active transportation.

Ongoing or anticipated policy projects with a potentially significant impact on the urban core include:

- HRM's Regional Plan and RP+5 Regional Plan 5 Year Review
- HRM by Design
- HRM's Economic Strategy
- the Centre Plan

Projects of note in the Urban Core in recent years include (as of 2013):

- The new central library that is currently under construction, representing a municipal contribution of over \$20 million;
- Approximately \$3.9 million invested in the Emera speed skating oval;
- The major restoration of City Hall, representing over \$7.0 million;
- The Dartmouth Transit Terminal represents a \$14 m investment;
- Waterfront related work in Dartmouth is valued at \$1.2 m; and
- Active Transportation investment in downtown Dartmouth and Halifax of \$450,000.

Over the past five years, HRM has invested approximately \$8 million in road and sidewalk renewal, \$4.7 million in streetscapes, and \$1.8 million in public park upgrades on both the Dartmouth and Halifax sides of the Urban Core.

Staff are also working on a number of other significant future initiatives, at the direction of Council, including;

- Cogswell Interchange
- Canal Greenway
- Active Transportation Network connections
- Dartmouth Common
- Public realm improvements under the economic strategy's 5 year public realm improvement campaign
- Dedication of sale of lands funds from 90 Alderney for a municipal museum in Dartmouth
- Provision of \$2 M capital grant toward the development of a new Discovery Centre building on the Waterfront

The Downtown... I'm In event provided the opportunity to highlight information that may be infrequently presented in other forums, such as the number of developments in various stages of approval in the Regional Centre, HRM supported events in the urban core, and information on parking availability in the urban core. This information is included in Appendix 1 to this report.

2.1 Securing an Engagement Consultant

Following a competitive procurement process, HRM secured the services of Dunn and Associates Communications and Public Affairs (Dunn and Associates) in October of 2013 to deliver various aspects of the event including engagement and logistics.

2.2 Engagement Strategy and Public Event

Dunn and Associates worked with an HRM staff team to conceptualize, define and implement key components of an urban core public engagement event, including engagement opportunities and methodologies (before, during and after the event), event marketing, public relations and media relations, venue, AV and technology logistics. In collaboration with HRM staff, Dunn and Associates developed an event 'brand' and an associated community engagement strategy that blended public consultation with a public event.

2.3 Target Audience & Engagement Goal

As an open public-engagement process, all HRM residents were encouraged to participate. The organizing team set an engagement goal of 200-500 people. Between Halifax and Dartmouth events, 207 people representing 23 different postal code areas participated in table talks, 290 people completed a survey online.





2.4 Engagement Principles

The engagement process was grounded in internationally recognized public engagement principles that are consistent with HRM's own community engagement principles.¹

International Association for Public Participation: The public engagement process was designed consistent with engagement principles endorsed by the International Association for Public Participation (IAPP).² The IAPP's core values for the practice of public participation are:

- Public participation is based on the belief that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process.
- Public participation includes the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decision.
- Public participation promotes sustainable decisions by recognizing and communicating the needs and interests of all participants, including decision makers.
- Public participation seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision.
- Public participation provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
- Public participation communicates to participants how their input affected the decision.

Deep Democracy: The project design was influenced by the principles imbedded in the Deep Democracy approach to engagement. Deep democracy is a practical facilitation approach for anyone who is working with groups or individuals. It is "democratic" because it emphasizes that every voice matters and that decisions are wisest when majority and minority voices are both valued. It is "deep" because it goes far beyond the conventional methods of facilitating the exchange of ideas and instead surfaces emotions, values, beliefs, and personalities to inform and enrich the group's process.³

Open Space Technology: The approach taken to the urban core consultations was also influenced by the facilitation methodology promoted by Open Space Technology (OST). In Open Space, participants create and manage their own agenda of parallel working sessions around a central theme of strategic importance. OST is intended to do the following:

- identify, explore and address all of the most important issues;
- gather new ideas, resources and people and connect them to these issues;
- document all conversations;
- establish strategic themes, clear priorities, immediate actions steps;
- distribute all of this information to a (re)energized and action-ready community of people;
- empower participants to tell the emerging story to the rest of the organization, community, or world; and
- seed cycles of invitation that will continue to pull people into places where they can maximize their own learning and contribution.



2.5 Engagement Project Concept – Downtown...I'm In

Downtown...I'm In was conceived as an inclusive, collaborative effort to make downtown areas better and engage citizens in a way that identified and built momentum for specific, actionable ideas. The concept encouraged as many residents as possible to attend, encouraged discussion before and after the events and put the onus on citizens to take an active role in making their downtown better.

2.6 Engagement Model

Dunn and Associates recommended a hybrid-engagement-model that fused a "forum" model and a "community meeting" model. The resulting hybrid model used short, focused conversations to minimize participant time commitment. This was key to the engagement model's design, since participants were likely to be able to give a maximum of one hour of their time (due to other commitments).

A hybrid approach also made it possible to interact with more participants than would have been possible with other engagement models. Given the importance of targeting a diverse cross section of attendees, multiple interactions were seen as a significant benefit to the proposed hybrid model. A hybrid model also worked well with the variety of participants expected to attend the event (shoppers, visitors, tourists, passersby, local stakeholders, vendors, etc.).

Organizers recognized that participants would vary in terms of their interests, attention spans, and comfort speaking in public. It was, therefore, critical to structure the facilitation approach to encourage open, productive discussion. The recommended hybrid model accommodated the goal of creating an inclusive, collaborative effort to improve the urban core.

Given the project objective of encouraging urban core ownership, Dunn and Associates designed the public engagement facilitation to build capacity among volunteers. Volunteers could learn new skills, shift perspectives, share ideas and skills and uncover a deeper sense of greater community in themselves. The hybrid approach presented unique opportunities to build volunteers' capacities and to motivate volunteers to remain engaged on urban core issues.

2.7 Engagement Paths

The public engagement process was designed to trigger and capture as many conversations as possible to generate as many quality urban core renewal ideas as possible.

To secure the largest number of attendees, while ensuring quality interactions with participants, the engagement project employed multiple engagement paths.

- online interactions with urban core feedback survey;
- online interactions with website content;
- social media interactions on Twitter;
- survey-driven interactions with roving pollsters (on site at events);
- unstructured interactions with subject matter experts (SMEs) staffing ;
- structured and unstructured interactions with facilitators and other attendees during table talk sessions;
- unstructured interactions with idea walls; and
- structured and unstructured interactions with inspirational speakers/downtown champions.

Having a variety of data-gathering points and engagement methods increased the number of opportunities to encourage public participation and to record residents' feedback on the urban core.

¹ A copy of HRM's Community Engagement Strategy can be viewed online at <https://www.halifax.ca/crca/CommunityEngagement/documents/CommunityEngagementStrategy.pdf>.

² Additional details on the International Association for Public Participation (IAPP) can be viewed online at <http://www.iap2.org>.

³ More on the Deep Democracy approach to public consultation can be read online at <http://deep-democracy.net/>.



2.8 Communications Strategy

Consistent with the project's stated objectives of encouraging public engagement on the urban core, the communications efforts focused on creating awareness of the event and conveying a call-to-action to participate. The two phases were as follows:

- Phase I – January 15 to February 3: Create initial awareness using a robust social media strategy that incorporated partners and stakeholders. Leverage non-paid media (newspaper articles, radio interviews) promotional opportunities.
- Phase II – February 3 to February 8: Increase unpaid media opportunities. Utilize a minimal media buy to push the Halifax/Dartmouth events and encourage the public to participate.

2.8.1 Event Branding and Logo

“Downtown... I'm In” brand developed for the engagement project was meant to evoke pride in celebrating HRM accomplishments and provoke curiosity in the public engagement project. The brand's catch-phrase reinforced a call-to-action to participate for HRM residents, particularly those working and living in the downtown core.

To support the “Downtown... I'm In” event brand, a visual identity was created for use on all event-related materials and communications. The retro inspired logo was designed to best represent the HRM and to connect with a broad spectrum of its citizenry. The Garrison Clock icon was chosen as the backdrop because it is a well-recognized landmark in one of HRM's downtown areas. The event logo appeared on the following:

- buttons (distributed prior to the event and at the event);
- footers of branded event emails;
- website splash page;
- event slideshow slides (projected on-stage during the day of the event);
- branded t-shirts (worn by roving pollsters);
- event business cards and
- all print materials generated to support the event.



2.8.2 Promotional Materials

As a way to promote the event, Downtown... I'm In buttons were distributed to downtown stakeholders and event partners two weeks before the event. Downtown... I'm In business cards were printed and distributed at and in advance of the event.

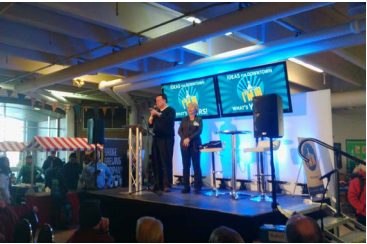
2.8.3 Dedicated Website Domain



HRM's engagement hub (www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca) was an effective tool for generating buzz about the public engagement project and gathering input. Dunn and Associates worked with HRM staff to design and create content for a website to be hosted on HRM's citizen engagement portal, ShapeYourCityHalifax.ca. HRM staff registered the domains DowntownImIn.ca and .com and pointed them to the project page on the ShapeYourCityHalifax.ca portal. This allowed promotional efforts to focus public recall on the project brand and its .ca web site. On January 15th 2014, DowntownImIn.ca went live on HRM's Shape Your City portal.

The website included event details (date, time, location, agenda), urban core background materials, stakeholder links, promotional videos and an online version of the engagement survey. Continual site updates helped to keep the information fresh and engaging throughout the lead-up to the event.

Visitors were driven to the website through search engines (Google, Firefox, Bing etc.), Halifax.ca, Facebook, and HRM Matters. Online traffic was significant, with 6,578 site views, 10,696 page views and 3,217 visitors ('lifetime' website statistics to February 21, 2014). The engagement project, and associated website presence, was responsible for 219 new Shape Your City user registrations from every district in HRM.





2.8.4 Promotional Videos

Dunn and Associates worked with HRM staff and the Mayor's Office to produce three promotional web videos that were served from the event website:

- Mayor Savage and Councillors McCluskey and Mason asking citizens for their ideas on how to make our downtown areas even better (see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XqvuoJhcEt4>) – 947 views
- Various ideas from citizens and some “Halifamous” people including Lil McPherson and Sarah Dennis (see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=THFrLDGH234>) – 383 views
- Mayor Savage February 6 interview with Radio 96.5 FM hosted by Dominik Diamond (see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgrcltPmzas>) – 486 views



2.8.5 Twitter Social Media Campaign

The event's organizing team used the @hfxgov Twitter handle as the primary day-to-day communication tool for the event. Probing questions were asked during the lead-up to the event to encourage Twitter followers to discuss the urban core. Downtown partners and stakeholders were invited to tap into their social networks in support of the engagement project. Event updates (new partners, video postings, etc.) were pushed out on Twitter to keep followers continually updated. HRM staff live-tweeted the day of the event and answered follower questions online. The event garnered considerable social media attention. There were over 500 individual interactions on Twitter (not including re-tweets), including over 200 unique Twitter interactions on the day of the event.

hfxgov @hfxgov · Feb 3
Come join @Twoitbyseacafe & @uncommongroup Feb 8 to discuss #DowntownImin! We can't wait to hear your ideas! ow.ly/sELup
Expand

Lil MacPherson @monkeyladyll · Feb 8
What a day we had at #downtownimin it was inspiring, creative and infectious. If you build it we will come! . . . Dam tootin!
Expand

2.8.6 Media Buy – Paid Media Coverage

To better communicate the engagement project to the general public, HRM staff made limited media buys. Paid media ran from February 3rd to February 8th in three outlets: radio (Radio 96.5), newspaper (The Coast, Metro) and online (chronicleherald.ca).

2.8.7 Earned Media

Earned media coverage raised the event profile and created considerable goodwill for the 'Downtown...I'm In' brand. The official announcement of the event was made on January 15th, 2014, to coincide with the downtownimin.ca website launch. Several media outlets, including Metro News, The Chronicle Herald and CBC, picked up the urban core engagement story following the release of Public Service Announcement (PSA). A number of media outlets ran 'downtown revitalization' stories and tied those stories back to HRM's urban core initiative. The launch of the public engagement project also received positive write-ups on the Dalhousie student's website and on the Smart City Blog.

Persistent interest in the urban core community engagement project led to additional earned media coverage. The Mayor, members of Council and keynote speakers were interviewed during the lead up to the event and were interviewed on the day of the event.

Multiple media outlets conducted interviews as part of their programming schedules, including: Radio 96.5 (Morning Show and Afternoon Show), CBC (Information Morning, Mainstreet and Evening Newscast), and Global Television (Morning Show). The event itself also garnered very positive print coverage including: Global Online, The Chronicle Herald, and Metro Newspaper. Live broadcast of the public engagement event was done by Radio 96.5 from the Halifax location.

2.8.8 Advanced On-Site Promotion

On the Saturday before the event (February 1st), the event team visited both venues. They distributed buttons and invited passerby to attend one of the venues on the following Saturday and to complete the online survey if they could not attend in person.

2.8.9 Street Teams

Two street teams, made up of six people each, were created to draw people inside on the day of the event. Team members were recruited based on their ability to engage the public. Dressed in event-logoed white t-shirts, each street team worked the streets close to their venue. Well versed in event key messages, team members handed out event business cards and event buttons, answered questions about the event, and encouraged people to go inside to participate.





3.0 Engagement & Event Implementation

3.1 Urban Core Survey

HRM staff collaborated with Dunn and Associates to develop questions for a participant survey. The survey incorporated one multiple choice question three open-ended questions and one demographic question. See survey questions below. The survey was intended to solicit respondents' ideas and comments on the urban core and to gather limited demographic information (i.e. postal code a proxy for place of residence).

A fillable online survey was integrated into the ShapeYourCityHalifax.ca/DowntownI'mIn portal. The survey went live with the launch of the event website on January 15th.

The web-based survey was intended to engage HRM residents who would not be attending the February 8th event. The online survey remained open until February 15th.

Some survey respondents did the survey online and also participated in the February 8th engagement event. Other survey respondents completed the survey but did not take part in the February 8th public engagement event.

Survey questions were as follows:

Question #1: How do you spend your time in our downtown areas? Are they places you: a) Live; b) Work; c) Play; d) all of the above; e) none of the above; f) other

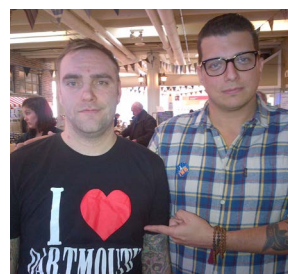
Question #2: We're looking for cool, easy-to-implement ideas. What enhancement would make our downtown areas even more vibrant and enjoyable for you?

Question #3: We're looking for cool, easy-to-implement ideas. What enhancement would encourage you to spend more time in our downtown areas?

Question #4: What can YOU do to make our downtown areas even more vibrant and enjoyable?

Question #5: What are the first 3 digits of your postal code?

A total of 290 surveys were completed on the 'Shape Your City' portal. Every HRM electoral district was represented in the responses.



3.2 Event Locations

Downtown Halifax peninsula and Dartmouth venues were strategically chosen for their central locations and for their high pedestrian traffic counts on Saturdays. On the Halifax side, City Centre Atlantic was secured. On the Dartmouth side, Alderney Farmers' Market was booked. Given space constraints and infrastructure requirements, careful planning was necessary. Limited space ultimately contributed to the event's sense of liveliness, intimacy and may have increased interactions among participants.

3.3 Simulcast

Each speaker was simulcast to the other side of the harbour. This allowed participants at both locations could hear all the speakers' messages. It also served as a way of connecting the two locations.

3.4 Downtown Champions

Rather than having "speakers", event organizers elected to have "Downtown Champions" – people with compelling stories of urban core advocacy and urban core action. Four Downtown Champions (two with national profiles, two with local profiles) were recruited based on their expertise in, and experience with, urban core dynamics. Their role was to inform, challenge and inspire event participants to think of a shared future for our city's urban core – a place that provides an attractive environment for residents, workers and visitors to live, work and play.

The Downtown Champions were:

- Mark Brand, Vancouver-based restaurateur and social entrepreneur (and Dartmouth native);
- Charles Montgomery, Vancouver-based author of Happy City;
- Zane Kelsall, Dartmouth-based restaurateur and founder of I Love Dartmouth
- Gordon Stevens, Halifax-based entrepreneur and founder of I Love Halifax Local

Downtown Champions were simulcast to each venue and to the web portal. Speaker order and placement was as follows: Mark Brand (Dartmouth), Charles Montgomery (Halifax), Zane Kelsall (Dartmouth), Gordon Stevens (Halifax).

3.5 Table Talk Discussions

Facilitated discussion was the project's central engagement tactic. Attendees at both the Halifax and Dartmouth sites were invited to listen to a Downtown Champion and then take part in structured table talk. Downtown Champions warmed participants up by outlining their own paths to making their downtowns better, giving participants permission to think outside the box, challenging participants to think beyond asking government to pay for and fix everything, and showing participants that anything is possible if they personally become involved in revitalizing the downtown.

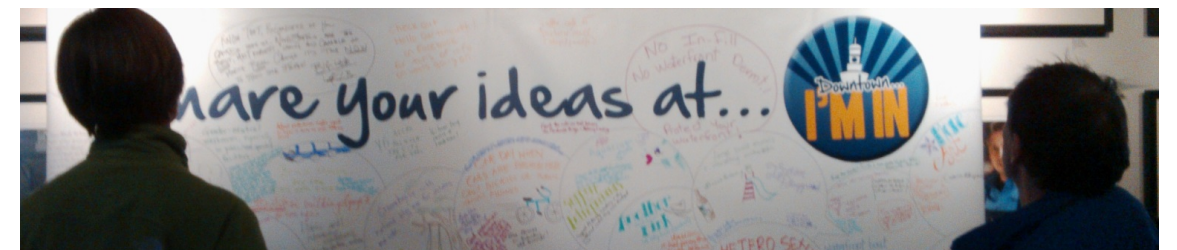




Table talk discussion was facilitated by a volunteer table host, and recorded by a volunteer table recorder. Volunteer table hosts and recorders – where they had relevant experience and/or skill – gave the discussions authenticity. They modeled an important aspect of vibrant communities: citizens who step forward to do something for the greater good.

During the table talk discussion period, five questions were posed to participants. These questions mirrored the questions appearing in the online survey and mirrored the questions being posed by roving pollsters. This approach ensured consistency and made data comparisons possible. Table talk sessions were limited to 30 minutes, both to respect participant time commitments and to allow for multiple table talk sessions at both venues.

Table hosts encouraged participants to make use of paper tablecloths and markers to record their comments, to write the first half of their postal code and to doodle. This was done because not everyone is comfortable speaking in groups and some people can better express themselves by writing or by drawing. Tabletop space for writing also allowed participants to capture their thoughts as they listened to other participants.

3.6 Lead Facilitators

Four experienced lead-facilitators were assigned to each venue (Halifax and Dartmouth). Their role was to ensure that the public engagement conversations were inclusive, constructive and as-focused-as-possible on strategic outcomes. At each venue, one experienced lead-facilitator was assigned to support the idea-sharing booth volunteers, while the other three focused on supporting table talk discussions and roving pollsters. Each lead-facilitator was encouraged to record emerging themes on a note pad. At the end of the event, all note pads were gathered for compilation and analysis.

3.7 Idea-sharing Areas

Idea-sharing areas were designated at both venues (Halifax and Dartmouth). HRM staff, and volunteers from industry and community organizations, staffed the booths as subject matter experts (SMEs). The SMEs were meant to inform participant understanding and trigger discussion on what might be done to make downtown areas even better. Participants engaged with SMEs in unstructured conversations, sharing information, comments and ideas. SMEs were also available to lend their expertise to group discussions led by table talk hosts.

The idea-sharing area SMEs got to share their initiatives and meet other people and experience their unique perspectives, visions and insights. In addition to meeting people in their communities, SMEs were able to network with other SMEs. SMEs recorded highlights of conversations with participants on notepads. Notepads were transcribed by Dunn and Associates for compilation and analysis.

In addition to staff from many HRM business units, a wide range of urban core stakeholders participated by sending SMEs. These organizations included:

- NSCC
- Waterfront Development
- GHP
- HFX Water
- Breakhouse
- Ecology Action Centre
- Fusion
- Common Roots Urban Farm
- Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project

The Discovery Centre also participated by providing staff and hosting a children's activity corner through the day.

3.8 Idea Walls

Organizers suspended a 4-foot x10-foot plastic sheet at each event venue to act as an “idea wall”. The words “Share your ideas at...[Downtown...I'm In logo]” invited participants to use the provided markers to write down their thoughts and to doodle. Data from the idea walls was transcribed for compilation and analysis.

3.9 Roving Pollsters

HRM recruited seven persons to poll event participants who were not taking part in table talks. Each roving pollster was given a mobile tablet computer connected via WiFi to the Downtown...I'm In survey on the ShapeYourCityHalifax.ca/DowntownImIn portal. Survey data was later exported for compilation and analysis.

3.10 On-Stage Slideshow

Dunn and Associates and HRM staff collaborated to produce a slide show loop designed to help welcome, orient, inform, inspire and provoke participants at the joint events.

The slideshow included slides profiling the following:

- What is already working in our downtown areas. These were intended to help participants appreciate and value their downtown areas and the efforts of those who made them happen.
- Initiatives from other cities.
- Four event speaker profiles, speaking times and locations for each
- Downtown HRM development and business-retention information
- Different ways participants could engage in the event
- Social media channels and #DowntownImIn hashtag
- Door prizes and how to enter
- Event sponsors



4.0 Sponsors, Partners & Volunteers

4.1 Event Sponsorship

To supplement HRM's contribution, HRM solicited donations from a variety of sponsors. Cash sponsorship was received from Emera, the Mayor's Office, the Downtown Halifax Business Commission and the Greater Halifax Partnership.

Telus provided in-kind sponsorship in the form of smart hubs that provided high-speed broadband links allowing the roving pollsters to connect to the online survey, and served the live video stream between venues and the event web portal. Alderney Landing provided in-kind sponsorship in the form of facility related support.

The Downtown Halifax Business Commission, Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission, Spring Garden Area Business Association, the Quinpool Road Business District and the Hotel Association of Nova Scotia provided prizes for the event. Prizes were either purchased and then donated to the event organizers or donated to the event by members of these supporting organizations. Staff members from these organizations also volunteered at the event.

4.2 Volunteer Recruitment

The Strategic Urban Partnership (SUP) recruited most event volunteers. The SUP crowd sourced 40 volunteers, including 5 lead-facilitators and 35 table talk volunteers. Dunn and Associates recruited an additional 5 table talk volunteers.

HRM and Dunn and Associates collectively recruited an additional 45 staff and volunteers to staff the event's idea-sharing areas, to act as pollsters, to function as street team members and to fill miscellaneous event logistics roles.

Multiple downtown stakeholders also helped out the volunteer recruitment effort by contributing staff and/or by using their own networks to encourage people to put their names forward as volunteers.

4.3 Volunteer Debriefings

Debrief sessions were convened on-site immediately following the public engagement activities. Dunn and Associates used a custom-designed debrief model to debrief the event's 90-plus volunteers and a custom-designed data gathering tool to collect data for compilation and analysis. The debriefing harvested themes that emerged at the event, and captured volunteers' perceptions about how being involved with the event had built their personal capacity to be urban core advocates and change agents. Overall the event was felt, by volunteers, to have been positive, optimistic, and constructively critical.

5.0 Public Participation

5.1 Event Attendance

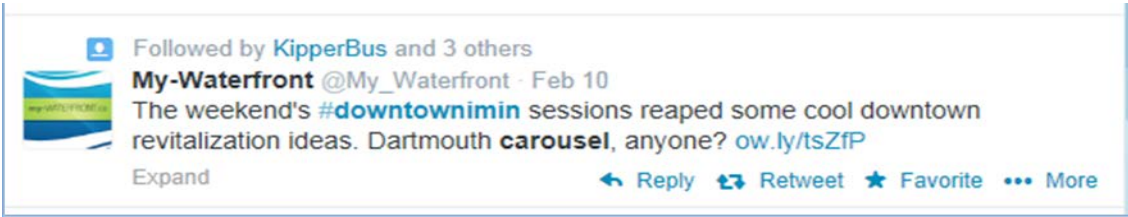
HRM and Dunn and Associates agreed that there would be a higher level of public participation if people were not required to register. Since there is no registration data to confirm how many unique individuals participated, attendance data is somewhat imprecise.

A steady stream of people came through the event spaces in both Dartmouth and Halifax. Many people stopped and interacted on some level (listened to speakers, spoke to idea-sharing booth volunteers, spoke to roving facilitators, wrote on the idea wall or paper tablecloths, and/or completed surveys). Some people just passed through. Both venues were packed.

5.2 Participant Counts

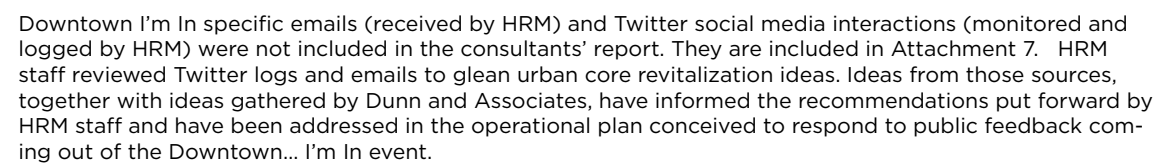
The table below (Table 1) shows participant counts by source.

Table 1: Participant Counts By Data Source		
Data Source	Count	Comment
Table talk logs	101	Halifax figure corrected with postal code counts from paper tablecloths
Table talk logs	106	Dartmouth figure corrected with postal code counts from paper tablecloths
Surveys	290	All surveys (online and pollsters)
Volunteer debrief logs	90	Slightly inaccurate since some volunteers left before debriefs began
Email & Twitter	81	Emails to downtownimin@halifax.ca and Twitter interactions via @hfxgov(received before, during and after the event)





A total of 39 postal codes from every district in HRM were represented by those who completed the online survey.



Every participant comment is reproduced verbatim in Dunn and Associates' Downtown... I'm In consultants' report (see downtownimin.ca). The infographic (next page) represents distribution of the 2,736 comments analysed by Dunn and Associates.



6.2 Volunteer Comments

Volunteer comments were sorted and grouped into the following categories:

Volunteer perceptions of “tone” of the event and participant conversations; and Participant comments/ideas of note as recalled by volunteers

Volunteer perceptions of “tone” of the event and participant conversations were:

They described the tone as very positive (like an HRM pep rally), collaborative and cooperative, focused on the future.

A few had conversations that felt “policy heavy” to them.

Some were genuinely surprised at some participants’ degree of mistrust toward government.

It was a day of “casual and comfortable” conversations.

Overall positive, optimistic, and constructively critical.

Table 3: Participant Ideas/Comments Recalled by Volunteers

There's an opportunity for the municipality to host a social entrepreneurialism roundtable and accelerate concept within the city.	Mirror what is happening on Agricola in rest of downtown.
Create more opportunities for people and small business to gather.	Day bus passes.
Everyone loved how the speakers spoke to local issues.	More landscaping, fewer high rises.
More joint art-history celebrations such as the mural on Waverley Road.	Need to hear from more communities to make informed decisions.
More community gardens.	Broader – reach this out more.
Connect bike lanes from ferry to beyond the bridge.	Take this show on the road.
Encourage creation of a harbour taxi system.	Better access to water.
Bike lanes and more bike lanes.	Splash pads (Dartmouth Cove).
Add WiFi in urban core and on buses.	More connection to both waterfronts.
Use the lakes more in both winter and summer.	More lights on the Harbour Trail.
Encourage vacant lot ice rinks.	Broader discussion on the division of the downtown and the regional centre.
Volunteers to help with new coats of paint.	More opportunities for active living.
Easy access for street artists for more community art.	The AWESome Foundation.
More signage in different languages.	Rebrand the ferries (more connectivity for less division).
More shared spaces for businesses – like the HUB or Plan B.	Destination Halifax promote Dartmouth in Dartmouth.
More community activity notice boards in residential areas.	Wood Carvers' Association wants to donate a sign at Alderney Landing.
More of a “yes” attitude.	More park benches.
Red tape busters. Help people understand what red tape is.	More public waste containers.

6.3 Next Steps

HRM staff will develop a an operational plan that will: (1) ensure organizational participation and support to implement initiatives; (2) manage and track progress on directives/actions related to the urban core; and (3) maintain on-going communication and reporting back to Council and citizens on progress.



7.0 Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Background policy information
- Appendix 2 – Additional comments received

Appendix 1 – Background Information

Background Information – Policy Links

Economic Strategy 2011-16

<http://www.greaterhalifax.com/site-ghp2/media/greaterhalifax/EconomicStrategy2013Final.pdf>

Regional Plan

<http://www.halifax.ca/planhrm/RP5.html>

HRM by Design: Regional Centre Urban Design Study

<https://www.halifax.ca/capitaldistrict/RegionalCentreUrbanDesignStudy.html>

Taxation Benchmarks – Commercial Taxation

<http://www.halifax.ca/revenue/tax/benchmark/Commercial.html>

Altus Study on taxation

Presentation:

<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/documents/BusinessLocationDecisionStudytoCDAC10Oct12.pdf>

Report part 1:

<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/documents/BusinessLocationStudyPhaseI-FinalReport15Feb13.pdf>

Report part 2:

<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/documents/BusinessLocationStudyPhaseII-FinalReport15Feb13.pdf>

City Matters Survey

http://www.greaterhalifax.com/en/home/media_centre/citymatters2013/default.aspx

5 Year Public Realm Improvement Capital Campaign

<http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/documents/140211ca1121.PDF>

Background Information – HRM supported events in the urban core

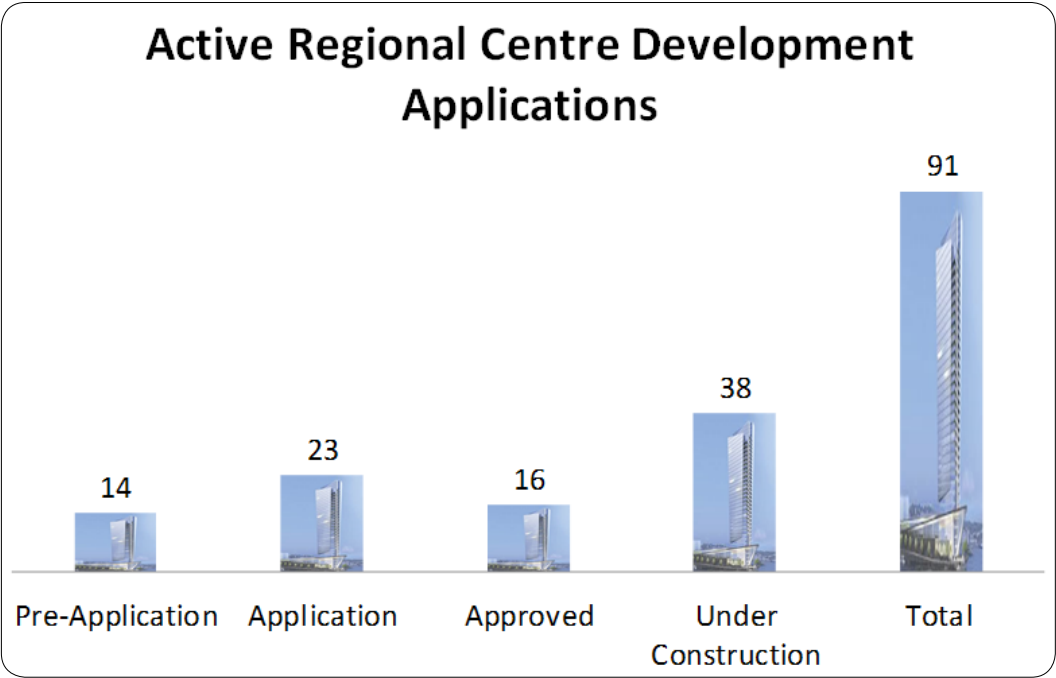
HRM supported events in the urban core

Background Information – Free-low cost activities in HRM

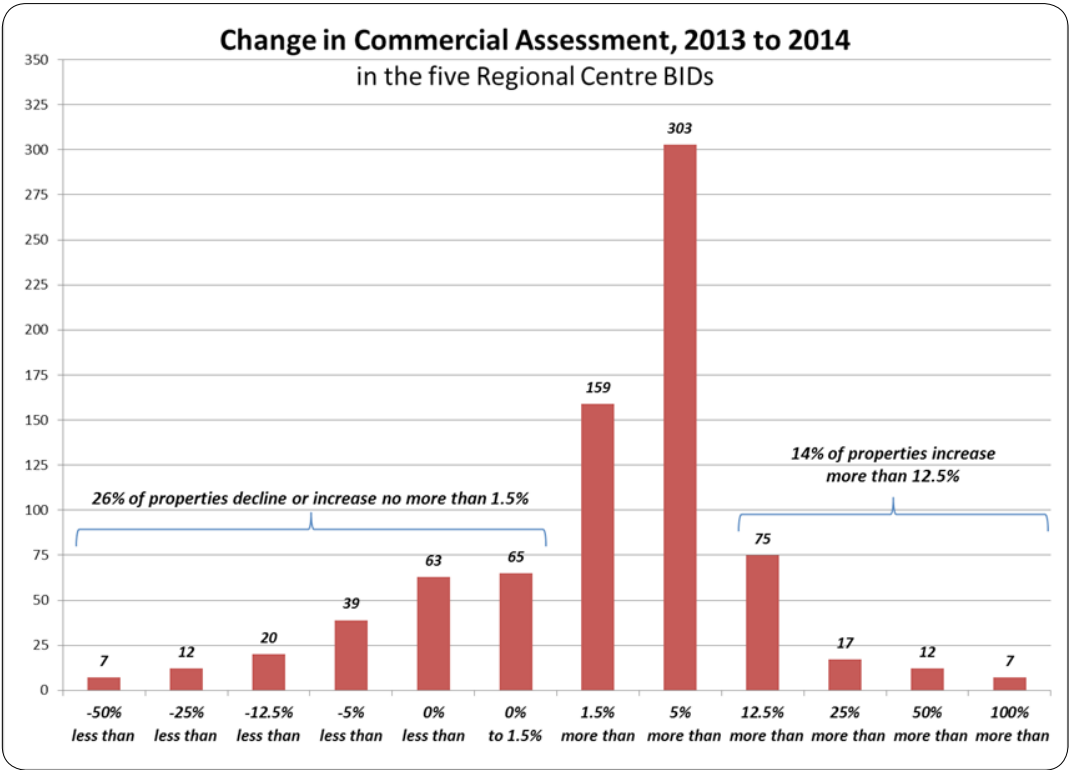
250 th Anniversary of Halifax Common	Keith’s Birthday Party	Uniacke Beautification Day - George Dixon (HRM) supports community on their annual clean up day
250th Gottingen St Anniversary	Kids Help Phone Walk	Walk The Oval
Afterschool Program	Learn to “IN-LINE” - Peninsula children and youth given opportunity to learn in-line (speedy kids program)	Walkabout program - partnership with Heart and Stroke Foundation - Children track their steps to promote physical activity, and healthy lifestyles
Alderney Landing’s Music in the Park	Light up the Night	War of 1812 Events and Concert
Arthritis Walk	Luck 7 Commons Road Race	Youth Community Outreach Program - Community reading and tutoring to community youth
Basketball Camps and Taking youth and Children to Games (Rainmen use our gym and give us spots in their basketball program as well as tickets to their home games)	LuLu Lemon Snow Ga	-
Bike Week	Lung Run	Youth Leadership Program
Boys and Girls Club – Go Girl (female) and Game on (male) program	Maple Syrup Demonstration	Youth Movie Nights - Youth activities Tuesday and Thursday evenings
Break-away Program	Mobile Bike Unit - 12 Bikes made available for “learn to bike” workshops with certified Can Bike instructors. Trailer takes bikes to disadvantaged community for similar workshops	
Breast Cancer Yard Sale	National Youth Week Event @ Pavillion	
Child and Youth Night Hoops	Navy 10K Walk & Run	
City Chase	Neptune Street Party	
Community Immigrant Youth Night	Newcomers B-B-Q on the Commons	
Community Youth Break Dance Prog	Newcommers Winter Ready Event on Commons	
Concrete Roots	Nor West Seniors - Variety of Recreational activities for Seniors 5 - 6 times a week	
Crohns Walk	NSDCC Victoria Park Event	

Dartmouth Tree Lighting	Oval open for public use at anytime when there is no public skating or special event planned
Diabetes Run	Over 30 programs each season for Preschool, Children, Youth and Adults
Downtown Dartmouth Waterfront Film Series	Peninsula Big Trip/Fun Day
Dragon Boat Festival	Peninsula Youth Camping Trip - Camp Mockingee
Easter Seals 24 Hour Relay	Placemaking Projects - Months of ongoing planning with a community group from each area. Implementation of painting projects were on the designated dates.
Fair Trade Yurt	Play On Street Hockey
Five Hole For Food Street Hockey	Public Skating (Friday 5:30-8:30pm)
Free Summer Swim Lessons	Public Skating (Friday 9:30am-12:30pm)
Freedom of the City	-
Freetown Festival South Commons	Relay For Life
George Dixon Big Day	Santa Shuffle
George Dixon Summerfest	Sea King 50th Anniversary
Georges Island Concerts	Skateboarding Summer Camps @ Pavillion
Get Out Check It Out	Soul Train Happy Dance Event
-	St Pats Day Parade
Hypothermic Half	St. Mary's 65 Roses Run
Inclusion services	Stroke Club - recreational program for comm. Members who have had a stroke
IWK Grace Kermesse	Sullivan's Pond Concert Series
Japanese Brass Band Quartet	Summer Solstice Event
Jingle Bell Walk & Run	Supernova - Community event - brings new immigrants/community together for activities
Jumpstart/Rec Kids - provides funding up to \$200 per child/per year	SWITCH - Activity Zones, Art exhibits, Mobile Bike Unit
Junior Baseball Championships	"Try a Bike" Workshops

Background Information – Active Development Applications (as at October 2013)



Background Information – Change in Commercial Assessment (2013-2014) in the five Regional Centre Business Improvement Districts





Appendix 2 – Additional Comments Received

Additional Comments Received

Facilitation Notes¹

- 1. Street Performers
- 2. Rainbow Steps
- 3. Pedestrian Only Spring Garden
- 4. Make Downtown a destination, not a corridor
- 5. Turn Johnson Building meeting room into retail (active frontage)
- 6. Underground utilities
- 7. Proper street lights
- 8. Schmidville into a heritage area
- 9. University Avenue, pilot a bikeway
- 10. Heated sidewalks
- 11. Tree Sculptures
- 12. Check October 2000 20/20 Report (Ideas for Downtown)
- 13. Daytime Mardi Gras
- 14. Make St. Pats a Cultural Mosaic Market-place
- 15. Close Rainnie Drive
- 16. Bring back the tram
- 17. Bring back Grand Parade water fountain
- 18. Have a Red Bull Crashed Ice on George Street
- 19. Sleep under the Stars event on Citadel
- 20. Glass bridge on waterfront
- 21. Portable beach barge
- 22. Bring back the Barrington Arches
- 23. Have a ‘Dartmouth, We Love You’ sign on the waterfront
- 24. Make ‘Shine a light’ happen every night at City Hall

- 25. What is it about other places that make you want to leave? Make it happen here!
- 26. Kids love giant bugs
- 27. More people living Downtown
- 28. More boutiques
- 29. Incentives for small business
- 30. More trees
- 31. Canopies
- 32. Transparent ground floors
- 33. More & free parking
- 34. Just do it, stop studying
- 35. Interactive and Lively
- 36. Incentivize Residential
- 37. Build connection amongst stingers
- 38. Hot chocolate is warm, encourages inter-action
- 39. Get people hugging
- 40. All about experiences
- 41. Strong positive social connections
- 42. Increase face to face interactions
- 43. Activate the Citadel, urban gardens
- 44. Keep charging for parking, make on-street more expensive, parking garages cheaper
- 45. Montreal style parking kiosks
- 46. Pilot projects, the City is your laboratory
- 47. Make it easy to close streets
- 48. Memorable experiences
- 49. Say Yes, Pull the trigger, and Do it!
- 50. Question: How do we get/stay involved?
- 51. Sidewalk chalk day
- 52. Make it better, even if it is a small step

- 53. Start as an experiment
- 54. Slow down EVERYTHING, better for business
- 55. Encourage stopping, conversations
- 56. Speed kills
- 57. Encourage involvement
- 58. People don’t know how to get involved
- 59. Want access to water

Additional Comments Received

Electronic Mail Submissions

- 1. Improve the Commons area (new wading area for children, new washroom/change facility, and update existing pool)
- 2. Provide public space for locals to exhibit their art
- 3. Make the downtown more appealing to visitors by eliminating panhandling
- 4. Make Halifax the Charleston, SC of the North
- 5. Ensure the Cogswell Interchange land is a coherent and appealing residen-tial mixed-use precinct that can be the northern gateway to the downtown core
- 6. Improve parking downtown
- 7. Free waterfront parking on Sunday
- 8. Give businesses a tax break
- 9. Have more residential development downtown by having lower tax rates on condominiums
- 10. Give walking and bicycling more empha-sis downtown over cars
- 11. Improved bike racks and bike lanes
- 12. More picnic table in public spaces
- 13. Rooftop and community gardens
- 14. More sponsorship for outdoor public concerts, such as those at the public gardens
- 15. Green space on waterfront

- 16. Close of Barrington Street-from Scotia Square to Blower or Spring Garden
- 17. Signage on downtown projects
- 18. Better signage for visitors and newcom-ers
- 19. Make the downtown more walkable
- 20. Create a mid-peninsula green walking trail loop
- 21. Spruce up Dartmouth areas where peo-ple come into city
- 22. Improve downtown so it is more accessi-ble for seniors
- 23. Have a winter garbage clean-up initiative
- 24. More pedestrian streets
- 25. Reduce number of cigarette butts by following Vancouver’s cigarette recycling pilot program:

<http://metronews.ca/news/vancouver/851355/vancou-ver-launches-worlds-first-munici-pal-cigarette-butt-recycling-pro-gram/>

Additional Comments Received

Ideas Raised on Twitter

- 1. So good: Van Gogh bicycle path paved with “light stones” <http://ow.ly/tsw33>
- 2. We’d love it if you’d set somewhere that #Dartmouth-ians can walk to.
- 3. @DartCarousel A new initiative to bring family fun to the Dartmouth waterfront Help us spread the word!
- 4. I was really wishing the Public Gardens were open today. year round public ac-cess 8 AM - 9 pm
- 5. Dresden Row & Birmingham between SGR & Sackville are such a nightmare for traffic anyway. Should def be ped-only.
- 6. Thursday eves in Ottawa, from 5-8 pm, all museums have free admission. Why not try that,or even pay-what-you-can
- 7. Investment in heritage restoration sparked by Ellis Square project. Tax \$

¹ Submitted after consultant report was submitted to HRM.



- returned on city investment pic.twitter.com/EXLz39IBIJ
8. Be ambitious with public space. Ellis Square Savannah pre2004 was a parking garage. Shubie Greenway. pic.twitter.com/6TtFceJPDy
9. Youth need more all ages venues
10. How about some play and whimsy in our public spaces? These giant chimes are well used in Savannah pic.twitter.com/XTQMB0IYG3
11. @hfxgov More dog friendly MT @Glen-denning_L I don't go to markets on the weekend because I prefer stuff our dog can join in.
12. Lots of talk at #DowntownImIn about walking, sidewalk repair, transit and places to chill. That's on @hfxgov . Show me the money. #hfxpoli
13. Pedestrian-only streets? Yes, please! Look to Cuba Mall in Wellington, NZ, as inspiration.
14. Dreaming of the days when we'll see this again on Barrington St. I believe that this is possible. <http://ow.ly/tqriq>
15. Okay, @DartCarousel is a perfect example of a great #community-led idea. Put an idea out there and work to make it happen!
16. Free Scooter Parking...
17. If we created streets that were engaging to walk on, we'd be happy to park far away!
18. food trucks becoming exciting norm throughout HRM. Need to see more downtown!
19. making sure the Library is not just a Library, but a Cornucopia of Culture in the Core!
20. Enabling Grand Parade to allow more public usage.
21. I've always thought the Metro Centre could use a green roof. Like a 2nd Citadel.
22. Can creative ways for additional parking areas be discussed?
23. Can someone PLEASE build me an aquarium already? And I want it in #Dartmouth
24. Do something. Get to know your neighbours! Who wants a street party?
25. Make a few popular streets pedestrian only walkways and lower business taxes to encourage investment pop into mind!
26. We need - less red tape for food trucks, more streets closed for community events, and municipal Wifi in the #Downtownimin
27. More of this pls!! @CRUrbanFarm Thank you, the kids are enjoying this #DowntownImIn pic.twitter.com/FKY9cyKcwo
28. Savannah has free transit (ferries and buses) Downtown #downtownimin pic.twitter.com/6FIEOBvZ9Z
29. Carnival with skiing, snowshoeing (my), sledding, themes, contests (ie snow angels) prizes, treats!
30. Serpentine Studios @SerpStudios Feb 8
31. How about public dance spaces? All ages, a room, wired music, dance it off @DiscoveryCntr
32. IN THE WARMER MONTHS LOCAL FOOD CARTS CAN ADORN THE WALKWAY FROM THE #DartmouthCarousel
33. Bike lanes, gardens on sides of Citadel Hill, make it easy for pedestrians to move around = economic development. #downtownimin
34. Mark Brand: too much parking in the world. Keep taking it away. #DowntownImIn #halifax
35. Partnerships are key to a vibrant downtown. HRM, provincial & federal govt, univ, schools, hospitals, community & YOU
36. now its a city for cars. The commuter train would help make it for pedestrians again
37. Also: free, clean, drinking water stations downtown.
38. how about plowing snow banks into safe play areas - lets use that snow!
39. My own #downtownimin ideas: more benches on the streets, bike rental stations, more trees, close SGR to traffic.
40. For our downtowns to prosper we need to come to terms with our heavy drinking culture.
41. someone suggested a rope tow, a great place to learn to ski, HRM rec could hold classes!
42. Ideas at my table: fewer highrises, more greenery, ease food truck rules.
43. Food security, supporting each other, revitalizing our spaces and strong local businesses. Good place to start!
44. Look what trees can do when the power lines aren't in the way. Cathedral like streets! #downtownimin #savannah pic.twitter.com/jex9ECwHq5
45. Later #hrmferry on Sundays and more public art
46. I would love to see more outdoor public art works, a sculpture trail by local artists would be fantastic!
47. we should have some sort of veterans hangout dt. Give back to those who gave so much to us
48. Would pedal powered bicycle bars make our downtown more vibrant? pic.twitter.com/GBDzL6WjNb
49. More food trucks!! Benches and seating areas to make it a community
50. I'd love to see more small shops and business opening, free wifi areas, more pedestrian only streets, and affordable rents
51. More artistic murals on blank facades of buildings
52. bring back F.R.E.D @hfxtransit, even if its just the weekends
53. Close @AEDHalifax from Neptune Theatre to Blowers to car traffic and allow permanent patios
54. Bring the streets alive with #arts and #culture. People are willing to park far away if walking is a fun experience.
55. Let's increase the amount and variety of downtown housing.
56. free rapid-cycling bus circling robie spring garden, barrington, cogswell. Real bike parking. 15min ferrys past 9
57. car free weekends on some feeder streets and all downtown core.
58. Let's have a night market to bring people downtown after hours!
59. Halifax should offer citizens weekend movies at the harbour. A great way to get more people there at night
60. We need an aquarium!
61. free parking in parkades on select days to attract people for whom transit/walking is not an option
62. Use empty storefronts! Temporary & free gallery space? A win for both residents & visitors.
63. Public #art that's interactive - brings people together & creates a "downtown destination" Inspiring architecture too!
64. I think On some Sundays Ped only streets
65. maybe we could get the hot chocolate cart, eh?
66. Downtown wi-fi! Downtown wi-fi!
67. Pedestrian only streets! Just came back from Toronto's distillery district. Wish we could pick it up and move it here.
68. Hey @hfxgov would help if our tourist #HRM map identified our streets with better identities
69. Bike lanes, music, & hot chocolate on a winter's day.
70. "Like a snake museum!"



Downtown... I'm in

Urban Core Community Engagement Report

Below are the responses to the questions below and general comments gathered throughout the Downtown...I'm In consultation.

- Question #2: We're looking for cool, easy-to-implement ideas. What enhancement would make our downtown areas even more vibrant and enjoyable for you?
- Question #3: We're looking for cool, easy-to-implement ideas. What enhancement would encourage you to spend more time in our downtown areas?
- Question #4: What can YOU do to make our downtown areas even more vibrant and enjoyable?

Comments

Make the harbor more accessible because it is the common ground between Halifax and Dartmouth, view it as a functional thing for events on it or on either side of it, do NOT see it as a barrier. Water events! Make it easier to put in kayaks, there are no piers, no places to dock a boat, a kayak or any water vehicle to walk up and have a meal along the boardwalk. The harbor is underutilized.

More young - family friendly - need more play areas, more accessible for strollers (need s/th more than the library)

Able bodied – but not sure we need so many disabled spots. Too many empty spots. Are we building them just for the sake of building them?

Need more accessibility.

Scariest things is to take my father out in a wheelchair.

Accessibility, more theatre,

businesses should have portable ramps (eg Stopgap in Toronto)

curb cuts must be visible and accessible! They are not currently wheelchairfriendly.

Accessibility ; friendly use what we have ; only way he enjoys coming is by boat

and better accessibility to every corner of the downtown.

Better pedestrian access - particularly for strollers.

Better walking and more accessible

fresh out of "cool " ideas, but some practical, not too much extra cost now possibilities : much better snow clearing in Winter, especially on brick sidewalks, so I, as a frail senior am able to get around in the downtowns/ soon after storms, every big storm, at least cutting out an area for me to enter and exit, safely from a Metro Transit bus;

More young family friendly need more play areas, more accessible for strollers.

improve accessibility

accessibility

accessibility

Downtown accessibility for elderly

more accessible to services centralized services

See above, plus timely sidewalk snow clearing for those with young children and strollers (as well as the disabled), and innovative promotions to encourage shopping local.

Wheelchair accessibility (someone added "yes!")

Accessible - wheelchairs, walkers, canes

More accessibility

More disables parking spots? Or too many? Ratio wrong?

Walking is difficult for seniors

Accessibility for people and bikes and strollers (sidewalks and businesses) -esp in snow

Sidewalk trampolines!

URBAN ZIPLINES!

a pathway to travel the entire waterfront (Halifax & Dartmouth to Bedford),

Bike Share Program

Secure areas for locking bikes up

Advocating for bikelanes

Bike

Bike more.

Buy local. Ride, or walk, not drive. Go for a walk at noon.

Get outside at lunchtime and walk.

I could bike downtown on sunny weekends, leave my bicycle in a secure bike parking and walk to an event.

More pedestrian

Plan a get away walking tour on my own.

Trying to get people to understand that walking isn't a bad thing.

Walk in the downtown

Walk instead of drive

Walk the downtown area

Smaller sidewalk

As basic needs as fixing things we already have. Sidewalks ARE NOT safe to walk for seniors, wheelchairs. Nothing accessible: walking is my business.

Big bike circuit connecting from Downtown Dartmouth around North End and beyond Sullivans Pond

Extend Harbourwalk trail from ferry to bridge

Extend Harbourwalk trail to Trans Canada Trail

Get the walk sign on all the time at crosswalks
More walkable spaces, more entertainment. Example: playgrounds are great. Move, live, talk and meet people.
No pushing for pedestrian crossings
Sidewalks have potholes and heaves – you can fall.
Connector street paths such as Hawthorne to Camden and Joffre to Outhill. Currently they are not maintained, better maintenance would increase use.
Standards, uniform planning. People on the streets, shopping. Making streets like spring garden pedestrian friendly
Wider sidewalks
Crosswalks, dangerous.
Spring gardenPedestrian only
Transportation: Bike lane, 24 hour access through harbor
widen sidewalk on spring garden
Bike path connecting N. Dartmouth to Ferry terminal.
More pedestrian lights and more mood lights.
VERY HARD to bike.
Waterfronts – working well, bike paths and walking paths could be extended.
More separated bike lanes wherever possible.
Contiguous trail from “old” bridge to at least Woodside, Fisherman’s Cove better for bikes and walkers, cleared in winter
Great big path that unites the two city for active transportation need more amenities and promotion outside of downtown
Make walking easier especially in the winter
People like to walk – they need more opportunities to walk and be seen
Should be pedestrian only street between noon and midnight
Bike lanes! Trails seem safer, less threatening ones, ones that don’t cut off abruptly, steel barriers or barriers of some kind to make it safer (from cars)
Safer biking: barriers
Two sidewalks, one for walking one for biking (x2)
Unblock the park alongside the Dartmouth boardwalk, its been closed off for the entire winter.
need zebra crossing lines like the they in other cities
More walkable: cleaner, walkable park network
If you don’t have the density to support closing off the streets then it may not be very effective.
Lowcost/highimpact: trial closure of north lane of University Ave to cars (convert into active transportation)
make south lane 2way – only cost is paint and a few Jersey barriers
A boardwalk that takes you closer to the cruise ships when moored.
Adjust traffic signal timing to reduce pedestrian wait times on east-west streets leading to the ferry terminals.
and bikes for rent, especially for the Harbourwalk Route in Dartmouth.

Better Bike access,
Better bike lanes and bike parking would be great. Bicycle rentals would be great; perhaps I Heart Bikes could be part of that contract.
Bike lanes and access to quick repairs
Bike lanes into the downtown.
bike lanes,
Bike lanes.
Bike lanes.
Bike lanes.
Bike parking, bring back FRED!
Bike racks and bike lanes
Bike racks.
Bike rental on Dartmouth side
Bike trails
Cycling
Development on the waterfront should not impede pedestrian access
guided walks and bike rides
I think also the the bridge over the water behind the Nova Scotian Crystal building needs to be widened as it is very busy during tourist season and it is narrow when a lot of people are on it.
Improve on the Dartmouth waterfront walk - have more reasons to take that trail other than the view.
Less cars more pedestrians
Less traffic, more bike use, routes, and safety education. A variety of city blocks that are congested and are composed of walkable storefronts and services could be car free ex. Portland Street from Alderney to five corners a walking zone. Revitalizations with real issues in mind.
Love all the above suggestions. Bike lanes all over.
Make crosswalks more visible.
Make streets more pedestrian and bike friendly - for year round use.
Mike bike rentals.
More bike lanes
More bike lanes.
More emphasis on bikes
More focus and attention to the street environment. Make cyclists and pedestrians feel safe. Lighting that is tailored to the pedestrian, traffic calming, bike lanes, place-making, etc.
More paths for active transport
more pedestrian areas - which would result in more outdoor eateries,
More pedestrian friendly areas.
more pedestrian friendly streets.
More walkable spaces.

Outdoor walking
Painted crosswalks.
Public bike system
Repaint crosswalks each spring to reinforce that downtowns are pedestrians friendly;
Safer and more efficient (quicker) bike connections from mainland to Halifax peninsula.
Separated bike lanes.
Sidewalks that are inviting to walk, free of loiterers.
Streets converted to pedestrian and bike traffic only (Spring Garden Road).
Time shared spaces .. cars and pedestrians. Reroute buses to make it more people focused and pedestrian friendly
We love the Dartmouth waterfront trail, and would love to see more multi-use trails connected in our city for safe family biking.
wider sidewalks,
Sidewalk patios
More promotion of the trails between ferry stations woodside (publize it as a walk)
Bike and equipment rentals
Bike rental and maintenance space.
Pedestrian walk – close the street from traffic open more shops.
Better bike routes.
Bike rack that looks like a can funny.
Easier for pedestrian , for examples close Argyle to cans especial around night.
Lighting for says walking around night.
Scatter cross walks?
Spring Garden, and Barrington is dangerous area for walking.
Walkability, make the walk interesting.
More bike lanes – connected (right now it’s not safe)
Pedestrian only streets for a day or afternoon
Cycling/walking city
Heated sidewalks in winter so seniors will get out
Walking streets: huge consequences for tour buses.
I like to have more walking facilities: like Barrington is very congested and busy streets, and hard to walk in.
We should encourage ppl to walk more and less transportation
Pedestrian walkways and overpasses, pedways – work with the green space.
Portland Street – pedestrianize it and close to traffic.
Improved priorities: improve trails/bike lanes instead of stadium (divert funds into more practical areas)
Longer jogging trail on the waterfront, improvements to trails, better for getting from A to B
Yay for transit bike racks!
Active transportation trails (ATT) should be encouraged.

Expanded boardwalk.
Again, being able to get there easily and improved pavements for walking - less traffic
Also focus on improving bike and pedestrian friendly pathway network beyond the north end, like Dartmouth from the Ferry Terminal to Alderney, what fun!
better bike lanes
Better pedestrian and cycling access to the area.
better way lining for pedestrians and cyclist
Better winter clearance of sidewalks to allow people to walk.
bike connections
Bike lanes
Bike lanes
bike lanes
Bike lanes and walking paths.
Bike lanes.
Bike parking stations and quick repair stations.
Bike rentals and repair stations.
Bikes
biking trails
Easier bike access.
I just desperately want downtown to be more walkable. This city bends over backwards catering to vehicles, it's awful. Our culture of having to park right in front of the final destination has to change and pedestrians have to be seen as more than just a nuisance. I'm tired of feeling like a second-class citizen because I choose to walk everywhere.
Improved bike lanes
Improved bike lanes
Improved bike lanes
Invest in AT for safety and healthy lifestyles. Better bus AT connections.
Keep going with the bike improvements
Less cars, more pedestrians
Make it easier to get there and back without a car. Specifically -- much, much better bike lanes. (Look at Montreal.)
Make it more bike and people friendly.
Making downtown more accessible for people who do not have vehicles. Plowing sidewalks more quickly.
More pedestrian friendly areas
More pedestrian friendly areas in the downtown.
Safer and better marked bike lanes along roadways.
Separated bike lanes to facilitate access.
The walking and multi-use trail around Lake Banook needs to be completed up on Crichton Avenue.... there isn't even a sidewalk! Please. A few signs to guide people up from the ferry to this great trail would be helpful.

There absolutely have to be protected cycletracks for all ages and abilities going into downtown, and then sufficient bike parking downtown for when people get there. (Yes, you told me you were looking for "easy to implement" ideas. But making downtown the vibrant hub it deserves to be isn't necessarily going to be "easy".)
Walkways connectivity.
Walkways in the downtown.
Bright + painted crosswalks.
Painting cross walks where citizens think its needed
Cycle tracks for bikes = lane with protective barriers for cyclists = good flow, lights set up for them = says space for cyclists plus pressure of motorists.
Bike Safety – make sure bike paths are salted – take responsibility
I don't believe in bike lanes – I believe in integrating traffic and bikes on the street though proper education of hand signals(bike lanes give falseness of security, they are okay for novice cyclists)
It's really about educating the cyclists and cars to learn to integrate and safe traffic flow. Safety awareness.
[illegible] pedestrian controlled lights at Hawthorne and Prince Albert
Adjust pedestrian traffic signals to make it easier to cross Alderney Drive
Baker Drive bike lane to Woodside Ferry
Finish the multi-use trail between MacDonald Bridge and Alderney Landing
Good pedestrian routes through Leighton Dillmon Park (lit, paved and plowed) to enable pedestrian flow and help kids walk to school
Improve this walk (drawing of ferry to Woodside and walk to Alderney Landing and ferry back to Halifax)
More bike trails
More complete bike lanes
One day when cars are prohibited only bicycles or public transit allowed
Segway friendly
Buffered bike lanes and pedestrian only streets
More bike lanes and walking paths for commuters
More biking paths on streets
More pedways!
More walking friendly paths maintained in winter (not everyone buses)
Segway friendly
Turn SGR and Barrington St. into no-traffic pedestrian only areas - cafes, public spaces etc.
Bike and walk to school
Bike path from Ferry terminal to N. Dartmouth
Bike rental in Dartmouth - go on ferry. Do the trail come back
Boardwalk accessibility and raise awareness about it
Change pedestrian crossings so that you don't have to press button. Wait is too long for peds. Traffic lights not synched. Frustration can lead to accidents.
Connect harbourside trail to Trans Canada Trail by Sullivan's Pond

Connect informal trail with rest of trail
Extend harbourwalk trail from ferry terminal to bridge
I heart Bikes on Dartmouth side
Low cost, no cost reflective bands for peds
More walkable - bricks are awful, hard on shoes, poor connections, red lights - driving - hit every red light
Bike plan
Bike share program
Bikes lanes is an economic development strategy - people don't need to move quickly DT - the more traffic you have the less likely people will connect
Bixi
bright and painted crosswalks
Cycle tracks for bikes - lane with protective barriers for cyclists = good flow, lights set up for them = safe space for cyclists and pressure off motorists
Easier for pedestrians - close Argyle to cars esp. at night - SG and Barrington is danger area for walkers
Faster bike lane implementation on Agricola
High quality bikes to share and move
Ped streets
Pedestrian downtown w/out closing streets
Pedestrian streets
Put overhead walkways
Scatter cross walks?
Spring Garden ped only
Street - close and up walk traffic
Why not dedicated bike lanes in roundabouts
Historic pictures to be brought into public spaces. Or historic walks.
Fence In public gardens used for art.
Incorporate music installations in public spaces.
Interesting lighting displays throughout the city. Not so expensive now, with LED lights being affordable to run. Perhaps even make it more of an artistic endeavor. They do this in Iceland... happening now actually. A great time to lift spirits and bring people downtown during the colder, darker months.
Graphic installations and murals: every area has a story behind it so it would be nice if Neighborhoods expressed their histories on murals. Colour is key to beautifying the city! And make it more welcoming.
The addition of a museum would be a wonderful attraction, perhaps a 'Halifax History Museum' in the current library location (after the new library opens)!
Art alley (like Quebec city) with art displayed for sale on the side of buildings.
Library stalls in Public Garden (like Bryant Park in New York to take books out).
3D art on buildings (Google it for more info)

Functional art (benches, funny bike stand) bike rack that looks like a car
Be a street performance artists .
Bring limelight theatre to aldermey.
Buy an art gallery membership.
Maybe a permanent stage by the oval to draw on musicians and performers to do live shows at the oval.
Participate in theatre and concerts.
Working on community art projects
DART Gallery – good, want to do more with this
museum
Museum of the Atlantic should have a touch pool linking to the Dartmouth museum and free ferry service
promote authentic historic understanding
schools should take advantage of local attractions, museums etc reach out to schools
Fill vacant store fronts by creative display
More large scale public murals – can be expensive but local artists that can perform at a fairly low cost, brings excitement and vibrancy, public gardens are happening around Gottingen. Difference between graffiti and art, public art is not graffiti. Installing small scale billboards on different street corners, alderney, queen octerloney, Portland – art that is changed by local artists about 3 times a year. Interspersed with public spaces to sit. Smaller seating at the installations.
Opportunity right now to combat a negative perception of the downtown Dartmouth area – TAKE ADVANTAGE of the Roy building closing and other business that are housing artists and incubator businesses – and bring them to Dartmouth, Portland street, get Portland street to open its doors to these displaced artists and bring an art community to Dartmouth.
a performing art center
Entertainment: Artificial surf break in harbor
Public art that is accessible to everyone and that has more integrity and effort put into it, not passive art (i.e. the wave). Higher scrutiny/ peer review of public art
For kids – Discovery Centre, Museum, Wave
art galleries for local artists.
Open Georges Island (example of Albatraz in San Francisco) Ocean is the most important thing (to die for!)
would people downtown in order to get to downtown
Toy library is awesome!
more artistic expression engage them to help revitalize the culture of downtown
More signage to showcase our history (both the good and the mistakes)
carosel downtown
Support vibrant artist community.
More music on the streets/free outdoor concerts on the weekends. The noon hour concerts are good in Grand Parade but not very much on weekends when you could attend with family and friends.

A new Art Gallery on the waterfront!
Aquarium
Art gallery become more accessible i.e better marketed and more central role in the downtown.
arts centre with studio space and equipment for rent (restoring the khyber),
Better care of HRM historic buildings like the Khyber on Barrington.
busking in DT Dartmouth.
concert venue,
cultural centre,
Dartmouth waterfront art walking trail - art installations from Dart Ferry Terminal to Woodside Terminal.
Have more music related events here.
Have music playing in the background (speakers at various locations) throught the summer/fall months along the waterfront, Spring Garden, Alderney Landing (NOT top 40 stuff, good jazz, maritime music, local artists!!!)
history walks
Interesting interpretive signage - so much history!
Low cost or free entertainment
More funding for Nocturne, offer once a month May - October.
more live music;
more murals; art installations (like the desk/eraser in front of Greenvale), projection and light shows on prominent buildings,
more music playing,
More outdoor music more often.
more public art
More public demonstrations to show the beauty. Take advantage of talent here.
More public outdoor concerts.
More public performance spaces for orchestras and good music groups are needed too, like the Halifax Music Co-op's Vesuvius group: http://thehmc.bandcamp.com/
more scuptures and art installations.look at portland Oregon for examples of what can be done... They are progressive in so many ways- a great example for HRM to follow.
More street art/music/sculpture/performance at all times of day and night.
Movie theater showing arts films I'm downtown.
Music, art, beautification projects
My number one is a free, public, interactive art installation along the Dartmouth waterfront. We also need a hub of affordable creative and performance spaces. And let's keep the Halifax Wave, shall we? Or relocate it. But it must stay.
Need an aquarium for visitors and locals.
Nocturne draws more people to the downtown streets at night than anything I've seen since moving here 15 years ago.
Outdoor movie screenings.
Outdoor movies along Dartmouth waterfront in the summer!

outdoor music in summer.
outdoor music venue on the water, ,
Outdoor theatre amphitheater .
planned graffiti art;
Protect heritage. Develop in a sympathetic way to maintain culture and beauty.
Public art in public spaces.
Public art sculpture trail
street music,
The lack of a venue for major cultural events shows how much of a backwater Halifax is. The Metro Center is not a concert hall.
Keep heritage buildings.
Functional art (benches, funky bike stand).
More public art/murals
create more artist space downtown
subsidize arts, local artists
Interactive art
Permanent stage in garrison ground
Public library
more colour! Art!
Bilingual interpretation of important sites for these communities.
Garrison – 78th at the Citadel. Understand the story of how those groups were colonized. Conquered peoples coopted into serving the empire. Gaelic speaking regiment.
Incorporate other cultures and ideas as places and buildings are renovated.
Legislature – as a central landmark, is not reflective of the diversity of the city, and something that reflects the diversity of the province’s Mi’kmaq, Acadian, African Nova Scotian and Gaelic community, Irish, Lebanese, GermanDutch communities. Reflects only the people who built it – Colonialism.
Linguistic diversity, creative ways of including multiple languages – it is a multilingual city that is not seen visually.
Art bikers, popup community art space
Venue for graffiti and public art/painting
City needs to be more active in promoting the arts that already happen DT (more promotion to local market, not tourists).
Eliminate prop. Tax for arts/culture entities in the downtown.
Performing arts centre.
Dartmouth Library – use space for meetings, discussions, and improve availability of books, articles, etc
A cultural or arts centre
a new, purpose built home for our Museum as part of the culture cluster at Alderney
A stadium! (I'm starting to get a little more expensive here.)
Accessible, affordable opportunities to create and present art, and performing arts.

Artistic opportunities to create do art
Better artists for concerts and more "arts" activities. i.e art work shows
Build an arts centre - for film, visual arts, concerts.
Entertainment
Get that new D.H. museum built! Also, what about a movie theatre?
Give AGNS some funding or space to create a photography museum - the recent endowment could be the start of making us a photography lovers destination - people will come here to see this exhibition, maybe more endowments will happen if this one is handled really well
I would like to see more of the historic buildings open to the public, along with tours, similar to the open Halifax weekend last summer. Some of the buildings have a remarkable history, which I don't know, because I'm not from here.
Make downtown the cultural hub of the city
More art.
More arts and culture spaces.
More bucking and on street entertainment.
more concerts at Alderney stage
More direct routes by bus and bikeways to the large variety of HRM recreational, arts, cultural, and historic landmarks.
More international movies
More public art
more public art
More street entertainers
more theatre/live art
music on the waterfront on a regular basis.
Music, live music - all music all the timebeyond The Carlton and a the few remaining pubs. The Grand Parade, the new Library,
Outdoor movie nights are a great idea as well.
Showcasing local artists. Having craft activities in the neighborhood as well as murals. More color in the downtown.
Strengthen the status of the historic buildings, make people feel that the building s at both side are worth stop for enjoying.
The small, free music concerts on the dock last summer were wonderful. Do that again (but not on Thursday). Get that Multicultural Festival back in Dartmouth.
Murals to fill space
Museum of the Atlantic should have a touch pool linking to the Dartmouth museum and free ferry service
Community arts
Music brings people together carolers
Exhibits Photo Portraits on Portland
Support local artists
Music venues.
Support heritage buildings.

Street galleries open student show cases.
Remove Citidel Hill, hard to navigate. Seniors worried about their health during the winter.
Street painting egChebucto
arranging cultural workshops
Public art.
Public performance places connect (like waterfront to other places of interest).
Art and Culture
Bring more culture to Hali, venders, music, sub-towns :)
Community print shop for artists - Maritime centre for contemporary print
Dismantle concrete bunker peace pavillion - blocks the view and attracks venders. Nice idea in theory, but a blot on the landscape. Please stop plopping ugly view - blocking structures on the waterfront. Focus on flexible, open-concept small foot print initiatives
Downtown design centre (public)
Graffiti and art festival in Curling Club area
Interpretation stations with info about viewplans, Dartmouth history, etc.
Large scale murals and interesting architecture
Live Music
More art
Movie convention with speakers and guests
Movie house (small) downtown
Pianos on the street - Play me I'm yours
Public art! Interactive installations, participation welcome
Support pedway gallery at Alderney Gate
A lot more: - street art - community art - artist supported centres
Arts centre building [illegible] downtown not condos
Bigger concrete stadium for bigger artists
More art installations
Promotion of local arts and culture - Mell Kirkland
Build stands for art displays, performances, musicians
Dtel Gallery - just what Portland St. needs
Keep historic buildings
Market art gallery theatre waterfront
Multicultural festival festival should stay in Dartmouth - now Pier 21
Murals by localartist based on history - every area has a story
Music and events
Need downtown arts centre
Support loca heritage
Art alley (like Quebec City) with art displayed for sale on the sid eof buildings
Central library - not too big - enjoyable

Citadel access to Citadel park. Interactive
Experimental street exhibition - temporary art exhibit
Library stalls in Public Garden (like Bryant Park in New York) to take books out
Permanent stage on garrison grounds
Public art
Public performance places connected (likie waterfront) to other places of interest
Speaker/music
Street galleries
Mini communities of services (like corner store, fuel, convenience). An urban plan with basic retail services within an area. "Neighbourhoody"
Business mentorship!
Truck deliveries at night.
Book booths – roaming book sellers, used books in downtown.
Put pressure on your workplace to spend locally when throwing events if you can't afford it yourself
Able to set up his farmers market booth in summer outdoors
As a business owner, just being able to offer the services my patrons ask for within the neighborhood we do business, giving more reason for more people to move into and closer to the urban center, will make all areas of Peninsula Halifax more vibrant and livable; how could this not make for a more vibrant downtown? Be an entrepreneur. Support others
Career opportunities
Change jobs so I can work downtown!
Continue to run business downtown
Food trucks!
I could make a greater effort to go downtown instead of to the larger shopping centers. Something I would do with physical and infrastructure improvements to the landscape and buildings and an expansion within the business community for "destination shopping opportunities".
I try to shop downtown, but there are few stores and some are not open when I need them (after 5pm). The year-round fresh produce store in Alderney Market is a BIG improvement, and my wife and I shop there.
Offer services like food options in the market
Open business full time.
Run own business in the downtown. Continue to expand business operations in the downtown core.
Start a local business downtown.
support local business
Support local
Support local businesses.
Support local businesses. Spread the word
Smaller local grocery stores

Craft store – just opened
Enjoying the Sugar Shack, like the restaurant: Wentworth and Portland – Our Thyme Café. Accessible.
Open small stores/businesses in downtown that are more affordable
Melbourne example – setting up a container truck and sell things or food out of it. Try it and if it works it work but you have to try!
Remove cars from certain areas to encourage buskers and vendors.
Open until late businesses.
Stay open until 12am on the weekends in the downtown core, support & street parties.
Better understanding of leases for buildings
Downtown seen us bar and restaurant district. Need more commercial outlets and jobs downtown. Not just entertainment district
App telling you where to buy things in downtown to facilitate shopping.
Downtown needs something to bring people in, a “bayer’s lake” convenience in downtown.
We need more diversity and variety of stores.
Could be better with restaurants/patio culture
More shopping downtown, more easily accessible stores – ie. A mall
Big companies being denied investments. ie Benjiman Moore
Need to grow public sector, businesses, framework needs to be in place for entrepreneurs.
Supporting Retail downtown
More opportunities for jobs
Smaller urban grocery store in downtown Dartmouth.
Barrington – should it be local or should it be big box. Small, funky places that aren’t in the suburbs.
More local stores and services on Barrington – Ray’s and Taste of India.
Enhance Market Area
Food cards not Food banks.
Have things open more often. Hours aren’t appealing. Less vibrant after 5pm unless you’re going to a bar which shouldn’t be the only outlet.
13 new businesses opened in the last 18 months
better and more variety of restaurants on Portland Street
Get back to small businesses build awareness of current shops
Small enterpreneours like along Halifax waterfront
More Government Support for Alderney Landing and Market it is cultural heart of downtown
Seems to be monopoly on vacant retail spaces and entrepreneurs had trouble to find accommodations for their business.
Markets are good!
a home depot in the downtown core
make signage of businesses more appealing not in your face
need a department store downtown for basic stuff

why not have a winners store downtown
Convention center, cold and impersonal, make sure have stores on the ground level to keep activity following.
Make it easier for people to open small businesses, taxes need to be lowered.
food trucks in parade square
lunch spaces in grand parade square
Expansion of the farmers market. To support more local entrepreneurs especially to empower young people and giving them incentive to stay and work in their local neighborhoods.
, make the market longer
[more] bars like the pogue
Incentives to get more businesses and organizations into downtown spaces/buildings. I hate seeing the wonderful historic buildings empty.
Affordable dining out places.
Agricola and Gottingen Streets are both bustling with people in the evening hours going to discover the new amazing restaurants they hold. I wish downtown Dartmouth had something like this happening to bring some crowds.
allow an evening market (local artists) to open on Bedford Row.
allow bring your own wine at restaurants (no corking fee),
Allow external signage for businesses located inside Alderney Gate - e.g., Biscuit Lips Lunches.
allow for more food trucks in busy work areas e.g. sth park st intersection with spg garden rd.
Allowing restaurant patios to expand further into the streets.
also, lower taxes for businesses in the downtown (property tax or perhaps income tax subsidy/ rebate for businesses in specific geographic area) to encourage more businesses to be downtown instead of business parks. Encourage businesses to be here, and people will follow.
Attract more store front businesses (including big brand names and chains), there needs to be a better balance between getting people downtown to live and providing services for those people living there. As a person who has lived in the downtown core, it is VERY inconvenient to leave downtown to head out to Bayers Lake or Dartmouth Crossing to visit a store or service. To have a 'vibrant' downtown there needs to be something going on...not just a bunch of papered over windows.
Attract new business into downtown.
bar district (like St. John's George Street),
bars closing so late... why?
Better shopping options
Bring back pogue
Business needs to feel welcome and invest - youth needs to see a reason to stay here.
businesses that are friendly to locals not just people from out of town.
Competitive prices, it seems that alot of the items for sale downtown are very overpriced especially when an event comes to town the bars and restaurants increase their prices.
Create a favourable environment for small business and lower commercial taxes, commerce being critical to vibrancy. And to keep students in halifax post graduation.

Dartmouth market as more flexible
Dartmouth: family friendly cafes, eg a place with an area designated for kids play while parents can have a coffee and meet with other adults while keeping an eye on the kids - very important to get through the winter.
Decent stores ; more restaurants
Development positive for the downtown. Nice retail for Portland street boutique retail. Be the sgr of Dartmouth. More promotion.
Encourage businesses to locate downtown.
Encourage late night business in downtown Dartmouth like bars etch. Create events for after 6pm. Make getting licenses easier.
Ensure smaller, specialty shops are favoured over chains.
fewer ugly temporary sidewalk decks in front of bars - unless bars are required to make them pleasing to the eye like the Economy Shoe Shop!
floating restaurant,
Food Truck Rally in Parade Square
Food trucks!
Food trucks.
Food. Access to more food truck options in one area
Funky stores on Barrington st.
Give downtown merchants a tax break.
Give the small businesses a break on property tax, those little shops add personality!
Have businesses stay open later
I'd like to see more street level retail in downtown dartmouth, especially eating a drinking establishments, a food market/grocery store, and an emphasis on shopping local.
If Portland was a more interesting streetscape with more variety of shops like bookstores and antique shop. Closer grocery store. A workspace facility or incubator for entrepreneurs and artists
Improve store frontage downtown.
Keep the shops local. Don't raise the rent so high that the local shops have to close and big box stores move in. Downtown Halifax has character, lets keep it that way.
less regulations for food trucks,
License a portion of the boardwalk
Little grocery stores downtown with fresh food.
Market music is great, more seating
More access to local goods.
More business opportunities
more businesses downtown. Barrington is virtually a ghost town
more family oriented restaurants, cheap and cheerful
More good restaurants.
More local businesses downtown
More local shopping choices downtown.

More opportunities for street vendors to set up shop providing more selection to consumers.
More restaurants and bars in downtown Dartmouth
More restaurants and local boutique stores.
More restaurants shops and options
More restaurants;cafes shopping
More retail shops and cafes
more shoppers downtown
More shops and cheaper commercial rent
More sidewalk cafés. Cafés at gazebo.
More stores
more street food would make our downtown experience richer.
more unique coffee shops, pubs, restaurants;
Not having all these closed buildings. I worry about the price of rent downtown being prohibitive. I think of the Hub recently closing, and JustUs barrington. Downtown would feel a lot more appealing if every single building had an active, open storefront. So first of all, we need more people living and working downtown to support more active storefronts (so HRM needs to implement policies to make living and working downtown the cheapest and most appealing option, both from employees and employers'/residents and developers perspectives). Until we get there, I would urge HRM to consider somehow controlling or subsidizing rent downtown. (reducing property taxes??)
Not that many years ago Halifax and Dartmouth amalgamated yet we still choose to seporate the two. Old downtown Halifax tries to jam everything into that space yet Old Downtown Dartmouth is slow to attract real Buisness .If we are going two be Amalgamated then let's do that so everything dosen't have to be jammed in to Old Downtown Halifax.
Offer municipal tax incentives for business owners to spruce up storefronts adjacent to sidewalks.
Open air cafes,
Open air farmers market
organize fun roof top patio activities (i.e. at the markets)
Outdoor café in the summer along the waterfront
outdoor cafés in the winter too, if Quebec City can do it we can too! Music at these cafés and a fire to toast marshmallows would bring a community feel. Keep it clean and in good repair.
reduce table fees at market
Restaurants and sustainable retail.
Restaurants in the summer with patios
Revitalize Barrington street (or make rent more affordable for businesses).
Right now being in either of the downtowns feels like a constant game of chicken with racing traffic. Bylaws that require new developments whether residential or business in the downtown to have street front retail/restaurant. This seems to be happening in Halifax but not in Dartmouth.
Saving the independent food providers in Scotia Square is key.
Seeing more businesses downtown.
Shops

Shops that are unique and interesting' e.g. local crafts, perhaps a bakery with a sidewalk cafe
Sign promoting local businesses Dartmouth market
Small kiosks selling crafts, goods, etc on the Dartmouth side;
Stop killing local businesses.
Stuff outside a Saturday ;shops
Support businesses to keep open.
thai restaurant/record store/brewery/another cheese curds in d/t dartmouth
Venue for bartering goods. More outside vendors and activities.
Walk up shopping
We need more businesses and more variety like halifax
More sitable café
Need more small business
Café or tea room around Sullivan's Pond
North woodside school could be beautified with some shops and boardwalk.
Something more in Dartmouth other than TIBS and the Wooden Monkey
Even a small corner store that could expand
Jazz bar / bistro
LOCAL Grocery store on Portland!! (x3)
Ma Bell Café – Ochterloney
More restaurants / pubs to bring people down after work
Nice coffee shop in Kings wharf – walk a long distance, but people don't know about it
Room for more shops – different environments
TIBS – there is a need for cafes and services, demonstrates the demand
Woodside – needs a grocery store
A lot of places close after the lunch rush – improve hours.
Better independent shops: food, bakery, delis
Pedestrian mall. (Alderney and Portland)
Affordable eating
Nightlife (affordable!) And restaurants that are open
Pubs, music, free/low cost
Social partnership: business people working with nonprofits (socially responsible developments). Encourage those conversations and innovations and partnerships
Tables in restaurants that are conducive to conversation
Too hard to get businesses started and keep them successful/profitable (too high taxes?)
Encouraging business to relocate
Expand Farmers' Market to at least one day during the week
If there was a mall on the Dartmouth waterfront with music and food
More food markets

Bring more shops and grocery stores to downtown. Malls and Big Box Stores sucked life out of downtown..
More seating and vendors etc in downtown for people to meet.
Better integration of big name stores plus independent stores in downtown, may need to relax zoning.
Need services (watch fixing, craft store) plus more businesses.
Make it easier for businesses to rent/rent out to other businesses.
tasting tours with restaurants a dedicated night in the city showcasing aspects of downtown
More youth engagement and jobs
Having more emphasis on small businesses around the oval.
Eliminate or less red tapes for food trucks
Food trucks restricted. Some relaxation and accessible areas should be given.
allow businesses to take up sidewalk/parking spaces in front
if items of particular (shopping needs) are met downtown
Invitations from businesses, property owners with art or green spaces (i.e. green roofs) to the public to enjoy the space or art.
Dogfriendly places: stores and restaurants.
Flower shop
Get rid of the pawn shop on Portland st: threatening, associated with criminal activity
Hardware store close by
Inventory of downtown business association
More neighbourhood pubs, walk home after a glass of wine
Refillable container grocery store/bulk store (dishwashing soap, laundry detergent)
Shared business space of multiple businesses working together=lower rent
Things close by that you would otherwise have to drive far away to get to (ex. Shoe repair shop)
more small independent businesses that draw people in
Free tables at the farmers market (for farmers)
More promotion of DT shops.
Rental increases are driving out small/local businesses.
Food trucks!
affordable cafes and restaurants.
Also relaxed rules for food trucks so there is lots of variety.
An improved selection of retailers. Think Queen St West in Toronto, which has mall-type stores on the street storefronts. This will come as residential development attracts more and more tenants of different income classes requiring services and amenities.
And a good grocery store--maybe Pete's or a branch of that wonderful Montreal store, Adonis.
As mentioned above, more cafés, more stores, more businesses, generally.
Better market, traffic flow
Better shopping.
Better stores.

Bring back the shops on Barrington! Stop building inaccessible business parks and encourage stores to go downtown. Property tax breaks, loan support, anything to get more to come. Once critical mass is reached subsidy can be reduced.
Businesses that are friendly to locals not just people from out of town.
Businesses to shop at.
Cafés
Closing run-down bars on Portland St., having a place to buy fresh, healthy take-out lunches and dinners like Pete's, Jane's, etc.,
Cool pub
Cracking down on excessive drinking/crime in the downtown core by closing bars no later than 3am.
Easier for business to succeed
Expand Dartmouth market.
Extended shop hours
Food trucks!
food vendors along Dartmouth waterfront
For downtown we need more shops we need a main street like spring garden
Get rid of trashy businesses in downtown
Good shopping opportunities. Like queen west.
Grocery store like pete's downtown Dartmouth.
Grocery store.
I work and have kids. I need shops to be open until 9pm for me to shop more downtown.
Pilot late night openings two nights a week?
If some stores were open after 6
Increase the Doors Open Halifax to 2 times in the summer months.
Innovative promotions to encourage shopping local.
Larger number of vendors at Dartmouth market
Local play places would encourage me to shop here more often
Lower taxes for business downtown, more businesses will be downtown, creating more things to do downtown, causing people to spend more time in downtown.
Make downtown the economic hub of the city
make it easier for small businesses.
Market flow isn't great
Maybe store like pete's fruitique downtown Dartmouth.
More affordable commercial spaces for artists and entrepreneurs.
More business would be here more often and spend more here.
More businesses
More businesses in the core - what happened to Barrington Street?
More businesses to shop in
more cafes
More cafés on the pedestrian mall and small businesses

More cafés open after seven pm.
More coffee shops.
More food trucks
More independent shops and better access to food options in the evenings.
More interesting and affordably priced restaurants in downtown Dartmouth.
More large clothing retailers.
More late-night hang out options in Dartmouth: cafes open late, or something like the board game cafe. Downtown Dartmouth at night is pretty dead.
More local businesses
More local businesses
More local businesses in the downtown.
More local shops
More local stores
More music venues ... not clubs. More like rock bottom brewery and company house.
More outdoor eateries including food carts
More places to eat and more variety
More places to shop downtown.
More restaurants and a few more bars. More like tibs
More restaurants and lunch places affordable: coffee shops to spend time
More shopping
More shopping and products available.
More shops
More shops
More shops.
More shops/less empty storefronts.
More small shops. There is a lack of these DT. I work at 2, and I'm slated to own the oldest hobby shop in the country. Maritime Hobbies & Crafts. I would hate to leave the DT core, but there is a huge lack of traffic, and it's difficult for people to come in and shop.
More stores, restaurants and coffee shops are great (and we have many) but there is little else to keep people IN the downtown area beside the occasional Mooseheads hockey game or Neptune Theatre production.
More street markets
More street vending.
More street vendors.
More variety re ; esoteric shops
Need more restaurants including healthy restaurants, organic etc.
Nothing downtown for shopping on Portland. Lower commercial rents. Something to attract more businesses downtown. More variety of businesses.
Play places would encourage me to come shopping

Require downtown stores to remain open until 6pm. Some Downtown Dartmouth stores close just when we need them - after 5pm.
Shopping ; eating and drinking places little downtown
Sidewalk cafés.
Small businesses remaining in the downtown core
Small cafes. Boutique shopping.
Spend a lot of time here now. More restaurants
The Alderney Gate area could be much more vibrant. Instead of ground floor offices in the Alderney Building, why not business that open onto the street side? What about an exterior entrance to the library at the bottom of Portland Street?, with a courtyard cafe outside.
There are no stores along Barrington or Portland to speak of....two main thoroughfares and I might suggest looking at Montreal or Europe for answers as to why they are missing from our city...taxes? Parking?? Not sure. We could certainly use more coffee shops to hang out in.
Well built and attractive sidewalk cafes, more street vendors, business incubators, outdoor markets.
Would be awesome if Dartmouth had a coffee shop or something else that is casual, open downtown past 6 to hang out in and meet friends.
Invest and support all local businesses, try something new
integrate local businesses with the neighbourhoods – e.g support local block parties
Buy local even if it is a bit more expensive.
Kill the casino!
Make it easy to have a fast track for businesses who get stuck in red tape .
More food trucks.
More water front shacks.
Pop up stores (Temporary businesses permits created plus stores promoted).
Shopping under the stars all the time.
Want popup restaurants.
Spend money at local retailers
Spend my dollars downtown
I Love local group
Support downtown business by shop, eat there
Support local business
Sugar Shok started hello Dartmouth
Buy local
I find the DDBC is visible and a good way to connect in
People can do business downtown in the coffee shops etc..
Get to know your shops owners, etc
Shop
Work in downtown core
A centre for trading goods, no money just trade goods

Coffee cafe at Penhorn Mall (shops/goodlife)
Encourage people from Dartmouth to support Dartmouth businesses ala TIBS
Expand local farmers' markets (someone added "x2!")
Fill up vacant store fronts in Dartmouth downtown - make business accessible for local, small business and keep encouraging people to buy local. We have a great start here!
Foster and support growth of 'destination shops' i.e. small business like the Hydrostone
Have a cafe on Sullivans Pond and have the park really lit up at night
Interesting affordable restaurants open in the evenings (not just for lunch).
Let the Dartmouth Farmers Market expand and thrive. Fresh, accessible, affordable food in Downtown Dartmouth
Make downtown best place to do business - attract entrepreneurs - taxes
Microbrewery
More cafes and little bars
No more bears (might be misspelling of "bars") on Portland St.
Pedestrianize Lower Portland St. and encourage cafes - bars to outline this street - as for Argyle in Halifax
Support Alderney Landing and the cultural centre they have developed here
Support for Alderney Landing
Support for entrepreneurs
Support revitalization of DT Dartmouth by supporting small businesses and entrepreneurial spirit
The Dartmouth Farmers Market has been going on for centuries we could be much bigger with signage, advertising
Would love a local grocery store in downtown Dartmouth. Miss the one on Pleasant St. and Lower Portland St. Miss the neighbour contact there. Hate hate big box grocery stores.
Bring people to shop in downtown again
Cat Cafe
More shopping (someone added "yes!" ":)")
Advertise the growth of new business on Portland St. Recognize them on a visible list of shops at each end of Downtown Dartmouth
Alderney market is awesome - have it open during the week
Create biz that supports local people/community
Family - play cafe affordable 10-15 restaurant
Food on the Dartmouth waterfront
Get rid of Jacob's Lounge
Get rid of guilt of shopping at food banks
Grocery stores - "Food desert"
Keep Celtic Corner
Make it more affordable to open businesses downtown
Make Portland street a pedestrian mall
More cafes to meet friends

More clothing stores DT
More restos
Shopping expensive - department store - hai shop
Sittable cafe [illegible] type spaces, sidewalk patios
Work in Burnside much rather work downtown
Affordable smaller commercial spaces in areas with high pedestrian count - Canadian Tire laydown area for more containers pop ups
Attract shoppers to downtown
Better integration of big name stores and independent stores in downtown - may need to relax zoning
Cat cafe
CPS - Sea container manufacturer in Dartmouth
Food truck restrictions - relaxation, eliminate red tape
Jobs - up pay
Kill the casino! It kills businesses and pub crawls and promotes addiction
Likes: good restaurants good shopping
Lower rent to encourage businesses
Make it easy ro have a fas track for businesses who get stuck in red tape
Markets are good
More food trucks
More waterfront shacks
Need services (watch fixing, craft stores) and more businesses
Open until late - businesses (including retail) stay open until 12am on weekends in the downtown core, support with street parties
Pop up stores (temporary businesses) permits created and stores promoted
Provide businesses on ground level
Retail street level - year round outdoor seating
Scotia Square kills our streets
Shopping under the stars all the time
Supporting retail downtown
Want pop-up restaurants
Year round exterior commercial space
thank you for hosting the feb 8 event. Although I was not able to make I am grateful for the opportunity. Be thankful for what exists and for the minds that are working to make it even better.
If you can walk – it's Downtown. That's why we love it – we can walk.
Lots going on in Halifax
Appealing as it is
This event is a great to show the mayor/council are interested.

Know that regardless of how Canada sees us, Nova Scotians are the best, most earnest, caring and capable of making real change. It's time now to show our stripes! Big love, Mark Brand
No cost/low cost = no value. There is enormous value to public space in our downtown; civic value, citizens value.
Dartmouth getting better
It's not going to be perfect but focus on better
NS are amazing people
Ambassador of good will
Be an ambassador.
Be positive,
Be warm and friendly. Be open to interaction with other people.
Engage my neighbors
Ensure that I and others around me respect our public spaces and keep them clean; talk positively about my downtown and hope that others spread the word
Promote our fantastic city to friends and family around the world.
Smile and say hello! Help keep it clean, put garbage where it belongs. Tell family and friends about great experiences that have been had in both Downtown cores.
Smile at people on the street.
Stay connected to the community
Talk to everyone and be interested in what people have to say. Get to know my neighbors. Encourage participation in events like today.
Keep our youth!
Motto: Great place to visit a terrific place to live. We need to make it this way!
looking for gathering spaces outdoor
more street parties!
Happiness through strong positive social interaction.
Happy cities, need for this process to continue on a monthly basis. Brings a lot of people that wouldn't normally talk. Sense of community.
An easier idea might be to better highlight the neighbourhoods downtown - for example like mine, Irishtown or Schmidville - and have street name signage and public art projects specific to those area. I just think we can do a much better job defining neighbourhoods and celebrating them in the larger context of "downtown" or "peninsula".
More opportunity for community building, ability to integrate different age groups and interests.
Portland Street & Barrington Street walks of fame highlighting the stars of HRM.
Meet friends and have a coffee
Have places where people and communities can meet.
Community oriented;
Get over the negative Dartmouth stigma: be more proud!, buttons "I heart Dartmouth"
"Stay Calm, live in Dartmouth"
Proud to live in Dartmouth
Think about Halifax and Dartmouth as one, not separate events

Be friendly
Interact with community members
talk to ppl around you not being afraid to engage with people in day to day life – make city more welcoming/inviting
respect diversity
Respect everyone. Developing good behavior
Get familiar with neighbourhood
Pride in downtown Halifax
Random acts of affection
Support those you know
People are happier with more activities - more [illegible]
I already shop there and eat there...i could smack a few architects upside the head perhaps... and tell them All about what beautiful means...ie not concrete blocks.
Not leave for Toronto....but it's too late for that. There are no jobs here besides entry level stuff and there is no spirit of entrepreneurship. Without those things, nothing else really matters.
Remind people that we have gone through many of these idea generating charades in the past 15 years. They are meaningless unless there is a real process and political courage to execute them. There are plenty of great ideas yet to be implemented. Executing and drafting new policy is where the work needs to be done. HRM bureaucracy needs an enema. The last thing we need is more ideas theatre, to mask the real inaction. The last city design consensus said that green belting for HRM was the number citizen request. Where are we with that? Stop dreaming and roll up your sleeves HRM. We need action on our ideas.
Sounds like a you problem.
Feels dead – not enough people
North end Dartmouth needs some thought and some help
Stop talking and DO
community trying to help out but stuck;
Don't commercialize Dartmouth Commons
Eliminate bureaucracy officials to get things done
Our pop culture needs to grow up, along with our population.
Disjointed, concern for Barrington. Quality of services and planning
Get away from booze and food... low wage jobs. Need for well paid jobs
Hollis street is full of trucks
we need to do more to bring people downtown
Bureaucrats need to be on board, starting with yes, so things will move faster.
Dr. No! Is no coming from legislation, or just an attitude? More awareness of how the system works. Listen to common sense. Make rules more compact, more flexible, consolidate them. Have them control only the end result.
Dartmouth is the forgotten side
Stop talking, start doing!

We need to adopt a more thoughtful attitude toward management of existing infrastructure. For example, it is a bad idea to shut off established and well used access to the Alderney ferry terminal from south Dartmouth by way of the waterfront and TransCanada trails for nearly three months (so far) without out any apparent reason why a safe corridor could not be established through the construction area. During the same period access to the newly restored waterfront park playground has been effectively denied. This kind of cavalier attitude to public and pedestrian needs does not instill confidence in the responsiveness of HRM to services for its citizens. What effect does this have on encouragement of transit use?
take ownership of some of the issues
“There’s literally nothing more I can do to promote DT”/
We’re already the coverted. We need to feel like a partner with the city/council.
The city needs to have less public consultations on too many issues going on at the same time. People get overwhelmed and confused.
The economy of a city is a complex organism, buzzwords like "red tape" don't help in what must be a measured give and take discussion.
Do not like roundabouts for pedestrians
Downtown not people friendly
High end buildings for Toronto market destroy wind patterns increase pollution [illegible] more stagnant. Rise in pollution/density havok with traffic
Horrible
I disapprove of this public takeover of a successful market place at the expense of the volunteer run (craig) art gallery and the much needed incomes of the farmers and sellers that made this venue successful
Poor maintenance
Seaport area a white elephant
Short sighted approach not sustainable
Woodside elevator - fixed after a month - not fast
Since moving here 3-4 weeks ago, I have been "lost" several times
Create events in our downtown store, Argyle Fine Art for the public to engage in.
Pedestrian only street fair – one day a week in the summer. (Barrington and Portland street) involve more artists more people from the community – felt too empty but overall it has been a big success – need to build on this opportunity!
Programing that encourages people to take walks on the streets could be done more frequently. Check out Vienna's christmas stalls (they sell hot wine, not likely here!) but people stroll, sip, shop -- it's very pleasurable.
Graffiti festival.
More winter activities on Citadel Hill’s lawns,
Sidewalk chalk decorating party
Attend events that are hosted and sell business products.
Attend events. Promote through word of mouth.
Community events
Go listen to the public speakers at the public speakers' corner.

Making presence at events
participate ;community evvets
Switch Open Streets! Frequently: gets people to realize what's out there and exposed to new places
Activities to get people out and engaged on dwtn area
Close Portland street off for a month, sidewalk tables, community engagement, events, activities, festivals, booths, seating.
Do a survey of WHO is coming to our events like buskers? Is it locals or tourists? The thought is that its just tourists and its not as marketed towards locals, they don't know anyone when they go downtown during those events.
SWITCH Open street – 3 times a year, attract people, spring summer and fall – this could be a part of the mural initiative. People LOVE open public art and being able to PARTICIPATE in the making of the public art!
Events, festivals, make downtown more like waterfront.
less commercialization of event
need more events like nocturne – more fluid and encompassing more space make more of a downtown connection
Block closure for entertainment, food, etc
City Mayor allows street enclosure And Street festivals
Make use of space in schools – gymnasium and outdoor space for a variety of events for community involvement.
Close some streets one day for walking (e.g. saturday evening) like switch it would create awareness and increase sense of community run into people face to face
Events draw people – need more events to bring critical mass
Have late night shows to encourage people to go to.
A free hot chocolate stand or even a free hot chocolate day in the city to liven up the downtown tour during the winter
Activities downtown, closing down the streets – bring people downtown.
Busking events during the winter along the boardwalks – activities like snow sculpture and ice sculpture competitions, snow forts, organized activities.
Show gratification for the people that do show up at events with warm hot chocolate
More Concerts and Festivals
Size of space matters when considering activity. Having yoga on pier at Purdys Wharf is okay if there is a large group but doesn't work for smaller groups because atmosphere is important)
Sidewalk chalk decorating party.
Outdoor movies - especially for kids/families! The AFF outdoor films is great but they only show 1 family movie for the season.
More events where you can block off a street. It makes for great festival atmosphere regardless of the what the event is.
A wall of functions; tall ships
an app that people can submit their events to there are so many great things happening but it's hard to know about all of them.
close a street and have a street party/dance,
Community events like switch.
evening light shows;

Events for the community
events like switch, Dartmouth -
Fair in the summer.
Family oriented events, safer, more police presence especially in market area
festivals free
Have more free events for citizens. Outdoor movies in the summer on the Dartmouth waterfront.
Full street closures on Octerlonely for events like the tree lighting. Why have the street open on the very corner where the tree lighting occurs?
Have more public events downtown of all kinds - cultural, artistic, heritage etc. and not only during the summer months.
have more street festivals (i.e. salsa fest), allow businesses to invest,
Hold Switch Open Streets weekly - it's awesome!
In winter, there could be out-door competitions like making a snowman. Exhibition of ice crafts (creative stuff made of ice).
Make events more accessible.
More activities
More community events,
More event space,
More live music. More events.
More night-time activities in Dartmouth
More outdoor events in the downtown.
more small spaces to rent for events
More sports events, theater
More street events vending
More variety...change annual events at least bi annually so family outings aren't the same old repetitive bouncy castles.
musical nights over the weekend.
Open air festivals and attractions in public spaces (Commons, Point Pleasant Park, waterfront, North End) outside July-August window when many people are away at cottages
outdoor movie nights;
spot lights or light shows,
switch is great and should happen more often
Switch programs.
the hrn programs are great, nocturne events are great, alderney landings are as well so more of those
use citadel hill for events
Used to do picnic in aldermen parking lot .. bring it back. Vendors did well. Something on Sundays to bring people downtown.
We have some great events happening in the city, but with the lack of parking/transportation I rarely attend things in town.
We need more cultural events as well. I live in Eastern Passage, and there is nothing offered in that very busy community for people to do.
Youth events

More events to bring people in – they will see what is possible, what can happen
Events: including buskers, designated area for musicians, street performers, artists) this could be in all sorts of public places for example around ferry terminal.
Love the events at the public library
Concerts
Festivals
Leverage festivals such as Jazz festival
having more festivals that activate the city like pop explosion/dead of winter
make nocturne last past midnight and have more street closures to allow interaction and allow conversations
winterlicious/summerlicious like in Toronto
Allow street closures for big street events on weekends(ie. Spring Garden/Quinpool)
more pubic events and more chances for growth
CBC – concert in a tent, with fireworks on the waterfront. Let’s see more of that. Used Commons, City Hall, Waterfront.
Multicultural festival should be in Dartmouth.
Community events – outdoor galleries, crafts,
Free concerts for the public and movie screenings.
Any type of event that's brings people downtown, better free transportation during events
at various times close lower Portland Street to traffic to have pedestrian access to a " street fair " which many residents enjoyed when it was tried as a pilot last year
Concerts, anything where streets are blocked off or socializing
Encourage events that reach broad audiences and keep people downtown to explore and spend money.
Enhancements will create themselves provided the correct policies are in place. An example would be a coherent policy for street closures. There does not exist a body or process to streamline approval for event street closures. Most major cities have this. HRM does not. The current process is full of administrative barriers and direct costs for even organizers.
Events,
Festivals
Have festivals reach beyond the waterfront to Spring Garden, Gottingen and up to the Commons.
I live outside the city and I think more outdoor rock concerts (especially free ones) would make me spend more time down town. I usually don't make my way to the downtown when I am not at work.
More activities that bring people from Halifax to Dartmouth
More amenities & community events, and in downtown Dartmouth
More community events like concerts.
More concerts
More dedicated public events like Nocturne
More events
More events and festivals that are aimed at bringing people into the downtown at night -- Nocturne is a good example. This year's was perfectly vibrant and wonderful. So many people out and about.

More events especially at alderney geared for more ages
More events for different demographics
More events. Emphasis on four season use. Family events.
More family events
more festivals, outdoor concerts (time for the city to actually figure out how to attract some big name artists)
More free events and things happening on the streets on both sides of the harbor.
More music events.
More music events.
More music related events in the downtown.
More outdoor international events like the beach volleyball, maybe speed skating at the oval.
More switch programs, nocturne, better accessibility, more lives events
More variety re ; activities movies
More variety re ; big ticket shows open air or inside.
Most of the things I listed above, especially family events since I have young children. On weekends, if there isn't a family-type event downtown we stay in our neighbourhood because I can take them to Canada Games, the library, etc.
music concerts
Open air concerts, interesting events
Special events. Live dance; live music, live storytelling, all outdoors. Create a public speakers' corner.
Support more community based celebrations in the core - eg. Nocturne.
Weekly concert at Sullivan pond and at public gardens
Organize festivals
more events like switch;
Street parties (closed off treemont st. music, kids, older people, people know each other)
More of these!
Hold our own town halls
Selforganizing festivals
Switch closing street festival
Attend events.
Experimental street exhibition.
Midnight street parties.
More events like Nocturne to bring the streets alive.
Use grand parade for community events.
volunteer at public events to help break down barriers
Bring mardi gras back to Halifax!
Festivals every weekend in the summer and fall, especially for the cruise ships.
Events
cleanup
streetparties

Promote free events outdoors
For Dartmouth Snow and Ice carving festival in February! Residents from other countries are shocked no ice festivals here. Check Sapporo Japan site their festival is over 60 years and other sites!
More Nocturne and music festivals on waterfront
Weekly Switch open streets
More active and empowered neighbourhoods - open streets
Outdoor boot camps sponsored by the city (see Lululemon urban adrenaline)
Street closures for festivals on Spring Garden (someone added "accept and agree Mell Kirkland")
Activities in existing spaces - parent - child group
Common events/Redist traffic will be able to do 4/4 hockey/basketball marathon events
Do switch events
Street festivals -eg work on the street festival, Halifax has all the festivals
Switch event
Switch events and activities like it
Family St. parties with music - for DT (local talent)
make it easier to have public events (ie: permits, organization)
Midnight street parties
More events like Nocturn to bring the streets alive
More events on diversity and multi-culture
Open student showcases
Street closures
Street closures
Street festivals
Use grand parade for community events
Assist people with marketing the downtown.
i already pick up garbage when i see it along the streets of the south end and spring garden. isn't this the cities job?
I like to help people who don't know the area or transit system by assisting them with directions. I would love to be a tour guide of sorts once I retire. (Several years to go).
Be a more active community volunteer.
Be more welcoming, volunteer with ISIS to help an immigrant business person integrate into Halifax society.
Do more volunteering
I am always up for a community clean up, and I would love to help by planting or tending gardens. I think it would also be fun to do snow sculptures with others when there is enough snow.
I can volunteer more; invite people to downtown Dartmouth more frequently; continue to foster partnerships between Park Avenue Community Oven and DT Dartmouth businesses, market vendors, etc.
Participate and volunteer at local events (Jazzfest, FUSION Halifax, Design review boards for proposed developments).

Volunteer
Volunteer and take care of the kids intergenerational mixing
Volunteer for events.
volunteer wherever possible
Volunteer, attend events
Volunteering with clean ups
ISIS or MANS: Schedule once a month for a translator, to help immigrants that are here deal with the paperwork to help them prosper(just for translating).
Reestablish a volunteer bureau
Opportunity for people to get out and volunteer. Things like oval and common roots farm. Things like edible Landscapes.
Inventory of population – who wants to volunteer and how?
Support with volunteering
Volunteer
Volunteers
Need someone to coordinate the volunteer system
Projects that are dying for volunteers – e.g community oven
Volunteer more
Volunteer opportunities
Adapt the way we think about public spaces to who we are – we are not just university students, everyone should not be treated as irresponsible children – let us have a beer at the beach or in the park.
Get a CEO who lives and loves Halifax – we are the butt of the jokes, we need a CEO. Need someone to generate a feeling of connectedness, need someone to run our city from a business sense that lives and loves it here. Improve the process of the people, to the council, to the CEO. The whole chain needs to be connected – there cannot be a missing link. It's about more than translating the vision, that's just one piece of the puzzle. The values are the basis of what the city needs to declare to achieve what it is we want to achieve – a foundation of beliefs and notions. What's important not what do we want.
More monitoring, more hands on supervision
Lots of pervasive regulations that make it difficult to develop and invest in downtown, whereas it is very easy to implement in suburbia.
need to be more relaxed with bylaws to allow these things to happen
Adopt what the public asks for, not what council wants.
Less megaprojects. Spend money on smaller things.
More youth engagement and jobs!
“assume people want awesome stuff and do awesome stuff” zone
allow beer vendors and such on the street like in Europe that encourages people to hang out/sit park benches and chat
Incentives for keeping grads.
Have bureaucrats act as entrepreneurs.
2 weeks where no municipal rules apply: see what happens

Remove as much red tape from bureaucracy – and change the attitude from can't do to try to Do!
Banning smoking on Portland street.
Create sign laws.
No smoking on public streets
Encourage public community gardens. Allow people to do this. Cut red tape.
downtown is expensive, needs to be more reasonable – subsidize more
City council needs to be free to talk/act about DT as a special place.
Amend sign laws that allow more imagination in style and location in and around sidewalk level businesses.
Vibrant and fun! Reduce enforcement make it more like New Orleans and make it easy for small business
Make it easier to have public events (permits organization).
Support density bonusing
The Mayor can champion ideas
Support bylaws to encourage downtown revitalization
Remove red tape that stops great ideas from happening
Ban smoking on Portland St.
Get drugs off Portland!
No exceptions to existing rules
Going from "no" culture to "yes" culture - government just do something - apologise later
Quick fixes need political will
Continue to live downtown
Continue to live here, use devices and pay taxes
Encourage homeowners
I have lived worked and played in downtown Dartmouth and have been very sad to see the decline of the area over the years. I think it has a lot of offer and would do well to have more people living in the area to support the businesses. I would like to one day move back into the area again.
live
Live here
Good building designs to live in, affordable for students,
Affordable living downtown family.
More development to attract people. You can maintain the historic feel, but move forward too.
More people living downtown, affordable living to bring more demographics of people
Need an affordable housing strategy to bring people in.
Student housing (affordable)
Alternate levels of care for seniors, in Quingate apartments.
Buildings don't have any greenery, high rents
Have more people living downtown

Taller buildings in downtown areas (it is more residential). Must have parking space and how it ties into other areas in the neighbourhood. A slender little tower and not a monolithic structure.
More housing in downtown
Zoning issues. People living in commercial buildings (Portland street)
affordable housing
tiny houses
Affordable housing options
Affordable housing Stop the highrises
Allow the core to be dense and well designed. It's a disgrace.
Allowing and encouraging more residential developments would bring more people to the core;
Also convert Aldermen Gate to residential
Ban frat house blight with crappy steel entry doors and treated wood balconies on historic shingle. Ban vinyl siding, look at Montreal, coming back from the brink with controls.
Getting rid of Citadel Ramparts legislation so buildings can be taller and we could have even more densely populated area of our downtown.
High density residential.
Increase density, while limit building height adjacent to neighbourhoods - don't alienate the people who have chosen to live downtown and love it!
Mixed residential/commercial buildings. Not just new condos.
More family friendly housing, affordable rent. I would love to see an investor who purchases several storefronts and restores these buildings, creating character and practicality. The investor's upgrades would also include roughing in shops/spaces with particular services our community is asking for and needs. Rather than charging inflated rents and leaving all leasehold improvements for the tenant. If the tenant is local small entrepreneur they most likely will struggle to make it past the first year. Having true ethical coaching and funds to support small entrepreneur's interest with a realistic vision of what can be accomplished in five years when you don't have a huge backer. Otherwise, we have lost business to the big box and need to get in our car to access services.
More people living downtown.
More residential.
Need more people living there - make it easier for residential developments. Help/encourage developers trying to maintain heritage buildings rather than making it difficult/impossible. Mandate/direction of Heritage Advisory Committee has to be re-thought.
Queen Square needs to be converted to residential.
Residential buildings in the downtown core so that it is not a ghost town after 5 pm. This way more services/shops/clinics would be needed and therefore more life!
More affordable housing (NOT KINGS WHARF)
Student housing at NSCC
CANNOT push out people from downtown to bring in "better" people, Use the people who are here!!
Better and more affordable housing in downtown.
Need living space downtown.

Increase Residential
Change habits different mentality of living downtown
If Queen Square could be changed into some residential units
Need more young families living downtown – not moving outside of the city – Agricola/hydrostone area is an example
Already work and live downtown
And more nice condos....one question I have is why the new buildings are so butt ugly???
Can't we try to encourage architectural beauty instead of the usual halifax utilitarian look??
Like Victoria has buildings with water flowing down the sides into a basin and into a park area....
we have well, nothing much...except bishops landing....the library is ok but not really very beautiful just funky.
Friends who live here.
Honestly, I would live down town in a heartbeat and spend all of my time there if it wasn't so darn expensive to buy/rent.
I live downtown
I moved from Downtown because we could't afford the rent to live there anymore.
I would prefer to live in Halifax, instead of Middle Sackville, however, the rents charged for even a bachelor apartment, are far more than what my three-bedroom mobile home monthly lot rent and expenses are. I own it, and, I have a dog and cat. If I lived here, I'd spend more time walking around downtown.
More affordable condos
More people living here.
More people on the street at night, which means more living units downtown.
more families downtown
Live in downtown core
Affordable downtown apartments
Bring people to living in downtown again
Good housing mix-low/middle income incomes apartments don't crowd low income people out!
Homes Depot 2nd floor, low rise condos above, small businesses at street level
Affordable family living downtown
Allow pets in residential
I'm In... for a place that feels responsibility for each other (extended family, our neighbours) how?
Do density bonusing - empathy bonusing, social enterprise bonusing
More affordable housing
Need living space downtown
Residential [illegible] is weak - tax preference for DT residents - tax holiday for residents
Residential => allows business - tax preference
Residential increase tax preferential for them
The less activity you have in a block, the less likely people will stay
cleaner, Granville st is always lined with garbage. Parking lots are ugly, encourage owners to make it look nicer.
Construction always going on

Dirty, rusty, dusty, dirty sidewalks and sitting areas. Lots of litter. Make HRM smoking free.
How about a big tower, maybe like the Skylon Tower in Niagra Falls, not like the CN tower, but still high enough to take in the harbour mouth, Lawrencetown to peggy's Cove.... would be a huge tourism draw, first for ATL Can.
More open spaces to eat and socialize
Offering what the public is looking and being able to provide that services.
Perhaps better access to the waterfront. Improve buildings already in the city and maintain heritage – not allow high rise buildings; visitors come here because of the maritime history.
Street light is too high
Free wifi downtown (make Walmart in Bayer's Lake pay or it, don't tax downtown to bring services to Bayer's Lake) (this would help with the parking issue, with the people who study and work in cafes or public spaces).
Infrastructure expenditures within the downtown core
More thought put into the design of buildings
Signage for everything like bike paths or public transit signs or directing to areas like beeches or parks
Access to the water is difficult – if you had access under the bridge, plus a boardwalk (from Lye to Alderney landing)
24 hour zone – open alcohol – attract tourists
assess current assets and see if they meet community needs and how they could be reassessed
shared “tool library” is coming...need more coops to support small businesses”
promote church tours
need public toilets
take better care of public attractions
Congregational space where people can gather, podium, where people can sit in a circle and look at each other, not just benched on the side, outdoors, benches that are face each other to talk to each other (PUBLIC PLAZA)
Space between community college and Kings wharf
Intersections move people, let them move faster, easier, and make it INTERESTING along the way.
Make the town square an actual town square – use it.
Vibrancy – CHAOS is good. Use all of the space downtown – Victoria park – set up cafes outside, cold drinks, beer, food – you could do tha tin the middle of the roundabout. Provide experiences for city dwellers as well as entrepreneurial opportunities – dynamic alive better uses of spaces.
Use our resources (harbor is a common area on both sides should have lots of similar things for children and adults on both sides.
Center for volunteer opportunities
Focus for other seasons, not just summer.
make services more accessible to downtown (service NS) – because they are not downtown anymore, perception is that downtown is not important anymore
need more congregation space between waterfront and upper half
open public space

Space to use (like hub) maybe in Library
Better facilities for childcare.
Get going on center plan, have a future plan so things can start to happen. Centerpiece for development.
Halifax, from a city planner. Been here 7 times. City center is discombobulated. The waterfront is the only thing that ties the city together. Eventually discovered the small areas, spring garden road, commons.Says the buildings feel cold and impersonal on Duke Street. Wants to know why () isn't part of regional center.
More access to water body in south
use paint to pilot ideas (eg bike lanes, roundabouts, road closures
Barrington needs a community space where you can hang out. Parade square doesn't cut things.
Sidewalk clearing – better, but before some people never shoveled their walks.
Snow clearing – a good thing the city is doing it.
Public washrooms
Public washrooms
food banks
More of a focus on senior centers, we need to keep young people here so seniors can be supported.
Piazzas, gathering spaces are great for Halifax.
MORE HRM STAFF (PLANNERS ARCHITECTS ARTIST LEADERS!)
need more intergenerational spaces
Free WIFI downtownwide
touch screen directories outside
A longer Dartmouth waterfront.
accessible indoor public spaces for winter use - take advantage of already existing underused spaces by making them more welcoming, more well-known and attractive to a range of demographics
allow development without interference from residents
also, in better weather, ongoing active clean-up of litter to match our now 'clean' Harbour
Better infrastructure and permit process in Dartmouth commons.
Better-maintained sidewalks;
Clean spring garden rs..gone to rack and ruin, dirty.
Clean the filth from the sidewalks. Other large cities have sidewalk cleaning vehicles to clean the sidewalks. Clean the gum, vomit, urine and other firth off our sidewalks. And do it every day! Impose fines on people who post signs to lamp posts and light standards. Take a look at the recently installed light standards around the new public library. They already look like crap.
Clean up the streets (best: ban take away coffee and tea cups! easier than you think).
Clear downtown sidewalks of snow first,
Communal space
Don't build up the waterfront any further
Donation of municipal buildings as non-profit centres, so multiple (large) non-profits can occupy one space, manage it themselves, and save the government money. I've done a feasibility study on this and can share my findings. Saving the building currently occupied by the Khyber Arts non-profit by removing asbestos and reintegrating them into the space, then donating the

space to them for \$1 (or small sum).
Expedite sidewalk snow clearing on downtown streets.
Fix potholes.
free WiFi,
free wifi,
Garbage cans
garbage cans,
install more "pole-side garbage garbage cans" on downtown residential streets for dog walkers, pedestrians who walk to and from downtown;
maintain buildings,
Make better public use of the waterfront
Make seating available to the public.
Make signs smaller ie macdonalds
mix of buildings, old and great new designs go well together!
more garbage and recycling bins,
more garbage cans to cut down on street trash,
More informal places to interact with people spontaneously
more programming in public spaces ...
need public washrooms in public parks including Dartmouth commons by pizza ovens.
nice pubic places to relax or eat lunch
No smoking on the sidewalks.
Not too many high buildings
Open washrooms for the public.
Park benches or picnic tables in places that are not "parks", with a few basic play structures to encourage picnic outings.
Picnic tables readily available
Pressure on owners on buildings on Portland and clean up
Stop developments based on heights.
trendy tables (see Bryant park in New York) with free wifi,
Washrooms at the Park Avenue Oven in Dartmouth, and more picnic tables and benches.
Wayfinding for pedestrians, cyclists and cars.
We should make Grand Parade a legit city square, which would require moving the monuments/ cenotepe (to either the park in front of the old library - goes well with the Churchill statue - or maybe Victoria Park - not a lot going on there.)
Wi fi every where
Free wifi
PUBLIC Washrooms

Incentive to get entrepreneurs/ developers that incorporate fair, systemic, equal and considerate housing/developments
Space in buildings for nonprofits
Mixed development
Open Public Spaces
Public space design to hangout safe do to have to spend money
Remove the snow in downtown.
More access to water
Loan facilities for international students to pay huge tuition fee
Municipal WiFi facility for all Halifax
changing streets from oneway to twoway or reverse must have community consultation and must prioritise pedestrians (who are the people who spend money)
don't use asphalt to patch concrete!!!!
painting drainage grates with reminders of where the trash ends up
Green space through buildings.
Narrower pavement
Smooth sidewalks.
WIFI WIFI WIFI WIFI WIFI!!!!
WIFI EVERYWHERE
Should plan community so all stores (i.e. food, grocery) and service (i.e. dentist, doctors, banks) are nearby
public showers
public storage space ie lockers and stuff to put your stuff in if you are biking so you can drop off your backpack and go to a meeting
And it has few advertised public clean washrooms. Washrooms! Where do poor tourists and shoppers go? I'll tell you...No where. Big cities and even small cities with better planners have bathrooms!
Benches!
Better parking/wayfinding signage.
Better signs, especially in Dartmouth
Buried power lines on every street downtown + Spring Garden.
Clean streets
Clear sidewalks, benches, clean up garbage
Developing Croswell interchange
Free wi-fi in prominent public parks like the New Library's Plazas, Public Gardens, Dingle, Point Pleasant Park, Sullivan's Pond, Horseshoe Island.
Free wifi.
I'm curious as to what the inside of some older government buildings look like. I know there's a day when the public has access to view these buildings, but erg, I missed it. Perhaps this could happen more frequently? I always wanted to see the atrium in the Dominion Building.

keeping small schools
More areas to sit and relax
More benches
more benches
More family spaces
more places to sit outside, sheltered
More public space and activities.
More public spaces
More seating nodes on the waterfront and throughout DT, so you can stop and enjoy the views.
Need more family attractions in the downtown.
Office spaces, more variety at marketplace on winter
Outdoor seating areas.
Outdoor seating near food truck spots
Pedestrian friendly and clean
Picnic tables and benches - I would spend a whole afternoon and take lunch with me or pick it up at a local vendor.
places to enjoy (benches)
Places to gather. Comfortable welcoming public spaces.
Revitalizing Granville Street and the historic district, restoring and utilizing old buildings
Tidier
Using the facilities we have and making enhancements Alderney storefront
Wi-fi.
wifi
share skills webbased secure database
Structures need to be in place to benchmark rather than coming back square one every time we ask for input
Support from 3 level of govt
Central NSCAD campus locations.
NS/HRM supported incubation space (like the Hub)
The hub tool could be useful for these dialogues. It is important for the issues to be clearly marked and categorized.
Change bylaws and planning - make it cheaper to live and have business downtown! The further people live away from core the higher taxes to pay for infrastructure
Gender neutral public toilets for women with strollers, parents of opposite sex children, married couples who need assistance (eg. ageing population). More public toilets for women - 3 times more than men. Women take 90 seconds to urinate, men take 32 seconds to urinate.
Gender neutral washrooms, especially in public/HRM operated facilities
No in-fill, no waterfront devmt! Protect your waterfront!
Washrooms at community oven
Wifi access all over the city for free

Designated non-profit queer space, gender neutral washrooms
Keep sidewalks, streets snow free (someone added "agree fully - Mell Kirkland")
Municipal wifi through the downtown core
Better sidewalks
Clear bike lanes of snow first
Community spaces
Dog friendly street and restos
Fix things we already have
Khyber - need to seal off basement for asbestos so that centre can still function
More garbage containers and frequent collection
No infilling of Bedford Basin. Preserve the waterfront
Open building encouraging togetherness
Public bathrooms - kids, ageing population. Businesses have been good but that's a group with limited funds
Schools as community centres
Sidewalks in rough shape, too old
Size, space reflect type of activity
Street lights are too high
Centralize NSCAD campus locations
Chamber/Service ns back downtown
Comfortable seating
Free wifi
Halifax needs to replace missing street signs (at least one set of 2 signs at each intersection)
More comfortable chairs, back rest, armrest, drink holders
more public places
Move container pier
Roads better paved
Snow free streets and sidewalks (Ottawa, Toronto do it well)
Transportation - nooks and crannies off the beaten trails
Using the water more access to the water
Winter-friendly spaces, rain-friendly spaces (look to Quebec City w outside fireplace and food shacks)
We need to have the opportunity to test ideas out for the city. Cheap solutions that Staff will let us accomplish.
Leave and see what works in other cities and bring them back with you.
Noise => how does this play a role in the "user" experience - sensitivity to noise pollution – how do we keep vibrancy but cherish peace and tranquility (even in downtown!)
Deliver projects on time, on budget!
I do plenty!
Not a lot

nothing
nothing
Nothing in particular
Stay in this province if I see signs of hope
Stop reading Tim Bousquet in the Coast and on Twitter.
Unknown at this time.
Work there.
Focus on a cool corridor that runs from Sullivan's pond down Ocheterloney, across on a free ferry and up to the clock tower
test things out before we spend large money
A cat at city hall.
and help the needy
Clubs, schools
Community activity hubs - use the Southdale North Woodside Elementary School, slated for closure, as a community hub and business space for daycares, yoga, local businesses and youth engagement/activities/recreation and preserve the greenspace - great coasting hill in winter.
Funding for the Hub Halifax to operate on a larger scale (we don't have the population density in the city for the Hub/CSI model to work, yet we have a larger entrepreneurial and arts culture in Halifax that need affordable and versatile work spaces in order to grow). I have research on that to share as well.
More interactive inclusive community building workshops with explanations that everyone can understand and relate to.
More shared spaces where people can interact with things ... tactile tool library.
Space for (green space) not more, but places where people can congregate. Parade Square might not be somewhere they can get to, but closer through the neighbourhood.
The waterfront belongs to the people and we should have access to it
Distinction between being 'vibrant' vs. 'populated'.
Affordable
Already spend a lot of time downtown
I already spend all of my time in the downtown core.
I would like to see more things open in downtown Dartmouth on the weekends to make it a destination.
less homeless
More accessible healthcare professionals.
Nothing
Spend a lot of time already.
Spend a lot of time already.
assess current assets and see if they meet community needs and how they could be reassessed
Plant exchange community greenhouse education
More jobs targeted @ youth.
Capitalize on new investments...ie the oval. What can we build on

Red tape busters within city hall, form a committee with weekly meetings. Positive, polite, respectful and brave.
Little small things can do much
Attend community events – and especially put your money where your mouth is – at some meetings we’ve been talking about the same issues for years yet nothing has changed and thoughts need to be put into actions effectively.
Appreciate that the soup kitchen is across from Founders Square, both can exist together
It’s all the SME that make up the community
We need to focus on our community, neighborhood we are serving
This needs to be more than just a council report.
Stop talk about homelessness and trying to get sound bites and do something about it. – Bill Zebedoe
"Speed track" HRM by Design for more and better development downtown
Do the little things: bring back the buskers all over Halifax, don't charge me for sandwich board signs - charge me for the common sign (someone added "very important")
Give panhandlers something to do. Community service
Keep public land in public hands
Teen focus - build on the energy - create opportunities
Assume people want awesome stuff and give it to them
Better Life Foundation
Concerns about infilling Bedford Basin - disrupts wind patterns will increase pollution and make area stagnant. Will play havok with traffic. Building of high end building units for sale to the Toronto market. Jobs are only temporary. Short sighted approach, not sustainable
Go where the people are and give them what they want
Hot beverage good for people
Important to connect with N. Dartmouth because of income bracket.
Keep the environment at the top of the list
Ruined environmetn jobs go
The city is your laboratory
Work with the community
Build the area!
Consider different ages and cultures - zero one stop strategy
Effect of nature on people
Hugging releases oxytocin - encourage New Yorks to hug!
Less noise
Panhandlers - give them something to do - community work
People care more about each other after improved social connection
Social interactions improve GDP
We have to support our people
When holding something warm, people open

chairbombing
raised planters for pilot parklets (temporary toward permanent)
Downtown playplace.
Edible planters on Portland st (everywhere), Municipal Edible Food Plantings! Trees too!
Add cooking BBQs at parks (i.e. Point Pleasant Park),
Parkettes in place of parking lots,
providing public exercising machines
A winter garden. A “green” space that allows for enjoyment all year round.
Waterfront boat rentals in the summer
Food forest. All around the world food forests are going up in cities and we should too
Ball room - Soul Pancake (Google it)
Public gardens on Citadel Hill sides
Rename parks, community to have a chance to name ownership - connection and fun
Carving clubs and support for downtown.
Croquet. Tea. Fancy Hats.
I frequently visit the Public Gardens so I think I'm a big supporter.
I'm with a group called Start with a Smile and we're all about creating fun happynings for people to get involved with to make Halifax a happier, healthier place! All of our projects, to date, have taken place in the downtown core - Spring Garden Road, Waterfront and Alderney Landing areas primarily. Please visit www.startwithasmile.ca for links to videos of what we've done so far!! Lots of other great ideas we'd love to discuss!! You can reach me at lorelai@startwithasmile.ca
Public recreation spaces.
Any place where you can take advantage of the outdoors.
Boardwalks and Marinas.
Community Gardens.
More dog friendly watering stations, bag disposal, small off leash parks.
better understanding and availability of info on permits needed to use the commons
Dartmouth commons underused
gazebo in the Dartmouth commons decrepit compared to the gazebo on in the Halifax public gardens;
pizza oven – need to repair the underutilized shed and provide access to the toilet(!!!)
public skating on lake Banook – maintained by HRM
manmade structure near Sullivans Pond for skating
Way to go Dartmouth Commons! But nothing to draw people there, nothing to go there for, needs popup vendors, washrooms (!), Better landscaping and flower pots
Community gardens.
Dog Parks.
do something with hockey on the waterfront like it is done for beach volleyball in the summer
flooded ice rinks on the streets

take waterfountains and make them more recreational resource like on bishops landing where kids can run through them
not park snow plows on common
Tried to implement dome rinks, rejected due to lack of sprinklers, more red tape, 18 000 in world not one had this.
Winter public garden open
Change the names of parks to funny names – eg Victoria park to “the best park ever” or “dude park”
things for people to play with (playgrounds, fun busstops, adult gym equipment, swings!
urban gardens
Beautify Citadel Hill, trees and shelter
More planning for green spaces in specific areas, smaller and more frequent
City has planted thousands of trees – great, keep growing.
Cogswell – fill in and create gardens. Already dug out.
Gardens and landscaping between the sidewalk and the road.
Gardens between sidewalks and curb.
Hammocks in downtown parks.
Liverpool – worked with superstore to bring in trees and plant the trees. Star dogwood trees. Beautiful. Theme for the town.
Underground marine park, where you can see under the sea.
More parks and green space downtown
We have the best lakes promote and use them
Ice rinks in winter and basketball courts and community gardens in summer on vacant lots
Safe places for kids to play
Use lakes year round
Community gardens (event just a for plots) on boulevards, around parks, etc.
More parks, green spaces, more trees
.....snow activities in the winter snow/ice sculptures,
2. Definitely more small part [parks?] with things for kids to do.
4. Free art activities for kids - NSCAD has great programs for kids but they are expensive!
a dance floor in the Alderney Landing park area--similar to what's on the Halifax dock down near the old Electropolis. A large gazebo/dance floor would be even better!
add park benches and flowers (micro parks),
Adding color and greenery to public spaces,
and lots of green space.
And parks open later
better maintenance on the trail in Dartmouth cove. Look at the landscaping and infrastructure there appears to be some deficiencies
Better management of public parks/areas. We could tear down the old library when the new one opens and make the whole area a park.
Community gardens

Community gardens.
Create a splashpad on Dartmouth waterfront for kids, and a harbour beach area for the public.
dancing fountains,
Dartmouth needs a draw for outdoor enthusiasts and spectators....somewhere between Lake Micmac and the harbour (walking distance from the ferry)
Downtown outdoor swimming pool.
Enjoyable, inviting green/common space
Family focused activities and a splash pad playground.
fix-up the old garden shed in Leighton Dillman Park and update the washroom within to serve park-goers and those that frequent the Park Avenue Community Oven, better yet build public washroom facilities within the park similar to those on the Halifax Common;
free public exercise (outdoor yoga, skates, runs, etc).
Green spaces in the summer
Green spaces,
Gym playground
have a kids water park,
Having more (as in the the number of) welcoming 'gathering' areas, swings, 'play' areas.
Honestly, the best idea I can think of is levelling point pleasant park, and creating a massive amusement park that could draw on all of atlantic Canada during summer, and regions well beyond HRM.
I think that outdoor work out equipment would be very nice, especially along the boardwalk somewhere. Joggers and people on their lunch hour walking could stop and use the equipment. I think that it would encourage people who don't have Gym memberships to exercise. I believe that there is equipment like this in Dartmouth. I am including the website http://www.outdoor-fitness.com/ I think this would be fun to use and also there is a social aspect.
Ice rink in downtown Dartmouth.
Immediate funding and completion of the skateboard park in downtown Dartmouth.
improve the walkway on the Starr property site behind the condos perhaps create a park-like space,
Indoor skateboard park.
Keep the Public Gardens open year-round, especially when there is deep and lovely snow.
Kids play place
More [...] community gardens
More city hardens and green spaces.
More community gardens, Particularly like the idea of making gardens/planters edible - with herbs, small veggies etc that look great and people could take advantage of.
more gardens for both vegetables and flowers,
More green space downtown halifax.
More green spaces
more green spaces.
More greenspaces in our community.

More play spaces
More playground workout equipment
More public spaces like the oval,
More recreational and green space instead of Mega developments , especially on the waterfront.
more small cozy gardens/parks,
More stuff to do with a toddler!
More things for kids to do.
More things to do with young kids downtown.
more trees (protect canopy),
More trees,
more/protect/encourage trees,
Move train tracks to open up spaces to be used as a park. Have been evacuated because of spill
Natural playspaces for children.
New park at queen and alderney public plaza. More furniture. Nice chairs pedestrian friendly
New pool at the commons,
Outdoor chess/checkers.
Outside playgrounds,
oversized boardgames;
Picnic tables around lake banook and Sullivan's pond. Better lighting around Sullivan's pond. Staff to clean the sidewalks of Sullivan's pond of duck poop on a daily basis during summer months.
Play Plazas. We have two small kids, they need to climb all the time. We don't need or want tot lots everywhere, but creative public spaces that encourage play (maybe even by older non-kids!) are greatly enjoyed by our whole family. This, and
Playground downtown Dartmouth
Playgrounds made for older children -Oxford school has a good example of playgrounds designed for older children.
Pocket Parks in empty lots or underused space
Preserve green spaces.
Provide older youth with free recreation opportunities....for example, a Free Outdoor skating rink in Dartmouth. Halifax has the oval and various outdoor community rinks-Dartmouth has none of these.
Public barbeque pits! Please, there is nowhere on the peninsula where you can. It can be closed overnight for safety.
safe bike placed for kids, paks, playgrounds, trails,
Save the Hasting's Brambles between Rodney Road and Hastings Street for a community path and bird and urban wildlife/forest refuge.
Sculpture Park
skate parks,
Small community gardens maybe in large planters along sidewalks, with edible crops that can be tended by families on an informal basis, don't expect commitment, just keep it fun, there will be enough interest to keep the crops growing.
Support development of Dartmouth Skateboard Park.

The commons playground needs a place to buy coffee and public toilets. This could be achieved i n the short term with a food truck and a portapotty. In the long term, with a redeveloped Pavillion area.
There needs to be more places to 'play' in our city, as well as in the outlying areas. We need to create venues where people can go on lunch hours to meet/walk/interact, etc. Too often people are in a huge hurry to go nowhere, or stay at their offices/desks rather than get out.
Three season gardens
Urban nature,
Utilize Sullivan pond more ... maybe n ice cream stand. Light up Sullivan pond at night.
we need a wave garden for kayakers, SUP'ers, & other water enthusiasts 9 months of the year, a standing wave....see www.the-wave.co.uk seriously, please look and consider!
Floral planetarium
Places to chill
Outdoor skating rink with free rentals.
Park benches.
Aquarium.
Need gathering space (somewhere to sit, ie: picnic area, art , pool, ?).
A skating rink on the waterfront.
Adding more to the commons.
more family spaces
Downtown swim club, surfing
Musical water fountain like saltlake city
Public chess table
Snowboarding in Citadel
Swim lane harbor
Volleyball courts
Children's activity centre on the waterfront
QEH site – good example of how to reuse a vacant space
Trees arching over the road and sidewalk
Vacant lot – why not make people put in concrete planters with trees,bike parking
Urban Farm.
Forested areas next to urban areas with trails
Skate on smaller ponds, walking trail around ponds
Create labyrinths like one outside Veteran's Memorial Hospital in Halifax
More green spaces
Build on success oval = commons should be year around attraction .
Canoe and kayak rental facility.
Green spaces, bicycle trails, walking trails – continue to connect people with the environment.
A sports team

Aquarium on the waterfront
Carousel on the Dartmouth waterfront/Ferry Term Park;
Easy parking/access to various outdoor activities. Advertise them more, as the place to be!
Fun, excitement activities.
Give me more reasons to go down there :) Shopping is not enough of a draw (obviously shown through the wave of business closures in the last few years), I need unique and free activities to draw me in. There's a lot of cool stuff going on in the city already, but I feel like there could be a better, more collaborative effort in promoting.
green belt ;implement it
Green space
green space
Having more leisure time
Improved parks.
Inexpensive activities that promote alternatives to a night out drinking - similar to the Board Room Game Cafe.
Kid-friendly activities.
More activities other than drinking and eating
More free time.
more green space
More green space on waterfront
More green space with areas to relax, enjoy, play. An outdoor gym, Keep some of the old but modernize with new.
More green spaces
More greenspace
More outdoor development on the waterfront. Another green space in downtown Halifax.
In winter having skating rink at city hall.
more park spaces, more outdoor public spaces (like oval)
More playgrounds for children.
More public parks
More recreational opportunities e.g. the Oval.
Nice parks and places to walk.
Outdoor activities - Point Pleasant Park could be much more dynamic.
Outdoor athletic parks
Park on the waterfront. Picnic benches
Places to do yoga and exercise in the downtown.
Playgrounds interactive outside attractions.
Regional Amenities to bring me there (like Oval, or Art Gallery, or Discovery Centre) outside work hours.
Should we consider constructing a lido on the shores of Dartmouth Cove? One once existed on the shoreline in the Woodside area.
Some other cool attractions. Such as Ground Zero Climbing Gym or The Putting Edge mini golf. Or an aquarium!

The park between South Park and Tower Road has such potential for events/markets/exhibits, etc. I think we are truly lacking in utilizing all of the space we have!! We need a stadium now!!!! We needed a stadium years ago - please, please do not miss the opportunity to finally bring a stadium to the city - Shannon Park.
More green spaces in Dartmouth and Halifax, particularly smaller ones which people would use more.
More independent/individually organized groups (like the running club)
Better use of bandstand on Sullivan's pond
Use Lake Banook for skating
Create ice rinks,
Hockey rinks for kids to play on vacant lands in downtown in winter
In summer, use vacant lots for community gardens
Can we have a ferry services for Georges plus McNab Island plus some attraction there.
More smaller community skating
Outdoor exercise machines should come back for public workout areas.
Winter – friendly spaces, rain –friendly spaces, look to Quebec city around outside fire place + good shacks.
design spaces for families with dogs, kids and bikes;
garden
Dartmouth skate coalition great
Free outdoor swim pool
More awesome playgrounds !!
Play in downtown core
Plant fruit trees in Public spaces , and in parks.
Natural playgrounds (trees, rocks, stepping, stones, etc).=see Bridgetown website.
Another outdoor rink (at city hall downtown)
Aquarium (people added: "yes!" "I second this!"
Bocce Ball, horse shoe, croquet tournaments in the commons
Free children's indoor playground that serves coffee for the adults
Greenhouse with natural play area for children and cafe
Harbour beach in Dartmouth
Heterosexual Bath House for council?
Improve and celebrate the D. Common. ie, include small businesses cafe, ice cream, play equipment rentals
Indoor playground
More green space. SNWS school closing: keep as green space for community
more trails and public gathering places
Nature inspired play area in Dartmouth Commons (for youth)
Please move community oven to a place that has washrooms, parking and shelter (e.g. Findly area). Current location is ill-conceived and impractical. Think carefully when choosing locations for these things - haste makes waste

Safe places to bike and play and grow food and flowers
Skateboard park
Let neighbourhoods name local parks
More city gardens
Needs to be people, bike and family friendly: create recreational and leisure space facilities and more downtown accomadation
Outdoor chess tables
Outdoor exercise machines
Outdoor ping pong tables (Google Henge)
Splash Pad Playground
Findley Community Centre - exercise
Grassy areas
Marine Park, underground waterpark (like Kent's Pond St. John's, NL) can see underwater
Places to congregate, meet people, talk, [illegible] kids can run around
Trail system - get Killam to clean up sewer pipe - connect to treatment
Build on success of oval - commons should be year-round attraction
Celebrating winter. Keeping public gardens open
Chess top tables
Coffee shop/inside space at Oval
Community gardens (even just a few plots) on boulevards, around parks, etc. with shared ownership
Greenbelt could help protect lakes/river
More community rinks with buildings that have a wood stove and a place to get a soup or chili
More smaller community skating rinks
Natural playgrounds (trees, rocks, stepping stones, etc.) - see Bridgetown website or YouTube Jubilee Park
Need gathering space (i.e. somewhere to sit and s/th to look at and a purpose for the area i.e.: picnic area, art, pool?)
Outdoor exercise machines should come back for publis work out areas
Plant fruit trees in public spaces and in parks
Splash pad - kid
Walkable trail with statues
Please contact me!!! stephanie@commongoodsolutions.ca and 902-483-4845 - I know a lot about local non-profits and community groups who are making this city vibrant! I want to help!
Actually go there more than once every two weeks.
attend events
Attend more events downtown than I do now.
Be an engaged citizen
Be in them & support and spread the word about the great things that already exist.
Be more engaged

Be more of an ambassador for downtown Dartmouth which, to date, many of my Halifax friends seem to think is not much worth visiting
Be out and about more and participate in events
Be present and enjoy it!
Be there participate
Be there. Create. Invest. Promote. Spend money. Earn money. Engage. Encourage engagement.
Beyond attending public meetings about the downtown, I don't feel that there is anything I can personally do...aside from taking surveys on the shapeyourcityhalifax.ca website.
Come down
Come down and spend time and tell
Come downtown and use resources
Come downtown regularly.
Come often
Continue campaign to reduce speed limits in the downtown
Continue to come down
Continue to come downtown
Continue to plan cultural events,take part in events the city offers, participate in public forums
Continue to use the area on a near-daily basis to demonstrate critical mass.
Continue to visit the downtown even if it's a 40 minute drive and there is a parking problem.
contribute art and activity
Discourage council from encouraging suburban sprawl like Dartmouth crossing.
do surveys like these, and take the opportunity to voice my opinion. Have trust in our council and hope they listen to the people they serve.
Doing it now here on this form, please ensure you ask the average civilian that lives downtown and not the folks that own condos but don't live there.
Donate money for play places
Encourage community involvement.
Encourage land use changes to make residential and commercial development possible
Frequent the locations that exist now and those that may appear in future
get involved if there are working groups or activities
Get involved.
get invovled
Get out and participate & spread the word
Give suggestions to the officials.
Go more often
go there
Help with beautification. Make more use of public spaces.
Hopefully by participating in surveys like this

I and colleagues teach art classes for adults in Christ Church Hall and organize folkdancing on the dock in the summer. I help with the wonderful Craig Gallery. I think we're doing "our bit". I plan to participate in the Downtown Dartmouth celebrations next year. I didn't find out about it this year until just a couple of days before the event.
I can be a part of the discussion. Help with ideas and be a part of the change.
I can make more of an effort to go downtown and hangout, arrange to meet friends in the park areas for a walk. More people = enjoyment & vibrance, it has to start somewhere.
I can participate in events, and buy locally if farmers markets, bazaars, etc are held during lunch hours. Never underestimate the passion people have for their dogs/children, etc.
I can provide input when the city proposes changes
I can spend time downtown and tell people what's happening.
I try to visit downtown Dartmouth and Halifax as often as possible. I would like to see Dartmouth visited by more people.
I will continue to encourage encourage people to attend events downtown.
I would like to participate in more of the goings on. As a future buisness owner in DT i'm more than willing to get involved.
I, as a resident, can take advantage of what our downtowns have to offer.
I'll come
I'm prepared to be an active participant at events.
keep staying involved.
Lobby for changes that will reinvigorate the downtown.
Maintain communication with councillor and MLA. Encourage HRM, HRSB and dept. education in keeping schools in communities, support walkable communities. Participate by providing feedback and taking in great events, like today's.
More engaged and choosing projects to enhance vibrancy
Partake in the idea sessions, make sure my ideas, and other ideas from different age groups and interests are heard, so that HRM, Planners and Developers know what people are looking for.
Participate in community events
Participate in downtown more
Participate in events downtown
Participate in events.
Participate in initiatives like this one!
Participate in local activities.
Participate in public events; offer feedback on how to improve these events; be engaged.
Participate in the activities created as a result of more businesses being encouraged to be downtown.
Participate in these events
Participate in these sessions and with our neighbourhood group, and be there when events are happening.
Participate more and be an engaged citizen
Promote local Halifax, go to markets and support events.
show up, participate, enjoy

Spend more time downtown.
Spend more time downtown. :)
Spend more time out and about! Every smiling person on the street makes the core seem more vibrant to everyone else.
Spend more time there, I think. The more people hang out there, the more energetic it will feel.
Spend more time there.
Spend time here.
Spend time on them and participate in city events
Spending more time downtown.
Start coming to Dartmouth v halifax
Submit ideas; spend time downtown; tell people about great things to do
Support downtown community groups like golf club and rowing club and activities.
support events that are already happening.
Support local and participate.
Support local and participate.
Support local retailers, establishments and artists as much as I can.
Take advantage of things already happening in the downtown. Participate in community events.
Take part in community events
Take part in more of the events, which take place in the downtown.
Use it!
use my voice and urban planning knowledge to bring ideas to the many organizations working to make it a better, more attractive place to spend time
Use the downtown more
Use the facilities and participate and attend events.
Use them!
Use these resources
Use these spaces
Will participate more in these activities.
Increasing positive ways that businesses, organizations, and families can participate in keeping small schools in the Downtown and add more depth to the learning model.
Negotiating and discussion downtown
More citizen involvement
Show up to public events like this.
Support with time
Participate in downtown.
Use facilities.
Involed & engaged in community events
Giving feedback, listing all problems and giving feedback.
Mutual interaction

Spend time and participating public things,
Get involved, take part in community events.
People need to continue to share their voice and contribute and engage
Be more engaged.
This should not be a "municipal" activity - they should be addressed by local people "Caring Agents Reviving their Environment" (CARE)
Remove car traffic (maybe keep bus lanes) from certain street sections (like Spring Garden Road between Queen and South Park Streets). Entice shop owners, outside vendors and buskers to the area to create an outdoor market atmosphere in summer with lots of benches and picnic tables.
Pedestrian plazas in dartmouth
Spring Garden Road and Argyle Street should be pedestrian traffic on summer weekends. In Quebec City some streets are closed to traffic Friday night to Sunday in the tourist area.
argyle should be car free after 8pm at night – so people can interact more, entertainment in the streets like busker festival many years ago (now busker festival is too commercialized)
Street closures in special occasions & some permanent
3. Shut downtown to vehicular traffic and make long pedestrian walking shopping districts.
Argyle street blocked off. Pedestrian only day.
BIG IDEA: Barrington Street from Spring Garden, north to Scotia Square should be a covered promenade. Make it a walking city and people will walk. How hard-to-implement could this be? Get the developers to do it !!!
Close Argyle from traffic.
Close off downtown to vehicles.
Create a pedestrian street by closing Spring Garden Road to cars during the summer season.
Create pedestrian only areas (ie the bottom half of Portland Street the last couple of blocks). Closing off roads to traffic and making them a pleasant place to spend time and allows for pleasant outdoor eating in summer months etc.
Dedicating one street to pedestrian and bike traffic, with social spaces.
make Lower Portland Street car-free (from Alderney Dr. to Alderney-Prince Albert-Portland intersection);
More pedestrian only spaces.
More pedestrian spaces or streets
More public spaces, especially in the summer. Like closing Spring Garden Road to cars (excepting service vehicles).
pedestrian friendly street. It doesn't have to be permanent, it could be during the summer Thursday -saturday nights at an allotted time for ex) 7pm-3am? Its much safer without many cabs and cars, the sidewalks can't hold the amount of people. The police were doing it sometimes last summer and I heard nothing but compliments about it. All great cities have pedestrian friendly streets, we should too.
Pedestrian only street - Argyle...
Pedestrian only streets; Putting cobblestone down Argyle and setting up patio tables all throughout the street.
pedestrian roads,

Pedestrian-only Argyle. More focus and attention to the street environment. Make cyclists and pedestrians feel safe. Lighting that is tailored to the pedestrian, traffic calming, bike lanes, place-making, etc.
Pedestrianize Portland street and improve Dartmouth common.
A car free area full of bistros, art and music.
A walking only street
A walking only street.
Close down Spring Garden Road to traffic, and create a market atmosphere.
Create some pedestrian friendly streets with limited traffic (deliveries only) that would allow more sidewalk business amenities.
more of a European feel pedestrian friendly
Pedestrian-only streets (fully close Rainnie); make Argyle a night-time no-car area
pedestrians only streets in downtown Halifax.
Take Portland street close it to traffic have a walking street try and attract some pleasant shopping experience to that area give people coming across on the Ferry a place to enjoy and relax turn it into a park like atmosphere .The same can be said for Spring Garden Road i mean really there is no other way to expand traffic in those narrow streets stop trying and make something attractive there.
Closing Argyle St.
Embrace notion of experiment ie: Argyle St. Lets try shutting down Barrington St. Less scary
Automatic parking inventory of parking spaces (automated meter), better system to identify parking areas.
water taxis (allow small businesses to take advantage of these opportunities),
Design competition and local artists to build beautiful bus shelters.
Extended hours for ferry service (especially on Sunday night) for midnight every night would be ideal but particularly when there are events happening like games
Clearer marking to show how long you can park and an online map that shows short and long term meters and lots i.e. painted, colour-coded curbs. Larger font on signage
come down but parking is not convenient
Drive less - bike and transit more.
I always try to take public transportation to avoid congestion. I visit downtown as often as I can. I am a very engaged person who always contacts HRM with my opinions about Metro Transit.
Refuse to operate an automobile for business within the city.
Spread the word that parking isn't impossible and downtown is awesome
Take Metro Transit more.
Take the ferry.
Take transit to the downtown
Use public transport.
use the ferry more often
Better leave a special lane for bus, other cars can not drive in.
Difficult to park

Make more flash light instead of stop sign
Better bus access to NSCC Waterfront Campus.
Better distribution of types of buses across the system.
One side parking on streets is problematic
public transportation and access to vehicles can be better
Stagger the bus schedule (too many buses going in the same direction that all come at the same time).
Better communication about when the ferry service is running off schedule.
Parking – key for people who don’t walk.
Parking is always an issue – hesitate to use the library.
enhanced active transportation links NSCC to Ferry Terminal – needs lighting promote the path fourseason path
shuttle bus to the Dartmouth commons to sullivan's pond and back hop on and hop off
More Frequency for ferry, run on later hours too, its better for young people security, at least last till 3am, there should be Ferry on Sunday nights,
Need to coordinate ferry with events in downtown – on days when we have events, we should have longer ferry runs to take people back home. Theatre/events coordination with Ferry to match timings
Bus stops should have closed in areas to wait and sit, this can make your day better and improve your transit experience but filling the stops with art. Design and art should be a part of the transit system. Improve a day and a mentality.
Fix the ferries, take them out of metro transit, and make them run as fast as they can.
Make the ferry open earlier on Sundays – the 11am ferry is too late to begin for the day, for locals and tourists.
Parking isn't working very well – mark on the road where parking is allowed to avoid the distribution of tickets with paint! As simple as painting a boundary to designate the exact space that a car is allowed to be in, cheap and easy.
Take the big busses out of the downtown, use smaller busses with more frequent trips for the downtown core, and leave the bigger busses for the outer core.
The ferry is the glue between the two downtowns, TAKE ADVANTAGE of this fact. Should be able to cross anytime. It's the main connection.
Better bus services
More access for boaters to moor boats.
Water divides us ferry should run longer,
Parking, get rid of pay parking. Forces people to otherwise go to Bayers
Terminals in the wrong place (trucking industry). This is key. Electric buses, little buses like Quebec city that transport people to bigger terminals
Transit buses should be clean

Transportation – buses take up room, not used.
There have to be ways to get in and out for large scale shopping. Better bus services.
improve public transportation;
Literail, Bedford to DT
Sunday – free transit
Empty parking lots, put them underground or a better transit system.
no transport trucks downtown!
quiet busses
Bury it and put the parking underground.
BURY THE WIRES in the Downtown.
CN Tracks for commuters.
DOWNTOWN – NO PLACE TO PARK
Ferry between Bedford, Halifax, Dartmouth.
Frequency of the ferry
It's a struggle to come into Halifax or Dartmouth – parking is a big deal.
Difficult Parking is the main reason we don't go downtown.
Ferry access from Downtown Dartmouth and Woodside to McNabs Island (especially Woodside!)
Ferry stops near Seaport Market and NW Arm
Free ferry service on weekend – would people from Halifax to the Dartmouth market it would just bring more people...something to see on the other side of the harbor easy way to experience it
Reinstate parking if customer bought something downtown
Transit connecting all cities – rail
U turns to move traffic closer yet away from pedestrian streets quickly
Would people chance to try it, reduce the use of cars on weekends
Bus designated lane
No cars on Portland street
Create a more natural flow of movement to and through the downtown during different times of the day instead of large influxes of traffic at known specific times that people tend to avoid if they can. Perhaps by shutting down some streets temporarily during different times of the day.
parking should be paid for like in other cities
electric buses(less noise, less pollution)
Central parking area (for customers and residents)
Free metro transit.
Park n ride, so people can park outside DT and bus in.
[more] parking
A ferry that runs 15 minutes x 24 hours x 7 days between downtowns (cheaper than running busses). What's with this crappy ferry service?

a parking app for people who think parking is hard to find,
Allow car parking everywhere and two way streets until there is real public transit. How can there be commerce with no parking.
Allowing dogs on the ferry may encourage more people to move from one downtown to the other for walks in the nice weather. It would encourage public transit use to downtown events and help decrease traffic in the peninsula.
Also, Parking Information (ie signage that shows who has empty spaces or a radio station)
and accessible transportation
Better connectivity for buses
better ferry hours for Dartmouth nightlife
Better parking that does not cost a spare tire. When spending \$15-20 a day to go enjoy the area, takes the fun out of it. For shopping, dining and other entertainment it makes more sense to go to a park where parking is free.
Better parking that don't have to worry about feeding the meter. More places to park
Better public transit and
Better traffic flow, moving truck traffic from the container pier off Hollis & Lr Water Streets. There was talk one time about using the old train route to move truck traffic.
Better transit
Better transit,
Better transit. More convenient direct and short transit routes.
Bring back FRED!
Bus service improved,
Bus service improved,
Car-free zones, dedicated bus lanes
change transit so it all doesn't travel down the same streets (eg Barrington after SGRd)
Conduct education to sensitize drivers to congestion whose intensity could give a feeling of vitality lacking.
Divert large trucks from the downtown.
Ease the traffic flow. There is a distinct lack of marked intersections and flashing green lights. I feel like these things will make it easier to get around.Also, focus on the entire DT, not just the waterfront and spring garden road. There's a lot more to DT than those 2 areas.
Eliminate cars from the downtown
encourage businesses (park n ride would also help with commuter parking, but keep it going at weekends!);
fewer cars parked on the street, which would require AFFORDABLE (if not free or similarly metered parking lots);
Free and easily accessible parking. It's why I like the business parks...retail and services easy to get to.
free ferry service all weekend, every weekend;
Free ferry services.
free Ferry to make both Downtown feel like 1,
Free hop on hop off open air bus that circulates the downtown core.

Free parking
Free Parking
Free Parking
free parking,
frequent service transit that connects well to the rest of our city
Get rid of articulated buses that have difficulty in narrow streets.
Get rid of the rail lines in downtown Dartmouth.
Get rid of the ridiculous interchanges.
give merchants an easy way to validate parking or give meter tokens,
I also recommend free underground parking, to significantly decrease visible parking structures to enhance green space.
I think downtown has great options for entertainment, dine, etc... I just see how the inconvenience of getting there, for somebody who doesn't live close by, would affect their decision of going.
I'd like to see buses and main thoroughfare off Barrington St.
Improve bus service from alderney.
Improved public transit.
Less one way streets.
Make it easier to park - more obvious spots, more lenient parking rules.
more bike parking options on or near Spring Garden and Barrington
More frequent bus and ferry service on the weekend
No toll on the bridges.
Not sure how easy it is, but getting heavy truck traffic out of downtown is a start. Massive containers, loud engines, heavy exhaust are a menace.
offer a boat taxi service with various stops from Bedford to Halifax, to Dartmouth and Georges Island,
park n ride to get downtown;
PARKING
Parking
Parking especially with children
Parking facilities
Parking,
Reduced posted speed limits.
remove a portion of bus-routes from Barrington Street, leaving one or two buses to serve that street, disperse remaining routes to adjacent streets to create greater options for riders, lessen congestion and over-presence of buses on this corridor;
Restore lunchtime quarter-hour ferry service.
Second, aggressive traffic calming on all major pedestrian corridors to slow traffic down. (E.g., Spring Garden could be narrowed in order to widen the sidewalks, in order to have enough room for trees on the sidewalk!)
Shuttle that runs down Quinpool, Bell, Sackville with stops at major intersections.
Small ferries and mini buses.

Spring garden one way,
Take cares and buses off from queen to south park.
Take out railway from downtown Dartmouth.
Transit that runs often on several routes so its easy to get around without a car.
More free parking
Need free parking to stay downtown longer.
better transit routing (staggering the buses).
Rail system used as the public transit.
Bikes on the ferry – let people know how easy it is
Bridge closing big changes to commuting patterns – More bussies and ferry
Dartmouth bus terminal – big improvement
Ferry maintenance shuts down
Ferry ride – turn around and come back
Halifax – better connections between bus and ferry
Later ferry service – more all day service
New ferry terminal – better ferry service
Woodside ferry all day – will be a big plus
Ferries increase schedule on Sundays
Market the quality of life that taking a ferry gives as opposed to sitting on the bus. Quality of life is what people love about NS, incorporate that in the transit system. Should be able to sit back and relax as you make your way to the destination.
Better transportation.
Roads better paved.
A day pass by metrotransit on the weekend to promote ridership and vibrancy.
Leave a car in downtown overnight to promote nighttime living.
Make the busses free to get in to the Halifax peninsula. Cheaper for families to bus.
Open up georges island. Have regular service to mc nabbs island. Make it easy make it affordable.
Stop subsidizing parking lots
Day passes for Metro Transit
Signage is concealed by trees, paint road lines, so drivers know where to stop.
Better publicTransit
Decrease parking lot in surface
It is possible to close busy streets for transportation for specific time
bus shelters even on narrow sidewalks
Roundabouts
Stop slow drivers (jk)
WIFI ON BUSES!
Communication of transit routes, could be more clear
Frequency of transit

Move traffic why put lights at the end of the bridge
Valet Parking
Extended hours for ferries
a disincentive to bring your cars downtown increased transit services like woodside on weekend – really more geared to weekday commuters, not geared to playing downtown on the weekends
A light rail system
Although not a problem for me because I have parking downtown for work, I know accessibility of downtown is an issue for many folks. If this could be made easier, it may encourage more to come downtown especially if they don't live on the Peninsula. Nobody wants to spend half their outing trying to get downtown.
an intelligent parking system that communicated with me before my trip where the best place for me to park a car may be
Better access to downtown. Right now, for an able-bodied person who lives on the Peninsula, by far the easiest way to get downtown is to walk. But that can take half an hour and it's not so pleasant when it's freezing. High-frequency, all-day-span transit access to downtown from all points on the Peninsula and downtown Dartmouth is absolutely crucial.
Better faster transit so it is easier to take transit than drive a car.
Better parking - free or at least with fixed fees. This will allow people to spend time, without being concerned about the cost of parking
Better parking for libraries and different centers where youth events are held
Better parking in the downtown.
Better public transit, particularly at night time. Busses, better ferry schedule to get people in and out more easily. Reduce the need for people to drive in. Hopefully this is being considered in the current review of Metro Transit services!
Better traffic control to ease traffic congestion - particularly rush hour traffic (eg. better coordination/timing of traffic lights)
Better transit would help. The #7 is not bad, right now, but the more quick rapid routes there were downtown, the more often I would go. I am torn about parking. I don't drive, but many of my friends do... they find parking downtown prohibitive.. so either improve parking OR improve transit...
Better transport to downtown
Better transportation
Better transportation and connectivity
better transportation on general
Better transportation to downtown from outer areas. Possible rail system.
Better/cheaper transit/ferry service to get you in and out on the week-ends, water taxis
Buses direct to the downtown.
Coming across on ferry to get to Hfx is great but once you get there you usually have to climb the hill to get anywhere which is not easy if you are all dressed up for dinner or the theatre and it is raining(a common occurrence here) Transportation up the hill would help ease of transit, less "dead zones"
Easier parking. Promote more.
Easier street parking.
Ferry hours

ferry service more
ferry to areas other than just dartmouth - bedford / purcell's cove
Fewer cars.
Fred hop on and hop off bus service for downtown Dartmouth
Free Parking
Free parking in the evenings.
Free parking round the clock.
free parking,
Free/reasonable prices for parking. Parking is worse all the time, especially since the bus strike awhile back. Parking signs have been changing, spots on the streets are disappearing.
Getting rid of the Cogswell Interchange
I live next to MSVU. If I take my car it takes me 15-20 min to reach downtown. If I want to go and have fun, eat, drink, etc.. I would need to take a bus. The bus takes 40 min. Please make public transit a priority, take the step forward and make it hard for cars to get to downtown.
Improved parking and transit
Improved transit: Reliable and frequent service to the downtown. Coordinated schedules and consolidated routes to eliminate confusion and overlap. Comfortable and convenient transit facilities, especially at transfers (including real-time arrival displays, heating, seating, etc.)
Inexpensive PARKING
Lanes for buses only.
Less on street parking.
Less rigid parking enforcement, no 30 minute parking meters.
More accessible parking
More bus service out to Sackville, the 80 is way too long to take if you want to keep sane and the 87 from the bridge terminal is less than reliable and doesn't run past 10:00 PM.
More buses, later buses
More efficient transit system to get in and out of downtown so you don't have to bring your car and fight for a parking spot. A free trolley or bus to take people from the waterfront up the steep hill to the public gardens and citadel hill areas.
more free parking
More free parking so I am not tempted to go to Dartmouth crossing.
More frequent buses and accurate go time, better bus connections.
More parking
More parking.
More places to park downtown
Much better and more rational transit service. I live 4 kilometres from downtown and I can walk there faster than taking a bus. Ferries from Bedford, Eastern Passage, Herring Cove, with good parking at the hubs.
No street parking downtown - just delivery/loading zones and cab stands. Establish large all day municipal parking lots downtown and offer free shuttle on buses with parking stub.
Parking

Parking
Parking
Parking ;residential
Parking :
Parking especially downtown Dartmouth
Parking in Downtown is expensive and limited. At one of the parking lots I had to come up with \$16 in change because I don't have a credit card and the park and display didn't take bills. Most inconvenient.
Perhaps moving some buses and traffic away from Spring Garden would make it less congested
Public transit vans (rather than big, stinky busses) that serve the downtown area - links to the Seaport and just getting around - - has to be fast and frequent
Public water transportation from Bedford to downtown core.
Reduce parking enforcement
see 2.5 as well if there was something that could be done to compete with the free parking the malls offer to draw people to the downtown with out it 'costing more' to be there.
slower/no traffic in immediate core.
The lack of parking is ludicrous.
the last thing would be a 24 hour 7 day transit system between the cities....I am sick of no transit... No ferry running....how backwards can we possibly get?
Traffic; parking places ; 1hour for suck a small city
Well I spend *all* my time downtown as I live, work, shop, socialize there so I'm already sold. Really, getting people to come downtown without their vehicles would certainly help everyone. People who visit downtown are frustrated by lack/cost of parking and people who live downtown are frustrated by having their streets and neighbourhoods turned into parking lots. This of course is a major, major project well beyond the scope of "easy-to-implement".
Wider, easy access, high speed highway on Barrington for cars / trucks.
Expand the ferry service.
Provide a free day of ferry service to promote the usage and quality of life it can offer! Nocturne would be a great opportunity when there are thousands of people in the downtown core!
Fewer bus routes = express bus routes run between mayor terminals + irregular busses run in loops around the terminal.
Make ferry free.
More frequent busses to bring shoppers downtown on weekends.
encourage public transportation to drop more people to downtown
Charge parking
Downtown Dartmouth Bus Comission could help promote events and volunteer opportunities
I don't need a car living downtown, I can help share that learning with others
Better ferry service with extended hours (late night and Saturday and Sunday
Bus routes that connect homes with places where people work.
Need communities rail along tracks.

Railway corridor should be developed as an active transportation routes alongside trains.
1/4 hour ferry service at lunch time
Better transit connections make it cheaper and easier to take transit and AT
Better transportation! More frequent and later at night
Bus services own lane cars after 4 o'clock
Ferry needs to run until after 3 am to support alcohol establishments on both sides of the harbour and to prevent drunk driving. Increase the toll after hours if required. (Another person added: Buses too!! Friday and Saturday)
Free ferries on Saturday all summer
Increase ferry service tie it into bar closings. Late nights and weekends. Let the city be vibrant – both sides
Keep the tracks! Provide a train shuttle Woodside - NSCC - Dartmouth Downtown - Burnside
Move the railway tracks
Reduced posted speeds
Small ferries, mini buses and no tolls on the Bridges, walking indoor
Wharf open for boats to tie up to go up town
Wifi on buses
Better public transit
Indoor pedway to the ferry terminal
Less car traffic in the downtown area! Promote public transit, car pooling, walking and wikes
More parking areas for downtown
Arteries clogged with parking on both sides so only 1 vehicle (or 2 very small vehicles) can fit through i.e. Gottingen St.
Better transit needed to help get people downtown
Buses only on MacDonald Bridge one lane [illegible] traffic anyway
Create more traffic
Easier to walk to ferry
Ferry between Bedford, Halifax and Dartmouth
Ferry system - posted schedule is only good some of the time - signs to say ferry is out of order is not hard
Free parking
Give the ferry an image/brand, one downtown, not HFX ferry or Dartmouth
Hard to find parking to visit Dartmouth (Halifax)
I come to the Alderney Market - free parking. Won't go to Halifax Market because the parking is not convenient or the ferry is not convenient
Make a central lot to free up street parking
Metro Transit park at CH - how affects them?
More ferry, more accessible hours
New ferry
No info at ferry terminal when down to quarter boat

Parking: people don't know where to park (where are available spots?) Automated meters that feed info to an app
Place a high occupancy vehicle lane on [illegible]
Publicize the ferry more. It's the easiest way to get from one downtown to the other.
Put the parking meters in the big box store parking lots
Routes not connecting at Penhorn
Social Mobility - people in cars. [illegible] private drivers from people who are taking transit
Timing of traffic flow
Use the CN trails for commuters
Very against roundabout - hard for pedestrians, hospital workers. Currently Metro Transit parks at Citadel High, how will this affect them? Community events - 4/4 hockey, marathon, basketball events, will they be able to continue? Creates more traffic we want to encourage people to use Metro Transit
Very against roundabout north hard for pedestrian - concern for high schools and hospital workers
Want fols to use Metro transit - discourages people from downtown
Better parking
Better transit to downtown
Better transport (regular scheudle dependable)
Bus late night
Bus routes that connect homes with places where people work
Can we have a ferry service for Georges Island and McNab Island and some attraction there?
Unused space
Don't bring every route downtown
Electric Transit (not spewing gas and noise)
Fewer bus routes - express bus routes run between
High quality transportation facility downtown
Less loading zones
Major terminals and regular buses run in loops around the terminal
Make ferry free
Make islands accessible
More frequent busses to bring shoppers on weekends
Need a commuter rail along tracks
No fees for bus, raise property taxes, free bus
Outskirt parking to leave car and walk around
Parking
Province owns the parking lot
Public transit should be more attractive
Railway corridor should be developed as an active transportation routes along side trains
Reduce traffic and speeds
Reduce vehicle traffic to one lane - ability to get [illegible]

Smaller buses on peninsula/more often
Street car
There is too much parking in the world
Traffic - parking - hubs ie the Bay, electric buses, relocate terminal, address arteries
Use our own people for the services that are used to promote local events – websites, graphic designers, etc.
Create Local Halifax APP for easy communication and info about businesses and artists with categories, maps
I'm In should remain the theme
Keep the "I'm In" campaign moving forward
communicate the good news stories to my network
get the word out, talk about how great it is, which I do
Give downtown prepaid VISA card as gifts to all my friends, share good experiences downtown on social media,
Help spread the word via social media
I can spread the word about downtown Halifax businesses, restaurants and activities.
I talk positively about the city
promote all that is great about our downtown
Promote and talk about the downtown
Promote it every opportunity I get.
Promote it on social media.
Promote the downtown.
Promoting downtown by word of mouth.
Publicize cool events, shops and things to do.
Share exciting events with others about downtown.
share it with out of town friends
Spread the word about living and working in downtown Halifax and all the great things that come along with those.
Support local businesses. And profile local businesses
Talk to people about downtown
Better advertising of events like for movies in the park, etc.
Events to make the entire space (Dartmouth Commons) known and circulated, brings people there to bring it to the front of mind, plays, Canada day picnic in Dillman Park
Things to make people discover what's actually out there: good public relations with police since interactive rather than negatively
Better communication about the vision of downtown. Inform citizens about what happening/ when it's happening. Direct communication
Communicate the results of events like this to the participants
Promote local events more
how can events be shared better with more people? On maritime centre, billboards, radio
Posters at market for better communication of events.

Destination Halifax promote mandate to promote downtown Dartmouth – not just Halifax!!
Nobody realizes what downtown Dartmouth has to offer
Promote with street festivals
Signs with points of interest
We need to be more united and engage as a community – demand more promotion for Dartmouth
Raise awareness of activities people to go to.
For the older generation – use the paper and the news more efficiently to promote information about events like this – the older demographic of citizens is one of the largest in our community and there are not efficient ways of communicating information to them.
If we are such an allseason country, why would our city shut down during the entire season of winter – snowshoeing trails downtown! Promote tobaggging on the safe hills downtown, promote as winter activity for kids. Get the information out to people in the neighborhood about whats going on – Set up a system to get information about current events, cancellations, etc.out to everyone, twitter is an example of a way to do this use twitter as a community building calendar! Apps for smartphones!
Make the HRM website easier to navigate, more accessible for just the daytoevents items.
Improve the information transmittal.
Promoting the use of smaller spots in public spaces like Dylan Park to host small concerts, perhaps music shows put on by younger bands – cut away the red tape, maintain it as a safe and respectful environment. Promote buskers and youth and productive graffiti/art instead of hindering that creativity. Give the community the benefit of the doubt until proven otherwise.
Use twitter to keep people informed!
Community Boards with info on what is happening around your area
An app for Halifax, to track can what people are looking for, and how successful they were, how can it be better, etc.
Videos of Mike Savage have drawn people here today. Love out mayor.
public education campaigns (eg chalk boards downtown w fun facts)
rainbow crosswalks on Gottingen near menz bar/company house
Lack of PR support: more promotion of events as well as creating more community boards. (cultural facilities, at metro transit, etc because print media and social media is still not enough)
more bulletin boards
And clearly defined downtown boundaries.
Attract people here and encourage to stop and spend their money.
Get positive media coverage for Dartmouth
More active interaction between the buildings and the public.
more advertisements on upcoming events.
Promote the harbor. People don't know about what the waterfront has to offer.
Promote what can be done at lunch hours - flea markets/ farmers markets - use the downtown core (the parks/public gardens for outside concerts/events/yoga, etc.
Downtown Dartmouth needs a unified vision.
Advertising or big screens at ferry terminal and on boat to tell people about what is going on in and around town
Getting the word out – how do you tell people there is stuff going on

Reaching people who aren't on social media – especially about the transit service
Lots that already exist, but needs to be enhanced and better known to the public
Advertising, activity board
Communications PR
People need to be more open about and understand the homelessness issues
We (Dartmouth) need more coverage from media
An app to promote community uses.
Promote activity in the winter.
Speakers' corners
green and sustainable living awareness
Our biggest challenge is bringing people from Halifax to Dartmouth – making it an attractive place – we don't have enough to draw people in. – promote and communicate more –'hook' people in with the museum or aquarium, environmental gardens – once you come over the first time and realize how great it is you won't want to leave.
General communication on what is going on on subscription basis
Hello Dartmouth facebook page more well known
Improved promotion, bulletin boards, Hello Dartmouth fb page, Dartmouth section in Chronicle Herald, Sunday paper
A Downtown pride campaign
Ad campaign based on connectedness/compassion community building. Advertise a tight knit community.
More opportunities like this event today – it is crucial for community development to frequently listen to public opinion.
better communication of how me and my family can use the downtown
Bigger Hub, a very attractive website that lists all of the attractions - has articles and photos profiling great community members and groups. All of the above!
DT app - easy acces to all the services, businesses, events etc. in the DT.
It would be nice to have more explanation of cultural/historically significant places in both downtowns.
More media positivist. More good about downtown and less negative
City often tells us what we can't do, we would like to know what we can do.
Reach people who aren't on social media
advertise the area
split ad spaces print bags with all downtown businesses
Embassadors: CHOICE: choose and encourage your friends and people to come down to the market, to go to Celtic corner, etc.
Encourage social gathering
Having conversations with our friends and on our own social media
Helpful if there was a website to share info
Define vision with more detail
Better promotion and advertising of events in downtown core.
HRM needs a better website!

Need city advertising of special events, deals/specials in businesses.
recognize those that are helping us
tell the stories of things that are working – celebrate our successes ie we are making progress
Signs for new construction outside the building.
Challenging family,friends to support local
Central event website
Communication is key
Hard to even find out of fireworks are happening on the HRM website!
Snap magazines run on volunteer basis
Social media offers many opportunities
The Dartmouth oven needs to be promoted – the city has done NOTHING to promote it
Testimonials, ambassadors, people saying good things about what they love about Dartmouth
More public engagement opportunities to keep us vibrant.
If you are using social media, promote local. And if you're not, talk to people – word of mouth is so powerful. Encourage people to participate in anything you strongly believe in and support.
Check out Hello Dartmouth on Facebook for tons of info on what's going on.
Ad campaign based on connectedness/compassion and comminty building
Didn't know how to get involved before this
Public education about urban nature
Raise awareness - recognise there are already lots of great things
Small table discussion format
Cool apps
Focus on local - promote/pride
Got asked to put in contact w/ developers to build new app and recognize local talent
HRM must continue - communicate with public - keep public engaged in next steps
Is there a HRM calendar of events? HRM needs a better website!
Lots downloaded Halifacation
More public engagement opportunities to keep us vibrant
Need city advertizing special events, deals/specials in businesses
The #1 Having to promote happiness is strong positive social connections
Want to know where to download apps
?
I don't know what I could do personally to make the downtown more vibrant.
What do YOU need your citizens to do?
Why does the ferry stop at 5 pm on Sunday?
When people move into to the city they bring their habits with them from suburbia. How can we work with these habits?
how do we stop people from going to big boxes
What have we done, where are we going, where are we going next?

Why is buskers only one week a year?
Is there a HRM calendar of events?
How can we get involved and take on ownership of street festivals etc.
*will this feedback come back to this group before going to council?"
The Pride Week Festival is a huge gift from the LGBTQ Community to HRM's downtown – not the other way around. What does HRM value it LGBTQ Community?
Community idea spaces - bringing people together and encouraging conversation - how can we implement our ideas
Do we have the cheapest waterfront in NA? Affects quality of life
Is our waterfront for sale of too little/cheap affects quality of life
Why is downtown Dartmouth empty after 7 pm? Nowhere to go, except a couple of bars
How can you activate Citadel Hill as a better public space?
What can we do to make it easier for student to find work
The streets of Dartmouth are not felt to be safe at night. Organize night walks for all ages to own the streets
I'd be willing to spend more money downtown if I felt it was safer to bring my family there
Keep it clean. Look both ways
Light up (brightness) at downtown areas after dark. Encourage people to walk about late at night. Because if it is dark, you want to run indoor or to your car.
better feeling of safety after dark
Better Lighting for Safety! (ie Dartmouth Commons or what is left of the Commons...
Better lightning. Theme lighting like seasonal lights.
Install lighting along the full length of the waterfront (Alderney to Woodside) multi-use path;
Lights in the park.
Lights on the walking trails
lights,, clear where to cross,
Lower part of Portland street feels dangerous. Need to have businesses animate their spaces.
Make the walk from the Halifax ferry terminal towards the clock tower more appealing by increasing the lighting,
Remove the pan handlers in front of Park Lane and the hooligans that hang out there!
Safer (panhandler free) area.
Lights in the Dartmouth Commons to make the area more safe – plus host more events at the park to involve Youth Programs from Rec centers or the Sportsplex.
Lighting increased
Ability to get home safely
Alterations to areas around Victoria road, make it safer
brighter lighted street lights
Get the panhandlers off the sidewalks. The panhandlers are intimidating. Some people avoid the downtown because of the panhandlers.

If there were more people around I would feel safer. Safer for businesses. Prevent crime
If traffic allows for easy access. As a note I NEVER drive on Spring Garden Road if I can avoid it..... a nightmare even in good weather, even before the construction. Huge construction projects deter... traffic and pedestrians are really very inconvenienced. Projects are continuous in that area. Have you not noticed? Too much trouble.
Less loitering and fewer panhandlers on SGR!
Making crosswalks in the downtown need to be more pedestrian and user friendly. For example, the crosswalk at the corner of Hawthorne and Prince Albert road is EXTREMELY busy for pedestrians using the lake and Duck pond for walking/running. The lights only allow a pedestrian to have 5 seconds to cross at the most, making it very dangerous. I should be able to let my 11 year old cross by himself but have had so many close calls myself I fear for his safety! Busy intersections like this in Halifax (north/oxford) have "countdown" buttons so pedestrians AND drivers understand CLEARLY when to walk safely. Why don't we have these in Dartmouth???? Get rid of overhead pedestrian signals. WHO looks up when they are driving? If you have your visor up you can't see them.
More public spaces to spend time in and feel comfortable, feeling safer on Barrington
More security
More street lighting would encourage me to spend more time downtown.
Parks lit up at night ;
Remove the pan handlers in front of Park Lane and the hooligans that hang out there!
Safer crosswalks. We drive and walk and whenever we walk we have near misses with impatient drivers. This is getting Halifax the reputation of being exceptionally backward in young professional circles. Why would you walk when you risk your life to do so? What would this city look like if everyone gave up walking and drove?B3
Safer downtown Dartmouth
Safety
Sense of place like times square concept, secure, police presence
Volunteer neighbourhood street patrol (friendly -"urban angel" type of thing)
Fix ped lights on Hawthorne and Prince Albert
Lighting for safe walking at night
make it safe
Be a customer at downtown businesses
Be a patron of the places I think would attract people, and encouraging others to do the same.
Buy and choose local.
Buy local
Buy local.
Buy more locally
Come down more often and support local businesses
Come to the market and buy local.
Continue spending more money downtown
Continued support of farmers markets and local businesses. Congrats on wonderful turn out at Alderney! It was exciting! I love you Halifax and Dartmouth!

Continuing to support downtown businesses by walking everywhere
I can spend my money downtown
I can, and will, shop in my downtowns more often.
I do 85 per cent of my shopping downtown so I think I'm a big supporter.
I shop locally to support smaller street-front businesses. I bring visitors downtown.
I will continue to encourage spending at local businesses by everyone I know
I would spend more time and money in the downtown area.
If people want a great downtown, they can help by shopping downtown, going out to see shows downtown, etc.
Keep coming, and supporting local businesses.
Keep spending downtown.
Make an effort to spend all of my money downtown.
Market and business
Patronize local stores and restaurants over the suburban offerings
Patronize shops downtown
Patronize shops downtown
patronize the local businesses
Shop and dine downtown.
Shop and socialize downtown
Shop here buy local.
Shop local
Shop local
Shop local.
Shop local.
Shop local.
Shop local. Support local businesses.
Shop more downtown
Shop more in the downtown core.
Shop, spend
Spend as much time and as many of my dollars as possible there
spend money
Spend money and time.
Spend money down
Spend money there and buy local.
Spend more of my discretionary spending on restaurants and retail stores in the downtown core.
Spend more time and money
Spend more time downtown and support local businesses
Spend more time enjoying the community focused businesses in the downtown core and inviting friends

to enjoy the experience with me.
Spend more time supporting businesses in the downtown.
Spend my money there but unless I want to go to a bar there is not much to do with a family.
Spending money and hanging out in downtown Dartmouth!
Stop shopping at box stores.
Support local
Support local business
support local businesses
Support local businesses
Support local businesses
Support local businesses
Support local businesses. Avoid box stores and foreign companies.
Support local vendors
Support them with my business - which I do!!
Use resources like market
Utilize what's available downtown. Support local businesses downtown so they can survive.
Visit and shop more often.
visit and spend money downtown
We could all try to patronize downtown businesses a little more than we do, and that's something I try to make a point of doing.
Support with cash
Spend money
Plant trees on my property.
Be informed keep the properties beautiful
Pick up litter.
Plant greenspace
Public art, vibrant architecture (I think we're slowly getting there)
Benches, especially as people are getting older.
Doesn't have to be benches just at bus stops.
Revitalize Dartmouth Sportsplex – paint the roof!
Waterfront views are underutilized, nothing to draw people there and keep them there, nothing built up: lots of opportunity
Coat of paint, fix up building fronts! (façade improvement program) only drive it home even further, have paint provided at a subsidized paint. Brighten up the street, get the community to come out and help paint! Start a community building initiative GET NEIGHBORS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO COME OUT ON ONE SUNNY DAY AND PAINT ALL THE SHOPS AND STOREFRONTS ON ONE STREET AT A SUBSIDIZED PAINT RATE!!! When things look better, the area feels better, and makes you want to go there.
More benches, picnic tables.
“pretty it up”
Garbage and streets are dirty, event like the parade. Filthy downtown, garbage pales are overflowing.

Pristine, attractiveness
turning Granville mall into an atrium and allow people a streetscape in the wintertime to be a community space
Clean the street
utility poles underground
Gateway signage. Defines a district, identifier, not able to implement gateway signage into street(have funding, meeting barriers in placement of the signs). Less red tape. Need a yes atmosphere, too much of a no culture. Less high rise building and more land scaping
We want greenery natural views
light up barrington
Stop planting under the wires, where possible.
Less concrete at sidewalk level
Better access for buskers (easier to do), stage up, podium, make the entire process friendlier
Be able to see into spaces before people will enter.(More visually inviting)
More vibrant/enhanced fronts of buildings
st pat's sale = money toward streetscaping plan
... more outdoor seating ...
2. More benches/seating.
2. The picnic tables in Grand Parade are great. More of these in public spaces to encourage people to spend time there and they are a great place to feed your kids if you are out on a day trip.
3. Outdoor tables with checkered patterns to play chess/checkers.
Add more seating modes for people to stop, sit and talk to each other, especially good for seniors.
Add outdoor seating next to Alderney Gate Library.
Add windows on Dartmouth Ferry Terminal so Tim Hortons looks out onto Alderney Landing plaza, and add outdoor seating for customers.
Adding more amenities on street level adding more benches.
better street scapes
Buried power lines.
clean streets,
Clean the graffiti from buildings, mail boxes and sidewalks.
Clean up Portland street.
cleaner
Cleaner streets, more vegetation, more pedestrian friendly.
Continue with streetscaping projects throughout the downtown
First, more green stuff! Parklets (e.g., in parking spots), trees lining streets, and community gardens. Right now, downtown is all grey concrete, asphalt, and stone. Adding plant-life everywhere and anywhere it will fit would make a huge difference in lightening up the feel of the streets.
Gardens, benches, water fountains, outdoor gyms
healthier street trees.,

healthier street trees., better street scapes
HUGE checker/chess boards in Grand Parade.
I also agree with all ideas above, specifically creative wraps to conceal buildings during construction (seen everywhere across Europe); Implement architectural review insisting on preservation or well thought out contemporary design.
increase cleaning (too much chewing gum on the sidewalks),
Less cigarette butts, litter and panhandling...
Mandatory textures on glass surfaces (towers) to protect birds from crashing into glass windows.
more benches and picnic tables,
More benches/places to sit that encourages folks to stay.
More green plantation in the downtown
More green stuff such as planters. Green space.
More greenery
More greenspace/landscaping, reduction in areas lost to surface parking.
More patios
More public art like the lampposts on the waterfront. Anything to make you smile during the long winters.
More public spaces like benches to sit and drink coffee
more small green spaces where possible
More street art and bright colours to attract the eye (especially in the winter, and especially on streets such as Granville, Hollis, Clyde - streets that need revamping).
More things at street level
More trees on SGR and Barrington.
Picnic tables in more places to encourage al fresco eating and bring more people together.
Put more flowers around. Beautify the city.
Put some benches back along Spring Garden Rd., so that I don't have to constantly stand to wait for the bus. One time last summer, I sat on a small cement barrier beside a business on Spring Garden to eat a sandwich while I was waiting for a bus, and a Security Guard came along and although he was quite pleasant, asked me to move along! I'm a 54 year old respectable female.
Reclaim some of the street space used by vehicles and return it to the people.
Revitalise areas (paint, plants, redoing sidewalks).
Streetscaping - string lights across Argyle and Barrington,
Streetscaping: broad sidewalks, shade, benches, garbage cans, bike parking, removal of on-street parking on Barrington
Unique, obvious street signage.
Walkable wider sidewalks that have pocket parks and places to sit and people watch.
wider sidewalks on Harrington also.
wider sidewalks on Portland Street (lose large garden beds in exchange for hanging baskets along the storefronts);
Wider sidewalks, fewer cars. More trees.
wrap or wall-off Nova Centre site

Benches
Clean up vandalism
Commit to greenery in the city – improves walkability, and attracts people and makes them want to walk there and take that route as opposed to other options.
A clean downtown.
people needs to care more about the space – not throw trash everywhere
planters
Paris – Champs Elysee – very wide sidewalks so there is room for green space, people moving, and cafes
Beautifying functional things (like bike racks, benches)
Painting municipal boxes, deters vandalism,
Buildings that have a wood store plus a place to get soup or chili.
Al fresco patios
All of the above. For example we only have one nice really nice, pedestrian walkway...the halifax boardwalk and that is stupid....and very short too.
By and large, though there are exceptions, the downtown is not a friendly place to walk around. The waterfront is lovely but as soon as you begin to work your way up you're faced with empty lots, empty buildings, etc. There's not much to encourage you to wander and no street atmosphere. Many tourist towns have more character at the street level that welcomes you to spend your time.
Deal with the street plan handlers.
designs for new buildings that keep what's left of our harbour fronts open and available for all of us to enjoy
Downtown beautification (benches, flowers, public art - create public gathering spaces) and façade program for businesses.
Make the downtown more pedestrian friendly, green spaces, resting stops, food trucks and vendors, lighting and beautification and using the vacant spots along the streets as display spaces until they are rented.
More cheerful streetscapes (flower pots, painted windows and cleaned up facades in vacant buildings, removal of garbage along streets, etc).
More places to sit and enjoy the scenery, more space to walk around, most of the waterfront is crowded in the summer hard to enjoy the scenery when you seem rushed just trying to get to one end of the waterfront to the other.
More public green space. It is too bad the convention centre looks like it will be a huge concrete block. it would
be great to see more parkettes, with picnic tables and trees, and more sunshine.
Some more green plantation can also make people enjoy downtown more.
The biggest thing Dartmouth needs is people out and about and currently there is no incentive for them to do so. It's partly an issue that Alderney Drive feels like a highway, but also there isn't much to do downtown. A few years ago in NYC they transformed an empty parking lot into a summer time out door bar.
We have tonnes of parking lots in Downtown Dartmouth: let's use them for something interesting. http://www.urbandaddy.com/nyc/nightlife/13476/The_Lot_on_Tap_The_High_Line_s_Parking_Lot_Full_of_Beer_New_York_City_NYC_Chelsea_Bar
The streetscaping projects make the downtown a more enjoyable place to be
Pick up litter, especially by tim hortons. Few garbage cans on the street.

Cleanliness
Clean up litter
More benches on the waterfront
Add flexible furniture to our public plazas (tables and chairs)
Keep buildings low so people look at each other not up
No parking on SW side of Agricola, make a bike lane and room for parties
Adding benches along the route, not just at a bus stop
Bury the overhead wires
Colour is key - put the love and care into surroundings
Dartmouth vs. Halifax - Dartmouth more disjointed - new buildings on Brunswick are ugly. Beauty inspires
Fountains
Many more protected view planes = fewer high rises
Oak st at Tulip park bench
Picnic tables
Planting gardens in residential boulevards
Planting more trees good
Public benches
Use the old buildings, don't need the high rises
All Barrington St. ground level = commercial
Architecture - old and new can co-exist
Broader sidewalks
Build benches in neighbourhood
Bury power lines
Cleanliness
Convert parking spaces to social spaces
Dirty streets better maintenance grass, trees, loosen rules for tree maintenance sods do it properly plants, benches
Green belts across streets
Improve walkability of downtown: - safety - enjoyment - pedestrian experience - streetscape – noise pollution
Less high rise building - more landscape - green
Lights with built in speakers
Narrow streets, broader sidewalks
Rainnie = pedestrian friendly
Reduce vehicular area by 1 lane - widen the sidewalks
Salt Lake City water fountain
Speakers and music ambient
St. Catherine's Montreal example - art above street
Take over the roads to show council how to change your city

Tax system encourages/forces people to exit out of the downtown.
Taxes from areas should be used to improve the areas.
Change tax base of Downtown and suburbs to encourage local biz to set up
Tax incentives for improvements in downtown revitalization projects
Give taxable incentives to enterpreneurs.
Balance to make case to encourage people to live in the city. Revise taxation
Lower taxes and rent for local businesses
tax more parking lots
tax vacant lots
tax vacant lots(a lot),and incentive for infill
Use the 60% social innovation tax credit
Business taxes are too high,
Reduce property tax
Tax the malls where the life has migrated.
tax incentives for local businesses downtown, and for big franchises that encourage shopping (eg HnM, Winners etc)
Make downtowns the easiest places to live and work and play - attract more families and businesses with lower taxes for urban core.
Make it more expensive to live and do business in the burbs and places like Dartmouth Crossing/ BLIP.
Adjust retailers taxes (person added "obviously yes!")
Tax help
"Tax Holiday"
Balance taxes hard for small bus
Density bonusing
Tax Dartmouth Crossing tax more
Offer more for people coming in from the cruise ships
6. Historic walking tours.
Municipal tourist booths.
Small boat tours of the harbour from the Dartmouth side
REALLY SHOULD BE A TOURIST DESTINATION
Separate designated transportation to tourist sites
Tourist guide in downtown,
Tourist podium
Daypass for tours
teenage tour guide group (employing teenagers for summer)
Better hotel options, especially in dartmouth
More attractions
Tourist information in Dartmouth please!!
Waterfront tourist train between the two ferry terminals

Halifax needs to be more "tourist-friendly" in ways like this. "Tourism" needs to be reincorporated
Tour bus moves slowly and it can work
Tour guide engage tour campaigns work together
Avoid? Just go to the exact location i need to, then get out.
Be behind good projects
Be more supportive of local bus
Encourage work, help.
Offer more of what indo regularly (teach show and enhance floral design)
Talk it up slot and invite people downtown
People WANT to come, we have to make it easier for them.
maybe partner with NSCAD/DAL/SMU to help bring people downtown
think about how to make places livable
Small but might city, fortress and protector – small and feisty city
Thomas Radall – Warden of the North – Warden of the ... Atlantic Coast, North
Spring Garden Rd. at Portland Street !!
Make a stronger link between the harbor and the Dartmouth lakes
spring garden needs to be more inviting
Be brave, fight the right fights.
trial time: May – August 2014
Interactive musical architecture on Barrington to give a quite sidewalk and vibrant twang.
Aim to have less "shuttered" buildings in both Halifax and Dartmouth downtowns. This would it make it more attractibe for residents of HRM as well as for tourists/visitors.
attract offices downtown
Citadel hill orchid and different uses
Construct indoor gaming zones.
Enhance outdoor space to encourage people to come downtown.
groups of cool boutiques/activities together;
If HRM would focus on vibrant areas that currently exist. They need to be funded properly.
Light at night for instance a legislature at night in darkness
Make the Dartmouth waterfront less of a slum.
More culture come to downtown.
More downtown data.
more people downtown
More things to appeal to seniors
Orchid on citadel
Sit people watching and music
Stop "hotel" building on the arm.
Waterfront shut down... deserted

More lively Dartmouth downtown (evenings and weekends)
Need to stay!!!
Not a lot there – too many banks
Rejuvenate Portland – its sleepy
Safety
Signage
Use our waterfront
We need to feel safe in the downtown area
(Portland Street),
Need s/th more than the library.
Lots of opportunity to improve connection on the waterfront, especially on the Dartmouth side.
More things to do on the streets
Night traffic like nocturne
Local vs. international studentsinteraction
More benches at front desk
Change perception by making places nicer
More things to bring people to Portland st
More community ranks
make the downtown core more like the north end – more inviting, more community feel
Use berms to block sound
activities like groups of independent boutiques together
Attention given to infrastructure which will draw people downtown.
Better/more logical continuity between the north end and downtown. Redeveloping Cogswell interchange is a great opportunity to create this.
Easy access and connectivity
Less small town rule bound thinking and more dense vibrant core.
More color in the downtown
more thing to do esp on canal street ;innovation kings
More things happening downtown that can participate in downtown.
New technologies, changing technologies and innovative ideas.
Overload of bars no no real scene, promotions to come down
People watching places.
Revitalize & connect Gottigen & Quinpool to downtown
social outreach is good but must consider others too.
we need to remind people that we are here
Things that make it enjoyable to walk from your parked car to your destination, makes poor parking not so much a deterrant
Change attitudes about using businesses in Dartmouth
Provide infrastructure so local residents can utilize.

Make island accessible .
Temporary features.
help thing to enable more easily ie open switch Sundays
need to live it
Giving support to decision makers
encouraging more diversity and multicultural
Local vs. students interactions
Help with the attitude shift amongst Nova Scotians
Participate
Promote the Harbor
Way finding
"Safe streets"
Trains
Wake up Barrington!
Altruism
Basic proximity
Clean, [illegible] modern less interaction, less excitment
Clutter, opportunities excite
Experience sharings
flooding will be a problem (insurance)
More outdoor opportunities in the summer
Open city
Social trust/Relationship
Wall of honour
Keep it alive to stay
New library culture - encourage compansar to other cities
Night traffice - Nocturne
Shopping - make it even better (Dieppe)
Use them! Ppl attract ppl!
Window painting - paint bright and inviting images of realistic activities on empty shop windows, like cafe settings, shopping scenarios, museum scenes, to liven up the streets and present examples of what it could look like if the shops etc. were to really exist
Lots of development that fills in all the street and does not leave large blank spaces or buildings where half The block is nothing but a concrete wall.
Portland street – empty commercial buildings, empty space needs to be filled.
taking empty lots and allow food trucks to be there over lunch hour
using empty lots/parking lots for temporary beer gardens, event spots

Better use of empty store front for community by law
Clean up the building. Get vacant buildings occupied by local businesses
Cleaning up vacant buildings.
Do not allow lots to sit empty. Require empty lots to be landscaped and maintained.
Fill the stores and empty land with retail and condos.
Legislate removal of long standing vacant buildings.
no vacant buildings,
Program to offer empty storefront spaces to art and culture organizations for temporary studios/programming (many similar programs exist in the US and UK: http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2013/oct/05/program-to-move-artists-into-empty-glass-street/).
Some regulation around the use of vacant building lots for surface parking. It is probably unrealistic to try banning this (though that would ne nice) but there should be a renewable permit process for long-term lots. There should also be bylaws requiring lots to have enhancements – greenery or garden easement between lot and sidewalks/other buildings; no chainlink fencing/fencing maintained in a good state of repair. There is a lot in downtown (Granville-Sackville-Hollis block) that is a perfect example of the kind of blight that should not be permitted.
Utilize empty store fronts with art, charity, or social installations to create a positive image rather than a defeated look.
Utilize vacant lots for more temporary parking and/or green space for public meeting places.
Dead space on Portland – need to use for something – makes it feel dead
Fix up facades of vacant buildings.
Need to fill empty stores on Barrington.
Use vacant lots for something more
What can we do with some of the buildings that are being repurposed – can we create green space.
No vacant buildings
Need to fill empty stores on Barrington
Vacant storefront bylaws with empty storefront
Street Performers
Rainbow Steps
Pedestrian Only Spring Garden
Make Downtown a destination, not a corridor
Turn Johnson Building meeting room into retail (active frontage)
Underground utilities
Proper street lights
Schmidtville into a heritage area
University Avenue, pilot a bikeway
Heated sidewalks
Tree Sculptures
Check October 2000 20/20 Report (Ideas for Downtown)
Daytime Mardi Gras

Make St. Pats a Cultural Mosaic Marketplace
Close Rainnie Drive
Bring back the tram
Bring back Grand Parade water fountain
Have a Red Bull Crashed Ice on George Street
Sleep under the Stars event on Citadel
Glass bridge on waterfront
Portable beach barge
Bring back the Barrington Arches
Have a 'Dartmouth, We Love You' sign on the waterfront
Make 'Shine a light' happen every night at City Hall
What is it about other places that make you want to leave? Make it happen here!
Kids love giant bugs
More people living Downtown
More boutiques
Incentives for small business
More trees
Canopies
Transparent ground floors
More & free parking
Just do it, stop studying
Interactive and Lively
Incentivize Residential
Build connection amongst stingers
Hot chocolate is warm, encourages interaction
Get people hugging
All about experiences
Strong positive social connections
Increase face to face interactions
Activate the Citadel, urban gardens
Keep charging for parking, make on-street more expensive, parking garages cheaper
Montreal style parking kiosks
Pilot projects, the City is your laboratory
Make it easy to close streets
Memorable experiences
Say Yes, Pull the trigger, and Do it!
Question: How do we get/stay involved?
Sidewalk chalk day

Make it better, even if it is a small step
Start as an experiment
Slow down EVERYTHING, better for business
Encourage stopping, conversations
Speed kills
Encourage involvement
People don't know how to get involved
Want access to water
Improve the Commons area (new wading area for children, new washroom/change facility, and update existing pool)
Provide public space for locals to exhibit their art
Make the downtown more appealing to visitors by eliminating panhandling
Make Halifax the Charleston, SC of the North
Ensure the Cogswell Interchange land is a coherent and appealing residential mixed-use precinct that can be the northern gateway to the downtown core
Improve parking downtown
Free waterfront parking on Sunday
Give businesses a tax break
Have more residential development downtown by having lower tax rates on condominiums
Give walking and bicycling more emphasis downtown over cars
Improved bike racks and bike lanes
More picnic table in public spaces
Rooftop and community gardens
More sponsorship for outdoor public concerts, such as those at the public gardens
Green space on waterfront
Close of Barrington Street-from Scotia Square to Blower or Spring Garden
Signage on downtown projects
Better signage for visitors and newcomers
Make the downtown more walkable
Create a mid-peninsula green walking trail loop
Spruce up Dartmouth areas where people come into city
Improve downtown so it is more accessible for seniors
Have a winter garbage clean-up initiative
More pedestrian streets
Reduce number of cigarette butts by following Vancouver's cigarette recycling pilot program: http://metronews.ca/news/vancouver/851355/vancouver-launches-worlds-first-municipal-cigarette-butt-recycling-program/
So good: Van Gogh bicycle path paved with "light stones" http://ow.ly/tsw33
We'd love it if you'd set somewhere that #Dartmouth-ians can walk to.
@DartCarousel A new initiative to bring family fun to the Dartmouth waterfront Help us spread the

word!
I was really wishing the Public Gardens were open today. year round public access 8 AM - 9 pm
Dresden Row & Birmingham between SGR & Sackville are such a nightmare for traffic anyway. Should def be ped-only.
Thursday eves in Ottawa, from 5-8 pm, all museums have free admission. Why not try that,or even pay-what-you-can
Investment in heritage restoration sparked by Ellis Square project. Tax \$ returned on city investment pic.twitter.com/EXLz39IBUj
Be ambitious with public space. Ellis Square Savannah pre2004 was a parking garage. Shubie Greenway. pic.twitter.com/6TtFceJPDy
Youth need more all ages venues
How about some play and whimsy in our public spaces? These giant chimes are well used in Savannah pic.twitter.com/XTQMB0IYG3
@hfxgov More dog friendly MT @Glendenning_L I don't go to markets on the weekend because I prefer stuff our dog can join in.
Lots of talk at #DowntownImIn about walking, sidewalk repair, transit and places to chill. That's on @hfxgov . Show me the money. #hfxpoli
Pedestrian-only streets? Yes, please! Look to Cuba Mall in Wellington, NZ, as inspiration.
Dreaming of the days when we'll see this again on Barrington St. I believe that this is possible. http://ow.ly/tqrjq
Okay, @DartCarousel is a perfect example of a great #community-led idea. Put an idea out there and work to make it happen!
Free Scooter Parking...
If we created streets that were engaging to walk on, we'd be happy to park far away!
food trucks becoming exciting norm throughout HRM. Need to see more downtown!
making sure the Library is not just a Library, but a Cornucopia of Culture in the Core!
Enabling Grand Parade to allow more public usage.
I've always thought the Metro Centre could use a green roof. Like a 2nd Citadel.
Can creative ways for additional parking areas be discussed?
Can someone PLEASE build me an aquarium already? And I want it in #Dartmouth
Do something. Get to know your neighbours! Who wants a street party?
Make a few popular streets pedestrian only walkways and lower business taxes to encourage investment pop into mind!
We need - less red tape for food trucks, more streets closed for community events, and municipal Wifi in the #Downtownimin
More of this pls!! @CRUrbanFarm Thank you, the kids are enjoying this #DowntownImIn pic.twitter.com/FKY9cyKcwo
Savannah has free transit (ferries and buses) Downtown #downtownimin pic.twitter.com/6FIEOBvZ9Z
Carnival with skiing, snowshoeing (my), sledding, themes, contests (ie snow angels) prizes, treats!
Serpentine Studios @SerpStudios Feb 8
How about public dance spaces? All ages, a room, wired music, dance it off @DiscoveryCntr
IN THE WARMER MONTHS LOCAL FOOD CARTS CAN ADORN THE WALKWAY FROM THE #DartmouthCarousel
Bike lanes, gardens on sides of Citadel Hill, make it easy for pedestrians to move around = economic development. #downtownimin
Mark Brand: too much parking in the world. Keep taking it away. #DowntownImIn #halifax

Partnerships are key to a vibrant downtown. HRM, provincial & federal govt, univ, schools, hospitals, community & YOU

now its a city for cars. The commuter train would help make it for pedestrians again

Also: free, clean, drinking water stations downtown.

how about plowing snow banks into safe play areas - lets use that snow!

My own #downtownimin ideas: more benches on the streets, bike rental stations, more trees, close SGR to traffic.

For our downtowns to prosper we need to come to terms with our heavy drinking culture.

someone suggested a rope tow, a great place to oearn to ski, HRM rec could hold classes!

Ideas at my table: fewer highrises, more greenery, ease food truck rules.

Food security, supporting each other, revitalizing our spaces and strong local businesses. Good place to start!

Look what trees can do when the power lines aren't in the way. Cathedral like streets! #downtownimin #savannah pic.twitter.com/jex9ECwHq5

Later #hrmferry on Sundays and more public art

I would love to see more outdoor public art works, a sculpture trail by local artists would be fantastic!

we should have some sort of veterans hangout dt. Give back to those who gave so much to us

Would pedal powered bicycle bars make our downtown more vibrant? pic.twitter.com/GBDzL6WjNb

More food trucks!! Benches and seating areas to make it a community

I'd love to see more small shops and business opening, free wifi areas, more pedestrian only streets, and affordable rents

More artistic murals on blank facades of buildings

bring back F.R.E.D @hfxtransit, even if its just the weekends

Close @AEDHalifax from Neptune Theatre to Blowers to car traffic and allow permanent patios

Bring the streets alive with #arts and #culture. People are willing to park far away if walking is a fun experience.

Let's increase the amount and variety of downtown housing.

free rapid-cycling bus circling robie spring garden, barrington, cogswell. Real bike parking. 15min ferrys past 9

car free weekends on some feeder streets and all downtown core.

Let's have a night market to bring people downtown after hours!

Halifax should offer citizens weekend movies at the harbour. A great way to get more people there at night

We need an aquarium!

free parking in parkades on select days to attract people for whom transit/walking is not an option

Use empty storefronts! Temporary & free gallery space? A win for both residents & visitors.

Public #art that's interactive - brings people together & creates a "downtown destination" Inspiring architecture too!

I think On some Sundays Ped only streets

maybe we could get the hot chocolate cart, eh?

Downtown wi-fi! Downtown wi-fi!

Pedestrian only streets! Just came back from Toronto's distillery district. Wish we could pick it up and move it here.

Hey @hfxgov would help if our tourist #HRM map identified our streets with better identities

Bike lanes, music, & hot chocolate on a winter's day.

"Like a snake museum!"