

Vision

Our vision for the TRAX Street Opening project is to establish a two kilometre street route that is “opened” for active transportation on a weekly basis in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). This will involve “closing” the street to motorized traffic in order to create a safe community space for HRM citizens to walk, run, roller blade, skateboard, wheelchair, scooter, cross-country ski, snowshoe, skate, etc. We will start small, with a single event in April. Our goal is to secure sponsorship that will enable us to “close” a street every Sunday between the months of May and October. This street “closure” will provide a unique space that is flat, wide, safe, centrally located, and that is inclusive to all community members, without excluding those who may not otherwise be able to use park trails or corridors that are too narrow or bumpy. This will encourage people to participate in diverse activities—all in one location—so disparate community members can actively unite as a cohesive group.

Our vision dovetails with the TRAX goals to facilitate and encourage active living, physically active transportation and carpooling (with a corresponding decrease in the use of single occupancy vehicles). Our vision is supported by HRM's *Blueprint for a Bicycle Friendly HRM* “near-term implementation goal” to “close all or part of a street as a special event to promote active transport.” Our vision is also supported by the Pathways for People Framework for Action (Nova Scotia Health Promotion), which suggests the use of events and festivals, including “street closures” to build educational tools which promote public awareness of active transportation