

# Active Transportation: Let's Make Connections

## Key Infrastructure Progress Since 2006

AT Greenway



**Sidewalks:** a space typically alongside a roadway improved for use by pedestrians. Sidewalks in HRM are typically made of concrete, at least 1.5m wide, and separated from the roadway by a concrete curb and/ or grassed boulevard. *HRM has 874 km of sidewalks. (29 km have been built by HRM since 2006)*

**AT Greenways:** 3-4m wide multi-use trails which accommodate the broadest range of AT users (e.g. walkers, cyclists, joggers, inline skaters, skateboarders, etc.). They are 'green' ways because they are usually in natural corridors and they support 'green' (environmentally friendly) transportation. *There are 131 km of Greenways in HRM (up from 68 km in 2006).*

Bike Lane



**Bicycle Lanes:** 1.5m lanes designated on the roadway for bicycles with a white painted line and associated regulatory signage. *There are 95 km of bicycle lanes in HRM (up from 14 km in 2006).*

**Local Street Bikeways:** Quiet local streets designated for priority travel by bicycles. Traffic calming or traffic diversion measures may be used to reduce the speed and/ or volume of motor vehicles. Directional signage is provided, as well as assistance to bicyclists when crossing major streets. *There are no Local Street Bikeways currently in HRM.*

Local Street Bikeway



**Cycle Track:** Bicycle lanes which are physically separated from motor vehicle traffic by a barrier. *There are no Cycle Tracks in HRM today.*

Cycle Track (Montreal)



**AT Bridges:** Highways, rail corridors and natural features like watercourses create serious barriers for Active Transportation. AT bridges are critical in helping overcome these barriers. *A pedestrian/ bicycle bridge was built over Highway 111 and bike lanes and sidewalks were included with the Washmill Lake underpass. Several other bridges have been built on Greenways.*

**Shared Lane Markings or "sharrows":** These are road markings used to indicate a shared lane environment for bicycles and automobiles. Sharrows reinforce the legitimacy of bicycle traffic on the street and recommend proper bicyclist positioning. *There are sharrows on Waverley Road at Montebello where the bicycle lane ends before the intersection.*

Sharrow



**Signed Bike Route:** Green 'Bike Route' Signs are installed, but no other changes to the roadway are made. The route may have wide lanes or simply be one that is popular with existing cyclists. *There are several signed bike routes in HRM e.g. Vernon Street.*

### Other Ways HRM Supports Active Transportation

HRM implements and supports a range of activities to encourage more active transportation. These include:

- Bike racks installed at all HRM facilities and more than 200 installed in business areas in the core
- HRM Bike Week participation up over 5000 in 2012 (up from 800 participants in 2006)
- Smart Cycle bicycle education training available at workplaces
- Stepping Up Physical Activity initiative
- Road safety public education & campaigns
- Police Bike Rodeos
- Support for Ecology Action Centre programs to encourage children and youth to participate in AT including Making Tracks (AT skills training) and School Travel Planning (AT plans for schools)
- Bike & Greenways map published and distributed annually free of charge
- Get Out Check it Out - trail booklets (now available online only)
- Bike Racks on all new buses. Many transit routes are designated bike routes
- Bicycle lanes or a parallel greenway are now required along new major collector and arterial roadways
- All "Candidate On-Road Routes" in AT Plan are automatically evaluated for concurrent bicycling improvements
- Bicycle racks are now required in all new commercial and multi-unit residential development (except rural areas)
- HRM businesses can "request a rack" for the sidewalk if they don't have space on their own property for one