

Jurisdictional Scan

The activities include:

- Monthly calls with several western Canadian municipalities (Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, and Vancouver).
- Transportation Association of Canada round table meetings with large municipalities.
- Webinars regarding COVID-related transportation issues and network adjustments hosted by multiple agencies:
 - Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE),
 - National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO),
 - Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP),
 - National Complete Streets, and
 - Parachute Vision Zero Network.
- Review of:
 - ITE e-community COVID discussion posts,
 - APBP e-community COVID discussion posts,
 - NACTO: Transportation Actions Updates database, and
 - journals, news articles, etc.

Some examples of measures implemented by other municipalities include:

- Traffic signal adjustments to reduce the need for activation of pedestrian push buttons;
- Temporary bike lanes;
- One-way travel on sidewalks;
- Street or lane closures to allocate additional space for pedestrians and cyclists; and/or
- Creation of shared streets, slow streets, or temporary recreation streets programs to allow local access to the streets but restrict through traffic.

Details from other Cities are included in the following tables.

Canadian Cities

Municipality	Closing Streets	Closure Conditions	Implementing Pedestrian Recall	Other Measures
Brampton, ON	Yes	The City of Brampton is implementing interim bike lanes to provide residents an alternative cycling option to the recreational trails. The City is working to implement permanent protected bike lanes on these streets as part of the approved Active Transportation Master Plan. Lane closures, rather than street closures		
Calgary, AB	Yes	Along sidewalks and pathways with larger volumes of pedestrian traffic. The lane closures are in effect between 7 p.m. Friday and 7 p.m. Temporary measure, timing uncertain.		
Edmonton, AB	Yes	Two roads in Edmonton will be adjusted to provide more space for pedestrians and cyclists. These are lane closures rather than full closures.	Yes - 56 intersections in high pedestrian areas and around hospitals	
London, ON	No			Signs installed at some bridges and pedestrian tunnels instructing people to stop and wait for oncoming pedestrians to pass before crossing. Making sidewalks on Highbury Avenue that go over railway bridges one-way for walking traffic.

Municipality	Closing Streets	Closure Conditions	Implementing Pedestrian Recall	Other Measures
Montreal, QC	Yes	Expanding pedestrian space on Mount Royal Avenue between Fullum and Park to allow social distance in a dense area for residents. The system is designed to take the pressure off sidewalks by letting shoppers walk or stand in line on the street while keeping their distance with one another. The corridor has an average width of about 4.5 meters, according to the City. Other closures will be considered on a case-by-case basis for central neighbourhoods where population density necessitates a closure for social distancing.		
North Vancouver, BC	No	Monitoring greenways, high volume pedestrian areas and key intersections.	Yes. Automating pedestrian signals at key locations.	Installing additional signage where necessary to remind pedestrians to respect physical distancing requirements.
Ottawa, ON	No	At this time, roadway closures to vehicle traffic will not be possible due to logistical challenges, staffing requirements and the need to ensure continued access for transit and emergency services.		One Councillor is using his own budget to limit traffic volumes on Byron Avenue to local traffic only. Traffic signal timing adjustments.
Toronto, ON	No	“Open streets” that result from cities banning car traffic are usually intended “to bring people together,” and “this is the exact opposite of what we need to see right now.” City departments are working with decreased staff levels during the crisis, and the signage, road barriers, and enforcement required to safely implement a street closure “would divert resources away from where they are most needed.”		

Municipality	Closing Streets	Closure Conditions	Implementing Pedestrian Recall	Other Measures
Vancouver, BC	Yes	Closed EB lanes on Beach Avenue for pedestrians and cyclists. High population density and adjacent to the sea wall (destination). Still seeing evidence of crowding and gathering despite the street closure.	Yes. Downtown pedestrian crossings automated to reduce touch points.	"Room to Queue" initiative that reallocates road space to support safe access to daily needs. The program is being tested in front of three stores on Davie Street and Commercial Drive.
Westmount, QC	No			Promoting one-way sidewalks (same direction of travel as vehicles) via social media. No signage, or policy change.
Winnipeg, MB	Yes	Routes that are designated bicycle/active transportation routes each summer season Closures will be in place daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Approved until May 3 then will be reevaluated.		

American Cities

Municipality	Closing Streets	Closure Conditions	Implementing Pedestrian Recall	Other Measures
Boston, MA	Yes	Segments of three parkways in park spaces will open for pedestrians.		Will also reduce parking spot capacity at the parks.
Brookline, MA	Yes	Parking lanes for four streets reallocated for pedestrians.		
Burlington, VT	No	<p>Using shared streets for social distancing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) designating some streets for local traffic only, 2) designating other streets as “shared streets,” and 3) temporary parking restrictions in select locations to widen key walking and biking corridors. <p>Emergency services will continue to have full access to the street network. “Shared Streets” mean that drivers should drive slowly and be extra cautious, and “Local Traffic Only” means that you should not use that street for driving unless you are traveling to that street.</p>		
Cleveland, OH	Yes	Parks streets only.		
Denver, CO	Yes	Temporary recreation streets program. Areas being looked at first are neighborhoods with greater population densities where there’s a greater need for space and where adjacent parks are seeing significant use and reaching capacity. Areas of the city that don’t have immediate access to a park or trail are also being prioritized. Local access still allowed.		

Municipality	Closing Streets	Closure Conditions	Implementing Pedestrian Recall	Other Measures
Minneapolis, MN	Yes	<p>Closed some of the most congested sections of the famed Grand Rounds Scenic Byway System to vehicular traffic. Emergency, service, delivery and sanitation vehicles will be allowed on closed sections of parkways and streets at all times. Vehicle drivers will be required to move and replace barricades.</p> <p>Access to residential buildings and residential parking facilities on closed sections of parkways and streets will be maintained.</p>		
New York City, NY	No	<p>Had closed four streets as pilot program, which it then abandoned, due to ongoing efforts to use City resources wisely to promote social distancing. Over the past two weeks, overcrowding was not an issue, but they did not observe enough people utilizing the open space to justify the presence of the over 80 members of the NYPD across the four sites.</p>		
Oakland, CA	Yes	<p>Closing off 74 miles of its streets to passing cars. Affected streets will be closed to thru-traffic. Streets will still be open to local traffic. Have not enlisted police to enforce the restrictions. Streets selected based on the 2019 City of Oakland Bicycle Plan, which identifies Neighborhood Bike Routes, which are a set of mostly residential streets that don't conflict with transit routes, have been vetted by the public, partner departments/agencies, and City leaders, and connect communities across the City.</p>		
Philadelphia, PA	Yes	<p>Closed Martin Luther King Drive to vehicular traffic from East Falls Bridge to Eakins Oval, in the interest of facilitating social distancing among trail users.</p>		

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San Francisco, CA	Yes	<p>“Slow Streets” program, 12 candidate streets for phase 1 of the program, streets are in areas most heavily impacted by reduced transit service. Residential parking, cross traffic, and delivery vehicles will still be permitted.</p>		<p>Removing vehicle parking outside grocery stores to create queuing space and widening sidewalks by removing car parking in areas of notably high pedestrian traffic.</p>
Seattle, WA	Yes	<p>“Stay Healthy Streets” will close portions of two neighborhood greenways to thru-traffic so people can bike and walk in the road. Local traffic is still allowed on the streets</p> <p>The streets were selected to amplify outdoor exercise opportunities for areas with limited open space options, low car ownership and routes connecting people to essential services and food take out. Street closures will not impact newly opened food pick up loading zones, parking around hospitals for service for health care professionals, and bus routes.</p>		
Washington, DC	Yes	<p>Parks streets only.</p>		<p>Will temporarily extend sidewalks near grocery stores and other essential retailers to allow pedestrians enough space to practice social distancing. Sidewalk extensions will be located in all eight wards, based upon DDOT’s evaluation and suggestions from the public.</p>