What We Have Learned So Far

In late fall 2024, the City of Vernon engaged community members on growth options. The City heard from close to **1,000 people** in the engagement process, with over 700 online survey participants and over 240 open house visitors.

Here's what we learned

Official Community Plan

Consolidating growth in more dense urban areas was preferred over sprawl. Participants shared their desire for well-designed mixed-use developments that foster livable, welcoming communities that have vibrant parks and green spaces.

Affordable housing was a pressing concern. Participants showed their support for more attainable homes that are centrally located, close to transit and provide a mix of housing options from townhouses to mid-rise apartments. Housing for people with a variety of household sizes and incomes was seen as a key priority.

Preservation of nature and Vernon's cultural identity was shared as an important priority. Participants wanted to see limited development on natural landscapes, including hillsides, and wanted to ensure that in its core, the Downtown charm, history and character of Vernon are preserved.

Transportation Plan

Making roads safer for everyone
There is strong support for safer street design, especially reducing conflicts between travel modes— for example, by separating active transportation from vehicles—and lowering speeds where appropriate.

Expanding walking and biking routes
Walking, biking, and rolling continue to grow in popularity. Safe, well-marked routes that connect to key destinations are highly valued, and there is broad interest in expanding these networks.

Improving public transit
Transit has the potential to serve more people and the Transportation Plan will include recommendations to support future ridership.

Creating more welcoming streets and public spaces
Many residents shared excitement about improving the look and feel of streets by making public spaces more vibrant and welcoming.

Balancing different transportation needs
There were many thoughtful suggestions for managing traffic flow, curbside uses, and growth—highlighting a shared investment in building better ways to get around in Vernon.