GREN 2016 Topics

Regional Transportation, Active Transportation and Green Infrastructure

By Kevin Thomason

January 29, 2016

**1) What**

a) Regional Public Transportation – Grand River Transit Improvements, new routes, new express buses, iON Rapid Transit – BRT to Cambridge, LRT Phase 2 to Cambridge, LRT construction and launch preparations. GO Bus and GO Train improvements, High Speed Rail.

b) New Regional Transportation Master Plan – update to 10 year plan expected this year

c) Active Transportation – new bike lanes, new trails, new off-road cycling routes, improved walkability

d) Green Infrastructure – environmental pavement, better landscaping, wind, solar, LEED buildings, building efficiency, renovation tax credit programs, etc.

**2) Why GREN**

GREN has already worked on many of these issues in the past and their impacts fall within our areas of expertise.

**3) Benefits**

Far reaching benefits. Getting some of these things right, more evolved or in place can transform how we live, move, travel, work and play in our region.

**4) Drawbacks**

Many, many things anticipated to happen this year. Choosing priorities, being spread too thin, missing opportunities are all potential issues.

**Actions**

To be determined on a case by case basis.