

Local planning for goods movement

A survey of current municipal
practices and opportunities in Ontario

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Research questions

To what extent are municipalities planning for goods movement?

Why?

How can we support them in doing more?

Why plan for goods movement?

1. Economic competitiveness



In 2011, gridlock cost the Toronto region \$6 billion in lost productivity

Why plan for goods movement?

2. Quality of life



Photo: Rachel Brown

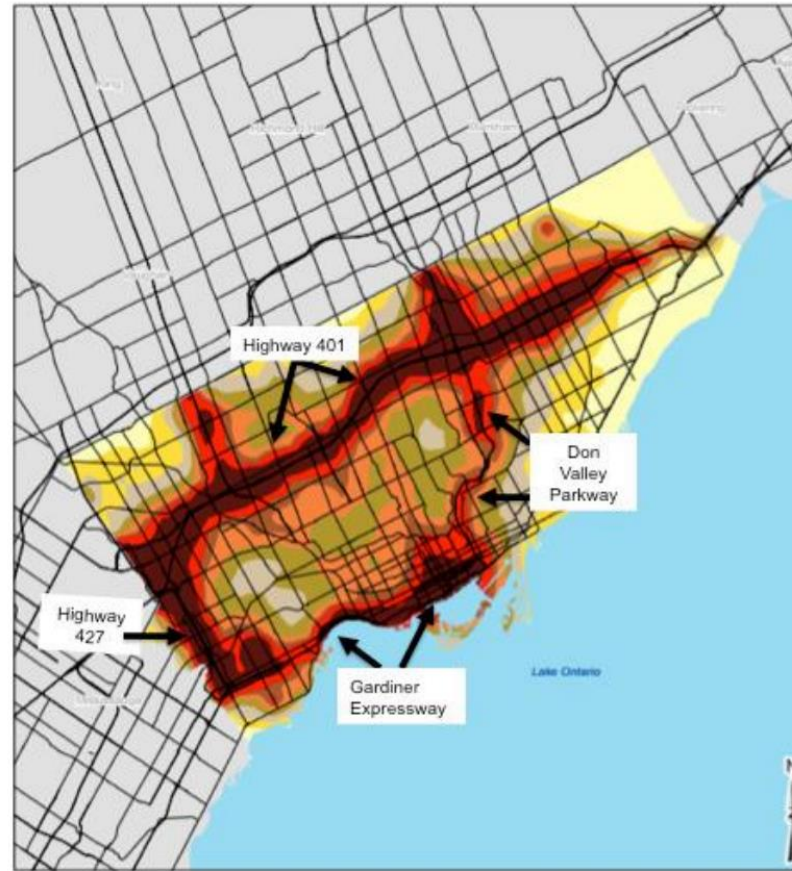
Residents call for action where goods movement generates noise and safety concerns

Why plan for goods movement?

3. Health

Trucks are a leading source of criteria air contaminants and areas near major roads are most impacted

Figure 6: NO_x levels across the City of Toronto, 2006



Source: Adapted from Golder Associates, 2011

Source: City of Toronto, "Path to Healthier Air: Toronto Air Pollution Burden of Illness Update" (2014).

Why plan for goods movement?

4. Environment/sustainability

Emissions from on-road heavy-duty trucks were responsible for just under 10% of Ontario emissions in 2015

Volume of road freight more than doubled from 1990-2014

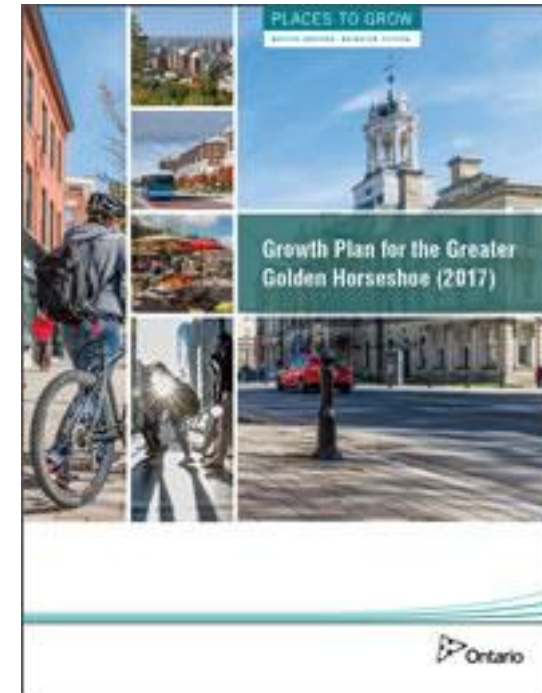


Photo: Rachel Brown

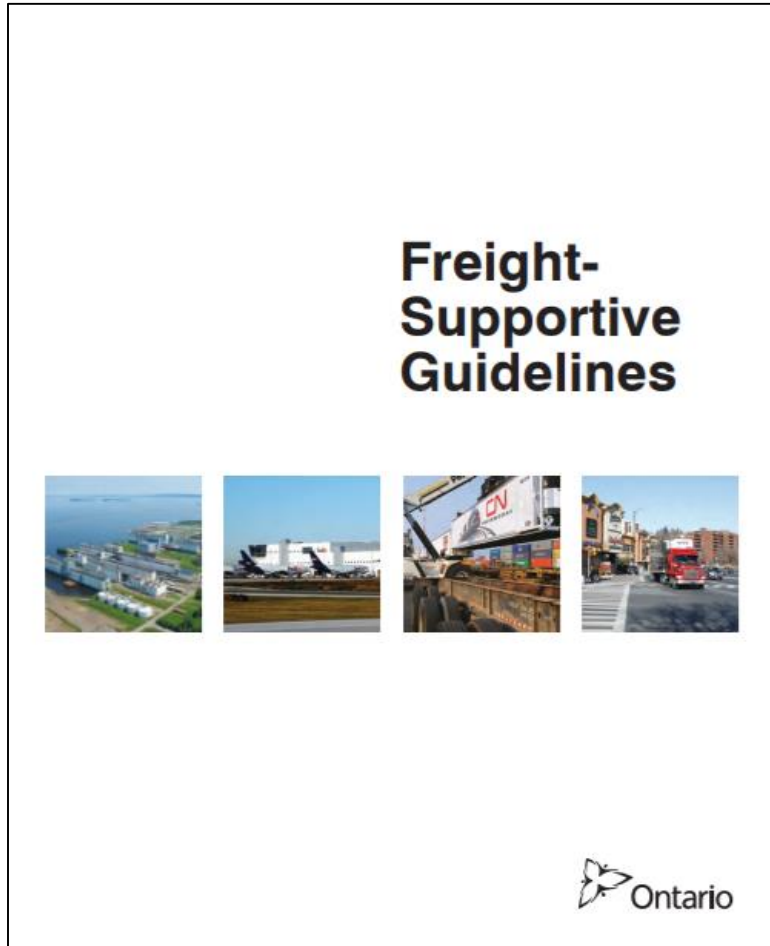
Why plan for goods movement?

5. Provincial requirements and policy

- **PPS 2014**
- **Growth Plan for the GGH, 2017**
 - Complete streets
 - Prime employment areas
 - Integrated infrastructure planning
 - Climate change planning
- **Metrolinx Regional Transportation Plan (December 2017)**
 - GTHA Urban Freight Study, 2011
- **Multimodal Transportation Plan for the GGH (final plan 2018/19)**



What can municipalities do?



- Land use and transportation planning
- Site design
- Transportation systems and operations
- Data collection
- Stakeholder collaboration
- Pilot projects
- Capital investment

Research approach

- Online survey targeting Ontario municipalities with population >45,000
- 23/47 complete responses
- 4 telephone interviews
- Today's discussion

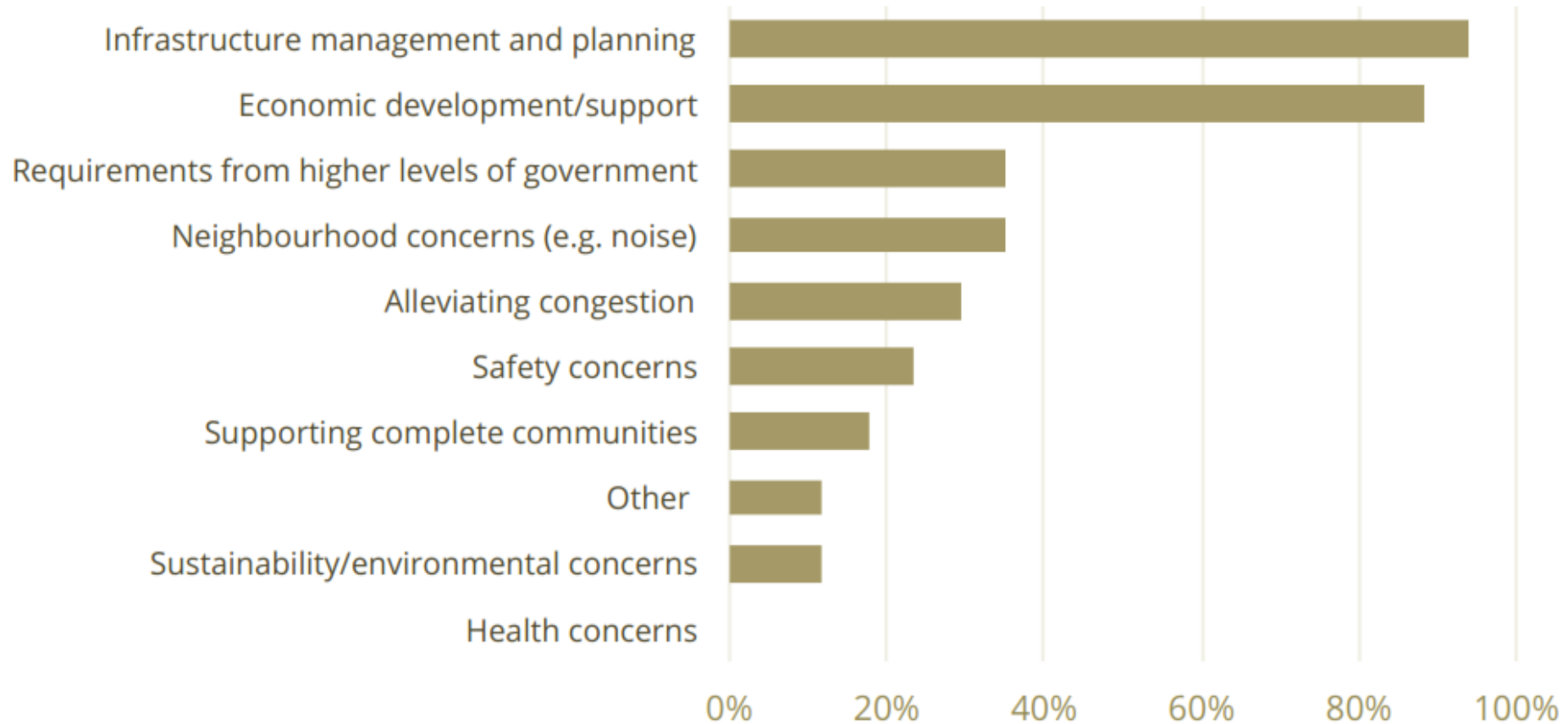
Participation in survey

Policy region	Upper-tier	Lower-tier	Single-tier	Total
GGH	5	13	1	19
Northern	0	0	1	1
Other	0	0	3	3
Total	5	13	5	23

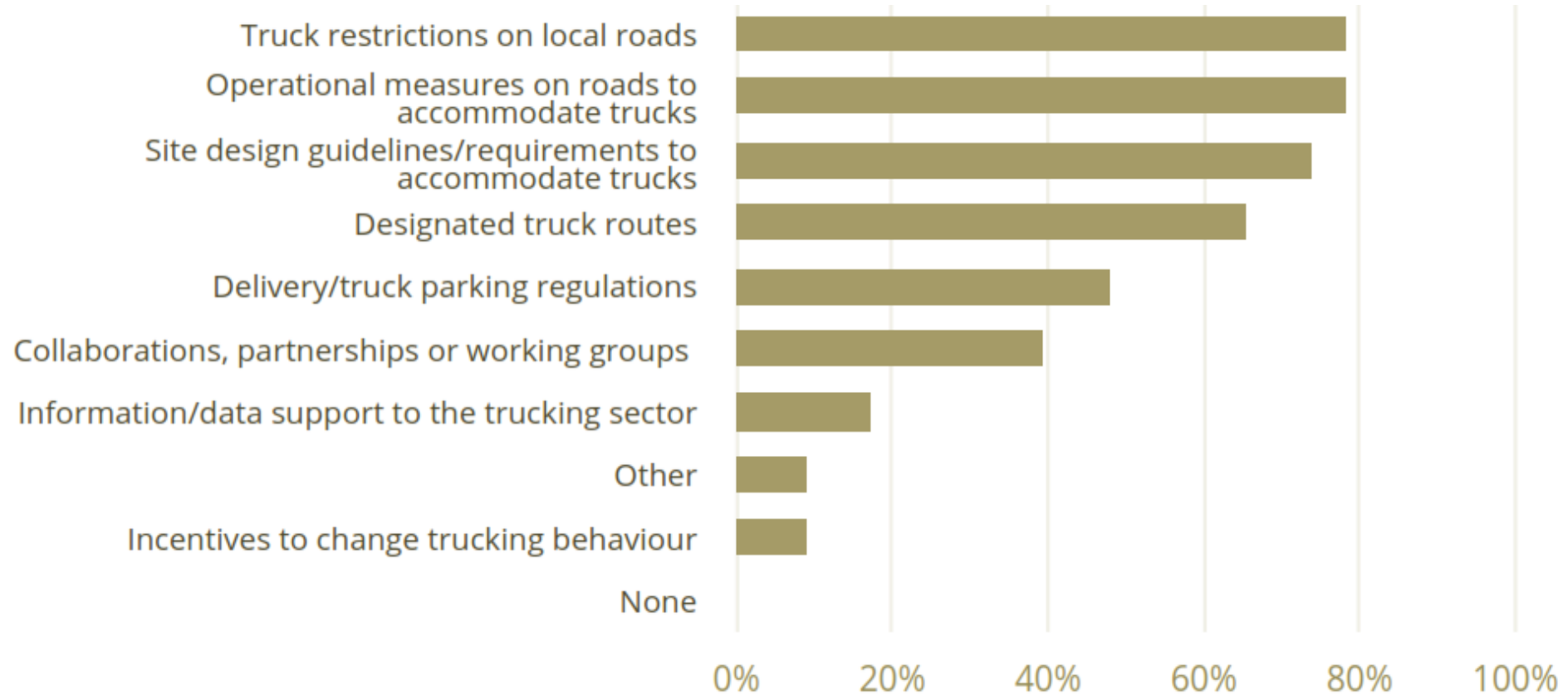
Rate of adoption of goods movement policies

Existing goods movement policies	Upper-tier	Lower-tier	Single-tier	Total
In standalone goods movement plan	20%	0%	0%	4%
In Official Plan	100%	54%	40%	61%
In Transportation Master Plan	100%	54%	0%	52%
None	0%	23%	60%	26%

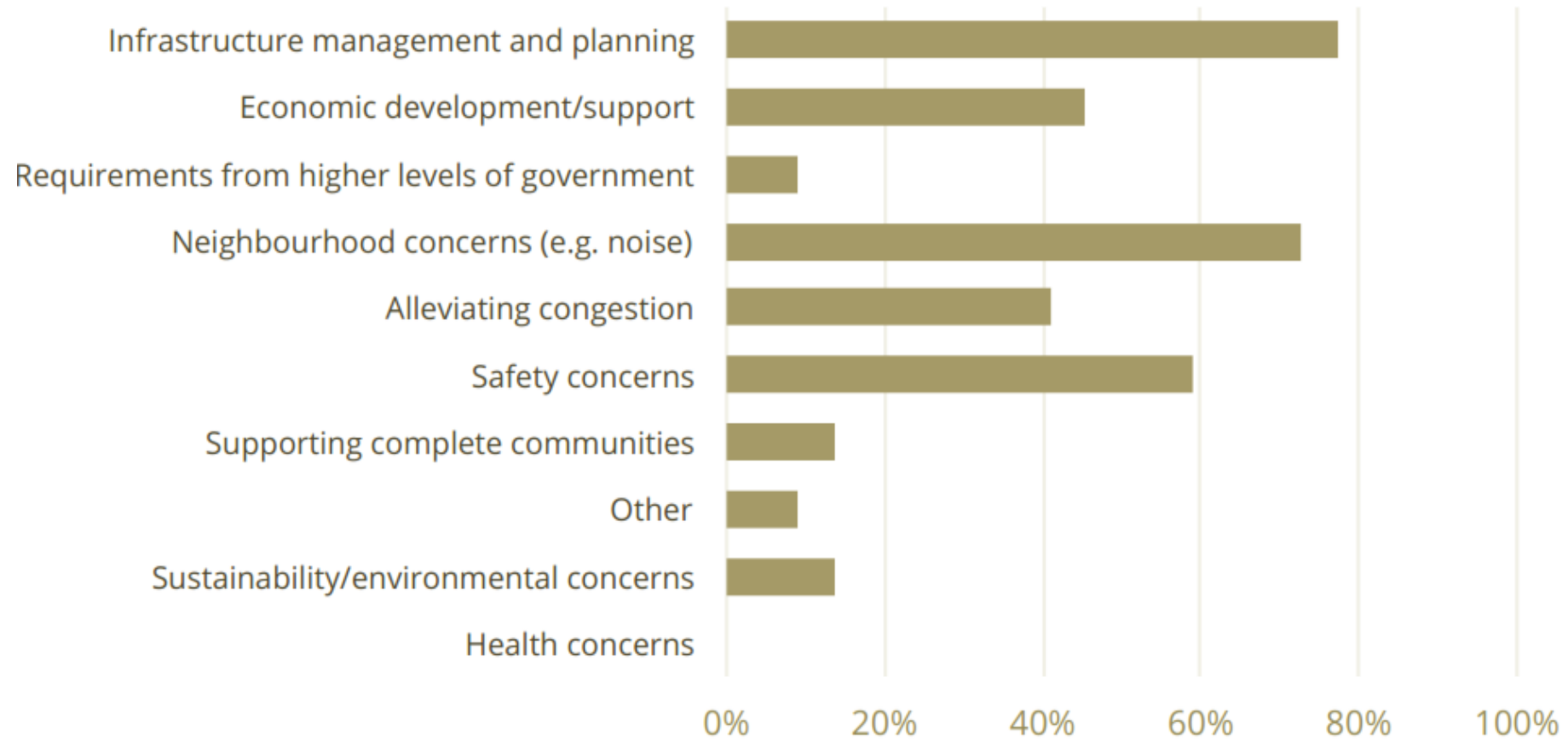
Main motivations for adopting policies



Rate of adoption of freight management practices



Main motivations for adopting freight management practices



Studies and data collection



- **13%** conducted a freight audit or baseline study on goods movement in the last 10 years
- **30%** have data related to goods movement

Priorities, resources and barriers

- Goods movement ranked as an **average** transportation priority (5/10)
- 5 areas of support ranked as **equally important**:
 - financial resources
 - external support/guidance
 - internal knowledge
 - access to data
 - for goods movement to be a higher priority among stakeholders and elected officials

Other support needed (open question)

- Support, investment, or guidance from higher levels of government.
- Establishment of a comprehensive goods movement network by the province.
- Guidance on how to accommodate long combination vehicles.
- Involvement in, or leverage of, external research.
- Data highlighting impacts of local freight on greenhouse gas emissions.

Other support needed (open question)

- Have staff dedicated to this topic.
- Build stronger partnerships between municipalities and major freight companies, particularly rail.
- Advance the topic in the public consciousness and among government/elected officials.

A photograph of a white box truck parked on a street. In the background, there are other vehicles, including a silver sedan and a red SUV, and a person standing near the back of the truck. The scene is outdoors with trees and a cloudy sky. A blue sign is visible on the right side of the road.

Discussion

1. What freight-supportive initiatives are happening in your municipality?
2. What would help your municipality to do more?
3. What can you do now?

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