Busses for Bridgwater

Bridgwater Lakes Neighbourhood Association

Speaking in Favour of Expansion of the #84 Whyte Ridge Transit Bus into Bridgwater Lakes

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Bridgwater Neighbourhoods

- Development started in 2006 in Waverley West
- A Crown Corporation, the Manitoba Housing Renewal Corporation is the developer
- Four Components to the Neighbourhood
  - **Bridgwater Forest** (First developed and near completion)
  - **Bridgwater Lakes** (Second developed and well underway)
  - **Bridgwater Town Centre** (Development underway, mixed commercial and residential)
  - **Bridgwater Trails** (The last of the residential sections and development is underway)

Bridgwater Lakes Housing Mix

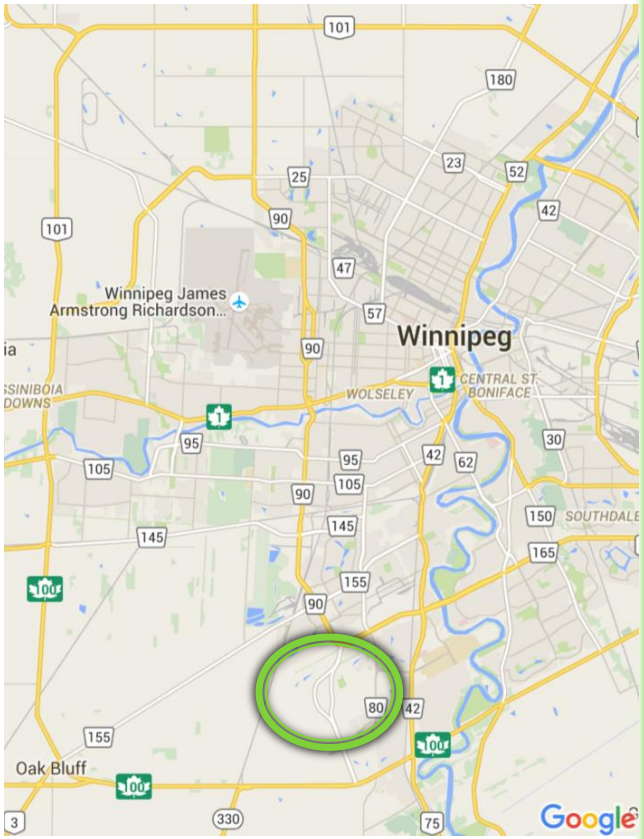
- An eclectic mix of:
  - Luxurious homes and modest homes
  - Young families and a large number of multigenerational families
  - One of the few areas of Winnipeg featuring **“Visitable” home designs** featuring no steps, wider doorways, making homes accessible to wheelchairs, walkers and those with mobility issues

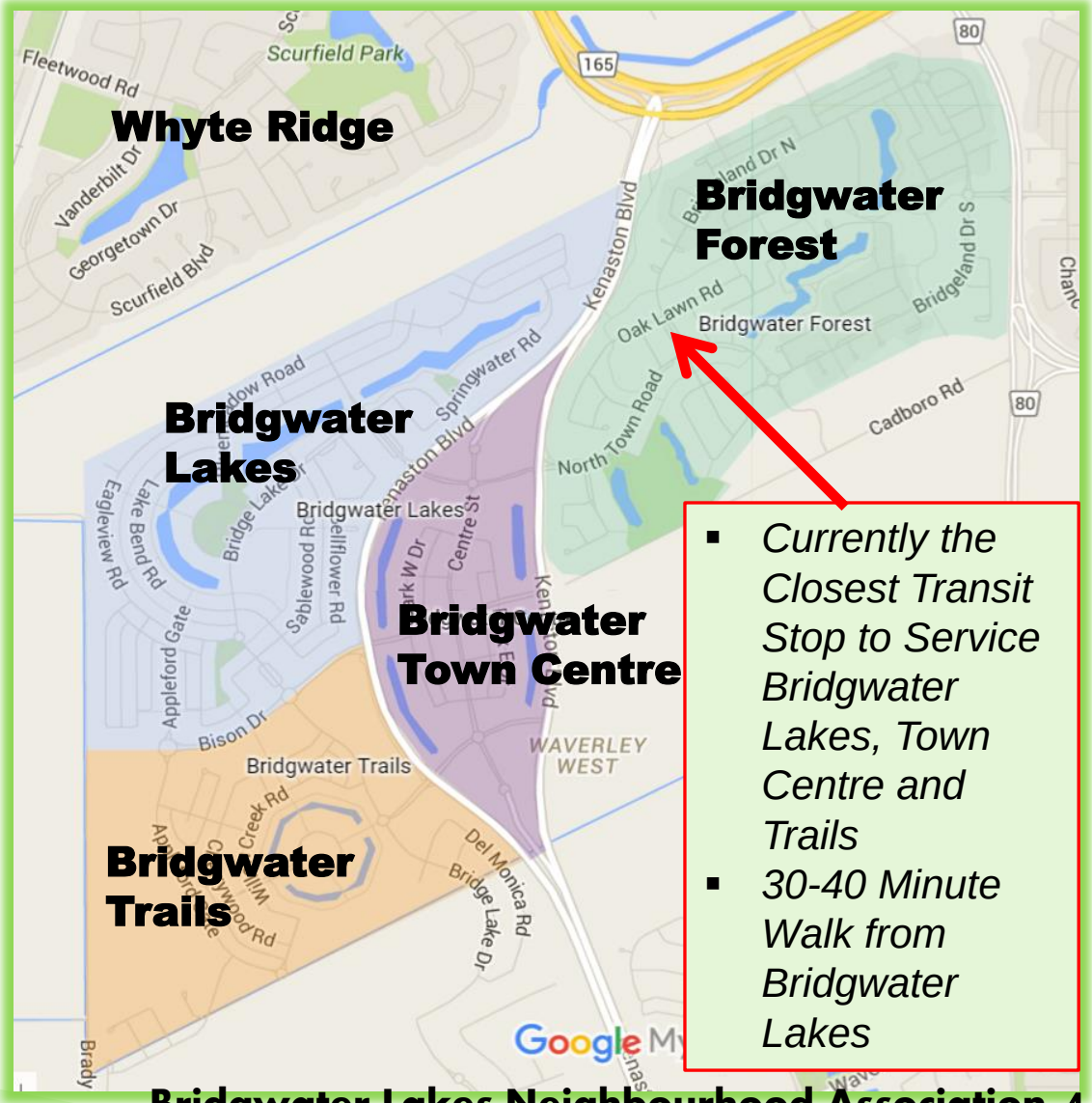






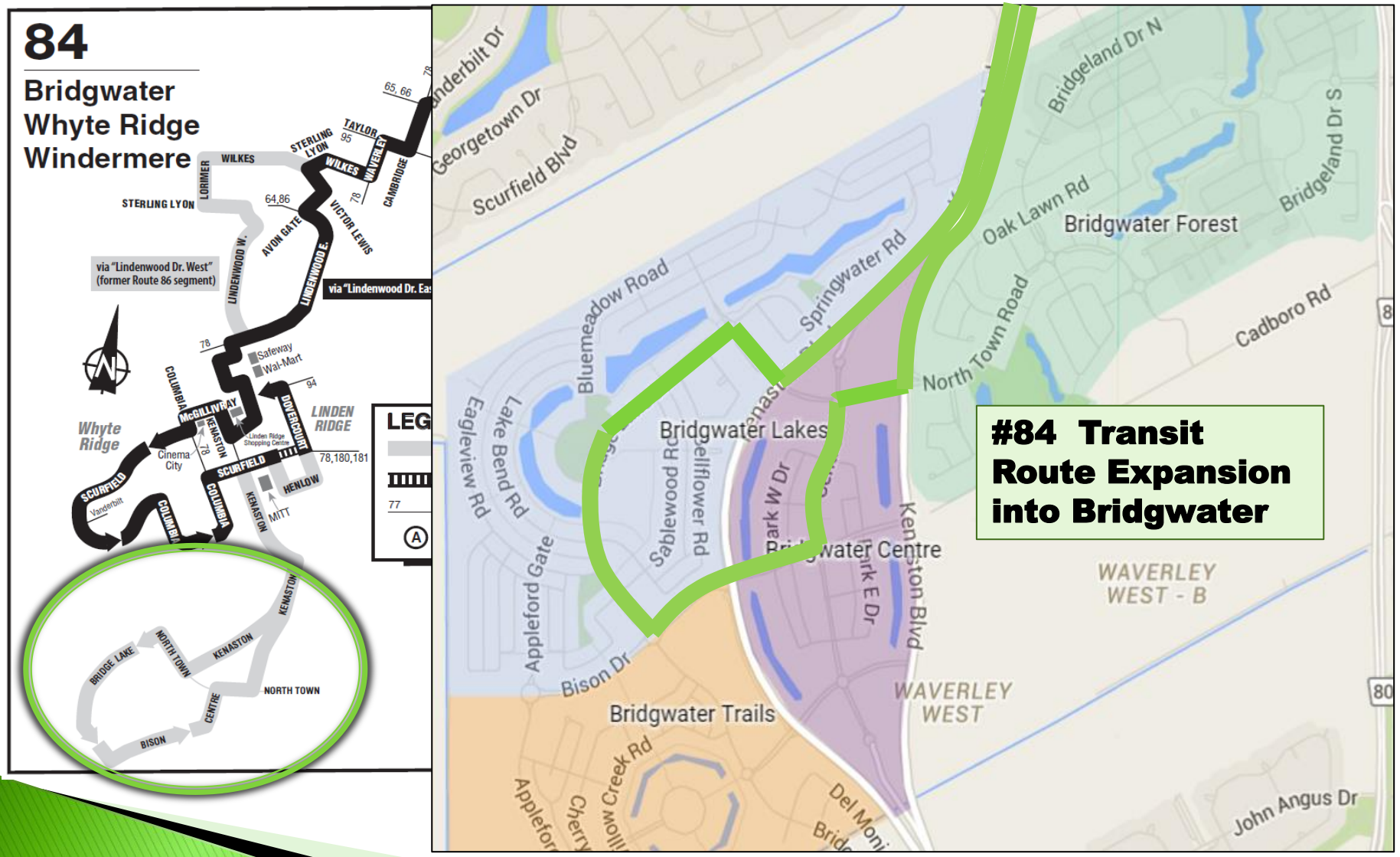
Location





- *Currently the Closest Transit Stop to Service Bridgwater Lakes, Town Centre and Trails*
- *30-40 Minute Walk from Bridgwater Lakes*

Transit Route Expansion



Support for Transit Expansion

- Transit Expansion has Community support
  - Facebook Poll support
  - Residents Frustrated by Lack of Transit – Sou'Wester July, 2015
- 2014 Deloitte / Urban Development Institute Report
  - "*new housing developments in Winnipeg more than pay for their own infrastructure costs and in fact contribute millions of extra tax revenue dollars to the city for use in providing services in other neighbourhoods*"
  - Tax revenue from the Community should be available to support expanded transit into the Community

Support for Transit Expansion (Continued)

- Would reduce traffic and wear on City roadways
- In February 2016 Mayor Bowman created a **Climate Change Working Group**
  - "Winnipeg needs to reduce its carbon footprint and address climate change" – Mayor Bowman
    CBC News Feb 25, 2016
  - Allowing the residents of Bridgwater access to public transit will permit them to decrease their dependence on automobiles for transportation, reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Summary

- The distance to existing transit service point is not viable for the majority of Bridgwater Lakes transit user residents (30-40 minute walk)
- Strong Bridgwater Lakes resident support
- #84 Route Expansion will provide service to most of the Bridgwater Neighbourhoods
- Bridgwater tax revenue dollars could more than offset the cost of transit (UDI/Deloitte Report)
- Offering Winnipeg Transit service will reduce greenhouse gasses and reduce wear on Winnipeg streets by giving people the option to leave their cars at home

Summary

"But what we don't want…is lower service levels for everyone." Mayor Brian Bowman, Metro News Feb 26, 2016 Growth fees could increase new Winnipeg property costs

The residents of Bridgwater deserve transit to <u>enjoy the same level of municipal services</u> as the rest of the city.



References

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- Residents Frustrated with Lack of Transit
  - The Sou'Wester, by Kristi Anaka, July 28, 2015
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  - udi_wpg_report09082014.pdf – Deloitte – "Understanding the role that new communities play in supporting municipal finances, The role of Cost Benefit Studies" (September 8, 2014)
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- Bowman has few high cards to play in funding fight – Winnipeg Free Press Editorial February 26, 2016
- Growth fees could increase new Winnipeg property costs – Metro News, by Braeden Jones, February 25, 2016