



SHAPING OUR SHARED FUTURE

Exploring the Potential Expansion of the
Pasadena Municipal Boundary



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Launching an inclusive dialogue, Pasadena invites community input to guide growth, resilience, and future decisions.



The Town of Pasadena is entering a period of thoughtful reflection and forward-looking planning. As our community continues to evolve, it is important that we examine how best to position ourselves together for long-term sustainability, growth, and resilience. This discussion paper is intended to begin an open and inclusive conversation about the future of our municipality, including the potential expansion of Pasadena's municipal boundary.

This is not a proposal for immediate change, but rather an opportunity to share information, explore possibilities, and invite meaningful input from residents, neighbouring communities, and stakeholders. By engaging in respectful, informed dialogue, we can better understand the opportunities and challenges ahead and ensure that any future decisions reflect the values and priorities of our community.

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Message From Council

Supporting informed dialogue about Pasadena's future, this paper invites community input on challenges, opportunities, and potential municipal boundary changes.

The Town of Pasadena is beginning an important public conversation about the future of our municipality and our region.

Like many communities across Newfoundland and Labrador, Pasadena is facing new opportunities and new challenges. Population trends, development pressures, infrastructure responsibilities, emergency services, and long-term financial sustainability are all reshaping how municipalities plan for the future.

This discussion paper has been prepared to support public engagement on the possibility of expanding Pasadena's municipal boundary. No decisions have been made.

The purpose of this paper is to:

- explain why this discussion is happening;
- outline the options and issues being examined;
- summarize potential opportunities and concerns; and
- encourage residents and stakeholders to participate in the conversation.

The Town recognizes that discussions about municipal boundaries can raise important questions about taxation, services, governance, identity, and local decision-making. Those questions deserve respectful, transparent, and evidence-based discussion.



INTRODUCTION

Exploring boundary considerations, this paper outlines how municipal decisions affect services, planning, representation, and long-term sustainability.

Municipal boundaries determine more than lines on a map. They influence who receives municipal services, who pays for those services, how communities plan for growth, how infrastructure is managed, and how residents are represented in local government.

Pasadena is currently examining whether its municipal boundary should be expanded beyond its existing limits. The review is intended to explore whether changes to the

current boundary could improve coordination of municipal services, support long-term financial sustainability, address emergency and infrastructure challenges, improve planning and development management, and better reflect how the region functions socially and economically today.

This discussion paper is intended to support public understanding and engagement before recommendations are finalized.



Why Is This Discussion Happening?

Pasadena has identified a long-term shortage of residential and commercial land available for future growth.

At the same time:

- development activity increasingly occurs near or across municipal boundaries;
- portions of roads and infrastructure systems cross between municipal and unincorporated areas;
- emergency response responsibilities can become unclear; and
- surrounding communities often rely on services centered in Pasadena.

The Town has also identified concerns regarding development control, road ownership and maintenance, fire and emergency services, and regional service coordination.

These pressures are not unique to Pasadena. Across Canada, municipalities are increasingly examining whether existing boundaries still reflect current patterns of growth, transportation, service delivery, and regional interaction.

What Areas Are Being Considered?

The feasibility study is examining several potential boundary configurations.

Areas under consideration may include:

- Little Harbour / Taylor's Estates;
- Boom Siding;
- Little Rapids;
- Humber Village;
- Humber Valley Resort;
- Pynn's Brook LSD; and
- broader portions of Pasadena's existing planning area.

Different options may include expansion to the full planning boundary, expansion to selected adjacent communities, partial or phased expansion approaches, or alternatives to full annexation.

No single option has been selected.

What Could Bouncary Expansion Achieve?

Potential opportunities associated with boundary expansion may include:



- improved regional coordination of planning, infrastructure investment, emergency services, and environmental management;
- stronger service delivery and administrative capacity;
- additional opportunities for residential and commercial growth;
- improved fiscal accountability and alignment between services and taxation; and
- stronger long-term regional planning.

Supporters of municipal boundary expansion often argue that regional growth and service delivery can be managed more effectively when municipal boundaries reflect how communities function in practice.

What Challenges & Concerns Must Be Considered?

Boundary expansion can also create significant challenges. Potential concerns include:



- increased infrastructure and servicing costs;
- taxation and affordability impacts;
- low-density service delivery challenges;
- long-term infrastructure rehabilitation obligations;
- preservation of community identity; and
- ensuring fair representation and governance.

Research reviewed as part of the feasibility process cautions that annexation can create financial pressures if anticipated growth and development do not occur as expected.



What Services Could Be Affected?

Potential opportunities associated with boundary expansion could affect how municipal services are delivered across the region. Services under consideration may include:



- fire and emergency response;
- road maintenance and snow clearing;
- planning and development;
- recreation services;
- waste management;
- municipal administration;
- water and wastewater systems; and
- protective and regulatory services.

The study will examine current service levels, future servicing needs, physical infrastructure constraints, and long-term operational sustainability.



What Options Are Being Examined?

A Targeted Expansion

A limited expansion focused on selected areas with strong development potential or strategic infrastructure importance.

B Residential Fringe Expansion

Expansion into adjacent residential areas already closely connected to Pasadena.

C Full Planning Area Expansion

Expansion to include most or all of Pasadena's planning area.

D Regional Service Agreements

Alternative approaches that improve service coordination without changing municipal boundaries.

How Will Options Be Evaluated?

✓ Feasibility Key Factors

- access to elected officials;
- representation;
- community identity;
- suitability for municipal servicing;
- administrative capability;
- coordination of services;
- cost efficiency;
- revenues and expenditures;
- taxpayer equity; and
- public acceptability.

No single factor will determine the outcome. The study is intended to balance technical analysis, financial sustainability, governance considerations, and public input.

Public Engagement & Consultation

✓ Feasibility Key Factors

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- representation;
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- suitability for municipal servicing;
- administrative capability;
- coordination of services;
- cost efficiency;
- revenues and expenditures;
- taxpayer equity; and
- public acceptability.

Residents are encouraged to attend public meetings, complete surveys, submit written feedback, and participate constructively in the discussion.

Public engagement is central to Pasadena's boundary review. The process includes public sessions, surveys, stakeholder interviews, online tools, and ongoing communication. Residents are encouraged to participate by attending meetings, sharing feedback, and contributing to discussions, ensuring community perspectives help shape recommendations before decisions are made by the provincial government.

What Happens Next?

The following is expected to be included in the feasibility process.



STEP 01

Research and technical analysis



STEP 02

Public and stakeholder consultation



STEP 03

Prepare summary of
“What We Heard”



STEP 04

Preliminary recommendations



STEP 05

Final feasibility report



STEP 06

Submit recommendations to
Provincial Government

Your input is vital for ensuring that the municipal boundary review of Pasadena aligns with the needs and perspectives of individuals and communities in the area. To learn how you can participate, please visit www.pasadenapotential.ca.

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Questions for Public Discussion

Residents and stakeholders are encouraged to consider the following questions.

? SERVICES

What services are most important to your community?

? REGIONAL

What are the advantages or disadvantages of closer regional cooperation?

? LOCAL IDENTITY

How can local identity and representation be protected?

? GROWTH

How should future growth in the region be managed?

? YOUR CONCERNS

What concerns should be addressed before any boundary changes occur?

? SUSTAINABLE

What would make any future arrangement fair and sustainable?

CONCLUSION

The possibility of expanding Pasadena's municipal boundary raises important questions about governance, services, growth, identity, and long-term sustainability.

There are potential opportunities for stronger coordination, improved planning, enhanced service delivery, and support for future growth. There are also legitimate concerns regarding infrastructure costs, taxation impacts, governance complexity, service expectations, and preservation of community identity.

This discussion paper is intended to support an open and informed public conversation about those issues.

Your participation matters.



Contact me today!
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