

2025 TANTRAMAR CONNECT - WHAT WE HEARD

Resident Comments & Questions	Ward					Department Director Commentary <i>Engineering & Public Works Department</i>	Action
	1	2	3	4	5		
Will Tantramar build a new water source for the Dorchester area, as current operating wells belong to the Penitentiary	x					There are three wells within Dorchester, two are currently operating, with the third off-line. Water sources will be studied in 2026 with any recommendations being implemented in 2027. At this time, things are operating good with current supply	
Are there any concerns with water table levels for the Dorchester area	x					There are no water level monitors in Dorchester, however no concerns have been noted at this time. There is a monitor for Sackville, wells have consistent, acceptable levels	
Excessive turbidity has been noticed for those on the Dorchester water system - are there concerns for the quality of the water	x					Dorchester has a specialized tank to help with removing manganese from the water and in order for it to work properly it requires fine air bubbles to be pushed into the system. The air bubbles will stay in the water when there is a change in quality (seasonally). A valve was also changed, which also contributes to the amount of air in the water.	
Concern that adding a crosswalk at the main intersection in Dorchester will have a negative impact on pedestrian safety. Signage leading into the main intersection advising drivers of the intersection would have a more positive impact	x					This intersection is planned to be included in a traffic study with Sackville Main Street in 2026	Jon to develop and issue RFP
Could animal crossing signs be added within Dorchester to advise drivers to proceed with caution	x					DTI assessed reported to Council in January 26, 2025 Committee of the Whole package page 71 (meeting rescheduled for Feb. 2). "DTI completed a traffic safety evaluation for Deer Crossing signs along Route 106 between Dorchester and Sackville. The evaluation concluded that deer crossing signs are not warranted."	Road is posted at 50 km/h. No accident history was cited involving deer. Have sent e-mail to DTI District Engineer October 20 to see what DTI uses for criteria. DTI advised collision history is analyzed and NB Dept Natural Resources Dead Game Reports. DTI cautioned careful consideration to placement of deer signs to ensure their effectiveness. Overuse or indiscriminate installation of these signs can diminish their impact and lead to a lack of respect for their purpose. Dead Game data to be plotted by Joe on aerial view. Collision reports requested from RCMP.
Concerns with plowing on Woodlawn Road from intersection to where DTI starts. Suggested that Tantramar should be plowing all roads within Dorchester limits							PW to check ramifications of using Dorchester truck to plow Woodlawn and Cape Road in former village limits. If feasible will discuss with CAO with intention to explore taking this over from DTI.
Will infrastructure work along Route 106 continue	x					As this road is a designated highway, it is cost-shared with the Province. No funding has been allocated for the next two years. Currently scheduled for 2031.	
Request for intersection ahead sign be placed on all four legs approaching the Route 106 (Main St.)/Cape Rd/Woodlawn Rd intersection	x					JCT 935 signs and Concealed Road WA-11 signs exist on Route 106 from 2021 Google Streetview. TAC MUTCD states WA-11 sign for major road where driver would not be adequately prepared for turning or crossing movements. Do not believe WA-11 appropriate on Cape Road or Woodlawn Road.	
Are staff aware of a potential waterflow issue at the hydrant on Dufferin in Sackville, and are there other problems within Tantramar?			x			Several areas have reduced watermain sizing. Dufferin is not located on the mainline. Staff are awaiting the final report from the water flushing contractor and will review. There was no waterflow problem during the Dufferin Street fire.	
Is there a traffic/parking plan for Tantramar, specifically the downtown core.			x				

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Can we ensure that the area between sidewalks and roads are cleared quickly following snow events - specifically around schools and the downtown area.			x			Information Item on Ice and Snow Control to Council in January 26, 2025 Committee of the Whole package page 16 (meeting rescheduled for Feb. 2). "Snow removal along street shoulders will be undertaken in situations where snow storage impacts vehicle and pedestrian traffic flow or excessively impacts sight distances. Tantramar is not responsible to provide continuous access between sidewalks and curbside parking. (Residents and businesses are permitted to clear paths between the sidewalk and curbside parking if they wish.) Snow removal is normally considered for the following street segments where the accumulation on the shoulder exceeds 45cm (18") about 72 hours after the snow event has stopped. Snow removal is normally conducted starting at 3:30am to avoid traffic and parked vehicles. Shoulders on other streets may be cleared at Public Works' discretion. Bridge Street (Lorne Street to Main Street), Main Street (Bridge Street to Wellington Street), Queens Road (Lorne Street to Main Street and Salem Street to Richardson Street) - south side and York Street (Main Street to Salem Street)"	
Street lights are being introduced around the rural areas of Tantramar - would staff explain the rationale around having them and where they are being placed.					x	A warrant analysis was completed, based on locations and vehicles travelling. Council provided direction that they wanted lights at strategic locations. Focus was on paved areas with higher volumes. Over 20 street lights have begun going in around Tantramar.	
Could the Municipality appoint a liaison staff member to be the bridge between the Municipality and Department of Transportation and Infrastructure.					x	The public is encouraged to contact DTI directly using 1 (833)-384-4111 or transportmn@gnb.ca. The public can in addition advise Tantramar Engineering & Public Works at publicworks@TantramarNB.com or 506-364-4960. Please include date(s) on which DTI was contacted.	Include information in the February 2026 E&PW report to COW.
Resident would like to see a sidewalk from Moffatt Lane to Wry Lane Sackville					x	Certain funds allocated for sidewalk renewals, and priority lists are made based on a variety of factors. There are projects higher up on the list, as there is currently already a sidewalk on one side of Main Street from Moffatt to Wry	
Can there be a larger street rebuild program and use funding from the Provincial or Federal governments					x	Funding programs have been reviewed and applied for. Currently no funding in 2026 and 2027 available. Federal funding opportunities have shifted to housing initiatives.	
Can the current water and sewer infrastructure in Sackville handle the growth with the new housing going in					x	Main lagoon in Sackville is currently being evaluated and will need to be upgraded by 2030. There is sufficient capacity in water and sewer system, however improvements will be required as the municipality grows. Responsible growth is within the Tantramar Strategic Plan.	
Concerns about the weight restrictions on the Eddy Road bridge in Mount Whatley. With highway closures, large vehicles are using that route.					x	The public is encouraged to contact DTI directly using 1 (833)-384-4111 or transportmn@gnb.ca. The public can in addition advise Tantramar Engineering & Public Works at publicworks@TantramarNB.com or 506-364-4960. Please include date(s) on which DTI was contacted.	Bridges are responsibility of DTI. Was the concern that the weight restriction is too high or too low? Jon to check with Jenn and Becky to see if more context for the comment.
Three main arteries that lead in and out of the Sackville area are not in very good shape. What is the plan to fix these main roads		x				Municipality partners with the province for funding, however there is not enough provided by the province. Province is responsible for curb to curb.	
What is our water safety management plan for all of Tantramar				x		Tantramar works directly with Veolia for Sackville and Dorchester - review system capacity on any system managed by Engineering & Public Works	
How will the proposed gas plant affect water and what will Tantramar do if wells are affected					x	Tantramar runs a user paid system for water, which is only in Sackville and Dorchester. Wells and septs are the responsibility of home owners.	
When will the Engineer be reporting back to Council on any impact the proposed gas plant may have on the Tantramar water systems					x	Engineering & Public Works is responsible for infrastructure in the former town of Sackville and village of Dorchester. Tantramar does not own infrastructure in the area of the proposed RIGS project. Tantramar is not concerned that the RIGS potential water consumption would impact the Dorchester or Sackville water supplies given the project is outside the wellfield protection area and about 14 km away from the Sackville wellfield.	Jon check with CAO on putting something in E & PW report for February 23 COW
Is there more that can be done to upgrade the road condition along the 940 to increase safety for residents					x	Tantramar staff can connect with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to report the concerns. It is also very important that residents call DTI directly.	

Active Living & Culture

Suggestion to have an overall Tantramar Events social media page	x						
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Concerns with the quality of the Dorchester Outdoor Rink - is there anything staff can do	x					Very weather based. An outdoor rink requires a 6 inch base to hold on to any ice for extended periods of time. This past season, a plastic cover was used under the ice surface, which did help some. Additional options will be looked at	
When new programming is introduced, perhaps look at lowering the required participation numbers to allow for residents to experience the program and help build up interest	x					Our programs require a certain number of registrations to be financially viable. Sometimes it makes sense to take a hit when we're growing something, but not always.	
Opportunity to connect all trails within Tantramar that include the dyke system. Could look into creating a look out at the end of Bridge Street as part of the trail network. Increase Municipally provided information on Google Maps for parks and trails - many tourists use this method of information gathering.			x			There are great opportunities within Tantramar that can be explored - would need to be calculated and strategic in the response to ensure we grow Tantramar. Various plans coming forward that will lay out the framework for Tantramar. Plan is to have all trail networks connected somehow throughout Tantramar. Staff are also looking at all green space owned by Tantramar and how to naturalize them.	
Could the Municipality, in addition to the Community Grants they provide, hold information sessions and workshops for community groups to assist them with applying for other grants.					x	Regional Services provides information each month on available grants and have provided workshops on board governance for smaller groups. When Tantramar staff receive the grant information, they can pass along to organizations. Staff from Community & Corporate Services also have an upcoming grant workshop for hiring students.	
Is the Saturday Farmers Market going to be at the Tantramar Veterans Memorial Civic Centre and why was the decision made					x	November 1st the TVMCC will be used as a temporary winter location for the Farmers Market. A layout plan has been created and a strategy plan for parking. The biggest challenge will be during the two high school tournaments, and staff are working on a plan. The three outdoor vendors will not take up any parking spaces, and vendors, if able will be parking in the back staff area of the civic centre. Residents will still be able to watch from the windows in the warm room. It is a temporary solution and staff will monitor it throughout the winter.	
Is there a long-term strategy being worked on for a permanent Farmer's Market location?					x	Discussion on a permanent location for the Farmer's Market has been on-going for many years. The market needs to establish a location first before it can apply for any funding grants. Staff are helping where they can.	
Are there opportunities for community groups to get more actively involved with the Municipalities for things like tree planting					x	Yes, it is a great teaching opportunity and creates great partnerships. The municipality could provide letters of support to community groups who are applying for grants for such events. The resident and Manager of Active Living and Culture will communicate more on this partnership.	

Community & Corporate Services

Will there be community signs reinstalled	x		x			As part of the new Tantramar brand, there is a recommendation for community signs with the Tantramar logo. This will be discussed internally through budget deliberations	
Sign for Johnson's Mills is missing	x					Challenge with amalgamation is that the Province still has jurisdiction over certain roads, including signage. Tantramar does meet with the Province regularly and will communicate this	E-mail sent October 20 to DTI District Engineer asking status, who forwarded to the Transportation Information Center TransportNB@gnb.ca.
Does the 2025-2028 Tantramar Strategic Plan address the need for a permanent Farmer's Market location				x		This discussion involves multiple department discussion. At this time there is no plan to build. Department of Community & Corporate Services continue to work with local Farmer's Market. Manager of Tourism & Business development to connect with Food Security Action Group.	
Rockport area of Tantramar needs to be fully developed for Tourist including trails, beach access, parking lots, etc.				x		Economic Development study will incorporate tourism planning, along with the Tourism Strategy being worked on by Regional Services.	
We are not promoted Tantramar enough outside of the boundaries. Nothing to not EV charging stations, no tourism or business strategy. How are we promoting ourselves to encourage new business to come to Tantramar?				x		Staff will review signage - most EV users do use the available apps to know where charging stations are. The Tantramar Strategic Plan does have an Economic Development Plan that will begin in 2026 which will include a tourism piece.	
Would recommend getting cameras in high tourist areas, so that people can see what is happening around the Municipality.					x	Would be good to highlight tourist areas - Community and Corporate Services Department to review.	
A resident relayed the importance of communications and mitigating concerns from the public (specifically said in remarks to the Farmers Market being held at the TVMCC).					x	Staff will look at a communication plan for residents prior to the November 1st start of the winter farmers market at the TVMCC. Staff are always willing to answer questions when residents reach out directly to the Municipality.	
Is there an opportunity to showcase more murals within the Municipality, to strengthen our arts & culture					x		

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What happened to Renaissance Sackville?		x				Between 2016-2023, Renaissance handed out an estimated \$131,000 in funding. The volunteer group no longer operates Renaissance Sackville, therefore the yearly funding has been removed from the budget.	
Former governments had a mascot. Would Tantramar look into having a mascot for events?		x					
Tantramar website requires more accurate information on the local communities within Tantramar.				x		Staff reconigze there is content that needs to be updated. Recommend any residents email recommendations or questions to info@TantramarNB.com	
Following the press release regarding Tantramar taking over the historic Via Rail Train Station, are there any updates that can be shared				x		A transfer of ownership is coming from Via Rail to Tantramar. Once additional information can be provided, a press release will go out.	

Protective Services

Are there any recommendations to educate the public on what to do during an Emergency Measures Operation (EMO) or what does the Municipality want residents to know about Tantramar's EMO plans.			x			Sackville and Dorchester have their individual plans for now. A new Tantramar EMO plan is currently being worked on. Tantramar is well prepared, however there will be things that come up during a live event. All Tantramar Managers are trained on the Incident Command System.	Discussion on a potential EMO prep session for residents - how do you prepare, how to be informed, etc.
How many of the projected 300 calls for Sackville Fire & Rescue are considered false calls?		x				91 calls were commercial fire alarms in 2024.	
What is the plan for dealing with the increased heights of buildings within the Municipality, and the increase in potential for devastating fires		x				Pre-planning is significant, to ensure proper equipment and properly trained personnel. Sackville Fire members are going through high-rise training. Other departments can provide mutual aid to Tantramar Fire Service as required.	
Where are the quotes for radios for Tantramar Fire Service come from				x		Directly from the supplier	

Protective Services - RCMP

Positive increase in RCMP presence in Dorchester, but still concerns about speeding, and not following rules of the road, specifically stop signs in certain locations.	x					Additional education for employees at CSC, continued partnership with CSC Warden. As trends continue, RCMP will look into taking additional action	
Concerns with speeding along Woodlawn Road, residents are going out into the road to try and slow drivers down	x					Additional questions were asked on times, specific locations and who potential drivers might be	
Suggestion to add no parking along the narrow part of Woodlawn Road closer to the main intersection	x						
Since amalgamation, how has policing changed? How much has the cost increased?		x				Previously, two contracts were in place for policing. Tantramar is now merged under an MPSA (Municipal Police Services Agreement), with an increased compliment of 14. Current compliment is 12.7.	
Where can residents get updates on police activity around the Municipality				x		Press releases would only be sent out if there is a concern for public safety.	

Financial Services

Why raise taxes in the local service district areas instead of holding taxes for all, or increasing all.				x		The increase to the local service district areas furthers the mandate and concepts that came from the province post reform. All budget presentations are available online. Four (4) options were provided to Council, deliberations were had and Council made decisions accordingly.	
How does a surplus work for Municipal Governments				x		It gets recorded as a revenue in the 2nd year ahead.	
Does the Municipality know the approximate revenue from taxes the proposed gas plant could bring in?				x		It will depend on the total tax base as determined by SNB and the tax rate in effect at that time.	
Did Tantramar record a deficit last year?				x		Municipalities in New Brunswick are required to submit a balanced budget every year. We cannot operate with a surplus or deficit.	
If we have a surplus, could we not hold the taxes for 2026?				x		Surplus in 2025 gets recorded as revenue in 2027. Deficit in 2025 would get recorded as an expense in 2027.	
How much new revenue does Tantramar get from the LSD tax increase				x		0.05 for Sackville LSD generates \$74,322 and for Dorchester LSD generates \$8,005 while 0.0415 for Point de Bute LSD generates \$18,864 for a total new revenue from LSD of \$101,191.	

Governance

The grant in lieu of taxes for the penitentiary is not proper compensation for Tantramar - what is the Municipality doing to push for proper compensation	x					Conversations need to continue with Federal MPs, the grant process is not similar to that in NS. Additionally, the water agreement with the penitentiary is needs to be reviewed.	
Can the speed limit leaving the Dorchester area into Memramcook be lowered to help with excessive speeding	x						
An alternate strategic plan for Tantramar may be required if the proposed gas plant project goes through as all natural assets will be impacted			x	x		Current Tantramar Strategic Plan does focus on natural and built environments. Potential for additional sessions for the community to learn about the potential project.	

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Concerns continue regarding the closure of Wheaton Covered Bridge. A lot of the farming community are using the main highway with their farming equipment which is concerning. How will we handle if there's an emergency.					x	Staff attended an Isthmus tabletop exercise where conversations were had on alternate routes available. Staff will connect with DTI to get an update on the bridge. Staff will find out how long between an emergency closure of the highway and notice sent out to public via 511.	
Will the Wheaton Bridge be replaced, repaired or shut down completely.		x			x	There are discussions to replace the bridge, but no timelines available. DTI is looking at other bridge options, as replacing or refurbishing the covered bridge isn't financial viable. Staff will look to get an update from DTI.	
When will there be a comprehensive set of By-Laws for all of Tantramar?		x				Priority list was presented to Council in August 2025. By-Laws from the former Town of Sackville and former Village of Dorchester are still in effect until they are repealed through the by-law review process.	
Will there be a heritage by-law as part of the by-law review process?		x				At this time, no motion of Council for Staff to begin implementation of a heritage by-law.	
Why do we not require separation of waste for multi-unit buildings					x	Work is on-going with Southeast Regional Service Commission on a by-law for multiple municipalities that will see multi-unit buildings be required to participate in the waste separation programs	
In regard to the proposed gas plant, how much jurisdiction is Municipal vs. Provincial					x	Environmental Assessments, land use planning are the responsibility of the Province	
Will a timeline be implemented for research on the proposed gas plant being presented back to Council					x		