

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	4
Executive Summary	5
1.0 Introduction: A Question of Destiny.....	7
2.0 Southwestern Ontario’s Mobility Gap	8
2.1 VIA Rail Canada	9
2.2 Intercommunity Transportation.....	15
2.3 Urban Transit	19
2.4 Intermodal Connectivity.....	20
3.0 The Benefits of Integrated Public Transportation Investment	22
3.1 Rail Passenger Service	23
3.2 Intercommunity Transportation.....	25
4.0 Recent Federal and Provincial Initiatives	27
4.1 GO Transit Expansion	28
4.2 Ontario Intercity Bus Deregulation	32
4.3 Ontario Community Transportation Grants	33
4.4 Southwestern Ontario High-Speed Rail Proposal.....	34
4.5 VIA Rail Canada High-Frequency Rail Proposal	38
5.0 The High-Performance Rail Advantage	41
5.1 Phasing and Scalability	45
5.2 Maximizing the Current Rail Assets	46
5.3 Traction Power Options.....	48
5.4 Maximum Speed vs. Average Speed	50
5.5 Joint Rail Freight Benefits.....	52
5.6 Non-Rail Essentials.....	54
6.0 Successful U.S. High-Performance Rail Role Models.....	55
6.1 Michigan’s Wolverine Corridor	57
6.2 North Carolina’s Piedmont Corridor	59
6.3 Northern California’s Capitol Corridor.....	62
7.0 SouthwestLynx Prerequisites	65
7.1 Southwestern Ontario Rail Fleet Renewal	66
7.2 A Federal-Provincial Partnership	68
7.3 A New Governance and Service Delivery Model.....	69
8.0 SouthwestLynx Strategic Investments	72
8.1 High-Performance Rail Incremental Investments.....	79
8.1.1 Aldershot-Bayview Junction Capacity Expansion	82
8.1.2 Guelph Subdivision Upgrading	84
8.1.3 Bramalea-Georgetown Capacity Expansion.....	86
8.1.4 CN Dundas Subdivision Capacity Expansion.....	88
8.1.5 CN-CP Woodstock-Komoka Line Consolidation	89
8.1.6 Continuous Corridor Enhancements	91
9.0 Advancing the SouthwestLynx Plan	94
9.1 Rail Demonstration Project: North Main Line Pool Agreement and Operation	95
9.2 Intercommunity Transportation Service Demonstration Project	99
10.0 Recommendations.....	102
10.1 Local and Regional Endorsements.....	103
10.2 Oxford County SouthwestLynx Vision Workshop	103
10.3 Multi-County Intercommunity Transportation Development.....	104
10.4 Federal and Provincial Government Engagement.....	105
10.5 Hamilton and Niagara Municipal and Regional Outreach	106