

An aerial photograph of a park and recreation facility. In the foreground, there is a large white building with a blue roof, likely a community center or sports hall, surrounded by a parking lot with several cars and a yellow school bus. To the right of the building is a large green sports field with soccer goals. Further right, there is a smaller playground area with colorful equipment. The background shows a large body of water, possibly a lake or reservoir, with a road and trees along the shore. The sky is clear and bright, suggesting a sunny day.

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

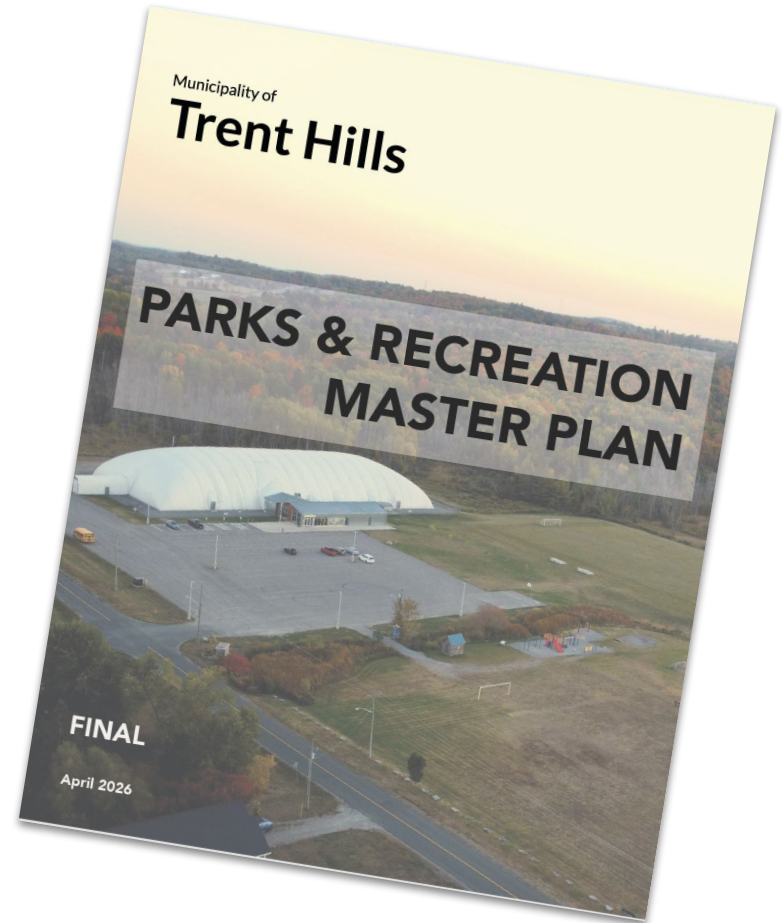
Prepared for the Municipality of Trent Hills
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AGENDA

1. BACKGROUND
2. RECOMMENDATIONS:
 - Recreation Facilities
 - Parks & Open Spaces
 - Service Delivery
3. IMPLEMENTATION
4. QUESTIONS & COMMENTS



A photograph of a wooden deck or walkway overlooking a dense forest. The deck is made of light-colored wood and has a simple railing. The forest is filled with green trees and foliage, creating a lush, natural background. The image is slightly faded, giving it a soft, ethereal appearance.

1.0 BACKGROUND

PURPOSE OF A MASTER PLAN

- **Guides** the Municipality in managing parks and recreation infrastructure, service planning and delivery **over the next 20 years to 2045**
- High-level, strategic document to support **annual budgeting** purposes
- Provides **recommendations** based on various data sources: surveys, focus groups, in-person conversations, facility use data, schedules, site observations, trends in the parks and recreation sector, local and regional challenges and opportunities, etc.
- Recommendations may be advanced, delayed or amended to **respond to changing circumstances**
- Some initiatives will require **additional community consultation** to arrive at detailed plans and designs
- Council, in consultation with municipal staff, will **determine when and how** initiatives are implemented

PROJECT PROCESS

Phase 1: Current Context & Background Work

- Kick-off meeting
- Review of policies, plans, and data
- Demographic analysis
- Mapping and inventories
- Project team meeting

2021 population: **13,861** (Census)
2045 population: **15,827** (Projected)

Phase 2: Community & Stakeholder Engagement

- Council & staff online survey
- Representative telephone survey
- Public online survey
- User groups online survey
- Tour of parks & recreation spaces
- Community Visioning Workshop
- Project team meeting

Phase 3: Final Master Plan

- Needs assessments
- Draft Master Plan
- Project team meeting
- Revised Master Plan
- Focus groups with key stakeholders
- Public Open House & online survey
- Final Master Plan & Council presentation

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

300 randomly-selected households surveyed by telephone

136 respondents to public online survey

48 attendees at Public Open House

31 surveys from parks & recreation user groups

28 attendees at Community Visioning Workshop

26 questionnaires completed by Council and staff

8 emails and feedback forms submitted by the public

5 meetings with a Steering Committee of municipal staff

2 focus groups with 13 key community stakeholders



2.0 RECREATION FACILITIES RECOMMENDATIONS

INDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES

Ice Pads

- Do not develop another ice pad during the first half of the Master Plan's term.
- Monitor and evaluate prime time use of ice pads on an ongoing basis to support assessing the need for a third ice pad as part of the ten-year update of the Master Plan.
- Consider options to increase prime time capacity between now and the Plan's update, including reallocating distribution of time among user groups and municipal programs during peak periods, and extending morning and evening operating hours.

Gymnasiums

- A municipal gymnasium is not required now and should be considered as a component added to the SLRWC in the long-term if need is verified by monitoring use of the Hastings Field House and, if an agreement with the KPRDSB is developed, community use of school gyms.
- Consider providing a municipal gym as part of the Master Plan's mid-point update should unmet demand for one be verified in the interim.

INDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES

Large Multi-purpose Meeting Space & Community Kitchen

- Undertake upgrades to the Warkworth Auditorium that are needed to maintain its functional integrity and optimize use in its current form.
- If required to upgrade existing kitchens to comply with commercial standards, determine feasibility of investment based on the results of monitoring the extent of unmet demand for use of these facilities.
- Consider the need for additional purpose-built multi-purpose program space as a component to be added to the SLRWC over the long-term in conjunction with a municipal gymnasium.

Small Multi-Purpose/Meeting Space

- Create and post a detailed information package of all available meeting space in Trent Hills.
- If, in the long-term, the Sunny Life Recreation and Wellness Centre is expanded, consider meeting space for integration in multi-purpose facilities, based on verified demand.

Curling Club

- Continue to work with the Campbellford and District Curling and Racquet Club to support the Club's efforts in marketing/promotion of its facilities.

INDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES

Hastings Field House

- Continue to monitor use of individual Field House facility components by activity, user and levels of participation to identify areas where adjustments could be made to allocations to better meet needs.
- Consider introducing a software-based program for the Fieldhouse that communicates busy and slow times for users to be able to align their visits accordingly.
- Use ongoing monitoring of Field House use to inform the point at which a detailed study may be required to determine the feasibility of its replacement with a large, possibly more permanent structure.

Arts Spaces

- Continue to support community-based arts and heritage groups to deliver programs and services to Trent Hills residents.

Dance/Aerobics Studio

- As per the Municipality's agreement with the YMCA, the Municipality will liaise with the YMCA to determine how to meet future demand for new studio-based programs.

Improvements to Indoor Facilities

- Consult with indoor facility users to clarify their requests for improvements and to inform a budgeted improvement program, as required.
- Update the Building Conditions Assessment to identify long-term capital investments to be addressed in the improvement program.

OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES

Ball Diamonds

- Based on current prime time use levels and anticipated population growth, no new ball diamonds will be required during the term of the Master Plan.
- Integrate minimal use of weekend prime time on ball diamonds into regular prime time use in meeting any additional verified demand for access to facilities that cannot be met on weeknights.
- Verify demand for additional use by ongoing monitoring of prime time use.
- Any future interest in providing facilities to serve regional interest in a multi-diamond complex host teams and tournaments needs to be based on a detailed feasibility study to warrant consideration.

Soccer Fields

- Based on current prime time use levels and anticipated population growth, no soccer fields will be required during the term of the Master Plan.
- Integrate unused weekend prime time on soccer fields into regular prime time use in meeting any additional verified demand for access to facilities that cannot be met on weeknights.
- Verify demand for additional use by ongoing monitoring of prime time use.
- Consider decommissioning the mini field at Warkworth Park and repurposing the large field to serve a variety of field sports other than soccer based on tracked requests for non-soccer uses to determine when to implement changes to accommodate other activities.
- In consultation with the Trent Hills Soccer Club consider options to modify a full field into smaller fields for use by children.

OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES

Tennis & Pickleball Courts

- Monitor the use of existing tennis/pickleball courts and community requests for additional access to both to verify demand for adding to supply.
- If demand warrants providing designated courts for each activity, start by reverting the existing courts to tennis only and building between two (2) and four (4) dedicated pickleball courts.
- Repaint the pickleball lines on the existing courts in a contrasting colour when the courts are resurfaced.
- Develop any new tennis and/or pickleball courts on municipally owned land.
- Investigate the potential to accommodate school interest in badminton on a limited number of courts during academic hours, alongside School Board's capacity to contribute to capital and/or operating costs.
- Continue to monitor use of all courts to verify demand for additions to supply during the term of the Master Plan.

Lawn Bowling

- Pursue opportunities that may emerge to support the Lawn Bowling Club in program development.

Improvements to Outdoor Facilities

- Consult with outdoor facility users to clarify their requests for improvements and to inform a budgeted improvement program, as required.
- Update the conditions assessments of outdoor facilities to identify long term capital investments to be addressed in the improvement program.

A scenic view of a park with a lake, a gazebo, and houses in the background. The scene is captured in a soft, slightly hazy light, possibly during early morning or late afternoon. The water in the lake is calm, reflecting the sky and the buildings. A white gazebo with a blue roof is situated on the grassy bank. In the background, several houses with varying architectural styles are visible, surrounded by trees with autumn foliage. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and inviting.

3.0 PARKS & OPEN SPACES RECOMMENDATIONS

PARKS & OPEN SPACES

Parkland Supply

- Update municipal inventories, maps, publications, webpages, and signage to reflect one name for each park.
- Promote the new naming conventions to encourage consistency and understanding through the Municipality.
- Strive for a parkland provision goal of 2.5 hectares per 1,000 residents by 2045.

Parkland Acquisition & Classification

- Amend section 5.2.5.3 of the Official Plan to reflect new policy under Bill 23 and support a new parkland dedication by-law.
- Create a parkland dedication by-law.
- Create a cash-in-lieu of parkland policy.
- Continue using development charges to their full capacity to support parks and recreation services.
- Adopt a parkland classification system consisting of Community Parks, Waterfront Parks, Neighbourhood Parks, and Parkettes.
- Aim for a minimum park size of 0.2 hectares.
- When possible and appropriate, combine new and existing parkland parcels to create larger parks to support facilities and amenities.

PARKS & OPEN SPACES

Accessibility, Signage, Wayfinding & Shade

- Strive for universal design by integrating accessibility upgrades within existing open spaces over the term of this Plan.
- Ensure every municipal park has clear, accessible signage that reflects the Municipality's brand and the proper name of the park.
- Add distance markers to the Millennium Lilac Trail and the trail around the canal in Campbellford.
- Initiate an ongoing tree planting program to replace aging trees in existing parks, where possible, over the term of this Plan.
- Ensure developers include sufficient tree planting and protection in all new park and open space parcels.

Site Furnishings

- Ensure all new benches and picnic tables are accessible.
- Install accessible seating at Community Parks, beginning with Mill Creek Park, Kennedy Park, and Fowlds Millennium Park.
- Conduct an audit of all existing outdoor seating and develop a seating replacement program for upgrading accessible benches and picnic tables.
- Explore the feasibility of installing dual-stream or additional waste receptacles in Community Parks for both garbage and recycling.
- Provide drinking water at Community Parks.
- Work with developers to include a drinking water amenity/connection in future parks, where possible.

PARKS & OPEN SPACES

Washrooms

- Where applicable, add signage in municipal parks and open spaces indicating the location and walking distance to available public washrooms nearby.
- Share a map of public toilets on the municipal website.
- Consider partnering with local businesses to serve as designated washrooms for municipal parks without a nearby washroom facility.
- Explore the possibility of installing a self-cleaning washroom in a Community Park.

Playgrounds

- Install an accessible swing at the Mill Creek Park playground.
- Install an accessible swing at the Fowlds Millennium Park playground.
- Update play equipment and surfacing at the end of a playground's lifecycle, incorporating accessibility upgrades.
- As parks and playgrounds undergo updates to improve accessibility, ensure that municipal inventories and webpages are also updated to reflect the new features and facilities.

PARKS & OPEN SPACES

Skate Parks

- Additional skate parks are not required during the term of this Plan.

Basketball Courts

- Add an outdoor basketball court to a new park parcel in Campbellford.
- Add an outdoor basketball court to a new park parcel in Hastings.
- Consider adding an outdoor basketball court to an existing park in Warkworth.

Outdoor Rinks

- Monitor interest in establishing natural ice rinks and support residents in their development.

Outdoor Fitness Equipment & Tracks

- Consider installing contemporary outdoor fitness equipment pieces or fitness circuits in a park in each village.
- Work with developers to include outdoor fitness equipment in new park parcels.
- Consult further with residents to clarify interest in additional walking/running tracks.

Splash Pads

- Another splash pad is not required during the term of this Plan.

Water Access Points

- Consider installing a mobility mat on the beach to provide access to the water's edge for all.

PARKS & OPEN SPACES

Dog Parks

- Increase promotion of the off-leash dog park at Ferris Provincial Park through signage at walk-in entrances to the park and web and social media communications.
- Engage with Ontario Parks to explore opportunities to extend use of the leash-free space.
- If feasible, work with developers to explore installing a leash-free trail as part of new parkland provision.

Outdoor Event Spaces

- Design future parks with amenities to accommodate events and activities such as parking, water and electric site servicing, where possible.

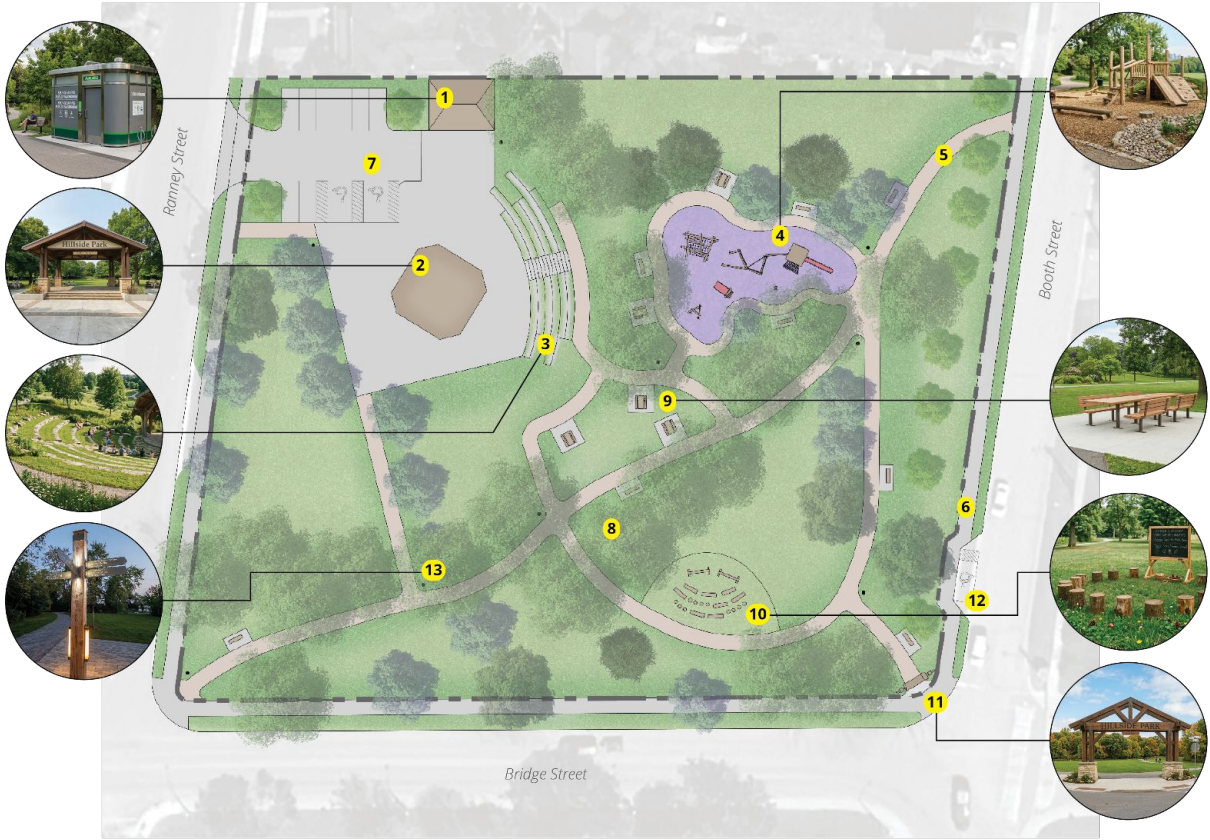
Community Gardens

- Monitor interest in establishing new community gardens and support residents in their development over the term of this Plan.

Art, Culture & Heritage

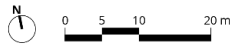
- Working with local artists, develop a public art policy for incorporating more public art in Trent Hills' parks and open spaces.
- Consider integrating public art and sculpture gardens within parks.
- Consider designating a specific park as an “art park,” or portions of parks as “Culture Corners.”

PRIORITY PARK PROJECTS: HILLSIDE PARK

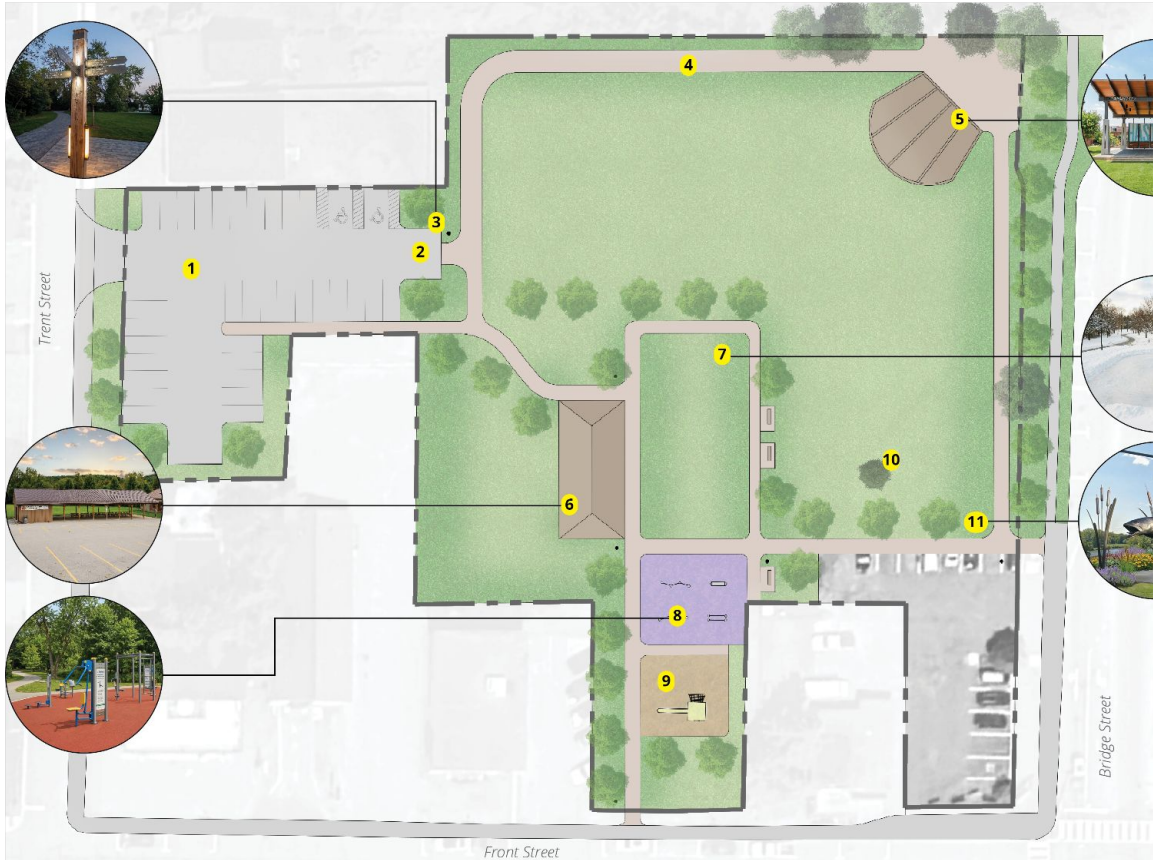


Legend

- 1. Self-cleaning washroom facility
- 2. Bandshell (with level area in front)
- 3. Natural amphitheatre seating on the hill
- 4. Natural playground
- 5. Accessible park walkways and lighting
- 6. Updated accessible concrete sidewalks
- 7. Parking lot with accessible parking stalls
- 8. Maintain natural tree canopy
- 9. Additional seating and picnic areas
- 10. Natural outdoor classroom
- 11. Gateway feature (timber and limestone)
- 12. Accessible parking stall along Booth Street
- 13. Park lighting and wayfinding signage

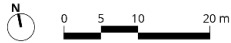


PRIORITY PARK PROJECTS: HASTINGS VILLAGE GREEN



Legend

- 1. Updated parking lot with accessible parking spaces
- 2. Gateway to main path from parking lot
- 3. Park lighting and wayfinding signage
- 4. Road to stage
- 5. Bandshell
- 6. Picnic shelter with storage and self-cleaning washrooms
- 7. Existing location of ice rink
- 8. Fitness equipment
- 9. Existing playground
- 10. Existing white spruce for annual Christmas tree
- 11. Feature garden gateway with relocated Pisces Pete



WARKWORTH ARENA & COMMUNITY CENTRE

4.0 SERVICE DELIVERY RECOMMENDATIONS

SERVICE DELIVERY

Recreation Programs & Events

- Work with community groups to build upon and strengthen recreation program offerings including outdoor recreation, Indigenous placekeeping, intergenerational programming, and adaptive/inclusive programs.
- In partnership with the Trent Hills Public Library, expand the Library of Things to include sports equipment such as footballs, basketballs, volleyballs, baseballs, and Frisbees to use in public parks.
- Approach local organizations, service clubs, and businesses to sponsor/supply sports equipment for the lending library.
- Consider developing a Trent Hills Park Crawl event or self-guided activity that promotes visiting parks in each of Warkworth, Hastings, and Campbellford.

Support to Volunteer Organizations

- Consult with volunteer organizations to clarify support requirements in program development and provision in relation to the Municipality's capacity to respond.
- Develop the planned volunteer recognition program to support organizations in thanking the significant contributions of individual volunteers to the breadth of recreation programs enjoyed by the community.

SERVICE DELIVERY

Parks & Recreation Policies

- Consider expanding the Tree and Bench Donation Program to include other park amenities that are recommended in the Master Plan.
- Periodically review and, if required, update policies to ensure they are current and meeting the Municipality's objectives
- Consider extending the Municipality's allocation policy to outdoor facilities if demand requires it.

Agreements

- Review and update existing agreements regularly (e.g., every five years) or more frequently, if required.
- Should volunteer based clubs emerge over time, and express interest in using municipal courts, prepare and enter agreements with relevant groups to govern facility use, operations and maintenance.

SERVICE DELIVERY

Accessibility & Inclusion

- Continue to implement the Municipality's Accessibility Plan in all areas of parks and recreation services.
- When planning new or renewing existing facilities, investigate opportunities to provide those that are designed to be inclusive.
- Develop an inclusion policy.
- Develop an RZone Policy.
- Allocate a budget to promote and educate the community on both the Inclusion and the Rzone policies.

Service Planning & Evaluation

- Develop an enhanced database using the Municipality's recreation management software to apply in a formal recreation facilities and programs/services planning to: verify community service needs, monitor and evaluate the success of the service response, and incorporate results in subsequent planning activities.
- Work with the YMCA to create a compatible planning and evaluation information base for an integrated planning process.
- Take the lead in developing and implementing regularly occurring joint services planning sessions with other key non-municipal providers in Trent Hills.
- Conduct project, program or service specific planning sessions with other providers, as required.



5.0 IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION

- Use the ongoing results of planning and evaluation activities to update the Master Plan on an annual basis in conjunction with the budgeting process.
- Conduct a comprehensive review of the Master Plan halfway through its 20-year term.
- Considerations:
 - 20-year timeframe
 - ease of implementation
 - community need
 - accessibility and safety
 - backlog
 - preparation for the future

Table 5.1: Capital Cost Summary of Master Plan Implementation by Service Area & Time Frame

Service Area	# of Recos	Short Term (Years 1-5)	Medium Term (Years 6-10)	Long Term (Years 11-20)	Total Capital Cost Estimate
Recreation Facilities	36	\$540,000	TBD	TBD	\$540,000+
Parks & Open Spaces	49	\$95,000	\$400,000+	TBD	\$495,000+
Service Delivery	20	–	–	–	–
Implementation	2	–	\$85,000	–	\$85,000
TOTAL	107	\$635,000	\$485,000	TBD	\$1,120,000+

QUESTIONS / COMMENTS

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