

July 2014

Parks

Recreation

Culture

MASTER PLAN



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Grounds for Play

programs **SPORTS** *trails* **Culture** **EVENTS**
festivals *health* **Recreation** *waterfront* **PARKS**



Parks, Recreation, Culture

MASTER PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2014 Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan for the City of Orillia is a strategy to achieve the City's vision for a healthy progressive community that respects people and promotes growth in a sustainable environment.¹ The Master Plan focuses on supporting healthier, more active lifestyles through the development of community park, recreation, culture and trail resources. The concept for the plan, "grounds for play" is about providing the spaces, facilities and programs that incorporate play (in all its forms) into community life.

Grounds for Play

Our lives are commonly thought to be divided into work and play. All too often we dismiss the importance of play and its role in the development of our bodies and our minds. Yet in Orillia, a place known for its cultural, recreational and natural assets, there is an extraordinary opportunity to take a bold approach to community development by concentrating on elements of play as a strategy to improve the community for residents and visitors. This means enhancing aspects of the community that move us (physically, mentally, creatively, emotionally, etc.) for an environment that fosters health and attracts visitors.

This approach is as beneficial for residents as it is for the economic well-being of the community. Elements of play, whether they involve sports, culture, recreation, nature or otherwise, can have a substantial economic impact on a community. By enhancing and promoting opportunities to play, Orillia can

attract tourists and new residents as well as new businesses that have the flexibility to locate in places with a high quality of life.

Achieving Community-Based Goals

The "grounds for play" concept is consistent with the vision and goals for the Master Plan based on a thorough public input process. The vision builds on the success of Orillia's regional events to become a place that is known for its system of parks, recreation, culture and trails. Goals address specific topics important to this system including identity, design, linkages, inclusivity, accessibility, health, safety, maintenance, natural environment, programs and events.

How to Create a System

Orillia has outstanding parks, trails, recreation and culture assets from waterfront parks, to extensive trails, to cultural landmarks, to arenas and more. Orillia also has substantial parks, recreation, culture and trail issues and needs. For example, there is a clear need for a pool and gym facility. This and other specific needs are critical to the development of parks, recreation and culture in Orillia. Still, the system is larger than any individual asset or needs. The system-based planning approach looks beyond individual items to identify how all the elements should fit together in the long term. The result is that the system is greater than the sum of its parts.

¹ City of Orillia Strategic Plan.

The plan looks to develop the four primary elements that create the system in Orillia:

- **Parks/Facilities:** Which provide the physical spaces that are the foundation for the Systems Plan.
- **Recreation:** Which activates the Systems Plan for the residents and visitors to utilize the system's spaces.
- **Culture:** Which showcases the community identity and tells the story of Orillia, past and present, in the system's spaces.
- **Trails:** Which link the community together by providing the key connections to bring people into the system. (This component is so critical in Orillia, that trail improvements are further detailed in the companion document, the Trails Master Plan.)

To develop each of these elements of the system, the plan looks at:

- **Connecting the System,** by identifying a network of parks, trails, facilities and other features as well as identifying a new park classification system complete with park prototypes.
- **Activating the System,** by addressing needs and opportunities for facilities, programs and events.
- **Capturing Orillia's Identity within the System,** by developing an interpretive plan to showcase the culture of Orillia, tying to the 2005 Cultural Plan and addressing marketing potentials.

Plan Implementation Priorities

To achieve the goals of the plan and create a parks, recreation and culture system in Orillia, there are three key priorities of implementation. These priorities assume that the City is already implementing the development of a pool and

gymnasium facility. A well established need in Orillia, the development of a pool and gymnasium facility is imperative and is understood as already underway in the identification of the following Master Plan priorities:

1. Development of the Trails Network:

Trails should be the iconic symbol of the City. Widely appreciated by the community and the primary feature that links together all the different elements of the system, trails should be seen as critical not only to parks, recreation and culture development, but also to community development.

2. Development of West Street South Park:

The City should develop 255 West Street South as a central outdoor park facility to fulfill many of the outstanding outdoor park needs. As a City owned property, proximate to the downtown, this brownfield site provides a prime location for community use.

3. Focus on Waterfront Celebration Parks:

The jewels of the system, waterfront parks should be a focus for water-based use and become the feature location for festivals and events showcasing Orillia's vibrant cultural identity. As part of this focus, the City should acquire the former Huronia Regional Centre (HRC) property, particularly the waterfront portion, as it is an extraordinary opportunity to invest in the expansion of the Parks, Recreation, Culture and Trails System as well as the City's treasured community waterfront.

For each priority, key recommendations are identified to achieve the objective of the priority. The following chart details the priority-based recommendations.

Recommendation	Description
Priority 1: Development of the Trails Network	
Multi-Use Trails Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuously expand the trails network to provide a comprehensive system of trails. All new sidewalk installations should be evaluated for potential upgrade to trail status.
Development of Atherley Road Parkway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Atherley Road as a parkway providing a gateway to the City and waterfront.
Development of Green Streets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop green streets as part of its transportation network, featuring alternative transportation as a major component of the network and connecting the City to parks, recreation, culture and trails.
Priority 2: Development of West Street South Park	
Accommodate Outdoor Park Facilities at West Street South Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop West Street South Park to accommodate two full-sized basketball courts, four ball diamonds and two multi-use fields (natural).
Relocate the Skate Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relocate the skate park at Veterans' Memorial Park to the proposed West Street South Park. Prior to the development of West Street South Park, the existing skate park should remain in place.
Relocate the Disc Golf Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relocate the disc golf course at Homewood Park to the proposed West Street South Park. Prior to the development of West Street South Park, the existing disc golf course should remain in place.
Priority 3: Focus on Waterfront Celebration Parks	
Lobby to Acquire the Former Huronia Regional Centre (HRC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobby the Province to acquire the entire HRC property, particularly the waterfront portion, for the development of a Celebration Park. Potentially utilize Memorial Avenue frontage for residential/commercial development.
Festivals and Events Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a clear and consistent approach to providing support services to festivals and events in conjunction with an overall tourism strategy. Potentially identify a staff member in the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department that is a liaison for festivals and events.
Development of Atherley Narrows Bridge Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work, in partnership with the Township of Ramara and the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, to develop a trail across the Atherley Narrows. Develop a cultural park at the dead end along the Millennium Trail to be integrated into the development of the new bridge.
Development of Proposed Portal Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop portal parks at road ends including the following proposed parks: Borland Street East Park, Fittons Road East Park, Forest Avenue South Park and Victoria Crescent Park.
Develop Additional Beach Volleyball Courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accommodate four additional beach volleyball courts at J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park, adjacent to existing courts.
Develop Additional Splash Pads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop two additional splash pads, one at Hillcrest Park and one at either Homewood Park, Couchiching Beach Park or Kitchener Park.

Planning Recommendations

To develop the City in a way that is consistent with the intent of the Master Plan, two key planning recommendations are identified. First is the adoption of the new parks classification system. This recommendation requires a change to the Official Plan to incorporate the new system as well as the park design guidelines and levels of service associated with the classification. Second is the development of

parks in western Orillia as development occurs. New parks and trails should be an organizing feature of new growth and should be well linked to the overall trails network.

Additional Recommendations

In addition to the recommendations associated with the three priorities of the Master Plan and the planning recommendations, the following table lists other recommendations that should be addressed as part of implementation.

Additional Recommendations	
Outcome-Based Model for Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consider shifting from a direct service delivery model to an outcome-based model for programming.The outcome-based model would set goals for participation and cost recovery and allow for the cancellation of programs that do not perform.
Review the Need for Pickleball Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consider programming for pickleball to accommodate this growing demand.
Exit Surveys for Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consider surveying program participants at the end of each program.
Fitness in the Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consider developing an event that provides fitness programs at all parks to help engage residents in these activities.
Car-Free Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consider developing an event where all are encouraged to use alternative modes of transportation, including active transportation.
Trails Wayfinding App	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop an app that provides mobile wayfinding along the trails network in Orillia including location, distances, landmarks, etc.
City-wide Interpretive Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop a City-wide interpretive program involving local stakeholders and community groups in the process.
Interpretive Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop an Interpretive Centre at West Orillia Sports Complex to provide a more well-rounded destination for residents and visitors to the western portion of Orillia.
Accommodate Gallery Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Utilize available space in City facilities for gallery space to increase the multi-functionality of these facilities.
Update the Cultural Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Update the existing 2005 Cultural Plan at 5-year intervals.Consider updating cultural mapping to transform information into accessible web-based information that can be updated and utilized in tourism development.
Wi-Fi in Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">If Wi-Fi is provided in parks, it should be located in Celebration Parks, particularly those proximate to downtown (Centennial Park/ Couchiching Beach Park).
Community Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consider expanding the places where the City may offer this activity, locating space in the park somewhat close to parking and ensuring that there is a water source available.
Road Allowances	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All undeveloped road allowances (i.e. road right of ways that are not currently being utilized for a vehicular road) should not be released from ownership.
Electric Charging Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">If the City decides to provide electric charging stations at City parks, they should be purchase-only facilities.
Off-Leash Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The City should provide three to four off-leash areas or dog parks in order to serve the various areas of the City.

Capital Improvement Program

A capital improvement program for all existing and proposed parks has been developed as part of the Master Plan. This program identifies the short, mid and long-term projects for each park. A summary of these development and planning initiatives for parks, including a description of the project and an estimated value, are detailed

in the following short-term, mid-term and long-term tables.

For parkland acquisitions and long-term projects estimated values are provided based on a cost range using dollar sign symbols (\$ - \$0-100,000; \$\$ - \$100,000- 1,000,000; \$\$\$ - \$1,000,000+).

Short-Term Development & Planning Initiatives

Park Land Acquisitions	Description	Estimated Value*
Forest Ave South Park	Negotiate Easement/Ownership Transfer with Land Owner	\$
Huron Regional Centre Park	Negotiate with Province to Acquire Property	\$\$\$+
Planning Studies	Description	Estimated Value
Centennial Park / Couchiching Beach Park / Veterans' Memorial Park	Master Plan (3 contingent waterfront parks)	\$120,000
Culture Plan Update	Report Card on Progress and Necessary Updates to the Culture Plan	\$20,000
J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park	Update Master Plan for Consistency with Celebration Park Classification	\$25,000
Kitchener Park	Master Plan	\$80,000
Victoria Park	Revise Master Plan	\$25,000
West Street South Park	Master Plan	\$95,000
Capital Improvements	Description	Estimated Value
Bayview Park	Play Equipment, Signage, Trees	\$42,000
Christine Place Park	Seating, Signage (park, interpretive)	\$15,000
Clayt French Park	Interpretive Signage, Naturalize Grounds	\$16,500
Couchiching Beach Park	Sidewalk Repairs, Replace Beach Play Equipment (with play equipment or splash pad)	\$175,000
Dorset Park	Signage, Furnishings, Pathway, Basketball Pad (1/2 court)	\$33,000
Fittons Road East Park	Car-top Boat Launch, Parking, Signage, Boardwalk, Seating	\$80,000
Frontier Park	Signage, Seating, Interpretive Trail, Naturalize Grounds	\$40,000
Forest Ave South Park	Signage, Car-top Boat Launch	\$60,000
Grenville Park	Signage, Seating, Naturalize Grounds	\$30,000
J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park	Park and Interpretive Signage, Four Sand Volleyball Courts	\$45,000
J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park	Continue to Implement Existing Redevelopment Plan with minor revisions	\$200,000
Maple Leaf Park	Signage, Pathway, Trees	\$16,000
Mariposa Park	Play Equipment, Seating, Signage (park, interpretive), Mulched Trail	\$52,500
Morningstar Park	Revamp Courts, Pave Parking, Shelter / Water Service, Entry and Crosswalk, Loop Trail System	\$174,000
Victoria Park	Phased Implementation	\$385,000
West Street South Park	Begin Phased Implementation	\$5,000,000
Sub Total		\$6,729,000
Contingency (20%)		\$1,345,800
Total		\$8,074,800

* \$ - \$0-100,000
 \$\$ - \$100,000- 1,000,000
 \$\$\$ - \$1,000,000+

Mid-Term Development & Planning Initiatives

Park Land Acquisitions	Description	Estimated Value*
Bayview Park	Negotiate Easement with Land Owner	\$
Collins Drive Park	Purchase / Remediate Adjacent Property to the East	\$\$
Murray Street Park	Negotiate with Home Owner's Association to determine ownership/responsibilities	\$
Scout Valley Park	Purchase Adjacent Commercial / Residential Properties to the Northwest When / If Properties Becomes Available	\$\$
Planning Studies	Description	Estimated Value
Huronia Regional Centre Park	Master Plan / Re-Use Strategy	\$130,000
Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan Update	Report Card on Progress and Necessary Updates to the Master Plan	\$20,000
York Street Park	Master Plan	\$40,000
Capital Improvements	Description	Estimated Value
Brant Street Park	Signage, Path Maintenance, Seating, Interpretive Signs	\$30,000
Centennial Park / Couchiching Beach Park / Veterans' Memorial Park	Begin Phased Implementation	\$300,000
Clayt French Park	Community Gardens	\$10,000
Dancy Drive Park	Signage, Pathways, Shelter/Seating, Trees	\$77,500
Edna/Adair Park	Signage, Natural Play Structures, Seating	\$49,000
Forest Home Park	Gateway, Streetscape	\$25,000
High Street Park	Signage, Seating, Redesign Community Garden	\$38,000
Homewood Park	Signage, Splash Pad, Naturalize Grounds	\$130,000
Huronia Regional Centre Park	Begin Phased Implementation	\$100,000
Kaneff Park	Signage, Shelter, Pathway, Trees	\$80,000
Kitchener Park	Begin Phased Implementation	\$100,000
Lankinwood Park	Trail, Seating, Signage	\$42,000
McKinnell Square Park	Signage, Pave Path, Shelter, Splash Equipment, Streetscape, Trees	\$175,000
North Street Park	Signage, Pathway, Seating, Interpretive Signs	\$50,000
Orma Drive Park	Signage, Pathways, Play Equipment, Seating	\$75,000
Stephen Leacock Park	Gateway (to park and extension of road to intersection)	\$170,000
West Ridge Park	Pave Path, Trailhead Signs, Interpretive Signs	\$45,000
West Street South Park	Continue Phased Implementation	\$10,000,000
Total		\$11,686,500
Contingency (20%)		\$2,337,300
Total		\$14,023,800

* \$ - \$0-100,000
 \$\$ - \$100,000- 1,000,000
 \$\$\$ - \$1,000,000+

Long-Term Development & Planning Initiatives

Capital Improvements	Description	Estimated Value *
Atherley Narrows Bridge Park	Bridge 'Park' for Trail Connection Across The Narrows	\$\$\$
Bayview Park	Interpretive Trail, Asphalt Drive/Parking	\$
Borland Street East Park	Car-top Boat Launch, Parking, Signage, Boardwalk, Seating	\$
Centennial / Couchiching / Veterans	Complete Phased Implementation	\$\$
Collins Drive Park	Signage, Pavilion, Boardwalk, Crosswalk, Trees	\$
Fittons Road East Park	Signage, Car-top Boat Launch	\$
Forest Home Park	Gateway, Pave Parking, Streetscape	\$
Franklin Carmichael Park	Signage, Pave Parking & Path, Shelter, Multi-Goals	\$
Huron Regional Centre Park	Complete Phased Implementation	\$\$\$
Kitchener Park	Complete Phased Implementation	\$\$
Lakeview Park	Signage, Interpretive Trail, Seating, Street Parking	\$
Lawrence Park	Signage, Interpretive Pathway, Seating	\$
Mac Carter Park	Trails	\$
Murray Street Park	Signage, Interpretive Trail & Bridges, Play Equipment, Seating, Naturalize Grounds	\$
Stephen Leacock Park	Boardwalk, Trail Connection	\$
Victoria Crescent Park	Overlooks, Boardwalks, Trail	\$
West Orillia Sports Complex	Interpretive Facility, Pathway & Crosswalk	\$
York Street Park	Implement Master Plan	\$

* \$ - \$0-100,000
 \$\$ - \$100,000- 1,000,000
 \$\$\$ - \$1,000.000+

Financial Breakdown for Trails

As the number one priority of the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan, investment in trails is important to plan implementation. Although the details of the trails are described in the Trails Master Plan, the financial charts have been provided as part of the executive summary to demonstrate potential investment needs. A summary of trail segment projects, including a description and estimated value, are detailed in the following short-term, mid-term and long-term tables.

Similar to the parkland acquisitions and long-term projects estimated values, the trails estimated values are provided based on a cost range using dollar sign symbols (\$ - \$0-100,000; \$\$ - \$100,000- 1,000,000; \$\$\$ - \$1,000.000+).

Short-Term Trail Initiatives - Fill-in the gaps of the existing trails network

Trail Segment	Description	Estimated Value*	
		Acquisition / Easement	Trail Construction
Downtown Waterfront Segment: Jarvis Street / King Street / Cedar Island Road	Complete gap in granular trail		
Jarvis Street to Cedar Island Road	Location of trail segment and required acquisitions/easements will result from the Waterfront Parks and Downtown design / development plan process. Expected need to secure easement or re-acquire the portion of the railroad right-of-way or other lands that are now in private ownerships (between Mississaga Street and the old train station)	\$\$	\$\$\$
Along King Street from West Street South to Front Street	Complete the asphalted trail from midway along King Street, northeast to Front Street. Revise granular trail (snowmobile) to continue to King Street along Matchedash Street R.O.W. and parallel asphalt trail to front Street. Create formalized crosswalk and trailhead at Front Street	N/A	\$
King Street to Cedar Island Road	Negotiate an acquisition or secure an easement from Rexton for lands that had been the King Street right-of-way for trail / Trail Centre	\$	\$\$
King Street to Atherley Road	Make an acquisition or secure an easement from Rexton for lands that had been the railroad right-of-way for Atherley Road trail linkage	\$	\$
Leacock Museum Segments	Complete gap in granular trail		
	Construct trail segment from end of trail at parking lot to Millennium Trail at Atherley Road	N/A	\$
Atherley Narrows Segment	Complete off-road connection to Ramara Township trail system		
	Negotiate to acquire land from Rexton and continue with the Atherley Narrows Bridge Project to create park space connection over the Atherley Narrows	\$	\$\$\$

Mid-Term Trail Initiatives - Complete the proposed main loop trail and green streets trail network

Trail Segment	Description	Estimated Value*	
		Acquisition / Easement	Trail Construction
Kubota Segment: West Street North to Frontier Avenue	Secure an easement from Kubota land owner to form trail connection between West Street North and Frontier Park	\$	\$
Frontier Ave / Lacie St / Ferguson Rd / Hughes Rd Segment	Part of proposed main loop trail	N/A	\$\$
Kitchener Park Waterfront Trail Link Segment	Construct trail section along waterfront between Kitchener Park and existing granular trail at the Huronia Regional Centre lands	N/A	\$\$
Huronia Regional Centre (HRC) Segments	Negotiate with the Ontario Provincial Government to obtain HRC lands for future commercial/parkland/trails development	\$\$\$	\$\$
Memorial Avenue Segment	Construct trail section along road between Woodland Ave and Scout Valley	N/A	\$
West Ridge Blvd / Murphy Rd / Uthoff Line	Construct trail section along roads between existing West Ridge Blvd trail segment and proposed trails to north	N/A	\$\$
City-owned lands NW of Uthoff Line	Construct trail sections from Uthoff Line to Severn Township	N/A	\$
Severn Township Segment - Hawk Ridge Golf and Country Club	Negotiate with owners to develop easement agreement for trail to run parallel to Highway 11 in buffer land of golf course	\$	\$\$
Severn Township Segment - Burnside Line	Negotiate with Severn Township to locate trail along Burnside Line with linkage to Township's trails	N/A	\$
West Street / Coldwater Road / Highway 12 By-pass	Green Streets Trail Network - Negotiate with the Ontario Provincial Government (Ontario Ministry of Transportation) to secure access to construct multiuse trail with amenities in the right-of-way of remaining trails along streets	N/A	\$\$\$

* \$ - \$0-100,000

\$\$ - \$100,000- 1,000,000

\$\$\$ - \$1,000,000+

Long-Term Trail Initiatives - Complete the remaining sections of the trail system

Trail Segment	Description	Estimated Value*	
		Acquisition / Easement	Trail Construction
Tudhope / Leacock Linkage	Secure easement with Panoramic Point Condominiums owner for boardwalk trail connection	\$	\$\$
Victoria Point Conservation Area Trail Looping Segment	Secure easements in environmental protection area with various private land owners	\$\$	\$\$\$
Barrie Road Trail Spur: Trail system access for McKinnell Square Park area residents	Secure easement with owner of Barrie Road Apartments (201 Barrie Road) for trail through parking lot area to back of lot	\$	\$
Hwy 12 By-pass to Barrie Road Segment	Make an agreement with Twin Lakes Secondary School to allow trail access through property to trail segment along side of Lexington Avenue	\$	\$
Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Museum and trails NW of Memorial Avenue	Secure an easement with OPP to allow trail through property to connection to regional attraction / construct adjoining trail segments	\$	\$\$
HRC lands waterfront trail link	Trail along waterfront linking to Woodland Ave and the Lake Country Oro-Medonte Rail Trail / Coordinate with Oro-Medonte Township	N/A	\$\$
West Orillia Community Segments	Negotiate easement agreement with University, utility and other land owners to develop trails	\$\$	\$\$\$
Morningstar Park to Highway 12 Segment	Negotiate easement with the Ontario Provincial Government (Ontario Ministry of Transportation) and private land owners	\$	\$\$
Highway 11 Trail Crossings / East/ West Community Connections	There are two proposed connections (tunnel/bridge) across Highway 11. These may be bridge or tunnel trail connections. Required actions include securing easements with MTO and private land owners.	\$	\$\$\$
Monarch Drive Segment	Construct trail from West Ridge Blvd to Highway 12	N/A	\$

* \$ - \$0-100,000
 \$\$ - \$100,000- 1,000,000
 \$\$\$ - \$1,000,000+

Policies & Framework to Guide the Future

To continuously implement the vision, parks, recreation and culture policies have been developed to guide decision making in the City. The policies echo the goals of the Master Plan and address relevant planning and development considerations. In addition, a management structure is proposed that focuses the City on parks, recreation and culture and looks to maximize the opportunity to coordinate between the three divisions of the department.

Conclusions

The resulting plan provides the City with a clear approach to achieving the community vision, enhancing the community with a system of parks, recreation, culture and trails and creating grounds for play in Orillia that welcome residents and visitors from near and far. To maintain the success of the plan, the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan should be updated on a 5-year cycle with a "report card" as to the successes achieved and not achieved. This will help keep the concepts of the plan alive and maintain the excitement of planning for a healthy, active community.

Parks

Recreation

Culture

MASTER PLAN

July 2014

Acknowledgements

Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan Steering Committee

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City of Orillia

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2014 Parks, Recreation, Culture
Master Plan Appendix

2005 Cultural Plan

Companion Document:

2014 Trails Master Plan



Introduction



The City of Orillia features outstanding parks, recreation, culture and trail resources that are central to the identity of the community. The City's Official Plan Vision describes the future of the Orillia as having an "excellent trails and parks network" and providing "year-round celebration of culture and heritage". The Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan is a detailed guide to the development of these essential resources in Orillia.

The Master Plan is the first comprehensive look at parks, recreation, culture and trails since the development of the City's 1989 Master Plan. The Plan incorporates and builds on the 2005 Cultural Plan as well as related planning efforts such as the Active Transportation Plan (2012) the Multi-Use Recreation Facility Feasibility Study (2002) and the Downtown Tomorrow Plan (2012) for a broad planning perspective. Furthermore, by conducting an in-depth public involvement process and detailed inventory and analysis, this new Master Plan identifies specific steps towards achieving a community-driven vision of parks, recreation, culture and trails in Orillia. The result is a plan that is focused on creating a system that is greater than the sum of its parts.

This chapter provides an introduction to the Master Plan and describes the structural organization of the document.



PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The central purpose of the Master Plan is to enhance parks, recreation, culture and trails in Orillia now and in the future.

Parks, recreation, culture and trails are critical components of our community. These resources contribute to community health and well-being as well as to the local environment and economy. The impacts of a successful system of parks, recreation, culture and trails can be felt by residents and tourists alike and embody the unique character of the community.

Recognizing the significance of these community resources, the City of Orillia initiated the master planning process. This new plan focuses citywide efforts to deliver parks, recreation, culture and trails resources to the community in a cohesive and targeted manner to best meet the needs of Orillia.

To date, the City has fully utilized the objectives of the 1989 Master Plan but the plan, now 25 years old, has reached the extent of its usefulness. While the City has made every effort to provide services, programs and improvements to the community, it has been diligently working without an overall guide to development. With this Master Plan, the City can work step-by-step towards a community vision for parks, recreation, culture and trails.

Alignment with City Plans

The Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan is consistent with the City's Strategic Plan as it reflects the vision for "A healthy progressive community that respects people and promotes growth in a sustainable environment." The plan aligns with strategic priorities of people first, supporting business, environmental stewardship and healthy communities as well as the Strategic Plan's recreation facilities strategic actions, downtown and waterfront strategic actions and communications strategic actions. The Master Plan also ties to several key planning efforts developed for the City, including:

- Downtown Tomorrow
- Waterfront Framework Plan
- Active Transportation Plan
- Economic Development Strategy

While coordinating with these key planning efforts, the Master Plan works in partnership with the Cultural Plan completed for the City in 2005. This plan is provided as an appendix to the document.

As a key planning tool for the City of Orillia, the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan will further the objectives of the Official Plan and add detail to the development of policies for parks, recreation and culture in Orillia.



Structure of the Master Plan

Introduction: Illustrates the purpose and structure of the plan.

Context: Describes the resource that the plan is addressing and identifies key public participation and community vision for the future.

Systems Plan: Identifies how parks, recreation, culture and trails can function together to form an overall system that enhances City development.

Implementation: Provides the specific policies, plan recommendations, management structure recommendations and capital improvement needs that will help the community implement the vision.

Appendix: Includes all background information that provided the foundation for plan development including community comparisons, public involvement, detailed analysis and other specific information. (Under Separate Cover)

Companion Document: Trail Master Plan: The Trails Master Plan works together with the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan as it details specific needs for trail development in the City of Orillia, identifying how and where the trail should be developed. The Trails Master Plan also elaborates on the specific needs for Scout Valley trails.

The Importance of Play

Grounds for Play is the central concept behind the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan; the concept focuses on fostering the health and well-being of the community. 'Play' is a broad view of recreation and cultural activities that ranges from pick-up games to tournaments, from dance parties to dance performances, etc. The Master Plan approach looks to incorporate the importance of non-organized, organic activities, such as a simple game of tag, as equally significant as our organized sports and cultural activities. This concept features equal opportunity to access active lifestyles across all age groups of both residents and visitors.

By providing the 'grounds' for play, the Master Plan facilitates play across the City. It utilizes the City's public realm (including streets, parks, waterfronts and other public places) as a tool to string together the parks and open spaces as places for play throughout Orillia. This structure creates a quality of place that showcases Orillia, reflecting and expanding its image as a destination for festivals to incorporate its accessible parks and open spaces, also known as its green infrastructure.

This approach captures key social, economic and environmental benefits of parks, recreation and culture master plans, such as:

- Creating opportunities for community gathering
- Preserving access to nature within the City
- Expanding opportunities for tourism
- Attracting and retaining residents and businesses
- Providing a support system for natural ecosystems
- Featuring the City's unique heritage and identity
- Fostering creativity for all ages

With all the important benefits of parks, recreation and culture, a primary focus of **Grounds for Play** is increasing physical activity

for all through play. The key to this is ensuring that access to physical activity opportunities is affordable.

According to the Heart and Stroke Foundation, socioeconomic status can be a factor in determining levels and types of physical activity, as well as facilities accessed. Understanding this issue, the Master Plan targets the development and enhancement of facilities and activities in the City's parks, trails and waterfront areas that are available to all. While meeting national standards for sports is still a large part of the Master Plan, it is a component of the overall strategy to meet the needs of all.

Featuring affordable physical activity opportunities is particularly important when considering participation statistics that show that children from families earning less than \$50,000 per year are less likely to participate in organized sport (66%) than children from families earning more than \$100,000 (83%).¹ Furthermore, a recent study in Nova Scotia showed that grade three children in lower income groups were less likely to access swimming pools, soccer fields and arenas than children from higher income groups, but equally likely to access parks, playgrounds, lakes and trails.²

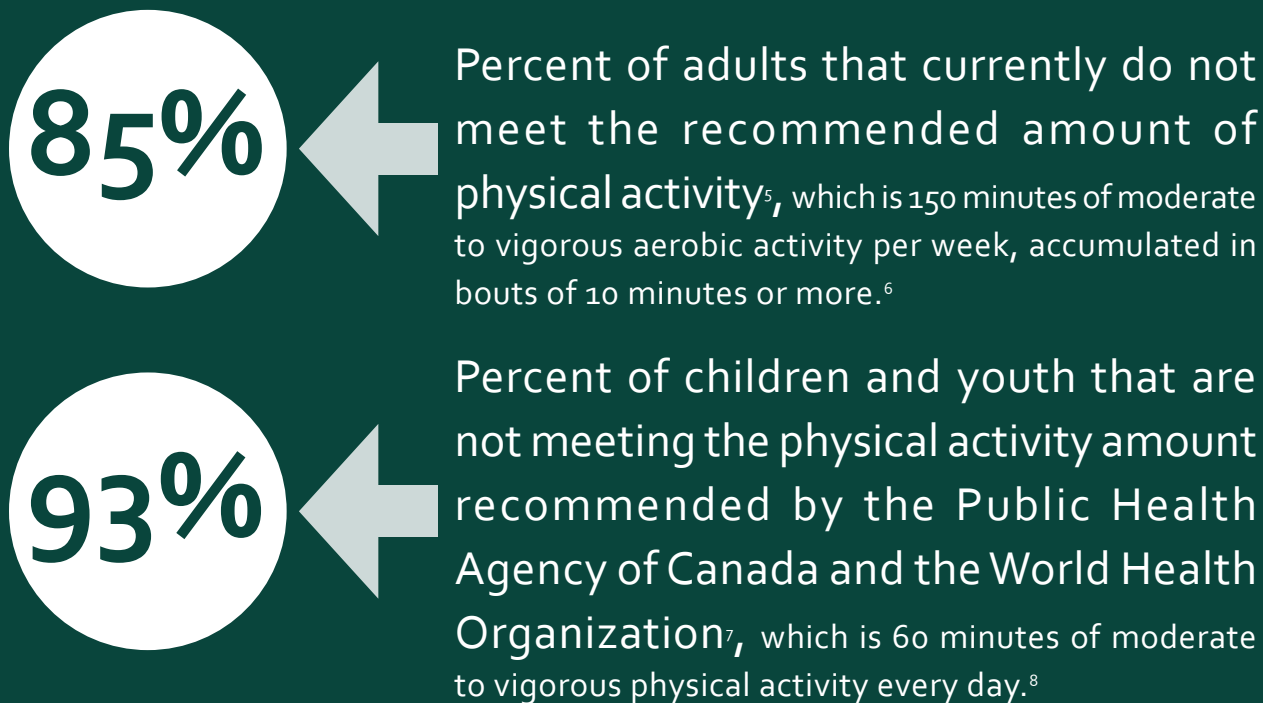
More specifically, the need for affordability was a repeated concern during the community involvement process for the Master Plan. This need, together with the national physical activity statistics that overwhelmingly demonstrate that most Canadians are not getting enough physical activity (detailed on the following page), highlight that it is critical to develop the community in a way that integrates active lifestyles into our everyday routines. **Grounds for Play** is a strategy to bring play into our lives for an enjoyable and healthy Orillia.

1 Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute. 2010 Canadian Physical Activity Monitor <http://www.cflri.ca/media/node/904/charts/Bulletin%20-%20Participation%20in%20sport%20among%20children%20and%20youth.pdf>

2 Government of Nova Scotia, Department of Health and Wellness. Keeping Pace: Active Healthy Kids. Physical Activity and Dietary Intake of Children and Youth. April 2011. Volume 2, Issue 3. 19 August 2011 (gov.ns.ca/hpp/publications/PASR_AKHK_v2i3.pdf).

A Need for Play

More and more, we as a nation are facing issues of sedentary lifestyles. We have shifted our habits to include hours in front of televisions and computer screens. In fact, Canadian children and youth report spending twice as much time in front of a screen (computer and/or television) as they do engaged in physical activity.^{3,4} This shift has given rise to increasing physical and psychological health and well-being concerns. Physical inactivity is linked to increasing risk factors to a variety of health issues such as heart disease and stroke as well as depression and stress. This issue is even more significant when recognizing how many people are not getting enough physical activity. In Canada:



Play, which increases physical activity, is a primary focus of the **Orillia: Grounds for Play Master Plan**, the achievement of which has the potential to provide widespread benefits to the community. As is stated on the Heart and Stroke Foundation website:

- It is estimated that if all Canadians engaged in 60 minutes of physical activity per day, 33% of all deaths related to coronary heart disease, 25% of deaths related to stroke, 20% of deaths related to type 2 diabetes, and 20% of deaths related to hypertension could be avoided.⁹

3 Government of Canada, Healthy Canadians e-Newsletter Spring 2008, 5 May 2008 healthycanadians.gc.ca/hc-cs-nb-sp2008_3_e.html

4 Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology, Canadian Sedentary Behaviour Guidelines for Children and Youth. 18 August 2011 (csep.ca/english/view.asp?x=804)

5 Colley RC, Garriguet D, Janssen I, Craig CL, Clarke J, Tremblay MS. Physical activity of Canadian adults: Accelerometer results from the 2007 to 2009 Canadian Health Measures Survey. Statistics Canada. 3 August 2011 (statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-003-x/2011001/article/11396-eng.htm)

6 Canadian Centre for Exercise Physiology, Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines, 2011 Scientific Statements. 3 August 2011 (csep.ca/CMFiles/Guidelines/Canadian-PhysicalActivityGuidelinesStatements_E.pdf)

7 Colley RC, Garriguet D, Janssen I, Craig CL, Clarke J, Tremblay MS. Physical activity of Canadian children and youth: Accelerometer results from the 2007 to 2009 Canadian Health Measures Survey. Statistics Canada. 3 August 2011 (statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-003-x/2011001/article/11397/ref-eng.htm)

8 Canadian Centre for Exercise Physiology, Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines, 2011 Scientific Statements. 3 August 2011 (csep.ca/CMFiles/Guidelines/Canadian-PhysicalActivityGuidelinesStatements_E.pdf)

9 Warburton DER, Katzmarzyk PT, Rhodes RE, Shephard RJ. Evidence-informed physical activity guidelines for Canadian adults. *Applied Physiology, Nutrition and Metabolism*. 2007;32 (suppl.2E):S16-S68.



102,027 JV

Context



The story of parks, recreation, culture and trails, is the story of Orillia. These elements are what make the community unique and unite it with the surrounding region. While the purpose of the document is to develop Orillia as grounds for play, what brings the plan to life is how it enhances the existing character of the community.

This chapter introduces Orillia's community character by describing its location, residents, parks, recreation facilities, trails, history and culture. The context for the Master Plan is described in the following sections:

- » About Orillia
- » Parks & Trails
- » Facilities & Programs
- » Cultural Resources
- » Community Involvement

ABOUT ORILLIA

To address the individual needs of Orillia, the Master Plan begins by identifying the existing community, its location, its residents and its history.

Location & Context

Orillia is part of the Greater Golden Horseshoe¹ and is connected to the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) to the south by major road corridors including Highways 11 and 12. Surrounded by the Townships of Severn, Ramara and Oro-Medonte, the City of Orillia is a regional hub for parks, recreation and cultural activities.

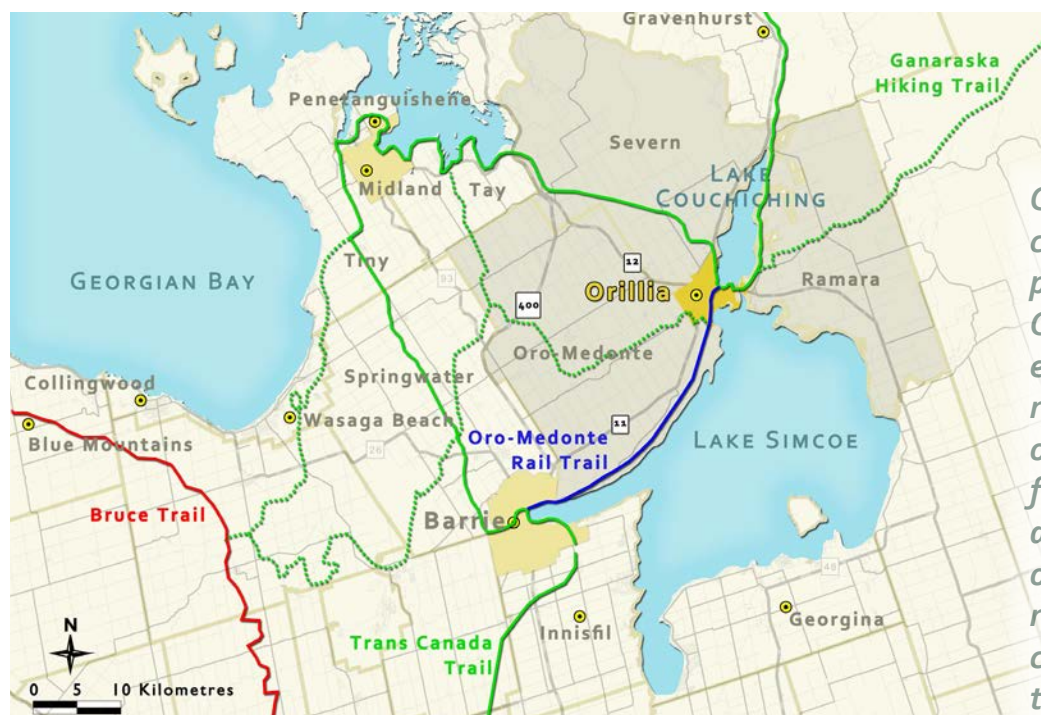
Nestled between Lake Couchiching and Lake Simcoe, Orillia has an expansive two lake waterfront. The lakes are part of the Trent-Severn Waterway, a 386 km canal route along central Ontario that is a national historic site with a long history of recreational use.

Orillia is also along two major trail systems: the Trans Canada Trail and the Ganaraska Hiking Trail. The Trans Canada trail is one of the world's

longest networks of trails that when completed will stretch from the Atlantic to the Pacific. In Orillia, the trail approximately follows the northeastern edge of the City leading to trails in neighbouring Severn and Ramara and beyond. Recently, the Government of Canada announced funding that will help bridge remaining trail gaps and connect Canadians from coast to coast to coast by 2017.² Key to this plan is a proposed pedestrian / snowmobile bridge at the Atherley Narrows. The Ganaraska Hiking Trail is a regional trail that runs from Port Hope to the north shore of Lake Ontario. The trail approximately follows the waterfront and travels south leading to trails in Ramara and Oro-Medonte. Regionally, the City of Orillia's trails connect to the City of Barrie through Oro-Medonte along the shore of Lake Simcoe.

1 https://www.placestogrow.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=9&Itemid=12

2 <http://tctrail.ca/news/?p=5574>



Canal and trail connections provide Orillia with extraordinary regional opportunities for the development of parks, recreation, culture and trails.

City Demographics

Demographics of the community are critical to planning for the future of parks, recreation and culture because they can help target changes in future needs. The following highlights some key characteristics of Orillia's demographics:

Stable Population

The 2011 population of Orillia was 30,586 people. Based on the Greater Golden Horseshoe Growth Forecasts, this population is likely to remain relatively stable in the future. As the graph below demonstrates, while the range of forecasts for Barrie and Simcoe County are all anticipating significant growth, Orillia's growth forecasts through 2041 show little change. Furthermore, the City of Orillia Development Services Department projects an even more conservative growth outlook.

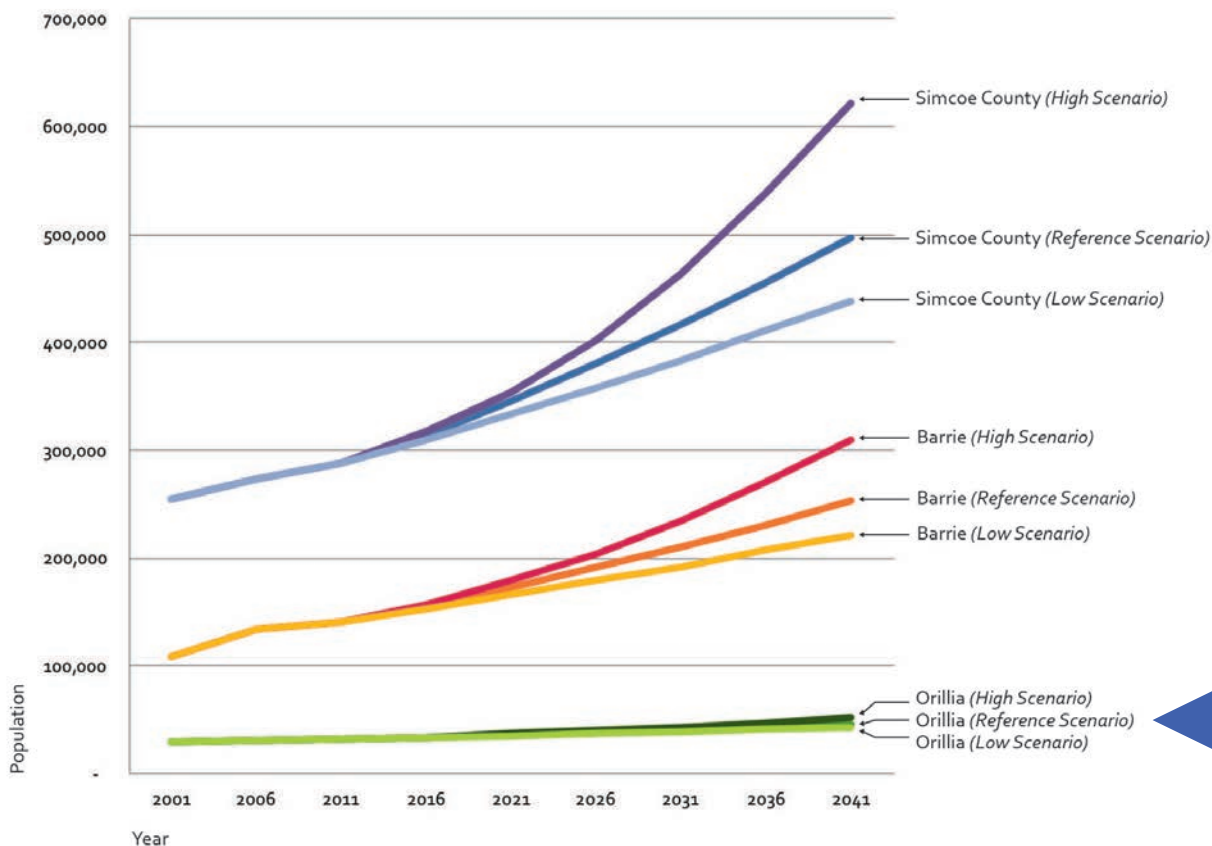
Age Groups Remain Consistent

Projections from the Greater Golden Horseshoe analysis also show the age group percentages remaining consistent with the current age breakdown. Nonetheless, Orillia continues to be a popular destination for retirement with the development of condominiums geared towards senior living.

Residents with Lower Income

Statistics Canada identified nearly 15 percent of the population as having a low pre-tax income. While this is not a measure of poverty, it reflects a portion of the population struggling to get by. This is important to the Master Plan because affluence is an indicator of access to programs and services.

Population Growth Forecasts
Orillia, Barrie & Simcoe County



Source: Greater Golden Horseshoe Growth Forecasts and peter j. smith & company, inc.

Population Forecasts for Orillia
Remain Relatively Stable

Orillia's History & Culture

Orillia has become an iconic place of retreat and a haven for cultural and leisure activities along a picturesque waterfront landscape. Yet the history of Orillia stretches back much further than its image as a resort destination. In fact, archeological evidence demonstrates people living in this area over five thousands years ago.

Mnjikaning Fish Weirs

The Mnjikaning Fish Weirs provide an extraordinary glimpse into the past as the largest and best preserved wooden fish weirs known in eastern North America. The Weirs are located on portions of the bottom of the Narrows between Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching, where fish could be caught as they moved between lakes. The site was in use from about 3300 B.C. until the recent past. In the centuries immediately before

A.D. 1650, the site was cared for and used by the Huron-Wendat.¹ Today, the Chippewas of Rama First Nation are stewards of the site, which is now designated as a national historic site of Canada.

In addition to the site's historical significance, the Mnjikaning Fish Weirs are spiritually significant. According to the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, in the Anishnaabeg telling of the creation of the world, each species of living things was given a purpose to fulfill. The fish were told to come together at certain times of the year and hold council. At these times, the Anishnaabeg could more readily access them for food.²

1 <http://www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=9679>

2 <http://www.mnjikaning.ca/about.asp>

Pencil Sketch of Orillia from 1872

Courtesy of Toronto Public Library



1910 Historic Postcards of Orillia's Waterfront

Courtesy of Toronto Public Library

The heritage of the Mnjikaning Fish Weirs reflects the importance of place and the story it has to tell.

Development of the City

Orillia has seen many changes since it was incorporated as a village in 1867. Various industries, including farming, the fur trade and logging played a part in the development of Orillia as a commercial centre. As the community continued to develop there were a variety of industrial, manufacturing and engineering firms dealing with the automotive, petrochemical, aeronautics and plastics industries that fueled Orillia's economy. Still by the end of the 19th century the area became known as a summer destination. Spurring this development was the construction of the Trent-Severn Waterway, a

key passageway across central Ontario.³ With railway expansion, the community continued to welcome visitors for summer picnics and holidays.

Orillia's Famous Citizens

Over the years, Orillia has become known for its various notable residents and visitors that have become a part of the heritage of the community. Some of the more recognized figures include humorist Stephen Leacock, singer/songwriter Gordon Lightfoot and sculptor Elizabeth Wyn Wood.⁴ Orillia commemorates many of its notable people and landmarks in monuments, park dedications, trail dedications, museums, festivals and events. This celebration of the heritage of Orillia keeps the community story alive and ongoing.

³ <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/en/article/orillia/>

⁴ <http://www.orillia.ca/en/insidecityhall/municipalheritage-committeehome.asp>



1910 Historic Postcards of Mississaga Street in Orillia

Courtesy of Toronto Public Library

PARKS & TRAILS

Orillia's park system, particularly the City's waterfront parks, are a source of pride in the community. They provide an essential outlet for recreation and leisure time as well as enhance the environmental quality of the community.

Existing Parks

Orillia has 39 parks (including Scout Valley naturalized area and the Stephen Leacock Museum grounds) in its existing park system. City parks range in size and include a variety of parkettes, neighbourhood parks and community parks. Some of the larger parks include:

Centennial Park, Couchiching Beach Park, and Veterans' Memorial Park



J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park



Kitchener Park

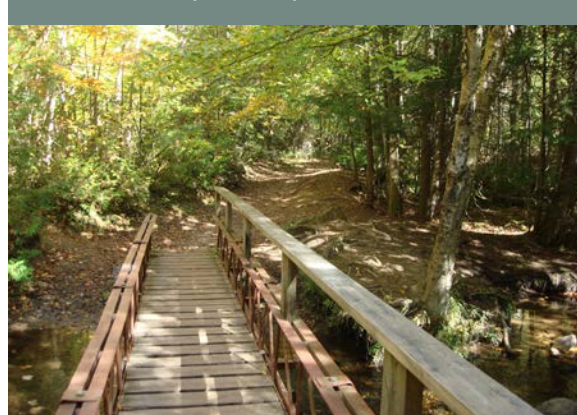


West Orillia Sports Complex



In total, Orillia has approximately 113 hectares (279 acres) of parkland as well as 93 hectares (230 acres) of naturalized area known as Scout Valley. A large trail system, pictured below, provides access to this naturalized area.

Scout Valley Trail System



In addition to the trails at Scout Valley, the City is home to the remarkable Lightfoot Trail system, which provides a collection of well used multi-use trails. Part of the existing trail system includes the Millennium Trail, a paved trail that travels along the waterfront. In the winter, the City is also serviced by a collection of snowmobile trails.

The existing parks and trails provide an outstanding opportunity to connect the City and continue to enhance the quality of life in Orillia.





FACILITIES & PROGRAMS

Facilities and programs provide additional recreation and leisure opportunities within the City of Orillia and are an important part of City life.

Existing Facilities

There are eight different recreation and culture facilities within Orillia. These facilities include:

- **Barnfield Point Recreation Centre:** Amenities include curling ice / large event floor, Bayside Restaurant, a meeting room, an auditorium, a rock climbing wall and two change rooms.
- **Brian Orser Arena:** Amenities include hockey / skating ice, meeting rooms, a basketball / multi-use court, six change rooms and a concession.
- **Stephen Leacock Museum:** Amenities include the museum, the boathouse, a giftshop, a restaurant / meeting room and a terrace.
- **Forest Home Hall:** Provides a meeting room with washrooms and kitchen (facility is leased to the Orillia Ball Hockey League).
- **McKinnell Square Meeting Room:** Provides a meeting room with washrooms.
- **Orillia Opera House:** Amenities include the Gordon Lightfoot Auditorium, stage extension, studio theatre, stadium seating and green room lounge. Both theatres are fully equipped with professional lighting and sound equipment and all public areas are fully licensed, air conditioned, wheelchair accessible and have headsets available for the hearing impaired.
- **Regan House:** Provides a meeting room with washrooms.
- **Rotary Place:** Amenities include two arenas, a mini-stick play area, twelve change rooms, concession, large event floor, meeting rooms, a rock climbing wall and skate sharpening.

Addressing Existing Needs

A well known need in the City of Orillia is for

the development of a pool and additional gymnasium space. To address these needs, the City developed a program for the development of a Leisure Centre at 228 James Street. The components of the Leisure Centre were based on extensive public consultation in 2012 and the recommendations of four pillar groups that looked at recreational needs of the community as well as the initial 2002 Multi-Use Recreation Facility Feasibility Study. Based on recommendations, the new facility will include an aquatic centre, aquatic change rooms, two FIBA size gymnasiums, gym change rooms, a multipurpose / party room, a lobby, reception / office, child care, fitness rooms and a walking track. Based on a special meeting on February 26, 2014, development of the James Street Leisure Centre has been put on hold to investigate the potential to form a partnership including a recreation centre with Tribal Partners Inc., for the redevelopment of 174 West Street South.

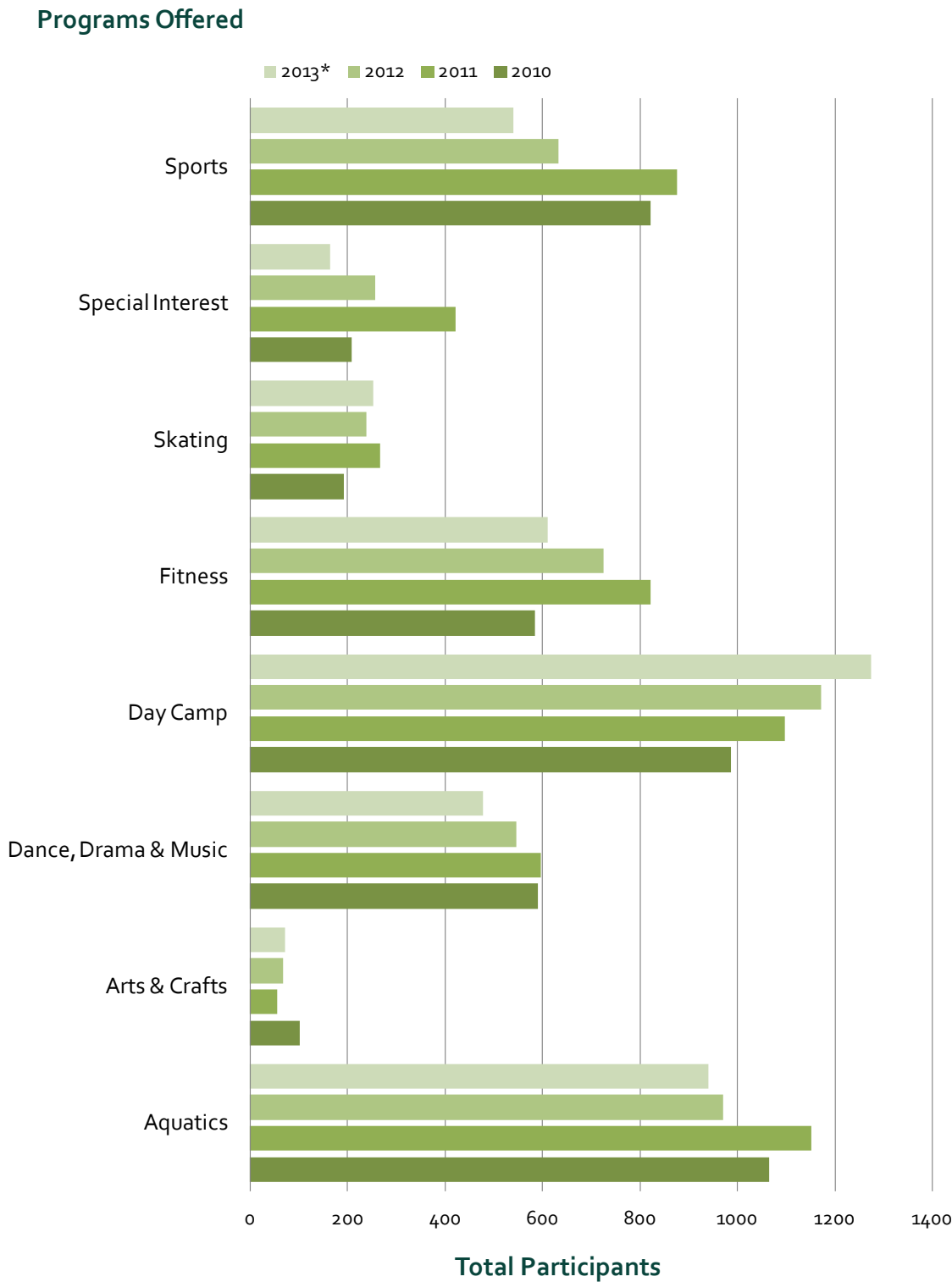
City Programs

An important part of the City's Parks, Recreation and Culture Department is the provision of programming. City programs provide the community an opportunity to participate in organized activities. Excluding day camp, which is offered exclusively to children, the variety of City programming is offered to people of all ages and abilities. These programs give participants the ability to learn new skills, develop their craft, participate in physical activity and socialize with the community.

The participation numbers in the figure below illustrates that the community continues to participate in a variety of programs, but that

the specific number of participants fluctuates each year.

Participation in City Programs 2010 - 2013



* 2013 City of Orillia Participation Numbers of as of end November 2013

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Orillia is home to extraordinary cultural resources that range from contemporary artists and organizations to historic landmarks and stories. The Master Plan provides an opportunity for these unique resources to shine and be integrated throughout the community.

About Culture & the Master Plan

Culture defines our communities and how we live our lives and is intimately tied to parks and recreation. While culture is often perceived as limited to arts and heritage, a community's overall culture encompasses our lifestyles and our ways of living together. By incorporating culture into the Master Plan process, the Plan reflects the central concept and purposes of the plan: to foster the health and well-being of the community.

Stories of Orillia's Cultural Facilities

Orillia is home a variety of cultural facilities, including two City facilities (the Orillia Opera House and the Stephen Leacock Museum).

Orillia Opera House

The Opera House has always been a source of pride for Orillia. Originally constructed in 1895, the Opera House once housed the Council Chamber, City Hall offices, City lock-up or jail, market stalls and an auditorium. Plagued by fire in 1915, the building has seen many restorations since it was first built. While the town hall functions of the building have been relocated, care and additions to the building have maintained the building's status and ability to hold professional level performances. Currently, the Opera House features a 700-seat auditorium and a smaller 108-seat studio. The Opera House continues to enliven the community as it hosts outstanding local, national and international talent in Orillia.

Stephen Leacock Museum

The legacy of renowned humourist Stephen Leacock lives on in Orillia; it's memorialized at the Stephen Leacock Museum, Leacock's home known as Old Brewery Bay, and kept alive through a variety of events and activities focused on inspiring creativity. Leacock's story of Mariposa in *Sunshine Sketches of a Little*

Orillia Opera House in 1910



Historic Postcard Courtesy of Toronto Public Library

Stephen Leacock Museum



Town (1912) finds interest in the humanity and humour of small town living. This idea of Mariposa, a small town that strongly resembles Orillia, is transformed into a new concept in the City today, one of cultural expression. Taking on a mythical image, Mariposa is represented in the Mariposa Folk Festival, Mariposa Park, Mariposa Market and other reincarnations of something that has become part of Orillia’s story.

Orillia Museum of Art & History

The Orillia Museum of Art & History is a non-profit organization that exhibits the region’s culture and history. Housed in the historic Sir Sam Steele Memorial Building, the museum hosts events, exhibitions and programs.

Festivals & Events

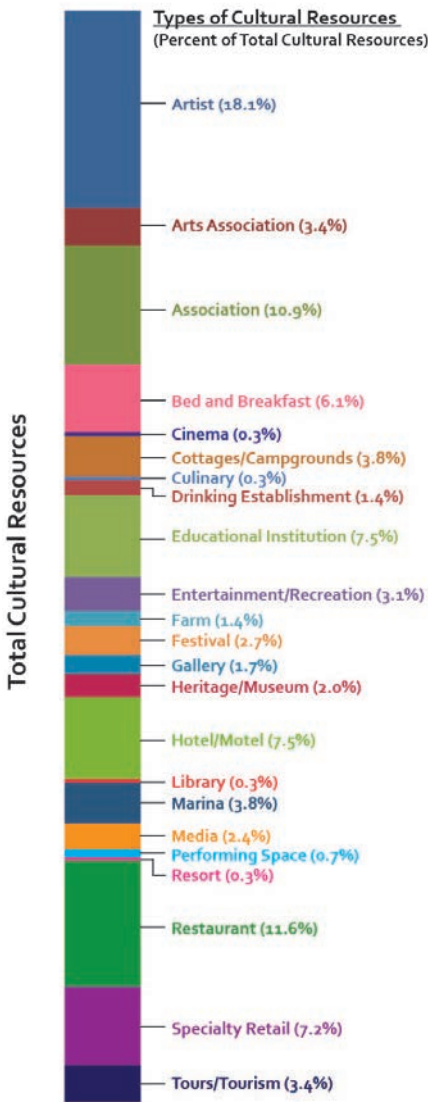
In Orillia, one of the primary features that invigorates the creativity and liveliness of the community is its festivals and events. In fact, Orillia is known for its festivals, including the Mariposa Folk Festival that has welcomed a who’s who of folk artists over the years. Other festivals and events in Orillia include:

- Arts For Peace
- Ashiko World Music Festival
- Beatles Celebration
- Canada Day
- Christmas In June
- Classic Car Show
- Culture Days
- Doors Open Orillia
- Images Thanksgiving Studio Tour
- Leacock Sidewalk Sale
- Leacock Summer Festival
- Mariposa Folk Festival
- Mississaga St. Sidewalk Sale
- Movies In The Park
- Orillia Jazz Festival
- Perch Festival
- Rotary/Lions Funfest
- Scottish Festival
- Spring Blues Festival
- Spring Boat Show
- Starry Night Gallery And Studio Tour
- Streets Alive
- Sunday Evening Band Concerts
- Waterfront Festival
- Winter Carnival

A Variety of Cultural Resources

While our more visible cultural resources are often exclusively recognized as encapsulating the culture of a place, cultural resources also include cultural industries (design professionals, dance schools, hobby stores, artists, etc.) and cultural organizations (committees, social organizations, artisans societies, etc.) that contribute to the cultural economy as well as the well-being of the community. The figure below illustrates the breakdown of Orillia’s nearly 300 cultural resources. Within this breakdown, artists make up the largest percentage of cultural resources.

Breakdown of Cultural Resources in Orillia



* This table is notable because it demonstrates the variety of cultural resources in Orillia. Overtime, tracking the breakdown of cultural resources can show growth or decline in different types of culture.

Note: Numbers based on Cultural Mapping Data from the 2005 Cultural Plan



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Community life is tied to parks, recreation and culture. Therefore, it's critical to develop a Master Plan that is informed and directed by the community.

Recognizing the community significance of this planning effort, a variety of involvement techniques were used to ensure that all voices were heard as part of the process. The result of the community involvement program is the development of a Master Plan that reflects the desired future for parks, recreation and culture in Orillia. The following summary provides a brief description of the involvement techniques used and highlights some key findings from the sessions.

Committee Meetings

The Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan is guided by a Steering Committee that is made up of City staff and community stakeholders. Committee meetings occurred throughout the planning process to review draft material and ensure the plan is developed to meet the needs of the community.

Vision Session

On June 19, 2013 a vision session was conducted with the Steering Committee to initiate discussion of the future of parks, recreation and culture in Orillia. The Committee discussed community assets, needed improvements and potentials for plan development.

Focus Groups

As a plan for parks, recreation and culture, there are a variety of stakeholders and interest groups that were involved in the process. To accommodate all groups, three rounds of focus groups were conducted in July/August 2013, October 2013 and November 2013.

Mayor, Council & Staff Interviews

As part of the involvement process the Mayor and members of City Council as well as staff members from each City department were interviewed to gather input and promote Citywide engagement in the planning process.

Stakeholder Interviews

Numerous interviews were conducted throughout the planning process to ensure key parks, recreation and culture stakeholders were involved in the plan development process.

Public Meeting

A public meeting was held on October 3, 2013, to gather input on the potential for parks, recreation, culture and trails system in Orillia. The meeting involved an informational presentation followed by an interactive workbook and mapping session where participants worked in groups to detail on a map of Orillia where existing and potential improvements should be located.

Community Surveys

Several different types of surveys were utilized as part of the involvement program, including:

- Community Survey: Available online and at City Hall, this survey asked questions regarding activities, parks, trails, recreation and culture facilities, festivals and events, recreation and cultural programs as well as access and availability. The survey received 354 responses.
- Intercept Survey: Conducted in City parks, this survey gathered information about park users including purpose of trip, activities participated in and importance of safety and maintenance items.
- Facilities Survey: Available online and at various facilities, this survey focused on facility users and asked questions regarding indoor facilities, activities, programs and events, meeting rooms as well as access and quality.

Public Open House

On June 4, 2014, a public open house was held to provide an opportunity to review the components of the plan. The plan was displayed in a series of presentation panels and public feedback was gathered using an evaluation questionnaire.

Note: Detailed accounts of involvement techniques are provided in the Appendix.

Key Community Involvement Findings Diagram

Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan



Community involvement demonstrated a strong appreciation for a variety of City resources including parks, the two waterfronts, trails, recreation and culture facilities, festivals and Scout Valley.

Community Surveys

- 71% of respondents go to City parks and recreation facilities once a week or more
- Majority of respondents (61%) use parks for outdoor space
- 72% of respondents agree or strongly agree that the City should expand the trail system and 62% of respondents agree or strongly agree that the City should acquire new parkland
- The majority of respondents are aware of cultural facilities and events as well as City recreation programs

Public Meetings

- Parks are well maintained and have high quality facilities
- Priority issues include:
 - » Development of the Huronia Regional Centre (HRC) property as a park / cultural facility
 - » Bike routes and trail connections to Lakehead University / Scout Valley

Focus Groups & Interviews

- | | |
|---|---|
| Focus on: | • Health & walkability |
| • Affordability & accessibility for all | • Potential for sports tourism |
| • Trails with better connections | • Significance of culture |
| • Better organizational and City coordination | • Winter activities |
| • Continued waterfront enhancement | • Potential of the Huronia Regional Centre (HRC) property |

Vision Session

- The future system should be:
- Attractive, accessible & affordable for all
 - Highly connected, inclusive, inviting and offer a diversity of facilities & amenities
 - A major focus in the City that is sustainable and well-maintained
 - A balance between programmed & non-programmed space



VISION

The vision, goals and objectives for the Master Plan direct the future of parks, recreation, culture and trails in Orillia.

Orillia is a community known for offering significant regional events. To build on this success, the vision is to also make Orillia renown for its parks, open space and inclusivity. The City will offer a system that is integrated and linked where users can easily move from place to place, a system that promotes and enhances an international music venue and opportunities for other cultural events and that is a major tourism generator and attraction in Ontario.

At the northern rim of the GTA, Orillia has a unique opportunity to maintain its small city charm and enhance economic opportunities through tourism and second home buyers while serving local residents. In the future, the City will continue to develop a healthier community and activities for residents to enjoy. In addition, the City will focus on enhancing its identity and character by promoting tourism through attractive trails, parks, culture and recreation for all users. This vision addresses changing demographics and future population needs and promotes a multicultural society. Through vision development, the City's open space is transformed into an outdoor museum, which celebrates and interprets the social, cultural and natural heritage of the City and region.

Goals & Objectives

The Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan is guided and measured by the following seven key goals. The goals and related objectives that define the goals have been developed through input received during the Community Involvement program including interactive public meetings, focus groups and stakeholder interviews.

GOAL 1: IDENTITY

For Orillia to be known for its outstanding park, recreation, culture and trail system and to value this system as critical to the City's identity.

- increase awareness of opportunities, resources and facilities
- develop a parks, recreation, culture and trails system that provides a wide range of gathering, facilities, education and heritage experiences
- enhance the connection between the waterfront to the parks, recreation, culture and trails system
- promote a comprehensive education / interpretive program that illustrates the character of the community
- develop the parks, recreation, culture and trails system in a way that attracts and promotes local and regional tourism
- promote key cultural resources, i.e. artists

GOAL 2: DESIGN

Promote a high quality parks, recreation, culture and trails system.

- employ a comprehensive design language, through design guidelines, for all parks and open spaces in Orillia
- focus on creating a coherent system of parks, recreation, culture and trails
- feature parks as distinct experiences with appropriate facilities for residents and visitors
- incorporate culture, art and heritage into the network of parks and open spaces
- improve the multi-functional use of parks
- incorporate facilities into the parks, recreation, culture and trails system

GOAL 3: LINKAGE

Utilize the parks, recreation, culture and trails system as the organizing feature within the City.

- develop linked parks, open space, trails, facilities and recreation areas
- focus on providing a continuous network of trails that connect locations throughout the City
- develop a series of identifiable trailheads and identifiers

GOAL 4: INCLUSIVITY & ACCESSIBILITY

Promote accessibility for all residents and visitors to all parks and facilities and equal opportunity to participate in the parks, recreation, culture and trails system.

- enhance all facilities for user groups regardless of age, income, ethnicity or physical/mental/sensory ability
- provide facilities and amenities that accommodate year round use
- work with public and private partners to promote the shared use of facilities

GOAL 5: HEALTH, SAFETY & MAINTENANCE

Ensure that all parks, recreation, culture and trails promote the safety and well-being of residents and visitors.

- design park, trails and facilities to accommodate safety and security measures
- maintain parks, trails and facilities to promote visual and physical access
- promote healthy active lifestyles in all parks, trails and facilities
- create public environments where residents and visitors feel safe and engaged

GOAL 6: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Promote the enhancement and understanding of the natural environment.

- maintain and preserve natural ecosystems and their functions
- protect stream, valley lands and natural waterfront lands to preserve and enhance wildlife corridors and natural connections, to and along, the lake
- protect riparian resources and enhance aquatic habitat
- enhance appreciation and understanding of the natural environment through accommodating public access and providing educational opportunities

GOAL 7: PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Promote an active environment through the enhancement of programs and events.

- focus on resident program demands in providing services to the City
- provide consistent and appropriate procedures for all festivals and events
- develop programs and facilities that encourage regional athletic events and tie to other recreational and cultural attractions



Systems Plan



The park, recreation, culture and trails system is the fabric of the community, its within this system that we experience community life. Focusing on these resources as a system ties together the many recreational and cultural assets within the community.

The development of the systems plan is described in the following sections:

- » Systems-Based Concept
- » Connecting the System
- » Activating the System
- » Capturing Orillia's Identity

Each section details the various elements that together form the Systems Plan for Orillia.



SYSTEMS-BASED CONCEPT

An interrelated, connected system of parks, recreation, culture and trails, the Master Plan promotes the development of the community as “grounds for play.”

The systems-based concept in Orillia functions to achieve the goals and objectives for each element of the Master Plan including parks, recreation, culture and trails. The concept focuses on developing the spaces and opportunities (or grounds) for a broad range of programmed and non-programmed activities (or types of play). Building more than the sum of its parts, the Grounds for Play Systems Plan will help promote healthy and happy lifestyles in Orillia by better connecting each element to city life.

The idea of promoting play through community development is a significant and relevant strategy. Our lives are commonly thought to be divided into work and play. All too often we dismiss the importance of play and its role in the development of our bodies and our minds. Yet several strategies are recognizing the significance of various components of play: economic strategies focus on tourism, health strategies focus on active lifestyles, transportation strategies focus on active transportation, etc.

Orillia’s system-based concept is based on the City’s existing assets. Orillia is known for its play-type resources, whether its the waterfront parks, festivals, well-maintained trails or reputation for sports, the City’s character reflects these resources. This existing association provides a platform for the City to view these resources as providing more than a collection of recreation and leisure services, but providing a haven for active lifestyles.

To develop the Systems Plan, each element plays a significant role in the development of Grounds for Play:

- **Parks / Facilities** provide the physical spaces that are the foundation for the Systems Plan.
- **Recreation** activates the Systems Plan for the residents and visitors to utilize the system’s spaces.
- **Culture** showcases the community identity and tells the story of Orillia, past and present, in the system’s spaces.
- **Trails** link the community together by providing the key connections to bring people into the system.

Each element overlaps as they work together to form the Grounds for Play Systems Plan. The sections that follow detail how the elements can be developed to enhance the system of parks, recreation, culture and trails.





CONNECTING THE SYSTEM

The physical structure of the Systems Plan is the parks, trails and open spaces that provide the green infrastructure for the City.

Orillia has the potential to establish a comprehensive network of open space that can enhance the character of the City and help it to develop a first-class system focused on its signature waterfront parks. The specifics of how the system is connected together is detailed in the following text and illustrated in the Systems Plan Map.

Parks & Open Spaces

The foundational element to the systems plan is the existing parks, open spaces and trails in Orillia. Analyzing these spaces, the system identifies ways to best connect what currently exists in Orillia, including the existing recreation and cultural facilities. Also identified are opportunities to develop new parks and open space facilities. These proposed spaces address gaps in the open space network combined with opportunities for park development. Proposed parks include:

- Huronia Regional Centre Park - to be developed as a large waterfront park
- West Street South Park - to be developed as a park for active use
- Fittons Road East Park - to be developed as an access point to the waterfront
- Borland Street East Park - to be developed as an access point to the waterfront
- Atherley Narrows Bridge Park - to be developed as a small park showcasing the history of the fish weir
- Forest Avenue South Park - to be developed as an access point to the waterfront
- Victoria Crescent Park - to be developed as an access point to the waterfront

Green Streets

A key focus for the system is better connecting the waterfront to the downtown and the developing western area of the City. This may be accomplished through the development of “green streets”. Green streets should be viewed as linear parks adjacent to the roadway that offer a minimum 3.5 metre wide recreation trail and extensive tree planting in a naturalized format. Green streets can also manage stormwater in an ecologically sensitive fashion through the use of rain gardens.

Proposed green streets include three main vehicular corridors:

- **East-West Connections:** *Coldwater Road and Highway 12 By-pass*. These connections focus on linking the waterfront parks through the City to Scout Valley, West Orillia Sports Complex and a variety of neighbourhood parks.
- **North-South Connection:** *West Street South*. This connection links all of the downtown and civic amenities to the system.

Furthermore, as development occurs, the surrounding townships of Oro-Medonte and Severn could potentially link to a loop system of green streets that surround the City of Orillia.

Atherley Road Parkway

A feature of the Systems Plan is a parkway that parallels the Lake Couchiching waterfront and connects to Severn to the north and Ramara to the west (at the Narrows). The parkway is a signature route that is a gateway into the City offering a boulevard-like approach to Orillia that is attractive for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.

This system of green infrastructure serves to enhance the attractiveness of the community and give organization and order to the physical form of the City.



Orillia Systems Plan

LEGEND	
	Green Street
	Parkway
	Existing Trail
	Proposed Trail
	Snowmobile Trail
	Existing Parks
	Proposed Parks
	Environmental Protection Area
	College/University
	Parks, Recreation, Culture Facility
	Elementary School
	Secondary School
	Heritage Property
	Arts District
	Museum
	Tourism Office
	City Hall

Multi-Use Trails Network

To encourage active transportation and promote healthy living, the Systems Plan includes a comprehensive network of multi-use trails that link north to south and east to west. The additional trails proposed focus on connecting the existing trails network and creating a series of loop trails to increase the accessibility of the community. The trails network is such a significant component of the Systems Plan that it has been further developed in a companion document, the Trails Master Plan, which focuses on the City-wide trails network and the Scout Valley trails network.

Park Classifications

A system of parks and open spaces should provide residents and visitors with a diversity of activities and atmospheres. By providing a range of recreational, cultural, environmental and leisure activity opportunities the community can better address the varied wants and preferences of the population. This need for diversity of spaces is reflected in the Steering Committee's desire for a balance of programmed and non-programmed spaces. Furthermore, based on the Community Survey, parks and recreation facilities are utilized for a variety of uses including outdoor space, sports recreation, organized team sports, children's play area, cultural events, fitness activities and nature appreciation. The largest percentage of respondents typically use parks and recreation facilities for outdoor space. To ensure that parks and open spaces provide a variety of activities, the Systems Plan takes a new approach to the traditional classification of parks.

Traditional Classification of Parks

Orillia, like many communities, uses a classification system that generally defines parks by size, area served and facilities or amenities provided. This results in common park typologies like community parks, neighbourhood parks and parkettes or tot lots. The shortcoming of this approach is that it doesn't address how parks are programmed or developed. Instead, the tendency of park planning is to focus on active recreation and the supply and distribution of sports fields and other athletic facilities. This focus is intensified by traditional park standards that dictate sports facility needs and have historically governed the development of parks. This has led to the development of more single-use focused facilities that tend to accommodate sporting and athletic activities. Yet, these types of facilities have limited appeal to the public at large, and almost no appeal to visitors.

With the Systems Plan for Orillia, the City has the opportunity to readdress how parks are viewed in the community and develop the park system as a critical component of city building.

Existing Park Classifications

Type	Community Park	Neighbourhood Park	Urban Squares/ Parkettes
Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major playgrounds • Major athletic fields • Multiple tennis and multi-purpose courts • Skateboard parks • Indoor and outdoor ice facilities • Seating areas • Community centres and indoor and/or outdoor swimming facilities • Leash-free dog zones • Water play facilities • Beaches • Picnic areas • Trails and walkways • Boat launching and mooring facilities • Boardwalks • Observation areas • Interpretive/educational centres • Pavilions • Museums • Horticulture facilities • Amphitheatres and visitor service centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playgrounds • Athletic fields • Tennis and Multi-purpose courts • Outdoor skating rinks • Seating areas • Trails and walkways • Water play features • Interpretive areas • Leash-free dog zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual amenity • Minor open space areas and/or linkages within the City
Other Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level of landscaping, including major entrance features and structured development that is limited to that necessary to serve the particular on-site facilities • Parking • Washrooms • Concessions • Picnic areas • Equipment storage buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level of landscaping • Parking • Washrooms • Concessions • Picnic areas • Equipment storage buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed and developed to recognize their unique function and their surrounding context
Service Area	City (residents & visitors)	Immediate surrounding residential area	Neighbourhood green space
Service Radius	N/A	400 m	N/A
Size	N/A	0.4 ha	N/A

New Classification for Parks

To develop parks and open spaces that provide a diversity of activities and atmospheres, a new classification system has been developed for Orillia. This classification supports traditional park needs and uses while using a character-based approach to expand the types of parks developed for a more varied system of activities and environments. It's based on the concept that parks and open spaces are more than spaces for passive and active recreation or spaces for outdoor facilities, but as a key part of the public realm in which we live our lives. These spaces are the grounds on which we shape our social, cultural, physical, environmental and economic well-being.

Providing a substantial impact on the development of our community, parks and open spaces are viewed as more than large and small but as having a specific character. By identifying the character of parks and open space, the City can ensure that the system provides the needed variety of spaces. With this new classification, there are seven different park classifications:

Activity Park: The primary function of activity parks are active recreation, particularly sports and athletics. Larger scale facilities, these parks have the potential to serve the active recreation needs of the City and the region, potentially hosting sports tourism events.

Celebration Park: The signature parks in the City, celebration parks are adjacent to the Lake and provide an opportunity for large gatherings. These parks are regional destinations that offer widespread appeal to residents and visitors.

Connector Park: Linear parks that provide active transportation connections across the City, these parks are a critical component of the Systems Plan. Connector parks, as part of the Lightfoot Trail System, are further detailed in the Trails Master Plan.

Cultural Park: These parks highlight the City's historic and cultural identity and provide space for cultural activities. Featuring experiences unique to Orillia, cultural parks provide an opportunity to promote the character of the community for residents and visitors.

Leisure Park: A central icon for the local neighbourhood, these parks provide neighbourhood information, spaces for small gatherings and are primarily focused on passive recreation. Leisure parks may provide opportunities for smaller active recreation facilities, art/interpretation and community gardens.

Nature Park: These parks provide an opportunity to learn about and appreciate the natural environment. Nature parks may provide outdoor classrooms, natural play areas and public art.

Portal Park: These parks are exclusively lakefront parks that provide lake access or views as well as environmental protection. Portal parks may provide boating facilities, entry features and interpretive panels.

A full description of each park is provided in the New Park Classifications table. All park classifications should have the same colour signage (rather than the three colour signage previously used for the existing park classifications).

New Park Classifications

Type	Activity Park	Celebration Park	Connector Park	Cultural Park	Leisure Park	Nature Park	Portal Park
Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active use Flat Maintained & naturalized Multi-use Open Specific use areas Vistas Well organized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active Continuous Lakefront Linked nodes Monumental & Urban Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linear Linked nodes Recreationway Wayfinding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informative Inspirational Organized Orillia Identity Shade/trees Unique 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintained Mix of open and treed areas Sun/shade Unique to neighbourhood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low/no maintenance Passive Shoreline Stream corridor Valley land Wildlife habitat Wooded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lakefront
Function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large gatherings Major sports activities Sports & Athletics Tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Festivals Lake access Large gatherings Panoramic Views Tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to gathering spaces Create connected open space system Linkage Orientation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Culture Events History Variety of gathering sizes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighbourhood information Pathway Play Primary passive recreation Small gatherings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Nature appreciation Nature preservation Small group gatherings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental protection Lake access/views
Primary Facilities (required)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park centre (washroom, concession) Parking Pathways Picnic facilities Sr. athletic fields 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amphitheatre Commercial/retail Festival space Marina/boating Promenade Water based activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpretation Trail head Trail/pathways Wayfinding features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gathering space Interpretation Memorials Pathways Public art/sculpture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pathway Play area Seating area Shelter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstration Interpretation Naturalization Trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boardwalk Overlook Pathway from street Seating
Secondary Facilities (allowed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community gardens "Dome/bubble" Leisure Park facilities Play area Skate/bike park Water play facility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Picnic facilities Public art/sculpture Spray pad Water feature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking at nodes Play equipment Rest areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event space Horticultural display Themed gardens Themed play area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Gardens Information Kiosk Jr. play field Multi-use court Neighbourhood interpretation Public art/sculpture Spray pad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Outdoor classroom" Boardwalk Leisure Park facilities Natural play area Public art/sculpture, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boating Facilities Entry feature Interpretative panels
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buffered from residential Industrial areas Near educational institution Near main road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjacent to Lake Centre City Main Road Trail system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abandoned rail lines Green Streets Open space corridors Utility corridors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central location within City On event site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central to neighbourhood Connects Streets Street face 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental areas Natural areas Stream corridors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lakefront properties Road edge Road end at Lake
Existing & Proposed* Parks (Reclassified)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest Home Park Franklin Carmichael Park McKinnell Square Park West Orillia Sports Complex West Street South Park* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centennial Park Couchiching Beach Park Huron Regional Centre Park* J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park Kitchener Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lightfoot Trail System (including the Millennium Trail & Ganaraska Trail) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atherley Narrows Bridge Park* Brant Street Park North Street Park Stephen Leacock Park Veterans' Memorial Park Victoria Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bayview Park Christine Place Park Clayt French Park Dancy Drive Park Dorset Park High Street Park Hillcrest Park Homewood Park Kaneff Park Lankinwood Park Morningstar Park Orma Drive Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edna / Adair Park Frontier Park Grenville Park Lakeview Park Lawrence Avenue Park Mac Carter Park Mariposa Park Murray Street Park Scout Valley Park West Ridge Park York Street Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Borland Street East Park* Collins Drive Park Fittons Road East Park* Forest Avenue South Park* Maple Leaf Park Victoria Crescent Park*

Note: *Identifies Proposed Parks

Level of Service by Park Type

Level of service factors are tools to address how parks and open space meet the needs of the population. For each of the new classifications, standard levels of service that the City should aspire to meet are provided. These factors, combined with the character, function and facilities outlined for each park, identify what the City should be providing to develop the system with varied park types that serves the population. Level of Service (LOS) Standards detailed include:

- **Service Area:** Identifies the approximate boundaries (and related population) a park type is intended to support.
- **Service Radius:** Identifies the targeted distance a park type is from its intended users and defines its distribution across the City.

- **Park Supply by Population (Ha. /1,000):** Identifies the targeted quantity of parkland to be supplied in hectares for every 1,000 residents.
- **Public Gathering:** Identifies the number of people the primary central space within a park should comfortably accommodate for events, ceremonies and gathering.
- **Size:** Identifies the typical size of the park type.

The following chart details the level of service standards for each new park type. The targets identified have been based on a number of considerations including achieving the goals and objectives of the Master Plan, plan analysis of existing conditions, trends and needs as well as public input gathered during the project.

New Park Type Level of Service & Existing Level of Service

Type	Activity	Celebration	Connector	Cultural	Leisure	Nature	Portal
Service Area	Region	Inter-national	National	National	Neighbourhood	City	City
Service Radius	3 - 4 km	city-wide	500 m	city-wide	400 - 500 m	400 - 500 m	1 km
Public Gathering	200 +	500 +	N/A	40 - 60	20 - 40	20 +	N/A
Size	3 ha min.	3 ha min.	N/A	Varies	0.25 ha min.	1 ha min.	N/A
Standard ha / 1,000	1.0 ha / 1,000	2.0 ha / 1,000	1 km / 1,000	0.6 ha / 1,000	1.5 ha / 1,000 Combined		N/A
Existing ha / 1,000*	0.7 ha / 1,000	1.8 ha / 1,000	1.1 km / 1,000	0.3 ha / 1,000	3.9 ha / 1,000 Combined		N/A

*Shows existing hectares per 1,000 level of service using new park classifications.

The City has a well developed collection of parks and trails. Future improvements have the potential to tie the system together and address connection and level of service gaps.

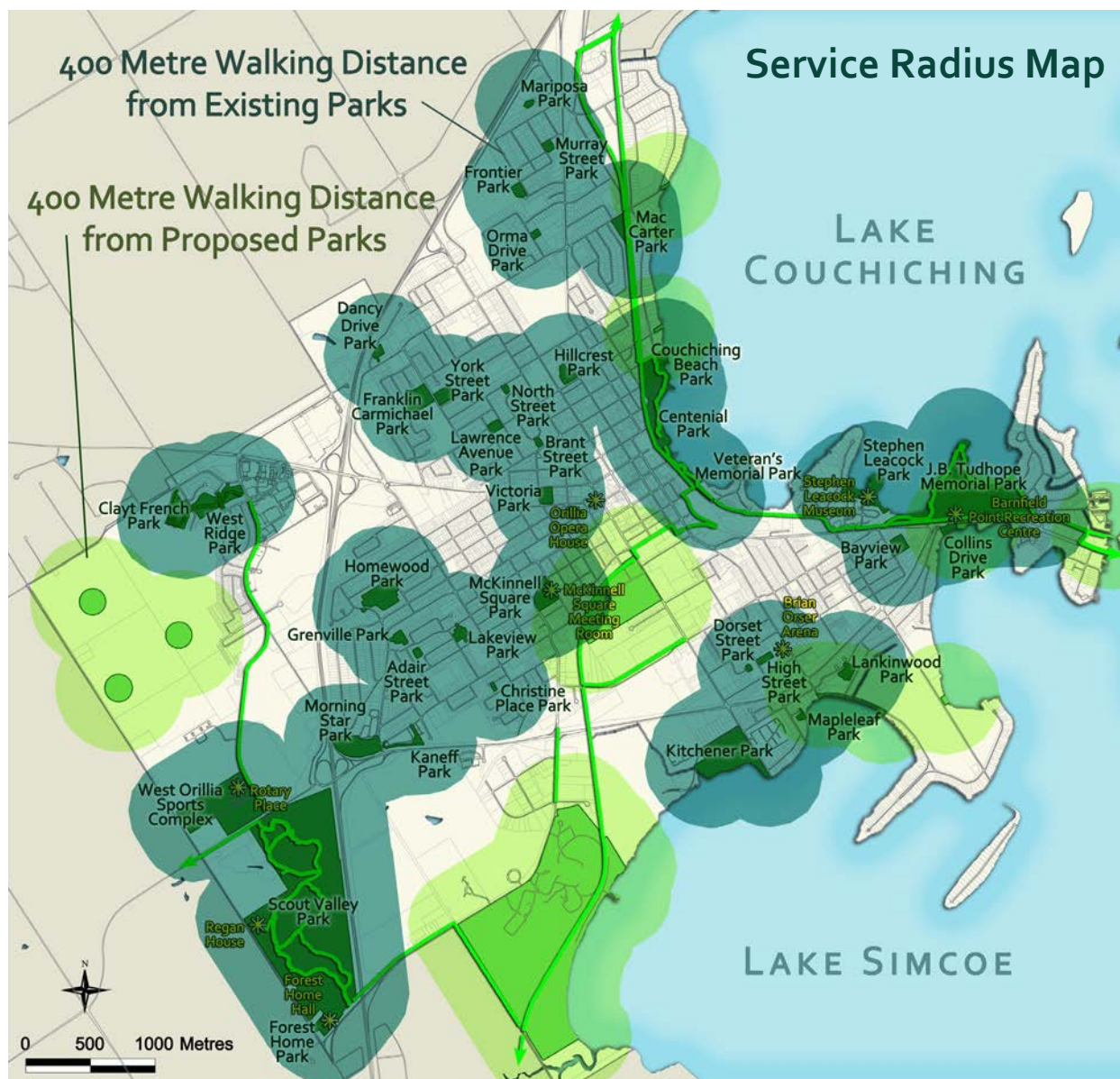
Evaluating the Park System

Using the level of service standards, the existing and proposed park system was evaluated using two key level of service standards: Park Supply by Population and Service Radius.

The Park Supply by Population analysis looked at how well the existing parks, based on the reclassification, are meeting the standards outlined for each park type. Generally the City has an appropriate level of service for each new park type based on the level of service standard. Park types that are slightly below the standards are Activity, Celebration and Cultural Parks. The City's park supply LOS for these parks would

be greatly enhanced with the development of the proposed West Street South Park and the Huronia Regional Centre Park. The City is well above the standard for Leisure and Nature Parks, largely due to the inclusion of Scout Valley.

The Service Radius analysis looked at how easily residents are able to walk to a park using the smallest service radius standard for all park types, 400 metres. The Service Radius Map shows that Orillia is generally well served in the more populated areas. The map also shows that the proposed parks will serve to address some of the gaps in the park and open space system, particularly if the City expands west over time.



Park Design Guidelines & Prototypes

For each new park type, design guidelines have been developed to direct the future design and development of parks. These guidelines identify the key design attributes for each park type and are intended to be flexible enough to allow for creative design expressions while establishing a minimum standard of development. Guidelines address nine key components of park design including location, access, entrances, pedestrian circulation, vehicular circulation, buildings, landscaping, signage as well as special features and functions. Each guideline component is described in the table below.

To demonstrate these design guidelines, prototypical illustrations are provided for each park type showing the intent of the guidelines. These illustrations focus on showing how the main features of each park type should be physically organized on a site to achieve a design solution that is orderly and functional. The illustrations are not site specific.

	Park Design Guideline Descriptions
LOCATION	Describes the ideal location in the community where each park type should be developed.
ACCESS	Describes the type of street each park type should be located on and street frontage requirements
ENTRANCES	Describes the location of entrances and the relationship between pedestrian and vehicular entrances
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Describes the requirements for internal pathway systems and established minimum width standards
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Describes the location of vehicular circulation system and features within each park type
BUILDINGS	Describes the function, type and location of buildings in each park type
LANDSCAPING	Describes the provisions for sun and shade areas, buffering, naturalization, etc.
SIGNAGE	Describes the requirements for park identification signage and wayfinding
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Describes the requirements to accommodate or provide special design elements or park uses

Park Type: ACTIVITY

Overview: As a primary destination, this active use park has a city-wide or regional draw for major sporting activities/events, sports tourism or other special sports events that draw a large attendance. The park should be located with frontage on an arterial road with views into and out of the site. It should be located in or proximate to institutional, commercial or industrial areas with buffers away from residential areas. The park should be well organized with defined/clustered recreation/athletic facilities. A centrally located building should house public washrooms, concessions, storage, change rooms, etc. An internal pedestrian network should link all facilities within the park and connect to the city-wide pedestrian system.

Size: 3 ha min.

Park Design Guidelines

LOCATION	Off of/nearby to a major transportation artery; situated in commercial, industrial or open space areas; should not impact residential land uses; should not be on the waterfront
ACCESS	Should have frontage on two streets; should have min. 50 m frontage on major street; should be integrated into open space system and be accessible by a Connector Park
ENTRANCES	Should have at least two points of entry; (for vehicles and pedestrians); should be announced with signage
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should have looped system connecting facilities; primary internal path 3.0 m wide; secondary path 2.0 m wide
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Parking should be on-site; parking lots should be landscaped, lit and proximate to primary use areas; provide 'green' overflow parking areas
BUILDINGS	Should provide community facility building with year-round washrooms, concession, meeting rooms, storage facilities; should provide dedicated sports facility structure; should provide outdoor gathering space/seating
LANDSCAPING	Should screen adjacent land uses impacted by park activities; should 'naturalize' outlying areas; should provide shaded picnic/viewing areas and mass horticultural displays in key locations
SIGNAGE	Should provide signage for each facility
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Primary function is an athletic venue, but should be designed to accommodate multiple-uses, special events; ideally offers historic, cultural, natural, civic and/or heritage features; should accommodate outdoor winter use (e.g. ice skating, sledding, cross country skiing)



Sample Prototypical Activity Park

Park Type: CELEBRATION

Overview: Celebration Parks are located on the waterfront and are defining features of the City. They enhance the identity of Orillia as a waterfront community and support a diversity of water related recreation activities. In the urban area, they support the downtown and are intended to enhance tourism and economic development opportunities. Across the Orillia waterfront, Celebration Parks are envisioned to be connected and continuous and provide direct pedestrian access (visual and physical) to the lake. They support a wide variety of uses, activities and experiences and are integral to the economic well-being of the community. Celebration parks are designated as the spaces for special community, regional and national cultural events and as such offer both formal and informal event gathering spaces and support facilities. Celebration parks are linked to allow pedestrian flow between parks for special events.

Size: 3 ha min.

Park Design Guidelines

LOCATION	Waterfront; should be continuous/connected across the waterfront
ACCESS	Should maximize street frontage for park use; should be open and unencumbered; should preserve views to the water; should link with downtown
ENTRANCES	Should be multiple, ample wide and connected to the street; should connect with primary promenade/boardwalk
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should have a hierarchy of pedestrian circulation features; should provide primary promenade/boardwalk minimum 5.0 m wide; should link with trail network
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Should minimize the impact on public access/use to the waterfront; limit parking on waterfront with majority of parking located near land-side edge of park
BUILDINGS	Should provide washrooms, concession, pavilions, change rooms, storage, etc.; May include amphitheatre, maintenance structures (located away from waterfront) and commercial/retail buildings; should be oriented to preserve views to water; should have character compatible with its waterfront location
LANDSCAPING	Should reinforce pedestrian circulation; should support environmental function of waterfront; should focus views to water; provide shade and mitigate beach erosion/sand displacement
SIGNAGE	Should identify named facilities; ideally include interpretive signage for site/area
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Should enhance tourism and economic development with character unique to Orillia; should accommodate special events/gatherings and water recreation; should balance public use and wildlife habitat; should include winter celebration opportunities



Sample Prototypical Celebration Park

Park Type: CONNECTOR

Overview: Connector Parks are intended to create an integrated and connected system of open space that link parks and other City destinations/attractions together. Comprised primarily of natural and man-made corridors, they are designed for pedestrians, cyclists and other non-motorized modes of circulation, and provide an alternative means of moving through the City. As such, Connector Parks provide both a recreational and commuter function. They support healthy living, promote physical activity, act as natural buffers, and can enhance the value of adjacent property. In addition, these parks promote linkages for habitat and naturalization, and can be part of stormwater management strategies.

Size: N/A

Park Design Guidelines

LOCATION	City-wide natural areas, stream, rail and utility corridors, road right-of-ways and lake shores
ACCESS	Should have minimum 5.0 m street frontage
ENTRANCES	Should include wayfinding signs/maps, seating, trash containers, bike racks and landscaping; may include play equipment
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Makes-up city-wide / regional trail system; primary path 3.0 m wide; secondary path 2.0 m wide
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Should be accessible to service/emergency vehicles; may provide limited parking at major trailheads
BUILDINGS	Not required
LANDSCAPING	Should buffer adjacent commercial/industrial land use
SIGNAGE	Should be located at all street/sidewalk intersections
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Should provide rest areas with seating/plaza every 400 m; should incorporate interpretive panels where feasible; may locate shade shelters where feasible



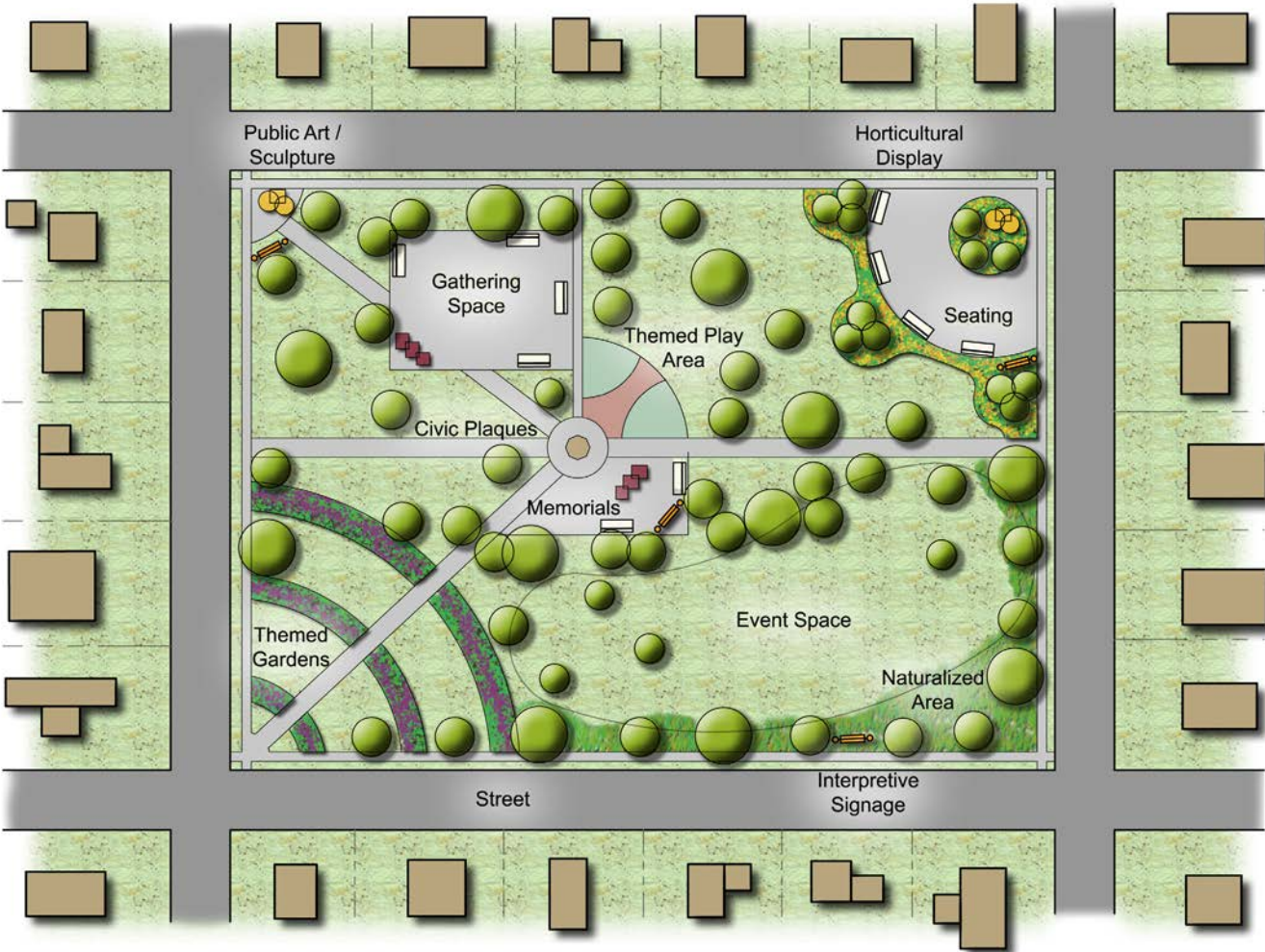
Sample Prototypical Connector Park

Park Type: CULTURAL

Overview: Cultural Parks are distinctive public spaces that celebrate the unique history and culture of the City. They are intended to be defining features of the community and can vary in size and function from small single monument settings to larger themed municipal museum space. They contain public art/sculpture, memorials, and historical grounds and, where feasible, have well-organized pedestrian circulation and public gathering space. Cultural Parks are well landscaped and include unique features such as restored landscapes, horticultural displays, interpretive stations, gazebos, water features, etc.

Size: Varies

Park Design Guidelines	
LOCATION	Within downtown and/or residential neighbourhoods
ACCESS	Generally accessed from all sides; minimum two street frontages
ENTRANCES	Should be multiple, ample wide and open
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should be comprehensive; primary internal path 3.0 m wide; secondary path 2.0 m wide
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Not required; may include on-site parking if on-street not available
BUILDINGS	Event pavilions and shade structures
LANDSCAPING	Formalized, horticultural displays; themed gardens; shade trees and turf
SIGNAGE	Should include interpretive panels regarding site context
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Should include civic event space, public gathering space and seating areas, public sculpture/art and memorial features; may include themed play areas



Sample Prototypical Cultural Park

Park Type: LEISURE

Overview: Leisure Parks are the most common park type in the City and are centrally located within each neighbourhood. They are intended to be the primary public space in a neighbourhood and provide the most direct access to park space. As passive recreation spaces, they offer casual and non-programmed park use/activities to local residents. Leisure Parks are within a short walking distance from all residential areas. Leisure parks are designed for neighbourhood gathering and events.

Size: 0.25 ha min.

Park Design Guidelines

LOCATION	Should be adjacent to local street
ACCESS	Should have connections to as many local streets as viable
ENTRANCES	Should be located to access as many residents as viable
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should have primary internal path 2.5 m wide to link facilities; may provide secondary 1.8 m wide path
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Not required; ideally provide on-street parking or on-site if demand warrants; minimize impact on site uses
BUILDINGS	Not required; ideally provide shelter
LANDSCAPING	Should consist primarily of trees/turf; mass horticultural displays at key locations; 'naturalize' non-functional areas
SIGNAGE	Should identify named facilities; ideally include interpretive signage for site/area
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Should provide family facilities/play areas; group facilities when feasible/non conflicting; should allow for public sculpture/art



Sample Prototypical Leisure Park

Park Type: NATURE

Overview: Nature Parks are similar in function to a Leisure Park but more of the park is allowed to naturalize to increase habitat and minimize maintenance. Nature Parks generally evolve from areas of the City that were wooded; they help to protect, preserve and enhance the environmental qualities of the City including natural areas, woodlots, hazard lands and select waterfront natural areas. They accommodate public access and provide environmental educational opportunities and experiences. Development within Nature Parks is generally limited to pedestrian facilities that integrate well with the natural environment and enhance the experience. This includes nature trails, overlooks, bird blinds, interpretive panels, etc.

Size: 1 ha min.

Park Design Guidelines

LOCATION	May be located anywhere; ideally integrated into the open space system and be accessible by trail system
ACCESS	Should have pedestrian entrance connected to street; ideally allow access to open space system
ENTRANCES	Should have multiple entrances;
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should have main spine through park use area linking major facilities; 2.5 m wide; surface to be paved or natural
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	No internal vehicular circulation required; maintenance vehicles utilize main spine pedestrian circulation for access; off-site parking
BUILDINGS	May provide centralized washrooms, shelter
LANDSCAPING	Should protect/enhance environmental function of site; should enhance habitat; should offer educational benefits
SIGNAGE	Should inform users of aspects of the park site; ideally include interpretive signage
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Should have low maintenance requirements; should utilize extensive "green" design/construction; should offer natural play and outdoor education



Sample Prototypical Nature Park

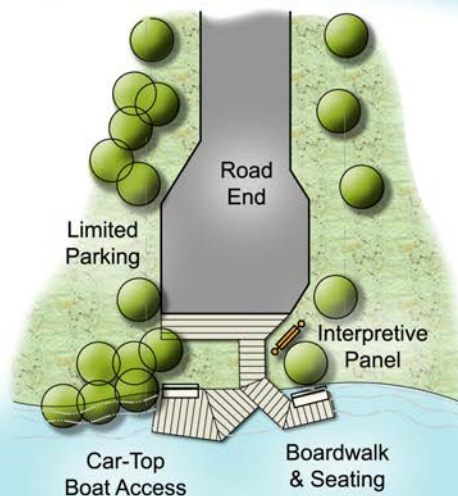
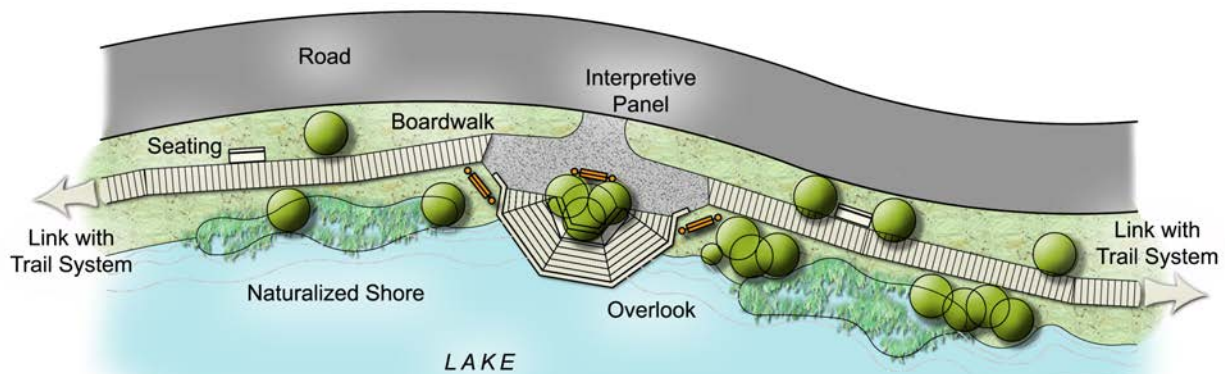
Park Type: PORTAL

Overview: Portal Parks are access points to the waterfront. They are usually a road end, however they may be a road side that is too narrow for a traditional park development. Portal Parks are designed at all streets that end at the lakes and any roads that run proximate and parallel to the lakes. They provide public access, small boat access and lake viewing opportunities while enhancing the experience of a waterfront community.

Size: N/A

Park Design Guidelines

LOCATION	At street ends and waterfronts
ACCESS	From road right-of-ways; connect to city-wide pedestrian system where feasible
ENTRANCES	Pedestrian scaled and linked to street
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should include boardwalk/seating/overlook;
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Not required; should provide limited parking for car-top boat launches where feasible
BUILDINGS	Not required
LANDSCAPING	"Naturalized" shoreline; screen from adjacent residential land uses
SIGNAGE	Should incorporate interpretive panels
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Provide seating; may provide car-top boat access; may provide shade shelter



Sample Prototypical Portal Park

ACTIVATING THE SYSTEM

The Systems Plan ensures that the spaces in the system are providing the needed facilities to support an active environment.

To address the recreation needs of the community the Systems Plan uses four primary tools: a needs analysis, a review of sports tourism potentials, a strategy to accommodate needs and the development of programs, festivals and events. Together these analyses address what is needed to activate the system now and in the future.

Needs Analysis

The needs analysis addresses the provision of sports facilities for the community. The analysis uses three core elements to determine the level of need, including:

- Current supply of facilities
- Socio-economics of the residents of the community
- Community wants and needs as established through a public input program

Current Supply of Facilities

As part of a thorough inventory of parks in Orillia, each park facility was cataloged. The results of this inventory provided the initial information for the needs analysis. The summary of existing facilities is provided in the chart to the right:

Existing Facilities in Orillia

Facility	Actual
Baseball Diamond	3
Softball Diamond	5
Soccer Field ¹	3
Soccer Field (Jr) ²	3
Football ³	2
Ice Arena (Hockey) (Ice Pads)	3
Pool	0
Tennis	8
Volleyball	2
Trails	32.5 km
Basketball	4
Track	1 (4)*
Boat Launch	2
Ice Rink (Outdoor)	7
Skate Park	1
Beach	2
Splash Pad	4

¹Multi-use fields over 300 feet - not used for football.

²Multi-use fields between 200 feet and 300 feet. Mini fields were not counted.

³Multi use fields over 300 feet with goal posts.

*There are 4 tracks in Orillia. Only the Twin Lakes Secondary School is shown on the inventory because the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department does programming there, however there are no programs for track use other than schools uses. It can be assumed that all tracks are available to the public for recreational running.

Socio-Economics of Residents

The socio-economics of the community show that Orillia's population is very stable, expected to grow but not dramatically over the next 25 years. Unlike many other communities, Orillia's population of senior citizens is not exploding; in fact, the community's population is projected to maintain a mix of age cohorts that is remarkably similar to its current profile. This may change as Orillia gains in stature as a retirement community for active seniors. The market has responded by providing senior citizens condos, townhomes and apartments.

Public Input Needs and Wants

A thorough public input program was developed specifically for the Master Plan to identify community wants and needs. This information was combined with information from previous input programs relevant to the Master Plan including the information gathered regarding the Aquatics / Gymnasium project. The public input reflected a great deal of anticipation and frustration related to the Aquatics / Gymnasium project. As a result, input tended to focus on the need for an indoor swimming pool and indoor gym space. Since the need for each of these facilities is demonstrated and is currently being addressed, this analysis will not readdress these elements.

Beyond pool and gymnasium needs, the public input does not reveal particularly intense needs for facilities, but there are certain additional facilities stakeholders would like to see. These wants align closely with the analysis, which shows that Orillia should provide more multi-use fields to meet the needs of the population and its taste for a diversity of sports. For example, there is not a large enough constituency for rugby to justify a separate rugby facility; however, rugby needs to be accommodated. This is also true of lacrosse. Full-size multi-use fields can be employed as dual junior fields, thereby accommodating play for youngsters in soccer and other field sports without building separate facilities for them.

Other potential needs that have been discussed during the project were the need for a rubberized track and the need for an artificial turf field. With access to school tracks and an existing artificial turf field, neither of these facilities were strongly identified as needs during the public involvement process.

By combining information from the current supply of facilities, socio-economics and public input, the needs analysis determined specific recommendations for the development of sports facilities.

Results of the Needs Analysis

The recommended added outdoor facilities for the City of Orillia, based on its current population of 30,586, are:

- Two full size basketball courts (*Proposed location in the proposed West Street South Park*)
- Four beach volleyball courts (*Proposed location in J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park*)
- Two splash pads (*Proposed locations include one at Hillcrest Park and one at either Homewood Park, Couchiching Beach Park or Kitchener Park*)
- Four ball diamonds for a total of six softball and six baseball diamonds, see discussion below (*Proposed location in the proposed West Street South Park*)
- Two natural multi-use fields (*Proposed location in the proposed West Street South Park*)

The recommended outdoor facilities to be relocated and expanded for the City of Orillia are:

- Skate park: The existing park is small, outdated and does not provide the best use of its current waterfront location. Over time it should be relocated and developed to better serve skate park users.
- Disc golf course: The existing course is small (most enthusiasts play the entire course as par 2) and impedes on other park users causing potential conflicts between disc golf and other park users. Over time it should be relocated and developed to better serve disc golf users.

Additional Recommendations

In regards to diamonds, the City currently has three baseball diamonds and five softball diamonds. It is recommended that the City come to a total of six of each. How and where it accommodates these fields could help the City take advantage of an opportunity that came through in the public input program: There is a need for more centralized baseball diamonds for tournament play.

Other considerations include the location of existing diamonds at waterfront parks (Kitchener Park and J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park) as well as single site diamonds at Bayview Park and Franklin Carmichael Park. Ideally these diamonds would be replaced and combined at a more appropriate location. Nonetheless, with limited space and existing need for four additional diamonds, the replacement of diamonds is not included in the needs analysis and would add to the City's ball diamond needs.

Indoor Facility Needs

In addition to outdoor facility needs, the Master Plan reviewed the well-studied indoor facility needs and discusses potential future indoor facility needs.

Multi-Use Recreation Facility

An identified need in Orillia is for the development of a multi-use recreation facility (MURF). This is a need that has long been studied and has been met with substantial controversy. The following is a brief history of the MURF development process.

2002 Feasibility Study

In 2002, dMA Planning and Management Services conducted a Feasibility Study for the development of a MURF. The study identified several needs including:

- Arenas
- Aquatics Facilities
- Gymnasiums/Multi-Purpose Space
- Specialized Fitness Facilities
- Ball Diamonds
- Soccer Fields
- Outdoor Tennis Courts
- Football Fields

Also noted in the study was that a 50 metre pool was not recommended. The findings of this plan are consistent with this recommendation.

Shutdown of Orillia Community Centre

While investigation of options was underway, the Orillia Community Centre was shutdown in 2009 due to structural issues, elevating the need for a new arena. As such, Council approved the development of a twin pad facility and athletic complex, now known as Rotary Place and West Orillia Sports Complex.

Growing Demand for Aquatics and Gym Space

Having addressed many of the arena, soccer and tennis needs, the needs for aquatics and gymnasiums continued to be a major issue

in Orillia. In December 2010, Council asked for an update on recreational needs. Staff provided a report in January of 2011 and the Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) provided a report in May of 2011. Council also established the Recreation Facilities Committee, which consists of four working groups: Aquatics and Gymnasium, Future Arena Needs, Partnership Opportunities and Other Facilities to help advise on current needs. The general consensus from the various groups were that the needs had not changed substantially from the 2002 study and that while some needs had been addressed in the Rotary Place and West Orillia Sports Complex, there are still substantial needs that should be addressed.

The City has continued to move forward with the development of an Aquatics and Gymnasium complex, investigating in detail the development of a facility at 228 James Street. Currently this development has been put on hold to investigate a partnership with Tribal Partners Inc, for the redevelopment of 174 West Street South including a recreational facility.

50-Metre Pool

A regional standard for a 50-metre pool is one per 500,000 of population. Many of these pools are developed not to meet community levels of service, but as hosting facilities for major games such as the Olympics or Canada Games. They are also developed as elite training facilities and as part of university sports complexes. These facilities are somewhat rare, in 2007 there were 52 of them in all of Canada. In Ontario, there were four in Toronto, two in London and one each in Guelph, Brantford, St. Catharines and Sudbury; nine these facilities were associated with schools or universities.

The development costs for a 50-metre pool are roughly two-and-a-half times greater than the development cost for a 25-metre pool.

Aquatic Excellence, a design and consulting firm, published indoor natatorium development cost estimates in 2010 as between \$280 and \$380 US per square foot, bearing in mind that the pool alone is more than 1,100 square feet before decks, bulkheads, bleachers, shower facilities or any other amenities. Based on this review and consistent with the Feasibility Study for the development of a MURF, a 50-metre pool is not recommended.

Arena Facilities

The City currently has three indoor ice pads: two at Rotary Place and one at Brian Orser Arena. This supply of three ice pads gives it a local – and well used – standard of one pad per 10,000. This is somewhat above the supply among the comparison cities but appropriate for Orillia given the popularity of ice skating and ice sports here. Additional pads can be expected to be absorbed at the rate of one per 10,000 increase in population, or more, if the community determines it wants to be a hub for skating and hockey competition.

These local and regional standards do not take into consideration the facility conditions. For example, there is widespread agreement that the Brian Orser rink is too small and outdated and that the arena building is also outdated and in need of repair. To address these needs in the short term, the 5-year Capital Plan schedules continued investment and upgrading of Brian Orser Arena based on Council direction and a building assessment report. The improvements will cover all areas of deficiencies including electrical, mechanical, floor pad, etc., but will not address the small pad size or change rooms/washrooms that are undersized by today's standards. Rotary Place operates near capacity and while it is adequate for current needs, if the City gets into hosting figure skating competitions and/or hockey tournaments, some groups will lose ice time.

Based on the existing facility conditions, once the City has developed its Aquatics/Gymnasium facility, it may want to begin the process of determining its long-term ice options including the potential to create a destination for hockey and figure skating competitions as economic development.

Future Outdoor Recreation Needs

In addition to the current outdoor recreation needs, the City will need to continue to accommodate future growth needs. As Orillia's population grows, its supply of sports and recreation facilities will need to grow to meet the demands of the increased population. According to the Greater Golden Horseshoe Growth Forecasts, Orillia's population can be anticipated to grow to somewhere between 39,000 and 43,000 by 2031 – 18 years from now and just inside the 20-year planning horizon for the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan. To identify future needs projections, the analysis uses a compilation of national standards including Ontario's Ministry of Culture & Recreation standards, the American National Parks and Recreation Association standards, local standards and the results of the needs analysis. As the City reaches future population benchmarks, it will need to verify needs with current public wants and needs.

The table below summarizes how the needs for facilities will increase as the population increases. Benchmarks of 35,000, 40,000 and 45,000 were used. Existing supply is used as the comparison. As a result, the current needs for basketball and volleyball courts, ball diamonds, soccer fields and pools exacerbate as the population grows.

Current & Future Recreation Needs based on National and Local Standards

Facility	Actual	Current Need		Future Need					
		Need per 30,000	Additional Needed	Need per 35,000	Additional Needed	Need per 40,000	Additional Needed	Need per 45,000	Additional Needed
Baseball Diamond	3	6	3	7	4	8	5	9	6
Softball Diamond	5	6	1	7	2	8	3	9	4
Soccer Field ¹	3	2	0	2	0	2	0	3	0
Soccer Field (Jr) ²	3	6	3	7	4	8	5	9	6
Football ³	2	2	0	2	0	2	0	3	1
Ice Arena (Hockey) (Ice Pads) ⁴	3	2	0	2	0	3	0	3	0
Pool	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3
Tennis	8	6	0	7	0	8	0	9	1
Volleyball	2	6	4	7	5	8	6	9	7
Trails	32.5 km	1 system per region	N/A	1 system per region	N/A	1 system per region	N/A	1 system per region	N/A
Basketball	4	6	2	7	3	8	4	9	5
Track	1 (4)*	2	0	2	0	2	0	3	0
Boat Launch	2	1 per region	0	1 per region	0	1 per region	0	1 per region	0
Ice Rink (Outdoor)	7	6	0	7	0	8	1	9	2
Skate Park ⁵	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Beach	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Splash Pad	4	6	2	7	3	8	4	9	5

¹Multi-use fields over 300 feet - not used for football.

²Multi-use fields between 200 feet and 300 feet. Mini fields were not counted.

³Multi use fields over 300 feet with goal posts.

⁴Analysis uses a local/regional standard of 1 ice pad per population of 15,000.

⁵While there was no standard used, the current skate park is well used in Orillia and there is a demand for a high quality facility.

*There are 4 tracks in Orillia. Only the Twin Lakes Secondary School is shown on the inventory because the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department does programming there, however there are no programs for track use other than schools uses. It can be assumed that all tracks are available to the public for recreational running.

Sports Tourism Potential

Tourism is already significant in Orillia as the City is part of a tourism region that generates \$1.15 billion in total visitor spending.¹ Emphasizing its existing reputation for sports, the City has the potential to expand its sports tourism appeal. While overall tourism was flat in Canada between 2008 and 2010, according to the Canadian Sport Tourism Alliance, sport tourism expanded, growing eight percent per year.² According to public input gathered in interviews and focus groups, there is a demand for increased sports tournaments in Orillia. Sport tourism is a potentially powerful economic development opportunity for Orillia.

As defined by the Alliance, sports tourism is: ... any activity in which people are attracted to a particular location as a sport event participant, an event spectator, or to attend sport attractions or business meetings. Growth of sport tourism in Canada grew at a faster pace than in the US and internationally between 2008 and 2010. Sport tourism is estimated to account for 10 percent of all tourism expenditures worldwide. The following table summarizes Canada's lead in growing sport tourism.

¹ The Ministry of Tourism RTO7 data from 2010.
² <http://canadiansporttourism.com/value-sport-tourism.html>
 accessed May 02, 2014

As a growing industry, Orillia has the opportunity through expansion of its recreation resources to build on its strength as a hub for year-round outdoor recreation and capture sports tourism development potential. Expansion of recreation and sports resources is consistent with the core themes identified through the area's Destination Marketing Organization for branding and marketing the Lake Simcoe area. Linking the outdoor activities with cultural and heritage activities, by utilizing a cross promotion campaign, is also an opportunity for the visitors to Orillia who are here to participate in organized sports tournaments. Recurring sports competitions is one of the five core attractors for the Lake Simcoe Tourism Area, branded under "Ontario's Lake Country."³ These five are:

- Outdoor Recreation
- Festivals and Events
- Resort Experience
- Gaming
- Recurring Sports Competitions

³ Lake Simcoe Tourism Area Assessment 2007, A Premier-Ranked Tourism Destinations Framework Project; an additional source for this material is Ontario's Lake Country Branding Study 2013, BCHughes Tourism Development, Management & Marketing

Growth in Sports Tourism

	Canada	U.S.	Overseas	Total
2010	\$2,613,129	\$283,234	\$660,240	\$3,556,603
2008	\$2,241,474	\$286,000	\$740,726	\$3,268,200
Change	16.60%	-1.00%	-10.90%	8.80%
Annual Growth Rate	8.30%	-0.50%	-5.40%	4.40%

Source: Canadian Sport Tourism Alliance

Currently, sports competitions in Orillia that use City-owned facilities include baseball and softball tournaments (all ages including adults), soccer, ice hockey and figure skating. The Subaru Triathlon Series takes place in Orillia on August 17 in 2014 and features sprint triathlon and relay, Try-a-Tri triathlon with a shorter course for first-timers, swim-bike and bike-run duathlon events.

Orillia has a number of key assets it can use in further developing its sports tourism potential.

- The city is known as a recreation destination and particularly as an outdoor recreation destination
- There are existing competitive events that can be built upon as the City works towards developing a sports tourism profile in chosen athletics and events
- Support for development of sport tourism should come through the Lake Simcoe Tourism Area marketing and branding

There are several factors the City will have to consider as it seeks to grow its sports tourism potential.

- Need for a centralized softball and baseball tournament complex. Lack of such facilities is seen as a major barrier to Orillia's success as a tournament city.
- Development of Orillia as a hockey and/or figure skating destination will increase demand and require the addition of another twin pad arena within an estimated five years of a successful campaign to attract tournaments and competitions.
- Tournaments will displace regular user schedules.

In determining a direction for sports tourism in Orillia, the factors that need to be considered are: capacity of the community to play host, potential economic benefit, community identity and growth potential. At the current time, Orillia's capacity to host events is limited to regional events by limitations in size and number of venues, number of hotel accommodations and banquet capacity.

It is recommended that the City build its capacity and brand for sports tourism by starting now with smaller local tournaments, building its reputation and capacity so that as its ability to attract tournaments is expanded by an increase in number of venues, rooms and banquet facilities, the community will be a known quantity in the spheres in which it chooses to concentrate. The City should play to its strengths in sports – activities for which it is already known and which it will more naturally be able to market. These include hockey, figure skating and baseball. Summer is more problematic for Orillia to host sports tournaments as it already has a busy summer festival and tourism season that fills its hotels. Although it is a winter sport, competitive swimming is not recommended for development of sports tourism in Orillia as the facilities cost is overwhelming. While not currently identified as a strength, with the addition of a new indoor facility and the potential to use school facilities, the City may consider basketball and volleyball as potential opportunities to develop tournaments.

At whatever level it chooses to compete with other communities for sports tourism, Orillia will want to take full advantage of the Canadian Sport Tourism Alliance. Its Sport Tourism Planning Template includes a series of 12 worksheets to walk communities through the process of identifying their strengths and potential in regards to sports tourism. It guides the community through the process of determining the potential to bring money in as well as the level of expenditure required. Weighing social benefits against costs – youth development for example as a benefit and access to venues during the event as a cost – assessing community groups' preparedness and how those can support the events and the core community strengths and weaknesses are also among the worksheets that will help determine the community's ability and appetite for moving up in the world of sports tourism.

Accommodations and Banquet Capacity

There are an estimated 620 hotel rooms in Orillia, 360 of which are located in chain "flag" hotels, 495 rooms are priced between \$80 and \$160 per night. The remainder of the rooms are in budget hotels and motels. Orillia's banquet facilities include the Leacock House with a capacity of 60; the Opera House Green Room with 80 seats; and the Royal Canadian Legion with 200 seats.

Orillia's major limitation at the current time is its ability to host an awards banquet. As an example, a youth hockey team has roughly 20 players, each of whom would come with at least one adult, so each team has a minimum of 40 visitors. If everyone wants to go to the awards banquet, the tournament will host fewer than eight teams overall, with visiting and home teams. A tournament that attracted 10 visiting teams would have 400 participants and parents for a weekend return of 800 rooms (400 each of two nights), within the capacity of local hotels, assuming very low occupancy for other reasons. By way of comparison, the Pepsi Invitational Youth Tournament in Buffalo, NY, places about 5,000 families in local hotel rooms during tournament play hosting 270 visiting teams over five or six weekends.⁴

Economic Benefit

The economic benefit to the community from sports events can be enormous, depending on the event. The Subaru series in Orillia draws from across Ontario as participants want to compete in the entire series. However, since the series' events in Orillia do not include a full distance triathlon, most participants probably do not stay overnight in the community and many may not even bring a support person along. A full ironman triathlon in Huntsville, ON, attracts 1,500 participants, each of whom brings two support people and they all stay for three to five nights generating 18,000 hotel room nights and an overall economic benefit in 2010 of \$4.5 million based on an estimated per day expenditure of \$250.⁵

⁴ <http://www.holidayrinks.com/content/pages/rink-history>

⁵ Report to the council on its investment in sports marketing, accessed at <http://www.huntsville.ca/en/documentuploads/>

Funding

Event sponsors, donations of goods and services and a volunteer force are the support system for funding, marketing and running a successful event of any kind. An event that is part of a national or regional series will come with national-level sponsors to which the community would attract local sponsors to provide greater feasibility to the project. The Subaru series will attract as many as 800 participants in Orillia. The series runs eight times over the summer, in seven Ontario communities (twice in one). It has 19 national sponsors in addition to Subaru. A volunteer force works with the event organizers to gather commitments of sponsors and donations of items to give away to event participants – such as water bottles, hats, gloves, lanyards, etc. – and other items that will contribute to event success such as food and beverages, coffee breaks and continental breakfasts at the event venue.

As an example, Huntsville, referenced above, received \$468,000 in 2008 to market tourism including a \$100,000 investment by the community and \$110,000 in provincial rural development funding, a federal grant and \$88,000 in local support that included \$58,000 in private contributions and event income. Its events, including \$75,000 to put on the ironman, cost \$219,000. The overall marketing budget was almost \$200,000.

Minutes/doc_634335371781905102.pdf

Accommodating Need

The needs analysis reveals that there is an existing need for additional outdoor facilities based on the existing population.

Locating Future Development

In order to meet its current needs, future needs and expand tourism potential, the City will need to focus on finding space in the largely built out city for new developments. Furthermore there is a strong desire to centrally locate facilities so that they are accessible to pedestrians, cyclists and public transit users.

During the public input phase of the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan, residents repeatedly expressed satisfaction with the Rotary Place development but frustration because the facility is inaccessible by public transportation, difficult to access by bicycle and off the walking network. As the City develops future recreation facilities it will have to address the need for land that is centrally located enough to be accessible by residents and to tie in with existing attractions including the trail and waterfront systems.

Potential New Park Facilities

The City has several opportunities to accommodate existing and future needs including the development of:

- The former Huronia Regional Centre (HRC)
- 255 West Street South
- Indoor Field Space

The potential for each of these facilities is described in the following section.

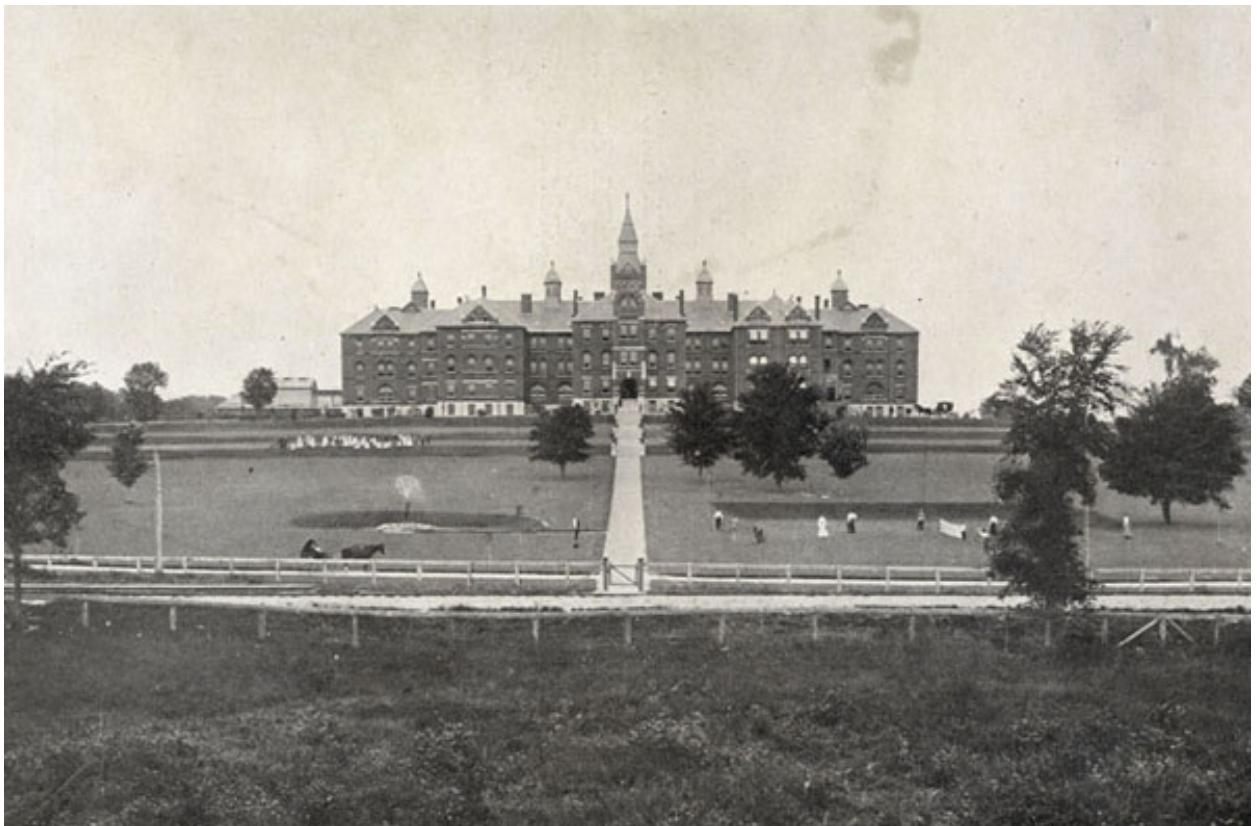
Huronia Regional Centre Park

There is extraordinary potential for the City to acquire a large waterfront property located along Lake Simcoe in the southern corner of Orillia known as the Huronia Regional Centre (HRC) property.

About the Potential Use

At 265 acres and a large stretch of waterfront, the site could be developed as a Celebration Park, preserving the waterfront for public

water-based activities and recreation. Inland portions could be used as space to relocate existing athletic fields in non-ideal locations. Other potential elements to locate on inland areas include tennis/pickleball, shuffleboard and basketball/multi-use courts, a skate park, a BMX park and a disc golf course. There are also potentials for this site is to enhance cultural development opportunities in Orillia, providing places for artistic expression. The development of the former Huronia Regional Centre as a park would enhance the City's waterfront community identity and provide space within the overall Parks, Recreation, Culture and Trails System to adjust the programming of existing parks for a more functional system. If the property is acquired, the City would need to conduct a master planning process, which could consider the opportunity for commercial / residential development along Memorial Avenue.



Huronia Regional Centre - Image Source: Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services

Why Should the City Invest in the Property?

One of Orillia's major obstacles to planning for parks, recreation and culture is limited available / appropriate land for development of new parks and facilities. This issue has been highlighted in the City's evaluation of potential properties in the development of new facilities, particularly the future Aquatics and Gymnasium Complex. The HRC property provides a crucial opportunity to capitalize on the future potential of the City as a waterfront destination and a parks, recreation, culture and trails destination. The purchase of this property is an investment in the future quality of life in Orillia. In a largely built out community, opportunities to acquire such an expansive waterfront property with such potential for public use is unlikely to occur again. The City should look to acquire the property as a landmark location within Orillia and a feature in the Parks, Recreation, Culture and Trails System.

About the Cost and Sale of the Property

The HRC was closed in 2009 and is currently owned by Infrastructure Ontario. In 2011, the Orillia's Council voted in favour of making public an intention to purchase a portion of the property east of Memorial Avenue. Considering different options for sale, the Province's real-estate development directory, Graham Martin, provided the City costs for two scenarios: \$2,238,000 for 80.3 acres (including the HRC administration building and waterfront land on the northeast side) and \$6,541,000 (including the HRC administration building and waterfront land on the northeast side as well as an addition 114 acres and additional waterfront).⁶ While this acquisition would be an investment, it would be an asset in the community. Of note, according to the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan Community Survey, 62 percent of respondents support acquiring new park land to expand the park system. Furthermore,

according to the Master Plan Open House, 86 percent of respondents agree or strongly agree with the recommendation to acquire Huronia Regional Centre (HRC) for the development of a waterfront Celebration Park.

West Street South Park

There is potential to develop the 255 West Street South property as a park, providing a central location for sports facilities. The development of this facility has the potential to accommodate the City's need for additional ball fields suitable for tournament play, a skate park (relocated from Veterans' Memorial Park), two basketball courts and two multi-use fields. Other potential facilities for this location include a disc golf course, BMX park, dog park and/or 'refrigerated skating trail'. Located along the Lightfoot Trail System, proximate to the downtown, this site has the potential to provide the needed outdoor facilities in an accessible location within the City.

Indoor Field Space

Another facility that could be developed in Orillia is a covered all-season multi-use field extending the field sports and soccer seasons further into the colder months. During the public input process for the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan, the potential demand for indoor field space in the City of Orillia was raised a number of times. A demand for such a facility is based upon the lack of indoor rental space in Orillia identified by staff and the need for additional athletic fields identified in the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan.

Although the Master Plan does not conduct a specific demand analysis for indoor facilities, the City has been through an extensive process to identify and address the need for indoor gymnasium space. With a recognized need for pool and gymnasium facilities, the City is in the process of investigating and working towards developing a new facility. Prior to

⁶ <http://www.orilliapacket.com/2013/06/12/hrc-sale-held-up>



the development of this new indoor facility, it is difficult to estimate the demand for indoor field space.

Options Reviewed by the City

The City was approached in 2013 by a private group willing to partner with it to develop indoor field space at the West Orillia Sports Complex. A year-round facility, it would be available for use by the City and for rent by recreation and user groups. The options considered for the indoor field space sited at the West Orillia Sports Complex included locating it over the existing

artificial turf field or over the existing natural turf field (replacing the natural turf with artificial turf and losing a natural turf field from the City's inventory). The costs for these options were estimated at \$2.6 million and \$2 million, respectively.

The West Orillia Sports Complex is an attractive option for the facility because it is already City-owned. The site's limitations include that it would obstruct views and limit the range of uses for the facility.¹ Other limitations at the West

¹ Bayshore Broadcasting report quoting Councillor Michael Fogarty, December 3, 2013, accessed at <http://www.bay->

Orillia Sports Complex identified by staff in its report were space limitations including those for amenities such as washrooms and parking.² Additionally, complaints about the facility in the community include its lack of access through the active transportation network or public transportation.

A third option considered, and one that was also raised during the public input process for this plan, is partnering with Lakehead University to site the facility on its campus adjacent to the West Orillia Sports Complex. Limitations of this site include access problems and the potential to exclude a private-sector partner. The cost estimated for this site was \$2.4 million.

Fixed Building Option

The City has not analyzed the potential for a fixed building indoor turf facility. A fixed building would be more expensive than a covered field. Potentially, this type of facility could be developed as part of a larger multi-use facility, i.e. with an ice pad.

Looking at this option as a stand-alone building, an analysis performed for the Town of Milton found the capital costs for a covered facility would be less than \$2.25 million while capital costs for a fixed building would be more than \$11 million. While more amenities could be included in a fixed building, the costs would increase accordingly. The capital costs, together with the operating costs would result in either excessively high rental rates or a need to add staff to aggressively market the facility or both. While the building has an estimate life nearly double that of a covered field, it cannot be taken down during the harder-to-rent summer months (a costly, but possible process for a covered field facility). Absent a private sector developer or a strong public-private partnership, the fixed building is too expensive.

Comparable Communities

Indoor field space is generally an amenity provided by larger communities, those with populations over 100,000. Facilities in smaller communities are more likely to be owned privately: The Milton Soccer Centre in Milton (population 84,362), Dufferin Rural Community Centre in Halton Hills (population 59,008) and Players Paradise Indoor Facility in Stoney Creek (population 62,290) are all privately owned and operated. In Barrie, the indoor field space facility is a joint venture operated by the City from May 1 to September 30. The Bradford Sports Dome is a joint venture. The proposed facility in Oro-Medonte is put forth by a private developer, the same group that proposed a facility for Orillia. A study of options for additional indoor turf for fast-growing Milton notes a 100,000 population benchmark and in Richmond Hill the community's policy states that the LOS for indoor turf is 1:100,000.

Should the City decide to pursue development of indoor field space, it will need to perform its own market analysis and due diligence. While it is prominent among the community's wants and additional multi-use fields are needed, based upon the LOS and confirmed by the City's preliminary cost analysis, the facility is infeasible. If there is to be indoor field space in Orillia, the risk should be assumed by the private sector. Indoor field space could be part of a strategy to develop Orillia's sports tourism sector. In that instance, private ownership is a better model – a private owner/operator is less susceptible to demands for public use than is a public operator.

Indoor field space may be a future consideration if land is available and the City is able to partner or if it is developed as part of a larger complex.

shorebroadcasting.ca

2 Report No. 08-2013, December 2, 2013

Programs, Festivals & Events

An important part of activating the system is providing access to a variety of programs, festivals and events. In Orillia, the City provides sports, special interest, skating, fitness, day camps, dance, drama and music, arts and crafts and aquatics programming. Participation numbers show that City recreation programs run well below capacity. The most-subscribed programs in 2013 were sports for ages 0-6 at 67 percent of capacity with 356 participants, day camps for children seven to 14 at 58 percent of capacity with 816 participants and dance, drama and music for children ages 0-6 at 54 percent of capacity with 151 participants. Fitness for ages 0-6 was at 88 percent of capacity, but the total capacity for the age group was 40 children.

The City faces certain challenges in running its recreation programs. Aquatics is limited in its program schedule because the City currently has no pools of its own and rents space in hotel pools. When the City's new aquatics centre is complete, it expects that program numbers will increase because it will be able to offer a more convenient schedule including morning programs for parents and tots. The relatively low participation rate for skating programs may be explained by the private programs in hockey and figure skating that are available.

The City may want to look at its program line-up and populate the culture offerings. Programs such as writing, theatrical arts and painting may be better described as culture programs and may attract more participants if they are so categorized.

Recreation programming can be a confounding business. City staff describe well-loved programs that dry up when a change in instructor is made. This is particularly true of special interest programming such as cake decorating.

In the community survey, respondents asked for programs such as fitness programs, film and music and programs specifically for teenagers. Respondents overwhelmingly said they are aware of programs, 81 percent either strongly agreed or agreed they know about the programs; 72 percent are aware of cultural events and opportunities. While 70 percent believe that programs are accessible, only 53 percent say they are affordable. The quality and quantity of programs is also somewhat satisfying with 51 and 55 percent of respondents saying they are satisfied. On the question of affordability, quality and quantity a third or nearly a third of respondents were neutral, suggesting they may be uninformed.

Service Delivery Options

To properly address how the City should be providing program services, the Master Plan looks at different service delivery options. There are three accepted models for delivery of municipal services, including recreation, to residents and user groups. These are direct, collaborative and outcomes-based delivery.

- **Direct Service Delivery:** In this top-down model, the City provides all services and sets the fee structure, policies and staffs programs with regular or contracted employees. Budgets and costs are tracked, but policies may dictate that some programs operate even at a financial loss as a benefit to the community.



City Recreation Program Activity Guide

Source: www.orillia.ca (Guide published by Orillia Packet & Times)

- **Collaborative Service Delivery:** This more horizontally integrated model requires the City to work with other entities to ensure that all required services are delivered, either by it or by partners. Under this model, the City relinquishes a certain level of control on program fee structure and policies.
- **Outcomes-Based Delivery:** Services and programs are benchmarked against goals for participation and cost recovery. Non-performing programs are subject to cancellation. City staff provide all services but engages the community in setting goals and attaining program objectives. In a smoothly run outcomes-based system, consistent communication between the City, its paid and volunteer staff and the public helps the City anticipate change.

Existing Service Delivery Method

At the current time, the City of Orillia's recreation programs are provided in a direct service delivery model. There are some exceptions to the delivery model such as when the City lacks facilities and so it rents gyms from the school board and pools from hotels. The cost of the rentals is not necessarily entirely recovered through program fees and the rentals are not all financial exchanges. For example, the City has provided equipment to the school board in exchange for gym time.

The City does not collaborate with outside entities to provide programs or services. In fact, it is careful to avoid the perception that it is competing or usurping the ability of other organizations to provide programs and services. For example, in the planned Aquatic and Gymnasium complex, the City has determined it will not provide a cardio fitness centre equipment to avoid competing with the YMCA and other private gyms.

Because it does not own all of the facilities the City needs to provide programs and services to the community, cost recovery analysis is problematic.

Recommended Service Delivery Method

As it controls more of the facilities, the City should consider moving to an outcomes-based delivery model. In the outcomes-based model, the City would budget for cost recovery for programs and set goals for participation based upon the income needed to support program expenses. This has the advantage of providing the City a clear understanding of which programs it can realistically continue to offer and which are not performing and should be cut.

Moving to an outcomes-based model would help the City to set and clarify policies for non-resident participation in recreation programming. Currently the City has a non-resident fee policy of 25 percent added per person, per course. Policies and fees for non-resident participation in Orillia's City-run recreation programs was raised as an issue during the public input process for the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan. This is particularly important because neighbouring communities Oro-Medonte, Severn and Ramara all rely on Orillia to provide recreation programming to their residents as a matter of policy. Under an outcomes-based system, the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department would set benchmarks for non-resident participation and better understand which programs attract non-residents and so can then better forecast cost recovery.

As an example, the City may be forced to move to an outcomes-based model for children with special needs participating in summer day camp programs. In all recreation programs, participants with special needs are provided with an inclusion counselor who provides one-on-one support. For three seasons of the year, the demand for these services and the costs are well controlled. However, in summer, the demand for services adds an additional \$40,000 to the day camp budget. Through the summer of 2013 grant programs covered these costs. However, it appears those funds may no longer be available to subsidize the program. As a result, to achieve cost recovery the day camps program costing families \$100 could run as much as \$800 for each participant with special needs.

Implementing an Outcomes-Based Model

Communication is crucial to the success of the outcomes-based approach and may require additional staffing to coordinate input. Leaders, both staff and volunteer, should be engaged to set goals for participation to ensure program feasibility; surveys of participants and partner communities should be done frequently. One positive result could be increased satisfaction as leaders are actively engaged in carrying out strategies for recruiting participants and ensuring program feasibility.

Opportunities for Programs, Festivals and Events

Regardless of the model for delivery of services, the City of Orillia should continue to respond to evolving program needs and listen to resident demands or opportunities for new programs that will help to activate the system of parks, recreation, culture and trails in a way that benefits the community. For example, the City has seen growing demand for pickleball. Requests made to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department and repeated during the Master Plan focus groups demonstrate this demand. Furthermore, a growing regional demand reflected in a rising provision of pickleball services in other communities. The City may want to consider, in addition to providing facilities for this sport, providing programming to accommodate the growing demand.

To better prepare the City to make these types of program provision decisions, a potential tool Orillia may want to adopt is exit surveys for participants in recreation programs to help determine what programs are successful and what improvements or additional programs may be needed. This information along with recreation participation numbers can provide a clearer picture of programming needs as Orillia considers the appropriate service delivery.

In addition to programs, festivals and events play a key role in activating the system. With over 25 festivals and events, a clear need identified during the public input program was to develop a consistent method for managing festivals and events. Furthermore, for large community events, generally hosted at Celebration Parks, the City should look to accommodate the event in multiple locations so as to create a City-wide event for enhanced resident and visitor participation.

Two potential City-wide events that Orillia should consider include a fitness in the park event and a car-free day event. A fitness in the park event would focus on residents and create an active environment in Orillia. With various fitness activities spread across the City it could help to engage residents in active lifestyles, demonstrate the park system facilities and highlight program activities available in Orillia. A car-free day event would encourage everyone to use alternative modes of transportation. This event would help to encourage active transportation in Orillia including the use of Orillia's many trails.



CAPTURING ORILLIA'S IDENTITY

The character of Orillia is what makes this place unique. By utilizing the Systems Plan to showcase the City's identity, parks, open spaces, trails and facilities are positioned as distinct places of expression.

Orillia's identity is represented by its many different cultural resources. The significance of these resources is demonstrated in the stories of Orillia's past and present. Recognizing the cultural significance of yesterday and today can help create a future that takes full advantage of the cultural opportunities in Orillia. This is important to the Systems Plan because it helps to expand the role of parks, recreation, culture and trails in Orillia, developing these community elements as tools for city building.

To develop the City's cultural resources as key components of the Systems Plan, an Interpretive Plan, a Cultural Needs Review and a Marketing Plan identify how to capture Orillia's identity.

Interpretive Plan

Developing the parks, recreation, culture and trails system for the City is more than identifying spaces and connections, it's formulating the experience of the community. Designing memorable experiences that reflect the people, history and nature of the community connects residents and visitors to the value of the system and the place.

To enhance the experience of Orillia, the interpretive plan concept utilizes public space, including parks and open spaces, to tell the stories that form the community's cultural significance. A collection of interpretive themes

provide learning opportunities within the fabric of the City. By highlighting interpretive themes of Orillia, the City is promoting the unique assets within the community.

The development and implementation of an interpretive program should involve local stakeholders and community groups to assist in capturing the relevance of each theme. An overview of potential interpretive themes to be developed is provided below and illustrated in the Interpretive Plan Map:

- **Nature & Interpretive Centre:** With Scout Valley already a major natural attraction, this area could serve as an enhanced nature and interpretive focus with the development of a new interpretive centre as part of the West Orillia Sports Complex.
- **Nature, Woodlot, Wetland & Shoreline Biodiversity:** Primarily a naturalized shoreline, this area could focus on the biodiversity of Lake Simcoe.
- **History of Sports:** Known as a sports town, with athletes recognized in Orillia's hall of fame, the history of sports in Orillia is a significant story to tell. An interpretive area for the history of sports could potentially be located along the Lightfoot Trail System south of the downtown, as shown on the adjacent map.

Each interpretive area is highlighted in the Interpretive Plan Map. These areas should be connected to the overall system of parks, recreation, culture and trails, utilizing wayfinding to draw people into a learning experience.



An exceptional cultural resource, the recognition of the Mnjikaning Fish Weirs should be expanded, educating residents and visitors of its historical significance.



- History of Artists:** With an abundance of noteworthy artists, the City has the opportunity to interpret this history within the downtown. This interpretive area could build on the success of the Peter Street Arts District. This also may include a focus on the history of Aboriginal artists and artistic expressions.
- History of the City:** With a variety of historic properties in Orillia, including those described in the *Walking Tour of Historic Orillia*, there is a wealth of heritage to interpret. A potential location for a history of the City interpretive node is around historic Victoria Park and the area north of the downtown.
- History of the Waterfront & Commerce:** Orillia's waterfront has a varied history as it was once home to a variety of industrial properties. This heritage could be displayed along the Lake Couchiching waterfront north of the downtown.
- Nature of the Lake:** As the central attraction in Orillia, the waterfront and its natural environment should be emphasized in the interpretation of the City. This interpretive area should be a primary feature of Orillia, potentially located along and around Veterans' Memorial Park. Also important is highlighting the spiritual significance of water in Aboriginal culture.
- Wetland Biodiversity:** In the northern portion of the City, along the Lightfoot Trail System, is a outstanding wetland area. An opportunity exists to interpret this area, providing a learning experience to promote and protect significant wetland biodiversity.
- Stephen Leacock:** One of the most recognized historical icons of Orillia, there is potential to expand the interpretation of Stephen Leacock beyond the museum and museum grounds, highlighting this area as part of the fabric of the community and providing a gateway to the museum and the Lake.
- History of Tourism & Resorts:** Orillia's summer resort heritage still resonates in its appeal today. This long standing attractiveness as a place of leisure should be interpreted, potentially around J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park where residents and visitors continue to enjoy the lakeside community.
- The Narrows & The Weir:** A national historic site, the Mnjikaning Fish Weirs provide extraordinary potential for interpretation of the early heritage of the area. This interpretive area could highlight the Aboriginal perspective on the importance of fish and transportation.

Interpretation of Park Name

City parks in Orillia are each distinctly named, many of which are named after significant people in Orillia's history. The City is currently working on a program to interpret park names, providing interpretive signage to describe the park's namesake. This interpretation should be incorporated into the overall interpretive program in Orillia. The adjacent photograph illustrates the successful implementation of this program at Mac Carter Park.

Cultural Facility Potentials

Highlighted in the public input program is the great appreciation many residents have for culture and their desire to maintain a strong cultural presence in Orillia. As such, cultural facilities and locations for cultural performances, studios, classrooms and education was raised as an issue. While the scope of the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan did not extend into a cultural needs assessment due to the reliance on the Cultural Plan, the Master Plan identified several opportunities for cultural facility expansion that would function as part of the overall system. These facilities and concepts are highlighted as follows:

Interpretive Centre

To build on the existing cultural opportunities in Orillia, the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan proposes the development of an interpretive centre adjacent to Scout Valley at West Orillia Sports Complex. This facility would add another dimension to the complex, enhancing the area as a destination in the western portion of Orillia. This centre would link to the City's trails network and the neighbouring Scout Valley naturalized area. Each interpretive area could be featured at the centre providing an enhanced welcome to the stories of Orillia for the many residents and visitors that already frequent the West Orillia Sports Complex.



Interpretive signage installed at Mac Carter Park

Huronia Regional Centre

A potential introduced as part of the public input program looks at the Huronia Regional Centre as a space for cultural expression and education. While it is proposed that the outdoor space be developed as a Celebration Park with additional space on inland portions of the large property for outdoor recreation facilities, as part of the master planning of the property the potential for interior cultural expression space should be considered. The master plan could look at the feasibility of utilizing existing buildings for additional performance, gallery, classroom and/or studio space.

Community Gallery Space

According to the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan Community Survey, participants typically use cultural facilities in Orillia for exhibits. With the merging of the departments, there is a great opportunity to better link facilities typically considered sports facilities with cultural interests, providing rotating gallery space for local artists in lobby areas and meeting rooms. This bridging would recognize the multiplicity of interest for sports and culture participants while others would benefit from a mingling of disciplines and a broadening of either athletic or cultural horizons.

Cultural Review

In November 2005, the City completed a Cultural Plan that set the stage for cultural development in Orillia. This plan works in partnership with the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan and is included as an appendix to the Master Plan. To integrate the objectives of the Cultural Plan with the Master Plan, the cultural review provides an overview of the existing Cultural Plan, the cultural development progress since the completion of the plan and cultural development input received during the Master Plan's community involvement process.

Cultural Plan Overview

The Cultural Plan introduced a broader view of culture, identifying it as having a profound impact on the health and prosperity of the City.¹ The chapters of the plan identify the many cultural resources in Orillia using cultural mapping, highlight the economic impacts of culture and foster the discussion of culture and its integration into municipal considerations. The plan inspired the local cultural community as well as many regional and national cultural communities, helping to bring culture to the forefront of the community's decision-making process. In fact, Orillia's Cultural Plan is identified as a best practice in the 2011 "Municipal Cultural Planning: A Toolkit for Ontario Municipalities."

A major success of the plan is that it provides a shared vision and specific strategies and actions for cultural development. It also recommended the development of the Cultural Roundtable and Cultural Forums, both of which engaged the local community in cultural development and have been productive since the completion of the plan.

Finally, the Cultural Plan identified the mission, mandate and structure for the former Culture and Heritage Department. This is significant because recently this department has merged into the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department. The merge of the two departments has been a cause for concern for many within the cultural community who worry that culture will not have the same municipal support and respect that it did when it had a dedicated department. The Cultural Plan can help to successfully merge the missions of these two departments in its outline of the municipal role for culture and heritage in Orillia. According to the plan, the mission of the former department was to provide leadership and support to advance cultural development in Orillia for economic and broader community benefits. As the new merged department moves forward, it will need to integrate this mission to form a collaborative approach.

¹ A Cultural Plan for the City of Orillia, November 2005.

Progress Since 2005

Since the completion of the Culture Plan in 2005 there have been many cultural accomplishments in Orillia including the completion of 12 Cultural Forums. Each of these forums encouraged discussion within the cultural community and supported cultural investment within the community. Some of the key cultural developments that Orillia has seen since the completion of the Culture Plan include:

- Peter Street Arts District
- Downtown Heritage Conservation District
- Public Art Policy
- Market Square/Library
- Improvements at the Opera House
- Culture Days

Furthermore, the Cultural Plan identified specific strategies and actions for cultural development, the status of these actions has been updated and are included in the Appendix.

Community Input

Culture will continue to evolve through the involvement of the community. To provide a clear picture of how the Culture Plan and cultural priorities should be incorporated into the plan, the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan looks to community involvement. Key concepts discussed are described on the following page.

The 2005 Culture Plan Vision

We see a city in which culture is understood to be central to making Orillia a place where people want to live, work, play and invest.

We see a city that is a regional hub for tourism built on the quality of its natural and cultural environment, and the vitality of arts, heritage and cultural activities.

We see a city that values its downtown as a social, economic, and cultural hub of the community.

We see a city where growth and development are managed in a way that preserves the community's natural and cultural assets and its unique small town ambience and identity.

We see a city that values public space across the community, working to protect and enhance it through effective urban design and art in public places.

We see a city that supports and values a dynamic cultural sector of arts, heritage and cultural organizations and individuals committed to collaboration and shared resources.

Cultural Recognition

The most fundamental need for the future of cultural development discussed during the public input program is the need to fully recognize the significance of culture in our community. Culture adds great value to the City of Orillia, both social and monetary value. Through culture, the story of Orillia is told and in this hub of cultural activity, the story is multi-faceted. This sentiment is shared by the community's cultural stakeholders and embraced by the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan by connecting culture to parks, recreation and trails through the Systems Plan.

Cultural Partnerships & Policies

The community highlighted the need for partnerships and policy to further cultural development. Partnerships are critical to effectively support culture. A common occurrence for athletics is for businesses to form partnerships with local sports teams and/or venues, this concept has the potential to expand into the cultural arena. Another substantial opportunity for partnerships is with the local university and college. Partnerships with these schools would also help to connect the cultural community to the youth community and provide a platform for cultural expression. Finally, as a key contributor of community culture, the City should maintain and enhance its partnership with Rama First Nation and the Aboriginal community. ***The primary concept discussed regarding partnerships is that we are stronger when we work together.***

Cultural policy development was raised as important to enhancing cultural development. Comprehensive park, recreation and culture

policies can also help to merge the new department and provide a new brand that instills the importance of culture, parks and recreation alike.

Cultural Spaces & Funding

During discussions, community members identified the need for additional performance space, live/work artist space and enhanced programming for cultural spaces including Peter Street Arts District and Market Square/Library. Also proposed was the idea of a cultural fund to facilitate the many grassroots efforts and cultural endeavours in Orillia.

Existing Cultural Facilities

Several specific suggestions about the cultural facilities discussed during public input sessions include the potential management options for the Opera House including developing a board / group focused on the facility. Many expressed appreciation for the facility coupled with frustration over the expense of the facility and difficulty maintaining a professional space while allowing community access to the space. Several potentials raised that would help facilitate the department merging process was the use of parks and recreation staff to help manage the Opera House and the potential to better utilize space within the Stephen Leacock Museum as part of the City's meeting room space.

The continued discussion of these topics is important for future cultural development. To facilitate this effort, the Culture Plan should be updated at regular intervals of 5-10 years, focusing on the shared management of culture through the City and the many other cultural organizations like the Cultural Roundtable and other grassroots efforts.

Recognizing Cultural Impacts

Culture & Health

Just as participation in sports activities is a healthy practice, so to is participation in cultural activities. A recent study by Hill Strategies Research, Inc., used information from Statistics Canada's General Social Survey of 2010 to demonstrate the connection between participation in cultural activities and eight indicators of health and well-being. Cross-tabulations between participants and non-participants showed, among many, the following findings:

- Art gallery visits are associated with better health and higher volunteer rates.
- Theatre attendance is associated with better health, volunteering, and strong satisfaction with life.
- Classical music attendance is associated with higher volunteer rates and strong satisfaction with life.
- Pop music attendance is associated with better health, volunteering, and strong satisfaction with life.
- Attendance at cultural festivals is associated with better health, volunteering, and strong satisfaction with life.
- Reading books is associated with better health, volunteering, and strong satisfaction with life.¹

This quantifiable or measurable evidence that culture improves health among other things, corroborates a common understanding that culture improves quality of life and adds significance to supporting cultural investment.

Culture & the Economy

Culture is a significant contributor to the economy, not only as part of tourism and entertainment, but also as it represents what's termed the 'creative cluster'. The creative cluster generally includes all creativity powered occupations. With almost three percent of Ontario's total economy, it is valued at more than \$12 billion. Additionally, the creative cluster's economic contributions in Ontario include:

- Industry revenues of more than \$15 billion
- Total employment of 199,142 people
- Gross value* of more than \$12 billion (just under three percent of Ontario's total economy)
- An average annual employment growth 2000-2009 of 3.5 percent (twice as fast as the overall Ontario average)²

* Note: The gross value of an industry is the value of its output, that is, production, its tangible assets and value-added impacts.

1 <http://www.hillstrategies.com/content/arts-and-individual-well-being-canada>

2 http://www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/creative_cluster/creative_economy.shtml.

Marketing

The public input process for the Master Plan, identified a need to successfully incorporate arts, culture and heritage into a strategy to promote the community's assets to residents and visitors. Also during the public input process, a disconnect between certain marketing efforts emerged. Currently, a myriad of published materials is available to visitors directing them to the area's assets. However, there appears to be no strategy for getting these materials into the hands of visitors involved in sports events and there is a need for more coordination between marketing efforts.

There are several levels of tourism marketing active in Orillia. These include the DMO which markets the brand, Ontario's Lake Country; RTO7; the Orillia District Chamber of Commerce; and the Downtown Orillia Management Board. These organizations should work closely with the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department and tournament organizers to ensure that tourism information packets are prepared and distributed. To enhance the potential for tourism in Orillia, the following identifies key marketing approaches:

Coordinated Campaign

To raise awareness of the range of Orillia's recreation and tourism assets including arts, culture and heritage attractions and activities as well as sports-related activities, a cross promotion campaign would be effective. This campaign could reinforce the concept of the many interpretations of play and the opportunities to pursue them all in Orillia. A campaign slogan could be "Come for the game and stay for the play" and feature images of ball games juxtaposed with images of people enjoying trails or the waterfront, performers in local festivals or stills from Opera House plays, etc.

Online Resource Mapping

Identifying what and where community resources and attractions are is key to developing online tourism resources. This effort is displayed on the Ontario's Lake Country website mapping tool. While the website provides great tourism information, there is the potential to expand tourism mapping by identifying how resources connect to trails and recreation resources. Furthermore, the City initiated Cultural Mapping during the Cultural Plan process, this information has the potential to be digitized, expanding the amount of arts, culture and heritage resources highlighted as resident and visitor resources.

These two resources, a coordinated campaign and expanded online resource mapping could expand the potential to engage residents and visitors in parks, recreation, culture and trail resources.

About Tourism in Orillia & the Region

Orillia is part of a tourism region that generates \$1.15 billion in total visitor spending (2010)¹. In Ontario's Regional Tourism Organization 7, which coordinates tourism in Bruce, Grey and Simcoe counties, there were 12 million total nights by visitors (2011) with two-thirds staying in private homes and cottages.

Visitor behaviour analyses indicate that Orillia has a wonderful reputation as a tourism destination and that there is an opportunity to link Orillia's most well-known destinations and activities – outdoor activities and attractions – with its heritage and cultural offerings including festivals, museums and performing arts.

Orillia's advantages as a destination are reflected in its regional tourism numbers:

- Strong year-round visitor numbers, among all visitors to the region, 13 percent visit in winter and 23 percent between January and March (2010)
- Among pleasure visitors, 45 percent stay in cottages (2010)
- Pleasure visitors stay for a long time, their average visit is 13 nights (2010)
- Among pleasure visitors, 50 percent said they participated in outdoors or sports activities with boating and fishing the most popular pursuits with 11 percent of these participants each
- Overall, two percent of visitors are attracted to festival and fairs and three percent attend cultural performances; however, overseas visitors flock to these attractions, 18 and 22 percent, respectively.

¹ The Ministry of Tourism published RTO7 data in 2010 and 2011. The source of the data used from these reports is cited parenthetically.



Implementation



Implementation is the measure of success for the Master Plan. Through step-by-step achievement of the implementation program, the Master Plan brings the community closer to its vision for the future. The tools for implementation in this chapter are provided in the following sections:

- » Priorities & Recommendations
- » Policy Framework
- » City Management Structure
- » Capital Improvement Program
- » Existing Park Sheets
- » Proposed Park Sheets
- » Existing Facility Sheets



PRIORITIES & RECOMMENDATIONS

The priorities and recommendations for the Master Plan are derived from the analysis, design and community involvement program conducted during the planning process. This section guides the City's next steps for implementation.

Master Plan Priorities

The Systems Plan recommends many different projects and programs, some long term and some short term, that will assist in reaching the vision and goals for the future. Yet, to move forward these recommendations need to be prioritized to demonstrate the most critical items for development.

To best implement the parks, recreation, culture and trails systems plan for Orillia there are three key priorities:

Priority 1: Development of the Trails Network

Trails in Orillia are well-loved and well-supported by the community. According to the Community Survey for the Master Plan, nearly half of all respondents (49 percent) use the trails two to three times a week or more and 72 percent of the respondents support expanding the trails. Furthermore, trails have the potential to connect the entire system, developing the City as a seamless parks, recreation and culture destination. Finally, trails are universal; they are as attractive to those interested in sports as they are to those interested in arts, they welcome those of all ages and abilities and they provide affordable exercise and transportation for residents and visitors.

Yet the development of trails is an ongoing process and, despite community support, are often overlooked as an important investment in

the community and the development of parks, recreation and culture. As a top priority in the Master Plan, trails should be seen as the iconic symbol of the City. They should be seen as not only critical to parks, recreation and culture development but also to community development. As part of this priority, the Master Plan identifies the following key recommendations:

Multi-Use Trails Network

The City should work to continuously expand the trails network to provide a complete comprehensive system of trails in Orillia. Furthermore, all new sidewalk installations should be evaluated for potential upgrade to trail status. Additional specific trail recommendations are provided in the Trails Master Plan.

Development of Atherley Road Parkway

The City should develop Atherley Road as a parkway providing a gateway to the City and the waterfront.

Development of Green Streets

As the connecting spine across the community, the City should develop green streets as part of its transportation network, featuring alternative transportation as a major component of the network and tying the City to parks, recreation, culture and trails.



Priority 2: Development West Street South Park

The City has a real need to develop facilities that are centrally located and proximate to the downtown. The challenge Orillia faces is that there are a limited number of sites that are appropriate for this type of development in a largely built-out area. One clear opportunity for a central parks, recreation and culture facility is to utilize the 255 West Street South site for an outdoor multi-use park. While it was determined not to move forward with this site for an indoor multi-use recreation facility, the property should be developed for outdoor uses only. In fact, the City has already conducted some of the initial work in moving forward with this type of development. A brownfield site with environmental concerns, the City has already received the Certificate of Property Use from the Province, which can be modified based on the Master Plan's recommendations for West Street South Park.

The development of this park has the potential to address many of the recreation needs of the community, consolidating various recreational uses on one site. The park should be developed as an Activity Park, based on the new classification system, and allow for other parks to develop as different types of character-based parks like Celebration Parks, Cultural Parks, Leisure Parks, Nature Parks, etc., as is further described in the new classification system.

As part of this priority, the Master Plan identifies the following key recommendations:

Accommodate Outdoor Park Facilities at West Street South Park

The West Street South Park should be developed to accommodate outdoor park facility needs identified in the Needs Analysis. Facility needs accommodated at this proposed park include:

- Two full size basketball courts
- Four ball diamonds
- Two multi-use fields (natural)

Additional information about the development of the park can be found in the Proposed Park Sheet for West Street South Park.

Relocate the Skate Park

Over time, the City should relocate the skate park at Veterans' Memorial Park to West Street South Park to provide a facility that better serves the users and to maintain the waterfront for water-related uses. Prior to the development of the new facility, the existing facility should remain in place.

Relocate the Disc Golf Course

The existing disc golf course should be relocated, potentially to the West Street South Park. The current location at Homewood Park is too small and causes conflicts between disc golf and other park users. Prior to the development of the new facility, the existing facility should remain in place.



Priority 3: Focus on Waterfront Celebration Parks

The heart of Orillia is its waterfront. It attracts residents, visitors and commerce, a characteristic that is the same now as it was in the past. Unlike many communities, Orillia is fortunate to have exceptional waterfront parks that are well-used and provide public access to both Lake Couchiching and Lake Simcoe. Yet, due to limited park space outside of these waterfront parks, many non-water-related facilities (athletic courts, fields, courses, etc.) have been located in waterfront parks. As the City moves forward in park development, these waterfront parks should be refocused on water-related facilities and provide more accessible space for events and festivals that showcase Orillia's vibrant cultural identity. Therefore,

as other locations such as the proposed West Street South Park are able to accommodate more non-water-related activities, they should be phased out of waterfront parks.

As the jewels of the parks, recreation, culture and trails system, waterfront parks should be the feature location for community and regional events and festivals to feature the City as a waterfront community. As is described in the new parks classification system, waterfront parks should be developed as Celebration Parks, promoting these spaces as the highlight of the system. Furthering this priority, the City should look to expanded its waterfront access as a characteristic of the waterfront community.

As part of this priority, the Master Plan identifies the following key recommendations:

Lobby to Acquire Huronia Regional Centre

The City should lobby the Province to acquire the entire Huronia Regional Centre (HRC) property, particularly the waterfront portion of the property, for development of a Celebration Park. Potentially, the Memorial Avenue frontage could be utilized for residential/commercial development. The HRC provides an extraordinary opportunity to invest in the expansion of the Parks, Recreation, Culture and Trails System as well as the City's treasured community waterfront.

Festivals and Event Strategy

The City should develop a clear and consistent approach to providing services to festivals and events, potentially identifying a staff member in the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department that is the liaison for festivals and events.

Development of Atherley Narrows Bridge Park

The City should continue to work, in partnership with the Township of Ramara and the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, to develop a recreational trail across the Atherley Narrows, which accommodates both pedestrians and snowmobiles. While this project continues, there is an opportunity to develop a Cultural Park, as described in the new park classification system, at the dead end along the Millennium Trail. This park could then be integrated into the development of the new bridge.

Development of Proposed Portal Parks

In addition to West Street South Park, Huronia Regional Centre Park and Atherley Narrows Bridge Park, the Master Plan identifies several Portal Parks, as defined in the new parks classification system, that will help to provide additional public access to the waterfront. These parks are road ends or edges that provide boardwalks, overlooks, a pathway from the

street and seating as well as other facilities as detailed in the Proposed Parks Sheets in the Capital Improvements Program. These Portal Parks include:

- Borland Street East Park
- Fittons Road East Park
- Forest Avenue South Park
- Victoria Crescent Park

Develop Additional Beach Volleyball Courts

J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park should accommodate the four additional beach volleyball courts identified in the Needs Analysis, locating them adjacent to the existing courts. Additional information about the development of the park can be found in the Proposed Park Sheet for J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park.

Develop Additional Splash Pads

The Needs Analysis identified the need for two additional splash pads. One should be located at Hillcrest Park and one at either Homewood Park, Couchiching Beach Park or Kitchener Park.

Planning Recommendations

To develop the City in a way that is consistent with the intent of the Master Plan, there are two key planning recommendations that should be implemented:

- *Adopt a New Park Classification System:* The City should adopt the new parks classification system and utilize the park design guidelines and levels of service as it develops and improves City parks. This would include a change to the Official Plan to incorporate the new system as well as the park design guidelines and levels of service associated with the classifications.
- *Development of Parks in Western Orillia:* As development occurs in the western corner of Orillia, north of Lakehead University, the City should facilitate the development of new parks and trails as an organization feature of new growth. New parks should be well linked to the overall trails network.

Additional Recommendations

In addition to the recommendations associated with the three priorities of the Master Plan and the planning recommendations, there are several other recommendations that should be addressed as part of implementation. These recommendations include:

Outcome-Based Model for Programming

As the City controls more facilities, it should consider shifting from a direct service delivery model to an outcome-based model for the provision of programming. This model would benchmark against goals for participation and cost recovery and allow the cancellation of programs that do not perform.

Review the Need for Pickleball Programs

The City has seen increasing demands for pickleball, as have other surrounding communities some of which are providing programming for this new sport. The City should consider indoor / outdoor programming to accommodate this growing demand.

Exit Surveys for Programs

To better identify programming needs, the City should consider surveying program participants at the end of each program.

Fitness in the Park

A potential new event to raise awareness of the parks, recreation, culture and trails system and encourage active lifestyles is an event where fitness programs are provided at all parks to help engage residents in these activities.

Car-Free Day

A potential new event to raise awareness of active transportation opportunities in the City is a car-free day where all are encouraged to use alternative modes of transportation.

Trails Wayfinding App

To provide mobile access to wayfinding along the trails network, the City should develop a trails app that provides information on location, distances, landmarks, etc., along the trails.

Citywide Interpretive Program

Furthering the Interpretive Plan presented, the City should develop a citywide interpretive program involving local stakeholders and community groups in the process.

Interpretive Centre

The City should develop an Interpretive Centre located at the West Orillia Sports Complex, adjacent to Scout Valley, to provide a more well-rounded destination for residents and visitors to the western portion of Orillia. The Centre would interpret the natural areas of Scout Valley as well as the many other interpretive themes of the City.

Accommodate Gallery Space

Facilities should utilize available space to provide community gallery space and increase the multi-functionality of the City's facilities.

Update the Cultural Plan

The Cultural Plan should be updated at regular intervals of 5-10 years to accommodate cultural needs. The City may want to consider updating its cultural mapping to transform the information into accessible web-based information that can be updated and utilized in tourism development as well.

Wi-Fi in Parks

If the City decides to provide Wi-Fi in parks it should prioritize the location in Celebration Parks, particularly those proximate to the downtown such as Centennial Park/Couchiching Beach Park due to these locations being most

likely able to meet infrastructure needs and to reach the largest number of people.

Community Gardens

There is a re-emerging trend towards community gardening, given the state of the economy, increasing environmental awareness and the 'buy local food' movement. In fact, Orillia Public Library and the Lakehead-Orillia Library now host seed libraries where you can borrow seeds to plant, encouraging growing local food.

As the demand for community gardening in Orillia increases, there is an opportunity to expand the places where the City may offer this activity. Currently, High Street Park contains a gardening area available for the community to use. In considering siting other community gardens in parks, the locations should be spread throughout the City, there should be available space in the park somewhat close to parking and the park should ideally have a water source.

Road Allowances

In general, all undeveloped road allowances (i.e. road right of ways that are not currently being utilized for a vehicular road) should not be released from the City's ownership.

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has established guidelines regarding the effects to wildlife and fish habitat in removing the road allowance from public lands. The sale of a road allowance may be completed where there are no compelling site specific reasons to justify retention of land such as:

- A conflict with legislation
- A direct and quantifiable impact on MNR programs interests (e.g. disposition could be expected to result in harmful affect on known nesting habitat of an endangered species)
- The disposition would compromise the resolution of First Nation or Aboriginal land

claim

- The deprivation of access to private property or public lands
- Conflict with existing or future public use (e.g. access to water)

If a portion of the road allowance is submerged, Ministry of Natural Resources approval must be had before any transfer of land can occur.

Unless it is absolutely certain there are no current or future uses for the land areas regarding circulation, parks and open space, community service or any other public benefiting function, it is recommended that all road allowances be maintained for public use, particularly those providing water access. Where road allowances have worn pathways from pedestrian or bicycle use, they are obviously a public transit corridor and should be incorporated into the City's circulation system.

Any road allowance that is considered for sale should also go through a standard review process by the various boards or commissions having potential use for the land (i.e. Active Transportation and Trails Advisory Committee, Economic Development Committee, Municipal Heritage Committee, Recreation Advisory Committee, etc.).

Electric Charging Stations

If the City decides to provide electric charging stations at City parks, they should be purchase-only facilities.

Off-Leash Areas

The City should provide three to four off-leash areas or dog parks in order to serve the various areas of the City.

Updating the Master Plan

To maintain the success of the plan, the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan should be updated on a 5-year cycle with a "report card"

as to the successes achieved and not achieved. This will help keep the concepts of the plan alive and maintain the excitement of planning for a healthy, active community.

Existing Park Master Plans

Existing park master plans to be implemented should be done so in conjunction with this Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan. Any capital improvements to parks or facilities should be aligned with the Master Plan; all other improvements should be limited to those required in order to keep parks and facilities well functioning. The existing park master plans also need to align with the newly defined park classification to which the park is assigned. The following describes the existing plans that should align with the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan.

Design Development Plan for Couchiching Beach, Centennial and Veterans' Memorial Parks

In 2008, a Centennial / Couchiching Park Land Use Options and Master Plan was developed by EDA Collaborative Inc., to recommend optimal usages of and outline a final Master Plan design concept for the two parks. It offered conceptual diagrams that begin to layout a plan of action towards integrating the parks with the city centre.

Moving forward with the City's waterfront planning efforts, what is needed now are the design details that identify specifically how to re-connect the downtown with the parks at the waterfront. It is recommended that a design development plan be undertaken that would consider a larger study area; that of the downtown, the three waterfront parks and the vehicular and pedestrian, along with the Lightfoot Trail System. Buildings should be removed/reconstructed to open views to

the waterfront from downtown streets. The circulation systems should be reconnected in a way that does not inhibit pedestrian access to the parks. The elevations of land within and outside of the parks must be modified to create views from the downtown, through the parks and to the Lake.

J. B. Tudhope Master Plan

The existing J. B. Tudhope Master Plan (by Fleisher Ridout Partnership, Inc.), in general, follows the Celebration Park classification. Comments regarding the master plan are as follows.

In the long term the ball fields should be relocated to another site (especially the diamond in close proximity to the shoreline). Any short term maintenance improvements to the ball fields should keep this in mind (avoiding large expenditures that will be decommissioned when fields relocate). The master plan's entertainment venue appears to be too small a space to properly host City events and should be enlarged. The proposed disc golf course appears to conflict with other park users and has about 1.5 hectares (4 acres) space. The Professional Disc Golf Association minimum recommendation for a course is 2.5 hectares (6 acres). The course would be better suited in another park (potentially West Street South Park) that could offer more space. The open water marsh, appearing to be an inland water body, should be made to be an ecologically functioning system supporting wildlife, absorbing stormwater and breaking down pollutants; not merely an attractive pool of water. It should also be physically/ hydraulically connected to the wetlands located in the southeast area of the park. The rowing/ canoe/kayak, windsurfing and boat launch access points are in keeping with the Celebration Park guidelines. As the recently installed dock prohibits public launching and is "for strict use

by the Orillia Rowing Club only”, a car-top public boat launch should still be incorporated into the park. Consideration should be made for incorporating a cross country ski loop around (and potentially through) this natural area, expanding winter recreational use.

Comments on Specific Program Elements of Master Plan

Wind Surfing - This is an ideal location for launching, however vehicular parking may be hard to monitor and is not close to launch site (may be considered long way to carry equipment). Consider relocating to west of proposed boat launch utilizing same parking lot (keeping segregation between motor and car-top boat launches). Capital Improvement Cost ~ \$40K

Entertainment Venue - This area is less than one acre in size; too small to properly host City events (for reference Couchiching Beach Park event area is about 1.6 acres). It is recommended to enlarge the contoured bowl and event area to encompass the eastern section of proposed disc golf. The proposed asphalt court should also act as a stage to the event area seating. Capital Improvement Cost ~ \$150K

Boardwalk / Pavilion - It is recommended to include a boardwalk with covered, open-air structure in the development of the wetlands. This will increase the visitor draw to the park and help educate the public regarding green infrastructure and the environment. The extent of the boardwalk system will depend upon its design and associated costs. The boardwalk connection from Atherley Road to the interior of the park (to its service road) will allow better access to the park's amenities. Capital Improvement Cost ~ \$625K

Boat Launch and Parking Area - This design should be amended to accommodate parking for wind surfing and other car-top boats within this facility. Develop a launch facility for car-top boats to the west and separate from the motor boat launch facility. Capital Improvement Cost ~ \$200K

Wetland - Beyond the development of a waterbody, a wetland should be designed around the hydraulic function and creation of habitat. Capital Improvement Cost ~ \$300K

Jerry Udell Parking Lot - This is in-place.

Lightfoot Trail - This is in-place.

Moose Beach Play Centre - This is in-place.

Moose Beach Washroom - This is in-place.

Tudhope Park Diamond - Of the existing two diamonds, this one should be relocated first as it would open waterfront lands for future park needs (as a ball diamond is not a waterfront dependent use). This would be done when future parkland is acquired / developed.

Disc Golf - It is not recommended to locate this program element in the park. It would be better suited in a less congested park setting to minimize disc collisions with other park users (play area crosses multiple pedestrian paths). Furthermore, the course area is less than the Disc Golf Association minimum 6 acre requirement.

Main Entrance to Park - It is recommended to incorporate a trail crossing at the entry drive (striping, stop/caution signage, etc.). Capital Improvement Cost ~ \$25K

Tennis Courts - Development of these tennis courts is not recommended. Additional tennis courts should be developed at the proposed West Street South Park.

Barnfield Point Recreation Centre Access from Millennium Trail - This trail connection is an important link. It will allow easier and more direct access to the Centre and will be convenient for the summer programs to access the trails network when biking (and potentially an added revenue stream if the Centre offers public bike rentals for trails network use). This pathway should also be coordinated with the proposed pedestrian crosswalk to Collins Drive Park.

Hillcrest Park Master Plan

A master concept plan for the Hillcrest Park has been developed. The concept aligns with the proposed Leisure Park classification offering the required primary facilities (pathways, play areas, seating areas and shelter) and several of the optional secondary facilities (neighbourhood interpretation, multi-use court and spray pad).

Kitchener Park Master Plan

The existing Kitchener Park Master Plan (by Fleisher Ridout Partnership, Inc.- Feb & Nov 2012) should be modified for consistency with the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan, following the Celebration Park guidelines. As new parks are developed which are better suited for athletic facilities, the soccer and ball fields located along the waterfront in Kitchener Park should be removed and relocated. In the short term, these fields should be maintained in a good functional state, keeping in mind their eventual removal from the park. The tennis and multi-use courts do not have large footprints, are located away from the immediate waterfront and may remain. The basketball courts and horseshoe pits could be relocated further inland in the park as space becomes available to allow for waterfront uses. Consider locating shuffleboard courts in conjunction with the relocated horseshoe pits, and having shared office/storage facilities. The waterfront

of Kitchener Park should be developed for public use/enjoyment with boardwalks, boating access, swimming and fishing opportunities (where suitable), and naturalization and habitat formation. The dog park should be relocated to an inland park (potentially West Street South Park) as it is not a waterfront dependent activity.

Comments on Specific Program Elements of Master Plan

Parking - The two gravel parking lots should be regraded / re-granulated for the short term until the design / development plan provides direction. This will also allow the continued use of the parking area for an outdoor ice rink in the winter.

Existing Sports Fields - All existing sports fields should remain until new parks are developed that may incorporate them. Until then, these fields should be kept in good functioning condition and no major improvements should be made where costs cannot be justified/recouped in the short term. The two large football/soccer fields should be relocated to the proposed West Street South Park when it is developed. This will provide space to reorganize other athletic facilities in the park, getting them away from the waterfront.

Proposed Summer Multi-court / Winter Skating Rink - This is in the process of being developed.

Playgrounds and Exercise Circuit - These are in place.

Horseshoe Pits and Basketball - These should remain in place for the short term. The washroom/horseshoe pit office/storage room should be made functional for current use until such time as it will be replaced. Long term, when inland areas of the park become available, these activities should be relocated.

Boardwalk, Dog Run, Wetland Lookout, Picnic Area and Naturalize Shoreline - These shoreline areas should be re-designed/developed to align more closely with the Celebration Park type, to which Kitchener Park is now classified. The boardwalk should be incorporated into the waterfront; running partially or fully along its length and incorporating overlooks, boat docking and fishing areas. The dog run should be re-located to the proposed West Street South Park, as it is not a waterfront dependent activity. It is recommended to recreate/maintain a portion of the waterfront in its natural state (logically the area around the Mill Creek outlet). This would be where there would be a more 'natural' boardwalk (versus the more urban boardwalk section described above). The picnic area at the end of West Street South would be developed to allow boat access, fishing and sightseeing opportunities. Parking of boat trailers would be accommodated in either of the existing parking lots.

Washroom / Concession Building - This is in place.

Lay-By Parking - This appears to be parallel parking areas along the street and would be implemented as such.

Renovated Tennis Courts - These have been completed, except they are located at the illustration of the multi-court / ice rink.

Victoria Park Master Plan

The existing Victoria Park Master Plan (by Fleisher Ridout Partnership, Inc.) should be modified for consistency with the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan, following the Cultural Park guidelines. Historic elements of the park should be placed back into the park, where it is feasible and practical to do this (such as historic lighting, benches, signs, etc.). The park should function as a pastoral walking/sitting park with a small event space and interpretive signage highlighting the history of the park and the City. Another walkway should be made to crisscross the park from the southwest corner (intersection of Patrick and Nottawasaga Streets) to the opposite corner, at Coldwater Road. Street parking along Nottawasaga Street should be expanded. Low maintenance, dense plant beds should be incorporated into more areas of the park. The currently non-treed grass space should remain for hosting small events. The walkways should be widened to accommodate several people walking side-by-side. More seating spaces, and potentially a small, covered, open pavilion in historic character, should be incorporated into the park design. The master planned exercise equipment, however, is not recommended to be located in the park.



POLICY FRAMEWORK

Policies guide decision making in a community. Clear policies, together with the recommendations for next steps to implementation will provide the foundation for developing and enhancing the park system.

In addition to related Official Plan policy the following policies provide the guiding statements for parks, trails, culture and recreation. Each policy is organized around key concepts of the Master Plan goals and objectives. These include:

- Identity Policies
- Design Policies
- Linkage Policies
- Inclusivity & Accessibility Policies
- Safety & Maintenance Policies
- Natural Environment Policies
- Program & Event Policies

Each policy identifies which element of the Master Plan the policy focuses on:

- Denotes a focus on parks, trails and/or open space.
- Denotes a focus on recreation programs and/or facilities.
- Denotes a focus on cultural resources, facilities and/or programs.

Nonetheless, to apply these policies appropriately, projects and initiatives must comprehensively review all policies to maintain consistency with the Master Plan.

IDENTITY POLICIES

Parks, trails, culture and recreation opportunities are what gives the City its unique identity. The following policies detail how the City should leverage these community features to embrace the character of Orillia.

Policy - Identity ●●●

The parks, trails, culture and recreation opportunities should be recognized as a source of identity, pride and a key element of a high standard of living and quality of life.

Policy – Waterfront Focus ●

The waterfront should be the focus of the parks and trails system and linked visually and physically to all aspects of the community.

Policy – Waterfront Character ●

All waterfront properties/parks should offer a waterfront character and a waterfront trail/boardwalk along the water's edge.

Policy – Trails ●●

Trails should be the focus of community identity and development and used for promoting tourism and economic development in the City.

Policy – Branding ●●●

The use and promotion of the City's brand, recognized as essential to the community's development, should be incorporated into parks, trails, culture and recreation facilities as a unifying message.

Policy – Public Art & Identity ●●

As a public and educational resource parks should include public art/sculpture to enhance community identity.

Policy – Cultural Industries & Tourism ●

Cultural industries and tourism should be recognized as economic resources in the City of Orillia that contribute to the identity of place.

Policy – Cultural Interpretation ●

Cultural heritage is recognized as an important part of the community identity and should be showcased and interpreted throughout the community.

Policy – Economic Development ●●●

Parks, trails, culture and recreation resources should be recognized as important elements of the City's ability to attract and retain employers and a quality workforce as well as its ability to market itself regionally and nationally.

Policy - Cultural & Heritage Stories ●

The cultural and heritage stories of the community should be integrated into all physical planning and community design projects to enhance the identity of the community.

Policy – Sports Tourism ●●●

Sports tourism should be encouraged and promoted in existing and proposed sports parks and supporting facilities should be developed to enhance the sports park venue.

Policy – Cultural Tourism ●●●

Cultural tourism should be encouraged and promoted in municipal waterfront parks. Designated parks should be linked and offer entertainment and gathering venues for festivals and events.

DESIGN POLICIES

The Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan promotes quality design based on a system-wide view of parks, recreation and culture resources. The following policies guide development that is consistent with this system-based approach.

Policy – Acquisitions ●

The City should use the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan to identify future acquisitions for parks and facilities and purchase appropriate properties as they become available.

Policy – Waterfront ●

The waterfront enhances the identity of Orillia and is one of the most significant amenities in the City therefore acquisition of waterfront property/access to and along the waterfront should be of high priority.

Policy – Public Art & Parks ●●

Public art and commemoration should be incorporated into all parks.

Policy – Park Experience ●●

In addition to outdoor exercise parks supply an outdoor experience for users of all ages and in addition to providing a variety of facilities should exemplify the highest quality of design at all classifications of park.

Policy – Park Design ●

Parks are outdoor rooms and require defined circulation and a focus. Therefore a park should provide a central gathering space and include a primary pathway as an organizing feature that links key facilities/features within the park.

Policy – Dog Parks ●

Dog parks should be promoted in parks of adequate size, excluding areas proximate to the waterfront or in nature parks.

Policy – Donated Elements ●●

The donation of and location of donated structures, facilities and art in public space should conform to a master plan for the open space system to encourage continuity of design and the overall park experience.

Policy – Gifts and Loans ●●

A gifts and loans program should be promoted to encourage placement of works of art and park facilities such as benches, fountains, interpretive plaques, kiosks, etc.

Policy – Cultural Enhancements ●

Cultural resources or expression should be integrated into the design of all public realm projects including design elements such as park benches, sewer grates, banners, etc.

Policy – Culture ●●●

Cultural facilities and programs should be integrated in all aspects of parks, trails and recreation as both a quality of life and economic development opportunity.

Policy - Arts ●●

The cultural and heritage stories of the community should be promoted with the inclusion of sculpture and graphic art in all new community development projects including as a signature to all parks.

LINKAGE POLICIES

Connecting the system of parks, trails, culture and recreation opportunities is central to the development of a system and is a key feature of Orillia’s community identity. The following policies promote the linkage of the community through trails and other opportunities.

Policy – Link the Community ●●

The development of trails and linkages is important to residents and a program for development should be pursued linking all components of the community.

Policy – “Green Streets” ●●

The community should develop recreation trails as part of a green street connection on:

- Highway 12 By-pass
- West Street South
- Coldwater Road
- Atherley Road

Policy – Urban Design ●

A waterfront parkway on Atherley Road should be promoted as a gateway to and from the City and offer a signature experience for pedestrians, motorists and cyclists.

Policy – Waterfront Road Ends ●

All road ends should be developed as portals to the water and all road ends should be accessible.

Policy – Trail Visibility/Profile ●

The trail system is a signature of the City therefore all visible areas of the trail system should have signatures such as trailheads, signage, etc.

Policy – Trailheads ●

Trailheads should be developed at all points interacting with the public circulation system to advertise and promote the system.

Policy – Sculpture Trail ●●

Culture and heritage should be promoted within the trail system, at all trailheads and junctions and with a proposed sculpture trail.

INCLUSIVITY & ACCESSIBILITY POLICIES

One of the most critical features of parks, trails, culture and recreation is that they are accessible to all and offer an inclusive environment. The following policies ensure this feature is incorporated as the system develops.

Policy – Inclusivity ●●●

Parks, trails, culture and recreation facilities and programs should be inclusive and service all residents.

Policy - Universal Accessibility ●

Parks, trails and facilities shall be universally accessible and comply with applicable standards / codes / legislation (including ODA, CSA, OBC) but since some open spaces may include areas of natural terrain more difficult to access, attempt should be taken within the understanding of nature preservation to make them accessible.

Policy – Year Round Use ●

Since land is a limited resource and outdoor exercise is an essential component of park development, parks should be designed and maintained for four season use (i.e. four season washroom facilities).

Policy – Shared Facilities ●●●

In order to maximize the use of space, parks should utilize multi-use and shared use facilities including properties owned by the Ontario Provincial Police, Georgian College and Lakehead University for continuation of trail connections for the benefit of all users.

Policy – Use of Educational Facilities ●●●

Educational institutions and schools supply facilities that can support municipal parks and facilities therefore the City should work with the school boards to develop shared facilities accessible to the public.

Policy – Community Garden Mentoring ●●●

The City and schools should work together to develop a program of community gardens and mentoring programs on both City and school sites that focus on growing produce.

Policy – Culture Volunteerism ●

Cultural development is essential to community well-being and engagement and should encourage the support of cultural volunteers which are essential to community cultural development.

SAFETY & MAINTENANCE POLICIES

To provide quality parks, trails, culture and recreation, the City must ensure the safety of its residents and visitors as well as maintain the value of its resources. The following policies guide the provision of safety and maintenance services.

Policy – Visibility of Open Spaces ●

Visibility and accessibility increase the profile of parks which should have continuous frontage on at least one municipal street, access from all adjacent municipal streets and have a defined entrance that connects to the street.

Policy – Safety and Security ●●●

Safety and security are essential to inviting people into parks and facilities, therefore they should be designed to support principles of crime prevention and accommodate emergency vehicle access where needed.

Policy – Trail Clearance ●

Trails should have a 1 metre maintenance strip on each side and a 2.5 metre overhead clearance.

Policy - Maintenance ●

Groomed areas in formal parks should be reduced to define activity areas, minimize maintenance and increase habitat.

Policy – Community Gardens ●

Community gardens shall be operated by volunteers according to municipal policy and users agreement:

- Space allotments should be made on an as needed basis
- Organic gardening methods and integrated pest management principles shall be followed
- Acceptable maintenance standards shall be followed
- No barriers to general public access to the site shall be erected
- Gardens shall be raised and a minimum 3 m x 3 m in size

Policy – Natural Areas

Natural and forested areas shall be periodically reviewed and maintained for health of forest, public safety and the removal of invasive species.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT POLICIES

The natural environment is the foundation of our community, ensuring the protection and preservation of these critical resources is essential to the physical development of the community. The following policies promote the natural environment throughout the parks, recreation, culture system.

Policy – Natural Heritage ●

Development projects should be designed where possible to be compatible with and minimize the impact on natural heritage features as well as ensuring linkages to the existing community open space system.

Policy – Storm Water ●

Natural storm water detention/retention and wildlife corridors should be promoted and incorporated into the parks and open space system.

Policy – Shorelines ●

Natural shorelines should be protected and preserved. Where shoreline erosion control is necessary it should protect and develop habitat and water quality.

Policy – Use Native Trees ●●

As outdoor spaces, parks should be sufficiently landscaped to improve their aesthetic and natural role. They should be planted with native tree species to enhance the tree canopy in the City minimizing radiation and maximizing the cooling effect.

Policy – Natural Heritage ●●

The natural heritage of Orillia should be preserved and promoted as a key environmental and educational feature.

Policy – Waterfront Setback ●●●

Water edges should be naturalized a minimum 10 m if possible allowing for continuous pedestrian circulation and habitat.

PROGRAM & EVENT POLICIES

Programs and events bring Orillia to life and have the potential to highlight the parks, trails, culture and recreation resources of the City. The following policies guide the provision of programs and events to residents and visitors.

Policy – Community Events ●●

A variety of community events should be promoted and major events should be accommodated in multiple park venues.

Policy - Programming ●●

Programming for parks and recreation facilities should focus on encouraging play at all ages and developing life-long healthy habits and lifestyles. Programming should be fun, educational and safe.

Policy - Festivals & Events ●●●

Festivals and events should be provided a consistent approach to the provision of City services.

Policy – Event Spaces ●●

Event spaces and facilities in parks should be developed to enhance the visitors experience of the event and should be considered when master planning major parks.

Policy – Urban Agriculture ●●

Community garden opportunities on public and private lands should be promoted.

CITY MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

The City management structure describes how the Parks, Recreation, Culture Department should be organized based on the findings from the Master Plan.

Access to parks, recreation, culture and trails is a very important part of life in Orillia. To ensure that residents are able to participate in an active lifestyle, the City's Parks, Recreation and Culture Department is dedicated to fulfilling the recreational, cultural and sports needs of the community in a sustainable and effective manner. Currently the Department includes 33 full-time employees and about 125 contract/casual employees. While the public involvement process has reflected a great deal of satisfaction regarding the Department's efforts, the Master Plan process is an opportunity to readdress the structure of parks, recreation and culture management in Orillia.

Historic Overview of the Department

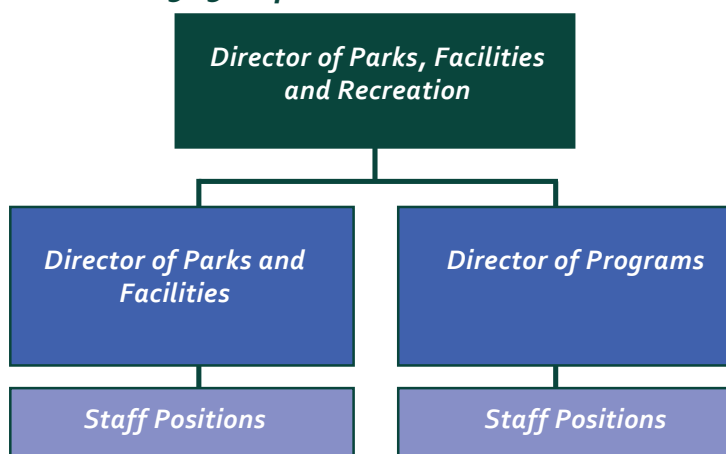
Since the 1989 Master Plan for Recreation and Culture, the Department has expanded and branched off into several different components. During the time of the 1989 plan the Department had a full-time staff of 23 and was headed by a Director of Parks, Facilities and Recreation

and comprised two divisions. One division responsible for programs and the other responsible for parks and facilities. Each division had a director and staff.¹

A major shift in the City's provision of cultural services occurred in June of 2003, when Orillia Council established a Department of Culture and Heritage. The department staff was directed to develop a cultural plan for the City and define a mission and mandate for the new department. The resulting Cultural Plan for the City of Orillia was completed in 2005 and further established the Department and its management structure. The Cultural Plan positioned the Department to move from a "facility bound" to "whole system" view of culture. The objective was to expand the municipal role beyond the direct management of cultural facilities such as the Orillia Opera House and the Leacock Museum National Historic Site in order to take a more proactive role in incorporating culture into planning and

¹ 1989 City of Orillia Recreation and Culture Master Plan. Prepared by Marshall Macklin Monaghan Limited, Institute of Environmental Research, John W. Prince & Company Inc.

1989 Departmental Structure



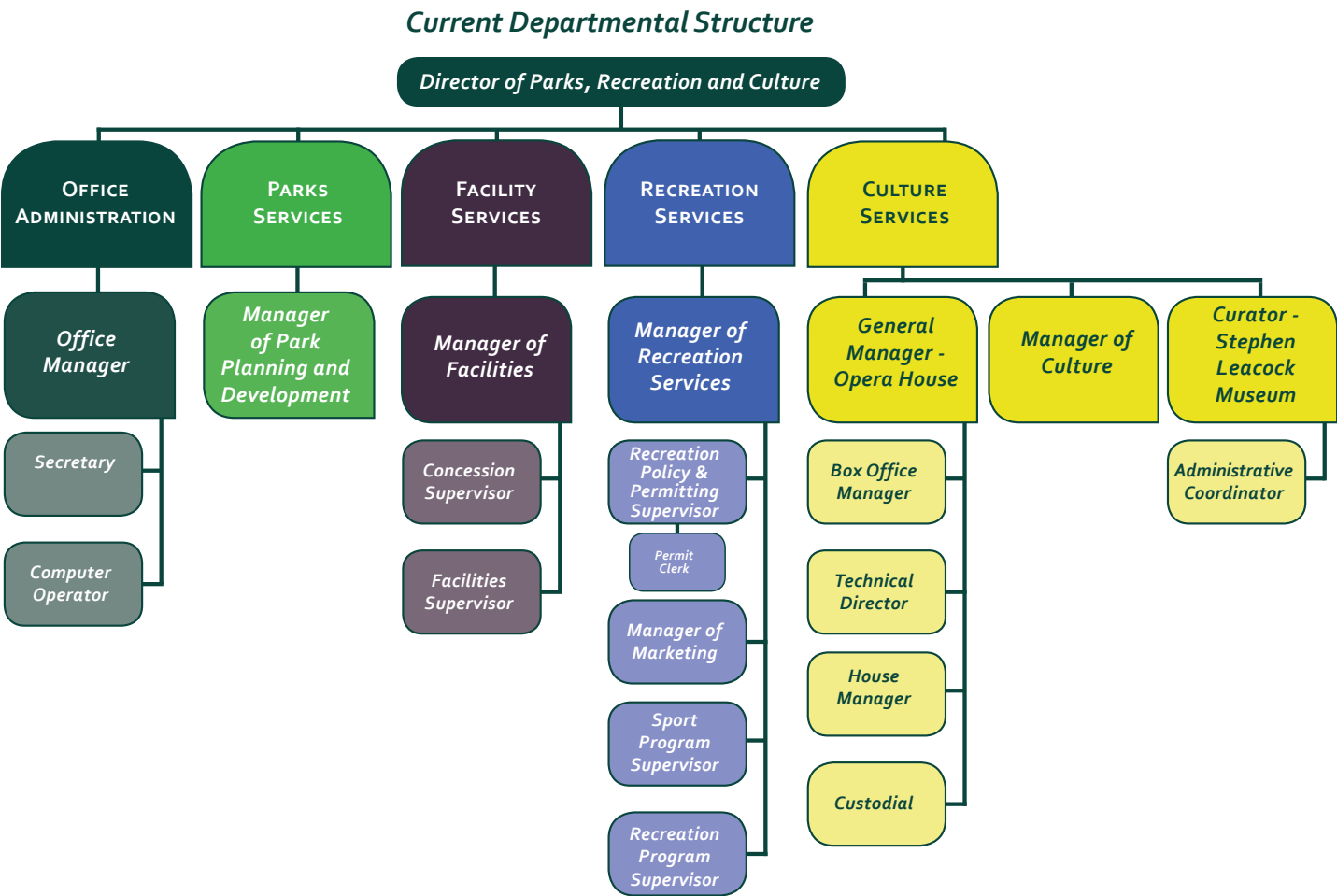
community development. To help facilitate this process, the Plan initiated the development of a Cultural Roundtable. A key result of the Cultural Plan, the Cultural Roundtable represents the successful collaboration of community cultural leaders, participants and stakeholders.

Recent Structural Changes

More recently, the City of Orillia has undergone a reorganization that has had direct impacts on both the Parks and Recreation Department and the Culture and Heritage Department. In September of 2012 Council approved, among other changes, the merger of Parks and Recreation with the Culture and Heritage Department and the removal of the Director of Culture position. This structural shift was not welcomed by members of the cultural community who understood the dedicated

Culture and Heritage Department as a way to legitimize the significance of culture in Orillia. As one of the first communities in Ontario to develop a Cultural Plan and a municipal department dedicated to culture, Orillia has been seen as a leader in cultural development. Stakeholders want to uphold this reputation and appreciation for Orillia’s many cultural resources. Concerns with the merger relate to the desire to maintain a level of focus on cultural needs.

An additional structural change that occurred in 2013 is that all parks maintenance functions, including turf, horticulture, arboriculture, etc., have moved to the Public Works Department. This move furthers the need to ensure that the departments are working together, towards the same objectives, in development of parks.



*Additional staff, including part-time and seasonal workers, are also part of the Department Structure.

Departmental Opportunities

The development of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department provides a new opportunity to better integrate recreational and cultural resources. While the development of the Culture and Heritage Department provided a great gateway into recognizing the significance of cultural resources, merging Parks and Recreation with Culture and Heritage expands the reach of both departments. The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department has the potential to reach a wider audience and promote cross-pollination of facilities, services and programs. One of the primary objectives of cultural development today in Ontario is to recognize the extent of culture, how it is incorporated into our everyday life and can improve our quality of life. Therefore, the primary focus of bridging the two departments should be on identifying how culture and recreation can and should be integrated to better serve the citizens of Orillia. One example of this integration is with the development of tourism, whether it be sports tourism or festival tourism, better integration of culture and recreation will help to capture a broader tourist base and support a more well-rounded destination.

Structural Recommendations

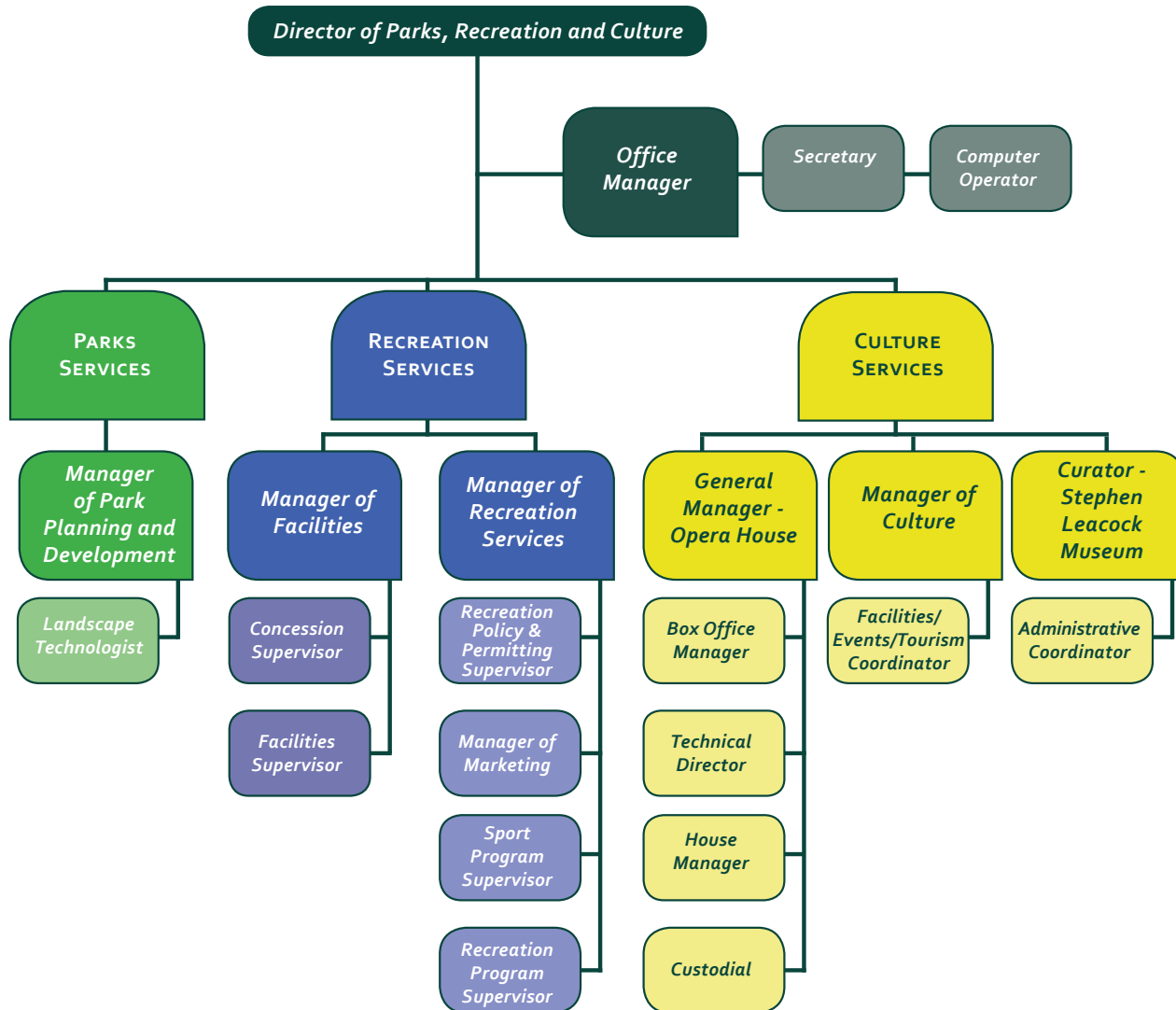
To help seize the opportunity provided by the recent shifts in departmental structure, the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department was reviewed to identify how to better represent the City's interest in parks, recreation and culture. The result was the identification of a Proposed Future Departmental Structure. As part of this proposed structure, the Department

should better present itself to the community as having three clear branches of the department: Parks Services, Recreation Services and Culture Services. The clear organization structure should reflect a new identity that incorporates and gives equal weight to culture as it does for parks and recreation. The gap that the City will need to fill is in portraying the department as embracing the three equal elements of the department and providing services for each. Also important is consistent coordination with key roles in other departments including, but not limited to, the Superintendent of Parks position within the Public Works Department and the Manager of Economic Development position in the Development Services Department.

In addition, the new structure incorporates two new positions, a Festivals/Events/Tourism Coordinator and a Landscape Technologist. The Festivals/Events/Tourism Coordinator position will provide a liaison to the variety of individuals or groups looking to develop festivals and/or events in Orillia and provide a clear direction on the City's support services. The Landscape Technologist will provide support to the Manager of Park Planning and Development and will help to coordinate with the Public Works Department in the development of parks and trails.

These structural changes, along with the guiding policies of the Master Plan, provide the opportunity to unite parks, recreation and culture and coordinate with other departments in order to work towards a clear direction for the future development of the City.

Proposed Future Departmental Structure



Committee Involvement

In addition to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department and other City departments, several committees play a role in the development of parks, recreation, culture and trails in Orillia. These committees rely on volunteers to dedicate their time to the planning and development of various aspects of the community. Committees involved in parks, recreation, culture and trails in Orillia include the Recreation Advisory

Committee, Active Transportation and Trails Advisory Committee and the Municipal Heritage Committee. Also engaged in this type of planning is the Cultural Roundtable, an ongoing working group to encourage cultural discussion and development. These committees and groups provide the City with a critical connection to the community and help represent community needs for ongoing engagement in the future of parks, recreation, culture and trails.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Specific park capital improvements have been identified for each park including proposed parks in a timeline of short, mid and long term projects.

All park systems have ways that they may be improved. An implementation strategy has been identified for specific proposed improvements.

Rationale for Capital Improvement Schedule

The rationale for scheduling the improvements to the Orillia park and open space network considered many aspects. It is based on the plan's goals and objectives and the Systems Plan for Orillia. The current and past Capital Budgets and Forecast for the Orillia's Parks Operations were reviewed and taken into account as much as possible to be consistent with typical annual park expenditures. Any pertinent allocated funds were included in the short and mid term development and planning initiatives matrix shown on the following pages. The magnitudes of costs for the required park improvements were considered; tackling the lower costing improvements that gave the larger benefit first. Parks that were, overall, in a lower condition had improvements slated for the short term. The relationship to the economic vitality of the City also played a role. The determined need for parks and facilities given the current and projected populations and community desires were also taken into account. Initiatives were adjusted among the phases to bring about a balanced budgetary approach.

The key initiatives to improve the park system were relatively prioritized into three phases. The short term park and facility development priorities are those that should be accomplished within the next five (5) years. The medium term phase has a time frame of six (6) to ten (10) years. The long term lists initiatives that are to be accomplished in the next 11 to 25 years. Note that a range of estimated monetary values is provided for the long term initiatives are included because they most likely will change over this span of time. A range of monetary values is also provided for all acquisitions costs. All other capital costs identified are intended to convey an order of magnitude based on industry standard prices and estimated quantities. Refer to the Trails Master Plan for information regarding budgetary cost per kilometre for trails and detailed trail improvements.

Short-Term Development & Planning Initiatives

Park Land Acquisitions	Description	Estimated Value*
Forest Ave South Park	Negotiate Easement/Ownership Transfer with Land Owner	\$
Huron Regional Centre Park	Negotiate with Province to Acquire Property	\$\$\$+
Planning Studies	Description	Estimated Value
Centennial Park / Couchiching Beach Park / Veterans' Memorial Park	Master Plan (3 contingent waterfront parks)	\$120,000
Culture Plan Update	Report Card on Progress and Necessary Updates to the Culture Plan	\$20,000
J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park	Update Master Plan for Consistency with Celebration Park Classification	\$25,000
Kitchener Park	Master Plan	\$80,000
Victoria Park	Revise Master Plan	\$25,000
West Street South Park	Master Plan	\$95,000
Capital Improvements	Description	Estimated Value
Bayview Park	Play Equipment, Signage, Trees	\$42,000
Christine Place Park	Seating, Signage (park, interpretive)	\$15,000
Clay French Park	Interpretive Signage, Naturalize Grounds	\$16,500
Couchiching Beach Park	Sidewalk Repairs, Replace Beach Play Equipment (with play equipment or splash pad)	\$175,000
Dorset Park	Signage, Furnishings, Pathway, Basketball Pad (1/2 court)	\$33,000
Fittons Road East Park	Car-top Boat Launch, Parking, Signage, Boardwalk, Seating	\$80,000
Frontier Park	Signage, Seating, Interpretive Trail, Naturalize Grounds	\$40,000
Forest Ave South Park	Signage, Car-top Boat Launch	\$60,000
Grenville Park	Signage, Seating, Naturalize Grounds	\$30,000
J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park	Park and Interpretive Signage, Four Sand Volleyball Courts	\$45,000
J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park	Continue to Implement Existing Redevelopment Plan with minor revisions	\$200,000
Maple Leaf Park	Signage, Pathway, Trees	\$16,000
Mariposa Park	Play Equipment, Seating, Signage (park, interpretive), Mulched Trail	\$52,500
Morningstar Park	Revamp Courts, Pave Parking, Shelter / Water Service, Entry and Crosswalk, Loop Trail System	\$174,000
Victoria Park	Phased Implementation	\$385,000
West Street South Park	Begin Phased Implementation	\$5,000,000
Sub Total		\$6,729,000
Contingency (20%)		\$1,345,800
Total		\$8,074,800

* \$ - \$0-100,000
 \$\$ - \$100,000- 1,000,000
 \$\$\$ - \$1,000,000+

Mid-Term Development & Planning Initiatives

Park Land Acquisitions	Description	Estimated Value*
Bayview Park	Negotiate Easement with Land Owner	\$
Collins Drive Park	Purchase / Remediate Adjacent Property to the East	\$\$
Murray Street Park	Negotiate with Home Owner's Association to determine ownership/responsibilities	\$
Scout Valley Park	Purchase Adjacent Commercial / Residential Properties to the Northwest When / If Properties Becomes Available	\$\$
Planning Studies	Description	Estimated Value
Huronia Regional Centre Park	Master Plan / Re-Use Strategy	\$130,000
Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan Update	Report Card on Progress and Necessary Updates to the Master Plan	\$20,000
York Street Park	Master Plan	\$40,000
Capital Improvements	Description	Estimated Value
Brant Street Park	Signage, Path Maintenance, Seating, Interpretive Signs	\$30,000
Centennial Park / Couchiching Beach Park / Veterans' Memorial Park	Begin Phased Implementation	\$300,000
Clayt French Park	Community Gardens	\$10,000
Dancy Drive Park	Signage, Pathways, Shelter/Seating, Trees	\$77,500
Edna/Adair Park	Signage, Natural Play Structures, Seating	\$49,000
Forest Home Park	Gateway, Streetscape	\$25,000
High Street Park	Signage, Seating, Redesign Community Garden	\$38,000
Homewood Park	Signage, Splash Pad, Naturalize Grounds	\$130,000
Huronia Regional Centre Park	Begin Phased Implementation	\$100,000
Kaneff Park	Signage, Shelter, Pathway, Trees	\$80,000
Kitchener Park	Begin Phased Implementation	\$100,000
Lankinwood Park	Trail, Seating, Signage	\$42,000
McKinnell Square Park	Signage, Pave Path, Shelter, Splash Equipment, Streetscape, Trees	\$175,000
North Street Park	Signage, Pathway, Seating, Interpretive Signs	\$50,000
Orma Drive Park	Signage, Pathways, Play Equipment, Seating	\$75,000
Stephen Leacock Park	Gateway (to park and extension of road to intersection)	\$170,000
West Ridge Park	Pave Path, Trailhead Signs, Interpretive Signs	\$45,000
West Street South Park	Continue Phased Implementation	\$10,000,000
Total		\$11,686,500
Contingency (20%)		\$2,337,300
Total		\$14,023,800

* \$ - \$0-100,000
 \$\$ - \$100,000- 1,000,000
 \$\$\$ - \$1,000,000+

Long-Term Development & Planning Initiatives

Capital Improvements	Description	Estimated Value *
Atherley Narrows Bridge Park	Bridge 'Park' for Trail Connection Across The Narrows	\$\$\$
Bayview Park	Interpretive Trail, Asphalt Drive/Parking	\$
Borland Street East Park	Car-top Boat Launch, Parking, Signage, Boardwalk, Seating	\$
Centennial / Couchiching / Veterans	Complete Phased Implementation	\$\$
Collins Drive Park	Signage, Pavilion, Boardwalk, Crosswalk, Trees	\$
Fittons Road East Park	Signage, Car-top Boat Launch	\$
Forest Home Park	Gateway, Pave Parking, Streetscape	\$
Franklin Carmichael Park	Signage, Pave Parking & Path, Shelter, Multi-Goals	\$
Huron Regional Centre Park	Complete Phased Implementation	\$\$\$
Kitchener Park	Complete Phased Implementation	\$\$
Lakeview Park	Signage, Interpretive Trail, Seating, Street Parking	\$
Lawrence Park	Signage, Interpretive Pathway, Seating	\$
Mac Carter Park	Trails	\$
Murray Street Park	Signage, Interpretive Trail & Bridges, Play Equipment, Seating, Naturalize Grounds	\$
Stephen Leacock Park	Boardwalk, Trail Connection	\$
Victoria Crescent Park	Overlooks, Boardwalks, Trail	\$
West Orillia Sports Complex	Interpretive Facility, Pathway & Crosswalk	\$
York Street Park	Implement Master Plan	\$

* \$ - \$0-100,000
 \$\$ - \$100,000- 1,000,000
 \$\$\$ - \$1,000,000+

The Capital Improvement Program is a road map for moving forward with improvements to the Park System. It is not meant to be rigid, but must have some flexibility with the timetable to react to market changes. The identification of capital improvement needs and cost projections is a dynamic process that requires continuous review and adjustment. It is subject to revision

according to any future changes in Orillia's population, needs, environment and the City's chosen direction. Each year the implementation activities should be evaluated based upon the previous year and current conditions. Every five years it is recommended to formally update the action plan to better serve the residents and visitors of Orillia.

EXISTING PARK SHEETS

For each existing park, this section provides a detailed inventory and identified capital improvements for the park.

About the Park Sheets

All existing parks were inventoried as part of the analysis for the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan. The park sheets provide the inventory information in a consolidated 'tear sheet' for use by the City. All existing park sheets identify the following listed information:

- Address
- Current Classification: Based on existing Official Plan Classification
- Proposed Classification: Based on the New Park Classifications
- Size: In acres and hectares
- Context: Describing the surrounding land uses
- Overall Quality: A range of good, fair and poor
- Function: Active or Passive
- Description: Generally describes park

Each park sheet has a written description of the current conditions and future improvements. All facilities are listed in chart form and the overall condition is evaluated. Also provided on the park sheets is a list of capital improvements and the estimated costs.

The existing park sheets are provided for the following parks:

- Bayview Park
- Brant Street Park
- Centennial Park
- Christine Place Park / Cindy Lee Park
- Clayt French Park
- Collins Drive Park
- Couchiching Beach Park
- Dancy Drive Park

- Dorset Park
- Edna / Adair Park
- Forest Home Park
- Franklin Carmichael Park
- Frontier Park
- Grenville Park
- High Street Park
- Hillcrest Park
- Homewood Park
- J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park
- Kaneff Park
- Kitchener Park
- Lakeview Park
- Lankinwood Park
- Lawrence Park
- Mac Carter Park
- Maple Leaf Park
- Mariposa Park
- McKinnell Square Park
- Morningstar Park
- Murray Street Park
- North Street Park
- Orma Drive Park
- Scout Valley Park
- Stephen Leacock Park
- Veterans' Memorial Park
- Victoria Park
- West Orillia Sports Complex
- West Ridge Park
- York Street Park

Existing Park Sheets are colour coded:



Existing Park Sheets

Bayview Park

Yr.Acquired 1948

Address: 335 Hilda Street
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Leisure
Size: 2.7 acres - 1.1 hectares

Context: Residential / Open Space
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Active
Description: Sports Park

Bayview Park is a small parkette with a granular parking lot and a dirt infield ball diamond. Suggested improvements include standardized park identity signage and improved entry appearance to the park at the street interface. Small scale playground equipment should be situated in the park (at end of parking lot within the wooded area) for neighbourhood use. A loop pathway (granular or hard surface) around the perimeter of the park would be an added amenity when the ball field is not in use. Trees should be planted beside the parking lot and along the perimeter for better definition of areas, shade and screening from adjacent residential properties. In the short term, the ball diamond should remain in the park due to current recreational needs. In the long term, when other recreational space becomes available, it should be removed. Also in the long term, consider extending a trail to/through the adjacent woods/wetlands (or along Hilda St R.O.W. to Hwy 12 By-pass) to connected with Atherley Road and Tudhope Park (note: the City would need to acquire land or broker an easement with the adjacent property owner(s) to develop this trail extension). Ideally, interpretive signage would be situated along this trail. Other long term improvements include asphaltting the drive and parking area.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Sports Benches (2)	Poor
	Bleachers (1)	Fair
	Garbage Cans (2)	Poor
Athletic Fields	Softball Diamond	Fair
Circulation (LF)	Granular Road (180)	Fair
Parking (Spaces)	22	Fair
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Forest Edge	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Interpretive Trails	\$45,000
Park Entry/Signage/Gateway	\$5,000
Tree Planting (5)	\$2,000
Play Equipment	\$35,000
Asphalt Drive / Parking	\$35,000
TOTAL	\$122,000

Brant Street Park

Yr.Acquired 1953

Address: 26-30 Brant Street West
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Cultural
Size: 0.5 acres - 0.2 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Small Linear Park

Brant Street Park is a linear greenspace situated between residential properties. The primary structure in the park is the granular pathway connecting Dalton Crescent South with Brant Street West and the Lions Oval School. The existing asphalt pathway needs improvement to fix cracks/bumps. More seating should be included in the park. The street entrances to the park should have standardized park identity signage. Locate the signage within the existing planting bed at Brant Street West to minimize detailed mowing maintenance. The Dalton Crescent South entry should be improved in a similar fashion, as both are gateways into the park.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (1)	Good
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Asphalt Pathway (320)	Poor
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Mix (newly planted/mature)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Resurface Pedestrian Pathways	\$10,000
Park Entry/Signage/Gateway (2)	\$10,000
Increase Seating Areas	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$30,000



Centennial Park

Yr.Acquired 1950

Address:	50 Centennial Drive	Context:	Commercial
Current Classification:	Community Park	Overall Quality:	Good
Proposed Classification:	Celebration Park	Function:	Passive
Size:	13.3 acres - 5.4 hectares	Description:	Waterfront Park

Centennial Park is located on the Lake Couchiching waterfront at the Port of Orillia. The park contains a boat ramp, docks, rest room building, ticket office and pier. As "one of the jewels in the Orillia parks crown, standardized park signage, identifying the park to visitors, should be provided. The approximately 10 foot wide boardwalk, running the entire length of the park's waterfront, connects with the asphalt pathways through the park and to the adjacent Veterans' and Couchiching Beach Parks. Recent park improvements include the addition of marina docks and refurbishments to the boat ramp, docks and pier. It is recommended to create a design/development plan of all three adjacent parks, concurrently, as a follow-up to the 'Centennial / Couchiching Park Land Use Options and Master Plan' 2008 (Refer to the Existing Park Master Plans section of this document for more details). The 'solution' must encompass the downtown and all three waterfront parks. The plan should develop the park along the Celebration Park Type guidelines and follow the policy, goals and objectives of the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan. Paramount to this planning process, unlike the 2008 concept plan that did not go far enough, is to make direct visible, vehicular and pedestrian connections from the downtown to the park. This process will determine any replacements / improvements / revisions that are required at all three waterfront parks.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (23)	Good
	Picnic Tables (11)	Good
	Garbage Cans (16)	Poor
	Lighting (11)	Fair
	Sculptures(11)	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Pathway (1250)	Good
	Boardwalk (1400)	Fair
	Asphalt Road (1600)	Good
Parking (Spaces)	42	Good
	50 car/trailer or 100 car	Good
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	Ticket Office	Good
	Pavilion	Good
	Utility Bldg	Fair
	Info/Marina Office/ Washroom Bldg	Fair
Trees	Many (mature)	Fair
Capital Improvements		
Items		Est. Cost
Waterfront Master Plan (in conjunction w/ Couchiching & Veterans' Parks)		\$120,000 (all three parks)
TOTAL		\$120,000



Christine Place Park

Yr.Acquired 1978

Address: 2123 Christine Place
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Leisure
Size: 0.3 acres - 0.1 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Poor
Function: Passive
Description: Tot-Lot Linear Park

Christine Place Park is a parkette that bridges Christine Place and Cindy Lee Crescent in the south central region of the city. It is developed with a play equipment area and a bench. The park would benefit the area residents with capital improvements, such as improved park entrances at each street with standardized signage. Additional seating areas nearby the playground and along Cindy Lee Crescent are also recommended.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (1)	Fair
	Garbage Cans (2)	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets	Good
	Swings	Good
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Few, Mature	Good

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Park Entry/Signage/Gateway (2)	\$10,000
Seating Areas	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$15,000



Clayt French Park

Yr.Acquired 2006

Address: 975 - 983 Atlantis Drive
Current Classification: Neighbourhood Park
Proposed Classification: Leisure
Size: 7.0 acres - 2.9 hectares

Context: Commercial
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Passive
Description: Multi-purpose Park (sports, play, recreation)

This relatively newly built park is located on the western edge of the city. It offers active and passive recreation having a multi-purpose court (basketball, ball hockey, etc.), spray pad, play equipment, large grassed lawn area, picnic seating area and many pedestrian pathways. It also has a dog park, gravel trail to a satellite parking area and potential for future expansion as the community continues to develop. Planned improvements to the dog park include a seating/shelter for inclement weather and lighting. Interpretive signage should be developed for /situated in the park regarding the history related to the naming of the park. 'Unused' areas of lawn are currently naturalized with no mow practices. This should be expanded to further reduce maintenance costs. Dense groundcover / shrub plantings should also be incorporated to better define areas such as the oval. Community gardens should be located at the park given it has water service (new line from existing).

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (12)	Good
	Picnic Tables (6)	Good
	Garbage Cans (8)	Good
	Lighting (14)	Good
	Bike Racks (6)	Good
	Signage (11)	Fair
	Drinking Fountain	Good
	Dog Park	Fair
Athletic Fields	Mixed Use Court	Good
	Outdoor Rink	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Granular Path (500)	Good
	Walkway (4500)	Good
Parking (Spaces)	Asphalt (4)	Good
	Asphalt (14)	Good
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets (3)	Good
	Swing Set	Good
	Splash Pad	Good
	Sand Pit Play Structures	Good
Structures	Washroom Bldg	Good
	Spray Pad Maintenance Bldg.	Good
Trees	Several (mature)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Naturalize Components of Park	\$5,000
Interpretive Signage - Naming of Park	\$1,500
Potential for Community Gardens	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$16,500



Collins Drive Park

Yr. Acquired 1976

Address: End of Collins Drive
Current Classification: None (boat launch)
Proposed Classification: Portal
Size: 1.8 acres - 0.7 hectares

Context: Mixed Use
Overall Quality: Poor
Function: Passive
Description: Water Access Park

Collins Drive Park functions as boating access to Lake Simcoe, having few other amenities. It consists of a granular parking area with water access (floating dock and concrete boat ramp). Improvements include incorporating a gateway and signage at the Collins Drive entrance, installing an at grade pedestrian connector to J. B. Tudhope Memorial Park, including centre refuge island and plantings, and constructing a picnic area/shelter and boardwalk along the shoreline. The shoreline should be remediated to support habitat/wetland vegetation. Currently, this is the City's only formal public access point on Lake Simcoe. Public vehicular access to the park is protracted, having to go through the Collins Drive neighbourhood. The City should explore acquiring the adjacent brownfield parcel (once remediated, parkland is a great use for many brownfield sites), incorporate it into the park and redevelop both properties to improve circulation. If accomplished, vehicular access to the park may be improved with access and egress from/ to the east bound section of Atherley Road.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Garbage Cans (3)	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Dock (100)	Good
	Road (300)	Poor
Parking (Spaces)	15	Poor
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	Port-a-potty (1)	Fair
Trees	Few	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Park Entry/Signage/Gateway	\$5,000
Ped. Connection to Tudhope Park	\$20,000
Boardwalk / Shoreline Remediation	\$80,000
Picnic Area / Shelter	\$20,000
Street Tree Planting (16)	\$6,500
TOTAL	\$136,500



Couchiching Beach Park

Yr.Acquired 1897 / 1893 / 1900

Address: Terry Fox Circle
Current Classification: Community Park
Proposed Classification: Celebration
Size: 21.0 acres - 8.5 hectares

Context: Mixed Use
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Passive
Description: Waterfront Park

Couchiching Beach Park is part of a series of parks on the City's Lake Couchiching waterfront. It is a relatively large park with many amenities (i.e. boardwalk, outdoor theatre, pavilions, concessions, beach, washroom facilities,

drinking fountain, change rooms, outdoor skating rink, playground equipment, small scale train system, festival space, natural ice surfaces created on the lake in winter when ice thickness permits). Recent improvements include a washroom and concession building, refurbished pavilions, play equipment and stone dock abutment. It is recommended a master plan be undertaken for all three waterfront parks (Couchiching Beach, Centennial, Veteran's). The plan should include a splash pad for this park and improve all three parks' functionality and connection with the Downtown and the rest of the City. From this will come a determination of what replacements / improvements / revisions are required at the park. In the short term, health and safety issues should be addressed (repair unsafe sidewalks, replace play equipment at beach with new play equipment or splash pad)

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (66)	Fair
	Picnic Tables (48)	Fair
	Drinking Fountain (2)	Good
	Garbage Cans (28)	Fair
	Bike Rack (11)	Good
	Lighting (22)	Fair
	Monuments/Sculptures (4)	Good
	Water Fountains (4)	Fair/Poor
	Sand Beach & Life Guard Stand	Good
Athletic Fields	Festival Space	Fair
	Outdoor Ice Rink	N/A
Circulation (LF)	Pathways (2200)	Fair
	Boardwalk (560)	Fair
	Docks (230)	Good
	Roads (1680)	Poor
Parking (Spaces)	125	Good
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets (3)	Good/Poor
	Climbing Rock	Good
Structures	Pavilions (2)	Good
	Bandshell	Fair
	Aqua Theatre	Fair
	Atherley Junction Train Station	Good
	Train Warehouse	Fair
	Greenhouse	Poor
	Park Well #2 Bldg	Fair
Trees	Concessions (2) & Washroom Bldg	Good
	Many (Range in Ages)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Sidewalk Repairs	\$25,000
Replace Beach Area Play Equipment	\$150,000
Waterfront Master Plan (in conjunction w/ Centennial & Veteran's Parks)	\$120,000
TOTAL	\$295,000



Dancy Drive Park

Yr.Acquired 1987

Address: 15 - 19 Dancy Drive
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Leisure
Size: 1.1 acres - 0.4 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Kid Play Park

Dancy Drive Park is located in the northeast section of the city, surrounded by residential properties. It has play equipment, but few other amenities. The park would benefit from streetscape improvements and additional amenities to better organize/make use of the existing space. Asphalt pedestrian pathways should connect to Fittons Road West and Dancy Drive with park amenities. An asphalt loop pathway should also be made around the periphery of the park. Both these amenities will improve access and usage by residents. Standardized park signage should be placed at both street entrances. Street tree plantings should be installed. In the long term, a small covered picnic area should be built, increasing usage and programming of the park space.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Picnic Tables (2)	Fair
	Garbage Cans (2)	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playset	Good
	Swings	Good
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Several (Mixed in Age)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Pedestrian Pathways	\$20,000
Park Entry/Signage/Gateway (2)	\$10,000
Seating Area/Shelter	\$50,000
Street Tree Planting (3)	\$1,500
TOTAL	\$81,500



Dorset Park

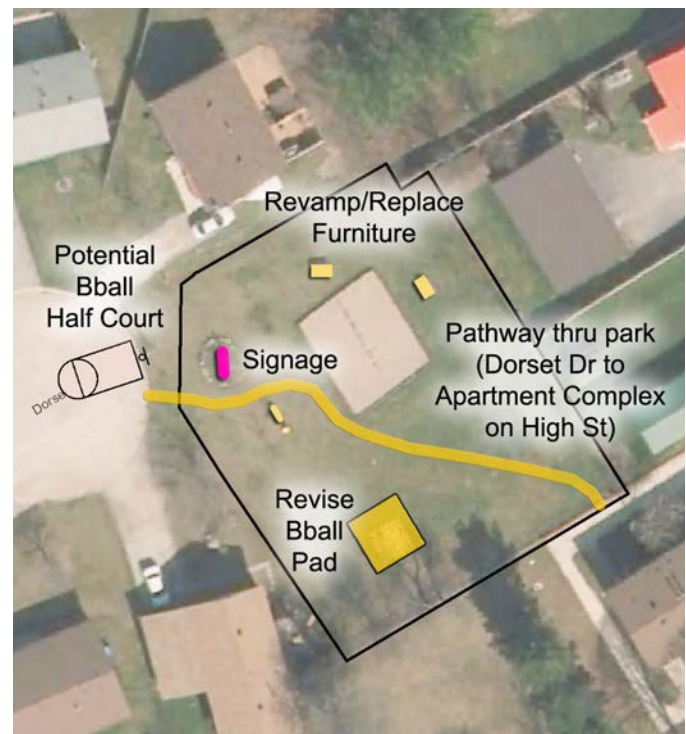
Yr.Acquired 1988

Address: 27 Dorset Drive
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Leisure
Size: 0.3 acres - 0.1 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Poor
Function: Passive
Description: Kid Play Park

Dorset Park is a small grassed parcel situated at the end of a cul-de-sac in the southeast section of the city. Recommended improvements to the park include replacement and/or reconditioning of existing seating and a standardized park sign. There is potential to relocate the basketball hoop onto the existing light pole at the edge of cul de sac and free up space for an additional play structure (with approval from Utility Company/residents/Public Works). Otherwise it is recommended to install a new asphalt pad for the existing basketball hoop. The park also needs a better connection (formalized gravel/asphalt path) to the adjacent apartment complex.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Bench	Fair
	Picnic Tables (2)	Fair
	Garbage Can	Fair
Athletic Fields	Basketball Pad	Poor
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playset	Good
	Swings	Good
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Few (Young)	Fair



Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Revamp/Replace Furniture	\$6,000
Park Entry/Signage/Gateway	\$5,000
Pathway	\$7,000
New Basketball Pad (1/2 court)	\$15,000
TOTAL	\$33,000



Potential basketball half court



Edna / Adair Park

Yr.Acquired 1975

Address: 50 Adair Street
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Nature
Size: 0.7 acres - 0.3 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Active
Description: Wooded Open Space /
Naturalized Park

Edna/Adair Park is a forested parcel surrounded by residential properties. It is located in the west central section of the city. The only amenity is a natural pathway weaving under the tree canopies from the Edna/Adair intersection to an asphalted corridor to Grenville Avenue (which is opposite to Grenville Park). As with all parks, standardized park signage is needed at the entrances to this park. Revise the entry at Adair Street to limit conflict with residential drive, regrading pathway and performing drainage work. The fencing of the park needs to be addressed as it is in poor condition and should be relocated. Consideration should be made to develop natural play amenities, connected by mulched trails, and seating in the park (these may be either man-made structures designed to mimic the natural environment or rocks/logs/ropes fashioned to provide play/seating).



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	NONE	N / A
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Asphalt Path (150)	Fair
	Trail (350)	Poor
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Forested	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Park Entry/Signage/Gateways	\$5,000
Seating Areas	\$7,500
Regrading/Drainage	\$5,000
Fencing	\$1,500
Natural Play Structures	\$30,000
TOTAL	\$49,000



Forest Home Park

Yr.Acquired 2004

Address: 995 Memorial Avenue
Current Classification: Neighbourhood Park
Proposed Classification: Activity
Size: 3.4 acres - 1.4 hectares

Context: Residential / Open Space
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Active
Description: Kid Play & Sports Park

Forest Home Park is located in the southwest corner of the city. The parcel is leased from the City by Lake Country Ball Hockey Inc. The lease term, for five years, was renewed in May 2013 for another five years with a final 5-year lease option available after that. The park hosts a ball hockey rink and a playground. There is a connecting trail to the adjacent Scout Valley trail system to its east. The ball hockey association has plans for phasing in a second and third rink in the park. Short term recommendations are to expand the park to encompass the triangular property in the road right-of-ways and to develop it as a gateway to the city (signage and landscaping). The parking lot needs organization, controlled entry access and consider permeable paving (for stormwater runoff management). Views into/out of the park should be opened-up along Memorial Avenue and Line 15 North, by removing/limbing-up vegetation. Long term, when there is more need for park space, the City has the ability to expand the park eastward into Scout Valley. This area, from the existing park, extending its northern boundary line eastward to the route 11 interchange, is outside the conservation easement.

into/out of the park should be opened-up along Memorial Avenue and Line 15 North, by removing/limbing-up vegetation. Long term, when there is more need for park space, the City has the ability to expand the park eastward into Scout Valley. This area, from the existing park, extending its northern boundary line eastward to the route 11 interchange, is outside the conservation easement.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Garbage Cans (7)	Good
	Sports Field Lighting (7)	Good
Athletic Fields	Ball Hockey Rink	Good
Circulation (LF)	Trail (180)	Fair
Parking (Spaces)	50	Poor
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets (2)	Good
	Swing Set	Good
	Play Structures (2)	Good
	Bee	Good
Structures	Office Bldg	Good
	Storage Bldg	Good
Trees	Few (on perimeter)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Gateway to Orillia	\$15,000
Pave/Organize Parking	\$100,000
Streetscape Enhancements	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$125,000



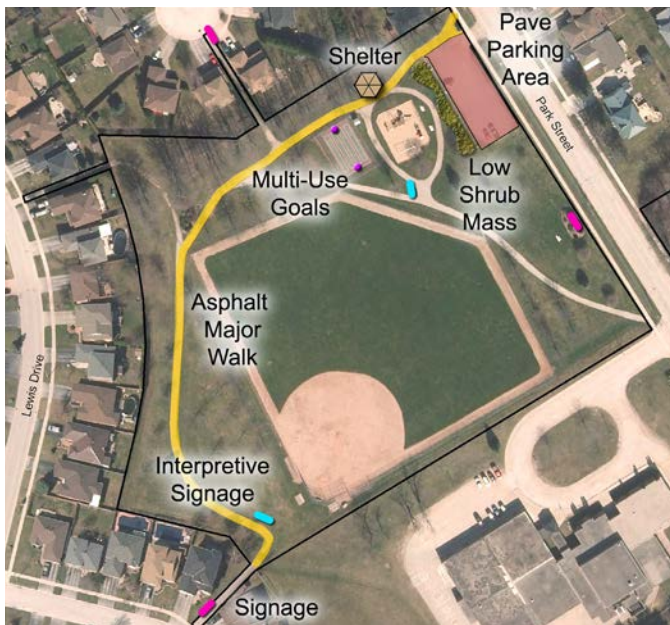
Franklin Carmichael Park

Yr.Acquired 1991

Address: 295 Park Street
Current Classification: Neighbourhood Park
Proposed Classification: Activity
Size: 6.7 acres - 2.7 hectares

Context: Residential / School
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Active
Description: Kid Play & Sports Park

Franklin Carmichael Park is located across the street from York Street Park on the western side of the city. It is dominated by the Cliff Yeo ball diamond and has a playground and other amenities. It is recommended the main trail through the park be upgraded from granular to asphalt. The playground area needs a pavilion to provide seating (out of the elements) and planting low, dense shrubs to create a barrier to the parking area. Further improvements include asphaltting the parking lot, resurfacing and erecting multi-use goals on the existing pad, and placing standardized signage in the park. Also, interpretive signage should be developed for /situated in the park regarding the history related to the naming of the park and the Cliff Yeo Ball Diamond. Due to its residential setting and the challenge with upgrading to a lit field, the field should be relocated as new park field locations become available.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (3)	Good
	Garbage Cans (5)	Fair
Athletic Fields	Ball Diamond	Good
	Multi-use Asphalt Pad	Good
Circulation (LF)	Gravel Pathway (1950)	Fair
	Asphalt Pathways (220)	Fair
Parking (Spaces)	Gravel (24)	Poor
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playset (2)	Good
	Swings	Good
	Spring Toy	Good
Structures	Port-a-potty (2)	Fair
Trees	Many (Most Mature)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Asphalt Parking Area	\$25,000
Asphalt Major Pedestrian Pathway	\$25,000
Multi-use Goals (2) on Resurfaced Asphalt Pad	\$10,000
Shelter at Playground & Plantings	\$45,000
Park Signage	\$15,000
Interpretive Signage (2)	\$3,000
TOTAL	\$121,000

Frontier Park

Yr.Acquired 1982

Address: 50 Frontier Avenue
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Nature
Size: 1.6 acres - 0.7 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Kid Play & Wooded Open Space / Naturalized Park

Formerly known as Canwell Park, Frontier Park is a lawn and forested small park accommodating the local neighbourhood. Recommended capital improvements to the park include a standardized park identification sign and seating adjacent to the play equipment. The park should be re-organized (by naturalizing smaller outlying areas, enlarging the lawn area into the woods, creating a larger, centralized play area) to make better use of the park space. In the long term, a loop trail with interpretive signage (giving information on the local history and environment) should be developed in the park. It would originate from the cul-de-sac, be adjacent to the play equipment and loop through the wooded section of the park, offering a place to exercise and allow easier access for nature exploration.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Picnic Tables (2)	Fair
	Garbage Cans (2)	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Dock (100)	Good
	Road (300)	Poor
Parking (Spaces)	15	Poor
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	Port-a-potty (1)	Fair
Trees	Few	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Naturalize/modify Landscaping	\$15,000
Park Signage	\$5,000
Seating Area	\$5,000
Loop Trail in Woods w/ Interp. Signage (2)	\$15,000
TOTAL	\$40,000



Grenville Park

Yr.Acquired 2002

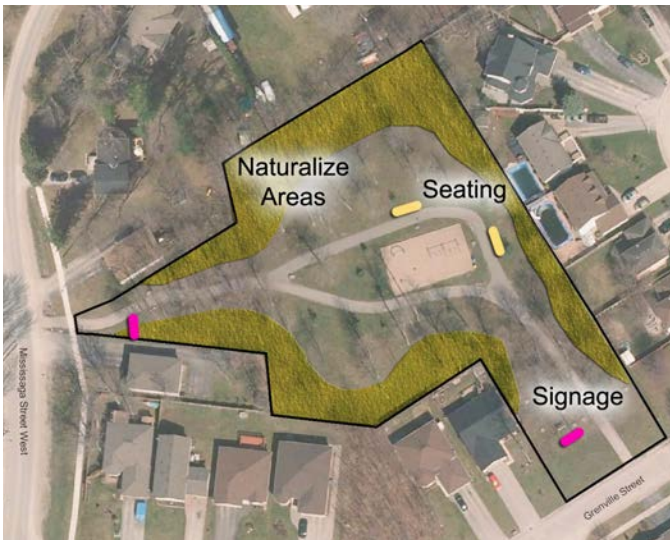
Address: 389 Grenville Avenue
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Nature
Size: 1.8 acres - 0.7 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Kid Play & Wooded Open Space
 / Naturalized Park

Grenville Park is located in the residential area on the lower west side of the city. It is recommended to place standardized park identification signage at both entrances to the park. It is also recommended to provide seating (benches or 'green' seating such as boulders) in the park. No mow zones and low shrub massing should also be created, allowing portions of the park to naturalize.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Garbage Cans (2)	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Asphalt Pathway (800)	Good
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Swings	Good
	Play Structures (3)	Good
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Many (Mature)	Fair



Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Seating	\$5,000
Naturalize Landscaping	\$15,000
Park Signage	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$30,000



High Street Park

Yr.Acquired 1974

Address: 482 High Street
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Leisure
Size: 1.2 acres - 0.5 hectares

Context: Residential & Rec. Ctr.
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Linear Kid Play & Garden Park

High Street Park is located near Dorset Park on the east side of the city. It connects High Street to the Brian Orser Arena. The park contains community gardens, play equipment and a picnic table. Capital improvements to this park include extending water service from the Brian Orser Arena (or other more economical location) to the community gardens. The end beds of the community gardens would contain perennials and shrubs, acting as gateways into the garden space.

Solar powered bollard lights are recommended to be placed along the path around the community gardens for added security and safety. Additional seating at the playground and gardens should be added. Also, standardized park identification signage should be installed at both ends of the park.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Picnic Table	Good
	Garbage Cans (2)	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Asphalt Pathway (450)	Good
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playset	Good
	Swing Sets (2)	Good
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Many (Mature)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Seating	\$5,000
Redevelop Community Garden	\$25,000
Path Bollard Lights (3)	\$3,000
Park Signage	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$38,000



Hillcrest Park

2011

Address: 255 Matchedash Street North
Current Classification: None (new park)
Proposed Classification: Leisure
Size: 2.6 acres - 1.1 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Poor
Function: Passive
Description: Former Hillcrest Public School Site

The future Hillcrest Street Park is located at the corner of Borland and Matchedash Streets in the north section of the city. It is a recent addition to the City's park system. The site was the location of the former Hillcrest Public School; currently the school building remains on site. The master concept plan for the park has been created. It is in line with

the proposed Leisure Park Type classification offering the required primary facilities (pathways, play areas, seating areas and shelter) and several of the optional secondary facilities (neighbourhood interpretation, multi-use court and spray pad).



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	NONE	N / A
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	20	Poor
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	School Bldg	Fair
Trees	Few (mature)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Park Master Concept Plan (recently developed)	N / A
TOTAL	N / A



Homewood Park

Yr.Acquired 1982 / 1989 / 1998 / 2000 / 2002

Address: 68 Woodside Drive
Current Classification: Neighbourhood Park
Proposed Classification: Leisure
Size: 10.0 acres - 4.0 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Active
Description: Kid Play & Sports Park

Homewood Park is one of the city's largest neighbourhood parks. It has been recently redeveloped and includes many amenities, including a 9-hole disc golf course. In the short term this should remain in the park until a more appealing disc golf venue, which offers more space, challenges and eliminates conflicts with other park users (being hit by discs), becomes available. One potential long term site is the potential West Street South Park. Given the park's location and infrastructure, a water play area should be located here. Also, consider locating community gardens at the park. Water service is available with potential to coordinate garden water needs with spray park water usage/

outfall. Other recommendations include standardized park identification signage at all park entrances and further naturalizing treed areas and the edges of the park.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Bench	Good
	Picnic Tables (4)	Good
	Drinking Fountain	Good
	Garbage Cans (2)	Fair
	Lighting (21)	Good
Athletic Fields	Disc Golf (9 hole)	Good
	Basketball Courts (2)	Good
	Outdoor Ice Rink	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Asphalt Pathway (3450)	Good
Parking (Spaces)	Asphalt (20)	Good
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets (2)	Good
	Swing Sets (2)	Good
	Animals (2)	Good
Structures	Picnic Shelter	Fair
	Washroom Bldg	Good
Trees	Many (Most Mature)	Fair



Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Park Entry/Signage/Gateway	\$15,000
Further Naturalize Edges	\$15,000
Splash Pad / Water Play Area	\$100,000
Potential to relocate Disc Golf	
Potential for Community Gardens	
TOTAL	\$130,000



J.B. Tudhope Memorial Park

Yr.Acquired 1928 / 1942 / 1943

Address: 450 Atherley Road
Current Classification: Community Park
Proposed Classification: Celebration
Size: 71.2 acres - 28.8 hectares

Context: Mixed Use Waterfront
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Active
Description: Waterfront & Sports Park

There is a redevelopment plan that has been fashioned for the park. It is recommended to revise this plan in keeping with the Celebration park classification working towards freeing up the waterfront from those activities that do not require it. (Refer to the Existing Park Master Plans section of this document for a more details) The Atherley Road

streetscape should also be addressed (including a pedestrian connection to Collins Drive Park and street trees between the road and the trail). In the short term, an additional four (4) beach volleyball courts should be created adjacent to the existing courts (between the parking lot and softball field). The standardized park signage should be incorporated at the park entrance. Interpretive signage should be developed for /situated in the park regarding the history related to the naming of the park and the Jerry Udell Ball Diamond.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (100)	Fair
	Picnic Tables (52)	Fair
	Garbage Cans (38)	Fair
	Drinking Fountain	Good
	Bike Racks (11)	Fair
	Lighting (26)	Fair
	Beach Umbrellas (7)	Good
	Bell Telephone Booth	Fair
Athletic Fields	Dock	Good
	Ball Diamonds (2)	Good/Fair
	Beach Volleyball Courts (2)	Good
Circulation (LF)	Pathway (9400)	Good
Parking (Spaces)	Asphalt (144)	Good
	Asphalt (44)	Good
	Asphalt (59)	Good
Play Equipment	Splash Pad	Good
	Jr/Sr Playsets (5)	Good
	Swing Set	Good
Structures	Kiosk	Good
	Barnfield Point Rec Ctr	Good
	Orillia Rowing Club	Poor
	Jerry Udell Field House	Poor
	Sweet Dreams Structure	Good
	Fresh Cut Fries Structure	Fair
	Kids For Turtles Bldg	Fair
Trees	Washroom/Change Room Bldg	Good
	Many (various ages)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Beach Volleyball (4)	\$20,000
Park Signage (3)	\$15,000
Interpretive Signage (2)	\$10,000
Revise Park Master Plan	\$25,000
TOTAL	\$70,000



Kaneff Park

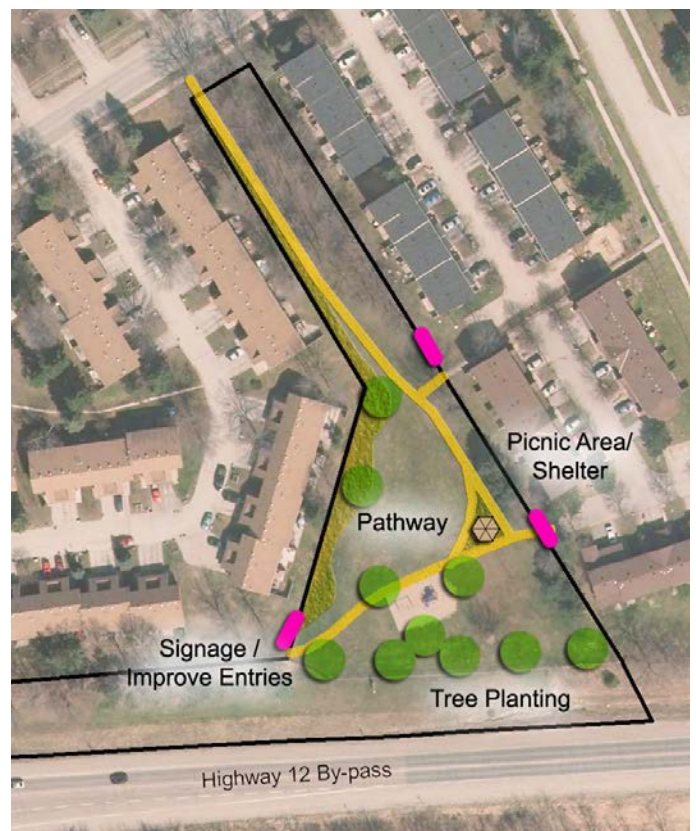
Yr.Acquired 1975

Address: 435 Barrie Road
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Leisure
Size: 1.7 acres - 0.7 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Kid Play Park

Kaneff Park is adjacent to Highway 12 at the edge of the city's southwestern neighbourhoods. It may be accessed by car from Barrie Road with pedestrian entrances also from the adjacent residential developments. A snowmobile trail exists adjacent to the park, running beside Highway 12. It is recommended to formalize the entrances (create pedestrian pathways) from Barrie Road and the adjacent apartment complexes. Standardized signage is located at Highway 12 By-pass and at the Barrie Road entry, but should be placed at all secondary entrances to the park as well (smaller signs). Also, seating, a small shelter and landscaping/naturalization (for aesthetics, residential property buffer and to better organize the space) should be developed in the park.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Garbage Can	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Granular Path (75)	Poor
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playset	Good
	Swing Set	Good
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Few (Mature)	Fair
Capital Improvements		
Items	Est. Cost	
Pedestrian Trail (granular)	\$28,000	
Secondary Entry Signs	\$3,000	
Seating Area/Shelter	\$45,000	
Tree Planting (10)	\$4,000	
TOTAL	\$80,000	



Kitchener Park

Yr.Acquired 1909

Address: Kitchener Street & West Street South

Current Classification: Community Park

Proposed Classification: Celebration

Size: 33.0 acres - 13.3 hectares

Context: Residential / Industrial

Overall Quality: Fair

Function: Active

Description: Kid Play & Sports Park

Kitchener Park is located on the shores of Lake Simcoe. It currently accommodates many sports (with various fields, courts and pits) and play structures. Recent upgrades include new play apparatus, washroom/concession building and tennis courts. It is recommended a Park Design / Development Plan be developed to redefine the park following the Celebration Park Type guidelines, in context with the waterfront setting and the policy, goals and objectives of the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan (Refer to the Existing Park Master Plans section of this document for a more details). Included in this would be the development of entrances/gateways to the park, the creation of a splash pad, opening up of the waterfront with the building of a boardwalk / promenade / wetland walk (relocating of the dog park to the proposed West St S park) and creating a feature development at the end of West Street South (to capitalize on waterfront access/views potentially with overlook/fishing platform/ etc.). In the short term, it is recommended to repair the gravel parking lots, make minor improvements to athletic fields (especially youth soccer

- grading/roadside safety issues) and link the park to the Lightfoot Trail through the adjacent landfill's wooded buffer along the waterfront. The D/D planning process will further determine any replacements / improvements / revisions that are required at the park.

Existing Facilities

Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (20)	Good
	Picnic Tables (24)	Fair
	Garbage Cans (37)	Fair
	Bike Racks (14)	Good
	Lighting (37)	Good
	Dog Park	Good
Athletic Fields	Ball Diamonds (2)	Good
	Soccer Pitches (2+)	Good
	Tennis Courts (2)	Good
	Multi-use Courts (2)	Poor
	Horseshoe Pits (2)	Poor
	Outdoor Ice Rink	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Pathway (2400)	Good
Parking (Spaces)	Granular (160)	Poor
	Granular (60)	Poor
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets (3)	Good
	Swing Sets (2)	Good
	Play Pieces (7)	Good
Structures	Horseshoe Bldg	Poor
	Food, Storage, Washrooms Bldg	Good
Trees	Many (mixed ages)	Fair

Capital Improvements

Items	Est. Cost
Park Design / Development Plan	\$80,000
TOTAL	\$80,000



Lakeview Park

Yr.Acquired 1978

Address: 33 Lakeview Avenue
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Nature
Size: 1.7 acres - 0.7 hectares

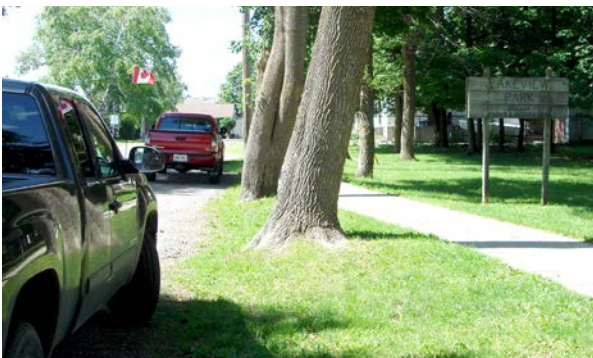
Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Kid Play & Wooded Open Space /
 Naturalized Park

Lakeview Park is a mostly wooded residential park with a playground. It is located on the western side of the city. The City has budgeted to have the play equipment replaced (which should occur in the near future). Further recommended capital improvements include creating an asphalt pathway linking Lakeview Avenue, Grenville and George Streets (running adjacent to the play equipment). Entry gateways with standardized park signage and landscaping are needed at all street frontages. It is also recommended to locate seating at the playground and along the pathway and formalize on-street parking.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Picnic Tables (2)	Fair
	Garbage Cans (2)	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets (2)	Poor
	Swing Set	Poor
	Car	Poor
Structures	NONE	Good
Trees	Many (Mature)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Pedestrian Trail (asphalt)	\$20,000
Entry/Gateway/Signs (3)	\$15,000
Improve On-Street Parking	\$20,000
Seating Areas	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$65,000



Lankinwood Park

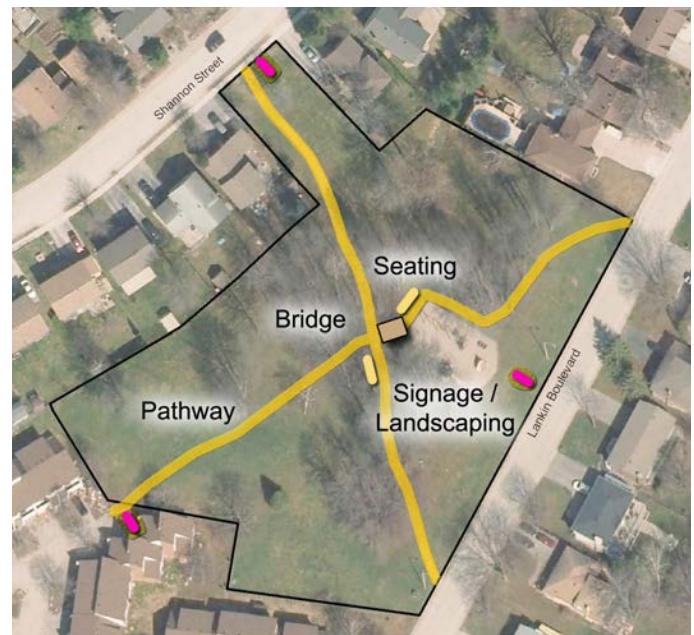
Yr.Acquired 1975

Address: 20 Lankin Boulevard
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Leisure
Size: 2.0 acres - 0.8 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Passive
Description: Kid Play Park

Lankinwood Park is located in the residential area near Simcoe Lake. Improvements to be made to the park include standardized park identification signage at the two street entrances and the apartment complex entry point, and seating at the playground and along the pathway. A granular path should connect to existing pathway from the apartment complex entry point and the southeast corner of the park. As part of this, a wooden footbridge (wide platform with no railings) over the existing swale is required.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Picnic Tables (3)	Poor
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Granular Pathway (425)	Good
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets (2)	Good
	Swing Set	Good
	Play Structure	Good
	Car	Good
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Many (Mature)	Fair



Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Pedestrian Trail (granular)	\$10,000
Park Entry/Signs/Gateways (3)	\$15,000
Pedestrian Bridge (informal)	\$5,000
Seating	\$10,000
Replace Wood on Picnic Tables (3)	\$2,000
TOTAL	\$42,000.00



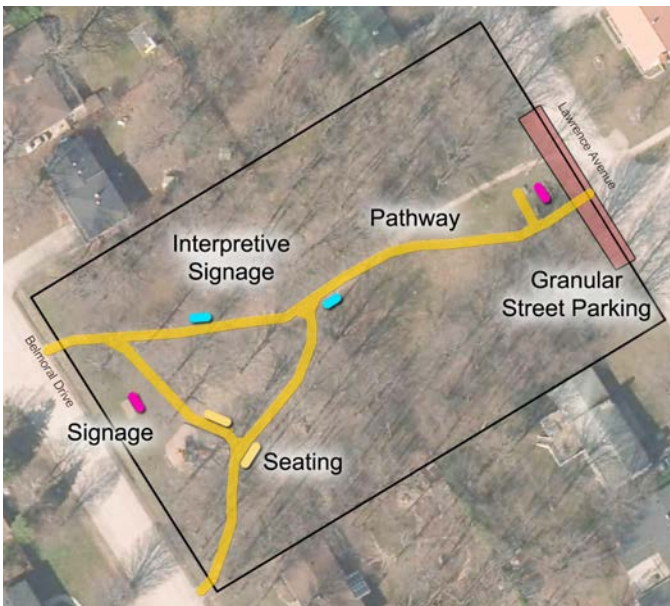
Lawrence Park

Yr.Acquired 1953

Address: 225 Lawrence Avenue
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Nature
Size: 1.5 acres - 0.6 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Kid Play & Wooded Open Space /
 Naturalized Park

Lawrence Park is a wooded parkette spanning between Collegiate Drive and Borland Street West. It contains a granular path, play equipment, benches, a picnic table, signs with landscaping and wooden bollards to restrict vehicle access. The recommendations are to improve the pedestrian circulation with an asphalted pathway (as it is a well used link between the streets), locate seating at the playground and replace the wood on the picnic table and the signs with standardized park identification signage. On-street parking should be formalized on Lawrence Avenue. Additionally, the park would benefit from interpretive signage highlighting local history and/or environment.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (2)	Good
	Picnic Table	Poor
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Granular Path (350)	Poor
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets	Good
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Many (Mature)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Asphalt Pedestrian Pathway	\$14,000
Park Entry/Signs/Gateways (2)	\$10,000
Parking on Lawrence Ave	\$15,000
Seating at Playground	\$10,000
Interpretive Signage (2)	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$59,000

Mac Carter Park

Yr.Acquired 1957

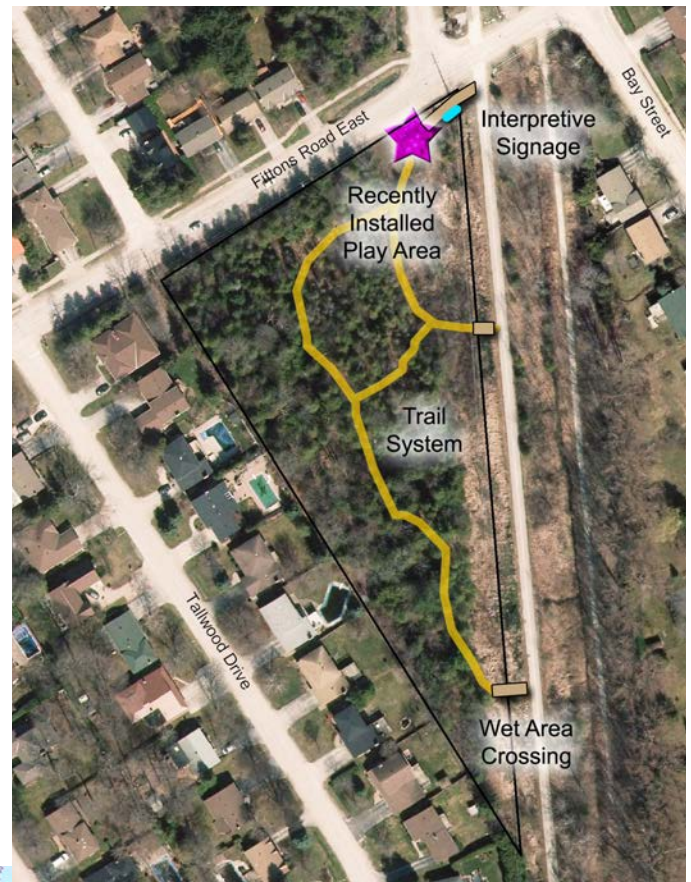
Address: 121 Fittons Road East
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Nature
Size: 0.5 acres - 0.2 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Kid Play & Open Space /
Wooded Naturalized Park

Mac Carter Park, formerly known as Tallwood Drive Park, has been updated with a new play structure in 2013. It now includes a wooden ramp (which allows access from the Millennium Trail), bike racks and a rope climbing structure. The recommendation is to formalize a mulched trail system, creating a loop within the park, two bridges over wet areas for two connections with the Millennium Trail.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Bike Racks (3)	Good
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Wood Ramp (45)	Good
	Asphalt Loop Path (60)	Good
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Climbing Structure	Good
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Several (newly planted)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Mulched Trail System	\$35,000
TOTAL	\$35,000



Maple Leaf Park

Yr.Acquired 1978

Address: 113A Maple Leaf Avenue
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Portal
Size: 0.5 acres - 0.2 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Poor
Function: Passive
Description: Kid Play Park

Located on Shingle Bay, Lake Simcoe, Maple Leaf Park has water access with a very small, undeveloped beach. Play equipment, which was outdated and not to current safety standards, was removed and new play equipment was approved to be installed in 2014. As with all parks, there needs to be standardized identification signage for this park. Also, an asphalt pathway should connect the existing concrete access walk to the new play area. In addition, it is recommended shade trees be planted for shading the new play area and pathway.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (2)	Poor
	Picnic Tables (5)	Poor
	Garbage Cans (9)	Poor
	water access (beach)	Poor
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Conc.Walk (140)	Fair
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Swing Set	Poor
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Few (mature)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Park Entry/Sign/Gateway	\$5,000
Asphalt Pedestrian Pathways	\$10,000
Tree Planting (3)	\$1,000
TOTAL	\$16,000



Mariposa Park

Yr.Acquired 1985

Address: 27 Mariposa Avenue
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Nature
Size: 0.6 acres - 0.2 hectares

Context: Mixed Use
Overall Quality: Poor
Function: Passive
Description: Kid Play & Wooded Open Space /
 Naturalized Park

Mariposa Park is the most northern of the parks in the city. This grassed and wooded parkette currently has swings, identification signage and trash/recycling receptacles. Capital improvements include additional play structures, situate a mulched trail through the wooded area of the park, seating and standardized park signage. As with other forested parks, interpretive signage should be incorporated illustrating the historical and natural assets of the area.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Garbage Cans (2)	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Swing Set	Fair
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Forest	Fair



Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Park Entry/Sign/Gateway	\$5,000
Increase Play Equipment	\$30,000
Interpretive Signage (2)	\$10,000
Mulched Trail	\$2,500
Seating	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$52,500



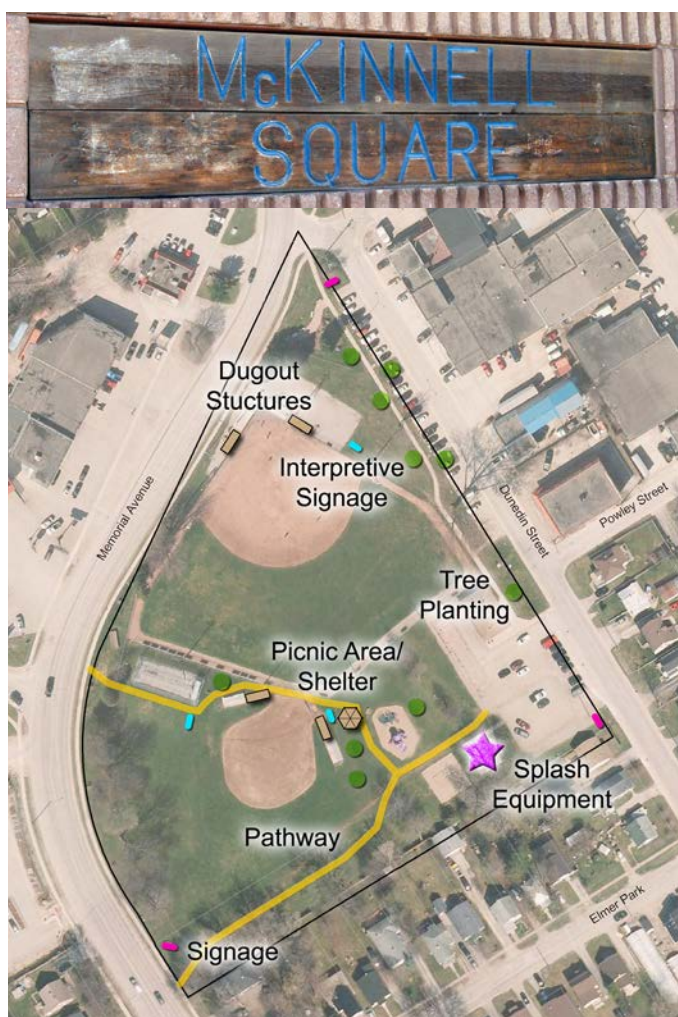
McKinnell Square Park

Yr. Acquired 1940 / 1984

Address: 135 Dunedin Street
Current Classification: Neighbourhood Park
Proposed Classification: Activity
Size: 6.1 acres - 2.5 hectares

Context: Mixed Use
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Active
Description: Kid Play & Sports Park

McKinnell Square Park is an amply programmed recreational area near the centre of the City. It is recommended to develop an asphalted pedestrian circulation system connecting amenities and transversing through the park. Standardized park identification signage should be located at both vehicular parking entrances and at the pedestrian entry at the southwest corner of the park. A covered pavilion should be built nearby the play equipment and the small ballfield. Interpretive signage is recommended for giving historical information regarding the naming of the facilities in the park. Further capital improvements include re-paving the parking lot and adding curb stops, tree planting to provide shade around the park's amenities and along Dunedin Street, dugout shade structures (4) and additional water play features at the existing splash pad.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (8)	Good
	Picnic Tables (5)	Good
	Garbage Cans (9)	Good
	Drinking Fountain	Good
	Flag Pole	Good
Athletic Fields	Lighting (10)	Fair
	Ball Diamonds (2)	Good
	Batting Cages (2)	Poor
Circulation (LF)	Outdoor Ice Rink	N / A
	Paver Walkway (75)	Fair
Parking (Spaces)	Dirt Path(460)	Poor
	Asphalt (26)	Fair
Play Equipment	Asphalt (24)	Fair
	Jr/Sr Playsets (2)	Good
	Swing set	Good
Structures	Splash Pad	Fair
Trees	Washroom Bldg	Good
	Many (mature)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Asphalt Pedestrian Circulation System	\$21,000
Park Entry / Signs/Gateways (3)	\$15,000
Seating Area/Shelter	\$55,000
Augmentation to Existing Splash Pad	\$40,000
Dugout Shade Structures (4)	\$40,000
Interpretive Signage (3)	\$15,000
Tree Planting (10)	\$4,000
TOTAL	\$175,000

Morningstar Park

Yr.Acquired 1970

Address: 1125 Mississaga Street West
Current Classification: Neighbourhood Park
Proposed Classification: Leisure
Size: 10.8 acres - 4.4 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Active
Description: Kid Play & Sports Park

Morningstar Park is located at the junction of Highways 11 and 12. It is recommended to improve the park's entrance/ parking by reorganizing and paving part of the existing parking area, planting trees/low shrub masses , and adding a crosswalk to formalize the Barrie Road neighbourhood access. Park directional signage should be located at Hwy 12. A granular pedestrian trail should loop through the lawn areas, berming and wooded area from the parking areas, linking the park with Esther Ann Drive, Karen Crescent and Village Green. Additionally, a shade pavilion should be constructed in the park. There should be access to water service for creation of an outdoor natural ice rink surface (over existing granular parking area to north). For the short term, existing tennis/basketball courts should be resurfaced (due to current needs). The tennis courts should be restriped to allow for pickleball play as well. The basketball court should be made into a multi-use play court surface (install multi-play 'nets'). In the future, these tennis courts may be 'moved' to the proposed West Street South Park with multi-use play going in there place.

Existing Facilities

Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Bench	Fair
	Garbage Cans (2)	Fair
Athletic Fields	Tennis Courts (2)	Poor
	Basketball/Multi-use Court	Poor
Circulation (LF)	Granular Path (155)	Poor
Parking (Spaces)	Granular (20)	Fair
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets (2)	Good
	Swing Set	Good
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Many (Mature) & Forest	Fair

Capital Improvements

Items	Est. Cost
Improve Park Entrance w/ Plantings, Crosswalk & Directional Signage at Hwy 12	\$35,000
Reorganize/Pave Parking	\$35,000
Loop Trail System	\$30,000
Restructure Courts	\$20,000
Shelter / Water Service for Rink	\$60,000
Tree Planting (10)	\$4,000
TOTAL	\$174,000



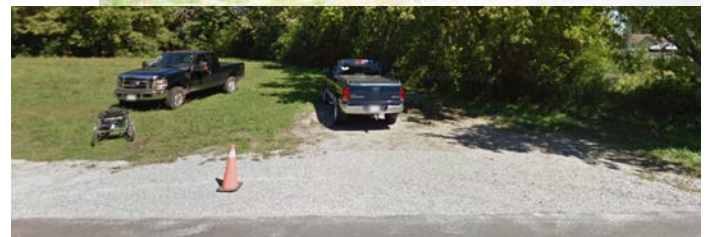
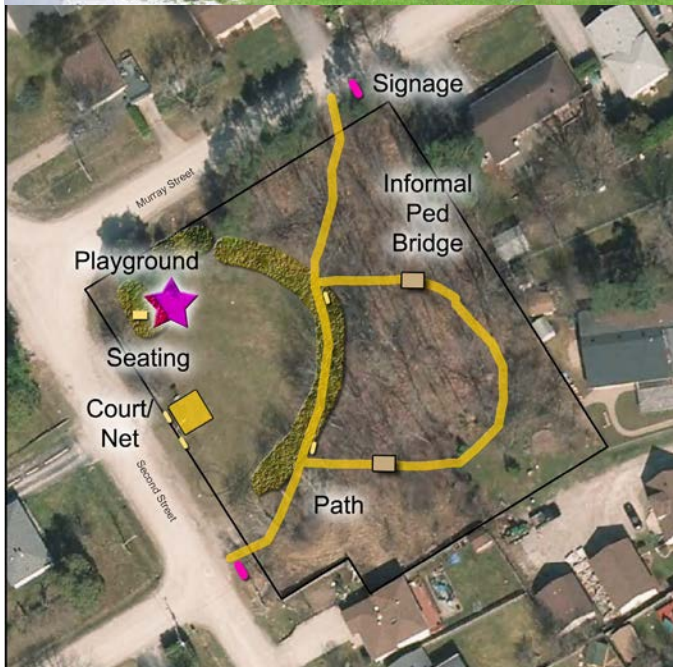
Murray Street Park

Yr.Acquired 1963

Address: 21 Murray Street (corner of Murray & 2nd Streets)
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Nature
Size: 1.1 acres - 0.5 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Poor
Function: Passive
Description: Open Space Park

The Murray Street Park is the common greenspace for the surrounding subdivision. It consists of lawn and forest areas and currently offers very few amenities (granular pull-off, mulched trail, one area light and basketball backboard w/o hoop or pad). An outdoor rink is created here in the winter. The City should formalize ownership before any improvements are made in the park. Following an agreement, it is recommended to install a linear granular path from the end of Boundary Road, along the edge of the woods to (and potentially replacing) the existing mulched pathway at Murray Street. Standardized park signage should be located at both these entrances. A granular or mulched trail should loop through the woods (incorporating simple timber bridges to span the ditch) from each end of the linear path. A small play equipment structure, a picnic table and benches should be located in the park. A small asphalt pad and hoop should be add to the basketball backboard.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Basketball Backboard	Poor
Athletic Fields	Outdoor Ice Rink	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Wood Chip Path (120)	Fair
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Forest and Street	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Granular Trail System	\$9,000
Informal Ped Bridges (2)	\$8,000
Benches (4) & Picnic Table (1)	\$12,500
Play Structure	\$25,000
Basketball Court (half)	\$15,000
Park Signage (2)	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$79,500

North Street Park

Yr.Acquired 1953

Address: 24 Dalton Crescent North
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Cultural
Size: 0.5 acres - 0.2 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Kid Play Linear Park

North Street Park, similar to Brant Street Park, is a linear greenspace connecting Dalton Crescent North to North Street West. As with all parks, it should have standardized identification signage at all street entries. A pathway between both streets and adjacent to the existing play area, should be constructed. Additional seating should be located in the park.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Picnic Table (3)	Fair
	Garbage Cans (2)	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playset	Good
	Swing Set	Good
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Few (Mature)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Pathway to Link Streets	\$10,000
Park Entry/Gateways/Signs (2)	\$10,000
Increase Seating Areas	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$50,000



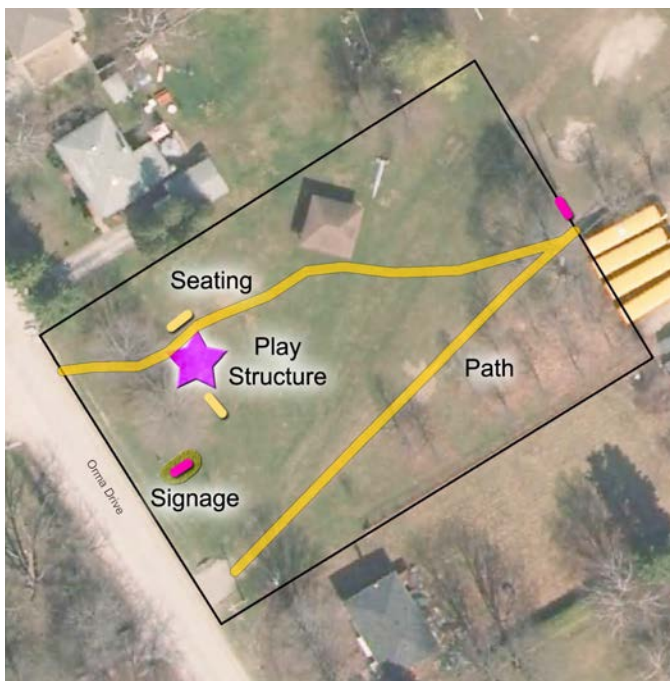
Orma Drive Park

Yr.Acquired 1960

Address: 20 Orma Drive
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Leisure
Size: 0.7 acres - 0.3 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Gathering / Picnic Park

Orma Drive Park is located in the north end of the City. Recommendations include developing an asphalt pathway through the park and to the proposed play equipment. A gateway with standardized signage should be located on Orma Drive with secondary signage at the school entry point. Benches (2) are also needed around the play area as well as a recycling receptacle at the shelter.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Picnic Tables (2)	Fair
	Garbage Cans (1)	Good
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Granular Path (225)	Poor
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Several (Mixed Ages)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Park Entry/Sign/Gateway	\$10,000
Pedestrian Pathways (asphalt)	\$25,000
Benches (2)	\$10,000
Playground	\$30,000
TOTAL	\$75,000



Scout Valley Park

Yr.Acquired 1998

Address: 3075 Old Barrie Road
Current Classification: Naturalized Park
Proposed Classification: Nature
Size: 230 acres - 93 hectares

Context: Mixed Use
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Passive
Description: Conservation and natural area

Scout Valley, historically made up of several private properties, was purchased by the City in 1998. This environmental heritage park, protected with a 2008 conservation easement agreement with the Couchiching Conservancy, contains important stream and forest habitats for many different plants and animals. Amenities include the re-created Regan House and washroom building, offering insight on the early settlement of the City, a lookout platform and trail system. It has become a popular, year round hiking destination hosting a portion of the Ganaraska Trail and three trail loops through its various ecological areas. It is recommended to make emergency access improvements that include creating a widened, 'paved' main spine trail and an additional access point (parking, trailhead and trail spur to main spine trail from Line 15 N). The trails between the lookout and Old Barrie Road parking lot should be re-organized. Further improvements include augmenting the existing trail blazes with interpretive and directional signage and separating hiking and biking trail use (except for the main spine trail). Refer to the Trails Master Plan for more details.

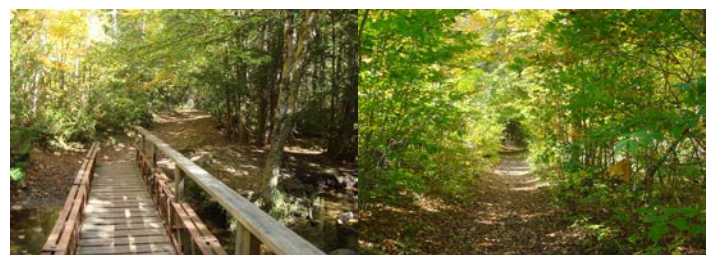
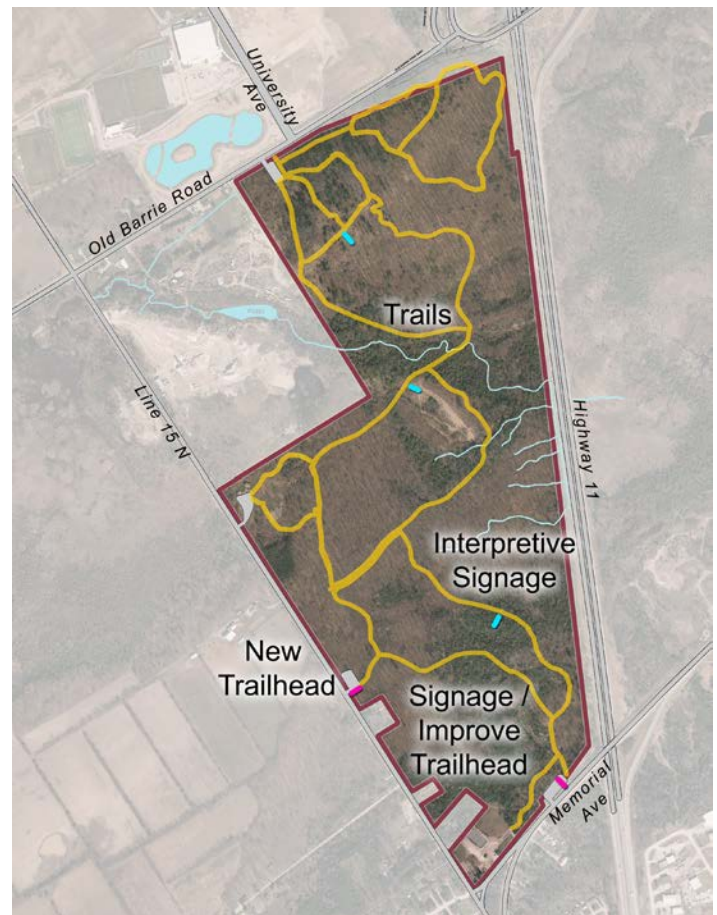
Existing Facilities

Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Garbage Cans (2)	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Natural surface trails (19,685)	Fair
Parking (Spaces)	Granular (30)	Fair
	Granular (30)	Fair
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	Viewing Platform	Fair
	Regan House	Good
	Washrooms	Good
Trees	Hundreds (Various Ages)	Fair

Capital Improvements

Items	Est. Cost
*Spine Trail, 'paved' and widened	\$400,000
Park Entry/Gateways/Signs (Memorial Ave)	\$40,000
Park Entry/Gateways/Signs (Line 15 N)	\$80,000
Increase Seating Areas (boulders,logs)	\$2,500
Trail Directional Signs (12)	\$60,000
Loop Trail Interpretive Signs (3)	\$15,000
TOTAL	\$597,500

*Assumed gravel Envirobond paving material.
Refer to The Trails Master Plan for more details.



Stephen Leacock Park

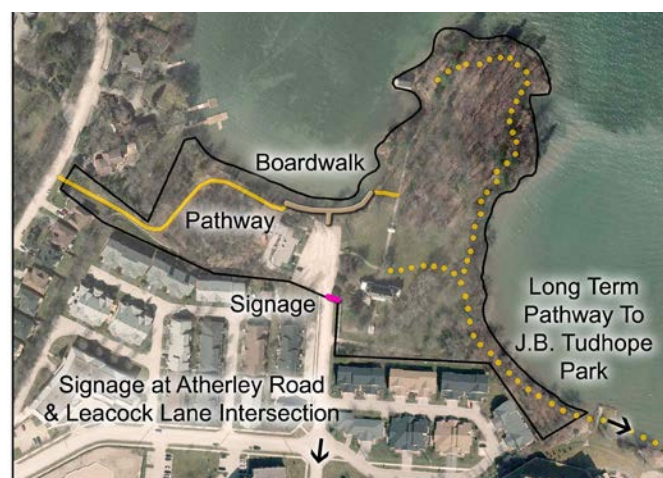
Yr.Acquired 1957

Address: 50 Museum Drive
Current Classification: Historical Site
Proposed Classification: Cultural
Size: 9.3 acres - 3.8 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Passive
Description: Waterfront Museum Park & Restaurant

Stephen Leacock Park, the summer home of writer, professor and humorist Stephen Leacock, encompasses the Leacock Museum and National Historical Site in Brewery Bay, Lake Couchiching. Located on the property is the Museum (Leacock residence), Giftshop, the Swanmore Hall & Terrace restaurant and the Children's Discovery Place (a boathouse on the property). It is recommended to build a boardwalk along the shoreline with connecting granular paths to Brewery Lane, to the boathouse path and, long term, to J.B. Tudhope Park (extension of the waterfront trail system). Standardized park identity signage and gateway on Leacock Lane is needed. The southern section of Leacock Lane should be reconnected with Atherley Road (stop sign at intersection) to improve circulation/access.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	NONE	N / A
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Dirt Path (650)	Poor
	Granular Path (400)	Fair
	Irregular Stone Path (230)	Good
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	House	Good
	Boathouse	Fair
	Restaurant / Visitor's Center	Good
	Pergola	Good
Trees	Many (Mature)	Fair



Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Boardwalk	\$75,000
Park Signage (Gateway/Wayfinding (2))	\$20,000
Extension/Gateway of/at Leacock Lane to Atherley Road	\$150,000
Granular Pathways	\$12,000
TOTAL	\$157,000



Veterans' Memorial Park

Yr.Acquired 1982

Address: 154 Elgin Street
Current Classification: Community Park
Proposed Classification: Cultural
Size: 6.5 acres - 2.6 hectares

Context: Mixed Use
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Passive
Description: Waterfront & Sports Park

Veterans' Memorial Park is part of a series of parks on the City's Lake Couchiching waterfront. The park should be addressed with a design / development plan in conjunction with Centennial and Couchiching Beach Parks (Refer to the Centennial Park sheet and the Existing Park Master Plans section of this document for more details). The process will also determine any replacements / improvements / revisions that are required at the park. As part of the redevelopment, it is recommended to relocate the skateboard park to the West Street South Park.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (17)	Good
	Garbage Cans (2)	Poor
	Lighting (1)	Fair
	Monuments (3)	Good
	Flagpole	Good
	Boardwalk	Poor
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Asphalt Path (1115)	Good
	Granular Path (210)	Fair
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Kiwanis Skate Park	Fair
Structures	Trellis	Poor
Trees	Many (Mature)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Waterfront Master Plan (in conjunction w/ Centennial & Couchiching Parks)	refer to Centennial Park
TOTAL	

Victoria Park

Yr.Acquired 1872

Address:	75 Coldwater Road West	Context:	Residential
Current Classification:	Neighbourhood Park	Overall Quality:	Good
Proposed Classification:	Cultural	Function:	Passive
Size:	2.9 acres - 1.2 hectares	Description:	Gathering / Event Space & Kid Play Park

Victoria Park, an historic park with its own spring water supply, is located in the heart of the City. There has been a master plan developed for this park that refurbishes walkways, relocates the sculpture/artwork in a new plaza and incorporates exercise equipment into the park. It is recommended to not implement this master plan in total. (Refer to the Existing Park Master Plans section of this document for more details). The park should be remade as an historic cultural restoration, in line with the Cultural Park design guideline. The exercise equipment should not be located in the park. An additional walkway, allowing access from all park corners and additional horticultural display areas should be considered for the park.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (8)	Good
	Picnic Tables (3)	Good
	Garbage Can (2)	Fair
	Sculpture	Good
	Lights (7)	Poor
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Conc.Walk (455)	Fair
	Asphalt Path (170)	Fair
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets (2)	Good
	Swing Set	Good
	Car	Good
	Spray Pad	Good
Structures	Port-a-potty	Fair
Trees	Many (Mixed Ages)	Fair
Capital Improvements		
Items	Est. Cost	
Re-Master Plan	\$25,000	
TOTAL	\$25,000	



West Orillia Sports Complex

Yr.Acquired 2010

Address: 100 University Avenue
Current Classification: Community Park
Proposed Classification: Activity
Size: 40.3 acres - 16.3 hectares

Context: Open Space / Industrial
Overall Quality: Good
Function: Active
Description: Primary Sports & Kid Play Park

The West Orillia Sports Complex is a new facility completed in 2010. It includes outdoor recreation, Rotary Place, an indoor recreation facility with twin pad arenas, as well as a man-made storm water management facility. The park is located on the central western edge of the City adjacent to the Orillia Campus of Lakehead University. There is an opportunity to augment the storm water facility to make it a functioning wetland system with an interpretive and education center. This small enclosed structure located off of the main entry drive would contain interpretive information regarding the wetlands, adjacent Scout Valley conservation area and the greater Orillia / Severn / Oro-Medonte area. Further development would include installing a crosswalk at the Old Barrie Road East intersection (which eventually will be controlled with a traffic light). This will allow pedestrians to safely travel between the wetland and the Scout Valley entrance and parking lot.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (24)	Good
	Picnic Tables (7)	Good
	Garbage Cans (25)	Good
	Drinking Fountain	Good
	Lighting (52)	Good
Athletic Fields	Synthetic Turf	Good
	Soccer Pitches (3)	Good
	Indoor Rinks (2)	Good
	Tennis Courts (4)	Good
Circulation (LF)	Pathway (4900)	Good
	Trail (3050)	Good
Parking (Spaces)	Asphalt (228)	Good
	Asphalt (112)	Good
	Asphalt (28)	Good
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets (3)	Good
	Swing Sets (2)	Good
	Play Pieces (5)	Good
Structures	Rotary Place Sports Complex	Good
	Washroom Bldg	Good
	Pavilion	Good
Trees	Many (just planted)	Good

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Interpretive/Education Facility at wetland area	\$80,000
Crosswalk to Scout Valley	\$15,000
TOTAL	\$90,000

West Ridge Park

Yr.Acquired 2000

Address:	900 West Ridge Boulevard	Context:	Residential / School
Current Classification:	Neighbourhood Park	Overall Quality:	Fair
Proposed Classification:	Nature	Function:	Passive
Size:	9.4 acres - 3.8 hectares	Description:	Kid Play & Open Space Park

West Ridge Park is mostly wooded with parking and playground at its main entrance off of West Ridge Boulevard. It has existing signage identifying the park at most of its entry points. However, all entry points should be signed so visible from a distance away on the street. Interpretive signage should be placed along the trails. These would highlight the natural environment or historical aspects of the park. It is recommended to incorporate low cost, simple, natural material play features (salvaged from the woodlot or purchased such as rope swings, log enclosures, or stump climbing walls) located along the existing trails that would blend in with the wooded environment. Also, a public pathway connection is needed from Cleopatra Court to Sphinx Court for better access to the park by area residents. This should be coordinated with the residential development.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Benches (3)	Good
	Picnic Table	Good
	Garbage Cans (4)	Good
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Conc.Walk (80)	Good
	Trail (2000)	Fair
Parking (Spaces)	6	Good
Play Equipment	Jr/Sr Playsets (2)	Good
	Swing Set	Good
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Forest (mature)	Fair



Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Trailhead Signage at Monarch & Sphinx	\$10,000
Coordinate to create dedicated access between Sphinx & Cleopatra w/ signage	\$10,000
Natural Play Elements	\$10,000
Interpretive Signage along Trail (3)	\$15,000
TOTAL	\$45,000



York Street Park

Yr.Acquired 1953

Address: 120 York Street
Current Classification: Parkette
Proposed Classification: Nature
Size: 2.8 acres - 1.2 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Undeveloped Pastoral Park

York Street is a mainly undeveloped park of mowed grass and forested area. There is an existing footpath that cuts between the South Street cul-de-sac and York Street. Franklin Carmichael Park is located across Park Street on its western edge. It is recommended a master plan be undertaken to redevelop the park. The plan should include neighbourhood park facilities (i.e. play equipment, shelter/seating) geared toward older kids. There is a need for this as there are none in the immediate area and the park is located across the street from a high school. There should be a linkage made between the park and the Franklin Carmichael Park / the soon to be completed Orillia Replacement Secondary School. Consistent park signage at both the cul-de-sac and street intersection should be installed. The park redevelopment should also consider parallel parking and street trees along York Street. (Potential programming illustrated on aerial). The master planning process will determine the needs/wants of the community regarding programmed elements in the park.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	NONE	N / A
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	Dirt Path (360)	Poor
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Many (Mixed Ages)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Master Plan to Redevelop Park	\$40,000
TOTAL	\$40,000



PROPOSED PARK SHEETS

For each proposed park, this section provides a detailed description of the improvements to develop the new park.

About the Proposed Park Sheets

For each proposed park a park sheet is provided, modeled after the existing parks sheets so that when these parks are developed the sheets can be updated to form part of the overall inventory for parks. The park sheets provide the improvement information in a consolidated 'tear sheet' for use by the City. All existing park sheets identify the following listed information:

- Address
- Current Classification: N/A
- Proposed Classification: Based on the New Park Classifications
- Size: In acres and hectares
- Context: Describing the surrounding land uses
- Overall Quality: A range of good, fair and poor
- Function: Active or Passive
- Description: Generally describes park

Each park sheet has a written description of the current conditions and future improvements. Also provided on the park sheets is a list of capital improvements for the development of the park and the estimated costs.

The proposed park sheets are provided for the following parks:

- Atherley Narrows Bridge Park
- Borland Street East Park
- Fittons Road East Park
- Forest Avenue South Park
- Huronia Regional Centre Park
- Victoria Crescent Park
- West Street South Park

Proposed Park Sheets are colour coded:



Proposed Park Sheets

Atherley Narrows Bridge Park

PROPOSED

Address: RR R.O.W. behind 674 Atherley Road
Current Classification: None (newly proposed)
Proposed Classification: Cultural
Size: 0.3 acres - 0.1 hectares

Context: Waterfront
Overall Quality: Poor
Function: Passive
Description: Waterfront Park

This park does not currently exist. At this time, the City of Orillia, in partnership with the Township of Ramara and the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, is undertaking a study to assess the opportunity to provide a recreational trail connection across the Atherley Narrows. It is recommended to continue with this process. The end result, a bridge park, should incorporate park space either before or on the bridge (i.e. seating, overlooks, greenspace and access to the water for hand carry boats). The design should also include standard park signage, trailheads for the Orillia and Ramara trail systems and additional interpretive signage regarding the history and natural environment of the place and the Aboriginal people.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	Interpretive Sign	Fair
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	NONE	N / A



Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Master Planning in Progress	N/A
TOTAL	N/A



*Preliminary artist rendering of potential bridge
 (does not necessarily reflect the final bridge design)*



Borland Street East Park

PROPOSED

Address: Borland Street East at Lake Couchiching
Current Classification: None (newly proposed)
Proposed Classification: Portal
Size: suggested 0.4 acres - 0.2 hectares

Context: Mixed Use
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Road End Waterfront Park

The Borland Street East right of way runs into the shore of Lake Couchiching offering unimproved access to the water. It is recommended to create a new park and improve the public’s water access. It would encompass a two car parallel parking area beside the road, a boardwalk with seating along the water, a canoe/kayak boat launch area off of the boardwalk, and standardized park signage. Existing vegetative screening between the residential property should be retained.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	NONE	N / A
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	NONE	N / A

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Boardwalk, Seating, Car-top Boat Launch, Signage and Parking (2)	\$60,000
TOTAL	\$60,000



Fittons Road East Park

PROPOSED

Address: Fittons Road East at Lake Couchiching
Current Classification: None (newly proposed)
Proposed Classification: Portal
Size: suggested 0.3 acres - 0.1 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Road End Waterfront Park

The Fittons Road East right-of-way runs into the shore of Lake Couchiching offering unimproved access to the water. It is recommended to create a new park and improve the public's water access. It would encompass a two car parallel parking area beside the road, a boardwalk with seating along the water, a canoe/kayak boat launch area off of the boardwalk, and standardized park signage. Some vegetation will need to be removed and limbed-up with minor grading to complete the improvements. However, the remaining vegetation should be left or added to act as screening for the residential properties.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	NONE	N / A
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	NONE	N / A
Capital Improvements		
Items	Est. Cost	
Boardwalk, Seating, Car-top Boat Launch, Signage and Parking (2)	\$80,000	
TOTAL	\$80,000	



Forest Avenue South Park

PROPOSED

Address: 335 Hilda Street
Current Classification: None (newly proposed)
Proposed Classification: Portal
Size: 0.3 acres - 0.1 hectares

Context: Waterfront
Overall Quality: Poor
Function: Passive
Description: Car-top Boat Launch

This park does not currently exist. It is recommended to create Forest Avenue South Park to function as a car-top boat access point into Lake Simcoe. An easement agreement, land purchase or other land use method must be had as the land outside the road right of way is not currently owned by the City. It would comprise of a five (5) car , roadside parking area (granular) with connecting granular trail and canoe/kayak launch into the waterway that connects to Lake Simcoe. Some clearing of the waterway vegetation will be required to permit boat access, but no dredging should be necessary.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	NONE	N / A
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	NONE	N / A

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Secure Land Usage	TBD
Car-top Boat Launch with granular Street Parking (5) signage and granular trail	\$60,000
TOTAL	\$60,000

Hurononia Regional Centre Park

PROPOSED

Address: Memorial Avenue
Current Classification: None (newly proposed)
Proposed Classification: Celebration
Size: 265 acres - 107 hectares

Context: Institutional
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Active
Description: Waterfront Park

This park does not currently exist. It is recommended to create the Huronia Regional Centre Park on the grounds of the Huronia Regional Centre. This crucial action will accommodate the City's future needs for facilities and park space. The site has existing buildings and infrastructure, includes a large stretch of waterfront along Lake Simcoe and hosts a section of the Lightfoot Trail. It is recommended the parcel be acquired from the Provincial Government and a master plan and re-use strategy for the park be undertaken. The plan should develop the park along the Celebration Park Type guidelines, following the policy, goals and objectives of the Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan. Potential elements to consider for the park are athletic fields to replace existing fields in non-ideal locations in existing parks. Examples are the large soccer/football fields in Kitchener Park and ball diamonds from Bayview, Franklin Carmichael, Kitchener, and Tudhope Parks. Further potential elements to consider in the park are tennis/pickleball, shuffleboard and basketball/multi-use courts, a skate park (to replace the existing in Veterans' Park if it is not located in the proposed West Street South Park), a BMX park (if it is not to be in the Scout Valley location), and a disc golf course (if the Homewood Park course, recommended to be removed, is not located in the proposed West Street South Park), as well as potential non-park, revenue generating development located at the Memorial Avenue street frontage. All of these elements would be located on inland portions of the site (west of the existing Lightfoot Trail). If the whole parcel is not attainable, at a minimum the waterfront property east of the Lightfoot Trail should be acquired. The waterfront should be developed for public waterfront activities and recreation (swimming beach, boardwalk, etc.). Acquiring the whole property would also provide the necessary linkage for the development of the Lightfoot Trail System. It would allow linkage with Kitchener Park along the waterfront of the Waste Diversion Site. Refer to the Trail Master Plan document for more information regarding the trail system.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Institutional	Large Complex of Buildings, with Parking Areas and a Circulation System	Not Rated
Capital Improvements		
Items		Est. Cost
Park Master Plan		\$130,000
TOTAL		\$130,000

Victoria Crescent Park

PROPOSED

Address: Victoria Crescent
Current Classification: None (newly proposed)
Proposed Classification: Portal
Size: 1.0 acres - 0.4 hectares

Context: Residential
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Passive
Description: Waterfront Road R.O.W.

This park does not currently exist. It is recommended to create Victoria Crescent Park in the road right of way on the water side of Victoria Crescent. The proposed park would consist of two overlooks connected by a boardwalk and granular trails on the south side of Victoria Crescent. A simple canoe/kayak launch would be incorporated off of the boardwalk system. Existing parking areas along side the road would be improved and expanded. This park would also serve as another location where canoers/ kayakers could enter Lake Simcoe.

Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	NONE	N / A
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	Few (mature)	Fair

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Boardwalk, Launch and Overlooks (2) w/ connecting Trail System	\$175,000
Street Parking (15 granular)	\$25,000
TOTAL	\$200,000



West Street South Park

PROPOSED

Address: 255 West Street South
Current Classification: None (newly proposed)
Proposed Classification: Activity
Size: 35.7 acres - 14.5 hectares

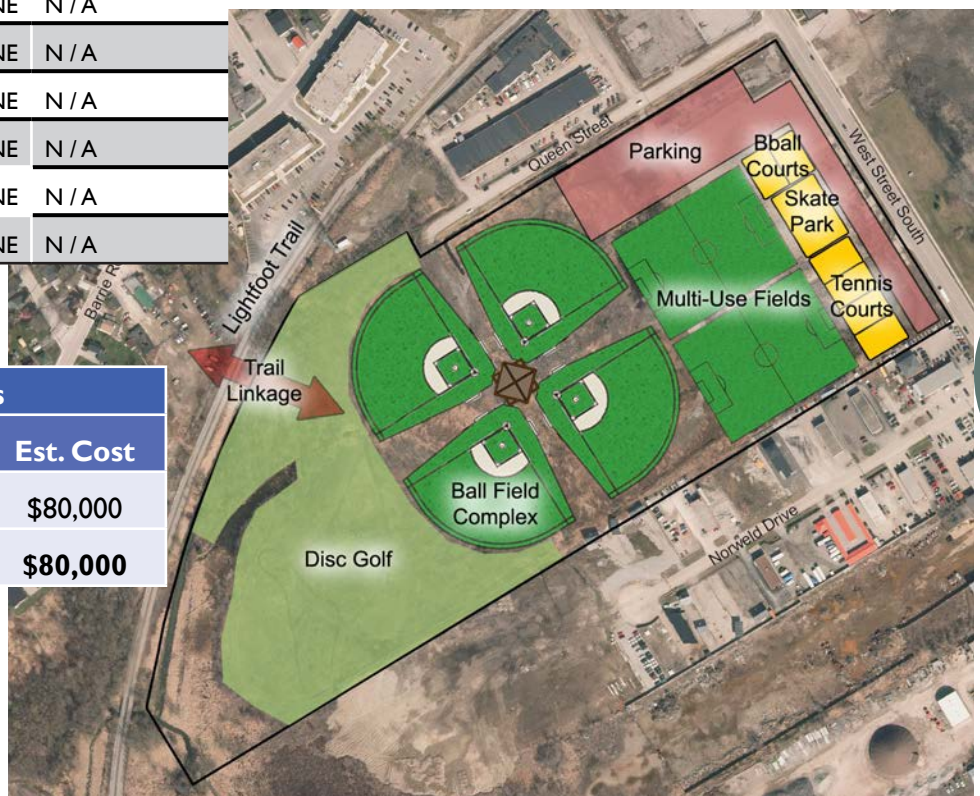
Context: Industrial
Overall Quality: Fair
Function: Active
Description: Sports & Nature Park
 connecting with Lightfoot Trail R.O.W.

This park does not currently exist. It is recommended to create the West Street South Park (envisioned in the Downtown Tomorrow planning document). The park would be situated on land centrally located in and currently owned by the City. Further environmental remediation would need to occur at this brownfield site if it is to be utilized as a park. A site specific, detailed design / development plan should be developed for this park that follows the concept plan put forth in the Downtown Tomorrow 2012 document. It should encompass four (4) ball fields suitable for tournament play and an associated fieldhouse building with washrooms, concessions and ball field facility needs. It should also include a skate park (to potentially replace the facility at Veterans' Memorial Park), two (2) basketball courts and two (2) multi-use fields. Additionally, there is potential to locate a disc golf course (2.4 hectares - 6 acres in size), dog park and 'refrigerated skating trail' at the park. The park should also be linked to the adjacent Lightfoot Trail (refer to the Trail Master Plan). The aerial illustrates the approximate size of most potential program elements.



Existing Facilities		
Type	Description	Overall Condition
Amenities (Qty)	NONE	N / A
Athletic Fields	NONE	N / A
Circulation (LF)	NONE	N / A
Parking (Spaces)	NONE	N / A
Play Equipment	NONE	N / A
Structures	NONE	N / A
Trees	NONE	N / A

Capital Improvements	
Items	Est. Cost
Detailed Design / Development Plan	\$80,000
TOTAL	\$80,000



EXISTING FACILITY SHEETS

For each indoor City facility, this section provides a detailed description.

About the Existing Facility Sheets

For each existing facility an informational sheet is provided, modeled after the existing parks sheets so as to provide a similar format to catalog facility information. The informational sheets provide a consolidated 'tear sheet' for use by the City. Information for these sheets was provided by the City. A detailed analysis of each facility was outside of the scope of work, so only a general assessment of overall quality was provided. All informational sheets identify the following listed information:

- Address
- Size (if available)
- Context: Describing the surrounding land uses
- Overall Quality: A range of good, fair, poor or new
- Function: Active or Passive
- Description: Generally describes the facility

Each informational sheet has a written description of the current conditions. Any existing amenities are listed in chart form. Also provided is a listing of the existing indoor facility capacity or use. Any information not available is listed as N/A.

The informational sheets are provided for the following facilities:

- Barnfield Point Recreation Centre
- Brian Orser Arena
- Forest Home Hall
- Stephen Leacock Museum
- McKinnell Square Meeting Room
- Orillia Opera House
- Regan House
- Rotary Place

Existing Facility Sheets are colour coded.



Existing Facility Sheets

Barnfield Point Recreation Centre

Yr.Acquired 1999

INDOOR FACILITY INVENTORY

Address: 500 Atherley Road
Context: Within J.B.Tudhope Park

Overall Quality: Good
Function: Active
Description: Community Facility

Built in 1999, the Barnfield Point Recreation Centre is located within J. B. Tudhope Memorial Park. It contains two large change rooms with rental lockers, six sheets of curling ice, a rock wall, a meeting room, a viewing room and a Recreation Centre office with storage area for equipment and supplies. There is also an area within the Recreation Centre office for the Curling Club office and storage area. The almost 13,000 sq.ft. curling ice space (145'10" by 86' 3") is also available for trade shows, special events and day camps during the non-ice season. It has a maximum event floor capacity of 1,000 people. When ice sheets are in use (mid October to April), ice maintenance is Monday to Friday, 6 a.m. to 9 am. Curling ice is available to the general public and may be booked in 2.5-hour time slots. The building also contains two other public use spaces. One is the Barnfield Point Viewing Room which includes the Bayside Restaurant and viewing area that overlooks the curling ice as well as an area used primarily by the Curling Club (before and after each draw) which is heated and air-conditioned. The room is provided with tables, chairs and a sound system. It can host special events, however with restrictions and the restaurant open until 3 p.m. or later each day, the set up for an evening event is not ideal. The room's maximum capacity without tables and chairs is 254 people.

Existing Indoor Facilities Capacity/Use		
Season	Period of Operation	Primary Use(s)
Mid-April To Mid-September	Mon to Fri 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Parks, Recreation and Culture Day camps
	Saturday and Sunday (then as required)	Special Events PRC Programs
Mid-October To Beginning of April	Mon to Fri 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Orillia Curling Club Schools Bonspiels PRC Programs Minor Casual Curling
	Saturday and Sunday (then as required)	
Barnfield Point Viewing Room: April to September	Mon to Sun 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. (then as required)	Restaurant Customers Special Events
Barnfield Point Viewing Room: October to April	Mon to Sun 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. (then as required)	Restaurant Customers Curling Club (Adult) Special Events
Don Shave Meeting Room: Every Season	Mon to Sun 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. (then as required)	Community Group Meetings Special Events

Amenities
Curling Ice (6 sheets mid Oct to April)
Large Event Floor (holds ~ 1,000 April to mid Oct)
Barnfield Point Viewing Room - including Bayside Restaurant (holds 254 - w/o tables & chairs)
Don Shave Meeting Room (holds ~ 20)
Rock Wall
Change Rooms (2)

The other public use space within the Recreation Centre is the Don Shave Meeting Room. It is approximately 15' by 20' with a maximum capacity 20 people. The room includes tables and chairs and is heated and air-conditioned. The room is only available when the building is staffed. Capital investments for Barnfield Point Recreation Centre is included in the 5-year Capital Plan, which include various repairs and replacement of tables and chairs.



Brian Orser Arena

Yr.Acquired 1974

INDOOR FACILITY INVENTORY

Address: 433 Gill Street

Context: Residential (Adjacent to High Street Park)

Overall Quality: Poor

Function: Active

Description: Sports Facility - one surface

The building was built in 1974 as the Twin Lakes Arena. It was renamed the Brian Orser Arena in 1984 to honour the Olympian who had trained in the area. The building contains one surface (185' by 85') with seating and standing space for 300 people, 6 change rooms, concessions, music room, group storage areas and a large storage room for Parks, Recreation and Culture supplies, equipment, etc. The building also contains two meeting rooms. The Dr. Tom Brandl Meeting Room is 28' by 30', has a capacity of 62 people (without tables and chairs), contains a whiteboard, corkboard, large boardroom style table, regular 8' tables and chairs. It is heated and air-conditioned. The Mr. Blair Ashmore Meeting Room is 24' by 24', has a capacity of 57 people (without tables and chairs), contains a whiteboard, corkboard, 8' tables and chairs. It is also heated and air conditioned. These rooms are available even when the building is closed. Washrooms are located in the connecting hallway between meeting rooms. Ice/building maintenance is Fridays 9:10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The building is in need of repair requiring refrigeration equipment replacement and roof repairs. Also, the floor surface is approximately 3" out from one end to the other. The 5-year Capital Plan schedules continued investment and upgrading of Brian Orser Arena based on Council direction and a building assessment report. The improvements will cover all areas of deficiencies including electrical, mechanical, floor pad, etc.

Existing Indoor Facilities Capacity/Use

Season	Period of Operation	Primary Use(s)
Floor: Beginning of April To End of August	Mon to Thurs 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Except holidays. Then open as required.	Minor Inline Hockey Minor Lacrosse
Ice: Beginning of September To End of March	Wed to Sun 6 a.m. to Midnight & Mon & Tue 3:30 p.m. to Midnight, Except holidays.	Minor Figure Skating Minor Girls Hockey Minor Hockey Adult Hockey Public Skating Minor Figure Skating Minor Hockey Minor Girls Hockey Schools and Minor Casual Skating Parks and Recreation Programming
Dr. Brandl Meeting Room: Every Season	Mon to Sun 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.	Community Group Meetings Parks and Recreation Programming Special Events Boys and Girls Club
Mr.Ashmore Meeting Room: Every Season	Mon to Sun 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.	Community Group Meetings Parks and Recreation Programming

Amenities

Hockey / Skating Ice
Dr.Tom Brandl Meeting Room (holds 62 - w/o tables & chairs)
Mr. Blair Ashmore Meeting Room (holds 57 - w/o tables & chairs)
Basketball/Multi-Use Court
Change Rooms (6)
Concession



Forest Home Hall

Yr.Acquired 1975

INDOOR FACILITY INVENTORY

Address: 995 Memorial Avenue
Context: Forest Home Park

Overall Quality: Not Assessed
Function: Passive
Description: Public Meeting Room

Forest Home Hall is a 16’ by 40’ meeting room with hardwood flooring, tables, chairs, kitchen facilities and washrooms included. Water in this location comes a well and there is a UV light in the building. This facility is leased to the Orillia Ball Hockey League for their use but scheduling is still done through the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department. The facility is a successful partnership that provides a facility in the community that Orillia would not otherwise have available.



Existing Indoor Facilities Capacity/Use
Primary Use(s)
Leased to Orillia Ball Hockey League

Stephen Leacock Museum

Yr.Acquired 1957

INDOOR FACILITY INVENTORY

Address: 50 Museum Drive

Context: Stephen Leacock Park

Overall Quality: Good

Function: Passive

Description: Community Building

The property was owned by Stephen Butler Leacock, writer, professor and humorist, from 1869 to 1944. The 19 room house on the property, built for Leacock in 1928, was used as his summer home. The City purchased the property in 1957, the house was opened as a museum in 1958 and was designated a National Historic Site in 1994. Other facilities on the property include Swanmore Hall (including the Museum Giftshop) and the Children's Discovery Place/Zone (a boathouse). Swanmore Hall has a licensed capacity of 89 persons. An additional 50 persons can be seated on the Shoreline Cafe Terrace in season; the cafe is privately operated. The Boat House is a replica of Stephen Leacock's original boat house. It was built over the course of one weekend during a construction bee staged by museum friends and volunteers. It features an exterior deck wrapping around the building and over the water, a ground floor with open space and a washroom, and a second floor children's play area with a small stage and props for arts and crafts and dressing up. First Floor has about 445 sq. ft. usable space (17 ft. x 23 ft.). Second Floor has about 375 sq. ft. usable space (17 ft. x 23 ft.). The building's capacity is 50 persons distributed between first floor, second floor and the exterior deck. Children's Discovery Place (Zone) uses the building. It is also available for facility rentals (weddings, receptions and other occasions). Plumbing restrictions limit the building to seasonal use (from May to Thanksgiving). Winter use is not recommended. Currently the museum is undertaking some major upgrades including the installation of a barrier free access ramp, energy efficiency upgrades to doors and windows and remediation of the basement floor and foundation. In addition, the 5-year Capital Plan includes exterior painting and the development of Swanmore Hall Temporary Storage.

Existing Indoor Facilities Capacity/Use

Season	Period of Operation	Primary Use(s)
Museum: Year-round	-	Museum
Boathouse: May - October	May to Thanksgiving – 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. October to April - CLOSED	Children's Discovery Place (Zone) - children's area and display space
Swanmore Hall Museum Giftshop: Year-round	-	Museum Retail Giftshop
Swanmore Hall: Year-round	-	Meeting Room and Dining Hall
Shoreline Cafe (Swanmore) Terrace: In season	-	Outdoor Restaurant

Amenities

Museum (Leacock Summer House)
Boathouse (holds 50)
Giftshop
Restaurant / Meeting Room (holds 89)
Terrace (50)



McKinnell Square Meeting Room

Yr. Acquired 1986

INDOOR FACILITY INVENTORY

Address: 135 Dunedin Street
Context: McKinnell Square Park

Overall Quality: Not Assessed
Function: Passive
Description: Public Meeting Room

The McKinnell Square Meeting Room is located in McKinnell Square Park. The room includes a large boardroom style table, regular 8' tables, chairs, whiteboard and corkboard. Washrooms are available for meetings and used as a public washroom during the summer months. The dimensions of the meeting room are 19.5' by 32', which provide for a maximum capacity 50 people.

Existing Indoor Facilities Capacity/Use		
Season	Period of Operation	Primary Use(s)
Year-round	Mon to Sun 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.	Community Group Meetings Parks and Recreation Programming

Amenities
Washrooms
Meeting Room (holds 50)



Orillia Opera House

Yr. Acquired 1895

INDOOR FACILITY INVENTORY

Address: Corner of West and Mississauga Streets
Context: Commercial / Downtown

Overall Quality: Not Assessed
Function: Active
Description: Historic Performance Space

Originally built in 1895 and rebuilt in 1916, the Orillia Opera House once housed the municipal offices, Council chamber, police lock up, farmers market and has always had a theatre. The building currently operates two theatres, a bar and box office and is a very busy facility with both community and commercial rentals all year long. The facility is licensed in all public areas to a maximum capacity of 808 persons. Box Office services are also available for selling tickets for outside events. The Green Room Lounge is equipped with a bar, tables and chairs, having a occupancy capacity of 60 people. The Studio Theatre has a capacity of 104 with fixed seats and 4 wheelchair spaces. The Gordon Lightfoot Auditorium contains 451 fixed seats plus 4 wheelchair areas on the main floor, a balcony section with 245 fixed seats and an orchestra pit. Recent improvements have been made to the Opera House that include the addition of a freight elevator and turret roof repairs. Also, an Orillia Opera House Restoration Plan was completed in February 2014.

Existing Indoor Facilities Capacity/Use

Season	Period of Operation	Primary Use(s)
Year-round	Facilities are available 24/7 depending on rental client request	Primarily a rental facility
	Box Office 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mon to Sat 11 a.m. to show time on show days	Ticket sales, marketing, group sales
	Bar service 1 hour prior to show time, intermission and post show depending on producer and event structure	
	Theatres available based on client request	

Amenities

Gordon Lightfoot Auditorium (holds 700 including 4 wheelchair spaces)
Stage Extension
Studio Theatre (holds 108 including 4 wheelchair spaces)
Stadium Seating
Green Room Lounge (holds 60)
Both theatres are fully equipped with professional lighting and sound equipment
All public areas are fully licensed, air conditioned, wheelchair accessible and have headsets available for the hearing impaired.



Source: <http://www.orilliaoperahouse.ca/>

Regan House

Yr.Acquired 2010

INDOOR FACILITY INVENTORY

Address: 325 Line 15 N

Context: Scout Valley

Overall Quality: Not Assessed

Function: Passive

Description: Public Meeting Room

Regan House is the oldest house in Orillia, built in 1832. This one room, 33-by-23-foot log cabin, built of squared-pine timbers, originally located on Westmount Drive North, was purchased by the City of Orillia in 2006. Volunteers dismantled the house and it was properly stored until 2009 when it was relocated to Scout Valley and reconstructed with the help of volunteers and assisted by a local construction group. The interior dimensions are 31'8" x 21'6", providing capacity, with tables and chairs, for 40 people; the standing capacity is for 75 people. The site includes a fieldstone fence, interpretive signage and benches. The building's new life at Scout Valley provides space for community organizations, summer camps and heritage programs.

Existing Indoor Facilities Capacity/Use

Season	Period of Operation	Primary Use(s)
Year-round	8 a.m. - 10 p.m.	Community Group Meetings Special Events

Amenities

Meeting Room (holds 75 - w/o tables & chairs)

Washrooms - 2 stalls (separate building)



Washroom Building



Regan House

Rotary Place

Yr. Acquired 2010

INDOOR FACILITY INVENTORY

Address: 100 University Avenue
Context: West Orillia Sports Complex

Overall Quality: New
Function: Passive
Description: Sports Facility - two surfaces

Rotary Place is located at the recently built (2010) West Orillia Sports Complex. The building contains two NHL-sized surfaces (ice rinks/athletic pads), 12 change rooms, a concession, a rock climbing wall, skate sharpening, a mini-stick play area and three community rooms. The Green Surface offers viewing for 340 people (204 seats, standing-up 30 / lower 106). The Blue Surface offers viewing for 1,008 people (704 seats, standing-up 189 / lower 115). As one of the three community rooms, the 40' x 28' Meeting Room is located on the second level of the arena and equipped with a projector screen. Room capacity with tables and chairs is 55 people; room capacity standing is 100 people. The 75' x 28' Tournament Room is also located on the second level and equipped with a projector screen. It contains a room dividing wall allowing the room to be split into two rooms (south room: 42' x 28', capacity 60 people, north room 33' x 28', capacity 40 people). The room also includes a bar (20' x 11'), included with the tournament room booking. The whole room capacity with tables and chairs is 100 people. The Orillia Room, located on the first level, is 55' x 70' and comes equipped with a kitchen (20' x 25'). Its total room capacity with tables and chairs is 200 people; room capacity standing is 500.

Existing Indoor Facilities Capacity/Use		
Season	Period of Operation	Primary Use(s)
Green Surface Floor: Mid-May to end of June	8 a.m. - 10 p.m.	Orillia Minor Lacrosse
Green Surface Ice: Beginning of July to mid-May	8 a.m. - 10 p.m.	Public/Family Skating Orillia Minor Hockey Orillia Figure Skating Club Orillia Men's League Hockey Orillia Girls Hockey School Use Weekly User Groups Minor/Adult Tournaments PRC Programs Casual Bookings
Blue Surface Floor: Beginning of April to end of August		Junior B Lacrosse Orillia Minor Lacrosse Special Events Brewery Bay Ball Hockey Inline Hockey
Blue Surface Ice: Beginning of September to end of March	8 a.m. - 10 p.m.	Public/Family Skating Orillia Minor Hockey Orillia Figure Skating Club Orillia Men's League Hockey Orillia Girls Hockey School Use Weekly User Groups Tundras PRC Programs Casual Bookings Minor/Adult Tournaments
All Community Rooms: Every season	8 a.m. - 10 p.m.	PRC Programs Community Group Meetings Special Events

Amenities
Arena 1 - Green (viewing for 340)
Arena 2 - Blue (viewing for 1,008)
Mini-stick Play Area
Change Rooms (12)
Concession
Large Event Floor
Meeting Room (holds 55 - w/tables & chairs)
Orillia Room (holds 200 - w/tables & chairs)
Tournament Room (holds 100 - w/tables & chairs)
Rock Climbing Wall (2 1/2 story)
Skate Sharpening



