



City of Brandon Department of Community Services

# GREENSPACE MASTER PLAN

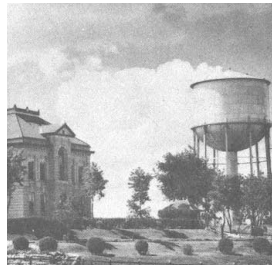
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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Development of the Greenspace Master Plan for the City of Brandon is based upon the input of City of Brandon management and staff, City Councillors, representatives of community and sports groups, and the general public. These individuals gave generously of their time, taking part in interviews, reviews and public meetings. Their involvement is sincerely appreciated, and it is hoped their involvement in the ongoing implementation of the Master Plan will continue.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

(Note: References in brackets are to Master Plan recommendations)

The Greenspace Master Plan is being undertaken by the Department of Community Services to provide a 10 year plan for the delivery and care of greenspaces in Brandon.

### COMMUNITY ASSETS

- *Generally adequate amounts of neighbourhood and city greenspace, in comparison to other Canadian communities examined.*
- *The Assiniboine River Corridor, which attracts local and regional use.*
- *A good multi-use trail network which circles the city.*
- *A history of partnerships to develop and manage greenspaces.*

### ISSUES

- *An overall shortage of community greenspace in Brandon, compared to other Canadian communities examined.*
- *In some areas, a lack of neighbourhood and city greenspace.*
- *In some wards, little land is available for new greenspaces.*
- *Many greenspaces are showing signs of deterioration.*
- *Many greenspaces offer a limited range of recreational and leisure amenities.*
- *A lack of trail connections into the center of the city.*

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Guiding Principles

- *Recommendations reflect the guiding principles as set out in the Master Plan (2.0).*

### Recommendations for Greenspace Inventory and Classification

- *Enhance the current CITYVIEW land database system (3.1) to include more greenspace information, in a manner that is easier to access and use.*
- *Implement a classification system (3.2) for greenspaces, to assist in the management, enhancement and development of greenspace amenities:*
  - *Neighbourhood greenspaces are small in size, and meet the needs of individual neighbourhoods.*
  - *Community greenspaces provide a range of facilities and amenities to serve a number of neighbourhoods.*
  - *City greenspaces include amenities and facilities which in addition to serving local need, attract use by all residents of the city as well as visitors.*
  - *Municipal Open Spaces include boulevards, buffers and civic building grounds, which may provide limited opportunities for casual recreation.*
  - *Natural Areas are lands with environmental and/or ecological significance which should be preserved.*
- *Implement a set of planning and development standards for each of the greenspace classifications (3.3).*

### General Recommendations for the Development of Greenspaces

- *Ensure the safety of greenspaces through the development and implementation of safety audits for greenspaces, undertaken in partnership with community groups (3.4.1).*

- *Incorporate signage in all greenspaces which provide relevant information and welcome appropriate use (3.4.2).*
- *Enhance and develop playgrounds which meet the needs of all children and their families (3.4.3).*
- *Develop an enhanced network of paddle pools and spray parks throughout the city (3.4.4).*
- *Enhance, develop and manage athletic facilities to meet the recreational and leisure needs of all residents (3.4.5).*
- *Implement planning and design standards for trails and walking paths to provide safe and accessible opportunities to walk, cycle and rollerblade throughout all areas of the city (3.4.6).*
- *Examine the potential to incorporate stormwater management facilities into existing and new greenspaces to maximize capital investment (3.4.7).*
- *Ensure environmental responsibility through current and future programs which ensure the wise stewardship, understanding and appreciation of the environment and ecological systems (3.4.8).*
- *In partnership with the School Division and the community, enhance school grounds to incorporate greenspace amenities for use and enjoyment by both students and residents (3.4.9).*
- *Encourage the development of pocket parks and community gardens which provide additional neighbourhood greenspace as well as a venue for community self-expression (3.4.10).*
- *Support the efforts of the Skateboard Association to develop safe and accessible skateboard facilities for youth in the city (3.4.11).*
- *Develop a network of dog parks for residents to safely run their dogs (3.4.12).*

## Implementation Recommendations

- *Implement a 10 year plan to enhance and develop greenspaces (5.1.1); prioritize projects which:*
  - *Address deficiencies in the amount and location of greenspaces within wards.*
  - *Address deficiencies in the amount or condition of facilities and amenities within greenspaces.*
  - *Ensure public safety within greenspaces.*
  - *Increase public use of greenspaces through complimentary facilities (eg. seating and picnic areas).*
  - *Use and strengthen partnerships with public and private groups.*
  - *Incorporate pilot projects (eg. integrated stormwater management facilities) to test new and innovative ways to develop and deliver greenspace amenities.*
  - *Address issues of inadequate size and poor visibility and access, where they exist within greenspaces.*
  - *Ensure all areas of the city see enhancements to greenspace.*
- *Top priorities for greenspace enhancement:*
  - *South End Community Centre playground development and greenspace enhancement.*
  - *North End playground relocation and North End Community Centre greenspace enhancement.*
  - *3rd/Aberdeen and Crocus Park safety improvements.*
  - *Rideau Park greenspace enhancement.*
  - *Frederick Street playground relocation/enhancement.*
  - *Meadows School and playground greenspace enhancement.*
  - *New Era School greenspace enhancement.*
  - *Vincent Massey playground development.*
  - *Keystone Centre grounds redevelopment.*

- *Argyle Courts safety improvements and greenspace enhancement.*
- *Riverheights Park and School greenspace enhancement.*
- *Linden Lanes School and Westridge Community Centre greenspace enhancement.*
- *Continue to implement the Assiniboine River Corridor Master Plan:*
  - *Greenspace enhancements should be consistent with the Greenspace Master Plan recommendations regarding safety, accessibility, etc.*
  - *Development of new greenspace facilities should be consistent with the Greenspace Master Plan and any future updates to the Assiniboine River Corridor Master Plan.*
- *Implement a 10 year plan to enhance and develop multi-use trails (5.1.2); prioritize projects which:*
  - *Close gaps in the existing network.*
  - *Provide greater accessibility to civic facilities, amenities and greenspaces.*
  - *Provide greater access to Riverbank areas.*
- *Top priorities for trail development:*
  - *Extend 17th East Trail east to 1st Street.*
  - *Develop a trail north from 26th Street into Queen Elizabeth and Canada Games Park.*
  - *Develop a greenway along Louise/Lorne Avenue from Coronation Park to Rideau Park.*
  - *Develop trail north from Kirkcaldy Drive through Sportsplex and Winston Churchill Park.*
  - *Extend Ottawa Avenue Trail east to 18th Street.*
  - *Extend 19th Street South Trail south to the Cemetery.*
  - *Complete the Maryland Avenue Trail.*
  - *Pave trail from Fox Place Playground to 34th Street.*
  - *Develop trail into Riverheights School from Victoria Avenue.*

### **Funding Recommendations (5.1.3)**

- *Capital development fund.*
- *Development Cost Charge By-law.*
- *Partnerships.*
- *Corporate sponsorships.*
- *User fees.*
- *Grants.*
- *Sale of surplus lands.*

### **Policy Recommendations**

- *Explore the opportunity for the Community Action Program and the Neighbourhood Initiative Project to identify and address neighbourhood issues regarding greenspace (5.2.1).*
- *Develop a formal user agreement/user fee policy to ensure fair and consistent user fees for use of city facilities (5.2.2).*
- *Review the Reciprocal Use Agreement with Brandon School Division to explore opportunities to enhance school grounds (5.2.3).*
- *Develop a volunteer policy to encourage, support and recognize volunteer efforts (5.2.4).*
- *Develop a community animation project which encourages and guides community efforts at enhancing and developing greenspace amenities (5.2.2).*
- *Further develop the landscape design guidelines to incorporate new planning and design standards, and guide the ongoing improvement of the city's major gateways (5.2.6).*
- *Implement the Development Cost Charge By-law as a means to offset costs of delivering greenspace amenities (5.2.7).*



- *Develop public education and information programs which inform and educate residents, attract visitors, and provide a means for public feedback (5.2.8).*
- *Develop a facility audit program to ensure the regular inspection, repair and upgrading of greenspace facilities and amenities (5.2.9).*

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## **I.0 BACKGROUND**

### **I.1 THE MASTER PLAN INITIATIVE**

In February 2001, the Greenspace Master Plan was formally undertaken by the Department of Community Parks and Recreation (subsequently reorganized as the Department of Community Services, and hereafter referred to as 'the Department'), in consultation with the Brandon and Area Planning District.

The initiative to develop a comprehensive Greenspace Master Plan for the City of Brandon took shape in late 2000. The development of the Greenspace Master Plan had been identified by the city as a key step towards reviewing the Development Plan for both the city and the Brandon and Area Planning District.

This Master Plan is intended to establish a vision for the development and care of greenspaces in the city over the next 10 years.

### **I.2 THE HISTORY OF PARKS AND RECREATION IN BRANDON**

In 1906, the City of Brandon established the Public Parks Board, to 'keep the city in good order' (Johnson, 1995). The Board immediately set out to bring a number of existing greenspaces under its control: the Cemetery, West End Park (now Stanley Park), Rideau Park, and the City Hall Grounds (now Princess Park). The Board was also responsible for the development of boulevards and tree planting.

New park development continued in 1909, with the purchase of land north of the Assiniboine River to establish Assiniboine Park (now Dinsdale Park). Soon after, the Board and the city began a search to develop a major public park, at that time lacking in Brandon. By the early 1920's, land was assembled west of the city for Suburban Park (later Curran Park).

Acquisition and development of parkland continued after World War I, and into the 1930's. During this time, only Jubilee Park (now Coronation Park) was developed, in 1937.

By 1951, a separate Brandon Recreation Commission was established by the city to oversee and supervise playgrounds and organize children's activities.

In the 1970's, the Parks Board and Recreation Commission had become involved with significant national athletic events. The Canada Summer Games in 1973, and the Canada Winter Games in 1979, were the first in many events which led Brandon to consider itself 'the host city'.

On January 1, 1995, the Parks Board and the Recreation Commission amalgamated into the Department of Parks and Recreation, in order to better use resources. In 1999, the Department became Community Parks and Recreation, to reflect a stronger community focus.

The most recent evolution of the Department came early in 2001, when Community Parks and Recreation was amalgamated with other departments to create the Department of Community Services.

### **1.3 THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

#### **1.3.1 Organizational Structure of the Department**

The Department of Community Services reflects the recent reorganization and amalgamation of a number of City of Brandon departments, including Community Parks and Recreation.

Under a Director, parks and recreation services and programs are overseen by three self directed teams, each headed by a leader. These three teams are: Programming, Parks and Cemetery, and the Sportsplex. The three team leaders work cooperatively to ensure that facilities and programs are delivered to the public in a consistent, efficient and relevant manner.

### 1.3.2 Responsibilities of the Department

The Department has a number of key responsibilities:

- *Developing and delivering recreational, athletic and leisure programs, in partnership with other organizations wherever feasible;*
- *Managing the Sportsplex, a multi-purpose indoor facility;*
- *Developing, maintaining and upgrading greenspaces owned by the city;*
- *Working in partnership with other organizations (eg. Brandon School Division, Riverbank Inc.) and sports groups (eg. Brandon Youth Soccer, Barbarians Rugby) to maintain facilities;*
- *Maintaining municipal open space (eg. boulevards, grounds of civic buildings);*
- *Developing and maintaining multi-use trails within the city;*
- *Operating and maintaining the cemetery; and*
- *Working directly with community based groups and initiatives (eg. Brandon Garden Club, Brandon Communities in Bloom).*

### 1.4 OTHER GREENSPACE PROVIDERS AND PARTNERS

There are a number of organizations and groups which, on their own and/or in partnership with the Department, provide greenspace amenities and deliver recreational activities to the residents of Brandon.



Linda Boys

The beautification of the city's boulevards by the Department of Community Services has been well received by the public.



### **Brandon School Division**

The School Division is responsible for the development of the grounds and athletic fields at new school sites, as well as the maintenance of existing facilities, including fields and play structures. Under a joint use agreement, the Department provides assistance to the School Division in the form of seasonal maintenance.

### **Riverbank Incorporated**

Riverbank Incorporated is a not-for-profit organization which manages the natural and human made landscape of the Assiniboine River Corridor. Since 1995, Riverbank Inc. has developed a number of amenities and facilities within the Riverbank, including a pedestrian bridge, multi-use and interpretive trails, the Riverbank Discovery Centre, and most recently, the Eleanor Kidd Botanical Garden. Once completed, facilities and amenities are maintained by the City of Brandon Community Services and Engineering and Operations, as well as by Westbran Employment Development Centre.

### **Westbran Employment Development Centre**

Westbran (as it is commonly known) is an entity operated under the auspices of the Provincial Government, providing employment and skills training. Westbran is an important partner within the Riverbank, providing ongoing maintenance to greenspaces, as well as the construction of playground structures, picnic shelters, fencing, etc., for facilities within the Riverbank.

### **City of Brandon Department of Engineering and Operations**

The Department of Engineering and Operations takes a lead role in the development process, working with developers on the planning, design and construction of new residential areas, in which the provision of greenspace is of fundamental concern.



Linda Boys

*One of the most popular and well used amenities within the Riverbank Corridor is the paved trail system.*

Engineering and Operations also works closely with Community Services to plan and construct multi-use trails throughout the city.

Engineering and Operations also plans and develops stormwater management facilities, many of which represent current and future opportunity for greenspace development.

### **Private Developers**

Private developers play a critical role in delivering greenspace amenities in new residential areas of the city.

Under the Planning Act, developers dedicate a portion of land for public reserve and school sites.

Developers pay, through the Development Agreement process, for the development of neighbourhood greenspaces. Developers either construct the greenspace, or pay a Recreation Levy to the city, which in turn plans and builds a neighbourhood greenspace.

The Development Agreement process also allows for the city to require specific or unique requirements of developers. These requirements routinely include buffers and multi-use trails.

The city is currently drafting a Development Charge Cost By-law which would charge developers for off-site costs, such as infrastructure, as well as regional recreation amenities (community centres, athletic fields, pools, etc.) and regional parks (primarily those within the Riverbank Area).

## Sports Groups

There are a number of sports groups within the city which provide a wide range of recreational and competitive sporting opportunities. In addition to running leagues and programs, the majority of these groups are partially or fully responsible for the ongoing maintenance and improvement of their facilities.

## Service Clubs

Service clubs, such as Kiwanis, Kinsmen, Lions and United Commercial Travellers, play vital roles in funding the development of greenspaces, including playgrounds and athletic facilities. In 2000, as part of a fundraising program, the Lion's Club developed and maintained flower beds in Princess Park, as well as the 1st Street median at Victoria Avenue.

## Private Business and Industry

Business and industry have always provided financial and in-kind support for the development of recreational and athletic amenities (ie. the development of facilities for the 1997 Canada Summer Games). The summer of 2001 saw the establishment of a new precedent, with the opening of the Simplot Millennium Park. This multi-field fastball and softball facility, located adjacent to the Eastern Access Highway, was initiated and developed by Simplot Inc., in conjunction with other local business and industry.

## Community Groups

A number of community volunteer groups directly and indirectly contribute to greenspace enhancement and development. One group, Brandon Communities in Bloom, represents a broad community effort, including individuals, businesses, care homes, and organizations (eg. Youth Employment Canada, Metis Friendship Centre) to not only enhance the aesthetic character of the city, but advance efforts related to heritage preservation, environmental stewardship and urban forestry.



*The Simplot Millennium Park provides tournament level fastball and softball facilities. The park was the joint effort of Simplot, Inc., and a number of local businesses.*

Another important partner is the Brandon Garden Club, who actively promote gardening through public clinics and workshops, and who recently partnered with the Department to create the Millennium Mini-Park at 18th and Richmond. This attractive greenspace provides an amenity along the multi-use trail system, and greatly improves the southern entrance to the city.

## 1.5 THE PLANNING PROCESS

### 1.5.1 Review of Planning Documents

The key planning documents guiding the development of the city in general and greenspaces in particular were identified and examined. The objective of this examination was to identify specific directions or recommendations embodied in other documents that impact the development of the Greenspace Master Plan. The key issues within each document are presented below, and the complete evaluation of each planning document is provided in Appendix A.

#### The Brandon and Area Planning District (BAPD) Development Plan

The evaluation of the BAPD Development Plan was critical for three main reasons:

1. Recommendations in the Greenspace Master Plan should generally conform to the objectives and policies of the Development Plan;
2. Recommendations growing out of the Greenspace Master Planning Process will be directly incorporated into the Development Plan (currently under review); and
3. A visualization of future greenspace distribution will be incorporated as part of the updating of the General Land Use Concept Map within the Development Plan.



Linda Boys

*Brandon Garden Club volunteers involved in the development of the 18th and Richmond Mini-Park.*

*'Team Hope' was a community initiative which in the past has involved youth in the maintenance of the city's greenspaces.*



Linda Boys

The key issues arising out of the review of the Development Plan, which are addressed in this Master Plan through various recommendations are:

- *Developing planning and design criteria for new greenspaces;*
- *Sharing resources and infrastructure (eg. incorporation of stormwater management into greenspaces);*
- *Working more closely with other departments and agencies (eg. Tourism Brandon, Downtown BIA);*
- *Streamlining the development approval process (including the provision of greenspace in new development); and*
- *Identifying, particularly in undeveloped areas, lands of environmental and ecological significance (eg. wildlife habitat) that should be preserved.*

#### **Assiniboine River Corridor (ARC) Master Plan (1995), Subsequent Public Consultation (1999)**

The ARC Master Plan has guided development of the Riverbank Area, the largest greenspace amenity within Brandon, since 1995. The implementation of the plan since that time has seen some divergence from the initial vision, and a public consultation program in 1999 has indicated the need to revisit some of the plan's direction.

The original ARC Master Plan identifies 6 key goals and objectives, that should be considered as extending, through this Master Plan process, to the development and enhancement of other greenspaces in the city:

- *Integration with tourism opportunities;*
- *Habitat preservation;*
- *Environmental education;*
- *Learning experiences;*

- *Family-focused recreation; and*
- *All season activities.*

The examination of both the ARC Master Plan and the subsequent public consultation reveals that there are a number of facilities and amenities, some of which were integral to the original plan, that remain high priorities among the public.

The 1999 consultation process indicated that there are a number of initiatives from the original ARC Master Plan that are still a priority with the public:

- *Further expansion of riverbank trails;*
- *Development of an amphitheatre for concerts and gatherings;*
- *Riverbank stabilization; and*
- *Expansion of cross country ski trails.*

Other projects identified during the 1999 consultation process not in the original ARC Master Plan include:

- *Skateboard park;*
- *Skating pond;*
- *Tea room; and*
- *Nature museum.*

Other issues that are evident from an examination of the public consultation program are:

- *Considering the potential of ancillary commercial within the Riverbank Area; and*
- *Developing evaluation criteria to determine and prioritize proposals for amenities within the Riverbank Area.*



*The recently completed Eleanor Kidd Botanical Garden is one of the many public amenities envisioned in the original Assiniboine River Corridor Master Plan.*

## City of Brandon Strategic Plan (Draft)

The City of Brandon Strategic Plan, presently in draft form, lays out general objectives and values that should be embodied in the Greenspace Master Plan. Issues raised in this draft strategic plan which have a bearing on the Master Plan are:

- *Ensuring safety of all city facilities, including greenspaces;*
- *Sharing resources and infrastructure;*
- *The opportunity provided by the eventual abandonment of the Canadian National Railway (CN) line through the city;*
- *Addressing and meeting the specific recreational requirements of youth; and*
- *Recognizing and promoting health and wellness.*



*The eventual abandonment of the CN line through the city provides an exceptional opportunity for different types of development, including greenspace.*

## North End Revitalization Study

This study was commissioned by the City of Brandon and the Planning District in 2000 to develop a vision for the mixed use area between downtown and the Assiniboine River. Clear objectives and policies for these transitional areas is critical, because of their unique potentials for further development and ongoing access to natural features (eg. Riverbank).

In addition to a strategy for mixed use development, the study articulates a vision of greenspace development which offers a closer integration of greenspaces into existing residential areas- providing a strong sense of both connection and access to Riverbank Areas.

The study identifies a number of issues that should be addressed through the Master Plan:

- *Introducing stormwater management into greenspaces, to create public amenities;*
- *Creating partnerships between public and private interests to create community greenspace. In particular, the study identified a possible partnership with McKenzie Seeds to create an outdoor seed testing facility which could also become a public and tourist attraction; and*

- *Developing stronger vehicular and pedestrian access into and through Riverbank Areas. In particular, a parkway was proposed as a means to link Eleanor Kidd, Canada Games and Queen Elizabeth Park.*

### 1.5.2 Examination of Models From Other Communities

Greenspace master plans from other communities were examined to identify:

- *Community expectations;*
- *Provision of greenspace;*
- *Current leisure trends;*
- *Innovations in service delivery;*
- *Inventory and classification systems;*
- *Funding sources;*
- *Other information of interest; and*
- *Possible models/structures/formats for this study.*

Efforts focused on communities of varying sizes in Ontario and Western Canada; however, a random sampling of master planning documents from American communities was also undertaken.

The following is a brief summary of this examination. The complete evaluation, illustrated as matrices, are contained in Appendix B and C.

Trends and concepts gleaned from other models which should be considered in the shaping of the Master Plan include:

- *Recommendations are built upon clear objectives for the community's plan;*



*The North End Revitalization Strategy envisions a future for the industrial lands along the Assiniboine River, including the former Burns Plant.*



- *Objectives such as the acquisition, planning and management of greenspace; the protection of the environment; and the development of environmental education opportunities within greenspaces;*
- *There are a wide range of tools for funding greenspace development. Common methods include user fees, tax levies and development charge by-laws. In some cases, the use of state/provincial funds, through grants and revenues (eg. lotteries) was used;*
- *In terms of acquiring lands, land dedication through the subdivision process was common. Other means include land trades, outright purchase, and easements. In some communities, to facilitate the donation of land, giving programs were established;*
- *With regard to service delivery, some American communities have also demonstrated an interesting approach to service delivery, where Parks departments not only facilitate community projects, but are actively engaged in neighbourhood revitalization. Staff in the parks department are actively available to community groups involved in revitalization projects;*
- *The provision of existing greenspace varied widely between communities, largely due to differences in classification systems;*
- *Common to all communities is a fairly concise classification system, based on a hierarchy of neighbourhood to community to city;*
- *In terms of future development, not all communities relied on a hectares/1000 person population standard (of those that did, the standard was generally similar).*
- *It is common across communities to use a service radius (based on walking distance) to determine a satisfactory level of service.*

These level of service standards have been considered in the development of recommendations for Brandon – see Part 3.0.

### **1.5.3 Local Data**

#### **Population Trends**

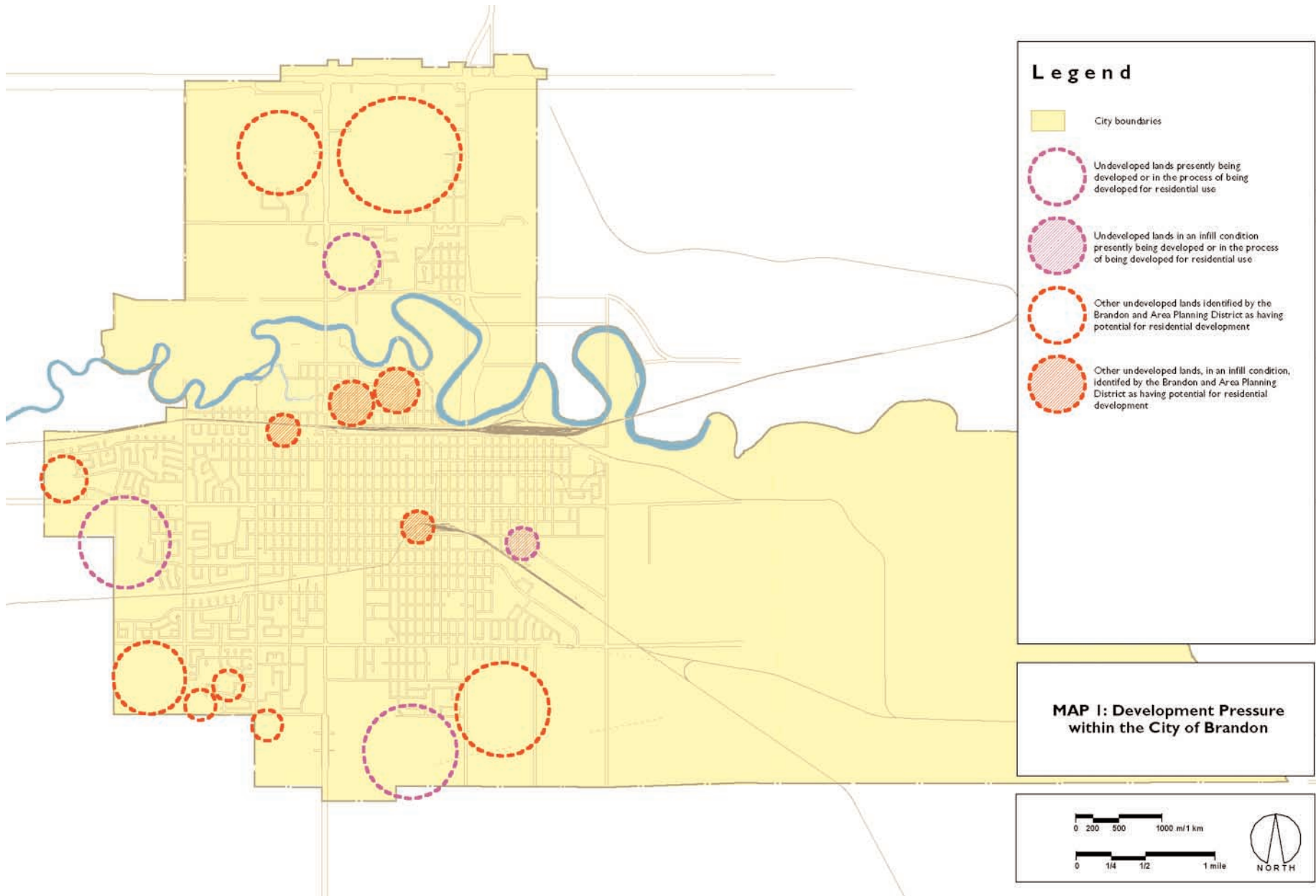
Changes within the population provide a general picture of the community. The most recent figures place the city's population at 42,247 (City of Brandon Information Technology), up 7.8% from the 1996 census of 39,175, which was up 1.6% from 1991.

In terms of population dynamics per ward, it is difficult to extrapolate information because of the changes in ward boundaries prior to the most recent enumeration in 1998 (City of Brandon). Best estimates suggest that since 1998, Rosser Ward has experienced a population increase in the range of 5%, and Linden Lanes a 3% increase. Assiniboine and Victoria saw more modest ranges. The remaining wards experienced a slight decline in population.

The population increase in the inner city area of Rosser Ward is consistent with trends in other communities, and points to the need to recognize the changing leisure needs and the possible deficiencies in greenspace specific to this neighbourhood.

#### **Development Trends**

Based on recent trends, the Brandon and Area Planning District has identified certain areas of the city (Map 1) with the greatest likelihood of future residential development. Development in these areas will require new greenspace resources and place greater demand on existing resources in adjacent areas.



## Economic Trends

Economic growth and development is the backbone of population growth in Brandon. In addition, inferences can be drawn regarding the manner in which economic development may impact existing housing stock and place new demands on neighbourhoods.

Since 1998, over \$500 million dollars has been invested in Brandon by large industry. The next few years will also see the addition of a second shift at the Maple Leaf Plant, as well as the coming of the 2PPCLI to Shilo from Winnipeg. These developments will provide major boosts to the local economy. In particular, the Maple Leaf expansion will likely place demand on existing and new affordable housing in areas such as the North End community. To handle this increase in population, particularly within this particular neighbourhood, more greenspace amenities will have to be provided.

### 1.5.4 Review of the Current Greenspace Classification System

Prior to initiating the Master Plan process, the Department developed a draft classification system for all greenspaces within the city. This classification system included three main categories:

- *Land classification;*
- *Land subclassification; and*
- *Greenspace classification.*

(The complete classification system is presented in Appendix D.)

A review of the current classification system identified the following issues:

- *The classification could be simplified, to include broader, more inclusive categories; and*
- *Maintenance practices, which defined a number of categories, could be better identified through a separate schedule.*

The current classification system is contained and is accessible through the CITYVIEW database system, which is currently used by the city as a basic Geographic Information System (GIS), as well as an automated permitting system. Within the CITYVIEW system, each parcel of land in the city can have specific types of data attached (eg. ownership, zoning, assessment, etc.). At present, greenspaces within the city have the following information attached:

- *Classification (See Appendix D);*
- *Access (directional information);*
- *Boundaries;*
- *Parking;*
- *Vegetation;*
- *Amenities - including condition, year of installation;*
- *Protective surfaces;*
- *Protective boundaries; and*
- *No encroachment zones.*

A review of the CITYVIEW system, and how it is currently used by Department staff, revealed the following issues:

- *Because CITYVIEW attaches the above data to individual parcels of land rather than aggregations of parcels (eg. a greenspace such as Queen Elizabeth Park is comprised of over 70 parcels), data entry and manipulation can be time consuming, with possibilities for errors and inconsistencies;*
- *At present, queries can be performed on any of the above parameters, although the program lacks ease of use;*
- *There are some errors in the existing database, and the need exists to add additional information, gathered as part of the evaluation of existing greenspace resources; and*
- *CITYVIEW is presently unable to contain data on walkways and trails, because these amenities exist within public rights-of-way.*

### **1.5.5 Development of an Inventory and Mapping System**

To manage and make most efficient use of the information on greenspaces within the city, detailed inventory matrices and maps were prepared, organizing greenspaces by area and by ward.

This information serves as the basis for the detailed evaluation of greenspace resources (Part 4.0). Beyond this analysis, the matrices and mapping have the potential for wider use by the Department. The opportunity exists to incorporate mapping into greenspace and trail signage, and both the matrices and mapping can be incorporated into Department literature (eg. the Leisure Guide) and promotional material (See 5.2.8).

### **1.5.6 Public Input**

A critical component of the Master Planning process was the gathering of input from the general public, as well as from key stakeholder groups. This public input took three forms: a random telephone survey, public open houses held throughout the city, and an open house with community, service and sports groups.

#### **Telephone Survey**

A telephone survey was developed and administered in March of 2001 to shape a broad picture of needs and expectations within the general community. The complete description of the survey, its design, delivery and findings is located in Appendix E.

Key issues gleaned from the telephone survey, from which recommendations should be developed, were:

- *Introducing additional greenspace into the downtown core area;*
- *Connecting and extending existing multi-use trails, and improving facilities (eg. garbage receptacles) along existing trails;*

- *Adding greenspaces which fulfill the needs of residents at a neighbourhood or ward level;*
- *Continuing and building on partnerships with volunteer and service groups in the planning, implementation and management of greenspaces;*
- *Increasing public use of school grounds;*
- *Prioritizing new playground development and existing playground renovation in areas of the city with large numbers of families and younger children; and*
- *Identifying deficiencies in greenspaces throughout the city, and the need for recommendations to address these deficiencies.*

### **User Group Meeting**

A meeting was held on April 3, 2001 at the Riverbank Discovery Centre, in which community, service and sports groups were invited to share their concerns with respect to greenspace development in Brandon. The goal of the meeting was to identify issues regarding primarily city-wide facilities, rather than neighbourhood or community greenspaces.

The complete findings of the user group meeting, and a survey that was administered during the meeting, can be found in Appendix F. A summary of the issues raised during the meeting, ranked to highlight their importance, is presented in Figure 1..

Key findings identified during this meeting, from which recommendations should be developed, were:

- *There is support for the concept of introducing complimentary amenities into athletic fields and complexes. In this concept, amenities such as playgrounds and picnic areas can be used by families and other siblings when children are involved in an activity;*
- *Not all user groups paid a user fee for facilities; however, the majority that did pay fees felt the user fee was satisfactory; and*

**Figure 1: Summary of Issues - User Group and Neighbourhood Meetings**

Issue	User Group Meeting April 2, 2001	East End C.C. April 10, 2001	South End C.C. April 12, 2001	Valleyview C.C. April 25, 2001	North End C.C. April 26, 2001
Development of Keystone Centre grounds	☐	◆	◆	◆	■
Use and development of school sites	■		◆	■	
Connection and extension of walkways/trails	■	■		■	
Need for more athletic facilities	◆				◆
Improvements at athletic facilities	◆				◆
Potential loss of greenspace at BMHC	■		☐	☐	☐
Vacant/derelict lots	☐	◆	☐		
Tree planting	■	◆			
Maintenance	☐		■		■
Preservation of open space vs. economics	☐			◆	
Conservation of natural habitat		■		■	
Integrating park space in planned Habitat site		◆			

- ◆ Dominant issue(s)
- Issues raised by a number of participants
- ☐ Other issues raised



**Figure 1: Summary of Issues - User Group and Neighbourhood Meetings (continued)**

Issue	User Group Meeting April 2, 2001	East End C.C. April 10, 2001	South End C.C. April 12, 2001	Valleyview C.C. April 25, 2001	North End C.C. April 26, 2001
Amount of greenspace; comparison to other cities			■	□	
Planning and design standards for new parks			◆		
Future of 3rd and Aberdeen greenspace			◆		
Need for a skateboard park			■		□
Funding of greenspaces				◆	
Powered watercraft use, access to river					◆
City's relationship w/ volunteers, service groups	■				
Safety, security and vandalism	□			□	
Contaminated sites		□		□	
Global environmental issues				■	
Preservation of greenspace north of Discovery Centre	□				□
Classification system for greenspace				□	□
Dogs in parks				□	□

- ◆ Dominant issue(s)
- Issues raised by a number of participants
- Other issues raised

**Figure 1: Summary of Issues - User Group and Neighbourhood Meetings (continued)**

Issue	User Group Meeting April 2, 2001	East End C.C. April 10, 2001	South End C.C. April 12, 2001	Valleyview C.C. April 25, 2001	North End C.C. April 26, 2001
Bridge connections					■
City-wide network of greenspaces, amenities	□				
Lack of greenspace in Green Acres	□				
Lack of greenspace in East End		■	□		
Lack of greenspace in South End				□	
City's commitment to realizing plan	□				
Accessibility	□				
Walkways needed in Rideau Park		□			
Recognition of donors at Riverbank			□		
Need for GSMP to have teeth				□	
Future of area north of Parker Boulevard					□

- ◆ Dominant issue(s)
- Issues raised by a number of participants
- Other issues raised

- *The need to find alternative funding sources to increasing user fees for facilities. Fundraising by organizations, partnerships, and municipal taxes were seen as more acceptable sources of funding.*

### **Neighbourhood Public Meetings**

Neighbourhood meetings were held in four different areas of the city - east, south, west and north - to provide residents the opportunity to share their ideas, issues and concerns with members of the Steering Committee and the Project Team.

The complete record of comments, ideas and concerns are presented, by meeting location, in Appendix G. A summary of the issues raised during these meetings, ranked to highlight their importance, is presented in Figure 1.

From this summary, it is apparent that the three most important issues to residents of Brandon, from which recommendations should be developed are (in order of importance):

- *The potential loss of greenspace at the Keystone Centre;*
- *Use and development of schoolgrounds; and*
- *The connection and extension of the multi-use trail network.*

### **Other Input**

Meetings were also held with Department of Community Services management and staff, as well as with City of Brandon Department Heads and Directors. This input was incorporated directly into the development of recommendations.

As part of the process, the Steering Committee and Project Team met with Professor Allison Marshall of Brandon University's Religion Department. At that time, the Religion Department was planning to construct a labyrinth within the Riverbank Area. Riverbank, Inc., was not able to appropriately evaluate the proposal, in part due to the lack of specific criteria to judge proposals not identified within the Assiniboine River Corridor Master Plan. Since that time, a location for the labyrinth has been selected, and planning and fundraising for the project has begun.

## 2.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Within the context of the Greenspace Master Plan, guiding principles encapsulate the community's needs, expectations and values regarding greenspace enhancement and development. These guiding principles are:

- *Quality of life;*
- *Image of the city;*
- *Nature and the city;*
- *Accessibility and safety;*
- *Leadership;*
- *Management;*
- *Coordination of new development;*
- *Partnerships; and*
- *Communicating with the public.*

These guiding principles have emerged from the gathering of background data, and in particular, the examination of planning documents. Through the public input process, residents have confirmed that the issues that define these principles are important to them and their level of satisfaction with parks and recreation in Brandon.

Below is an elaboration on each of the guiding principles which shape the development of the Master Plan.

### **Quality of Life**

- The provision of a quality, well planned park system is critical to the health and well-being of the community and its residents;

- A diversity of facilities and amenities should be provided to ensure equal access for all residents, regardless of location, age, and mobility;
- Recreation and leisure should address each resident's personal requirements, providing socialization, education and skill development, in addition to structured and unstructured play; and
- Both facilities and programs should be designed and delivered to provide recreational and leisure activities year round for use and enjoyment of residents.

### **The Image of the City**

- The image of the city is important to residents and visitors alike;
- Greenspace development and enhancement in downtown provides a venue for community activities and celebrations, and enhances the character of the core area;
- Beautification enhances the appearance of the city, while providing a venue for volunteerism, participation and community building; and
- Greenspaces should be developed as entryways to the city, to welcome visitors and create a positive impression.

### **Nature and the City**

- Habitat areas, environmentally significant areas and undevelopable areas should be protected to preserve the integrity of the environment;
- Natural hazards should be carefully considered and addressed to protect citizens and allow for orderly and efficient development;

- The incorporation of environmental education opportunities into greenspaces raises public awareness and appreciation of nature;
- Natural resources should be conserved to protect the integrity of the environment for present and future generations; and
- The use of chemical inputs will be measured to limit the human impact on natural systems.

### **Accessibility and Safety**

- Greenspaces should be accessible to allow use by all residents;
- A trail system should be developed which provides recreation and leisure amenities, as well as an active transportation alternative to automobiles; and
- Greenspaces should be safe for use by all users at all times.

### **Leadership**

- The city should develop greenspaces to the highest level to set a standard for development by others; and
- The city should set a standard for innovation by developing pilot projects to test new concepts for and delivery of greenspace.

## **Management**

- Greenspaces should be clean and well maintained, to ensure a high quality of park experience;
- The ongoing maintenance of greenspaces should be financially sustainable over time; and
- Management should allow for the ongoing review of resources to be able to efficiently and effectively adjust practices to meet current needs.

## **Coordination of New Development**

- Greenspace must keep pace with the growth of the city to ensure fair distribution of facilities and amenities;
- Wherever possible, stormwater management facilities should be jointly developed with greenspaces to maximize capital expenditures and make best use of resources; and
- When developing new residential areas, the siting of greenspaces should be undertaken in such a way to maximize access by residents. Streets and paths should be planned to allow for efficient means of access within a neighbourhood by foot, cycle or other means.

## **Partnerships**

- The Department should explore opportunities to work with community and private organizations in the planning, development, programming, operation and maintenance of greenspaces, to enhance the delivery of resources while strengthening community partnerships.



### **Communicating with the Public**

- The Department should commit to better communicate its policies to the development industry to facilitate better partnerships and ensure the development of well designed greenspaces;
- The Department should commit to better communicate its programs, mandate and role to the public, in order to improve the public's understanding of the Department, while encouraging the development of partnerships with community groups; and
- The Department should take advantage of opportunities for public consultation to build community support and understanding of the value and importance of greenspace.

### **3.0 MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS - GENERAL**

#### **3.1 THE CITYVIEW DATABASE SYSTEM**

As indicated in 1.5.4, there are several issues related to the CITYVIEW database system, particularly, the need to increase its ease of use, and the need to increase its usefulness to the ongoing management and development of greenspace in the city.

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 3.1 (a) Information Technology explore means within CITYVIEW to link parcels that form contiguous greenspaces to ease use of the database.**
- 3.1 (b) Information Technology explore means within CITYVIEW to automate the generation of reports to increase ease of use for a wide range of users. In particular, data should be able to be viewed and manipulated by ward.**
- 3.1 (c) Additional information be added to the CITYVIEW database, including information related to level of service and design standards (see 3.2 and 3.3 below). Future information that can be added to the database may include site plans and photos of greenspaces.**
- 3.1 (d) Information Technology explore means to incorporate data regarding the multi-use trail system into the CITYVIEW database.**

#### **3.2 GREENSPACE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM**

A classification system for greenspaces is an important step in understanding present resources, as well as providing a framework for future development. A classification system defines the various types of greenspaces according to physical characteristics (eg. location, size), as well as the types of amenities contained within.

As indicated, the Department has an existing classification system, which has been examined as part of the planning process. A revised classification system has been developed with the objective of creating a clearer, simpler and more inclusive system, along with level of service provisions, that provides clear direction for both the upgrading of existing facilities and the development of future greenspaces.

Below is a revised classification system which provides clear direction for the planning and design of greenspaces. The classification system is also presented in Figure 2, along with planning and design standards for each greenspace type.

- **Neighbourhood greenspaces are typically small in size and are primarily intended to meet the immediate needs of individual neighbourhoods.**
- **Neighbourhood greenspaces are intended to be located throughout the neighbourhood, away from major roadways, to provide convenient and safe access by foot or bicycle, by all residents of the neighbourhood.**
- **Neighbourhood greenspaces typically include playgrounds, seating areas, floral displays, walkways and shade tree planting.**
- **Community greenspaces provide a range of facilities and amenities to meet the needs of several neighbourhoods. Community greenspaces include joint use facilities (eg. schools and community centres) and specialized facilities (eg. baseball diamonds). Community greenspaces often serve neighbourhood needs as well.**
- **Community greenspaces are intended to be centrally located to serve multiple neighbourhoods; near major roadways.**
- **Community greenspaces typically include playgrounds, seating areas, floral displays, walkways, shade tree planting, and can include spray parks, lawn bowling, tennis, softball/baseball, soccer and basketball.**



*Coronation Park in the West End is an example of a neighbourhood greenspace.*

*Green Acres School and Community Centre together serve as a community greenspace.*



- **City greenspaces** include amenities and facilities that serve all residents of the city as well as visitors, and may also serve neighbourhood and community needs.
- **City greenspaces** include highly specialized athletic facilities (eg. Optimist Soccer Park, Westbran Stadium, which are capable of hosting tournaments), sites for public gathering (eg. Princess Park, City Hall Plaza), as well as unique recreational amenities (eg. Riverbank amenities).
- **Natural areas** have ecological and environmental significance and as such should be preserved.
- To protect the environmental and ecological integrity of natural areas, facilities should be limited to low impact uses such as walkways, seating and viewing areas.
- **Municipal open spaces** include lands which are intended to enhance public infrastructure and facilities (eg. boulevards, grounds of civic facilities) as well as mitigate incompatibilities between land uses (eg. buffers).
- Amenities within municipal open spaces are typically limited to floral displays and tree planting, as well as maintained turf areas, which fulfill a secondary recreational function by providing open space for casual games and activities.
- Municipal open spaces (eg. buffers) provide opportunities for additional trail development.

### **Multi-use Trails**

- **Primary off-street trails** provide both leisure opportunities and active transportation alternatives (eg. walking, cycling, rollerblading) for residents. Primary off-street trails are typically located within public rights-of-way, as well as within greenspaces.
- **Primary on-street trails** provide the same type of access as the off-street network, for cyclists and rollerbladers, in designated lanes on roadways.
- The primary network of off-street and on-street trails is intended to provide access within and between neighbourhoods, to community and city greenspaces, and important civic facilities (eg. Brandon University, Assiniboine Community College).



*The Police Station grounds provide an opportunity for casual recreation.*

*The 34th Street Trail, a popular primary off-street trail for walkers, cyclists and rollerbladers.*



- **Secondary trails** provide both leisure opportunities and active transportation alternatives for residents. Secondary trails are most often mid-block connections which provide access between streets. The network of these connections is intended to provide access within a neighbourhood, as well as to neighbourhood and community greenspaces, and to the primary trail network.
- Natural trails provide primarily leisure and educational amenities for residents, although in some cases these trails may serve as alternatives to primary trails. Natural trails are typically located within natural areas (eg. Riverbank).
- All trails are intended to be provided with supporting amenities such as seating areas, directional and interpretive signage, and garbage receptacles.

The Master Plan recommends that:

- 3.2 (a) A classification system for existing and future greenspaces be adopted which includes the following: neighbourhood greenspace; community greenspace; city greenspace; natural areas; municipal open space; multi-use trails.

### 3.3 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

In order to provide clear direction for the development of the various types of greenspaces classified in 3.2, planning and design standards have been developed. These standards cover:

- *Preferred location;*
- *Area served;*
- *Land use compatibility;*
- *Minimum preferred size;*
- *Open site perimeter;*
- *Connection to the multi-use trail network;*
- *Barrier free accessibility;*
- *Signage;*



A typical on-street bicycle lane.

This mid-block connection provides convenient access from residential areas to the primary trail network.



- *Parking;*
- *Safety;*
- *Desired facilities and amenities;*
- *Play/athletic fields;*
- *Fixtures;*
- *Natural features to be preserved; and*
- *Stormwater management facilities.*

These standards should be applied to the planning and design of future greenspaces; the standards can also be used to direct the enhancement of existing facilities.

Several of these standards are elaborated upon in Section 3.4, where specific issues were identified within the community.

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 3.3 (a) The planning and design standards in Figure 2 be adopted (and incorporated into the landscape design guidelines- see 5.2.6) to direct the development of new and existing greenspaces.**

**3.4 ENHANCING, DEVELOPING AND MAINTAINING GREENSPACES - GENERAL**

During the planning process for the Master Plan, issues were raised regarding greenspace facilities and amenities in general. In response to these issues, specific recommendations for facilities and amenities in general are presented below. These recommendations are intended to be used in conjunction with the planning and design standards presented in Figure 2.

**Figure 2: Planning and Design Standards for New and Existing Greenspaces**

Issue	Neighbourhood Greenspace	Community Greenspace	City Greenspace	Natural Area	Municipal Open Space
<b>Brief description</b>	Serves individual neighbourhoods; functions include play areas and passive green areas (eg. Wilnor Square)	Serves several neighbourhoods; functions include playgrounds, picnic areas, highly developed athletic fields (eg. Valleyview School/C.C.)	Appeals to all residents and tourists; functions include community events, unique leisure experiences and sports tournaments (eg. Canada Games Park)	Areas of wildlife habitat and/or ecological significance; development limited to pedestrian access (eg. Winston Churchill Park)	Include buffer strips, civic facility grounds, cemetery; have utilitarian, aesthetic (eg. City gateways), and secondary recreation function (eg. Police Station grounds)
<b>Planning standards</b>					
Preferred location	Located equally throughout neighbourhood, away from major roadways	Located centrally to serve multiple neighbourhoods, near major roadways; typically sited with schools, libraries, community centres, etc.	Located adjacent to major roadways, transit routes	Wooded areas, drainage courses and other areas of wildlife habitat or ecological significance	As required
Area Served	.4-.5 km radius (5 min. Walk)	.8-1.0 km radius (10 min. Walk)	Entire city	n/a	n/a
Land Use Compatibility	Residential zones	Residential, general commercial and limited industrial zones	Any zone	Any zone; however, may be used as buffers to mitigate potential land use conflicts	Any zone
Minimum preferred size	.3-.4 hectares	3 ha (no school) to 6 ha (school or schools)	As required	As required to ensure environmental/ecological integrity	As required
Open Site Perimeter	Minimum 50% of site perimeter open to streets or other public areas	Minimum 50% of site perimeter open to streets or other public areas	Maximize open perimeter	Maximize open perimeter as possible in areas of public access	n/a
Connection to Multi-Use Trail Network	Connect where possible to secondary trails	Connect to secondary and/or primary trails	Connect to primary trails	May be used as connections within the multi-use trail network	n/a
<b>Design Standards</b>					
Accessibility	Barrier free access to all major activity areas	Barrier free access to all major activity areas	Barrier free access to all major activity areas	Barrier free access to all major activity areas	As required
Signage	Use, directional and interpretive signage as required	Use, directional and interpretive signage as required	Use, directional and interpretive signage as required	Use, directional and interpretive signage as required	As required
Parking	On- street parking sufficient	As per zoning by-law	As per zoning by-law	As required	n/a
Safety	Maximize sightlines to, and lighting of, all paths and activity areas	Maximize sightlines to, and lighting of, all paths and activity areas	Maximize sightlines to, and lighting of, all paths and activity areas	Maximize sightlines to, and lighting of, all paths and activity areas	Maximize sightlines to, and lighting of, all areas used for casual activities

**Figure 2: Planning and Design Standards for New and Existing Greenspaces (continued)**

Issue	Neighbourhood Greenspace	Community Greenspace	City Greenspace	Natural Area	Municipal Open Space
<b>Design Standards (continued)</b>					
Typical facilities and amenities	Playground- for preschoolers Seating areas Floral displays Walkways Shade trees	Playground-for all ages Seating areas Floral displays Walkways Shade trees Spray park/paddle pool Lawn bowling Washroom facilities Concessions Picnic shelter Toboggan hill Other recreational amenities	Determined through project planning process	Interpretive signage Seating areas Viewpoint(s) Cross country ski trails	Floral displays Seating areas Toboggan hill if site permits
Play/athletic fields	Space for informal activities (ie. touch football)	Outdoor rink/tennis court (lit) Baseball diamond (1) Basketball courts (2) Soccer pitch- with overlapping practice fields	As determined through project planning process	n/a	Space for informal activities (ie. touch football) if space exists
Fixtures	Benches, picnic tables, garbage, scoop-it stations	Benches, picnic tables, garbage, water fountains, scoop-it stations	As determined through project planning process (could include Benches, picnic tables, garbage, water fountains, etc.)	Benches, garbage, scoop-it stations	Benches, garbage, scoop-it stations
Natural features to be preserved	Existing vegetation, significant ecological areas (ie. wetlands), unique landforms and drainage courses	Existing vegetation, significant ecological areas (ie. wetlands), unique landforms and drainage courses	Existing vegetation, significant ecological areas (ie. wetlands), unique landforms and drainage courses	Existing vegetation, significant ecological areas (ie. wetlands), unique landforms and drainage courses	Existing vegetation, significant ecological areas (ie. wetlands), unique landforms and drainage courses
Stormwater Management Facilities	Determined in conjunction with Engineering and Operations	Determined in conjunction with Engineering and Operations	Determined in conjunction with Engineering and Operations	Determined in conjunction with Engineering and Operations	Determined in conjunction with Engineering and Operations



### 3.4.1 Safety

It should be the community's goal to have a network of greenspaces which are safe for all residents, at all times.

Issues with respect to the safety of residents in greenspaces that need to be addressed include:

- *Vandalism within greenspaces;*
- *Attacks on residents in greenspaces;*
- *Poor lighting of greenspaces; and*
- *Lack of visibility within greenspaces, and from surrounding streets and public areas.*

The most effective means to address these and other issues related to safety is through a safety audit, conducted by members of the community. A safety audit is a detailed, step by step process which helps the community identify problems and potential problem areas within a greenspace, and determine the best means to remedy those problems.

A good safety audit will be based on CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles, a widely recognized approach to designing safe environments and open spaces. The principles of CPTED, which form the basis of a safety audit, include:

- A well-maintained area expresses a sense of ownership and people tend to protect an area that they feel belongs to them.
- An area that has people watching and reporting suspicious activity has few obstacles that block the view of casual observers.
- An area that has distinguishable entrances and exits (between public and private space) will help to keep potential criminals from entering.
- Encouraging activity in public spaces helps to discourage crime and disorder. An area that is busy increases the feeling of safety (Winnipeg Committee for Safety, 2001).

A sample audit, developed by the Winnipeg Committee for Safety, is included in Appendix H.

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 3.4.1 (a) A safety audit be developed for greenspaces, which can be undertaken by citizens in conjunction with the Department.**
- 3.4.1 (b) The city implement the recommendations of completed safety audits for individual greenspaces.**

**3.4.2 Signage**

It should be the community's goal to provide greenspaces with signage that is welcoming, informative, and that suits and enhances greenspaces.

The city has recently begun a program to install signs at parks and playgrounds; the opportunity should be taken to expand this program and identify other means by which signage can enhance greenspaces. Well designed signage not only communicates important information about the use of the greenspace, but of the city-wide greenspace network as well. In addition, signage can enhance the aesthetic character of the facility.

Issues with respect to signage within greenspaces that need to be addressed include:

- *The lack of formal names for many greenspaces within the city;*
- *Identifying available facilities, particularly those providing barrier free access;*
- *Limiting certain uses or hours of use (eg. to discourage vandalism);*
- *Welcoming and encouraging use (eg. schoolgrounds);*
- *The opportunity for interpretive signage, communicating a greenspace and/or a neighbourhood's history, unique features, etc.;*



Recent signage developed by the Department which encourages greater use of greenspaces.

- *The need for signage, in conjunction with landscaping, to effectively identify points of access. This is most notable in greenspaces within the Riverbank accessible by automobile; and*
- *The lack of signage communicating information regarding upcoming events in greenspaces (eg. Kids Country Fair at Kinsmen Stadium).*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 3.4.2 (a) All greenspaces be formally named. The opportunity exists to allow service clubs and other greenspace partners to name greenspaces after people or events significant to the particular group.**
- 3.4.2 (b) Signage should be durable, readable, and visible.**
- 3.4.2 (c) At a minimum, signage contain information regarding: available facilities (illustrated through symbols); guidelines for and hours of use; contact information (phone and web); accessibility. In addition, signage may incorporate city-wide trail maps, greenspace and neighbourhood interpretive information, as well as an area for the posting of community notices.**
- 3.4.2 (d) Signage be enhanced with landscaping to clearly define entry areas and encourage greater use.**
- 3.4.2 (e) Readerboards be placed in community and city greenspaces regularly used for community events to inform the public of current and upcoming events.**

**3.4.3 Playgrounds**

It should be the community's goal to achieve a network of playgrounds throughout the city which:

- *Meet the full range of play needs for all children, regardless of age or mobility;*
- *Are sited for easy and safe access by every resident of every neighbourhood;*



*Playground at Green Acres School and Community Centre offers play opportunities for children with mobility impairments.*

- *Are developed in conjunction with complimentary facilities and amenities; and*
- *Are planned through close community consultation.*

Issues with respect to playgrounds that must be addressed include:

- *Few play structures are fully accessible to all children, regardless of age and mobility;*
- *Play needs for preschoolers and teens have not been adequately addressed through play structures;*
- *The inability of ready-made playground equipment to serve the full range of a child's play needs. In addition to active play (provided through climbing structures, swings, etc.), children must have access to cognitive or creative play (eg. digging, molding, shaping, constructing); group or social play (eg. talking, pretending, acting) and individual or quiet play (eg. daydreaming, observing, imagining). A full description of the different types of play is presented in Appendix I; and*
- *Playgrounds lack complimentary facilities (eg. benches, shade trees) for the use of parents and other family members.*

The most effective means to address these issues is through close consultation with the users: the neighbourhood's children and their families. Research indicates that such involvement strengthens both a sense of community and ownership of the facility (which can reduce vandalism and crime). Community involvement also opens the door for local character and personality to emerge (eg. artwork, murals).

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 3.4.3 (a) All play structures be universally accessible and in conformance with current CSA standards for safety.**
- 3.4.3 (b) Play structures in all greenspaces be designed for all ages of children, including preschoolers and teens..**



Innovative Playgrounds Research Project

Rather than relying on traditional playground equipment, this innovative playground in Denmark provides children with a landscape of earth and water that can be actively shaped and changed.

This playground in the Netherlands safely incorporates a popular outdoor activity: rock climbing.



Innovative Playgrounds Research Project

- 3.4.3 (c) Play structures be complimented with benches and garbage receptacles, as well as shrub and tree planting as appropriate.**
- 3.4.3 (d) A pilot project be undertaken to develop an innovative play environment beyond typical play equipment.**

In establishing guidelines or priorities for the upgrading of playgrounds, the issues to be addressed include:

- *Instances where two or more playgrounds exist in close proximity (eg. in adjacent schools/community centres), and could be combined for greater efficiency (the opportunity exists for combined budgets to provide a wider range of amenities);*
- *The greater opportunity for community use where playgrounds are sited in conjunction with facilities such as community centres; and*
- *Shortcomings of greenspace size, visibility and other design factors, which may discourage playground use and/or encourage vandalism of play equipment.*

In prioritizing playground upgrading, the objective should be to eliminate duplication, maximize use, and protect the investment of playground amenities.

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 3.4.3 (e) Those sites with a number of different playgrounds be identified and prioritized for redevelopment with joint facilities, along with complimentary amenities.**
- 3.4.3 (f) Playground enhancement be prioritized at sites with the greatest potential for use (eg. at community centres).**
- 3.4.3 (g) Where site size, visibility, accessibility or other issues exist, playground enhancement involve the siting of new play equipment in more suitable locations, or on other, more advantageous, sites.**

### 3.4.4 Paddle Pools and Spray Parks

It should be the community's goal to achieve a network of paddle pools and water spray parks which are safe and accessible by all children; provide equality of access to residents regardless of location; maximize capital investment; and are sited with complimentary facilities and amenities to provide the greatest opportunity for use by children and families.

Brandon has a number of older paddle pools, and for some time it has been the city's intention to embark on a program to replace these facilities with water spray parks. This past summer, the first spray park opened in Stanley Park.

Spray parks provide an exciting recreation and leisure amenity to children and families, and like swimming pools, provide a low cost recreation option for families. Spray parks provide a safe and accessible play environment, and offer operating efficiencies over the paddle pools which presently serve many neighbourhood greenspaces.

Issues with respect to paddle pools and spray parks that need to be addressed include:

- *Existing paddle pools are old and generally in a deteriorated state;*
- *Many existing paddle pools are poorly located, in greenspaces with size, accessibility and visibility issues;*
- *Use patterns of paddle pools vary widely. The most recent attendance figures of paddle pools in Brandon are indicated in Figure 3;*
- *Paddle pools are expensive to operate;*
- *As with other high capital developments, future spray parks need to be sited to fulfill the greatest need and realize the best value;*
- *The opportunity exists to further develop sites as family activity centres, including other games, playground equipment, picnic areas, etc.; and*
- *There has not yet been the opportunity to fully evaluate the success of the first spray park and identify issues for future consideration.*



Stanley Park spray park, which opened in 2001. The facility has been very popular.

**Figure 3: Spray Park and Paddle Pool Attendance**

Spray park/paddle pool	Children attending (Summer 2001)
Kinsmen Kiddies Corner	4655
Valleyview Playground	4379
Argyle Courts Playground	3612
Riverheights Park	3152
Kirkcaldy Heights Leo Lot	3095
East End Community Centre	2511
Meadows Playground	2478
Patmore's Playground	2406
South End Playground	2197
Westridge Community Centre	2144
Green Acres Playground	1645
North End Playground	872

To address these issues and fulfill the overall goal for upgrading paddle pools, the following recommendations are provided.

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 3.4.4 (a) A thorough evaluation of the Stanley Park spray park be undertaken, to identify positive qualities, deficiencies and needs for future spray parks.**
- 3.4.4 (b) As an alternative to the total replacement of a paddle pool with a spray park, the enhancement of existing paddle pools with spray features be considered.**

In prioritizing the upgrading of paddle pools, the city should consider present use, the need for equal access, and the requirement to address important siting issues.

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 3.4.4 (c) Paddle pool upgrading should be done in a way that ensures fair geographic distribution (ie. East, Southeast, Southwest, West, North); however, priority should be given to those areas presently facing deficiencies in greenspace and recreational facilities.**
- 3.4.4 (d) Paddle pools be upgraded to reflect present use patterns. At locations with low usage (eg. North End, Green Acres or Westridge), the enhancement and/or development of complimentary amenities should be undertaken to increase public use.**
- 3.4.4 (e) Where existing paddle pools suffer from deficiencies (eg. lack of amenities, poor visibility), replacement spray parks be developed in more advantageous locations, and in the future introduce complimentary amenities (eg. seating, planting, etc.). Paddle pools should not be replaced where issues of greenspace size, accessibility and safety exist and cannot be remedied.**

**3.4.5 Athletic Facilities**

It should be the community's goal to achieve a network of athletic fields which provide for a range of sports activities at all levels (recreation to tournament), and which are easily accessible by all residents of the city.

In addition to baseball and other school facilities, there are a number of highly developed facilities operated by service clubs and/or the city (eg. Westbran Stadium). These facilities meet the needs of sports groups, schools, as well as the general public. Many of these facilities are the legacy of events such as the Canada Summer Games, and continue to provide the infrastructure for the city to host regional and national athletic tournaments.



*A range of athletic facilities are needed in the community to serve all levels of sport, from casual recreation to competition play .*



Issues that need to be addressed include:

- *Inappropriate public use which potentially damages facilities (eg. casual use of Optimist Park soccer pitches);*
- *Strengthening relationships between sports organizations/service clubs and the city;*
- *Inconsistencies and a perceived lack of value in facility user fees; and*
- *Enhancing facilities with complimentary uses.*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 3.4.5 (a) Signage be introduced at all athletic facilities that clearly communicates limits of use.**
- 3.4.5 (b) Maintenance standards (See Appendix J) be adopted and these standards become the basis for formal service agreements between sports groups and the city regarding roles, responsibilities and user fees.**
- 3.4.5 (c) A detailed set of standards for athletic facilities be developed, including construction detailing.**
- 3.4.5 (d) A pilot project be developed which introduces a playground and other complimentary amenities into an existing athletic facility.**

### **3.4.6 Trails and Walking Paths**

It should be the community's goal to achieve a network of trails and walking paths which are safe, accessible by all, maximize choices for active transportation, and provide access to all areas of the city, as well as important recreational (eg. outdoor swimming pools), cultural (eg. community centres) and institutional (eg. Brandon University) amenities.

The trail network in Brandon is well used and one of the most popular amenities within the city. trails include a city-wide network of paved, off-street trails which provide connections for walking, cycling and other means within and between neighbourhoods; both

paved and unpaved trails within the Riverbank Area, as well as limited on-street cycling lanes. As demonstrated by the Brandon example, a well planned trail network provides recreation and leisure amenities (including opportunities for socializing), as well as a viable active transportation alternative (eg. walking, cycling) to vehicular travel.

Issues that need to be addressed include:

- *Small but critical gaps in the network which prevent access between neighbourhoods;*
- *The lack of good access from outer suburban areas to downtown;*
- *The lack of good access to important facilities (eg. hospital, Brandon University, Assiniboine Community College);*
- *The lack of connection between the city-wide network and the Riverbank trail system;*
- *The lack of walking paths within greenspaces;*
- *Maximizing barrier free access;*
- *Cleanliness along trail (eg. free of dog droppings); and*
- *The safety of users, ensured through appropriate lighting and preservation of sightlines.*

Following are design standards which relate to the development of all types of trails within the City of Brandon:

**General:**

- **Maximum grade: 1:10; trails steeper than 1:20 must be designed as ramps and conform to National Building Code standards (with handrails, landings, etc.).**
- **Clear shoulder (500 mm recommended) on either side of trail.**
- **Appropriate vertical clearance (2500 mm recommended).**
- **Signage: safety, directional, trail maps at important trail junctions. Trails meeting CSA barrier free standards should be identified with the universal symbol of accessibility.**
- **Grading and landscaping to City of Brandon Landscape Design Guidelines to ensure visibility from surrounding areas.**

- **Amenities:** seating areas, signage, garbage receptacles should be spaced at 60 m intervals (difficult trail) to 400 m (fully accessible to all users).

#### **Primary off-street trail network:**

- **Asphalt trail, 2.5-4.0 m width to allow two way traffic.**
- **Where possible, located within public right-of-way to allow separation from streets and sidewalks.**

#### **Secondary city-wide trail network:**

- **Primarily mid-block connections.**
- **Asphalt trail, 1.5-2.0 m width.**

#### **On-street network:**

- **Include marked lanes (widths vary) with safety/directional signage and signed routes only.**

#### **Greenspace trails/paths:**

- **Provide access into and through greenspaces for pedestrians, cyclists and other forms of active transportation, as well as service vehicles. Priority should be given to greenspaces with high levels of foot traffic and/or adjacency to the primary and secondary trail network.**
- **Asphalt or other hard surfaced trail, 1.5-2.0 m width.**
- **In greenspaces where safety is a concern due to poor visibility, trails should be widened as appropriate to allow service/police vehicles to loop through.**
- **Developed in conjunction with greenspace planning, to incorporate landscaped/seating areas and preserve open space for passive use.**

#### **Natural trails:**

- **Aggregate or wood chip surface to ensure permeability, 1.5-2.0 m width.**

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

**3.4.6 (a) Design standards be adopted (and incorporated into the landscape design guidelines-see 5.2.6) for the development of all trail types in Brandon, including primary off-street trails, secondary trails, on-street trails, greenspace trails, and natural trails.**

### **3.4.7 Stormwater Management**

It should be the community's goal to have stormwater management facilities safely and appropriately incorporated into greenspace, not only to maximize capital investment, but to more efficiently provide greenspace amenities, protect natural areas, and offer unique leisure and educational opportunities.

The incorporation of stormwater management facilities (eg. retention and detention facilities) represents a unique greenspace opportunity, and is consistent with the City of Brandon Strategic Plan regarding the sharing and integration of facilities. The benefits of stormwater management are well documented: facilities reduce downstream flooding and erosion while limiting pollution of surface water; they can also limit expensive upgrades to existing infrastructure. Facilities which combine greenspace amenities with stormwater management offer many benefits as well: as retention (wet) areas, joint facilities can offer aesthetic potentials as well as limited recreation opportunities (eg. skating in the winter); as detention (ie. intermittently wet) features, joint facilities can incorporate environmental education opportunities (eg. related to wetlands), and be directly integrated with both passive open space and developed athletic facilities.

Issues that need to be addressed include:

- *Safety around water features;*
- *Opportunities for environmental education (eg. wetlands); and*
- *Achieving a balance between stormwater management and service provision (ie. so that the ongoing use of the facility can occur concurrently with its stormwater function).*



*This greenspace in Regina provides an example of an innovative approach to integrating greenspace amenities with stormwater management practices.*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 3.4.7 (a) In conjunction with the Department of Engineering and Operations, the potential for introducing stormwater management facilities into greenspaces be investigated. As part of this investigation, planning, design and facility standards should be identified.**
- 3.4.7 (b) A stormwater management pilot project be undertaken to implement and demonstrate the planning and design standards above. The stormwater management site south of Durum Drive may serve as a possible pilot demonstration project.**

### **3.4.8 Environmental Responsibility**

It should be the community's goal to protect areas of ecological significance, better understand and appreciate natural systems, and manage greenspaces and facilities in an environmentally responsible manner.

Environmental concerns were consistently raised during the planning process. While many individuals spoke of initiatives undertaken by themselves or others, they consistently referred to the need for the city to develop a broad approach to environmental issues.

Issues that need to be addressed include:

- *The preservation of existing tree canopies, stands, wetlands and other areas of wildlife habitat;*
- *The preservation of existing drainage courses and patterns;*
- *Creating an active transportation (eg. walking, bicycling) alternative to vehicular travel throughout the city;*
- *Creating opportunities to learn more about and appreciate the environment; and*
- *Stewardship of greenspaces in an environmentally responsible manner.*

The Master Plan recommends that:

- 3.4.8 (a) A city-wide inventory of wildlife habitat and other natural areas be undertaken, to identify those lands to be preserved .The opportunity exists for this inventory to be undertaken as a collaborative effort between the city and Brandon University, elementary and high schools, as well as groups such as the Brandon Naturalists.
- 3.4.8 (b) The Brandon and Area Planning District Development Plan (and in particular, the General Land Use Concept Map) and the City of Brandon Zoning By-law be updated to include natural areas and other lands identified through the inventory process in 3.4.8 (a).
- 3.4.8 (c) To compliment the ongoing expansion and completion of the multi-use trail network, the Department develop a brochure or similar material containing information regarding the trail network (eg. trail map, rules of the road, etc.).
- 3.4.8 (d) Existing naturalization projects (Riverbank Discovery Centre, Dinsdale Park, Neelin High School) be expanded where possible, and enhanced with signage, benches and other amenities. As appropriate, naturalization projects should be introduced into other greenspaces (and in particular, schoolgrounds).
- 3.4.8 (e) The city continue its program of reducing pesticide use in greenspaces.

### 3.4.9 School Grounds

It should be the community’s goal to have a network of schoolgrounds throughout the city that provide a recreational and leisure amenity beyond school hours, welcoming public use for a wide range of neighbourhood and community amenities.

As in any community, schoolgrounds in the city represent an important greenspace resource. However, the planning process revealed public feelings that schoolgrounds are unattractive, and that public use is discouraged. When properly developed, schoolgrounds can offer new educational opportunities as well a range of community amenities. Examples from other centres illustrate projects featuring outdoor classrooms, walking paths, and



Naturalization project at the Discovery Centre, which effectively communicates the project’s objectives and other information.

Natural areas, such as this site southwest of 34th and Richmond, can be identified within the Development Plan as requiring protection in future development.



naturalization projects. As in playground redevelopment, community participation is essential.

Issues that need to be addressed include:

- *The lack of operating monies and resources to enhance school grounds and/or improve maintenance;*
- *Some user groups are willing to enhance school grounds (eg. plant trees), but no long range plans exist to guide schoolyard revitalization initiatives;*
- *Expanding on typical schoolyard function to include new educational and community resources; and*
- *Overcoming the perception that neighbourhood residents are unwelcome in schoolgrounds.*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 3.4.9 (a) A program be developed to engage parent councils and other community groups in the enhancement of schoolgrounds. This program could be developed under the Neighbourhood Initiative Project (see 5.2.1) and should include basic design guidelines to direct community improvement efforts.**
- 3.4.9 (b) A pilot project be undertaken with community partners (eg. Brandon NRC) to enhance an existing schoolground. Enhancements should offer benefits for both students, as well as the general public (eg. wildflower gardens, walking trails and seating areas). Enhancements should be combined with well designed signage that welcomes the public while clearly identifying limits to use.**
- 3.4.9 (c) The reciprocal joint use agreement between the city and School Division be reviewed to determine if a more effective partnership and sharing of resources can be created.**



Schoolground enhancement can include the development of naturalized areas, walking paths and outdoor classrooms, for use both by students and the community.

### 3.4.10 Pocket Parks and Community Gardens

It should be the community's goal to have both short and long term greenspace amenities developed, through partnerships between the city, property owners and community groups, which provide additional greenspace as well as a venue for community self expression.

Pocket parks and community gardens were consistently identified by the public as a means to turn vacant lots into usable greenspace. Such initiatives can be of considerable value to a community, by adding much needed greenspace where deficiencies exist.

Recently, a mini-park was created at the corner of 18th Street and Richmond Avenue. A collaboration between the city and the Brandon Garden Club, the mini-park provides a useful model for future cooperative endeavors.

Issues that need to be addressed include:

- *In certain circumstances, greenspace development of this type may only be of a short term or temporary nature; development should occur in a manner that makes best use of the community's investment of time and resources;*
- *Where greenspace deficiencies exist in a ward, the city should consider the purchase of property to develop permanent pocket park or community garden amenities;*
- *A lack of programs/procedures to facilitate cooperation between interested community groups and private landowners;*
- *A lack of programs/procedures to facilitate partnerships between community groups and the city, to outline sharing or resources, define roles, recognize achievement; and*
- *Limited resources are available to interested community members.*



*Mini-park at 18th and Richmond, developed through a partnership between the City of Brandon and the Brandon Garden Club.*



**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 3.4.10 (a) A program be developed to encourage and guide the development of pocket parks and community gardens by community and volunteer groups. This program could be developed under the Neighbourhood Initiative Project (see 5.2.1) and should outline the public/private partnership, clearly identifying roles, as well as methods for encouraging neighbourhood participation.**
- 3.4.10 (b) An investigation be made of possible incentives for property owners to become involved in projects (eg. tax incentives).**
- 3.4.10 (c) Pocket park and community garden projects be limited to low impact/non permanent enhancements (eg. annual/perennial planting, gravel walks, moveable play equipment). Only in cooperation with landowners should more permanent features (eg. shrub and tree planting) be considered.**

### **3.4.11 Skateboard Facility**

It should be the community's goal to see a skateboard facility or facilities developed in the city, at an easily accessible location, and in a manner that creates a safe environment for users and other members of the public.

The city presently lacks a permanent, outdoor skateboard facility; this fact was highlighted throughout the public consultation process. The city for some time offered a portable park for use by youth; this facility was not well used largely due to scheduling issues, and is presently for sale. At this time, the Skateboard Association is attempting to develop skateboard facilities at Community Centres within the city. A well planned and designed facility provides a safe leisure environment for young people who are presently under-served by park facilities and recreational programming. A high quality outdoor facility also offers the potential to bring young people and their families to the city from surrounding communities.



Innovative Playgrounds Research Project

*Skateboard facilities, whether permanent or portable, provide recreational opportunities for the youth of the community.*

Issues that need to be addressed include:

- *Both the perception and reality of conflict between skateboarders and other users of public spaces, as well as between a skateboard facility and adjacent land use;*
- *The deterioration (and damage) of many public and private spaces resulting from skateboard use; and*
- *The need to site a facility based on accessibility and visibility.*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

**3.4.11 (a) The city offer administrative, organizational and fundraising support to the Skateboard Association as a skateboard facility is developed in Brandon.**

#### **3.4.12 Dog Parks**

It should be the community's goal to have a network of greenspaces, easily accessible by all residents, which provide an opportunity for residents to run dogs in a safe manner.

Issues that need to be addressed include:

- *Siting secure, fenced areas in locations to minimize conflict with other uses (eg. schoolgrounds). In some cases, dogs may be run on fenced soccer or football fields. Neighbourhood parks with large open spaces (eg. Riverheights Park, Parkdale, Crocus Park) may also be suitable;*
- *Providing adequate amenities, such as garbage receptacles and 'scoop-it' stations; and*
- *Locating dog parks to be easily accessible for all residents.*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

**3.4.12 (a) The city investigate the siting of dog parks in locations which provide equal, easy access to all residents, and do not conflict with other land uses.**

## 4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GREENSPACE ENHANCEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

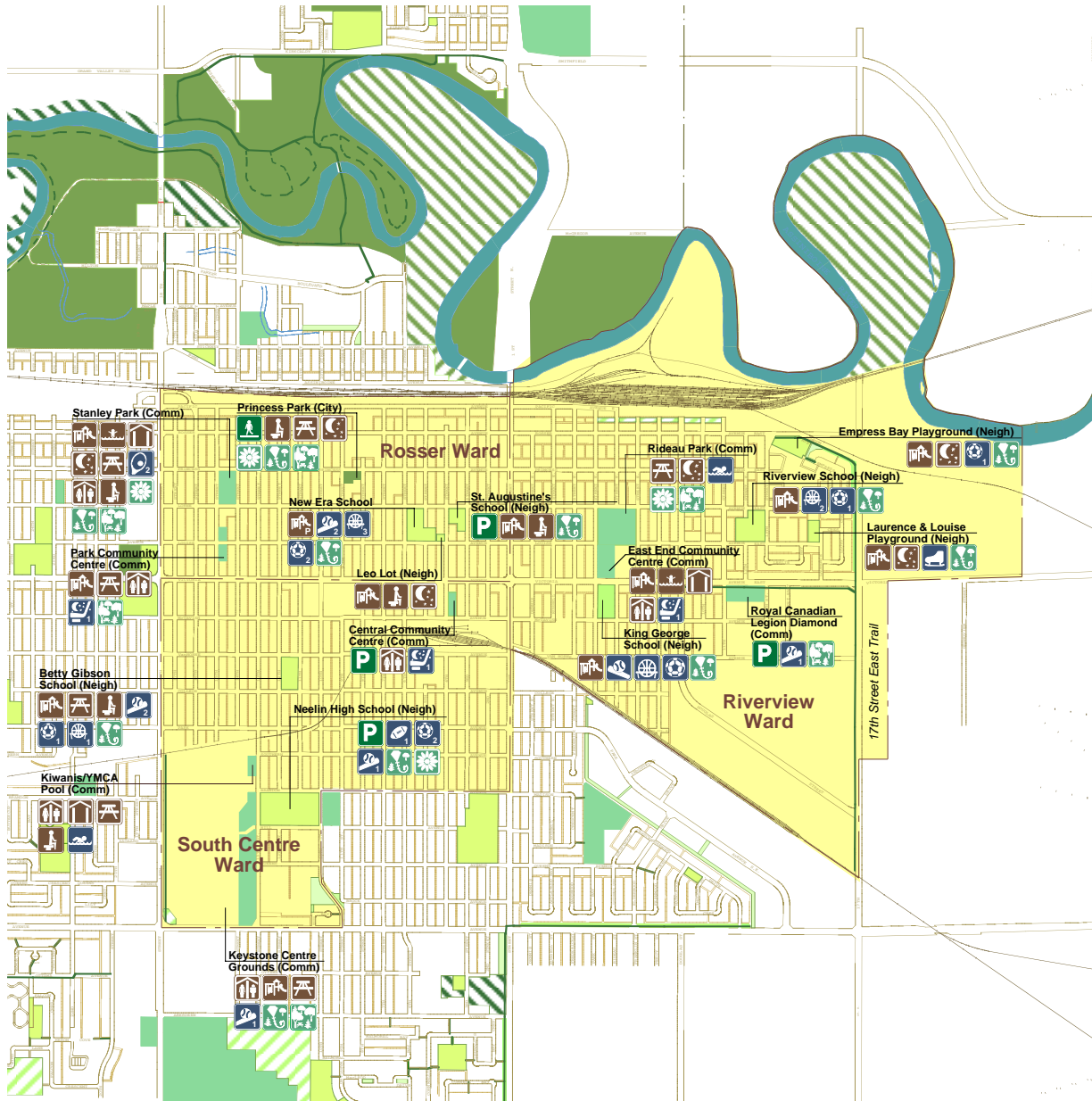
The following is an evaluation of greenspace amenities within the City of Brandon, as well as consideration of redevelopment and future development. This evaluation is based on the ward system, which divides the city into 10 distinguishable areas of similar population.

In general, the evaluation of existing amenities revealed a number of issues to be addressed:

- *Generally, there are adequate neighbourhood and city greenspaces, but a shortage of community greenspaces;*
- *Many greenspaces offer single or limited use, and could benefit from the addition of complimentary amenities to attract additional use;*
- *Many greenspace facilities are showing signs of deterioration;*
- *In some wards, there is little land available for new greenspace development;*
- *There are a number of joint facilities which do not make best use of their adjacent location and opportunity for complimentary use;*
- *There is generally a good trail network circling the city, with minor gaps, but there are a lack of connections to the inner core of the city; and*
- *There are limited resources to deal with these deficiencies.*

### 4.1 CENTRAL AREA

The central area of the city includes Rosser Ward, South Centre Ward and Riverview Ward (Map 2a). This area includes the oldest neighborhoods in Brandon, and is characterized by both large and small homes, many of heritage value, on small lots.



### Legend

- Neighbourhood Greenspaces (Neigh):** Serve individual neighbourhoods; include playgrounds, open space (eg. pocket park)
- Community Greenspaces (Comm):** Serve several neighbourhoods; include sports fields & playgrounds (eg. school grounds)
- City Greenspaces (City):** Serve all city residents & visitors; include specialized leisure amenities & athletic facilities
- Natural areas:** lands with environmental/ecological significance, to be preserved
- Municipal Open Space:** eg. boulevards, buffers, grounds of civic buildings & facilities
- Other undeveloped lands zoned PR (Parks and Recreation) and/or OS (Open Space)**
- Ward Area**
- Paved, off- and on-street trails intended for active transportation (walking, cycling, rollerblading, etc)**
- Unpaved pathways intended primarily for nature interpretation**
- Unpaved pathways not specifically designated for public use**

#### Accessibility within existing greenspaces

- P** Off street parking
- A** Paved walkway through green space

#### Athletic/recreation facilities (and numbers) within existing greenspaces

- Baseball diamond(s)
- Lit baseball diamond(s)
- Tennis court(s)
- Lit tennis court(s)
- Basketball court(s)
- Football field(s)
- Swimming pool
- Lit outdoor rink(s)
- Seasonal ice pad

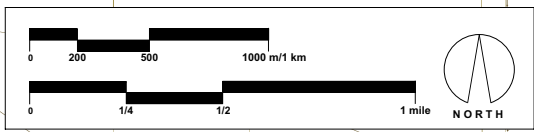
#### Park/leisure facilities within existing greenspaces

- Playground- for all age groups
- Playground- most suitable for preschoolers
- Paddle pool
- Shelter
- Washrooms
- Picnic table(s)
- Barbeque pits
- Benches/ seating areas
- Lit for nighttime use

#### Landscape Character of existing greenspaces

- Open space
- Horticultural displays
- Parkland
- Natural/ undeveloped area

**MAP 2a: Existing Greenspaces & Trails in Rosser, South Centre & Riverview Wards**



#### 4.1.1 Rosser Ward

Rosser Ward represents the core area of Brandon, and is centrally located within the city (Map 2a). 10th street divides the ward into two distinct neighbourhoods. To the west, Stanley Park provides neighbourhood greenspace, and Park Community Centre provides community greenspace. To the east, New Era and St. Augustine’s Schools, as well as the 4th Street Leo Lot, provide neighbourhood greenspaces.

There are currently no multi-use trails within Rosser Ward.

The amount of greenspace in Rosser Ward is as follows:

**Figure 4: Provision of Greenspace in Rosser Ward (ha/1000 persons)**

	Brandon		Compared to other cities*	
	Rosser Ward	City Average	Existing Greenspace	Recommended
Neighbourhood	0.54	1.85	0.42-1.2	0.5-2.2
Community	0.42	0.9	0.4-2.3	0.5-2.2
City	0.1	3.87		
Other	0			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1.06</b>	<b>6.57</b>		

\* Compared to Nanaimo BC; Orillia ON; Grande Prairie AB; Timmins ON; Kelowna BC

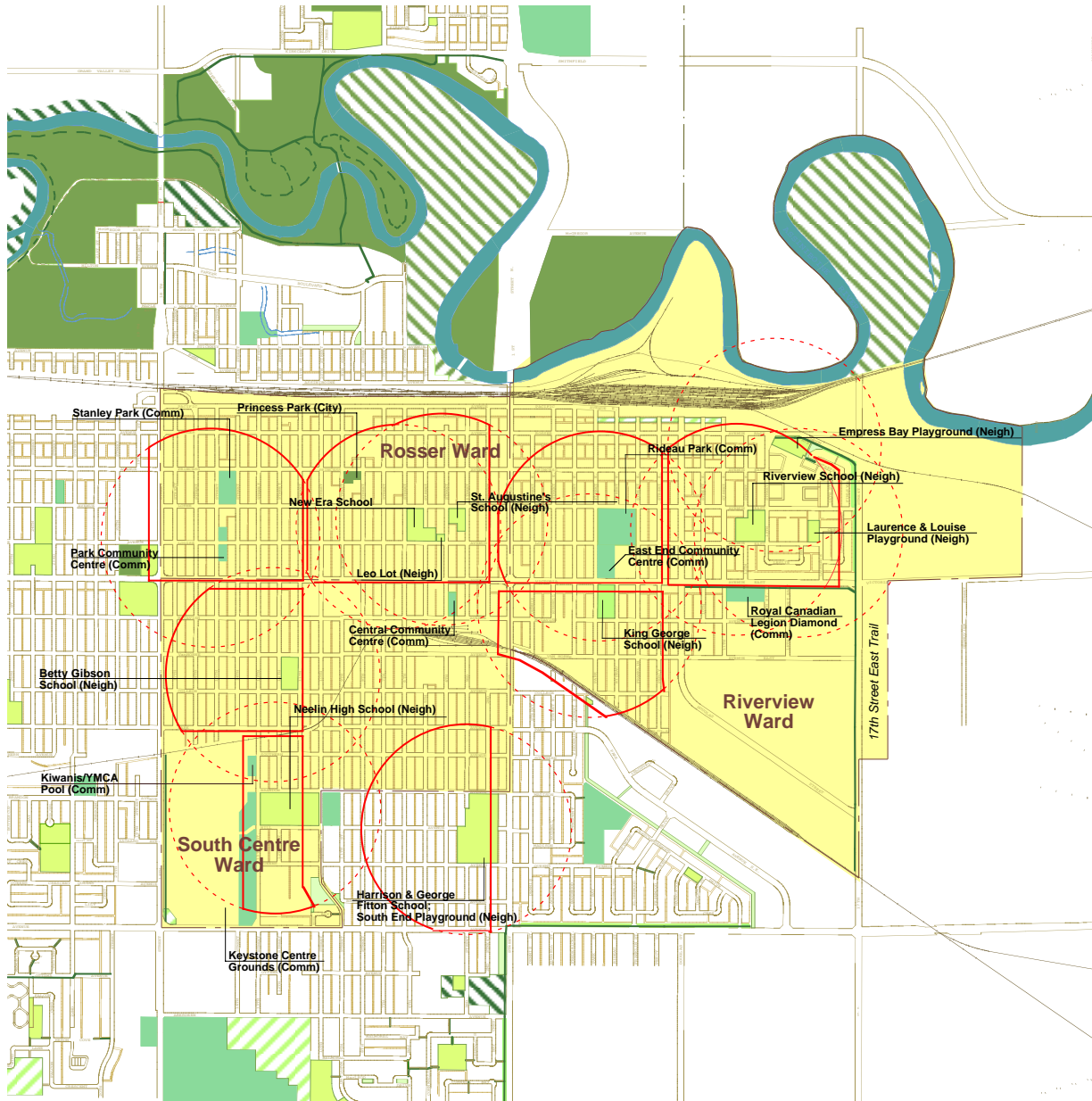
A consideration of existing levels of service (Map 2b), existing amenities (Figure 5) as well as public input reveals the following issues in Rosser Ward.



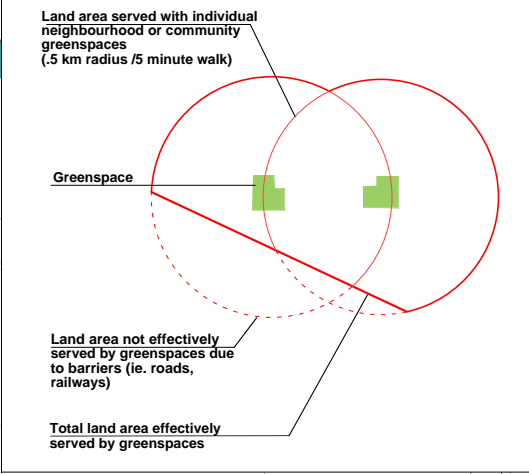
*Stanley Park provides community greenspace amenities to Brandon’s core area. Additional enhancement can attract additional use by residents.*

*Recent playground upgrades at St. Augustine’s School provide safe play opportunities for a range of ages.*

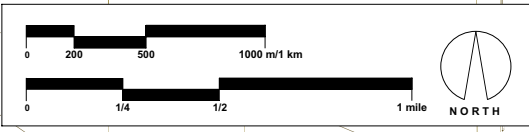




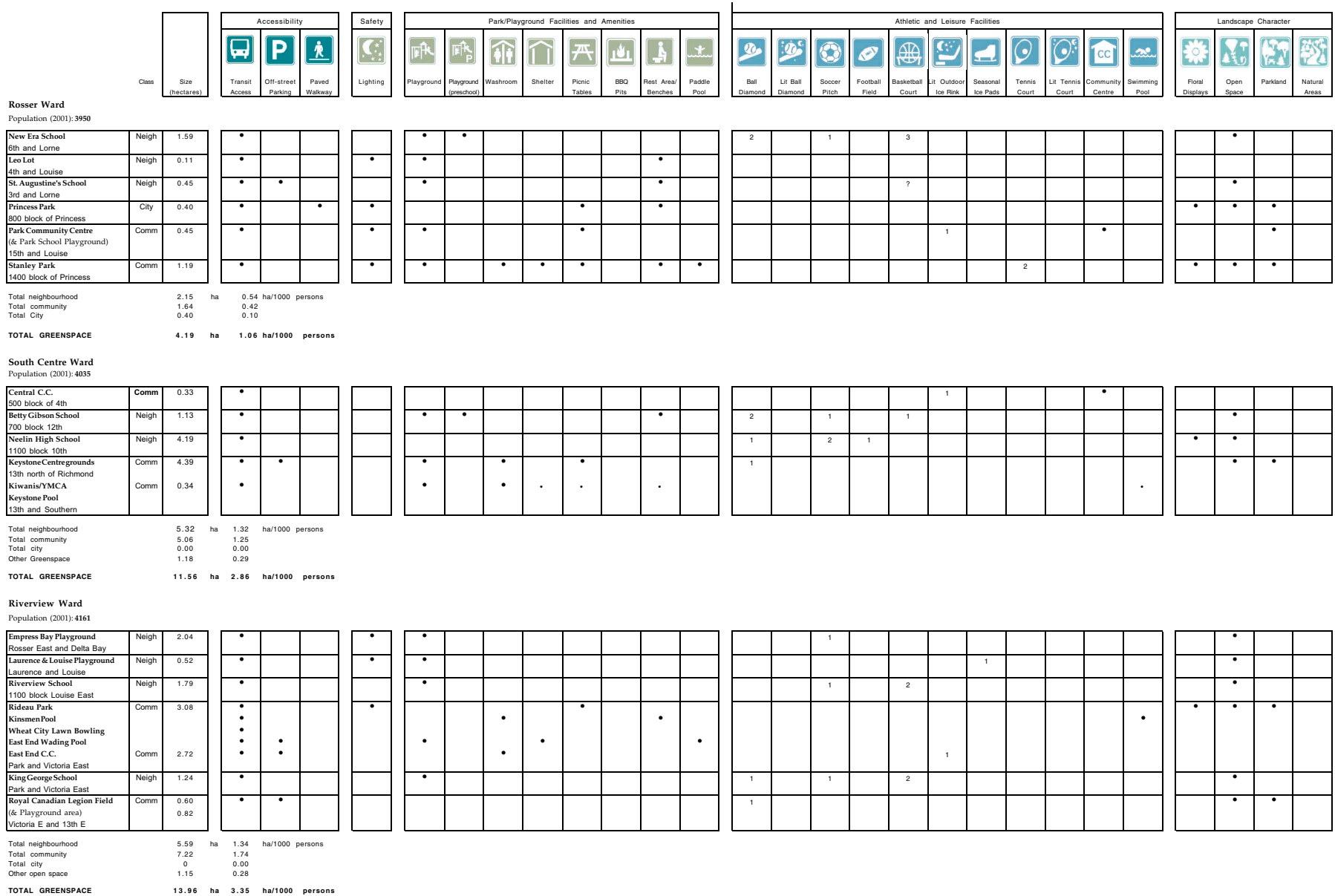
- ### Legend
- Neighbourhood Greenspaces (Neigh): Serving individual neighbourhoods; includes playgrounds, open space (eg. pocket park)
  - Community Greenspaces (Comm): Serve several neighbourhoods; includes sportsfields & playgrounds (eg. school grounds)
  - City Greenspaces (City): Serve all city residents & visitors; includes specialized leisure amenities & athletic facilities
  - Natural areas: lands with environmental/ ecological significance, to be preserved
  - Municipal Open Space: includes boulevards, buffers, grounds of civic buildings & facilities
  - Other undeveloped lands zoned PR (Parks and Recreation) and/or OS (Open Space)
  - Ward Area



**MAP 2b: Greenspace Service Levels in Rosser, South Centre & Riverview Wards**



**Figure 5: Existing Greenspace Inventory - Central Area**



## Assets

- *Generally, greenspaces are equally distributed throughout the ward;*
- *The ward contains Princess Park, which provides city-wide amenities;*
- *The ward contains Stanley Park, which has a tennis court, spray park, lawn bowling club and extensive horticultural displays in a park-like setting;*
- *There have been recent playground upgrades at New Era and St. Augustine's School;*
- *The ward does have a community centre; and*
- *Generally, the greenspaces in the ward are well used.*

## Deficiencies

- *There is a shortage of all types of greenspace;*
- *Facilities and amenities lacking include a football field, outdoor swimming pool (indoor pool at YMCA), and natural areas;*
- *There is a lack of trails in the ward;*
- *Deficiencies exist in the quantity and quality of playgrounds and recreational amenities; and*
- *With the exception of St. Augustine's School, all greenspaces in the ward are showing signs of age and deterioration.*

## The Master Plan recommends that:

- 4.1.1 (a) Short and long term pocket parks and community gardens be established within Rosser Ward, as opportunities arise, to address deficiencies in greenspace.**
- 4.1.1 (b) Princess Park be enhanced with additional walkways, interpretive signage, as well as benches, picnic tables and other amenities which compliment the use of the greenspace as a downtown festival site.**

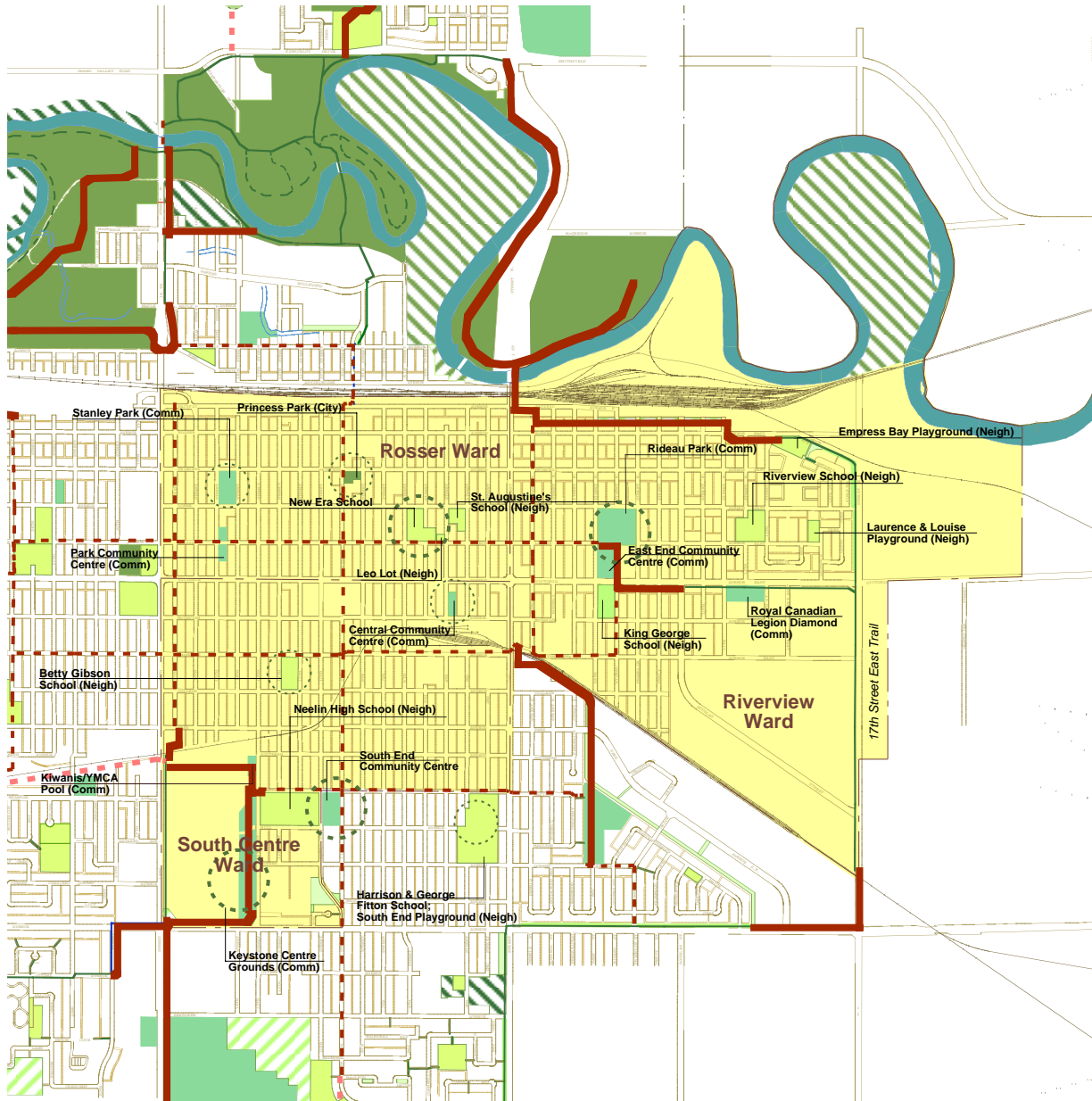


The New Era Schoolground provides the opportunity to develop greenspace and recreational amenities which better serve inner city residents.



- 4.1.1 (c) **Stanley Park be enhanced with amenities which improve use of the park (eg. walkways) and compliment existing family amenities (eg. picnic tables, picnic shelter).**
- 4.1.1 (d) **New Era School be enhanced with tree and shrub planting, walkways, seating and picnic areas to compliment the current use of the schoolground and encourage additional use by the community.**
- 4.1.1 (e) **A study be undertaken to assess the feasibility of a greenway along Louise or Lorne Avenue, between Coronation and Rideau Park. The greenway could include bicycle lanes, enhanced pedestrian areas, as well as traffic calming measures, to encourage greater active transportation into and through downtown.**
- 4.1.1 (f) **Bicycle lanes be established along 9th Street, to provide safe access into downtown, and to the Riverbank, from the south end of the city**

(Recommendations for greenspace enhancement and development in Rosser Ward are illustrated in Map 2c.)



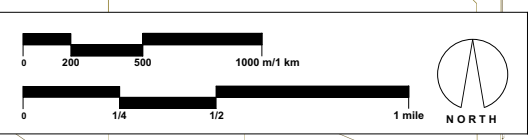
### Legend

- Neighbourhood Greenspaces (Neigh): Serving individual neighbourhoods; includes playgrounds, open space (eg. pocket park)
- Community Greenspaces (Comm): Serve several neighbourhoods; includes sportsfields & playgrounds (eg. school grounds)
- City Greenspaces (City): Serve all city residents & visitors; includes specialized leisure amenities & athletic facilities
- Natural areas: lands with environmental/ ecological significance, to be preserved
- Municipal Open Space: includes boulevards, buffers, grounds of civic buildings & facilities
- Other undeveloped lands zoned PR (Parks and Recreation) and/or OS (Open Space)
- Ward Area
- Paved, off- and on-street trails intended for active transportation (walking, cycling, rollerblading, etc)
- Unpaved pathways intended primarily for nature interpretation

### Recommended Enhancements and Developments

- Recommended greenspace enhancements and developments of the highest priority (identified in the 10 year action plan)
- Other recommended greenspace enhancements and developments of a lower priority (implemented as resources allow)
- Recommended future neighbourhood greenspaces; amenities include playgrounds, open space, seating areas.
- Recommended future community greenspaces (eg. joint community centre/school site); amenities include playgrounds, athletic fields, spray parks, seating areas, walkways, picnic areas, etc.
- Recommended off-street multi-use trail development
- Recommended on-street bicycle lane development
- Recommended future multi-use trail development

**MAP 2c: Recommended Enhancements in Rosser, South Centre & Riverview Wards**



#### 4.1.2 South Centre Ward

South Centre Ward lies directly south of Rosser Ward (Map 2a). Major streets, railways and institutions in the ward create a number of distinct neighbourhoods. The area north of Park Avenue is served only by Betty Gibson School, which provides well used neighbourhood amenities. East of 10th Street and south of the CNR tracks, the only greenspace is provided through George Fitton School/Harrison School/South End Playground (which lies in Green Acres ward). There is the tiny pocket of Broda Bay, whose only amenity is open space surrounding the Police Station. Another small pocket exists west of 6th Street and north of the CNR tracks, in which is located Central Community Centre (which at present only provides a lit outdoor rink for winter use). Community greenspace is also provided at the Keystone Centre Grounds, and neighbourhood greenspace is provided at Neelin High School.

There is presently a multi-use trail along the west side of the Keystone Centre property.

The amount of greenspace in South Centre Ward is as follows:

	Brandon		Compared to other cities*	
	South Centre Ward	City Average	Existing Greenspace	Recommended
Neighbourhood	1.32	1.85	0.42-1.2	0.5-2.2
Community	1.25	0.9	0.4-2.3	0.5-2.2
City	0	3.87		
Other	0.29			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2.86</b>	<b>6.57</b>		

\* Compared to Nanaimo BC; Orillia ON; Grande Prairie AB; Timmins ON; Kelowna BC

**Figure 6: Provision of Greenspace in South Centre Ward (ha/1000 persons)**



*The naturalization project at Neelin High School can be expanded to create a neighbourhood and community amenity.*

*Playground and other greenspace enhancements at the South End Community Centre can greatly improve greenspace and recreational opportunities or residents of South Centre and Green Acres Wards.*



A consideration of existing levels of service (Map 2b), existing amenities (Figure 5) as well as public input reveals the following issues within South Centre Ward.

#### **Assets**

- *There is adequate community greenspace in the ward; and*
- *The ward features an outdoor swimming pool, stage and beach volleyball court at the Keystone Centre grounds (see below), as well as a native prairie exhibit at Neelin High School, which provides environmental education opportunities.*

#### **Deficiencies**

- *There is a shortage of neighbourhood greenspaces in the ward;*
- *There are no greenspaces east of 10th street;*
- *Facilities and amenities lacking include a paddle pool and tennis court;*
- *Central Community Centre serves only a small area in the northern portion of the ward; however, South End Community Centre is easily accessible;*
- *The only trail serving the ward - the 18th Street Trail - is presently unconnected to the larger city trail network; and*
- *All greenspaces are showing signs of deterioration.*

#### **The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 4.1.2 (a) Short and long term pocket parks and community gardens be established within South Centre Ward, as opportunities arise, to address deficiencies in greenspace. Areas of particular concern include the neighbourhood east of 10th Street, north and south of Park Avenue.**
- 4.1.2 (b) South End Community Centre (presently in Green Acres Ward) be enhanced with a playground, as well as trees and other complimentary amenities, to serve the neighbourhoods of both South Centre and Green Acres, east of 10th Street.**

- 4.1.2 (c) **Betty Gibson School be enhanced with tree and shrub planting, walkways, seating and picnic areas to compliment the current use of the schoolground and encourage additional use by the community.**
- 4.1.2 (d) **Bicycle lanes be designated and signed along 17th Street north of Park Avenue, providing access from the 18th Street Trail north to Brandon University and downtown.**
- 4.1.2 (e) **Bicycle lanes be designated and signed along Brandon Avenue from Green Acres School to 13th Street, providing access to the Keystone Centre grounds/Kiwanis Pool for residents from Green Acres Ward.**
- 4.1.2 (f) **Multi-use trail connections be developed from the 18th Street South Trail around the Keystone Centre (both to the north and south) to the east side of the complex, and the grounds.**

(Recommendations for greenspace enhancement and development in South Centre Ward are illustrated in Map 2c.)

#### 4.1.3 Keystone Centre Grounds

During the public input process of the Master Plan, the public clearly identified the Keystone Centre grounds as important greenspace for their community and the city at large. This concern arose as a result of a call for proposals by the Keystone Centre board for the development of a portion of the site now used as greenspace.

Specific issues that were raised regarding the Keystone Centre were:

- *The threat of the loss of greenspace which was the site of early horticultural experiments by H. Patmore;*
- *The threat of the loss of cottonwood trees which provide critical habitat for bird species;*
- *The threat of the loss of greenspace which is important to the character of the area; and makes a positive contribution to the lives of seniors in Fairview Place, across the street; and*



The Keystone Centre grounds feature a festival site used for the Folk Festival, attracting people from all over southwestern Manitoba.

The urban forest at the Keystone Centre has both historical and ecological significance.



- *There is an opportunity to redevelop the greenspace on the grounds in a way that compliments activities at the Keystone Centre, and creates a city-wide greenspace to be used by residents and visitors alike.*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 4.1.3 (a) A planning study be undertaken to investigate potentials for this greenspace that may better compliment Keystone use (eg. use by hotel patrons) while providing neighbourhood, community and city amenities. Enhancements should consider building on the site's current use (eg. outdoor festivals, running dogs). Other enhancements could be considered which would draw city-wide use (eg. the siting of a skateboard facility or a spray park to serve the southern end of the city).**

**4.1.4 Riverview Ward**

Riverview Ward makes up the east end of the city (Map 2a). Victoria Avenue divides the ward north/south into two distinct neighbourhoods. To the north, neighbourhood greenspaces include Empress Bay Playground and Laurence and Louise Playground. Rideau Park, which includes the Millennium Playground, Wheat city lawn bowling and the East End Community Centre, is the only community greenspace. To the south, King George school provides neighbourhood amenities, and the Royal Canadian Legion baseball diamond/park provides community amenities.

The Victoria Avenue West and 17th Street East trail provide access from the ward to Assiniboine Community College and south into the Douglas Street industrial area.



*The East End Millennium Park recently opened, providing exciting play opportunities for children of the East End.*

The amount of greenspace in Riverview Ward is as follows:

**Figure 7: Provision of Greenspace in Riverview Ward (ha/1000 persons)**

	Brandon		Compared to other cities*	
	Riverview Ward	City Average	Existing Greenspace	Recommended
Neighbourhood	1.34	1.85	0.42-1.2	0.5-2.2
Community	1.74	0.9	0.4-2.3	0.5-2.2
City	0	3.87		
Other	0.28			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.35</b>	<b>6.57</b>		

\* Compared to Nanaimo BC; Orillia ON; Grande Prairie AB; Timmins ON; Kelowna BC

A consideration of existing level of service (Map 2b), existing amenities (Figure 5) as well as public input reveals the following issues within Riverview Ward.

**Assets**

- *Generally, greenspaces are equally distributed throughout the ward;*
- *There is adequate community greenspace in the ward;*
- *The ward contains Rideau Park, a multi-purpose greenspace which includes a paddle pool, outdoor swimming pool, lawn bowling club, horticultural displays and open space in a park-like setting;*
- *The playground at the East End Community Centre has been upgraded;*
- *The ward does have a community centre; and*
- *Multi-use trails provide access to Assiniboine Community College, as well as the industrial area along 17th Street East.*

## Deficiencies

- *There is shortage of neighbourhood greenspace in the ward;*
- *Facilities and amenities lacking in the ward include a football field, tennis courts, and natural areas;*
- *There is a general dissatisfaction with greenspaces by area residents; a particular concern is the quality and quantity of playgrounds by residents;*
- *The ward is within easy reach of Riverbank amenities, but no convenient and safe means of access exists (eg. extension of 17th East Trail west);*
- *A particular concern is Rideau Park and its lack of walking paths and a perceived lack of safety; and*
- *With the exception of Rideau Park, which is well maintained and in good condition, all facilities are showing signs of deterioration.*

### The Master Plan recommends that:

- 4.1.4 (a) **Short and long term pocket parks and community gardens be established Riverview Ward, as opportunities arise, to address deficiencies in greenspace.**
- 4.1.4. (b) **Rideau Park be enhanced to increase access to/use of existing amenities. Key enhancements could include walking trails, lighting, as well as amenities such as picnic tables, a picnic shelter, etc., which compliment family activities such as the Kinsmen Pool and the Millennium Playground. Other enhancements could include a reconfiguration of planting areas to allow greater flexibility of use (eg. casual games and activities), as well as other facilities (eg. tennis court, spray park), presently lacking in the East End.**
- 4.1.4 (c) **The 17th Street East Trail be extended west to the 1st Street bridge.**
- 4.1.4 (d) **An examination be undertaken of means to improve pedestrian and cyclist access across the 1st Street bridge, to provide access into both Dinsdale and Optimist Park from Rosser Ward and Riverview Ward.**



Accessibility to Riverbank amenities by east end residents is hampered by poor linkages across the 1st Street Bridge.

Rideau Park is an attractive and multi-purpose community greenspace. Enhancements can be undertaken which better connect the many amenities and encourage greater use by residents.





#### **4.1.4 (e) A feasibility study be undertaken for a greenway along Louise or Lorne Avenue.**

(Recommendations for greenspace enhancement and development in Riverview Ward are illustrated in Map 2c.)

## **4.2 SOUTH END**

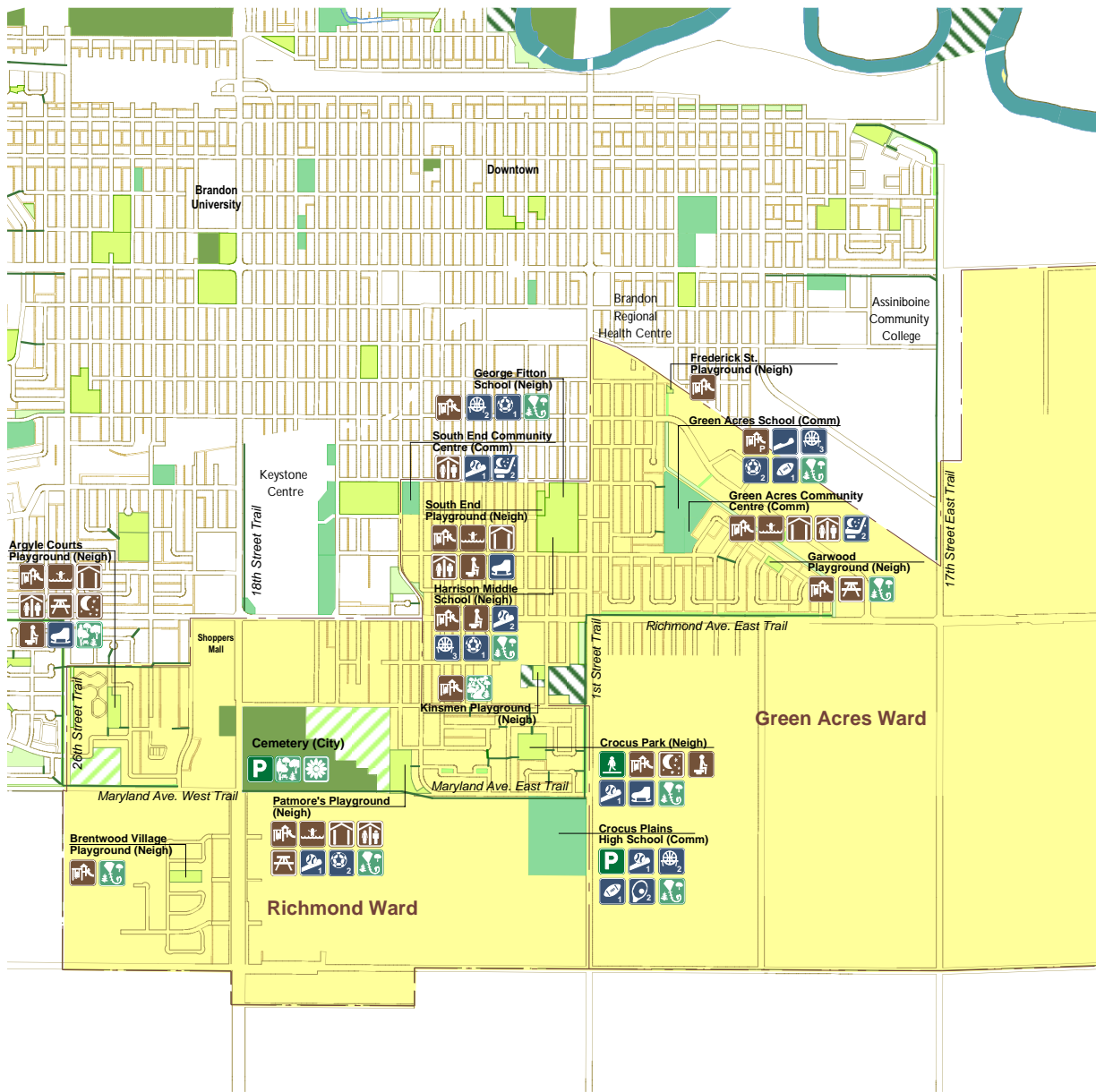
The south end of the city includes Green Acres Ward and Richmond Ward.

### **4.2.1 Green Acres Ward**

Green Acres Ward lies at the southeast corner of the city (Map 3a). 1st Street, Richmond Avenue and Park Avenue divide the ward into a number of distinct neighbourhoods. East of 1st Street and south of Park Avenue there is a large residential area, with Garwood Playground providing neighbourhood greenspace and Green Acres School/Community Centre providing community greenspace. The area west of 1st Street is served by Harrison/George Fitton School, providing neighbourhood greenspace; the area south of Richmond features the Kinsmen Playground, as well as large undeveloped, wooded area. A very small pocket of residential exists north of Park Avenue; in this area Frederick Street Playground provides neighbourhood greenspace.

The 1st Street Trail provides access south to Crocus Plains High School and the Cemetery. The Richmond Avenue West Trail provides access east towards the industrial area.

There are large tracts of undeveloped land within Green Acre; however, only a small portion east of 1st Street and south of Richmond Avenue may experience pressure for residential development in the immediate future.



### Legend

- Neighbourhood Greenspaces (Neigh):** Serve individual neighbourhoods; include playgrounds, open space (eg. pocket park)
- Community Greenspaces (Comm):** Serve several neighbourhoods; include sports fields & playgrounds (eg. school grounds)
- City Greenspaces (City):** Serve all city residents & visitors; include specialized leisure amenities & athletic facilities
- Natural areas:** lands with environmental/ecological significance, to be preserved
- Municipal Open Space:** eg. boulevards, buffers, grounds of civic buildings & facilities
- Other undeveloped lands zoned PR (Parks and Recreation) and/or OS (Open Space)**
- Ward Area**
- Paved, off- and on-street trails intended for active transportation (walking, cycling, rollerblading, etc)**
- Unpaved pathways intended primarily for nature interpretation**
- Unpaved pathways not specifically designated for public use**

**Accessibility within existing greenspaces**

- Off street parking
- Paved walkway through green space

**Athletic/recreation facilities (and numbers) within existing greenspaces**

- Baseball diamond(s)
- Lit baseball diamond(s)
- Tennis court(s)
- Lit tennis court(s)
- Basketball court(s)
- Football field(s)
- Swimming pool
- Lit outdoor rink(s)
- Seasonal ice pad

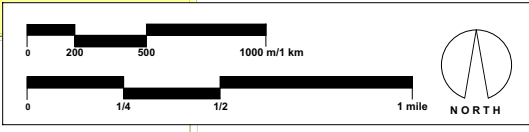
**Park/leisure facilities within existing greenspaces**

- Playground- for all age groups
- Playground- most suitable for preschoolers
- Paddle pool
- Shelter
- Washrooms
- Picnic table(s)
- Barbeque pits
- Benches/ seating areas
- Lit for nighttime use

**Landscape Character of existing greenspaces**

- Open space
- Horticultural displays
- Parkland
- Natural/ undeveloped area

**MAP 3a: Existing Greenspaces & Trails in Green Acres & Richmond Wards**



The amount of greenspace in Green Acres Ward is as follows:

**Figure 8: Provision of Greenspace in Green Acres Ward (ha/1000 persons)**

	Brandon		Compared to other cities*	
	Green Acres Ward	City Average	Existing Greenspace	Recommended
Neighbourhood	4.21	1.85	0.42-1.2	0.5-2.2
Community	0.55	0.9	0.4-2.3	0.5-2.2
City	0	3.87		
Other	2.27			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7.03</b>	<b>6.57</b>		

\* Compared to Nanaimo BC; Orillia ON; Grande Prairie AB; Timmins ON; Kelowna BC

A consideration of existing levels of service (Map 3b), existing amenities (Figure 9) as well as public input reveals the following issues within Green Acres Ward.

**Assets**

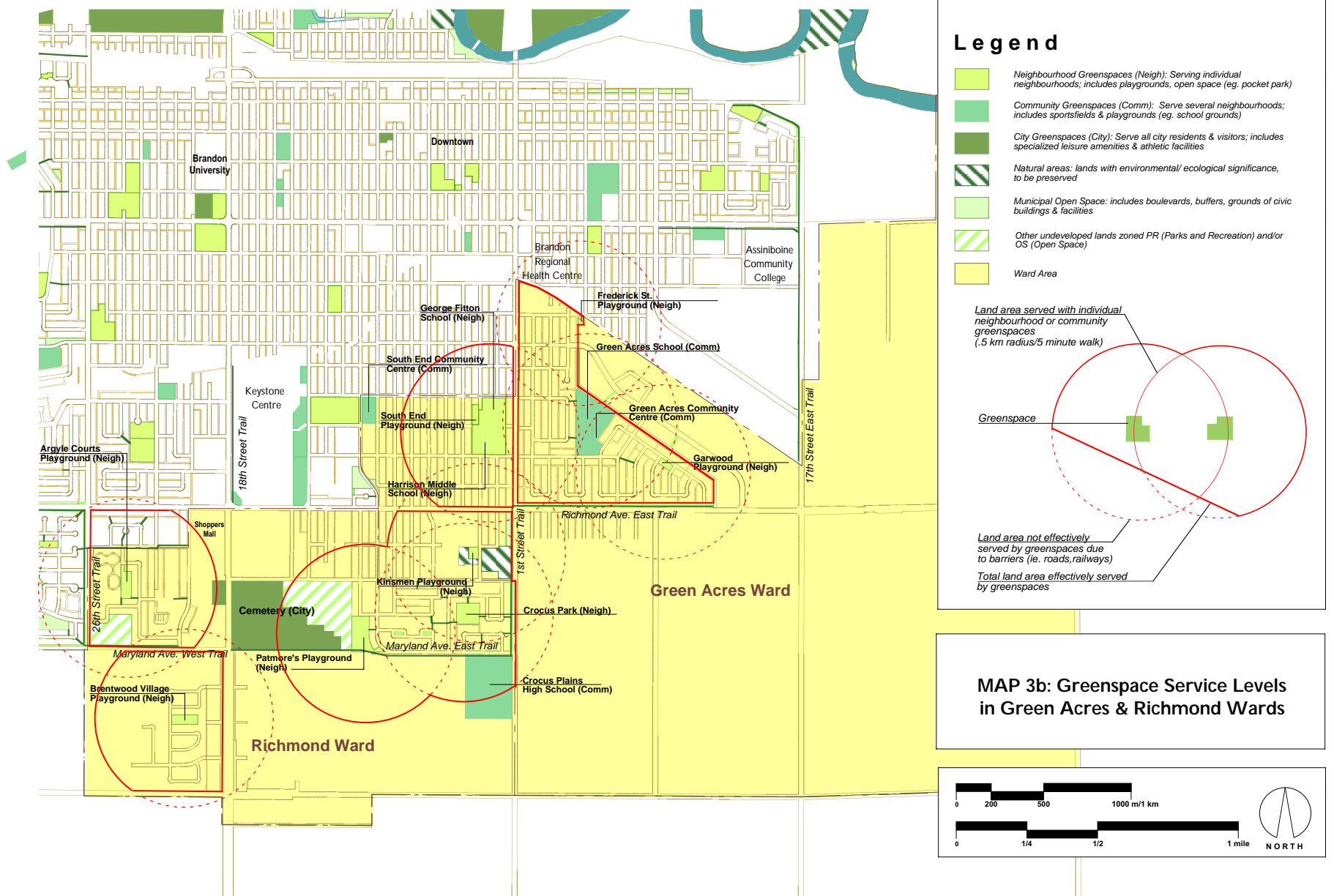
- *Greenspaces are equally distributed throughout Green Acres, and there is a generous amount of neighbourhood greenspace;*
- *The ward does have a community centre;*
- *Green Acres School and Community Centre provide a multi-use recreational focus within the community;*
- *George Fitton/Harrison School/South End Playground have the opportunity to see a combination of renovated facilities;*
- *Recent playground and schoolyard enhancements have taken place at Green Acres School; and*
- *Recent playground enhancements have been completed at George Fitton School.*



*Improvements to Green Acres School have included a new, accessible play structure, benches, raised planters, and a garden area.*

*Recent playground upgrades at George Fitton/Harrison School. The opportunity exists to expand this facility to replace other outdated play equipment on the site.*





**Figure 9: Existing Greenspace Inventory - South End**

Class	Size (hectares)	Accessibility			Safety	Park/Playground Facilities and Amenities								Athletic and Leisure Facilities								Landscape Character				Other			
		Transit Access	Off-street Parking	Paved Walkway	Lighting	Playground	Playground (preschool)	Washroom	Shelter	Picnic Tables	BBQ Pits	Rest Area/Benches	Paddle Pool	Ball Diamond	Lit Ball Diamond	Soccer Pitch	Football Field	Basketball Court	Lit Outdoor Ice Rink	Seasonal Ice Pads	Tennis Court	Lit Tennis Court	Community Centre	Swimming Pool	Floral Displays		Open Space	Parkland	Natural Areas
<b>Richmond Ward</b>																													
Population: 3469																													
Argyle Courts Playground Access from Falcon	Neigh	0.52				•	•		•	•	•															•	•		
Palmore Playground Access from Balmoral Bay	Neigh	1.90	•				•		•	•	•															•			
Crocus Park Access from Cornwallis	Neigh	2.31	•		•	•																				•	•		
Crocus Plains High School 1st and Maryland	Comm	9.86	•	•																						•			
Cemetery 18th and Aberdeen	City	6.93		•																					•		•		
Total neighbourhood		4.73																											
Total community		9.86																											
Total city		6.93																											
Other greenspace		15.04																											
<b>TOTAL GREENSPACE</b>		<b>36.56</b>	<b>ha</b>																										
<b>Green Acres Ward</b>																													
Population: 3656																													
South End C.C.	Comm	1.19	•							•																			
UCT Stadium 10th at Hill			•																										
Kinsmen playground (3rd & Aberdeen)	Neigh	4.36					•																			•	•		
George Fitton School 1129 3rd	Neigh	2.98	•				•																			•			
South End Playground Access from 5th and Southern	Neigh		•				•		•	•																			
Harrison Middle School 415 Queens	Neigh	2.92	•				•																			•			
Frederick Street Playground West of Frederick and College	Neigh	0.16	•				•																						
Green Acres C.C.	Comm	0.81	•							•																			
Green Acres Playground/ Green Acres School Queens Avenue	Neigh	4.67	•				•	•			•															•			
Garwood Playground 51 Garwood	Neigh	0.30	•				•				•															•			
Simplot Millennium Park Richmond at Eastern Access	City	25.09		•																									
Total neighbourhood		15.39																											
Total community		2.00																											
Total city		0																											
Other open space		4.81																											
Natural areas		3.5																											
Subtotal (Less Simplot)		<b>25.70</b>	<b>ha</b>																										
<b>TOTAL GREENSPACE</b>		<b>25.70</b>																											

## Deficiencies

- *There is a shortage of community greenspace in the ward;*
- *Facilities lacking in Green Acres include a tennis court, and an outdoor swimming pool;*
- *There are a number of multi-use trails, but these trails are not connected to the larger city network;*
- *A specific concern is safety within the area east of the Kinsmen Playground (known as '3rd and Aberdeen'); and*
- *With the exception of Green Acres School, all greenspaces are showing signs of deterioration. The Frederick Street Playground is in particularly poor condition. This greenspace also suffers from a lack of good visibility.*

### The Master Plan recommends that:

- 4.2.1 (a) As an alternative to upgrading the Frederick Street Playground, that the relocation of this facility to a more visible and accessible site be considered.**
- 4.2.1 (b) Green Acres School/Community Centre be enhanced with tree planting, walkways, seating and picnic areas to encourage further use by the community. Other enhancements could include a tennis court, located within the existing outdoor rink.**
- 4.2.1 (c) South End Playground/Harrison/George Fitton Schoolgrounds be enhanced through the expansion of the existing playground as a replacement to the other play structures on the site. Other enhancements could include complimentary amenities such as shrub and tree planting, seating areas, as well as walkways and a naturalization project.**
- 4.2.1 (d) The undeveloped area east of Kinsmen Playground (3rd Street and Aberdeen Avenue) be enhanced with a walking path, seating and lighting, in order to properly accommodate use. To ensure safety within this greenspace, ongoing maintenance and/or removal of vegetation should occur to ensure good sightlines from surrounding streets.**



The existing Frederick Street Playground is poorly sited, with limited accessibility and visibility. The opportunity exists to relocate this facility to a more advantageous site.

The natural area at 3rd and Aberdeen is often used as a short cut for walkers. The development of pathways, lighting and other amenities can allow safe passage for residents.



**4.2.1 (e) Future trail development could include an off-street trail north from Green Acres School to 1st Street and Van Horne along Park Avenue buffer strip. This trail would provide access to Brandon General Hospital, and further north to the 1st Street bridge.**

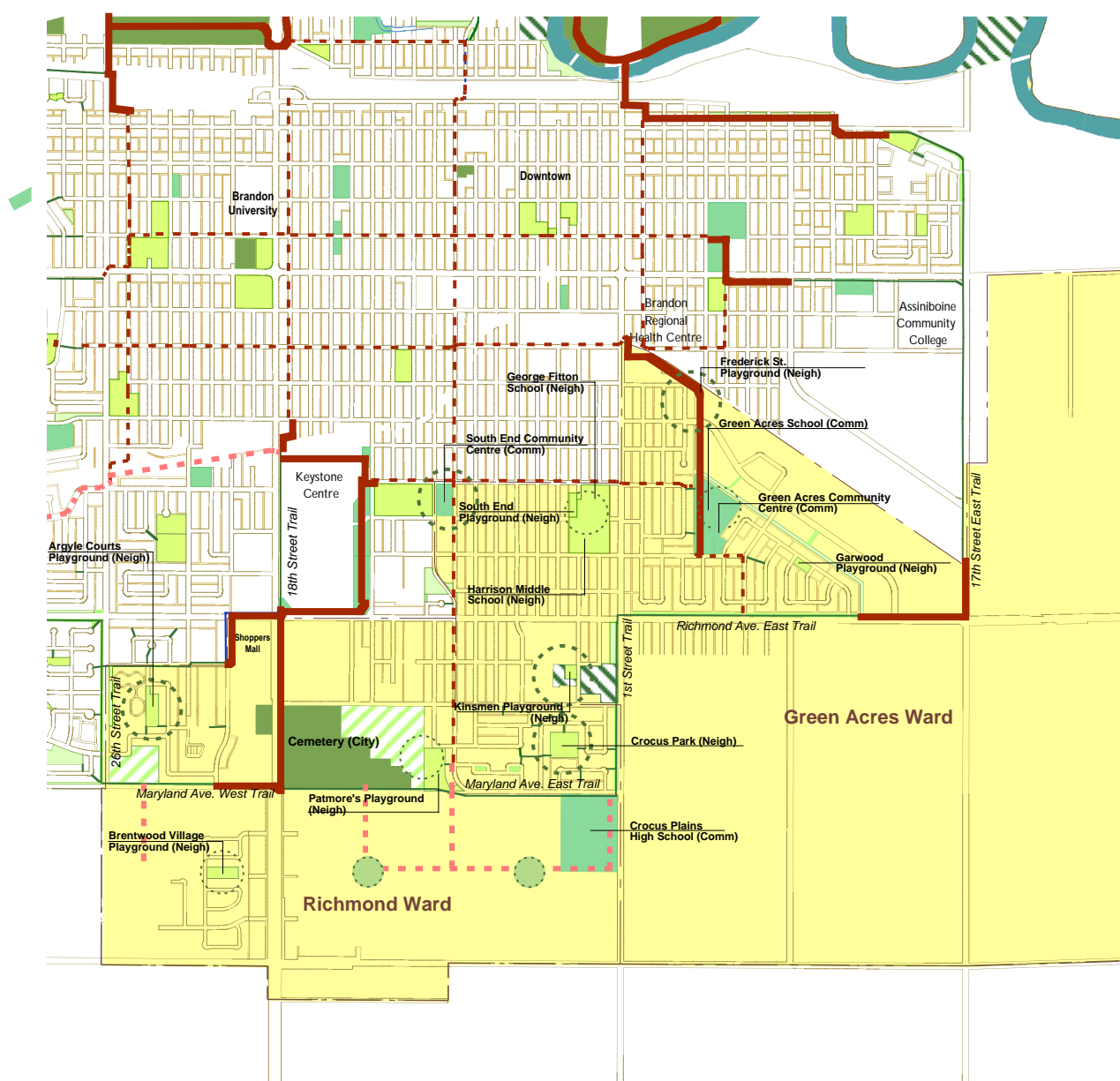
(Recommendations for greenspace enhancement and development in Green Acres Ward are illustrated in Map 3c.)

**4.2.2 Richmond Ward**

Richmond Ward sits at the southern edge of the city (Map 3a). The ward is broken up into several distinct and dispersed neighbourhoods. West of Shopper's Mall is a neighbourhood served only by Argyle Courts Playground. South of Maryland is Brentwood Trailer Park (private property), which has a playground. To the east lies a neighbourhood north of Maryland Avenue, in which neighbourhood amenities are provided by both Patmore's Playground and Crocus Park. Crocus Plains High School provides community greenspace for the southeastern corner of the city. West of Patmore's Playground lies the Cemetery, providing city greenspace.

Richmond is served by the Maryland Avenue Trail, although a gap exists west of 28th Street. The ward is also served by the 26th Street and Ottawa Avenue Trail, which provides access into the west end of the city. At the northern edge of the ward, the 18th Street Trail provides access north to Park Avenue.

There is a large tract of land south of Maryland Avenue which is currently in the process of being developed. This parcel is characterized by rolling topography and features a number of treed areas, offering many potentials for future greenspace development.



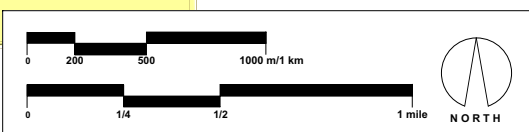
### Legend

- Neighbourhood Greenspaces (Neigh): Serving individual neighbourhoods; includes playgrounds, open space (eg. pocket park)
- Community Greenspaces (Comm): Serve several neighbourhoods; includes sportsfields & playgrounds (eg. school grounds)
- City Greenspaces (City): Serve all city residents & visitors; includes specialized leisure amenities & athletic facilities
- Natural areas: lands with environmental/ ecological significance, to be preserved
- Municipal Open Space: includes boulevards, buffers, grounds of civic buildings & facilities
- Other undeveloped lands zoned PR (Parks and Recreation) and/or OS (Open Space)
- Ward Area
- Paved, off- and on-street trails intended for active transportation (walking, cycling, rollerblading, etc)
- Unpaved pathways intended primarily for nature interpretation

### Recommended Enhancements and Developments

- Recommended greenspace enhancements and developments of the highest priority (identified in the 10 year action plan)
- Other recommended greenspace enhancements and developments of a lower priority (implemented as resources allow)
- Recommended future neighbourhood greenspaces; amenities include playgrounds, open space, seating areas.
- Recommended future community greenspaces (eg. joint community centre/school site); amenities include playgrounds, athletic fields, spray parks, seating areas, walkways, picnic areas, etc.
- Recommended off-street multi-use trail development
- Recommended on-street bicycle lane development
- Recommended future multi-use trail development

**MAP 3c: Recommended Enhancements in Green Acres & Richmond Wards**





The amount of greenspace in Richmond Ward is as follows:

**Figure 10: Provision of Greenspace in Richmond Ward (ha/1000 persons)**

	Brandon		Compared to other cities*	
	Richmond Ward	City Average	Existing Greenspace	Recommended
Neighbourhood	1.36	1.85	0.42-1.2	0.5-2.2
Community	2.84	0.9	0.4-2.3	0.5-2.2
City	2	3.87		
Other	4.34			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10.54</b>	<b>6.57</b>		

\* Compared to Nanaimo BC; Orillia ON; Grande Prairie AB; Timmins ON; Kelowna BC

A consideration of existing levels of service (Map 3b), existing amenities (Figure 9) as well as public input reveals the following issues within Richmond Ward.

**Assets**

- *There is generous amount of community greenspace in the ward;*
- *There are no gaps in the distribution of greenspace;*
- *The ward has tennis courts and the city’s only field hockey facility. Richmond ward also features the cemetery, which receives little casual use; and*
- *The ward is well served by trails, with only a minor gap in the Maryland Avenue Trail west of 18th Street.*



*Crocus Plains High School provides Richmond Ward residents with a number of athletic facilities.*

*The Brandon Cemetery.*



Linda Boys

## Deficiencies

- *There is a shortage of neighbourhood greenspace in the ward;*
- *Facilities and amenities lacking in the ward include a football field, a (lit) outdoor rink, community centre, outdoor swimming pool, natural areas;*
- *Crocus Park has a problem with vandalism, made worse by a lack of visibility from surrounding streets;*
- *Argyle Courts Playground also has a lack of visibility, as well as a lack of land to accommodate additional greenspace amenities; and*
- *All of the greenspaces in the ward are showing signs of deterioration; few upgrades have occurred recently.*

### The Master Plan recommends that:

- 4.2.2 (a) As an alternative to upgrading the Argyle Courts Playground, that the relocation of this facility to a larger, more visible and more accessible site be considered. The parcel at 26th & Maryland site is a possible alternative.**
- 4.2.2 (b) Crocus Park have additional lighting installed, as well as pathways upgraded to accommodate service vehicles, as a means to address vandalism issues. Other enhancements such as tree planting, benches and picnic tables should be undertaken to encourage greater use of the greenspace. The city should give consideration to acquiring land along the eastern boundary to preserve visibility. Otherwise, the development of the parcel immediately east of the park should locate streets and common areas in such a way to maximize sightlines into Crocus Park.**
- 4.2.2 (c) Land east of the existing cemetery be purchased for cemetery expansion. This expansion should consider the possibility of incorporating enhancements to Patmore's Playground to create a significant community greenspace both for the existing residential area, as well as the new development occurring south of Maryland Avenue.**
- 4.2.2 (d) The Brentwood Village Playground (privately owned) be enhanced to the proposed standard in the Master Plan.**



Visibility issues at both Crocus Park and Argyle Courts may be partly responsible for vandalism and other safety concerns at these greenspaces.



- 4.2.2 (e) New neighbourhood and community greenspaces, and multi-use trails, be provided in developing areas to the proposed standards in the Master Plan. Future community greenspaces should be centrally located for easy access, and to be easily connected by multi-use trail to Patmore’s Playground and the Maryland Avenue Trail.**
- 4.2.2 (f) The Maryland Avenue Trail be connected south of the Shopper’s Mall.**
- 4.2.2 (g) The 18th Street south Trail be extended south to the Cemetery and the Maryland Avenue Trail.**
- 4.2.2 (h) The possibility of connecting the Ottawa Avenue Trail to the 18th Street South Trail via the Shopper’s Mall be explored.**

(Recommendations for greenspace enhancement and development in Richmond Ward are illustrated in Map 3c.)

### **4.3 WEST END**

The west end of the city includes University, Victoria, Linden Lanes and Meadows wards, some of the newest areas of the city. The area has many greenspaces and trails. There was a high degree of satisfaction by those respondents of the telephone survey.

#### **4.3.1 University**

University Ward lies immediately west of Rosser Ward, and features a number of distinct neighbourhoods of both older and more recent homes (Map 4a). East of 26th Street, Fleming School/Coronation Park and Kinsmen Kiddies Corner provides neighbourhood greenspace. Kinsmen Stadium at Brandon University provides a highly developed baseball/football facility serving the entire city. West End Community Centre provides a lit outdoor rink for the larger community. West of 26th, Valleyview School/Community Centre provides community greenspaces. South of Victoria, the only greenspace is Vincent Massey High School, which provides athletic facilities but lacks important neighbourhood amenities. North of the CPR

tracks lies a small pocket of homes, with neighbourhood greenspace provided through Westaway Bay Playground.

University ward is served by both the 34th Street Trail and the Pacific Avenue Trail, providing access to the west and south areas of the city.

The amount of greenspace in University Ward is as follows:

**Figure 11: Provision of Greenspace in University Ward (ha/1000 persons)**

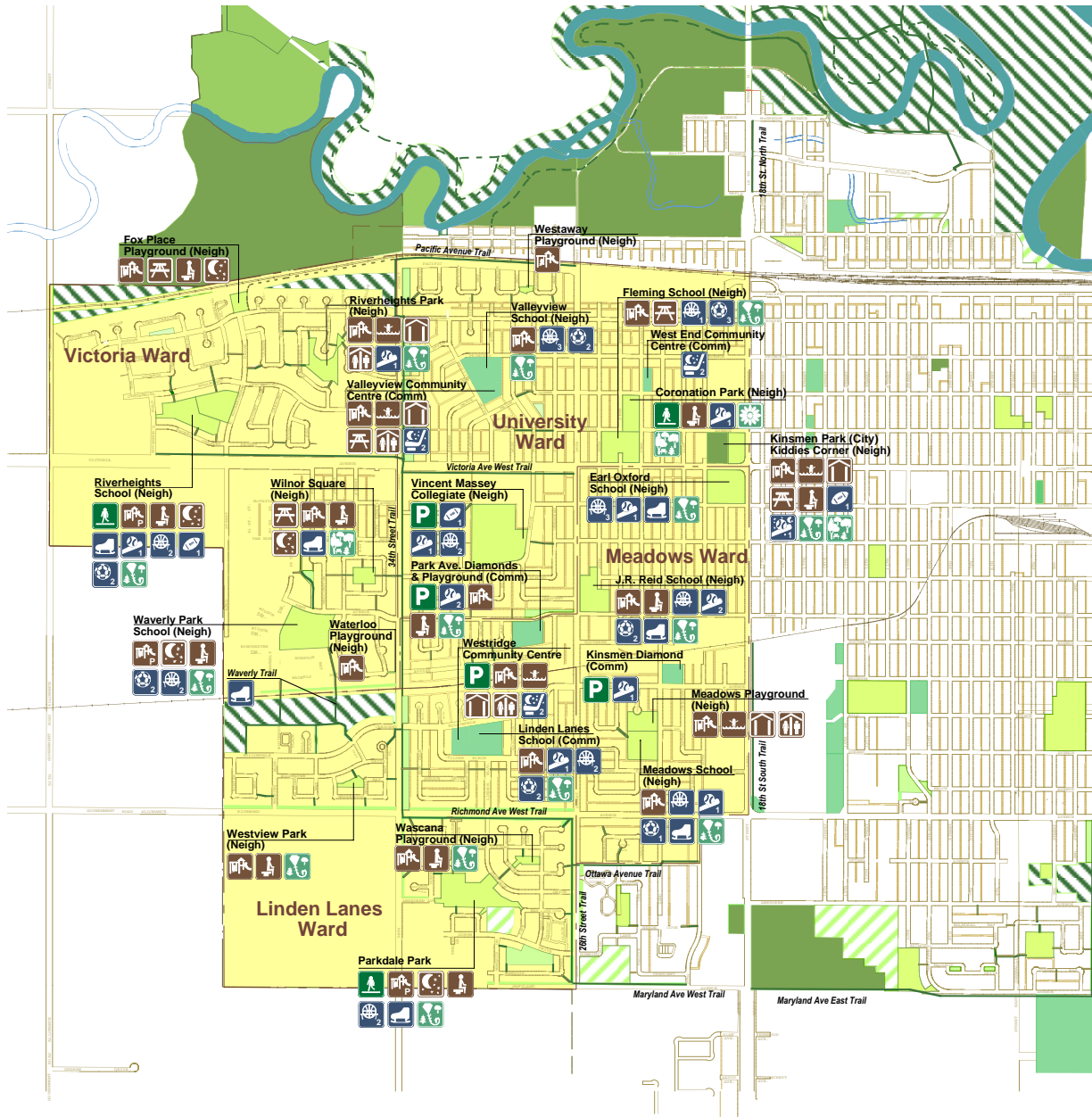
	Brandon		Compared to other cities*	
	University Ward	City Average	Existing Greenspace	Recommended
Neighbourhood	2.54	1.85	0.42-1.2	0.5-2.2
Community	0.27	0.9	0.4-2.3	0.5-2.2
City	1.01	3.87		
Other	1.33			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>6.57</b>		

\* Compared to Nanaimo BC; Orillia ON; Grande Prairie AB; Timmins ON; Kelowna BC

A consideration of existing levels of service (Map 4b), existing amenities (Figure 12) as well as public input reveals the following issues within University Ward:

**Assets**

- *There is generous amount of neighbourhood greenspace in the ward;*
- *The ward has two community centres, both with lit outdoor rinks;*
- *Vincent Massey High School is currently in the process of developing a naturalized area for both student and community use;*
- *Greenspaces are generally well used;*



### Legend

- Neighbourhood Greenspaces (Neigh): Serve individual neighbourhoods; include playgrounds, open space (eg. pocket park)
- Community Greenspaces (Comm): Serve several neighbourhoods; include sports fields & playgrounds (eg. school grounds)
- City Greenspaces (City): Serve all city residents & visitors; include specialized leisure amenities & athletic facilities
- Natural areas: lands with environmental/ecological significance, to be preserved
- Municipal Open Space: eg. boulevards, buffers, grounds of civic buildings & facilities
- Other undeveloped lands zoned PR (Parks and Recreation) and/or OS (Open Space)
- Ward Area
- Paved, off- and on-street trails intended for active transportation (walking, cycling, rollerblading, etc)
- Unpaved pathways intended primarily for nature interpretation
- Unpaved pathways not specifically designated for public use

#### Park/leisure facilities within existing greenspaces

- Playground- for all age groups
- Playground- most suitable for preschoolers
- Paddle pool
- Shelter
- Washrooms
- Picnic table(s)
- Barbeque pits
- Benches/ seating areas
- Lit for nighttime use

#### Accessibility within existing greenspaces

- Off street parking
- Paved walkway through green space

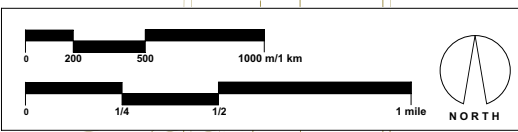
#### Athletic/recreation facilities (and numbers) within existing greenspaces

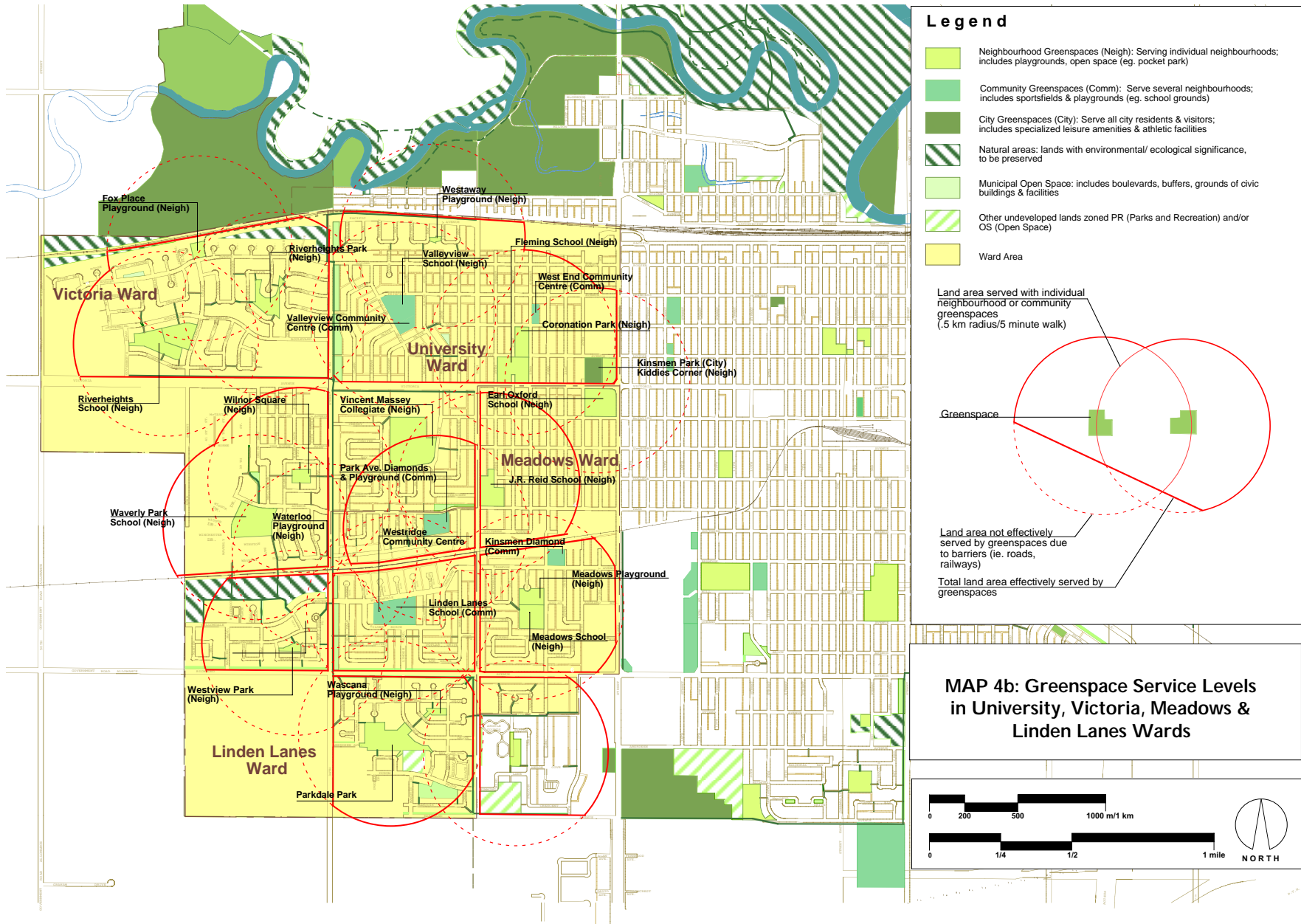
- Baseball diamond(s)
- Lit baseball diamond(s)
- Tennis court(s)
- Lit tennis court(s)
- Basketball court(s)
- Football field(s)
- Swimming pool
- Lit outdoor rink(s)
- Seasonal ice pad

#### Landscape Character of existing greenspaces

- Open space
- Horticultural displays
- Parkland
- Natural/ undeveloped area

**MAP 4a: Existing Greenspaces & Trails in University, Victoria, Meadows & Linden Lanes Wards**





**Figure 12: Existing Greenspace Inventory - West End**

Class	Size (hectares)	Accessibility			Safety	Park/Playground Facilities and Amenities								Athletic and Leisure Facilities								Landscape Character				Other											
		Transit Access	On-street Parking	Paved Walkway	Lighting	Playground	Playground (preschool)	Washroom	Shelter	Picnic Tables	BBQ Pits	Rest Areas/Benches	Paddle Pool	Ball Diamond	Lit Ball Diamond	Soccer Pitch	Football Field	Basketball Court	Lit Outdoor Ice Rink	Seasonal Ice Pads	Tennis Court	Lit Tennis Court	Community Centre	Swimming Pool	Floral Displays		Open Space	Parkland	Natural Areas								
<b>Victoria Ward</b>																																					
Population: 4133																																					
Fox Place Playground Rosser and E Fotheringham	Neigh	0.65	•			•																															
Riverheights School 32 E Fotheringham	Neigh	4.47	•			•																															
Riverheights Park Access from Riverheights, Magnacca, Diarrach	Neigh	1.74	•					•	•																												
Wilton Square Access from Wilton Bay	Neigh	0.82	•			•																															
Waverly Park School 3600 Park	Neigh	3.90	•			•		•																													
Waterloo Playground 60 Waterloo	Neigh	0.04						•																													
Total neighbourhood		11.62																																			
Total community		0.00																																			
Total city		0.00																																			
Other open space		0.52																																			
Natural areas		9.28																																			
<b>TOTAL GREENSPACE</b>		<b>21.42</b>																																			
<b>University Ward</b>																																					
Population: 3996																																					
Westaway Playground Access from Westaway and Westbrook	Neigh	0.08	•																																		
Kinsmen Park (& Kiddies corner) 18th and Louise	City Neigh	4.05 1.12	•					•	•	•																											
Valleyview School Valleyview C.C. Whitler at Noonan	Neigh Comm	2.27 0.67	• •					•	•	•																											
Coronation Park (& Lions Little League Stadium) 23rd and Lorne	Neigh	1.37	•																																		
Fleming School 23rd between Victoria and Lorne	Neigh	2.51	•					•																													
West End C.C. 23rd and Lorne	Comm	0.39	•																																		
Vincent Massey School McDiarmid and Balsam	Neigh	2.81	•	•																																	
Total Neighbourhood		10.16																																			
Total Community		1.06																																			
Total City		4.05																																			
Other open space		5.30																																			
<b>TOTAL GREENSPACE</b>		<b>20.57</b>																																			

**Figure 12: Existing Greenspace Inventory - West End (continued)**

Class	Size (hectares)	Accessibility			Safety	Park/Playground Facilities and Amenities								Athletic and Leisure Facilities										Landscape Character				Other							
		Transit Access	Off-street Parking	Paved Walkway	Lighting	Playground	Playground (preschool)	Washroom	Shelter	Picnic Tables	BBQ Pits	Rest Area/Benches	Paddle Pool	Ball Diamond	Lit Ball Diamond	Soccer Pitch	Football Field	Basketball Court	Lit Outdoor Ice Rink	Seasonal Ice Pads	Tennis Court	Lit Tennis Court	Community Centre	Swimming Pool	Floral Displays	Open Space	Parkland		Natural Areas						
<b>Meadows Ward</b>																																			
Population: 3692																																			
Park Avenue Ball Diamonds and Playground	Comm	1.68	•	•		•					•		2													•									
Park west of Elvis																																			
Meadows School	Neigh	2.17	•			•							1		1	1	?									•									
Meadows Playground 22nd north of Queens	Neigh	0.98	•			•		•	•																	•	•								
J.R. Reid School	Neigh	2.12	•			•																													
26th and Park																																			
Earl Oxford School 18th and Victoria	Neigh	2.79	•																																
Kinmen Baseball Diamond 21st and Brandon	Comm	0.88	•										1																						
Total neighbourhood		8.06																																	
Total community		2.56																																	
Total city		0.00																																	
Other Greenspace		0.76																																	
<b>TOTAL GREENSPACE</b>		<b>11.38</b>	<b>ha</b>																																
<b>Linden Lanes Ward</b>																																			
Population: 4095																																			
Westview Park Access from Woodhaven and Westwood	Neigh	0.42	•			•					•															•									
Linden Lanes School Silver Birch at Linden	Neigh	2.26	•			•							1		2		2										•								
Westridge C.C. (& Lions Playground) 32 Willowdale	Comm	1.03	•	•		•		•	•	•								2																	
Wascana Park Access from Neepawa	Neigh	0.48	•			•																				•									
Parkdale Park Access from Parkdale, Durum	Neigh	4.24	•		•	•												2								•	•								
Total neighbourhood		7.40																																	
Total community		1.03																																	
Total city		0.00																																	
Other greenspace		9.90																																	
Natural areas		10.12																																	
<b>TOTAL GREENSPACE</b>		<b>28.45</b>	<b>ha</b>																																



### **Assets (continued)**

- *There are several joint facilities (eg. Valleyview School/Community Centre and Fleming School/Coronation Park) which could benefit from better integration; and*

### **Deficiencies**

- *There is a shortage of community greenspace in the ward;*
- *The only gaps in the distribution of greenspaces is in the area immediately west of Vincent Massey High School;*
- *The ward is very close to the Riverbank area, but there is a lack of good connection for pedestrians, and particularly cyclists; and*
- *Few upgrades have occurred within the ward, and greenspaces are showing signs of deterioration.*

### **The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 4.3.1 (a) A playground be developed on the grounds of Vincent Massey High School, in order to address a deficiency in neighbourhood greenspace in the area, and provide an amenity for the school's daycare.**
- 4.3.1 (b) Valleyview School/Community Centre be enhanced with tree and shrub planting, walkways, seating and picnic areas, to encourage greater community use and provide complimentary facilities for family amenities (eg. playground, paddle pool).**
- 4.3.1 (c) A multi-use trail be constructed to extend from the eastern end of the Pacific Avenue Trail into Queen Elizabeth/Canada Games Park This trail may include some form of switchback to lessen slopes for cyclists.**
- 4.3.1 (d) A feasibility study be undertaken for a greenway along Louise or Lorne Avenue.**
- 4.3.1 (e) Future trail development include the extension of the Pacific Avenue Trail east to 18th Street if and when the Kansteel property is developed.**

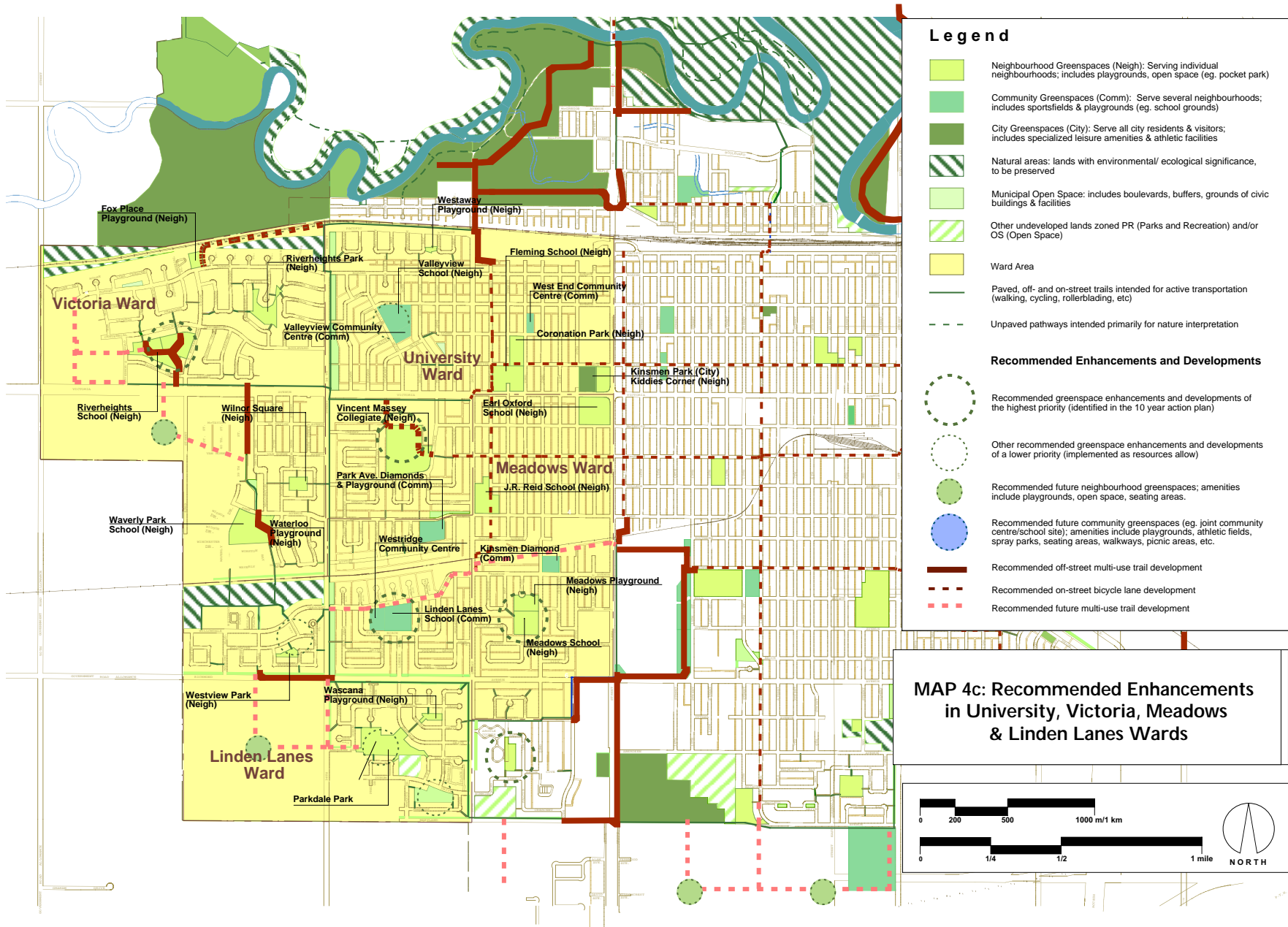
(Recommendations for greenspace enhancement and development in University Ward are illustrated in Map 4c.)

#### **4.3.2 Victoria**

Victoria Ward lies along the western edge of the city (Map 4a). Victoria Avenue divides the ward north/south into two neighbourhoods. To the north, neighbourhood greenspaces are provided through Fox Place Playground, Riverheights Park and Riverheights School. There is also a large natural area along the CPR tracks which is presently accessed by a gravel trail from Fox Place Playground. To the south, neighbourhood greenspaces are provided through Wilnor Square, Waterloo Playground and Waverly Park School.

The ward is served by both the Victoria Avenue West and the 26th Street Trail. There is an unpaved trail along the northern boundary of the ward which extends westward from the Pacific Avenue Trail to Fox Place Playground. There are also a number of mid-block trail connections which provide a generally good network of secondary trails for active transportation.

There are undeveloped lands slated for residential development in the western area of Victoria Ward, both north and south of Victoria Avenue.



The amount of greenspace in Victoria Ward is as follows:

**Figure 13: Provision of Greenspace in Victoria Ward (ha/1000 persons)**

	Brandon		Compared to other cities*	
	Victoria Ward	City Average	Existing Greenspace	Recommended
Neighbourhood	2.81	1.85	0.42-1.2	0.5-2.2
Community	0	0.9	0.4-2.3	0.5-2.2
City	0	3.87		
Other	2.37			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5.18</b>	<b>6.57</b>		

\* Compared to Nanaimo BC; Orillia ON; Grande Prairie AB; Timmins ON; Kelowna BC

A consideration of existing levels of service (Map 4b), existing amenities (Figure 12) as well as public input reveals the following issues within Victoria Ward:

**Assets**

- *There is abundant neighbourhood greenspace in the ward;*
- *Generally, greenspace is well distributed. Only at the extreme western edge of the ward is there a lack of greenspaces;*
- *The ward is close to, and has good access to, Riverbank amenities;*
- *The ward is well served by trails;*
- *Generally, there is a high level of satisfaction for greenspace in the area;*
- *Riverheights School provides a large, centrally located and easily accessible site which could be further developed as a community greenspace; and*
- *The greenspaces in the ward are generally newer and in good condition. Only Riverheights Park is showing signs of deterioration.*

## Deficiencies

- *There are no community greenspaces in the ward;*
- *There are no community centres in the ward;*
- *Facilities and amenities lacking, include an outdoor hockey rink, tennis courts, swimming pools, floral displays and natural areas; and*
- *Specific safety concerns include Riverheights Park and Wilnor Square; these greenspaces lack good visibility from surrounding streets.*

## The Master Plan recommends that:

- 4.3.2 (a) As an alternative to upgrading Riverheights Park, that the relocation of this facility to a larger, more visible and more accessible site be considered. The Riverheights Schoolground is a possible alternative.**
- 4.3.2 (b) Riverheights School be developed as a community greenspace serving the west end of the city. Enhancements to this greenspace could include tree planting, walkways, seating and picnic areas, as well as additional athletic facilities (eg. outdoor rink, tennis courts).**
- 4.3.2 (c) New greenspaces (particularly neighbourhood) and multi-use trails be provided in developing areas to the proposed standards in the Master Plan. Future neighbourhood greenspaces should be located to provide easy access by secondary trail to Riverheights School and the Victoria Avenue West Trail.**
- 4.3.2 (d) The trail between Fox Place Playground and the Pacific Avenue Trail at 34th Street be paved to allow access from the West End to Riverbank amenities.**
- 4.3.2 (e) The extension of the Waverly Trail south through Waverly Park Schoolgrounds, to provide access across the CNR tracks to the Willowdale area.**
- 4.3.2 (f) A multi-use trail be extended from the Victoria Avenue West Trail north into Riverheights School.**
- 4.3.2 (g) Future trail development include an extension of the Waverly Trail north to Victoria Avenue.**



*Riverheights Schoolground, due to its size, location and accessibility, offers excellent potential for future enhancement, to create a community greenspace.*

(Recommendations for greenspace enhancement and development in Victoria Ward are illustrated in Map 4c.)

### 4.3.3 Meadows

Meadows Ward is centrally located, west of the Keystone Centre (Map 4a). The CNR tracks divide the ward north/south into two large neighbourhoods. North of the tracks, neighbourhood greenspaces are provided through J.R. Reid School, and to a lesser extent, Earl Oxford (which features only athletic fields). The neighbourhood south of the tracks is well served by the centrally located Meadows School/Playground. The Kinsmen diamond also provides a highly developed and well used baseball facility for the larger community. An additional pocket of residential exists west of 26th Street, where community greenspace is provided through Park Avenue Diamonds/Playground.

There are presently no multi-use trails in the ward, but residents have easy access to a number of trails: Victoria Avenue West, 34th Street, 26th Avenue, Richmond Avenue West and 18th Street.

The amount of greenspace in Meadows Ward is as follows:

**Figure 14: Provision of Greenspace in Meadows Ward (ha/1000 persons)**

	Brandon		Compared to other cities*	
	Meadows Ward	City Average	Existing Greenspace	Recommended
Neighbourhood	2.18	1.85	0.42-1.2	0.5-2.2
Community	0.69	0.9	0.4-2.3	0.5-2.2
City	0	3.87		
Other	0.21			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.08</b>	<b>6.57</b>		

\* Compared to Nanaimo BC; Orillia ON; Grande Prairie AB; Timmins ON; Kelowna BC



*Riverheights Park has a number of important amenities, but issues of size and accessibility limit its future enhancement potential.*

*Paving the Fox Place trail would greatly increase accessibility to the Riverbank by residents of Victoria Ward.*



A consideration of existing levels of service (Map 4b), existing amenities (Figure 12) as well as public input reveals the following issues within Meadows Ward:

#### **Assets**

- *There is adequate neighbourhood greenspace in the ward; and*
- *The Meadows School/Playground facility is a centrally located facility with the opportunity to add additional amenities to create a community greenspace.*

#### **Deficiencies**

- *There is a shortage of community greenspace in the ward.;*
- *There is no community centre in the ward;*
- *There is a gap in the distribution of greenspaces in the area north of Park Avenue, west of 18th Street;*
- *Specific amenities lacking in Meadows include picnic tables, an outdoor rink, tennis courts, outdoor swimming pool, floral displays, and natural areas;*
- *There are no trails in the ward, so trail connections (and crosswalks, etc.) are important to provide residents of Meadows with access to amenities in neighbouring wards; and*
- *All greenspaces in the ward are showing signs of deterioration.*

#### **The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 4.3.3 (a) Due to the lack of opportunities within Meadows for new greenspaces, and the proximity of amenities in neighbouring wards, existing pedestrian corridors be examined, and new corridors be identified, to ensure safe linkages for residents.**
- 4.3.3 (b) Meadows School and playground be enhanced with tree and shrub planting, walkways, seating and picnic areas to compliment the current use of the schoolground and playground facilities, and encourage additional use by the community.**



*Meadows School and Playground are centrally located within the neighbourhood, with ample room to incorporate additional greenspace amenities.*

**4.3.3 (c) A examination be undertaken of the future possibility of developing a multi-use trail along the south side of the CNR tracks, from 26th Street to the 18th Street South Trail.**

(Recommendations for greenspace enhancement and development in Meadows Ward are illustrated in Map 4c.)

**4.3.4 Linden Lanes**

Linden Lanes lies at the southwestern corner of the city (Map 4a). 34th Street and Richmond Avenue divide Linden Lanes into three neighbourhoods. North of Richmond and east of 34th Street, the area is well served by Linden Lanes School/Westridge Community Centre, which provides community greenspaces to residents. South of Richmond, Wascana Playground and Parkdale Park provide neighbourhood greenspaces. This neighbourhood also features a large open space which serves as a stormwater retention area. West of 34th, the only neighbourhood greenspace is Westview Park. In addition, there is a large undeveloped area immediately south of the CNR tracks.

Linden Lanes is served by the 34th Street, Richmond Avenue West and 26th Street Trails. In addition, there is access across the CNR tracks into Waverly Park school, and a substantial secondary network of mid-block trails exist.

There is a large tract of land presently in the preliminary stages of development southwest of the 34th and Richmond intersection. This parcel contains significant topographical conditions, as well as large treed areas, which provide some opportunity for future greenspace development. There is also an empty parcel immediately south of Parkdale Park. In addition, it should be noted that over the longer term future land assembly may be undertaken by the city south and west of Linden Lanes ward, which may impact the present planning of the greenspace network.



The amount of greenspace in Linden Lanes Ward is as follows:

**Figure 15: Provision of Greenspace in Linden Lanes Ward (ha/1000 persons)**

	Brandon		Compared to other cities*	
	Linden Lanes Ward	City Average	Existing Greenspace	Recommended
Neighbourhood	1.81	1.85	0.42-1.2	0.5-2.2
Community	0.25	0.9	0.4-2.3	0.5-2.2
City	0	3.87		
Other	4.88			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6.95</b>	<b>6.57</b>		

\* Compared to Nanaimo BC; Orillia ON; Grande Prairie AB; Timmins ON; Kelowna BC



Linden Lanes School and Westridge Community Centre presently offer a wide range of community greenspace and recreational amenities. Future enhancements can build upon existing strengths and encourage further community use.

A consideration of existing levels of service (Map 4b), existing amenities (Figure 12) as well as public input reveals the following issues within Linden Lanes Ward:

**Assets**

- *There is adequate neighbourhood greenspace in the ward;*
- *Generally, the ward has a good distribution of greenspace, with only a minor gap at the west end of Willowdale Drive;*
- *The deficiency in community greenspace should be addressed through enhancing existing facilities;*
- *The ward does have a community centre; and*
- *Westridge Community Centre/Linden Lanes School has the opportunity to further develop as a community greenspace.*

## Deficiencies

- *Facilities lacking include a football field, outdoor swimming pool, floral displays;*
- *There is a shortage of community greenspace in the ward;*
- *Both Westview Park and Parkdale Park lack open perimeters, and good visibility, causing some concern for safety; and*
- *With the exception of Parkdale Park, the greenspaces in the ward are showing signs of deterioration.*

## The Master Plan recommends that:

- 4.3.4 (a) Linden Lanes School/Westridge Community Centre be enhanced with tree and shrub planting, walkways, seating and picnic areas to compliment the current use of the schoolground and community centre facilities, and encourage additional use by the community.**
- 4.3.4 (b) Parkdale Park have measures introduced to ensure a high level of safety, given the lack of visibility into the site. Lighting should be introduced, as well as trails that can accommodate service (eg. police) vehicles. The city should also consider the purchase of land at the southeast corner of the site to maximize sightlines; otherwise, the development of this parcel should locate streets and common areas in such a way to maximize sightlines into Parkdale Park.**
- 4.3.4 (c) In the area south of CNR tracks, west of 34th, benches, garbage receptacles and lighting be introduced to compliment the existing multi-use trail through the space. This area should be designated as natural area, and maintained accordingly. The opportunity also exists to incorporate interpretive signage to highlight the environmental/ecological character of the area.**
- 4.3.4 (d) The city introduce, as a pilot project, greenspace amenities and recreational facilities into the Durum Drive Stormwater Management Facility.**
- 4.3.4 (e) New greenspaces to be provided in the area south of Richmond Avenue, located to protect existing vegetation, preserve existing drainage patterns, and allow easy access by secondary trail east to Parkdale Park, and north to Waverly Trail.**

**4.3.4 (f) Future trail development include the extension of the Richmond Avenue West Trail west to Wankling Boulevard.**

(Recommendations for greenspace enhancement and development in Linden Lanes Ward are illustrated in Map 4c.)

**4.4 Assiniboine Ward**

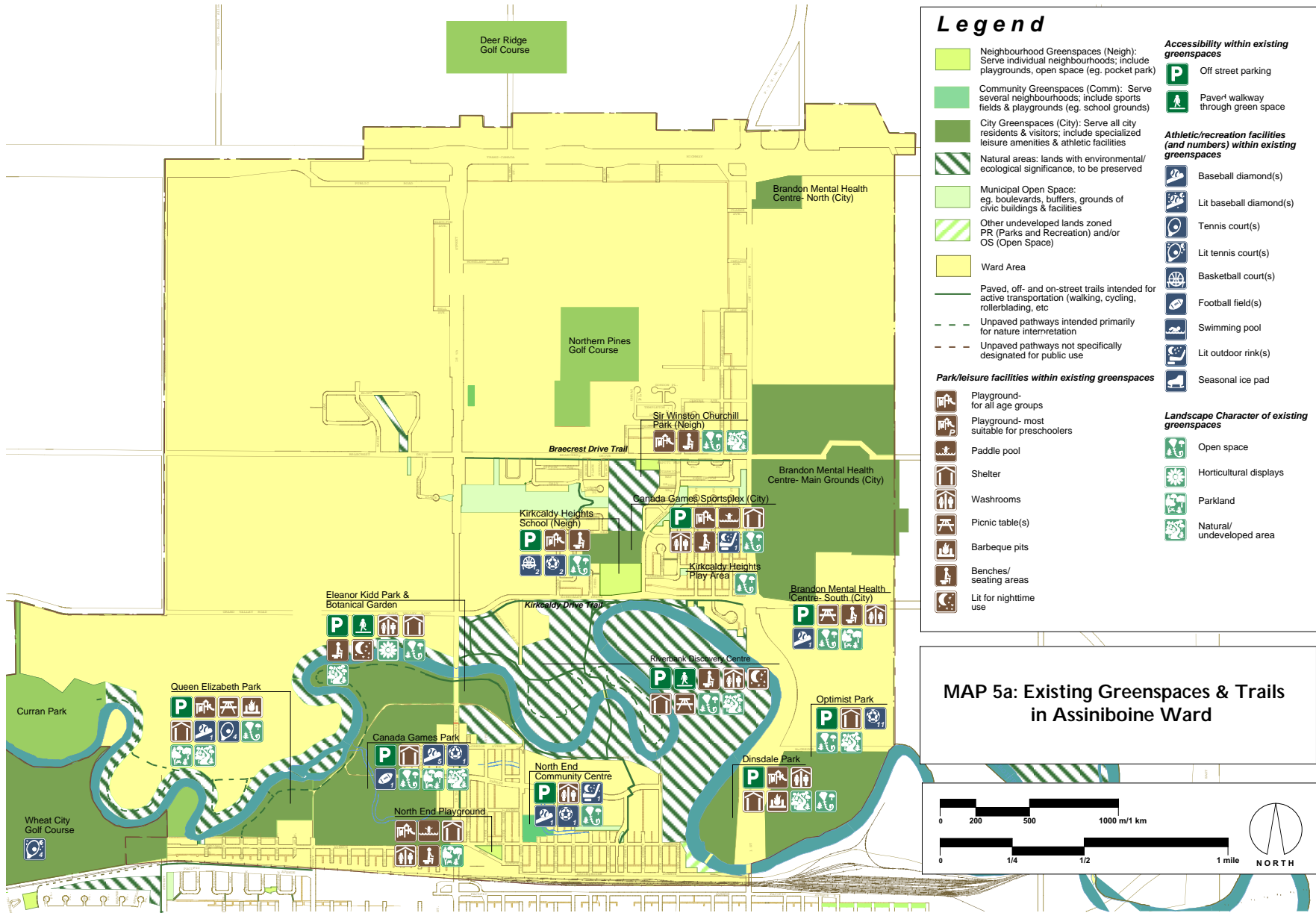
The northern region of the city (Map 5a) is comprised of Assiniboine Ward. This area of the city has a diverse history reflected in a number of distinct neighbourhoods. Immediately north of the downtown lies the North End or The Flats, one of the oldest neighbourhoods in Brandon, with a rich ethnic history. Neighbourhood greenspace is provided through the North End Playground, and community greenspace is provided through the North End Community Centre. West of 18th Street is a strip of housing along MacDonald Avenue, which has access to facilities in adjacent Queen Elizabeth and Canada Games Park. North of the river and south of Braecrest is a large neighbourhood, with neighbourhood greenspaces provided through Kirkcaldy Heights School, the Leo Lot at the Sportsplex, and Sir Winston Churchill Park. There are a number of other pockets of residential, including Glendale Trailer Court (featuring an open space but no play equipment) and Monterrey Estates north of Braecrest, and Oak Bluff west of 18th Street.

City greenspaces include the many parks, athletic fields and natural areas as part of the Assiniboine River Corridor (Riverbank), as well as Canada Games Sportsplex. In addition to the natural areas within the Riverbank, there is large parcel of undeveloped land within Sir Winston Churchill Park, which features a natural spring of both historical and present interest to residents.

There are a number of multi-use trails in the ward. The Riverbank features several paved and unpaved trails, and Braecrest Drive and Kirkcaldy Drive Trail run east-west between 1st and 18th Street.



*The North Hill area features a number of greenspaces and trails, as well as good access to riverbank amenities.*



There are large amounts of land available for development within Assiniboine Ward. There is a large area within the North End which is presently slated as mixed use infill; the area immediately east of 18th Street, north of the Discovery Centre is in the process of being developed and a large tract of land exists north of Northern Pines Golf Course. This land, commonly known as the Black Property, will likely be developed within the immediate future.

#### 4.4.1 North End/North Hill

In the areas of Assiniboine Ward north and south of the River (ie. not including the Assiniboine River Corridor amenities and facilities), the amount of greenspace is as follows:

**Figure 16: Provision of Greenspace in Assiniboine Ward (ha/1000 persons)**

	Brandon		Compared to other cities*	
	Assiniboine Ward	City Average	Existing Greenspace	Recommended
Neighbourhood	3.56	1.85	0.42-1.2	0.5-2.2
Community	0.47	0.9	0.4-2.3	0.5-2.2
City	1.29	3.87		
Other	3.65			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6.66</b>	<b>6.57</b>		

(Not including Riverbank Amenities)

\* Compared to Nanaimo BC; Orillia ON; Grande Prairie AB; Timmins ON; Kelowna BC



*The North End Playground is small and poorly sited between a busy street and industrial area. Future enhancement should consider relocation to a more advantageous site.*

*The North End Community Centre presently offers limited greenspace amenities; enhancements can encourage greater use by the neighbourhood.*



A consideration of existing levels of service (Map 5b), existing amenities (Figure 17) as well as public input reveals the following issues within Assiniboine Ward:

#### **Assets**

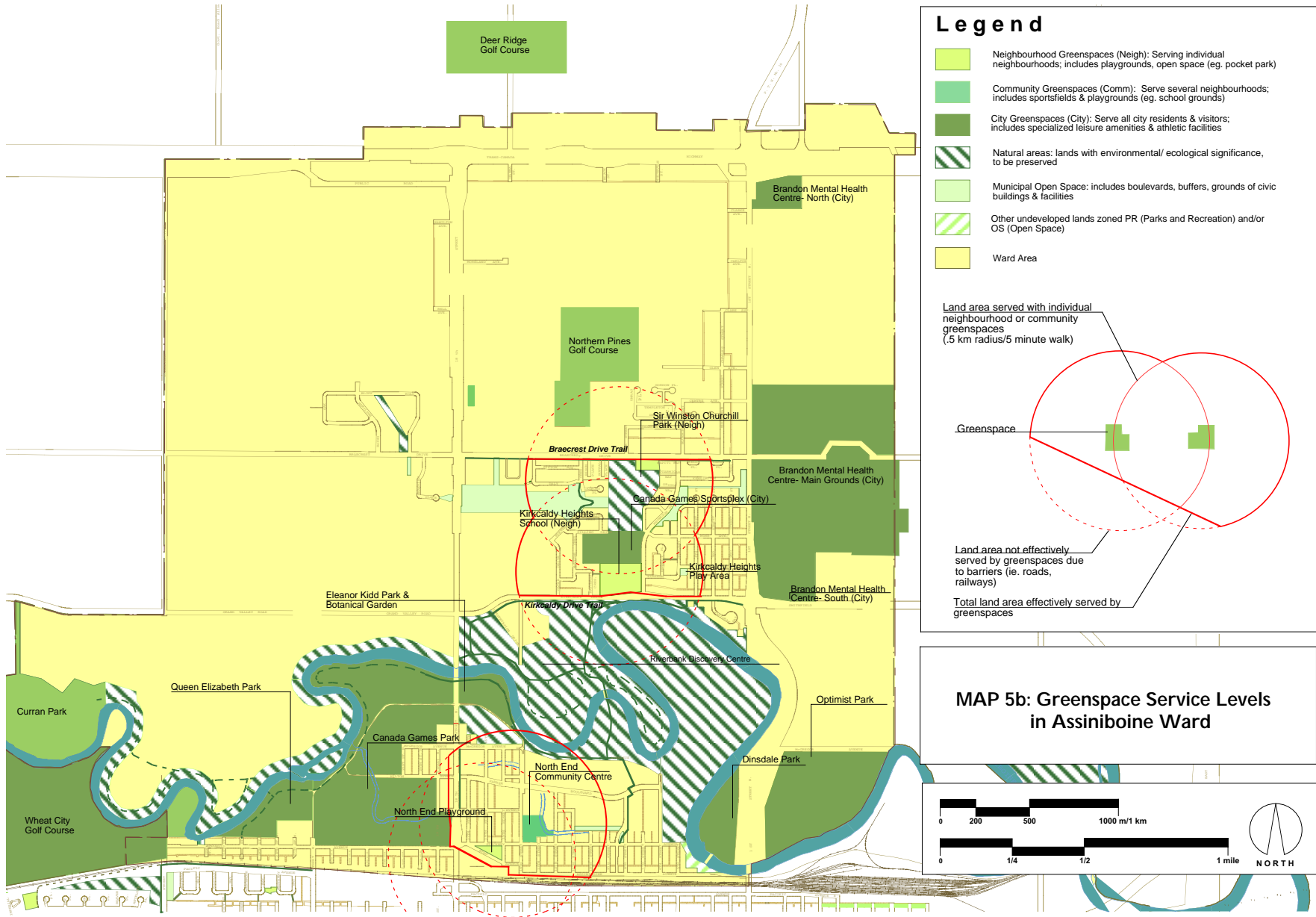
- *The ward has an abundance of neighbourhood greenspaces;*
- *There are no facilities or amenities lacking in the ward; and*
- *The ward has excellent access to the many assets of the Riverbank Area, but there is a lack of trail access from the Braecrest Drive area at the top of the hill.*

#### **Deficiencies**

- *There are gaps in the distribution of greenspace in the area: immediately west of 18th Street north of the river, and in the Stickney Avenue/8th Street area in the North End community;*
- *There is a shortage of community greenspaces in the ward; and*
- *Facilities such as the North End Playground, North End Community Centre, and the Leo Lot at the Sportsplex are showing significant deterioration.*

#### **The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 4.4.1 (a) As an alternative to upgrading the North End Playground, that the relocation of this facility to a larger, more visible and more accessible site be considered. The North End Community Centre is a possible alternative.**
- 4.4.1 (b) The North End Community Centre be enhanced with shrub and tree planting, walkways, seating and picnic areas to encourage greater use by the community. If required, the city should acquire the land north of the facility to accommodate additional amenities and expand the community function of this greenspace.**
- 4.4.1 (c) Sir Winston Churchill Park be enhanced through seating areas and interpretive signage, highlighting the natural spring feature as well as the unique character of the valley side. A multi-use trail should also be extended through the site (See 4.4.1 (d) below).**



**Figure 17: Existing Greenspace Inventory - Assiniboine Ward**

Class	Size (hectares)	Accessibility			Safety	Park/Playground Facilities and Amenities								Athletic and Leisure Facilities								Landscape Character				Other									
		Transit Access	Off-street Parking	Paved Walkway	Lighting	Playground	Playground (preschool)	Washroom	Shelter	Picnic Tables	BBQ Pits	Rest Area/Benches	Paddle Pool	Ball Diamond	Lit Ball Diamond	Soccer Pitch	Football Field	Basketball Court	Lit Outdoor Ice Rink	Seasonal Ice Pads	Tennis Court	Lit Tennis Court	Community Centre	Swimming Pool	Floral Displays		Open Space	Parkland	Natural Areas						
<b>North End / North Hill</b>																																			
Population: 3988																																			
North End Playground 15th North and Stickney	Neigh	0.57	*			*		*																											
North End C.C. 14th North and Stickney	Comm	1.89	*	*				*														*													
Kirkcaldy Heights School Knowlton and Kirkcaldy	Neigh	3.86	*	*		*																													
Canada Games Sportsplex (6 Lines Leo Lot) 30 Knowlton	City Neigh	5.14 0.3	*	*		*		*																											
Sir Winston Churchill Park 650 Braecrest	Neigh	9.3	*			*																													
Kirkcaldy Heights Play Area Dufferin and Kirkham	Neigh	0.15	*																						*										
Total Neighbourhood		14.18																																	
Total Community		1.89																																	
Total City		5.14																																	
Other open space		2.2																																	
Natural Areas		12.38																																	
<b>TOTAL GREENSPACE</b>		<b>26.56</b>	<b>ha</b>																																
<b>Assiniboine River Corridor</b>																																			
Dinsdale Park 1st Street North	City	7.69	*	*		*		*		*															*	*	*	*							
Optimist Soccer Park 1st Street North	City	28.84	*	*				*																											
Riverbank Discovery Centre Access from Conservation	City	46.53	*	*	*	*		*		*																									
Eleanor Kidd Park John and 18th Street North	City	5.26	*	*	*	*		*		*																*	*	*	*						
Canada Games Park West of 18th Street North	City	57.87	*	*		*		*																			*	*	*	*					
Queen Elizabeth Park Access from 26th	City	8.73	*	*		*		*		*																	*	*	*	*					
Curran Park Grand Valley west of 18th	City	25.09				*		*		*															*		*	*	*						
BMHC Grounds-North 18th St at the Trans Canada	City	4.05	*	*																															
BMHC Main Grounds Access from 18th at Braecrest	City	74.68	*	*	*																				*	*	*	*							
BMHC Grounds-South Access from the Low Road	City	8.5	*	*				*		*																*	*	*	*						
<b>TOTAL GREENSPACE</b>		<b>121.05</b>	<b>ha</b>																																

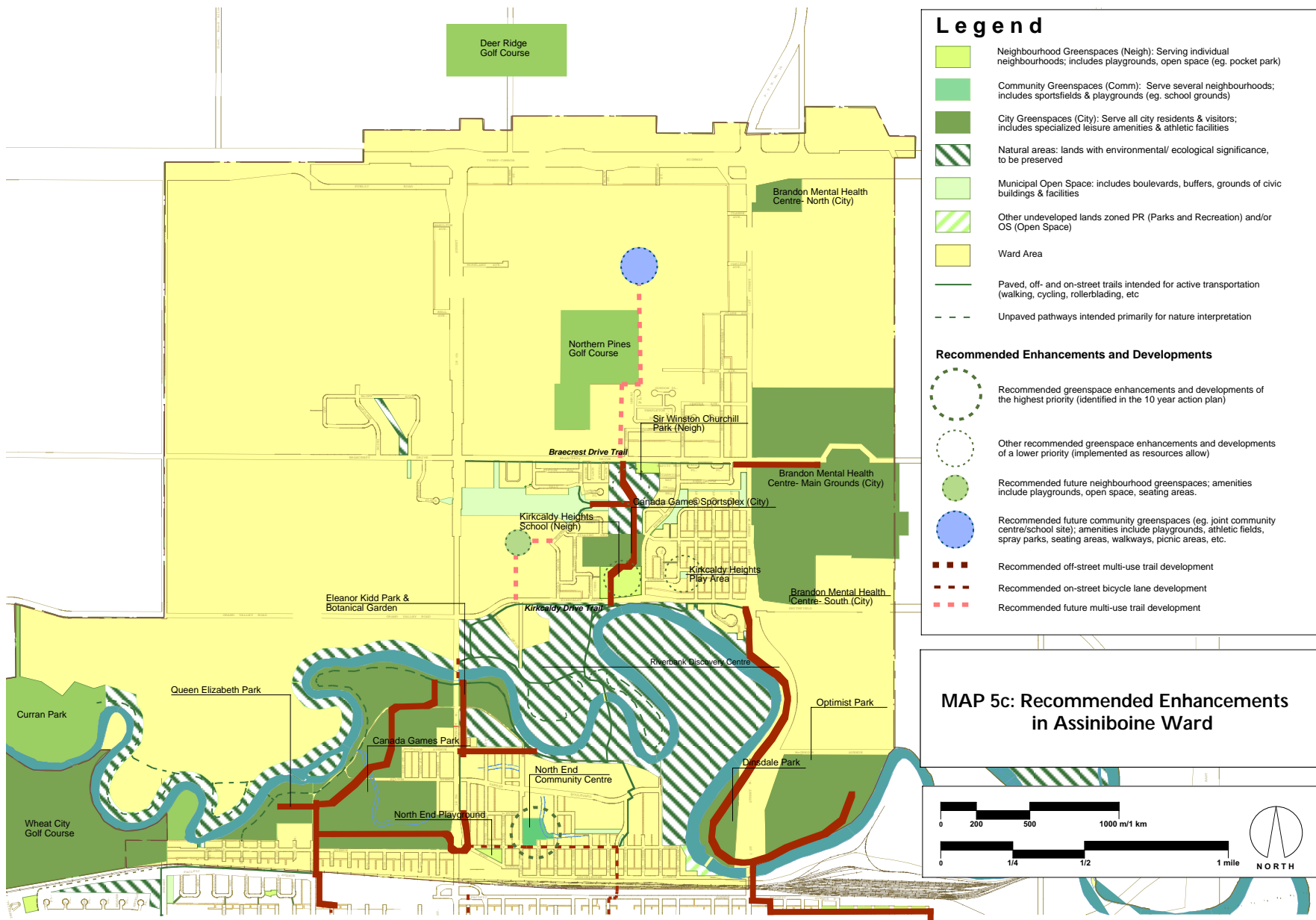


- 4.4.1 (d) **A multi-use trail be developed from Kirkcaldy Drive through the Kirkcaldy Heights Schoolground, Sportsplex and Winston Churchill Park to Braecrest Drive. This trail will provide access south to the Riverbank, as well as north to the Braecrest Drive Trail, with possible future connection to the Brandon Mental Health Centre site.**
- 4.4.1 (e) **Kirkcaldy Heights School be enhanced with tree and shrub planting, walkways, seating and picnic areas to compliment the current use of the schoolground and encourage additional use by the community. Future development of the site should consider better integration with the Sportsplex, and the possible relocation of the Lion's Leo Lot (See 4.4.1 (f) below).**
- 4.4.1 (f) **As an alternative to upgrading Lion's Leo Lot, the relocation of this facility to a location within the Kirkcaldy Heights/Sportsplex facility to better take advantage of complimentary facilities (eg. seating and picnic areas, walking paths and multi-use trail connections, etc.)**
- 4.4.1 (f) **The Kirkcaldy Heights Play Area be developed into a neighbourhood park, with play equipment, seating, tree planting, etc., to serve the North Hill area east of Knowlton Drive.**
- 4.4.1 (g) **New greenspaces be provided in the area north of Northern Pines Golf Course (including 'the Black property') to allow for easy access by primary and secondary trail to Braecrest Drive and Winston Churchill Park.**
- 4.4.1 (i) **In conjunction with the development of the BMHC site, the Braecrest Drive Trail be extended east across 1st Street.**

(Recommendations for greenspace enhancement and development in Assiniboine Ward are illustrated in Map 5c.)



*Kirkcaldy Heights School, the Sportsplex, and Winston Churchill Park could benefit greatly from better integration. Pathway linkages and other enhancements could create a community greenspace at this location.*



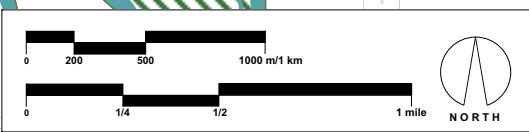
### Legend

- Neighbourhood Greenspaces (Neigh): Serving individual neighbourhoods; includes playgrounds, open space (eg. pocket park)
- Community Greenspaces (Comm): Serve several neighbourhoods; includes sportsfields & playgrounds (eg. school grounds)
- City Greenspaces (City): Serve all city residents & visitors; includes specialized leisure amenities & athletic facilities
- Natural areas: lands with environmental/ ecological significance, to be preserved
- Municipal Open Space: includes boulevards, buffers, grounds of civic buildings & facilities
- Other undeveloped lands zoned PR (Parks and Recreation) and/or OS (Open Space)
- Ward Area
- Paved, off- and on-street trails intended for active transportation (walking, cycling, rollerblading, etc)
- Unpaved pathways intended primarily for nature interpretation

### Recommended Enhancements and Developments

- Recommended greenspace enhancements and developments of the highest priority (identified in the 10 year action plan)
- Other recommended greenspace enhancements and developments of a lower priority (implemented as resources allow)
- Recommended future neighbourhood greenspaces; amenities include playgrounds, open space, seating areas.
- Recommended future community greenspaces (eg. joint community centre/school site); amenities include playgrounds, athletic fields, spray parks, seating areas, walkways, picnic areas, etc.
- Recommended off-street multi-use trail development
- Recommended on-street bicycle lane development
- Recommended future multi-use trail development

**MAP 5c: Recommended Enhancements in Assiniboine Ward**



#### 4.4.2 Assiniboine River Corridor

The most significant greenspace amenity within the City of Brandon is the Assiniboine River Corridor (Map 5a). Following the Assiniboine River through the city, the Corridor includes a wide range of city-level amenities for use and enjoyment by both residents and visitors.

In the 1990's the intensive development of amenities and walking trails began, growing out of a master plan for the corridor. Since that time, amenities have been developed to varying degrees, and in conjunction with the recent public consultations, to set future direction for the corridor, the opportunity exists through the Master Plan process to direct future development of the corridor.

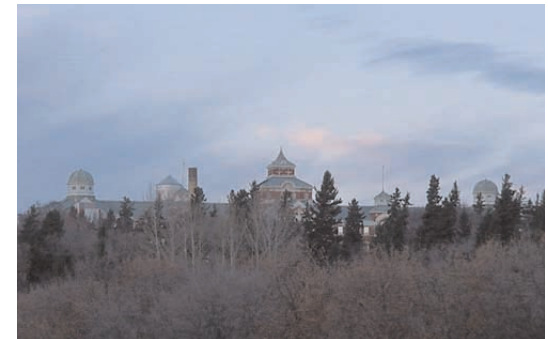
In addition to the direction provided through this consultation, a number of issues exist which can be addressed:

- *There are safety and vandalism concerns within the Riverbank area, with ongoing damage to facilities;*
- *All of the greenspaces, and particularly those within the Riverbank, experience considerable use. At times, this high level of use is evident;*
- *Some of the facilities are underused, and could benefit from the addition of greenspace enhancements and complimentary facilities;*
- *Dinsdale and Optimist Park are located along major roadways and lack clear entrance definition; these greenspaces sit near the entrance to downtown and could more positively enhance the aesthetic character of this entry experience;*
- *A specific issue is the present location of the boat launch, and the use of the river by powerboats;*
- *The appropriateness of the highly manicured Eleanor Kidd Garden has been called into question, given its natural surrounding of the Riverbank;*



*Dinsdale Park is a major gateway to downtown Brandon, and has the opportunity to create a stronger and more attractive sense of entrance.*

*The Brandon Mental Health Centre site represents a significant greenspace amenity in the city.*



- *Accessibility issues exist, particularly within Canada Games Park, as a result of the closure of the Dyke Road;*
- *Concern has been expressed over the future of formerly public greenspaces and amenities in both Curran Park and the Brandon Mental Health Centre site; and*
- *Limited funds to continue with the development of facilities and amenities.*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 4.4.2 (a) Greenspaces along major city entries (ie. Dinsdale, Optimist, Canada Games Parks) be enhanced with tree and shrub planting to positively contribute to the city. Enhancements such as shrub planting and sign relocation should also be undertaken to better define entry points.**
- 4.4.2 (b) Ongoing enhancements to greenspaces in the River Corridor include paving of access roads to improve access, limit dust and improve appearance.**
- 4.4.2 (c) Motorized boat traffic on the Assiniboine be examined, along with the existing boat launch south of Kirkcaldy, to determine the appropriateness of the activity. Consideration should be given to limits to powered watercraft use, to reduce riverbank erosion and minimize noise within the natural Riverbank areas.**
- 4.4.2 (d) The lands north of the Discovery Centre be maintained as open space until a comprehensive master plan is undertaken for this area. With the establishment of the speed skating oval on the site, the opportunity exists to further develop the site as a year round city greenspace.**
- 4.4.2 (e) Optimist Park be enhanced with additional soccer fields, as well as other amenities (eg. parking, playground areas). Future development in this greenspace could include development of the old landfill site for a toboggan hill.**
- 4.4.2 (f) Dinsdale Park be enhanced through additional tree planting along the 1st Street frontage and within the central area. Other enhancements should include improvements to picnic areas, as well as the addition of complimentary family activities (eg. beach volleyball and walking trails- along the River, and to the Native Prairie exhibit area).**



*The lands north of the Discovery Centre should be preserved until such time that a master plan for the site is developed.*

*Fort Whyte Centre provides an excellent example of a year round family activity centre, which may serve as a model for the Discovery Centre.*



- 4.4.2 (g) **Queen Elizabeth Park** have enhancements to existing picnic areas (including new complimentary family activities and a new picnic shelter). Other enhancements should include pathway development, providing improved access from both the dyke road and McDonald Avenue.
- 4.4.2 (h) **Canada Games Park** be enhanced with additional parking for athletic fields, washroom/change facilities (to serve both Canada Games and Queen Elizabeth Park and their athletic facilities) and walkways. Interpretive signage should be provided for the wetland area north of the dyke road, and existing picnic areas should be enhanced with additional tree planting and complimentary family activities.
- 4.4.2 (i) **The Dyke Road** be opened to traffic to improve accessibility through Canada Games Park, and developed, along with John Avenue east of 18th Street, as a parkway (eg. paved road, walking paths, boulevard tree planting, signage) to encourage greater use of these greenspaces.
- 4.4.2 (j) At some future date, an evaluation be undertaken of the **Eleanor Kidd Botanical Garden** for public use and satisfaction, to identify opportunities for future programming and development. Consideration should be given to the role of this site as a venue of staging point for public events (eg. Terry Fox Run), as a compliment or alternative to the Discovery Centre. Opportunities that exist to increase use of the garden as a public space include limited concessions, as well as the development of an amphitheatre immediately west of the garden.
- 4.4.2 (k) **Riverbank Inc.** develop a procedure and criteria for evaluating community based proposals for greenspace enhancement projects.
- 4.4.2 (l) Future plans for city greenspaces such as a **Conservatory/Tea House, Assiniboine Landing** and an amphitheatre proceed. Consideration should be given to developing these facilities in conjunction with existing greenspaces and amenities to maximize previous capital investments and ensure the greatest possible use.
- 4.4.2 (m) A multi-use trail be developed through **Canada Games Park**, to provide access from **Queen Elizabeth Park** to **Eleanor Kidd Botanical Garden**.
- 4.4.2 (n) An examination be made of possibilities to improve pedestrian and cyclist access across the 18th, 8th and 1st Street bridges, to increase connections to and within the **Riverbank** area.



*Enhancements to Dinsdale Park can include tree planting, in order to create a more attractive central green area with a stronger sense of enclosure.*

*Canada Games Park is a highly attractive greenspace that through modest enhancements could see an increase in use by the public.*



## 5.0 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

To realize the numerous recommendations within this Greenspace Master Plan, an Implementation Strategy has been developed which includes:

- *A 10 year action plan for the enhancement and development of greenspaces and multi-use trails;*
- *An identification of methods of funding greenspace enhancement and development;*
- *Supporting activities, including the development and review of policies and programs, which assist in the implementation of the Master Plan; and*
- *Recommendations to update the Master Plan to ensure its relevancy.*

### 5.1 A 10YEAR ACTION PLAN

The action plan has been phased to allow for a ten-year implementation period. Costs are based on 2001 budgets, allowing for inflation. Costs reflect general estimates that would be refined with more detailed investigation upon development of each project. Ultimately, the implementation of these greenspace enhancements, as well as the other recommendations of the Greenspace Master Plan, will proceed as resources are available.

The action plan takes into consideration the limited resources of the Department and the City, and recognizes that partnerships can and should be struck to cost share on the planning and development of projects. The action plan has been prioritized to reflect the most immediate needs of the community, while realizing the greatest value to taxpayers.

### 5.1.1 Greenspace Enhancement and Development

Figure 18 illustrates a 10 year action plan to enhance and develop greenspaces in the City of Brandon. Priorities have been set in response to the following issues:

- *Addressing deficiencies in the amount and location of greenspaces;*
- *Addressing deficiencies in the amount or condition of facilities and amenities within greenspaces;*
- *Ensuring public safety within greenspaces;*
- *Increasing public use of greenspaces by introducing complimentary facilities, and encouraging greater use of adjacent facilities (eg. community centres and schoolgrounds);*
- *Building partnerships as a means to develop greenspace; and*
- *Developing pilot projects, with other greenspace partners, to test new and innovative ways to develop and deliver greenspace amenities to residents of Brandon.*

### 5.1.2 Multi-use Trail Enhancement and Development

Figure 19 illustrates a 10 year action plan to enhance multi-use trails in the City of Brandon. Costs reflect general estimates for the development of trails to the present city standard (ie. 10 foot width, grading and sodding) and would be refined with more detailed investigation upon development of trail project. Priorities for trail enhancement and development have been set in response to the following issues:

- *Closing gaps in the trail network;*
- *Providing greater accessibility to civic facilities, amenities and greenspaces; and*
- *Providing greater access to the Riverbank area from the rest of the city.*

**Figure 18: 10 Year Action Plan - Greenspace Enhancement Capital Costs**

Recommendation/description	Ward served	Department of Community Services partners:	Phasing and capital expenditure (estimated)											
			2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		
4.1.2 (b) South End C.C. Playground development and overall greenspace enhancements	South End, Green Acres	Community Centre Board	\$150,000											
4.4.1 (a) North End C.C. Playground development and overall greenspace enhancement	Assniboine	Brandon NRC, Community Centre Board		\$150,000										
4.2.1 (d) 3rd and Aberdeen, Crocus Park safety enhancements	Richmond Green Acres				\$265,000									
4.1.4 (b) Rideau Park greenspace enhancements	Riverview	Brandon NRC, Wheat City Lawn Bowling Club, Community Centre Board, Kinsmen Pool				\$100,000								
4.2.1 (a) Frederick Street Playground relocation	Green Acres				\$100,000									
4.3.3 (b) Meadows School/Playground greenspace enhancement	Meadows	Brandon School Division, Parent Council					\$175,000							
4.1.1 (d) New Era School greenspace enhancement	Rosser	Brandon School Division, Parent Council, Brandon NRC						\$100,000						
4.3.1 (a) Vincent Massey Playground development	University	Brandon School Division, Parent Council,						\$82,000						
4.1.3 (a) Keystone Centre Grounds redevelopment	Entire City	Keystone Centre							\$375,000					
4.2.2 (a) Argyle Courts safety and greenspace enhancement	Richmond									\$120,000				
4.3.2 (a) Riverheights School greenspace enhancement	Victoria	Brandon School Division, Parent Council,									\$250,000			
4.3.2 (b) enhancement														
4.3.4 (a) Linden Lanes/Westridge C.C. greenspace enhancement	Linden Lanes	School Division, Parent Council, C.C. Board												\$330,000
<b>TOTAL GREENSPACE ENHANCEMENT CAPITAL COSTS</b>			<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$265,000</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$175,000</b>	<b>\$182,000</b>	<b>\$375,000</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>	<b>\$330,000</b>		



**Figure 19: 10 Year Action Plan - Multi-use Trail Capital Costs**

Recommendation/description	Phasing and capital expenditure (estimated)									
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Completion of Richmond Avenue East/ 17th Avenue East Trail	Presently budgeted for 2002 and 2003									
4.1.4 (c) Extension of 17th Street East Trail to First Street Bridge			\$100,000							
4.3.1 (c) Development of trail into Queen Elizabeth and Canada Games Park				\$100,000						
4.1.1 (e) Louise Avenue Greenway Phase I					\$150,000					
4.1.1 (e) Louise Avenue Greenway Phase II						\$150,000				
4.4.1 (d) Development of trail from Kirkcaldy Drive north through Sportsplex and Winston Churchill Park							\$80,000			
4.2.2 (h) Extension of Ottawa Avenue Trail to 18th Street							\$35,000			
4.1.2 (f) Development of trails linking east and west sides of Keystone Centre								\$115,000		
4.2.2 (g) Extension of 18th Street South Trail to Cemetery									\$35,000	
4.2.2 (f) Completion of Maryland Avenue Trail									\$82,000	
4.3.2 (e) Completion of Waverly Trail										\$15,000
4.3.2 (d) Paving of trail from Fox Place to 34th Avenue										\$60,000
4.3.2 (f) Development of trail connection into Riverheights School										\$4,000
<b>TOTAL MULTI-USE TRAIL CAPITAL COSTS</b>			\$100,000	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$117,000	\$79,000

### 5.1.3 Funding Opportunities

A number of mechanisms exist to fund the enhancement and development of greenspace. They include:

1. **A Capital Development Fund, established and maintained by the city, is critical to greenspace enhancement and development. The secure, ongoing contribution to this fund represents a significant commitment by city and Council to the development of Brandon as a healthy community with the highest possible quality of life.**
2. **The Development Cost Charge By-law, in which developers are required to pay costs per residential unit for the development of new neighbourhood, community and city (ie. Riverbank) greenspace amenities and recreational facilities.**
3. **Partnerships include community partnerships and private/public partnerships. These partnerships provide an opportunity to cost share in the development and ongoing management of greenspaces and facilities. Private/public partnerships, between the city and ‘friends of’ organizations, can in particular bring significant funding to a project, and can successfully lever funds from other sources.**
4. **Corporate sponsorships are a proven means to raise funds for the development and ongoing management of greenspaces and facilities. The most successful sponsorships are typically with corporations whose products or services relate either to health and wellbeing, or to specific activities or facilities. As with joint partnerships, the Department must be able to build and maintain relationships throughout the community.**
5. **User Fees for athletic facilities, which contribute to their regular upkeep and maintenance, and can also be allocated to the development of complimentary amenities and other enhancements.**
6. **‘Adopt-a-Park’ programs involve community volunteers directly in the management of greenspaces. Partnerships can be established in which residents become involved with the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of greenspaces, either wholly or in part. This community contribution can both offset maintenance expenditures and, as well, raise funding for greenspace enhancements beyond those provided by the city. To fully develop and maintain these programs, the Department requires staff coordination and support.**

7. **Grants are available from a range of sources, including governments, industry, and not-for profit organizations. To take full advantage of grant programs, the Master Plan recommends the Department maintain a database of current grants, and develop the capacity of staff to understand and successfully access grant funding.**
8. **The sale of surplus city lands is an option which can be used as a means to dispose of greenspaces with size, accessibility or safety issues, or greenspaces in neighbourhoods where clear surpluses exist. Funds from the sale of greenspaces can fund the development of new greenspaces, or the enhancement of existing greenspaces, which better serve residents.**

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 5.1.3 (a) **The city explore, develop and employ a full range of funding mechanisms for greenspace enhancement and development, including a Capital Development Fund, the Cost Charge By-law, partnerships, corporate sponsorships, user fees, 'Adopt-a-Park' and similar programs, grants, and the sale of surplus and unsuitable greenspace. The Neighbourhood Initiative Project (NIP) currently being developed by the city (see 5.2.1. below) provides a good opportunity to access funding sources and build community partnerships**

## **5.2 SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN**

The Master Plan recommends a number of activities that can be taken by the Department, in conjunction with its partners, to compliment and assist in the implementation of the Greenspace Master Plan. These activities include:

- *The implementation of Community Action Programs (CAPS), and in particular, the Neighbourhood Initiative Project (NIP);*
- *The review of the existing user fee policy;*
- *The review of the existing reciprocal use agreement with the Brandon School Division;*
- *The development of a volunteer policy;*
- *Development of a community animation program;*

- *The further development of the landscape design guidelines; and*
- *The implementation of the Development Cost Charge by-law.*

These and other initiatives in support of the Master Plan are presented as part of a phased 10-year strategy illustrated in Figure 20.

### **5.2.1 Implementation of Community Action Programs (CAPS)**

The city is currently developing a number of neighbourhood-based Community Action Programs (CAPS). The objective of the CAPS programs is to provide more efficient city services while building the capacity for neighbourhood initiated community building and improvement efforts.

A CAPS program currently in development is the Neighbourhood Initiative Project (NIP). The goal of the NIP project is to improve neighbourhoods; the process includes neighbourhood profiling, needs assessment, strategy development and implementation.

While CAPS and NIP provide a valuable tool to identify and address greenspace issues within neighbourhoods, it also provides a unique opportunity for the Department to undertake and accomplish many of the recommendations of this Master Plan, including:

- *Identifying and building community sponsorship of greenspace development and enhancement;*
- *Seeking out other funding sources, particularly grants for community projects from government, industry and not-for-profit organizations;*
- *Developing 'Adopt-a-Park' programs and acting as a liaison with community groups;*
- *Developing a volunteer policy (see 5.2.4 below);*
- *Developing and overseeing a Community Animation Program to encourage citizen participation (see 5.2.5. below):*

**Figure 20: 10 Year Action Plan - Administration Costs**

Recommendation/description	Phasing and capital expenditure (estimated)									
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
5.2.8(a) Establishment of enhanced Community Services Web Page	\$15,000.00									
5.2.8(b) Ongoing Web Page maintenance		\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
3.4.2(a) Development of a naming and signage program for all greenspaces	\$10,000.00									
5.2.6(a) Expansion of the Landcape Design Guidelines		\$5,000.00								
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>

- *Developing and implementing safety audits for greenspaces and facilities, in cooperation with community groups (see 3.4.1);*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

**5.2.1 (a) The development of CAPS programs (including the NIP project) incorporate appropriate mechanisms for fundraising (including grants, sponsorships and community partnerships) as well as community program development (eg. a volunteer policy, community animation program and a greenspace safety audit).**

**5.2.2 Development of a Use Agreement/User Fee Policy for Sports Associations and Groups**

At present, the city negotiates arrangements with individual sports organization for the use and maintenance of athletic facilities in the city. User fees therefore vary widely, and in some cases are reduced dramatically if the city can negotiate maintenance of the particular facility by the sports group.

The planning process indicated a general level of satisfaction with the present user fee structure for the use of athletic facilities by sports groups. The city, however, does not have a formal user fee policy in place.

Issues that need to be addressed in such a policy include:

- *Developing a formal process for determining operational costs;*
- *Developing a formal structure to determine the amount, if any, of subsidy to certain groups or associations. Costs may be lowered for new activities, in order to build interest, or for programs which teach safety (swimming, first aid) or other life skills consistent with the guiding principles of the Master Plan;*
- *Addressing circumstances where a participant's accessibility to a program may be limited due to their ability to pay; and*
- *Negotiating other appropriate uses of facilities, other than by the sports group (eg. casual use of a rugby pitch).*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

**5.2.2 (a) A formal use agreement and user fee policy be developed for the use of facilities by sports and leisure groups. This policy should provide clear direction for the establishment of fees and subsidies, the need for accessibility, and limits to use.**

### **5.2.3 Review of the Reciprocal Use Agreement with the Brandon School Division**

The city presently has in place a reciprocal use agreement with the Brandon School Division, in which public access to school division properties (ie. school sites) is secured in exchange for maintenance by the city.

At this time, the city's maintenance contribution is of a value that matches that of the School Division's, presently between \$12,000 and \$13,000 annually. The specific contribution of the city includes annual maintenance of schoolgrounds, including turf aeration, top dressing and overseeding.

The opportunity exists to revisit this agreement, in light of concerns raised by the public during the Master Plan process regarding the accessibility of schoolgrounds and their deteriorated state.

In revisiting the existing reciprocal use agreement between the city and the Brandon School Division, issues to be addressed include:

- *The share of capital and operating costs to be assumed by each party;*
- *The maintenance and repair responsibilities of each party;*
- *Liability of each party;*
- *The hours available for community use (both indoor and outdoor facilities), as well as the availability of ancillary services (eg. washrooms);*
- *The approval process for community use applications;*
- *Scheduling to ensure the quality of playing fields (eg. rotating use of soccer fields); and*

- *A long term planning process to determine future joint use of school site, including the identification of amenities on site which may compliment school activities and curricula (eg. environmental education).*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

**5.2.3 (a) The existing Reciprocal Use Agreement be revisited to determine if enhancement of a schoolgrounds and the development of new facilities can be undertaken, to compliment school activities and encourage greater community use.**

#### **5.2.4 Establishment of a Volunteer Policy**

Volunteer involvement has been an important component of the development and enhancement of greenspaces in Brandon for several years. If the Department is to build upon existing relationships, and develop new partnerships with other volunteer community groups, a volunteer policy should be developed which:

- *Recognizes the importance of volunteers to enhancing the quality of life in Brandon;*
- *Describes means to acknowledge and reward volunteer effort and achievement;*
- *Defines the type of volunteer activities the Department encourages and supports; and*
- *Outlines the responsibilities of the Department in providing support for volunteer activities; in particular, networking, promotion, recruitment, etc.*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

**5.2.4 (a) A volunteer policy be developed which clarifies the roles of both the city and volunteers, and recognizes the importance of volunteers. This policy should be developed and implemented under the auspices of the CAPS program.**



### 5.2.5 Development of a Community Animation Program

While the planning process for the Master Plan revealed considerable interest by the public in becoming involved in the enhancement of greenspaces (eg. the development of pocket parks, tree planting in schoolgrounds by sports associations), there are no programs in place to help direct and focus these potential efforts.

Issues that a Community Animation Program needs to address are:

- *Describing steps in the planning process so community groups understand the steps involved and the various timelines;*
- *Describing ways to facilitate the community process, to ensure representation from all stakeholders in a meaningful manner;*
- *Describing steps in the design process so community groups can on their own direct greenspace enhancement, particularly in pocket park areas. In addition, suggested design standards can be provided (eg. materials, construction methods);*
- *Identifying partners, sponsors and other fundraising opportunities to assist in the development of enhancement projects; and*
- *Illustrating models from other communities to educate and motivate community groups within the city.*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 5.2.5 (a) A Community Animation Program be developed, which both encourages and facilitates community groups' involvement in the enhancement of greenspaces (eg. pocket parks, schoolgrounds) in the city. The program should provide necessary information on the steps involved, guidance for enhancement projects, and motivation of volunteers through successes from other communities. This program should be an integral component of the CAPS program (and in particular, the NIP project).**

### 5.2.6 Further Development of the Landscape Design Guidelines

In 1999 the Department developed landscape design guidelines to ensure that all new development in Brandon makes a positive contribution to the aesthetic character of the city.

The Master Plan recommends that the Department incorporate into the existing guidelines the planning and design standards for greenspaces and trails identified previously.

In addition, the Master Plan recommends that the Department consider expanding the scope of these guidelines to include major entryways to the city, many of which include or border greenspaces. These entryways include First Street, 18th Street north and south, the Trans-Canada Highway and Victoria Avenue West. As in the existing document, new guidelines can be developed which:

- *Recommend the type and location of tree and shrub planting to define entries, frame sightlines and mitigate poor views;*
- *Recommend the development of signage, lighting and other fixtures to enhance the immediate area and create an appropriate sense of welcome; and*
- *Compliment building design guidelines, which can be developed concurrently.*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 5.2.6 (b) The planning and design standards for greenspaces and trails (3.3 and 3.4.6 respectively) be incorporated into the present landscape design guidelines, to guide the development of greenspace amenities by both the city and private developers..**
- 5.2.6 (b) Additional landscape and urban design guidelines be developed for main entryways to the city, including recommendations for new and existing buildings, structures, sites and landscapes.**

### 5.2.7 Implementation of the Development Cost Charge By-law

The city has recently completed a draft of an Off-Site Development Cost Charge By-law, which is intended to secure funds for public infrastructure (including greenspaces) as part of new development in Brandon.

With respect to greenspace development, the draft by-law proposes charges (per new residential unit) to cover two areas:

- *Regional recreation (eg. sports fields, community centres, etc.); and*
- *Regional parks (primarily those within the River Corridor).*

The key issue with respect to the proposed by-law is the need to clarify how regional recreation funds may be spent; in particular, if funds can be allocated to the upgrading of existing facilities as well as the development of new facilities. In many of the areas identified for future growth (Map 1), existing neighbourhood and community greenspaces appear to meet the required planning standards (eg. Patmore's Playground and the Cemetery provide an appropriate level of service to the area of land currently being developed south of Maryland Avenue). The improvement of existing facilities, rather than the development of new facilities to serve these neighbourhoods, represents a wiser investment of resources, with an increased benefit to a larger population of residents.

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 5.2.7 (a) The Department endorse the Off-Site Development Cost Charge By-law, and continue to work with Engineering and Operations on its development. Greater clarity is required regarding the allocation of funds for regional recreation amenities. Upon the completion and adoption of the Greenspace Master Plan, information regarding the greenspace classification system be incorporated into the Off-Site Development Cost Charge By-law, to ensure consistency between the documents.**

### 5.2.8 Development of Public Education and Information Programs

Good communication is an important component of the delivery of greenspace amenities and recreation and leisure activities. Not only does a well developed program of public education and information raise awareness of the opportunities provided by the Department; it can also raise the profile of the Department and help to ensure public support of initiatives undertaken as part of the Master Plan (eg. the introduction of xeriscaping in greenspaces within the city).

Issues that need to be addressed in the development of this type of program include:

- *Delivering a high quality program that can easily reach a large population in an efficient and cost effective manner;*
- *Reaching beyond residents of Brandon, promoting the city and its greenspace and recreational amenities to potential visitors; and*
- *Gathering feedback from the public regarding the information presented, or other concerns related to the activities of the Department.*

The current City of Brandon website, and in particular the Department of Community Services page, can be enhanced with content such as:

- *All greenspace and recreation facilities, amenities, location, access, location, hours of use, rules of use, costs, etc. A matrix modelled on the tables within Section 4.0 of the Master Plan would provide the best means to communicate this information;*
- *Special athletic events (eg. swim meets, hockey tournaments);*
- *Community events and programs (Community Clean-Up Day, Adopt-a-Park Programs);*
- *Scheduling and on-line registration for recreational activities (eg. swimming);*
- *History of Parks and Recreation in Brandon;*
- *Current initiatives of the Department (eg. naturalization, reduced pesticide use, tree maintenance practices, etc.);*

- *Ongoing implementation of the Master Plan, including the proposed phasing of enhancement and development projects;*
- *Contacts for Department personnel, as well as links/contacts to community groups (eg. Communities in Bloom, Brandon Garden Club) and key greenspace partners (Brandon Tourism, Engineering and Operations, Brandon and Area Planning District); and*
- *Forms to send questions and comments to the Department.*

**The Master Plan recommends that :**

**5.2.8 (a) The current City of Brandon Web Site, and in particular the Department of Community Services page, be enhanced to make better use of the opportunity to communicate information to the public.**

**5.2.8 (b) The enhanced Department of Community Services page be regularly updated and maintained to ensure information is current and content is relevant.**

### **5.2.9 Development of a Facility Audit Program**

In addition to the planning and design standards for new and existing greenspaces in Section 3.0, it is critical that a facility audit program be developed, in order to ensure and direct the regular review of facilities within the city.

Issues that an audit program needs to address include:

- *Identifying maintenance issues in a timely fashion so they can be remedied before they become major problems or expenditures;*
- *Limiting the city's liability for personal injury as a result of facility deficiencies; and*
- *Ensuring that facilities offer barrier-free access for all residents.*

A facility audit program can work in conjunction with a Maintenance Program, which can be built upon the draft maintenance schedules presented in Appendix J.

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

**5.2.10 (a) A Facility Audit Program be developed, which establishes a regular review of greenspace facilities within the city. This review will include consideration of maintenance, safety and accessibility of facilities.**

**5.2.10 (b) A Maintenance Program be developed, based on the draft maintenance schedules in Appendix J, which clearly provide for:**

- **The regular inspection of facilities, and by whom;**
- **The documentation of problems and deficiencies; and**
- **The documentation of actions to remedy the identified problems.**

### **5.3 UPDATING THE GREENSPACE MASTER PLAN**

In order to be an effective tool for the ongoing development and management of greenspaces in the city, the Master Plan must be considered as a working document and updated appropriately. It is necessary that the Department:

- *Continue to evaluate leisure needs, values, expectations of the community; and*
- *Incorporate these changes into the Master Plan, and specifically, the long range implementation strategy.*

At present, the best tool for evaluating the need to update the Master Plan is the Neighbourhood Initiative Project (NIP), one of the CAPS program presently being developed by the city. Through the NIP project, neighbourhood needs assessment and community meetings will provide the city with valuable information regarding the effectiveness of service delivery. In particular, greenspace issues will arise, and while some will be minor in nature (and be easily resolved), more complex issues may point to the need for updates of the Greenspace Master Plan.

Greenspace issues which can be identified through the NIP project include:

- *How well existing programs, facilities and greenspaces are meeting the leisure and recreation needs of the community;*
- *New recreation and leisure trends, needs or demands of the public which have emerged that need to be incorporated into the Master Plan;*
- *New opportunities for funding, as well as partnership with community groups and other organizations to develop greenspaces and deliver programming; and*
- *The ongoing relevancy and appropriateness of planning and design standards identified within the Master Plan.*

**The Master Plan recommends that:**

- 5.3 (a) The development of the NIP project incorporate appropriate mechanisms to track greenspace issues within the larger community and identify timelines for updating the Greenspace Master Plan.**
- 5.3 (b) As determined through the NIP project, the Master Plan be updated in a timely fashion.**

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## **PHOTO CREDITS**

All photographs are by Peter Spearey/Hilderman Thomas Frank Cram unless otherwise noted.

# GREENSPACE MASTER PLAN APPENDICES

## **APPENDIX A**

### **REVIEW OF CITY OF BRANDON PLANNING DOCUMENTS**

As part of the background research, City of Brandon Planning Documents were examined to identify relevant information.

In the following tables, relevant issues and policies are identified, along with possible recommendations for consideration in the Master Plan process.

# BRANDON AND AREA PLANNING DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Objective/policy	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)	Objective/policy	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)
<b>Part 2 Overall objectives and policies</b> <b>Overall planning and development objectives:</b> 2) and 3) Well planned development will be encouraged; appropriately designated land will be allocated for these developments; development will occur at appropriate locations; proposed developments will be compatible with existing land uses. 5) Proposed developments to be served with appropriate levels of infrastructure; public expenditures on servicing lessened by sound land use planning.			<b>2 Overall Planning and Development Policies</b> 6) Sector plans: District Board/Council requires sector concept plans for undeveloped areas. Sector plans indicate: roadways, building lots, topographic information, utilities and services; also provide indication of environmental impact. 9) Buffers: located at appropriate locations to reduce incompatibilities between land uses. 11) Neighbourhood stability: urban neighbourhoods, and their services, including parks and rec facilities, should not be left to deteriorate. 19) water, wastewater and storm drainage services: proposals for undeveloped areas may require a special drainage study and storm drainage plan-showing impact on existing systems and adjacent properties.		
11) Provide stewardship of resources, including aggregate resources, ground and surface water, wildlife and fish habitat.	Locational/siting criteria for new parks to be developed. Buffer planning/design addressed in landscape guidelines.	Working with Engineering, identify opportunities to incorporate stormwater management into green spaces.  Develop siting and use criteria for the planning and design of stormwater management facilities within greenspaces.	Presently covered in landscape guidelines.  Particular attention paid to core area. Need to develop criteria for addressing deficiencies in existing areas.	Development of stormwater networks may	Consideration of expanded role of development plan review committee- work more closely with developers?
12) Protect citizens from natural hazards; eg. flooding.	Aggregate resources protected in development plan and zoning by-law.	Undertake an inventory of areas important as wildlife and fish habitat.	<b>Part 3 Residential Development</b> 6) Parks will be allowed at appropriate locations within existing residential areas (indicated on Map 1) provided use is compatible with surrounding homes  <i>(Map 1 is the General Land Use Concept Map for the City of Brandon)</i> 7) Public reserve areas: parks, playgrounds and buffers are essential components of residential areas and shall be provided through dedication (or developed through funds in lieu) in accordance with The Planning Act.		
13) Due consideration will be given to areas that are difficult to develop.	Similar concern is localized ponding- North End study addresses residential areas where this is a problem. Consider areas prone to flooding- use, management.	Development of these areas as possible greenspaces will address future requirements for the particular area.	Location/siting criteria for new parks to be developed, both in existing and new areas.	Is the present dedication sufficient?	
14) Protect prime recreational lands and historic sites		Work with MHAC to determine suitability of joint development of			

# BRANDON AND AREA PLANNING DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CONTINUED)

Objective/policy	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)	Objective/policy	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)
<b>Part 4 Commercial Development</b>			<b>Part 8 Transportation Systems</b>		
2) Central core commercial area: shall be revitalized in an ongoing manner; landscaping program an important component of this revitalization.		Work with BIA to identify future greenspace needs; develop as suitable properties become available.	6) Buffers: to separate incompatible development; buffers may be acquired through the public reserve dedication process.	Buffers presently covered in landscape design guidelines.	
3) Downtown transition areas: various cultural and recreational facilities will be located to enhance and compliment commercial development.	Realm of development plan		7) Undevelopable lands: lands which are difficult to develop may be dedicated as public reserve		
<b>Part 6 Institutions and Cultural Facilities</b>			<b>Part 11 Natural Resources</b>		
4) School site provisions: catchment areas not to cross major roadways; future school sites to be identified on sector concept plans; lands to be dedicated as part of the subdivision process.		Work with School Division to jointly develop school sites as community green-spaces; develop specific size, use and facility requirements.	8) Transit routes will be identified on sector concept plans and approved in principle by the City Engineer.	Greenspaces can negatively impact transit ridership; concept/sector plan guidelines need to address this.	Work with City Engineer/ Director of Transit to identify criteria for new greenspaces.
<b>Part 7 Parks, Recreation and Open Space</b>			<b>Part 12 Hazardous Conditions</b>		
1) Location criteria: a) major recreational facilities and parks will be located in areas identified on MAP I; b) minor facilities may be accommodated within other areas if considered complimentary.	Future greenspace opportunities to be identified (mapping).		3) Wildlife habitat: the protection of existing woodlands, wetlands and significant habitat areas shall be encouraged, particularly along the Assiniboine River. Wildlife habitat should also be re-established on lands marginal for agricultural use, and along road allowances.		
2) Designation of areas: lands best suited for use as parks are indicated on MAP I, including lands along the Assiniboine River. Development in these areas should be compatible with the natural resource.	Existing and future green-spaces to be identified (mapping).		<b>Part 13 Heritage Resources</b>		
3) Assiniboine River Corridor: A contiguous recreational corridor is encouraged. Shoreland areas could be purchased or easements acquired for purposes 'such as hiking trails and cross country ski trails, and ancillary commercial uses'.		Continued development of the River Corridor in keeping with the Master Plan See ARCMP consultation notes for further recommendations.	1) Development limitations in floodway: public open space and recreation areas are among the uses permitted in the floodway area.		Develop specific site development criteria for floodprone lands.
4) Dedication of shoreland reserve: Where lands adjacent to the river are subdivided, consideration should be given to the dedication of public reserve adjacent to the waterway.			6) Riverbank protection: within riverbank area, maintenance of surface retaining vegetative cover will be encouraged; activities which may lead to bank erosion will be discouraged.		See above
5) Public reserve areas: Land for parks in new developments should be appropriately located; land for public reserves will be dedicated in accordance with The Planning Act; funds may be required in lieu of dedication- these funds are utilized for the acquisition of lands for parks and rec, or invested (as per Planning Act).		City to determine best way to fund park construction: Development Charge By-law or other means?	<b>Part 13 Heritage Resources</b>		
			2) Preservation and recovery of archaeological artifacts: the preservation of heritage resources will be encouraged.		See above
			4) Tourism activities: sites of cultural and/or historic significance may be developed for tourism potential.		Work with Tourism Brandon to identify regional needs/ opportunities for green-space development.
			5) Adjacent development: development adjacent to heritage resources should be compatible with the site.	Buffers covered in landscape design guidelines.	See above

# ASSINIBOINE RIVER CORRIDOR (ARC) MASTER PLAN

Objective/Policy	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)	Objective/Policy	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)
<b>Introduction</b> Overall goals of the Master Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrichment of city life</li> <li>• Urban renewal and downtown revitalization</li> <li>• Expanding recreation, leisure, tourism and commerce opportunities</li> <li>• Appreciation of nature and natural processes</li> </ul>			<b>B. PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILY ORIENTED RECREATION</b> <u>Goals</u>		
	Valid goals		a) Family oriented recreation		Continue to develop Riverbank initiatives, building on these themes
<b>River Corridor Planning Direction:</b> <b>I Planning principles:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understands humans are part of nature, people share nature with other species and are not separate from it</li> <li>• Acknowledges the need to strike a balance within the City's built environment by making room for nature</li> <li>• Uses a broad definition of environment including- natural, physical, economic, social and cultural</li> <li>• Acknowledges human stewardship and responsibilities extend to generations other than just the present</li> <li>• Measures progress by the quality and well being it accords natural, social and economic systems</li> </ul>			b) River focused c) All-season activities Partly or fully developed initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canada Games Park</li> <li>• Optimist Park</li> <li>• Botanical Garden (arboretum)</li> <li>• Conservation Centre</li> <li>• Regional Tourism Reception Centre</li> </ul> Unfulfilled initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curran Park</li> <li>• Queen Elizabeth Park</li> <li>• Dinsdale Park</li> <li>• Grand Valley Park</li> <li>• Conservatory/Tea House</li> <li>• Assiniboine Landing Waterfront</li> </ul>		
	These core values are worthy of broadening to include all greenspaces	Develop a set of core values for the planning, design and management of all greenspaces			Specific recommendations to address deficiencies in these parks
<b>2 Enhancement goals:</b> <b>A. PRESERVATION OF THE NATURAL RIVER HABITAT</b> <u>Goals</u>			<b>C. CONNECTING THE RIVER WITH PEOPLE, PLACES AND EVENTS</b> <u>Goals</u>		
a) Habitat preservation			a) Integration		
• <i>Heritage interpretation</i>			• Balance		
b) Environmental education			• Enhanced quality of life		
c) Learning experiences			• Accessibility		
Achieved through:			Through:		
• <i>Designation of natural habitat heritage areas (in zoning by-law)</i>		Inventory required; identification of specific areas of inclusion in both the Development Plan and Zoning By-law.	<i>Paths</i>		Priorities for pathway elsewhere
• <i>Land use compatibility</i>			<i>Pedestrian bridges</i>		
• <i>Interpretive framework-hierarchy of trail system</i>			<i>River access</i>		Develop additional river access points: viewing, fishing, canoe launch
• <i>Riverbank rehabilitation</i>		Design criteria for Riverbank areas	<i>River parkways</i>		Develop parkways to better integrate Riverbank into existing neighbourhoods

# ASSINIBOINE RIVER CORRIDOR (ARC) MASTER PLAN (CONTINUED)

Objective/Policy	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)
D. MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS		
<u>Goals</u>		
a) Public safety and security		CPTED principles in all open spaces
b) Design guidelines		
c) Zoning river uses		

# ASSINIBOINE RIVER CORRIDOR (ARC) FOLLOW-UP CONSULTATION

Finding	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)	Finding	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)
<b>Things people like-questionnaire</b>			<b>Things people did not like-workshop</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walkways the most prominent and positive feature</li> </ul>		Highest priority shall be given to walkways: connecting walkways within the River Corridor, connection to walkways in adjacent neighbourhoods, extension of walkways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comments included: lack of interpretive programming; vandalism; possible housing; power boats; lack of natural landscaping; poor connection to North End community; maintenance of Optimist Park</li> </ul>		Work with Engineering and Riverbank to identify new boat launch area; designate river areas off limits to motorized craft
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other important features included the pedestrian bridge, the protection of natural habitat, the Discovery Centre, and the duck ponds</li> </ul>	Opportunity for greater identification/interpretation of natural habitat	Develop a secondary interpretive trail network, with interpretive signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need for access onto 18th Street Bridge from the walking trails; parked cars blocking access by trucks to CO-OP feed plant</li> </ul>		Work with Highways and Engineering to improve pedestrian/cycling access onto and over bridges. Parking lot area required at Parker/8th Street
<b>Things people like-workshop</b>			<b>Priorities among capital projects- questionnaire</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The most important features included trails, pedestrian bridge and the Discovery Centre</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highest priority given to extension of the pathway system and riverbank stabilization</li> </ul>		See above
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other important features included river awareness, access between North Hill and downtown, connections between urban and natural environment, not too commercialized</li> </ul>		Extension of trail network north and south from Riverbank. Commercial uses within Riverbank conditional; uses may include ancillary commercial (eg. ice cream) and private recreational opportunities (eg. canoe rental)- operated as partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other high priority items included an amphitheatre and cross country ski trails</li> </ul>	Identify possible locations for amphitheatre (north of Optimist Park?)	Work with cross country ski group to identify possible trails, maintenance
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other projects gaining interest included the Storybook Island Children's Park and Floral Display project</li> </ul>		Further consultation required to appropriateness an viability of project
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lowest priority given to housing developments and the creation of a permanent snowmobile staging area. A number of individuals gave senior's housing a high priority, reflective of the controversy surrounding the proposed Rotary Cove project</li> </ul>	Snowmobile staging area has been relocated to TCH	See above re: housing
<b>Things people did not like-questionnaire</b>			<b>Priorities among capital projects- workshop</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almost half indicated that there wasn't anything they didn't like</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highest priority given to extension of the pathway system, riverbank stabilization, an amphitheatre, and cross country ski trails</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other concerns that were raised included localized problems with the trail system, and the concept of introducing housing into or adjacent to the Riverbank</li> </ul>	Greenspaces will be identified (mapping); consideration will be given to possible future residential development		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low priority given to housing developments, Storybook Island Park and the Brandon Gems proposal</li> </ul>		



## ASSINIBOINE RIVER CORRIDOR (ARC) FOLLOW-UP CONSULTATION (CONTINUED)

Finding	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)	Finding	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)
<b>Projects inappropriate for the River Corridor- Questionnaire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The projects least appropriate for the River Corridor were housing (seniors and single family) and a permanent snowmobile staging area</li> </ul>			<b>New programming ideas- questionnaire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New programming ideas presented by the public included DU/school partnerships, canoe races, ski lessons and cultural events</li> </ul>		
<b>New project ideas- questionnaire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More popular ideas included more tree planting, a skating pond, a tea room, pathway signage/maps, children's activities, and a nature museum</li> </ul>			<b>New programming ideas- questionnaire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New ideas included cultural encampments, school field trips, boat tours, need for staff to handle programming issues</li> <li>Other ideas included a ferry, stocking the duck ponds with fish, steamship display, trail map, music in the parks</li> </ul>		
<b>New project ideas- workshop</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New ideas included kiosks displaying historical information, more shelters, planetarium, public stage, more signage, interactive experiences, relocation of local heritage museum to the corridor</li> <li>Other ideas (not already mentioned) included a skateboard park, future integration with BMHC site, canoe launches, accessible fishing platforms, more benches (for disabled persons), bike racks</li> </ul>			<b>Implementation and funding- questionnaire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of respondents felt the private sector should undertake programming, and is the most appropriate source for programming funding (followed by municipal and provincial governments).</li> </ul>		
<b>Funding</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When asked who should fund capital projects, the most common response was the municipal government; private sector and provincial government were also mentioned often</li> <li>2/3 of respondents indicated future funding was of a medium priority; 1/4 indicated a high priority</li> </ul>					
<b>Priorities for programming ideas- questionnaire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The highest priority for programming ideas presented by the Riverbank Committee included more interpretive signage (for trails), more interpretive signage (heritage features), pamphlet materials for self-guided tours, and special events (eg. Frost Fest)</li> </ul>					
<b>Priorities for programming ideas- workshop</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highest priority was given to special events and interpretive signage</li> <li>Other ideas included video presentations, guided walking tours, and interactive computer software</li> </ul>					

# CITY OF BRANDON STRATEGIC PLAN- DRAFT

Issue/initiatives	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)	Issue/initiatives	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>INTRODUCTION</b></li> <li>Slightly more than 50% of the required funding is generated from sources other than taxation</li> <li>City's debt to taxable assement ratio is a relatively low 2.2%</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>4. Quality service characterized by:</b></li> <li>Safe delivery</li> <li>Technical competence</li> <li>Timeliness</li> <li>Courtesy</li> <li>Effective communication</li> </ul>	<p>These are all values that should be incorporated into the Master Plan</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CORPORATE CORE VALUES</b></li> <li>Are essential tenets unchanged over time; include:</li> <li>Prudent use of resources</li> <li>Continuous improvement</li> <li>Corporate sharing of resources</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eg. possible integration of stormwater management into greenspaces.</li> <li>Integrated approaches to land use planning stormwater management process- park location and siting to compliment transit; create safe communities (CPTED)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>5. Image of the city</b></li> <li>A positive image of the city will be conveyed in everything the city does</li> </ul>		<p>Develop design guidelines for all new development, as well as specific geographic areas of the city (eg. city entrances)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CORPORATE PRIORITY STATEMENTS</b></li> <li><b>Goals consistent with the core values:</b></li> <li><b>1. Strategic planning:</b></li> <li>A coordinated development process, involving different levels of government and the community</li> <li><b>2. Taxes:</b></li> <li>Cooperative, interdepartmental approach; pursuing of opportunities with external agencies; development of alternative revenue sources; minimizing of debt</li> <li><b>3. Types of service:</b></li> <li>Ongoing evaluation of services</li> </ul>		<p>Expanded role of BAPD concept review process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broader range of funding opportunities for green-spaces (eg. giving program)</li> <li>Further development of partnership opportunities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS</b></li> <li><b>1. Environment</b></li> <li>Move to tertiary wastewater treatment</li> <li>Development of alternative treatment</li> <li>Riparian improvements- middle Assiniboine River Corridor</li> <li>Drainage planning; surface drainage improvements</li> <li>River corridor initiative</li> <li>Walkways and bicycle paths</li> <li>Urban forestry</li> <li><b>2. Land use</b></li> <li>Parks plan</li> <li>Boundary expansion</li> <li>North End redevelopment</li> <li>City owned land sales</li> </ul>	<p>Work with Engineering to identify opportunities to introduce constructed wetlands into greenspaces</p> <p>Integration of stormwater management with green-spaces</p> <p>See ARCMP notes</p> <p>See ARCMP notes</p> <p>Policy on tree planting/ replacement needed</p>	<p>Lands highly suitable for greenspaces (eg. meet community need) to be identified</p>

# CITY OF BRANDON STRATEGIC PLAN- DRAFT (CONTINUED)

Issue/initiatives	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)
<b>3. Transportation and infrastructure</b>		
• Transit operations		Comprehensive planning of new developments (see Development Plan notes)
• Arterial and collector street development		
• Rail line relocation/consolidation		Flexibility in planning for future greenspaces (eg. trails) to accommodate possible abandonment of CN line
<b>5. Heritage, culture and recreation</b>		
• Expansion of youth focused recreation		Identification of recreational and leisure needs for youth
• Promotion of health and well being		Identify greenspace planning opportunities to improve health and wellbeing (wellness)
• Integration of operations of various rec facilities to maximize service and minimize cost		Means to maximize efficiency of existing and future facilities

# NORTH END REVITALIZATION STUDY

Issue/initiatives	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)	Issue/initiatives	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)
<b>Medium range strategy</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Community character</b></li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signage, streetscaping and tree planting program to raise profile and improve perception of neighbourhood</li> </ul>		Develop clear criteria for prioritization of tree planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint maintenance, better maintenance of facilities to improve use and accessibility</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More effective maintenance and management strategies</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean-up programs (including one-day event) can address concerns of run-down and poorly maintained properties</li> </ul>		Parks and rec use its expertise to help coordinate and plan community events (including those lacking a specific rec focus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More community recreation facilities are needed to address present deficiencies</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy for identifying, developing and managing partnerships</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscape buffers appropriately sited can mitigate noise, dust from traffic</li> </ul>	Planning and design of buffers covered in landscape design guidelines	Parks and rec work with Engineering to develop buffers- as part of new construction, upgrades/ prioritize in existing areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bicycle signage and marked routes can encourage greater bicycle use</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify deficiencies in each neighbourhood (including access to facilities elsewhere)</li> <li>• Prioritize immediate, short and long term responses to neighbourhood need</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Community and recreation facilities</b></li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity to bring riverbank trails into the community</li> </ul>		More detailed plan of trail network needed, developed in conjunction with developers working on infill projects- to ensure incorporation of walking trails into new areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addressing the Burns Plan site</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parks and rec to work with Engineering, cycling groups, residents, to develop a bicycle facilities plan for the city.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrading of weir area</li> </ul>	Must be made accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with Riverbank, Engineering on upgrades to weir</li> <li>• Generally, Department take a lead role in advocating the development of new recreational opportunities</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parks and rec to work with Engineering- improvement of bus stop waiting areas</li> <li>• Possible integration with active transportation (eg. bike racks on site, on bus)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New park areas within the Riverbank area must be sensitive to the adjacent community.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop participation process for general public for new greenspaces.</li> <li>• Determine whether a specific process is required for residents in adjacent areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal services and infrastructure</b></li> <li>• Identify steps to increase transit ridership</li> </ul>		
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Safety and security</b></li> <li>• Ways to reduce and deter crime</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parks and rec to embrace CPTED principles.</li> <li>• Prioritize introduction of improvements to greenspaces</li> <li>• Ensure new communities/ greenspaces designed to ensure safety</li> </ul>

## NORTH END REVITALIZATION STUDY (CONTINUED)

Issue/initiatives	Response/Action	Possible Recommendation(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Future industrial development</b></li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that new industry fits into neighbourhood; one means is by incorporating community amenities (eg. McKenzie Seeds)</li> </ul>		<p>City look to developing partnerships with business and industry when negotiating land sales for expansions/new development</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2 Long range strategy</b></li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eventual relocation of industry</li> </ul>		<p>Parks and rec to play major role in planning process</p>

## **APPENDIX B**

### **OTHER MASTER PLAN MODELS- GENERAL INFORMATION**

As part of the background research, master plans from other communities were examined to identify relevant information. Master plans from large and small canadian cities were identified and examined, as well as select master plans from american cities.

In the following tables, general information (re: plan objectives, demographic trends, service innovations, etc.) is identified.

Canadian communities

Community	Date of Plan	Population	Master plan objectives	Community Expectations			Other findings/values of interest	Developing New Green Spaces		Service delivery innovations	Other items/ideas of interest
				Demographic trends	Implications for greenspace provision	Key leisure needs / trends		Means of funding	Means of acquiring parkland		
Kitchener ON	1990	No info	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To facilitate sound investment in parks and rec facilities;</li> <li>• Identify needs, demand, trends, priorities</li> <li>• Produce a reasonable implementation program</li> </ul>	No information	No information	No information	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park trust fund (generated from funds in lieu of dedication)</li> <li>• Lot levies for new residential areas</li> <li>• User fees</li> <li>• Joint ventures with other groups</li> <li>• Sale of surplus parkland</li> <li>• Community fundraising</li> <li>• Lottery monies</li> <li>• Grants</li> <li>• Giving program (both capital &amp; maintenance)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land dedication</li> <li>• Direct purchase</li> <li>• Easements</li> <li>• Leases</li> </ul>	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of scenarios to illustrate service delivery models</li> </ul>
Regina, SK	1994	No info	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet park and recreation objectives identified in the Development Plan</li> <li>• Update previous master plan</li> <li>• Facilitate management of green spaces in a comprehensive and ecologically sound manner</li> <li>• Ensure integrated and equitable distribution of open space</li> <li>• Develop guidelines for the acquisition, development and upgrading of green space</li> <li>• Ensure the protection of ecosystems &amp; promote creation of self-sustaining landscapes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aging population</li> <li>• Slowing population growth</li> <li>• Increasing aboriginal population</li> <li>• Increasing inner city population</li> </ul>	No information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More open space in inner city</li> <li>• Less open space needed in newer areas</li> <li>• Less barriers to participation in rec. activities</li> <li>• Better designed athletic facilities</li> <li>• Parks well used in winter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Six blocks acceptable walking distance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money in lieu or land dedication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchase</li> <li>• Land dedication</li> <li>• For established areas:</li> <li>• Trading land with developers</li> <li>• Coordinated land assembly</li> <li>• Joint development w/ private developers</li> <li>• Donations &amp; requests</li> </ul>	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of priorities for capital spending</li> <li>• Policies for addressing deficiencies and surpluses of open space; school closures</li> </ul>
Orillia ON	+/- 1996	24,080 (1996)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct development of tourism, rec and culture</li> <li>• Consider joint tourism, rec and culture facilities, programs and services</li> </ul>	No information	No information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More walking trails</li> <li>• More youth facilities needed</li> <li>• Tennis courts underused</li> <li>• Longer hours of use for ball diamonds</li> </ul>	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• User fees</li> <li>• Municipal cost sharing for regional facilities</li> <li>• Private or partnership development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land dedication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department coordinates and facilitates community group efforts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need for 'special' open spaces- ie. gateway' parks</li> <li>• Connection with tourism initiatives</li> </ul>
Red Deer AB	1996	59,834 (1995)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarify the mission of the department within the context of city vision policy</li> <li>• Facilitate a wide range of services to meet the changing needs of residents</li> <li>• Determine most effective means of service delivery</li> <li>• To facilitate a high degree of public involvement in the planning process</li> <li>• Provide a policy framework for the delivery of services</li> <li>• Develop strategies to promote volunteerism</li> <li>• Determine financial implications of proposed initiatives; provide framework for determining levels of support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in average age</li> <li>• Significant nos. of single parent families</li> <li>• Increasing elderly population</li> <li>• Increasing rates of unemployment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rethinking of programs to be more responsive</li> <li>• Rethinking of programs to be more responsive</li> <li>• Rethinking of programs to be more responsive</li> <li>• Need for low- or no-cost activities</li> </ul>	No information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased awareness for natural envt and its protection</li> <li>• Decrease in use of football fields</li> <li>• Dramatic increase in soccer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipal reserve fund</li> <li>• Recreation levy for new development (for neighbourhood recreation facilities)</li> <li>• Tax levy (for city wide facilities)</li> <li>• Grant programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land dedication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek out new partnerships with other groups, volunteers</li> <li>• Pursue new markets and revenue generating opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning and design standards for new facilities</li> </ul>
New Westminster BC	1998	47000 (1998)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess recreation, parks and green space needs and interests;</li> <li>• Develop a realistic program of improvements, additions and services that reflect local preferences and values</li> <li>• Determine what constitutes an acceptable level of service delivery</li> <li>• Clarify the key issues facing the parks system</li> <li>• Establish short and long term goals</li> <li>• Outline a vision, character and direction for parks and rec delivery</li> </ul>	No information	No information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concessions at facilities</li> <li>• Facilities for youth</li> <li>• Lighting and other safety improvements to park</li> <li>• Off-leash dog park</li> <li>• Playgrounds for various age groups</li> <li>• In-line skating</li> <li>• Trail expansion</li> <li>• Spray parks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessibility for disabled persons</li> <li>• Improve existing parks before building new parks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporate sponsorship</li> <li>• Gifting program</li> <li>• Advertisements in parks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developer funded</li> <li>• Establishment of an acquisition fund</li> </ul>	n/a	n/a
Oakville ON	+/- 1999	138000 (1999)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Framework to facilitate decision making by both Council and Department staff</li> <li>• Development of a financial plan; identification of funding sources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aging population</li> <li>• Increasing numbers of young families coming to Oakville</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of comprehensive trail network</li> <li>• Continued demand for sportsfields</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in tennis, baseball facility use</li> <li>• Dramatic increase in interest in soccer</li> </ul>	No information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tax levy</li> <li>• Cash in lieu of dedication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land dedication</li> <li>• Purchase</li> <li>• Donation</li> <li>• Land exchange</li> <li>• Density transfer(*)</li> <li>• Density bonus (*)</li> <li>• conservation easements</li> <li>• restrictive covenants</li> </ul>	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tourism development- attracting tournaments large festivals</li> </ul>

(\*) see accompanying notes

Community	Date of Plan	Population	Master plan objectives	Community Expectations				Developing New Green Spaces		Service Innovations	Other Ideas
				Demographic trends	Implications for greenspace provision	Key leisure needs / trends	Other findings/values of interest	Means of funding	Means of acquiring parkland		
Nanaimo BC	1994	68000 (1993)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To guide the orderly development of parks and greenspaces</li> <li>To determine need for land acquisition</li> <li>To develop a comprehensive recreation and cultural facility development plan</li> <li>To develop a plan which addresses current and future program needs</li> </ul>	No information	No information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More trails</li> <li>Protection of natural areas</li> <li>Waterfront improvements</li> <li>Picnic areas</li> <li>Neighbourhood parks</li> <li>Boat launches</li> <li>(lit) Sportsfields</li> <li>Tennis courts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protection of natural areas</li> <li>Greater use of native plant species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funds in lieu of land dedication</li> <li>Development cost by-law</li> <li>General property reserve</li> <li>Cost sharing on joint use projects, with private sector sports groups and volunteers</li> <li>User fees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5% land dedication</li> <li>Negotiation as part of development approval process</li> <li>Donation</li> <li>Lease</li> <li>Covenants</li> <li>Rights of way</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department coordinates community group initiatives</li> <li>Possibility of reciprocal use agreements with school board</li> <li>Potential for joint development and management of facilities with private sector, sports groups and volunteers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity to develop a tourism marketing package focusing on tournaments and festivals</li> </ul>
Grande Prairie AB	2001	35963 (2000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a practical and effective framework for open space development and operations</li> <li>Framework for sound planning, priority implementation, community stewardship and sustainability of parks and open spaces</li> </ul>	No information	No information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open spaces need to be clean and safe</li> <li>Accessibility is important</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parks important to quality of life</li> <li>Opportunities for volunteerism</li> <li>Environmental stewardship important</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cost sharing on projects developed through partnership</li> </ul>	No information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential partnerships with school board, regional government, service clubs and volunteer groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integration of stormwater retention areas in green space</li> </ul>
Timmins ON	1993	no data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update previous plan</li> <li>Develop definition of leisure services appropriate to the city</li> <li>Discuss a philosophy for the delivery of leisure services</li> <li>Develop recommendations for future leisure service delivery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aging population</li> <li>Increasing rates of unemployment</li> <li>Low household income</li> </ul>	No information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High interest in passive, individual activities- ie walking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing interest in environmental issues</li> <li>Leisure services important to quality of life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint capital projects</li> <li>User fee policy</li> <li>Establish capital reserve fund</li> </ul>	No information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need for partnerships with key community agencies for development and programming</li> <li>Development of communications and promotion strategy</li> <li>Develop volunteer policy</li> <li>Facilitate other community groups' efforts</li> </ul>	n/a
Kelowna BC	1993	101624 (1998 proj.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To det' demand for present &amp; future recreation opportunities</li> <li>To identify parkland &amp; open space requirements for the city</li> <li>To establish community priorities, standards &amp; guidelines for recreation facilities &amp; parkland</li> <li>To prepare a recreation facilities development plan for the city</li> <li>To develop a plan for parkland, open space and natural area protection</li> <li>To develop strategies for an effective and efficient delivery system</li> <li>To gain community support for recommendations in the master plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing growth</li> <li>Increasing retirees</li> <li>Decreasing household size (fewer children)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilities to handle larger populations</li> <li>More passive activities, relaxed recreation: walking, golf, etc.</li> <li>Declining interest in children's recreation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greenwaysystem</li> <li>Greater shoreland access</li> <li>Upgrading of tennis courts and sports-fields</li> <li>Interpretive and Historical areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater partnering to provide green space amenities (volunteers, private sector, school board)</li> <li>Some support for user fees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development charge by-law</li> <li>Cost sharing on projects developed through partnership</li> <li>Community referendum on capital funding</li> </ul>	No information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint development of amenities with school board, regional government</li> </ul>	n/a
Medicine Hat AB	2000		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To guide the future identification, allocation and preservation of open spaces</li> <li>Protection of significant natural areas</li> <li>Maintenance of aesthetics</li> <li>Provide recreational opportunities for residents</li> </ul>	No information	No information	No information	No information	No information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dedication of lands for park and school sites</li> <li>Dedication of environmentally sensitive lands for public reserve</li> </ul>	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integration of stormwater retention areas in green space</li> </ul>
<b>American communities- sample</b>											
Battle Creek Michigan			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect environmentally green areas, transitional areas between zoning uses</li> <li>Identify priorities for renovating and developing parks &amp; rec facilities</li> <li>Establish management objectives to advance the level of service to citizens</li> <li>Establish eligibility for grants from government sources</li> </ul> <p><b>SPECIFIC GOALS:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure variety of indoor &amp; outdoor rec, cultural &amp; enviro. Education opportunities for all residents</li> <li>Develop comprehensive trail network</li> </ol>							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dep't acts as a clearinghouse for all leisure services info (incl. other than city)</li> <li>Create 'mini' depts for each neighbourhood</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integration with public &amp; private transportation init.</li> </ul>
San Jose California			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offer rec programs and neighbourhood services that meet needs, strengthen communities &amp; encourage healthy lifestyles</li> <li>Acquire, develop and modernize parks</li> <li>Create citywide network of parks that encourage active transportation, provide access to recreation</li> <li>Access to facilities by ALL residents</li> <li>Increase public awareness of parks &amp; rec facilities</li> <li>Develop resources necessary to implement the community vision</li> </ul>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Money in lieu of dedication- for new or additional res. development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dedication- for new or additional res. development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link park development to neighbourhood revitalization- provide community centre for each district</li> <li>Provide therapeutic rec. specialist at each c.c.</li> <li>Develop rec/wellness centre for disabled persons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-location of parks with schools, libraries</li> <li>Develop parks in conjunction with transportation init.</li> </ul>



Community	Date of Plan	Population	Master plan objectives	Community Expectations				Developing New Green Spaces		Service Innovations	Other Ideas
				Demographic trends	Implications for greenspace provision	Key leisure needs / trends	Other findings/values of interest	Means of funding	Means of acquiring parkland		
Dane County Wisconsin (Madison)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify park and open space goals for community</li> <li>Identify process to meet these goals</li> </ul> <p><b>SPECIFIC GOALS:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserve key natural resources through permanent open space</li> <li>Provide sufficient parks &amp; rec areas to meet needs of citizens</li> <li>Preserve nature &amp; diversity of natural &amp; cultural heritage of region</li> <li>Use green space to separate communities &amp; help guide future urban growth</li> </ol>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most frequently uses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Playgrounds</li> <li>Hiking</li> <li>Baseball</li> <li>Picnicking</li> <li>Golfing</li> <li>Bicycling on trails</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of surveyed favored protection of natural areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State funding</li> <li>Donations of land, labor, and gifts in kind</li> <li>Possibility of corporate sponsorship</li> <li>Possible sale of excess land</li> <li>Partnerships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purchase</li> <li>Dedication</li> <li>Zoning</li> <li>Easements</li> <li>Land donation</li> <li>Eminent domain &amp; condemnation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies for accepting donations of land</li> <li>Needs based on: standards, demand, resources</li> <li>Establish community assistance programs to fac. neighbourhood improvement of parks</li> </ul>	
Boulder Colorado			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To guide parks &amp; rec program, facility &amp; funding decisions through 2010</li> <li>Establish priorities amongst community needs for parks &amp; rec amenities</li> <li>Focus on needs of particular pop'n groups: children, teenagers and families</li> <li>Incorporate new city policies re: land use, transportation, planning, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aging population; healthy seniors will likely remain active</li> <li>Decrease in preschool children</li> <li>elem. &amp; high school age children peaking</li> <li>2 income families rising</li> <li>Decrease in numbers of families</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better educated and better paid people use parks more, spend more money on programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enrollment in prog. rising</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parks &amp; rec fund</li> <li>Lottery fund</li> <li>Bond issues</li> <li>Sales tax funds</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expansion of enviro. education programs so residents understand affects of heavy use on natural resources</li> </ul>		
Houston Texas			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide parks &amp; rec facilities of approp. size, distribution and amenity to serve all residents</li> <li>Provide facilities &amp; activities to meet leisure interests &amp; health needs of citizens</li> <li>Use parks to protect environmentally significant areas- for public enjoyment &amp; education</li> <li>Maintain and manage parks in a manner that encourages their appropriate use</li> <li>Maximize partnerships to assist in park planning &amp; development</li> </ul>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capital program</li> <li>Operating budgets</li> <li>Tax investment zones</li> <li>Improvement districts</li> <li>State/agency grants</li> <li>Joint ventures with other agencies/city departments</li> </ul> </li> <li>Private: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foundation grants</li> <li>Corporate grants &amp; donations</li> <li>Private donations</li> <li>Land trusts</li> <li>Friends organiz.</li> <li>School boards'</li> <li>Neighbourhood partner. Program</li> <li>Sports groups</li> <li>Joint ventures</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needs based on: standards, demand, resources</li> <li>Transitional guidelines to bring existing greenspaces up to standard</li> <li>Land acquisition guidelines</li> </ul>		

## **APPENDIX C**

### **OTHER MASTER PLAN MODELS- PROVISION OF GREENSPACE**

As part of the background research, master plans from other communities were examined to identify relevant information. Master plans from large and small canadian cities were identified and examined.

In the following tables, information regarding greenspace classification systems, definitions, current greenspace provision and planned greenspace provision is identified.

Canadian communities

Community	Date of Plan	Pop'n	Existing Green Spaces		Proposed Standards for New Green Spaces					Notes	
			Green space classification	Amount of green space provided	Green space classification	Purpose/objective of new green space	Amount of new green space to be provided	Size of green space minimum preferred (ha)			Area served by green space
Kitchener ON	1990	no data	No information	Greens	Create attractive spaces & rest areas	As land becomes available	<0.2 hectare (ha)	No information	Immediate area		
				Tot lot	Located in res. areas for play for <12yr olds	1 -2 sites provided in high density res. area	0.2-0.5 ha		0.5 km radius		
				Neighbourhood park	Located in res. areas for unorganized activities	0.5-1 hectares per 1000 people (ha/1000)	0.5-4.0 ha		<2 km radius		
				Neighbourhood sports fields	Sited w/ elementary schools; for organized youth sports & adult recreation leagues	1-2 ha/1000	2-10 ha		<5 km radius		
				District sportsfields	For groups of neighbourhoods; sited w/ senior elementary & secondary schools	Minimum 1 per district; .5-1 ha/1000	5-30 ha		<12 km radius		
				District natural area	Sites of local natural significance	Based on availability of appropriate lands	<50 ha		<15 km radius		
				City wide facility	Major activity facilities; incl. sports, community centres	As city-wide facility demands warrants	20-50 ha		Primary- city Secondary- region		
				City natural park	Naturally significant lands to be preserved; uses incl. picnicking, interpretive trails	Based on availability and quality of lands for acquisition	50-200 ha		Primary- city Secondary- region		
				Regional park	Amenities for region; incl. picnicking, trails, boating, sportsfields	Based on regional facility needs and land availability	over 50 ha		Region		
Regina SK	1994	no data		Neighbourhood open space	For neighbourhood use; often sited w/ elementary school; for unorganized leisure activities or low skill level athletics	1.2-1.6 ha/1000	0.2-6 ha	No information	.4-8 km		
				Zone open soace	Intensive periodic use; vehicle destination; either <u>athletic</u> (high skill level) or <u>parkland</u> (strong formal elements, multiple activities)	0.7-1.1 ha/1000	6-15 ha		3.2 km		
				Municipal open space	Unique and/or specialized athletic (golf, cricket) or cultural (outdoor theatre); often oriented to water	Based on need, affordability	Varies based on site purpose, features		City wide		
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,36 hectares per 1000 people (ha/1000)</b>	Special use areas	Utilitarian functions, incl. buffering, drainage; may have secondary recreation function	Developed in accord. w/ development guidelines	Varies		Varies
Orillia ON	+/- 1996	24,080 (1996)	Neighbourhood parks	0.48 ha/1000	Neighbourhood park	Facilities may incl. playgrounds, junior level athletic fields, seating, water spray park, shaded areas	0.8 ha/1000	1.6-2 ha	2.8-3.2 ha	No information	
			Community parks	2.2 ha/1000	Community park	Facilities may incl. playground, senior level athletic fields, picnic areas/concessions, washrooms	1 ha/1000	4-6 ha	8-12 ha		
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.8 ha/1000*</b>	Special open space areas	Facilities may incl. Picnic areas, trails, boat launches, amphitheatre, interpretive centres, camping	Based on site conditions and features	Based on site conditions and features			

\* Includes school properties

Community	Date of Plan	Pop'n	Existing Green Spaces		Proposed Standards for New Green Spaces					Notes		
			Green space classification	Amount of green space provided	Green space classification	Purpose/objective of new green space	Amount of new green space to be provided	Size of green space minimum preferred (ha)	Area served by green space			
Red Deer AB	1996	59,834 (1995)	No information		City level facilities	Facilities serve entire city; incl. major athletic facilities, river corridor parks	No information		No information	City wide		
					District level	Serves entire neighbourhoods; typ. sited w/ high schools and/or community centres, libraries, etc.		9-24 ha and up		District (+/-20 000 pop.)		
					Neighbourhood: park/school sites	Typ. sited w/ elementary school; other facilities incl. shelters, trails, playgrounds, detention ponds		5.1 ha and up			Neighbourhood (1/4 section or 2500-3000 pop.)	
					Neighbourhood parkettes	Use limited to passive use; incl. landscaping, tree planting		1 ha			Neighbourhood	
New Westminster BC	1998	47,000 (1998)	Neighbourhood		Neighbourhood	Primarily serves neighbourhood, facilities incl. playgrounds, sports fields, picnic areas	No information	up to 2 ha	No information	Within .5 km of any city property		
			Community activity park		Community activity park	Serves several neighbourhoods; facilities incl. playgrounds, sports fields, washrooms, picnic areas		2-20 ha		Within 1 km of any city property		
			Community feature park		Community feature park	Incl. built or natural features of interest to all residents (ie. water feature, horticultural displays)		2-20 ha			Within 6 km of any city property	
			City park		City park	Serves entire city; a venue for special events; a tourist destination; may incl. washrooms, picnic areas		20 ha and up			Within 6 km of any city property	
			Linear park/trail		Linear park/trail	Provide pedestrian, bicycle and other connection through city					Within 1 km of any city property	
			Community facility grounds		Community facility grounds	Grounds surrounding civic buildings; may include plantings, benches						
			Village greens		Village greens	Small green spaces-primarily for beautification; may incl. benches						
			Natural areas		natural areas	Sites of environmental significance; development limited to trails						
<b>T O T A L</b>				<b>3.02 ha/1000*</b>								
Oakville ON	+/- 1999	138,000 (1999)	Parkland	2.41 ha/1000	<i>Parkland:</i> Neighbourhood parkland	Distributed throughout town, facilities incl. playgrounds, unlit sports fields and open space	2.2 ha/1000	No information	No information	Neighbourhood		
					Community parkland	Serve entire city; facilities incl. civic squares, senior level sports fields (lit, irrigated)	2.2 ha/1000			Entire city		
					Natural area parkland	5.56 ha/1000	<i>Natural Area parkland:</i> Tableland woodlot	Upland natural areas, usually adjacent to rivers or creeks				
							Community link	Linear parks; usually utility corridors				
							Major valley parkland	Natural areas associated with the town's 2 major river valleys				
							Minor valley parkland	Natural areas associated with smaller creeks throughout the town				
<b>T O T A L</b>				<b>7.97 ha/1000*</b>								

\* Includes all open space (parks only- 2.32 ha/1000)

\* Includes natural areas (parks only- 2.1 ha/1000)

Community	Date of Plan	Pop'n	Existing Green Spaces		Proposed Standards for New Green Spaces						Notes	
			Green space classification	Amount of green space provided	Green space classification	Purpose/objective of new green space	Amount of new green space to be provided	Size of green space minimum preferred (ha)		Area served by green space		
Nanaimo BC	1994	68000 (1993)	Neighbourhood:	.97 ha/1000	Neighbourhood:			No information	No information			
					Neighbourhood park	Serves entire neighbourhoods; typ. sited w/ elementary school; facilities incl. playgrounds, sports fields, picnic areas					Within .8km of all residents	
					tot lot	Serves neighbourhoods; facilities incl. playgrounds, picnic areas, open space					Within .8km of all residents	
			Community:	1.11 ha/1000	Community:							
					Athletic parks	Typ. sited w/ secondary school; incl facilities for recreational and league sports; also include playgrounds, picnic areas, washrooms, concessions						Within 1km of all residents
					Community parks	Serve areas of city; not city-wide destinations; linked to trail network						Within 1km of all residents
			City:	4.88 ha/1000	City:							
					Athletic parks	Can accommodate tournaments; incl. support facilities (ie change rooms)						
					Natural parks	City wide destinations; facilities incl. interpret. centre, trails, picnic areas	Based on site conditions and features					
					Ecological parks	Areas of ecological importance req' protection; typ. located in/near natural parks	Based on site conditions and features					
		Garden parks	Extensively landscaped areas incl. streetscaping, city entrances									
		Beaches	Water related activities									
		Trails, greenways	Networks which provide recreational potential and connect parks									
		<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>6.97 ha/1000*</b>							* Includes indoor facilities		
Grande Prairie	2001	35963 (2000)	Neighbourhood park and tot lot	1.2 ha/1000	Neighbourhood park	Neighbourhood focus; facilities incl. informal sports fields, benches, play activities for ages 2-12	No information	3.0 ha	No information	Balanced through neighbourhood		
			Community park/school	2.3 ha/1000	Community park/school	Serve more than 1 neighbourhood; typ. sited w/ school; facilities incl. playgrounds, benches, trails		3 ha (no school); 5 ha (1 school); 8 ha (2 schools)		Centrally located		
			Regional park/school	1.9 ha/1000	Regional park/school	Serve all city residents; can accommodate major sports tournaments and special events		12.5 ha (1 school); 20.5 ha (2 school)		Centrally located near major road, transit routes		
			Municipal open space	0.8 ha/1000	Mun. Open Space	buffers, storm ponds, cemetery						
			Muskoseepi Park	7.9 ha/1000	Muskoseepi Park	Part of river corridor; planning and design standards from separate master plan (underway)						
			<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>16.6 ha/1000</b>								
Timmins	1993	no data	Neighbourhood parks	.75 ha/1000	Neighbourhood parks	No information	1.5 ha/1000	.8-2.8 ha	No information	0.8km max		
ON			Community Parks	.44 ha/1000	Community Parks		1.0 ha/1000	8 ha		2.5km max.		
			Scenic & special areas	2.3 ha/1000	Scenic & special areas		1.5 ha/1000	Site specific				
			<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>3.5 ha/1000</b>								

Community	Date of Plan	Pop'n	Existing Green Spaces		Proposed Standards for New Green Spaces					Notes	
			Green space classification	Amount of green space provided	Green space classification	Purpose/objective of new green space	Amount of new green space to be provided	Size of green space minimum	Size of green space preferred (ha)		Area served by green space
Kelowna BC	1993	101624 (1998 proj.)	Neighbourhood parks	.42 ha/1000	Neighbourhood parks	Typ. sited w/ elementary school; facilities incl. play areas, informal play areas, seating areas	0.6 ha/1000	.6-2 ha	No information	.5-1km radius	
			Community parks	.71 ha/1000	Community parks	Serve a number of neighbourhoods; typ. sited w/ secondary school and community facilities; facilities incl. play fields and open space	0.4 ha/1000	2-8 ha		2-3km radius	
			District parks		District parks	Sports fields for broader range and higher level of activity, incl. support facilities (ie change rooms); typ. sited w/ major indoor facilities	0.6 ha/1000	8-20 ha		5km radius; 4 sites for a projected 150 000 pop.	
			City parks		City parks	Parks with significance to entire city- beaches, natural areas, cemetery	0.6 ha/1000				
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>No information</b>							
Medicine Hat AB	2000				Amenity park	Serves neighbourhood; small scale; offers passive recreation and aesthetic appeal	No information	0.4-0.8 ha	No information	2 amenity parks per neighbourhood	
					Neighbourhood park	Fills active and passive rec needs of neighbourhood; often sited w/ elementary school		1.2-5.7 ha		Within 600 m of most residences in neighbourhood	
					Community park	Fills mostly active, but also passive, recreation needs; often sited w/ high school		8-16 ha		Serves 4 neighbourhoods;	
					City park	Serves entire community; fills both active and passive needs; emphasis on structured sports not fulfilled in neighbourhood or community parks- incl. sports fields for national competitions		8-16 ha		Entire community; may be sited in industrial or commercial areas	
					Special use park	Protect and manage unique sites, incl. environmentally sensitive areas			Varies based on site	Serves entire community	
					Linear park	Part of city-wide trail system				Serves entire community	

## **APPENDIX D**

### **CURRENT CITY OF BRANDON GREENSPACE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM**

The following is a classification system developed by the Department of Community Services as a precursor to the development of the Master Plan.

**Land classifications include:**

- **Developed Parkland** - Any land that has been altered from its original state to meet the purposes of the land.
- **Natural Park Areas** - Any land that has not been altered and appears to be in its natural state.
- **Cemetery** - Any land specifically used for cemetery.
- **City Tree Nursery** - Any land specifically used for a tree nursery.
- **Undeveloped Area** - Any land that has been altered from its original state but is not developed to the desired level.

**Land subclassifications include:**

- **Regular mowed area** - An area that receives regular maintenance and upkeep.
- **Green space maintained by boards or clubs** - A recreational or greenspace area that is not city property or maintained by the city.
- **Separate school boards** - Recreational facilities or greenspace owned and maintained by a private school board.
- **Public school boards** - Recreational facilities or greenspace owned and maintained by the Brandon School Division.
- **Linkages** - An area of greenspace that provides special non-recreational use such as a buffer or an access to recreation facilities.

- **Trail or linear park** - A greenspace where the primary recreation amenity is a walkway.
- **Water courses and lakes**
- **Wetlands and seasonal streams**
- **Neighbourhood and ward natural treed areas**
- **City level natural treed and grasslands area** - A greenspace that has not been altered from its original state and has natural treed areas and/or natural un-mowed grasslands.
- **Semi-public natural treed areas**
- **Mowing**
- **Natural areas**
- **Designated green space (no recreation amenities)** - An undeveloped area with no recreational amenities that has been designated as future greenspace.
- **Vacant Lot** - Any city owned property that has been altered from its original state but is not developed to the desired level.
- **Rough cut mowed area** - Any greenspace that receives regular rough-cut mowing and a lower degree of maintenance.



**Geographic classifications include:**

- **Neighbourhood** - A greenspace or recreational facility that serves the surrounding neighbourhood. Usually there are more than one neighbourhood facility in a ward (depending on the size of the ward).
- **Community** - A greenspace or recreational facility that serves the entire community where there is usually only one facility of its kind in the city.
- **Undeveloped** - The classification given when the future of an undeveloped property is unknown and therefore cannot be classed under Neighbourhood, Ward or Community.
- **Ward** - A greenspace or recreational facility that serves the community within a ward. Usually there is only one facility of its kind in a ward.

## **APPENDIX E**

### **TELEPHONE SURVEY**

In March 2001, a telephone survey was undertaken by Brandon Production House to collect public opinions on greenspace. The following is the summary of the process, including key findings and recommendations for action.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Hilderman Thomas Frank Cram, Landscape Architects of Brandon, Manitoba were commissioned to prepare a Master Plan of green spaces in Brandon during the winter and spring of 2001. Part of the plan that was approved by the City of Brandon was to conduct a survey of citizens of Brandon to collect opinions on various matters pertaining to the Master Plan. The research was delivered in two phases. Phase I, a telephone surveyor randomly sampled citizens was reported herein. Phase II a survey of the opinions of citizens who attend public information sessions in April, 2001 was reported under separate cover. HTFC hired Brandon Production House, an independent research firm, to conduct the telephone survey in March, 2001 and to analyze the opinions received at the public information sessions later in the spring of that year.

## **PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY**

The purpose of this study was to gather the opinions of a random sample of Brandon citizens about the green spaces in the city. HTFC recognized that public information meetings would be critical to the Master Planning process and wanted to be able to balance discussions at the meetings with a most objective view of the people of the city. It is known that citizens who attend public information meetings are more motivated to express their opinion than the average citizen. Further, HTFC planned to use the findings from the survey of the general population to facilitate and guide the public information sessions.

## **DESIGN OF THE SURVEY**

### **Sampling**

A sample of 200 respondents was selected from the Manitoba Telephone System 2001 regional phone book. Respondents were rotated according to distance from the top of the page on a 5-column rotation. Only residential phone numbers were selected. If a non-working number was selected, the number below was sampled. All phone numbers sampled were held as call-backs and five attempts were made over the survey period to include each sampled respondent. New respondents were sampled after the fifth attempt. Page numbers were recorded.

### **Questionnaire Design**

The questionnaire was designed in a series of meetings with Mr. Peter Spearey of HTFC. Questions were designed to gather a quantitative data set that would lend itself to descriptive statistical analysis. All comments by all respondents were recorded for qualitative analysis. The questionnaire was tested on HTFC and City of Brandon representatives before going live to the citizens of Brandon.

### **Limitations**

- Only households with MTS listed telephone numbers could be included in the sample
- Budget allowed for a sample of 200. It was recognized that a small sample size could affect the reliability of break-out analysis in small sub-samples.

## **DATA GATHERING**

### **Timing**

Data gathering began on Wednesday March 14, 2001 and was concluded on Tuesday March 20, 2001, Surveys took between seven and fifteen minutes to administer. Interviews were conducted between 9:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m.

### **Interviewers**

The questionnaires were administered by three interviewers. They were rehearsed by Brandon Production House, first in person, then over the telephone. Interviewers were instructed to call back and re-attempt the survey any time they encountered voice mail, busy signals, non answers, or deferrals. Refusals were recorded.

### **Data Entry**

Data entry was conducted by two technologists. It occurred concurrent with the interviews. Postal codes were collected manually for respondents requesting an invitation to the public information meetings and appended to the address information gathered from the MTS Phone book. Data entry was conducted directly in to MS Access forms customized for this project.

## **ANALYSIS**

### **Tools**

Quantitative analysis was performed in a Dell PC with Microsoft Access 97 and Microsoft Excel 2000. Qualitative analysis was done on data exported from MS Access to MS Word 2000.

### **Methods**

Sample size prohibited parametric analysis. Non-parametric techniques could be employed in phase two of the study, if results lend themselves to questions of that nature. Data was analyzed using simple descriptive statistics such as percentage and mean. Ranks and averages of ranks were used to analyze satisfaction ratings.

## Base Survey Observations

Survey Question	Response/count	%	Observations	
0 Responded	yes no	164 36	82 18	Most people were gracious and eager to contribute. People who refused stated they were 'not interested', were 'too busy', 'did not do surveys', or were 'too old'.
1 On a scale of 1-5, where 1 is extremely important and 5 is completely unimportant, how valuable are greenspaces here in Brandon to your personal lifestyle?	important part-important indifferent part-unimportant unimportant indifferent positive negative	74 48 24 7 4 25 122 14	46 30 15 4 4 16 76 9	76% of respondents stated quickly and clearly that greenspace was either extremely important or moderately important to their personal lifestyle. Of those who responded negative, it is possible that several meant 'moderately important' and had reversed the scale. This was the first question on the survey.
2 I would like you to choose: #1: Do you feel that Brandon's river corridor can serve as a major city park? OR #2: Do you feel that Brandon should have a major city park in addition to the river corridor?	Riverbank is enough  City park in addition	117  43	73  27	While most felt that the Riverbank serve as a 'city park', many who felt that an additional park was needed, were adamant. There were comments about the importance of planning.
3 Do you think #1: There is too much greenspace downtown? #2: There is not enough greenspace downtown? #3: There is just the right amount of greenspace downtown?	Too much Not enough Just the right amount	4 94 65	2 58 40	Virtually all felt that a reduction of greenspace in the downtown area would be a mistake. Some felt that business districts by nature were less treed; others saw room for more greenspace.
4a. Since last March, that is, within the last 12 months, have you made use of any of Brandon's downtown parks for an outdoor group activity such as music, sports, picnic or a festival?	yes no	41 123	25 75	Several respondents mentioned that since there was no PickleFest, they hadn't used Princess Park. Many said they never come downtown.
4b. have you made use of any of downtown Brandon's parks for an outdoor individual activity such as reading or relaxation?	yes no	39 125	24 76	While the response rates were identical for group/individual, many respondents said yes to only one of the two.
5	Comments refer to Appendix 5			
6 Have you made use of a playground within the past 12 months?	yes no	73 91	45 55	Youth, young families, and senior citizens all made use of playgrounds.
7 Have you made use of walking or bicycle trails excluding ordinary sidewalks within the past 12 months?	yes no	124 40	76 24	Respondents were always very quick to assert 'Oh yes' when asked if they'd used the trails.

8 Have you made use of a ball diamond, soccer field or other outdoor athletic field within the past 12 months?	yes no	75 89	46 54	Respondents were asked to say 'yes' even if they were a spectator at the athletic field.	
9 Have you made use of a park with trees, gardens, walkways, picnic areas, etc., within the past 12 months?	yes no	122 42	74 26	Parks and trails had some overlap, particularly the River Corridor trails which users perceive to be in a park.	
12.1 Playgrounds: On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is completely satisfied and 5 is completely Dissatisfied, how satisfied are you with the...of/at playgrounds in your part of the city?	Parameter	N=	Avg. satis.	Rank of 16	Respondents were most dissatisfied with equipment (condition, selection, age) at playgrounds in their area. Dissatisfaction with playgrounds in the respondent's city area was high (13, 14 and 16 rank). Only 'yes' users were asked their satisfaction.
	equipment	71	2.88	16	
	location	71	2.41	7	
	quantity	71	2.67	13	
	safety	71	2.72	14	
12.2 Walking or bicycle trails (excluding ordinary sidewalks): On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is completely satisfied and 5 is completely Dissatisfied, how satisfied are you with the...of/at walking or bicycle trails (excluding ordinary sidewalks) in your part of the city?	equipment	126	2.46	10	The number of trails (in specific areas) and the equipment along trails (benches, garbage cans) were reasons for greater dissatisfaction with trails. There was location of trails and safety along trails (except at night) were more positive.
	location	126	2.27	4	
	quantity	126	2.46	11	
	safety	126	2.17	3	
12.3. A ball diamond, soccer field or other outdoor athletic field: On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is completely satisfied and 5 is completely Dissatisfied, how satisfied are you with the..a quantity of a ball diamond, soccer field or other outdoor athletic field in your part of the city?	equipment	75	1.73	2	There was the greatest satisfaction with safety at athletic fields, although comments do indicate some concern in parks and playgrounds. Some areas of the city were less satisfied with location and quantity of fields. One respondent was disappointed that a housing development had taken their field.
	location	75	2.41	6	
	quantity	75	2.44	9	
	safety	75	1.61	1	
12.4. A park with trees, gardens, walkways, picnic areas, etc: On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is completely satisfied and 5 is completely Dissatisfied, how satisfied are you with the..a safety and security of a park with trees, gardens, walkways, picnic areas, etc., in your part of the city?	equipment	121	2.67	12	Respondents agree, you cannot have enough parks. Some areas have none and respondents laughed when asked if there were enough parks in their areas. Citizens drive to parks but yearn for neighbourhood parks.
	location	121	2.46	8	
	quantity	121	2.81	15	
	safety	121	2.4	5	
13.a. Which of the 4 types of green spaces would be most important to add or improve in your area of the city?	playgrounds	39	25		Most respondents (44%) felt the park was the greatest priority for their area. Trails were a high priority in some neighbourhoods. Fields were the lowest priority across the city. Playgrounds were seen as important by all ages of people.
	trails	42	26		
	fields	8	5		
	parks	70	44		

13.b. Which of the 4 types of green spaces would be of least importance to add or improve in your area of the city?	playgrounds trails fields parks	28 33 80 18	18 21 50 11	These results verify the responses from 13a. Athletic fields were regarded as the lowest priority by 50% of residents. The fewest respondents regarded parks as the lowest priority.
14.a. Do you think Public Municipal Governments are responsible for building and developing greenspaces in Brandon?	yes no	458 6	96 4	It was nearly unanimous that the city bears all or some responsibility for building and developing greenspaces in Brandon.
14.b. Do you think Private Enterprise is responsible for building and developing greenspaces in Brandon?	yes no	89 75	54 46	Half of the population believed that business could 'help' or 'do a share' through donations or caring for their properties. Half indicated that private enterprise bore no responsibility for this.
14.c. Do you think Volunteers and/or Citizens are responsible for building and developing greenspaces in Brandon?	yes no	114 50	70 30	A greater proportion of respondents believed that volunteer citizens (including service clubs) could help out, if they would. Some suggested donations and volunteer labour.
15 Do you agree with the following statement; that is, in the future, greenspaces should be developed in conjunction with school sites?	yes no	138 26	84 16	Most respondents felt that developing greenspaces in conjunction with schools was a good idea. Several qualified with statements such as the need to provide access for all age groups. Some worried about maintenance of greenspaces developed in conjunction with school sites. It was not a unanimous agreement. Some respondents felt there were drawbacks to this idea.
10 Which part of the city do you live in?	central east north south west	26 30 22 27 59	16 18 13 216 36	A larger proportion of respondents were from the 'west end' because this included everything west of 26th street, except for the Parkdale area which was considered south. Analysis of opinions of respondents from the north will be less reliable because 6 were 'rural north' and 3 were 'assiniboine south', and east included 2 rural respondents. West included 3
11 Have you lived in that area for longer than one year?	yes no	137 27	84 16	Respondents were asked to consider the greenspaces in their part of the city, even if they had lived there for less than one year.
17 Gender	female male	98 62	61 39	

18 Age category	20 or under 21-40 41-60 over 60	10 52 61 39	6 32 38 24	
19 Would you like to be invited to any of these meetings?	yes no	87 77	53 47	More than half the respondents were eager to receive an invitation. Many worried that they might have to work on the specified day, but hope to attend.

## SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

- *76% of respondents stated quickly and clearly that green space was either extremely important or moderately important to their personal lifestyle.*
- *Virtually all felt respondents indicated that a reduction of green space in the downtown area would be a mistake.*
- *75% of respondents had used walking or bicycle trails within the past 12 months. The quantity of trails (in specific areas of the city) and the (lack of) equipment along trails (benches, garbage cans) were reasons for greater dissatisfaction with trails. Satisfaction with the location of trails and safety along trails (except at night) were more positive.*
- *Adding or improving parks was regarded by most respondents as the greatest priority for their area of the city. Adding or improving athletic fields was the lowest priority across the city.*
- *Citizens believe that the public municipal government bears all or some responsibility for building and developing green spaces in Brandon. Between 50% and 75% of respondents believed private enterprise or volunteer citizens could partner in building and developing green spaces in Brandon.*
- *Most respondents felt that developing green spaces in conjunction with schools was a good idea.*
- *Proportionally more respondents in the child-rearing life stage (21-40 years) had used playgrounds within the past 12 months. These people were of the opinion that playgrounds were the highest priority of greenspace for their part of the city.*
- *Respondents who lived in Brandon's East were least-satisfied overall with greenspaces in their part of the city. Respondents from the West were most satisfied.*
- *Among the four attributes, quantity, location, safety and equipment, quantity of greenspaces received the lowest average rank of satisfaction ratings across all city areas. Safety received the highest average satisfaction ranking.*
- *Respondents who lived in Brandon's East had the lowest satisfaction with safety when compared with respondents from the other four areas of the city.*
- *Respondents who lived in Brandon's West, showed a high level of satisfaction with the trails in their part of the city.*
- *Respondents located in the East who indicated considerably lower satisfaction than respondents from the other four parts of the city.*
- *Respondents who lived in the Central part of the city were least satisfied with the playgrounds located in their part of the city. Respondents from the East area were similarly dissatisfied with the playgrounds there.*
- *The top 10 average satisfaction rankings (n=80) all pertained to green space type, trails and fields.*
- *None of the green spaces in the East part of the city were among the top ten average satisfaction rankings (n=80).*
- *Quantity of fields in the North and quantity of trails in the West received high average satisfaction rankings.*

- *In the West, there is high satisfaction with location and quantity of trails.*
- *The West part of the city was absent in its representation in the bottom ten average satisfaction rankings (n=80).*
- *Respondents in the central area expressed dissatisfaction with the quantity of trails there.*
- *In the North there was dissatisfaction with the quantity of parks.*
- *Respondents in the south expressed dissatisfaction with the quantity of parks and fields.*
- *Comments about concerns for safety in parks, playgrounds, and along trails were plentiful and stories about policing and vandalism problems were related frequently. However, the satisfaction ratings did not reflect these concerns. Safety received the highest satisfaction rating among the four green space attributes surveyed.*
- *Comments about problems related to dog droppings and fear of dogs in parks and along trails were related several times.*
- *Improve the facilities along walking trails that exist and expand the walking trail network into all parts of the city.*
- *Enforce an ordinance to control dog droppings in parks and along trails or provide a municipal service to keep these areas clean of dog droppings.*
- *Continue to encourage sponsorship and donations and volunteer labour in the development and building of athletic fields.*
- *Plan for small neighborhood parks, distributed evenly across the city.*
- *Continue with the riverbank development.*
- *Develop green spaces in conjunction with schools and make these green spaces accessible to all citizens, at all times of year.*
- *Provide convenient and safe playground access to families with young children in all areas of the city.*
- *Conduct further detailed analysis of the green spaces in the East part of the city and of the citizens' satisfaction with the green spaces to determine how these could better serve the citizens there.*

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- *Inform the citizens of Brandon that they are in agreement about the importance of greenspace in their personal lifestyle.*
- *Continue to augment the green space in the downtown business district.*
- *Comments about safety should be further studied in conjunction with the Brandon Police Service to determine whether improvements to safety and security in parks, playgrounds and along trails can be better evaluated.*



## **APPENDIX F**

### **COMMENTS AND SURVEY FINDINGS FROM THE USER GROUP MEETING**

On April 3, 2001, a meeting was held with sports, community and other stakeholder groups at the Riverbank Discovery Centre. At this meeting a survey was administered to gather specific information regarding athletic facilities.

The results of the survey, along with comments made during the meeting and after, follow.

COMMENTS FROM THE USER GROUP MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2001  
RIVERBANK DISCOVERY CENTRE

QUESTION PERIOD

- Question from Greg Maladrewicz Brandon Youth Soccer; re: private sports facilities
  - There is a perception that Optimist Park is a public facility, when in reality it is operated as a private facility by Brandon Youth Soccer
  - How will the city work with private groups?
  - Right now there is a gap between responsibilities which results in concerns such as vandalism, facility maintenance, parking issues, field drainage, flood protection. etc
- Question from Errol Black, City Councillor (Riverview)
  - Should include questions about other facilities and people's concerns about them.
    - Riverbank usage
    - Keystone Centre
    - Swimming pools
  - Concern about distinction between neighbourhoods -should focus on the greater community
- Comment from Don Jessiman, City Councillor (Green Acres) (on record)
  - Many people from Green Acres feel left out of the process
  - The area east of First and south of the tracks has very little in the way of green space facilities
  - Bicycle pathway doesn't lead anywhere
  - People in subsidized housing and in seniors homes feel that they don't have a voice and would be reticent to come to the public meeting because it's not right in their immediate neighbourhood
- Comment from Gary Miller, Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation
  - Commends the city for undertaking the Master Plan but questions whether City Council is prepared to invest money into parks once the Plan is complete.
- Response from Dave Burgess, City Councillor (South Centre)
  - This is why the city has undertaken this initiative -to have a plan in place so that the city can start implementing projects and initiatives -but based on a long term plan.
- Comment from Maureen Munroe, Save Brandon's Green Space
  - Remarkd on an article in the paper which referred to a survey on who uses the Riverbank trails. residents from central and eastern areas the most followed by west end residents followed by North Hill residents.
- Lois Crawley, Riverbank, replied that a survey had been conducted over the summer (Peter to contact Lois to obtain this information and any other info that may be relevant to our study)
- Kady Denton, Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation
  - They would like to see pedestrian corridors within the city centre
  - This could be streetscaping of public sidewalks or whatever works to make the city centre pedestrian friendly
- Question from?
  - Regarding demographics and population shifts within the different wards- Can we see from the statistics, age distribution shifts?
- Dave Burgess
  - In areas of little greenspace (ie. south centre), is interested in the idea of partnerships with school groups/facilities.
  - Is interested in the examination of greenspace development on Keystone Centre grounds.
- Concern from Don Jessiman
  - The use of wards as a measure of population is problematic because the ward boundaries do not accurately reflect neighbourhoods.
- Concern from David Dixon. Brandon Youth Softball
  - May lose diamonds at BMHC, and this will impact organizations; currently using school yards for some scheduled games.

- Question from Larry Bidlake, Save Brandon's green Space
  - Whether the city will put a moratorium on the selling of anymore green and open space before this Master Plan is completed
  - Concern is that developers request zoning changes to areas zoned greenspace and the city goes through with the zoning change, thus losing more greenspace.
- Merv Pedlow responded that the reason they are involved is because of these zoning issues and that the Master Plan should be dealing with this type of concern.
- Darcy ?
  - Recommended that, within the downtown, we should be looking for potential green spaces to set aside. These may be abandoned lots or properties that are privately owned but the thrust would be to reclaim land for parks and greenspace.
  - Mentioned the notion of community gardens as a means of achieving greenspace and the partnership concept in parts of the city where large areas for parks are not available (referred to an article in the last issue of Canadian Gardener)
- Doug Paterson, City Councillor (Assiniboine)
  - Raised concerns about safety, accessibility (for persons with all types of disabilities) and vandalism and felt that the Master Plan should address those issues
  - As well, wondered about the possibility of looking at building rooftops for additional greens paces, performing spaces in parks.
- Tom Town
  - Will the city be able to maintain all the green spaces recommended in this plan?

#### ONE ON ONE COMMENTS/P SPEAREY:

Greg Maladrewicz, Brandon Youth Soccer:

- Currently, not enough soccer pitches. They are running a number of games for younger players on senior level pitches (up to 6 games per pitch); younger kids are much harder on the field than senior players.
- Could potentially require: 6 pitches- under 5/6; 4 pitches- under 7/8; 2-4 pitches- under 9/10
- Currently, washrooms are closed in off season- Optimists pay to haul water and pump sewage, and closed due to cost.
- Limited public use of the park is okay; i.e. flying a kite; running dogs in the park is not okay; problem with droppings
- Adding a playground is a good idea for players and their families; but may encourage public use of the park in off hours
- If there is a desire to have washrooms open to the public then the city should contribute.

John Reilly, Brandon Barbarians Rugby:

- Map: there are two rugby pitches in Canada Games Park
- There is a need for parking at the rugby pitch; this need could be met at the west end of Parker Boulevard at the dike road.
- There are no washrooms in Canada Games Park (containing the rugby pitch and several baseball diamonds); it would be reasonably easy to add this facility since there is sewer and water along Parker near the rugby pitch

#### ONE ON ONE COMMENTS/R BAILEY:

David Dixon, Brandon Youth Softball:

- Their numbers have dropped in the last few years; the closure of BMHC fields may not be a real problem in the near future, but what happens if the trend reverses? Is the city prepared to add more diamonds?

General comments/perceptions:

- Needs to be better communication between user groups and the city.
- Sense is that groups occasionally need and want help from the city, and appreciate the help when it comes.

#### ONE ON ONE COMMENTS/M PEDLOW:

Greg Maladrewicz, Brandon Youth Soccer:

- Playgrounds may not be a bad idea for Optimist Park; concern about public use.
- Southwest corner of site near 1st street bridge: currently concrete debris in this location; could be cleared for parking
- Need for greater parking on site.
- Riverbank pathways east of 1st street are not well maintained.

John Reilly, Brandon Barbarians Rugby:

- Group is currently planning a storage shed/concession stand at the rugby pitch.

#### ONE ON ONE COMMENTS/ B LePOUDRE:

John Reilly, Brandon Barbarians Rugby:

- Questioned what the city's plans were for extending the walkway that ends at Empress Bay into the First Street Bridge/Pacific Avenue area.
- Brian responded the city is looking at the old railbed along Pacific
- John expressed concern over the proximity of a walking path to the rail yard.

**SURVEY RESULTS FROM THE USER GROUP MEETING**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2001  
RIVERBANK DISCOVERY CENTRE**

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

For sports associations / facility user groups:

Riverbank Discovery Centre, April 3 2001

The Department of Community Parks and Recreation would like your input as part of the development of a Green Space Master Plan for the City of Brandon. Please take a few moments and fill out this questionnaire; when you've finished please deposit in the box provided, or mail or fax to the address below:

Which sports group represented    Stanley Park Lawn Bowling  
    Brandon Minor Baseball  
    Wheat City Golf Club  
    Brandon Youth Soccer Association  
    Brandon Barbarians Rugby Club  
    Brandon Youth Softball League

Which facilities used \_\_\_\_\_

1. Please indicate your general level of satisfaction with the availability of facilities for your use:

Very satisfied:                    4 (school soccer pitches- very unsatisfied)  
Somewhat satisfied:            2  
Somewhat unsatisfied  
Very unsatisfied                1

Comments

- The major facility we use is our own privately run and funded by users without City help essentially. We could use more of a cooperative effort from the City.

2. Is there a need for additional facilities?    Yes 3    No 2    No response 2

Comments

- (BYSL) If school diamonds were upgraded, existing green space would be suitable.
- (BYSA) We are rapidly running into saturation in use for our facilities. With envisioned future growth there will be a need for quality fields.
- (BYSA) Expansion of the Optimist Park Site.
- (SPLB) Storage building needed.

3. Do the facilities you use meet your requirements?

Facility    Canada Games Rugby Field                    Meets your requirements? Yes  No  1  
What would you like to see improved?

Parking and washrooms; some trees around field area.

Facility    Optimist Park    Meets your requirements? Yes  No   
What would you like to see improved?

Vehicle access is dangerous off 1<sup>st</sup> street; expansion to the north for more pitches, parking and indoor facility.

Facility Stanley Park Lawn Bowling Clubhouse Meets your requirements? Yes 1 No  
 What would you like to see improved?

General repairs to roof, etc.

Facility Stanley Park Lawn Bowling Greens Meets your requirements? Yes No  
 What would you like to see improved?

The City could possibly spray lawn fertilizer twice a year- spring and fall.

Facility Brandon Avenue Diamonds Meets your requirements? Yes 1 No  
 What would you like to see improved?

We currently have a major problem with vandalism of the storage shed we have at this diamond.

Facility Cart Paths (golf course) Meets your requirements? Yes 1 No  
 What would you like to see improved?

Storage shed, some new greens.

Facility Optimist Park Meets your requirements? Yes 1 No  
 What would you like to see improved?

Better parking facilities and protection from spring flooding; better drainage

Facility School (soccer) fields Meets your requirements? Yes 1 No  
 What would you like to see improved?

Soccer fields throughout the city are generally poorly maintained- grass needs cut, ground better cared for- less holes and glass and rubble in general.

(please write other facilities on reverse)

4. The complimentary grouping of facilities often increases the range of activities available to users and their families. For example, if one child is playing soccer, another child can use a playground.

Do you agree that complimentary facilities have some value? Agree 7 Disagree

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

- Our club (rugby) is looking into getting a playground this year
- With our focus on soccer and obviously involving many young families which are there as a family and many single parent families there is a need for exactly your example to facilitate evenings for many families.

5. Does your organization currently pay a user fee to use these facilities? Yes 5 No 2

If yes, is the user fee satisfactory? Yes 3 No 1 No response 1

If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

6. How should improvements to facilities be funded?

Increases in user fees? Yes 1 No 5 No response 1

Fundraising by organizations? Yes 5 No  Partly 1 No response 1

Partnerships with service groups

and other organizations? Yes 6 No  No response 1

Municipal taxes? Yes 5 No 1 Partly 1

Additional comments:

- At present the best diamond we (Brandon Minor Baseball) have is located next to the Correctional Facility because of the park-like area of the Brandon Mental Health Centre grounds.
- Brandon Youth Softball League is a non profit organization that contributes whenever possible to the development of softball facilities for the children of Brandon.
- As a privately owned and run facility (Optimist Park) those of us involved in soccer believe we provide a valuable service to a large number of youth in Brandon and area. Some of our concerns are we appear to be a public area with our facilities shown on all of your literature and yet we have little support from the City. We would certainly be interested in meeting with any groups involved in development of this plan to see how we can enter in cooperative efforts to improve facilities enabling more effective use of our facilities particularly by the youths of the city.
- (Minor Baseball)- It would be beneficial if we could plant trees around the present diamonds in order to create a more park like area around the diamonds. The planting of the trees by Minor Baseball could be done I believe it would simply be getting the appropriate authorization in a fairly straightforward manner. I would expect with the completion of Millennium Park that there will be one or two extra diamonds which could probably be made available to softball.
- The facilities: Lawn Bowling at Stanley park provide recreation and social activities for many seniors of all ages.
- The youth soccer programs own and operate Optimist Park privately and independent from the City of Brandon. It is frustrating for the organization to be snubbed and not have facilities supported in any form. The regular inclusion of Optimist Park as a 'City' facility shows little respect for the major financial and volunteer investment made into the park over the last 15 years.

## **APPENDIX G**

### **COMMENTS FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PUBLIC MEETINGS**

In April of 2001 a number of neighbourhood meetings were held to solicit input from the public on the development of the Master Plan. Meetings were held at the East End Community Centre, the South End Community Centre, Valley View Community Centre, and the North End Community Centre. A summary of the comments are presented in Table 2. The complete comments, made during the meetings and after, follow.

EAST END COMMUNITY CENTRE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2001

Notes from Open House - Rosser, South Centre and Riverview Wards  
Tuesday, April 10

QUESTION PERIOD

- Comments regarding Keystone Centre
  - How does Keystone fit into future use as greenspace within the city?
    - Currently, the grounds are actively used by the community and people attending this meeting are in agreement that the grounds must remain intact and available as community greenspace.
    - Arnold Grambo (Habitat for Humanity) -need to take a proactive stance regarding the need to retain all open space currently owned by the city (ie. Keystone Centre grounds)
    - Mike Abbey (Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation)- must send a strong message to City Hall- that this is a social space and not an economic source for the city. The city must look at this issue in the larger context.
    - Need to regard this land as an investment as opposed to a budgetary deficit
- Comment from Dave Barnes
  - Re: relative lack of integration of this process
  - Why is this ~ optional for Councillors?
  - Where are the Councillors tonight?
  - How can we realistically develop a master plan without other decision makers participating? (such as transportation engineers)
  - Are we looking at transportation corridors?
  - Green corridors which would connect sections of the city for bicycle and walking routes
  - Suggestion to look at European models (Denmark, Germany)
- Comment from Arnold Grambo
- Concern that people in public positions should be attending these public sessions so that they can hear the passion that people feel about some of these issues.
- Comment from Brian LePoudre
  - Regarding the development plan, that this process is integrated with that process and the results of this strategy will be taken into account in the development of the development plan
- Comments re: access to Keystone grounds
  - Nursing home at 13' and Queens -the people in the home must be considered:
  - They have no green space, no trees
  - They cannot access the grounds at Keystone because there is no handicap ramp in the curb to allow wheelchair access; as well, the entrance gate is too narrow
- Comments regarding Rideau Park
  - It is an ideal park for walkways for elderly to access but does not currently have any walkways
- Comments regarding urban forest
  - More trees at Keystone Centre grounds
  - Should be planting greater variety of trees in the city
  - Should be planting more mature trees (Regina pointed out as a model)
  - Older trees-snags- should be retained because they provide important habitat for birds
- Comments regarding East End
  - Poor walking path connections
  - Poor connections to Riverbank trails
  - Connection for walking path to link to Riverbank trail system - along Pacific?
  - Concern regarding derelict sites which are abandoned and left with debris and/or contaminated grounds (Brandon Scrap Iron & Metals yards pointed out as example)
  - Comment that the Brandon Scrap Iron & Metals site could be developed as a green space as part of a future pathway connection from the east end to the First Street Bridge /Dinsdale Park



- Comments re: tree planting
  - Along Assiniboine Avenue -more trees should be planted?
  - Comments from Rick Bailey regarding cost issues and availability from the nurseries
    - The city has started its own nursery but there is a serious shortage of trees right now -even very small stock
- Comments regarding vacant lots in the city
  - Number of privately owned vacant lots which could be used as community gardens with permission by the owners
  - The feeling was that this should be encouraged and organized in order to add to the greening of the city
  - Question was asked about whether the project team was considering these options or possibilities -answer -yes
  - Possible properties -
    - lots along Rosser Avenue
    - Rosser & 18th
    - 8" and Victoria
    - Rosser by the Kiwanis home -ideal for partnering w /Kiwanis
    - Franklin & Van Home
- Arnold re: Habitat for Humanity
  - Habitat has a large tract of land which is planned to, eventually, contain 34 houses There will be families with lots of children. This is an excellent opportunity for park space which will accommodate families and children (playgrounds, spray parks, picnic grounds, etc.)
  - Habitat is anxious to have park space developed to compliment the housing development
  - The walking trail should be connected to this development
  - re rail line - should check abandoned track for pathway opportunities
- Conservation of natural prairie habitat
  - Some land just beyond CKLQ property which is original? prairie habitat
  - University has a piece along John Indian bush
  - Greenspace plan should endeavor to save remnant prairie habitat and bring back any pieces of land which are within city boundaries
  - Value in saving the area east of the footbridge
    - east of First, south of Richmond, north of Crocus.
- Value in saving those properties which are unattractive to developers
- Glen Newton (B&G Utilities) -speak to him about the planning process
- Other areas for consideration
  - Examine east end of Canadian Tire parking lot for potential reclaimed natural greenspace
    - Land is swamp with Aspen growth
  - Issue of contaminated sites which have been abandoned by original developers
    - Concern about abandonment with no repercussions and requirements to recover
    - (Brian) City is talking to (specific) corporations about how to deal with contaminated sites
- Dave Barnes -comment for record
  - Re: sensitive greenspace on Keystone property along 13'th to entrance at Hill
    - Century Cottonwood habitat planted at turn of last century by Patmore
    - Is a merlin habitat (pair of nesting merlins)
- Note re : mapping correction required
  - Applewood Bay goes right around and does not become Dennis

#### ONE ON ONE COMMENTS: B. LePOUDRE:

#### Comments from Councillor Errol Black (Riverview):

- Concerns about the planning for green space within/adjacent to the habitat for humanity site
- Would like to see what opportunities exist for integration with the Brandon Regional Health Centre site development
- Interested in the possibility of linking the habitat site to the 17th Street East walkway (along Douglas)- since Van Home east of the hospital has no sidewalks
- 17th Street East and Richmond Avenue walkways need to be joined.

COMMENTS FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PUBLIC MEETINGS:  
SOUTH END COMMUNITY CENTRE

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2001

Notes from Open House - Green Acres, Richmond and Linden Lanes Wards  
Thursday, April 12, 2001

QUESTION PERIOD

- Question from Councillor Ken Fitzpatrick (Linden Lanes)
  - How does Brandon compare to other cities for green space?
  - Was under the impression that Brandon had more green space than other western Canadian cities
  - Not comfortable with comparing Brandon to other cities; feels residents have to be comfortable with the green spaces provided in Brandon.
- Comment that Stanley, Rideau and Coronation Park are attractive green spaces.
- Comment that newer neighbourhoods should feature more parks, smaller in size.
  - Smaller, more numerous parks are more conveniently accessible, and would be easier to maintain by volunteers.
  - A number of smaller parks are preferable to one large park
- Comment about school yards and use:
  - Feeling that residents don't use these green spaces- do people feel comfortable using these spaces (fencing, signage, discourages use)
  - One example, Neelin High School, is poorly used
  - Raised comment about definition of green space- how is it defined? Perhaps, schools shouldn't be counted since limits to use.
  - A point of clarification was made that school yards do not prohibit use, but place limits (no dogs, no use after sundown)
- Questions about rezoning open space:
  - Question was asked. what is Community Parks and Recreation's role in protecting green space during the rezoning process?
- Brian replied that the department works hard to ensure green space is maintained; noted that presently there are no requirements for green space in new development (except land dedication as outlined in the Planning Act).
- A comment was made that many residents come to see open space as parkland regardless of the zoning of the land. A suggestion was made that signage be used to clearly indicate park areas (present and future) as well as undeveloped land zoned for other uses (ie. residential, commercial)
- Questions regarding mapping:
  - Can green space not currently zoned PR or OS be identified on the map?
  - Can school yards be mapped as a separate layer?
- Comment about improvements to vacant lots:
  - In Dauphin, small vacant lots are developed by volunteers A suggestion was made that perhaps the city can develop vacant lots within established areas of the city.
- Comment from Councillor Don Jessiman (Green Acres):
  - Wanted the issue of the green space at 3rd and Aberdeen raised.
  - Residents noted that the space is presently heavily used as a shortcut
  - Noted that there are many problems- safety- poor visibility due to trees and bush; not lit. Also, there are low, wet areas that cause problems with mosquitoes
  - Residents wondered what the best action should be- should the path be paved? The space lit? The bush cleared? The slough filled in? The space kept natural?
- Comments regarding the Keystone Centre:
  - Residents of Parkview and Fairview Homes along 13th Street presently look out onto the green space; they would rather see trees than buildings
    - Residents who are mobile suffer from poor access to the green space- gate too narrow, no accessible paths
  - 13th and Richmond is an important corner and should not be developed
  - Why entertain development of the Keystone Centre green space when a master plan is being prepared for the city's green spaces?
  - The present Keystone Centre park is beautiful

- There is a concern that the city (??) is only looking at dollars when considering the fate of the Keystone Centre grounds
- Concern over the lack of public information regarding the Keystone Centre and its plans- similar situation with Curran Park- many people were not aware of the sale until it was complete.
- Question about Curran Park:
  - If the city couldn't run the park profitably, why is a private developer purchasing the site in the belief they can turn a profit?
    - Brian indicated that the money saved from operating Curran Park can now be redirected to other green spaces. Brian also noted that the owner of the park is planning to continue to operate the campground and pool, open to the public
    - Curran Park an example of a private/public partnership, an idea the city is actively pursuing with a number of projects
  - Question was asked: are there any guarantees that Curran Park will be operated as it is now?
- More comments regarding the Keystone Centre:
  - Ball diamonds presently used; park is used for walking- people and dogs.
  - There is already a deficiency of green space in the neighbourhood, with the development of the adolescent psych centre on the Ag Extension property.
  - Keystone is important to and used by all residents of Brandon
  - The question that needs to be asked is: what can the Keystone be best used for- as a green space?
- Comment on the Brandon Mental Health Centre Site:
  - Concern over the future of this site: it is a pleasant place to go to, to look out over the valley and the city.
- Ideas for possible green space development at the Keystone:
  - Horse trailer facilities, with plug-ins, for tourists
  - Playground and/or paddling pool- one parent can take kids to playground while the other goes shopping at the mall.
  - Picnic areas
  - Walking area
- Dog walking
- Tobogganing
- Other comments regarding the Keystone Centre:
  - Concern raised that present state of poor maintenance in the open space sends the message: is this a park to be used?
  - Paying for parking could address budget shortfalls
- Comment from Councillor Dave Burgess (South Centre), Keystone Board President:
  - Board sees the grounds as being 'fenced in'; would like to see the grounds opened up to the outside
- Other comments and questions:
  - New parks should have greater visibility; at least 2 ends of the green space should be open
  - What is the relationship between Parks and Rec and Riverbank? Brian responded that the two organizations work very closely together
  - Since the costs of developing parks in new areas is ultimately passed on to homeowners, why not have the city /Westbran develop and maintain parks (they have experience, developers do not)
  - Would like to see donors to Riverbank recognized somehow
  - Maybe not a bad thing that Riverbank received no funding from the city this year.
  - Would like to see larger parks rather than a number of small parks (note: compared to earlier)
  - The extension of Aberdeen Avenue to 18th has dramatically increased traffic to the detriment of the community- traffic is being diverted from Richmond since no traffic lights on Aberdeen; further development east of Canadian Tire will add to traffic
  - Few parks in the East End
  - Larger parks, like Rideau, are good.
  - Some pathways are not paved well or are in poor condition- hard to rollerblade on- lowers mobility around the city for youth
- Comments about a skateboard park:
  - Skateboarders and rollerbladers are no different than baseball or soccer players- need a place for their sport.

- Keystone Centre would make a good location for a skateboard park. Dave Burgess responded that the Keystone Centre is looking into a skateboard park
- Mobile skateboard park- not successful
- Experience at Clear Lake- skateboarders want a safe park- with lights, good visibility
- Recycling bins along walkway in addition to trash containers

**COMMENTS FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PUBLIC MEETINGS:  
V ALLEY VIEW COMMUNITY CENTRE  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2001**

**QUESTION PERIOD**

- Comments regarding the funding of Green spaces
  - There needs to be a balance between fiscal responsibility and the provision of green space.
  - Will pay fair share for taxes- if budgeted properly (for things such as green space)
  - People can go elsewhere for lower taxes, but we should aim to make the quality of life good here so people will stay.
  - Money needs to be spent on all green space; not just the Riverbank. There are other parks and green spaces within the city.
- Comments regarding the Keystone Centre
  - Possible use of Keystone Centre grounds- for RV; could charge for use- others weren't sure if RV parking should be charged for (other parks have no charge)
  - Another possible use of Keystone Centre grounds- arboretum
  - The Keystone is a marvelous facility and it should be funded with tax dollars
  - Other possible uses at the Keystone Centre: basketball, benches.
  - The ball diamonds at the Mental Health Centre should be saved.
  - Would like to see a moratorium on the Keystone or any other green space being sold in the city.
  - Perception that the majority of citizens do not want to see development at the Keystone Centre.
- Comments about walkways, trails
  - Hydro interested in developing a walkway along Victoria from 17th street East to the Hydro Park and the Generating Station. the public is using the diamonds and facilities at the Hydro Park
  - Want to see connections between pathways in the city with the Riverbank trails
  - Trails don't go anywhere.
  - Trails would be used extensively if they moved pedestrians in the inner part of the city and other facilities (ie. Hospital)
  - There should be a walkway along Aberdeen beside the Cemetery
- Comment that there needs to be more green space in the South End.
- Comments about the Master Plan as a Development Tool
  - Concern that City Council might resurrect plans/proposals that have been defeated.
  - The Master Plan must have teeth, and City Council must take it seriously.
  - How do we document agreements on green space for council so future councils cannot change them?
  - Does the Master Plan have any teeth with respect to the Keystone and other green spaces?
- Comments regarding Natural Areas
  - Want to save the marshy area east of Canadian Tire.
  - There should be classifications (ie 1-5) for the protection of natural areas.
  - Concern that with the sale of Curran Park, control over the river bank itself is lost Brian responded that the sale of the Park did not include the strip immediately adjacent to the river.
- Concern that big-picture issues (ie. global warming' are not being addressed.
  - What are the values driving the green space plan?
- Comments regarding schoolgrounds:
  - The use of school grounds is limited (no dogs, no golf, no use after sundown).

- There should be some controls so that if a school comes down, the grounds can remain as open space/green space. The example of Sacred Heart school was given; concern that Fleming School and its grounds might meet a similar fate.
- Comments about defining/classifying green space:
  - Does it include all green space?
  - There must be a distinction between school grounds and other green spaces
  - Recognition that the cemetery is a green space
- Vandalism of park equipment an issue
- Community Needs for Green Space identified:
  - There should be areas where dogs are prohibited
  - There is a concern over the potential loss of green space with the impending development of the Mental Health Centre site.
- There is a need to look at how much green space is required per area of the city.
- Comments about developing/protecting green space:
  - Need to protect green space from commercial and/ or residential development.
  - Don't allow economic concerns to dictate green space decision making.
  - Negotiate specific conditions to restrict the loss of green space and trees when land is sold.
- There needs to be better maps- of green spaces and trails.
- Questions and comments regarding the process:
  - Are there opportunities for public input other than the open house process?
  - It was suggested that the draft master plan be posted on the internet.
  - The values which drive the plan should be clearly articulated.

**COMMENTS FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PUBLIC MEETINGS:  
NORTH END COMMUNITY CENTRE  
THURSDAY, APRIL 26**

**QUESTION PERIOD:**

- Concerns regarding the boat Launch:
  - Location, quality an issue. The launch itself is surfaced with gravel, and very steep. Cars have to accelerate hard to get up the launch; a problem since there is a pedestrian path nearby.
  - Brian responded that the city is presently looking at a different boat launch location Below the dam is dangerous because of low water levels, and within the city can cause conflicts (River Corridor is viewed as a passive space) There has been some consideration of a boat launch upstream of the water plant.
- Questions regarding the scope of project
  - Are we addressing all green spaces, both public and private?
    - Peter responded yes; however, the focus would be placed on city owned lands.
- Concerns about bridges:
  - Concern that IStH Street bridge is very unsafe for bicycles and pedestrians. The sidewalk is particularly narrow, and could benefit from a handrail. The bridge is an issue because the walkway on the north side of the river has been extended to the bridge to provide access south to Eleanor Kidd Park
  - 8th Street Bridge is also dangerous, for similar reasons This bridge is also an issue because the riverbank trails have now been extended south to the foot of the bridge
- Question about the status of the landfill at Optimist Park:
  - Brian responded that there have been plans to turn it into a park area, add parking along the lower levels.
- Questions and concerns regarding athletic facilities:
  - Brandon Mixed Slow Pitch: cant' get sufficient numbers of diamonds to handle the need.

- There is a concern over the possible loss of ball diamonds at the Mental Health Centre site.
- Simplot diamonds will help fill need, but will not address the overall problem
- There is a lack of information about the status, availability of the Simplot Millennium Park.
- Concern over flooding in Optimist Soccer Park- can the park be diked?
- Concern over poor parking in Optimist Park
  
- Questions about Heartland Livestock:
  - Are the stockyards going to relocate?
  - Can the stockyards be indicated as green space?
  
- Community Needs for Green Space Identified:
  - Would like to see pocket parks, a skateboard park
  - Off-leash dog park- belief that there is a need for one
  
- Concerns regarding maintenance:
  - Would like to see a reduction in overflowing garbage cans.
  - Maintenance levels are not high enough
  
- Question about mapping:
  - Why isn't the Rotary Cove land identified as green space?

Concerns regarding the Keystone Centre:

- Are they (the Board) going to sell land to developers?
- There should be more trees planted on the site.
- Perhaps the Board has chosen the wrong corner to possibly develop

## **APPENDIX H: SAMPLE SAFETY AUDIT**

The following sample audit from the City of Winnipeg has been provided for consideration. The audit has been excerpted from The Safety Toolbox, developed by the Winnipeg Committee for Safety. This toolbox also contains valuable information regarding the process of undertaking an audit, making and following up on recommendations.

# General Site Checklist

January 2001

Outdoors  Indoors

General Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Day of Week: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_  AM  PM

Audited By: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## 1. General Impressions

Why was this site chosen for the safety audit?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

What is your initial reaction to the site?

\_\_\_\_\_

What four (4) words best describe the site?

\_\_\_\_\_

Sketch the safety audit site in the space below or use a separate piece of paper.



## 2. Lighting

What is your general impression of the lighting?

Very Good  Good  Satisfactory  Poor  Very Poor

If the lighting is poor/very poor, is it too dark, too bright, etc.?

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Identify the location of burned out lights.

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Do trees or bushes obscure outdoor lighting?  Yes  No

If yes, where? \_\_\_\_\_

How well does the lighting illuminate:

	Good	Needs Improvement	N/A
Pedestrian walkways	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Directional signs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pay phones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entrance ways (exterior)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\*Reminder: Identify specific locations of lighting problems on the sketch.

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\* Remember to include the location(s) on the sketch





**3. Sightlines**

Is there anything blocking your line of sight ahead of you?

Yes  No

\*If yes, what is blocking your vision?

\_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Possible Assault Sites**

Are there places someone could easily hide?  Yes  No

\*If yes, what are they and where are they located?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Isolation**

Does the area feel isolated at the time of the audit?  Yes  No

What time of the day does it feel safe or unsafe and why?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Where is the nearest emergency service such as an alarm, security personnel, or telephone?

\_\_\_\_\_  Don't Know

Can you see a telephone or a sign directing you to assistance?

Yes  No

\* Remember to include the location(s) on the sketch



Is the area patrolled?  Yes  No  Don't Know

If yes, how frequently and by whom?

\_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**6. Escape Routes**

Can you find an escape route?  Yes  No

Is there more than one exit?  Yes  No  Don't Know

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Movement Predictors**

How easy is it to predict a person's movements (e.g., the route they must take)?

Very Easy  Somewhat Obvious  No Way of Knowing

Is there an alternative well-lit and frequently traveled route or path available?

Yes  No  Don't Know

Can you tell what is at the other end of the path, tunnel or walkway?

Yes  No

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**8. Signs**

Are there directional signs or maps that can help you identify where you are?  Yes  No

Are there signs indicating who to contact if there are maintenance concerns?  Yes  No

Do exit doors identify where they lead?  Yes  No

Is information posted describing the hours that the building is open?  Yes  No

Impressions of overall signage:  
 Very Good  Good  Satisfactory  Poor  Very Poor

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**9. Maintenance**

Does the place feel cared for?  Yes  No

\*Is graffiti on the walls?  Yes  No

In your opinion are there racist or sexist slogans/signs/images on the walls?  Yes  No

\*Are there signs of vandalism?  Yes  No

Is there litter lying around?  Yes  No

What are your impressions of maintenance?  
 Very Good  Good  Satisfactory  Poor  Very Poor

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\* Remember to include the location(s) on the sketch



**10. Overall Design**

If you were not familiar with the audit site, would it be easy to find your way around?  Yes  No

Does the place "make sense?"  Yes  No

Does the place feel abandoned?  Yes  No

What is your impression of the overall design?  
 Very Good  Good  Satisfactory  Poor  Very Poor

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**11. Positive Design Elements**

What things did you like about the site that tended to help make the area feel safe? Please give details (what, where, why, how, when):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





## **APPENDIX I**

### **THE INNOVATIVE PLAYGROUNDS RESEARCH PROJECT**

The following is an excerpt from a research project prepared by Hilderman Thomas Frank Cram for the Province of Manitoba, Department of Intergovernmental Affairs.

The summary report identifies the various types of play, defines the innovative playground, and illustrates exemplary playgrounds and play environments from around the world.

## 2.0 THE CURRENT STATUS OF PLAY & PLAYGROUNDS

### 2.1 Defining Play in the Environment

Play is something we all understand instinctively as a crucial part of our childhood years and even our adult life. But, although we understand play on a personal level, the definition of play on a more quantifiable level in relationship to designing play environments should be explored.

Lady Allen of Hurtwood wrote in her 1974 book, *Planning for Play*:

*When we think of play opportunities for all ages we should never forget that play is not a passive occupation. For children and young people it is an extension of their desire to make their own discoveries in their own time and at their own pace (p. 2).*

Since this time many social scientists have developed models for types of play and the changing role of play as children develop into adults.

#### The Role of Play Activities

The definition of play, listed below, is a synthesis of current research on children's play.

Hodgkins (*Childhoods Domain*, 1986, p. 13) identifies four developmental stages which help children understand the world around them:

Enactive Development:	The actual use of an object
Iconic Development:	The investigation of a model or drawing (a representation)

Symbolic Development:	The modification of real objects into language and abstraction
Interpersonal Development:	The communication of all these ideas with others

Children must move through these stages of perception as they grow. These stages are all nourished by the environments children experience, from home to school, and especially, the place of free thinking and association – the playground.

Children grow and change through these developmental stages by interaction with the world and each other. Researchers have identified four types of play that provide children with the experiences they need to grow and develop:

#### 1. Cognitive Play or Creative Play

- *Type of play activity where ideas are tested and the environment is manipulated.*
- *This type of play is a key factor in the development of imagination and logical thinking.*
- *Activities can include: digging, molding, shaping, constructing, demolishing, discovering, changing.*

#### 2. Active Play or Physical Play

- *Type of play where physical skills are honed and developed.*
- *This type of play is crucial to the growth of a child's body and mobility.*
- *Activities can include: balancing, coordination, endurance, strength, depth, speed, accuracy, stillness, patience.*

### 3. Group Play or Social Play

- *Type of play where the dynamics of human interaction and relationships is developed.*
- *This type of play is a key factor in the development of interpersonal skills and identity.*
- *Activities can include: group play, talking, laughing, pretending, acting, learning from others, leading, following.*

### 4. Individual Play or Quiet Play

- *Type of play where the sense of self-reliance and identity are pondered and realized.*
- *This type of play is crucial to developing private and personal views and to developing identity.*
- *Activities can include: daydreaming, sitting, thinking, observing, imagining.*

It has been recognized that children need to engage in all four types of play in order to grow as people and enjoy the time of childhood.

As James Garbarino, of the Erikson Institute for Advanced Study in Child Development, states:

*Child's play is distinguished from adult games in that it is not the basis for any work or production. It is geared to fantasy as a vehicle for processing experience, testing hypothesis about self, and the world and just plain having 'fun' (The Ecological Context of Play, p. 17).*

### The Role of the Environment in Relation to Play Activities

Robin C. Moore stated in his book *Childhoods Domain*:

*...development and environment are reciprocal, the individual is not only influenced by but also influences the environment and has an inner need to do so (p. 8).*

It is not enough to define play in a vacuum. Play and the changing modes of play as children grow are directly related to environments that range from the domestic home to the wider region.

Boch and Pilgrim have developed an ecological model of the four environmental systems that impact the play environment:

**Microsystems:** Places where children inhabit and the activities related to immediate family and friends. These environments and their qualities are especially important for young children.

**Mesosystems:** This environmental system involves community associations. Here the linkage between the microsystem and neighbourhood play spaces is the key. These are the environments where most playgrounds are physically built, such as school, community centres, plazas, parks.

**Exosystems:** Social structures and governmental structures in which children cannot or are not often allowed to participate. These are policies, demographics and cultural variations that determine the types of mesosystems that are created at the neighbourhood level.

**Macrosystems:** This environmental system relates to world views and the assumptions about children, childhood and the role of the environment in a child's life. These views change slowly and must be initiated at the other three environmental system levels.

The role of adults in the capacity of teacher, parent, caregiver, designer, planner or policy maker is to join with children in creating, judging, enriching and understanding play in the development of human competence at all ages.

## 2.2 ARE WE LOSING OUR ABILITY TO PLAY?

*In 1981, according to University of Michigan researchers, the average (American) school-age child had 40% of the day for free time – meaning hours left over after sleeping, eating, studying and engaging in organized activities. By 1997, the figure was down to 25%. (Time Magazine, April 30, 2001, Canadian Edition).*

These statistics indicate that children's lives are more structured and scheduled than ever before. There are fewer and fewer opportunities to just 'goof off' and have fun in an unstructured, non-organized way. Places no longer exist where children can spend time on their own (without the watchful presence of adults) to make discoveries and experience what is now referred to as 'old-fashioned' play time. Doing things like making pretend play houses out of cardboard, exploring the vacant lots or the bush near by, hanging out with friends in the park or playing hide-and-seek are memories which most adults speak of with nostalgia but which many children today never get the opportunity to experience.

There is a concern that children today are losing the ability to play. There is less time, less space and much more paranoia about safety, dirt and the unknown.

Over-designed, expensive play structures have evolved in this new climate. John McKendrich, in his article Playgrounds in the Built Environment (Built Environment, Vol. 25, No. 1) states: "First, the assumption that playgrounds meet the play needs of children should be questioned and the hidden contract of 'play-in-playgrounds-but-not-elsewhere' must be acknowledged, then critiqued". He goes on to state:

*Playgrounds do not meet the needs of all young people; nor indeed do they meet all the needs of some young people. Second, it must be recognized that the non-participatory model of provision, through which adults produce standardized playscapes in similar settings for children, is of wider significance in children's lives. If adequate playgrounds can be designed without the assistance of children, play being the domain for which children have traditionally exerted most control over their lives, then there seems little scope or need to involve children as participants in design processes in the broader built environment.*

Parents are starting to recognize that there is an unhealthy aspect to an over structured childhood. The over structuring of what free time children have should not be relegated to adult designed programmed play structures.

### 2.3 SYNOPSIS OF CSA STANDARDS

In 1986, the Canadian Standards Association developed CSA Standard CAN/CSA-2614, A Guideline on Children's Playspaces and Equipment. This document was approved in 1990 as a National Standard of Canada by the Standards Council of Canada. The latest edition was released in 1998.

The purpose of the Standard is "to promote and encourage the provision and use of playspaces that are well-designed, well-maintained, innovative and challenging". The Standard recognizes "requirements for playspaces and equipment intended for use by children aged 18 months to 12 years".

The Standard is organized to define the requirements for materials, installation, structural integrity, surfacing, inspection and maintenance, performance requirements, requirements for access / egress, play space layout, equipment and identification and information for play equipment. It deals with recommendations for supervised play opportunities, the maintenance and inspection process, and it identifies potential defects and flaws play providers should be aware of, as well as, areas for consideration for maintenance and repairs. The Standard serves as an excellent guideline for meeting safety standards for children's play equipment and play spaces. It should, however, be recognized as a tool and guideline for the purposes for which it was designed.

### Universal Design

Universal design means inclusiveness for all community members consistent with aesthetically good design. It seeks to plan and develop an inclusive environment providing maximum choices. It is important to assure that all members of the community have access to our playgrounds and to play equipment as well as to quality play experiences within these environments.

The Universal Design Institute at the University of Manitoba is an excellent resource for acquiring information and assistance in designing universally accessible playgrounds and play equipment. Play for All Guidelines (MIG Communications, 1987, 1992) is a publication which provides planning, design and management guidelines for outdoor play settings for all children. This publication is organized and written to take the reader through the planning and design process based on universal design principles, beginning with child development objectives, through site analysis, to the establishment of site design criteria and the development of management criteria. It examines all aspects of the play settings from entrances to pathways, signage, fencing, manufactured play equipment, multipurpose game settings, surfacing, topography, vegetation, animal settings, water, play props, stage settings and gathering places. As well it considers play programming and risk management strategies. It is a useful document to consult as an inherent component of the planning process.

Manitoba has been a leader in the incorporation of universal design practices in all aspects of environmental development.



## 2.4 PLAY IN MANITOBA

While play and play opportunities have universal characteristics, children's play in different parts of the world is influenced by geography, climate, and cultural and societal conditions. Children in Manitoba experience greatly varying conditions within the province itself, and these special conditions must be recognized in any play space planning process.

Manitoba covers a large geographic area with varying types of geography and climate issues. Children play on the Prairies, the Precambrian Shield, the Boreal Forest and the Northern Tundra – all within Manitoba. Climactic conditions range from extremes of cold to extremes of heat, from dry, drought periods to wet, rainy periods. Our summers are short and hot and our winters are long and cold.

Manitobans are presented with both challenges and opportunities to develop play spaces and equipment which acknowledge and capitalize on our unique environment.

It is important to acknowledge the fact that Manitoba is a four season province and especially, that winter conditions exist for 6 months of the year in our most southerly areas and longer, further north. Manitoba children should have access to playgrounds and play equipment which are developed to accommodate and take advantage of these conditions.

Play equipment and play spaces should be adaptable to all weather use. Materials should be able to withstand weather changes and be comfortable and safe under all conditions. For example, the use of steel, for example, would present problems of being too hot to touch in the summer sun and dangerous to curious, wet, little

tongues in winter. At the same time, climbing structures in summer may be adaptable as frameworks for snow houses in winter.

Geographically, we can look for opportunities to capitalize on existing conditions. A lookout tower on the Prairies affords a child miles of view, a hill or rock wall in the Shield can be adapted for climbing.

Cultural and societal conditions can also present opportunities – adapting traditional games and images and incorporating them into a play space will make it more dynamic and more familiar to children. Communities of mixed cultures can take advantage of education and awareness opportunities in developing their play spaces.

An example of using cultural icons and images is evident in a playground being developed for an inner-city Winnipeg school and community centre with a large Aboriginal population. Traditional games and icons are incorporated into the design of the playground. The use of the cardinal colours and traditional layout according to the four directions are inherent in the design.

Manitobans are fortunate in our diversity of experiences – climatically, geographically and culturally. These factors should be employed to provide more dynamic and interesting play opportunities for our children.

### 3.0 INNOVATIVE PLAYGROUNDS: DEFINITIONS & FINDINGS

It has become increasingly popular, over the last 10 to 15 years, for schools, daycares and community groups to develop new playgrounds around pre-manufactured play structures. These play structures are well designed and well built but are extremely expensive and provide a limited set of play values and experiences. The recognition of the fact that most groups requiring play facilities have limited dollars and often little expertise in planning and design, has led to this investigation of alternatives to the stand-alone super play structure.

This section explores the innovative playground and the possibilities for alternative play solutions.

#### 3.1 DEFINING THE INNOVATIVE PLAYGROUND

Prior to discussing the range of innovative playground developments being built and designed around the world, it is important to establish the genesis from which all of these projects were considered and evaluated.

This study defines **innovative playground** as a space designed for multiple age groups or one particular age group. It is a playground that has developed environments and products that are a departure from the typical application of generic standards, layouts, environments, materials and implementation practices. An innovative playground does not need to be unique in every one of these aspects. It must, however, exemplify a unique trend or component in playground design.

To qualify as innovative, the playground planning and design process must:

- *extend beyond play equipment;*
- *be driven by clearly defined government or community initiatives;*
- *be accepted and integrated into the community;*
- *respect local culture and values;*
- *utilize the indigenous environment rather than suppressing it; and*
- *provide for choice in play*

## **APPENDIX J**

### **DRAFT MAINTENANCE STANDARDS**

The following draft standards provide for the full range of the Department's maintenance responsibilities. As necessary, they should be modified to suit the specific circumstances and requirements of the department.

For each maintenance activity, different standards have been identified, which correspond to the different greenspace classifications.

- LEVEL I: Predominantly city greenspaces (ie. high visibility, high use areas - not including Riverbank natural areas)
- LEVEL II: Community and neighbourhood greenspaces
- LEVEL III: Municipal open space
- LEVEL IV: Vacant lots maintained by city

### Greenspace Inspection

It should be the community's goal to have greenspaces in the city inspected on a regular basis to ensure the timely remedy of maintenance issues.

Activity	Criteria	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Greenspace Inspection	Frequency	Daily	2-3 days	2-3 days	As required to address complaint
	Response to problems, issues	Major problems immediately corrected by inspector if possible; highest priority	Referred to staff, medium priority	Referred to staff, low priority	n/a

### Turf Maintenance

It should be the community's goal to maintain turf in greenspaces to a level that is appropriate to the use and function of the greenspace, in an environmentally responsible manner.

Activity	Criteria	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Turf maintenance	Mowed height	6.3 cm (2 1/2")	7.6 cm (3")	7.6 cm (3")	15 cm (6")
	Typical mowing frequency	7- 10 working days	10-14 working days	14- 21 working days	Only in response to complaint
	Fertilizing	Minimum once a year	Minimum once a year	None	None
	Irrigating	As required	None	None	None
	Weed control	Continually weed free	No herbicide application	Herbicide application to boulevards; application in large areas in response to complaint	Herbicide application to major infestation in response to complaint

Activity	Criteria	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Turf maintenance (continued)	Renovation and repair	Repair as necessary; inspected during routine maintenance	Repair as necessary	Repair major damage in response to complaint	None
	Aeration and top dressing	In conjunction with fertilizing	In conjunction with fertilizing	Only where significant compaction exists	None
	Litter pickup	Continually litter free	Free of visible debris; smaller items in conjunction with mowing	Free of visible debris; smaller items in conjunction with mowing	Only in response to complaint

### Horticultural Maintenance

It should be the community's goal to maintain floral displays, shrub beds and trees that are healthy and neat, in an environmentally responsible manner.

Activity	Criteria	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Planting beds (general)	Litter and debris	Continually litter free	Visible litter checked and removed in conjunction with mowing	Visible litter checked and removed at least every 2 mowing cycles	n/a
	Mulching	Renew once annually to 10-15 cm (4-6" depth)	Renew once annually to 10-15 cm (4-6" depth)	Renew once annually to 10-15 cm (4-6" depth)	n/a
	Edging	Maintain smooth, clearly defined edges throughout the growing season	During bed preparation/ once a year	During bed preparation or rejuvenation only	n/a
Annual flower beds	Weeding frequency	Continually weed free	2-3 week cycle	As required	n/a
	Soil quality	Tilled prior to planting and once a month thereafter	Tilled prior to planting and once a month thereafter	Tilled only if severe compaction exists	n/a
	Soil crown	15 cm (6")	15 cm (6")	15 cm (6")	n/a

Activity	Criteria	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Annual flower beds (continued)	Fertilizing	High phosphorous type at time of planting; general purpose type every 2-3 weeks, when watering	High phosphorous type at time of planting only	High phosphorous type at time of planting only	n/a
	Removal of annuals	As soon as frost killed; highest priority	Removed in fall as schedules permit	As soon as frost killed; boulevards of high priority	n/a
Shrub beds	Pruning	Corrective pruning and shaping once a year in fall	Corrective pruning once a year in fall	Corrective pruning of major problems	n/a
	Pruning (hedges)	Shaping once a month during growing season, corrective pruning in fall	Corrective pruning and shaping once a year in fall, or in response to complaint (visibility)	Corrective pruning and shaping once a year in fall, or in response to complaint (visibility)	n/a
Tree maintenance	Major pruning of specimen trees	Regular and corrective pruning once annually	Regular and corrective pruning every seven years, or in response to complaint	Regular and corrective pruning every seven years, or in response to complaint	n/a
	Repairs of minor damage	Minor repair as noted through regular inspection	Minor repair as noted through regular inspection	Minor repair as noted through regular inspection	n/a
	Replacement	Replace immediately	Replace within one season of identification	As resources permit	n/a
	Weeding	Maintain weed free to edge of mulched tree well; inspect regularly	Maintain weed free to edge of tree well, low priority	Maintain weed free to edge of tree well, low priority; in conjunction with mowing if possible	n/a

### Baseball Diamonds

Activity	Criteria	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
General maintenance	Facility check	Check annually backstops, fencing & bleachers, or in response to complaint.	Check annually backstops, fencing & bleachers, or in response to complaint.	n/a	n/a
	Skinned infield	Min. 2" shale, surface free of bumps, minimum compaction	Min. 2" shale, surface free of bumps, minimum compaction	n/a	n/a
	Foul line marking	Mark with line paint	Mark with line paint once annually	n/a	n/a
	Benches and Bleachers	Structurally sound, no loose bolts. Seats smooth and painted	Structurally sound, no loose bolts. Seats smooth and painted	n/a	n/a
	Turf	To Level I standard	To Level II standard	n/a	n/a

### Outdoor Ice Surfaces

Activity	Criteria	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Speed skating oval, outdoor rinks	Surface quality	Smooth, free of cracks, gouges, bumps	Smooth, free of cracks, gouges, bumps	n/a	n/a
	Average flooding frequency	As required	As required	n/a	n/a
	Snow removal	As necessary, by volunteers	As necessary, by volunteers	n/a	n/a
	Lighting	Dusk to 11:00 p.m.	Dusk to 11:00 p.m.	N/a	N/a

## Playgrounds

Activity	Criteria	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
General maintenance	Sand condition	Some compaction, free of vegetation within fall zones; free of broken glass and other debris	Some compaction, free of vegetation within fall zones; free of broken glass and other debris	n/a	n/a
	Sand level	Maintained at specified level; minor depressions only	Maintained at specified level; minor depressions only	n/a	n/a
	Ponding	Minor ponding only	Minor ponding only	n/a	n/a

## Tennis Courts

Activity	Criteria	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
General maintenance	Facility check	Check annually fence and net for deficiencies	Check annually fence and net for deficiencies	n/a	n/a
	Surface	Sweep surface at season startup; surface free of major cracks	Sweep surface at season startup; surface free of major cracks	n/a	n/a
	Lines	Painted as required	Painted as required	n/a	n/a