



City of Brandon - *A PRAIRIE CITY* GREENSPACE MASTER PLAN

February 17, 2015



peter j. smith & company, inc.



Acknowledgements

City of Brandon Greenspace Master Plan Steering Committee

Perry Roque, Director of Community Services

Bryce Wilson, Manager of Parks Operations

Esther Bryan, Manager of Community Development

Angie Veilleux, Community Development Coordinator

Ryan Nickel, Principal Planner

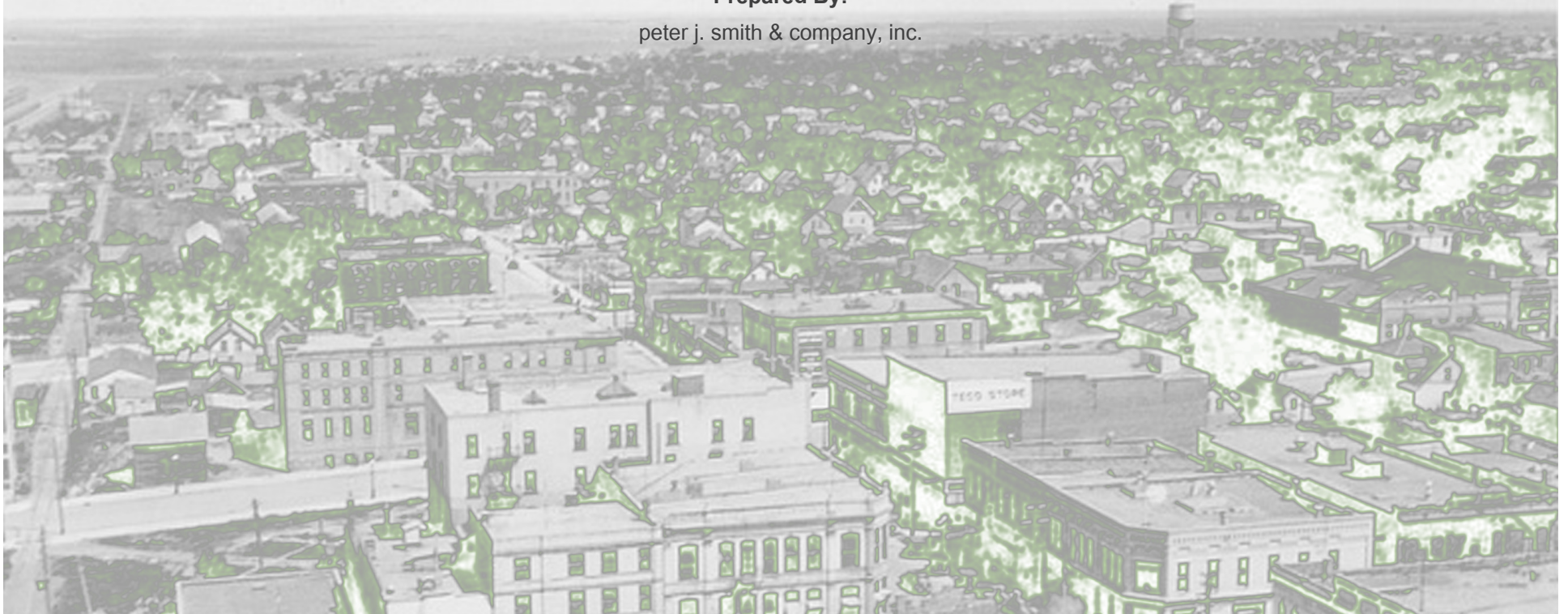
Andrew Wilson, Asset Management Coordinator

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Prepared By:

peter j. smith & company, inc.



A bird's eye rendering of Brandon circa the 1940's (Original Image Source: Peel's Prairie Provinces, a digital initiative of the University of Alberta)

GREENSPACE MASTER PLAN

February 17, 2015

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1. Executive Summary

The Greenspace Master Plan will guide the City of Brandon over the next twenty years and beyond. Projects will be implemented until the Greenspace Master Plan is again reviewed in five years. Projects are prioritized in a coordinated and financially equitable manner and include the development of new high quality greenspaces, the upgrade of existing parks and the completion of the trail system.

The purpose of the Greenspace Master Plan is to promote a healthy community, improve the character and identity of the City and promote economic development and tourism.

Recommendations

There are numerous recommendations for greenspace projects large and small, immediate and long range.

- The implementation plan directs Mayor, Council and staff to budget for strategic projects that build on a larger more functional and integrated system
- Long term implementation is directed through policy, prototypes and guidelines developed to aid future development
- Mayor, Council and staff should use the document as a guide when a new park is proposed, budget is available, land is available, demand arises, or new land development occurs as the plan offers long range vision and detailed implementation
- In the long term the City needs to build a system linked by walking and cycling of greenspace and facilities with a common design and theme

To this end, greenspace should be highly visible making visitors and residents aware of the system as they travel through the community.

These recommendations and guiding actions are designed to promote the City of Brandon as a world class prairie city and a beautiful place to live, work and play.

Management

Recommendations regarding management include:

- The City needs to communicate their ideals and work with partners: the Brandon School Division, Brandon Riverbank Inc., Keystone Centre, other not for profit organizations and the development community in fulfilling a coordinated greenspace system.
- The City also needs to support a professional Recreation & Parks Services and Community Development departments understanding their mission based on the vision of the Greenspace Master Plan and supporting existing department building blocks toward a consolidated future.

Capital Improvements

A significant purpose of the Greenspace Master Plan is to determine deficiencies in the supply of greenspace and facilities.

Athletic Facilities

The first steps in building the system outlines community needs. These include adding the following facilities:

- Water activities
- Football
- Baseball
- Softball
- Soccer
- Junior soccer
- Beach volleyball
- Frisbee
- Basketball
- Tennis
- Multi-use courts

Relocation of existing flood prone facilities also needs to be addressed in the Greenspace Master Plan. These include:

- Tennis
- Softball
- Baseball

City Wide Facilities

Greater community needs are defined in two capital projects:

1. Sir Winston Churchill Park which will be developed as a city wide Celebration Greenspace
2. The City owned “Crystal Pits” and/or vicinity which will be developed as the first combined Activity/Celebration Greenspace

Trail System

The trail system has numerous gaps to be connected; in some cases requiring land acquisition to complete the system and trailhead additions to promote branding and community identity.

Master Plans

Master Plans include:

1. An update of the Assiniboine River Corridor Master Plan supported by Riverbank to develop a new long range vision for the river, Discovery Centre and surrounding lands
2. A Master Plan should be developed for Keystone Centre assisting existing management to guide future development of the site as a premier community and event greenspace



*Reconstructed prairie in the
Assiniboine River Valley*



View westward atop the 18th street bridge of the flooded Assiniboine River

Naturalization

To respond to the new normal, it is recommended to naturalize the flood prone areas of the river as the signature ecological feature of the City of Brandon. At the heart of this system is the Discovery Centre and site. All other existing groomed recreation facilities in the river corridor, such as sports fields and courts, will need to be relocated to new greenspace development.

Naturalization of flood prone areas along the Assiniboine Corridor will provide a new greenspace feature that defines the character of the community with prairie and bottomland forests, wildlife corridors, trails, river access points, interpretive nodes and a variety of uses that encourages interface between people and nature. This naturalization program will improve: overall corridor health, riverbank stability, natural heritage, biodiversity, water quality and reduce the impact of flooding. Similar approaches to their riverbank corridors are slowly defining other major western Canadian cities including:

Winnipeg, MB

The City of Winnipeg has a program of minimized maintenance practices protecting undisturbed sites and restoring disturbed sites to their natural heritage and ecological function. Various municipal documents support the stewardship of the river corridor and offer policy, management and recreational use.



Examples of naturalized areas in The City of Winnipeg

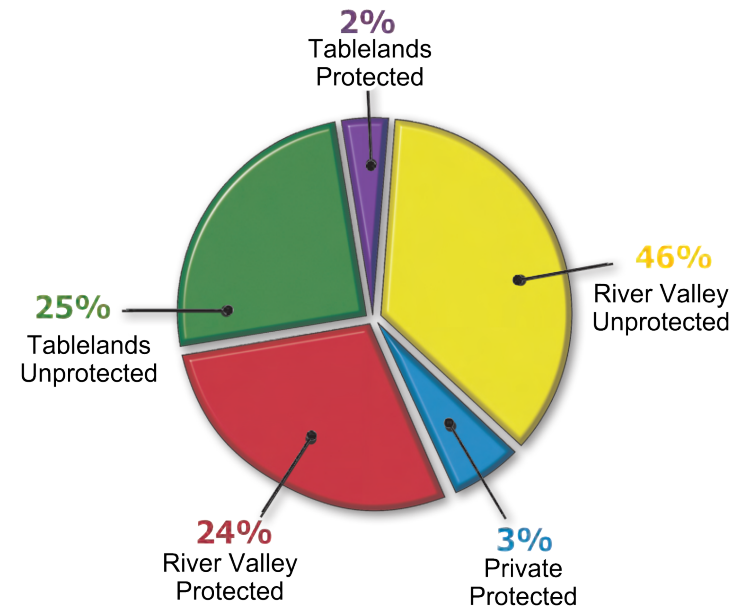
(source: Best Practices Handbook for Activities in and around the City's Waterways and Watercourses)

Edmonton, AB

In 2001, Edmonton presented “Conserving Natural Areas: A Framework for Urban Conservation” outlining a strategy for the conservation of Edmonton’s natural areas, river valley and ravine system. The purpose is to conserve sites so that future generations will have access to unique aspects of their natural heritage by stopping mowing and planting indigenous plants.



Edmonton’s Natural Areas (source: City of Edmonton Biodiversity Report 2008)



State of Edmonton’s Protected Natural Areas
(source: City of Edmonton Biodiversity Report 2008)

Calgary, AB

In Calgary naturalization programs date back to 1914 when riverbank protection was determined to be a priority. Today the City protects and actively manages natural areas through “Our Natural Areas Management Plan 1994” which was developed to protect the long term viability of natural areas.



Calgary’s Naturalization Signage and West Nose Creek Park
(sources: City of Calgary website, Botany.cz website)



Bow River, Calgary



2. Introduction

The Greenspace Master Plan is an opportunity to define the role greenspace plays in the future development of the community. Beyond planning for individual parks and open spaces and trails, the Greenspace Master Plan will help shape the City of Brandon and improve the quality of life for residents and the experience for residents and visitors.

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2.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Greenspace Master Plan is to enhance the quantity, quality, function and amenities of the greenspace in Brandon now and in the future. Greenspace includes: parks, trails, school campuses, community centres, riverfront lands, open spaces and connector streets. Greenspace is a critical component of community life and recreation. This resource contributes to community health and well-being as well as to the local environment and economy. The impacts of a successful Greenspace and Trail System can be felt by residents and tourists alike and embody the unique character of the community. The Greenspace Master Plan targets improvements over the next 10 years and puts forth guidelines and development concepts for the City to use as it grows into the next 20 years.



2.2 Background

Recognizing the significance of these community resources and understanding the impacts of almost one third of the City's parkland flooded in 2014, the City of Brandon initiated the master planning process to revise and update the 2002 Greenspace Master Plan. This new Greenspace Master Plan focuses on city wide efforts to deliver parks, recreation and trails resources to the community in a cohesive and targeted manner to best meet the needs of Brandon. To date, the City has fully utilized the objectives of the 2002 plan. As a result, that plan reached the extent of its usefulness. While the City has made every effort to provide services, programs and improvements to the community, it has been diligently working without an overall guide to development. With this 2015 Greenspace Master Plan, the City can work step-by-step towards a community vision for parks, recreation, culture, heritage and trails.

A great Greenspace System should feel effortless as each park, school and open space flows into the next with ease and connects the community with comfortable public spaces and trails to link all community attractions.

2.3 A Great Greenspace System

Brandon is a unique prairie city with the opportunity and available land to develop a great parks system as an identifier and organizing element. Through the 2015 Greenspace Master Plan, Brandon can look beyond the supply of recreation facilities and redevelopment of flooded parks to improving and creating a comprehensive Greenspace System that enhances the recreational potential, identity and health of the community. The Plan looks at the form and function of the City and places all activities in the best locations for them to build a bolder community brand and improve the supply of services.

2.3.1 Importance of Greenspace

Greenspace supplies fundamental and multiple benefits to the community and is used for:

- Community Economic Revitalization and Economic Development
- Community Social Engagement and Interaction
- Safer and Defined Neighbourhoods
- Green Infrastructure and Stormwater Management
- Interpretation and Education
- Public Health and Welfare
- Arts and Culture Programs and Expression
- Tourism, Community Identity and Pride
- Climate Change and Environmental Issues Management

These have all been incorporated into the Greenspace Master Plan to develop a creative and comprehensive approach to the supply of greenspace and recreation in the City of Brandon.



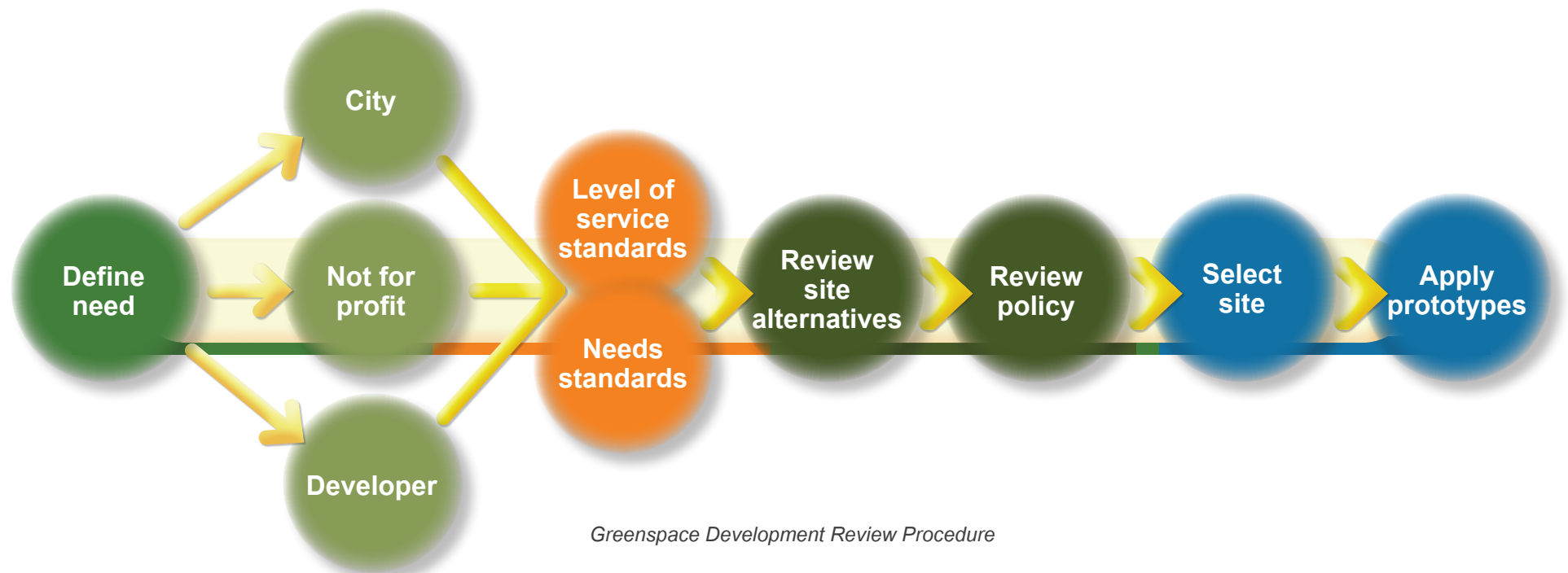
View out over the City from the Sir Winston Churchill Park and Playground (Hanbury Hill) greenspace

2.4 How to Use the Greenspace Master Plan

The Greenspace Master Plan is implemented through a variety of techniques, decision makers and participants in the community. The implementation “Tools” include:

1. Recommendations – recommendations outline various steps to be taken to improve the system and are acted on by Mayor, Council and staff
2. Short Term Milestone Development Goals – actions outlined for a ten year implementation horizon (the goals are revised as the plan is updated every 5 years)
3. Capital Improvements Mid/Long Term – actions are outlined in two projected expenditures matrices, prioritized as mid and long term (they exclude the Short Term Milestone Development Goals)
4. Acquisitions – acquisitions are properties that should be obtained to fulfill the replacement of facilities, develop new facilities and complete the links in the Greenspace System
5. Level of Service – outlines the standards for community facility needs and the spatial needs of greenspace classifications
6. Policy Framework – policy are guiding statements used to direct decision making early in the greenspace review process
7. Prototypes – prototypes demonstrate guidelines for the design and programming of the various greenspace classifications

The following Flow chart outlines the review procedure to develop Greenspace. Location and/or classification should be determined as outlined in the Greenspace Master Plan. The location and concept plan should be reviewed according to Greenspace Master Plan policy. When the site and use have been finalized the park master plan should be directed by the prototypes.



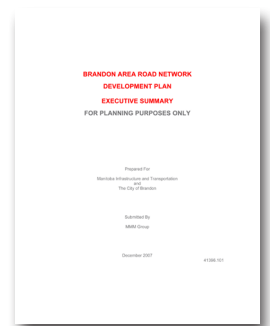
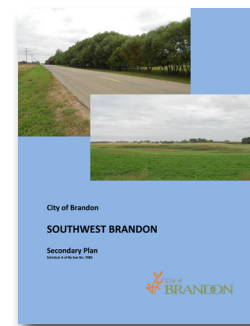
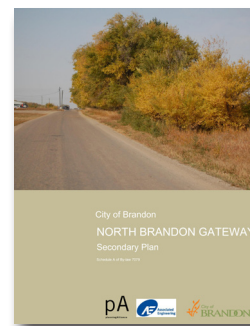
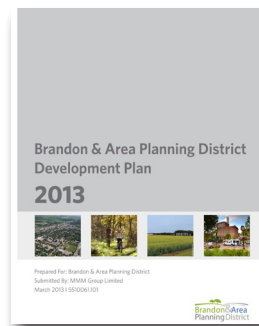
2.5 Alignment with City Plans

The Greenspace Master Plan is consistent with the City’s “Shaping Tomorrow Together Brandon’s Community Strategic Plan” and reflects the vision for a “healthy progressive community that respects people and promotes growth in a sustainable environment.” The Master Plan also ties to several key planning efforts developed for the City, including *The Downtown Hub Secondary Plan* and the *City of Brandon Community Centre discussions 2012*. While coordinating with these key planning efforts, the Greenspace Master Plan works in partnership with all plans and reports as completed for the City. An evaluation of all reports is provided as an appendix to the document.

2.5.1 Statutory Plan Elements

The Brandon and Area Planning District Development Plan (BAPD) and City of Brandon Secondary Plans provide enabling policies for the Greenspace Master Plan and include:

- Brandon and Area Planning District Development Plan 2013
- North Brandon Gateway Secondary Plan
- Southwest Brandon Secondary Plan
- Brandon Area Road Network Development Plan



2.5.2 BAPD Development Plan (6.2.7)

Intent

To utilize an overall master plan for public greenspaces and walking and cycling routes throughout the City of Brandon.

Policy

The City of Brandon Greenspace Master Plan shall guide the planning of existing greenspaces, and the prioritization of development for future greenspaces such as parks, ecological preservation areas, bike and walking trails, and open spaces. The Greenspace Master Plan should be reviewed and updated every five to seven years. The rural municipalities should establish Greenspace Plans within each of the communities prior to development is considered and approved.

2.5.3 Recreation Hubs

The proposed Recreation Hubs are based on the success of the Stanley Park model (as per the City of Brandon Recreational Facilities Master Plan) and the need to upgrade recreation opportunities/facilities. However, Hubs were selected based on their existing location regardless of size or access. The locations of these proposed six community Recreation Hubs take a different approach considering:

- Available greenspace
- Central to the population
- Within a 30-minute walk for residents

Each has a specific program centered on a spray park. The Greenspace Master Plan has developed a new systems model and classification system. The resulting system of Celebration Greenspaces now replaces the previously defined Recreation Hubs at new locations with larger greenspaces able to offer more and improved facilities within a 30-minute walking radius.



Spray Park at Rideau Park



3. The Future

The vision addresses changing demographics and future population needs, promoting a multicultural society and in the process making the greenspace of the City a venue for all season activity. The vision recognizes Brandon’s greenspace as an outdoor museum which celebrates and interprets the social, cultural and natural heritage of the City and region. Implementation of the Greenspace Master Plan will be phased in over the next 20 years to develop a unique and diverse Greenspace System serving the future population of the City of Brandon.

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The City of Brandon will strengthen its image as a community recognized for its:

- Regional and national sporting events in high quality athletic facilities
- Continuous trail system servicing schools, greenspaces and various destinations
- Promotion of the social and health benefits of exercise and recreation
- Prairie landscape, hospitality and friendliness
- Open river landscape and vistas to the Assiniboine River
- Role as a destination community within Manitoba and beyond

It is these characteristics that we build on to create a vision for the City of Brandon to move forward in the long range development of its Greenspace System.

3.1 Vision

The greenspace should be an iconic symbol and fundamental form of the City.

Brandon will offer a system that is integrated and linked where users can easily move from place to place; a system that promotes and enhances sporting events and activities, passive recreation and healthy lifestyles and unique cultural events and a system that is a major tourism generator and attraction.

Brandon has a unique opportunity to maintain its small city charm and enhance economic opportunities hosting outdoor events of arts, culture and sporting while serving local residents and visitors alike.

In addition to developing a healthier community and more activities for residents to enjoy, the community will focus on enhancing its identity and character promoting pride through an attractive and connected Greenspace System for all users.

The vision builds on all of the community's assets to define Brandon as renowned for its greenspaces of river lands, natural areas, parks, open space, trails, recreation facilities and its connectivity and inclusivity. The following outlines the goals and objectives the community strives for in developing a Greenspace System.

3.2 Goals and Objectives

The Greenspace Master Plan is guided and measured by the following five key goals. These goals have been developed through input received during the Project Advisory Committee and the Public Outreach program, including interactive public meetings and stakeholder interviews. Each goal is further defined by several related objectives.

GOAL

3.2.1 To bring the community together, focusing on the Greenspace System as a nationally renowned brand, promoting a healthy lifestyle and a greater awareness of heritage and culture

OBJECTIVES

- Increase awareness of the importance of the Greenspace System
- Encourage opportunities for art, culture and heritage
- Promote a comprehensive educational / interpretive program

GOAL

3.2.2 To offer a variety of connected and linked trails, open spaces and facilities, promoting a high quality, high profile, safe and secure Greenspace System

OBJECTIVES

- Enhance the identity and character of Brandon
- Develop an identifiable linked system of open space, trails, trail heads and identifiers
- Employ a comprehensive design language for all parks and open spaces unique to Brandon

GOAL

3.2.3 To address the needs of all user groups in the community and promote accessibility and equity in the availability and opportunity to use greenspaces

OBJECTIVES

- Enhance facilities and profile for user groups regardless of age, income, ethnicity or physical, mental or sensory ability
- Develop an open space and parks system as a key physical organizing and branding element of the City
- Provide facilities and amenities that accommodate all users and year round use

3.2.4 To develop iconic attractions and destinations within the community enhancing the identity and brand of Brandon and promote economic opportunities through a comprehensive Greenspace System

- Develop an interpretive program and trailhead signage distinguishing open space and trails
- Develop trails, facilities and open space that attract and promote tourism
- Develop quality programs and facilities that encourage regional/national athletic events

GOAL

OBJECTIVES

3.2.5 To protect floodplain areas, community investment in recreation facilities and promote the enhancement and understanding of the natural environment

- Maintain and preserve natural river ecosystems and function
- Protect riparian resources and enhance aquatic habitat and biodiversity
- Enhance appreciation and understanding of the natural environment through accommodating public access and providing educational opportunities minimizing flood prone facilities

GOAL

OBJECTIVES

3.3 Strategic Direction



The 34th Street trail segment gives the sense of being surrounded by nature, yet being adjacent to the road system. It is part of the city wide trail system; one of the many attractions which draw visitors to the City of Brandon

Greenspace in Brandon is a linked system of open spaces, parks and trails within the urban structure of the City. The system is an organized hierarchy that serves various functions and provides a range of services, facilities and circulation alternatives. Greenspace should be attractive, multi-purpose and appeal to a wide assortment of users. Traditional parks, trails and a variety of other open spaces and urban places are all part of the greenspace system. In Brandon, the focus of the greenspace system is the Assiniboine River corridor. At the centre of this signature natural corridor is the Riverbank Discovery Centre and surrounding grounds representing the City's feature celebration space.

The future development of greenspace in the City of Brandon should re-evaluate the long-established practice of maintaining and developing riverfront land for activity space in the form of sports fields. Instead, flood prone areas should be naturalized and provide a unique feature and resource for the City. Brandon's riverfront should be an area for passive recreation with trails and interpretation of the Assiniboine, its evolution and the species for which it provides habitats. Adjacent river corridor lands should be utilized for recreation including trails, natural play space, events, festivals and education.

The greenspace system incorporates and encourages the development of a full range of greenspace classifications serving all ages and neighbourhoods of the City. A unique feature of the system is the celebration greenspaces that define the City. Complementing the Riverbank Discovery Centre, the Greenspace Master Plan develops Sir Winston Churchill and Keystone Centre parks as celebration greenspaces. The Riverbank Discovery Centre and Eleanor Kidd Garden are linked through downtown and to Sir Winston Churchill and Keystone by a sculpture trail.



View of the ball diamond at Andrew's Field. The Greenspace System is the context which supports all other systems in the City of Brandon

3.3.1 Adoption

The Greenspace Master Plan should be adopted through resolution of the City of Brandon Mayor and Council.

3.3.2 Update

The Greenspace Master Plan should be reviewed on a regular basis and updated every five years.

3.4 General Recommendations

The following General Recommendations are broad view statements supporting the vision and an overview of greenspace development in the City of Brandon:

3.4.1 Naturalize Assiniboine River Lands

Purpose: *To minimize the impacts of major flood events and rehabilitation/maintenance costs.*

The City should maintain ownership of all their flood prone lands in the Assiniboine River Corridor, changing the focus from development for sporting activities to development for passive activities. Active recreation including athletic fields should be located away from the river in new multi-purpose activity Greenspaces. Flood prone river lands should be allowed to naturalize for passive recreation and as a unique ecological feature of the City of Brandon. The river and its corridor should become Brandon's natural green signature.

Assiniboine River and adjacent lands



3.4.2 Focus on Riverbank Discovery Centre

Purpose: *To support and maintain a signature event space proximate to the river corridor.*

The Centre should be supported as the hub for interpretation and appreciation of the naturalized riverbank as its mission statement suggests "The Assiniboine Riverbank Corridor shall be a gathering place, connecting people and nature". This successful venture is a unique community resource promoting tourism and the importance of the Assiniboine River and its ecology. As a hub of the City's trail network it advances healthy lifestyles and exercise. Its location serves as a venue for entertainment, community celebrations and gatherings.

The Riverbank Discovery Centre





Eleanor Kidd Park and Gardens showing damage from the 2014 flood

3.4.3 Maintain Eleanor Kidd Park & Gardens

Purpose: *To develop anchors on both sides of the Assiniboine River enhancing the connection to downtown.*

Eleanor Kidd Park & Gardens is a significant riverfront greenspace system feature. It should be maintained and enhanced as a destination garden in the surrounding naturalized landscape. This could require re-alignment of the dike or alternative remediation. Access and gateway branding should be enhanced. If possible, a pedestrian bridge should be connected to the Discovery Centre and a pedestrian link developed to the downtown Hub.



Picnicking at Rideau Park

3.4.4 Promote Greenspace for All Age Groups

Purpose: *To improve the identity and appearance of the extensive greenspace in the City encouraging physical activity and a healthy lifestyle.*

Classifications of greenspace should not be viewed as defining a singular use, such as field sports or schoolyard. All greenspace development should have the street appearance of a park providing walkways, seating areas, interpretive plaques and plantings inviting public access and use.



Play area at Sir Winston Churchill Park

3.4.5 Promote Greenspace for Children's Play

Purpose: *To increase opportunity for social interaction, healthy play and strengthen the sense of neighbourhood.*

All greenspace, regardless of classification, should provide play areas for children. With this recommendation, these greenspaces should include age specific playgrounds and tot lots that are accessible and within an approximately five minute walk to all residents of Brandon.

3.4.6 Maintain Recreation Centre Land

Purpose: *To preserve scenic river land for future generations.*

The Assiniboine River corridor is the City's greatest greenspace resource, therefore its adjacent lands should be owned by the City. The Recreation Centre land is an anchor in the City and should be maintained. If the use of the land changes, the flood prone land should be naturalized along with all other lands within the flood prone areas in the river corridor and the remainder of the land developed as a Celebration Greenspace.



Golf Course during 2014 flood

3.4.7 Develop a Model Multi-use Activity/Celebration Park

Purpose: *To replace the facilities from flood prone areas and demonstrate the role of a mixed use signature park in the design of the City.*

There is a need to relocate and add athletic fields that are of high quality and not impacted by flooding. A multi-purpose Activity and Celebration Greenspace should be developed at the City owned Crystal Pits site as a model and regional destination on the south side of the river to replace flooded facilities. Other Activity/Celebration Greenspaces should be strategically located with respect to the four quadrants of the City so that new community and sports functions and fields are generally within a 30 minute walk for all City residents.



View across valley from Crystal Pits

3.4.8 Develop a Premium Celebration Greenspace

Purpose: *To enhance the role of the greenspace system and create a tie between the new developing area to the north and the downtown.*

In conjunction with and enhancing the programming at the Riverbank Discovery Centre, Sir Winston Churchill Park (Hanbury Hill) should be developed as a celebration greenspace. The park offers a panoramic view over the City and a premium view from the Downtown. It is also located proximate to Trans Canada Highway #1. The greenspace should be developed as another regional attraction, a Celebration Greenspace potentially offering a First Nations or multi-cultural interpretive facility, a large amphitheatre and a destination splash park. Sir Winston Churchill Park should be a signature greenspace for arts, culture and entertainment with an anchor facility.



View from Hanbury Hill

3.4.9 Enhance Public Use of Keystone Centre Event Grounds



Stage set-up on event grounds

Purpose: To enhance community identity and promote the site use, for all members of the community, of an existing centralized facility.

The Keystone Centre site is one of the most significant greenspaces in the urban area of the City and promotes itself as the “centre” of the City. The grounds should be redeveloped to maintain and enhance the current function as a unique event space and incorporate a landscape that supports multi-purpose, year-round use. The Keystone Centre site should be viewed as a focus of the community, appear park-like from the perimeter and function like a Central Park.



Event Grounds Display Building



*Existing street frontage along Richmond Avenue
(edges of grounds should be landscaped with trees/shrub masses)*



Potential Sculptures along 8th Street

3.4.10 Develop Brandon Sculpture Trail

Purpose: To link the north upland and Keystone through the downtown and the Discovery centre.

As a unique enhancement to the City’s identity and branding, a sculpture trail should be developed. It should start at the proposed interpretive museum in Sir Winston Churchill Park on Braecrest Drive and proceed downhill and through the Assiniboine valley to the downtown hub and on to Keystone linking the Discovery Centre, Eleanor Kidd Park and Gardens and the commercial anchors on both sides of the river. The sculpture trail should be a tourist attraction and a signature pedestrian link strengthening the downtown hub.

3.4.11 Promote Parkways and Gateways

Purpose: *To preserve scenic panoramas and river land for future generations.*

Both transportation corridors from Trans Canada Highway into the City of Brandon, at 1st and 18th Streets, should be viewed and developed as parkways. They should be signature gateway entrances at the edge of the bluff, accenting the views over the City. Further secondary gateways from the south, east and west should be developed in conjunction with the Greenspace Systems Plan.



Entering the City of Brandon along 18th Street from Highway 1

3.4.12 Strengthen Community Identity and Character

Purpose: *To improve awareness and broaden the role of the Community Services Department in enhancing the profile of the City.*

The City of Brandon, via the Community Services Department, should improve the image and brand of the City through the enhancement, development and maintenance of the Greenspace System and its role in the provision of greenspace, identity, recreation, economic development and tourism including:

- Gateways, Medians, Parkway
- Trails and Trailheads
- Uniform Identification Signage
- Heritage and Interpretation
- Arts and Culture
- Multiculturalism



Gateway Signage on Highway 1

3.5 Specific Recommendations

The following Specific Recommendations are detailed actions and statements supporting the vision and greenspace development in the City of Brandon:

3.5.1 Parkland Dedication

The City of Brandon should approve a By-law with respect to payment of cash-in lieu contribution for public reserve purposes at the time of subdivision or rezoning approval

3.5.2 Reorganization

Recreation services should be incorporated into greenspace as part of Community Services requiring a Recreation Master Plan aligned with the Greenspace Master Plan. As the owner of the signature recreation facilities in the community, Brandon should be directing their programming; meeting the needs of the diverse community.

3.5.3 Additional Personnel

Staff positions should be created to initiate recommendations in the Greenspace Master Plan and assist with City planning and development. They are:

- Manager of Public Realm - focused on the future and identity (Landscape Architect)
- Manager of Recreation - developing a comprehensive recreation program (Recreation Planner)
- Purchasing Agent - in conjunction with purchasing overseeing contracts
- Urban Forester – oversee tree condition, maintenance and replacement (Forester)

3.5.4 Expanded Responsibilities

The enhanced role of Community Services should be understood to include community identity and character and therefore incorporates aspects of economic development and tourism enhancement. To this end a Wayfinding and Branding Plan should be developed to design and locate greenspace signage (parks and trailheads) and community directional signage.

3.5.5 Administrative Facility

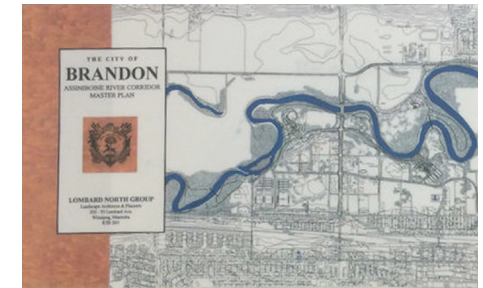
To strengthen its role in community identity and economic development, the Community Services “Greenspace and Recreation Department” should be considering a new administration facility for management functions. It could potentially be housed in the existing Canada Games Park and should be addressed in a Riverbank Master Plan. The facility should be incorporated as a gateway into the City and potentially be developed as an attraction with a greenhouse/conservatory open to the public.

3.5.6 Recreation Hub Articulation

Replace existing Hub designations with the “Celebration” Greenspaces in the Greenspace Master Plan hierarchy and as proposed in the “Systems Plan” and re-allocate existing funding toward proposed Celebration and Activity Greenspace.

3.5.7 River Corridor Master Plan

The last Master Plan for the Assiniboine River Corridor was developed in 1995. An updated Master Plan should be developed as a component of an area “Secondary Plan” addressing the vision and policy of the Greenspace Master Plan. The Assiniboine River Corridor Secondary Plan should consist of a detailed review of the areas for naturalization, methods of naturalization, flood prone areas and allowed activities. It should include: Riverfront, Discovery Centre, the “Flats”, administration facilities, Canada Games Park, surrounding land uses and management.



1995 master plan for the river corridor

3.5.8 Sir Winston Churchill Park Master Plan

The existing park is a preeminent location within the City of Brandon offering views over the river, the downtown and views from the downtown to the north face. The location is proximate to the Trans Canada Highway and central to the north Brandon growth area. The greenspace should be programmed as a celebration park and destination within the region, a flagship greenspace in Brandon, enhancing the role of the Canada Games Sportsplex and the Discovery Centre.

3.5.9 Greenspace Play Areas

When developing new greenspace play areas or re-developing existing playgrounds, structure and organize the play spaces around a circulation system, central plaza space or other elements. Create relationships among play equipment and their surroundings. Where the context is suitable, offer natural play areas with meadows, creeks / streams, and trees, incorporating natural play elements (such as rope climbing structures, rope swings, ‘forts’, timber climbing structures) within this environment.



Examples of natural play elements

3.6 Projected Expenditures

Improvements are based on the analysis of all greenspace and existing conditions, projected needs and demand analysis and public input. They are recommended targets developed for the Greenspace Master Plan. They are to be used for guidance when formulating the budgeting as all improvements must be approved through the budget process.

3.6.1 Phasing Plan

Park improvements are phased in three time frames: short-term projects should be completed within ten years; mid term projects should be implemented between 10 and 15 years from plan adoption; and implementation of long term projects are most likely to happen after 15 years.

Short Term Projects

The following capital budget is based on a ten year implementation horizon. Standardized signage for all greenspaces is proposed to be implemented within seven years. (Note: Prices have been increased by about 20% for budgeting purposes)

Milestone 1 Development Goals		
GREENSPACE / LOCATION	PROJECTS	BUDGET EST.
City Hall Plaza	Landscaping, Clean-up	\$15K
Andrew's Field	Path	\$50K
Kin Park & Playground	Parking, Entry Improvements, Play Elements	\$200K
Wascana Drive Playground	Play Elements, Path	\$115K
Dinsdale Park & Playground	Naturalization	\$15K
Errol Black Park	Revise in conjunction w/ Bridge Work (Overlook, Seating, Play Elements)	\$170K
River Corridor	Master Plan (Re-structure land uses in corridor)	\$150K
Valleyview Community Centre	Master Plan (Develop as a model for community centre greenspace)	\$70K
Wayfinding & Signage	Develop wayfinding / signage strategy (4-yr implementation)	\$60K
Play Equipment	Parks (2)	\$150K
Trail System	Trail sections	\$150K
	Milestone 1 Total	\$1,145K

Milestone 2 Development Goals		
GREENSPACE / LOCATION	PROJECTS	BUDGET EST.
A.R. McDiarmid Park	Develop Park	\$150K
East End Paw Park	Water Service	\$30K
Valleyview Community Centre	Water Activities, Multi-use Rinks, Community Gardens, etc.	\$600K
Signage	As per master plan	\$50K
Play Equipment	Parks (2)	\$150K
Trail System	Trail sections	\$150K
	Milestone 2 Total	\$1,130K

Milestone 3 Development Goals		
GREENSPACE / LOCATION	PROJECTS	BUDGET EST.
Princess Park	Park Improvements (Washrooms, etc)	\$360K
Van Horne Avenue East Diamonds	Improve Facilities	\$240K
Parkdale Community Park & Playground	Play Equipment, Seating, Grading	\$230K
Wilnor Playground	Master Plan (Leisure Prototype, Re-grading for Drainage)	\$50K
Sir W Churchill Park & Playground	Master Plan (Including Amphitheatre, Museum, Water Park)	\$100K
Signage	As per master plan	\$50K
Play Equipment	Parks (2)	\$150K
Trail System	Trail Sections	\$150K
	Milestone 3 Total	\$1,330K

Milestone 4 Development Goals		
GREENSPACE / LOCATION	PROJECTS	BUDGET EST.
Coronation Park & Playground	Improve Dugouts, Extend Path	\$125K
Riverheights Pool & Playground	Path, Seating, Gazebo	\$220K
Westaway Playground	Path, Seating, Landscaping	\$40K
Multi-use Activity/Celebration Park	Master Plan to develop Crystal Pits Park	\$150K
Signage	As per master plan	\$50K
Play Equipment	Parks (2)	\$150K
Trail System	Trail Sections	\$150K
	Milestone 4 Total	\$885K

Milestone 5 Development Goals		
GREENSPACE / LOCATION	PROJECTS	BUDGET EST.
Canada Games Sportsplex	Removals, Community Garden, Natural Play Elements	\$150K
Empress Park & Playground	Play Elements, Landscaping, Path, etc.	\$180K
Laurence & Louise Playground	Play Elements, Removals	\$130K
Signage	As per master plan	\$50K
Play Equipment	Parks (2)	\$150K
Trail System	Trail Sections	\$150K
	Milestone 5 Total	\$810K

Milestone 6 Development Goals		
GREENSPACE / LOCATION	PROJECTS	BUDGET EST.
Frederick St Playground	Play Elements, Trees	\$95K
Lions Memorial Community Park	Path, Crosswalk	\$40K
Water Activities Park		\$450K
Signage	As per master plan	\$50K
Play Equipment	Parks (2)	\$150K
Trail System	Trail Sections	\$150K
	Milestone 6 Total	\$935K

Milestone 7 Development Goals		
GREENSPACE / LOCATION	PROJECTS	BUDGET EST.
Argyle Courts Playground	Water Activities, Play Area, Landscaping	\$155K
Garwood Playground	Play Elements, Landscaping, Path	\$120K
Keystone Habitat For Humanity Playground	Path, Landscaping, Play Elements / Ped/Bike Trails	\$35K
Park Community Common	Play Elements, Landscaping	\$70K
Queen Elizabeth Park & Playground	Naturalization	\$70K
Westview Park	Play Elements, Path	\$155K
Signage	As per master plan	\$50K
Play Equipment	Parks (2)	\$150K
Trail System	Trail Sections	\$150K
	Milestone 7 Total	\$955K

Refer to the appendix section 7.4 Projected Expenditures Mid/Long Term for planning purposes.

3.6.2 Acquisitions

To fulfill several goals of the Greenspace Master Plan and develop a comprehensive interconnected system that meets the future needs of residents, the City of Brandon should consider acquiring additional greenspace land in order to:

- Replace existing activity areas in the flood prone lands
- Complete and interconnect the existing trail system
- Meet the level of service requirements and initiate the conceptual systems plan

Strategic locations were identified for potential short-term acquisitions. These acquisitions are illustrated on the systems plan and summarized in the following matrix.

Rationale for Acquisitions

Acquisitions are needed to meet the current and anticipated requirements for City greenspaces to accommodate sports facilities, public gatherings and events spaces in key sectors of the municipal area to serve the surrounding residents.

Area #1 - Activity Greenspace to compensate for loss of Assiniboine Community College softball fields

Area #2 - Develop Activity and Celebration Greenspace to help meet athletic facility needs

Area #3 - Develop Activity and Celebration Greenspace to help to meet athletic facility needs

Area #4 - Develop Activity and Celebration Greenspace to help to meet athletic facility needs

Area #5 - Aggregate Ashley Neufeld Softball Complex with North End Park & Playground into a mixed use Activity Greenspace to help to meet athletic facility needs

Recommended Park Greenspace Acquisitions

Area	Purpose	Location	Approximate Size	Ownership
1	Activity Greenspace	NE of City centre (east of ACC fields, NE of Lori Road)	20 ha needed (56 ha parcel)	Provincial
2	Celebration & Activity Greenspaces	SE of City centre	25 ha needed	City/Private
3	Celebration & Activity Greenspace	SW of City centre	20 ha needed	Private
4	Celebration & Activity Greenspace	W of City centre	20 ha needed	Private
5	Activity Greenspace	Near City centre, S of river (E of Ashley Neufeld Softball Complex and N of North End Park & Playground)	Available ha (2.8 ,0.9, 0.1 & 0.2 ha parcels)	Private

3.7 Facilities Needs Analysis

As Brandon's population grows, its need for outdoor sports and recreation facilities will grow. Before those future facilities can be planned, a needs analysis is prepared to determine if the community's current needs are being met and if there are special circumstances to consider in facilities provision.

The tools to evaluate the supply of parks and recreation facilities include standards that are intended to provide a guide for the number of facilities required based upon population. The limitation, of course, to any standards is that they do not take into account the local trends, the climate, preferences and practices of a community. The standards should only be as guidelines and the result of the analysis must also reflect the public's input and any overwhelming issues that arise from a socioeconomic analysis.

Existing Athletic Facilities 2014					
Type of Facility	City	Non-City & Flood Zone			Total
		School	Private	Flood Zone	
Ball Diamond - Baseball	5	1	9	1	16
Ball Diamond - Softball	6	4	16	1	27
Basketball Court	2	36	2	0	40
Beach Volleyball	5	7	1	0	13
Cricket	0	0	0	0	0
Disc Sports	0	0	0	0	0
Football/Rugby Field	2	3	0	0	5
Golf Course	1	0	3	0	4
Lawn Bowling	2	0	0	0	2
Multi-use Court	1	5	0	0	6
Ice Rink	16	0	1	0	17
Pickleball	0	0	0	0	0
Pool - Outdoor	2	0	1	0	3
Skate Park	2	0	0	0	2
Soccer Fields	1	10	2	5	18
Soccer Fields -- Jr.	2	14	0	3	19
Spray Park	4	0	0	0	4
Tennis Court	6	2	0	4	12

In addition to the levels of service analysis based upon population, there are three additional elements to determine need. These are:

- Current supply of facilities
- Socio-economics of the residents of the community (see appendix)
- Community wants as established through the public input program

3.7.1 Current Supply of Facilities

As part of a thorough inventory of parks in Brandon, each park facility was cataloged and its condition noted. For the Brandon inventory, the supply of public facilities was compared with private facilities, and those owned by the public schools. A public facility is defined as one that is owned and operated by the City and available for use – usually without fee in the case of facilities such as ball diamonds and tennis and basketball courts – on a walk-on basis most or all of the time. Private facilities may be on land owned by the City but operated privately and on college and university campuses. School facilities are located on the campuses of City schools. Because of the tremendous impact of the Assiniboine River floods on sports and recreation facilities, those features that are located wholly within the flood plain were separately identified and not included in the current supply.

3.7.2 Public Input

A thorough public input program was developed specifically for the Master Plan to identify community wants and needs.

The elements of the public input program are:

- A Vision Session was conducted with the Steering Committee to initiate discussions about the future of Brandon's Greenspace System.
- A series of small group interviews was held to ensure key stakeholders are involved in the process. Participants from sports and recreation user groups, cultural and institutional parks users, economic development and others were consulted.
- A public meeting was held in August to gather input on the physical potentials of the Greenspace System and to locate potential future parks and trails.
- A public open house was held in November to introduce residents to some of the findings of the Master Plan and to get feedback.
- More than 400 people responded to a community survey conducted to gather input on how residents use the Greenspace System, what additional features they would like to see in the system and the activities in which they are interested in participating.



Participants working on the map exercise during the first public meeting

A summary of the public input is located in the appendix section 7.6 Public Outreach Summary.

3.7.3 Levels of Service Facility Standards

The accompanying table summarizes the provision of public facilities measured against the standards. The Greenspace Master Plan shows the following immediate needs to serve the current population:

- Five baseball diamonds
- Four softball diamonds
- Eight basketball courts
- Five beach volleyball courts
- Two ultimate Frisbee fields
- One multi-use football/rugby field
- Four multi-use courts
- Two regulation and eight junior soccer fields
- Six water activities
- Four tennis courts

		Current Need		Estimated Future Need				
Type of Facility	Existing Quantity			2014		2020		
		Need per 50,000 Pop.	# Required to meet Needs	Need per 55,000 Pop.	Additional Needed	Need per 60,000 Pop.	Additional Needed	
Ball Diamond - Baseball	5	10	5	11	+1	12	+2	1/5,000
Ball Diamond - Softball	6	10	4	11	+3	12	+4	1/5,000
Basketball Court	2	10	8	11	+1	12	+2	1/5,000
Beach Volleyball	5	10	5	11	+1	15	+5	1/5,000
Cricket	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1/100,000
Disc Sports	0	2	2	2	0	2	0	1/20,000
Football/Rugby Field	2	2	1	3	0	3	0	1/20,000
Golf Course	1	1	0	1	0	2	+1	1/50,000
Lawn Bowling	2	2	0	2	0	2	0	1/25,000
Multi-use Court	1	5	4	6	+1	6	+1	1/10,000
Ice Rink	16	10	0	11	0	12	0	1/5,000
Pool - Outdoor	2	2	0	2	0	3	+1	1/20,000
Skate Park	2	2	0	2	0	3	+1	1/30,000
Soccer Fields	1	3	2	4	+1	4	+1	1/15,000
Soccer Fields -- Jr.	2	10	8	11	+1	12	+2	1/5,000
Water Activities	4	10	6	11	+1	12	+2	1/5,000
Tennis Court	6	10	4	11	+1	12	+2	1/5,000

The current and projected needs to serve the anticipated growth in population over the planning horizon are extrapolated in the above summary table.

Discussion about Specific Facilities

Ultimate Frisbee

Ultimate Frisbee is a growing sport in Brandon. The Westman Ultimate Disc League has eight teams and also sponsors pickup games. Through the public input program, the participants expressed a need for four fields. An accepted standard is one field for 20,000 of population and two fields are recommended at this time. Should the sport expand quickly, the demand may indicate additional fields or reserved play in unprogrammed greenspaces.

Cricket

Cricket is another growing sport in Brandon. In Fall 2014, local players are tied for first place in Division 2 in Winnipeg, the closest cricket complex. There is an active proposal for a new complex to replace soccer pitches in Optimist Park lost to flooding that would also include cricket, football, rugby and ultimate disc play. This facility would be funded by the user groups. The City may want to consider building a public cricket field to accommodate the growing sport, regardless of whether the proposal for a private field comes to fruition.

Multi-use Court Sports

Multi-use courts can accommodate a number of sports. These include pickleball, which has emerged in just the past several years in Brandon that currently shares tennis courts with the Wheat City Tennis Club. Futsal and net ball are other nascent court sports that can be accommodated on multi-use courts along with tennis, volleyball, basketball and roller hockey. A local pickleball leader suggested that outdoor ice rinks could be graded and packed for summertime play.

Ice Rinks

Brandon appears to be overbuilt for ice rinks when compared with the level of service standard. The standards should not be construed to suggest removal of facilities. The Brandon rinks are shared between ice hockey, figure skating and recreational skating. In a climate with a good winter, outdoor skating will naturally be a popular way for residents to get outside and move in the cold.



Wheat City Tennis Club courts



Example of an outdoor multi-use court



Central Community Centre hockey rink



4. Greenspace Classification System

Greenspace ranges in size, function, character and experience and should provide a variety of opportunities and activities to accommodate all of the needs and user groups in the community within an acceptable walking distance.

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4.1 New Approach

Greenspaces provide a system of parks, open spaces and trails to supply residents and visitors with a diversity of activities and outdoor experiences. By providing a range of recreational, cultural, environmental and leisure activity opportunities the community can better address the varied wants and preferences of the population. The largest percentage of residents typically use parks and recreation facilities for passive outdoor space. To ensure that parks and open spaces provide a variety of activities, the Systems Plan takes a new approach to the traditional classification of parks.



4.2 Existing Classification of Greenspace

The 2002 Greenspace Master Plan recommended: “implement classification system for greenspace to assist in the management, enhancement and development of greenspace amenities”. Those classifications addressed size and service area only and result in a narrow definition of parks and their character and programming. Traditional classification of parks tends to develop single use facilities that fulfill the needs of select number of users. While they may accommodate sporting and special events they have limited appeal to the public at large and almost no appeal to visitors. The result is that greenspaces are no longer integral elements of the form of the City or the experience it offers. They no longer serve as the focus of communal space or as a venue for public gathering, meeting or celebration. In many instances, they are no longer beautiful places that provide relief from the urban environment and they have lost their importance in the City building process. The existing greenspace classifications were to be defined as: Neighbourhood Greenspaces, Community Greenspaces, City Greenspaces, Municipal Open Spaces and Natural Areas. Descriptions of these classifications are as follows:

- 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

Existing City greenspaces were not redefined or categorized based on the above classifications system. Since the system has not been implemented and is generally based on activity and size, a new comprehensive classification system has been developed to define greenspaces based on function and character. The new classification systems is the building block for the systems plan giving Brandon the opportunity to readdress how parks are viewed in the community and develop the park system as a critical component of city building.



View to the northeast across the river valley from the Riverbank Discovery Centre, which was formerly classified as a Natural Area and now is to be a Celebration Greenspace

4.2.1 New Greenspace Classification System

The following is a new system for classifying greenspaces in Brandon. While supporting the effective elements of the traditional approach formerly described, this new approach is character based and focuses creating a diversity of opportunities and activities. It promotes parks as integral components of the form of the City and emphasizes access, visual quality and connectivity. It is fundamentally based on the belief that parks should be more than places for passive or active recreation. Rather, parks are a means to improve the social, cultural, environmental and economic well being of a community. This approach elevates the role of parks in the future of the City.

New Greenspace Classifications

Type	Activity Greenspace	Celebration Greenspace	Connector Greenspace	Cultural Greenspace	Leisure Greenspace	Environmental Greenspace	Educational Greenspace	Community Garden Greenspace	Community Centre Greenspace
Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centralized activity focus Flat/bermed seating Maintained & naturalized Multi-use activities Open & vistas Planted perimeters Specific use areas Well organized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active Continuous & linked High profile/visible Linked nodes Monumental & urban River view Serviced Vistas & viewsheds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Branding Hierarchy Linear Linked nodes Maintained/naturalized Orientation/wayfinding Recreationway Visible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brandon Identity Historical Informative Inspirational Landscape/trees Organized Unique 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accessible All ages Maintained Mix of open and treed areas Safe & inclusive Sun/shade Unique to neighbourhood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low maintenance Naturalized Passive River/stream corridor Shoreline Valley land/flood prone land Wildlife habitat Wooded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All ages Flat/bermed seating Maintained & naturalized Open & inviting Specific use areas Well organized Wooded & planted perimeters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpretation/information Intimate Neighbourhood identity Open & secure Organized Planted & trees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active Community identity Group activity Interpretation/education People place
Function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competition Large gatherings Major sports activities Sports & athletics Tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accents river Festivals Large gatherings Panoramic views Tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connected open space system Ecology Linkage Orientation Tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Culture & heritage Events History Variety of gathering sizes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ecology Health, play & recreation Neighbourhood information Primary passive recreation Small gatherings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Habitat / biodiversity Nature appreciation Nature preservation Small group gatherings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Educational programs Exercise & health Neighbourhood support Sports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community interaction Ecology Education Food source Teach about food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art & culture Connections to parks Identity/branding Senior activities Youth activities

New Greenspace Classifications (continued)

Type	Activity Greenspace	Celebration Greenspace	Connector Greenspace	Cultural Greenspace	Leisure Greenspace	Environmental Greenspace	Educational Greenspace	Community Garden Greenspace	Community Centre Greenspace
Primary Facilities (required)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concessions • Field & court sports • Parking • Pathways • Signage • Washrooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All season activities • Amphitheatre • Festival space • Signage • Unique to site activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seating • Signage • Trailhead • Trail/pathways • Wayfinding features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gathering space • Interpretation • Memorials • Pathways • Public art/ sculpture • Signage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathway/trail • Playground • Seating • Signage • Unorganized sports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration • Interpretation • Naturalization • Trailhead signage • Trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field & court sports • Interpretation • Perimeter trail • Playground • Seating • Signage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking • Raised gardens plots • Seating • Services/water • Shade & fruit trees • Signage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Centre • Connection to street • Courts • Ice rinks • Information kiosk • Seating • Signage
Secondary Facilities (allowed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community gardens • Dome/bubble • Picnic facilities • Playground • Public art • Skate/bike park • Water activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Museum • Parking • Picnic facilities • Public art/ sculpture • Spray pad • Trails/ promenade • Washrooms/ Concessions • Water feature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise stations • Interpretation • Overlook / Plaza • Parking at nodes • Playground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event space • Horticultural display • Playground • Shelter/ washrooms • Spray pad • Themed gardens • Themed play area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community gardens • Information kiosk • Interpretation • Multi-use court • Public art/ sculpture • Shelter • Water activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boardwalk • Natural play area • Outdoor classroom • Public art • Seating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arboretum • Concessions / storage building • Limited control fencing • Outdoor classroom • Public art • Shelter • Teaching gardens • Washrooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretative panels • Planting display • Playground • Portable toilet • Shelter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community gardens • Entry feature • Interpretative panels • Playground
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buffered from residential • Industrial areas • Near educational institution • Near main road • Trail system/link 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downtown • Main Road • Proximate to river • Trail system/link 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abandoned rail lines • Complete/ Green Streets • Open space corridors • Utility corridors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central location within City • On event/ heritage site • Residential urban area • Trail system/link 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central to neighbourhood • Connects streets • Open frontage • Visible from street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental areas • Floodplain • Natural areas • Stream corridors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational institutions • Neighbourhoods • Schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenspaces • Neighbourhoods • Schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacent to greenspace • Communities

Refer to the appendix for the remainder of the table (illustrates the existing greenspaces reclassified under the new types of greenspaces).

4.3 Greenspace Prototypes

For each new greenspace classification design prototypes have been developed and illustrated as guidelines to direct the future design and development of greenspaces. These prototypes identify the key design attributes for each greenspace type and are intended to be flexible enough to allow for creative design expressions while establishing a minimum standard of development. The prototype illustrations depict how the main features of each greenspace could be physically organized on a site to achieve a design solution that is orderly and functional; the illustrations are not site specific. For each classification, design guidelines address nine key components of greenspace design as described in the table below.

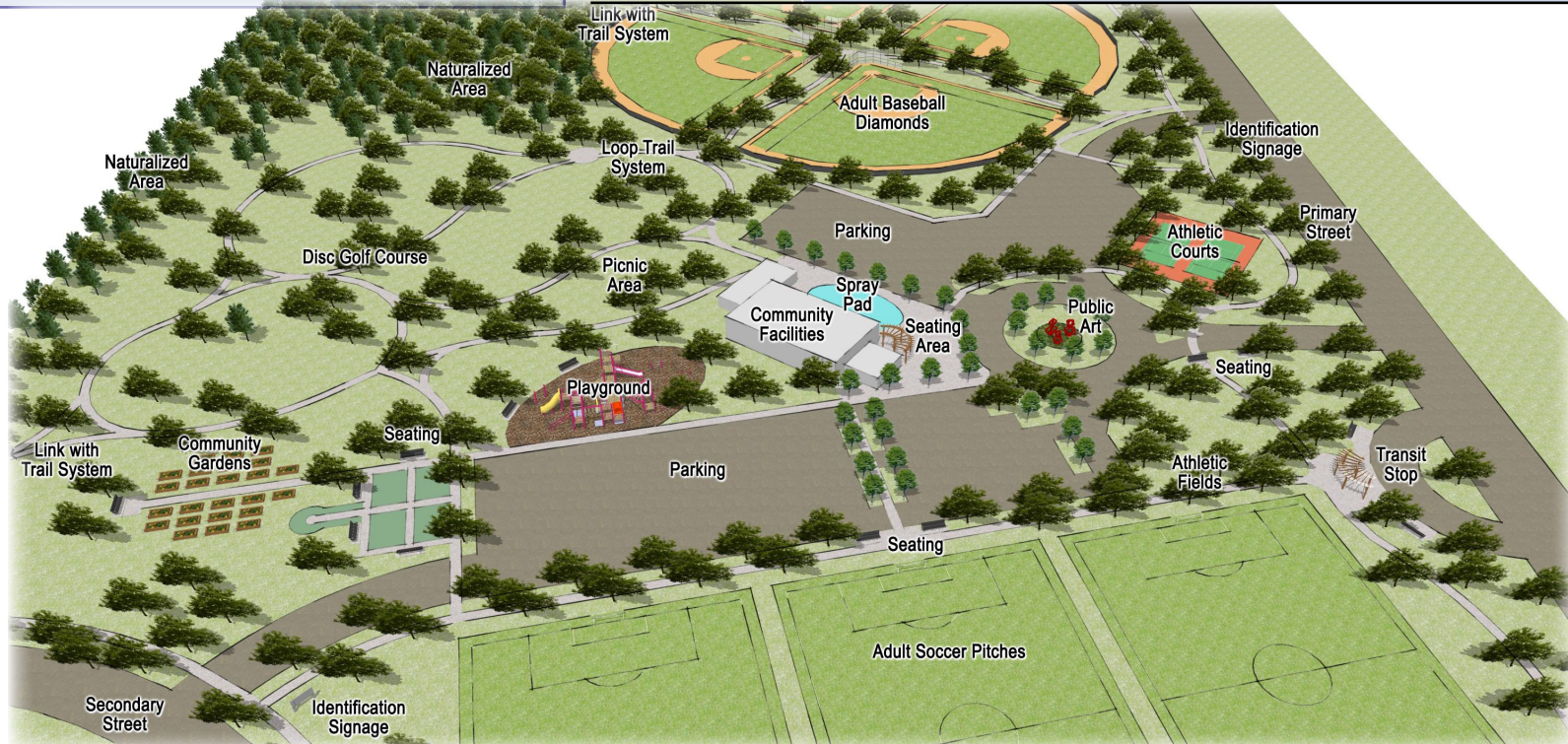
Greenspace Design Guideline Descriptions	
LOCATION	Describes the ideal location in the community where each greenspace type should be developed.
ACCESS	Describes the type of street each greenspace type should be located on and street frontage requirements.
ENTRANCES	Describes the location of entrances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

4.3.1 Greenspace Type: ACTIVITY

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

Size: 15 ha minimum

Greenspace Design Guidelines	
LOCATION	Off of/nearby to a major transportation artery; situated in commercial, industrial or open space areas; should not impact residential land uses
ACCESS	Should have frontage on two streets; should have min. 50 m frontage on major street; should be integrated into open space system and be accessible by a Connector Greenspace
ENTRANCES	Should have at least two points of entry; (for vehicles and pedestrians); should be announced with signage
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should have looped system connecting facilities; primary internal asphalt path 3.0 m wide; secondary path 2.5 m wide
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Parking should be on-site; parking lots should be landscaped, lit and proximate to primary use areas; provide 'green' overflow parking areas
FACILITIES	Should provide community facility building with year-round washrooms, concession, meeting rooms, storage facilities; should provide dedicated sports facility structure; should provide outdoor gathering space/seating
LANDSCAPING	Should screen adjacent land uses impacted by park activities; should 'naturalize' outlying areas; should provide shaded picnic/viewing areas and mass horticultural displays in key locations
SIGNAGE	Should provide signage for each facility
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Primary function is an athletic venue, but should be designed to accommodate multiple-uses, special events; ideally offers historic, cultural, natural, civic and/or heritage features; should accommodate outdoor winter use (e.g. ice skating, sledding, cross country skiing)

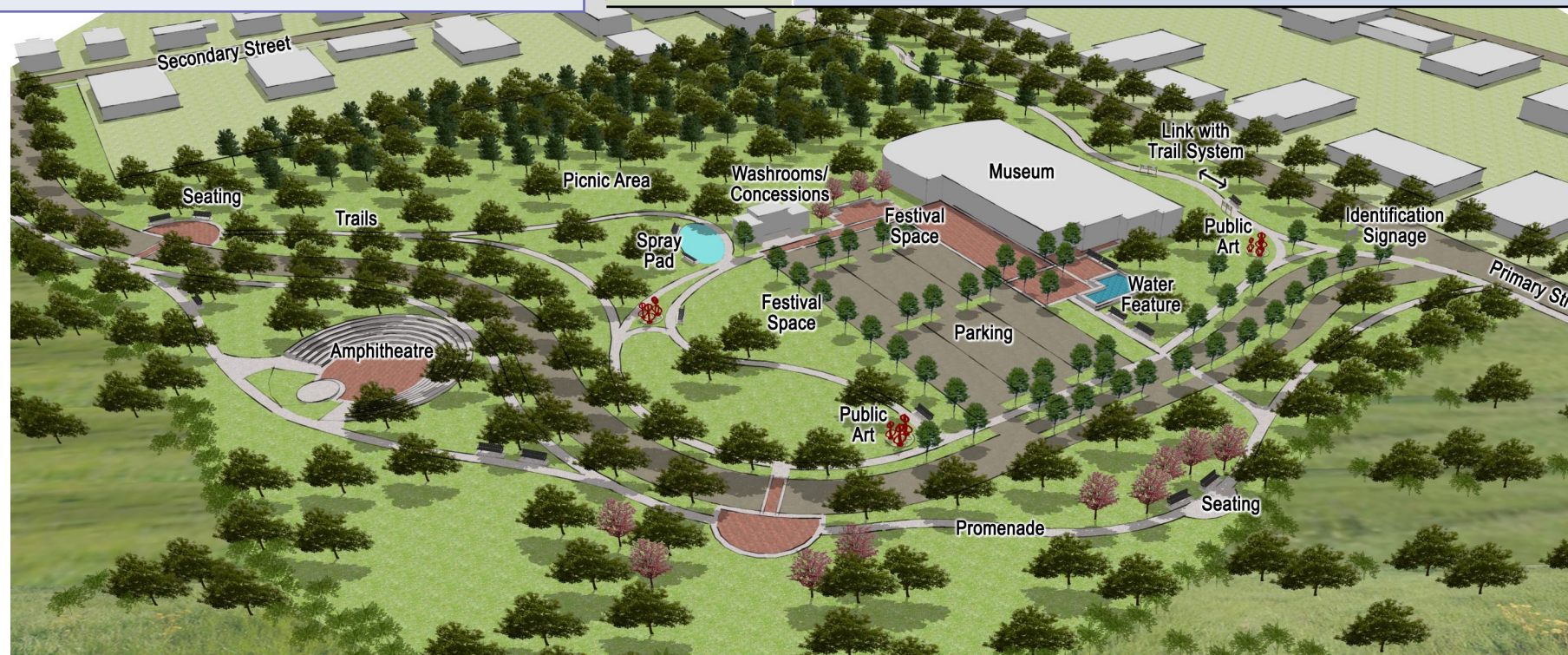


4.3.2 Greenspace Type: CELEBRATION

Overview: Celebration Greenspaces are focussed on the riverfront, where possible, and are defining features of the City. They enhance the identity of Brandon as a riverfront community. Their character should be monumental and urban and should relate to and capitalize on views to the river, if available. They support a wide variety of uses, activities and experiences and are integral to the economic well being of the community. Celebration Greenspaces are designated as the spaces for special community, regional and national cultural events and, as such, offer both formal and informal event gathering spaces and support facilities. An internal pedestrian network should link all facilities within the greenspace and connect to the city wide pedestrian system.

Size: 5.5 ha minimum

Greenspace Design Guidelines	
LOCATION	High priority site; should be connected to the riverfront if possible
ACCESS	Should maximize street frontage to elevate profile/visibility of greenspace; should preserve views to river; should link with downtown
ENTRANCES	Should be multiple, ample, wide and connected to the street; should connect with primary promenade/boardwalk
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should have a hierarchy of pedestrian circulation features; should provide primary promenade/boardwalk minimum 3.0 m wide; should link with trail system
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Should minimize the impact on public access to/use of the riverfront; limit the location of parking (if provided) near the riverfront with majority of parking located near land-side edge of park
FACILITIES	Should provide amphitheatre, festival space and museum; may include washrooms, concessions or picnic facilities; should be oriented to preserve views to river if present
LANDSCAPING	Should reinforce pedestrian circulation, provide shade, support environmental function of river and focus views to water
SIGNAGE	Should identify named facilities; ideally include interpretive signage for site/area
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Should enhance tourism and economic development with character unique to Brandon; should accommodate special events/gatherings; should balance public use and wildlife habitat; should include winter celebration opportunities

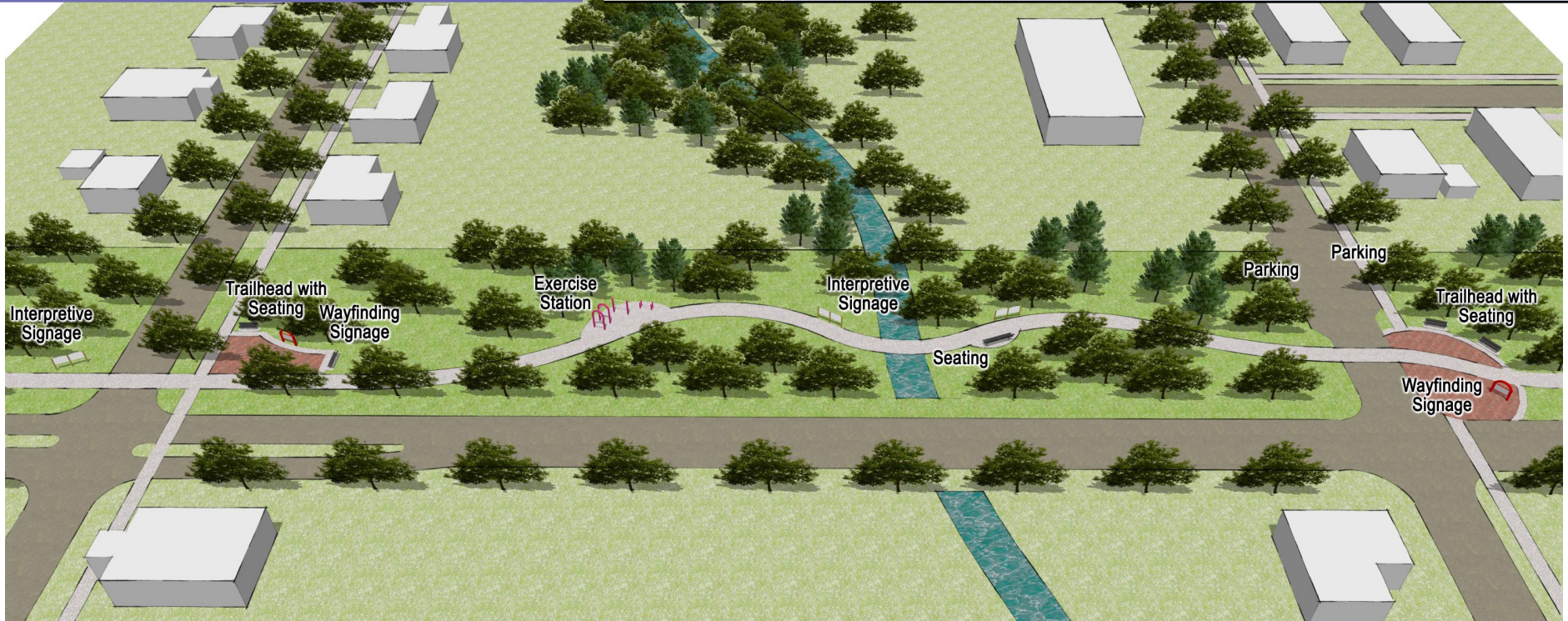


4.3.3 Greenspace Type: CONNECTOR

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

Size: N/A

Greenspace Design Guidelines	
LOCATION	City-wide natural areas, stream, rail and utility corridors, road right-of-ways and riverbanks
ACCESS	Should have minimum 5.0 m street frontage at trailhead
ENTRANCES	Should include wayfinding signs/maps, seating, trash containers, bike racks, doggie bags and landscaping
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Comprises the city wide/regional trail system; primary path 3.0 m wide; secondary path 2.5 m wide
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Should be accessible to service/emergency vehicles; may provide limited parking at major trailheads
FACILITIES	Should include interpretive, wayfinding and trailhead features, as well as seating; may include play and/or exercise equipment
LANDSCAPING	Should buffer adjacent commercial/industrial land use; may be naturalized and/or maintained
SIGNAGE	Should be located at all street/sidewalk intersections and/or trailheads
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Should provide rest areas with seating/plaza every 400 m; should incorporate interpretive panels where feasible; may locate shade shelters where feasible

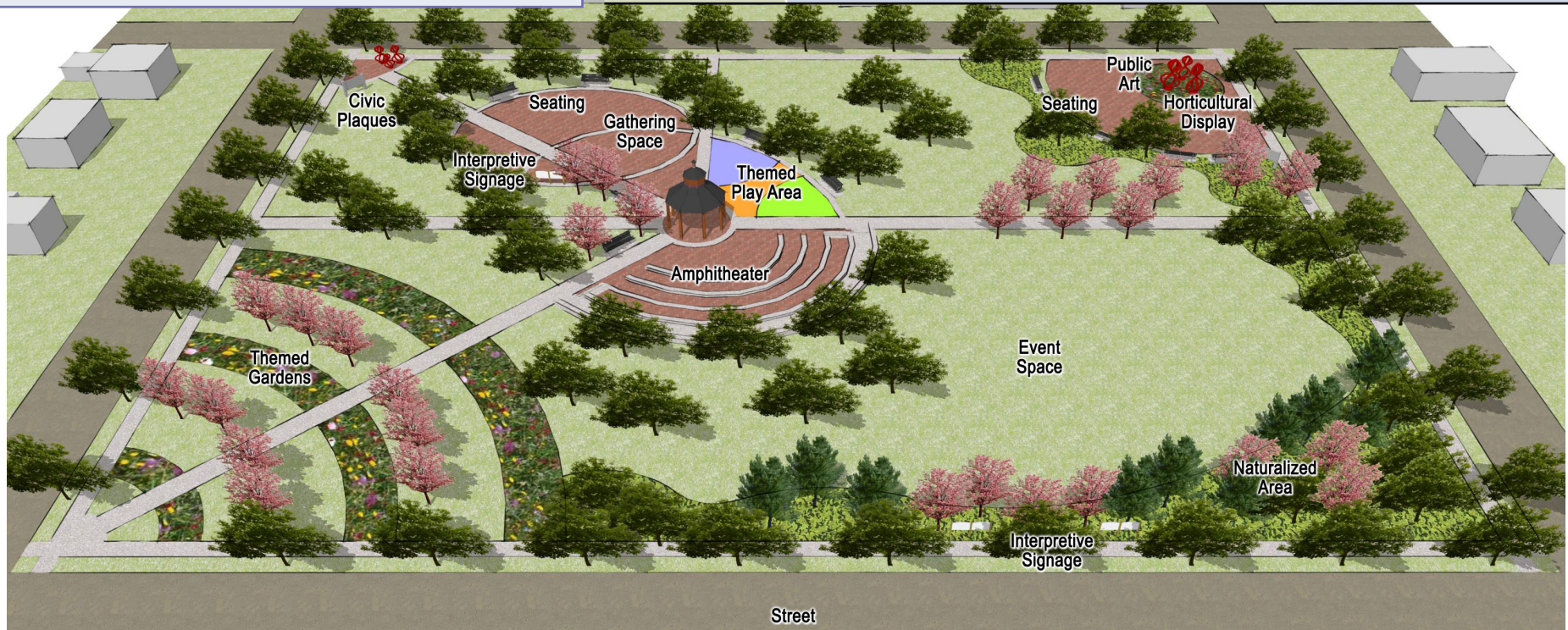


4.3.4 Greenspace Type: CULTURAL

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

Size: Varies

Greenspace Design Guidelines	
LOCATION	Within downtown and/or residential neighbourhoods
ACCESS	Generally accessed from all sides; minimum two street frontages
ENTRANCES	Should be multiple, ample, wide and open
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should be comprehensive; primary internal path 3.0 m wide; secondary path 2.5 m wide
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Not required; may include on-site parking if on-street parking is not available
FACILITIES	May include pavilions, shade structures, play equipment, spray pad and/or washrooms
LANDSCAPING	Formalized, horticultural displays; themed gardens; shade trees and turf
SIGNAGE	Should include interpretive panels regarding site context
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Should include public gathering space and seating areas, public sculpture/art and memorial features; may include themed play areas



4.3.5 Greenspace Type: LEISURE

Overview: Leisure Greenspaces are the most common type of greenspaces in the City and are centrally located within each neighbourhood. They are intended to be the primary public space in a neighbourhood and provide the most direct access to greenspace. As passive recreation spaces, they offer casual and non-programmed park use/activities and the potential for ecological education close to one's own backyard. Leisure Greenspaces are within a short walking distance from all residential areas. Leisure Greenspaces are designed for neighbourhood gathering and events.

Size: 1.0 ha minimum

Greenspace Design Guidelines	
LOCATION	Should be adjacent to local street
ACCESS	Should have connections to as many local streets as viable; minimum one street frontage
ENTRANCES	Should be located to access as many residents as viable
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should have primary internal path 3.0 m wide to link facilities; may provide secondary 2.5 m wide path
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Not required; ideally provide on-street parking or on-site if demand warrants; minimize impact on site uses
FACILITIES	Should provide shelter, seating and play equipment; may include community gardens, spray pad and/or multi-use court
LANDSCAPING	Should consist primarily of trees/turf; mass horticultural displays at key locations; 'naturalize' non-functional areas
SIGNAGE	Should identify named facilities, include interpretive and wayfinding features, and provide neighborhood information
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Should provide family facilities/play areas; group facilities when feasible/non conflicting; should allow for public sculpture/art



4.3.6 Greenspace Type: ENVIRONMENTAL

Overview: Environmental Greenspaces are naturalized to increase habitat and minimize maintenance. These greenspaces generally evolve from areas of the City that are wooded or have special ecological characteristics. They help to protect and enhance the environmental qualities of the City and preserve natural areas, woodlots, hazard lands and river/stream corridors. They accommodate public access and small gatherings and provide environmental education opportunities and experiences. Development within these greenspaces is generally limited to pedestrian facilities that are integrated with the natural environment and enhance the experience, such as nature trails, overlooks, bird blinds, interpretive panels, etc.

Size: Varies, ideally 1.0 ha minimum

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

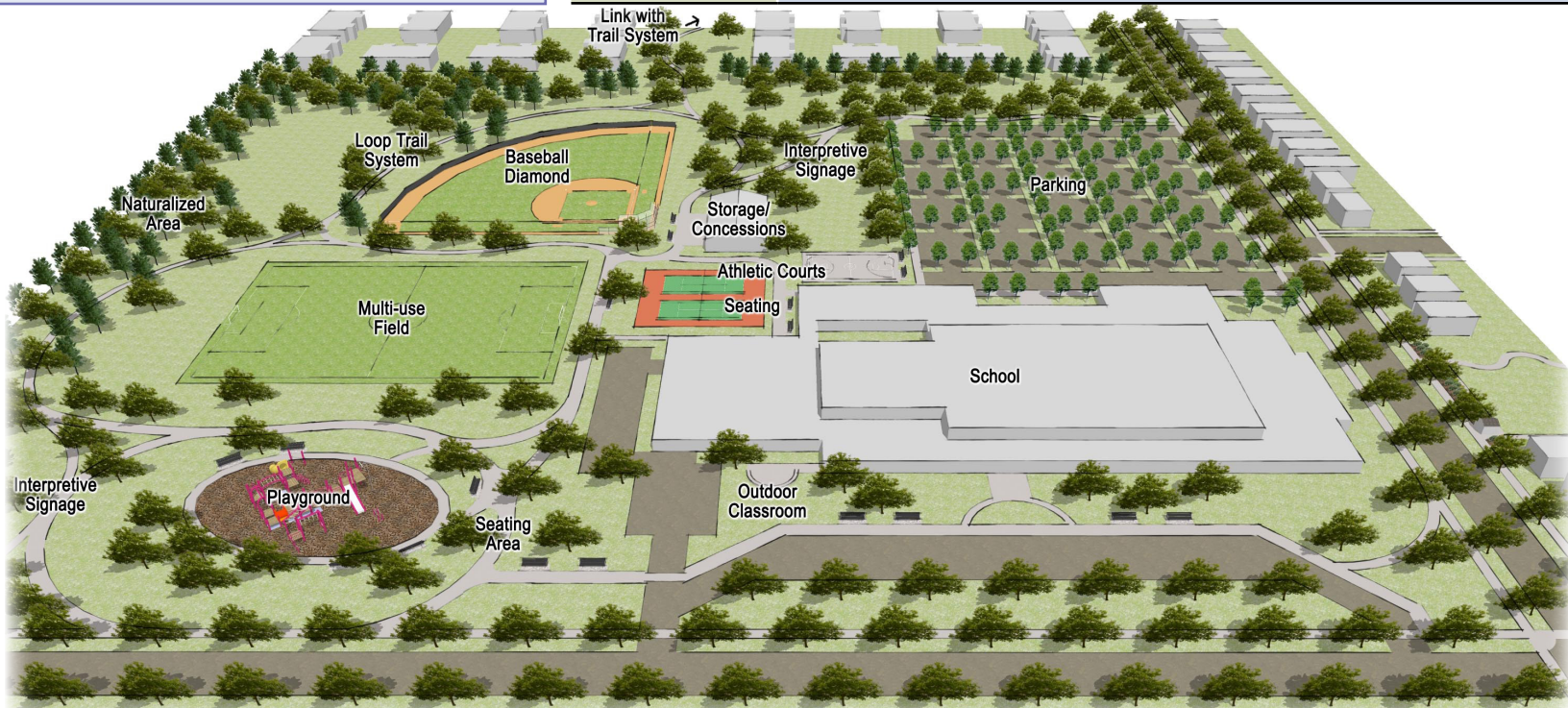


4.3.7 Greenspace Type: EDUCATIONAL

Overview: Educational Greenspaces are located on school grounds and serve both the school and the adjacent neighborhood. Educational Greenspaces provide athletic facilities and playgrounds for school students. Additional passive recreation spaces offer casual and non-programmed uses/activities, as well as environmental education opportunities. This greenspace type also welcomes neighbours to utilize the site's active and passive recreational facilities. The Educational Greenspace includes walking paths connected to neighbourhood sidewalks and the city wide pedestrian system and are not fenced. Greenspace perimeters should have trees and a naturalized appearance.

Size: Varies

Greenspace Design Guidelines	
LOCATION	At school sites
ACCESS	From road right-of-ways; connect to city wide pedestrian system where feasible; should be open and unencumbered
ENTRANCES	Should have at least two points of entry (for vehicles and pedestrians); should be announced with signage
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should have looped system connecting facilities; primary internal path 3.0 m wide; secondary path 2.5 m wide
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Parking should be on-site and shared with school; parking lots should be landscaped, lit and proximate to primary use areas
FACILITIES	Should include court and field sport facilities and play equipment; should provide building for concessions and/or storage; fencing should be limited; may include outdoor classroom, teaching gardens and/or arboretum
LANDSCAPING	Should screen adjacent land uses impacted by park activities; should 'naturalize' outlying areas; should provide shaded seating areas and mass horticultural displays in key locations
SIGNAGE	Should identify named facilities; ideally include interpretive signage for site/area
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Primary function is for use by the school, but should be designed to welcome neighbourhood users; offers active and passive recreation as well as educational/interpretive features

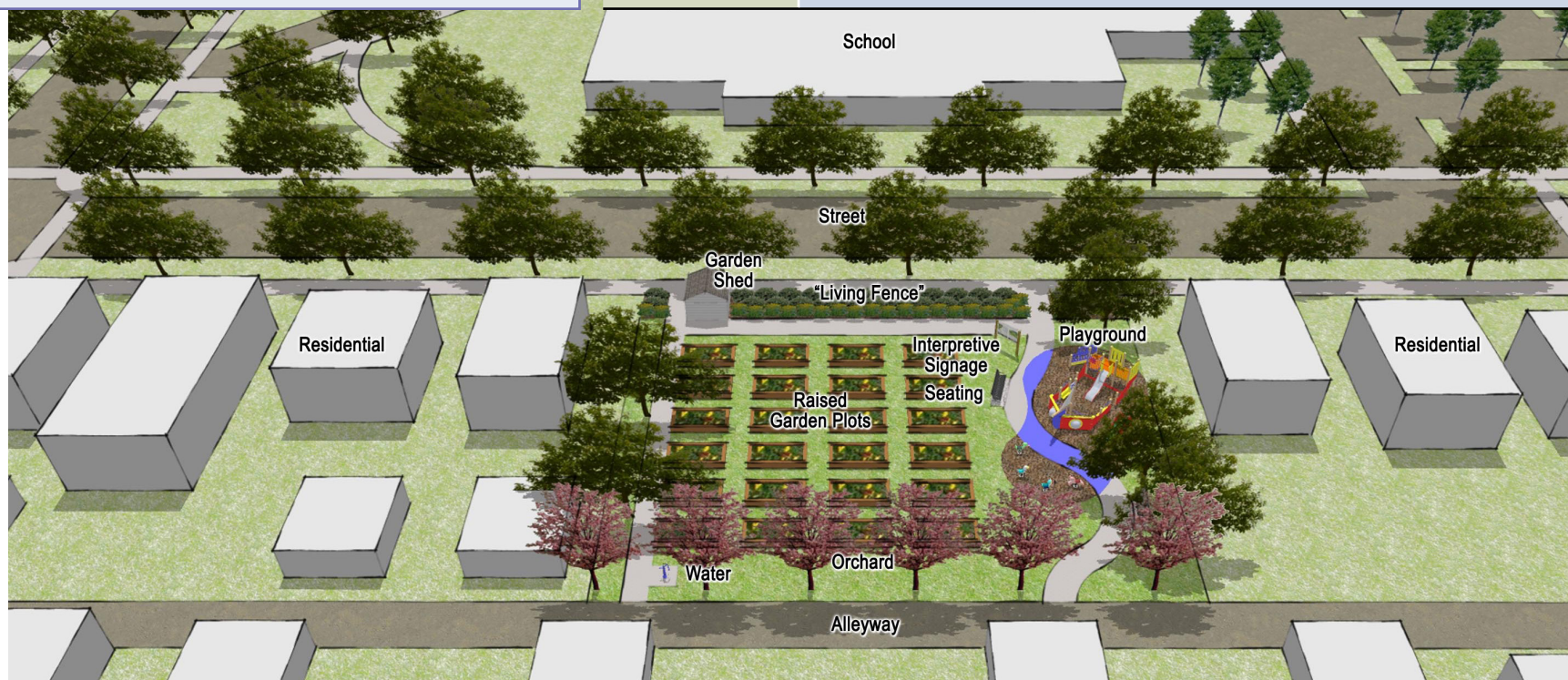


4.3.8 Greenspace Type: COMMUNITY GARDEN

Overview: Community Gardens offer people the opportunity to grow fresh, local produce and, additionally, provide a venue for community interaction. They also promote the ideals of fresh, healthy eating and provide the opportunity for children and adults to learn gardening skills and to appreciate the value of local agriculture. When the produce from Community Gardens is donated to a local food pantry or other charity, it also teaches a lesson about sharing with those less fortunate. Community Garden Greenspaces may be intimate spaces centrally located within each neighbourhood or be a component of other greenspaces.

Size: Varies

Greenspace Design Guidelines	
LOCATION	City-wide within residential neighbourhoods or adjacent to/within other greenspaces
ACCESS	Should have a minimum of one street frontage
ENTRANCES	Should have pedestrian entrance connected to street; allow visibility into garden from the street
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should have a primary internal path 3.0 m wide that could be paved or made of accessible granular material; secondary paths between garden plots may be granular or turf with minimum 2.5 m width
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Larger Community Gardens may include vehicular access between groups of garden plots; parking should be accommodated on-street or on-site if demand warrants
FACILITIES	Should include water source, raised garden plots and seating; may also include other utility services, tool shed, play equipment, interpretive panels, portable toilet, and/or shelter
LANDSCAPING	Should include shade and fruit trees; access to Community Garden should be controlled with planting strip 1.5 m minimum width (combination of shrubs and perennials), rather than fencing
SIGNAGE	Should be located at street entrance; may also include interpretive panels and space for garden/community news
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Community Gardens provide the opportunity to educate children and adults about food, gardening skills and ecology, in addition to providing a fresh, local food source; provides an opportunity for community interaction

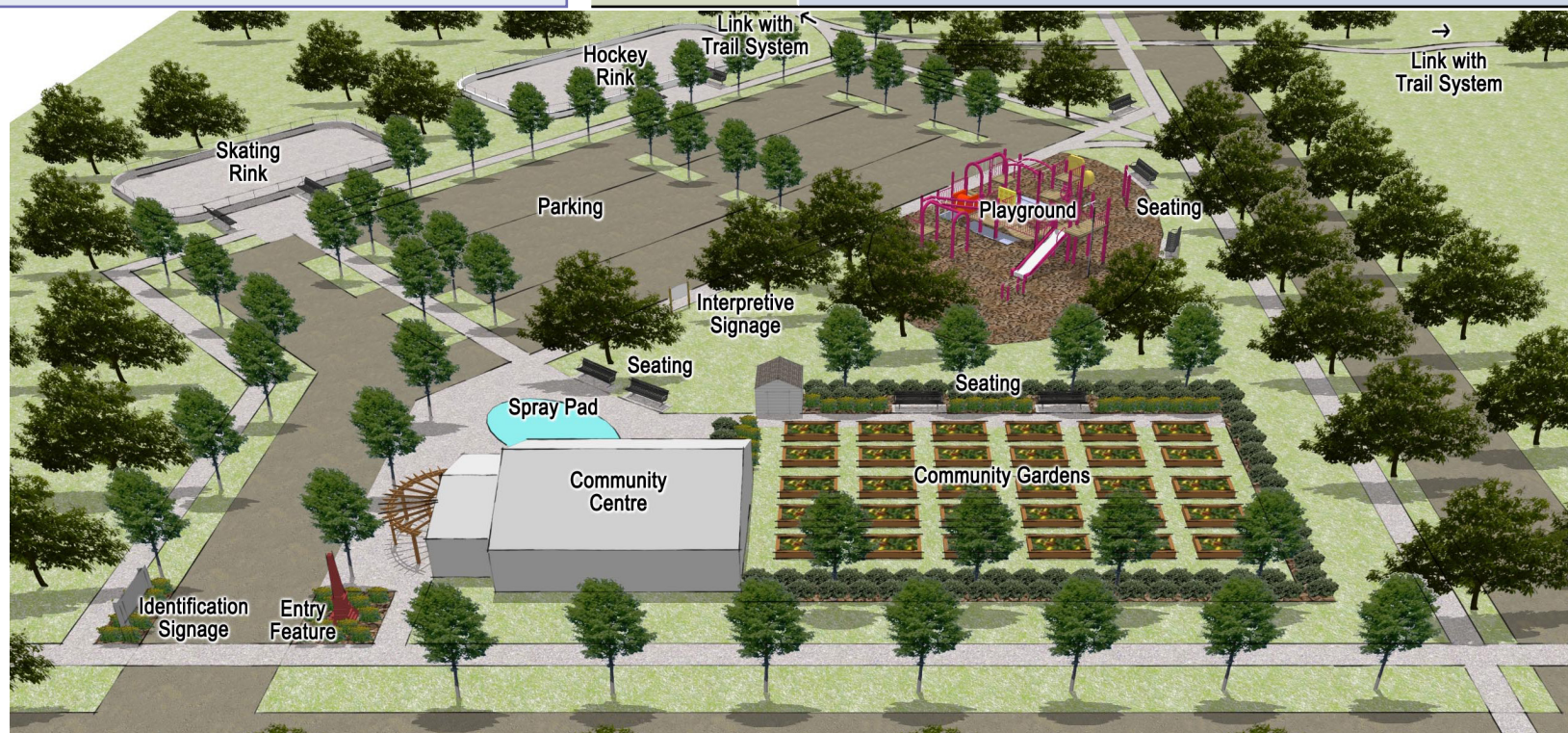


4.3.9 Greenspace Type: COMMUNITY CENTRE

Overview: The focus of the Community Centre Greenspace is on programmed activities. They have a neighborhood draw versus the potentially regional draw of the Activity Greenspaces. Community Centre greenspace should be located with frontage on an arterial or secondary road with views into and out of the site. The greenspace should be well organized with defined/clustered facilities. A community centre building should be located fronting the street, which could provide programmed activities for youths and seniors as well as event/meeting space. An internal pedestrian network should link all facilities within the greenspace and connect to the city wide pedestrian system.

Size: Varies, ideally 0.75 ha minimum

Greenspace Design Guidelines	
LOCATION	City-wide within residential neighbourhoods or adjacent to Educational or other greenspaces
ACCESS	Should have frontage on a minimum of one street; minimum 60 m street frontage
ENTRANCES	Should have at least two points of entry for pedestrians that are connected to the street; should be announced with signage
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	Should have primary internal path 3.0 m wide to link facilities; may provide secondary 2.5 m wide path
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	Not required; may include on-site parking if on-street parking is not adequate or greenspace size/demand warrants on-site parking
FACILITIES	Should include a community centre building and should ideally include an ice rink and hockey rink; may also include play equipment, multi-use court, community gardens, entry feature and/or interpretive panels
LANDSCAPING	Should screen adjacent land uses impacted by park activities; should 'naturalize' outlying areas; should provide shaded seating areas and mass horticultural displays in key locations
SIGNAGE	Should include entry signage and an information kiosk; may also include interpretive panels
SPECIAL FEATURES & FUNCTIONS	Primary function is to provide a neighbourhood-scale space for programmed activities for residents, as well as limited active recreation opportunities; may include community gardens



4.4 Level of Service by Greenspace Classification

Each greenscape classification has been defined by four level of service factors. These include service area, service radius, park supply by population and level of public gathering. These factors combine to help determine the size and function of each park type, as well as the facilities, features and amenities provided. The Level of Service (LOS) Standard ha / 1000 defines a target standard for the quantity of greenspace in hectares by category to adequately address the needs of the population and is expressed in thousands of population. Quantity is one component combined with distance, character, function and facilities that identify what the City should be providing to develop a comprehensive system with varied park types. Level of Service (LOS) Standards are developed by greenspace classification and include:

- Service Area: the approximate boundaries (and related population)
- Service Radius: the approximate area served and maximum distance from users
- Public Gathering: the number of people comfortably accommodate for events
- Size: the minimum size
- Standard ha / 1000: the target quantity supplied in hectares for every 1,000 residents
- Existing ha / 1000: the existing quantity supplied in hectares for every 1,000 residents

4.4.1 Greenspace Classification Level of Service

The following chart details the level of service standards for each new greenspace classification. The targets identified have been based on a number of considerations including achieving the goals and objectives of the Master Plan, plan analysis of existing conditions, best practices, trends and needs.

Type	Activity	Celebration	Connector	Cultural	Leisure	Environmental	Educational	Community Garden	Community Centre
Service Area	Region	National/Region	Region	City	Neighbourhood	Regional	City	Community	Community
Service Radius	3 km	City Wide	400 m	City Wide	400 m	N/A	400 m	1 km	N/A
Public Gathering	400+	500+	N/A	200+	50+	20+	N/A	N/A	40+
Size	15 ha min.	5 ha min.	ROW 15 m/ Trail 4 m	Varies	2 ha min.	Trail 3 m	8 ha min.	0.25 ha min.	1 ha min.
Standard ha / 1,000	3.0 ha / 1,000	1.5 ha / 1,000	1 km / 1,000	0.5 ha / 1,000	2.0 ha / 1,000	Variable	N/A	(0.15 ha/1000 - as need)	1 per 5,000
*Shows existing hectares per 1,000 level of service using new park classifications									

4.4.2 City Wide Greenspace Level of Service

The Level of Service standard (LOS) determines greenspace supply by population. Standards are based on an existing population of 46,000. Schools, the golf course, private lands and flood prone areas are excluded. The following chart outlines the city wide Level of Service.

CITY WIDE (NO SCHOOL, GOLF COURSE, OR PRIVATE LANDS)			
Year	Total Hectares	LOS 46K Pop.	Notes / (Deficiency)
2013	370	8	Pre-flood state
2014	240	5.2	Decrease due to unusable flooded areas
2015 +	322	7	Addition of ~ 5 parks (82 ha total) to meet standard

The LOS in 2013, before the 2014 flood, was 8 ha/1,000. The LOS in 2014, considering only usable greenspaces (those greenspaces that were not under water), is 5.2 ha/1,000 (as 36% of parkland was not usable due to flooding). The above evaluation outlines a proposed LOS of 7 ha/1,000 as an acceptable and substantial standard. A level of service of 7 ha/1,000 is determined more appropriate to the City of Brandon as environmental standards are excluded because they are variable. The Greenspace Master Plan has reclassified about 70 ha of active recreation and sports greenspace as Environmental (includes both public and private areas). To replace these reclassified sports facilities/fields, about 82 ha of Activity Greenspace needs to be created (approximately five 16 ha Activity Greenspaces).

Preparing for the future, maintaining a LOS of 7 / 1000 population, the required addition of greenspace is:

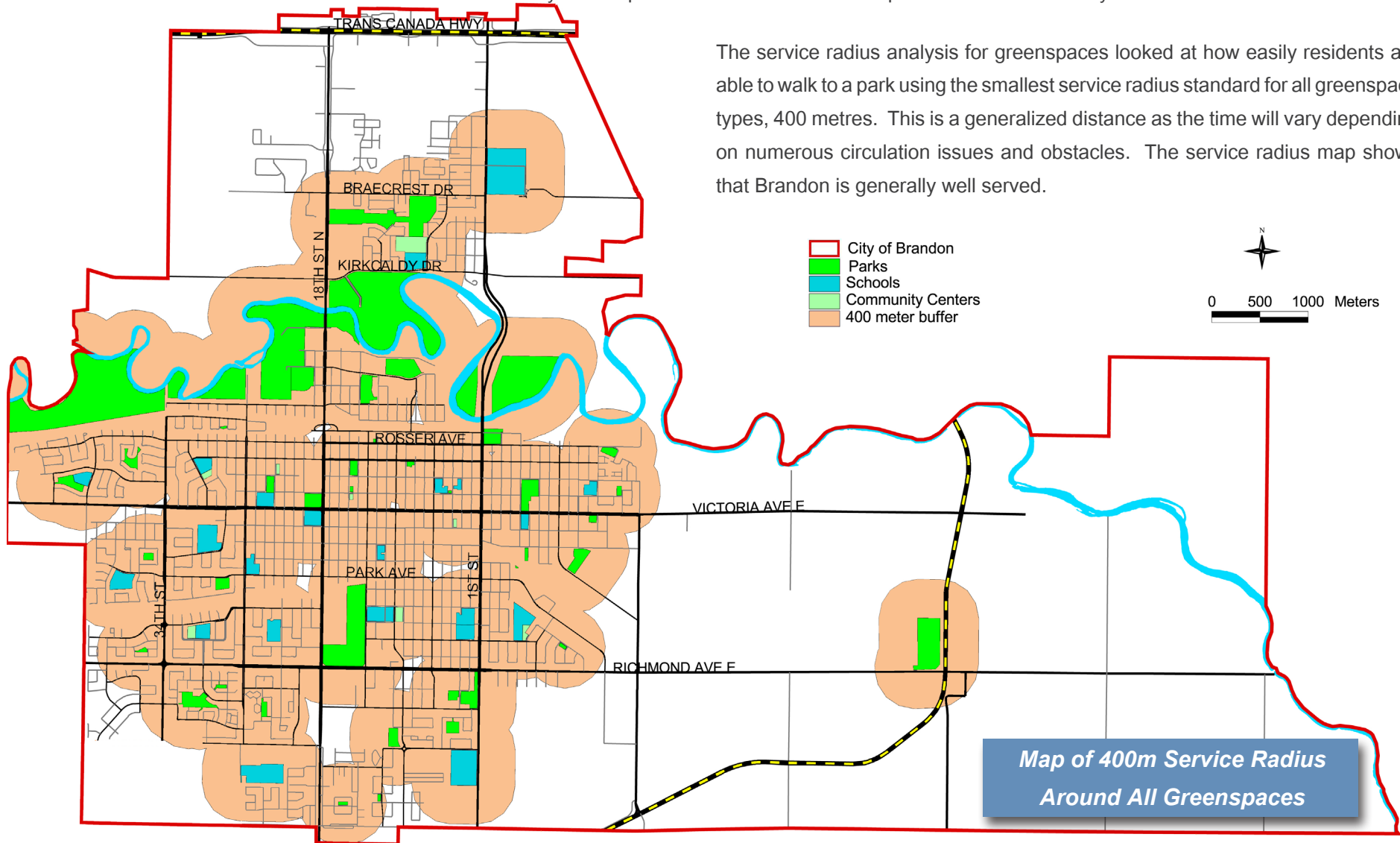
PROJECTED CITY WIDE GREENSPACE NEEDS (NO SCHOOLS, GOLF COURSE, PRIVATE OR FLOOD PRONE AREAS)					
Year	Total Hectares	LOS 46K Pop.	LOS 65K Pop.	LOS 80K Pop.	Additional Greenspace Needed
2015 +	322	7	-	-	82 ha
2041	455	-	7	-	133 ha
2061	560	-	-	7	154 ha

Starting from the determined need for 2015 +, the City will have to continually create additional greenspace to keep up with its growing population. In the near future, the City needs to add about 82 ha of greenspace to maintain a LOS of 7 ha / population. Medium population projections (refer to appendix 7.3) were used to estimate the additional greenspace needed to maintain this LOS as the City grows.

4.4.3 Greenspace Service Radius

The Service Radius defines a target standard for the distribution of greenspace across the City. A 400-metre radius (approximately a 5 minute walking distance) demonstrates areas that are serviced and under-served. The service radius guarantees access to greenspace by residents in all areas of the City. All greenspaces should have play facilities for toddlers and children. Distance is one component combined with quantity, character, function and facilities that identify what the City should be providing to develop a comprehensive system with varied greenspace types. The map below defines the service radius for every greenspace large enough to contain play equipment and service children with activity space. These spaces are not classified as they should be supplied in every greenspace. This is considered a minimal standard. The service radius for Activity Greenspace and Celebration Greenspace is outlined in the Systems Plan.

The service radius analysis for greenspaces looked at how easily residents are able to walk to a park using the smallest service radius standard for all greenspace types, 400 metres. This is a generalized distance as the time will vary depending on numerous circulation issues and obstacles. The service radius map shows that Brandon is generally well served.





5. City Wide System

Brandon has the potential to establish a comprehensive and linked network of greenspace that can enhance the character of the City and help it to develop a first-class system. The systems plan is a conceptual plan to guide development/acquisition of greenspace in future City growth scenarios. The systems plan addresses only those properties already owned by the City. Brandon's system-based concept is based on the City's existing greenspace assets and identified future community needs.

5.1 Brandon's Systems Plan

Brandon is known for the Assiniboine riverfront, well-maintained trails and sporting events. The City's future greenspace character is reflected in these resources. The city wide system creates a matrix of greenspaces focused around the east to west corridor of the Assiniboine River Valley. The plan integrates parks, schools and trails and connects them for pedestrian access and safety. Uniting these areas and facilitating public access to them for passive and compatible recreational use will enhance the appeal of the City and its distinct identity. This system or matrix of "green infrastructure" gives organization and order to the physical form of the City. The greenspace is supported by many of the City's major streets which are incorporated as "Green Streets" into the plan to promote connectivity and link the Greenspace System with key destinations which include: the Downtown HUB, the university, the college, commercial areas, the cemetery, etc.

Regarding the components of the Systems Plan:

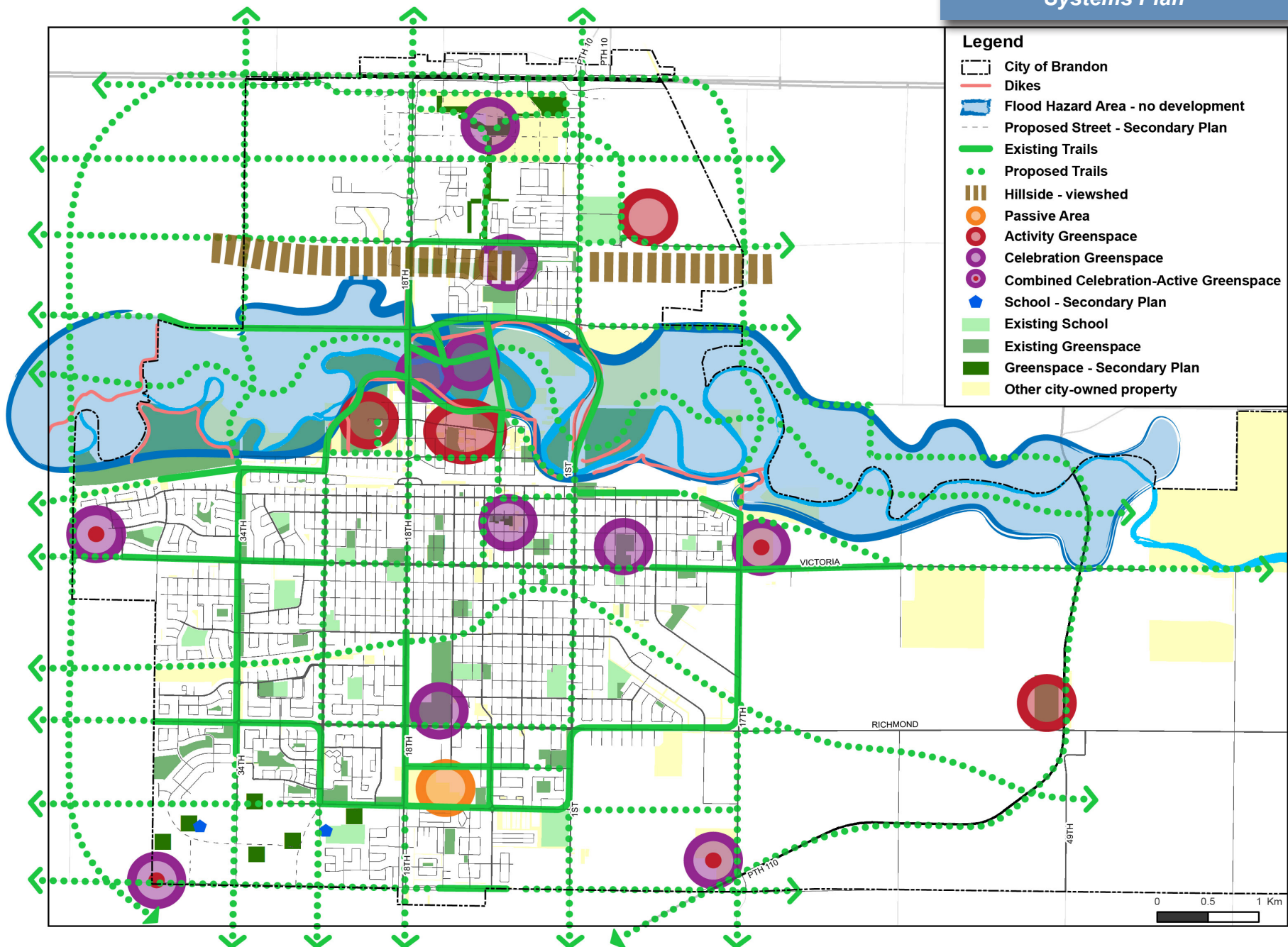
- The east to west greenspace spine for the City of Brandon is well defined in the Assiniboine River corridor.
- The north to south spine is weakly defined and should link the north face of Sir Winston Churchill Park to the Keystone Centre both future Celebration Greenspaces with a recreation and sculpture trail.
- Since the Riverbank Discovery Centre is at the intersection of both axes it is the focus of the Greenspace System.
- The "Flats" area should limit development and offer a green gateway into the City centre. This is slowly occurring with the development of Ashley Neufeld Softball Complex proximate to North End Park and the future enhancement of Canada Games Park.

In addition, the systems plan outlines four new mixed-use greenspaces classified as both Celebration and Activity Greenspaces in the four quadrants of the City. Further needs may be addressed with two Activity Greenspaces supplying sports facilities. The first is on provincial land adjacent to the existing Assiniboine Community College North Hill Campus fields, which are being removed in a long range Campus Master Plan, and the second on an enhanced Van Horne Avenue East Diamonds site.

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Systems Plan



Note: The above plan is a concept expressing suggested, not precise locations.

5.2 Greenspace Connections

Fundamental to the systems plan are the existing greenspaces and trails in Brandon. The system identifies ways to best connect what currently exists in Brandon, including the existing greenspaces and recreation facilities. Also identified are opportunities to develop new parks, trails and open space facilities, both public and private. These proposed spaces address gaps in the open space network combined with opportunities for greenspace development.

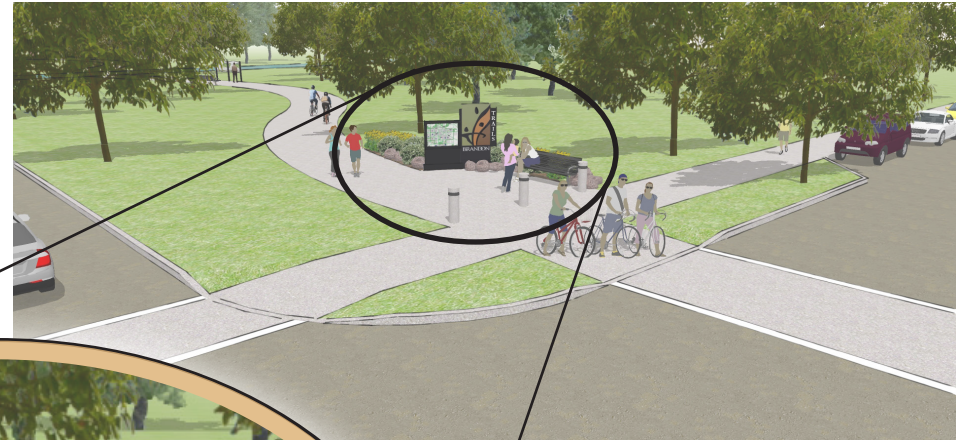


Illustration of a potential trailhead configuration at the confluence of trails. The enlarged graphic shows amenities that would be typical at a trailhead (such as identifiable icon of a trailhead in the system, mapping and other information, seating and landscaping).



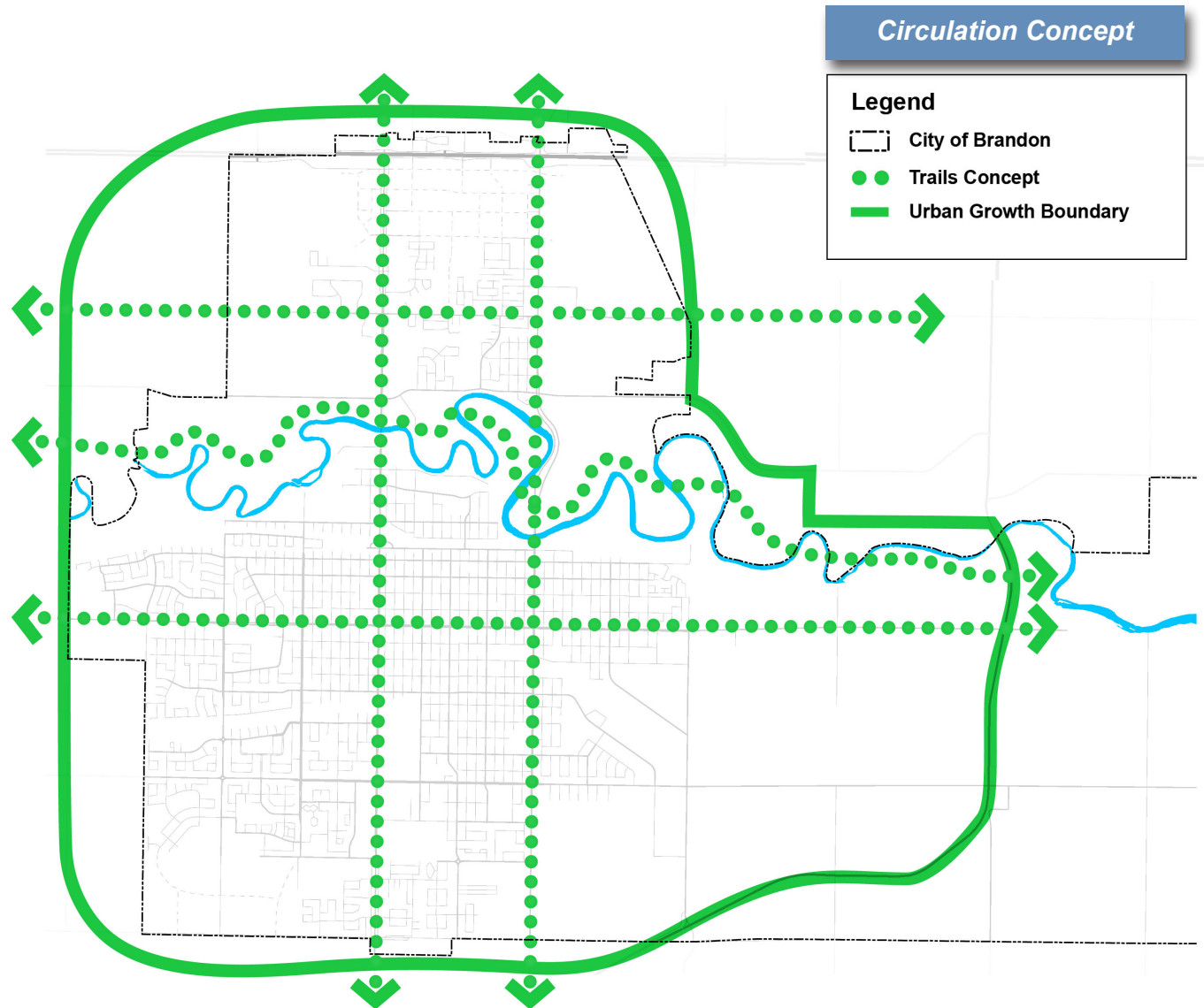
Illustration of the elements that make-up a Green Street

5.3 Green Streets

A focus for the system is to connect the downtown to the rest of the City and to the riverfront. This can be accomplished through the development of “Green Streets”. Green Streets should be viewed as linear parks adjacent to the roadway that offer a minimum three metre wide recreation trail and extensive tree planting in a naturalized format. Green Streets can also manage stormwater in an ecologically sensitive fashion through the use of rain gardens.

5.4 Circulation Concept

The essence of the system is the connectivity of greenspaces and city wide attractions and the ability for passive circulation between destinations. The primary central corridor in the circulation concept is expressed as a naturalized trail along the Assiniboine River valley. The two other east-west corridors are Kirkcaldy and Victoria Avenues. The two main north-south corridors are 1st and 18th Streets. All of these street connections would be designed as Green Streets to create linear parks through the City. These shared Green Streets accommodate vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists together, utilizing wider park like pedestrian right of ways. Trails intersect the corridors forming an inner ring and an outer peripheral loop. The outer loop defines an urban growth boundary and the transition from urban to rural. With a minimum walking distance to trails and play areas of approximately five minutes and to activity areas of approximately 30 minutes, the circulation concept is interconnected to all greenspaces.



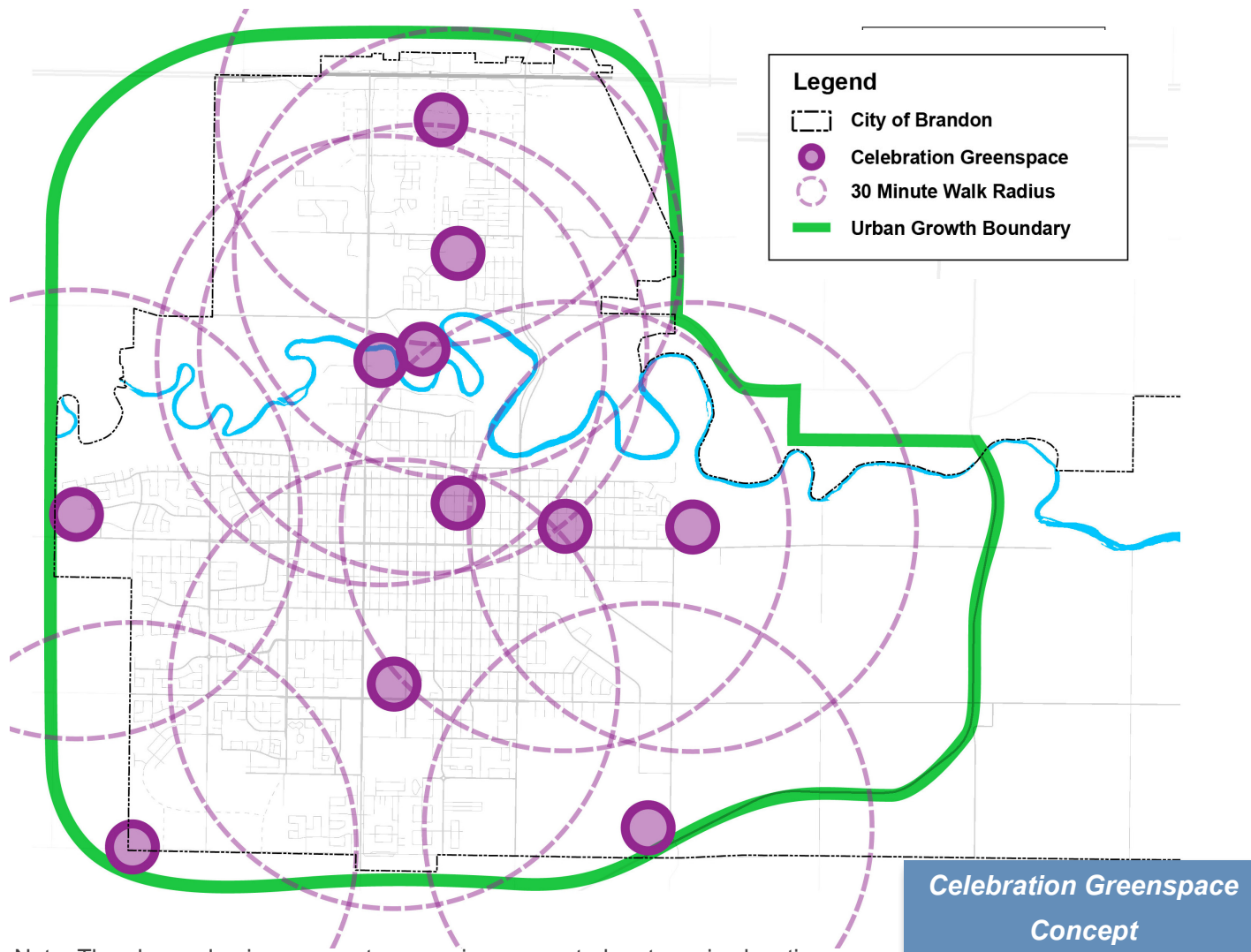
Note: The above plan is a concept expressing suggested, not precise locations.

5.5 Celebration Greenspace Concept

In place of the former HUB designations, the Greenspace Master Plan focuses on the development of Celebration Greenspaces as anchors. These will form the identity and brand of the City and should occupy high profile and high visibility locations. Most former HUB designations are inappropriate in location and size to act as primary greenspace. New Celebration Greenspaces include Sir Winston Churchill, a former HUB designation. Located on the north side of

the City, near Highway 1, it will act as a primary Ceremonial space within the City and a significant visitor attraction, offering a First Nations Interpretive Centre and a water park proximate to Brandon's Community Sportsplex. The Keystone Centre outdoor event space is another under utilized greenspace which could act as a dual purpose space; both as the City's "Central Park" and premier event space. The site should be developed as a premium City Celebration Greenspace

and should combine a spectacular landscape with community outdoor recreation facilities, developing the edges with a park-like appearance. Currently, the existing Rideau Park, also a former HUB designation, serves this purpose. In the future, the site east of this should be developed as a Celebration Greenspace, taking its place. Celebration Greenspace should have an approximate service radius of 30 minutes (walking).

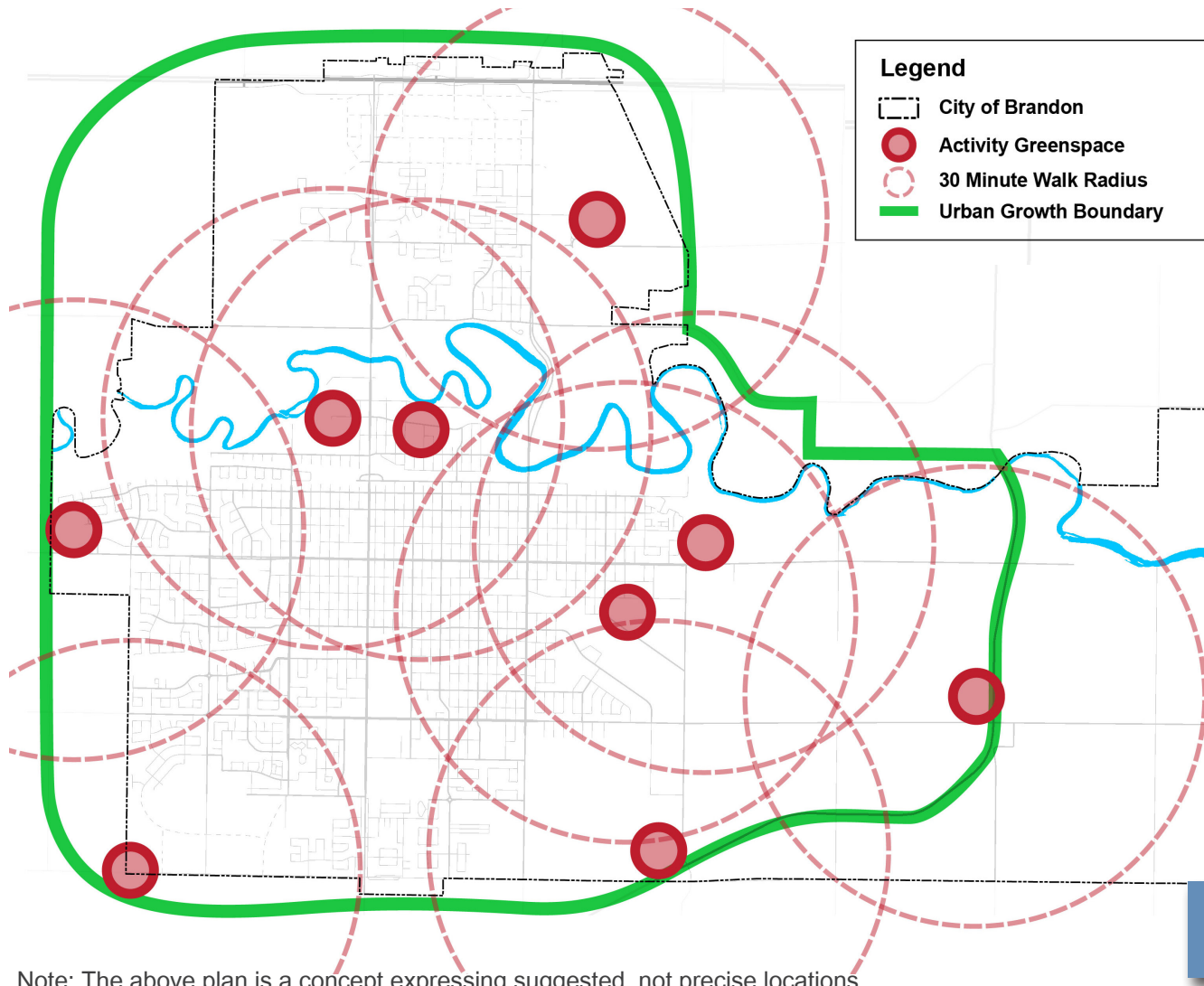


Note: The above plan is a concept expressing suggested, not precise locations.

5.6 Activity Greenspace Concept

Numerous activity park facilities will need to be replaced as the Assiniboine River Valley is allowed to naturalize. New locations should be developed as multi-use Activity Greenspaces offering passive and active recreation facilities, as well as field and court sports. Softball needs will be accommodated through Ashley Neufeld Softball Complex, which is to begin use in the summer of 2015. A facility that could be readily expanded as the need arises with acquisition of surrounding

land is the Van Horne Avenue E. greenspace, which currently has two softball diamonds in development. Baseball needs will be accommodated by existing diamonds at Andrews Field and Simplot Millennium Park. Additional facilities within each Activity Greenspace will be determined by the needs analysis and future updates. Activity Greenspaces should have an approximate service radius of 30 minutes (walking) which would accommodate future City growth areas.



Note: The above plan is a concept expressing suggested, not precise locations.



Graphic representation of potential
Trail Section #1
along Stickney Avenue



Graphic representation of potential
Trail section #2
along Rosser Avenue



Graphic representation of potential
Trail Section #3
along 1st Street

5.7 City Wide Trail System

The city wide trail system offers a comprehensive system of linked trails and streets that provide opportunities for exercise, community health and an alternative transportation system accessible by most residents of the City. The plan defines sections that require completion and segments for acquisition. Currently the city wide trail system consists of 53 km of trails. This averages to about 1.15 km per 1,000 population. The system is almost consistently connected, however there are necessary links that should be addressed in the 5 year capital improvement plan to complete the trail system. The following is a list of greenspaces connected to the existing trail system:

- 27 of 92 greenspaces (~30%)
- Only 1 of 9 Cultural Greenspaces
- 6 out of 13 Activity Greenspaces
- 9 out of 26 Leisure Greenspaces
- 4 out of 7 Environmental Greenspaces
- No Community Centre Greenspaces
- 2 out of 20 Educational Greenspaces
- All 4 Celebration Greenspaces
- 1 out of 4 Community Garden Greenspaces

5.7.1 Recommended Trail Segments

In order to complete all linkages within the existing “Inner Loop Trail”, the following outlines the conceptual development of trail segments (text and graphics expressing suggesting, not precise locations):

Trail Section #1 ●●●●

South of River Linkage - Complete connection from existing 26th Street trail (near McDonald Avenue) to existing Errol Black Park trail

- Along alleyway north of McDonald Avenue from 26th Street to the 21st Street R.O.W.
- Along 21st Street R.O.W. from the alleyway to McDonald Avenue
- Along north side of McDonald Avenue from 21st Street to under the 18th Street Bridge at Stickney Avenue
- Along north side of Stickney Avenue from the 18th Street Bridge to 8th Street
- Across the 8th Street Bridge from Stickney Avenue to Pacific Avenue
- Along north side of Pacific Avenue from the 8th Street Bridge to 1st Street and Errol Black Park

Trail Section #2 ●●●●

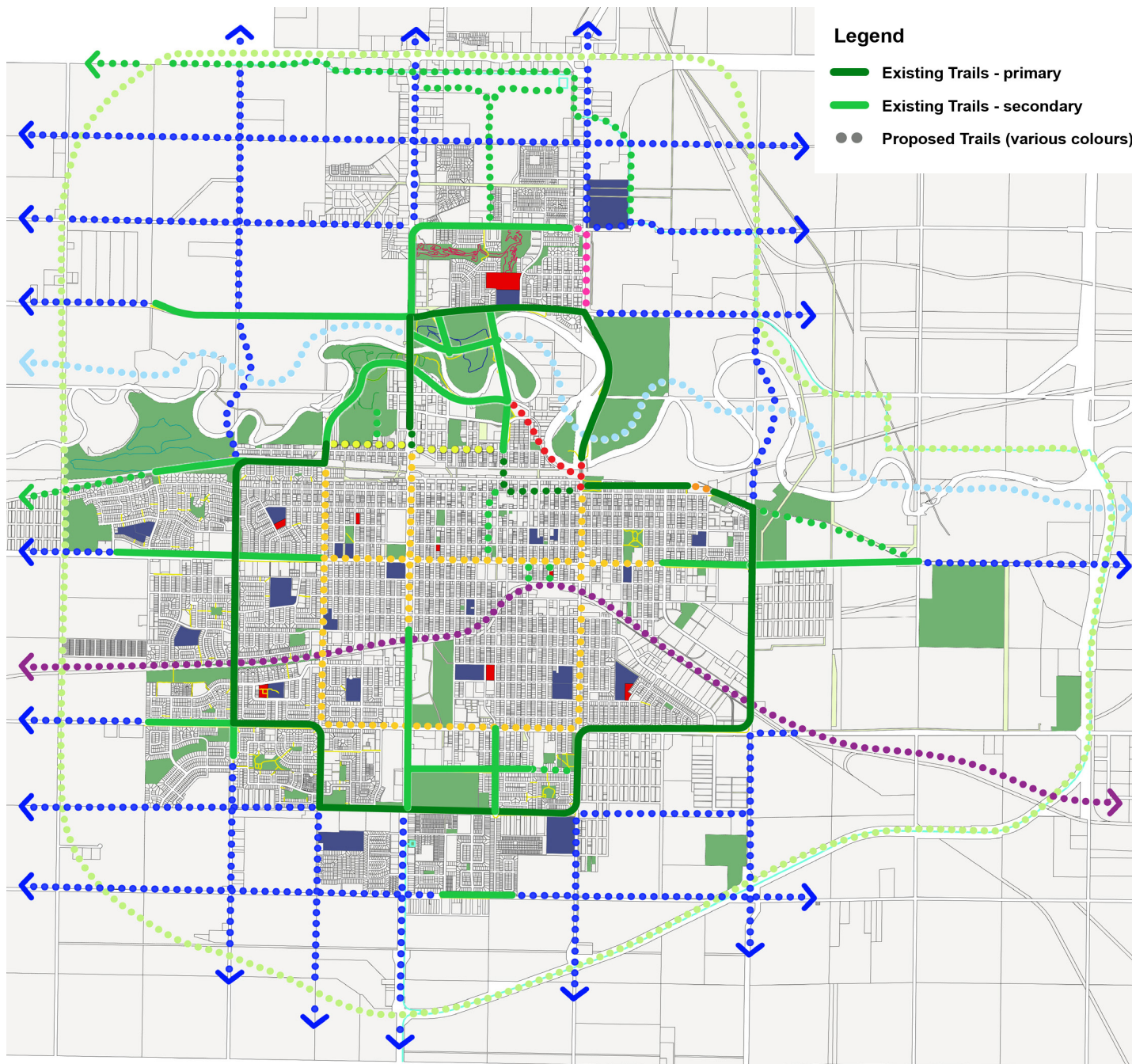
South of River Linkage - Complete existing link along north side of Rosser Avenue at 11th Street E trail to 13th Street E trail

- As part of this trail segment development, develop play structures and trailhead at the City owned parcel on the northwest corner of Rosser Avenue E and Percy Street with access to the existing trail section

Trail Section #3 ●●●●

North of River Linkage - Complete existing link from Braecrest Drive to Kirkcaldy Drive

- From end of trail on south side of Braecrest Drive to the east side of 1st Street North
- Along east side of 1st Street North at Braecrest Drive to Kirkcaldy Drive and the trail at 1st Street



Note: The above plan is a concept expressing suggested, not precise locations.

Map of Future Trail System



Existing trail along 34th Street
at Victoria Avenue



Existing trail along 34th Street
near Cherry Crescent



Existing trail along Pacific Avenue



Graphic representation of potential
Trail Section #4
at end of Assiniboine Avenue



18th Street trail near railroad tracks
Trail Section #5
Continue trail all along 18th Street



Graphic representation of potential
Miscellaneous Trail Linkages
between Andrews Field ball diamonds

Trail Section #4 ●●●●

The Flats Linkage - Complete existing link from Parker Boulevard to Errol Black Park and 1st Street N trails

- From the eastern-most trail section along north side of Parker Boulevard, eastward across the front of the Co-op Feeds Livestock parcel to the eastern end of the street
- Along the existing trail/road, eastward to top of dike near the river
- Southeast along top of dike to where it intersects with the end of Assiniboine Avenue
- East along the extension of Assiniboine Avenue to the 1st Street Bridge where structure of steps to access the walkway along the east side of the 1st Street bridge (easement with railroad required)
- From the middle of the 1st Street bridge, north to the existing trail segment adjacent to Optimist Soccer Park and South to the existing Errol Black Park trail segment

Trail Sections #5 ●●●●

Intra-City Loop Trail Linkages - Complete the grid work of trails through the City

- Along 18th Street connecting the existing trail ends at Maple Avenue and the rail crossing just south of Park Avenue (both on the east side of 18th Street)
- Along 1st Street connecting the existing trail ends near the bridge over the Assiniboine River and at Richmond Avenue
- Along Victoria Avenue connecting the existing trail ends at 26th Street and Douglas Street
- Along Richmond Avenue connecting the existing trail ends at 26th Street and just east of the 1st Street intersection

Miscellaneous Trail Linkages

- North Brandon Gateway Secondary Plan linkages
- Formalize the trail along the rail line adjacent to the golf course from 34th Street to 50th Street
- From the proposed Trail Segment #1 at the intersection of the alleyway north of McDonald Avenue and 21st Street, north into Canada Games Park, between the Andrews Field ball diamonds, to the existing dike trail northeast of the Skating Oval
- Along the rail line from 17th Street E near Finley Drive to Victoria Avenue E (easement required for parts of trail)
- Along 9th Street from the proposed 8th Street Bridge, part of Trail Section #1 at Pacific Avenue, to Victoria Avenue (the proposed Trail Section #5)
- Along 6th Street from Victoria Avenue (the proposed Trail Section #5) to the proposed CN Rail Line Trail (Trail Section #6)
- Link with Central Community Centre along 4th Street from Victoria Avenue (the proposed Trail Section #5)
- Link with Ecole Harrison and George Fitton Schools along Hill Avenue from 1st Street (the proposed Trail Section #5)
- Link with Linden Lanes School and Westridge Community Centre from existing spur trail connected to the proposed CN Rail Line Trail (Trail Section #6)

5.7.2 Future Trail System

The “Outer Ring Trail” trail section will form a secondary loop around the City with numerous cross spurs, maintaining connectivity within any new development. The outer ring trail is about 350 km in length, with roughly an additional 80 km of trails required to complete the east/west cross trails in the trail system and the connections from the Inner Loop to the Outer Ring Trails. These additional trail sections are:

Trail Section #6 ●●●

CN Rail Line Trail - Running beside the rail line from/to the proposed Outer Ring Trail (easements required)

Trail Section #7 ●●●

Assiniboine River Trail - Through the river corridor from/to the proposed Outer Ring Trail (easements may be required)

Trail Section #8 ●●●

Outer Ring Trail - Loop around the urban area following portions of Hwy 110/existing snowmobile trail (easements required)

Inner Loop Trail to Outer Ring Trail Linkages #9 ●●●

- North from end of 34th St at Pacific Ave and along 34th St south from Aberdeen Ave and Lakeview Dr
- Along 18th Street, north from Braecrest Drive and south from Maryland Avenue
- Along 1st Street, north from Braecrest Drive and south from Maryland Avenue
- From north end of 17th St by Finley Dr to Rt 457 (easement required) and from south end of 17th St to Richmond Avenue
- West and east from ends of existing trail along Clare Avenue (easements required)
- From ends of trail along Braecrest Dr to the west and east along Lori Ave from 1st Street N (easement required)
- Along Grand Valley Road to the west and along Route 457 from 1st Street to the east
- Along Victoria Avenue, west from Governors Road and east from 33rd Street E
- Along Richmond Ave., west from the existing City limits and east from 17th Street E to proposed CN Rail Line trail segment
- Along Maryland Avenue, west from 26th Street and east from 1st Street to 17th Street E (easements required)
- Along Patricia Avenue, west and east from ends of existing trail

This trail system will comprise a 350 km Outer Ring Trail and 133 linear kilometres of other trails (2.9 km / 1000 population) for a total of 483 km, providing 10.5 km of trails/ 1,000 population. This future interconnected trail network for the City of Brandon would be connected to the following:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| • 51 of 92 existing greenspaces (~55%) (additional 24 greenspaces) | • 11 of 26 Leisure Greenspaces |
| • All of the proposed Celebration Greenspaces | • 5 of 7 Environmental Greenspaces |
| • 5 of 8 Cultural Greenspaces | • 9 out of 20 Educational Greenspaces |
| • 11 of 13 Activity Greenspaces | • 4 of 7 Community Centre Greenspaces |
| | • 2 of 4 Community Gardens |



Existing trail along Richmond Avenue



Existing trail along Brandon Municipal Cemetery at 18th Street



Existing trail along Maryland Avenue at 20th Street



6. Policy Framework

Policy implements and guides change in the short and long term. It is used to implement the goals and objectives of the plan. Policy applies to government decisions, review and development approvals. Clear policies, together with the recommendations for next steps to implementation, will provide the foundation for developing and enhancing the Greenspace System. In addition to related municipal policy, the following policies provide the guiding statements for greenspace development.

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6.1 General Policies

Greenspace is one of the most important components of the public realm and structure of the community. The following policies detail how the City should preserve, enhance and promote greenspace development to further the evolution of Brandon as a city.

6.1.1 Policy – Consistency

The design and configuration of each greenspace, trail and pathway shall be consistent with the City of Brandon Greenspace Master Plan.

6.1.2 Policy – Greenspace

Areas designated as greenspace should be developed in accordance with appropriate zoning standards.

6.1.3 Policy – Public Realm

The greenspace, as a key component of the “Public Realm”, should be viewed as a signature and brand in the identity of the City of Brandon.

6.1.4 Policy – Attractive Public Realm

Greenspace shall be developed as attractive elements of the public realm within the community.

6.1.5 Policy – Existing Conditions

Existing vegetation, wetlands and drainage courses should be preserved and integrated into the open space design where possible.

6.1.6 Policy – Multi-purpose Greenspace

Greenspaces shall have a specific focus or use and should also offer a variety of mixed use and passive recreation. All greenspaces should have playgrounds for children and toddlers and fulfill the role of a Leisure Greenspace.

6.1.7 Policy – Legal Use of Private Parks & Playgrounds

Parks developed on private property for private use should be encouraged to allow public community use.

6.1.8 Policy – Greenspace Development Standards

Developers shall develop greenspace to City standards and prototypes as outlined in the Greenspace Master Plan and acceptable to the City before relinquishing ownership to the City.

6.1.9 Policy – Dedication Funds

Public reserve dedication funds should only be taken if the size of the dedicated land is too small to support the greenspace classification requirements and/or the area is already serviced.

6.1.10 Policy – Access to Assiniboine

Increased access to the Assiniboine River Corridor should be improved and addressed in all adjacent development proposals.

6.1.11 Policy – Water conservation

Water conservation and quality should be addressed in all public and private development approvals.

6.1.12 Policy – Natural Play Areas

Play areas made of natural materials should be considered in all municipal greenspace in addition to or in lieu of traditional play structures. All structures shall be reviewed for safety compliance.

6.2 Systems Plan Policies

The master concept for greenspace looks at a city wide approach to the supply delivery and development of greenspace in the future City of Brandon, linking all destinations, facilitating all users and enhancing the character and identity of the City.

6.2.1 Policy – Naturalization of Flood Prone Areas

Flood prone areas should be allowed to naturalize as ecological preservation areas and maintenance should be minimal. The only development in natural areas should be access trails and other elements resistant to flooding damage.

6.2.2 Policy – System

All greenspace should be linked with trails and green streets to facilitate safe pedestrian and bicycle circulation.

6.2.3 Policy – Classifications

The Greenspace Master Plan classifications, including the re-classification of existing greenspaces, should be used to program, plan, design and develop future greenspace within the City of Brandon.

6.2.4 Policy – Level of Service

Level of Service standards should be used as guidelines for the programming, planning, design and development of future greenspace within the City of Brandon. The City of Brandon should attempt to attain a level of service standard of approximately 7 ha per 1,000 population.

6.2.5 Policy – Linked Trails

The acquisitions plan should be followed to complete infill and development for the comprehensive, linked trail system.

6.2.6 Policy – “Hub” Designations Hierarchy

The new system of nodes promoting larger and more diverse greenspaces should be developed for celebration and activity greenspaces based on an approximately 30-minute walking distance.

6.2.7 Policy – Signage

A common signage program should be used to guide the installation of identification signs at all greenspace entrances and trailheads.

6.2.8 Policy – Playgrounds

Playgrounds should be provided in all individual greenspaces to support a service radius of approximately a five-minute walk.

6.2.9 Policy – Views

Greenscape views should be preserved, if possible, on the north hill of the Assiniboine River corridor.

6.2.10 Policy – Provincial Lands

Brandon should initiate a dialogue with the Province of Manitoba for the acquisition of Provincial lands proximate to Assiniboine Community College.

6.2.11 Policy – “The Flats”

The area known as “the Flats” on the south bank of the Assiniboine River should be either owned, acquired or controlled by the City of Brandon as greenspace and flood prone lands. New development should be restricted in the area.

6.2.12 Policy – Prototypes

Greenspace prototypes should be used to guide the content and quality of greenspaces and enhance their design.

6.2.13 Policy – Landfill Site

Future remediation of the Eastview Landfill Site should promote the development of a greenspace on the site cap.

6.2.14 Policy – Cemetery

The Brandon Municipal Cemetery and any future redevelopment there should be viewed as a unique greenspace encouraging public use while preserving, protecting and respecting the heritage, culture and memorial functions of the greenspace.

6.2.15 Policy – Riverbank Discovery Centre

The Riverbank Discovery Centre should be focused as a major interpretation and education centre for ecology and naturalization.

6.2.16 Policy – School Division

The City of Brandon and the Brandon School Division should work together to promote equal greenspace standards, complementary signage and a common identity to assist in branding the Brandon greenspace system.

6.3 Economic Development & Identity Policies

The greenspace gives the City its unique identity. The following policies detail how the City should leverage these community features to embrace the character of Brandon.

6.3.1 Policy – Economic Development

Greenspace should be recognized as important element of the City's ability to attract and retain employers and a quality workforce as well as its ability to market itself regionally and nationally.

6.3.2 Policy – Identity

The Greenspace System should be recognized as a source of identity, pride and a key element of a high living standard and quality of life.

6.3.3 Policy – Riverfront Focus

The riverfront should be the focus of the Greenspace System and linked visually/physically to all aspects of the community.

6.3.4 Policy – Riverfront Character

All riverfront properties/parks in the flood prone lands should be naturalized and restore a riverfront character and a riverfront trail/boardwalk along the water's edge.

6.3.5 Policy – Trails

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

6.3.6 Policy – Community Branding

The use and promotion of the City's brand is essential to the community's development and should be incorporated into the Greenspace System as a unifying message.

6.3.7 Policy – Public Art & Identity

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

6.3.8 Policy – Downtown HUB

The Greenspace System should support and promote the downtown HUB and connect the downtown to all peripheral greenspaces and destinations through trails, sidewalks and shared "green streets".

6.3.9 Policy – Cultural Interpretation

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

6.3.10 Policy – Cultural & Heritage Stories

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

6.3.11 Policy – Sports Tourism

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

6.3.12 Policy – Cultural Tourism

Cultural tourism should be encouraged and promoted in greenspace proximate to the riverfront. Designated parks should be linked and offer entertainment and gathering venues for festivals and events.

6.3.13 Policy – Naming Rights

Naming rights for future greenspace and existing amenities including ball fields, playgrounds, amphitheaters, splash pads, community gardens and trails should be encouraged, at the discretion of the City, to diversify funding sources. Naming partnerships provide an opportunity to reinforce the image of the community minded organization, individual or business to demonstrate their support for community investments.

6.4 Greenspace Design Policies

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

6.4.1 Policy – Acquisitions

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

6.4.2 Policy – Riverfront

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

6.4.3 Policy – Greenspace Experience

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

6.4.4 Policy – Park Design

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

6.4.5 Policy – Enhance Accessibility

Greenspace shall provide adequate inter-modal access from transit and pedestrian spaces with adequate parking facilities, barrier free parking and bicycle racks.

6.4.6 Policy - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

CPTED is an approach to the design of public space that promotes crime prevention by maximizing visibility and fostering positive social interaction and addresses:

- Points of entry and overall visibility
- Visual obstructions in the landscape
- Fence placement, transparency and height
- Lighting design

Greenspace design should incorporate CPTED principles where compatible.

6.4.7 Policy – Dog Parks

Dog parks should be promoted in parks of adequate size (2.0 ha minimum suggested), excluding areas proximate to the riverfront or in celebration and environmental parks. A minimum of 0.4 hectares is recommended for a dog park, with 0.8 hectares being an ideal size. A park containing a dog park should have a minimum buffer of 15 metres between the dog park and other programmed areas.

6.4.8 Policy – Donated Elements

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

6.4.9 Policy – Gifts and Loans

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

6.4.10 Policy – Cultural Enhancements

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

6.5 Circulation & Linkage Policies

Connecting the system of greenspaces is central to the development of a system and is a key feature of Brandon's community identity. The following policies promote the linkage of the community through trails and other opportunities.

6.5.1 Policy – Link the Community

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

6.5.2 Policy – Linked Greenspace

Lands designated greenspace are intended to achieve a linked Greenspace System.

6.5.3 Policy – Link Private Parks

Parks developed on private property for private use should be adjacent and accessible to the public greenspace system.

6.5.4 Policy – “Complete Streets”

The community should develop complete streets allowing for inter-modal travel in the downtown core on Lorne, Princess and Rosser Avenues.

6.5.5 Policy – Urban Growth Boundary

A city wide urban growth boundary should be defined by a perimeter trail that encircles the City.

6.5.6 Policy – Riverfront Road Ends

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

6.5.7 Policy – Trails

Multi-use trail connections will play a key role in linking greenspace throughout the community.

6.5.8 Policy – Trail Visibility/Profile

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

6.5.9 Policy – Trailheads

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

6.5.10 Policy – Sculpture Trail

As a highlight of the Greenspace System a sculpture trail should be developed to promote arts, culture and heritage, link both sides of the river and link Sir Winston Churchill Park & Playground (Celebration Park) to the downtown.

6.6 Inclusivity & Accessibility Policies

One of the most critical features of greenspace is that it is accessible to all and offers an inclusive environment. The following policies ensure this feature is incorporated as the system develops.

6.6.1 Policy – Inclusivity

Greenspace and related facilities, amenities and programs should be inclusive and service all residents.

6.6.2 Policy – Universal Accessibility

Greenspace shall be universally accessible excluding areas of natural terrain more difficult to access with the understanding of impacts on nature preservation.

6.6.3 Policy – Year Round Use

Since land is a limited resource and outdoor exercise is an essential component of greenspace development, greenspace should be designed and maintained for four season use.

6.6.4 Policy – Shared Facilities

In order to maximize the use of space, greenspace should utilize multi-use and shared use facilities, including properties owned by the Assiniboine Community College and the Province of Manitoba, for continuation of sports fields and trail connections for the benefit of all users.

6.6.5 Policy – Community Gardens

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

6.7 Safety & Maintenance Policies

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

6.7.1 Policy – Enhanced Use

Greenspace shall be designed to follow Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, Barrier Free Principles and to facilitate use in all seasons.

6.7.2 Policy – Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance

The maintenance of greenspace shall employ environmentally sensitive management practices including xeriscaping and methods incorporating non-chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

6.7.3 Policy – Visibility of Open Spaces

Visibility and accessibility increase the profile of greenspaces, which should have a full block continuous frontage on at least one municipal street, access from all adjacent municipal streets and have defined entrances that connect to the streets.

6.7.4 Policy – Visibility and Safety

Greenspace shall be located and designed to maximize visibility and safety.

6.7.5 Policy – Safety and Security

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

6.7.6 Policy – Reduced Maintenance

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

6.8 Natural Environment Policies

The natural environment is the foundation of the community, ensuring the protection and preservation of these critical resources is essential to the physical development of the community. The following policies promote the natural environment throughout the Greenspace System.

6.8.1 Policy – Natural Heritage

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

6.8.2 Policy – Storm Water

Natural storm water detention/retention and wildlife corridors should be promoted and incorporated into the Greenspace and Open Space Systems.

6.8.3 Policy – Riverfront Shorelines

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

6.8.4 Policy – Native Trees

Greenspaces should be sufficiently landscaped to improve their aesthetic and natural role and be planted with native tree species to enhance the tree canopy in the City minimizing radiation and maximizing the cooling effect.

6.8.5 Policy – Protect Viewshed

The southern facing slope along the Assiniboine Valley should be protected as much as possible, including Sir Winston Churchill Park & Playground greenspace, to enhance and protect the viewshed from the downtown HUB.

6.8.6 Policy – Compatibility with Nature

Greenspaces should be designed and developed with public access that is compatible with the intended level of conservation, protection and enhancement of natural resources.

6.9 Programs & Event Policies

Programs and events bring Brandon to life and have the potential to highlight the Greenspace resources of the City. The following policies guide the provision of programs and events to residents and visitors.

6.9.1 Policy – Community Events

A variety of community events should be promoted and major events should be accommodated in multiple greenspace venues especially Celebration Greenspaces.

6.9.2 Policy – Programming

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

6.9.3 Policy – Event Spaces

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

6.9.4 Policy – Urban Agriculture

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

6.10 Land Use and Urban Design Policies

Greenspace forms the backbone of the structure of the community. Urban design and land use should support and enhance Greenspace development as the fundamental form of the City of Brandon.

6.10.1 Policy – Integrated Framework

Development should establish a connected integrated framework of greenspaces and recreational areas.

6.10.2 Policy – Access Partnerships

Partnerships shall be explored/created with privately developed greenspace that would allow access for all residents.

6.10.3 Policy – Landscape Innovation

Innovative greenscape landscaping, especially in the downtown HUB, such as living walls and green roofs shall be encouraged.

6.10.4 Policy – Tree Preservation

Development should protect and enhance existing woodlots, mature trees and other ecological features.

6.10.5 Policy – Tree Canopy

A comprehensive program of planting indigenous trees should be promoted within the community to increase the tree canopy, habitat and community health.

6.10.6 Policy – Urban Forest and Trees

The City's Urban Forestry Plan is currently under development. This plan should specify that the urban forest shall be maintained and enhanced with suitable indigenous trees. Urban forest cover on public land should be a minimum 25% in urban areas, with 30% the ideal.

6.11 Heritage Policies

Greenspace defines both natural and cultural heritage and is the backdrop for the history of the community. Heritage should be expressed in all aspects of greenspace development.

6.11.1 Policy – Natural River Heritage

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

6.11.2 Policy – Culture

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

6.11.3 Policy – Arts

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

6.12 Management Policies

Greenspace defines the community and a System of Greenspaces should continue to be developed and maintained to meet the needed of existing and future populations.

6.12.1 Policy – Impact Fees

The City shall evaluate impacts fees for greenspaces annually to provide sufficient revenue to acquire land for new greenspaces and construct recreation facilities in existing and future greenspaces. Cash in lieu fee needs to reflect true market value.

6.12.2 Policy – Dedication

The City shall require developers to dedicate suitable land or payment in lieu of land at the discretion of the City to meet the needs of the existing and projected population.

6.12.3 Policy – Access

The City shall ensure the availability and access to greenspaces and facilities for all residents and visitors and will work with other agencies and private suppliers to fulfill this obligation.

6.12.4 Policy – Level of Service Standards

As the population grows and to replace flooded facilities the City shall increase acquisitions and recreation facilities to generally maintain Level of Service Standards.

6.12.5 Policy – Annual Review

The City shall annually update the Capital Improvement element of the plan to acquire and develop the recreational facilities needed to maintain the Level of Service Standards.

6.12.6 Policy – Funding Sources

The City shall investigate and seek alternative funding sources to provide public greenspace facilities, programs and management.

6.12.7 Policy – Partnerships

The City shall develop agreements with educational institutions, not-for-profit and profit recreation providers to assist in the acquisition of greenspace and in the provision of recreational programming and facilities.

6.12.8 Policy – School Division

The City and the School Division should continue to work together to co-locate sites and facilities, develop a common identity and supply greenspace accessible and usable by all residents.

6.12.9 Policy – Public Reserve

The City shall require accessible Leisure Parks as outlined in the prototypes as public reserve dedication in new neighbourhoods.

6.12.10 Policy – Trail Greenspace Allowance

The City shall incorporate a trail Right of Way in all new development as determined by the trail hierarchy in the Greenspace Systems Plan as part of the road allowance and Transportation Master Plan.

6.12.11 Policy – Public Outreach

The City shall require public outreach when designing a new greenspace prior to the formal public hearing process as part of a rezoning and subdivision application.

6.12.12 Policy – Secondary Plans

Greenspace and linkages shall be located, identified and classified on all Secondary Plans.

6.12.13 Policy – Neighbourhood Plans

The City shall require concepts for all greenspaces and public reserve areas in all Neighbourhood Plans.

6.12.14 Policy – Greenspace Funding & Development

All development of public greenspace in the City of Brandon and all fund raising related to greenspaces and greenspace development shall be monitored, controlled and directed by the City and held to City standards, while recognizing existing partnerships and agreements.



7. Appendix

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7.1 Definitions

“Complete Streets” means streets that accommodate all users including pedestrians, bicyclists, automobiles and transit in a transportation system that supports safe use of the roadway for everyone. The concept incorporates street connectivity and aims to create a comprehensive, integrated, connected network for all modes.

“Design Language” means a consistent use of colors, forms, textures, materials, furnishings, etc. which creates a strong thematic quality and over arching style perceived as a “Brandon Greenspace”.

“Greenspace” means parks, open spaces, trails, trailheads, outdoor athletic facilities, and school yards, public or private.

“Green Streets” means a street right-of-way that gives priority to pedestrian circulation and open space over other transportation uses. Green Streets provide control of storm-water, limit its transport and pollutant conveyance and provide environmentally enhanced roads.

“Level of Service” means standards that measure the amount of the public facility which must be provided to meet that community’s basic needs and expectations.

“Natural Play Area” means outdoor spaces designated for play that are made of natural components such as plants, logs, water, sand, mud, boulders, hills and trees and supporting creative interaction using items found in nature.

“Naturalization” means the process of transforming a cultivated landscape into a more natural landscape. Natural landscapes feature native plants forming a naturally occurring habitat, such as forest, wetlands or meadow. Increasing the biodiversity will help to create a more sustainable landscape.

The benefits to planting native trees and shrubs, and not mowing for activity areas include:

- Capture rainwater reducing the risk of flooding
- Reduce maintenance costs
- Re-establishes native plants, birds and other wildlife
- Improve air quality
- Stabilize slopes preventing erosion
- Provide windbreaks for snow capture and dust reduction
- The landscape will become a source of beauty as naturalized park and roadway sites mature
- Promotes environmental programs
- Increased green and shady areas for passive activities
- Reduce noise levels

(Courtesy of the City of Edmonton Naturalization program)

“Passive Activities” means uses that minimize disturbance to the site.

“Primary Trail” means an asphalt or other hard surface trail a minimum 3.0 m wide.

“Secondary Trail” means an asphalt or permeable surface trail a minimum 2.5 m wide.

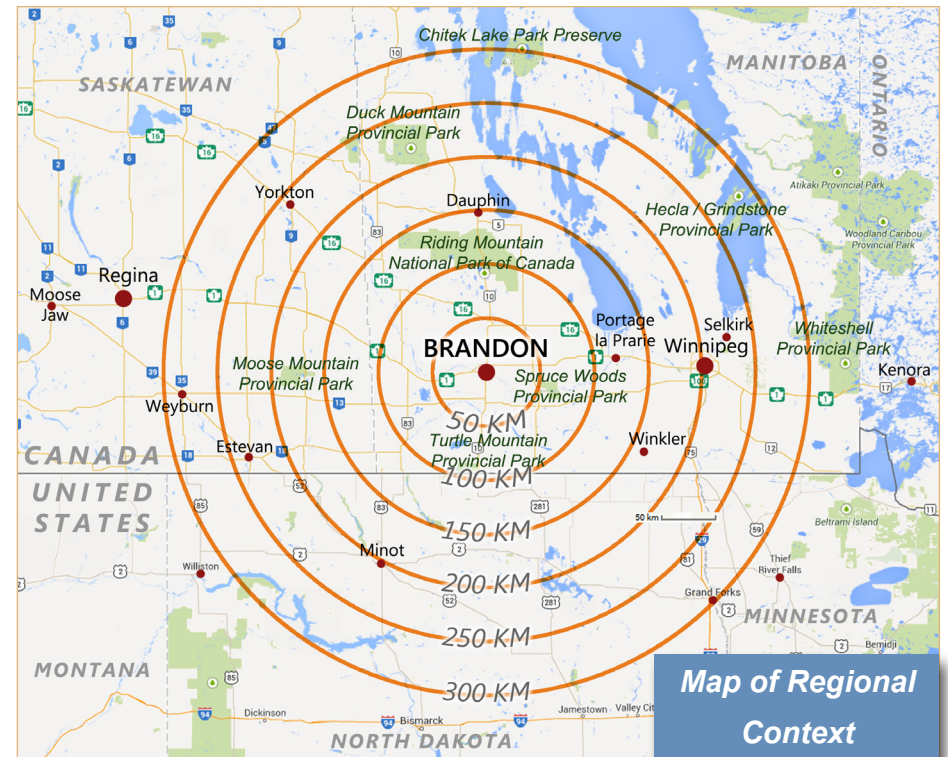
7.2 Context

7.2.1 Regionally

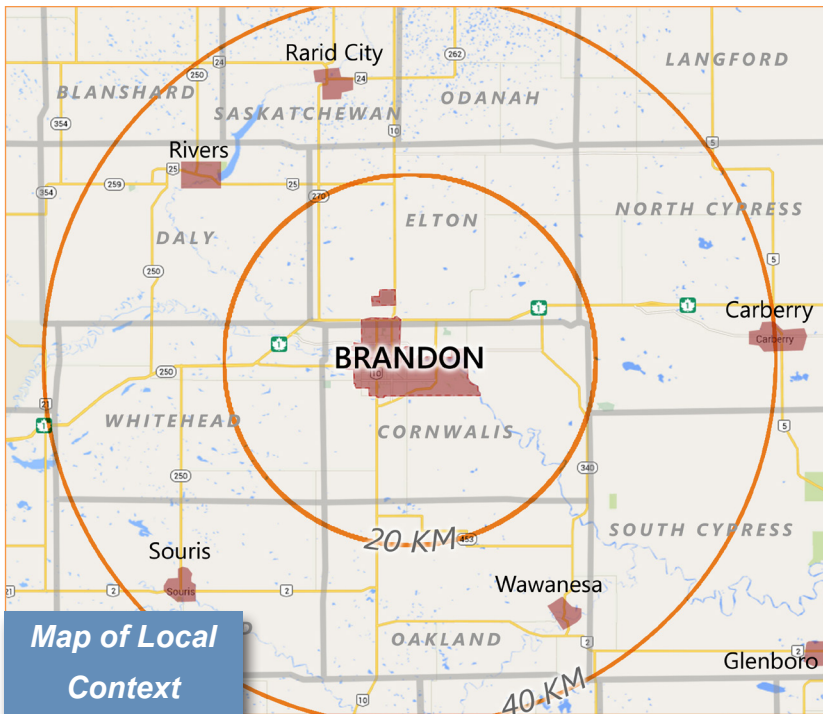
Brandon is Manitoba's second largest city. It is located in the southwest of the province in the Canadian Prairies. It is within the Aspen Parkland eco-region, and is characterized by groves of poplar and spruce intermingled with prairie grasslands with forest and shrubby-lined valleys over gently rolling hillsides. Brandon is located in the valley formed by the path of the Assiniboine River as it winds its way 1,000 kilometres from eastern Saskatchewan to the Red River in Winnipeg. It is called the Wheat City because of the vast amount of grain that passed through from farm to market via the Canadian Pacific Railway and in reference to its reputation as a prosperous farming community and rich agricultural heritage.

7.2.2 Locally

Brandon, with a city population of 46,061, is the hub for the surrounding agricultural area with 56,219 people in the metro area and between 70,000 and 150,000 people



in its trading area is. Brandon's industry reflects its agricultural history; its major industries are related to agriculture and include fertilizer and hog processing plants, as well as retail and government services for the surrounding area. It has an airport with daily service provided by WestJet Encore between Brandon and Calgary, AB, and provided by Perimeter Airlines between Brandon, Winnipeg and Dauphin. The City is situated along the Assiniboine River with Spruce Woods Provincial Park and Canada Forces Base Shilo to its east, Riding Mountain National Park of Canada to the north, Turtle Mountain Provincial Park to the south and Moose Mountain Provincial Park to the west. The Trans-Canada Highway (Hwy 1), the primary east west corridor across the Province, is adjacent and north of Brandon's major municipal boundary, which is ringed by Highway #1A on the east, and in the future will be completed westward. The City is central to the Brandon Area Planning District (BAPD) including Cornwallis and Elton Rural Municipalities. It is growing with development occurring mainly to the south and to the north towards Hwy 1 and has a downtown hub renaissance program to facilitate revitalization of the downtown core. A recreation trail system services the entire urban area and includes a perimeter snowmobile trail section.





*Historic City Hall gardens circa 1911
(Source: Peel's Prairie Provinces, a
digital initiative of the University of
Alberta Libraries))*



*Stanley Park (formerly West End Park)
with the historic Park School visible
in the background (Source: Albertype
Company/Library and Archives
Canada/PA-031620)*



*Historic Winter Fair Building was
built in 1908 (Source: Albertype
Company/Library and Archives
Canada/PA-031627)*

7.3 History of Greenspace in Brandon

Brandon has a long history of greenspace preservation and development. The purpose of reviewing this history is to understand the greenspace system in the present day context.

Brandon was founded in the late 1870's at Grand Valley and Brandon Hills. Its first settlers were Quebec and Maritime Protestants, followed by British and American immigrants. When the Canadian Pacific Railway was developed through the region in 1881, Brandon quickly developed into the transportation and trade centre for the area. It grew so fast that it was incorporated as a city in 1882, having never been designated as a town or village. Later, in 1906, the City determined that it "needed to help keep the City in good order" so it established a public parks board. The board began to beautify the City by building boulevards and acquiring several of the City's greenspaces. The board requested control of the cemetery site, City Hall grounds and Rideau and West End parks. The board continued to acquire greenspaces and establish parks throughout the 20th century. It established the parks along the Assiniboine River which now form part of the City's trail system. During the early 1920's, the City determined a need for a large public park for the City residents. Land was acquired and Suburban Park (currently called Turtle Crossing; a private campground facility) was established. To commemorate the coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1937, Jubilee Park, (now Coronation Park) was developed. In the early 1950's, the City established a Recreation Department that was to oversee playgrounds and children's activities. In 1995, it was decided to combine the Parks Board and the established Recreation Department into the department of Parks and Recreation. The Parks and Recreation Department has since merged with other departments to create the Department of Community Services.

The City of Brandon has always had access to some of Manitoba's most remarkable natural recreation areas, such as Spruce Woods and Turtle Mountain Provincial Parks. Numerous industries have been developed in the City and are related to its agricultural past. Local industries include: fertilizer and hog processing plants, retail and government services. Brandon has a federal agricultural research station and is home to Brandon University and Assiniboine Community College. The City has hosted the Canada Winter Games (1979), the World Curling Championships (1995), the Canada Summer Games (1997) and the Special Olympics (2006). It is also known for its agricultural shows put on by the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba; these include the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, the Manitoba Summer Fair and the Manitoba Livestock Expo, the province's largest livestock show and sale. In 1995 the City completed a Master Plan for the development of the Assiniboine corridor. Brandon Riverbank Inc., was established to oversee this vision and operate the Riverbank Discovery Centre as a focus for the City providing a visitor information centre and river corridor interpretive facility.

7.4 Greenspace Mapping

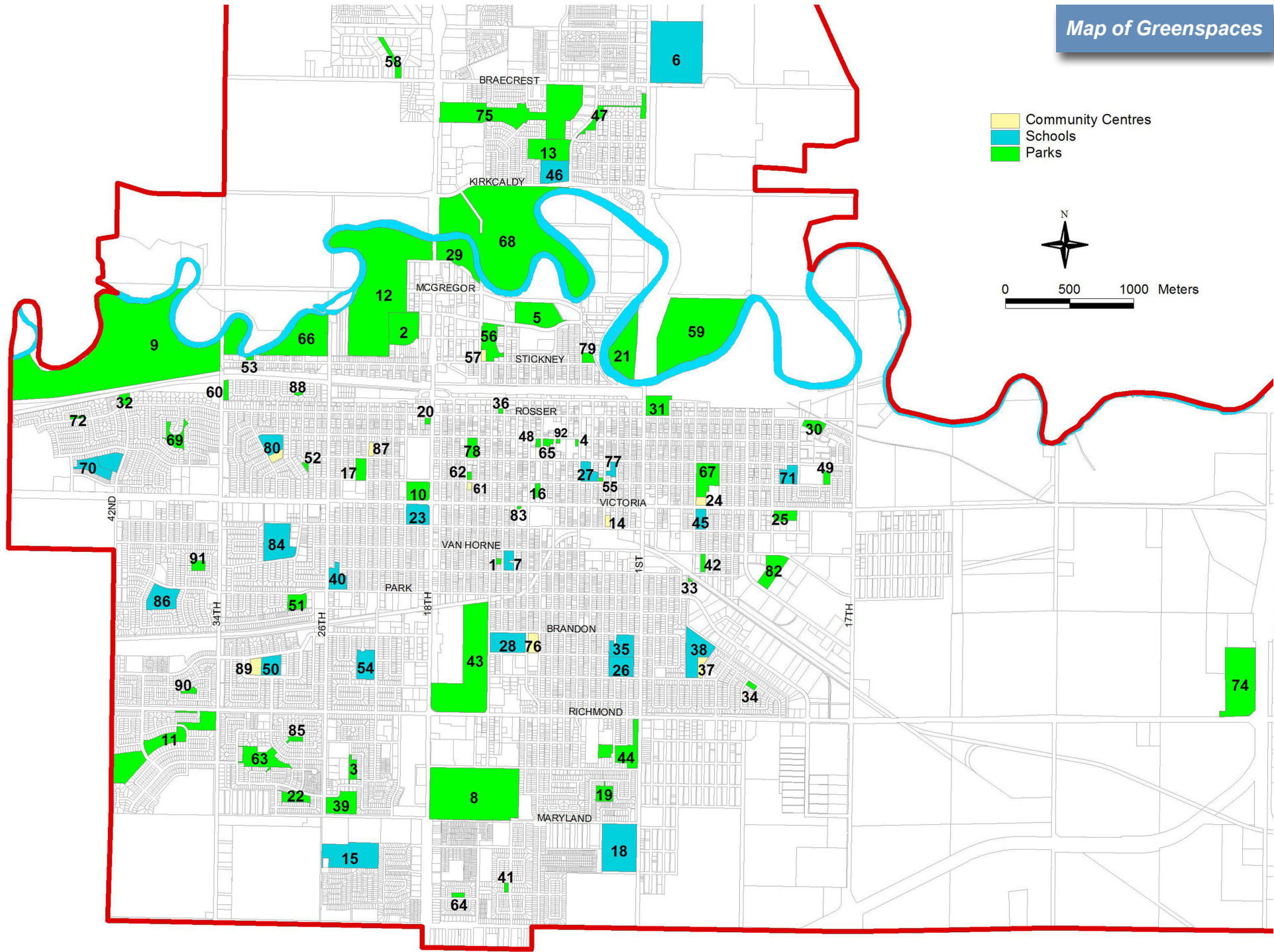
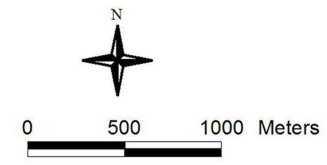
#	Name	Area (Ha)
1	Alexandra Community Garden	0.17
2	Andrews Field	5.59
3	Argyle Courts Playground	1.07
4	A.R. McDiarmid Park	0.13
5	Ashley Neufeld Softball Complex	6.03
6	Assiniboine Community College Fields	19.36
7	Betty Gibson School	1.14
8	Brandon Municipal Cemetery	17.89
9	Brandon Recreation Centre	65.32
10	Brandon University Healthy Living Centre	2.57
11	Brookwood Drive Retention Area	10.74
12	Canada Games Park	40.89
13	Canada Games Sportsplex	5.21
14	Central Community Centre	0.33
15	Christian Heritage School	8.11
16	City Hall Plaza	0.41
17	Coronation Park & Playground	1.37
18	Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School	9.91
19	Crocus Playground	1.63
20	Daly House Victorian Garden	0.17
21	Dinsdale Park	7.07
22	Durum Drive Retention Area	1.62
23	Earl Oxford School	2.78
24	East End Community Centre	0.81
25	East End Paw Park	0.81
26	École Harrison School	2.91
27	École New Era School	1.59
28	École secondaire Neelin High School	4.19
29	Eleanor Kidd Park & Gardens	5.52
30	Empress Park & Playground	1.22
31	Errol Black Park	2.82
32	Fox Place Playground	0.66

#	Name	Area (Ha)
33	Frederick Street Playground	0.06
34	Garwood Playground	0.30
35	George Fitton School	2.99
36	Global Market	0.14
37	Green Acres Community Centre	0.81
38	Green Acres School	4.92
39	Hummingbird Community Garden	3.65
40	J.R. Reid School	2.12
41	Jacobson Park (Woodlands)	0.26
42	Keystone Habitat For Humanity Playground	0.50
43	Keystone Park	21.60
44	Kin Park & Playground	4.55
45	King George School	1.25
46	Kirkcaldy Heights School	3.84
47	Knowlton Drive Park	2.2
48	Kristopher Campbell Memorial Skate Plaza	0.22
49	Laurence & Louise Playground	0.52
50	Linden Lanes School	2.26
51	Lions Memorial Community Park	1.68
52	Lorne Avenue Triangle	0.2
53	McDonald Avenue Overlook	0.17
54	Meadows School	3.15
55	New Era Leo Lot Playground & Community Garden	0.11
56	North End Communtiy Centre	0.81
57	North End Park & Playground	3.75
58	Oak Bluff Park	1.27
59	Optimist Soccer Park	26.97
60	Pacific Avenue Park	0.57
61	Park Community Centre	0.22
62	Park Community Common	0.22

#	Name	Area (Ha)
63	Parkdale Community Park & Playground	4.21
64	Patricia Heights Community Park & Playground	0.35
65	Princess Park	0.40
66	Queen Elizabeth Park & Playground	13.81
67	Rideau Park	4.43
68	Riverbank Discovery Centre & Trails	51.17
69	Riverheights School	4.48
70	Riverheights Pool & Playground	1.75
71	Riverview School	1.79
72	Rosser Avenue Park	0.24
73	Royal Canadian Legion Diamond	0.61
74	Simplot Millennium Park	12.56
75	Sir Winston Churchill Park & Playground (Hanbury Hill)	20.08
76	South End Community Centre	1.19
77	St Augustines School	0.61
78	Stanley Park	1.19
79	Stickney Avenue Community Garden	0.68
80	Valleyview Centennial School	2.27
81	Valleyview Community Centre	0.67
82	Van Horne Avenue East Diamonds	3.04
83	Veterans' Memorial	0.05
84	Vincent Massey High School	6.04
85	Wascana Drive Playground	0.48
86	Waverly Park School	3.90
87	West End Community Centre	0.39
88	Westaway Playground	0.17
89	Westridge Community Centre	1.10
90	Westview Park	0.42
91	Wilnor Playground	0.81
92	YMCA Plaza	0.1

Map of Greenspaces

- Community Centres
- Schools
- Parks



peter j. smith & company, inc.

7.5 Projected Expenditures Mid/Long Term

Mid / Long Term Projects

For longer term planning purposes, the recommended capital improvement projects were organized in mid and long term time frames. These tables incorporate the results of the evaluations completed for all of Brandon's greenspaces (excluding those contained in the Short Term Milestone Development Goals) with recommended upgrades and improvements to the greenspace and assigned orders of magnitude costs. The matrices on the following pages summarize the actions. Budgetary costs are estimated for the mid term projects only. (Note: Prices have been increased by about 20% for budgeting purposes)

Mid Term		
Greenspace/Location	Projects	Budget Est.
North End Park & Playground	Parking, Seating, Path, Rink Retrofit	\$425K
Eleanor Kidd Park & Gardens	Re-design	\$120K
Rideau Park	Parking, Shelter	\$215K
Veterans' Memorial	Seating, Landscaping	\$30K
Crocus Playground	Play Elements, Seating, Path	\$175K
Fox Place Playground	Play Elements, Path, Landscaping	\$120K
Jacobson (Woodlands) Park	Tot Swings, Trees	\$20K
Knowlton Drive Park	Play Elements, Seating, Path	\$320K
Pacific Avenue Park	Play Elements, Community Garden, Path	\$125K
Patricia Heights Community Park & Playground	Landscaping, Path	\$25K
Rosser Avenue Park	Play Elements, Seating, Path, Community Gardens	\$120K
Durum Drive Detention Area	Interpretive, Landscaping, Path	\$130K
Optimist Soccer Park	Re-locate Pitches, Naturalize, Trails	\$25K
Stickney Avenue Community Garden	Play Elements, Landscaping	\$70K
Water Activities Park		\$450K
Play Equipment	Replacements of worn out equipment / surfacing	\$750K
Trail System		\$1,000K
	Mid Term Total	\$4,120K

Long Term	
Greenspace/Location	Projects
Canada Games Park	Landscaping, Naturalization (River Corridor Master Plan Recommendations)
Eleanor Kidd Park & Gardens	Pedestrian Bridge
Brandon Recreation Centre	Naturalization (River Corridor Master Plan Recommendations)
Brookwood Drive Retention Area	Trail, Interpretive Signage
McDonald Avenue Overlook	Overlook, Natural Play
Oak Bluff	Trail, Parking, Natural Play

7.6 Future Master Plans for Greenspace Development

The following matrix summarizes recommendations for master plans for specific greenspaces:

Master Plans for City-owned Greenspaces					
Area	Purpose	Greenspace	Location	Plan Description	Estimated Cost
1	Environmental Greenspace	Brandon Riverbank Inc. / Riverbank Discovery Centre	#1 – 545 Conservation Drive	Direct future direction for the Assiniboine River Corridor and associated lands	\$150,000
2	Celebration Greenspace	Sir Winston Churchill Park & Playground (Hanbury Hill)	North of City centre (along the north hillside)	Modify existing features to include Museum, Spray Park, Amphitheatre	\$120,000
3	Activity/Celebration Greenspace	In the future when it is at capacity, the City of Brandon Eastview Landfill Site	East of City centre (near 33rd St E & Victoria)	End Use Plan incorporating trail system, overlook, seating	\$80,000
4	Leisure Greenspace	Coronation Park & Playground	East of City centre (intersection of 23rd St & Louise Ave)	Relocate softball diamond and re-develop park as Leisure Greenspace	\$50,000
5	Leisure Greenspace	Wilnor Playground	East of City centre (interior to the Wilnor Bay block)	Model for Leisure Greenspace and incorporate green infrastructure	\$50,000

7.7 Shared Use Agreements

The following matrix summarizes recommendations for potential shared-use agreements for specific greenspaces:

Potential Shared-use Agreements				
Area	Purpose	Greenspace	Location	Land
1	Celebration Greenspace	Existing (Kinsmen Stadium)	City centre (northwest corner of 18th & Victoria)	University of Brandon
2	Celebration Greenspace	Existing (Keystone Park)	Near City centre (northeast corner of 18th & Richmond)	Keystone Centre
3	Celebration Greenspace	Proposed (Part of North Brandon Gateway Secondary Plan area)	North of City centre	City / Private

7.8 Existing Greenspace Reclassified

The following matrix illustrates the existing greenspaces reclassified under the new types of greenspaces:

Type	Activity Greenspace	Celebration Greenspace	Connector Greenspace	Cultural Greenspace	Leisure Greenspace	Environmental Greenspace	Educational Greenspace	Community Garden Greenspace	Community Centre Greenspace
Greenspaces Reclassified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrews Field • Ashley Neufeld Softball Complex • Assiniboine Community College Fields • Brandon Recreation Centre • Brandon University Healthy Living Centre • Canada Games Park • Kin Park & Playground • Kristopher Campbell Memorial Skate Plaza • North End Park & Playground • Royal Canadian Legion Diamond • Simplot Millennium Park • Van Horne Avenue East Diamonds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eleanor Kidd Park & Gardens • Keystone Park • Riverbank Discovery Centre & Trails • Sir Winston Churchill Park & Playground (Hanbury Hill) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trails • Vegetative Corridors • Wildlife corridors • Gateways • Medians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brandon Municipal Cemetery • City Hall Plaza • Daly House Victorian Garden • Global Market • Princess Park • Rideau Park • Stanley Park • Veterans' Memorial • YMCA Plaza 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argyle Courts Playground • A.R. McDiarmid Park • Coronation Park & Playground • Crocus Playground • East End Paw Park • Empress Park & Playground • Errol Black Park • Fox Place Playground • Frederick Street Playground • Garwood Playground • Jacobson Park • Keystone Habitat for Humanity Playground • Knowlton Drive Park • Laurence & Louise Playground • Lions Memorial Community Park • Lorne Avenue Triangle • Pacific Avenue Park • Park Community Common & Playground • Parkdale Community Park & Playground • Patricia Heights Community Park & Playground • Riverheights Pool & Playground • Rosser Avenue Park • Wascana Drive Playground • Westaway Playground • Westview Park • Wilnor Playground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brookwood Drive Retention Area • Dinsdale Park • Durum Drive Detention Area • McDonald Avenue Overlook • Oak Bluff • Optimist Soccer Park • Queen Elizabeth Park & Playground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Betty Gibson School • Christian Heritage School • Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School • Earl Oxford School • Ecole Harrison School • Ecole New Era School • Ecole secondaire Neelin High School • George Fitton School • Green Acres School • J. R. Reid School • King George School • Kirkcaldy Heights School • Linden Lanes School • Meadows School • Riverheights School • Riverview School • St. Augustines School • Valleyview Centennial School • Vincent Massey High School • Waverly Park School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexandra Community Garden • Hummingbird Community Garden • New Era Leo Lot Playground & Community Garden • Stickney Avenue Community Garden <p>Note: there are other community gardens located in other greenspaces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Community Centre • East End Community Centre • Green Acres Community Centre • North End Community Centre • Park Community Centre • South End Community Centre • Valleyview Community Centre • West End Community Centre • Westridge Community Centre

7.9 Public Outreach Summary

As part of the Greenspace Master Plan, a community consultation program was conducted to identify the needs and wants of the community. The following is a summary of the input received during the consultation program's focus groups, online survey public and meetings.

7.9.1 Small Group Interviews

In order to assess the community's needs and wants for outdoor recreation facilities, in 2014 a series of small group interviews were held on August 20 and 21. Additional interviews were conducted on November 12. The August 20 and 21 groups were organized thematically by activity. They were:

- Court Sports
- Ball Diamonds
- Field Sports
- Winter Sports
- Fitness
- Water & Beach Sports
- Community Groups/Culture

There were also sessions with individuals representing institutional recreation users and economic development representatives.

The culture, sports and recreation groups were all asked questions prepared from a list of questions that included the following:

- Do you believe park, recreation and greenspace needs are being met in Brandon? What new facilities do you need? Where should they be located?
- Are there problems associated with existing facilities? Does their quality meet your needs? Are facilities available when you need them? Do you compete with other groups for them?
- Who are your main participants – age, gender, etc.?
- How do you see the future of your organization? Are your needs expanding, contracting or staying the same?
- Are there groups that are not being served? How should their needs be met?
- Are new sports, activities or user groups emerging in Brandon? What are they?

These questions were intended to spark a conversation and not every group addressed every question.

Highlights of the Input Sessions

Community Survey

- 58% of survey respondents go to Brandon's Greenspaces at least 3-5 times weekly
- More people walk to Brandon's Greenspaces (80%) than drive there (71%)
- 75% of survey respondents agree that Greenspaces are easily accessible from where they live
- Respondents are interested in seeing more outdoor sports facilities (48%), typical park amenities such as benches and shelters (47%), entertainment facilities (38%) and naturalized areas (36%) in Brandon's Greenspaces

Public Meeting

The natural setting, family activities and sports are some of the qualities that attract residents to Brandon's greenspaces

Major issues include:

- Flood recovery
- Washrooms
- Aging amenities

Small Group Interviews

Focused on:

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Sports | • College and University | • Economic development |
| • Recreation | • Keystone Centre | • Tourism |
| • YMCA | • Public gathering spaces/ | • Greenspace attractions |
| • Healthy Brandon | entertainment | |

Vision Session

The future system should:

- Have a range of amenities such as paths, natural play areas, outdoor entertainment areas, etc.
- Be available to everyone

The greatest assets of Brandon's Greenspace System are:

- Trail system
- River corridor
- Skateboard park
- Discovery Centre

Court Sports

Among the six people invited to take part in the court sports group, four attended. The sports represented were pickleball, tennis, beach volleyball and lawn bowling.

Tennis Courts

There are six public tennis courts available to use free of charge. Four are located in Queen Elizabeth Park. They are under water. Two tennis courts are located in Stanley Park. These are on higher ground and the participants felt that the City should keep the Queen Elizabeth Park courts but focus its investments on the Stanley Park courts. An additional four courts are located at the Wheat City Country Club, available for a fee and maintained by the Wheat City Tennis Club. These courts need resurfacing and new windscreens. Other comments were that there could be a tennis centre developed on the north hill along with something for youngsters.

Pickleball

Pickleball is growing in Brandon with 33 members engaged after two years of play. The group plays on the Stanley Park tennis courts. Lines are painted on the courts for pickleball. Pickleball players are happy to share courts with the tennis players. Pickleball would prefer a dedicated court, or two. The group would like storage space at the facility it uses. There is more pressure on the Stanley Park courts from both groups when the Queen Elizabeth courts are out of commission. Outside hockey rinks could be programmed for pickleball in the off season if they were level.

Beach volleyball

Beach volleyball in Brandon highlights accessible, casual play for low and moderate income families and children. There are some privately run volleyball leagues and children under 18 can “rent” school sand courts for \$0. Grass courts are not popular in Brandon, and efforts are being made to expand the sand courts. Multiple use courts at the SportsPlex could be used as volleyball courts. There are four courts at the Keystone Centre, but these are being used for parking. There is a level concrete pad beside the South End Community Centre that could be used as a hard court. Other cities are locating beach volleyball courts around their spray parks.

Lawn bowling

Lawn bowling participants feel well accommodated and have a good arrangement with the City. The City has taken on major repairs to the bowling facility. The City gives the group a credit against its water bill for picking up litter and keeping the area tidy and the spray park detention tank is used to irrigate the lawns.

Other comments:

- Disc sports such as ultimate Frisbee are growing in Brandon
- More multi-use areas are needed, such as Rugby Park in Maple Grove, outside of Winnipeg
- More year-round availability of facilities and more activities for lower income families are needed

Ball Diamonds

Three of four people invited to take part in the balls diamonds discussion participated. Minor baseball, slo pitch and regular softball were represented.

Slo Pitch

Slo pitch is limited in its participation by the number of available diamonds. There were 48 teams now pared to 42. The group is losing diamonds to soccer pitches. The league rents diamonds at the CFB Shilo facility for \$30 per night per diamond.

Softball

Fund raising is nearly 50 percent complete for the new Ashley Neufeld Softball Complex, located on the site of the former Burns Meat Packing Plant. The complex is owned by the City, but operated by the clubs under a lease arrangement. The softball diamonds at the new complex will help to replace the diamonds located on the Assiniboine Community College campus. These diamonds are not in good condition and the College is considering using the land for other purposes. Another four diamonds were lost by the City's sale of Curran Park. With funding from the Construction Association of Rural Manitoba and many other organizations, the Neufeld facility will feature four full-size and four mini diamonds and amenities such as change rooms, washrooms and a canteen. It will be home to the Westman Softball Association and the Brandon Mixed Softball League, together representing more than 1,700 ball players of all ages.

Baseball

Baseball owns an eight-diamond complex with four batting cages at Simplot Millennium Park that is home to Minor Ball. It hosted the PeeWee and Bantam AAA Provincial tournaments.

Other comments: Overall, the participants agreed that there is a lack of coordination and communication among the sports groups. One participant noted that groups need to be more flexible about where they play. Ball diamonds located on school campuses were available in the past. A multi-use complex, like that developed for Portage la Prairie with ball diamonds, rugby and soccer fields, a canteen and other amenities, would be ideal.

Field Sports

One of the four people invited to participate in the discussion attended. Soccer was the sport represented. The discussion was wide-ranging and touched on other sports.

Rugby has two fields and is growing with 80 to 100 players. There is not a demand of an additional outdoor field at this time

There are 250 Ultimate Frisbee players

There are 35 Cricket participants

All of the 300 to 500 Football players are youths

The main challenge facing soccer is the condition of its Optimist Park complex, which was characterized as a write off. The complex has flooded every year since 2010; in 2011, 11 pitches were renovated at a cost of \$50,000. There were 1,100 participants, but that number is shrinking because of the lack of facilities. Soccer is being played exclusively on school fields. Many school fields are overused as a result. While Canadians are participating less because of the condition of the fields, immigrants have slowly become more involved in soccer. The immigrants are more likely to play pick-up games than the Canadians. There are between six and 10 teams of Maple Leaf Foods workers. “They’re not organized, but they play.” At the time of the 2014 flood, there was demand for eight additional soccer pitches for a total of 16 fields.

There has been a proposal from the soccer stakeholders for a new 85-acre facility with football, soccer, rugby, ultimate disc and cricket. Soccer and football can share facilities. This proposal has been the subject of two meetings with the mayor. The potential facility would be funded by the user groups who would then be responsible for everything else. The priority would be to build an artificial turf field first and then a sod field. There is an immediate demand for two of each.

Winter Sports

Two of four people invited to participate in a discussion about winter sports attended. The discussion focused on a number of snow sports.

Tobogganing

The tobogganing at Rideau Park is free and it is well loved by Brandon’s youths. Other local tobogganing spots include the Recreation Centre, Hanbury Hill, and Sugar Bowl, with small hills at Parkdale Park, Laurence & Louise Playground and Riverheights and Riverview Schools.

Cross Country Skiing / Snow Shoeing

Cross country skiing is available by the skating oval. The Brandon Hills are just outside of the City and offer snow shoeing and cross country skiing trails as well as hiking and mountain biking. Grand Valley Provincial Park is located about 13 km from Brandon. It is the site of a former water slide attraction. Jordan Ross is going to lease the park from the Province and develop a freestyle park. It will be based upon a membership model and include freestyle skiing and snowboarding.

Fitness

Two of four people invited to participate in a discussion about fitness attended. The format was changed to interviews each with a member of the skateboard and running communities.

Skateboarding

The Kristopher Campbell Memorial Skateboard Plaza in downtown Brandon is a destination for the City's skateboarding youths. The plaza was funded by the City, Province and private donations. The plaza is a 23,000 sq. ft., enough to accommodate learners as well as experienced skaters. It is perceived as a safe place for youths to recreate; the City hired ambassadors to help enforce the rules and show kids how the place works. Skate board camps are organized to get more youths involved in the sport. There is a need for an indoor skate park. However, there is a disconnect between facility costs and skaters willingness to pay.

Running and Biking

A number of running groups, some more formal than others use the trail that circumnavigates the City. It is well loved by the running, walking and dog walking community. There are also spurs and loops that are short cuts from street to street on the trail system. The trails in the east end of the City offer no protection from the elements. There are also arrows on 17th Street and Lorne Avenue to accommodate bicyclers. There is a riverbank trail that should be restored from the recent flooding. Local sports stores run clubs and groups for fitness enthusiasts including a triathlon training group, road and mountain bike groups and a running club. The running groups use the trails, track at the Sportsplex, toboggan hill and riverbank trail.

Institutional Recreation Facilities and Users

All six invitees representing institutional recreation facilities and users attended the discussion.

Brandon School Division

Brandon's schools have a joint use agreement with the City that works well. The main focus of that initiative has been provision of ball diamonds and soccer pitches. The soccer fields in particular are difficult to maintain because of the demand on them.

YMCA

The YMCA runs numerous programs in Brandon including preschool programming in the parks for children aged five years and up (350 participants), outdoor aquatic programs, summer day camps (1,000 participants), after school programs (800 children), spray parks, and a before school program. Y community fitness activities include running events that attracts

The City lacks an unpaved trail. The trail system should be more interconnected. There should be trails connecting the cemeteries; the cemeteries are used by walkers.

650 people to run 5, 10, 15 and 20K. The Y used to have a run up the north hill, but doesn't do it anymore because 18th street can't be closed to traffic. From the Y's perspective, the City needs play structures for the littlest children, a central east/west trail connection, washrooms and change rooms in the parks.

Healthy Brandon

Healthy Brandon is a network of community groups and agencies that have partnered to provide healthy lifestyles, mental and physical health programs and many more programs for the community. It received Provincial funding. It coordinates Hummingbird Garden, which has 400 plots. Healthy Brandon in Motion partners with the skating oval and runs a bike rodeo, the Walking Wednesday program and many other programs related to fitness, stress reduction, smoking cessation, etc. Healthy Brandon's cultural festival at Princess Park suffers from a lack of facilities.

Keystone Centre

The Keystone Centre partners with the School Division, City and YMCA on a number of ventures including the folk festival, concerts, pool, school cross country running and others. There are 34 camping sites; those are used mostly by exhibitors in the Centre's hall. The Centre's stage needs replacement. The Centre sees sports tourism as a major opportunity for Brandon.

Assiniboine Community College

Assiniboine Community College (ACC) wants to welcome the community to enjoy its campus on the former mental health campus. An active community on its own, it has men's and women's soccer teams, many students are runners and the college has been promoting more social activities on the campus. While the college has been contemplating taking out its ball diamonds for other uses, it has other vacant areas that could be developed into sports fields. The ACC would like to clarify the role of the City vis a vis the sports teams – the teams seem to be on their own.

Brandon University

Brandon University's greenspace has been shrinking as it develops its campus. It has a soccer team, but is challenged to find a place for it to play with its own field under renovation. In summer, there are 1,000 children on the campus for summer activities. From the university's perspective, the City should develop the planning and vision to be a sports destination; Winkler, Manitoba was an example used.

Water and Beach Sports

Two of five people invited to take part in a discussion regarding water and beach sports in Brandon attended. The participants were the YMCA and the City's program and events coordinator.

YMCA

The YMCA has doubled its swimming pool size and offers fitness classes. The Y also runs the pool at the Keystone Centre and the splash parks. Current pools lack handicapped accessibility. Outdoor aquafit does not attract the following of indoor aquafit.

City

The City does not offer fitness facilities at the Sportsplex. The Turtle Crossing campground is unrecoverable. A place to camp with a water feature would be an attraction in Brandon. The City is missing something exciting and attractive for youths. Rideau Park has been a success: proof that if you "build it and they will come." Paddle pools are not very popular. A pool with a lazy river, water slide and wave pool in a greenspace would be an excellent attraction.

Community and Culture

All seven people invited from community and culture groups who were invited to join the discussion attended. Rather than focusing on the provision or needs and wants of particular user groups, the assembled had a wide-ranging discussion about parks in Brandon and its culture in general.

The culture of Brandon has been evolving and evidence of this is the explosion in the popularity of community gardening, which now engages close to 2,000 people in 700 garden plots in the City. There are many new Canadians coming to the City and they are changing how people think about using greenspaces in the City. Families will gather in a park and stay there all day and into the evening, sharing their evening meal in the outdoors.

The greenspace corridor is a major community asset and includes non-traditional spaces like the Daly Museum and the Eleanor Kidd Garden. The garden was destroyed by flooding and "we're lost without it." The flooding and its impacts were major parts of the discussion with the idea of "Lake Brandon" coming up and potential to complete the dike system that was started above the golf course. One suggestion is to leave the water service in place when paddling pools are decommissioned to provide water to irrigate new community gardens.

Members of the group thought that the river should not be abandoned, but in the short term the City should focus on what it can do to replace and recover recreation facilities; “make plans for dry parks,” said one, “get the sports figured out” said another. There’s a need for a public gathering space with the appropriate amenities to accommodate large groups. Riverbank has a space for gathering with a stage but it is not covered; there are washrooms but no dressing rooms for performers.

There is a lot to showcase in Brandon, but it needs to be coordinated and packaged so people know there’s a lot to do here. There could be an amphitheater either at the Northern Plains Aboriginal Museum or Assiniboine Community College. Keystone Centre needs to be fixed up and a camping facility needs to be developed. Other ideas included a discovery centre up on the hill beside the highway gateway into the City, with a walking and biking trail to the river. It could be staffed by Green Team participants. Brandon could highlight healthy sustainable living, focusing on nutrition and community gardens. It could also develop a natural grass prairie, along with its existing portfolio of museums.

Economic Development

Four of six people invited to join a discussion about how greenspaces in Brandon relate to the economic vitality of the community attended.

The discussion began with a focus on the City’s recovery from the floods, including the disruption of the riverbank and its amenities. Many community groups use the riverbank area for gatherings and fund raisers and these have all been displaced.

In downtown, there is a need to refresh Princess Park and to tie downtown in to the trail system. Unfortunately, the link between downtown and Kirkcaldy Drive via the Discovery Centre has been disconnected due to the flood.

A central gathering place with numerous activities including water activities is needed. One participant said people go to Portage la Prairie and other places that have big central water features instead of splash parks spread throughout the City. Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corp. is doing some music programming in downtown; it gave a grant to Global Market to pay musicians. Renaissance Brandon is focusing less on festivals and events in favour of bricks and mortar projects. Global Market has picked up some of that slack.

City Departments

Individuals from the Planning & Building Safety, Engineering, Risk & Emergency Management, and Administration Departments attended a discussion about greenspaces and their facilities in the City of Brandon. Some of the greatest needs included clean-up from flooding with the removal of deadfall along the river corridor and designing the areas to allow flooding with less resultant damage. They commented on having a natural park there that worked with the natural processes and considered security issues with any developments. As a “River City”, there should be sustainable greenspace developed around the river and in conjunction with the Riverbank Discovery Centre.

There should be a re-focus on how we approach Greenspaces. They should improve the active lifestyles and well being of the community, affording it an identity and sense of community. They should contain destinations, have recreation spaces that draws tournaments and visitors and increase adjacent property values.

The area of the City known as “The Flats” needs to be addressed in the plan. The Greenspace Master Plan should provide a long term vision for this “lost” area of the City. The Keystone Centre is another greenspace that requires direction from the Greenspace Master Plan.

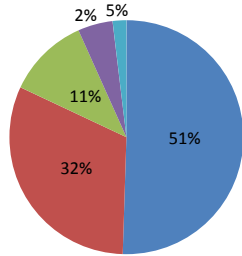
The City’s trail system needs to be completed. There needs to be trail networks internal to neighbourhoods (not just external) with trails and parks as central form makers in new neighbourhoods. The trail system should have more trails away from streets and in more naturalized settings. It is a great way of introducing residents/visitors to the ecology of the area.

The City of Brandon is here to build communities. The Greenspace Master Plan should provide direction to the development community, up-front, as to what is required before they begin a project. There is an ongoing battle with developers of new subdivisions regarding getting them to have parkland in it. There needs to be language in document to support a future by-law regarding subdivisions. The issue is also with condominiums and park space amenity. The City would like a public/private relationship - a private playground that can be used by the public. Need this small amenity for residents, however, pocket parks are undesirable to the City from a maintenance perspective. Can the City have public access to private greenspace? Need policy to have private greenspace located adjacent to public greenspace.

7.9.2 Community Survey

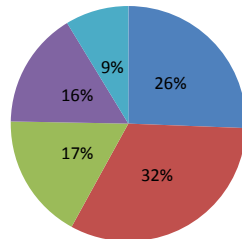
A community survey was conducted to gather input on how residents use the Greenspace System, what additional features they would like to see in the system and the activities in which they are interested in participating. The on-line survey generated more than 400 responses. The results are summarized below.

I believe the City should acquire new park land to expand the greenspace system



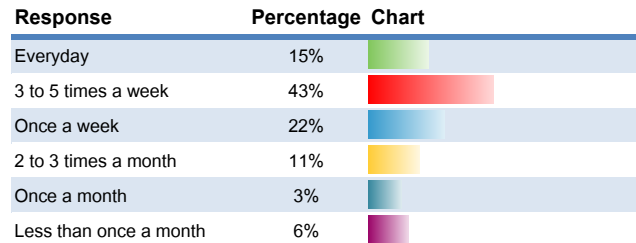
■ Strongly Agree ■ Agree ■ Neutral ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

I believe the City should develop additional access to the Assiniboine River in Brandon

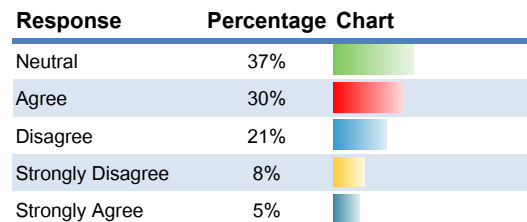


■ Strongly Agree ■ Agree ■ Neutral ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

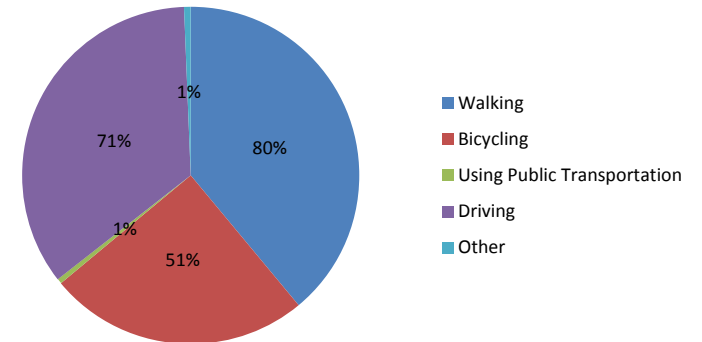
I go to Brandon greenspaces:



Overall, I believe that parks, trails and outdoor recreation facilities in Brandon are of high quality.



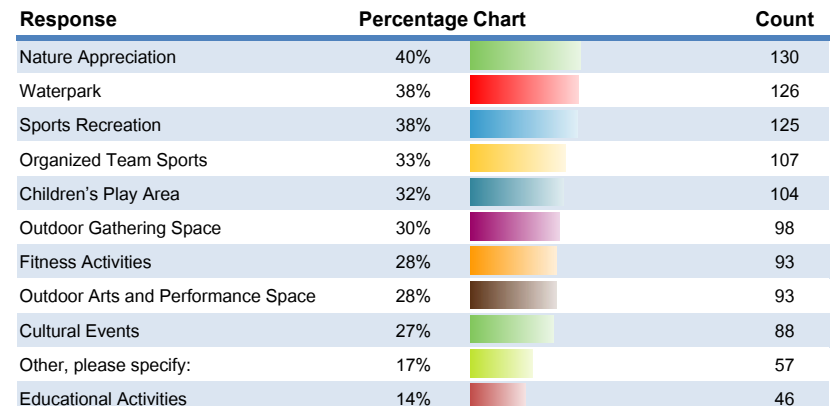
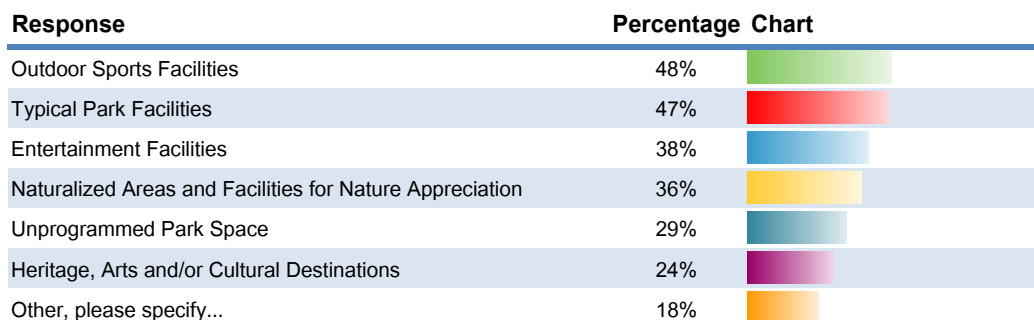
I access greenspaces by



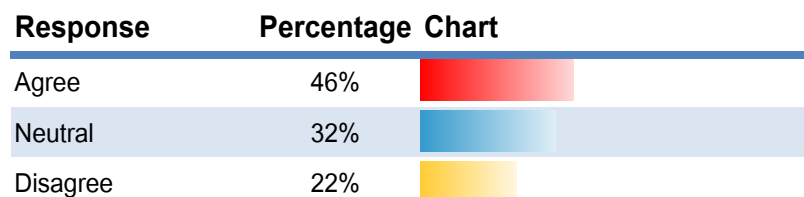
■ Walking
■ Bicycling
■ Using Public Transportation
■ Driving
■ Other

I would like to see more of the following types of activities available in Brandon's greenspaces:

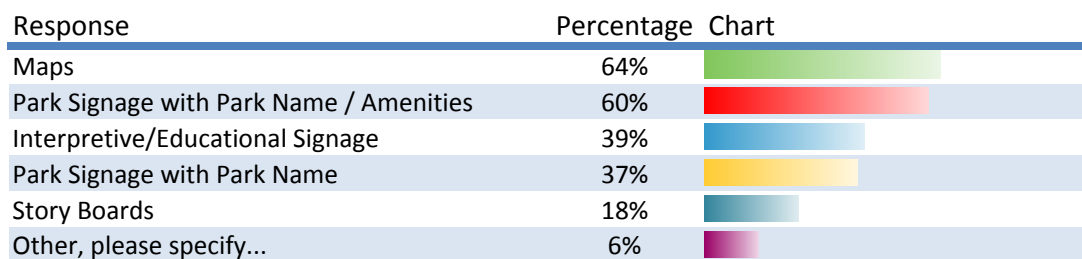
I would like to see more of the following types of amenities in Brandon's greenspaces:



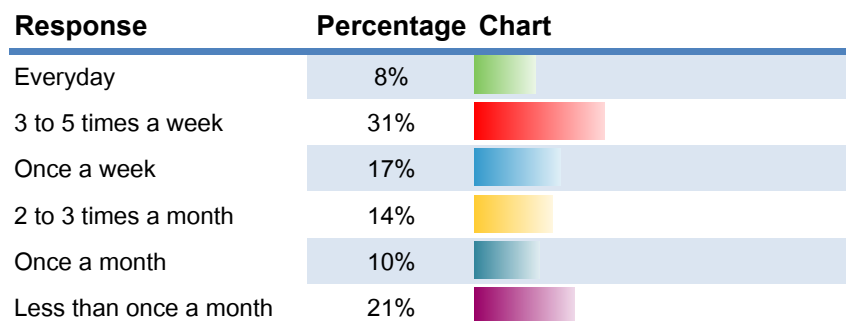
I believe trails in Brandon provide accessible connections to greenspaces and other points of interest in the city.



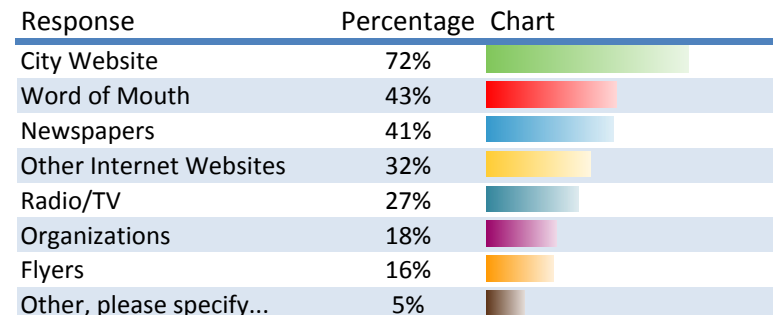
I would like to see the following types of information within Brandon's greenspaces:



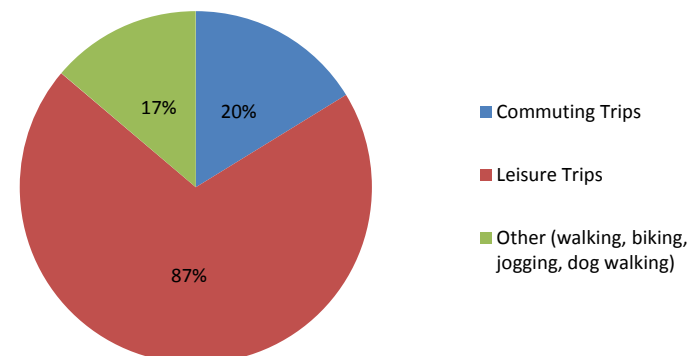
I use trails in Brandon:



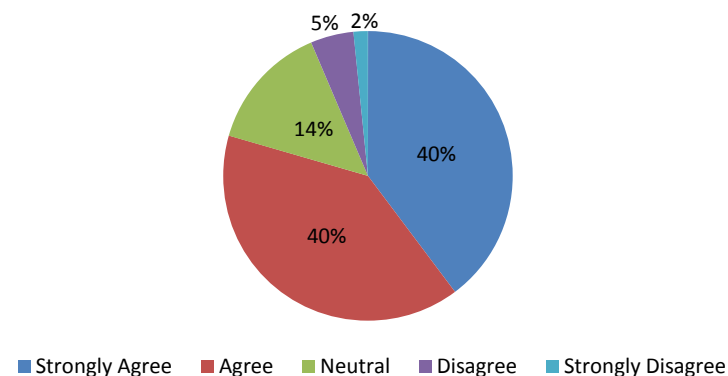
I learn or would like to learn about greenspaces in Brandon from the following sources:



My reasons for using trails in Brandon



I believe the City of Brandon should expand the trail system



If there was only one improvement you would like to see the City make over the next 5 years, what would it be?

Response	Percentage	Chart
Improvements to Trail System (variety)	18%	
New Sports Field Complex	15%	
Water Park/Pool	13%	
More unprogrammed green space (variety)	11%	
Better Planning	7%	
More/Better Baseball/soft ball facilities	6%	
Address Maintenance Issues	5%	
Flood Protection	4%	
Provide Other Sports Facilities	4%	
Restore Waterfront	3%	
Golf Course Improvemnts	3%	
Discovery Centre Improvements	2%	
Bathrooms/Drinking Fountains	1%	
Tax reform	1%	
Better Access	1%	
Keystone Centre Upgrades	1%	
More Adult Sports	1%	
Outdoor rink	1%	
sidewalk Improvements	1%	

Most respondents choose the City's trail system as the most needed short term improvement, with additional athletic complexes a close second. A water park/pool facility, as well as additional unprogrammed greenspaces located within the City were also among the short term improvements desired.

When asked the question "What should the City do to prevent damage to recreational facilities due to flooding?", many respondents gave options of 'either...or...'. Example of this are:

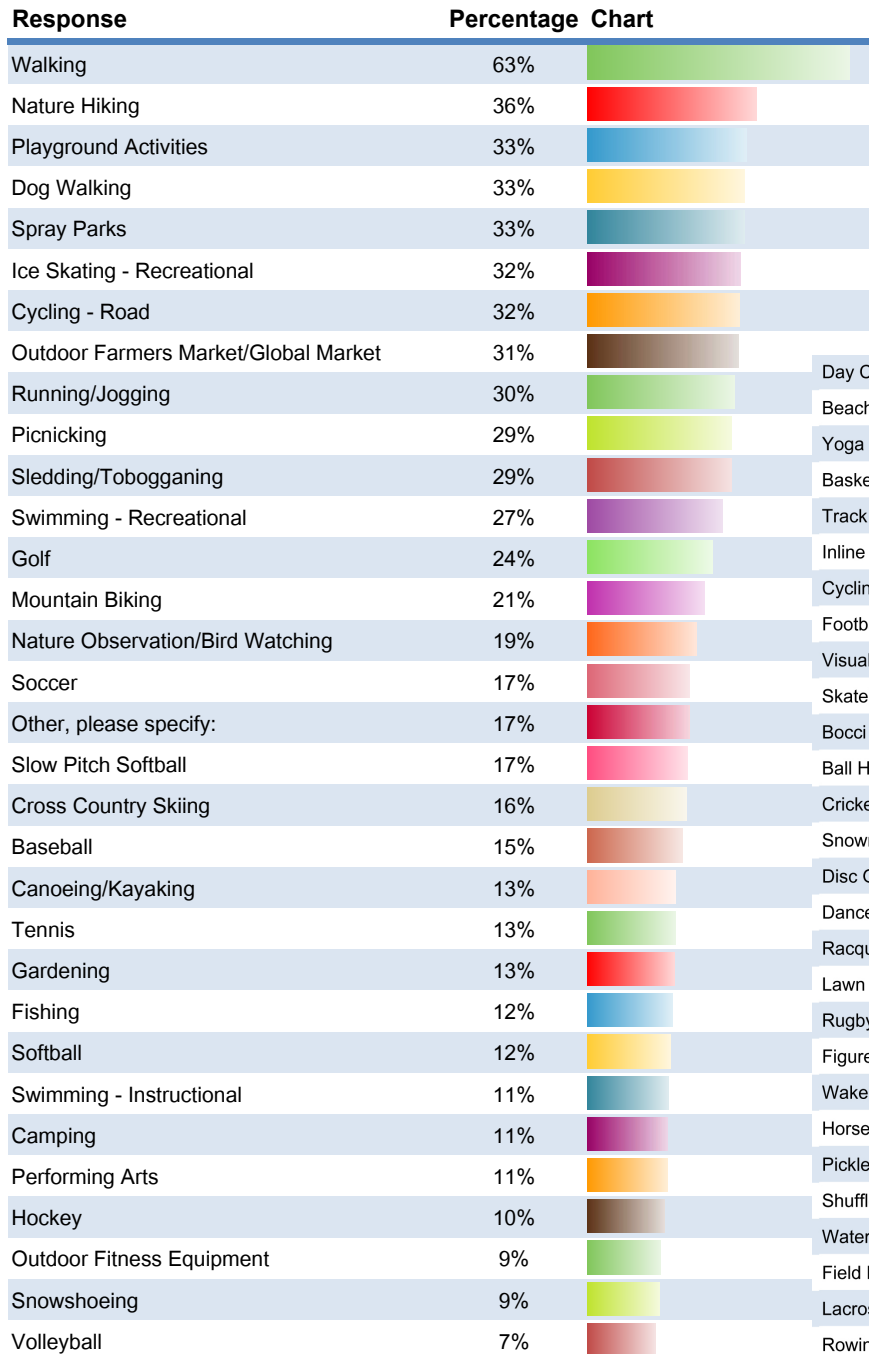
- Strengthen dikes or move facilities
- Either flood proof, portable or not on the flood plain
- Stop allocating money to areas that continue to flood or build up areas to reduce flooding

Therefore, all options were tallied, being grouped under characterized response categories. Only those responses with three or more responses for each category are shown. The majority of respondents wanted to naturalize the areas, relocating existing and building new recreational facilities outside of the river corridor. However, many also expressed an interest in strengthening and raising the dikes to prevent areas from flooding. There were many who wanted to keep the parks, having flood resistant trails, picnic areas, benches and other amenities that would withstand flooding.

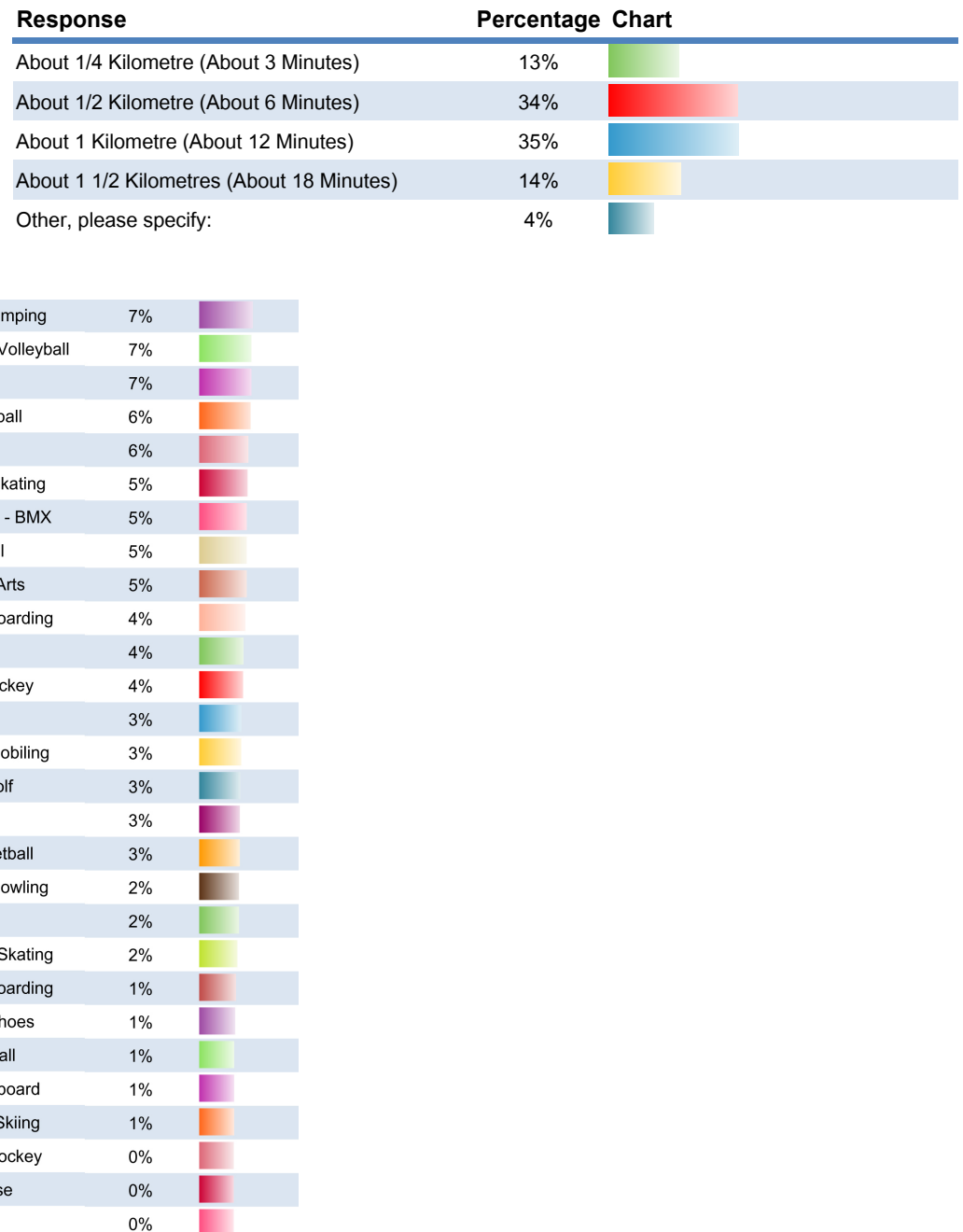
What should the City of Brandon do to prevent damage to recreational facilities due to flooding?

Response	Times Expressed
Relocate facilities - revert that land back to the river corridor	77
Strengthen/raise dykes (build permanent dykes, plant grass on them, raise paths, expand system past City)	62
Plan all new facilities outside the flooding zone	50
Build for flood resiliency (only park, amenities that withstand flooding), relocate/precluding some forms of recreational development	27
Don't Know or nothing can be done	16
Dike the golf course	5
Create a man made lake in low flood centre area with water level control/release as needed	5
Create a masterplan to determine what should / should not be protected by a diking system	4
Sell the golf course	4
Make 9 hole golf course (lower holes naturalized or to be a disc golf course when it's not flooded)	4
Do nothing, nothing financially feasible	3

I use Brandon greenspaces for the following outdoor activities:



I would walk the following distance to access a greenspace:



7.9.3 Public Meeting

An interactive public meeting was held at the Keystone Centre on August 20, 2014. The meeting was advertised and promoted in the City. There were 91 people in attendance at the meeting. Participants used workbooks for individual input and collaborated in tables of eight and 10 on a mapping exercise. The input received is summarized below.

Workbook Results

Greenspace Usage & Circulation

The first question asked the respondents if they visited greenspaces in the City of Brandon and how they would get there. The respondents could answer yes to any and all of the choices. The percentages shown in the following chart are those that answered yes out of the 91 people in attendance. An equally high percentage of people said they walk to parks as those that would drive. The high percentage of walkers indicates that parks are fairly accessible to people throughout the City. More than half of the people would ride their bike to a park. The percentages were lower when asked about visiting the riverfront, but still relatively high. As would be expected, fewer people would walk to the riverfront, as some neighborhoods are further away.

I visit greenspaces in Brandon	100.0%
I walk to parks in Brandon	84.6%
I bike to parks in Brandon	57.1%
I drive to parks in Brandon	84.6%
I take public transportation to parks in Brandon	3.3%
I walk to the riverfront in Brandon	46.2%
I bike to the riverfront in Brandon	47.3%
I drive to the riverfront in Brandon	76.9%
I take public transportation to the riverfront in Brandon	2.2%

When asked what feature or characteristic attracts them to City greenspaces the most, the most common responses were sports, recreation, nature, open space, relaxation, walking, and running. Other common responses include family gatherings, music events, activities and gardening.

The respondents were asked what they typically use City greenspaces for the most. While the responses were more specific, they were generally along the same lines. Walking stood out as the single most specific activity.

The participants were then asked to rate a statement on a scale from 1-5 with 1 being strongly agree and 5 being strongly disagree. It is not uncommon for some of these questions to be left blank. The figures presented in the adjacent chart are the percentages of the people that responded to the particular statement, thus allowing the percentages to add up to 100 percent.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Pedestrian & Bicycle access to greenspaces should be enhanced	42.0%	35.2%	17.0%	1.1%	4.5%
Vehicular access to greenspaces in Brandon should be enhanced	6.7%	30.3%	37.1%	15.7%	10.1%
Green connections to the riverfront and City destinations should be enhanced	20.9%	45.3%	24.4%	2.3%	7.0%

There was a general agreement that pedestrian and bicycle access to greenspaces should be enhanced. Respondents also generally agreed that green connections to the riverfront should be enhanced. The public was generally more neutral on the idea that vehicular access needed enhancement with more than a quarter of them disagreeing to the statement.

Greenspace Needs & Maintenance

The participants were then asked to rate a series of statements on greenspace needs and maintenance. Again, the percentages are taken from only those that responded to the statement. There is strong agreement that additional greenspace is needed within the City. Half of the respondents agreed that Brandon greenspaces are well maintained. Responses were neutral or mixed as to the quality of facilities in Brandon greenspaces.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
There should be additional greenspace within the City	72.7%	21.6%	3.4%	2.3%	0.0%
Greenspaces in Brandon are well maintained	7.0%	43.0%	32.6%	16.3%	1.2%
Greenspaces in Brandon have high quality facilities	5.3%	19.7%	43.4%	21.1%	10.5%

When asked what the major maintenance needs were, most responded that flood damage was needed. (It should be mentioned that the public meeting was conducted just weeks after a catastrophic flooding event.) Mowing, weeding, tree maintenance and litter were also popular responses. Washrooms and drinking fountains were most often cited as facilities that need to be updated. Sports fields, pathways, and pools were mentioned by more than one person as facilities that need updating.

Greenspace Amenities

Participants were then asked to rate several statements regarding greenspace amenities. The following table presents the percentages of those responses.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Greenspaces in Brandon should provide more unprogrammed park space	18.8%	43.8%	22.5%	11.3%	3.8%
Greenspaces in Brandon should provide more typical park facilities	18.6%	57.0%	19.8%	4.7%	0.0%
Greenspaces in Brandon should provide more naturalized areas and facilities for nature appreciation	20.5%	32.5%	27.7%	13.3%	6.0%
Brandon should provide more entertainment facilities	15.7%	36.1%	39.8%	7.2%	1.2%
There should be more heritage, arts or cultural facilities or destinations	17.5%	21.3%	45.0%	11.3%	5.0%
Greenspaces in Brandon should have more outdoor sports facilities	56.4%	20.5%	7.7%	6.4%	9.0%

More than three quarters of the people agreed, with 56.4% of the people strongly agreeing, that there needs to be more sports fields. More than three quarters also agreed that Brandon should provide more typical facilities, though not as strongly. Just over half of the respondents agreed that Brandon should provide more entertainment facilities and facilities

for nature appreciation with many people remaining neutral on these. The largest percentage of respondents (45%) were neutral as to whether there should be more cultural facilities, while 38.8% agreed that there should be and 16.3% disagreed. When asked what kinds of additional typical park facilities were needed, Washrooms was listed by more than half of the respondents. Other common responses include benches, shelters, and picnic tables.

Participants were asked what kinds of nature viewing facilities were needed. Viewing platforms for birding, particularly near the river is a combination of the general responses. A couple people cited the need for accessibility.

When asked what kinds of entertainment facilities are needed, respondents cited the need for a stage. More specifically, they mentioned the need for a new free standing amphitheater at Keystone Centre. The need for a stage at Assiniboine Community College North Campus was also mentioned.

When asked what kinds of heritage or cultural facilities were needed, the most common response was a memorial at Errol Black Park for victims of the Rail Explosion. A couple people listed sculptures and murals downtown. Overall there were not a lot of responses to this question.

When asked what kinds of outdoor sports facilities were needed, soccer fields were the leading response followed by tennis courts.

General Information

The participants at the public meeting were asked some general questions geared towards establishing the demographic makeup of those involved. The results can be summarized as follows:

- Nearly all participants lived in the City
- Adults were the most represented demographic
- 82.4% of participants were home owners
- A quarter of the participants were between the ages of 45 and 55
- More than 2/3 of participants lived in the area for over 15 years
- Riverbank Discovery Centre was the most commonly visited greenspace

Participants were also asked what the closest intersection was to where they lived in order to determine the special distribution of the people who attended the public meeting. These locations were mapped and are presented on the Respondent Location map on the following page.

Additional Comments

The participants were given the opportunity to express additional comments that may have not been covered at the meeting or something they felt demanded more attention. Comments from this question were diverse. There were, however, a few topics that stood out.

- There was a large contingency of soccer field users that expressed the need for a new soccer/multi-use field facility. The existing facility was damaged by the flood. Many are worried about that there will not be enough facilities for the 2015 season and beyond.
- There needs to be more attention to winter activities.
- Wheat City needs to be re-planned to include more facilities.

Group Mapping Exercise

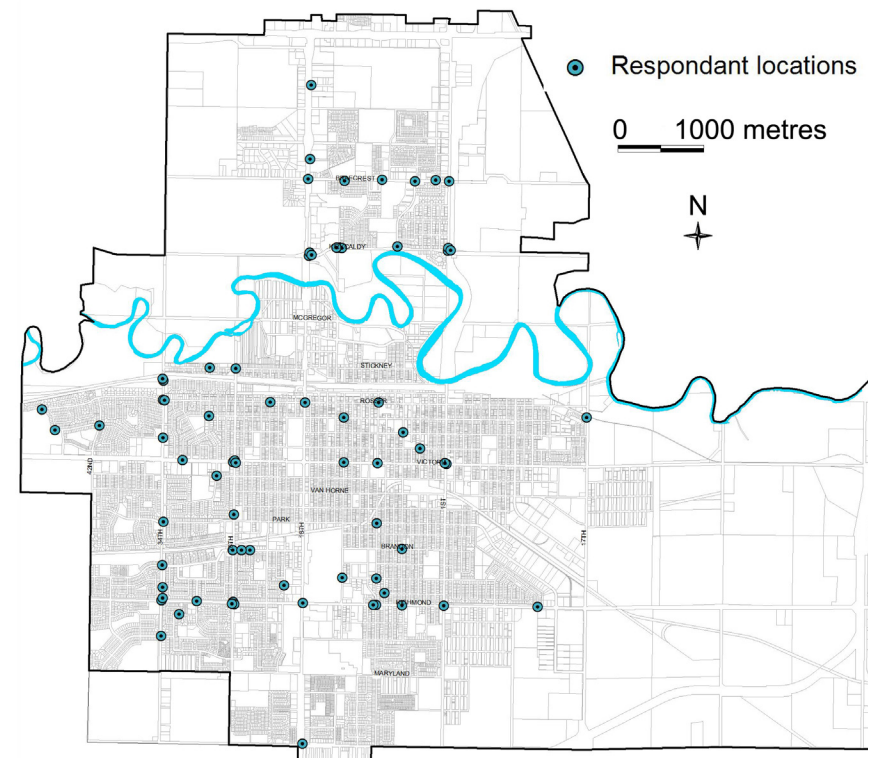
As part of the public meeting, participants at each table worked as a group to identify existing issues and opportunities for greenspace in Brandon. Throughout the workbook, the participants were asked as a group to draw on a map identifying the location of needed facilities by type. The Public Input Synthesis Map presents a summary of all the locations identified by all of the groups. There is no hierarchy of locations that were identified by more than one group.

Priorities

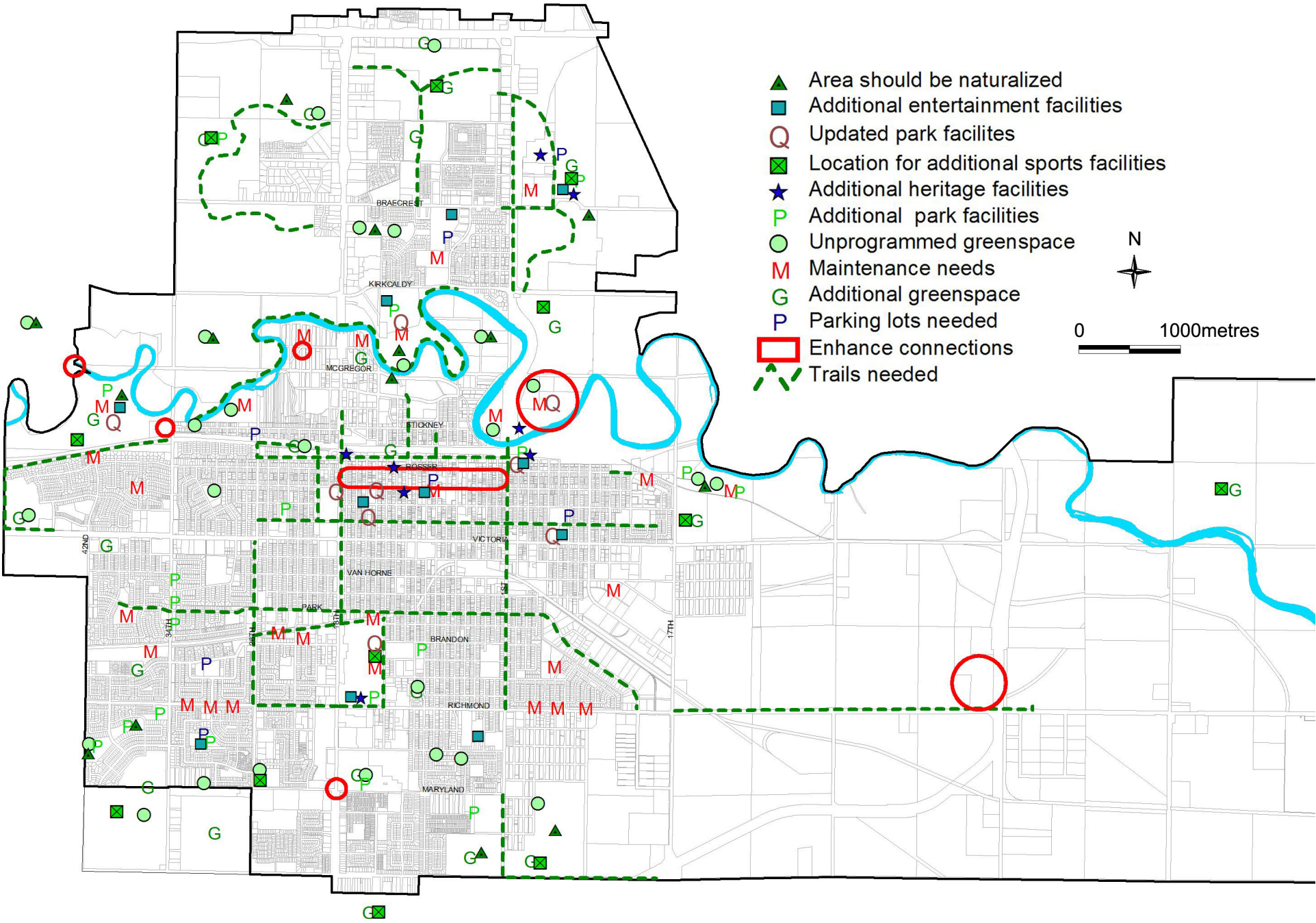
In addition to the workbook and mapping exercise, participants were asked to identify priority improvements for greenspace in Brandon. The following lists the priority improvements identified (Note: Several improvements were identified more than once.):

1. Recreation lands in the Assiniboine River corridor (develop a new use for the land and different year-round sports/recreation venues - more skating, man-made lake, riverfront beach)
2. Connect walking/biking paths (dedicated north/south corridors), as well as cross country ski trails
3. Develop more “natural” greenspace (northeastern hillside, north gateway, southwestern corner)
4. Develop City campground
5. Locate park on east side of the North Hillside (culture, greenspace, sports, entertainment)
6. Develop the lands of Keystone Centre
7. Add parking (use of Town Centre) and more amenities for Rideau Park
8. 8th Street Bridge
9. Develop more greenspace (with heritage features, washroom and parking facilities) in the downtown

Map showing approximately where participants attending the public meeting live in Brandon



Public Input Synthesis Map



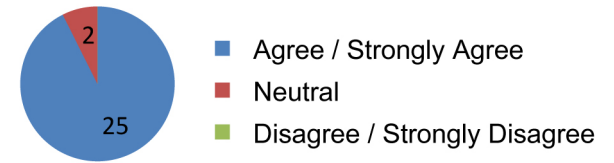
7.9.4 Public Open House

An informal open house was held at the newly refurbished A. R. McDiarmid Civic Complex building on November 12, 2014 to get input from the community on the City of Brandon Draft Greenspace Master Plan. Attendees could view sections of the draft plan on panels, observe a slide show with further plan information and ask City representatives and the consultant questions or to get more information. As part of the open house, participants were asked to complete a questionnaire. The following summarizes the questionnaire responses:

#1 Rate whether or not you agree that development of trails network should be a priority.

What do you think is the most important trail improvement priority?

- Connectivity – East, west, north, south and to each other, accessibility for cycling transportation throughout the City - (14 responses)
- Maintenance and repair and reestablishment of the trails – (5 Responses)
- Lighting - (3 responses)
- Trails developed for cyclists and skiers in the winter. – (3 responses)
- Figure out how to utilize existing trails and develop new outside of the flood plain of the river
- Need environmental greenspaces, possibly educational combined
- Ducks Unlimited Trails
- Develop a Brandon Sculpture Trail
- Would like to see shelter from the wind for cyclists (more trees) and a buffer to reduce the amount of exhaust inhalation and automobile interference



#2 Rate whether or not you agree that the flood prone lands along the Assiniboine River should be naturalized and that there should not be athletic fields in the flood prone lands.

What do you think is the most important greenspace improvement priority?

- Active Greenspace – Parks, trails, keystone grounds and sports fields, removing athletic fields from the flood prone lands, the ability to withstand high water on the golf course and playing fields - (4 responses)
- Community gardens - (3 responses)
- Naturalization/ Biodiversity that suits the flood plain - (3 responses)
- Eleanor Kidd Gardens – Should be relocated but still within river corridor – (3 responses)
- Upkeep of parks and rebuilding of riverbank area parks
- Continued commitment to environmental spaces and educational greenspaces

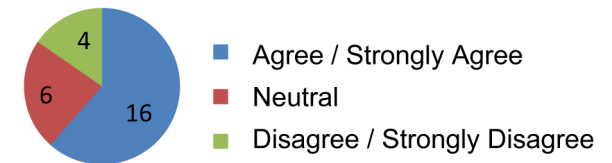


- Walkway expansion
- Create a dike that blends with the greenspace
- A vision for the recreation centre/golf course that incorporates the needs of the entire community
- Permaculture in overall greenspaces around Brandon should be of interest
- Better control; and management of water
- North Hill/Sir Winston Churchill Park

#3 Rate whether or not you agree that a celebration greenspace including a water park, amphitheatre and event space as a regional destination should be developed in Sir Winston Churchill Park.

What do you think is the most important riverfront improvement priority?

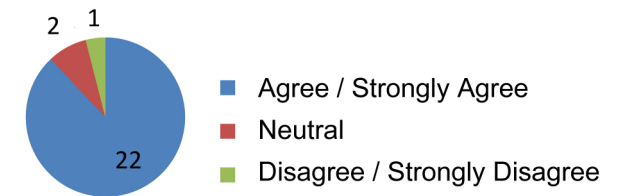
- Riverbank Discovery Centre - (5 responses)
- Flood Mitigation, general repair, management of flood affected properties, repair of riverbank to prevent flood in future and repair of parks and trails along river – (3 responses)
- Eleanor Kidd Garden (2 responses)
- Build up ponds that were destroyed – (2 responses)
- Remaking the golf course into a space accessible and usable for the whole community – (2 responses)
- Preventing erosion – introduction of natural species like willow and dogwoods; naturalization with plants that would actually grow here (not evergreens)
- Keep it for the citizens of Brandon
- Bridges – more needed
- Need to move the dog park
- Make it in a more commercial space, it is a poor location and too much noise
- Include raising 1st street level from Veterans Way to the bridge in the rebuilding plan of 1st street Bridge



#4 Rate whether or not you agree that a linked system of greenspaces and nodes of celebration/activity greenspaces should be developed in each of the four quadrants of the City so that everyone can walk to one within 20 minutes.

What do you think is the most important event or program improvement priority?

- Community garden – (5 responses)
- Connector – (2 responses)
- Family and cultural education programming – (2 responses)
- Addressing the flood zone, and when we can, the Keystone grounds
- Riverbank Discovery Centre and Keystone area
- RBDC used to hold 98% of the outdoor events, walks, etc. before the flood of 2011 and has not been able to since. Would love to see this happen again.
- Develop one major space. Nodes will only promote divisiveness – haves and have-nots
- Standardized greenspace requirements in new residential developments
- Community and Cultural Greenspaces
- Ideas that appeal to the youth and young adults in order to keep them in Brandon
- Tax surface parking lots to discourage their use. Encourage multi-level garages increase concentration of commercial and mixed use zones then there will be more space for parks and commerce will improve functionality
- Solar panels
- Bike paths



#5 Rate whether or not you agree with that a NEW multi-use activity park to house new sports functions and fields should be developed to replace those in the flood prone lands.

What do you think is the most important recreation facility improvement priority?

- Soccer fields – (10 responses)
- Sportsplex track – (2 responses)
- Both outdoor pools – Kinsmen and Keystone Kiwanis – (2 responses)
- General continued investments in community and activity centres – (2 responses)
- Partner with ACC North Hill to create multipurpose fields
- Multi-use indoor field house
- The City should focus on developed greenspaces and not invest in new activity centre
- Riverbank Discovery Centre



- Walking and Cycling trails
- Ultimate Fields designed for Ultimate Frisbee
- Bike paths and walking paths that can be used for everyday transportation as long as greenspace is not located in the flood prone lands
- For winter recreation develop a Nordic cross country ski centre

What did you like best about the recommendations you saw?

- The linked trail system – (4 Responses)
- Ideas for the future development of Sir Winston Churchill Park – (2 responses)
- Higher levels of naturalization – (2 responses)
- Bike paths and naturalization
- I want more options for running, walking, playing and wandering in the City
- Consideration of trail network for the greenspaces and cultural spaces
- The trail system recommendation to not build within the flooding plain
- The trail systems and park improvements
- The diagrams showing the assorted Greenspace types were very useful
- Promoting Greenspaces
- The hubs concept
- The quadrants and the balancing of different types of greenspaces through the City
- Environmental and community centre greenspaces
- More public facilities connected to areas
- The fact that the public is being asked for their input and using that information is a great step forward
- Enjoyed the presentation/liked recommendations that included community and family activities
- It is good to see there is a plan and that it is progressive and inclusive
- A variety

What would you change?

- Commitment to planting and including fruit trees
- More dealing with community gardens and introduce fruit/vegetable production in the City
- Decrease surface parking lots and wasteful inefficient use of space. More trees
- Less focus on organized sports facilities and more on multi-use greenspaces with more trees. Maybe food plants can be introduced to areas
- Double check the usage/needs statistics for the recreation fields, keeping in mind recreation but also competitive play

needs

- Stop referring to school grounds as greenspace. They are posted as private property and not available to citizens
- The design of an educational environmental greenspace
- Daly House Victorian Garden as greenspace needs more in kind support from City staff
- A sit down with the riverbank board to discuss the past present and future ideas
- Remove the dog park - It is a liability to the City too close to where small children play
- Greater accessibility of information all important plans should be available online
- Don't know the price tag for any of these improvements
- More trails and repair of ones lost in flood
- More realistic ideas and projects
- Have a bigger map of Brandon to consult

Is there anything else you would like us to know about greenspaces and trails in Brandon and the Greenspace Master Plan potentials identified on the panels?

- Very much appreciate the City taking a look forward in terms of the future planning of our greenspaces
- The role of developers and their ability to influence the outcome of the usage of greenspace
- Golf course only serves those who have the discretionary income to play golf and those who enjoy golf but does not serve the whole community
- Interested in seeing a Brandon sculpture trail
- Planting of fruit trees/bushes all around the City in school grounds and small parks would be a great addition
- Have fruit bearing plants for public consumption
- Hire a wildlife ecological expert to recommend improvements and oversee park development
- The potential for bird watching tourism
- Like the enthusiasm and progress that is being made
- It is vital that the Brandon riverbank, Eleanor Kidd Gardens and the waterfall of light be part of the planning decisions
- See the Master Plan from the Riverbank Discovery Centre
- Garden at 6th street North need accessible water
- Introduction of solar panels
- Winter recreation was hardly mentioned
- Willing to pay more in taxes to see the improvements

7.10 Demographics

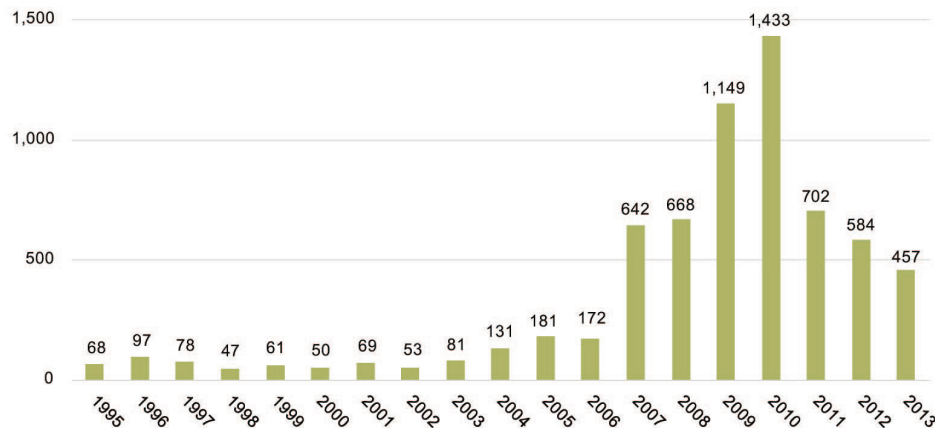
Demographics of the community are critical to planning for the future of Greenspaces because they can help target changes in future needs. The following highlights some key characteristics of Brandon's demographics:

Total Population in 2011 and 2006

	Brandon	Winnipeg	Manitoba	Canada
Population in 2011	46,061	663,617	1,208,268	33,476,688
Population in 2006	41,511	633,451	1,148,401	31,612,897
2006 to 2011 Population Change (%)	11	4.8	5.2	5.9

Source: Statistics Canada. 2012. Census Profile. 2011 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-XWE. Ottawa. Released June 27 2012. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

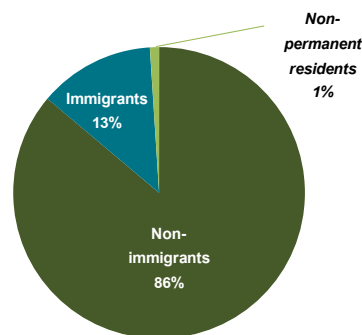
Immigration by Landing Year



Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada preliminary data

Notes: Does not reflect individuals who were destined for elsewhere but are living in Brandon; Does not reflect individuals in Brandon on temporary work visas; Does not reflect individuals who may have moved away from Brandon.

Immigrant Status



Growing Population and the Impact of Immigration

The 2011 population in Brandon was 46,061 people. This is an 11% increase in population since 2006, outpacing the growth of the City of Winnipeg, the Province of Manitoba and Canada as a whole. Furthermore, growth is anticipated to continue. Based on the medium projection for growth in Brandon, by 2061 the population will increase by more than half the existing population to 78,644 people.

The growth of Brandon is largely due to the increasing immigration to the City. Between 2004 and 2013 there were 6,119 new immigrants to Brandon, 4,325 of which arrived in Brandon between 2009 and 2013. The rise in immigration in Brandon is related to the availability of jobs, with Maple Leaf Consumer Foods hiring 1,700 foreign workers between 2004 and 2009. According to Statistics Canada, in 2011 the majority of recent immigrants (immigrants who landed in Canada between January 1, 2006 and May 10, 2011) were born in the Americas or Asia with large portions of the immigrant population born in China (24.7%) and Columbia (16.5%). As of 2011, immigrants make up 13% of the total population.

2011 City of Brandon Immigrants and Recent Immigrants in Private Households by Selected Place of Birth

	Immigrants		Recent Immigrants	
Americas	2,105	36.5%	1,530	45.0%
Europe	1,330	23.0%	260	7.6%
Africa	375	6.5%	245	7.2%
Asia	1,935	33.5%	1,365	40.1%
Oceania and other	30	0.5%	0	0.0%

Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 99-004-XWE. Ottawa. Released June 26 2013. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

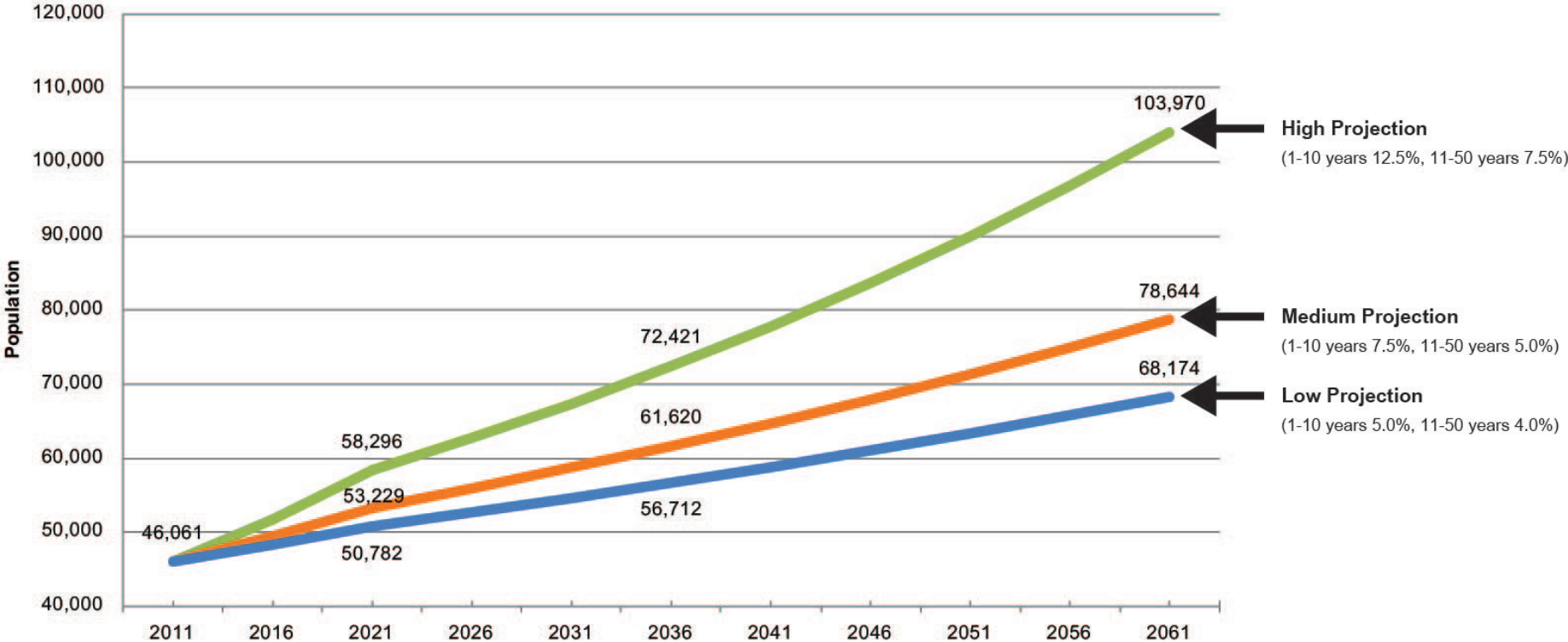
The age group projected to increase in the Brandon Region between 2006 and 2036 the most are those ages 65 to 74 years old followed by the age group 75 to 84 years old. The growing population, the impact of a large immigrant population and a growing number of older residents are important considerations for the development of the Greenspace Master Plan because they show a need to accommodate a growing demand for services and potentially represent shifts in recreation and park needs based on population preferences.

Brandon Region Projections based on Births, Deaths and Migration

Age	Projected Change Brandon (2006-2036)	Projected Change Manitoba (2006 – 2036)
0 to 14 years	-2.80%	-1.30%
15 to 19 years	-1.20%	-0.70%
20 to 54 years	-5.80%	-2.20%
55 to 64 years	1.90%	-0.50%
65 to 74 years	3.50%	2.20%
75 to 84 years	3.10%	1.80%
85 years and older	1.20%	0.80%

Source: Brandon RHA, 2009 Community Health Assessment and Manitoba Bureau of Statistics

City of Brandon Population Projection 2011-2061

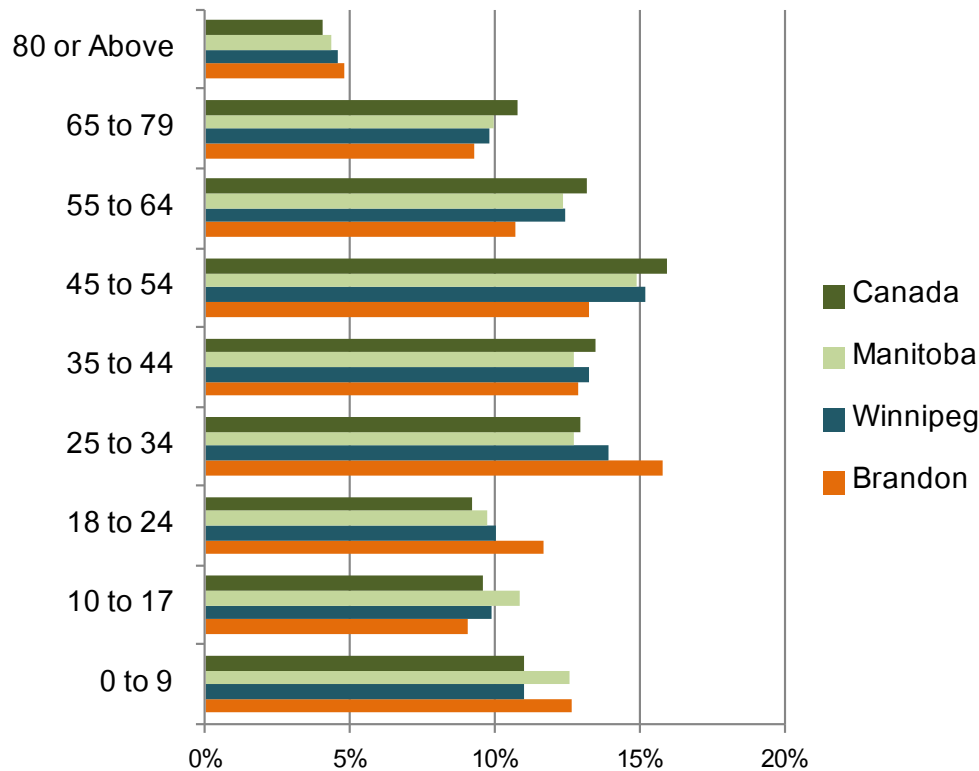


Source: BAPD Growth Strategy

Age, Income and Education

Age distribution shows that Brandon is a young community when compared to the City of Winnipeg, the Province and the country. Median age is 35.5 years and the largest age group is those 25 to 34 years old. This means that recreation programming and park access will need to focus on accommodating this population. In addition, the City will need to ensure the affordable access to Greenspaces and Greenspace programs as 15.5 % of the population in 2010 is considered low-income based on Statistics Canada's after-tax low-income measure. As for education levels of the population in 2011, while Brandon has a lower percentage of the population with a postsecondary degree, both Brandon University and Assiniboine Community College are adding student housing, potentially shifting this demographic in the future.

2011 Age Distribution



Source: Statistics Canada. 2012. Census Profile. 2011 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-XWE. Ottawa. Released June 27 2012. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

2011 Median Age and Percentage Age 15 and Over

	Brandon	Winnipeg	Manitoba	Canada
Median Age of the Population	35.6	39.0	38.47	40.6
% of population aged 15 and over	81.7	83.1	80.9	83.2

Source: Statistics Canada. 2012. Census Profile. 2011 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-XWE. Ottawa. Released June 27 2012. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

2010 Income Measures

	Brandon	Winnipeg	Manitoba	Canada
Median household total income (\$)	57,177	57,925	57,299	61,072
Average household total income (\$)	70,105	72,612	70,984	79,102
Prevalence of low income in 2010 based on after-tax low-income measure (%)	15.5	16.6	16.4	14.9

2011 Educational Attainment

Total population aged 25 to 64 years by highest certificate; diploma or degree

	Brandon	Winnipeg	Manitoba	Canada
No certificate; diploma or degree	13.6%	12.7%	17.2%	12.7%
High school diploma or equivalent	27.5%	25.2%	25.6%	23.2%
Postsecondary certificate; diploma or degree	58.9%	62.1%	57.3%	64.1%

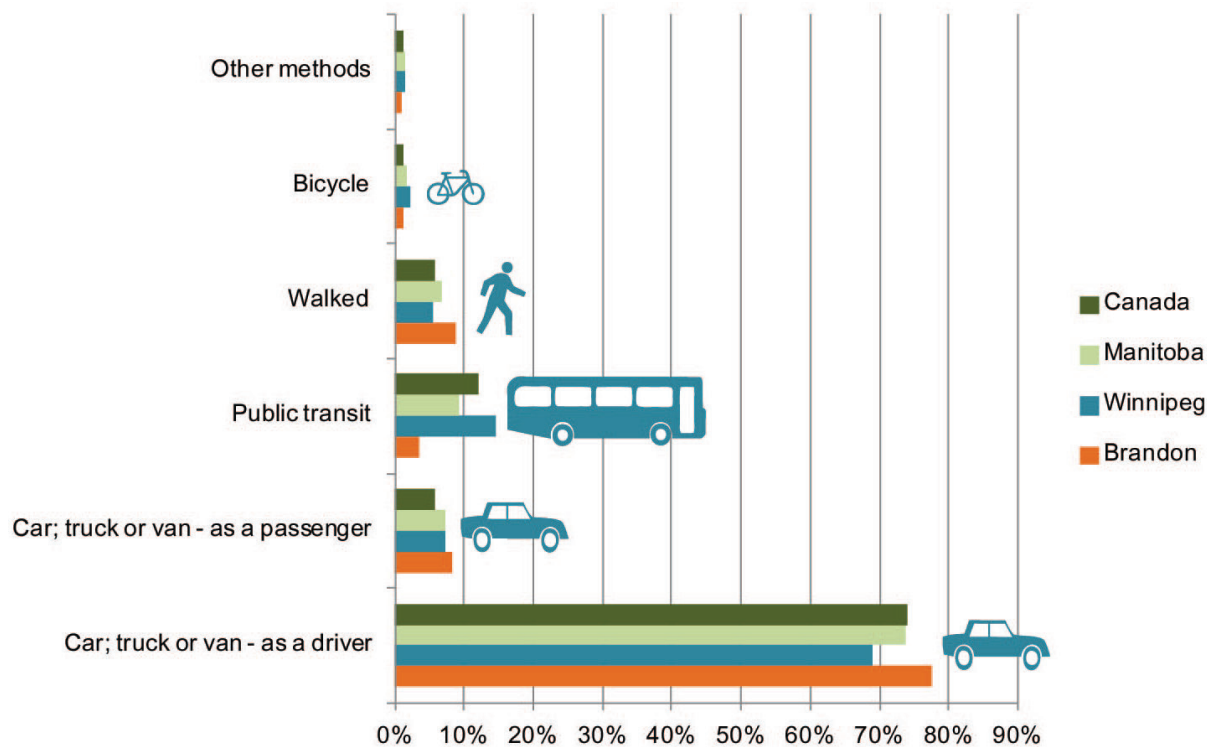
Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 99-004-XWE. Ottawa. Released June 26 2013. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

Transportation and Housing

According to 2011 Statistics Canada data, compared to the other communities assessed, a large portion of the population in Brandon walks to work as their primary mode of transportation at 8.7%; a higher percentage than that of Winnipeg (5.5%), Manitoba (6.8%) or Canada (5.7%). Therefore, ensuring that there are safe routes to and from employment centres is critical to the development of the City's Greenspace System. Furthermore, a substantial portion of the population, 22.3%, live in small apartment buildings (fewer than five storeys). As the Master Plan looks at developing the Greenspace system, an important consideration is access to Greenspace as many residents may not have private lawns to accommodate their local open space needs.

2011 Mode of Transportation to Work

Total employed population aged 15 years and over with a usual place of work or no fixed workplace address by mode of transportation



2011 Households by Structure Type

	Total Count	Percentage
Single-detached house	11,040	57.1%
Apartment; building that has five or more storeys	740	3.8%
Movable dwelling	895	4.6%
Other dwelling	6,660	34.5%
Semi-detached house	840	4.3%
Row house	1,050	5.4%
Apartment; duplex	415	2.1%
Apartment; building that has fewer than five storeys	4,310	22.3%
Other single-attached house	35	0.2%
Total number of occupied private dwellings by structural type of dwelling	19,330	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada. 2012. Census Profile. 2011 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-XWE. Ottawa. Released June 27 2012. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 99-004-XWE. Ottawa. Released June 26 2013. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

7.11 Trends

To provide the types of parks, open space and recreation opportunities that are appropriate for a specific community, it is critical to look at what types of leisure people are interested in so as to provide the right spaces. Leisure participation in Brandon was measured by looking at national and local trends in participation.

Sports Participation, Ages 15+

	1992	1998	2005	2010
Total	45%	34%	28%	26%
By age				
15-19	77%	68%	59%	54%
20-24	61%	51%	43%	37%
25-34	53%	39%	31%	29%
35-54	43%	31%	25%	23%
55 and over	25%	20%	17%	17%

Source: Statistics Canada. 2012. *Census Profile. 2011 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-XWE. Ottawa. Released June 27 2012. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>*

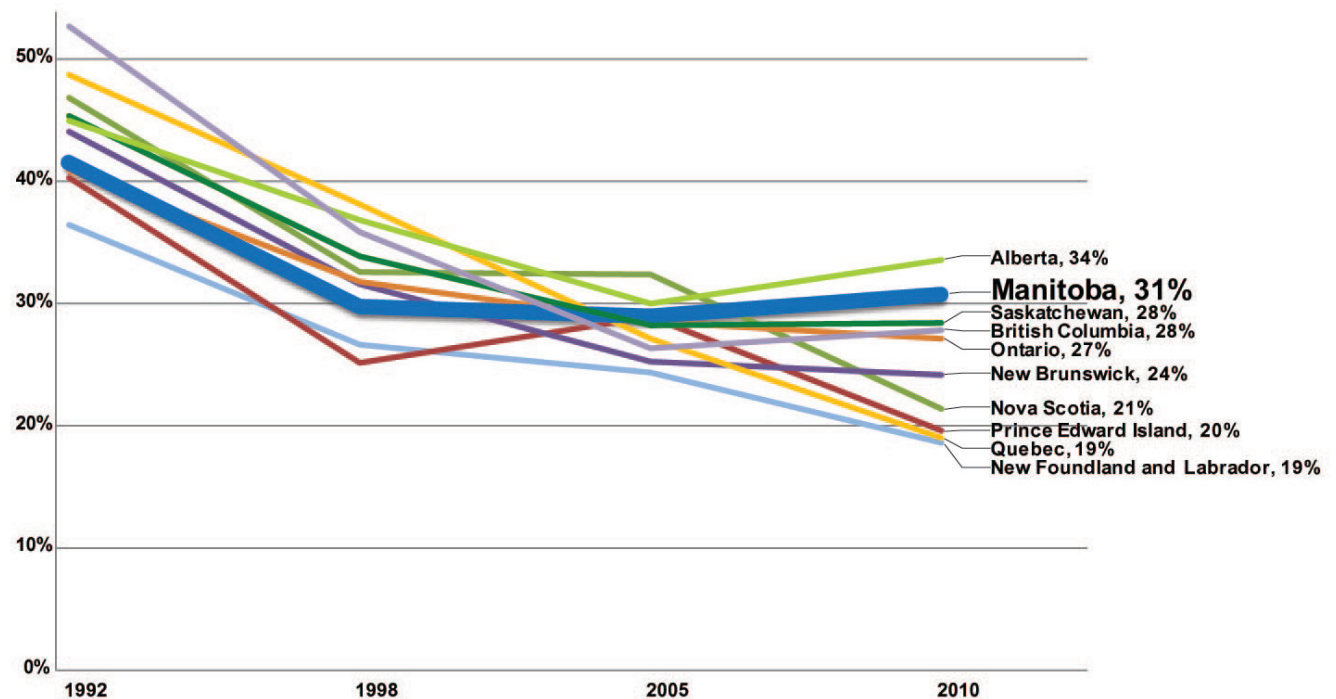
Sports Participation

Nationally, adult sports participation is declining, yet the rate at which it is declining has slowed. The Canadian Heritage, Sports Participation 2010 report attributes the decline of sports participation in part to an aging population. In Manitoba, sports participation is actually increasing. As the second largest community in Manitoba, Brandon likely contributes to this increase with its relatively younger population and an influx of immigration. Nationwide, immigrants who arrived in Canada after 1991 are more likely to participate regularly in sport than those who immigrated prior to 1991.¹ Those who are most likely to participate in sports include students, followed by full-time workers.²

¹ Canadian Heritage. Sports Participation 2010 Research Paper. February 2013. p. 24.

² Ibid., p. 25.

Adult Canadians Regularly Participating in Sport by Provinces



Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1992, 1998, 2005, 2010

Most Practiced Sports

For Canadian adults, the five most practiced sports in 2010 were golf, ice hockey, soccer, baseball and volleyball. Among these top five, soccer continued to grow between 1998 and 2010, while both volleyball and baseball saw slight increases between 2005 and 2010. For Canadian children, the five most practiced sports include soccer, swimming, ice hockey, basketball and baseball. Growth in soccer for children has stopped, with a slight decline between 2005 and 2010. Meanwhile participation in baseball is no longer declining as it was between 1998 and 2005 and has remained consistent between 2005 and 2010.

Most Practiced Sports by Children Age 5 to 14

	Active Children		
	1998	2005	2010
Soccer	32.1%	44.1%	42.3%
Swimming	22.9%	24.8%	24.1%
Ice Hockey	23.4%	26.1%	22.0%
Basketball	13.8%	18.9%	16.3%
Baseball	22.1%	13.6%	13.7%
Volleyball	5.4%	10.5%	8.2%
Gymnastics	2.3%	6.0%	7.9%
Figure Skating	5.4%	3.8%	5.9%
Karate	5.4%	5.0%	5.6%
Downhill Skiing	6.7%	5.0%	4.6%

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey 2010

Most Practised Sports, adults age 15 and over

	Active Adults			Active Men			Active Women		
	1998	2005	2010	1998	2005	2010	1998	2005	2010
Golf	21.7%	20.3%	20.3%	25.8%	25.2%	22.7%	15.0%	12.2%	15.2%
Ice Hockey	18.0%	17.7%	17.1%	27.9%	25.9%	23.2%	2.1%	4.2%	4.4%
Soccer	8.9%	9.7%	13.6%	10.7%	8.8%	14.4%	6.0%	11.3%	11.7%
Baseball	16.1%	7.1%	8.0%	18.5%	7.7%	8.9%	12.2%	6.2%	6.2%
Volleyball	9.0%	7.0%	7.4%	7.7%	4.6%	6.4%	11.0%	11.1%	9.3%
Basketball	9.5%	8.6%	7.1%	10.7%	9.7%	8.9%	7.5%	6.6%	3.2%
Downhill skiing	7.9%	6.7%	6.1%	6.7%	5.8%	6.0%	9.9%	8.1%	6.4%
Cycling	7.3%	6.3%	5.5%	7.0%	6.2%	5.4%	7.9%	6.4%	5.6%
Swimming	13.5%	10.4%	5.3%	8.4%	5.5%	2.5%	21.7%	18.7%	11.1%
Badminton	4.9%	3.7%	4.3%	3.9%	3.7%	4.4%	6.4%	3.6%	4.1%

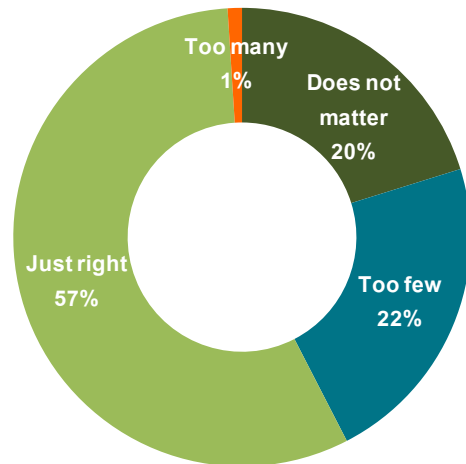
Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1998, 2005, 2010

Health and Physical Activity

The Community Health Assessment by Brandon Regional Health Authority (RHA) assessed information from the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy in 2009 regarding how people age 12 and above self-rate their level of health. This information demonstrates the community's perception of health. In Brandon, approximately 20% rate their health as excellent and 60% rate their health as very good. These ratings are similar to that of the Province. Approximately half of Brandon rates their physical activity levels as active or moderate. While this figure is slightly larger than that of the Province, it still represents a large population that recognizes themselves as inactive, showing a need to better incorporate active lifestyles into common practice.

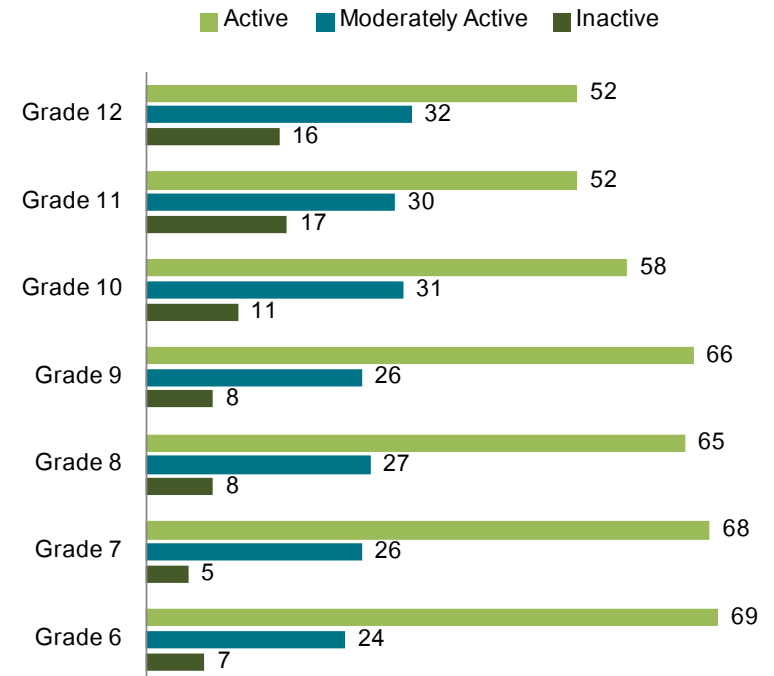
When looking at physical activity of youth within Brandon RHA, rates of active youth decrease from grade 6 to grade 12, showing a reduction in active lifestyles as children become young adults. Another important finding based on the Youth Health Survey Report in 2008 is that when asked about the adequacy of the number of sports offered at school in 2008, 22% of the respondents said that there were too few sports. This may indicate a gap in the provision of youth sports in Brandon.

Adequacy of Number of Sports Offered at School, Brandon RHA, 2008



Source: Brandon RHA, 2009 Community Health Assessment and Brandon RHA Youth Health Survey Report, 2008

Physical Activity Rate from Grades 6 to 12, Brandon RHA



7.12 Best Practices

Best practices are an important tool to inform the development of the City of Brandon's Greenspace Master Plan. By looking at how Brandon's greenspaces compare to other community greenspace systems and their strategies for greenspace development, the Master Plan can better determine the planning tools and policies needed in Brandon.

Methodology

The best practices review looks at a series of comparison communities across Canada that range in population and size. To identify how each of the comparison communities addresses Greenspace planning, the review looks at three different aspects of comparison:

- Demographic Characteristics and Existing Open Space and Trails
- Greenspace Planning Tools Used
- Greenspace Classifications and Uses

To gather information regarding each of these aspects, the review utilized Statistics Canada, Ontario's Municipal Performance Measurement Program data along with a detailed review of municipal websites to obtain Greenspace and community planning tools. Research into each community planning process was dependent on available information provided within community accessible online planning documents. The information gathered is summarized and assessed in the following tables and text:

Demographic Characteristics and Existing Open Space and Trails

Several key demographic characteristics have a significant impact on Greenspace planning including the size of the community, both in population and in area. These factors impact how many people a given Greenspace needs to serve as well as the potential availability of land for Greenspace within a community. Also important is recognizing measures of wealth and the potential need for affordable access to recreation opportunities.

Brandon has one of the smallest populations of those communities reviewed, but has one of the largest growth rates. This demonstrates that Brandon will need to look at expanding its Greenspace system more aggressively than other communities to maintain or improve its level of service for open space and trails. This may be complicated considering that the City is smaller in size than most communities and has a modest median household income when compared to the other communities.

Community Characteristics

Comparison Community	Population ¹	2006 to 2011 Population Change (%) ¹	Median Household Income ²	Total Hectares*	Total Open Space Hectares	Total Kilometres of Trails	Percentage of Open Space	Hectares of Open Space Per 1,000 Persons	Kilometres of Trails Per 1,000 Persons
Brandon, MB	46,061	11.0	57,177	7,689	321	20	4.2%	6.98	0.43
Fredericton, NB	56,224	11.3	55,090	13,167	821	80	6.2%	14.60	1.42
Halifax, NS	390,096	4.7	62,069	549,028	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kelowna, BC	117,312	9.6	57,948	21,182	>1,000 ³	N/A	>4.7%	>8.52	N/A
Kitchener, ON	219,153	7.1	63,709	13,679	1,891	313	13.8%	8.63	1.43
Medicine Hat, AB	60,005	5.3	62,375	11,201	1,785 ⁴	100	15.9%	29.75	1.67
Oakville, ON	182,520	10.2	101,713	13,888	1,462	313	10.5%	8.01	1.71
Orillia, ON	30,586	1.1	48,972	2,861	293	31	10.2%	9.58	1.01
Ottawa, ON	883,391	8.8	79,634	279,022	3,039	235	1.1%	3.44	0.27
Red Deer, AB	90,564	8.9	72,385	10,429	1,370	142	13.1%	15.13	1.57
Regina, SK	193,100	7.7	69,192	14,545	1,931	N/A	13.3%	10.00	N/A
Revelstoke, BC	7,139	-1.3	57,724	4,076	~300 ⁵	N/A	~7.4%	~42.02	N/A
Richmond Hill, ON	185,541	14.0	87,388	10,095	929	125	9.2%	5.01	0.67
Saskatoon, SK	222,189	9.8	65,524	20,956	>1,000 ³	N/A	>4.8%	>4.50	N/A
St. Albert, AB	61,466	6.4	101,427	4,827	>900 ³	N/A	>18.6%	>14.64	N/A
Thunder Bay, ON	108,359	-0.7	57,646	32,824	2,038	47	6.2%	18.81	0.43

¹Statistics Canada. 2012. *Census Profile. 2011 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-XWE. Ottawa. Released October 24, 2012. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed August 11, 2014).*

²Statistics Canada. 2013. *National Household (NHS) Survey. 2011 National Household Survey. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 99-004-XWE. Ottawa. Released September 11, 2013. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed August 11, 2014).*

³Information gathered from municipal website.

⁴Area includes park space only.

⁵Area excludes golf course.

To gather information regarding existing open space and trails, the best practice review primarily relied on available data in the community planning documents and municipal web site data. For communities in Ontario, information was gathered from the Municipal Performance Measurement Program. Without a standard data source, the accuracy of the level of service standards may vary. Therefore the numbers for these open space and trail levels of service are used as one potential measure to evaluate greenspace provision. The analysis of these numbers shows an opportunity to improve its level of service within Brandon as the City has one of the lower standards for, percentage of open space within the community, hectares of open space per 1,000 people and kilometres of trails per 1,000 people.

Greenspace Planning Tools Used

A review of the comparison community planning documents show that greenspace planning takes on many different names and formats ranging from open space plans to recreation plans to parks plans. In addition, communities also define their parks and open spaces within their overall community plan such as an official plan or a municipal development plan. Within these community plans are the general policies that govern park and open space development. Specifics of the policies within the community plans are typically guided by information in the available greenspace master planning documents for the community.

In general, greenspace planning includes the following components: community profile (assessment of demographics, trends and/or community context, consultation (public input techniques including stakeholder interviews and community surveys), inventory and analysis (a review of existing greenspaces and/or facilities), needs assessment (an evaluation standards, trends and community wants to identify recreation needs) and policies and recommendations (a summary of next steps for implementation). Communities that have some type of greenspace planning document typically have a combination of these components. Plans that focus specifically on parks and open space tend to include more park inventory and analysis included while plans that focus on recreation tend more analysis of future recreation needs. In Brandon, because the community is growing, it is important that this Greenspace Master Plan focus on the growing needs for recreation within the community in addition to an analysis of Greenspaces to develop a system that best serves the community.

Other planning tools communities have developed include placemaking tools which look at the elements that create a unique place including the design, context, function and programming of a place. Only a few plans address this type of planning within their greenspace master planning documents using design guidelines for parks. Examples of these communities include Medicine Hat, AB and Orillia, ON. Several communities address placemaking through policies or through community-wide design guidelines. One example of a community that uses a placemaking program is Halifax, which organizes an application process for placemaking projects. For Brandon, a community that is recognized for its recreational culture, placemaking should be incorporated into the Greenspace Master Plan through the development of a Greenspace System and through the design of each individual greenspace.

Comparison Community	Community Profile	Consultation	Inventory / Analysis	Needs Assessment	Policy / Recommendations	Placemaking Tools	Type of Document
Brandon, MB	•	•	•		•		Greenspace Master Plan (2002) / Brandon and Area Planning District Development Plan (2013)
Fredericton, NB	•	•	•	•	•		Recreation Master Plan (2008) / Municipal Plan (2007)
Halifax, NS					•	✓	Regional Municipal Planning Strategy (2006) / Guide to Open Space Design Development (2007) / Placemaking Program
Kelowna, BC					•		Community Official Plan (2011)
Kitchener, ON	•	•	•		•	✓	Parks Master Plan (2010 Draft) / Official Plan 2014 / Urban Design Manual (2012)
Medicine Hat, AB	•	•	•	•	•	✓	Parks System Management Plan (2010) - Includes Park Guidelines / Recreation Master Plan (2011) / Municipal Development Plan (2012)
Oakville, ON	•	•		•	•		Parks, Recreation and Library Master Plan (2011) / Livable Oakville (Official Plan) (2012)
Orillia, ON	•	•	•	•	•	✓	Parks, Recreation, Culture Master Plan (2014) - Includes Park Guidelines / Official Plan (2010)
Ottawa, ON			•		•	✓	Green Space Master Plan (2006) / Official Plan (2003) / Urban Design (2007)
Red Deer, AB	•	•	•	•	•		Community Needs Assessment (2008) / Municipal Development Plan (2013)
Regina, SK	•	•	•		•	✓	Open Space Management Strategy (2007) - Includes Guidelines / Design Regina - Official Community Plan (2013)
Revelstoke, BC	•	•	•	•	•		Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan (2011) / Official Community Plan (2009)
Richmond Hill, ON	•	•	•	•	•	✓	Parks Plan (2013 Draft) / Official Plan (2014) - Placemaking Principles
Saskatoon, SK					•		Plan Underway / Official Community Plan (2014) / Park Development Guidelines (2006)
St. Albert, AB		•		•	•		Recreation Master Plan (2012) / Proposed Parks and Open Space Master Plan
Thunder Bay, ON	•	•	•	•	•	✓	Recreation and Parks Master Plan (2008) / Official Plan (2014) / Urban Design and Landscape Guidelines (2012)

Greenspace Classifications and Uses

The planning document review reveals that nearly all the comparison communities classify their Greenspaces into a variety of types. Classifications are typically based on size or special feature (natural area, greenway, etc.). An exception to this method is Orillia, ON, which bases its classifications on character. To identify the common uses the various types of Greenspaces, a detailed review of classification use was conducted. The following uses were identified:

- Active: Active recreation including organized sports.
- Passive: Passive recreation such as walking and picnicking.
- Sports: Sports facilities including fields and courts.
- Play Areas: Children's play facilities including playgrounds.
- Natural Areas: May include areas such as wetlands or forested areas.
- Environmental: May include stormwater lakes or floodplains.
- Cultural: Features cultural activities or facilities including natural heritage.
- Educational: Features educational or interpretive facilities or experiences.
- Destination: Used as a destination within the community.
- Gathering: Accommodates gatherings or events.
- Trails: Features active transportation uses.
- Other Facilities: Specifies unique facilities such as outdoor rinks or splash pads.

Most communities define Greenspaces by active and passive uses. Other common uses identified include play areas and sports. Less common uses identified include environmental and educational uses. This type of classification and use identification focuses park needs on recreational users. Communities that expand their use designations to include things like destinations, gatherings or environmental uses may utilize community policies to have a more varied system of Greenspaces. To better integrate Greenspaces into community life for a more healthy environment, Brandon should focus on a wide variety of Greenspace uses.

Comparison Community	Greenspace Classifications	Passive	Active	Sports	Play Areas	Natural Areas	Environmental	Cultural	Educational	Destination	Gatherings	Trails	Other Facilities
Brandon, MB	Neighbourhood Greenspace	✓	✓										
	Community Greenspace	✓	✓	✓	✓								
	City Greenspace			✓						✓	✓		✓
	Natural Area					✓							
	Municipal Open Space												
Fredericton, NB	Citywide Park	✓	✓			✓							
	Community Park	✓	✓	✓									✓
	Neighbourhood Park	✓	✓	✓	✓								✓
	Linear Park											✓	
	Unique or Special Open Space							✓					
	Non-Recreational Open Space						✓						
Halifax, NS	Neighbourhood Parks	✓			✓								
	Community Parks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
	District Parks	✓	✓	✓	✓								✓
	Regional Parks					✓		✓	✓	✓			
Kelowna, BC	City Park												
	District Park												
	Community Park												
	Neighbourhood Park												
	Linear Park												
Kitchener, ON	Natural Areas					✓							
	City Parks		✓	✓						✓			
	District Parks	✓	✓										
	Neighbourhood Parks	✓			✓								✓
	Urban Greens				✓								
	Greenways											✓	
	Trails											✓	

Comparison Community	Greenspace Classifications	Passive	Active	Sports	Play Areas	Natural Areas	Environmental	Cultural	Educational	Destination	Gatherings	Trails	Other Facilities
Medicine Hat, AB	Pocket Parks	✓			✓								
	Neighbourhood Parks	✓	✓			✓							
	Community Parks		✓	✓			✓						✓
	Future School Sites	✓	✓	✓									
	City Wide Parks		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓
	Greenways	✓	✓			✓	✓						
	Natural Parks					✓	✓	✓					
	Special Use Areas												✓
Oakville, ON	Community Park		✓	✓									
	Neighbourhood Park	✓											
	Tableland Woodlot Park					✓							
	Community Link Park												
	Major Valley Park					✓		✓					
	Minor Valley Park					✓		✓					
Orillia, ON	Activity Park	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓		✓
	Celebration Park	✓						✓		✓	✓		✓
	Connector Park				✓				✓			✓	
	Cultural Park				✓			✓	✓		✓		✓
	Leisure Park	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓		✓
	Nature Park	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		
	Portal Park	✓							✓				✓
Ottawa, ON	District Park			✓						✓			
	Community Park	✓	✓										
	Neighbourhood Park	✓	✓								✓		
	Parkette	✓	✓		✓						✓		

Comparison Community	Greenspace Classifications	Passive	Active	Sports	Play Areas	Natural Areas	Environmental	Cultural	Educational	Destination	Gatherings	Trails	Other Facilities
Red Deer, AB	Multi-Neighbourhood Park Site		✓	✓									
	Neighbourhood Park Site	✓	✓										
	Parkette	✓			✓								
	Linear Park	✓	✓			✓							
Regina, SK	Pocket Park	✓			✓								
	Neighbourhood Park	✓	✓	✓									
	Open Space Associated with Recreation Facilities												
	Neighbourhood Greenways											✓	
	Zone Park		✓	✓									
	Municipal Park												✓
	Outdoor Sports Complex		✓	✓									
	Municipal Outdoor Facility												✓
	Urban Plaza										✓		
	Municipal Greenway											✓	
	Natural Areas					✓	✓	✓					
	Special Use Areas						✓					✓	
	On-Street Greenway											✓	
	Waterfront Park	✓											✓
	Community Recreation Park		✓	✓	✓								✓
	Trails											✓	
Revelstoke, BC	Conservation Park	✓				✓							
	Special Feature Park					✓		✓					
	Neighbourhood Park	✓	✓					✓					

Comparison Community	Greenspace Classifications	Passive	Active	Sports	Play Areas	Natural Areas	Environmental	Cultural	Educational	Destination	Gatherings	Trails	Other Facilities
Richmond Hill, ON	Destination Parks									✓	✓		✓
	Community Parks	✓	✓	✓	✓								✓
	Neighbourhood Parks	✓		✓	✓								
	Linear Parks	✓			✓			✓				✓	
	Urban Squares	✓						✓			✓		
Saskatoon, SK	Neighbourhood Pocket Park	✓			✓								
	Neighbourhood Core Park	✓	✓										
	Linear Park		✓			✓						✓	
	Village Square Park									✓	✓		
	District Park		✓	✓							✓		✓
	Multi-District Parks	✓	✓	✓				✓					✓
	Industrial Parks	✓											
	Special Use Parks												
St. Albert, AB	Public Park	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓					
Thunder Bay, ON	Passive Parks	✓											
	Active Parks		✓										

7.13 Planning Context: Document Summaries

The following table provides a review of City wide planning documents, local planning documents and processes and by-laws and agreements as well as the findings, recommendations and products relevant to the Greenspace Master Plan.

Name	Purpose	Inventory / Data / Programs	Relevant: Findings / Recommendations / Products
City-Wide Planning Documents - Vision/Policy Level			
Assiniboine River Corridor Riverbank Master Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To present a vision for the future of the City focusing on the Assiniboine River corridor conserving the natural river environment and striking a balance between protection, access and enjoyment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines, history, principles and goals, a planning strategy for the river corridor, management and operations and a financial plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preservation and education - Riverbank rehabilitation - plans for various river basin parks, the arboretum and gardens, the conservatory, Assiniboine landing waterfront, regional visitor reception, design guidelines for pathways, bridges, river access, river parkways and zoning
Arbour Trail Master Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poster to outlines trails in relation to the Discovery Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
BAPD Development Plan 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To define the future direction of the Brandon Area Planning District (BAPD) Manitoba's second largest city and two rural municipalities To reflect a stronger presence near the Trans-Canada Highway To increase intensity of development in the commercial corridor along 18th St, between Richmond Ave and the River 	Outlines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BAPD future directions A Development Plan Implementation Mechanisms Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Institutional and Cultural Facilities Agricultural Areas, Infrastructure, Transportation, Natural Resources, Hazardous Conditions, Design and Heritage and Cultural Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parks & Schools Policy Subdivision Approval Parks, Recreation and Open Space Policies HUB Policies
Brandon Area Road Network Development Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To address changing traffic patterns and volumes as a result of continued development and redevelopment outlined in a prioritized road network development plan 	Outlines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current traffic conditions and patterns An origin-destination study A forecasting model and Identification of future transportation strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart growth principles from Greenspace be incorporated Road classification system and design standards That roundabouts be considered at collector intersections Map Road Network Development Plan
City of Brandon Green Space Master Plan January 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under Separate Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under Separate Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under Separate Review

Name	Purpose	Inventory / Data / Programs	Relevant: Findings / Recommendations / Products
City of Brandon Recreation Facilities Master Plan 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make informed decisions on facilities that would have a major impact on future recreation in Brandon To survey recreation groups 	<p>Outlines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proud of extensive trail system and skating oval Need to develop guiding principles Need for centralized booking system Promote stewardship of facilities Aging recreation infrastructure Recreation dialogue to continue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Outdoor Activity Centres (Hubs) Develop HUBS in existing open spaces (i.e. Stanley Park) Guidelines for Recreation Facility Development Additional fields in central location Senior field at Optimist Park Six tot fields at sportsplex Consider indoor soccer Improve high school field facilities Modify track inner field to other sports (i.e. tot pitch)
Brandon's Environmental Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To set out actions to reduce the City's negative impact on the environment To focus on the City's operations so that it may lead by example 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines Brandon's current environmental context with respect to: air, land, water, energy, trends Outlines the environmental future and action plan Outlines actions, steps, indicators, time frame, responsibility based on goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve Sustainable Development Practices LEED BY Example Reduce Energy Consumption Reduce Consumption of Treated Water Reduce Land Contamination Improve Air Quality Reuse of Contaminated Land
Greenhouse Gas Inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To lower greenhouse gas emissions, this is one of two inventories one for local government operations and another for the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This report is #1 in a 5 Milestone process: Creating a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and forecast Setting an emissions reduction target Developing a local action plan Implementing the local action plan or a set of activities Monitoring progress and reporting results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines emissions on buildings, vehicle fleet, streetlights, water and sewerage, corporate waste
Brandon Heritage Resources Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify and preserve Heritage Resources and establish guidelines and processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines criteria for evaluation of heritage sites Inventory of historic resources Heritage Districts Heritage Promotion and awareness Work with Economic Development and Tourism to ensure heritage and cultural tourism businesses exist Heritage Program aligned with Federal and Provincial Standards & Guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civic Monuments/Statues Heritage education Heritage, Culture and Festival annual events Develops policy and guidelines
Brandon Growth Strategy (draft)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To coordinate the growth of all three municipalities to work collaboratively to ensure that future urban expansions are executed in a planned and orderly manner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies challenges and opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines population growth, trends, locations (service areas) Designates Priority Growth Nodes

Name	Purpose	Inventory / Data / Programs	Relevant: Findings / Recommendations / Products
The City of Brandon Road Map for Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City's Strategic Plan in final year of implementation with a total of 63 projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlines strategic projects (Our Pillars) for: Economic Development, Downtown HUB, Environment, Recreation, Infrastructure, Communications, Community Outreach, Housing Strategy, Culture & Heritage, Supporting Projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twinning of Highway 10 • Tourism Strategy • Pedestrian Mall • Downtown Entertainment Complex Strategy • Green Development Strategy • Wheat City Golf Course Strategy • Veterans Way Recreation Plan • Use of School Facilities Strategy • Relocation of Skating Oval • Walkways/Bike Path Loop • Events: Lieutenant Governor's Winter Festival & Multicultural Summer Festival • Keystone Centre Multi-use facility • Riverbank Corridor Flood Recovery Program
*Shaping Tomorrow Together Brandon's Community Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish a vision, strategy and implementation plan fostering an ongoing process of community outreach 	<p>Outlines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision statements, Agriculture, Cultural Diversity, Economic Development, Education, Environment, Health, Municipal Government, Recreation Leisure & Arts and Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practices associated with sustainable development • Demand for greenspace development in industrial and commercial areas • Create & protect flourishing public and private greenspace • Develop a greenspace awareness program • Implement a riverbank action plan • Encourage development of community gardens • Need of re-developing arts & entertainment complex
*People, Plants and Pride...Growing Together, Brandon A Community in Bloom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To foster the "Communities in Bloom" Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a Highway • Boulevard Maintenance • Off-Leash Dog Park • Sidewalk Maintenance Program • Snow Removal • Environmental Awareness • Natural & Cultural Heritage Conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree Inventory • Winter Light Park • Trail development • Garden Clubs • Movie Under the Stars • Brandon Hills Wildlife Management Area • Brandon Riverbank Inc • Urban Forest Management • Brandon Discovery Centre • Park Bench Program • Wildflower Patch • Brandon Skate Park

Name	Purpose	Inventory / Data / Programs	Relevant: Findings / Recommendations / Products
Local Planning Documents & Processes - Technical Level			
Cemetery Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To define the future form, products and level of service for the municipally owned cemetery 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquire additional land for cemetery expansion Accommodate an eco-cemetery and scatter garden Establish columbarium plazas (amenities) Develop a signage guideline policy
City of Brandon Community Centres Discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To better understand current conditions and anticipated visions for each of the 10 community centres in Brandon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines: program offerings, revenue streams, volunteer populations, strengths and limitations, and anticipated opportunities and challenges for each community centre Inventories amenities, structure, required upgrades, and activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Urban Design Standards and Guidelines	To improve the image of the City, communicate design expectations, provide access to design concepts, stimulate design discussion in the early stages of development, implementation tool for City's aspirations	Outlines Site Design and Building Design Guidelines, Downtown Promenade, Commercial priority Areas, Historic Properties, Multiple family and Mixed Use, Entrances to Brandon, Subdivision/Community Design, Crime Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Downtown Promenade Overlay Zone Gateways: Trees, art, signage, markers, turn-out
Urban & Landscape Design Standards Manual (Draft)	To promote high quality urban design and ensure contextually appropriate development and redevelopment	Outlines: pedestrian movement, amenity spaces, vehicle movement, parking, accessible design, refuse & utilities, fencing, sustainable practices, signage, safety, lighting, views, public art, context, orientation & entrances, building articulation, privacy, materials, general landscape, buffers & berms, building facades, parking lots, boulevard trees, plant selection & maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides plant lists for Boulevard trees Provides minimum plant specifications Provides planting setback requirements
Landscape Design Guidelines	To provide minimum landscape standards to mitigate pollution, conserve energy, buffer land use, ensure public safety, and contribute to neighbourhood appearance of new developments in Brandon	Outlines: Approvals, Installation, Acceptance, and Standards: Plant heights, setbacks, maintenance, bermsite development, planting design, boulevards, Buffers, public walks and greenways, special yards, parking areas, building frontages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on general plant selection Acceptable Boulevard Tree List

Name	Purpose	Inventory / Data / Programs	Relevant: Findings / Recommendations / Products
North Brandon Gateway Secondary Plan (draft)	To shape the development of lands in the area of Trans Canada Highway, 18 th Street and 1 st Street	Outlines: Community structure, land use, infrastructure, transportation, urban design and implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locates existing and proposed open space • Maps Greenspace Network & Stormwater management facilities • Policy: Open Space, Community Greenspace, Neighbourhood Greenspace, Multi-use trail system • Implementation & Cost of Development Policy
*Cultural Development and Diversity Strategy	To outline a plan of arts and culture as tools that can assist in celebrating and understanding the cultural development and cultural diversity within the community	Outlines: Culture system, Trends, Changing demographics, changing ethnicity Cultural Development and Diversity in Manitoba Brandon's Plan: Current State, Best Practices, Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain youth, Attract immigrants, Attract aboriginal people • Develop comprehensive Public Art Policy • Develop "arts and culture corridor"
*Community Leisure and Recreation Survey 2007	To summarize leisure and recreation participation	Survey, Focus Groups and Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civic Monuments/Statues • Heritage education • Heritage, Culture and Festival annual events • Develops policy and guidelines
The HUB Secondary Plan By-Law	To promote and revitalize the downtown area known as the "Downtown HUB"	Outlines: Purpose, interpretation, the HUB plan, character areas, and implementation Addresses: Character areas, Transportation Urban Design, Site, Building and Incentive Design, Heritage Streetscapes, Economic Development, Housing, Entertainment and Shopping, Mixed Use and Transitional Character Areas and Incentives and Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation objectives and policies • Pedestrian Connection policies • Parkland north of Pacific Ave between 11th & 14th Streets • Greenspace connectivity to the HUB
By-Laws and Agreements - Local Law level			
Parks & Recreation By-Law No. 5268/37/84	To guide the operation and control of parks and recreational facilities	Outlines combustibles, firearms, throwing stones, prohibited recreational activities, use of golf course, charges, public gatherings, parades, business activities, animals, damage, restricted uses, walking on grass, camping, vehicles, bicycle paths, bathing, liquor, behaviour, concessions, boating, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A

Name	Purpose	Inventory / Data / Programs	Relevant: Findings / Recommendations / Products
Community Centres By-Law No 4100	to provide for management control and regulation of certain lands for recreational purposes	designates 8 community centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • outlines facilities to be skating rinks and recreational grounds • operated by local committees of neighbouring residents • management committees make rules & regulations & maintain properties
Zoning By-Law No. 6642	To define rules and regulations for the establishment of zones within the City for the orderly development and use of land in the community	Outlines: zones, overlay zones, permitted and conditional uses, zoning map, definitions, setbacks, heights, parking, signs, landscaping, HUB Zones standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules for Parks and Recreation, Agricultural Development Reserve and Open Space Zones • Floodplain Overlay Zone
Cemetery By-Law No. 6632	To establish rules and regulations for the maintenance and care of the cemetery	Outlines rules and regulations regarding interments and disinterments, monument regulations, columbarium, floral arrangements/ landscaping,, cremation, veterans burials	• N/A
Pesticide By-Law No. 6825	To control, permit and direct the use of pesticides in the City	Outlines permitted pesticide uses, property registration, application prohibitions, commercial/ owner applications, rules respecting applications and penalties	• N/A
Heritage Conservation By-Law No. 6644	To designate and protect local heritage resources which represent an important feature of the historical development of the municipality of its natural history, or its people and their respective cultures	Outlines establishment of heritage advisory body, protection of heritage sites, sites of heritage significance, procedures for designation, protection of municipal sites and informational and educational programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop initiatives to encourage support and educate and promote the management and sustainability of historic resources
Joint Use of Schools Agreement	To avoid duplication of recreational facilities and to use in an efficient manner to benefit the community	Outlines General Guidelines on community accessibility, to schools and grounds, Fees Booking Arrangements, Responsibilities of the City/school,equipment, maintenance, insurance, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of school/grounds facilities is permitted for any instructional, informational, recreational,athletic, social or community program • Committee is mandated to develop a list of heritage resources

7.14 Greenspace Master Plan 2002 Evaluation

The result of the 2002 Greenspace Master Plan was 66 actions. The actions were not clear recommendations and have been categorized as issue, enhancement, recommendation, activity and policy to be developed. The recommendations cast a wide net and includes topics as acquisition, development, maintenance, relocation, branding, policy, partnering and funding. Since 2002 actions have been implemented and much has been accomplished.

Each of the 66 actions is evaluated as “done”, “not done” and “in process”. Actions that are not done or in process and that have continued relevance will be incorporated into this update. The same will be true of projects that have been addressed but that can be expanded, should be updated or addressed once again will also be included. Short, medium and long term projects have been treated equally as their priority will change.

Legend
R: recommendation
I: issue
E: enhancement
P: policy
A: activity

Implementation Measure		Done	Not Done	In Process
Short Range				
1	I: shortage of community Greenspace		✓	
2	I: lack of neighbourhood Greenspace		✓	✓
3	I: land not available in some wards		✓	
4	I: Greenspaces showing signs of deterioration (at this time it is not prioritized)			✓
5	I: limited range of recreational & leisure amenities		✓	
6	R: enhance current land database system			✓
7	R: implement a classification system		✓	
8	R: implement design standards		✓	
9	R: implement safety audits - twice per year			✓
10	R: inappropriate signage		✓	
11	R: enhance and develop playgrounds			✓
12	R: implement standards for trails & paths			✓
13	R: ensure environmental responsibility through programs			✓
14	R: develop pocket parks & community gardens			✓
15	R: develop skateboard facilities	✓		
16	R: develop a network of dog parks			✓
17	R: address Greenspace deficiencies		✓	
18	R: address condition of facilities & amenities		✓	
19	R: ensure public safety in Greenspaces			✓
20	R: increase public use through complimentary facilities			✓
21	R: strengthen public/private partnerships		✓	
22	R: incorporate pilot projects (stormwater) - by Engineering Department		✓	
23	R: address inadequate size & poor visibility/access		✓	
24	R: ensure all areas see enhancements		✓	

Implementation Measure		Done	Not Done	In Process
Short Range				
25	E: South End Community Centre playground	✓		
26	E: North End playground relocation & Greenspace	✓		
27	E: Aberdeen & Crocus Park safety improvements		✓	
28	E: Rideau Park Greenspace (need for a stage)			✓
29	E: Frederick Street playground relocation		✓	
30	E: Meadows School playground & Greenspace	✓		
31	E: New Era School Greenspace	✓		
32	E: Vincent Massye sports fields	✓		
33	E: Keystone Centre grounds (master plan by owner)		✓	
34	E: Argyle Courts safety & Greenspace			✓
35	E: Riverheights Park safety & Greenspace			✓
36	E: Linden Lanes School & Westridge Community Centre Greenspace	✓		
37	R: implement Assiniboine River Corridor Master Plan		✓	
38	E: consistent with safety, accessibility		✓	
39	E: develop consistency in new facilities		✓	
40	R: develop new multi-use trails			✓
41	E: close gaps in trail system		✓	
42	E: provide greater accessibility		✓	
43	E: provide greater access to Riverbank areas			✓
44	E: extend 17th East Trail to 1st Street	✓		
45	E: develop a trail from 26th St to Queen Elizabeth & Canada Games Park	✓		
46	E: develop greenway Louise/Lorne Ave from Coronation to Rideau Park	✓		
47	E: develop trail Kirkcaldy Dr through Sportsplex & Winston Churchill Park	✓		

Implementation Measure		Done	Not Done	In Process
Short Range				
48	E: extend Ottawa Ave trail to 18th St		✓	
49	E: extend 19th St South Trail to Cemetery	✓		
50	E: complete Maryland Ave trail	✓		
51	E: pave trail from Fox Place playground to 34th Street		✓	
52	E: develop trail to Riverheights School from Victoria Ave	✓		
53	R: employ a full range of funding mechanisms (p. 110)		✓	
54	A: implement Community Action Programs (CAPS)			✓
55	A: implement Neighbourhood Initiative Project (NIP)			✓
56	A: review existing user fee policy		✓	
57	A: review existing reciprocal user agreement with Brandon School Division	✓		
58	P: develop a volunteer procedure		✓	
59	A: develop a community animation program		✓	
60	R: implement Development Cost Charge By-law (Fiscal Analysis w/ Planning)		✓	
61	R: build community sponsorship of Greenspace development & enhancement		✓	
62	R: seek grants from government, industry & not-for-profit		✓	
63	R: develop an adopt-a-park program		✓	
64	P: develop a volunteer policy		✓	
65	R: develop a public education and information program		✓	
66	R: develop a facility audit program		✓	



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