

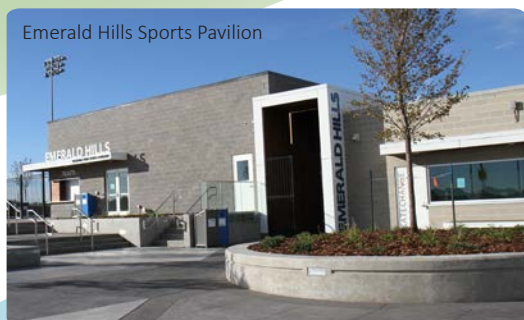
Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy (OSRFS update)

Enclosure I

June 13, 2017



Emerald Hills Leisure Centre



Emerald Hills Sports Pavilion



Emerald Hills Artificial Turf Field



Canada Day Festival



Ardrossan Recreation Complex



2017 Review & Update

Table of Contents

I. Looking Back at the OSRFS	2
II. Review of the First Ten Years	5
III. Trail Development	10
IV. Strategy Review and Future Planning	12



I. Looking Back at the OSRFS

The Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy (OSRFS) was approved by **Council on June 24, 2008**. The strategy provided broad direction to how parks, natural areas, trails, and leisure and recreation facilities should develop over the **next 15 years**.

The strategy was originally developed by Strathcona County Administration with the assistance of consulting resources. The strategy was built on the needs articulated by the community. **An extensive amount of public dialogue took place to guide the creation of the OSRFS**; engagement has been ongoing with both the general public and stakeholder groups as the strategy continues to move forward.

Reminder of the plan and vision

The vision for open spaces and recreation facilities in Strathcona County is to invest in a healthy and active community by providing safe, affordable and accessible recreation, parks and culture opportunities.

The **guiding principles** are:

- **revitalizing** existing parks, open spaces and recreation facilities before investing in new spaces;
- **creating** an integrated system of indoor and outdoor places and facilities to meet multiple recreation needs, across multiple locations;
- **reducing** the ecological footprint of development;
- **creating** opportunities for community partnerships and stewardship.

Research and Guiding Documents

The OSRFS is a guiding document and plan for future development and redevelopment of indoor and outdoor spaces. **The OSRFS recommended additional work in three areas**, which lead to the creation of three guiding strategies including **Aquatics, Sportsfields and Trails**. These strategies were developed through extensive public engagement to establish priorities in these areas.

Project Positioning

As part of the ongoing OSRFS needs assessment process, the following tools provide the key information required to make decisions on priorities for future OSRFS projects.

Environmental Scan - monitor industry changes, trends and issues for early signs of opportunities or challenges that may influence current and future plans.

Market Research - gather information about user needs and preferences.

Public Engagement - involve residents/other stakeholders to develop an understanding of issues, gather specific input, identify alternatives, or partner in decision making.

Usage Analysis - monitor usage, program registration or participation over time within specific functional areas of recreation to understand and predict future needs and trends. Facility condition reports - coordinate with infrastructure replacement whenever possible.

Feasibility studies - may be initiated to further investigate specific projects as needed.

Community Partnership Projects

In September 2011 Strathcona County Council adopted a new municipal policy to create a systematic approach for building community-based recreation and open space infrastructure. The new approach is done through the Community Partnership Projects (CPP) process.

Linking to the Strategic Plan

The OSRFS is a vehicle to address many of the priorities set out by Strathcona County's Strategic Plan. Our recreation spaces contribute to the quality of life that our residents value and

enjoy. Investment in infrastructure, quality services, cultural and recreational programs and facilities is a priority and sets us apart. Effective and efficient infrastructure and community partnerships are top priorities in the new Strategic Plan.

How OSRFS outcomes contribute to the County's Strategic Goals



OSRFS Project Cycle

The following terms are used often when describing where we are at in the OSRFS project cycle. The stages are progressive, and each stage builds upon the work completed in earlier stages. There may be pauses between stages, and timelines vary enormously depending on the type of project and funding capabilities.

Strategy

- gives general direction to what amenities are needed, and where
- high level public input i.e. annual OSRFS survey
- identify and explore potential partnerships
- submitted as a planning request through the budgets' business initiatives process
- provide specific enough information to be able to prioritize 5 to 10 years out

Concept

- working to create the initial details for a specific project determined through the Strategy stage
- invested community stakeholders and the general public participate in identifying the specific needs related to the project
- expertise is hired to assist the community and administration to arrive at a final concept and to proceed to the design stage
- the final concept is developed to the merit stage of design, which generates enough design detail to establish cost certainty for capital budget consideration and approval
- submitted as a planning request through the budgets' business initiatives process

Design

- the public and invested partners are kept informed about the progress of the detailed design
- costing is monitored throughout the design to ensure the project remains within budget
- creation of tender ready documentation to provide to construction

Build

- tentative construction schedules are established and communicated
- public engagement shifts to how the new spaces may be used/programmed
- public is kept informed of timelines, construction progress and operating changes

Operate

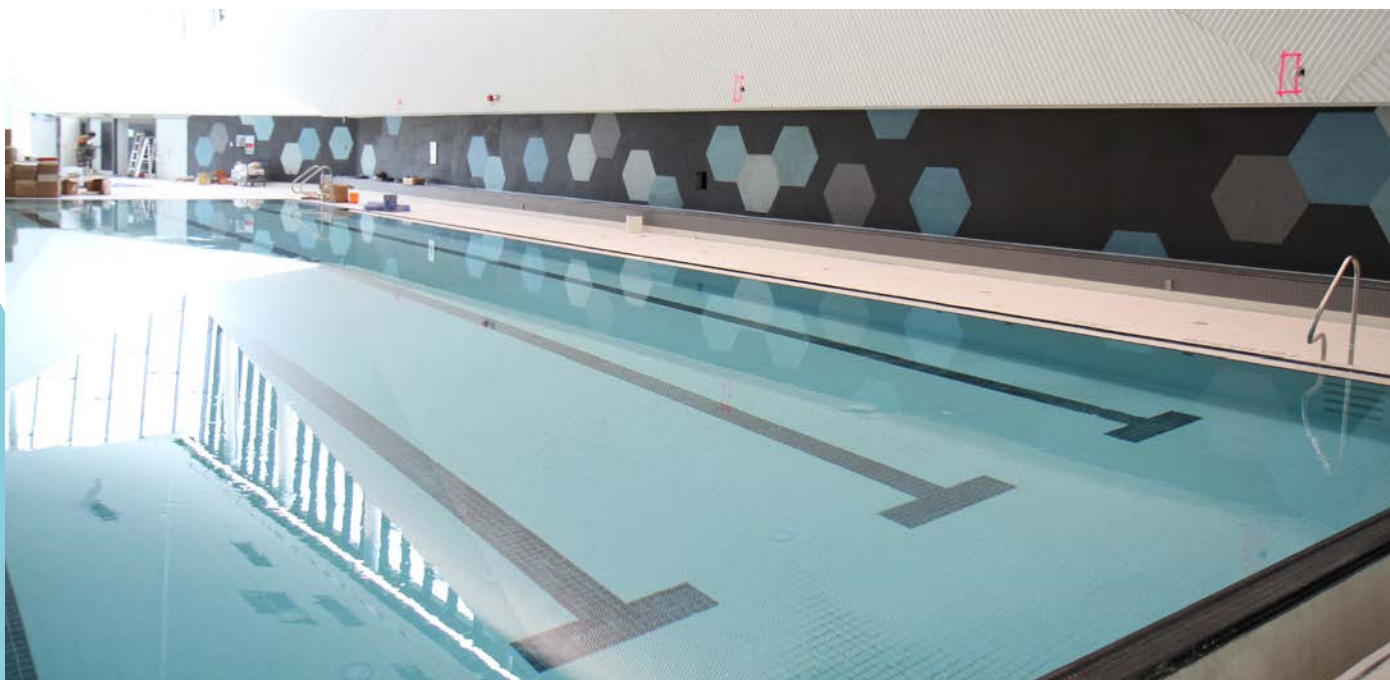
- facility/space is open and fully functional
- public engagement to obtain feedback related to satisfaction with the new space/facility and its operation

II. Review of the First Ten Years (2009-2018)

The initial OSRFS accomplishments have been the result of an ongoing, coordinated and cooperative effort between internal departments, community and facility stakeholders, residents and facility users.

Strategy		Concept		Design		Build		Operate		Status	Year	
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP	2009 - 2013											
	Gilmore Park Phase 1										Operate	2013
	Bike Skills Park Phase 1										Operate	2013
	McPherson Park										Operate	2013
	Miok-McCormack Memorial										Operate	2013
	2014 - 2018											
	Gilmore Park Phase 2										Operate	2014
	Bike Skills Park Phase 2										Operate	2014
	One Wall Handball										Operate	2014
	Emerald Hills Sports Pavilion										Operate	2016
	St. Theresa Playground										Operate	2016
	Whitcroft Gazebo										Operate	2016
	Pickleball Courts at Sherwood Heights										Build	2017
PLANNING	2009-2013											
	Ardrossan Community Recreation Master Plan										Complete	2009
	Josephburg Community Recreation Master Plan										Complete	2012
	South Cooking Lake Master Plan										Complete	2010
	Brentwood Park Master Plan										Complete	2010
	Heritage Hills Park Master Plan										Complete	2010
	Kinsmen / Westboro Park Master Plan										Complete	2010
	Sportsfield Strategy										Complete	2010
	Trail Strategy										Complete	2012
	Aquatic Strategy										Complete	2012
	2014-2018											
	Dog Off Leash Strategy										Complete	2015
	Growth Areas										Strategy	2019-23
	Sally Stewart Master Plan										Strategy	2017-18
	Outdoor Aquatic Spray Park and Spray Deck Strategy										Complete	2017
	Centennial Park Park Master Plan										Strategy	2018
	Heritage Hills Park Re-Development Plan										Strategy	2018

Strategy					Concept		Design		Build		Operate		Status	Year	Wellness	Ice	Aquatics	Dry surface	Culture	Play
2009 - 2013																				
INDOOR	Ardrossan Recreation Complex												Operate	2012	•	•		•		•
	Millennium Place												Operate	2012	•	•				•
	Broadmoor Arena & Clubhouse												Operate	2012		•		•		
	2014-2018																			
	Emerald Hills Sports Pavilion												Operate	2016						•
	Emerald Hills Leisure Centre												Operate	2016			•			
	Glen Allan Recreation Complex (Phase 1)												Operate	2016	•					
	Glen Allan Recreation Complex (Phase 2)												Operate	2016	•			•		
	Glen Allan Recreation Complex (Curling Rink)												Operate	2016		•				
	Festival Place												Design	2019-23					•	
	Sherwood Park Arena												Design	2019-23		•				
	Kinsmen Leisure Centre												Design/Build	2017-18			•			
	Emerald Hills Leisure Centre Second Floor												Future	2019	•					
	Moyer Recreation Centre												Concept	2018		•				
	Strathcona Olympiette Centre												Strategy	2020		•				•



2009-2013

OUTDOOR

TRAILS

Josephburg Trail

Operate

2013

•

Collingwood Cove Trail

Operate

2009

•

River Valley Alliance Trail (Phase 1)

Operate

2009

•

Centennial Park Palisades & Wetland Trails

Operate

2011

•

Broadmoor Lake Land Bridge

Operate

2012

•

Clarkdale Chelsea Trail

Operate

2012

•

Lakeland Ridge Trail

Operate

2014

•

Ridgepoint Trail

Operate

2014

•

Sherwood Drive Trail (Baseline - Main)

Operate

2012

•

Ardrossan Trail & Bridge

Operate

2015

•

Heritage Hills Wetland Trail

Operate

2010

•

Trans Canada Trail Phase 1

Operate

2012

•

STREETSCAPES

Baseline Road median/Boulevard planting

Operate

2016

•

GATHERING

Centennial Park Diamonds 5 & 7

Operate

2010

•

McGhan Park - Outdoor Rink

Operate

2012

•

•

Emerald Hills Artificial Turf Soccer Fields
& Sports Pavillion

Operate

2016

•

Clover Bar Junior High Soccer Realignment

Operate

2014

•

Davidson Creek Ball Diamond

Operate

2013

•

•

Sherwood Heights Ball Diamonds

Operate

2013

•

•

Heritage Hills Ball Diamond Upgrade

Operate

2012

•

Deermound Off Leash Upgrade

Operate

2010

•

South Cooking Lake Playground

Operate

2010

•

Interpretive Signs

Operate

2010

•

Clover Bar Ranch Spray Park & Community Gardens

Operate

2011

•

2014-2018

OUTDOOR

TRAILS

Fountain Creek Trail

Operate

2014

•

Ordze Trail

Operate

2016

•

Sherwood Drive Trail (Oak to Brentwood)

Operate

2016

•

Brighton Bay PUL (Sherwood to Bethel)

Operate

2016

•

Trans Canada Trail Phase 2 (Petroleum Way)

Build

2017

•

Wye Road west of Brentwood Blvd

Design/Build

2017

•

Centennial Park Wetlands Trail West

Operate

2016

•

Baseline to Hwy 21 Trail

Future

2019-23

•

Cartwright Trail

Build

2017

•

Baseline Road and Broadmoor Boulevard Trail

Build

2017

•

River Valley Alliance Phase II

Build

2017

•

River Valley Alliance Phase III

Build

2017

•

Trans Canada Trail Phase 3

Build

2017

•

Centennial Park Wetlands Trail East

Build

2018

•

STREETSCAPES

Rural Entrance Feature Landscaping
(South Cooking Lake, Ardrossan, Josephburg)

Operate

2015

•

Lakeland Drive Planting

Operate

2015

•

Baseline Road Planting

Operate

2016

•

Wye Road Planting

Operate

2016

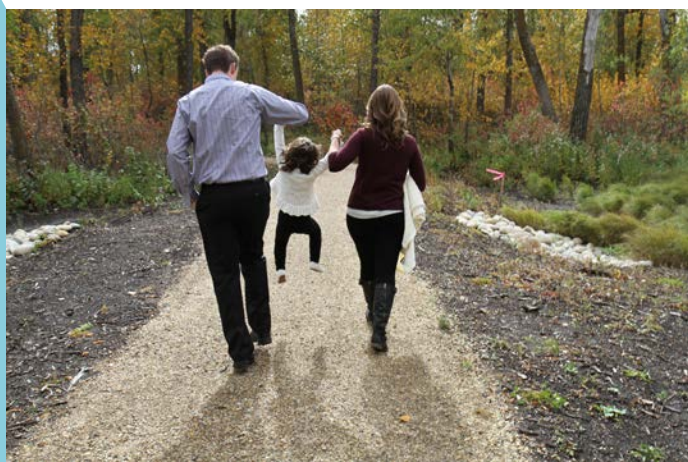
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Clover Bar Road Planting

Build

2017

•



2014-2018

OUTDOOR	GATHERING				
	Josephburg Trail & Fitness Equipment	Operate	2015	•	•
	Emerald Hills Artificial Turf	Operate	2016		•
	Emerald Hills Ball Diamonds	Operate	2015		•
	Broadmoor Spray Park & Playground	Operate	2015		•
	Emerald Hills Regional Park Landscaping	Build	2017	•	
	Centennial Park Sportsfield Expansion	Future	2019-23		•
	South Cooking Lake Park	Future	2019-23	•	•
	Ardrossan Recreation Complex Spray Park & Park	Design/Build	2017-22	•	•
	Brentwood Park	Future	2019-23	•	•
	Kinsmen Westboro Park	Future	2019-23	•	•
	Sherwood Heights Pickleball Courts	Build	2016-17		•
	Canada 150 Communities in Bloom Bed	Build	2017		•
	Sally Stewart Park	Future	2019-23	•	•



III. Trail Development

In 2012, the Trails Strategy identified priority areas where trails are needed. This information was the result of a needs assessment.

The areas identified are:

- Walkability in commercial areas (urban)
- Connection to Strathcona Science Park (urban/rural)
- Strathcona Wilderness Centre to Cooking Lake - Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area (rural)
- Linkages to higher density rural fringe areas (rural)
- Trails in the country residential policy area (rural)

Trail projects are implemented in four ways including through developers; Strathcona County's capital Walkability Program (OSRFS); regional initiatives such as Trans Canada Trail and River Valley Alliance; and through road upgrade projects like Range Road 233 or Wye Road.

Trails typically are not implemented in advance of road upgrade projects or before an Area Structure Plan is being constructed such as Hillshire.

Trail revitalization has been focused on trail linkages with significant progress being made on connectivity in urban, rural and commercial areas. Strathcona County continues to build relationships with the completion of our regional trail commitments with key funders: Federal and Provincial Governments, Trans Canada Trail, River Valley Alliance and Inter Pipeline.

Re-engagement in 2018 for trails affords additional dialog for future trails, areas of importance and a five year (2019-2023) implementation plan.



How Projects are Prioritized



Strategy

- Projects may be initiated by members of the community / community groups, by a member of Council, or by Administration.
- Regardless of where the project originates, all projects are considered based on the same criteria to increase fairness and transparency, while also meeting the greatest community needs most effectively and efficiently.

Concept

Design

- A Needs Assessment involves gathering a detailed outline of a project, and research to determine the community needs involved.
- A Business Case involves a more thorough analysis of the investment required in a project, both from a capital and operating perspective, and any potential risks and challenges involved.
- Priorities are evaluated based on the County's Strategic Plan and other guiding documents. We are also guided by ongoing assessment of the needs of the broader community.

Build

Operate

- Projects may be partly funded through Community Partnership Projects if a community group initiates it.
- The majority of projects will become part of the OSRFS, and be funded on an annual basis.
- Smaller modernizations or upgrades to existing facilities / spaces may be funded through the Facility Services annual lifecycle program.
- Projects not funded in one of these ways will be revisited in future planning cycles.

IV. Strategy Review and Future Planning

The OSRFS is a 15-year living and dynamic strategy that has been organized into five year increments, which includes providing the community with a report card on the progress of the strategy every five years. The OSRFS is regularly reviewed to accurately reflect community needs, as well as to ensure the future direction remains in line with the original guiding principles. The purpose of ongoing reviews is to provide a status update on all projects, to celebrate completed projects, and to be responsive in laying the foundation for future planning.

Project planning will naturally shift into a phase of reassessment and research to determine priorities for the 2019-2023 budget cycles. Long range strategic planning will look at the changing needs of the community and how recreation infrastructure will fit into future budget cycles.

15-Year Focus (2034+)

Even though the majority of projects completed to date have been focused on revitalizing existing infrastructure, there are more facilities and spaces that require reinvestment to maintain their functionality, as well as address accessibility and technology needs. Once a project has been identified, it remains on the list of priorities, and moves according to available funding.

As Council approves new residential areas, the recreation and cultural needs for the entire community will be reassessed, and recommendations for new indoor facilities and outdoor

spaces will be made to balance immediate planning needs with long range strategy planning that best meet the highest priority community needs.

Having heavily used and in-demand recreational and cultural facilities and open spaces demonstrates that our residents value leisure activities, sport and recreation, and are more likely to be healthier, happier and more engaged in their community.

The OSRFS supports “Living. Refined.” The capital investments translate into highly visible, tangible outcomes for residents that consistently rank as some of the most positive attributes of our community.

Overall, 2018 will be a year of re-engagement with the community to reaffirm priorities with residents, community partners and stakeholders for the continued investment in the health and well being of the community. Once complete, the revised strategy will provide a community-driven, comprehensive plan that outlines the priorities for the next five years (2019-2023), while providing guidance for the next 15 years (2019-2034) for open space and facility revitalization and development.

With regard to trail development, future OSRFS engagement will include land identification, acquisition for rural trail opportunities to our rural fringe areas, completing an Active Transportation Plan and trail amenity enhancements (staging areas, washrooms, signage, lighting, bike racks, seating, mapping, programming and education).



Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy

