

Priorities Committee Meeting_Nov 26_2024

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE

Strathcona County Open Space Master Plan update

Report Purpose

To provide Priorities Committee with an update on the Strathcona County Open Space Master Plan (OSMP).

Our Strategic Goals

Goal 2 - Healthy and Safe Community

Goal 3 - Responsible Development

Goal 4 - Municipal Excellence

Goal 2 Priority - A diverse, welcoming, inclusive, and an accessible community for all

Goal 3 Priority - Growth and development that prioritizes community well-being and economic benefits

Goal 4 Priority - Optimal use of resources that meets the community's needs

Report

In 1987, Strathcona County adopted an Outdoor Master Plan which provided an outline for outdoor recreation and infrastructure requirements for the next 25 years.

June 24, 2008, Strathcona County approved the Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy which guides the County for 15 years on open space and facility development and redevelopment.

September 10, 2019, Council adopted the Municipal Development Plan which guides growth and development in the County for 20 years. The Municipal Development Plan listed the Open Space Master Plan as a requirement to complete.

October 8, 2019, Council adopted the Recreation and Culture Strategy which provides the recreation and culture priorities of the community for the following 12 years.

December 2023, Strathcona County hired O2 Planning and Design to lead the Strathcona County Open Space Master Plan (OSMP) project. The objective of the OSMP is to create a framework which will guide decisions related to park planning, development and operations. It will identify goals, planning initiatives and projects which will focus efforts and prioritize resources towards achieving measurable outcomes.

Phase 1a of the OSMP is complete (Enclosure 1). It focussed on the creation of a public engagement and communications plan, assessment and mapping of the Strathcona County open space inventory, assessment of park provisioning, amenity access, Ecologically Valuable Areas, a trends analysis and a policy review. A short online survey was also created to help introduce the project and gather some initial visioning feedback from July 2 to August 18, 2024.

Phase 1b public engagement is complete, where a series of Interested Party's meetings, two open houses, an online platform and story map were used to gather community feedback. A Phase 2 What We Heard Report will be drafted and presented to Council in Q1 2025. This report will showcase the community's vision, guiding principles, goals and priorities.

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Council and Committee History

Oct 8, 2019	Council approved: THAT the Recreation and Culture Strategy, as set out in Enclosure 1 of the Recreation, Parks and Culture report be approved.
Sept 10, 2019	Council approved: THAT Bylaw 2-2019 – amendment to Municipal Development Plan Bylaw 20-2017 be given third reading.
June 24, 2008	1. THAT Council approve the Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy as a guiding document for open space and facility development and redevelopment. 2. THAT implementation of the Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy will be pending approval within the annual business plan and budget process.

Other Impacts

Policy: n/a

Financial/Budget: The Open Space Master Plan and any implementation items will be added within the 15-year budget process for consideration.

Legislative/Legal: n/a

Interdepartmental: Recreation, Parks and Culture, Planning and Development Services, Transportation Engineering Operations, Business Excellence, Utilities, Family and Community Services, Emergency Services, Economic Development and Tourism, Transit

Master Plan/Framework: Municipal Development Plan, Recreation and Culture Strategy

Communication Plan: A detailed Public Engagement and Communication Plan has been developed for this project.

Enclosures

1	Open Space Master Plan presentation
2	Open Space Master Plan maps