

**STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE****Strathcona County Open Space Master Plan – What We Heard report and vision****Report Purpose**

To provide Priorities Committee an update on the Open Space Master Plan.

**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.

September 2024, phase 1a of the OSMP was completed. 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, Environmentally Significant 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.

November 2024, phase 1b public engagement was completed, where Strathcona County hosted an Interested Party's meeting, two open houses, and an online platform and story map. A What We Heard (WWH) report was created and posted to the project web site and shared back with residents thru the Public Engagement E newsletter and Our Voice web site.

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Lead Department: Recreation, Parks and Culture

## **Priorities Committee Meeting\_Apr22\_2025**

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This report showcases the community's desired vision, guiding principles, goals and priorities. The results of the WWH report as well as feedback gathered at an administration workshop on February 26 provided guidance to create a final vision and guiding pillars for the OSMP.

The OSMP is being drafted and will be shared through a third round of public engagement in June 2025. A second WWH report will be created in July 2025 with a final OSMP presented to Council in Q4 of 2025.

### **Council and Committee History**

Nov. 26, 2024	Priorities Committee was provided an update on the OSMP Phase 1a.
Oct 8, 2019	Council approved the Recreation and Culture Strategy, as set out in Enclosure 1 of the Recreation, Parks and Culture report.
Sept 10, 2019	Council approved Bylaw 2-2019 – amendment to Municipal Development Plan Bylaw 20-2017 be given third reading.
June 24, 2008	Council approved the Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy as a guiding document for open space and facility development and redevelopment; and 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:** n/a

**Legislative/Legal:** n/a

**Interdepartmental:** Recreation, Parks and Culture, Planning and Development Services, Transportation and Engineering Operations, Business Innovation and Communications, 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	Strathcona County Open Space Master Plan presentation
2	Strathcona County Open Space Master Plan – What We Heard report