

OWEN SOUND: RECREATION, PARKS & FACILITIES MASTER PLAN



6:30 PM
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RECREATION, PARKS & FACILITIES MASTER PLAN UPDATE



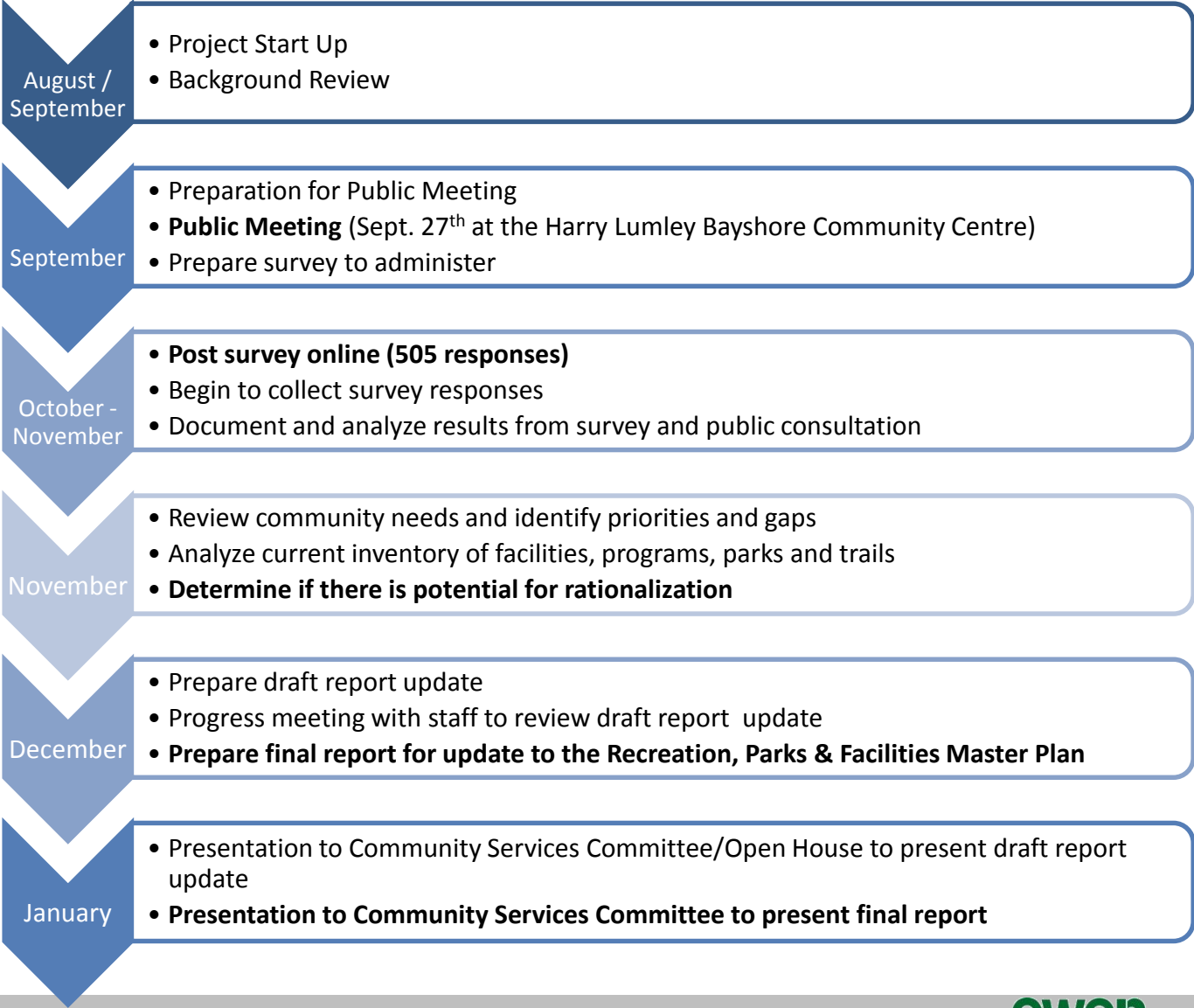
PURPOSE OF THE UPDATE

The purpose of the update to the Recreation, Parks & Facilities Master Plan was to:

- Review demographic trends
- Identify recreation, parks and programming trends and gaps
- Identify service provision improvements/efficiencies
- Update the Master Plan according to analysis results
- Provide recommendations to implement vision to 2028



RECREATION, PARKS & FACILITIES MASTER PLAN UPDATE



Structure of Master Plan Report

1. Introduction
2. Background Review
3. Trends in Recreation & Programming
4. Trends in Recreation Infrastructure
5. Emerging Themes in Owen Sound
6. Parkland Analysis & Recommended Policy Updates
7. Inventory of Recreational Facilities, Parks, Open Space & Trails
8. Implementation Strategy



1.0 Accessibility and Affordability		
GOAL: To ensure community facilities, services and procedures enhance accessibility for all.		
ACTIONS	Responsibility	Timing (O/S/M/L)
a) Review rates and fees policies on annual basis to ensure that they continue to respond to community needs and promote access for all regardless of age, income level, culture, gender, and abilities.	Community Services Department	Ongoing
b) Consider expanding the core set of free programs that can be established to create a degree of universality and inclusiveness for all in Owen Sound (beyond free skates and swims).	Community Services Department through consultation with other recreational providers	Short-Medium
c) Create opportunities for increasing a sense of belonging among all groups by developing an Inclusion Policy for Owen Sound facilities.	Community Services Department and partner service providers	Ongoing
d) Establish an Affordable Access Policy to improve access to recreation programs for those whom fees are a barrier to participation.	Community Services Department and partner service providers	Short
e) Continue to implement accessibility plan at YMCA and review recreational facilities, parks and trails to identify ways to reduce barriers for people with disabilities where feasible.	Community Services Department and partner service providers (E.g. YMCA)	Ongoing
f) Coordinate with existing organizations (E.g. Teen Advisory Group at the Owen Sound Library) to ensure recreational facilities, parks and trails remain relevant and consistent with changing trends, and address the barriers to access and participation. City and community service partners should explore new ways to increase unstructured and drop-in activities for teens. The City should continue to provide activities such as free swims, as well as the skate and Bike Park, and outdoor rink.	Community Services Department and relevant partners (E.g. Teen Advisory Group)	Short

Goal and Scope of Master Plan

- To provide the City of Owen Sound with a long term strategy to be used as a guide in maintaining and developing recreational programs, services and facilities as well as open spaces, parks and trails.

Methodology

- Background review of existing documents/plans
- Review of current trends in recreation
- Community workshop (September 27th)
- Online Survey (505 respondents)
- Inventory of parks, open spaces and recreational facilities
- Analysis of parkland supply and policies
- Additional comment period (Closed January 12th, 2018)

KEY THEMES FROM STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Accessibility/Affordability
Marketing & Communications
Partnerships & Collaboration
Desire for Indoor Turf Facility



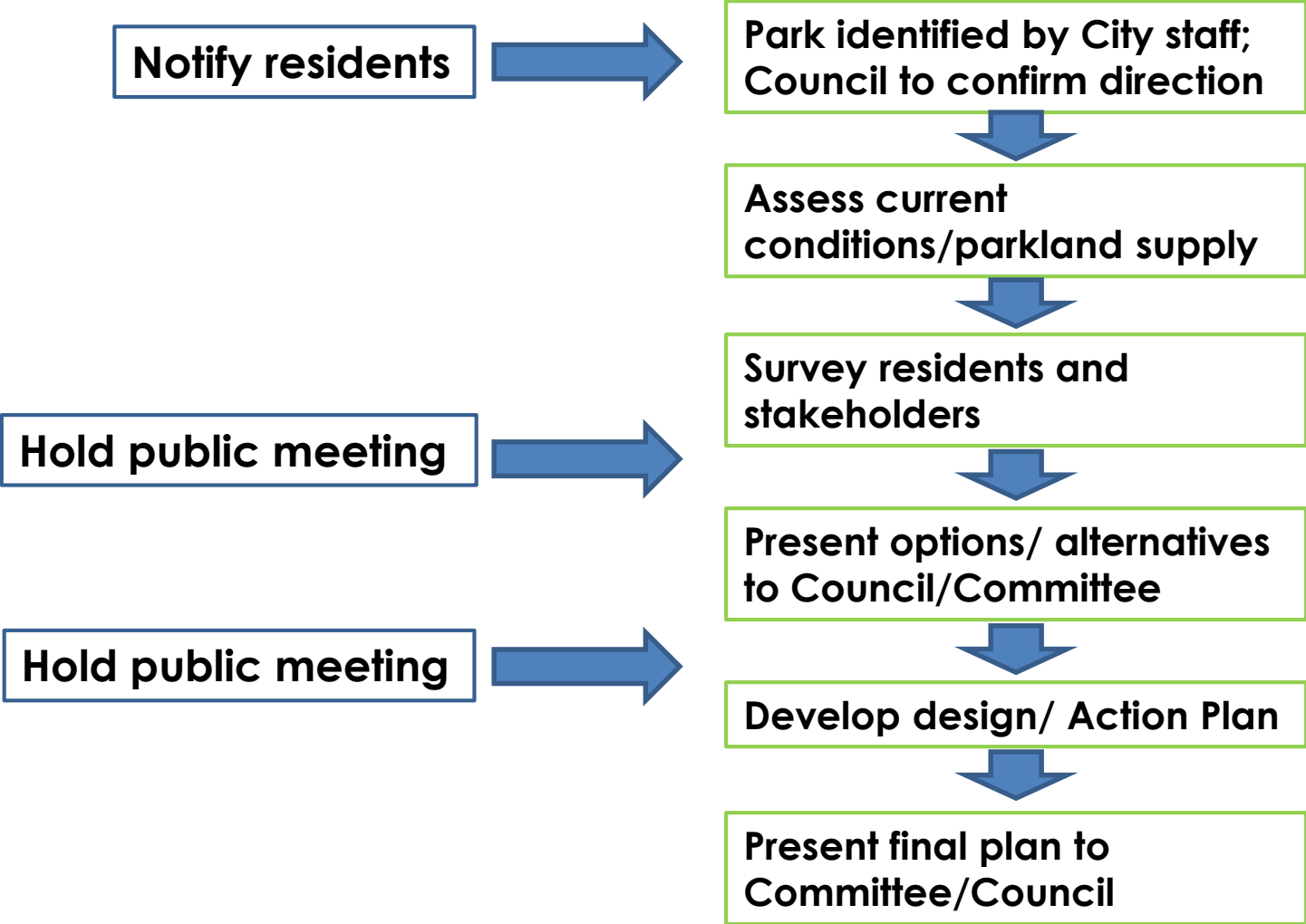
COMMENTS RECEIVED

- The draft Master Plan was posted on the City's website on December 13th, 2017
- 23 comments were received (Comments closed January 12th, 2018)
- Main themes of comments include:
 - Support for **trail connectivity**
 - Support for **indoor turf facility** and request for leadership from City
 - Need for **safer cycling** routes
 - **Transitioning use of Victoria Park** to more recreational use
 - Concerns regarding **repurposing/disposition of parklands** (Owen Heights Park and Kelso Beach soccer field, St. Julien Park)

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Comment Theme	Response
Support for Indoor Turf Facility and request for more leadership from the City	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New action items were added, including consultation with neighbouring municipalities (Georgian Bluffs, Meaford) to discuss regional need and potential partnerships.• The City should evaluate its involvement in an indoor turf facility based upon a business plan, feasibility study and financing strategy prepared by an interested party
Need for safer cycling routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The updated Master Plan includes recommendations to update the trails master plan• Active transportation is a key consideration of road updates in the City, as outlined in Section 6 of the Official Plan
Transitioning Victoria Park for recreational purposes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A process to undertake when considering transition of use has been included in the Master Plan.
Concerns regarding repurposing/ disposition of park lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The process to undertake when considering transition of use was updated to include more opportunities for public consultation• Two processes are proposed: One for repurposing and one for partial/full disposition of lands

TRANSITIONING USE OF PARKS



Repurposing Park Lands

1. City staff identify and recommend park to consider for repurposing to new recreational new. Council consideration to confirm direction, including public input.
2. Assess current conditions of park and assess alternatives.
3. Survey residents within 500 metres of park to gather data on park usage.
4. Hold public meeting with surrounding residents and stakeholders to discuss alternatives.
5. Based on public feedback, select preferred alternative and present to committee/Council for consideration.
6. Develop a preliminary design and action plan.
7. Hold public meeting to discuss preliminary design and action plan.
8. Present final plan to Committee/Council for approval.

Partial/Full Disposition of Park Lands

1. City staff identify and recommend park to consider for partial or full disposition. Council consideration to confirm direction, including public input.
2. Assess current parkland supply (full system and specific quadrant) based on standards for park provision.
3. Survey residents and other stakeholders within 500 metres of park to gather data on park usage.
4. Hold public meeting with surrounding residents and stakeholders to discuss.
5. Based on public feedback and usage data, present options to committee/Council for consideration.
6. Develop an action plan.
7. Hold public meeting to discuss process and action plan.
8. Present final plan to Committee/Council for approval.
9. Comply with City bylaw regarding disposition of land.

MASTER PLAN GOALS & IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Guiding Principle of the Master Plan:

To encourage residents of all ages to maintain physical, social and mental well-being through the provision and facilitation of a range of recreational opportunities and choices.

1. Accessibility & Affordability

2. Marketing & Communications

3. Partnerships & Collaborations

4. Desire for Indoor Turf Facility

5. Parkland Requirements & Acquisition

6. Recreational Asset Improvements

7. Programming

8. Service Delivery and Monitoring

MASTER PLAN GOALS & IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

5.0 Parkland Requirements & Acquisition		
GOAL: Update parkland policies to be consistent with current policy framework and continue to monitor parkland needs in the future.		
ACTIONS	Responsibility	Timing (O/S/M/L)
a) In the Downtown, East and West Harbour Planning Areas – and other areas of the City, should the need for additional parkland become evident – the City should look to secure parks and open spaces through various means including, but not limited to: dedication from development; acquisition through cash-in-lieu fees; partnerships with public or private organizations; public trusts/donations; restrictive covenants; easements; bonus, etc. While it is preferred that these lands be in public ownership, where this is not possible, the City should seek to secure a right of access across these lands for public use.	Community Services Department	Ongoing
b) Update Parkland Policies in Official Plan based on recommendations of Section 6.4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically Policies 7.5.1.3, 7.5.2 and 7.5.3 as part of Five Year Review 	Community Services Department	Short-Medium
c) Update Parkland by-law to include the requirement for the conveyance of land for park purposes and cash-in-lieu as a condition of development or redevelopment.	Community Services Department	Short-Medium
d) Consider conditions/process for plan of subdivision to allow for front-end construction of parks (at site plan approval stage).	Community Services Department	Short
e) The Official Plan should be updated to include requirements for parkland through site plan development process in addition to the subdivision process. (Policy 7.5.3.2)	Community Services Department	Short
f) Update the Sydenham Heights Secondary Plan Area to include requirements for parkland and locations of future parks.	Community Services Department	Short
g) Explore partnership opportunities with the Hospital to develop public parks on surplus hospital lands.	Community Services Department	Short-Medium
h) The City should strive to maintain the minimum provision standards for neighbourhood parks (0.5 hectare/1000) and City Parks (1.5 ha/1000) as outlined in the Official Plan. This provision can be monitored through the development of future parks, and assessed for update at the next Master Plan Update.	Community Services Department	Ongoing

ANY QUESTIONS?

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THANK YOU

