



**Parks Master Plan**  
Town of Grimsby

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# Parks Master Plan

February 24, 2026

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# Agenda

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1. Project Overview
2. Key Recommendations
3. Implementation Strategy

# Project Overview

# 1.1 / Project Overview

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- Guides the planning and provision of parks services, resources and investment over the next 10 years
- Develops recommendations using data from: surveys, interviews, facility use, budget considerations, trends in the parks & recreation sector, local opportunities, concurrent projects, etc.
- Viewed as a living document to be updated and adjusted through the annual budget planning process
- Recommendations may be advanced, delayed or amended to respond to changing circumstances
- Some initiatives will require additional community consultation to arrive at detailed plans and designs
- Council, in consultation with municipal staff, will determine when and how initiatives are implemented (e.g., specific type/number of amenities)

# 1.3 / Consultation Activities

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## ✓ Residents and Community Members

- Random Telephone Survey: 300 households
- Open Houses (2) & questionnaires
- Online Engagement Platform: 951 total site visits, 90 survey submissions, and 74 idea contributions
- On-The-Ground Engagement: 3 sessions
- Youth Engagement: 2 camp sessions

## ✓ Municipal Representatives

- 8 interviews with Councillors and municipal staff
- Workshop with Council, Official Plan, and Transportation Master Plan teams

## ✓ Partners & Stakeholders

- Parks User Groups Interview and Online Survey: 8 representatives
- Four Council Committee questionnaires

# Planning for Parks in a Growing Grimsby

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- Grimsby's population is projected to grow significantly over the next 10 years (the timeline of this Plan)
- Densification and increased population will bring more residents into compact neighbourhoods and heighten demand for outdoor spaces
- Parks will need to accommodate both passive uses (relaxation, social gathering, nature immersion) and active uses (sports, play, fitness)
- Ensuring adequate and diverse parkland throughout the Town is critical to maintaining community health and livability

# Key Recommendations

# Park Planning Policy

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- Strengthen Official Plan policies and provide additional direction on when physical parkland dedication should occur and when cash-in-lieu of parkland should be acquired.
- Update the Parkland Dedication By-law to reflect current policies of the Town's Official Plan and the recent legislation changes under the Planning Act.
- Develop Official Plan policies & guidelines for POPS that identify, at minimum: the role of POPS; preferred development types; and design and elements to be included in POPS.



# Environmentally-Centred Park Planning and Provision

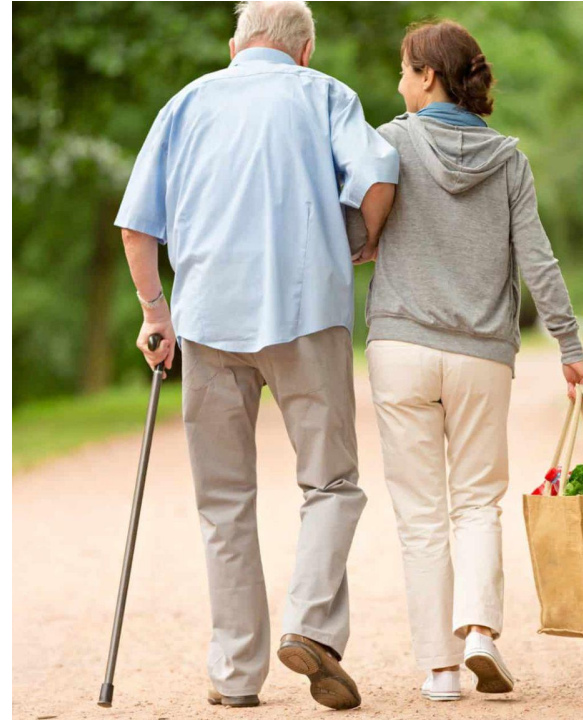
- Develop an Urban Forest Management Plan that includes identifying a canopy target and implementation plan to achieve it.
- Develop design standards for tree planting in urban conditions.
- Work with the NPCA and a consulting team with expertise in ecology, shoreline engineering, and geomorphology to develop a Shoreline Management Plan. The plan should explore both nature-based and traditional engineering solutions.



# Accessibility and Safety

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- Implement accessibility upgrades for parks and trails, including playground features, accessible surfacing and pathways, clear wayfinding, inclusive seating, adequate shade, and following Universal Design Standards, as part of scheduled parks upgrades.
- Apply best practices for effective lighting design to enhance safety while minimizing environmental impact. Park use should inform the need for lighting.



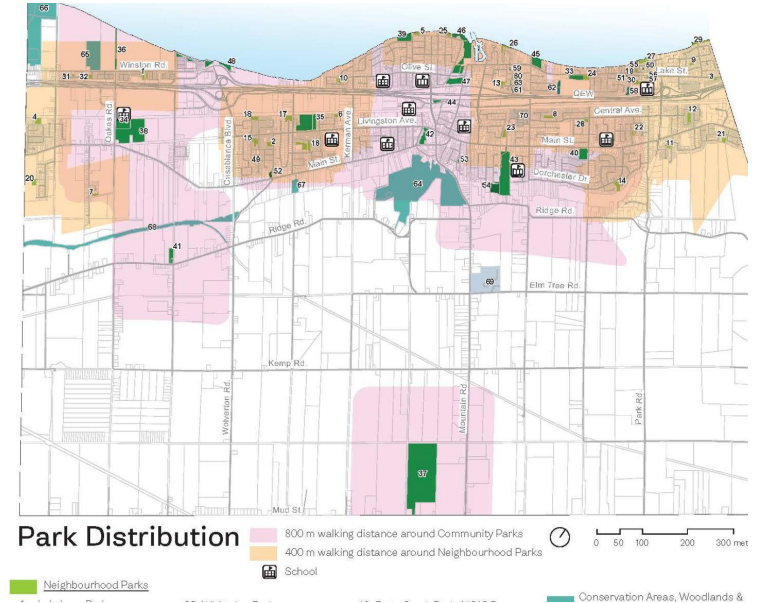
# Park Activation

- Where feasible, offer existing indoor recreation programs outdoors at parks in Grimsby.
- Assess opportunities to rotate events like Music in the Park and Movie Nights in the Park to different parks across the Town.
- Promote park amenities through the leisure guide, social media, schedule, mail-outs, etc.



# Park Classification and Distribution

- Strive to maintain the current parkland service level of 3.05 hectares for every 1,000 people.
- Aim to acquire/assemble at least one additional park between 2 - 6 ha in size to accommodate potential needed scheduled facilities.
- Should opportunities arise, acquire parcels that allow for the expansion of undersized existing parks regardless of whether there is new residential development nearby.



# Outdoor Scheduled Facilities

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- Explore the capabilities of the Town's existing recreation software (ActiveNet) to develop an enhanced data base to apply in a formal recreation facilities and programs/services planning
- Plan to provide one each additional unlit soccer/multi-purpose field and ball diamond to 2035.
- Demands can also be met through upgrades (e.g., right-sizing, improvements, lighting, etc.)



# Casual Use Outdoor Facilities

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- In future playground upgrades, look for opportunities to provide amenities that support a broad range of recreation types (e.g., active play, quiet restful play, solitary and social play, musical play, etc.), and to implement unique play features and designs (e.g. natural playgrounds).
- Provide a new OLA to serve the GO Station intensification area.
- To better understand the cost implications of different options, a feasibility study should be undertaken before upgrading the outdoor rink at the Peach King Centre.



# Implementation Strategy

# Implementation Considerations

- 125 recommendations
- 10-year timeframe
- Costs/Budgeting:
  - Immediate need
  - Operating vs. capital vs. studies
  - Funding
- Interrelated dependencies and efficiencies
- Staff resources
- Flexibility

Section	Short-Term (1-3 years)	Mid-Term (4-6 years)	Long-Term (7-10 years)	Total
<b>4.1 Park Planning Policy</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4.2 Environmentally-Centred Park Planning and Provision	\$180,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$220,000
4.3 Accessibility and Safety	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4.4 Park Activation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4.5 Classification, Access, and Distribution	\$300,000	\$1,180,000	\$5,300,000	\$6,780,000
4.6 Outdoor Scheduled Facilities	\$300,000	\$800,000	\$750,000	\$1,850,000
4.7 Unstructured and Casual-Use Park Facilities	\$440,000	\$501,250	\$3,202,080	\$4,143,330
4.8 Park Recommendations By Site	\$6,137,550	\$4,288,250	\$4,786,150	\$15,111,950
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,357,550</b>	<b>\$6,799,500</b>	<b>\$14,068,230</b>	<b>\$28,105,280</b>



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**Thank you**