



# City of Terrace

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

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A wooden sign for a farmers market. The sign is mounted on a wooden post and features several decorative elements: a blue shovel, a green rake, and a red pitchfork hanging from the top beam; and cutouts of a red bell pepper, a yellow bell pepper, and a green bell pepper. The text 'FARMERS MARKET' is cut into the wood in a blue, serif font. Below it, the text 'saturdays may - oct' is cut into the wood in a black, sans-serif font. The sign is set against a background of trees with autumn foliage and a clear blue sky.

FARMERS  
MARKET

• saturdays may - oct •

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Terrace is a vibrant and growing community, centrally located and serving as a regional transportation and service hub in Northwest British Columbia. The City of Terrace has a population of approximately 12,500 residents, with an additional 5,000 people living in adjacent semi-urban areas of the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (RDKS) Electoral Area E and in Kitsumkalum and Kitselas First Nation communities.

The City is deeply committed to achieving a sustainable and livable community. The preparation of a new Parks and Recreation (PR) Master Plan is one of many steps in working towards this vision. The PR Master Plan is a tool that will provide the long-range vision and direction for future development, redevelopment and management of the City's parks and recreation facilities. Various methods were used to engage community members in the formulation of the Master Plan.

The following is the vision of the PR Master Plan:

*Terrace is a small, friendly community abounding with outdoor recreation opportunities due to the outstanding natural setting. Trails connect people and places, and beautification enhances the downtown. Indoor recreation facilities and programs offer a range of year-round options.*

Goals and objectives provide direction on strategic ways to achieve the vision.

A summary of the key recommendations in the Master Plan is provided here (refer to the report for the complete recommendations and Section 6.1 for a summary table of all recommendations).

## Parks and Outdoor Recreation

### Parkland Supply

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- Acquire property for parkland in strategic locations (identified in Master Plan) as opportunities arise.
- Establish guidelines (identified in Master Plan) for acquiring community and neighbourhood parks in new developments.
- Work on establishing more urban park / plaza space in the downtown area.
- In the airport lands, provide parkland to serve visitors and employees.
- Work with the School District to retain and enhance the park values of existing school sites.
- Work on removing encroachments on park land.

## Park Design and Development

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- Apply design guidelines (identified in Master Plan) to the design of new and upgraded parks.
- Establish a program for replacing playgrounds, consulting with the neighbourhood and considering creative play environments in these projects.
- Establish a program for upgrading and installing new washroom buildings.
- Establish a multi-purpose court with boards, a new skate park, a sledding/tobogganing hill, an outdoor “beach” volleyball court, and a rubberized track.
- Establish two dog off-leash areas, one in the horseshoe/bench area and another on the south side.
- Prepare a signage system for identification, directional (way-finding), regulatory and interpretive signs to be consistent and recognizable throughout the City.

## Trail Network

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- Establish annual priorities for and undertake trail construction, and sidewalk repair and bike lane construction (as part of road projects where possible), to improve connectivity.
- Prepare a user-friendly map of all city parks and trails, suitable for print, website and mobile apps.
- Improve staging areas for Terrace Mountain to include full signage, garbage and recycling cans, and seating and parking where appropriate.

## Sports Fields and Ball Diamonds

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- Work with the School District and Regional District on the planning for future sports fields and ball diamonds. Consider a location for a softball tournament facility.
- Conduct a fees and charges review for sports field use in collaboration with the School District and Regional District.
- Conduct a master planning process for Riverside Park and the Curling Club in order to determine the highest and best use for this area.
- Work with Northwest Community College on the potential for upgrading their sports field in partnership with the City and making the field available for community use.
- Develop new sports fields and ball diamonds as needed based on population growth.
- Consider an artificial turf field in the region, in collaboration with sports groups and other jurisdictions, depending on the level of population growth and budget availability.



## Park Programs and Events

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- Encourage and support community groups to host more festivals and events in parks.
- Expand services in George Little Park, especially in the summer.

## Park Operations and Management

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- Consider “Adopt a park” and “Adopt a trail” programs and collaborate with community organizations to engage volunteers in park clean-up days.
- Work with the RCMP, social service organizations, and community stewards to address the needs of the homeless population and to increase monitoring and positive activities within parks.
- Explore potential methods for allowing use of washrooms by the public.
- Increase mowing of sports fields, snow removal on multi-use trails, and maintenance levels in destination parks.
- Provide more public information on proper dog walking rules and etiquette.
- Provide more garbage and recycling cans.
- Encourage and support stewardship groups working on invasive species management.
- Assess and consider upgrading fields and improving irrigation.

## City Beautification

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- Conduct beautification projects on downtown streets as opportunities arise, focusing on tree planting and improved boulevards as the highest priorities.

## Indoor Recreation Facilities

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- Prepare a detailed design for and upgrade and expand the Aquatic Centre.
- Upgrade the sound system in the main arena.
- Conduct a feasibility study on the Sportsplex with a view to the longer term future needs.
- Provide public WIFI throughout the Sportsplex.
- Consider the construction of squash courts and a gymnasium in the future, as additions to the Aquatic Centre or the Sportsplex.
- Ensure cleanliness and maintenance at the facilities is at the highest possible level.
- Consider the role of the kitchen in the Sportsplex banquet room and based on that, identify the level of upgrading that is appropriate.

## Recreation Programs

- Provide on-line registration for programs as part of the City's new registration system.
- Provide more information on programs in a user-friendly format, including better information on the website and social media.
- Provide more family and more youth (teen) programs.
- Continue to work with organizations providing services to persons with disabilities and seniors to ensure any upgrades or renovations can accommodate their recreational needs.
- Encourage the School District to allow programs in gyms later in the evening for adults.
- Establish programs oriented towards welcoming newcomers and building community spirit.
- Provide more support to clubs and leagues through more promotion of their offerings.
- Work with other organizations to support volunteerism in the City.
- Encourage community groups to offer programs in parks.
- Provide extra support and training of teachers and coaches to better accommodate those with special needs.
- Provide more drop-in sports opportunities for teens and adults.

## Implementation Plan

The Implementation Plan provides a summary of the recommendations in the Master Plan, with their priority, phasing and relative costs (Figure 8.1). The Implementation Strategy should be reviewed and updated annually along with a review of progress towards achieving objectives.

The Master Plan is intended to cover a 10-year timeframe. Certain changes in the City could trigger a need to revisit the plan in less than 10 years, e.g., growth slows down or growth exceeds expectations. The critical factor in implementing the Master Plan is to remain committed to the vision, goals, and objectives in all aspects of parks and recreation service delivery.



*The critical factor in implementing the Master Plan is to remain committed to the vision, goals, and objectives in all aspects of parks and recreation service delivery.*



A wooden sign with a double-headed arrow shape, mounted on two wooden posts. The sign is dark brown with the text "Howe Creek Tree Park" in white, serif font. The sign is set against a backdrop of dense green trees. In the foreground, there are various plants: a large bush with bright yellow-green leaves on the right, a bush with dark red leaves at the bottom, and several clusters of light pink flowers. The overall scene is a lush, green garden or park entrance.

Howe Creek Tree Park

# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Context

Terrace is a vibrant and growing community, centrally located in Northwest British Columbia. The community is the regional hub for highway, rail and air transportation routes, and hosts many of the region's business, retail, medical, post-secondary education, and government services. The City of Terrace has a population of approximately 12,500 residents, with an additional 5,000 people living in adjacent semi-urban areas of the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (RDKS) Electoral Area E and in Kitsumkalum and Kitselas First Nation communities.

The City of Terrace currently offers numerous parks and recreation facilities, as well as programs for residents of all ages. Parks and recreation facilities are also located within the neighbouring community of Thornhill, in the RDKS. Wilderness areas immediately surrounding Terrace provide for additional recreational and outdoor pursuits, which contribute to the cultural and economic vitality of the community.

The City is deeply committed to achieving a sustainable and livable community; to this end, it has developed a number of sustainability-focused plans and policies in recent years (Appendix A). The preparation of a new Parks and Recreation (PR) Master Plan is another step in working towards this vision.

## 1.2 Purpose

The PR Master Plan is a tool that will provide the long-range vision and direction for future development, redevelopment and management of the City's parks and recreation facilities. The plan will provide guidance to City staff and Council on the acquisition and development of parks, trails, open spaces and recreation facilities, as well as the delivery of programs and services to best meet the needs of the community.

## 1.3 Planning Process and Methods

The Parks and Recreation (PR) Master Plan is based on the needs and desires of the community, supported by professional analysis and comparisons with demographic and sector trends. Various methods were used to engage community members in the formulation of the PR Master Plan. The following is a summary of the engagement process (Figure 1.1):

Figure 1.1: Engagement Process



# VALUES

LONGEVITY

Family  
Oriented

PROGRESSIVE  
PLANNED

durability

attractive

Sustainable  
- maintenance

Maintained

Inclusive

Culturally  
Relevant

longevity

inviting  
ie nice  
sign

eco  
friendly  
(materials  
+ ideas)

accessible  
(both physical  
& financially)

All ages

ENCOURAGE  
YOUTH TO <sup>CARRY</sup>  
PARTICIPATE IN  
HEALTHY  
LIFESTYLE

good value  
for money

Multi-  
purpose

PLEASING  
TO THE  
EYE

variety of  
levels of  
difficulty  
(progression  
allows for)

Modernized

ACCESSIBLE  
FOR AGED  
AND DISABLED

COMMUNITY TO BE  
PROUD + TAKE  
OWNERSHIP OF  
THE PLAN WE  
DEVELOP.

Healthy  
Community

Community  
spirit

# OBJECTIVES

LONG  
TERM  
VALUE (LIFE)

Something  
for everyone  
(all ages/stages)  
- actively recruit  
rec leaders for  
needed course ggs

Advertise for  
visitors

Need more  
facilities for  
indoor programs

Need increased  
maintenance  
of landscaped  
spaces

CONSIDER  
INCLUDING MORE  
GREENSPACE IN  
FUTURE PLANNING  
(ie Keith Ave  
development)

Summer  
programs  
for school  
aged children

Programs for  
after school  
(school aged  
children)

Programming  
for toddlers  
after-school  
pa

reduce financial  
barriers  
- encourage  
cost sharing,  
bulk purchases  
for sports groups  
- City supply  
non-profits insurance

City can help  
diverse groups  
with  
- training opport  
(free space,  
community garden,  
tree etc.

Budget + plan  
for trail maintenance

x km/yr

SHORT TERM  
(QUICK BITS)  
and  
LONG TERM  
PROJECTS/  
GOALS

SELLING A  
HEALTHY ACTIVE  
LIFESTYLE  
GET PEOPLE TO  
BUY IN

City  
WORKING  
WITH  
SPORT  
GROUPS

Collaborate  
with user  
groups.



WELCOME TO

TERRACE



## 2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE AND TRENDS

### 2.1 Community Overview

Over the past two decades, Terrace has experienced population growth as well as decline. The City's population peaked at 12,779 in 1996, and then decreased for two consecutive census years to a low of 11,320 in 2006 (Figure 2.1). Population has since rebounded, due to an upswing in regional economic activity, an influx of outdoor enthusiasts to Terrace, seniors choosing to retire in place, and other factors. Terrace grew by 1.5 percent between 2006 and 2011.

In 2015, the City conducted a Population Survey and Projections (Big River Analytics). The study found the 2015 population to be 12,494, a growth of 8.7% since 2011. The 2015 population is comprised of 11,948 usual residents (people whose primary residence is in Terrace) and a shadow population of 546 (comprised of people whose primary residence is elsewhere but who were living or staying in Terrace at the time of the survey). Terrace does not currently have industrial accommodation camps for workers, so many are living in suites, using the recreation amenities in Terrace. A camp for workers is being developed in the City Airport Lands on industrial-zoned property to accommodate approximately 550 people.

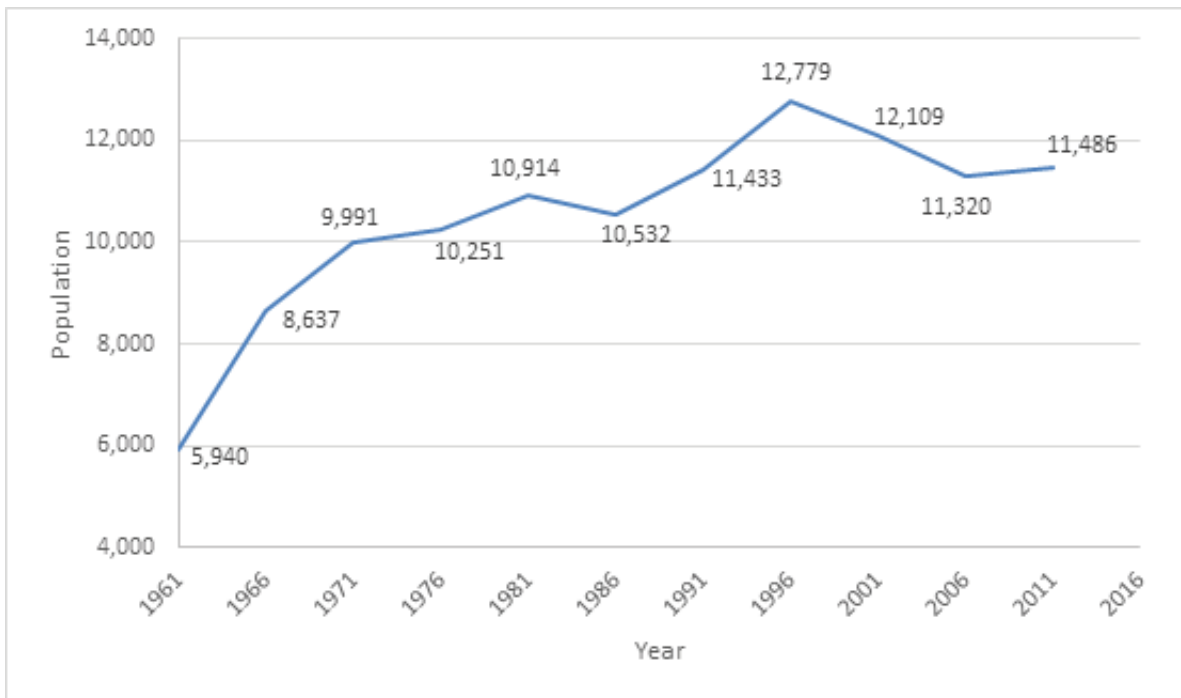


Figure 2.1: Population Profile – Terrace, 1961 - 2011

Source: Statistics Canada, City of Terrace

Terrace is the service centre for a number of communities in the surrounding region, including urban areas of the RDKS as well as the Kitsumkalum and Kitselas First Nation reserves. As of the 2011 census, the RDKS communities in the Greater Terrace area had a combined population of approximately 5,000, the largest being Thornhill at 3,988. Statistics Canada reported a 2011 population of 315 people on Kitselas’ two main reserves (Gitaus and Kulspai), and 302 people on the Kitsumkalum reserve.

The following sections describe key population trends and demographic factors that are anticipated to influence the future parks and recreation needs in Terrace. Data sources include Statistics Canada and the City of Terrace.

### 2.1.1 Population Trends

Population projections are based on past population trends and current population characteristics. Though not an exact science, population projections are an essential tool to guide decision-making about the future needs of a community. Recent population projections completed by Big River Analytics for the City of Terrace provide three population projections as follows (Figure 2.2):

Scenario	Assumptions	2020 Population	2025 Population
Low	A single manufacturing facility is built at the Skeena Industrial Development Park and regional economic activity persists at its current level	13,079	13,181
Medium	Ten manufacturing facilities are built at the Skeena Industrial Development Park, three regional mines proceed, and two LNG facilities with associated pipelines proceed	17,899	19,363
High	Thirty manufacturing facilities are built at the Skeena Industrial Development Park, three regional mines proceed, and five LNG facilities with associated pipelines proceed	23,098	27,889

Figure 2.2: Population Projection Summary  
Source: City of Terrace (Big River Analytics), summary by Urban Systems



Figure 2.3 illustrates the low and medium population projections.

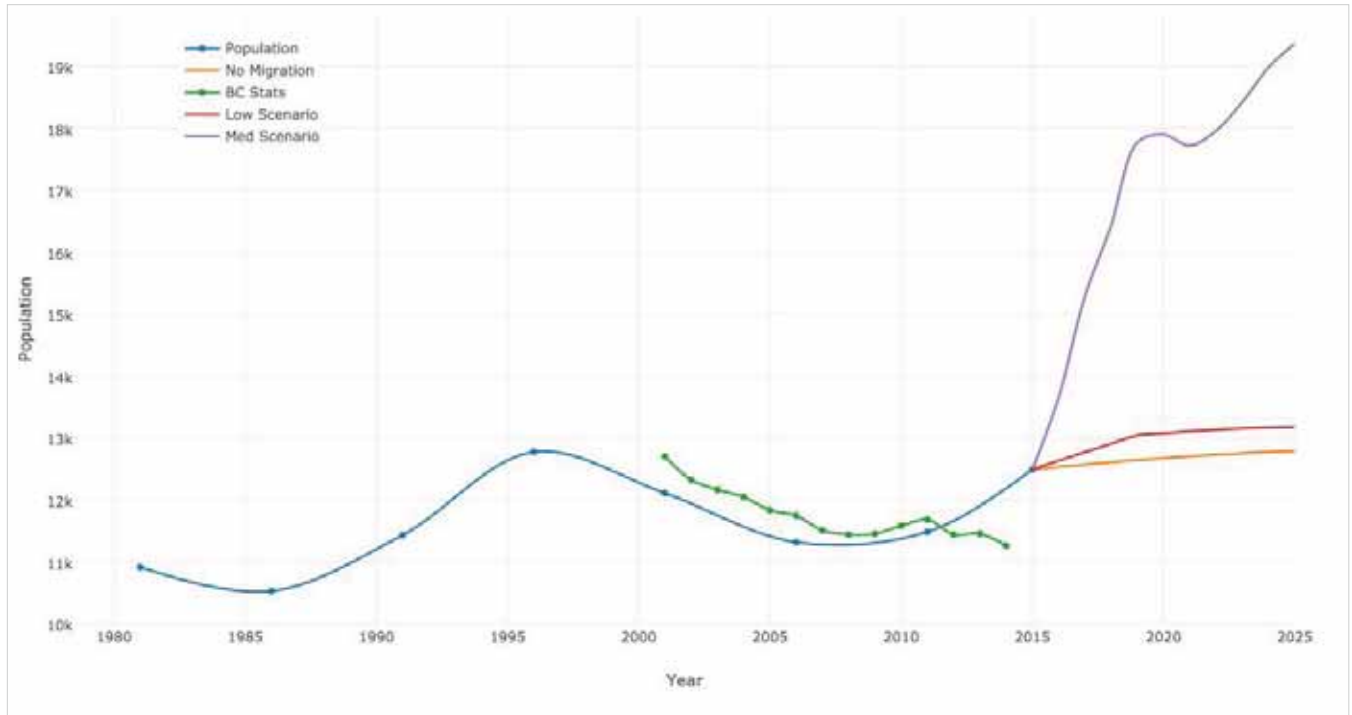


Figure 2.3: Population Projection Graph  
 Source: City of Terrace (Big River Analytics)

There are high expectations in the community related to the anticipated industries and related population growth. For example, in 2015 there were two hotels under construction in Terrace.

### 2.1.2 Population Age Distribution and Household Sizes

Terrace’s demographics have been changing as the existing population ages and as household sizes decrease<sup>1</sup> (Figures 2.4 and 2.5). Since 2001, the percentage of Terrace residents aged 65+ has increased, from 8.5% in 2001 to 13.1% in 2011. Over the same time period, the percentage of the population aged 19 or less has decreased, from 32.5% in 2001 to 27.9% in 2011. These changes are reflected in the median age of Terrace residents, which increased from 33.7 in 2001 to 38.8 in 2011. The population of older residents is projected to increase further as the ‘baby boom generation’, those born between 1946 and 1965, ages over the next thirty years.

1 The population trends described in this section are mirrored in Thornhill.

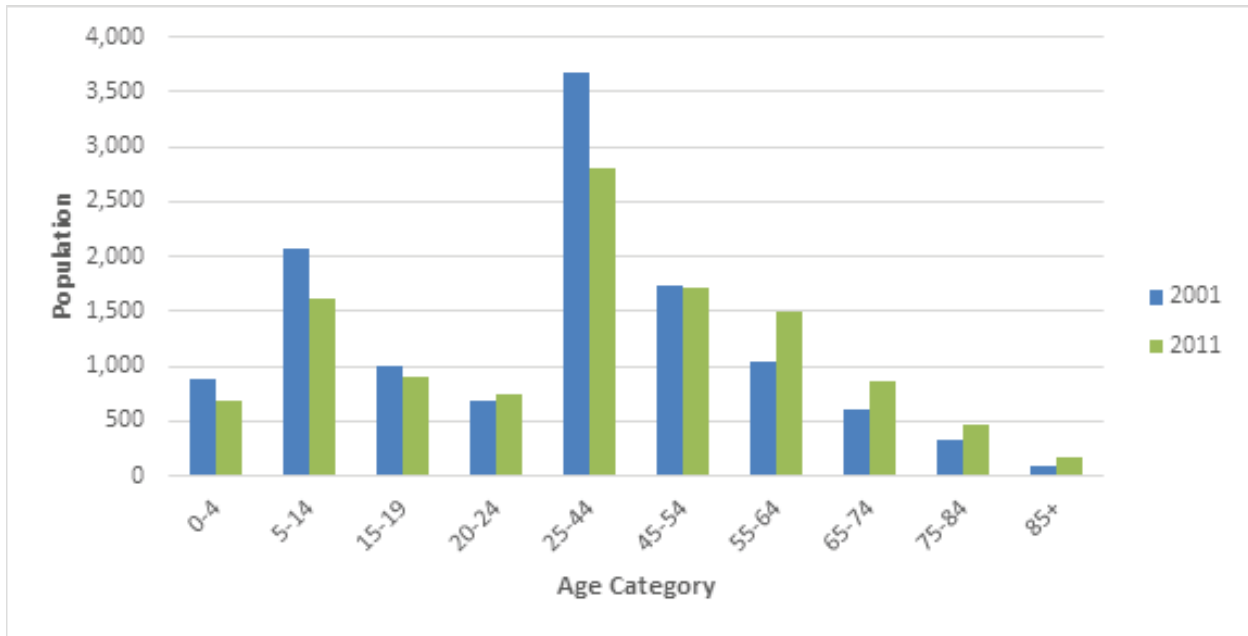


Figure 2.4: Terrace Age Distribution, 2001 - 2011  
 Source: Statistics Canada

Between 2001 and 2011, the average number of children at home per census family decreased, from 1.3 per family to 1.1 respectively. The percentage of families with children at home also decreased, from 67% to 61%. These numbers are consistent with trends in household sizes in Terrace. Between 2001 and 2011, the number of households with one or two people increased (from 52.9% to 61.5%), and the number with three or more decreased (from 47.1% to 38.5%).



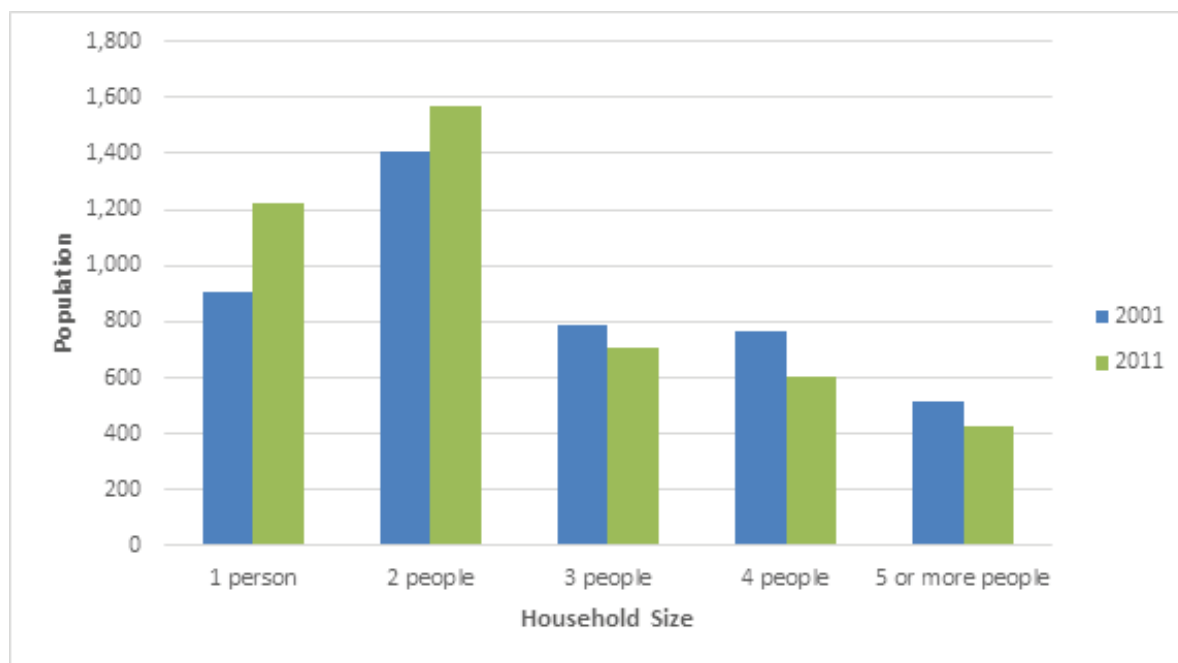


Figure 2.5: Terrace Household Sizes, 2001 - 2011  
 Source: Statistics Canada

Although the statistics indicate an aging population and changing dynamics with respect to children, Terrace is still a relatively youthful community, with a median age (38.8) below the provincial median of 41.9 (2011). Children and youth continue to make up a significant proportion (over 25%) of Terrace’s total population, and the 20 to 24 age category has increased in size, from 5.7% in 2001 to 6.5% in 2011. There is anecdotal evidence of a recent influx of young families, couples and individuals moving to Terrace for employment, post-secondary education, lifestyle and other reasons. The demands for parkland and recreation facilities and programs will therefore likely continue to increase in quantity as well as diversity.

### 2.1.3 Employment and Income

As of 2011, there were 5,430 employed residents in Terrace. The occupations that made up the majority of the workforce in 2011 included: sales and service (25.6%); management, business, finance and administration (21.7%); education, law and social, community and government services (18%); and trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (12.2%).

From 2001 to 2011, median household incomes in Terrace increased by 13.4%, from \$51,683 to \$58,592. Over this same time period, the proportion of households who spent more than 30% of their household total income on shelter decreased from 24% in 2001 to 20.6% in 2011.

Housing affordability has declined in Terrace since the 2011 census. Significant property value and rent increases have occurred as a result of increased economic activity locally and throughout Northwest BC. It is therefore possible that the percentage of Terrace households spending 30% or more of household total income on shelter has increased since 2011. Affordability of recreation services and access to financial support for recreation will continue to be very important.

#### 2.1.4 Ethnic Diversity

The ethnic profile of Terrace's population remained relatively consistent between the 2001 and 2011 census years, with minimal fluctuations in the percentage of individuals who identified as visible minorities or immigrants. In 2001, 6.0% of the population identified as visible minorities and 13.9% identified as immigrants, compared to 5.9% and 11% respectively in 2011. Of the 1,245 immigrants in 2011, 13.7% had arrived between 2001 and 2011.

One significant change in the ethnic profile of Terrace's population is an increase in the proportion of individuals of aboriginal identity. Between 2001 and 2011, the total percentage increased from 14.8% to 22.6%. These numbers are much higher than the provincial averages of 4.4% and 5.4% respectively.

## 2.2 Parks and Recreation Trends

In the past few decades across North America, there have been significant changes in recreation interests, amount and use of leisure time, and activity choices. Trends provide insight into potential opportunities and challenges in the parks and recreation system. In particular, the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) recently completed A Framework for Recreation in Canada 2015: Pathways to Wellbeing based on extensive research on trends.

The document has five goals:

#### *Parks and Recreation Goals (FROM: Canada 2015: Pathways to Wellbeing)*

- 1. Foster active, healthy living through recreation.*
- 2. Increase inclusion and access to recreation for populations that face constraints to participation.*
- 3. Help people connect to nature through recreation.*
- 4. Ensure the provision of supportive physical and social environments that encourage participation in recreation and build strong, caring communities.*
- 5. Ensure the continued growth and sustainability of the recreation field.*

The following is a brief list of trends that are relevant to the City of Terrace, based on outside sources combined with local knowledge.

### Community Trends

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- Busy lives and varied work and leisure schedules
- Shift in demand from formal to informal activities
- More diverse activities
- Incorporation of lifestyle and wellness into daily routines
- Demands for easy access to a wide variety of recreation opportunities close to home
- Greater cultural diversity and populations with specific interests and needs
- Increasing disparity between the “haves” and “have-nots”
- Interest in environmental sustainability
- Decline in volunteerism
- Decreasing participation in some sports including badminton and tennis
- Increasing levels of inactivity and obesity
- Increases in the homeless population

### Age-specific Trends

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- Aging population
- Age-friendly communities, where the policies, services and structures related to the physical and social environment are designed to help seniors “age actively”, living safely, enjoying good health and staying involved
- Healthier aging population with a wide range of “older adult” interests and needs, including “super seniors” in their golden years who live an active life with good health and vitality
- Patchwork of early-childhood-development programs and supports
- Recognition of the uniqueness of “tweens”, between the ages of 9 and 13, who are no longer children but not quite teens, and their specific needs
- Youth physical inactivity epidemic



## Outdoor Recreation Trends

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- Trail uses are the most popular activity
- Increasing participation in “active transportation”, especially biking
- Outdoor nature-based activities gaining in popularity
- Challenges related to parkland supply with increasing population and density
- Increase in dog ownership and resulting service demands
- Growing interest in food security and urban agriculture
- Aging infrastructure, e.g., sports fields, playgrounds, courts
- Increasing participation in more adventurous outdoor activities, such as mountain biking
- Importance of environmental stewardship and education

## Indoor Recreation Trends

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- Aging infrastructure, which poses major challenges and opportunities
- Changing preferences in recreation activities
- Shift toward varied strategies for providing facilities (e.g., collaboration with not-for-profits, the private sector)
- Expectation for green buildings and sustainable design in new construction
- New recreation/community centres with community “hubs”, common spaces with healthy food service that serve as social meeting and gathering areas
- Highly variable consumer demands

## Service-delivery Trends

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- Increasing role of parks and recreation organizations including leadership in public health, conservation and stewardship, environmental education, upholding standards of social equity, event management, and tourism development
- Focus on delivering benefits
- Integrated solutions involving multiple services, ages and skill levels
- Family-centred activities
- Stronger connections between health and recreation
- Flexible program times and formats
- Increased accountability to community
- More effort to partner with others, including schools
- Expanded use of technology



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## Additional Trends

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Some additional trends based on outside sources that are not currently apparent or just emerging in Terrace include the following:

- Programs in parks increasing
- Facilities and programs targeted towards specific cultural groups
- Increasing participation in certain activities such as pickleball, parkour, longboarding, and disc golf
- Evolving roles of partnerships, technology, and service delivery models
- Trend towards providing multiple amenities and spaces for youth indoors and outdoors

## 2.3 Benefits of Parks and Recreation

Numerous national, provincial and municipal organizations have been engaged in research regarding the benefits of parks and recreation. The “benefits” approach is a highly effective framework for planning and promoting services because it emphasizes that there are both direct and indirect benefits to the community from investing in parks, recreation and cultural facilities, programs, activities and special events.

The direct benefits accrue to those who participate in terms of healthy and active lifestyles, social and family connections, positive behaviours, a sense of competence, and disease prevention, among others. There are indirect benefits to the community as a whole, even for those who do not participate. This stems from the enhanced vibrancy of the community, strengthened social fabric, healthier business community, more employment opportunities, more local goods to be purchased, and enhanced tourism assets.

Active people lead healthier lives and have stronger connections to their communities. A powerful case exists that investment in recreation infrastructure is a preventative approach to health and social well-being that offsets spending on reactive infrastructure such as hospitals and correctional institutions.



At the national level, the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) has an online resource that collects data to support the following eight benefits of parks and recreation ([www.benefitshub.ca](http://www.benefitshub.ca)). The Leisure Information Network updates the benefits information on behalf of CPRA.

*Per CPRA, the work and services provided through parks and recreation:*

- 1. Are essential to personal health and well-being*
- 2. Provide the key to balanced human development*
- 3. Provide a foundation for quality of life*
- 4. Reduce self-destructive and anti-social behaviour*
- 5. Build strong families and healthy communities*
- 6. Reduce health care, social service and police/justice costs*
- 7. Are a significant economic generator*
- 8. Provide green spaces that are essential to environmental and ecological well-being, for the survival of natural species, the environmental responsibility and stewardship by humans and creating a sense of place*

The benefits of parks and recreation also fit within the framework of sustainability. The following are some examples of this:

### Environmental Benefits of Parks and Recreation

- Protection of habitat, biodiversity and ecological integrity in parks and open space
- Opportunities for environmental education and stewardship
- Pollution abatement and cooling of air and water, mostly from trees and soil
- Rainwater management
- Climate change adaptation, including mitigation of extreme weather events

## Social Benefits of Parks and Recreation

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- Contribution to community pride and identity
- Stronger social networks and community connectedness
- Physical, psychological and spiritual health and well-being
- Support for play as a critical element in learning and child development
- Connecting people with nature, which has proven health benefits
- Development of community leaders

## Economic Benefits of Parks and Recreation

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- Increased property values
- Increased viability of adjacent commercial areas
- Attraction of residents and businesses to the community
- Contribution to tourism opportunities
- Reduced costs in criminal justice and health care systems
- Recreation, fitness, sport, arts, culture, parks, and open spaces are significant employment generators

## Personal Benefits of Parks and Recreation

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- Helps extend life expectancy (active living, sport, fitness)
- Combats diabetes and osteoporosis and helps reduce risk of coronary heart disease
- Contributes to mental health and well-being
- Contributes to academic success and provides exceptional opportunities for lifelong learning
- Reduces obesity, resulting in many health benefits
- Enhances overall physical and emotional health and improves quality of life





## 2.4 Community Input

### 2.4.1 Community Survey

The community survey provides an overview of existing use, satisfaction and needs related to parks and recreation in Terrace. A broad cross-section of 336 Terrace residents participated in the self-selecting survey.

The following are the highlights of the findings of the community survey. More information is included in Appendix B and the complete survey report is available from the City.

#### Participation in Outdoor Activities

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Survey respondents were asked if they or anyone in their households participated in each of 22 types of outdoor activities in the past year. The information obtained from this question provides a snapshot of how City of Terrace residents are recreating outdoors and the relative popularity of various outdoor activities.

The top ten outdoor activities were (percentage given is the number of households with one or more participants in this activity):

- attend a farmer’s market (96% of households had one or more participants in this activity, read subsequent numbers the same way)
- walk, hike or jog for exercise or recreation (97%)
- attend a festival or special event in a park (89%)
- visit a park for casual activities (77%)
- bike on a path or road (74%)
- attend an organized picnic or private event in a park (61%)
- visit a playground (61%)
- go fishing (60%)
- walk a dog (or dogs) (60%)
- nature appreciation, bird watching or wildlife viewing (57%)

#### Use of Parks and Trails

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Survey respondents were asked about household visits to particular parks and trails in the past year. A large majority of respondent households had visited Ferry Island (96%), George Little Park (95%), the Grand Trunk Pathway/Millennium Trail (92%), and Howe Creek Trail (86%). About three-quarters (72%) had visited Terrace Mountain/Steinhoe and Christy Park soccer fields, and about half (48%) had visited Fisherman’s Memorial Park and the Terrace Kin Park.

#### Satisfaction with Outdoor Recreation Amenities

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The survey results showed high satisfaction for outdoor recreation. Natural parkland, outdoor festivals and events, paths and trails for walking close to home, long trails or loop trails for long walks or rides, maintenance of trails, and smaller parks close to where people live all had satisfaction ratings of 85% or more and dissatisfaction ratings of 15% or less among respondents to the questions.

Public washrooms were the only item for which satisfaction (40%) was less than dissatisfaction (60%). Dissatisfaction was also relatively high for skate parks (50% dissatisfied), winter activities in parks (48% dissatisfied) and bike parks (41% dissatisfied). Safe places to ride bikes and places to walk dog(s) also had significant numbers of people dissatisfied.



The survey results showed high satisfaction for outdoor recreation. Public washrooms were the only item for which satisfaction (40%) was less than dissatisfaction (60%).

### Priorities for Outdoor Recreation

---

Survey respondents were asked to choose their top three priorities for improvements to outdoor recreation from five options. The first priority of the largest percentage of survey respondents was more and/or better paths and trails, followed by more and/or better parks.

### Participation in Indoor Recreation Programs and Activities

---

Survey respondents were asked if they or anyone in their households participated in each of ten types of indoor recreation programs in the past year. The top five indoor recreation activities were:

- swimming (drop-in) (69% of households had one or more participants in this activity, read subsequent numbers the same way))
- public ice activities (53%)
- adult programs (45%)
- recreation events (40%)
- swim lessons (31%)

### Satisfaction with Programs and Activities in Public Recreation Facilities

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Satisfaction rates for recreation programs were high among those participating, with satisfaction the highest for public ice activities (91% of those responding) and drop-in swimming (85%). For seven of the ten programs, 50% or more of respondents said they have no experience and cannot rate the item.



Satisfaction was the highest for public ice activities and drop-in swimming.

### Use of Indoor Recreation Facilities

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Survey respondents were asked to indicate whether they or anyone in their household used each of six indoor recreation facilities in the past year. The most frequented facility among the respondents was the Sportsplex banquet room; 70% of respondents had visited this facility in the past year. Next was the Sportsplex skating rinks at 69% of respondents, followed by the Aquatic Centre at 67% of respondents.

## Satisfaction with Indoor Recreation Facilities

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When survey respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with indoor recreation facilities, the most highly rated facilities were the Sportsplex skating rinks, Sportsplex banquet rooms and the general maintenance of recreation facilities. The facility that received the largest percentage of dissatisfied ratings was the Aquatic Centre.

## Priorities for Indoor Recreation

---

Survey respondents were asked to choose their top three priorities for improvements to indoor recreation from six options. The first choice priority of the largest percentage of survey respondents was more and/or better indoor recreation facilities.



Regarding barriers to recreation, 58% of respondents indicated that lack of time and being too busy with other things is the greatest issue for their household.

## Barriers that Limit or Prevent Participation

---

Regarding barriers to recreation, 58% of respondents indicated that lack of time / being too busy with other things is the greatest issue for their household. Lack of information, inconvenient timing of programs, and lack of interest are the next greatest barriers, at 50%, 46% and 45% of households respectively.

## Beautification

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Survey respondents were asked to indicate the streets that are most in need of beautification in Terrace. The top three priorities were Kalum Street, Greig Avenue and Lazelle Avenue. The highest priority for beautification on these streets was for trees or other plantings, followed by improved sidewalks, public art, and places to sit and eat.



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Inset: © Jeanette Brown

## 2.4.2 Youth Survey

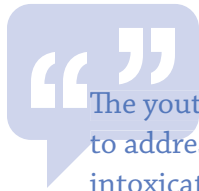
The youth survey provides a snapshot of indoor and outdoor recreation preferences among senior secondary students in Terrace. Students in grades 10 to 12 at Caledonia Senior Secondary were invited to participate. The following are the highlights of findings from the youth survey. More information is included in Appendix B and the complete survey report is available from the City.

### Outdoor Recreation

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Survey respondents were asked to indicate their favourite outdoor recreation activities, out of a list of 19 choices. The top ten activities were:

- walking, hiking and jogging (67% of respondents chose this activity)
- enjoying nature (60%)
- walking a dog (50%)
- fishing or boating (40%)
- riding an ATV or snowmobiling (38%)
- downhill skiing or snowboarding (36%)
- hanging out in a park (34%)
- tobogganing (31%)
- field sports (31%)
- biking on a path or road (31%)



The youth of Terrace would like to address issues related to public intoxication and vagrancy in parks to improve sense of safety.

### Indoor Recreation

---

When asked to indicate their favourite indoor recreation activities (out of a list of eight choices), the top five activities were:

- swimming (52%)
- indoor basketball or volleyball (32%)
- working out in the gym (38%)
- programs such as yoga or dance (30%)
- skating (33%)

### Priorities for Indoor and Outdoor Recreation

---

Survey respondents were asked to indicate if there is anything the City of Terrace could do in parks and recreation to make people their age happier. The top six initiatives are listed below:

- more activities and programs tailored to teenagers
- address issues related to public intoxication and vagrancy in parks to improve sense of safety
- more music concerts, festivals and special events
- more indoor activities and indoor places for youth to hang out, such as a recreation centre
- new or improved skatepark
- indoor turf field for soccer and other sports





STEAM SAUNA

DRY SAUNA

STEAM SAUNA

DRY SAUNA



### 2.4.3 Focus Groups

Focus groups provide qualitative input that allows for in-depth insights, complementing the results of surveys. The focus group input was used in the formulation of the vision, goals and objectives of the PR Master Plan. The following are some of the key perspectives of those who participated in the focus groups. A full summary of responses is available from the City:

#### Strengths Related to Parks

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- There are a variety of high quality parks and trails throughout the community, including parks and trails with a natural feel as well as more developed parks and pathways, providing “something for everyone”
- Parks and trails are accessible and are in relatively convenient locations, close to where people live
- Parks and trails across the City are used for a broad range of activities, including children’s playgrounds, picnics, socializing, dog walking, riding bikes, soccer and special events (e.g., Farmer’s Market, Music in the Park)
- Trails and parks are well maintained
- Parks, trails and green spaces provide important opportunities for contact with and protection of nature
- Beautification efforts, including hanging baskets, gardens and landscaping in parks and along trails, have had a positive impact on the aesthetics of the community
- George Little Park, Ferry Island, the Grand Trunk Pathway/Millennium Trail, Howe Creek Trail, Terrace Mountain trails and the Christy Park soccer fields are all highly valued assets in the community



Beautification efforts, including hanging baskets, gardens and landscaping in parks and along trails, have had a positive impact on the aesthetics of the community.

#### Challenges Related to Parks

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- There is a lack of a connected / looped trail network
- Public intoxication, vagrancy, graffiti and vandalism have become issues in City parks
- There is a lack of public washrooms, and the existing washrooms are not open enough
- Some playground equipment is aging or inadequate, and is in need of repair or replacement
- Waste from dogs and litter from users is a problem in parks and along trails
- Some users want more dog-off-leash areas, while others want more off-leash control
- There is general discontent around the location and design of the skatepark

## Strengths Related to Recreation

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- Recreation programs are generally affordable and there are some free options for swimming and skating
- A wide variety of programs are available for all ages, from toddlers to seniors
- The Sportsplex amenities, particularly the two sheets of ice, are highly valued and are well used by the community
- Recreation facilities are generally well maintained

## Challenges Related to Recreation

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- Some aspects of the Sportsplex are in need of improvement, including the sound system and kitchen in the banquet room
- Aquatic Centre is generally seen to be outdated and inadequate; various improvements are desired including a family change room, an updated weight room and improved cleanliness of the overall facility
- An indoor facility such as a recreation centre is desired for activities such as walking, running, soccer, court sports and climbing, particularly for the winter months
- There is a desire for indoor community space, such as a community centre, that can accommodate various age groups and uses



There is a desire for indoor community space, such as a community centre, that can accommodate various age groups and uses.





## 3.0 GUIDING STATEMENTS

### 3.1 Vision

The following is the vision of the PR Master Plan. The information is derived primarily from focus groups:

*Terrace is a small, friendly community abounding with outdoor recreation opportunities due to the outstanding natural setting. Trails connect people and places, and beautification enhances the downtown. Indoor recreation facilities and programs offer a range of year-round options.*

### 3.2 Goals and Objectives

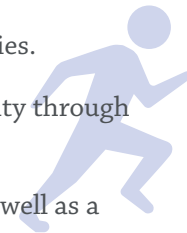
The following are the goals and objectives of the PR Master Plan. The information is derived primarily from focus groups:

#### **Healthy and Active Community**

1

*Promote healthy living and provide opportunities for residents to live active lifestyles*

- a. Provide opportunities for a range of sports and physical activities, for different ages and skill levels.
- b. Expand and diversify marketing of recreation programs and activities.
- c. Celebrate local successes in parks and recreation with the community through multiple communications channels.
- d. Promote and support cycling as a viable mode of transportation as well as a recreational pursuit.
- e. Increase parkland, facilities, programs and services as the population grows and as needs arise.



## 2

### ***Inclusive Community Facilities and Services***

*Provide services that reflect the diversity of Terrace's population.*

- a. Offer and support recreation programs and facilities that are affordable for all residents.
- b. Design programs that accommodate different ethnic and age groups, as well as those with different ability levels and interests.
- c. Provide recreational opportunities for persons with limited mobility and/or physical disabilities.
- d. Monitor demographic trends and modify programs over time as needed.

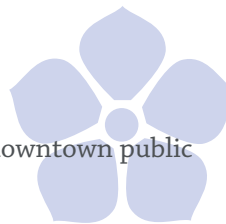


## 3

### ***Beautification***

*Enhance the visual appearance of City parks and public spaces.*

- a. Maintain all parks and public spaces to a reasonable standard based on their types.
- b. Promote stewardship of Terrace's parks, trails and facilities.
- c. Encourage and support downtown revitalization by enhancing downtown public spaces and infrastructure.
- d. Upgrade older parks and develop new parks and public spaces as needed.

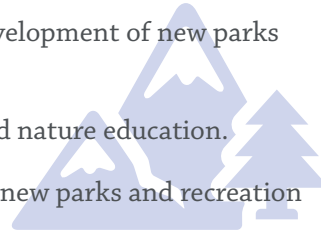


## 4

### **Natural Environment**

*Protect and enhance the natural environment.*

- a. Protect and enhance natural areas within parks and along trails.
- b. Provide easy access to the natural environment surrounding the City.
- c. Strive to minimize environmental disruption in the development of new parks and trails.
- d. Promote and encourage environmental stewardship and nature education.
- e. Use low-impact design methods in the development of new parks and recreation amenities.

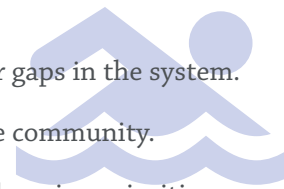


## 5

### **Programs and Facilities that Meet Needs**

*Provide a range of programs and facilities that meet the community's needs.*

- a. Maintain existing facilities and undertake upgrades to better serve the community.
- b. Develop new facilities as needed to address deficiencies or gaps in the system.
- c. Provide programs that reflect the needs and desires of the community.
- d. Regularly engage users to determine needs and identify changing priorities over time.



6

### **Financial Sustainability**

*Be financially accountable in the management and development of parks and recreation facilities.*

- a. Use sound fiscal planning to guide budgeting processes.
- b. Maximize the care, efficiency and use of existing facilities.
- c. Consider future maintenance costs when planning new parks and recreation facilities.
- d. Seek grants and explore other potential revenue sources.



7

### **Social Connections**

*Retain the qualities of Terrace as a welcoming and safe community with a strong sense of place.*

- a. Encourage volunteerism through marketing, incentives and other measures.
- b. Support existing and seek opportunities for more festivals and events.
- c. Encourage collaboration among different sports and interest groups.
- d. Work with partner agencies on making parks and public spaces in Terrace safe places for everyone to enjoy.





### 3.3 Guide to the Recommendations

The next sections include context information, community survey input where applicable, and recommendations.

*For ease of implementation, the recommendations are divided into the following subheadings:*

*Planning and Design*

*Capital Development*

*Operations and Management*

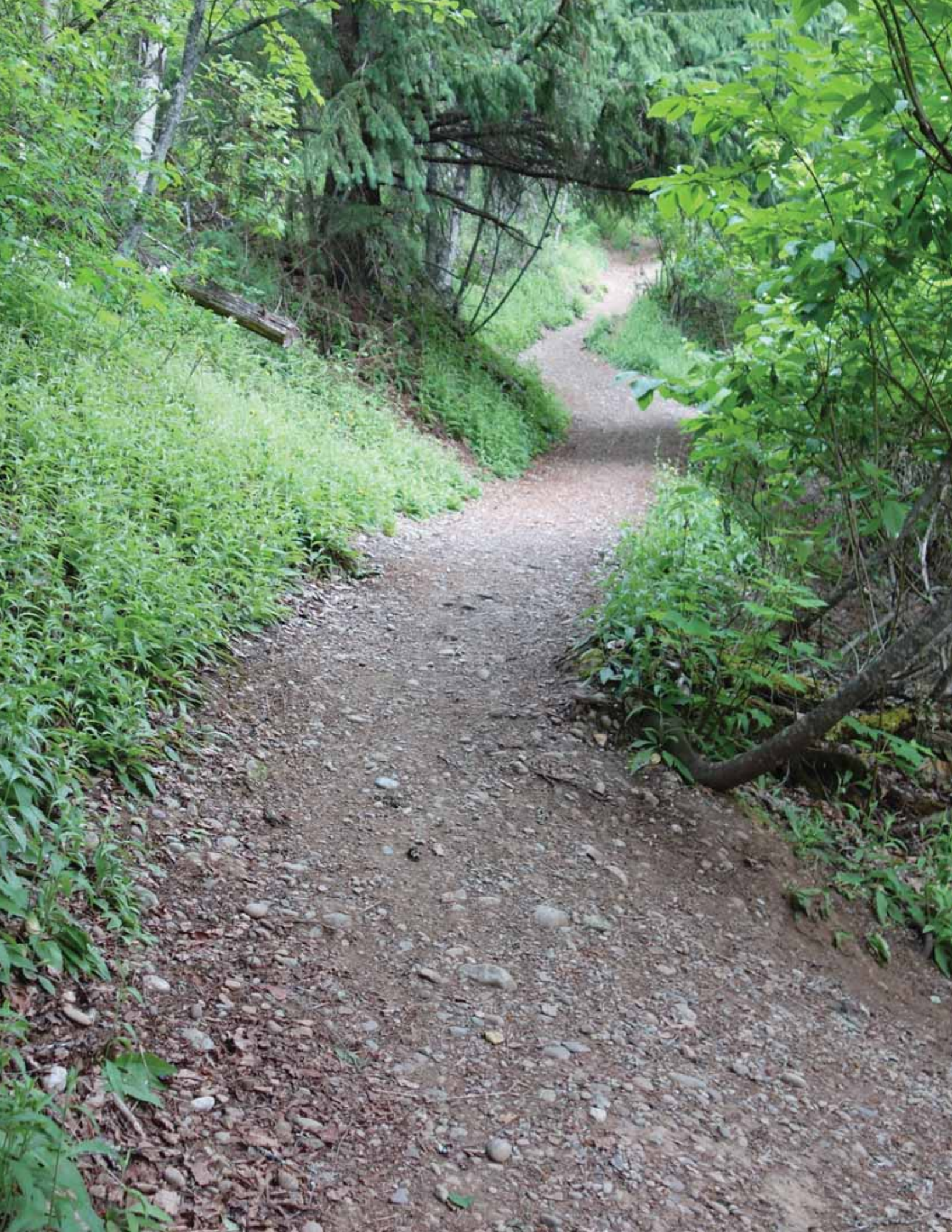
*Service Delivery*

It is understood that the City is already pursuing actions that comply with many of the recommendations in this Master Plan. For that reason “continue to” is typically not included at the front of the recommendations.

The recommendations are presented for the consideration of Council and staff based on community input.



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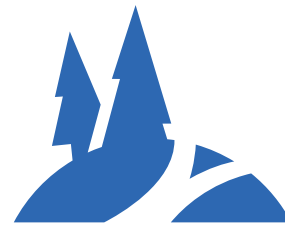


## 4.0 PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

### 4.1 Parkland Supply

#### *Description*

#### Classification System



This Master Plan provides a classification system for parkland as an aid to park planning and management. A classification system can help to guide the acquisition, development and maintenance of parklands.

Some parks are difficult to classify because they comply with more than one definition. In those cases, the most appropriate category is selected based on park use. For example, Ferry Island is mostly a natural area, but because of the amount of use, it is classified as a destination park.

**Destination Parks** - destination parks draw visitors from the entire City and beyond. People may visit these parks due to the natural features, and/or the built facilities, cultural features and opportunities offered. Destination parks draw people who specifically travel to spend time “in the park”, for activities as diverse as picnics, special events, sports and recreation. Examples: Ferry Island, George Little Park, Heritage Park, Fisherman’s Memorial Park

**Community Parks** - typically 1 to 3 hectares, though some are smaller and larger in the City, community parks serve several neighbourhoods, and include a range of recreational facilities, such as playgrounds, walkways or trails, parking lots, and sports fields. They are meant to form the visual, physical and social focus of the community. Examples: Mountain Vista Park, Constable Mike Buday Memorial Park, Elks Agar Park, Terrace Kin Park, Christy Park, Kerr Rotary Park, Riverside Park

**Neighbourhood Parks** - ideally a minimum of 0.8 hectares, though often 0.4 hectares, neighbourhood parks generally serve the catchment area of or similar to that of an elementary school. Neighbourhood parks typically include play equipment, pathways, open grass, and seating. In downtown locations, they may be more urban in character with features such as plazas, ornamental planting, public art, and seating. These parks are meant to form the visual, physical and social focus of the neighbourhood. Access is usually by walking so neighbourhood parks do not require parking areas. Examples: Unnamed park on Campbell Street, corner of Smith Avenue

**Natural Parks** – these parks are dominated by natural features such as forests, watercourses, and shorelines. The recreation use of natural areas is usually limited to trail uses and nature appreciation. Depending on the size, location and characteristics of the natural parks, they may be used by residents of one neighbourhood or the entire City. Facilities such as parking lots, signs, trails, gathering areas, and washrooms support public access and use. Examples: Howe Creek Park, Terrace Mountain Park, CM Adam Park, Muehle Memorial Park, River Walk

**Linear Parks** – the primary purpose of these parks is to support a trail. Other amenities may include benches, staging areas, signs and planting. Example: Grand Trunk Pathway

**Beautification Parks** – these are small areas of parkland that are used for beautification, with ornamental plantings, public art, signs, and other urban design features. This category also includes viewpoints.

**School Sites** – this includes the green space portion of public and private school sites (school buildings and parking lots are excluded). These sites include sports fields and play equipment, and they are considered within the park system because the land usually has park values. The City has a Joint Use Agreement with the School District that extends to some private schools.

Community Gardens in Terrace are located on City land, and the City provides materials and support. The gardens are run by a non-profit community group. These gardens provide valuable amenities and parklike qualities; however, the sites are not zoned as parks so they are not included in the classification system.



Park Type	Count	Area (ha)
Destination Parks	4	94.84
Community Parks	11	21.94
Neighbourhood Parks	2	0.40
Natural Parks	10	148.26
Linear Parks	3	4.93
Beautification Parks	5	0.43
<b>Total City Parks</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>270.80</b>
School Sites	14	40.62
<b>Total</b>		<b>311.42</b>
Airport P3 Lands		765.31

Figure 4.1: Parkland Supply Analysis

The City of Terrace has 38 parks covering over 270 hectares (ha) of land in the main portion of the City. With the addition of public and private school sites (excluding the buildings and parking lots), there are about 312 ha of green space available for public access in Terrace (Figure 4.1). The airport has an additional 765 ha of land zoned for parks and open space.



Park Type	City Parkland Area (ha)	Parkland Supply (ha/1,000 pop)			
		2015 Population 12,494	2025 Low Scenario Population 13,181	2025 Medium Scenario Population 19,363	2025 High Scenario Population 27,889
<i>Destination Parks</i>	94.8	7.6	7.2	4.9	3.4
<i>Community Parks</i>	21.9	1.8	1.7	1.1	0.8
<i>Neighbourhood Parks</i>	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Linear Parks</i>	4.9	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2
<b>Sub-Total</b>	122.1	9.8	9.3	6.3	44.4
<i>School Sites (no buildings)</i>	40.6	3.3	3.1	2.1	1.5
<b>Total</b>	162.7	13.0	12.3	8.4	5.8

Figure 4.2: Population-Based Parkland Supply including Ferry Island and all School Sites

Park Type	City Parkland Area (ha)	Parkland Supply (ha/1,000 pop)			
		2015 Population 12,494	2025 Low Scenario Population 13,181	2025 Medium Scenario Population 19,363	2025 High Scenario Population 27,889
<i>Destination Parks</i>	6.7	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2
<i>Community Parks</i>	21.9	1.8	1.7	1.1	0.8
<i>Neighbourhood Parks</i>	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Linear Parks</i>	4.9	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2
<b>Sub-Total</b>	34.0	2.7	2.6	1.8	1.2
<i>School Sites (no buildings)</i>	28.5	2.3	2.2	1.5	1.0
<b>Total</b>	62.5	5.0	4.7	3.2	2.2

Figure 4.3: Population-Based Parkland Supply excluding Ferry Island and Undeveloped School Sites

## Analysis

### Parkland Supply Analysis

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This section provides an analysis of the parkland supply using several different methods. Many municipalities use population-based standards to calculate and plan their supply of parkland. The additional analyses of area-based supply and spatial distribution can increase the understanding of parkland supply and needs for future parks.

Standards are controversial, with some believing that the quantitative approach detracts from a qualitative consideration of parks and recognition that conditions are unique in every municipality. In BC, even where standards are not embraced for their inherent value, they are often used to assist in the calculation of park development cost charges (DCCs).

Even in jurisdictions where parkland supply standards exist, they are usually used as a guideline, rather than a definitive requirement. Park supply standards can be applied in a flexible manner to ensure that a full range of park types is available to all residents. They also enable a community to measure their supply over time, and to compare themselves with other communities.

#### Population-Based Parkland Supply

Population-based parkland supply is typically calculated on the more active types of parkland, excluding natural areas, and beautification parks, because active parks used by the public form the basis for DCC calculations. Projections of parkland supply consider the effects of population growth. Because Ferry Island is such a large natural area, it skews the analysis of destination parkland supply. For that reason, the analysis is shown with and without Ferry Island.

School sites are a very important contributor to the supply of active park space in Terrace. The analysis of school sites is skewed by the fact that three of the school district properties in the north part of the city (on the bench) are undeveloped.

Park Type	Area (ha)	% Total Area
City Parks Total (ha)	270.8	13.1%
School Sites (no buildings)	40.6	2.0%
<b>Area Total (ha)</b>	<b>311.4</b>	<b>15.1%</b>

Figure 4.4: Area-Based Parkland Supply

The current supply without Ferry Island and undeveloped school sites is 5.0 ha/1,000 population for Destination, Community, Neighbourhood and Linear Parks. Assuming the low scenario population increase, which appears most likely at the time of preparing this Master Plan, and if the City were not to acquire any additional parkland by 2025, the parkland supply would drop to about 4.7 ha/1,000 population for the three active park types.

For many years, the Canadian standard for supply of active parkland was 4 ha/1000 population. Many municipalities, particularly the ones with a large land base, still have population-based standards within that range. As many communities become denser, especially within downtown cores, population-based standards of supply have been decreasing. Municipalities with smaller land areas, which are mostly built out, cannot meet the traditional supply standards due to the high land values and lack of available undeveloped land. A BCRPA study in 2006 showed the provincial average for active parkland was 2.5 ha/1,000.

*According to typical standards, therefore, Terrace will have a sufficient supply of parkland for the next 10 years with the low growth scenario. If, however, population growth hits the medium or high scenario levels, it will become important for the City to consider acquisition of more active parkland.*

Terrace's expansive natural areas containing trail-oriented recreation opportunities help to offset the decreasing supply of active parks in relation to population. On the other hand, the amount of active parkland was raised in the community input that talked about lack of access to parks within walking distance in the south portion of the City.

Terrace is reliant on school sites to meet active recreation needs. This is a potential concern in that access to school sites is limited during school hours, as noted by some community survey respondents. The City also has limited control over the design of recreation amenities on school property and the future of the land should schools close.

### **Area-Based Parkland Supply**

Another way of measuring parkland supply is in relation to land area. Some municipalities have standards such that 12% of their total land area should be occupied by protected areas, consistent with provincial standards. This measure would typically include open space, natural areas and parks managed by other jurisdictions. Figure 4.4 illustrates the parkland supply by area. Terrace, with 13.2 % coverage by City-owned parkland, and 15.2% including school sites, has plentiful parkland according to this measure. This adds to the visual and environmental qualities of the community.

Plans for the airport lands include an allocation of 765.3 ha as open space/natural. This is 19.6% of the 3,897.6 ha land area at the airport.

### **Parkland Distribution Analysis**

The third way to analyze parkland supply is by catchment, or the distance people have to walk to access a park (Map 2). This analysis is conducted to determine a resident's ability to walk to a park within a short distance. This assessment is approximate because the distances are measured in straight lines; in some cases walking routes are circuitous as major roads, the railway or creeks are a real or perceived barrier.



Ideally, every resident would have a 5-minute walking distance (400 metres) to a Destination, Community, or Linear Park, or if not to a school site.

The parkland distribution analysis shows deficiencies of parkland in the following areas:

- The southwest portion of the City (south of highway, west of Kenney Street)
- The northwest portion of the City, currently large rural lots that are planned for future development (urban containment boundary per OCP north of McConnell Avenue and west of Thomas Street)

An area along Eby Street falls just outside the 5-minute walking distance, but numerous school sites and parks are just beyond that distance

### **Parkland Supply Gaps and Opportunities**

The following are some of the parkland supply gaps and opportunities based on the analysis and community input:

- Development is anticipated in the northwest portion of the City to accommodate population growth; however, there are currently no requirements related to parkland in new developments
- George Little Park use overflows onto the adjacent privately-owned lot to the west for parking during farmers' markets and special events
- Land on top of the bluff east of the old cemetery is important green space along the trail corridor, in a popular location due to high visitation to the cemetery, and is not owned by City
- Some trails are not all on City-owned land
- The Howe Creek Park corridor is discontinuous, and the plan is to have a trail along the entire length of the creek from Terrace Mountain Park to Highway 16 and the Grand Trunk Pathway
- Brolley Square, developed by the Beautification Society, is privately owned as it was a previous gas station undergoing remediation; there is very little other space for sitting or gathering in the downtown area
- The airport lands are undergoing a master planning process, and there will be needs for parkland to support employees and to serve as green space to make the area more attractive and for environmental reasons
- Constable Mike Buday Memorial Park (formerly Mountain Vista Park) has private encroachments into the park from adjacent back yards
- According to the community survey, some trail corridors are closed to public access (this could refer to trails on private land)



## Recommendations

### Land Acquisition

---

#### 4.1.1 Acquire property for parkland in the following locations as opportunities arise:


- Adjacent to existing parks where the land could support or expand park uses
- Along existing trails that are not on City land (unless trails can be rerouted onto City land)
- Land on top of bluff east of the old cemetery
- Land along Howe Creek that is not yet owned by the City
- To improve pedestrian and cycling linkages between neighbourhoods and parks to support expansion of the pedestrian/cycling network

### Planning and Design

---

#### 4.1.2 Establish the following guidelines for acquiring community and neighbourhood parks in new developments:

- Locate neighbourhood parks next to elementary schools where possible.
- Locate community and neighbourhood parks near protected natural areas where possible.
- Lay out community and neighbourhood parks to include trails that provide continuous connections through the development (off-street if possible using rights-of-way between dead-end roads, cul-de-sacs, etc.), with links to external trails to parks, schools and other destinations.
- Locate linear parks as connectors between community and neighbourhood parks and external trails.
- Locate community and neighbourhood parks with pedestrian access from all four sides if possible.
- Locate community and neighbourhood parks with significant street frontage to a local or collector road on at least one side.
- Use the minimum sizes in the classification system for community and neighbourhood parks.
- Consolidate properties from multiple developments as needed to achieve a community park near the centre of the development area in north-west Terrace.
- Site community and neighbourhood parks so that one type or the other will be within 400 metres of most residents.



*Applying these guidelines to the Keith Estates Neighbourhood Concept Plan, the linear park would extend along the entire north edge of the property, and there would be a neighbourhood park central to the mixed use sectors of the site.*

- 4.1.3 Zone the property across from Howe Creek Tree Park as a park, for uses that complement the Howe Creek Tree Park, e.g., interpretive information, gathering space.
- 4.1.4 Require publically accessible outdoor plaza spaces to serve neighbourhood park needs on large new development projects in the downtown area.
- 4.1.5 Work on establishing an urban neighbourhood park west of Emerson Street in the downtown area if this cannot be achieved through development.
- 4.1.6 In the airport lands, provide parkland to serve visitors and employees:
  - Designate parkland around the WWII structures, one of which is at the intersection of Bristol Road and Max Neubacher Waymain.
  - Designate parkland near the terminal and ground-side commercial lands.
- 4.1.7 Work closely with the School District and partner with them on school site projects, recognizing that school sites are a critical component of the City’s community parks; should any schools close in the future, explore opportunities for retaining and acquiring the open space components of these properties as City parks.

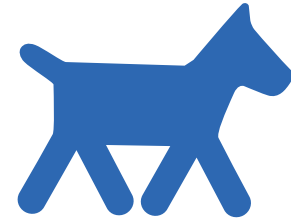
## Operations and Management

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- 4.1.8 Where there are encroachments on park land, act promptly to inform property owners to remove them.



## 4.2 Park Design and Development



### *Description*

Terrace has a large number of parks that have been part of the community for many years. These are highly appreciated by residents.

Some of the more recent park development projects include improvements to George Little Park and the Grand Trunk Pathway. There are plans to further improve George Little Park in the coming years, including constructing a spray park and updated play area.

Trends in parks and recreation are constantly evolving. This is apparent in Terrace where residents are requesting some new amenities.

### *Analysis*

#### Park Design Guidelines

---

As many of Terrace's parks have been in place for many years, they do not necessarily comply with contemporary design standards. Various comments were received from the community about park design. Appropriate design guidelines for parks as they are built or upgraded include the following:

- Use universal design principles to welcome all park visitors, including some pathway loops that are fully accessible in destination parks, and other parks where possible.
- Encourage neighbourhood parks to be designed as gathering places, with seating and spaces appropriate for picnics and group activities.
- For parks that include parking areas, design the parking efficiently, minimize the amount of hard (or gravel) surface, and keep the parking as close to the perimeter of the park as possible.
- Plant trees in parks to the degree possible for shade and as a contribution to the urban forest.

*Universal Design involves designing spaces so that they can be used by the widest range of people possible. Universal Design evolved from Accessible Design, a design process that addresses the needs of people with disabilities. Universal Design goes further by recognizing that there is a wide spectrum of human abilities. Everyone, even the most able-bodied person, passes through childhood, periods of temporary illness, injury and old age. By designing for this human diversity, we can create things that will be easier for all people to use. Universal Design makes places safer, easier and more convenient for everyone.*

- Use Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles, balancing these with the need to protect and enhance habitats.
- Provide seating in all parks and along multi-use trails.
- Design parks with the goal of increasing creativity and interest, e.g., more interactive play environments and equipment, allow children to experience more nature in parks, provide more options for young children.
- When planning new parks, consider life cycle cost analysis and energy consumption.
- Design parks with consideration for protection and enhancement of environmental resources and rainwater/stormwater infiltration where possible.
- Celebrate local artists in parks, with more public art such as murals, mosaics, and sculptures.

### Park Upgrading

Some of the infrastructure in Terrace’s parks is aging, and it will need replacement for safety reasons and to provide more benefits to the community. When amenities such as play areas or courts are upgraded, there may be opportunities to improve the surrounding spaces as well. The following is a list of parks that have been identified as needing improvements:

- Play areas in Terrace Kin Park, Kerr Rotary Park, Elks Agar Park, Christy Park (for families attending soccer games)
- Washrooms in Elks Agar Park, George Little Park, Riverside Park, and improvement or replacement of some outhouses on Ferry Island
- Mountain bike skills park built in Tetrault Park by youth is not being maintained as the youth who built it now ride out of town; bike skills parks typically require the involvement of local youth
- Skatepark is in a secluded location, limiting oversight, and is outdated, in disrepair, and designed for advanced skaters only
- Ferry Island is hugely popular; it had 6,513 campers in 2014, around 20 school groups for year-end school parties in May and June, and it receives hundreds of walkers daily. It is also a wonderful natural resource.

The pond within the park is significant habitat, but it is experiencing impacts from off-leash dogs, and there is no infrastructure to manage use and enhance the visitor’s experience. There has been some pressure to expand the campground on Ferry Island.



Respondents to the community survey have a high level of dissatisfaction with public washrooms – quality, quantity and opening times. Skate parks, winter activities in parks, bike parks, and places to walk dog(s) also had relatively high dissatisfaction ratings in relation to satisfaction.

## Potential New Amenities

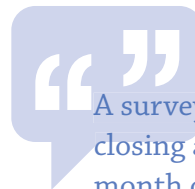
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The following are some gaps in service that have been identified:

- In most of the parks on the south side, the playgrounds or other amenities are older or outdated, and many residents do not have vehicles so transportation is a concern.
  - The City has a large dog off-leash area on Ferry Island, but none within the urban area. There were numerous concerns expressed in the community survey about dog management, mainly off-leash dogs where they are not allowed and not appreciated, and dog waste in many parks and along trails. Many residents requested dog off-leash areas within neighbourhoods. These can provide places for dogs to exercise, opportunities to provide information on dog management, and can also help to address social issues in parks by attracting more legitimate park visitors. Neighbourhood dog off-leash areas may be fenced or not, depending on the site characteristics, other uses in the park, proximity to busy roads, and wishes of dog owners and surrounding residents.
  - Other amenities requested by the community include an outdoor 'beach' volleyball court; bike skills park for small children; multi-sport courts with better basketball, lacrosse and ball/roller hockey opportunities; disc golf, and more picnic areas.
  - There is no official sledding/tobogganing hill in the City; people snowboard and go sledding on the hill in front of the Sportsplex, but this is dangerous due to the road at the bottom of the hill.
- Other locations used informally for sledding/tobogganing include the Northwest Community College hill near the sports field on the bench, and Sav-Mor Park on the south side.
- There is an interest in additional activities for winter, potentially including snowshoe and cross-country ski trails
  - Pickleball is a relatively new sport; users appear to be content with one outdoor court in Terrace Kin Park (as well as use of the Thornhill gym).
  - Some tennis courts are in substandard condition.
  - Track and field takes place at Skeena JS, where there is an asphalt track. Some residents have requested a rubberized track.
  - Residents indicated that the city is lacking good places to teach small children to ride bikes, e.g., a loop trail in a park, paved area with no vehicles.
  - Requests were made for more covered spaces outdoors, e.g., for farmers' market, playground, tennis courts. Although these would be positive features, covered space is not included in the recommendations at this time because they are often misused as a shelter, the costs are significant, and there are already so many other more basic needs.



Many residents requested dog off-leash areas within neighbourhoods.



A survey respondent suggested closing a downtown street once a month on Sunday morning where children could cycle, e.g., Market Street.

## Infrastructure

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There are some infrastructure needs that were identified as needs within the park system:

- Park and trail maps and signs (identification – park name; directional – wayfinding, distances; regulatory – park rules and etiquette, trail difficulty, interpretive – environmental and cultural/historical information)
- More garbage and recycling bins
- More dog bag dispensers were requested, but these cause litter and can have negative effects on wildlife
- More bike racks

## Recommendations



### Planning and Design

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- 4.2.1 Apply design guidelines (section 2.2) to the design of new and upgraded parks.
- 4.2.2 Work with local artists on projects to integrate art within parks and along trails.
- 4.2.3 Work with the local community on a commitment to maintain and use the bike skills park in Tetrault Park, and to consider more recreational use, e.g., disc golf.

### Capital Development

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- 4.2.4 Establish a program for replacing playgrounds, consulting with the neighbourhood and considering creative play environments in these projects.
- 4.2.5 Establish a program for upgrading washroom buildings, exploring methods for increasing access while adding security, e.g., hours of operation.
- 4.2.6 Identify locations where new washroom buildings are needed, and install these over time, e.g., George Little House.
- 4.2.7 Establish a visitor use area at the pond in Ferry Island, including a viewing deck. (Do not expand the campground in Ferry Island.)
- 4.2.8 Establish a multi-purpose court with boards that could be used as an outdoor rink and also for basketball, lacrosse, roller/ball hockey, tricycles/push toys, and teaching young children to bike. Potential locations include Terrace Kin Park or Caledonia SS.
- 4.2.9 Replace the existing skate park with a new one on the west tennis court on the northwest corner of the Sportsplex site.
- 4.2.10 Explore the use of Sav-Mor Park for a playground and for sledding/tobogganing.
- 4.2.11 Work with the School District to consider the potential for a rubberized track at Skeena SS.

- 4.2.12 Establish two dog off-leash areas, one in the horseshoe/bench area and another on the south side. Potential locations include Terrace Kin Park, Tetrault Park, and Riverside Park (section 4.3).
- 4.2.13 Work with the School District to identify a potential location for an outdoor “beach” volleyball court, or consider this in the development of a new park, e.g., in Kin Park.
- 4.2.14 Prepare a signage system for identification, directional (way-finding), regulatory and interpretive signs to be recognizable across the City and consistent with the City’s Wayfinding Strategy, and install these throughout the park and trail system.

### Service Delivery

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- 4.2.15 Consider closing a portion of Kalum Street for sledding on the hill in front of the Sportsplex for special events when there is suitable snow, e.g., snowboard demonstration, winter festival.





## 4.3 Trail Network

### *Description*

After preparing the Active Transportation Plan in 2009, Terrace has been working on the installation of more bike lanes, sidewalks, and trails. These projects have been met with a high level of community support, and the routes have been well used.



### *Analysis*

According to the community survey, almost all households have someone who walks, hikes or jogs for exercise or recreation. This is evidence of a healthy community interested in outdoor recreation and active transportation. The top priority for outdoor recreation in the city is enhancing and/or expanding the path and trail system to improve connectivity.

There is interest in more and better bike lanes/paths, sidewalks, and bike trails/paths for beginners and children. Survey respondents noted that many sidewalks are in poor condition or discontinuous and that easements to support connected trails in new developments are lacking, and in some cases fenced off to restrict public access. Dissatisfaction was fairly high for safe places to ride bikes.

There are mountain bike trail maps available in the City, prepared by local bikers, but no public map of City parks and trails.

The following are some of the top priorities for trails based on community input and professional analysis:

- Connect Howe Creek to Grand Trunk Pathway
- Extend trails along the river including loop trails
- Provide other trail loops on the south side
- Establish a long trail along the river / establish a continuous trail along the east side of Ferry Island
- Complete gaps in bike lanes
- Manage parking so that it is not occurring in bike lanes
- Work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to provide a more pedestrian and bike friendly access along Keith Avenue/ Highway 16 to and across the bridge to Ferry Island
- Improve the pumphouse trail to accommodate bikes and pedestrians separately
- Repair sidewalks
- Provide better mapping and marking of Terrace Mountain trails, improve staging areas, and provide some trails that can be used by equestrians
- Work with CN Rail to establish more pedestrian access across the train tracks
- In the airport lands, provide recreational trails on the lands designated as Open Space/Natural



## *Recommendations*

### Planning and Design

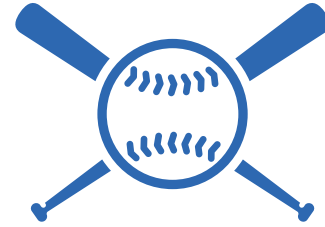
- 4.3.1 Establish annual priorities for trail construction, along with sidewalk repair, bike lane construction (as part of road projects where possible), to improve connectivity.
- 4.3.2 Prepare a user-friendly map of all city parks and trails, suitable for print, website and mobile apps, with information on the amenities within parks, and ratings and lengths of trails; consider sponsorships by local businesses to support this.

### Capital Development

- 4.3.3 Repair sidewalks and build bike lanes annually, as part of road projects where possible.
- 4.3.4 Extend trails annually, along with infrastructure such as benches, waste containers, and distance markers.
- 4.3.5 Improve staging areas for Terrace Mountain to include full signage, garbage and recycling cans, and seating and parking where appropriate.



## 4.4 Sports Fields and Ball Diamonds



### *Description*

Sports leagues in Terrace and the surrounding communities use City, School District and Regional District (Thornhill) facilities. The City administers the field scheduling on all of these; charges only apply to City-owned fields. There are also many unorganized activities that occur on sports fields, e.g., Frisbee football, grass volleyball.

In addition, Northwest Community College (NWCC) has a rugby field, which is scheduled and used by the college rugby team. The team books it through the college at no charge and uses the field weekly for training and every two weeks for games. The field is not in good condition, but the college has indicated potential interest in upgrading the field in partnership with the City and making the field available for community use.

All of the sports begin playing around the beginning of May. Minor ball and baseball run until the end of June, adult slo-pitch and scrub until the end of July, and minor soccer teams play until almost the end of September.

The following soccer fields are well booked on weekday afternoons/evenings and weekends:

- Christy Park – 5 fields, excellent facility, has a caretaker
- Bailey Street – 2 fields
- Ecole Mountainview School
- Skeena JS School
- Caledonia SS School
- Thornhill (3 full-size and 1 small shared with softball)

The current supply of 14 fields is a supply of about 1 field per 1,250 residents for the greater Terrace area (17,500 population).

The following ball diamonds are well booked on weekday afternoons/evenings and some weekends:

- Elks Agar Park – 4 Little League fields, 6-week season
- Kerr Rotary Park – baseball, softball – very popular, booked every night
- Riverside Park – adult ball diamond has an excellent mountain view, but field is not in good condition, large expanse of gravel provides parking for the ball diamond and Curling Club; used for softball four nights
- Skeena JS School
- Caledonia SS School
- Thornhill – main site and primary and junior school (latter conflicts with soccer therefore not booked for ball)
- Cassie Hall School – one youth ball diamond
- Copper Mountain School (Thornhill)

The current supply of 8 ball diamonds is a supply of about 1 diamond per 2,200 residents for the greater Terrace area (17,500 population).

There are also some school fields, Uplands and Suwilaawks, which cannot be used because the fields need repair.

Fees for the use of sports fields are per person, and the charges are \$10/youth, \$145/adult team for the season. Participants in 2015 included 850 in youth soccer, 244 in minor softball, and 220 estimated in adult softball, 120 in ladies soccer.

The soccer groups are well organized and work closely with the City to have their needs met. Ball groups are not as organized.

### *Analysis*

Terrace has some excellent sports fields and ball diamonds that are helping to support a healthy, active community. There are some concerns related to field quality and services, and the supply of sports facilities will need to keep pace with population growth. Because of the multi-jurisdictional approach to sports facilities, the three groups will need to plan collaboratively on facility supply and management.



The supply of sports facilities will need to keep pace with the population growth.

Sports field charges are not covering costs, and the discrepancy in charges between the City and other jurisdictions leads to inequity in the system. Since the leagues use facilities of the City, School District and Regional District, and because there are costs associated with maintaining all of these fields, a consistent fee structure would be a benefit to all jurisdictions.

The supply of ball diamonds appears to be meeting current needs. Whereas in the past, population-based standards were applied across communities, this is not a current practice as sports participation varies significantly among communities based on climate and local trends.

The following are some other concerns related to sports fields and ball diamonds:

- There is no complex suitable for adult softball (including slo-pitch and scrub) tournaments, and no space currently available in Terrace for a complex of ball diamonds.
- Soccer groups would like to see an outdoor (or potentially even an indoor) artificial turf field in the future. This type of facility can extend the season and days of play and accommodate a high level of use; the warmer winters make this even more viable. One artificial turf field would be a good option for the Terrace area, depending on population growth and budget availability. Secondary school sites are ideal locations for this type of facility as school use can complement community play to deliver more benefits. There has been a trend towards artificial fields to complement and expand play opportunities on grass fields; in some communities, sports groups have contributed to their construction and user fees are saved in a fund to support surface replacement.

Indoor artificial turf fields are sometimes built as a result of partnerships among local government, sports groups, colleges and others.

- Riverside Park has the potential to be an outstanding facility due to its attractive location and proximity to the Curling Club, which could be used by sports groups. A planning process could help to identify opportunities; it would be ideal for the process to address the following:
  - » Analysis of existing and potential uses of the Curling Club facility
  - » Review of softball use of Riverside Park and determination of the level of interest in stewardship of the facility by the group
  - » Consideration of other uses for the site, including a dog off-leash area, adventure play space
  - » Preparation of a site plan to upgrade the character of the entire site (Riverside Park and Curling Club) with a proper parking lot, paths, etc.

## Recommendations



### Planning and Design

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- 4.4.1 Work with the School District and Regional District on the planning for future sports fields and ball diamonds to retain the current levels of supply with population growth; assume that the northwest of Terrace will accommodate up to four soccer fields and two ball diamonds depending on the future population. Consider a location for a softball tournament facility.
- 4.4.2 Conduct a fees and charges review for sports field use in collaboration with the School District and Regional District, considering fees in similar municipalities and operations costs, and prepare a new set of charges that applies to all fields.
- 4.4.3 Conduct a master planning process for Riverside Park and the Curling Club in order to determine the highest and best use for this area.
- 4.4.4 Work with Northwest Community College on the potential for upgrading their sports field in partnership with the City and making the field available for community use.

### Capital Development

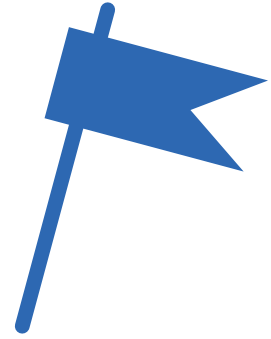
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- 4.4.5 Develop new sports fields and ball diamonds as needed based on population growth in Terrace and the surrounding areas (with the low growth scenario, there will not be a need for new sports facilities in Terrace over the next 10 years).
- 4.4.6 Consider an artificial turf field in the region, in collaboration with sports groups and other jurisdictions, depending on the level of population growth and budget availability. Potential locations for this are Skeena or Caledonia school sites.

## 4.5 Park Programs and Events

### *Description*

The City hosts a number of events and programs in its parks. The most exceptional one by far is the Skeena Valley Farmers' Market that runs from May to October on Saturday mornings in George Little Park on Market Street. This market is attended by someone from almost every household in the City, according to the community survey. It is clearly one of the community's main social events, in addition to being a place to purchase local produce and products.



Other festivals and events held in City parks include the following:

- June - Aboriginal Days, Multicultural Days
- July 1 – Arts Festival, Heritage Park on Canada Day
- August - Riverboat Days for 10 days
- December – Festival of Lights

The City requires events to have a Park and/or Field User Permit, which includes Terms and Conditions.

There are also Leisure Services programs that occur in parks, e.g., summer programs for children in George Little Park. Ferry Island is booked by school groups and others for private picnics.

### *Analysis*

Respondents to the community survey indicated interest in having more events in parks throughout the year. One suggestion was that Riverboat Days could be shorter in exchange for more options at other times. Youth also indicated that they would like to see more concerts, festivals and special events.



The Skeena Valley Farmers' Market is attended by someone from almost every household in the City – it is clearly one of the community's main social events.

George Little Park is extremely popular in the summer, and with the proposed spray park and playground, the level of use will likely increase. There are opportunities to expand programming; another benefit of more supervision in the park could be the potential to keep the washroom open more.

## Recommendations



### Planning and Design

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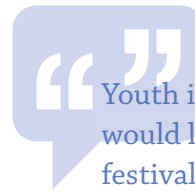
4.5.1 Encourage and support community groups to host more festivals and events in parks, including some that are of interest to youth.

### Service Delivery

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4.5.2 Expand services in George Little Park, especially in the summer, potentially including the following:

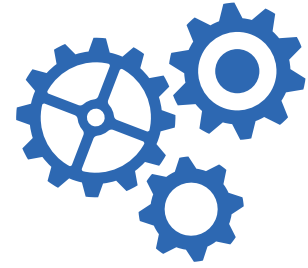
- A park attendant who can run additional programs in the park
- Increased supervision and more maintenance of the public washrooms
- A concession with snacks and beverages, possibly in the form of a food truck



Youth indicated that they would like to see more concerts, festivals, and special events.



## 4.6 Park Operations and Management



### *Description*

The City of Terrace has crews that maintain all of the City's parks, street trees, and indoor recreation facilities. In recent years, vagrancy, litter and vandalism are negatively affecting resources in parks operations, making it difficult to maintain parks to an acceptable standard. Since City crews also build many of the park improvements, resources to undertake capital projects have also been compromised.

Another effect of the significant homeless population has been an inability to keep washrooms in parks open for public use. There have been so many problems that washrooms are now only open during events.

### *Analysis*

There were many comments on the community survey and the youth survey regarding vagrancy and litter in parks and along trails. Illicit activities and loitering are making residents feel unsafe and are limiting use of the park system. In addition to requests for a higher level of maintenance of parks and trails, residents are extremely frustrated with the amount of dog waste in public spaces.

The following are some of the more specific concerns identified by the community:

- Challenges with snow removal along multi-use trails
- Dogs on Christy Park fields
- Not enough mowing of sports fields
- Significant impacts from dogs around the pond in Ferry Island
- Not keeping up with the need for invasive species management
- Irrigation system at Riverside Park field is working properly but is not used during watering restrictions (field tends to dry out); Elks Park ball fields do not have irrigation
- Christy Park – soccer league would like more storage
- Howe Creek Tree Park – popular beautiful spot, needs more maintenance



A more regular volunteer litter clean-up program may be appropriate.

The Greater Terrace Beautification Society sponsors an annual Garbathon, an annual clean-up of the City that has been happening for over 30 years. Given the many comments about litter in the City, a more regular volunteer clean-up program may be appropriate, rewarding volunteers with a token of appreciation, e.g., Sportsplex or Aquatic Centre passes. An idea may also be to involve the homeless population in cleaning up the city in exchange for an incentive, e.g., meal voucher, Aquatic Centre pass. Volunteers from community groups such as sports or youth clubs could also be involved in this type of stewardship.



## Recommendations



### Operations and Management

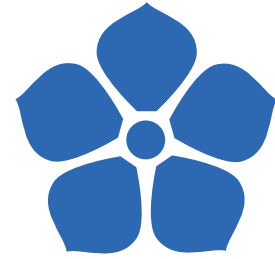
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- 4.6.1 Consider “Adopt a park” and “Adopt a trail” programs.
- 4.6.2 Collaborate with community organizations to engage volunteers in a monthly clean-up day, providing incentives for participation; consider involving the homeless through a suitable organization.
- 4.6.3 Work with the RCMP, social service organizations, and community stewards to address the needs of the homeless population and to increase monitoring and positive activities within parks.
- 4.6.4 Explore potential methods for allowing use of washrooms by the public, e.g., key card access for sports and other community groups, recreation pass holders, etc.
- 4.6.5 Increase mowing of sports fields and snow removal on multi-use trails.
- 4.6.6 Increase maintenance levels in destination parks.
- 4.6.7 Implement CPTED principles in park maintenance, and conduct regular safety audits of parks, improving safety as needed.
- 4.6.8 Prohibit dogs near the pond in Ferry Island and take measures to improve compliance with the bylaw prohibiting dogs on sports fields.
- 4.6.9 Provide more public information on proper dog walking rules and etiquette, and consider the involvement of stewards in informing the public about this.
- 4.6.10 Provide more garbage and recycling cans, and remove dog bag dispensers as they lead to a variety of negative impacts.
- 4.6.11 Encourage and support stewardship groups working on invasive species management.
- 4.6.12 Support the soccer league in acquiring more storage in Christy Park.
- 4.6.13 Assess and consider upgrading Riverside Park field and the area surrounding the field, and consider an irrigation system at Elks Park field.
- 4.6.14 Expand surveillance by the bylaw enforcement officer.

## 4.7 City Beautification

### *Description*

The Greater Terrace Beautification Society is a local group of volunteers committed to promoting beautification of the Terrace area. Through their efforts, encouragement and support, there have been many beautification initiatives in the City. These include revitalization of downtown streets with landscaping and streetscape amenities. The City installed 140 flower baskets in 2015 and the Terrace Downtown Improvement Association complemented the program with baskets on specific storefronts. These baskets are a major source of pride for the community. The Beautification Society also encourages private residents to beautify their properties.



### *Analysis*

The community survey indicated that there is significant support for beautification in Terrace. The top three streets in order of priority for beautification were Kalum Street, Greig Avenue, and Lazelle Avenue.



A community survey suggestion is to encourage a flower box competition among local businesses downtown.

The most preferred beautification strategies in order of priority were street trees or planting, improved sidewalks, public art, and places to sit and eat. More and better lighting and more garbage and recycling receptacles also had support.

The City would like to participate in Communities in Bloom. This requires significant community support.



### *Recommendations*

#### Capital Development

- 4.7.1 Conduct beautification projects on downtown streets as opportunities arise, focusing on tree planting and improved boulevards as the highest priorities.



THE  
GEORGE LITTLE HOUSE

TERRACE  TERRACE  
VIA Rail Canada

 Terrace Downtown Improvement Area 

 TERRACE RIVERBOAT DAYS

First Nations Fine

Tourist Information



## 5.0 INDOOR RECREATION

### 5.1 Indoor Recreation Facilities

#### *Description*

The City has two indoor recreation facilities that are located across a parking lot from each other – the Sportsplex and Aquatic Centre. Both facilities are partially funded by the Regional District at a rate of 33% of the operating budget (plus project capital). Leisure Access Cards are available for people with low incomes or disabilities. These cards provide discounted admission (\$1.00 youth and \$2.00 adult) to recreational skating and swimming as well as the fitness centre and fitness classes.

Northwest Community College has two squash courts that are available for community use. There is no charge to join and rental rates apply.

#### Sportsplex

The Sportsplex includes two arenas plus several multi-purpose rooms, including a boardroom. There are two full-size ice sheets with the main arena having a capacity of 750 seated and 250 standing. The second ice sheet (known as Hidber arena) was added in 2007-2008 along with ancillary facilities, multi-purpose rooms and an elevator. Seating capacity is 250 seated or 400 with standing. The main arena has been upgraded with replacement boards and glass, painting and lighting improvements. The facility has eight change rooms, plus one “overflow” change room, which is being converted to a change room for female hockey players.

The arenas are used extensively by minor hockey, adult recreational hockey leagues, two hockey academies, the Terrace Skating Club, women’s hockey, local schools and for recreational skating. Peak times are weekday evenings 3:45pm to 10pm and 8 to 10pm on Saturday and Sundays, from September to the end of March. The ice is removed in April and the arena floors are used for roller hockey, roller skating, Zumba, dry land training, and events such as parties, weddings and trade fairs. The Sportsplex hosts many large events such as school graduations and rock concerts.

The McDaniel Room is the boardroom, used fairly extensively by non-profit organizations for meetings. The Multi-purpose Room has a divider and is used for preschool and children’s programs, yoga and summer programs as well as weekend rentals for parties at a reasonable rate. The Banquet Room has a wood floor, mirrored walls, a kitchen and a great view overlooking the City. It is used for a wide variety of fitness classes and for private rentals.

Facility challenges include not enough storage, not enough dressing room space (especially with the need to accommodate females), an inadequate kitchen in the banquet room, an outdated sound system in the main arena, and lack of public WIFI. If deemed necessary, the kitchen would need to be redesigned to accommodate commercial appliances and counter space.

### Aquatic Centre

The Aquatic Centre, built in 1974 and updated in 1998, includes a six-lane 25 metre pool, a leisure/tots pool, a hot tub, and a steam and dry sauna. The building has a small lobby, an administrative area, a mezzanine viewing area, a fitness room and a meeting room.

The change rooms are too small and not universally accessible, with no family change rooms. There are two small accessible public washrooms in the lobby area. The pool is not universally accessible, with no ramps or beach access, although the main pool has a lift.

The fitness room is very small, and has only six cardio machines, some equipment for wheelchairs, and no natural light. It is busier in winter; regular users line up at 6:20 am for the cardio machines. Many of the users are lower income and people with disabilities – the facility is available for a very reasonable cost, especially with a leisure access pass.

The Aquatic Centre has issues with ventilation, the HVAC system, and water treatment. The pool is shut down August 31 each year for one month for maintenance purposes. Staff are aware of these issues and have budgeted for minor repairs. The City has applied for and been approved to receive a gas tax grant of \$4.5 million to fully upgrade and expand the Aquatic Centre.

### Curling Rink

The curling rink is owned and operated by the local non-profit Curling Club Association.



## Analysis

The Aquatic Centre is heavily used with an estimated 200,000 to 250,000 users every year. It requires upgrades in several areas, in particular the accessibility. There is considerable demand in the community for accessible pool facilities.

The Aquatic Centre Feasibility Study completed in 2012 provides a number of recommendations and options for upgrades and enhancements to the Aquatic Centre, along with cost estimates. It identifies the potential to expand the Aquatic Centre with a relocated fitness centre, family change rooms, and community hub (gathering) space.

There is no City-owned gymnasium in Terrace, although the City has full access to the gym in Thornhill at the closed school, and it is used a lot by adult groups. If/when the school reopens, the City will lose gym access. There are schools in Terrace with gyms that have some capacity for community use outside of school hours. They are primarily elementary schools with smaller gyms.

The private sector is offering a lot in terms of fitness; however, private facilities are more expensive. The Aquatic Centre fitness facility is affordable to all.

The Banquet Room in the Sportsplex is so popular that events and meetings displace recreation groups and City programs. This happens primarily in December and on weekends.

There is no youth centre in Terrace. Northern Health and the Terrace Healthy Communities Committee (THCC) want to see one established to help support youth, many of whom are struggling.

There is no community hall in Terrace that can hold up to 350 people. Halls like this are only available outside of the City, e.g., Kitsumkalum Hall.

Community members have expressed an interest in having more squash courts in the City, in addition to those at NWCC.



Community survey respondents noted issues with the Aquatic Centre (e.g., outdated, lack of family change room, lack of amenities, inadequate gym equipment, high chlorine levels, low air quality, poor condition of change rooms). Cleaning and maintenance at the Aquatic Centre was also listed as an issue with users. Respondents also noted the limited availability of the Thornhill gym.

*Key priorities from the community survey include:*

- Provide more indoor facilities and programs (e.g., courts, track, climbing wall, playground), possibly as part of a new Recreation Centre
- Upgrade or develop new pool
- Improve cleanliness and maintenance at existing facilities
- Youth echoed comments on community survey, also would like to see indoor artificial turf field, indoor place for youth
- Soccer group would like an indoor field



*Recommendations*

Planning and Design

**5.1.1** Prepare a detailed design for the upgrading and expansion of the Aquatic Centre.

- Review the recommendations of the Aquatic Centre Feasibility Study completed in 2012.
- Prepare a design for the Aquatic Centre Upgrade; explore options to expand the pool envelope, relocate the fitness centre to the north of the Aquatic Centre, add family change rooms, fix the gutters and access to the pools, and add a community hub space. Consider the addition of a gymnasium, also on the north side of the facility. This City-owned gym would allow for a wide range of uses.

**5.1.2** Conduct a feasibility study on the Sportsplex with a view to the longer term future needs.

- Include an assessment of the whole site as part of the feasibility study to review the inter-relationship with the Aquatic Centre, layout and flow of parking, use of the existing skateboard park location, etc.

**5.1.3** Consider the construction of squash courts and a gymnasium in the future, as additions to the Aquatic Centre or the Sportsplex.

Capital Development

**5.1.4** Upgrade and expand the Aquatic Centre.

**5.1.5** Consider the role of the kitchen in the Sportsplex banquet room and based on that, identify the level of upgrading that is appropriate.

**5.1.6** Upgrade the sound system in the main arena.



## Operations and Management

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5.1.7 Provide public WIFI throughout the Sportsplex.

5.1.8 Ensure cleanliness and maintenance at the facilities is at the highest possible level.

## 5.2 Recreation Programs

### *Description*

The City offers a variety of programs for all age groups, from swimming lessons for infants to indoor pickleball for seniors. The programs are offered at the Sportsplex, the Aquatic Centre, Thornhill Centre and at local schools. There is one free public skate (in the winter) and one free swim weekly.

Most non-aquatic programs are at the Sportsplex, as well as schools when possible (downtown and on the south side). There are transportation barriers, especially between the south and north.

Preschool programs are the biggest sellers, e.g., dance, sports. Youth programs for children ages 6 to 13 are quite popular; they include babysitting, home alone, dance, summer camps, learn to skate, circus camp, rock and roll camp, lego (with school), baton twirling, etc. There are very few programs for youth aged 14 to 18. Enrolment in programs for seniors is skyrocketing as the City is listening to their needs, e.g., pickleball, meditation, tai chi, chair yoga. Drop-in basketball and volleyball are also provided by the City.

Exercise classes for all age groups are full. Golf is popular, and drop-in roller hockey in the summer is successful. Canoe and sailing programs for youth are offered at Lakelse Lake. Adult drop-in basketball is used by men living in camps. The City often has large numbers of newcomers, partly due to the transience of those working on large industrial projects.

The City has an open door policy on programs to get input from the public and teachers. There are very few program cancellations.



Adult programs operate on a 100% cost recovery basis; cost recovery is an average of 50% for children. Many children are sponsored by JumpStart and Kidsports. Information on these programs is provided on the City website and at Clubs Day.



Adult programs operate on a 100% cost recovery basis; cost recovery is an average of 50% for children.

The City has a good working relationship with the School District. Schools support community programs partly due to the City's success assisting community groups in getting access, e.g., running programs, yoga studios. Schools are becoming less available – some basketball happens in the evenings. School bookings end at 10 p.m. A Joint Use Agreement discusses the shared use of schools and City facilities; neither organization pays to use the other's space:

- Priorities for school use are generally Board, school age youth, non-profits, and commercial activities in order
- Priorities for City facility use are School District during school hours, and otherwise City programs, , non-profits, and commercial in order

Community-run programs are taking place at Thornhill – the City leases the gymnasium and rents it to groups such as the volleyball league, archery, women's soccer, roller derby, pickleball (daytime for seniors), and badminton.

Program listings are available online or in pamphlets; the City no longer publishes a recreation guide. Registration is by phone or in person (not online). The City has been using CLASS, which will be replaced with a new system by 2017. Advertisements are placed in the newspaper for every season, and an email is sent to all who register.

### *Analysis*

Focus group and survey participants indicated that they would like more facilities for programs, especially within the City. There is a need for more activities for youth aged 13 to 18, ideally unstructured and low cost or free. Youth do not use the fitness centre in large numbers as they must undergo a “screening” by staff if under the age of 16.

The City offers a range of programs for seniors at affordable rates both on land and in the pool. Senior participation rates are growing and will increase more once the pool is made accessible. There will be increased competition for space in the facilities to accommodate the growing seniors' population.

The City's current methods of promoting their programs and activities may not be reaching the entire population. People are asking for programs that already exist in some cases.

Participants and instructors prefer fitness classes to be held in the banquet room at the Sportsplex. Additional classes could be held if they were offered in local schools. The pool is fully utilized among lessons, fitness programs, length swimming, and public swimming.

Terrace could experience a significant influx of new residents if industries develop as planned, and it is important for newcomers to feel welcome. Examples of programs for newcomers and current non-participants include “sampler programs” for adults, children, youth and families. These programs consist of two sessions at a very reduced cost (50%) or free depending on the program, and could include skating (with skates), fitness pass with orientation, fitness programs, basketball, public swim, swim lessons. Free guided hikes, perhaps at Howe Creek, could introduce people to the area and provide a feeling of security and inclusion. A “welcome to Terrace” special event is another possibility, with music, performances, and food supported by local service clubs.

“The City's current methods of promoting their programs and activities may not be reaching the entire population – in some cases, people are asking for programs that already exist.”

Volunteerism is suffering, and many clubs are declining in membership.

*Comments on the community survey included the following:*

- Increase recreation activities and programs for all age groups, especially for teens (13 – 18), young adults (19 – 29), youth (6 – 12) and families
- Issues with pool programming and lane availability
- Interest in ice surface available year round
- Public skating times are too limited
- Improve scheduling/hours/availability of programs
- Offer special interest activities and programs (e.g., acting, theatre, art, cooking)
- Increase advertising for programs to ensure awareness
- Hire more instructors to diversify and strengthen programs
- Provide accessible and inclusive programs for seniors and persons with disabilities
- Improve affordability of programs
- Youth echoed comments on the community survey, also would like to see more activities and programs tailored to teenagers



Photos © Jeannette Brown



## Recommendations

### Service Delivery

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- 5.2.1 Provide on-line registration for programs as part of the City's new registration system, and include a "sign-up email" to receive program updates, holiday schedules and other information.
- 5.2.2 Provide more information on programs in a user-friendly format.
- Improve information on the website.
  - Use social media to promote activities to all, but in particular to youth and families.
- 5.2.3 Provide more family programming, including programs for toddlers on weekends.
- 5.2.4 Provide more youth (teen) programs, potentially in partnership with other organizations.
- 5.2.5 Encourage youth to use the fitness centre by allowing access to persons under the age of 16 without going through an interview with staff.
- 5.2.6 Continue to work with organizations providing services to persons with disabilities and seniors to ensure any upgrades or renovations can accommodate their recreational needs.
- 5.2.7 Encourage the School District to allow programs in gyms later in the evening for adults, e.g., until midnight.
- 5.2.8 Establish programs oriented towards welcoming newcomers and building community spirit, e.g., sampler programs, guided hikes, welcome event.
- 5.2.9 Provide more support to clubs and leagues through more promotion of their offerings on the City website.
- 5.2.10 Work with other organizations to support volunteerism in the City, e.g., central volunteer website.
- 5.2.11 Encourage community groups to offer programs in parks, e.g., tennis instruction, bike skills, skateboard events.
- 5.2.12 Provide extra support and training of teachers and coaches to better accommodate children, youth and young adults with special needs.
- 5.2.13 Provide more drop-in sports opportunities for teens and adults.

# SPORTSPLEX





## 6.0 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

### 6.1 Phasing and Costs

A summary of the recommendations in the Master Plan, with their priority, phasing and relative costs, is located in Figure 6.1. The recommendations on the table are a shortened version of the text within the Master Plan.

#### *Priority*

Priorities are listed based on input from the community and staff.



#### *Phasing*

Proposed phasing is based on priorities, combined with costs, rate of population growth, existing and potential budgets, and other factors, as determined by the consultants and City staff.

- **Ongoing** – occurs regularly over time
- **Short** - 1 to 3 years
- **Medium** - 4 to 6 years
- **Long** - 7 to 10 years

#### *Relative Cost or Cost Per Year*

This column provides an order-of-magnitude indication of relative capital costs. For one-time costs, such as construction of a neighbourhood park, the symbol indicates the total cost. For ongoing costs, such as trail construction, the symbol refers to an amount that would be spent annually.

- **N/A** – part of everyday work
- **\$** - under \$50,000
- **\$\$** - \$50,000 to \$200,000
- **\$\$\$** - \$200,000 to \$1 million
- **\$\$\$\$** - over \$1 million

Key Recommendations		Priority	Phasing	Relative Cost or Cost/Year	Increase in Operating Costs
<b>4.0 PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION</b>					
<i>Parkland Supply</i>					
<i>Land Acquisition</i>					
4.1.1	Acquire property for parkland as opportunities arise				
	• adjacent to existing parks	2	ongoing	?	√
	• along existing trails that are not on City land	1	ongoing	?	√
	• land on top of bluff east of the old cemetery	2	ongoing	?	√
	• land along Howe Creek that is not yet owned by the City	2	ongoing	?	√
	• for linkages between neighbourhoods and parks	1	ongoing	?	√
<i>Planning and Design</i>					
4.1.2	Establish guidelines for acquiring community and neighbourhood parks	1	Short		
4.1.3	Zone the property across from Howe Creek Tree Park	1	Short		
4.1.4	Require outdoor plaza spaces on large new downtown developments	2	ongoing		
4.1.5	Work on establishing an urban neighbourhood park	2	ongoing	?	√
4.1.6	Designate parkland in the airport lands	3	ongoing		√
4.1.7	Work with School District and partner with them on school site projects	3	ongoing	?	?
<i>Operations and Management</i>					
4.1.8	Where there are encroachments on parks, inform property owners to remove them	1	ongoing		
<i>Park Design and Development</i>					
<i>Planning and Design</i>					
4.2.1	<i>Apply design guidelines (section 2.2) to the design of new and upgraded parks</i>	1	ongoing		
4.2.2	<i>Work with local artists on projects to integrate art within parks and along trails</i>	2	ongoing		
4.2.3	<i>Work with the local community on uses of Tetrault Park</i>	1	ongoing	?	

Figure 5.1: Implementation Table



<i>Key Recommendations</i>		<i>Priority</i>	<i>Phasing</i>	<i>Relative Cost or Cost/Year</i>	<i>Increase in Operating Costs</i>
<i>Capital Development</i>					
4.2.4	Replace playgrounds	1	ongoing	\$\$	
4.2.5	Upgrade washroom buildings	1	ongoing	\$	
4.2.6	Install new washroom buildings	3	Long	\$\$	√
4.2.7	Establish a visitor use area at the pond in Ferry Island, including a viewing deck	3	Long	\$\$	√
4.2.8	Establish a multi-purpose court with boards	3	Long	\$\$	√
4.2.9	Consider another skate park or adding skate features in another location	2	Med	\$\$\$	
4.2.10	Explore the use of Sav-Mor Park for a playground and for sledding/tobogganing	2	Med	\$\$	√
4.2.11	Work with the School District to consider the potential for a rubberized track at Skeena SS	3	Long	?	
4.2.12	Establish two dog off-leash areas, in the horseshoe/bench area and the south side	1,2	Short, Med	\$\$	√
4.2.13	Work with the School District to identify a potential location for “beach” volleyball	3	Long	?	√
4.2.14	Prepare and install a signage system for identification, directional (way-finding), regulatory and interpretive signs	1	ongoing	\$	√
<i>Service Delivery</i>					
4.2.15	Consider closing a portion of Kalum Street for sledding on the hill in front of the Sportsplex for special events when there is suitable snow	3	ongoing		√
<i>Trail Network</i>					
<i>Planning and Design</i>					
4.3.1	Establish annual priorities for trail construction, along with sidewalk repair, bike lane construction (as part of road projects where possible)	1	ongoing		
4.3.2	Prepare a user-friendly map of all city parks and trails, suitable for print, website and mobile apps, with information on amenities and trail ratings and lengths	1	ongoing	\$	

<i>Key Recommendations</i>		<i>Priority</i>	<i>Phasing</i>	<i>Relative Cost or Cost/Year</i>	<i>Increase in Operating Costs</i>
<i>Capital Development</i>					
4.3.3	Repair sidewalks and build bike lanes annually, as part of road projects	1	ongoing	\$\$	
4.3.4	Extend trails and support the extension of trails by others annually	1	ongoing	\$\$	√
4.3.5	Improve staging areas for Terrace Mountain	2	Med	\$\$	
<i>Sports and Ball Diamonds</i>					
<i>Planning and Design</i>					
4.4.1	Work with the School District and Regional District on the planning for future sports fields and ball diamonds	2	ongoing		
4.4.2	Conduct a fees and charges review for sports field use in collaboration with the School District and Regional District	1	Short	\$	
4.4.3	Conduct a master planning process for Riverside Park and the Curling Club in order to determine the highest and best use for this area	2	Med	\$	
4.4.4	Work with Northwest Community College on the potential for upgrading their sports field in partnership with the City and making the field available for community use	2	Med	?	
<i>Planning and Design</i>					
4.4.5	Develop new sports fields and ball diamonds as needed based on population growth in Terrace and the surrounding areas	2	ongoing		
4.4.6	Consider an artificial turf field in the region, in collaboration with sports groups and other jurisdictions	3	Long		
<i>Park Programs and Events</i>					
<i>Planning and Design</i>					
4.5.1	Encourage and support community groups to host more festivals and events	1	ongoing		
<i>Service Delivery</i>					
4.5.2	Expand services in George Little Park, especially in the summer	1	Short	\$	√

<i>Key Recommendations</i>		<i>Priority</i>	<i>Phasing</i>	<i>Relative Cost or Cost/Year</i>	<i>Increase in Operating Costs</i>
<i>Park Operations Management</i>					
<i>Operations and Management</i>					
4.6.1	Consider “Adopt a park” and “Adopt a trail” programs	2	Med		
4.6.2	Collaborate with community organizations to engage volunteers in a monthly clean-up day	1	ongoing		
4.6.3	Work with the RCMP, social service organizations, and community stewards on homelessness, monitoring and positive activities within parks	1	ongoing		√
4.6.4	Explore potential methods for allowing use of washrooms by the public	1	Short	\$	
4.6.5	Consider increasing mowing of sports fields and snow removal on multi-use trails	1	ongoing		√
4.6.6	Consider increasing maintenance levels in destination parks	1	ongoing		√
4.6.7	Implement CPTED principles in park maintenance, and conduct regular safety audits of parks, improving safety as needed	2	ongoing		√
4.6.8	Take measures to improve compliance with the bylaw prohibiting dogs on sports fields and sensitive natural areas	1	ongoing		√
4.6.9	Provide more public information on proper dog walking rules and etiquette, and consider the involvement of stewards in informing the public about this	1	ongoing		√
4.6.10	Provide more garbage and recycling cans, and evaluate locations of dog bag dispensers	1	ongoing		√
4.6.11	Encourage and support stewardship groups working on invasive species management	1	ongoing		√
4.6.12	Support the soccer league in acquiring more storage in Christy Park	1	Short	\$	
4.6.13	Assess and consider upgrading Riverside Park field and the area surrounding the field, and consider an irrigation system at Elks Park field	3	Long	\$\$	√
4.6.14	Expand surveillance by the bylaw enforcement officer				

<i>Key Recommendations</i>		<i>Priority</i>	<i>Phasing</i>	<i>Relative Cost or Cost/Year</i>	<i>Increase in Operating Costs</i>
<i>City Beautification</i>					
<i>Capital Development</i>					
4.7.1	Conduct beautification projects on downtown streets as opportunities arise, focusing on tree planting and improved boulevards as the highest priorities	1	ongoing	\$\$	√

## 5.0 INDOOR RECREATION

<i>Indoor Recreation Facilities</i>					
<i>Planning and Design</i>					
5.1.1	Prepare detailed design for the upgrading and expansion of the Aquatic Centre	1	Short	\$\$	
5.1.2	Conduct a feasibility study on the Sportsplex	3	Long	\$\$	
5.1.3	Consider the construction of squash courts and a gymnasium	3	Long	\$\$\$	
<i>Capital Development</i>					
5.1.4	Upgrade and expand the Aquatic Centre	1	Short	\$\$\$\$	
5.1.5	Upgrade the kitchen in the Sportsplex	2	Med	\$\$	
5.1.6	Upgrade the sound system in the main arena	2	Med	\$\$	
<i>Operations and Management</i>					
5.1.7	Provide public Wi-Fi throughout the Sportsplex	1	Short	\$	
5.1.8	Ensure highest cleanliness and maintenance at the facilities	1	ongoing		√
<i>Recreation Programs</i>					
<i>Service Delivery</i>					
5.2.1	Provide online registration for programs	2	Short	\$	
5.2.2	Provide more information on programs in a user-friendly format	1	Short	\$	
5.2.3	Provide more family programming	1	Short		√
5.2.4	Provide more youth programs, potentially in partnerships with other organizations	1	Short		√
5.2.5	Encourage youth to use the fitness centre	1	Short		
5.2.6	Continue to work with organizations providing services to persons with disabilities and seniors	1	ongoing		
5.2.7	Encourage the School District to allow programs in gyms later in the evening for adults	1	Short		√

<i>Key Recommendations</i>		<i>Priority</i>	<i>Phasing</i>	<i>Relative Cost or Cost/Year</i>	<i>Increase in Operating Costs</i>
5.2.8	Support programs oriented towards welcoming newcomers and building community spirit	2	ongoing		√
5.2.9	Provide more support to clubs and leagues through more promotion of their offerings on the City website	1	Short		√
5.2.10	Work with other organizations to support volunteerism in the City	1	ongoing		
5.2.11	Encourage community groups to offer programs in parks	1	ongoing		
5.2.12	Provide extra support and training to accommodate those with special needs	1	ongoing		√
5.2.13	Provide more drop-in sports opportunities for teens and adults	1	Short		√

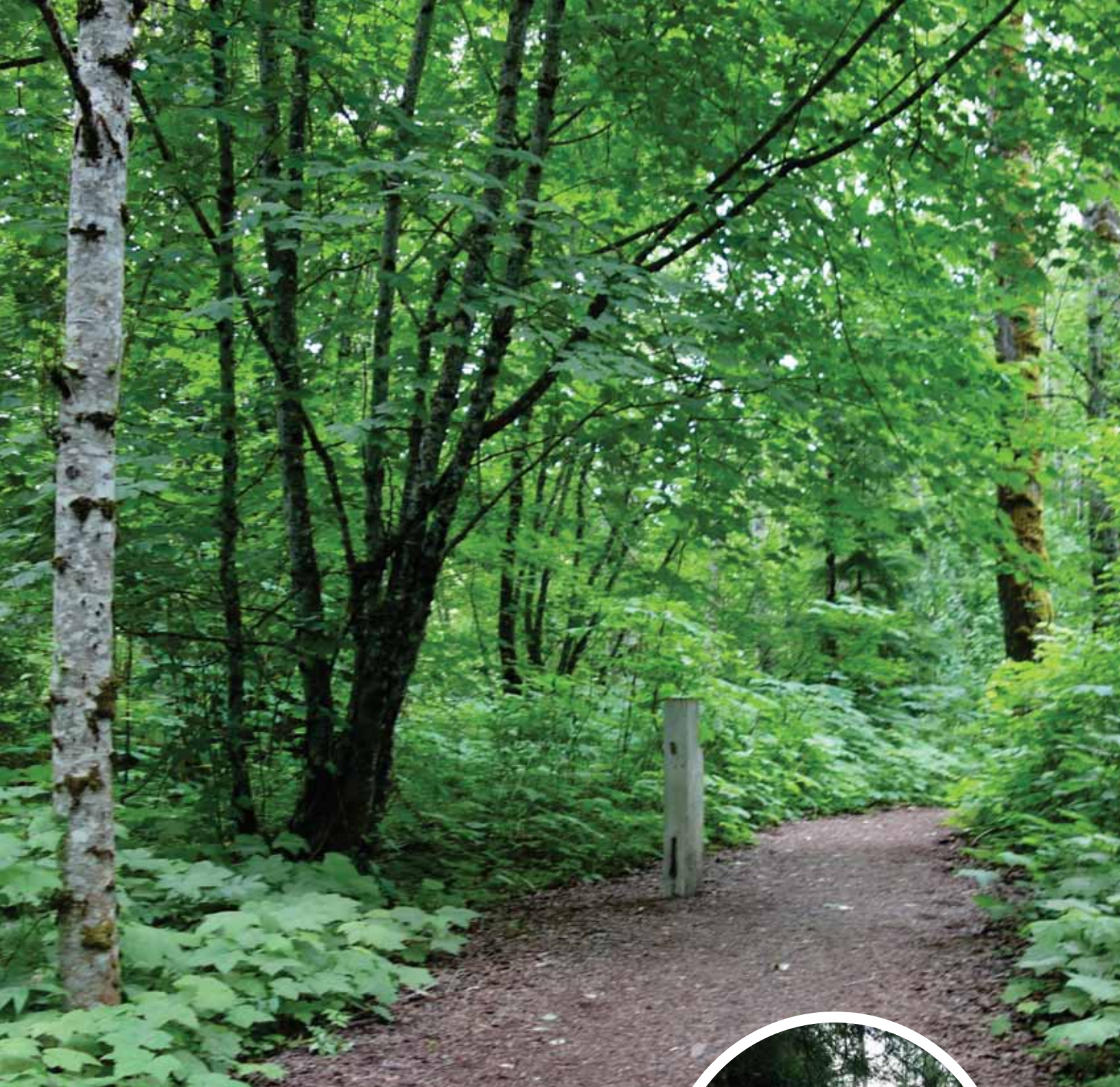
## 6.2 Next Steps

The next steps in implementing the Parks and Recreation Master Plan involve following the plan’s recommendations.

- Incorporate relevant recommendations from this Master Plan into City bylaws and policies, as they are prepared and amended, e.g., OCP.
- Establish checklists or other practices for incorporating recommendations listed as Planning and Design into the procedures and processes used by City staff, as applicable.
- For recommendations listed as Parkland Acquisition, work with City planners to incorporate criteria for parkland within development processes, and work with City experts and a real estate professional to identify potential land for acquisition and to identify funding sources, e.g., DCCs, donations, land trusts, etc.
- Include capital costs within annual budgets, and plan projects accordingly.
- For recommendations listed as Operations and Management, incorporate these within the work plans and practices of operations staff, allowing for contributions by volunteers where appropriate.
- For Service Delivery, plan to incorporate recommendations within the work plans of City staff.
- Explore potential funding sources through partnerships, e.g., soccer league expressed willingness to help pay for a playground in Christy Park.

The Implementation Strategy should be reviewed and updated annually along with a review of progress towards achieving objectives.

*The Master Plan is intended to cover a 10-year timeframe. Certain changes in the City could trigger a need to revisit the plan in less than 10 years, e.g., growth slows down or growth exceeds expectations. The critical factor in implementing the Master Plan is to remain committed to the values, vision, goals, and objectives in all aspects of parks and recreation service delivery.*



APPENDIX A  
RELATED CITY PLANS AND POLICIES



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## RELATED CITY PLANS AND POLICIES

The following documents provide the key elements of the municipal context for the PR Master Plan. The documents are presented in chronological order, with those that were most recently prepared, approved and/or adopted appearing first.

### City Annual Reports and Capital Plans

The City of Terrace completes an Annual Report that outlines the City's strategic priorities, accomplishments, and financial results for each fiscal year. The 2014 Annual Report identifies the following strategic priorities for the City:

- Creating a healthy, vibrant and sustainable community
- Ensuring community infrastructure
- Building partnerships and enhancing relationships
- Encouraging business and tourism

The City's 2015 Financial Plan projects the City's capital budget summaries from 2015-2019.

### Invasive Plant Inventory Program Report, 2014

The Invasive Plant Inventory Program Report summarizes an invasive plant survey of municipal land conducted in 2014. The intent of the survey was to locate priority invasive plant species identified within the Northwest Invasive Plant Council (NWIPC) Target Species list, and to provide a management strategy for the City. The survey included a number of City parks and recreation sites, including the Howe Creek Trail, Ferry Island, the Grand Trunk Pathway and a number of smaller parks, recreation areas and green spaces. Seven priority invasive plant species are identified in the report.

### Keith Estates Neighbourhood Concept Plan, 2014

This plan is for a mixed use neighbourhood on former industrial land south of the railway and highway. Light industrial, neighbourhood and tourist commercial, and multi-family residential uses are proposed, with a linear park along a portion of the north edge of the site.

### Official Community Plan, 2011

Terrace's Official Community Plan (OCP) was prepared through an extensive community engagement and sustainability planning process called Terrace 2050. The OCP defines a vision as well as goals, objectives and policies to guide the City's growth and development. The following community vision embodies the overarching direction of the OCP:

Terrace will prosper from its surrounding natural abundance through access to outdoor

recreation, sustainable resource-based industry and full use of its agricultural potential. Terrace will be a dynamic city with a small town feel. Compact development and prominent pedestrian paths and bikeways will connect people in their daily travels and frequent community festivals and events.

We will celebrate our diversity in heritage and culture and the social strength that comes from all ages and walks of life working together to create an inclusive, affordable and vibrant city. We will strive to meet the health and educational needs of residents and visitors alike, achieving community vitality.

The OCP consists of nine goals (listed below) with corresponding objectives and policies, many of which can be reflected in the PR Master Plan:

- Abundant re-localized food systems
- Housing for all: compact complete neighbourhoods and community
- Diversified and coordinated economy
- Nature as identity and outdoor pursuit
- Visible and vibrant culture, heritage and the arts
- Social well-being and accessible recreation
- Water, energy, infrastructure and liquid waste management
- Integrated and active transportation network
- Towards zero waste

City staff are currently updating the OCP. Community engagement was undertaken in early 2015 and plan development is underway.

## Wayfinding Strategy, 2010

The Wayfinding Strategy was prepared with the intent of improving access to and use of City-owned infrastructure, including trails, attractions and facilities. The Strategy focuses on enhancing the tourist and resident experiences, with a focus on the downtown core and key attractions. The document maps the locations of existing signage, identifies gaps, and recommends a strategy for new signage, including sign types and locations.

## Active Transportation Plan, 2009

The Active Transportation Plan is a strategic planning document that has been guiding the development of Terrace's pedestrian and cycling network. The Plan sets forth an approach to create better connections and increase awareness of active transportation options in the community. It also contains strategies to improve the convenience, safety and appeal of the multi-modal network. The impetus for the plan was a commitment by City Council to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, a recognized need to make cycling and walking more convenient and safe for the public, and a desire to increase transportation equity in Terrace.

## Downtown Plan, 2008

Terrace's Downtown Plan, adopted as an Appendix to the OCP, provides a comprehensive vision for the downtown area. The Plan includes a broad vision and goals for the downtown, as well as detailed directions regarding streetscapes, gateways, downtown theme, building and property improvements, signage and parking/traffic. The scope of the Plan extends beyond the core commercial areas of downtown to include upper and lower George Little Park, the Sportsplex and Aquatic Centre, and other surrounding areas.

## Park Inventory, 2006

The Park Inventory provides a comprehensive overview of 26 park sites in Terrace. The inventory describes each site in detail and identifies future plans and improvements for the sites. The improvements vary by site; some examples include: installing new benches, equipment, landscaping, signage and other amenities; danger tree falling; developing or enhancing walking paths; developing parking areas and many others.

## Identification and Evaluation of Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) Report, 1998

The ESA Report identifies environmentally sensitive areas within the City of Terrace. The report identifies the level of sensitivity of each environmentally sensitive area, identifies and describes sensitive features, and provides recommendations for mitigating and/or protecting sensitive areas from impacts associated with land development.

The ESA Report is an Appendix to the City of Terrace Official Community Plan and is referenced in the Development Permit Area (DPA) guidelines for DPA 1 - Environmentally Sensitive Areas. Proposed subdivision, alteration or development of lands within this DPA must comply with the recommendations identified in the ESA Report.

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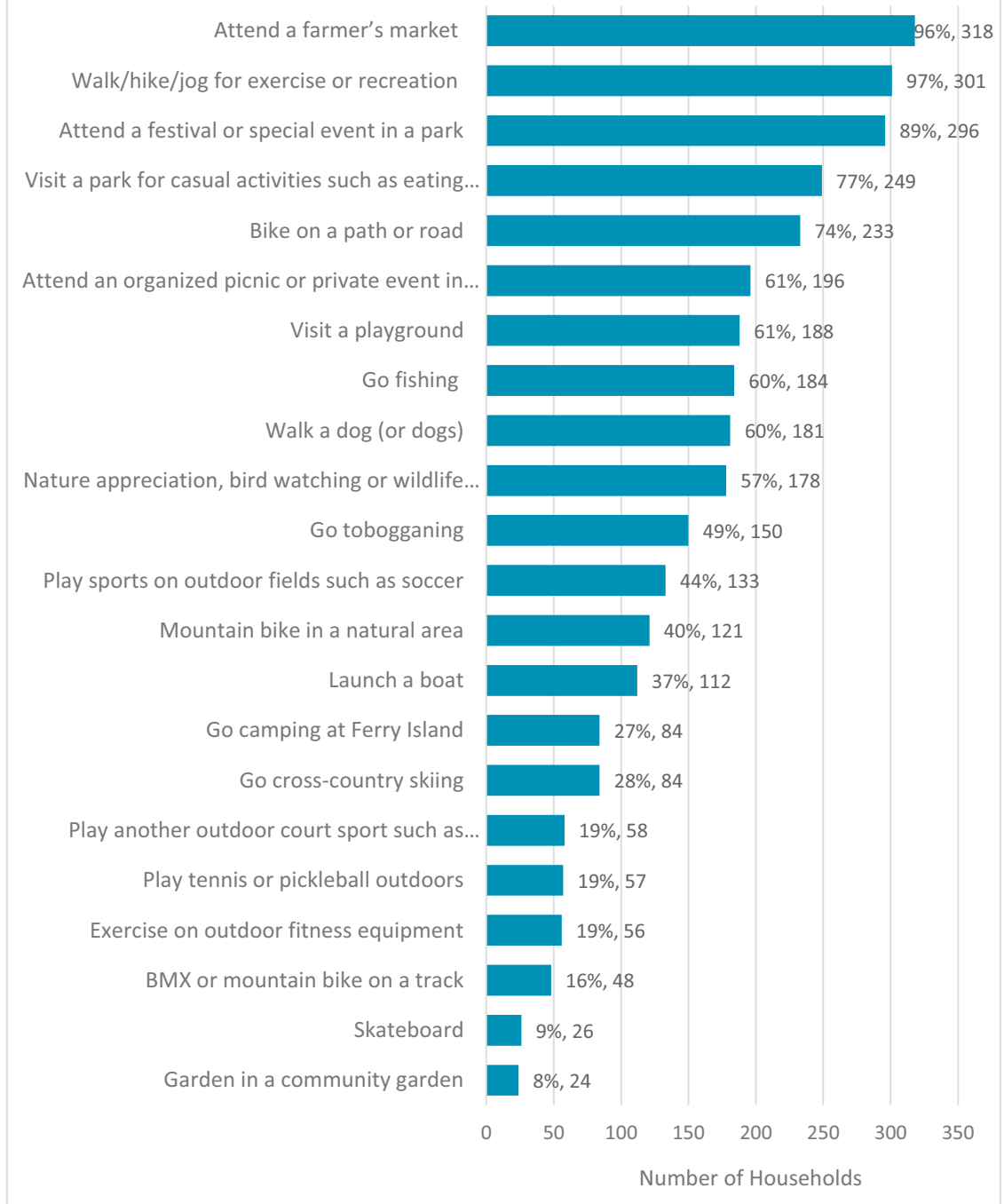


## APPENDIX B

### COMMUNITY SURVEY SUMMARY

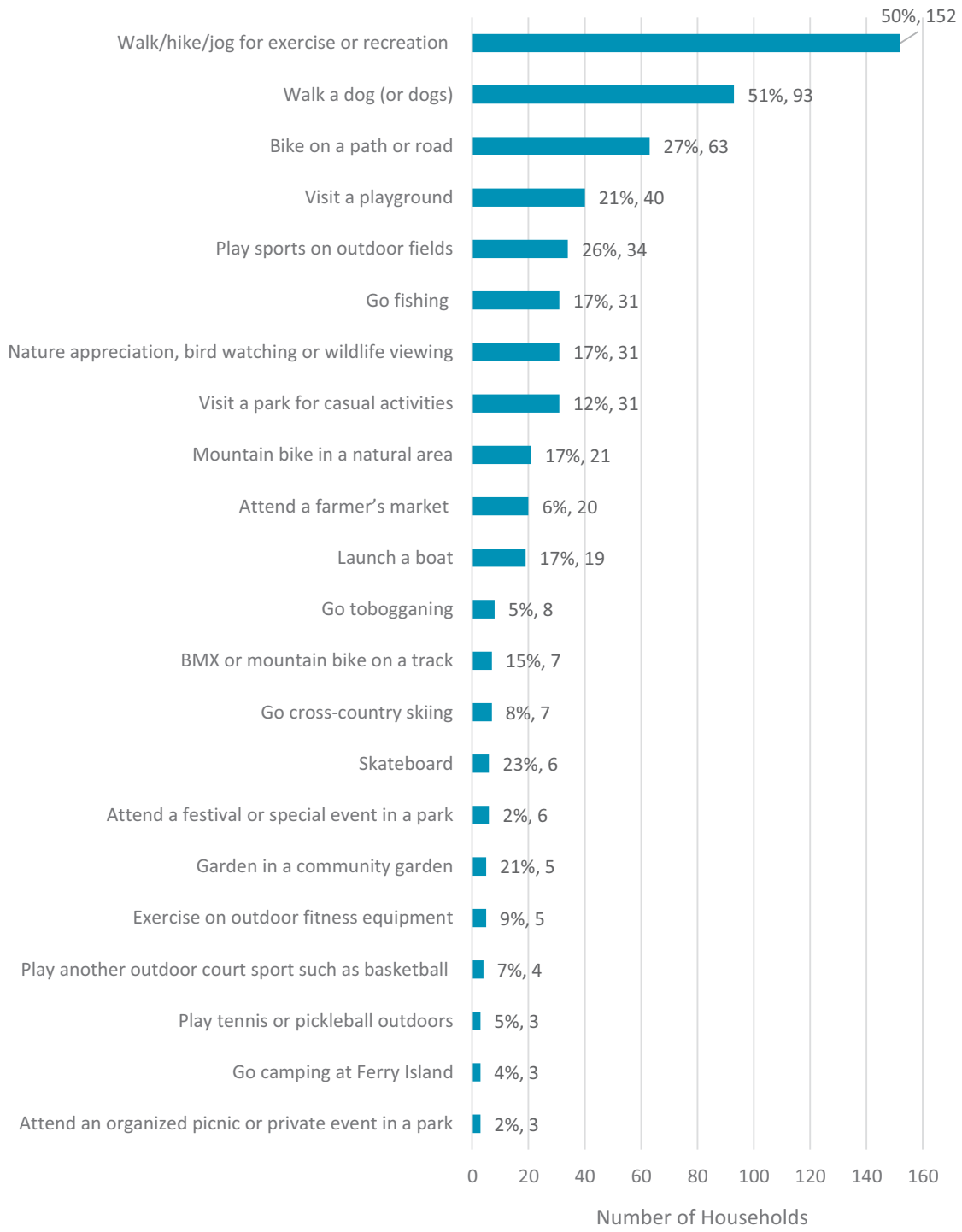


## Participation in Outdoor Activities - Past 12 Months



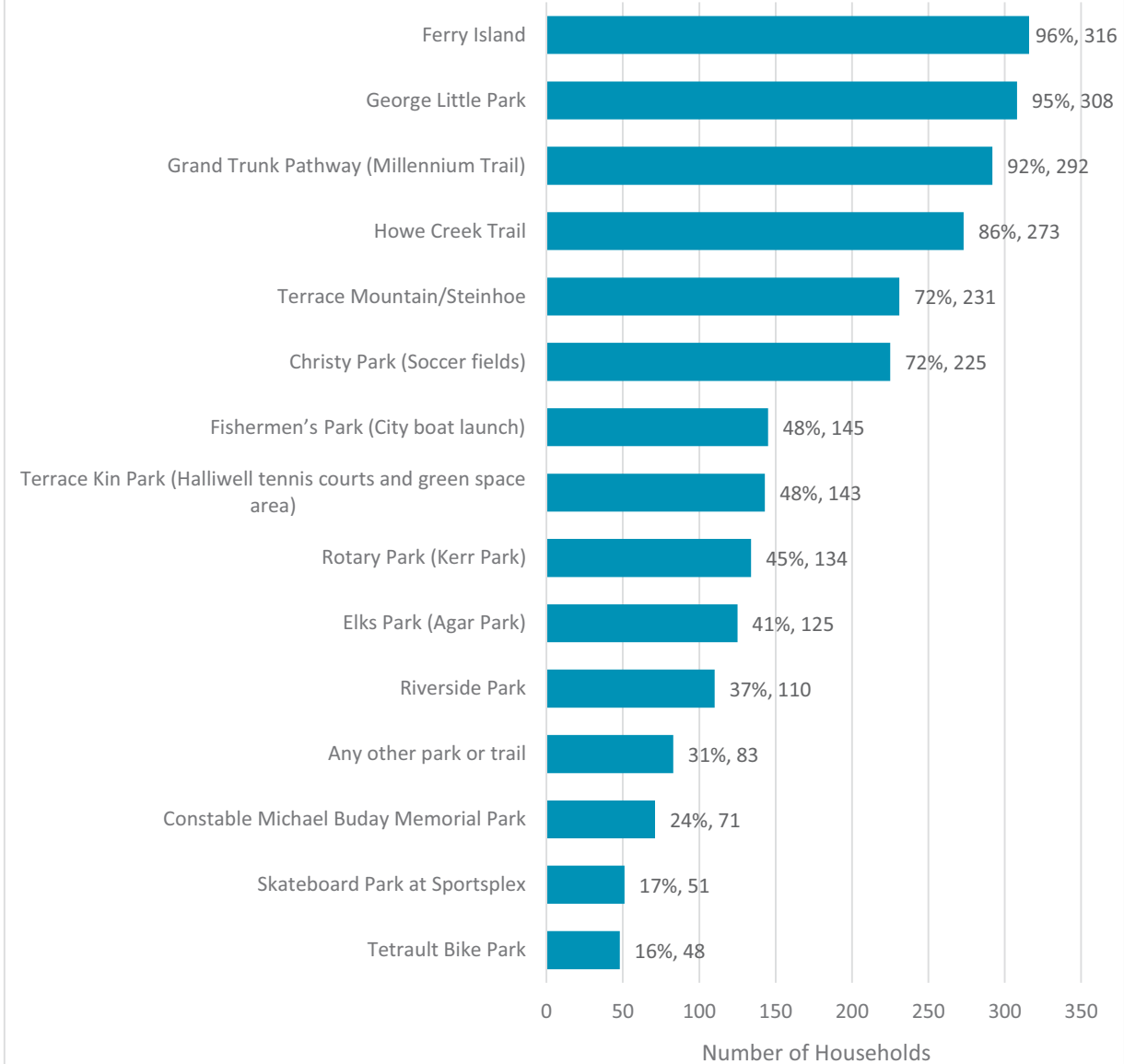
*Note: % on graph represents % of households who participated in an activity in the past 12 months in relation to the number of households who answered the question*

### Participation in Outdoor Activities - 3+ Times a Week



Note: % on graph represents % of households who indicated they participated 3+ times a week in relation to number of households who participated in each activity in the past 12 months

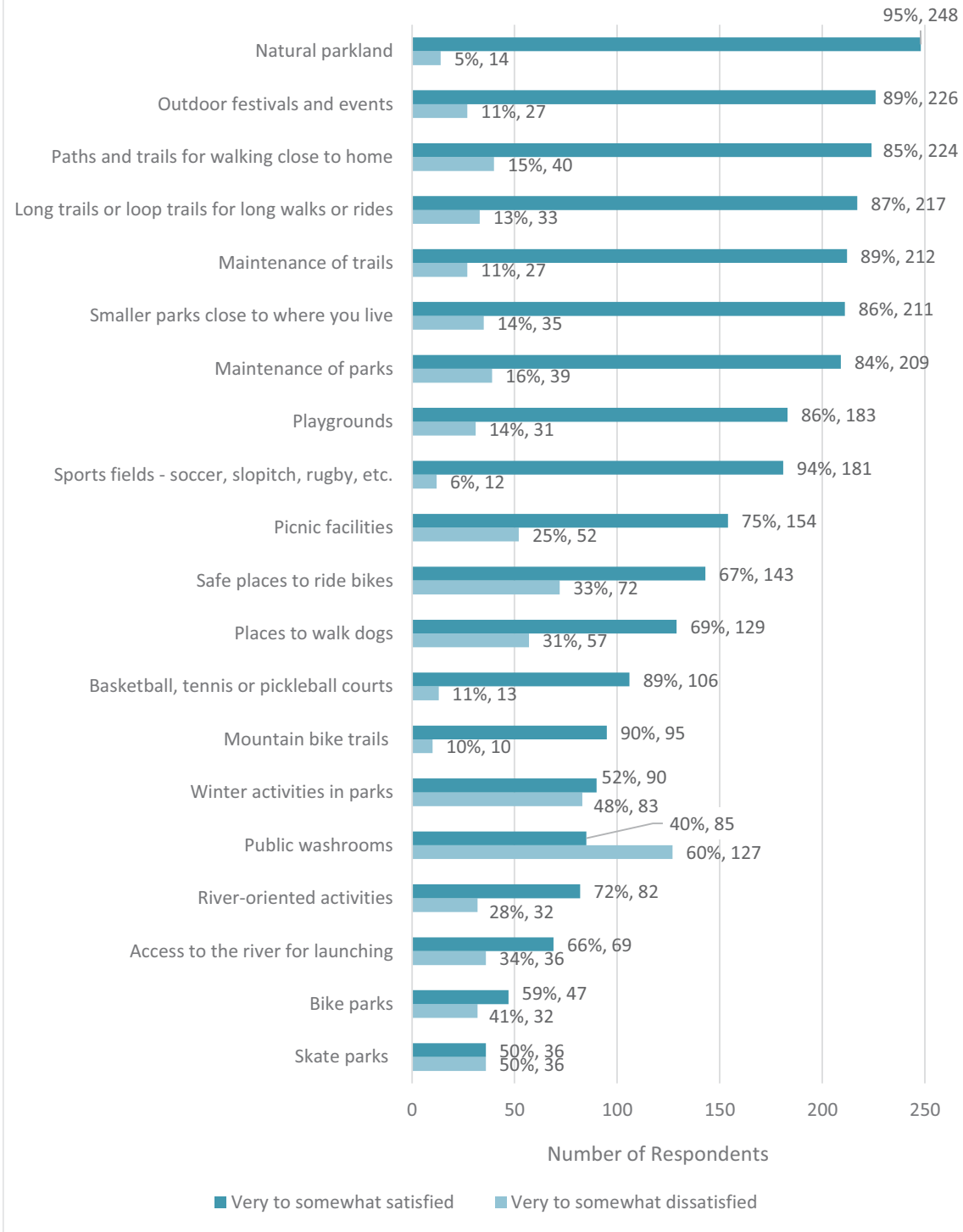
## Use of Parks and Trails - Past 12 Months



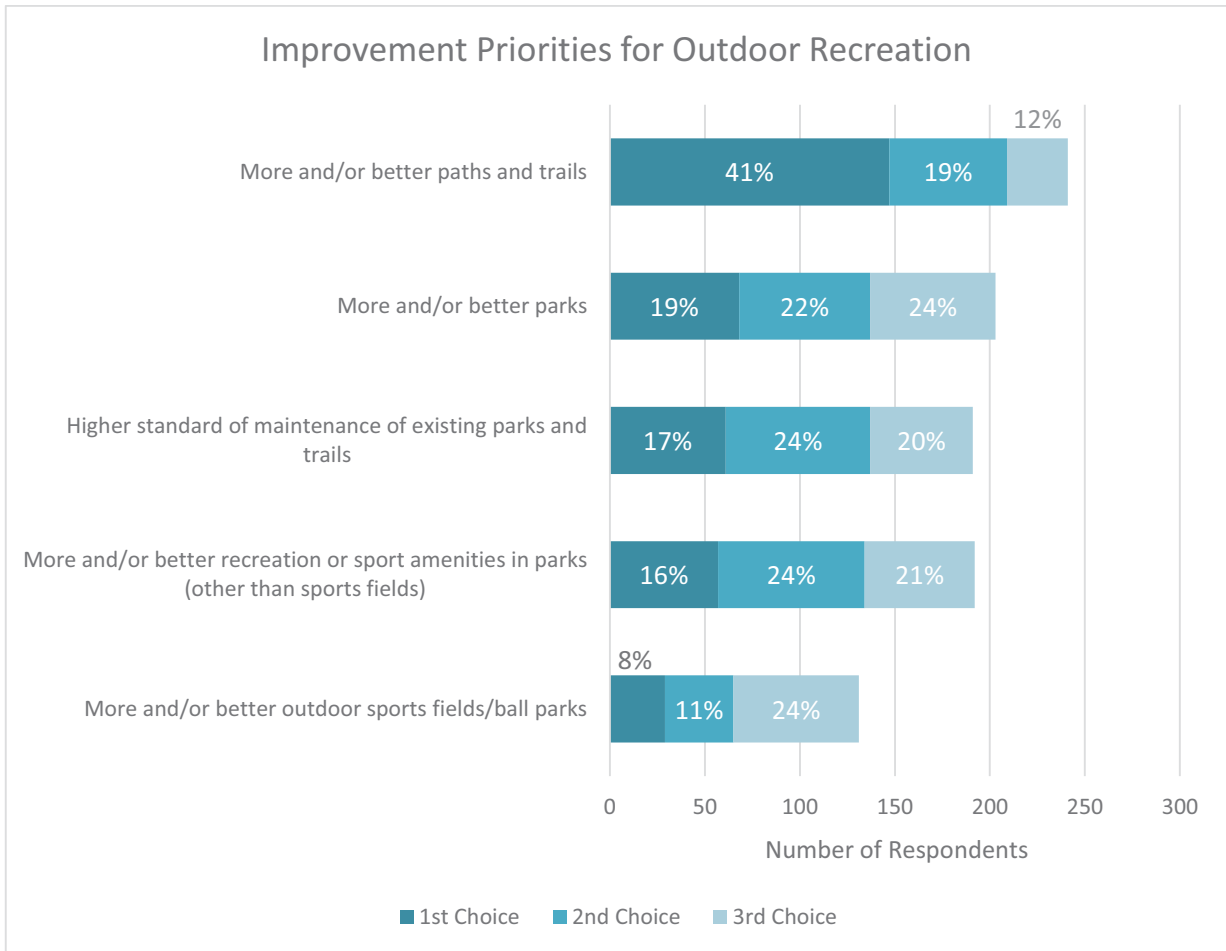
*Note: % on graph represents % of households who visited a park or trail in the past 12 months in relation to the number of households who answered the question*



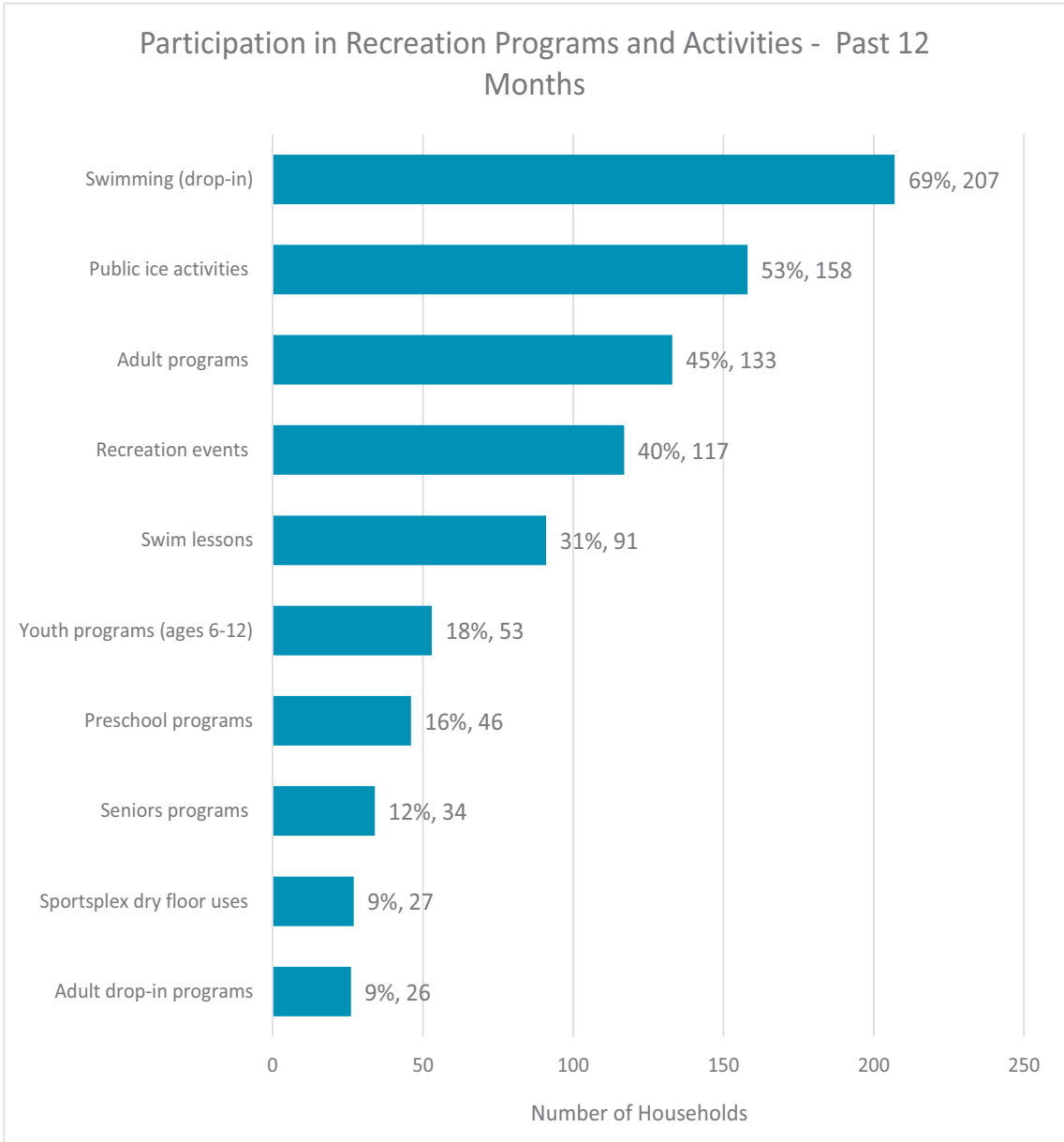
## User Satisfaction - Outdoor Recreation



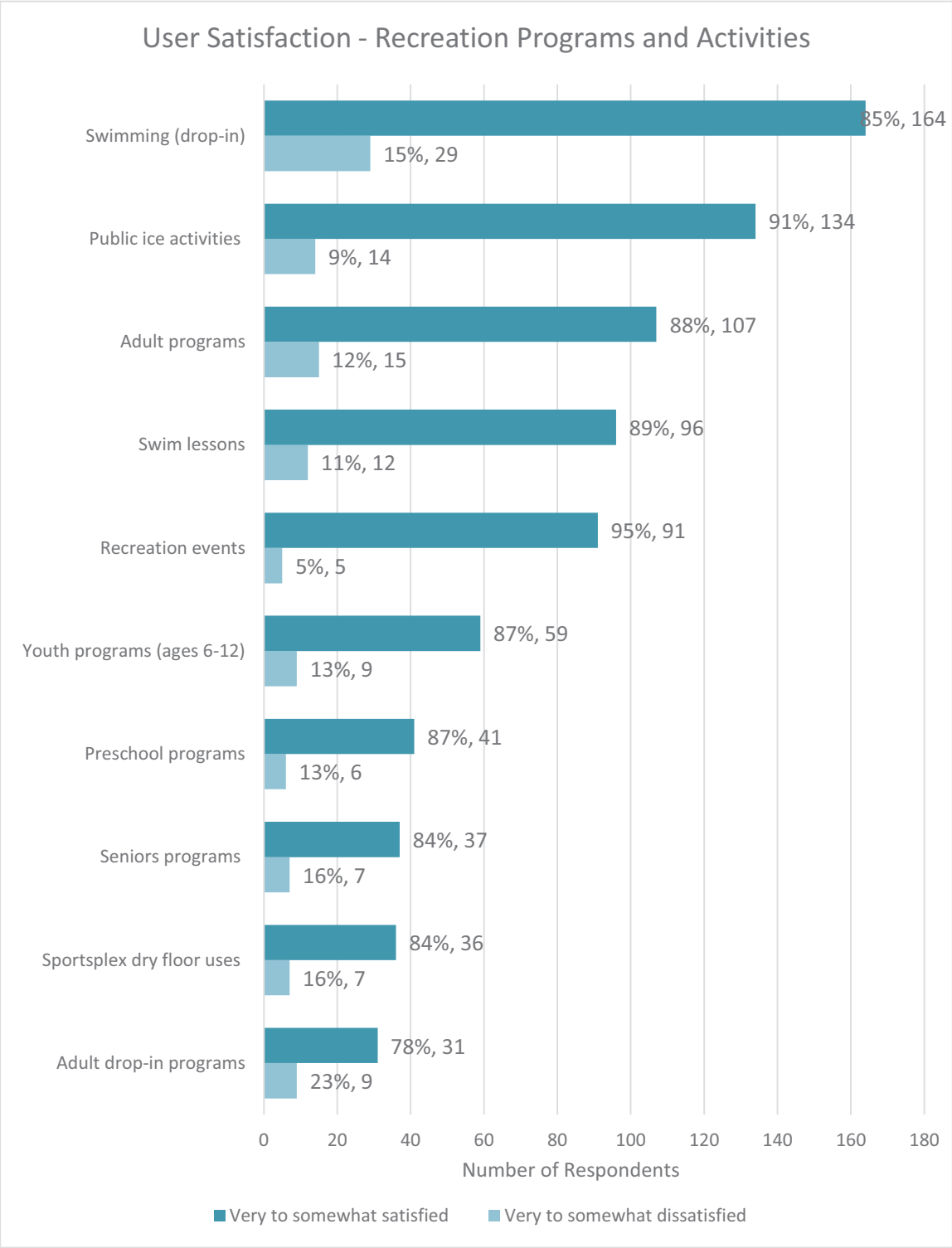
Note: % on graph represents % of respondents in relation to the total number of respondents to each item who were very / somewhat satisfied or very / somewhat dissatisfied



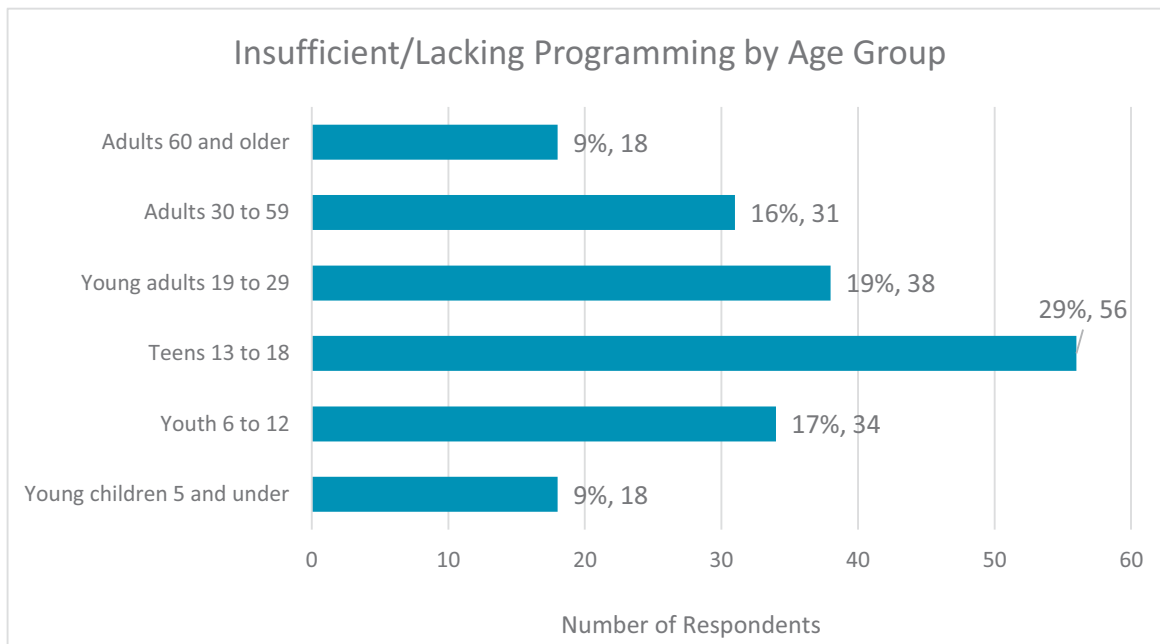
*Note: % on graph represents % of respondents in relation to those who answered the question*



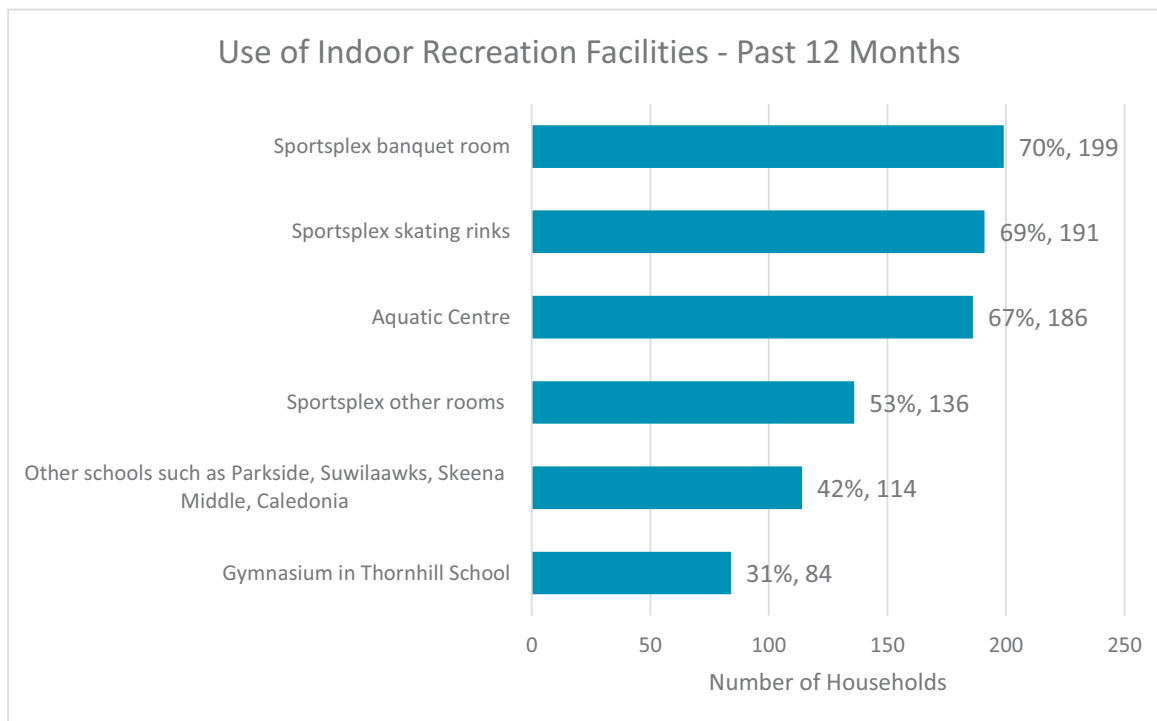
*Note: % on graph represents % of households who participated in a program or activity in the past 12 months in relation to the number of households who answered the overall question*



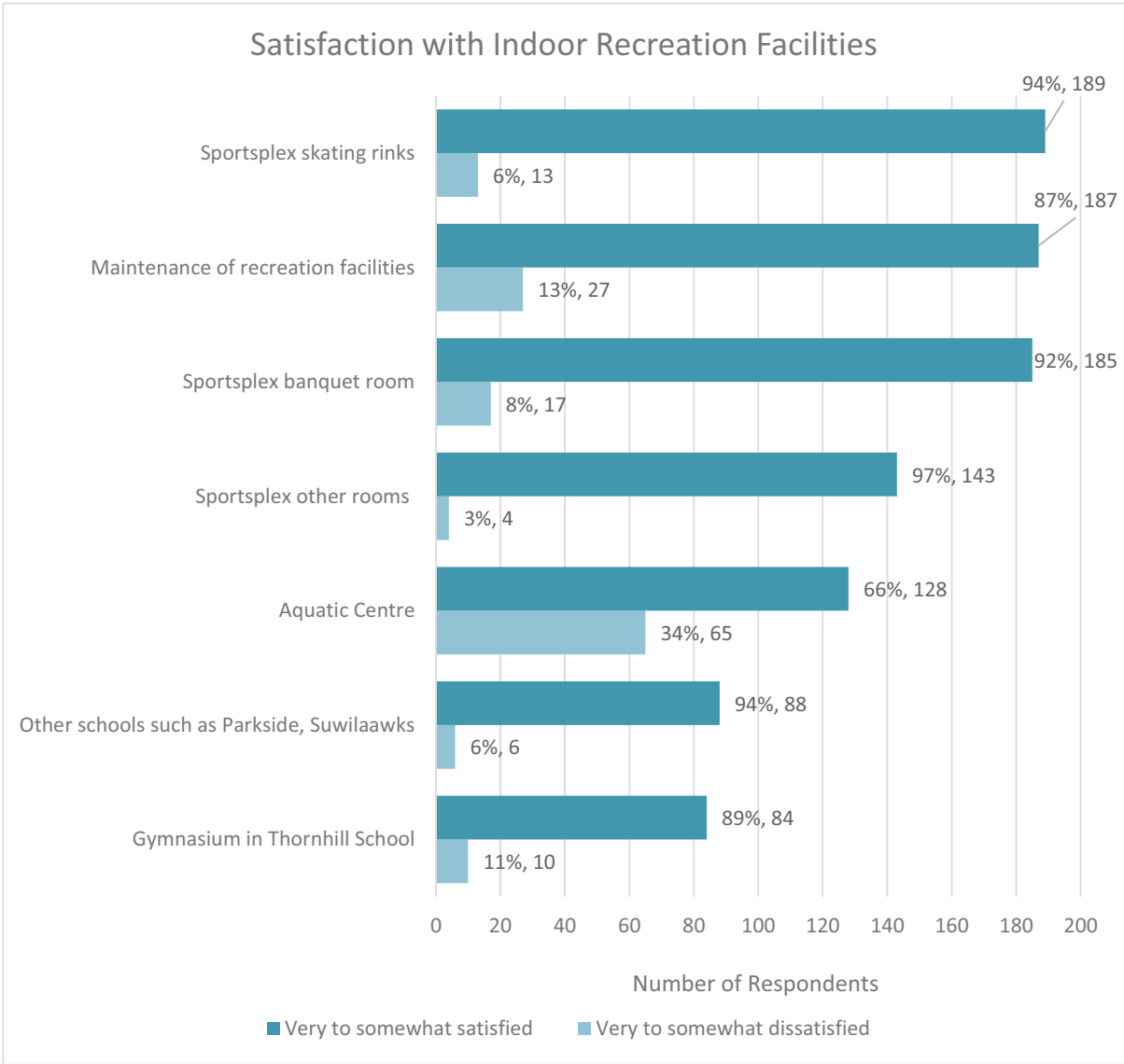
*Note: % on graph represents % of respondents in relation to those who answered the question*



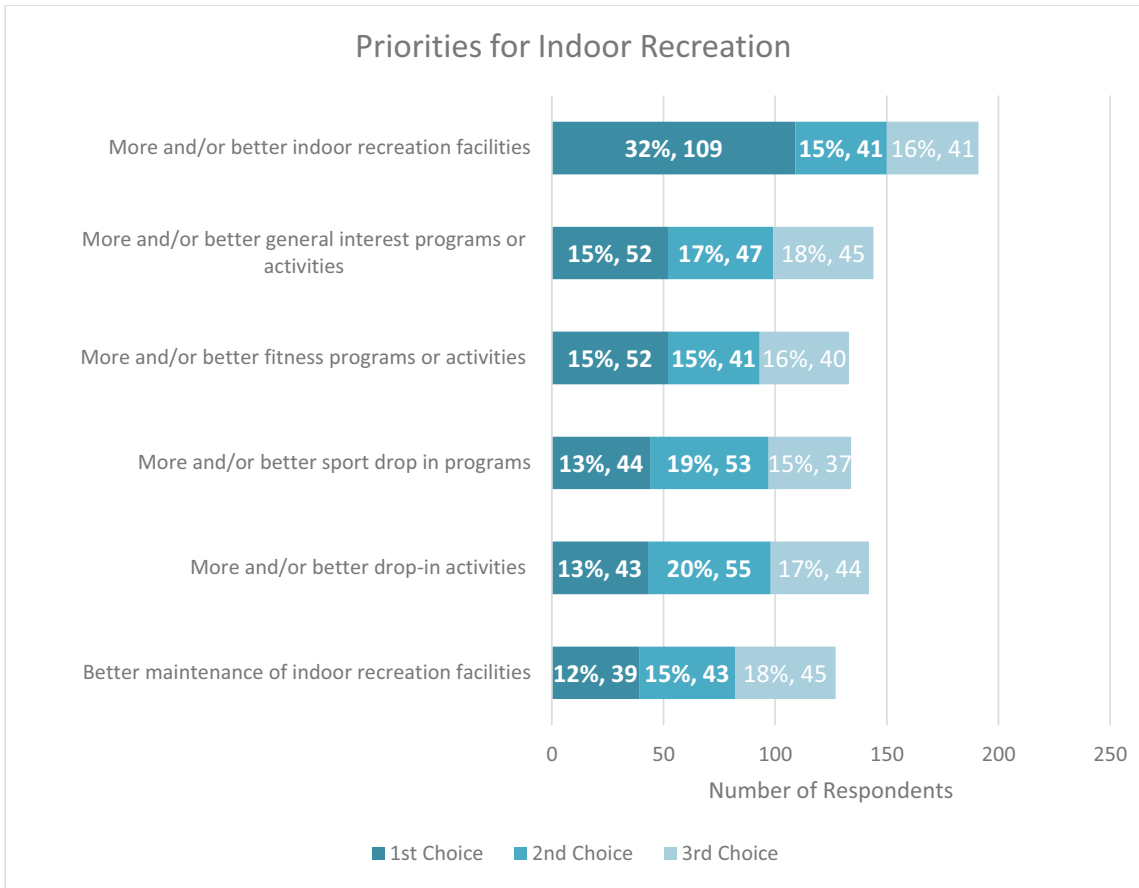
*Note: % on graph represents % of respondents in relation to those who answered the question*



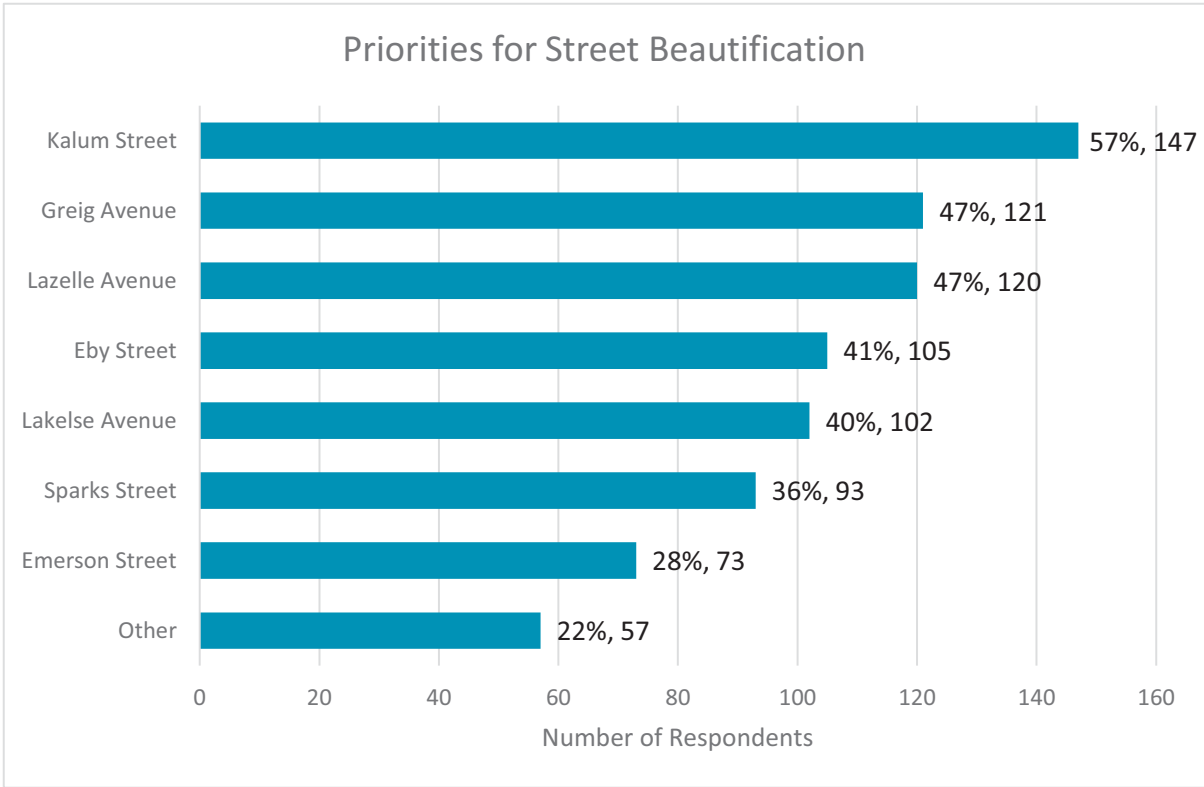
*Note: % on graph represents % of households who used an indoor recreation facility in the past 12 months in relation to the number of households who answered the question*



*Note: % on graph represents % of respondents in relation to the total number of respondents to each item who were very / somewhat satisfied or very / somewhat dissatisfied*

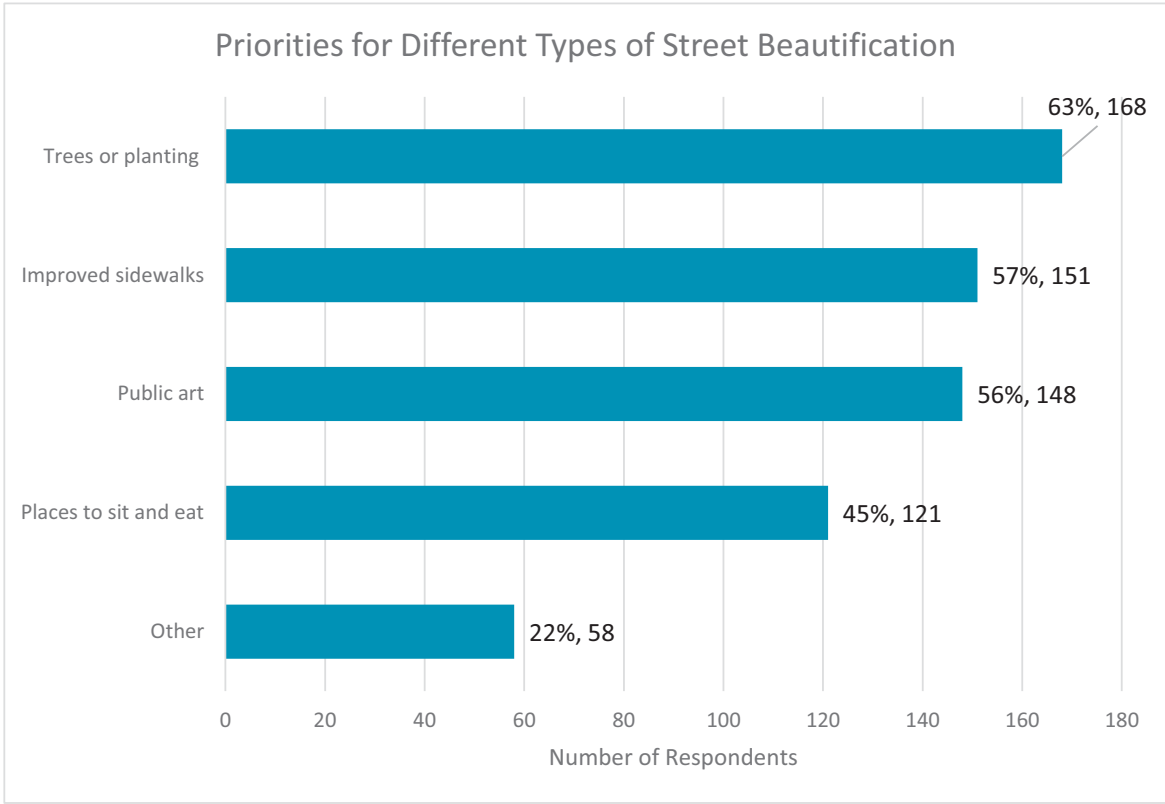


*Note: % on graph represents % of respondents in relation to those who answered the question*



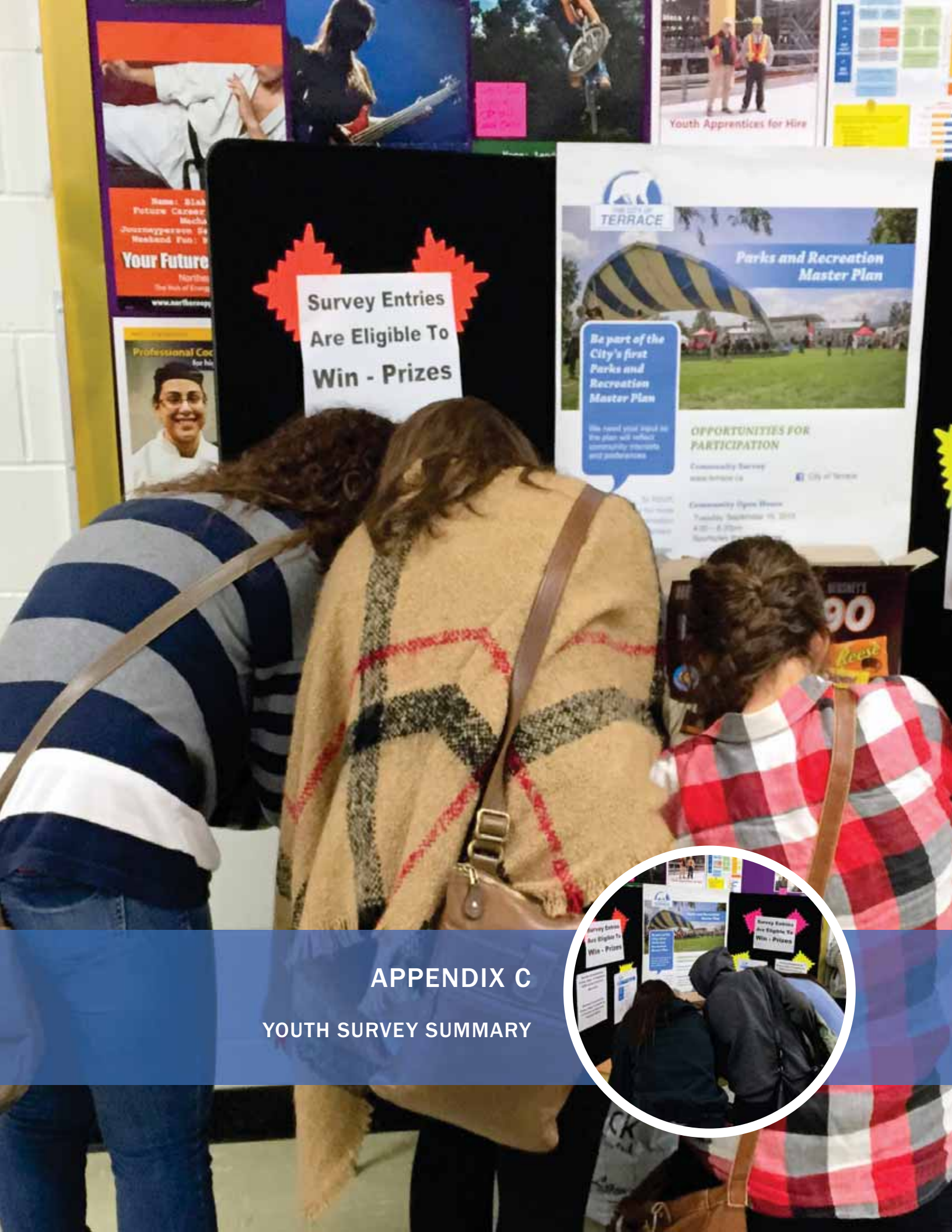
*Note: % on graph represents % of respondents who chose a particular street in relation to the number of households who answered the question*





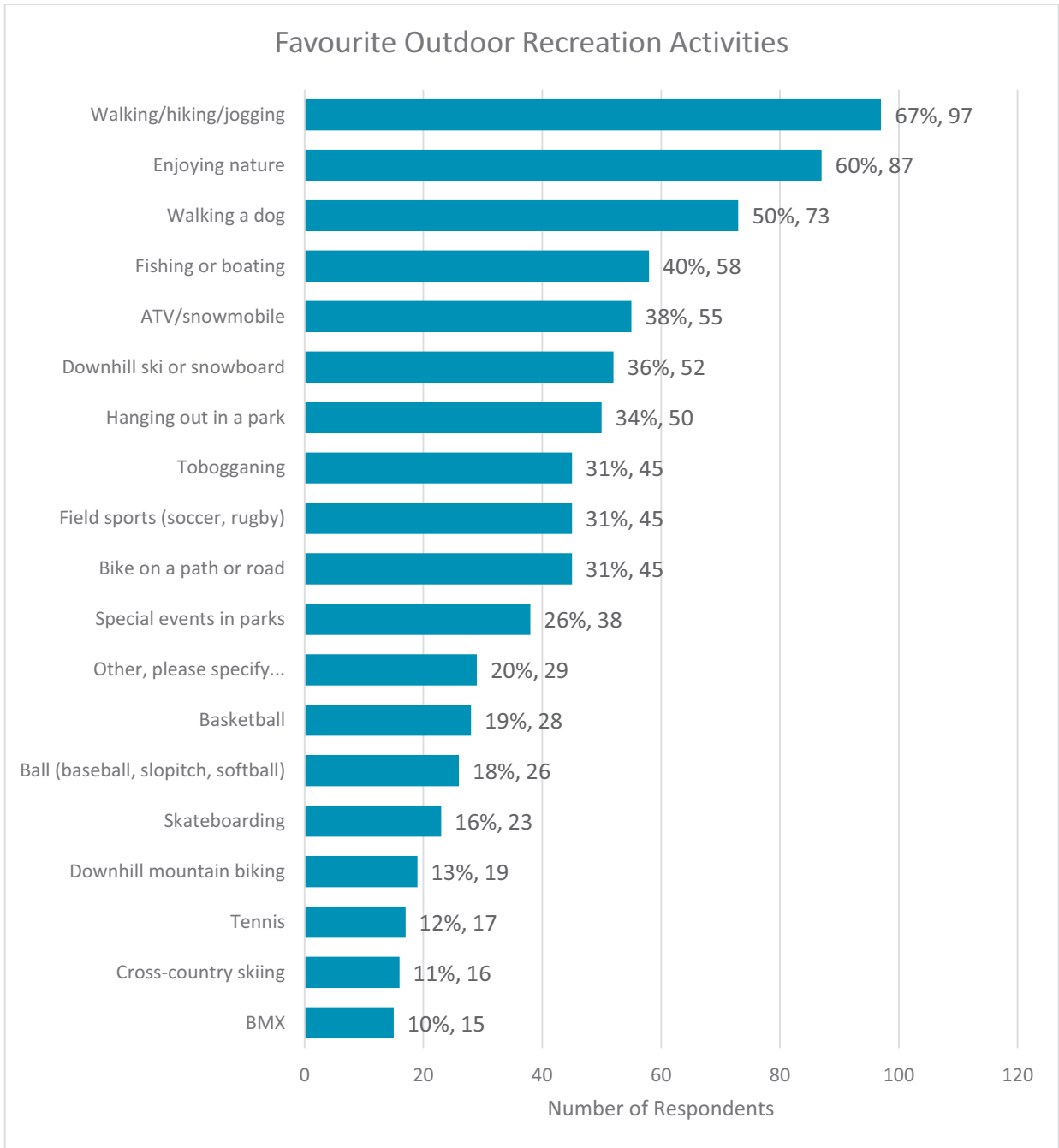
*Note: % on graph represents % of respondents who chose a type of beautification in relation to the number of households who answered the question*

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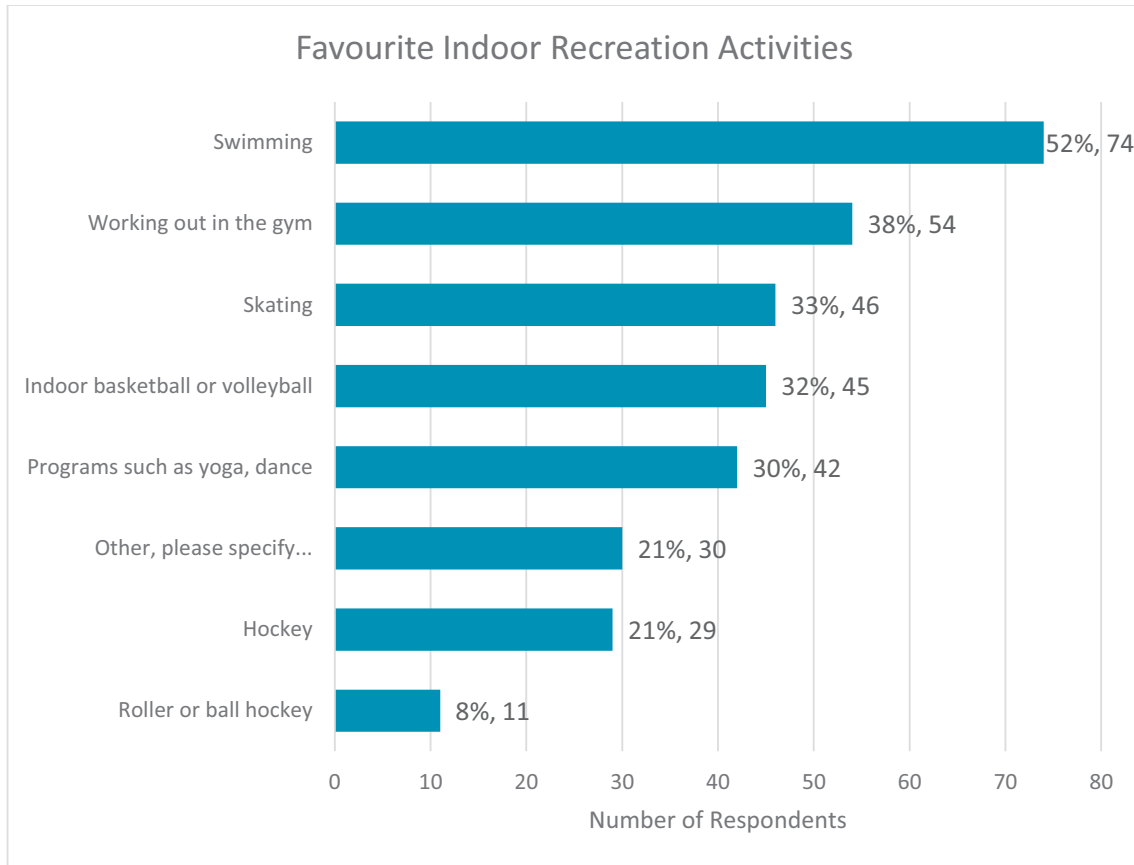


APPENDIX C  
YOUTH SURVEY SUMMARY

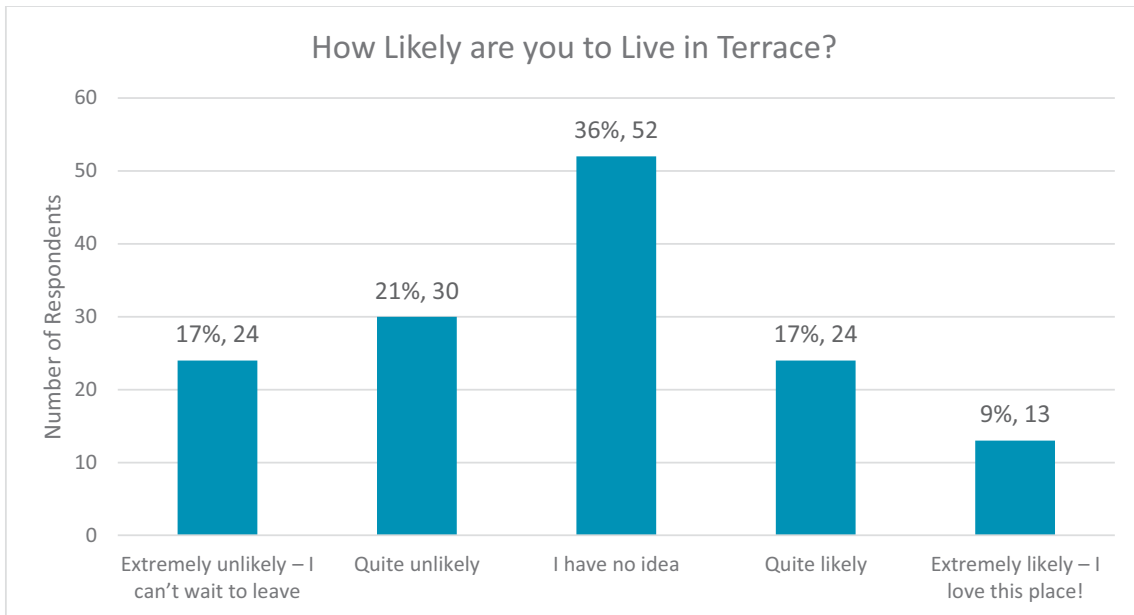




*Note: % on graph represents % of respondents in relation to those who answered the question*



*Note: % on graph represents % of respondents in relation to those who answered the question*



*Note: % on graph represents % of respondents in relation to those who answered the question*

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PULL OUT MAPS



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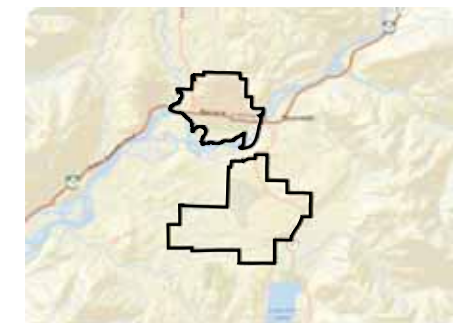


# Parks and Recreation Master Plan

## Existing Parks and Trails

- Legend**
- Municipal Boundary
  - Park Classification**
  - Destination Parks
  - Community Parks
  - Neighbourhood Parks
  - Natural Parks
  - Linear Parks
  - Beautification Parks
  - School Parks
  - Existing Trail
  - Proposed Trail (OCP)
  - Proposed Sidewalk (OCP)
  - Cycling Network (OCP)
  - Water Courses

### City of Terrace Municipal Land Boundaries



The accuracy & completeness of information shown on this drawing is not guaranteed. It will be the responsibility of the user of the information shown on this drawing to locate & establish the precise location of all existing information whether shown or not.



Coordinate System:  
NAD 1983 UTM Zone 9N

Data Sources:  
City of Terrace, Sept 2015  
Watercourse Data from Carvec, Sept 2015

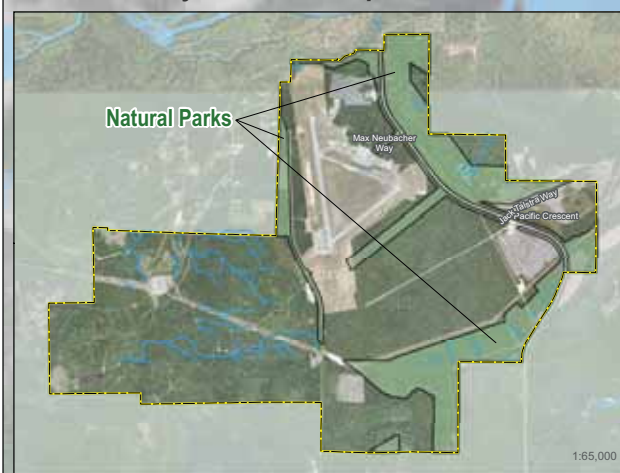
Project #: 1064.0018.01  
 Author: LP  
 Checked: CB  
 Status: **FINAL**  
 Revision: B  
 Date: 2016 / 6 / 21



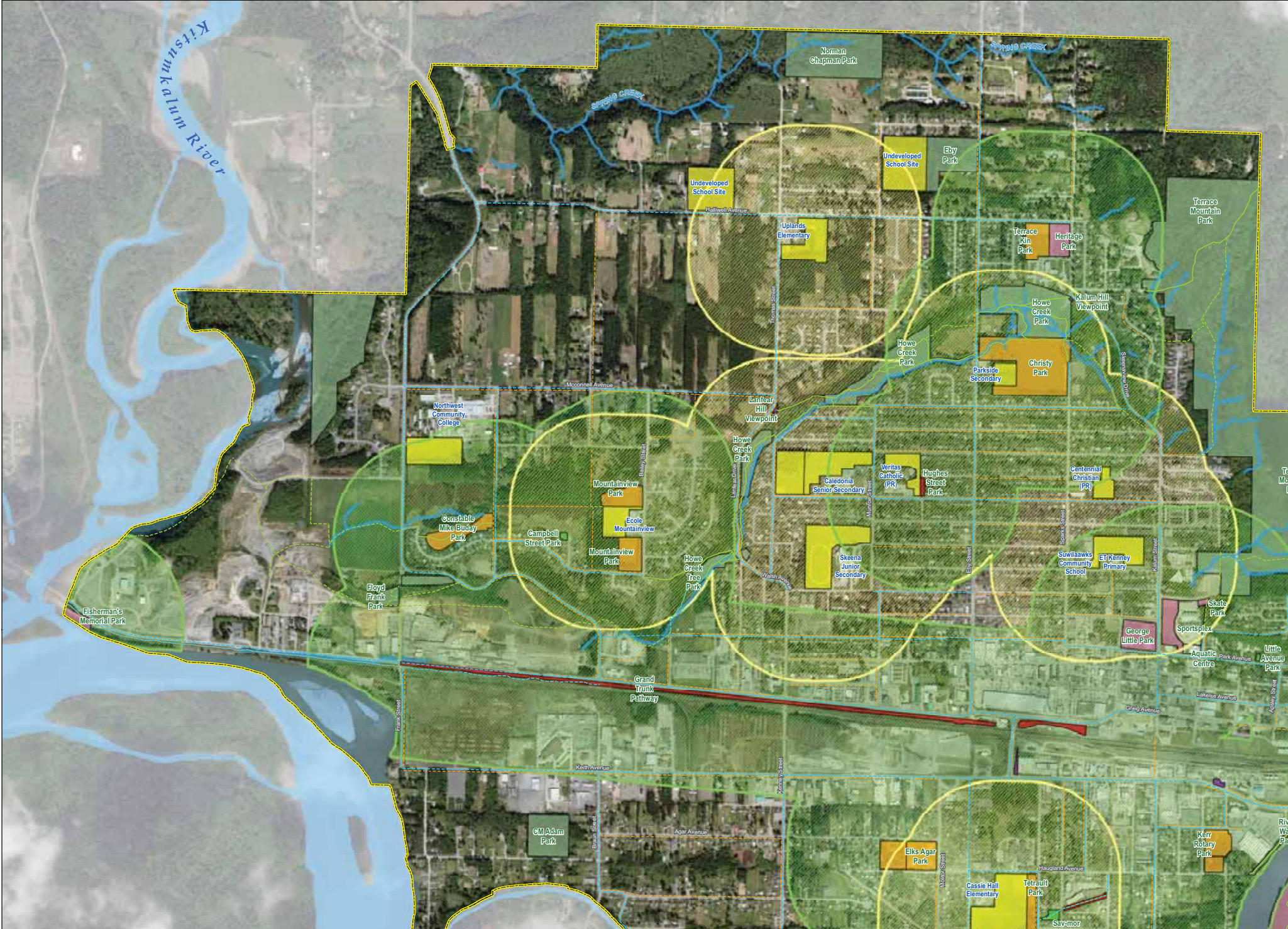
MAP 1



### City of Terrace Airport Lands



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City of Terrace Airport Lands