

Town of Aurora Information Report

No. CMS19-024

Subject: Parks and Recreation Master Plan – Status Report

Prepared by: Robin McDougall, Director of Community Services

Department: Community Services

Date: October 15, 2019

In accordance with the Procedure By-law, any Member of Council may request that this Information Report be placed on an upcoming General Committee or Council meeting agenda for discussion.

Executive Summary

This report provides information regarding the status of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2017-2021) implementation activities, as well as anticipated priorities for the remainder of the plan.

- Summary of key themes that helped guide the development of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2016)
- Accomplishments over the past three years show the Town making significant progress on the recommendations
- The priorities for the next two years continue to support the recommendations

Background

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan was completed in 2010 with an update being completed in 2016. Updates are important for the plan as the Town recognizes that many factors influence needs for parks and recreation facilities, most notably growth, evolving demographic characteristics, and changing preferences. These influences are changing regularly and therefore, maintaining a current plan (reviewed every five years) is important to ensure decisions are being made with the latest information.

Analysis

Summary of key themes that helped guide the development of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2016)

Throughout the consultation phases on the development of the plan, a number of themes emerged.

- Building on the Town's multi-use design philosophy by positioning parks and recreation facilities to be flexible, multi-seasonal and multi-generational
- Being proactive, innovative and efficient so that new and existing facilities can continue to meet the needs of the Town's growing population despite the obvious limitations of a diminishing supply of developable greenfield land
- Pursuit of partnerships along with creative collaborative delivery of facilities and the programs offered within them, so that the parks and recreation experience offered to residents is maximized
- Making facilities inclusive in recognition that the population base is becoming increasingly diverse from the perspective of cultural background, income levels and persons with disabilities

Upon reviewing the successes since 2016, the Town has done a great job using these themes in their decision making.

Accomplishments over the past three years show the Town making significant progress on the recommendations

Since the approval of the 2017-2021 plan, the Town has achieved many accomplishments that have improved the quality of life in Aurora including the following initiatives relevant to the parks and recreation system (in no particular order):

- Preliminary concept plan and cost estimate provided in 2019 budget for a single gymnasium/program space/office space/storage proposed for SARC
- Improvements to comfort and facilitating opportunities for informal interactions and socialization by way of adding furniture for upper lobby of AFLC. Evaluating sites for tables with chess/checker board pattern on them (possibly at Library Square)
- Commenced an Aquatics Feasibility Study and Business Plan to look at feasibility of new pool (size and location) and evaluating the programming of existing pools. Study completion anticipated late fall 2019

- A draft Business Plan for Club Aurora has been completed in 2019. Preliminary findings recommend new membership and pricing structure which will be considered in the upcoming User Fee Review. Additional fitness facilities not recommended at this time.
- Partnership confirmed and executed operating agreement with Tennis Club to operate the indoor tennis facility
- Squash court membership and utilization is regularly monitored. The continuous use and demand for the courts supported the capital improvements (2019) to the court floors
- Improvements to the appeal and flexibility of multi-purpose rooms is addressed
 when a room is due to be renovated or new rooms are built. SARC program
 room was refurbished in 2018, ACC auditorium for scheduled improvements for
 fall 2019, and new program rooms planned for Library Square which project will
 add options for space and offer different types of uses.
- Repurposing study complete, demolition of former public library and former seniors centre complete to make room for the Library Square project
- Town achieved Platinum Youth Friendly Community status in March 2019, additional youth friendly spaces being considered such as the proposed gymnasium and program spaces at the SARC and new creative spaces planned for Library Square project.
- Aurora's Seniors Centre is the primary hub for 55+ programming, however, decentralizing programs is taking place by adding 55+ programs at the AFLC and Brookfield residence. New program titled "Seniors Centre without Walls" offers a call-in option for seniors to participate from home.
- One multi-use artificial turf field constructed at Sheppard's Bush
- Outdoor Sports Field Development Strategy currently underway to confirm future sports field needs
- New soccer field constructed at Stewart Burnett
- Approval to construct two senior softball diamonds on the Hallmark lands
- Two outdoor tennis courts constructed at Thomas Coates Park
- Two pickle ball courts constructed at both Thomas Coates Park and Trent Park
- 6 playgrounds added since 2016 including a fully accessible playground at Queens Diamond Jubilee Park in 2017
- Lawn Bowling Green upgrades completed in 2016
- Various 2C trail connections installed by developers to connect to Wildlife Park and connection from Bayview Ave to Tim Jones Trail made in 2016
- Wildlife Park construction started September 2019

 Consideration of installing Community Garden in Thomas Coates Park and McMahon Park but both met with Community opposition in 2016. Continue to look for appropriate locations.

The priorities for the next two years continue to support the recommendations

- In preparation for a decision to be made regarding a future gymnasium, the utilization, schedule and programming at AFLC are being evaluated. Regular adjustments to the programming and schedule take place to accommodate the public interest.
- Ongoing discussions with YRDSB and YCDSB regarding future field partnership opportunities
- Continue to look for opportunities west of Yonge St when parks are revitalized to integrate multi-use courts
- Propose to build minor skateboarding and biking zones in 2020 in Summit Park
- Urban water feature and outdoor artificial rink to be constructed within the Library Square design for the Outdoor Square
- Minor splash pads identified in the 10-year capital plan, including Confederation Park
- Potential location selected for an off-leash park in the south/west area of Yonge/Wellington was identified in 2018 and alternative location proposed for Hartwell Way or the Hydro Corridor. Report going to Community Advisory Committee in October 2019.
- Official Plan Review commencing in Fall 2019 with completion in 2023, Plan will include recommendations from Bill 108: Community Benefit Charge
- Land acquisitions regularly monitored for opportunities.
- Multi-Use Recreation Facility will continue to be a focus in 2020. The results from the Aquatic Feasibility Study and Business Plan, Outdoor Sports Field Development Strategy, Gymnasium opportunities and land acquisition considerations will contribute to those discussions.

Advisory Committee Review

The various projects that were identified in the plan have obtain input from a number of Advisory Committees including: Trails Advisory Committee, the Accessibility Advisory Committee, the Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee and the recent Community Advisory Committee.

Legal Considerations

Not Applicable

Financial Implications

Should any incremental funding requirement arise in the implementation of the parks and recreation master plan, staff will bring the appropriate funding request to Council for its consideration and approval at this time.

Communications Considerations

This report will be posted to the Town website for the general public. Ongoing or new projects will be communicated following the development of communications strategies.

Link to Strategic Plan

The development of the various projects identified in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan supports the following Strategic Plan goals and key objectives:

Supporting an exceptional quality of life for all in its accomplishment in satisfying requirements in the following key objectives within these goal statements:

- Invest in sustainable infrastructure
- Celebrating and promoting our culture
- Encourage an active and healthy lifestyle
- Strengthening the fabric of our community

Alternative(s) to the Recommendation

1. Council may provide further direction.

Conclusions

The Town has made significant progress on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan recommendations. Those recommendations that were deferred were due to external factors that either changed the ability to proceed or the opportunity is still under review pending access to land acquisition. Proactive planning within the parks and recreation

system is necessary to ensure that the Town is in a position to cost-effectively deliver facilities that are needed the most.

With the continuous changes in growth and demographic, it will be important to prepare an update to the plan within the next 2-3 years.

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2016 - Status of recommendations

Previous Reports

PRS16-011 Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Pre-submission Review

Agenda Management Team review on October 3, 2019

Departmental Approval

Robin McDougall

Director

Community Services

Approved for Agenda

Doug Nadorozny

Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment 1 - CMS19024

AURORA PARKS RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE 2016

ID	Recommendations	Priority	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Status
#1	Undertake an architectural facility fit and concept design exploring the feasibility associated with expanding the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex to include a gymnasium, multi-purpose program spaces and/or a full service fitness centre (the latter subject to Recommendation #8). Implementation of this recommendation depends on the Town of Aurora's chosen course of action for indoor aquatics (see Recommendation #4) as expansion of the S.A.R.C. is only a plausible consideration if not proceeding with a new multi-purpose community centre.	High			Feasibility Study	Facility Expanson			Preliminary concept plan and cost estimate provided in 2019 budget for a single gymnasium/program space/office space/storage. Alternative of 2-story gymnasium suitable for tournaments costed but additional parking would be required. Considerations pending other land aquisitions discussions.
#2	Existing municipal facilities should be evaluated for ways to improve comfort and facilitate opportunities for informal interactions and socialization to take place (including within lobbies and other common areas) among all residents, including but not limited to families, youth and older adults.	Medium		Costs dep	oend upon ty	Furniture (couches and chairs) purchased for placement in upper lobby at AFLC are well utilized particularly among older adults. Space is limited, but may be possible to do something in the SARC. Another option is to put in tables that have chess/checker board patterns on them. People could sign-out chess/checker pieces and/or board games from the customer service desk.			
#3	Maintain a supply of five ice pads over the next five years with a greater emphasis placed on tracking user registrations (particularly among residents of Aurora) along with monitoring arena bookings and utilization rates.	Low							Formal monitoring is extremely time consuming, however, informal monitoring continues to indicate 90% or higher utilization during all prime time periods. Ice scheduling continues to be a challenge during peak season periods, with numerous requests for additional/alternate ice time during prime time hours.
	In the event that the Town of Aurora is not interested in maintaining the status quo regarding provision of indoor aquatics centres, cannot secure an acceptable partnership agreement with a third party to access new pool times, and is comfortable with the level of risk associated with adding new aquatic infrastructure, one new 25 metre, 6 lane rectangular pool tank should be explored in the following order of priority:								Aquatic Feasibility Study and Business Plan initiated to look at feasibility of new pool (size/location) and programming of existing pools. Study commenced May 2019. Report back to Council in Fall 2019.
#4	a. Undertake an Architectural and Engineering Study to determine the feasibility and costs associated with adding a 6 lane, 25 metre pool tank to the existing Aurora Family Leisure Complex through expansion of the building envelop to the east of the existing aquatic centre space. This Study should also include the feasibility and costs associated with renovation of the existing hot tub and conversion of the leisure/lane hybrid tank to a warmer water leisure tank.	High	Feasibility Study						Dependant on outcome of #4

ID	Recommendations	Priority	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Status
	b. Should the Study (noted above) deem the expansion of the Aurora Family Leisure Complex aquatic space not feasible or too costly, undertake a site selection process (as per Recommendation #38) for the provision of a new indoor aquatic facility containing a 6 lane, 25 metre tank, a warmer water leisure/therapeutic tank. The provision of this aquatic facility should include a gymnasium, multi-purpose program rooms and possibly a fitness centre (in-lieu of facilities being added at the S.A.R.C.). In tandem with this recommendation, explore alternative uses for the existing aquatic facility space at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex as this facility would become redundant.		Feasibility Study & Site Selection Process						Dependant on outcome of #4
#5	Reclassify Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning and afternoon time slots as prime time pool hours to encourage greater use of remaining pool capacity, possibly through a review of the Town of Aurora Pool Allocation Policy.	High	Review Pool Allocation Policies						Will be considered as part of Aquatic Feasibility Study
#6	Undertake architectural concept plan and costing exercise to determine the feasibility of constructing a gymnasium at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex (also refer to Recommendation #1). The design of this gymnasium should be 'sport friendly' to facilitate objectives congruent with the Sport Plan and provide the necessary features to facilitate locally-based sporting activities to occur. Implementation of this recommendation will depend on the Town of Aurora's chosen course of action for indoor aquatics (see Recommendation #4) as expansion of the S.A.R.C. is only a plausible consideration if the Town does not proceed with a new multi-purpose community centre.	High				Refer tp Rec. #1			Preliminary concept plan and cost estimate provided in 2019 budget for a single gymnasium/program space/office space/storage. Alternative of 2-story gymnasium suitable for tournaments costed but additional parking would be required. Considerations pending other land aquisitions discussions.
#7	Conduct an operating performance review of the Aurora Family Leisure Complex's gymnasium after it has completed a minimum of two full years of operation whether programming and rental opportunities are being maximized, along with any operational adjustments or improvements required to this end.	Medium		Operating Performanc e Review					The gymnasium schedule at the AFLC is being evaluated on a sessional basis. Demand for use of the space is high and staff are regularly rescheduling to maximize use.
#8	Proactively monitor membership, program participation, member retention/satisfaction and other appropriate performance metrics associated with the rejuvenated Club Aurora for a minimum of two years in order to inform a subsequent business planning process that explores the viability and suitability of expanding the Town's full service fitness centre model to another location(s).	Medium				Refer to Rec. #1			A draft Business Plan for Club Aurora has been completed in 2019. Preliminary findings recommend new membership and pricing structure which will be considered in the upcoming User Fee Review. Additional fitness facilities not recommended at this time
#9	An indoor tennis facility should only be pursued using an operating model that is consistent with the Town's existing practices, whereby the Town could be a partner in the provision of land but would assume no operating responsibilities or financial costs of operation, instead placing such responsibilities on a third party that demonstrates a capability to sustainably do so. This will require a Council decision to be made.	Medium	Make decision regarding desired type of partnership						Completed.
#10	Continue to promote membership and program opportunities through the Aurora Family Leisure Complex squash courts in order to optimize use of these facilities, provided that there continues to be market support and that the level of use justifies the financial costs of operations.	Low			Ongoing p		Utilization and scheduling is regularly monitored. The continuous use and demand for the courts supported the capital improvments (2019) to the floors within each court.		

ID	Recommendations	Priority	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Status
#11	Multi-purpose program rooms located within existing community centres should be evaluated for improvement to increase their appeal and flexibility that expands usage.	Medium		Costs de	pend upon ty	I.T. has a project planned for upgrades to various rooms. SARC Program room was refurbished in 2018. Auditorium at ACC scheduled for surface improvements (paint, flooring, blinds) Fall 2019			
#12	New multi-purpose rooms should be assessed through the proposed expansion of the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex (see Recommendation #1) and other appropriate projects, as well as explored as part of private land development projects in areas of intensification.	Medium			Ongoing p		Refer to Rec. #1, also additional Multi-Purpose Programs rooms have been included in the Library Square Project		
#13	Consistent with the Aurora Public Library Facility Needs Assessment, the Town should initiate discussions with the Aurora Public Library to discuss the merit of reassigning responsibility of the Magna and Lebovic Rooms to the Library, and/or redefining the programming focus in collaboration with Library Staff to service mutually complementary objectives.	High	Discussions with Library						Transfer of rooms to APL completed and APL commenced booking as of 2019. With the recent approval of 2 new program rooms part of Library Square, the management of the spaces is under review.
#14	Pending outcomes of the Aurora Cultural Precinct Plan and other formal studies within the Aurora Promenade, undertake a potential use study of the former public library on Victoria Street to determine its suitability, capability and associated costs for delivering services offered by the Parks & Recreation Department or other municipal departments in order to address the needs of intensifying populations that are expected to arrive shortly after the master planning period in the Aurora Promenade.	High		Re-use Study					Repurposing study complete. Demolition of former public library and former seniors centre complete to make room for Library Square Project (Church Street School Expansion).
#15	Continually assess, and augment where necessary, the delivery of 'youth-friendly' services and programming within the Town of Aurora's existing multi-use community centres and other civic destinations (e.g. Aurora Public Library, former public library, etc.) by considering opportunities to improve spaces such as multi-use program rooms, studio space, common areas and other appropriate areas (also refer to Recommendation #2).	High		Costs dep	pend upon ty	Town achieved Platinum Youth Friendly community status in March 2019. Refer to Rec: #1 - proposed new gymnasium and program rooms for SARC New creative spaces planned for Library Square Project which will offer enhanced Youth programs			
#16	Continue to position the Aurora Senior's Centre as the primary hub for 55+ programming while exploring ways to extend the reach of services into neighbourhoods through use of existing multiuse community centres, parks and other civic destinations (e.g. Aurora Public Library, the former public library branch, etc.).	High	Costs depend upon type of enhancement						Some decentralizing taking place with 55+ programming taking place at the AFLC and Brookfield residence. New program titled "Seniors Centre without Walls" offers a 'call-in' option for seniors to participate and socialize from home.

ID	Recommendations	Priority	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Status
#17	Establish a sports field complex containing a minimum of three lit full-size rectangular fields and supported by appropriate facilities oriented to further the player and/or spectator experience. One of these fields should be designed as a 'multi-use' field capable of accommodating field sports beyond soccer.	High	Capital costs range from \$500K to \$750K per field						One multi-use artificial turf field has been constructed at Sheppard's Bush. Outdoor Sports Field Development Strategy currently underway to confirm future sports field needs and plan.
#18	Construct one outdoor artificial turf field at Stewart Burnett Park, as per current municipal plans, to service a broad range of field sports while providing the Town with flexibility to accommodate future needs. Any additional artificial turf fields beyond this one should be subject to confirmation through municipal business planning exercises as per current practice.	High	Capital costs range from \$1M to \$1.5M per field						Complete - soccer specific field constructed at Stewart Burnett, and multi-sport field constructed at Sheppard's Bush. (see #17)
#19	Continue to work with educational, industrial and other suitable partners to provide rectangular sports fields on non-municipal lands. Any adjustment to the supply of non-municipal fields should be considered and appropriately reconciled by the Town of Aurora using existing and/or future parks, and potentially through field capacity improvements such as lighting and/or artificial turf.	High			Ongoing p	Ongoing discussions with YRDSB, YCDSB and private industry regarding future field partnership opportunities. Although both schools boards are willing to partner, Parks Operations is not currently resourced to take on any additional field maintenance.			
#20	In consultation with local ball associations, construct one new ball diamond that is designed to be 'sport-friendly' and employs a larger design template in order to accommodate use by adult leagues and/or hardball users.	High	Costs depend on upgrades undertaken						Council approved construction of two senior softball diamonds on the Hallmark lands
#21	Construct two additional outdoor tennis courts, preferably located in the northeast to bolster geographic access across the Town.	High			Capital costs range from \$50K to \$75K per court				Complete: Thomas Coates Park 2018
#22	Create opportunities for outdoor pickleball through use of a multi-use court template (e.g. lining new or existing tennis courts for both tennis and pickleball) and providing a minimum of two courts that are preferably located in an area having a high concentration of older adults.	Medium		Captial costs range from \$50K to \$75K per court					Complete: Two pickleball courts installed at both Thomas Coates Park and Trent Park
#23	Explore the integration of multi-use courts through park renewal and revitalization projects in areas where geographic gaps exist.	Medium		Capital costs	range from \$		Complete: Combination basketball and pickleball courts incorporated into Trent Park and Edward Coltham Park. Continue to look for opportunities west of Yonge when parks are revitalized		
#24	Integrate minor skateboarding and biking zones within appropriate community-level parks undergoing renewal and revitalization activities, largely consisting of one or two basic elements similar to the Town's existing model.	Medium		Captial costs range from \$25K to \$50K per 'zone'					Funding added to 10 yr captial for inclusion at Summit Park in 2020

ID	Recommendations	Priority	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Status
#25	Construct an urban water feature employing a dual purpose design that facilitates recreational use and lends itself to Town's urban design and civic placemaking objectives, potentially through revitalization project within the Aurora Promenade.	High					Costs depend on size and scale		Included in the Library Square Project design for the Outdoor Square
#26	Integrate two 'minor' splash pads consisting of basic cooling elements (designed to a smaller scale than the existing municipal template) to service residential areas located west of Yonge Street, north and south of Wellington Street.	Medium						Capital costs range from \$100K to \$150K per minor splash pad	Couple sites included in the 10 yr capital, including Confederation Park
#27	The provision of additional off-leash parks in Aurora should be evaluated using a model similar to that used at Canine Commons, whereby a community organization is primarily involved with the establishment, general maintenance and ongoing operation of the off-leash area.								Potential location selected south/west of Yonge/Wellington in 2018 and alternative location could be non-programmed park (Hartwell Way) as well as Hydro Corridor - Report going to Community Advisory Committee in October 2019
#28	Playgrounds should be provided in new and existing residential areas where geographic gaps exist, generally calculated through application of an 800 metre service radius that is unobstructed by major pedestrian barriers.	High			Ongoing p	6 playgrounds added between 2016-2019			
#29	Through the playground inspection and renewal process, evaluate opportunities in which to incorporate barrier-free components to facilitate access to, and use within the playground apparatus for persons with disabilities.	High		Costs depend on size and scale					Complete: Fully assessable playground installed at Queens Diamond jubilee Park in 2017. Ongoing inclusion of barrier free ammentities in all playground revitilization projects and new designs.
#30	An outdoor artificial rink, either in a new location or by upgrading an existing natural surface, should be a consideration when undertaking civic planning, urban design and/or economic development analyses given the sizeable costs to construct and operate refrigerated rinks.	Low		Costs	s depend on		Included in the Library Square Project design for the Outdoor Square		
#31	Remain apprised of trends and usage at the McMahon Park lawn bowling green through continued collaboration with the Aurora Lawn Bowling Club.	Low			Ongoing p	rocess			Complete: Bowling Green upgrades completed in 2016
#32	Requests for facilities presently not part of the Town of Aurora's core parks and recreation service mandate should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, after first considering the municipality's role in providing the service in relation to quantified market demand and cost-effectiveness of such services, while also identifying potential strategies to address long-term need for such requests should a sufficient level of demand be expressed.	High							No special requests for facilities have been received at this time.
#33	To supplement decision-making and performance measurement exercises supporting investment in facilities falling within and beyond the Town of Aurora's core recreation facility service mandate, collect registration information from user groups regularly booking time in arenas, indoor pools, sports fields and other major recreational facilities including through implementation of allocation policies and other appropriate means.	High			Ongoing p	Staff perform inquiries and data collection when needed to support a specific objective. More specific research can also be conducted through the engagement of an outside consultant (i.e. Outdoor Field Study and Aquatic Feasibility Study).			

ID	Recommendations	Priority	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Status
#34	Re-examine and adjust, where necessary, the municipal parkland classification system through the next Official Plan Review process based upon envisioned land use forms and densities. In particular, the service level for Community Parks should be revised downwards in the range of 1.0 to 1.5 hectares per 1,000 residents to better reflect current rate of provision, programmed and unprogrammed space needs, and recognizing the limited availability of land as the Town reaches build out of greenfield lands. Similarly, the Neighbourhood Park/Parkette designations should also collectively target provision between 1.0 and 1.5 hectares per 1,000.	High							Development Services proposes the next Official Plan Review to take place Fall 2019 with completion 2023. Bill 108: Community Benefit Charge to be reviewed now and 2020.
#35	Through the Town of Aurora Official Plan Review and participation in the Provincial Review of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, explore and integrate policies that prescribe the ability to situate permitted active parks and outdoor recreational uses within the Oak Ridges Moraine, where such parks and recreation uses cannot be accommodated within the designated built-up or greenfield areas.	High							Official Plan Review to take place Fall 2019 with completion 2023
#36	At a minimum, target between 10 and 16.5 hectares of developable tablelands within the quantum of parkland required to meet the parkland service ratios articulated in the Town of Aurora Official Plan (as revised per Recommendation #34), in order to accommodate active recreational facilities. The balance of outstanding parkland requirements can be satisfied at the Town's discretion through either active or passive recreational and/or cultural purposes.	High	Costs	depend on ac	reage, locatio				
#37	Acquire larger Neighbourhood Parks and Community Parks as a priority to ensure future populations have sufficient access to spaces that are capable of accommodating a broad range of active recreational pursuits. Partnerships with area municipalities should be explored as a means to bolstering active parkland supplies since few opportunities remain to cost-effectively acquire and develop larger tracts of parkland for active recreational use.	High	Costs	depend on ac	reage, locatio	Potential Bloomington lands acquisition			
#38	Utilize a land banking approach to explore the potential acquisition of land(s) for a future indoor and/or outdoor recreation facility complex that may be required to service needs beyond the current five year master planning timeframe.	Medium		Actual cost	depends on l	ocation, acre	age, etc.		to be addressed as part of the Official Plan Review
#39	Should the Town of Aurora decide to retain Mavrinac Boulevard Land Block 208 as parkland, it does so on the basis that if developed as active parkland this will result in a higher level of service being provided relative to most other neighbourhoods in Aurora and in a manner that is unlikely to service the most pressing recreational needs of the Town as a whole. If retained as passive open space to minimize conflicts on adjacent and nearby residential dwellings, the park could complement municipal naturalization goals and/or facilitate a modest degree of passive usage. Should the Town consider disposal of Block 208, it is recommended that a parcel of land better suited to accommodating active/intensive recreational use be obtained (using the proceeds of this chosen course of action), including consideration of a land swap agreement or purchase of a parcel of land.	Medium	Make decision to retain or divest						Complete: Land developed into Thomas Coates Park (Mavrinac Park)

ID	Recommendations	Priority	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Status
#40	Work with the land development industry to innovatively address the need for parks such as developing publically accessible lands on private land. At a minimum, this may include providing enhanced pedestrian/cyclist infrastructure, encouraging condominium developments that contain rooftop gardens and courtyards, etc. through use of the Planning Act's Section 37 provisions and other creative tools.	High			Ongoing p	To be addressed as part of the Green Deelopment Standards Study			
#41	Augment the system of trails and pathways through continued implementation of the Town of Aurora Trails Master Plan, explore barrier-free accessibility-related improvements, and prioritize resurfacing and other required remediation activities according to short, medium and long-term priorities.	High		Re	efer to Trails I	Various 2C trail connections installed by developers to connect to Wildlife Park and connection from Bayview Ave to Tim Jones Trail from Strawbridge Development made in 2016. Significant amount of trail aquired through Highland Gate Development not identified on trails master plan. Wildlife Park construction started September 2019			
#42	Continue to pursue partnerships and funding opportunities with the Region of York Transportation Department for the inclusion of barrier free access of regional road crossings.	High			Ongoing p	2 underpass crossings being constructed in 2018/19 under Leslie St, allowing for connection of trails			
#43	The Town should implement a community allotment garden program on a trial basis that consists of at least one site – if deemed successful by the Town, additional sites should be secured in partnership with interested community groups.	High	Costs depend on location, acreage, etc.						Suggestion for the inclusion of a community garden in Thomas Coates park and McMahon Park but both met with Community opposition in 2016. Continue to look for appropriate locations to incorporate gardens, potentially in the design for non-programmed park (Hartwell Way)
#44	Implement the Wildlife Park Master Plan to create a unique environmental area within the Aurora Northeast 2C lands to showcase natural heritage and provide opportunities for nature education and interpretation among residents.	High		Refer	to Wildlife Pa	Construction starting September 2019 through 2020			
#45	Supplement parkland acquisition policies prescribed in the Town of Aurora Official Plan with other appropriate means of acquisition, particularly with an emphasis towards securing suitably sized and quality tableland parcels oriented to active recreational uses.	High							To be addressed as part of the Official Plan Review