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Town of Smiths Falls

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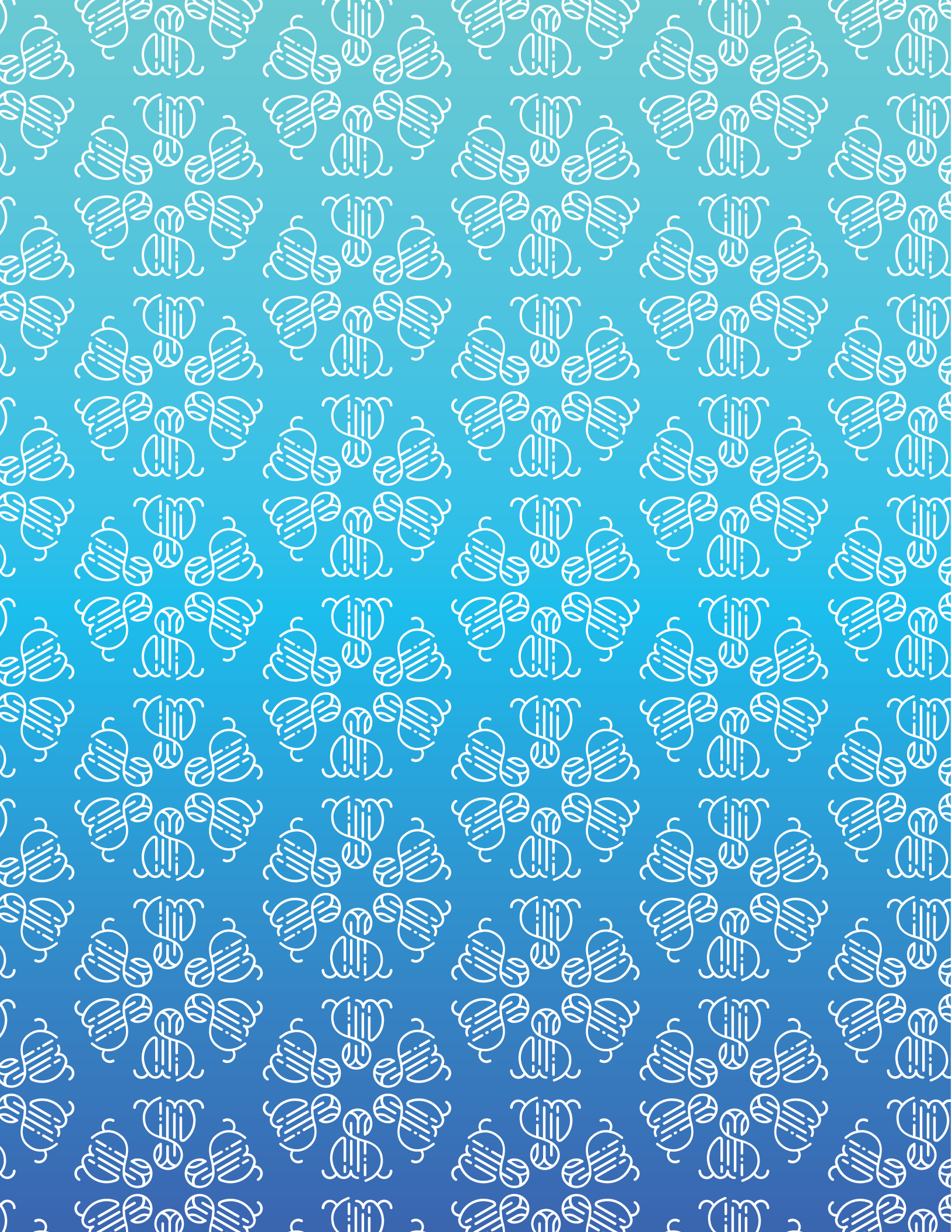
PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

JUNE 2022



SMITHS FALLS
RISE AT THE FALLS





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Great communities are built through active citizen involvement and engagement in the planning process. Many thanks go out to Town Council and administration who assisted in this effort, and recognized the importance of investing in long term planning.

Of most importance, thanks go out to the:

- Residents of Smiths Falls for participating in the household and youth surveys;*
- Representatives of community groups and stakeholder organizations who answered questionnaires and attended meetings to discuss their needs;*
- All other key stakeholders who provided information and attended meetings when asked.*

Special thanks go to the project steering committee who assisted in this planning effort (through the provision of advice, information, support, and opinions); who recognized the importance of investing in long range planning; and who displayed the fortitude to make decisions in the best interest of the community. The project steering committee:

- Art Manhire, Director, Community Services, Town of Smiths Falls*
- Tana Torch, Administrative Coordinator, Community Services, Town of Smiths Falls*
- Karl Grenke, Senior Planner, Town of Smiths Falls*
- RC Strategies*

PROJECT DOCUMENTS

Three documents form the Town of Smiths Falls Parks and Recreation Master Plan



State of Parks and Recreation Research and Engagement Summary Report



Playground Replacement Strategy



Parks and Recreation Master Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Town of Smiths Falls initiated its first Parks and Recreation Master Plan in 2021 with the expectation for the planning process to engage residents and stakeholders in thinking about priorities for parks and recreation over the next 10 years.

The Master Plan

- Sets a foundation and establishes a structure that will inform capital project planning and service delivery options.
- Provides Council and staff with insights and rationale that can inform business and strategic planning, as well as asset management.
- Offers tools and processes that can guide Council and staff decision making related to future parkland acquisition and development.
- Provides a point of reference that rationalizes ongoing investment into parks and recreation by articulating the public benefits of quality parks and recreation facilities and services.



Three reports were created during the development of the Master Plan:

State of Parks and Recreation Research and Engagement Summary Report:

A comprehensive review and analysis of the existing situation in Smiths Falls along with applicable research, with implications for the development of the Master Plan. This document summarizes what we heard from the public and stakeholders that participated in consultation activities undertaken for the project.

Playground Replacement Strategy: A document offering a site-by-site consideration of existing playground equipment in Smiths Falls and a strategy for renewal and replacement, which considers external trends in playground design and development. Ongoing playground and maintenance practices are also provided in this report.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan: This document is the Master Plan. It is framed around 4 Service Delivery Principles and a corresponding set of focused strategic priorities and actions to guide planning and support decision making over the next 10 years.

Resident and Stakeholder Input was critical in the development of this Master Plan



Resident Survey (Coded Version)

221 Responses



Resident Survey (Open / Non-Coded Version)

122 Responses



Youth Questionnaire

145 Responses

Stakeholder and Community Group Engagement



13 virtual discussion sessions with representatives from 22 organizations / interests in the community

3 responses to an online Community Organization Questionnaire



Service Delivery Principles Key Action Items:

The following Service Delivery Principles represent an overarching agenda of this Master Plan and a structure for it. They are: **Growing Participation and Building Capacity, Acquiring and Renewing Parkland, Renewing Outdoor Facilities and Renewing and Diversifying Indoor Facilities.** Identified in this section are some key action items for each principle.



Service Delivery Principle: Growing Participation and Building Capacity

Key action items:

- Attract / invite third party service providers to offer introductory, learn-to-play recreation programs in Smiths Falls. The Town should directly provide programs of this nature if other providers are not available to do so.
- Pursue program partnerships with health-focused and funded organizations to deliver health promotion and physical activity programs for older persons.
- Work with sport organizations to recruit and train volunteer coaches to offer house level hockey and competitive level field sports.
- Develop a sport field allocation policy.
- Develop a Community Organization Support Program.
- Migrate facility rental contracts and allocation permits to the registration and facility management platform.
- Collect and report use statistics for all major recreation facilities and maintain records on utilization trends for future planning purposes.



Service Delivery Principle: Acquiring and Developing Parkland

Key action items:

- Optimize parkland acquisition strategies to ensure future residential areas enjoy equitable access to parkland.
- Complete the Vision for Waterfront Parks in collaboration with Parks Canada.
- Implement the Active Transportation Master Plan.





Service Delivery Principle: Renewing Outdoor Facilities

Key action items:

- Immediately initiate a design process for the replacement of existing play structures at Hyland & Corbett Park and Victoria Park.
- Establish a playground replacement program as an annual capital budget line item to address ongoing asset management needs, including accessibility upgrades (equipment, pathways, seating, etc.).
- Resurface the paved sport court at Lower Reach Park. Provide court lighting and connect to the parking area by a defined internal multi-recreational trail or park path.
- Continue to monitor pickleball activity trends and regional provision.
- Ensure that playgrounds are provided in new residential development areas based on an 800 metre service area. Playground equipment should be installed during the initial phases of Bellamy Farms development.
- Assess removing the ball diamond at Hyland & Corbett Park as part of a broader playground renewal and park revisioning process recommended in the Playground Action Plan section.



Service Delivery Principle: Renewing and Diversifying Indoor Facilities

Key action items:

- Continue to optimize community use of Board of Education gymnasiums and, where possible, determine solutions and approaches to issues that limit community gymnasium time.
- Undertake an Indoor Multi Sport Facility Feasibility Study with interested surrounding municipalities and the Upper Canada District School Board to assess demand, viability, and model of operation of an indoor multisport facility on municipal or Board of Education lands.
- Continue to monitor prime time and shoulder season utilization closely and enhance statistics collected from permit holders to track trends in player participation and residency. Provide a utilization report to Council annually.
- Work with ice arena user groups to determine strategies to increase participation and ice arena utilization within the parameters of their governing sport bodies Long Term Player Development plans.
- Ice sport user groups are encouraged to offer recreational, learn-to-play programs that introduce children and youth to fundamental skills.
- While demand for prime time utilization of ice at the Youth Arena is expected to remain strong, if annual utilization falls below 60% of total available hours for two consecutive years, an Arena Ice Review should be undertaken to assess future ice requirements.

Advancing Highest Priority Projects that Require Capital Funding

The highest facility priority for capital funding is the replacement and renewal of playground equipment. To ensure the completion of the Playground Replacement Strategy and ensure that there are the appropriate available funds for ongoing maintenance and repairs, sustained multi-year funding is required. The table below provides a plan to schedule a work and funding program over the next 5 years.

Action	Scope	Estimated Funding Required Funding (2022 dollars)	Timing	Notes
Replace Playground at Victoria Park	See Playground Replacement Strategy for guidance	\$125,000 (site works, installation, play equipment)	2022	Removal of the existing wading pool should be completed at this location in conjunction with construction at this site.
Replace Playground at Hyland Park	See Playground Replacement Strategy for guidance	\$125,000 (site works, installation, play equipment)	2022	
Neighbourhood consultation, site design and equipment selection for all playground sites	Detailed design packages with technical specifications are prepared for each site	\$40-50,000	2023	This planning effort can be phased over multiple years based on available funding.
Enhance and Renew Playground at Lower Reach Park	See Playground Replacement Strategy for guidance	\$250,000-\$300,000 (site works, installation, play equipment)	2025	This location is identified as a community-wide Accessible Playground
Add a Playground at the Memorial Arena Community Centre	See Playground Replacement Strategy for guidance	\$250,000 (site works, installation, play equipment)	2026-27	This is a new site. A location will be required.

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1

INTRODUCTION

What is the Master Plan?

The Town of Smiths Falls initiated its first Parks and Recreation Master Plan in 2021 with expectation for the planning process to engage residents and stakeholders in thinking about priorities for parks and recreation over the next 10 years.

More specifically, the Master Plan will:

- Set foundations and establish structure that will inform capital project planning and service delivery options.
- Provide Council and staff with insights and rationale that can inform business and strategic planning and asset management.
- Offer tools and processes that can guide Council and staff decision making related to future parkland acquisition and development.
- Provide a point of reference that rationalizes ongoing investment into parks and recreation by articulating the public benefits of quality parks and recreation facilities and services.



Source: smithsfalls.ca

How was the Master Plan Developed?

The Town of Smiths Falls retained RC Strategies to develop the Master Plan. The following graphic illustrates the major work elements involved in creating this Master Plan document.



Research

- *Trends and Leading Practices*
- *Review of the Town's Strategies, Master Plans and Relevant Policies*
- *Review and analysis of current service delivery practices*
- *Community Analysis (review of population and demographic indicators)*
- *Utilization Analysis of the Town's Facilities*
- *Benchmarking (comparisons to other communities)*
- *Functional Assessment of Key Indoor and Outdoor Facilities and Parks*



Engagement

- *Interviews with Facility Users and Community Organizations (13 sessions)*
- *Coded Resident Survey (221 responses)*
- *Open Resident Survey (122 responses)*
- *Youth Questionnaire (145 responses)*



Master Plan Directions

- *Identifying Themes*
- *Establishing and Sequencing Priorities*



Master Plan Development

- *Writing the Master Plan*
- *Securing Approvals*



Do you know?

The 202 km length of the Rideau Canal was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site as an Outstanding Universal Value and is the oldest continuously operated canal in North America. Smiths Falls' location is central to this canal, and three of the canal's lockstations are in the area.




Source: smithsfalls.ca


2

KEY FINDINGS FROM THE RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT

Insights from research activities and engagement with the community and stakeholders have informed the development of the Master Plan Foundations, Strategies and Priorities (as presented in the next three sections). This section offers a summary of key findings from the State of Recreation and Parks in Smiths Falls Research Report that is under separate cover.

Key Findings from the Research

 **Community Profile:** Amongst the most significant expected demographic shifts is a doubling of the population aged 65 and older within the next 10 years. The population of children and youth is anticipated to remain relatively stable to 2030. The prevalence of low-income households is also higher than the County average. Demand for age friendly and low/no fee parks and recreation facilities and services should be anticipated. Population growth driven demand for minor sport and children and youth-oriented programs is not expected.

 **Diverse & Aging Facilities and Amenities:** Smiths Falls owns and operates a significant asset base of parks and recreation amenities. Functional assessments undertaken on key recreation and parks facilities indicate that the Town generally does a good job maintaining assets, although opportunities exist to re-vision and refresh several spaces in coming years (especially with respect to community and local parks and play structures).





Available prime time ice utilization data for both ice surfaces suggests reasonably high utilization.

Trends research, however, suggests a declining participation in minor ice sport due to factors such as costs to play and time commitments required of players and parents. Population-driven demand factors are not expected to bump up utilization over the next ten years in Smiths Falls; there are relatively few introductory level ice sport programs for children and youth on offer. Significant ice equipment renewal is anticipated for the Youth Arena in the near term.



Opportunities exist to improve sport field allocation practices, data collection and revenue generation and extend the season of use.

Transitioning to pay-per-period-of-use allocation system will allow the Town to modernize its permitting system (by moving it online) and enhance collection and analysis of utilization data (by collecting it in the online system). Sport field user fees are comparably low against fees charged by similar sized municipalities and the existing practice of teams remitting a per-player fee for season use of sport field is impossible for staff to verify and may be resulting in revenue loss. Opportunity exists to improve the sport field allocation process and revenue generation. Transitioning to an online booking platform will improve data collection and analysis. Moving away from the per-player fee to a pay-per-period-of-use allocation system with sport fields would align with similar size municipalities that have achieved higher revenue off of field usage fees. A per-player fee system requires more staff time to verify and results in inconsistent revenue for similarly booked fields.



Supporting player development is an important factor in achieving stable facility and amenity utilization.

There are relatively few local sport organizations in Smiths Falls that offer house and competitive level programs for youth; competitive level players join teams and leagues in other communities. The progression from house level play to competitive level play ensures a stronger overall level of asset use, and in most cases, results in an extended playing season. Developing local strategies to build up competitive level youth sport programs would keep youth engaged in physical activity longer and help to optimize the use of the Town’s facilities and amenities.



There are indications of demand for indoor multi-purpose activity space.

The Town does not currently provide an indoor space suitable to accommodate a variety of indoor sports during the winter such as basketball, floor hockey, indoor soccer, or pickleball. The Gallipeau Centre and the Board of Education offer community access to gymnasiums but demand often exceeds supply.



There is plenty of parkland, but it’s mostly concentrated adjacent to the river.


Additional parkland should be acquired in new residential areas that are distant from existing waterfront parks to provide local play space and “complete” new neighbourhoods.





Play spaces and play structure equipment across the Town requires renewal.


Each local park renewal project is an opportunity to engage the local neighbourhood in a dialogue about what features and amenities might best address local needs. Parks that offer multi-generational and physically accessible amenities will appeal to the largest cross-section of users.

Findings from Engagement with Community and Stakeholders


 **Recreation and Parks are strongly associated as a “public good” by residents.** Residents strongly indicated that parks and recreation are important to both their household and the community as a whole. In fact, residents attributed greater importance of parks and recreation opportunities to quality of life for all residents (74%) and to the appeal and attractiveness of Smiths Falls for prospective and current residents (81%) than parks and recreation are to themselves and members of their household.


 **The main reasons that residents participate in parks and recreation activities are to be physically active (80%), pleasure (64%), to be with family (64%) and to enjoy nature (59%).** A significant proportion of recreational activity occurs in an unstructured manner (not part of an organized program, team or league). The findings also reiterate the diversity of recreation activity participation that occurs in the community.


 **Youth Survey respondents indicated** that the cost of participating, lack of awareness of opportunities, being too busy to participate, poor / inadequate facilities, and overcrowded facilities were the top five barriers to participating in parks and recreation services.

 **Levels of satisfaction with most aspects of parks and recreation are relatively strong but have room for improvement** - 82% of Coded Resident Questionnaire respondents were satisfied (“very” or “somewhat”) with parks, trails and open spaces in Smiths Falls. Levels of satisfaction for sport programs and opportunities, and the availability of recreation programs and facilities were not as strong – about a quarter of respondents identified that they were “dissatisfied” with these service areas (respondents had higher levels of “neither satisfied nor dissatisfied” responses).

 The **top 5 indoor spaces** that respondents indicated that they would like to see enhanced and/or more of were libraries, arts and crafts creative spaces, indoor children’s play spaces, seniors spaces, and indoor multi-sport facilities. The **top 5 outdoor spaces** that respondents indicated that they would like to see enhanced and/or more of were natural surface trails, paved community trails, BBQ and picnic areas / park shelters, playgrounds and outdoor festival and community performance spaces.

 **Residents are mixed on whether they would support increased taxes to sustain and enhance parks and recreation services.** The highest proportion of survey respondents believe current user fees should be maintained while less than one-fifth support an increase.

 **User groups and stakeholders placed emphasis on improving systems and modernizing customer service.** Stakeholders identified that having an option to book facilities online would improve the booking process.

 **Indoor multi-purpose dry floor space, arts and crafts spaces, trails, and park amenities were identified as top, infrastructure priorities.**

Demand for these types of parks and recreation infrastructure was relatively consistent throughout the engagement. The Master Plan will need to further assess the need for these spaces and the associated cost impacts.

3

THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The Town supports parks and recreation opportunities to enhance the quality of life for residents, employers, and visitors. Parks and recreation improve health outcomes for individuals and communities and connect us with natural environments so that we might find balance in our busy lives and learn to appreciate and protect nature in its many forms.

Four **Service Delivery Principles** reflect the ambition of the Master Plan and serve to focus attention on stated priorities and suggested actions. Priorities and actions are organized according to the Service Delivery Principles.

Provided in this section is an overview of the four **Service Delivery Principles** for parks and recreation in Smiths Falls.



How were the Parks and Recreation Service Delivery Principles developed?

The Service Delivery Principles reflect sentiment identified through engagement with residents, community organizations and stakeholders, and staff, and have also been developed to align with the Town's Strategic Plan and Official Plan as well as national and provincial strategies, action plans and frameworks outlined in the State of Parks and Recreation in Smiths Falls Research Report.

Service Delivery Principles

The term “Service Delivery” refers to the approaches and methods that the Town of Smiths Falls uses to provide parks and recreation facilities and opportunities. The following Service Delivery Principles represent an overarching agenda of this Master Plan and a structure for it.



Growing Participation and Building Capacity

What does this mean?

The Town will support organizations that provide sport, recreation, and leisure programs with a goal of increasing participation in affordable, fun, and healthy activities.

Why is this important?

Sport, recreation, and leisure programs in Smiths Falls are mostly provided to the public by not-for-profit or for-profit organizations that rent the Town’s indoor and outdoor facilities to deliver. Building the capacity of these organizations to respond to community needs and interests will generate greater participation and utilization of recreation facilities provided by the Town. Optimization of municipal policies and practices that impact these organizations also relates to this principle.



Acquiring and Renewing Parkland

What does this mean?

The Town will prioritize strategic investments to acquire new and renew existing parkland.

Why is this important?

Quality parks and outdoor recreation spaces promote healthy outdoor physical activity and provide a place for residents and visitors to gather. Continuous reinvestment in parks ensures that outdoor areas can accommodate a higher frequency of daily users and contribute to local economic development. Investment in new park development is required in new residential areas to ensure all residents have access to a quality park.



Renewing Outdoor Facilities

What does this mean?

The Town will provide, replace, and maintain outdoor recreation facilities that offer a quality, safe and accessible experience for users.

Why is this important?

A well-maintained, safe and accessible outdoor recreation facility, such as a sport field, ball diamond, playground or court, is expected by users. Investing in the renewal or replacing of facilities that have reached the end of their useful lifecycle will gradually offer a higher quality parks system that attracts a broader range of users.



Renewing and Diversifying Indoor Facilities

What does this mean?

The Town will explore opportunities to provide new indoor spaces for recreation and sporting activities while maintaining existing facilities in response to demand.

Why is this important?

The Town will strategically invest in facility renewal and explore possibilities for future facility provision that may offer different types of indoor recreation spaces that respond to community needs.

It’s important to continuously assess the utilization of existing indoor recreation facilities and to consider adjustments to the indoor facility inventory that are responsive to the needs and interests of a broader range of user interests and activity preferences.

4

GROWING PARTICIPATION AND BUILDING CAPACITY



This section highlights priorities and actions that elevate the focus on system-wide enhancements or targeted initiatives that will extend support to community organizations that play a big role in the delivery of sport and recreation in Smiths Falls. Each Priority is supported by rationale from the research and public consultation. More detailed actions are suggested to advance the priority through annual business and operational plans.

The Town's Approach to Providing Parks and Recreation Services

Municipalities across Canada and in Ontario approach service delivery of parks and recreation from three common perspectives: As a direct provider, a service enabler, or as a contract manager. While many responsibilities are common to all perspectives and do shift based on local demands and expectations, the following figure identifies what each perspective holds unique. The Town of Smiths Falls current approach to delivery fits most closely with the service enabler perspective; 4.38 full time employees are currently allocated to supporting parks and recreation service delivery focused around three main areas: Lower Reach Park, Municipal Arena Complex, and the Town Hall Precinct.

Source: smithsfalls.ca





At a system-wide level, the Community Services Department allocates rental contracts to community organizations, supports not-for-profit organizations that provide services to the community, supports over 60 annual community events.



Direct Provider

- *Customer is mainly the program participant.*
- *Offers programs and services directly to users and maintains critical resources, infrastructure, and systems to operate as a direct provider (i.e., program instructors, program equipment, registration, marketing systems).*
- *Offers programs and provides services for identified target populations often at no or very low cost to the user.*



Service Enabler

- *Customer is mainly other businesses.*
- *Provides and manages indoor and outdoor facilities that are rented by independent businesses or not-for-profit organizations who provide a program or service to users.*
- *Municipal staff apply community development methods to support and strengthen organizations that use municipal facilities.*



Contract Manager

- *A third party, like a YMCA or a commercial operator, provides recreation programs and services under contractual terms or with funding support from the local municipality (or both).*
- *Facilities are often owned and operated by the third party, sometimes on land leased from the municipality.*
- *Parks and outdoor recreation facilities are commonly provided by the municipality.*



Supporting Community-Driven Recreation

Priority: Support community-driven organizations that provide programs, events, and initiatives that require the Town's indoor and outdoor recreation facilities.

Rationale

The Town's current "enabler" approach to recreation service delivery means that it does not directly deliver recreation programs and services to residents. The approach appears to be accommodating much of the demand that can be absorbed by commercial, for-profit, and not-for-profit service providers, even though resident satisfaction with the available offerings, awareness of programs and overall affordability, as measured in the coded survey and youth survey suggest there is room for enhancement.

There are gaps in the continuum of sport development that should be addressed to increase utilization of the Town's major recreation facilities. Introductory/house league hockey programs for children are necessary to stimulate long-term demand for an arena. Similarly, competitive youth field sports are necessary in Smiths Falls to achieve stable demand for local sport field utilization. Participation in sport for life begins in childhood. Continued progression through sport underpins the long-term demand envisioned for planned recreation facilities.

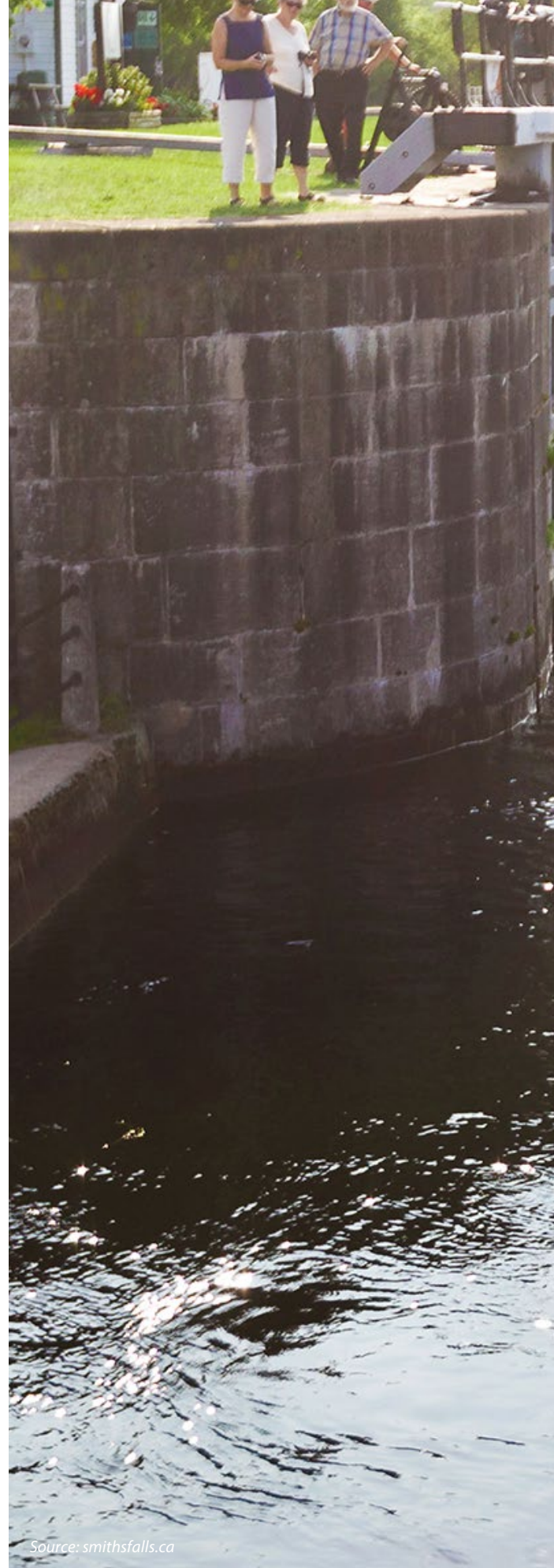
The demographic characteristics of Smiths Falls also suggest that price sensitivity and affordability are significant determinants of participation in recreation programs. Demand for low cost or free seasonal children's programs that are supported or delivered by the Town will have more significant social impact. Survey respondents demonstrated interest in supervised play and introduction to sport programs that are mostly delivered by a municipal provider that can absorb a lower cost-recovery rate. More importantly, municipalities can implement fee assistance programs that provide targeted support for more vulnerable households; most commercial providers cannot.

Actions

- Attract / invite third party service providers to offer introductory, learn-to-play recreation programs in Smiths Falls. The Town should directly provide programs of this nature if other providers are not available to do so.
- Pursue program partnerships with health-focused and funded organizations to deliver health promotion and physical activity programs for older adults and seniors.
- Work with sport organizations to recruit and train volunteer coaches to offer house level hockey and competitive level field sports.
- Develop a formal fee assistance policy and program that users of community-provided services can access to extend the benefits of recreation and sport to all children and youth in Smiths Falls.
- Directly deliver no/low fee recreation programs for children and youth that offer targeted social and community impacts.
- Develop a Sport Field Allocation Policy. The following interests should be considered when developing a Sport Field Allocation and Permitting Policy:
 - » Establish different hourly rates for different types of groups (youth, adult, commercial, etc.).
 - » Determine if and how non-resident players should be considered and if non-residents should pay a higher fee.
 - » How costs for additional services, such as field lighting, should be recovered.
 - » The optimal and minimum duration of the field maintenance and playing season.



- Develop a Community Organization Support Program that provides the following targeted supports:
 - » Grant identification and grant writing support.
 - » Training and learning opportunities for volunteer board members.
 - » Coordinated marketing support.
 - » Coordinated, online program registration support through links on the Town’s program registration software.
 - » Volunteer recruitment and recognition programs.
 - » Continue to host annual forums and information sessions with community organizations and service providers to enhance community awareness and discuss topics of interest.
 - » Continue to utilize and enhance a variety of communication tools to promote and gather feedback on services and initiatives.



Source: smithsfalls.ca

Source: smithsfalls.ca





Supporting Planning and Decision Making by Enhancing Data Collection

Priority: Collect and routinely analyze more data to support service and facility planning and decision making

Rationale

The Town is implementing registration and facility management software that offers functionality to automate many paper-based, in-person transactions such as rental contracts. Programs and memberships that the Town may offer in the future can be managed through this platform. Analyzing detailed transaction data offers many insights into the overall performance of the Town's parks and recreation system.

Actions

- Complete implementation of the registration and facility management platform.
- Migrate facility rental contracts and allocation permits to the registration and facility management platform.
- Collect and report use statistics for all major recreation facilities and maintain records on utilization trends for future planning purposes.
- Determine current cost-recovery rates using activity-based accounting practices to inform rates and fees determination.
- Create a membership and issue membership cards for walking track users to scan during each visit to track use.
- Use the Town's Asset Management software to record all facility maintenance and inspection records on all indoor and outdoor facility and parkland assets.



Source: smithsfalls.ca

5

ACQUIRING AND DEVELOPING PARKLAND



This section offers planning guidance and a package of strategies and actions for acquiring, developing and renewing the Town's parkland assets within a broader planning context of public green spaces, protected natural areas, conservation areas, and Parks Canada lands.

Inventory of Parks and Parkland

The Town of Smiths Falls owns or manages approximately 33.27 hectares of designated parkland in the parks marked in the map aside. A further two new parks will be acquired by the Town through Plans of Subdivision approved by the Town (not currently showing on the map). While there is no mandated provincial or national standard to which parkland per capita should be measured against, many municipalities plan to acquire and manage a total supply of parkland between 2.5-3.5 hectares per 1,000 population. At 4.07 hectares of parkland per 1,000 population, Smiths Falls is well supplied from a total provision perspective.

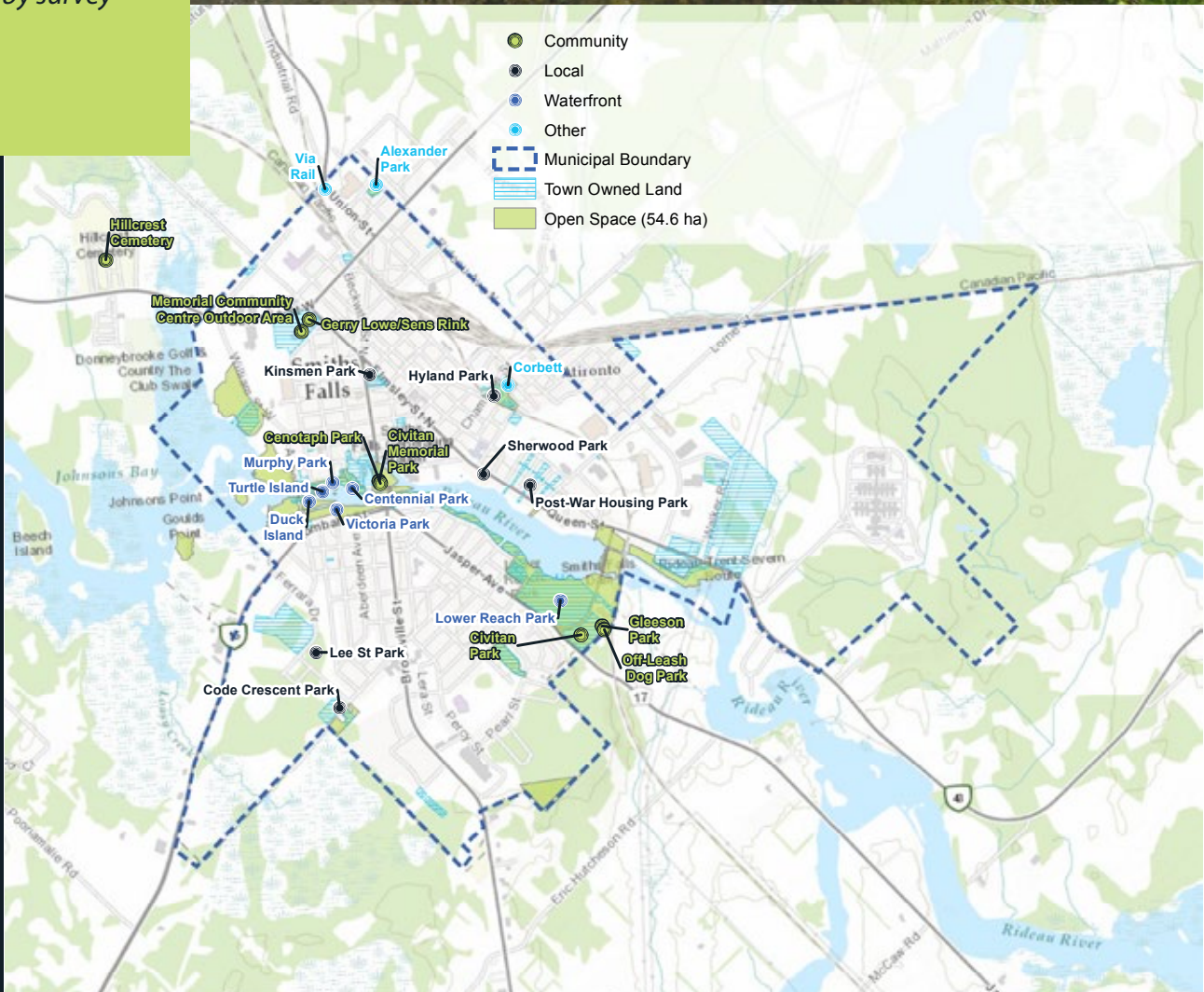




The Resident Survey found that 79% of residents use trails and pathways in the community for hiking, walking and running. These amenities were also identified as a high value priority by survey respondents.



Source: smithsfalls.ca





Parkland Classification

Core to park planning is the parkland classification system. Distinguishing characteristics by type of parkland, such as size, function, and development of an amenity provides a consistent management approach and a frame for the public, developers and planners to design new parks. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan classifies parkland as either Waterfront, Community or Local Parkland. The following table describes the general characteristics and supply of each type of parkland. These classifications are consistent with the Town of Smiths Falls Official Plan (2016), with the exception that Community Parkland has been segregated further into Waterfront Parkland in the recognition of the unique joint-management functions between the Town and Parks Canada on several strategy park parcels and commitments to collaborate in the further development of these assets.

Suggested Parkland Classification		
Waterfront Parkland	Community Parkland	Local Parkland
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodates town-wide recreation and leisure interests. • Provides facilities for major events or those that attract residents/visitors from a wider geographic area. These parks might be considered “tourism assets” and may be developed to generate revenue to offset tax-base support. • Typical facilities may include those listed for Community Parkland. • Preserves unique natural, cultural, or historical areas of significance. • Are linked, by means of trails, waterways or paved walking paths to other parks, retail areas, and other services. • May provide beach access and a boat ramp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodates the recreation and leisure interests. • Provides facilities for organized sports (ball diamonds and athletic fields) that are adjacent to community centres or halls, or at stand-alone parks. • Provides facilities for play, including larger playgrounds, skateboard parks, basketball courts, etc. • Provides passive open space for instructed leisure activities. • Promotes a “local flavour” with respect to historical features, gardens, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodates residential interests. • Provides facilities such as park benches, small play structures, and undeveloped open space for passive or active recreation and leisure activities. • Local parks are typically developed depending on local interest and local volunteer effort. • May be left undeveloped as a natural area or woodlot.



Suggested Parkland Classification		
Waterfront Parkland	Community Parkland	Local Parkland
<p>General Size:</p> <p>Dependent on geographic features and location, shape of land, and development conditions.</p>	<p>General Size:</p> <p>Min. 4 hectares</p>	<p>General Size:</p> <p>0.5 – 2.5 hectares</p>
<p>Current Supply:</p> <p>2.49 Ha. Per 1000 Capita</p>	<p>Current Supply:</p> <p>0.83 Ha. Per 1000 Capita</p>	<p>Current Supply:</p> <p>0.46 Ha. Per 1000 Capita</p>
<p>Assigned Parks:</p> <p>Lower Reach Park</p> <p>Victoria Park</p> <p>Duck Island</p> <p>Turtle Island</p> <p>Murphy Park</p>	<p>Assigned Parks:</p> <p>Gleeson Park</p> <p>Civitan Memorial Park</p> <p>Cenotaph Park</p> <p>Memorial Community Centre Outdoor Area</p> <p>Hillcrest Cemetery</p>	<p>Assigned Parks:</p> <p>Sherwood Park</p> <p>Hyland & Corbett Park</p> <p>Kinsmen Park</p> <p>Post-War Housing Park</p> <p>Bellamy Farms 1 (unnamed)</p> <p>Bellamy Farms 2 (unnamed)</p>



Source: smithsfalls.ca



Inventory of Trails and Routes

Recreational Routes and Trails	Description
Cataraqui Trail	104 km. multi-use recreation trail from Smiths Falls to Strathcona
Rideau Trail	387 km. trail that extends from Kingston to Ottawa and transits through Smiths Falls.
Smiths Falls ATV Trail	130 km. ATV trail from Carleton Place to Plum Hollow
Smiths Falls Snowmobile Trail	224 km. snowmobile trail from Smiths Falls to Kingston parallel the Rideau Canal
Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail (OVRT)	296 km. multi-use recreation trail from Smiths Falls to Ottawa
Walking Routes	Description
Smiths Falls Walking Trail	5 km. from Lower Reach Park to Centennial Park

Source: Town of Smiths Falls Website (2021) and Town of Smiths Falls GIS



Do you know?

There is approximately 33.27 hectares of designated parkland in Smiths Falls.



Priority: Optimize parkland acquisition strategies to ensure future residential areas enjoy equitable access to parkland.

Rationale

The Town's Official Plan recognizes the importance of acquiring and managing municipal parkland for quality-of-life benefits for residents and for contributing to broader natural systems that are increasingly protected and managed by different organizations and landowners.

The Town's largest parks orient to the canal waterfront where significant investment in outdoor recreation facilities has been made to accommodate active and passive uses, including multi-use recreation trails.

While the guidance offered in this section may inform redevelopment of existing parkland, it is primarily intended to inform planning and decision making related to future acquisitions and parkland developments. Local, neighbourhood-oriented parks in long-established residential areas have attracted less reinvestment and now require renewal. Intensification is occurring in some existing residential areas and previously approved residential subdivisions are in the early phases of construction.





Parkland Strategy Statements

1. Maintain the current parkland to population service level of 3.80-4.00 Ha. per 1,000 persons.
 - » Maintaining this service level suggests that the Town should acquire parkland for growth-related needs only. Given projected growth of an additional 1,000 population over the next ten years, an additional 4 Ha. of parkland may be required.
2. Incorporate the revised Parkland Classification System in the Official Plan to focus acquisition and parkland development efforts.
 - » Used in association with other policies in the Official Plan, the Parkland Classification System offers a framework for acquiring the most appropriate type of parkland a major development should provide through the development process.
3. Ensure equitable access to municipal parks by ensuring that all residential properties have access to a municipal park with a play structure within 800 meters or 10 minutes walking distance. This is important for new residential areas.
4. In alignment with the Parkland Classification System, ensure that land conveyed for parkland is centrally located, pedestrian accessible and graded flat for future parkland development. These interests work in alignment with policies in section 7.1.9 of the Town's Official Plan.
5. Recognize the Town's multi-use recreational trails in municipal parks in the Town's Official Plan and Active Transportation Strategy.
6. Review Natural Areas / Green Space policies in the Town's Official Plan to identify optimal lands for acquisition in collaboration with other agencies and appropriate land management strategies for these areas.
7. Accept cash-in-lieu of parkland conveyance in accordance with the Planning Act and the Town's Official Plan. Apply the following criteria for determining acceptable circumstances for taking cash-in lieu:
 - » Where the local need for parkland can be met by the existing supply of parkland within 800 metres of farthest residential land parcel.
 - » Where the site would not be practical to develop if the amount of parkland required was dedicated.
 - » Where the required land dedication would not offer a sufficient size, shape or location for development as a park.
8. As a long term plan to acquire parkland through the subdivision approval process, investigate development of a Parkland Dedication Bylaw.
 - » Bill 197 restores the Town's ability to pass a Parkland Dedication Bylaw to make use of the Alternative Rate permitted for parkland of up to one hectare for 300 units for land or up to one hectare for 500 units for cash-in-lieu. The Town must engage the public in the development of the Bylaw, which can be appealed to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT).
 - » A parkland dedication bylaw may ensure that a greater quantum of local parkland required to serve future residential areas over 300 residential units is acquired through the subdivision approval process. It is advantageous for proposals that exceed 15 units per hectare.
9. Maintain a GIS of all parkland by classification type and spatially locate all parkland assets by park. Consider providing public access to this data.
10. Acknowledge Smiths Falls as a motorized and non-motorized regional trail hub in the future update to the Town's Official Plan.



Priority: Complete the Vision for Waterfront Parks in Collaboration with Parks Canada.

Rationale

The Town of Smiths Falls and Parks Canada own and maintain public waterfront lands for recreational enjoyment, economic development, protection of national heritage, and restoration of natural systems. Balancing these interests and coordinating development projects within and between multiple organizations is challenging but necessary for shore-area focused enhancements at Lower Reach Park, Centennial Park and Murphy Park.

The Town's Downtown Strategy and Strategic Plan commit strategic attention and resources to downtown transformation; investment in waterfront parks is vital to achieving the ambition contemplated in these strategies, particularly to attract private investment.

The Town's waterfront parks are among the most frequently used recreational assets and the multi-use trails that connect them with the broader community are regarded as the most important priority for future investment, based on findings from the coded resident survey.

Passive parkland use of the Town's waterfront parks rank among the highest outdoor recreation priorities, particularly for picnics, BBQs and special events and festivals.

A design-oriented master plan that prioritizes and coordinates a range of complex and relatively minor improvement projects that are necessary in these parks will help each entity to forecast and budget for respective projects with increased certainty that the project's design and implementation goals meet pre-approved requirements.

Actions to advance in a Waterfront Parks Plan

- Focus on diversifying play opportunities in Waterfront Parks through playground equipment renewals and equipment additions. These efforts should seek to increase natural, adventure and dynamic play equipment and also ensure that the playground inventory can meet the needs of a broader range of age groups.
- Plan for designated spaces for special events and small gatherings. Amenities such as picnic tables and picnic pads with shelters are likely to be highly utilized.
- Add extensions from the multi-use recreational trails network in Lower Reach Park to internal park areas (i.e., major fields, sport courts, play equipment) to achieve accessibility.
- Widen and resurface the multi-use recreational trail with a hard surface to promote greater accessibility and increased multi-direction travel.
- Identify and prioritize shore areas for naturalization and restoration efforts.
- Delineate and design areas for visitor parking.
- Design the waterfront for accessibility, with an active, aging population in mind.
- Design plans to address the gaps in multi-use recreational trail connectivity, particularly between Lower Reach Park and Victoria Park.
- Design and approval of location of park comfort and sanitation amenities including benches and dual-stream waste and recycling containers.
- Ensure that sustainability and environmental mitigation strategies are primary considerations when contemplating future park investment.

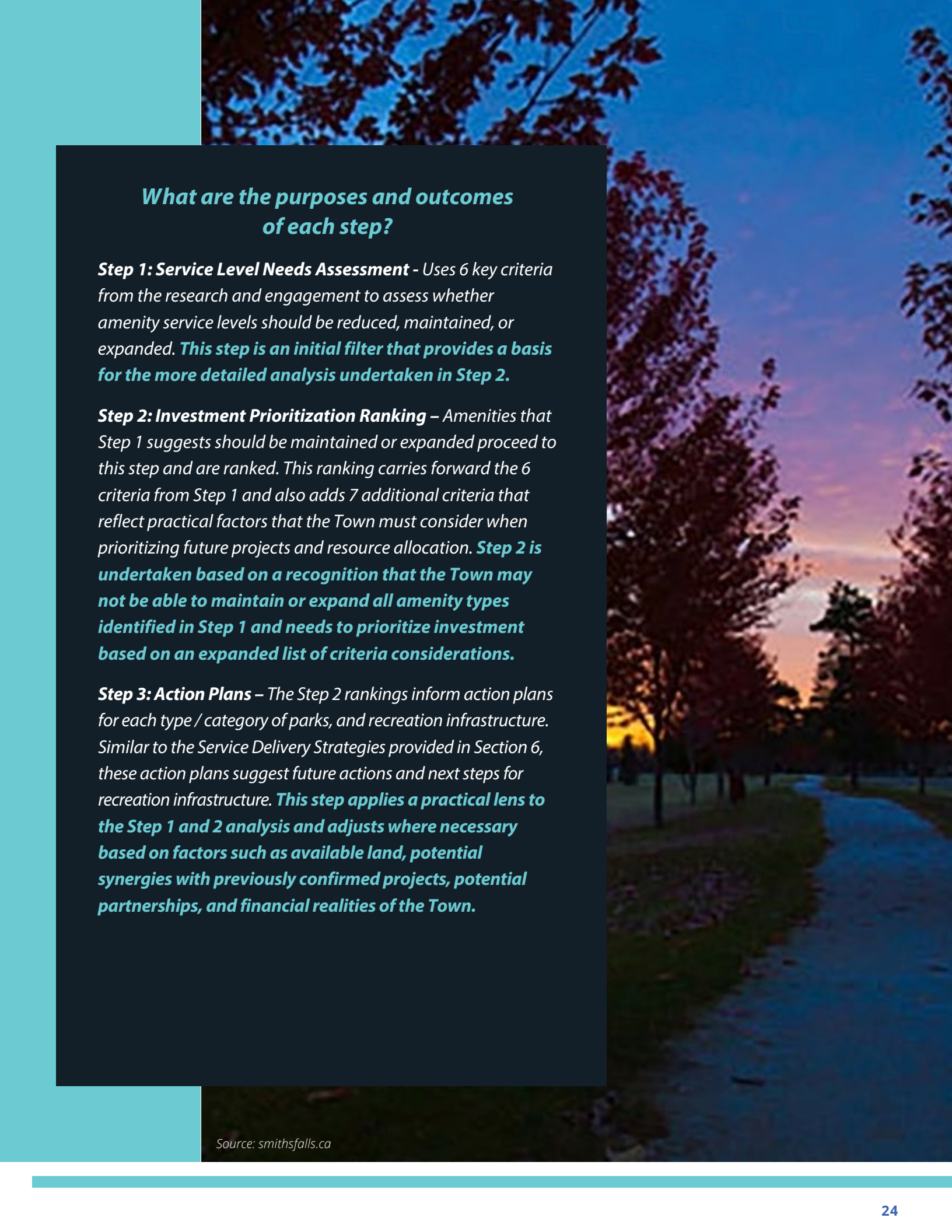
6

A FRAMEWORK FOR PRIORITIZING INDOOR AND OUTDOOR FUTURE NEEDS

The Prioritization Framework

Indoor and outdoor recreation facility priorities outlined in this section were identified using a three-step approach, resulting in the development of Infrastructure Action Plans. This approach supports transparent decision making and ensures that prioritization and strategic direction is well informed by sound data and rationale collected throughout the planning process.





What are the purposes and outcomes of each step?

Step 1: Service Level Needs Assessment - Uses 6 key criteria from the research and engagement to assess whether amenity service levels should be reduced, maintained, or expanded. **This step is an initial filter that provides a basis for the more detailed analysis undertaken in Step 2.**

Step 2: Investment Prioritization Ranking – Amenities that Step 1 suggests should be maintained or expanded proceed to this step and are ranked. This ranking carries forward the 6 criteria from Step 1 and also adds 7 additional criteria that reflect practical factors that the Town must consider when prioritizing future projects and resource allocation. **Step 2 is undertaken based on a recognition that the Town may not be able to maintain or expand all amenity types identified in Step 1 and needs to prioritize investment based on an expanded list of criteria considerations.**

Step 3: Action Plans – The Step 2 rankings inform action plans for each type / category of parks, and recreation infrastructure. Similar to the Service Delivery Strategies provided in Section 6, these action plans suggest future actions and next steps for recreation infrastructure. **This step applies a practical lens to the Step 1 and 2 analysis and adjusts where necessary based on factors such as available land, potential synergies with previously confirmed projects, potential partnerships, and financial realities of the Town.**

Overview of the Criteria Used for the Steps 1 and 2 Analysis

The criteria below were applied to all indoor and outdoor recreation facilities in a two-step process to objectively determine the relative importance of investing in the infrastructure. A comment on the importance of each criteria used is noted for context. A weighting scale (1-3) is applied to the Step 2 criteria to reflect that while all criteria are important, some warrant a high degree of consideration in the prioritization process.

#	Criteria	Why is this criteria important to consider when determining future priorities?	Applied to Step 1: Service Level Needs Assessment	Applied to Step 2: Investment Prioritization Ranking
1	Resident Preferences and Demands	Resident needs and preferences should be a primary consideration when setting future investment priorities.	✓	✓
2	Stakeholder and User Group Preferences	Local and regional community organizations are a key delivery agent of programs, events and other activities. As such, it is important to consider their needs and preferences when setting priorities.	✓	✓
3	Youth Engagement	The provision of quality parks and recreation services have a significant impact on child and youth development and help connect this important cohort of residents to the community (providing a diverse array of long term benefits).	✓	✓
4	Utilization and Capacity Indicators	If utilization of a facility or amenity is nearing capacity or conversely is underutilized, these factors should influence prioritization.	✓	✓
5	Trends	Broader regional, provincial, and national trends, while they can be somewhat anecdotal and subjective, are nonetheless important to consider as part of future service level assessment and prioritization.	✓	✓
6	Benchmarking	Benchmarking contrasts how Smiths Falls compares to other communities in the area and provides some level of insight into expected amenity service levels.	✓	✓
7	Existing Provision	The Town is responsible for an asset base worth hundreds of millions of dollars. The Town cannot realistically assess prioritization from a starting point that ignores historical context and its responsibilities for existing infrastructure.		✓

#	Criteria	Why is this criteria important to consider when determining future priorities?	Applied to Step 1: Service Level Needs Assessment	Applied to Step 2: Investment Prioritization Ranking
8	Regional Supply	Residents living in the County have access to an abundance of parks and recreation infrastructure and often cross municipal boundaries to access these opportunities. This criteria recognizes that the Town needs to consider what exists in other communities (and the risk of duplicating facilities) when setting priorities.		✓
9	Amenity Adaptability and Flexibility	Amenity types that can accommodate multiple purposes and / or be easily adapted for other uses maximize the use of available resources.		✓
10	Financial Accessibility	Inclusion and access are key pillars of the Town's strategic service delivery mandate (as per the Service Delivery Outcomes in Section 5). As such, those amenities that are likely to be available at no or low cost should be prioritized over those amenities that are less so.		✓
11	Project Development Costs	The Town needs to carefully assess how to make optimal use of available and limited capital funds. This criteria factors in construction cost and value.		✓
12	Operating Costs Impacts	Before proceeding with capital development, the Town also needs to carefully analyze the operational cost impacts of bringing online new or enhanced facilities.		✓
13	Economic Benefits	Parks and recreation infrastructure can bring visitors to a community and generate non-local spending.		✓

The results from the Step 1 (Service Level Needs Assessment) and Step 2 (Investment Prioritization Ranking) analysis are provided for each amenity type (this is indicated by the number beside each facility type in the Investment Prioritization Ranking box). Please refer to **Appendix A** for the detailed Step 1 evaluation metric and results and **Appendix B** for the detailed Step 2 evaluation metric and results.

7

RENEWING OUTDOOR FACILITIES



Inventory of Outdoor Recreation Facilities and Amenities

Smiths Falls provides a broad range of parks and recreation facilities and amenities, each with its own legacy and positive impact on the generations of users that have enjoyed using or spending time at it. These facilities and amenities form part of a bigger local and regional system of publicly accessible parks, school board fields, conservation areas, privately owned and operated recreation facilities, and facilities operated by public institutions, such as schools and health facilities. Only facilities and spaces that are owned or that are operated by the Town of Smiths Falls are included in the inventory overview provided on the following pages.



Source: smithsfalls.ca



Outdoor Facility Inventory

Number of Facilities

Provision Ratio
(residents per unit of amenity type)

 Baseball Diamonds # 9 976	 Rectangular Fields (full size) # 7 1,254	 Pickleball Courts (Lined) # 3 2,927
 Tennis Courts # 6 1,463	 Paved Outdoor Courts # 3 2,927	 Lawn Bowling Complex # 1 8,780
 Bocce Court # 1 8,780	 Sand Volleyball Courts # 1 8,780	 Splash Pad # 1 8,780
 Playground # 6 1,463	 Dog Off Leash Areas # 2 4,390	 Outdoor Fitness Base # 1 8,780
 Skate Park # 1 8,780	 Pump Track # 0 0	 Outdoor Rink # 1 8,780



Playground Replacement Action Plan



Service Level Needs Assessment

Playgrounds (Expand Provision)



Investment Prioritization Ranking

Playgrounds (Outdoor - 2)



Current Supply

6 playground sites

Recommended Future Actions

Recommended facility specific and location-level actions and rationale for existing and proposed playground sites are provided below and in the following table. This strategy is supported by a comprehensive Smiths Falls Playground Provision Strategy that presents trends in playground design, equipment selection, maintenance and operations, and capital replacement. This document is presented under a separate cover and should be considered alongside the actions provided below.

Facility Specific Actions

- Establish a playground replacement program as an annual capital budget line item to address ongoing asset management needs, including accessibility upgrades (equipment, pathways, seating, etc.).
- Ensure that playgrounds are provided in new residential development areas based on an 800-metre service area. Playground equipment should be installed during the initial phases of Bellamy Farms development.

Location Specific Actions

Action	Location	Rationale
Remove These playgrounds should be removed from the inventory and not replaced.	Civitan Park (Community Park)	The equipment at this location is at the end of its lifecycle and should be removed. It likely receives minimal use based on its current condition. Civitan Park is within 200m of the playground at Lower Reach Park so there is no consequential service level impact associated with removal.
	Lower Reach Park (equipment beside Tennis Courts) (Waterfront Park)	The equipment at this location is at the end of its lifecycle and should be removed. Consolidating all play structures in a single area of Lower Reach Park will offer a higher quality experience for children and optimize use of support amenities such as the spray pad and washrooms that are adjacent to the larger existing structures.



Action	Location	Rationale
<p>Replace</p> <p>These Playgrounds should be replaced with new.</p>	<p>Hyland & Corbett Park (Local Park)</p>	<p>The equipment at this location is at the end of lifecycle and should be replaced. A community-inspired park renewal project that considers both Hyland and Corbett Park should be developed by the Town to ensure the location and characteristics of the playground and other amenities at these parks address the needs of the local area.</p>
	<p>Victoria Park (wood equipment) (Waterfront Park)</p>	<p>The equipment at this location is at end of lifecycle and should be replaced. Relocating the replacement equipment to the former RV campsite (Parks Canada property) would provide a more defined and larger play area and otherwise make a reasonable use of a space that will be returned to a naturalized state.</p>
<p>Enhance & Renew</p> <p>These playgrounds should be renewed and enhanced given the significance of the site.</p>	<p>Lower Reach Park (Waterfront Park)</p>	<p>The two-major pieces of playground equipment at Lower Reach Park are the most significant in the Town’s inventory and serve a Town-wide and beyond catchment. This is a destination playground. The Playground Inspection Report for this location identified several requirements that can be addressed as part of a significant renewal and enhancement project.</p>
		<p>A site master plan prepared by a qualified individual should be prepared to achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delineation of the playground area. Consider space for additional equipment pieces that can be added in future phases. • Recommended surfacing material to be used throughout. • Hard surface paths that provide accessible pedestrian connections between the parking area, playground, splash pad, and washrooms/ snack bar building. • Provision of a defined parking area for playground visitors. Accessible parking should be provided. • Locations for shade and seating should be provided.
<p>Add</p> <p>These playgrounds should be added to the inventory because of an existing gap in service provision or due to future growth</p>	<p>Memorial Arena Community Centre</p>	<p>A new Community playground should be provided at this location to provide access to residents in surrounding residential areas. The grounds of the Memorial Arena have sufficient space to accommodate multiple pieces of equipment, particularly highly visible spaces adjacent to the Sens Rink. Existing parking, lighting and accessible washroom facilities complement investment in play equipment at this location.</p>
	<p>Bellamy Farms (Local Park)</p>	<p>A Local Playground should be provided in newly acquired parkland.</p>



Outdoor Facilities - Sports Courts and Surfaces Action Plan



Service Level Needs Assessment

Outdoor Paved Court Spaces (Maintain)

Pickleball Courts (Maintain / Expand)

Sand Volleyball Court (Maintain)

Tennis Courts (Maintain)

Bocce Court (Maintain)

Lawn Bowling Green (Maintain)



Investment Prioritization Ranking

Outdoor Paved Court Spaces (Outdoor – 7)

Pickleball Courts (Outdoor – 8)

Sand Volleyball Court (Outdoor – 10)

Tennis Courts (Outdoor – 17)

Bocce Court (Outdoor – 17)

Lawn Bowling Green (Outdoor – 18)



Current Supply

2 Paved Sport Courts

6 Lit Tennis Courts (3 with pickleball lines)

1 Sand Volleyball Court

1 Bocce Court

1 Lawn Bowling Complex

Recommended Future Actions

- Resurface the paved sport court at Lower Reach Park. Provide court lighting and connect to parking area by a defined internal multi-recreational trail or park path.
- Continue to monitor pickleball activity trends and regional provision.
- As sport court development or resurfacing opportunities arise, investigate new amenity additions and surfacing types that can maximize the multi-use nature and benefits of these spaces.



Sports Fields and Ball Diamonds Action Plan



Service Level Needs Assessment

Sports Fields (Maintain Provision)

Ball Diamonds (Maintain Provision)



Investment Prioritization Ranking

Sports Fields (Outdoor - 13)

Ball Diamonds (Outdoor - 16)



Current Supply

9 Ball Diamonds

7 Sport Fields

Recommended Future Actions

- Develop a refreshed sports field allocation policy.
- Enhance data collection and analysis to monitor use, particularly the level of use by non-resident teams.
- Assess removing the ball diamond at Hyland & Corbett Park as part of a broader playground renewal and park revisioning process recommended in the Playground Action Plan section.
- Consider relocating or removing the small diamond at Lower Reach Park (beside the building) to improve access to and provide expansion room for the playground area and minimize risk of errant balls.
- Inspect field lighting equipment and ensure replacement costs are tracked in the Town's Asset Management program. Adopt SMART field lighting switches to ensure lights are on only for scheduled and permitted periods to reduce utility costs. This can be controlled through a mobile application to minimize staff call-outs in the event of disruption.



Source: smithsfalls.ca



Action Plan For Other Outdoor Amenities

The following chart provides additional direction for several specialized amenity types.

Amenity Type	Service Level Needs Assessment	Investment Prioritization Ranking*	Recommended Future Actions
Spray parks	Maintain Provision	Outdoor 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustain the existing spray features at Lower Reach Park
Pump tracks / bike skills parks	Maintain Provision	Outdoor – 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor trends and consider community driven requests for pump tracks and skills parks
Skate parks	Maintain Provision	Outdoor - 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to sustain the existing skate park but adding additional equipment
Outdoor fitness equipment	Maintain Provision	Outdoor 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider adding outdoor fitness equipment and features as part of future park development and enhancement projects –particularly at Victoria Park
Tennis courts Pickleball courts	Maintain Provision	Outdoor – 15 Outdoor - 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain courts lines for tennis and pickleball at the Town’s two locations
Sand volleyball courts	Maintain Provision	Outdoor - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider adding courts as part of future park development and enhancement projects
Lawn bowling complex/greens	Reduce	Outdoor - 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider alternative uses of this site if the Lawn Bowling Club is unable to sustain membership and offer programs

*refer to Appendix for information on the ranking.



Source: smithsfalls.ca

8

RENEWING AND DIVERSIFYING INDOOR FACILITIES



Indoor recreation facilities are important to residents and the organizations that use them to provide sport and recreation services to the public. The Town invests in this infrastructure to promote physical activity, healthy lifestyles, skill development, competition, community building, and economic growth. This section offers guidance and action plans to guide decision making over the next 10 years.

Existing Inventory of Indoor Recreation Facilities

The Town of Smiths Falls owns and operates the major recreational facilities listed below.

Facility Name	Use Type	Risk of Replacement by 2030 – SF Asset Management Plan (Sept 2016)	Description
Memorial Community Centre and Youth Arena	Active Participation	Low	2 arenas (ice in winter; floor in summer); indoor walking track; 2 halls
Heritage House Museum	Museum	Low	Victorian home restored to 1865-1875 period; several rooms open to public for viewing; special events; gift shop; craft room; meeting space; Grassed area/grounds
Seniors Centre	Activity Centre	Low	Building dedicated to seniors' activity; cards; fitness; shuffleboard etc.
Lawn Bowling Club	Active Centre	n/a	Clubhouse with lawn bowling greens
Station Theatre	Theatre	Low	Building with auditorium; seating; stage; kitchen; meeting area; lounge area
Child Development Centre	Daycare	Low	Daycare with outdoor play structure; grass area for play; storage shed; shelter



Indoor Multi-Sport Facilities Action Plan



Service Level Needs Assessment

Indoor Multi Sport Facility
(Expand)



Investment Prioritization Ranking

Indoor Multi-Sport Facility
(Indoor - 1)



Current Supply

The Town does not provide an indoor multi-court facility that can accommodate a variety of activity types

Recommended Future Actions:

- Continue to optimize community use of the Board of Education gymnasiums and, where possible, determine solutions and approaches to issues that limit community gymnasium time.
- Undertake an Indoor Multi Sport Facility Feasibility Study with interested surrounding municipalities and the Upper Canada District School Board to assess demand, viability, and model of operation of an indoor multi-sport facility on municipal or Board of Education lands.
- Participate as a stakeholder in regional discussions on potential indoor multi-sport field facilities.



Source: smithsfalls.ca



Arenas Action Plan



Service Level Needs Assessment

Ice arenas (Maintain)



Investment Prioritization Ranking

Ice arenas (Indoor - 7)



Current Supply

2 indoor ice sheets (2 connected but independent facilities)

1 outdoor natural rink with lights (Sens Rink)

Current Situation

Long-term demand for arenas and ice surfaces is heavily influenced by demographic shifts and projected population, the current and future supply of available regional ice surfaces, participation trends in volunteer-based ice sport organizations that provide programs for children, youth and adults, and the policies and practices (allocation, pricing, contracts) governing the use of ice surfaces provided by the Town.

Considering time loss due to cleaning and other Covid-19 requirements, prime time use of both arena surfaces was 89% in 2020/2021. This high level of utilization has been achieved through optimized allocation and scheduling practices and use by non-residents, many of whom live within the broader region. The Town and adjoining municipalities have an agreement in place that provides respective non-residents with access to arena ice in Smiths Falls. The Town does not currently collect residency statistics.

The current provision of arena ice is 1:4,390 persons, a relatively high service level for Ontario, even considering the agreement the Town has with adjoining municipalities. Utilization is enhanced by nearby non-residents whose respective municipalities make an annual contribution to the operating costs of Memorial Arena, but not the Youth Arena.

Long-term demand indicators, however, suggest that population-based demand for ice time will slowly decline as the general population ages and current adult players 'age-out' of ice-based sporting activities. Given

the relatively few hours of ice dedicated to recreational and introductory-level ice sport programs offered, fewer hours of future ice time should be anticipated for those players that do learn to play ice sports during their youth and play into adulthood compared to historical patterns of activity. Residents also indicated a strong preference through the household survey for the Town to provide non-ice-based recreational programs and facilities, suggesting that the pathways for increasing participation in ice sports will face some local headwinds.

The Town should continue to monitor utilization of the ice surfaces and collect additional statistics from seasonal permit holders to build a more robust trends database for monitoring changes in participation and utilization by ice sport as well as the residency of all uses/players (Town of Smiths Falls resident or non-resident). These efforts will assist staff in continuing to optimize utilization of rinks and inform future discussion with surrounding municipalities about allocation of operating and capital costs related to the provision of arena ice.

The Youth Arena is also nearing a lifecycle period where a renewal of original ice plant equipment is anticipated. Triggers of this nature present an opportunity to either confirm the future business case for continuing to operate the Youth Arena as a second indoor ice surface or to consider alternative uses.



Recommended Future Actions:

- While demand for prime time utilization of ice at the Youth Arena is expected to remain strong, if annual overall utilization falls below 60% of total available hours annually for two consecutive years, an Arena Ice Review should be undertaken to assess future ice requirements.
- Continue to monitor prime time and shoulder season utilization closely and enhance statistics collected from permit holders to track trends in player participation and residency. Provide a utilization report to Council annually.
- Work with ice arena user groups to determine strategies to increase participation and ice arena utilization within the parameters of their governing sport bodies Long Term Player Development plans. Ice sport user groups are encouraged to offer recreational, learn-to-play programs that introduce children and youth to fundamental skills.



Source: smithsfalls.ca



Aquatics Action Plan

Current Situation

The Town offers access to outdoor river swimming at Murphy Park in the summer, including providing climbing inflatables. Two non-operational wading pools exist at Victoria Park and Hyland Park respectively.

Survey respondents indicated use of the municipal pool in Perth or the private aquatics facility at the Gallepeau Centre (which has subsequently permanently closed). A variety of stakeholders indicated that an indoor pool would be appropriate for Smiths Falls.

Recommended Future Actions

- Given the significant development and operational cost associated with adding an aquatics facility to the Town's asset base, and the proximity of other publicly accessible indoor pools in the region, an indoor aquatics facility is not recommended.
- Remove the non-operational wading pools from their current locations as these assets have reached the end of their lifecycle.





Fitness Spaces Action Plan



Service Level Needs Assessment

Fitness facilities (Maintain Provision)



Investment Prioritization Ranking

Fitness facilities (Indoor – 6)



Current Supply

The Town does not provide a fitness facility

Recommended Future Actions

- Commercial operators are active in this space and appear to satisfy community demand. The Town should not provide or operate fitness facilities.





Action Plan For Other Indoor Amenities

The following chart provides additional direction for several specialized amenity types.

Amenity Type	Service Level Needs Assessment	Investment Prioritization Ranking*	Recommended Future Actions
Youth spaces	Expand Provision	Indoor - 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue the partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters to provide the Youth Arena Lounge as a temporary space for the youth centreRecognizing the degree to which youth use and value parks, identify opportunities to integrate interesting and appealing amenities into these spaces
Seniors spaces	Maintain Provision	Indoor - 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to support the Seniors CentreContinue to operate the indoor walking track
Indoor Walking Track	Expand Provision	Indoor - 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Implement a method of tracking frequency of use

*refer to Appendix for information on the ranking.



9

MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Activation of the Recreation Master Plan is critical to its success. This requires coordinated efforts and a commitment from Council, staff, stakeholders, and the public, as well as a variety of funding options to implement the Plan. This section provides guidance on the Master Plan's implementation over the next 10 years.



Source: smithsfalls.ca

Potential Funding Opportunities

Continual investment is required to advance the priorities and action identified in this Master Plan. To assist with implementation, a selection of more common financing opportunities are identified below.



Municipal Reserves

Industry standards suggest that 2.5% of the capital replacement value of assets be earmarked to a replacement reserve annually. These funds ensure good-state of repair and proper maintenance and inspections are completed routinely. Smiths Falls should consider a playground renewal reserve to fund future replacements or upgrades of play structure equipment.



Development Charges

Smiths Falls has recently studied collecting Development charges - fees that are collected through the development process to provide growth related infrastructure, such as new or enhanced facilities or parks. Eligible capital projects may be fully funded through development changes - particularly development of local parks in larger new residential areas.



Cash in Lieu

Cash in lieu of a dedication of parkland is permitted under the Planning Act and currently collected by Smiths Falls. These funds can be used to acquire additional parkland or for development of parkland. Cash in Lieu of parkland collected on smaller land developments should be considered for allocation to the highest eligible Master Plan priorities.



User Fees

User fees vary depending on cost recovery requirements and other municipal policies and considerations related to setting fees. Smiths Falls should review the user fee structure for each facility type and service regularly and prior to making major reinvestments. User fees should be applied equitably.



Partnerships

Partnerships are an increasingly common strategy for developing and operating major facilities and services; partners may be any combination of: municipalities, school board, not-for-profit association, or the private sector. Smiths Falls agreement with adjacent municipalities for the operation of the Memorial Arena is an example.

Monitoring and Updating the Master Plan

The Town should regularly review and assess, and periodically revise the actions of the Master Plan to ensure that they remain reflective of local conditions and responsive to the changing needs of the community. This will require monitoring of activity patterns and facility utilization, regular dialogue with community organizations, and updating the plan every five to ten years. Through these mechanisms – or as a result of other internal or external factors – adjustment of the priorities identified in this Plan may be required.

The Town should develop a system for the regular monitoring, ongoing implementation and reporting on the progress of the Master Plan, such as the collection of participation data and annual reports to Council and/or the community. The following steps may be used to conduct an annual review of the Master Plan:

- Review of the past year (recommendations implemented, capital projects undertaken, changes in facility utilization levels, issues arising from the public and community groups, etc.);
- Identification of service level interests and issues impacting the coming year (anticipated financial and operational constraints, emerging opportunities, etc.);
- Communication to staff and Council regarding the status of projects, criteria used to prioritize projects used for the Master Plan and projects to be implemented in the coming year; and
- Consideration of triggers noted in the Master Plan that specify a predetermined action or response.



Advancing Highest Priority Projects that Require Capital Funding

The highest facility priority for capital funding is the replacement and renewal of playground equipment at most playground sites. Sustained, multi-year funding is required to complete the program and to ensure that resources are available for annual maintenance and repairs, and eventual replacement again. The table below provides a plan to schedule a work and funding program over the next 5 years. Capital funding of more than \$1 million is required over 5 years.

Action	Scope	Estimated Funding Required Funding (2022 dollars)	Timing	Notes
Replace Playground at Victoria Park	See Playground Replacement Strategy for guidance	\$125,000 (site works, installation, play equipment)	2022	Removal of the existing wading pool should be completed at this location in conjunction with construction at this site.
Replace Playground at Hyland Park	See Playground Replacement Strategy for guidance	\$125,000 (site works, installation, play equipment)	2022	
Neighbourhood consultation, site design and equipment selection for all playground sites	Detailed design packages with technical specifications are prepared for each site	\$40-50,000	2023	This planning effort can be phased over multiple years based on available funding.
Enhance and Renew Playground at Lower Reach Park	See Playground Replacement Strategy for guidance	\$250,000-\$300,000 (site works, installation, play equipment)	2025	This location is identified as a community-wide Accessible Playground
Add a Playground at the Memorial Arena Community Centre	See Playground Replacement Strategy for guidance	\$250,000 (site works, installation, play equipment)	2026-27	This is a new site. A location will be required.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Service Level Needs Assessment (Step 1)

Metric

#	Service Needs Criteria	Indicators
1	Resident Preferences	<p>Expand: Identified as a top 5 Indoor or Outdoor priority by Household Questionnaire respondents (coded or non-coded samples).</p> <p>Maintain: Not identified as a top 5 Indoor or Outdoor priority by Household Questionnaire respondents (coded or non-coded samples).</p> <p>Reduce: N/A</p>
2	Stakeholder and User Group Preferences	<p>Expand: Engagement with community organizations identified the need to expand the current provision (the amenity type was commonly referenced as requiring increased or improved provision during the stakeholder discussions)</p> <p>Maintain: Engagement with community organizations reflect some perceived need for expanded provision (the amenity type was referenced by multiple groups during the stakeholder discussions).</p> <p>Reduce: The amenity type was commonly referenced in the stakeholder engagement as being oversupplied with a need to reduce provision levels.</p>
3	Youth Engagement	<p>Expand: Identified as a top 5 Indoor or Outdoor priority by Youth Survey respondents (coded or non-coded samples).</p> <p>Maintain: Not identified as a top 5 Indoor or Outdoor priority by Youth Survey respondents.</p> <p>Reduce: N/A</p>

#	Service Needs Criteria	Indicators
4	Utilization and CapaTown Indicators	<p>Expand: Utilization analysis suggests that the amenity type is nearing or over capacity.</p> <p>Maintain: Utilization analysis suggests that the amenity type is moderately used, but not at or nearing capacity. *Amenity types for which sufficient data isn't available to support "Expand" or "Reduce" are assessed as "Maintain".</p> <p>Reduce: Utilization analysis suggests that the amenity type is underutilized.</p>
5	Trends	<p>Expand: Regional, provincial and national trends suggests that there will be increasing demand in the future for the amenity type or the types of activities that take place at the amenity type.</p> <p>Maintain: Regional, provincial and national trends suggests that there will be similar demands in the future for the amenity type or the types of activities that take place at the amenity type.</p> <p>Reduce: Regional, provincial and national trends suggests that there will be decreasing demands in the future for the amenity type or the types of activities that take place at the amenity type.</p>
6	Benchmarking	<p>Expand: The provision of the amenity type is "Lesser" in Smiths Falls relative to comparator municipalities.</p> <p>Maintain: The provision of the amenity type is "Similar" or marginally "Better" in Smiths Falls relative to comparator municipalities.</p> <p>Reduce: The provision of the amenity type is significantly "Better" in Smiths Falls relative to the comparator municipalities.</p> <p><i>*Amenities for which a benchmarking rating (lesser, similar, or better) was not able to be assigned due to a lack of information are assessed as "Maintain"</i></p>

OVERALL ASSESSMENT EVALUATION

- Expand if... "Enhance " in 3 or more of the 5 categories
- Reduce if... "Reduce" in 3 or more of the 5 categories Does
- Sustain if... not meet the above criteria

Indoor Amenity Assessment

Amenity Type	Resident Preferences and Demands	Stakeholder and User Group Preferences	Youth Engagement	Utilization and Capacity Indicators	Participation Trends	Benchmarking	Overall Assessment
Indoor walking / running tracks	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Indoor Aquatics	Expand	Expand	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Arts and crafts creative spaces	Expand	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Indoor multi-sport facilities (e.g. field house with large multi-use surface(s) that can accommodate a variety of activity types)	Expand	Expand	Expand	Maintain	Expand	Maintain	Expand
Fitness facilities	Maintain	Maintain	Expand	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Indoor children's play spaces	Expand	Expand	Expand	Maintain	Expand	Expand	Maintain
Multi-purpose program rooms	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Seniors spaces	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Youth spaces	Expand	Expand	Expand	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Expand
Gymnasiums / flexi-halls	Maintain	Expand	Maintain	Expand	Expand	Maintain	Expand
Ice arenas	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Reduce	Reduce	Maintain	Maintain

Outdoor Assessment

Amenity Type	Resident Preferences and Demands	Stakeholder and User Group Preferences	Youth Engagement	Utilization and Capacity Indicators	Participation Trends	Benchmarking	Overall Assessment
Multi-Use Recreation Trails (hard and natural surface)	Expand	Expand	Expand	Expand	Expand	Expand	Expand
BBQ and picnic areas / park shelters	Expand	Expand	Expand	n/a	Expand	Maintain	Expand
Spray parks	Expand	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Playgrounds	Expand	Expand	Expand	Expand	Expand	Maintain	Expand
Outdoor festival and community performance spaces (e.g. amphitheater and urban event plazas)	Expand	Expand	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Dog parks	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Expand	Maintain	Maintain
Community Gardens	Expand	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Expand	Expand	Expand
Outdoor fitness base	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Pickleball courts	Maintain	Expand	Maintain	Maintain	Expand	Maintain	Maintain
Pump tracks / bike skills parks	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Expand	Expand	Maintain
Outdoor paved court spaces (for basketball, ball hockey, etc.)	Maintain	Expand	Maintain	Expand	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Sports fields (rectangular sports fields for soccer, football, rugby, etc.)	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain / Reduce	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Ball diamonds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Reduce	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Skate parks	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Expand	Maintain	Maintain
Tennis courts	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Sand volleyball courts	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Bocce Court	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Lawnbowling Green	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Reduce	Reduce	Maintain	Maintain
Outdoor Rink (Sens Rink)	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain

Appendix B: Investment Prioritization Ranking (Step 2)

Metric

#	Prioritization Criteria	3 PTS	2 PTS	1 PT	0 PTS	Weighting
1	Resident Preferences	Identified as a top 5 Indoor or Outdoor priority by Household Questionnaire respondents (coded or non-coded samples).	Identified as a 6 - 10 Indoor or Outdoor priority by Household Questionnaire respondents (coded or non-coded samples).	Not a top 10 Indoor or Outdoor priority but selected by 10% or more of Household Questionnaire respondents (coded or non-coded samples).	Not a top 10 Indoor or Outdoor priority or selected by 10% or more of Household Questionnaire respondents (coded or non-coded samples).	3
2	Stakeholder and User Group Preferences	Commonly identified as a priority during the user group engagement. <i>* the amenity type was commonly identified as a potential priority during the stakeholder discussions.</i>	Some priority identification during the stakeholder and user group engagement. <i>*potential needs was referenced by multiple groups during the stakeholder discussions.</i>	N/A	Not identified as a priority.	2
3	Youth Engagement	Identified as a top 5 Indoor or Outdoor priority by Youth Survey respondents (coded or non-coded samples).	Identified as a 6 - 9 Indoor or Outdoor priority by Youth Survey respondents.	N/A	Not identified as a top 10 priority by Youth Survey respondents.	2

#	Prioritization Criteria	3 PTS	2 PTS	1 PT	0 PTS	Weighting
4	Utilization and Capacity Indicators	Utilization analysis suggests that the amenity type is nearing or over capacity.	Utilization analysis suggests that the amenity type is moderately used, but not at or nearing capacity. <i>*Amenity types for which sufficient data isn't available or are spontaneous use with no current data are assessed a "2" score</i>	N/A	Utilization analysis suggests that the amenity type is underutilized.	2
5	Trends	Regional, provincial and national trends suggest that there will be increasing demand in the future for the amenity type or the types of activities that take place at the amenity type.	Regional, provincial and national trends suggest that there will be similar demands in the future for the amenity type or the types of activities that take place at the amenity type.	N/A	Regional, provincial and national trends suggest that there will be decreasing demands in the future for the amenity type or the types of activities that take place at the amenity type.	1

#	Prioritization Criteria	3 PTS	2 PTS	1 PT	0 PTS	Weighting
6	Benchmarking	The provision of the amenity type is "Lesser" in Smiths Falls relative to comparator municipalities.	The provision of the amenity type is "Similar" in Smiths Falls relative to comparator municipalities. <i>*Amenities for which a benchmarking rating (lesser, similar, or better) was not able to be assigned due to a lack of information are assessed a "2" score.</i>	The provision of the amenity type is marginally "Better" in Smiths Falls relative to comparator municipalities.	The provision of the amenity type is significantly "Better" in Smiths Falls relative to comparator municipalities.	1
7	Existing Provision Responsibility	The Town is heavily invested in the amenity type (owns multiple of the amenity type and/or the replacement value of the asset(s) exceeds \$500M <i>*Outdoor amenities for which the Town has a legislated and/or internal policy responsibility for the land in which these activities take place on are also assigned a "3" score.</i>	The Town is moderately invested in the amenity type (the Town may own one or more of the amenity type; replacement value of this infrastructure is between \$250-500K).	The Town is minimally invested in the amenity type (the Town may own one or more of the amenity type; replacement value of owned infrastructure is less than \$250,000). <i>*Amenities not owned but contributed to through grants or operational partnerships are assessed a "1" score where deemed applicable.</i>	The Town has no investment in the amenity type.	2

#	Prioritization Criteria	3 PTS	2 PTS	1 PT	0 PTS	Weighting
8	Regional Supply	The amenity type is not available in Smiths Falls or elsewhere in the immediate region (not available in municipalities adjacent to Smiths Falls).	The amenity type is not available in Smiths Falls and is moderately supplied in the immediate region (municipalities adjacent to Smiths Falls provide at least of one of the amenity type).	The amenity type is not available in Smiths Falls but is well supplied in the region (there are multiples of the amenity type in municipalities adjacent to Smiths Falls).	The amenity is available in Smiths Falls.	1
9	Amenity Flexibility and Adaptability	The amenity type is multi-purpose, adaptable to a variety of uses, and serves all age groups.	The amenity type has a defined purpose but accommodates all age groups and ability levels.	The amenity type has a defined purpose and accommodates some age groups and ability levels.	The amenity type is single purpose with limited multi-purpose use, adaptability and serves a defined group of participants.	1
10	Financial Accessibility	The amenity type through its combination of programs/rentals/user fees is likely to be accessible to all residents.	The amenity type through its combination of programs/rentals/user fees is likely to be accessible to most residents.	The amenity type through its combination of programs/rentals/user fees is likely to be accessible to some residents.	The amenity type through its combination of programs/rentals/user fees is likely to be accessible to only a small sub-segment of residents.	2
11	Project Development Cost	Low	Low-Moderate	Moderate	High	2
12	Operating Cost Impacts	Low (the amenity type is likely to operate at a break-even or better position).	Low-Moderate (the amenity type is likely to require a small annual subsidy).	Moderate (the amenity type is likely to require a moderate level of annual subsidy).	High (the amenity type is likely to require a significant annual subsidy).	2
13	Economic Benefits	Amenity type has the potential to draw significant reoccurring non-local spending into the Town.	Amenity type has the potential to draw moderate reoccurring non-local spending into the Town.	Has the potential to draw a small amount of reoccurring non-local spending into the Town.	Does not have the potential to draw any regular non-local spending into the Town.	1

Indoor Amenity Scoring

Amenity Type	Resident Preferences	Stakeholder and User Group Preferences	Youth Engagement	Utilization and Capacity Indicators	Trends	Benchmarking	Existing Provision Responsibility	Regional Supply	Amenity Flexibility and Adaptability	Financial Accessibility	Project Development Cost	Operating Cost Impacts	Economic Benefits	Score (Weighted)
Indoor walking / running tracks	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	1	1	1	43
Arts and crafts creative spaces	3	2	0	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	1	2	2	37
Indoor multi-sport facilities (e.g. field house with large multi-use surface(s) that can accommodate a variety of activity types)	3	3	3	2	2	2	0	2	3	2	2	1	2	46
Fitness facilities	2	2	3	2	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	2	1	35
Indoor children's play spaces	3	3	0	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	0	40
Multi-purpose program rooms	0	2	0	2	2	2	1	1	3	3	2	2	0	32
Seniors spaces	3	0	0	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	1	0	33
Youth spaces	2	3	3	2	2	2	1	0	2	3	1	2	0	42
Gymnasiums / flexi-halls	0	3	0	2	2	2	0	2	0	2	1	1	0	24
Ice arenas	0	1	0	2	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	12

Outdoor Amenity Scoring

Amenity Type	Resident Preferences	Stakeholder and User Group Preferences	Youth Engagement	Utilization and Capacity Indicators	Trends	Benchmarking	Existing Provision Responsibility	Regional Supply	Amenity Flexibility and Adaptability	Financial Accessibility	Project Development Cost	Operating Cost Impacts	Economic Benefits	Score (Weighted)
Multi-Use Recreation Trails (hard and natural surface)	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	58
BBQ and picnic areas / park shelters	3	1	0	2	3	2	1	0	3	3	2	2	2	41
Spray parks	1	2	0	2	3	2	3	0	2	3	1	2	3	39
Playgrounds	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	0	2	3	2	3	3	58
Outdoor festival and community performance spaces (e.g. amphitheater and urban event plazas)	3	2	0	2	3	2	1	0	3	3	2	2	3	44
Dog parks	2	1	0	2	3	2	2	0	2	3	3	2	0	39
Community Gardens	2	1	0	2	3	2	0	1	1	3	3	2	0	35
Outdoor fitness base	1	1	0	2	2	2	1	0	1	3	2	3	0	32
Pickleball courts	0	2	0	2	3	2	2	0	2	3	2	3	2	37
Pump tracks / bike skills parks	0	2	0	1	3	3	0	3	2	3	2	2	0	31
Outdoor paved court spaces (for basketball, ball hockey, etc - Sens Rink.)	0	3	0	2	3	2	3	0	3	3	2	2	0	38
Sports fields (rectangular sports fields for soccer, football, rugby, etc.)	0	1	0	2	2	0	3	0	3	3	3	1	1	32

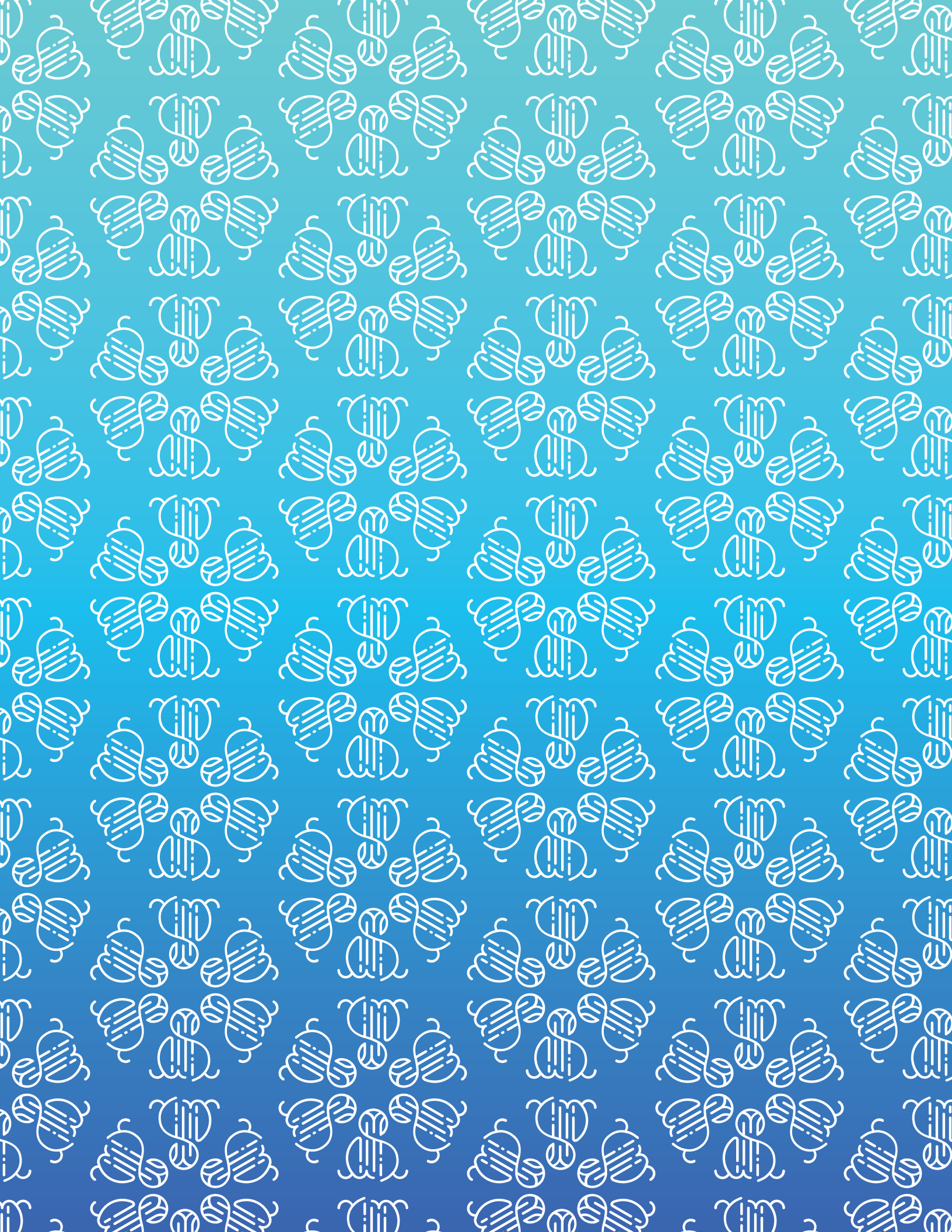
Amenity Type	Resident Preferences	Stakeholder and User Group Preferences	Youth Engagement	Utilization and Capacity Indicators	Trends	Benchmarking	Existing Provision Responsibility	Regional Supply	Amenity Flexibility and Adaptability	Financial Accessibility	Project Development Cost	Operating Cost Impacts	Economic Benefits	Score (Weighted)
Ball diamonds	0	1	0	2	1	0	3	0	1	3	3	1	1	29
Skate parks	0	0	0	2	3	2	2	0	1	3	3	3	1	33
Tennis courts	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	0	2	3	2	3	1	31
Sand volleyball courts	0	0	3	2	3	2	1	0	1	3	3	2	1	35
Bocce Court	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	1	3	3	2	1	26
Lawnbowling Green	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0	1	3	1	2	1	23

Priority Ranking – Indoor Amenities

Rank	Amenity Type	Score (Weighted)
1	Indoor multi-sport facilities (e.g. field house with large multi-use surface(s) that can accommodate a variety of activity types)	46
2	Indoor walking / running tracks	43
3	Youth spaces	42
T4	Indoor children’s play spaces	40
5	Arts and crafts creative spaces	37
6	Fitness facilities	35
7	Seniors spaces	33
T4	Multi-purpose program rooms	32
T4	Gymnasiums / flexi-halls	24
8	Ice arenas	12

Priority Ranking – Outdoor Amenities

Rank	Amenity Type	Score (Weighted)
1	Multi-Use Recreation Trails (hard and natural surface)	58
2	Playgrounds	58
3	Outdoor festival and community performance spaces (e.g. amphitheater and urban event plazas)	44
4	BBQ and picnic areas / park shelters	41
5	Spray parks	39
6	Dog parks	39
7	Outdoor paved court spaces (for basketball, ball hockey, etc - Sens Rink.)	38
8	Pickleball courts	37
9	Community Gardens	35
10	Sand volleyball courts	35
11	Skate parks	33
12	Outdoor fitness base	32
13	Sports fields (rectangular sports fields for soccer, football, rugby, etc.)	32
14	Pump tracks / bike skills parks	31
15	Tennis courts	31
16	Ball diamonds	29
17	Bocce Court	26
18	Lawnbowling Green	23





SMITHS FALLS

RISE AT THE FALLS

