



1. Introduction

Welcome to the Parks and Facilities Master Plan Open House!

The City of Kimberley has developed a draft Parks and Facilities Master Plan that will guide how the City provides and invests in parks and recreation services (facilities, programs, and events) over the next 10 years.

Today, we want to share:

- An overview of the Master Plan purpose and process
- A summary of the engagement and research that informed the Master Plan (Panels 3 - 5), and;
- An overview of the Goals, Strategies and Implementation Plan identified in the Master Plan (Panels 6 - 13)

What is a Master Plan?

A Master Plan is a long-term planning document that provides a roadmap for the future and will be used by Council and staff on an ongoing basis to inform prioritization and decision making.



2. The Master Plan Process

The Master Plan was developed to ensure that future decision-making is informed and best aligned with community needs. More specifically, the Master Plan process enabled the City to:

- Analyze the current state of parks and recreation.
- Identify trends (emerging interests, changes in activity preferences, etc.).
- Establish focus areas for capital facility investment and programming.
- Identify opportunities to optimize service delivery.

How was the Master Plan Developed?

The Master Plan was developed through comprehensive research and engagement over the course of approximately one year.



Research and Engagement

Findings in the
"Current State" Research
and Engagement
Summary Report
May - October



Analysis and Strategic Direction Setting

October - December



Developing the Master Plan

Early 2024

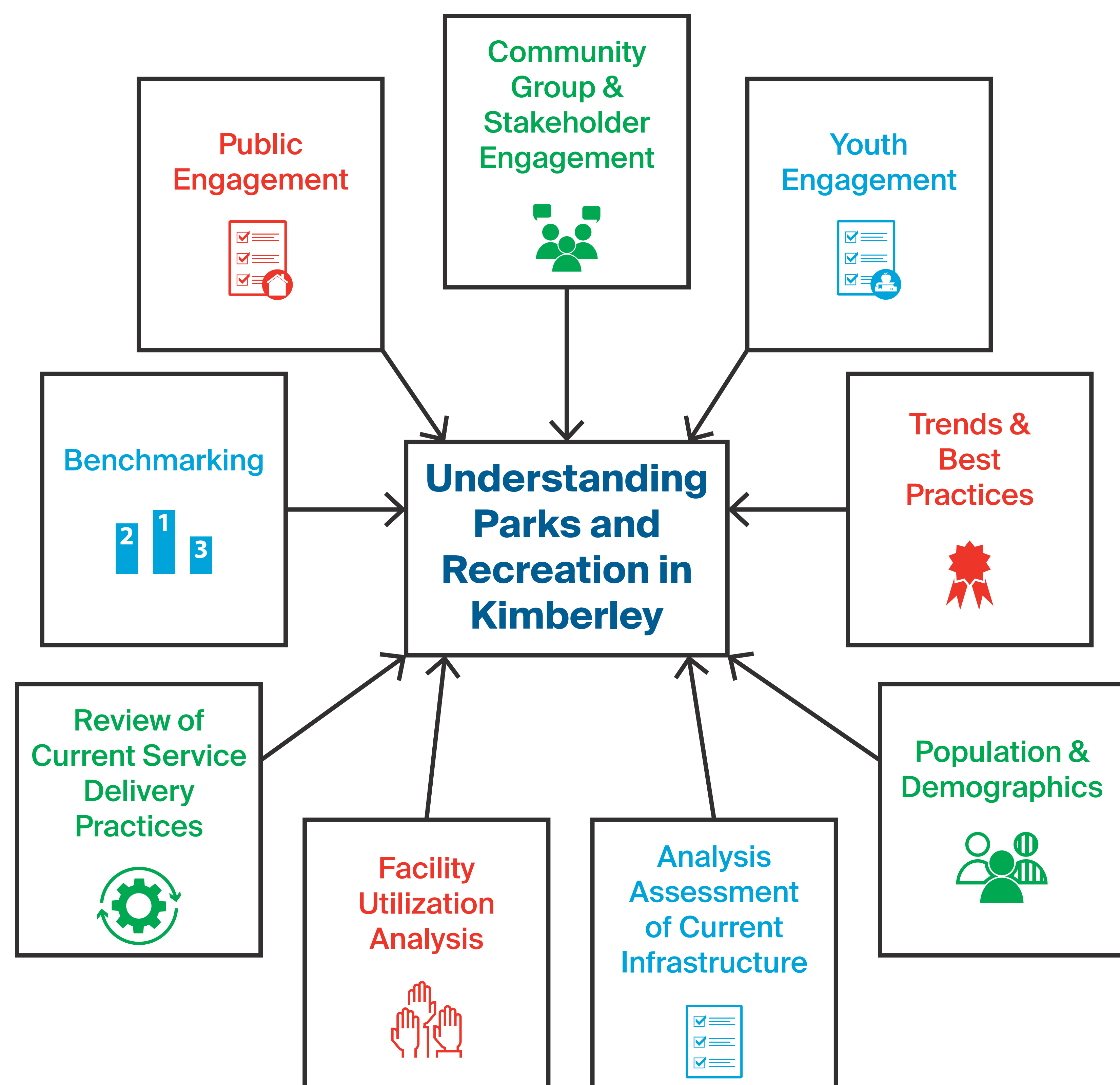


3. Research and Analysis

To develop a Master Plan that sets forth the best roadmap for the future of parks and facilities in Kimberley, it was important to first understand the current situation (strengths and gaps), opportunities, and key considerations that will impact future needs.

The project team undertook comprehensive research and analysis aimed at exploring several key topics, including:

- Parks and recreation preferences.
- Trends and changes in parks and recreation behaviours.
- Strengths and gaps of current service delivery approaches / practices.
- Emerging demands.
- Residents and user group satisfaction.
- Current state of parks and facilities infrastructure.
- Current levels of facility utilization



4. What did the community tell us?

Engagement with the community has been an important component of the Master Plan project.

Key Findings from the Community Engagement:

- Parks and recreation opportunities are highly valued by residents in Kimberley. Wide ranging demands exist for indoor and outdoor activities.
- A great deal of active living participation in Kimberley occurs 'spontaneously' (unstructured; not as part of an organized group).
- There are varying opinions on whether there are adequate facilities in Kimberley and these perceptions appear largely influenced by tenure living in the community (longer tenured residents were more likely to believe current facilities are adequate compared to newer residents).
- Recreation and leisure-based pursuits are dynamic and continuously evolving. Continued demand for spontaneous/unstructured activities, evolving older adult activity preferences (e.g. pickleball, fitness, etc.), and trail-based activity demand are just a few notable trends identified locally.
- Residents, user groups, and stakeholders recognize that many valued and cherished facilities are aging and will require significant reinvestment or replacement in the short to medium term. Varying opinions exist on where to prioritize limited resources.

Our
community
engagement
efforts
saw more
than 600
touchpoints!



Open Houses
75 attendees
(combined attendances for
two Open House sessions)



**Sounding Boards and
Online Idea Board**
75 commentors
(approx. 110 comments)



Online Mapping Tool
19 'pins' on the virtual map



**Coded Access
Resident Survey**
316 responses*



**Open Access
Resident Survey**
62 responses



**Community Group
Survey**
21 participating groups



Community Conversations
44 organizations / interests
(66 participants)



Youth Survey
34 responses

*The Coded Access Survey was fielded using a control mechanism (postcard with a unique access code for every responding household) and therefore provides a margin of error of +/- 5.3% 19 times out of 20.



5. What else did we learn?

The additional (non-engagement) research allowed the project team to further explore and analyze parks and recreation infrastructure use, functionality, trends, current programming and service delivery approaches, and compare Kimberley to other similar sized communities.

Key Findings from the Research:

- Kimberley is growing. The community grew by 9% from 2016 to 2021. Kimberley has a higher proportion of children under 14 years and seniors over 65 years than the province as a whole.
- Community organizations provide recreation and parks programming for residents, while the City's current staffing model is more focused on facility operations.
- Kimberley has an extensive recreation, parks, and cultural infrastructure. The replacement value of current City owned and operated assets is in the hundreds of millions of dollars. As many of these facilities are well tenured, significant reinvestment will be required to sustain safe and functional operation in the short term.
- Most facilities and amenities in Kimberley are well used. A number of these facilities also serve a broader catchment area beyond City boundaries.
- The overall supply of parks and trails in Kimberley is sufficient, however opportunities exist to optimize these spaces (e.g. through more dynamic play equipment, amenity improvements, etc.) and address some geographic gaps.





6. The Parks and Facilities Master Plan

The Parks and Facilities Master Plan provides recommendations and strategic guidance that will help City Council and staff plan and establish priorities for these important services over the next 10+ years. Sections 4 – 7 of the Master Plan include the following strategic elements.

- **Section 4: Goals for Parks and Recreation in Kimberley:** 6 overarching Goals provide high level objectives that the City can use to guide parks and recreation services and assess overall success. Panel 6 provides an overview of each Goal.
- **Section 5: Facility Strategies:** Strategies are provided for different types of parks facilities. For each facility type a recommended future service level approach is provided and explained. Future service levels are explained as either Invest to Sustain, Increase/ Enhance Investment, or Decrease Investment. Panels 7 & 8 highlight the key Strategies by future service level approach.
- **Section 6: Service Delivery and Management Strategies:** The Master Plan provides additional Strategies intended to optimize how the City delivers and invests in parks and recreation opportunities. Panel 9 outlines the Key Service Delivery Strategies.
- **Section 7: Implementation Plan:** Identifies timing and potential high level resource requirements for the recommendations outlined in the Strategies. Panel 10 provides an overview of the key elements of the implementation plan.



7. Goals for Parks and Recreation in Kimberley

Parks and recreation services are most effective when they are based on foundations that establish overarching and clear goals for what the City is looking to accrue through its ongoing investments in these services. The Goals also provide goal posts for which success and opportunities for improvement can be measured.

Goals for Parks and Recreation in Kimberley

Goal	What does the Goal mean?
 Goal 1: Opportunities for All	Individuals of all ages, interests, and ability levels have the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of parks and recreation services. This means that the City will ensure it invests in a diverse array of opportunities and place an emphasis on equity, inclusion, and access. This Goal is important as affordability becomes a more significant challenge in the community and recognizes that not all residents have the same means to access programming or other activities.
 Goal 2: Financially Sustainable Parks and Recreation	The City has finite resources and will be unlikely to meet all demands that exist in the community for facilities and programming. The City will strive to balance meeting needs with not becoming overextended and providing facilities that it cannot afford over the long-term. Achieving this Goal will require the City to carefully analyze future investments and prioritize potential projects based on sound data and a clear understanding of the cost-benefit relationship.
 Goal 3: Environmental Leadership in Providing Parks and Recreation	Protection of the natural environment is a key value for residents of Kimberley. City strategic planning also recognizes that the municipality can play a leadership role in demonstrating sustainability. As climate change continues to occur and some resources become increasingly scarce and/or more costly, the provision of parks and recreation facilities will need to evolve accordingly.
 Goal 4: Leveraging and Protecting Nature	Kimberley exists in a beautiful setting that draws both residents and visitors. Recreation, leisure and cultural opportunities are a critical element of the community’s appeal and future investment into this infrastructure will need to balance the benefits accrued with growth and attracting visitation with environmental sustainability and conservation.
 Goal 5: Commitment to Reconciliation and Decolonization	The City of Kimberley recognizes that it is located on the ancestral, traditional and unceded territory of the Ktunaxa Nations. Parks and recreation can play a key role in helping to advance reconciliation and work towards decolonization.
 Goal 6: Collaborated and Connected Parks and Recreation	The City of Kimberley relies heavily on partnerships and collaborations with a host of community organizations to provide facilities, programming, and events. Ensuring that the system remains strong will be critical to maximizing the supply of parks and recreation opportunities available to residents.



Invest to
Sustain

8. Facility Strategies – Invest to Sustain (Indoor Facilities)

What does “Invest to Sustain” mean?

The following 2 panels (Panels 7 and 8) identify key Facility Strategies for indoor spaces that Master Plan identifies should be sustained at their current service level. This means that reinvestment will still be required to repair, renew, or replace these facilities over time. Opportunities may exist to enhance these facilities as renewal or replacement occurs, however the overall quantity and general characteristics of these facilities are suggested to remain similar to current.

Arena Strategies

- A. Undertake an Arena Strategy to explore the best options and associated costs to sustain 2 ice sheets.
- B. Use the information provided by the Arena Strategy to make a final decision as soon as possible on the best move forward approach for arenas in Kimberley that balances community ice needs, amenity preferences, and financial resource realities.

Arts, Culture & Heritage Facilities

- A. Renew the agreement with the Kimberley Arts Council for Centre 64.
- B. As part of the renewed operating agreement and broader City budgeting processes, ensure that sufficient funds are allocated towards a capital reserve for lifecycle renewal and replacement.
- C. Continue to work with local Nations and rights holders to identify opportunities to advance Indigenous arts and culture in the community.
- D. Continue to ensure arts, culture, and heritage amenities are a key aspect of future planning and, wherever possible, integrated into new and renewed parks and recreation facilities.

Aquatics

- A. Undertake the necessary lifecycle investments to maximize service life of the facility and reduce the risk of future long-term shutdowns.
- B. Improve data collection and analysis in order to gain a better understanding of users and provide a database of information that can help inform future programming and scheduling.
- C. Continue to invest in programming and initiatives aimed at recruiting, training, and retaining lifeguards and instructors.





Invest to
Sustain

9. Facility Strategies – Invest to Sustain (Indoor Facilities)

Curling

- A. Renew the partnership agreement with the Curling Club on a short term basis.
- B. Continue to work with the Club to prioritize repairs needed to extend service life of the facility for the short term.
- C. Explore replacement options as part of the recommended Arena Strategy. If not deemed viable due to costs and/or land supply, support the Club with developing a business case to look at alternative options and approaches.

Conference and Event Hosting Facilities

- A. Undertake a study to determine the best long-term management approach for the Kimberley Conference and Athletic Training Centre.





Invest to
Sustain

10. Facility Strategies – Invest to Sustain (**Outdoor Facilities**)

Trails

- A. Adopt and utilize the Trans Canada Trails' National Guidelines for Classifying Multi-Use Trails for trails managed by the City and provided through partnership agreements with local groups.
- B. Ensure that all single track mountain bike trail development or improvements supported by the City are aligned with the International Mountain Bicycling Associations (IMBA) guidelines.
- C. Ensure clarity on trail provision roles and responsibilities.
- D. Work with regional partners to clarify and establish clear management direction for the Rails to Trails, Volksmarch Trails, and Mark Creek Trail.
- E. Improve connectivity from Forest Crowne to other areas of the city.
- F. Continue to improve wayfinding signage and overall awareness of trail routes and connections.

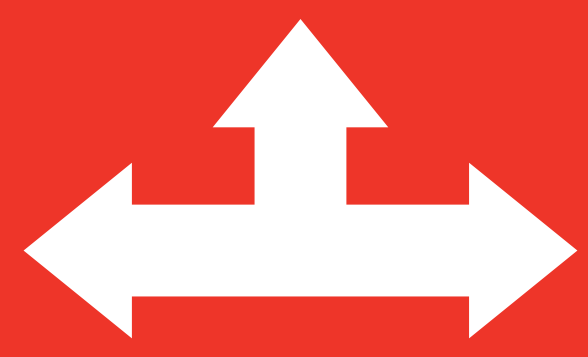
Ball Diamonds & Playfields

- A. Undertake the recommended minor capital works to ensure that ball diamond and playfield facilities and amenities remain safe, functional, and aligned with best practices.
- B. Work with user groups to identify opportunities to extend seasons of play.

Sport Courts

- A. Renew sport court surfaces using the recommended minor capital works schedule provided.
- B. Continue to monitor pickleball and tennis trends and work with local groups to identify options to increase supply as needed.
- C. Better track sport court utilization to inform future planning and investment decisions. Continue to monitor pickleball and tennis trends by tracking court use more closely and work with local groups to identify options to increase supply as needed.
- D. Renew sport court surfaces as per the recommended minor capital works schedule.





Increase /
Enhance
Investment

11. Facility Strategies- Increase / Enhance Investment

What does “Increase / Enhance Investment” mean?

Identified on this panel are facility types for which the Master Plan recommends that a higher level of service may warrant consideration. This could include increasing the quantity (supply), developing new types of facilities not currently offered, or focusing investment to improve existing facilities by adding support amenities and enhancing the quality of the space, etc.

Library

- A. Over the short to medium term, continue to maximize use of existing library space.
- B. Explore opportunities to include a library as part of a future recreation facility project.

Multi-Purpose, Large Span, and Dry-Floor Program Spaces:

- A. Undertake a feasibility study to explore costs and options for an indoor multi-sport or community gymnasium facility.
- B. Work with the school system to identify joint use partnerships and other potential collaborations that can increase the supply of multisport and gymnasium space in the community.
- C. Further explore the condition of the Centennial Centre and develop a long-term plan for renewal or replacement of the facility.

Parkland, Playgrounds, and Specialized Park Amenities:

- A. Utilize the recommended Park Classification system to guide future planning, management, and service levels.
- B. Sustain current municipal parkland provision at 3.0 – 3.25 ha. per 1,000 residents and focus resources on optimizing park experiences and addressing identified geographic and neighbourhood gaps.
- C. Diversify playground experiences through renewals and new installations.
- D. Continue with and advance planning to revision Cominco Gardens as a significant, unique, and financially sustainable destination within Kimberley.
- E. Identify options and sites to meet outdoor event space needs.
- F. Develop and update Management Plans for all Destination Parks every 10 years.
- G. Continue to follow priorities established by the East Kootenay Invasive Species Council.



12. Service Delivery and Management Strategies

The Master Plan identifies a number of additional Strategies to support optimization of overall service delivery. It is important to note that while some of the Strategies suggest changes or adaptations to current practices, others include elements of those that are already being done and work well.

Service Delivery and Management Strategies

- A. Ensure that new and renewed partnership agreements are clear on responsibilities of each party and include key partnership evaluation metrics.
- B. Focus (and potentially increase resources allocated towards) on supporting community group capacity building.
- C. Ensure that equity, access, and inclusion are key considerations as future capital partnerships are considered.
- D. Develop a new allocations policy over the next 5 – 10 years.
- E. Develop a new fees and charges policy over the next 5 – 10 years.



13. Implementation and Next Steps

How will the City use the Master Plan?

The Master Plan is intended to be a long-term guiding document that City Council and staff can refer to as priorities for parks and recreation are set.

Section 7 of the Master Plan identifies plans for implementing the Strategies – including suggested timing / sequencing. However, more specific timing and consideration of how these potential focus areas and projects fit into broader City priorities and financial commitments will need to be reviewed, refined, and updated on a regular basis.

What do you think of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The City and project team need your feedback on the draft Master Plan. Your feedback will help us refine the Master Plan before it goes to Council for final acceptance.

Please follow use the QR code below to provide your feedback using the online form!

