

PARKS MASTER PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 1.1 INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| 1.1. Overview | 1 |
| 1.2. Goals and Objectives | 1 |
| 1.3. Scope of the Master Plan | 2 |
| 1.4. Project PROCESS | 2 |
| 1.5. Use of this Document | 2 |
| | |
| 2.0 PLANNING CONTEXT | 5 |
| 2.1. A History of Parks in Lethbridge | 5 |
| 2.2. Parks Planning Precedents | 6 |
| 2.3 Social and Economic Context | 8 |
| 2.3.1 Triple Bottom Line Benefits | 9 |
| 2.4 Recreation Trends Analysis | 10 |
| 2.4.1 Purpose | 10 |
| 2.4.2 Recreation Trends Analysis | 11 |
| 2.4.3 Trends in Recreation: The Alberta Example | 12 |
| 2.4.4 Trend Analysis through Consumer Habits | 13 |
| 2.4.5 What are the Impacts of Shifting Trends? | 14 |
| 2.4.6 What are the Risks of Failing to Adapt Parks and Pathways? | 15 |
| 2.4.7 The Challenge | 15 |
| 2.5 Comparative Analysis and Precedent | 15 |
| | |
| 3.0 STAKEHOLDER AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT | 17 |
| 3.1. Overview | 17 |
| 3.2. Open House Summary | 18 |
| 3.2.2 Open House 2: November 1, 2006 | 18 |

PARKS MASTER PLAN

| | | |
|------------|---|-----------|
| 3.3. | Stakeholder Workshops | 19 |
| 3.3.1 | Stakeholder Workshop 1: July 12, 2006 | 20 |
| 3.3.2 | Stakeholder Workshop 2: October 25, 2006 | 21 |
| 3.4. | Community Needs Assessment | 21 |
| 3.5. | Directions and Outcomes | 23 |
| 4.0 | PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES | 24 |
| 4.1 | A Vision for Lethbridge Parks ²⁰ | |
| 4.2 | Guiding Principles | 24 |
| 4.2.1 | Accessibility | 24 |
| 4.2.2 | Connectivity | 25 |
| 4.2.3 | Diversity and Adaptability | 25 |
| 4.2.4 | Sustainability | 26 |
| 4.2.5 | Safety and Security | 27 |
| 4.3.6 | Identity and Character | 27 |
| 5.0 | PARKLAND INVENTORY | 28 |
| 5.1. | Park Areas | 28 |
| 5.2. | Points of Interest | 28 |
| 5.3. | Vegetation and Wildlife | 28 |
| 6.0 | ANALYSIS | 31 |
| 6.1 | Overview | 31 |
| 6.2 | Park Provision – General characteristics | 31 |
| 6.3 | Parkland Classification | 32 |
| 6.3.1 | Park Character | 33 |
| 6.3.2 | Specific Standards – Dedicated Parkland | 38 |
| 6.3.3 | Specific Standards – Other Parkland | 46 |
| 6.4 | General Park Standards | 51 |
| 6.4.1 | Public Safety | 51 |
| 6.4.2 | Environmental Conditions | 51 |
| 6.4.3 | Utility Right of Ways | 51 |

PARKS MASTER PLAN

| | | |
|------------|--|-----------|
| 7.0 | STORMWATER MANAGEMENT | 52 |
| 7.1 | Overview | 52 |
| 7.2 | Dry Ponds | 53 |
| 7.3 | Wet Ponds | 54 |
| 7.4 | Constructed Wetlands | 55 |
| 7.5 | Bioretention Facilities | 56 |
| 7.6 | Stormwater Storage Facilities for Irrigation | 57 |
| 8.0 | FUTURE PARK DEVELOPMENT | 58 |
| 8.1 | Overview | 59 |
| 8.2 | General Recommendations | 59 |
| 8.2.1 | Key Parkland Acquisitions | 60 |
| 8.2.2 | New Development Areas | 59 |
| 8.2.3 | Park Upgrades | 59 |
| 8.2.4 | Special Use Areas | 60 |
| 8.2.5 | Preservation Areas | 60 |
| 8.3 | Recommendations for Future Bikeway and Pathway Development | 60 |
| 8.3.1 | South Lethbridge Recommended Park Development | 61 |
| 8.3.2 | West Lethbridge Recommended Park Development | 61 |
| 8.3.3 | North Lethbridge Recommended Park Development | 63 |
| 9.0 | IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY | 65 |
| 9.1 | Priorities | 65 |
| 9.1.1 | Introduce and Publicize Master Plan | 65 |
| 9.1.2 | Open Space Development in New Communities | 65 |

PARKS MASTER PLAN

| | | |
|-------|---|----|
| 9.1.3 | Existing Community Open Space Development and Upgrading | 65 |
| 9.1.4 | Preservation Areas | 67 |
| 9.1.5 | Open Space and Park Acquisition Priorities | 67 |
| 9.2 | Costing | 68 |
| 9.3 | Funding Strategies and Programs | 83 |
| 9.3.1 | Provincial Government Grants | 85 |
| 9.3.2 | Federal Government Grants | 86 |
| 9.3.3 | Other Grants | 87 |
| 9.3.4 | Resource | 87 |
| 10.0 | SUMMARY | 88 |
| 11.0 | APPENDICES | 89 |
| | Appendix 1 – Community Comparison Chart | 89 |