

PARKS

Additional Information Sheets

Q2

PARK LAND TARGETS

Set targets that will continue to support increases to the City’s park land inventory as West Kelowna grows.

RESOURCING



STAFF INCREASE

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Setting forward-looking targets help secure park land while opportunity remains higher
 - ▶ As a community becomes built-out, park land per resident will begin to decrease
 - ▶ Development is occurring rapidly, reducing available land for future parks
 - ▶ Targets help measure progress
- ▶ Update City policies
 - ▶ Continue to secure park lands during development, even to hold in the short-term
 - ▶ Seek opportunities to “activate” existing parks with new amenities

PROPOSED TARGETS

	TARGET	EXISTING
TOTAL MUNICIPAL PARK LAND		
How much park for each resident	6.0 ha <small>total park land / 1,000 residents</small>	5.7 ha <small>total park land / 1,000 residents</small>
ACTIVE MUNICIPAL PARK LAND		
How much park with amenities for each resident	2.7 ha <small>active park land / 1,000 residents</small>	2.3 ha <small>active park land / 1,000 residents</small>
PARK LAND AREA (ALL PARKS)		
Percentage of total City land area	6.5-7.5% <small>total city land base</small>	5.3% <small>total city land base</small>
ACTIVE PARK IN WALKING DISTANCE		
Percentage of urban residents with active park within 400 m	100% <small>total urban residents</small>	93% <small>total urban residents</small>

Continue to secure neighbourhood parks and amenities during development to meet existing and future needs.

RESOURCING



STAFF INCREASE

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Park land dedication and amenity contribution through development is expected to continue
- ▶ Strategic planning about neighbourhood needs helps secure development-related assets that have high community benefits
- ▶ Each neighbourhood has specific park interests and opportunities

- ▶ Review the **Park Land Acceptance Policy** and update as needed
- ▶ Continue to review all park dedication or improvement proposals against:
 - » **Park Land Acceptance Policy**
 - » Identified community and neighbourhood priorities
 - » Goals of the **Parks Master Plan**
 - » Analysis of value to the community



Vineyard Park

Q5 PARKS ASSET MANAGEMENT

Develop a Parks Asset Management Plan in support of the Corporate Asset Management Plan.

RESOURCING
\$\$
\$50K - \$100K
STAFF
INCREASE

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ Current, accurate data supports informed decision making about management and renewal of park assets such as structures, playground equipment, athletic fields, courts, irrigation system, furnishings, and more
- ▶ A robust Asset Management Plan reduces risk by planning ahead for renewals and replacements

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Complete an initial Parks Asset Management Plan for select park components
- ▶ Based on outcomes, review and adjust annual park budgets
- ▶ Undertake regular reviews of the Park Asset Management Plan (e.g., every 2-5 years)



Marina Park Picnic Shelter

12 PLAYGROUNDS

Continue to upgrade and add new playgrounds to facilitate access to play.

RESOURCING

\$\$\$

\$100K - \$250K
(PER PLAYGROUND)



STAFF
INCREASE

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ West Kelowna has **32** municipal playgrounds (higher than benchmarked communities)
- ▶ In 2023, the completion of Julia's Junction created West Kelowna's first inclusive, destination playground
- ▶ Urban areas typically aim for a playground in walking distance (400 - 800 m) for most residents
- ▶ Playground styles and equipment are becoming more innovative and inclusive

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Complete a play shade strategy to increase shade at existing playgrounds (trees, structures, etc.)
- ▶ Integrate accessible play environments during renewals and additions
- ▶ Continue to replace aging equipment
- ▶ Continue to require playgrounds in new development areas
- ▶ Add **1** new neighbourhood playground every 3-4 years in underserved areas



Last Mountain Park playground

16 ROLLING ACTIVITIES

Provide safe and inclusive spaces for rolling activities such as biking and skateboarding.

RESOURCING

\$\$\$

\$100K - \$250K

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Rolling activities are growing in popularity
 - ▶ The new skatepark is a destination for skateboarding
 - ▶ There are no bike skills parks or pump tracks in the City
 - ▶ Community input suggested these facilities would be desirable to support skill building
 - ▶ Some interest in a second skatepark to improve geographic access
- ▶ Develop and implement a plan for a new bike skills facility
 - ▶ Monitor future need and opportunity for second skatepark in a location that increases access for youth



Memorial Skatepark

17 PETS IN PARKS

Develop a range of opportunities for both dog-owners and non-owners to enjoy parks.

RESOURCING
\$
<50K
(PER OFF-LEASH AREA)

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ There are **5** off-leash areas in City parks (including 1 designated dog beach), plus **1** designated dog beach in Kalamo Park
- ▶ Input indicated a desire for both more overall and more variety in opportunities to enjoy parks with pets
- ▶ Ideas for additional amenities within off-leash areas were also suggested
- ▶ A balanced approach to off-leash provision is important

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Add amenities such as seating, shade, and drinking water to existing off-leash areas
- ▶ Seek to add:
 - » **1** pilot off-leash dog trail
 - » **2-3** new upland fenced off-leash areas
 - » **1** new dog beach



Gellatly Dog Beach

Support community-led initiatives for food growing and pollinator gardens in parks.

RESOURCING

\$

<50K

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ There are **2** active community gardens
- ▶ Garden initiatives are most successful when managed by a dedicated external organization
- ▶ The City can provide park space and select resources (e.g., potable water) to support others

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Where interest is identified, support external community garden organizations through provision of park space and select amenities
- ▶ Explore volunteer-supported stewardship projects (e.g., pollinator gardens)
- ▶ Focus beautification initiatives to manage resources



Shannon Woods community garden

I10 PARK COMFORT AMENITIES

Provide high quality comfort amenities to improve user experience within parks.

RESOURCING

\$\$\$\$\$

\$250K - \$500K
(PER ADDITION)



STAFF
INCREASE

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ Washrooms:
 - » Lower levels of community satisfaction with washroom quality and quantity
 - » Important where people spend 2+ hours
- ▶ Shelters:
 - » Value of shade as a park asset is increasing
 - » Often fit well with active and destination parks
- ▶ These amenities have very high operational costs

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Include park washrooms and shelters when developing designs or planning updates for all Community and Athletic Parks, and select Waterfront Parks
- ▶ Seek to add in existing parks:
 - » **1** new large group picnic shelter
 - » **3** permanent public washrooms



Kinsmen Park Picnic Shelter

Regularly assess interest and opportunity for other park amenities as the population grows and as resources permit.

RESOURCING

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N/A

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Amenities with some community interest, but not prioritized within current plan timeframe:
 - » Running track
 - » Outdoor pool
 - » Cricket pitch
- ▶ Community needs will continue to evolve
- ▶ Running track and cricket pitch should be considered during future sports field planning

- ▶ Reassess community priorities during future plan updates
- ▶ Assess opportunities to integrate select amenities when planning for new parks
- ▶ Monitor opportunities to accelerate long-term projects



Community track

Continue to secure, plan, and develop park land to support active transportation and recreational trails projects.

RESOURCING

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N/A

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Parks play a supporting role to trails planning, which are guided by:
 - » Transportation Master Plan
 - » Rec Trails Master Plan
- ▶ Community input continues to emphasize key connections like a continuous waterfront route, an upland trail, and connections from Westbank Centre to Gellatly Bay

- ▶ Refer to the **Transportation Master Plan** and **Rec Trails Master Plan** when considering parks dedication to secure park lands that support identified routes



Gellatly Bay Recreational Corridor

L2 PRITCHARD PARK

Complete remaining recommendations in the Pritchard Park Plan and consider minor additional improvements.

RESOURCING
\$\$\$
\$100K - \$250K

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ High community priority
- ▶ Some **2012 Pritchard Park Plan** recommendations yet to be implemented
- ▶ New improvement ideas:
 - » Expansion of parking
 - » Accommodation of mobile vending

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Consider completion of outstanding **Pritchard Park Plan** and additional park upgrades:
 - » Picnic shelter / gazebo
 - » Washroom upgrade / replacement
 - » Expanded parking and/or parking overflow
 - » Space / power supply for mobile vending



Pritchard Park

Undertake minor upgrades for Mount Boucherie Sports Fields / Darroch Park.

RESOURCING

\$\$

\$50K - \$100K

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Key location for baseball and pickleball with recent improvements since 2016
- ▶ Existing park does not have capacity for further field development
- ▶ Other issues include parking, lack of pedestrian infrastructure, aging amenities
- ▶ 2023 OCP includes an action to develop a Boucherie Centre Plan which should consider park objectives

- ▶ As part of the Boucherie Centre Plan process, explore potential for future park expansion opportunities
- ▶ Complete playground improvements
- ▶ Review and update circulation, including parking and pedestrian connections



Mount Boucherie Fields

L6 WILD HORSE PARK

Create a long-term plan for Wild Horse Park that aligns with the future Neighbourhood Centre and school site.

RESOURCING

\$\$

\$50K - \$100K
PLANNING ONLY

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ Partly forested site in an area identified in the OCP for a future Neighbourhood Centre
- ▶ Adjacent to future school site, but timeline for school development is unknown
- ▶ Since 2016, trails improvements and an off-leash dog area have been completed in response to public feedback indicating a desire for interim uses

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Develop a Park Plan (aligned with school and/or Neighbourhood Centre planning) that considers:
 - » Land exchange review to support best arrangement for park and school facilities
 - » Field arrangement options
 - » Amenities desirable for the Neighbourhood Centre
 - » Pedestrian and active transportation circulation



Trail at Wild Horse Park

L8 MOUNT BOUCHERIE

Continue to seek opportunities to preserve lands on and around Mount Boucherie.

RESOURCING



STAFF TIME

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ Top community priority
- ▶ Certain areas are not within park boundaries
- ▶ Current Crown Land designation does not guarantee long-term protection

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Where adjacent development occurs, require transportation or park land dedication to facilitate park access
- ▶ Continue to coordinate for the ongoing protection of Crown Lands
- ▶ Prioritize within wildfire planning and management initiatives
- ▶ Plan trails improvements through the **Rec Trails Master Plan**



View from top of Mount Boucherie

L9 GLEN CANYON

Seek to enhance access, secure additional sensitive lands, and connect upper and lower Glen Canyon.

RESOURCING



STAFF TIME

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ Glen Canyon is primarily regional park managed by the RDCO. The city owns a portion of lower park
- ▶ Strong community interest for a full connection from Glenrosa to Gellatly Bay

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Where adjacent development occurs, require transportation or park land dedication to facilitate park access
- ▶ Seek opportunities to acquire park land to support future trails connections
- ▶ Plan trails improvements through the **Rec Trails Master Plan**



Existing trails in Lower Glen Canyon (RDCO)

L10 LANDFILL SITE

Work with the RDCO to determine the long-term potential of the landfill site as community park area.

RESOURCING

\$\$

\$50K - \$100K
PLANNING ONLY

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ The former landfill was closed in 2010 and has been undergoing remediation
- ▶ In many places, parks have been developed on top of remediated landfill sites
- ▶ The site could represent a future opportunity to acquire sizable land in an ideal location at a reasonable cost

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Determine anticipated timeframe and actions for landfill remediation
- ▶ Complete due diligence on environmental hazards and potential liabilities
- ▶ If deemed appropriate for future park land, consider a process to explore potential park uses



Former landfill site

Prioritize practices that support environmental and water stewardship within City parks.

RESOURCING



STAFF TIME

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ The Okanagan is one of Canada’s most ecologically rich and diverse areas
- ▶ Opportunities for:
 - » Water conservation / irrigation efficiency
 - » Habitat and natural asset protection and restoration
 - » Green infrastructure alignment

- ▶ Incorporate environmental and water stewardship into:
 - » Parks & Recreational Trail Design Guidelines
 - » Park Maintenance Standards
- ▶ Minimize removal of trees and add new trees
- ▶ Complete irrigation system audits
- ▶ Consider waste stream separation
- ▶ Integrate parks and trails with green infrastructure (e.g., stormwater ponds)



Rose Valley Reservoir

S4 PARK SAFETY

Continue to support public safety in parks spaces through design, planning, and operations.

RESOURCING



STAFF INCREASE

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ Safe, clean, and welcoming park spaces support community wellbeing
- ▶ Active, well-used parks help to limit negative social activity
- ▶ Parks are disproportionately impacted by increases in social disorder
- ▶ Safety requires a multi-faceted approach: design, programming, operations and maintenance, and communications

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Include CPTED principals and safety considerations in Design Guidelines
- ▶ Continue to upgrade and replace aging park amenities
- ▶ Align parks operations resources with escalating impacts from vandalism, encampments, and illegal activities to keep parks safe and clean



Westbank Centre spray park

S6 COMMUNITY GATHERING & EVENTS

Plan and develop park spaces to support public gatherings and community events.

RESOURCING



STAFF TIME

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ Events support community connection and resident wellbeing
- ▶ Priority within 2022-2026 Strategic Plan
- ▶ Parks has a role to play by providing spaces for gathering and events to occur
- ▶ Need for both larger event space and smaller gathering areas

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Work with others to identify park improvements to support gatherings and events and consider events and gathering when developing Park Plans
- ▶ Support Memorial Park as the City's primary event space
- ▶ Seek opportunities to create spaces for smaller-scale gatherings
- ▶ Consider a policy for closing parks to host events, including maintenance resourcing



Music in the Park

S7 PARKS VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

Consider opportunities for volunteer programs that benefit both participants and the parks system.

RESOURCING



STAFF INCREASE

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ Volunteer programs have many community benefits if executed properly; however, requires staff resources
- ▶ Public interest in various park-related volunteering opportunities such as:
 - » Adopt-a-planting bed or volunteer gardening programs
 - » Environmental stewardship and monitoring programs
 - » Park ambassadors
 - » Trails stewardship
 - » Clean-up days

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Develop a parks volunteer plan / program
- ▶ Provide staff resources to support identified volunteer programs
- ▶ Advertise volunteer opportunities broadly
- ▶ Review volunteer programs annually



Community park cleanup

Consider supporting private enterprise in parks where it brings benefit to the community.

RESOURCING



STAFF TIME

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ Select private enterprise may warrant use of park space, for example:
 - » Recreation programs (e.g., exercise in the park)
 - » Equipment rental operators (e.g., non-motorized boat rental)
 - » Small-scale food services (e.g., mobile vendors, coffee kiosk)

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Review current policy and tenure agreements to identify / remove barriers to desirable private enterprise in parks
- ▶ Consider opportunities to support private enterprise in parks where community benefits are identified, with consideration for maintenance resourcing



Exercise program in Pritchard Park

S9 PARTNERSHIPS

Establish and maintain partnership agreements with organizations that bring benefits to the community.

RESOURCING



STAFF TIME

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ Partnerships can provide opportunities for sharing resources, broadening services, and funding parks
- ▶ Existing partnerships include:
 - » Westbank First Nation
 - » School District No.23
 - » Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO)
 - » Neighbourhood associations
 - » Community garden groups
 - » Sport and activity organizations

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Review and update partnership agreements at least every 5 years
- ▶ Consider new potential partnerships
- ▶ Continue to collaborate with Westbank First Nation to identify and pursue common parks-related goals



Glen Canyon Regional Park

Develop easily accessible communications materials to inform residents and visitors about parks in West Kelowna.

RESOURCING

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\$50K - \$100K



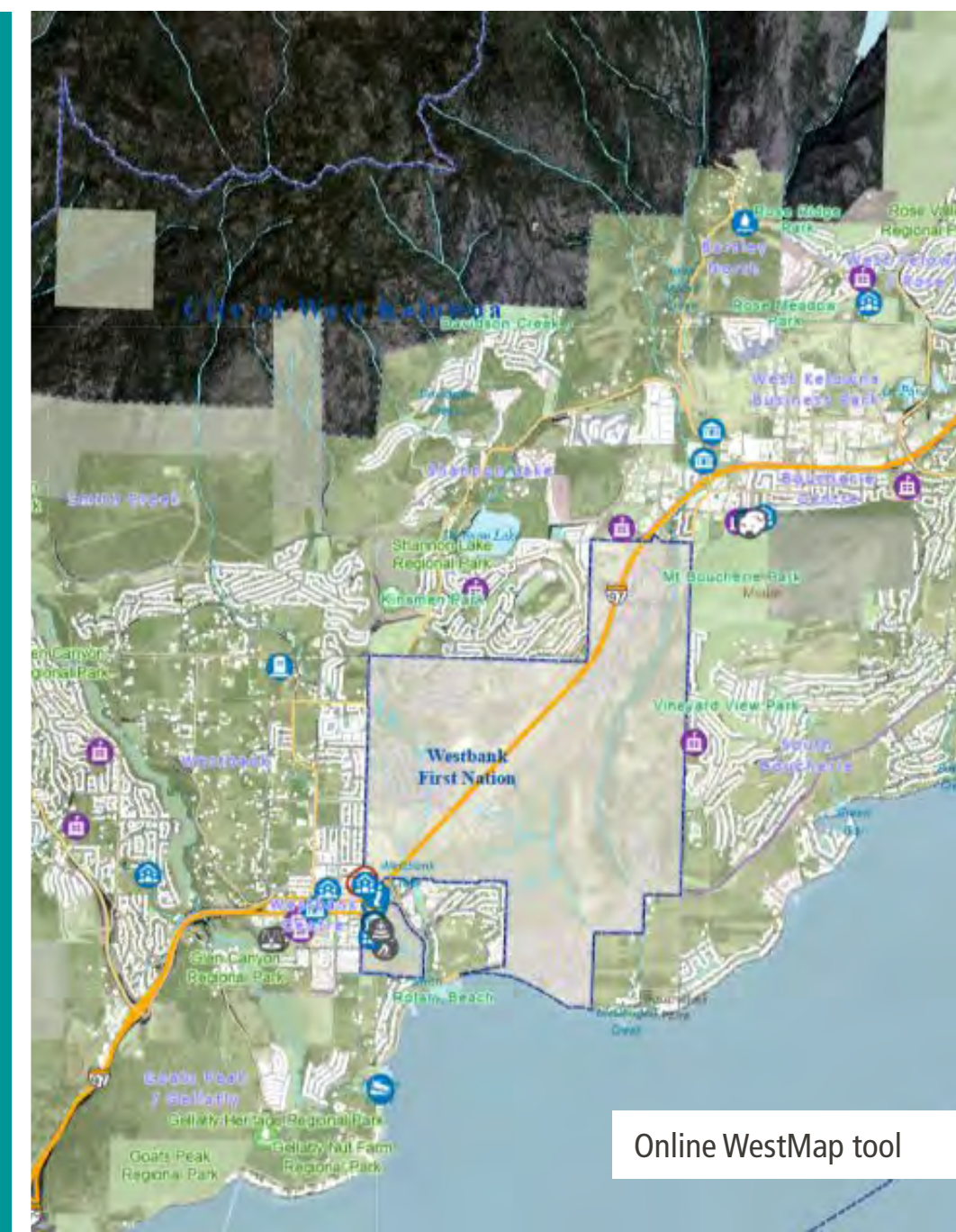
STAFF
INCREASE

WHY IS THIS RECOMMENDED?

- ▶ Lack of information can be a barrier to park use
- ▶ Community interest in more information and mapping of parks and park assets
- ▶ Opportunities for increasing parks communications:
 - » Rec guide and City newsletter
 - » Updated inventory information on WestMap
 - » Increased social media posts
 - » Website updates
 - » Coordination with others

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Continue to provide parks and recreation information through various platforms
- ▶ Update the parks inventory and incorporate new information on WestMap and/or other online mapping resources
- ▶ Develop a parks-focused social media strategy



Online WestMap tool