



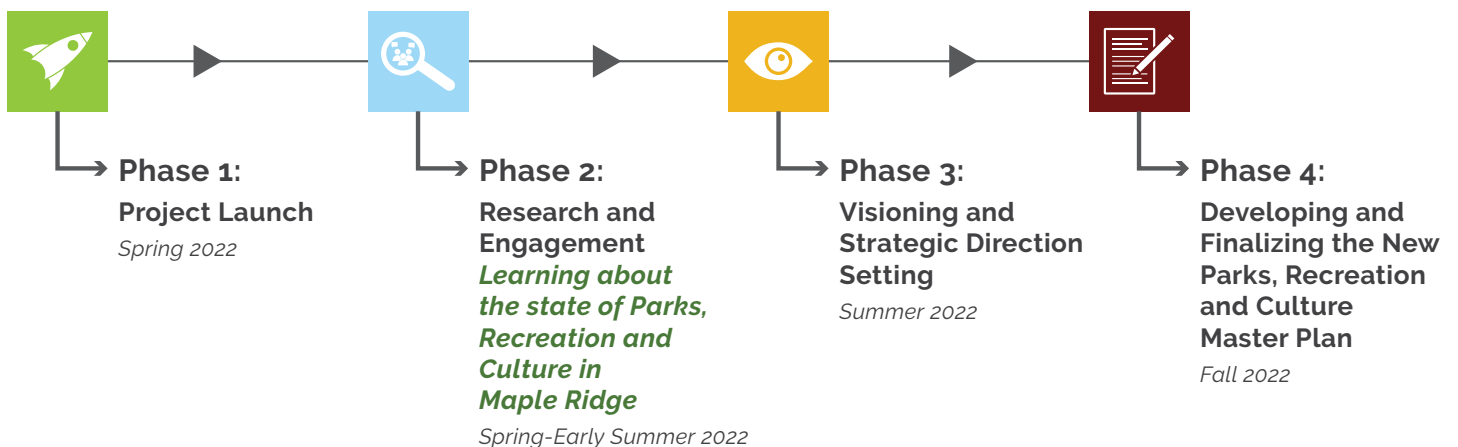
Executive Summary

Master Plan Purpose, Process and Inputs

The new City of Maple Ridge Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan will guide how services (facilities and programs) are delivered over the next 10 years. The Master Plan will be used by staff and Council to inform decision making and priority setting with the goal of providing all residents with optimal, sustainable and accessible parks, recreation and culture services.

The Master Plan was developed throughout 2022 and informed by extensive community engagement, research and analysis.

The Master Plan Process



Master Plan Inputs (Engagement, Research and Analysis)

Community Engagement



Coded Resident Survey

731 responses



Non-Coded (Open Access) Resident Survey

553 responses



User Group Questionnaire

34 responding groups



Online Crowdsourcing

383 "pins"



External Stakeholder Discussions

15 sessions, representing approximately 50 stakeholder interests



Children & Youth Engagement

Children's Activity Colouring Book (22 participants)
Youth Survey (118 responses)



Sounding Boards & Pop-Up Events

numerous touchpoints with residents throughout May and June

Research and Analysis



Inventory of parks, recreation and culture infrastructure assets



Population and demographics analysis



Benchmarking

(comparison of infrastructure provision with other communities that have a population under 155,000 residents)



Spatial analysis

(e.g. the geographic distribution of amenities and relationship to key population characteristics)



Review of current service delivery practices



Review of trends and best practices



Recreation infrastructure condition assessments

Strategic Objectives for Parks, Recreation and Culture in Maple Ridge

Section 3 of the Master Plan identifies five Strategic Objectives that are intended to anchor the City's investment in parks, recreation and culture around some overarching shared values. In other words, these Strategic Objectives should be fundamental to why and how the City invests in providing residents with parks, recreation and culture opportunities.





Quality Services

What does this mean?

Residents believe that the City provides and/or support programs, events and other activities that are delivered to a best in class standard.

Why is this important?

- Aligning with best practices ensures that programming and facilities provide meaningful parks, recreation and culture opportunities that foster the desired personal wellness and community-wide outcomes.
- Residents do, and should, have a high expectation of publicly delivered "quality of life" services.

Inclusive and Accessible

What does this mean?

All residents have opportunities to benefit from the City's investment in parks, recreation and culture.

Why is this important?

- Publicly provided parks, recreation and culture services need to benefit all residents (directly or indirectly).
- Ensuring inclusion and access aligns with key City values across the entire organization.

Value for Tax Dollar

What does this mean?

The City makes optimal use of available resources by ensuring that public funds are aligned with community need and opportunities to leverage resources through partnerships are taken advantage of.

Why is this important?

- Resources are always finite (limited) and it is the responsibility of the City to ensure capital and operating decisions lever the highest possible amount of public benefit.
- Showing prudent and transparent use of available resources helps build support for service delivery and ensures clarity as to how decisions are made.

Strategies

The Master Plan recommends 94 Strategies, organized into four sections (Section 4 – 7). These Strategies were developed to establish key focus areas and priorities over the next ten years.

Parks and Open Spaces Strategies

**See Section 4 for additional details on each Strategy*

Amenity / Space Type	Recommended Strategies
Overall Park Space Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Develop a Parkland Acquisition Strategy. B. Strive to sustain Neighbourhood Park provide at 0.6g Ha. per 1,000 residents. C. Identify opportunities to strategically and responsibly develop City owned lands to increase park supply. D. Adopt and use the refreshed classification system to guide experiential quality and operational inputs. E. Improve the collection of park utilization data in order to better understand utilization data, park provision benefits, trends and other data points that can inform operational and capital resource allocation. F. Allocate resources to undertake strategic planning for the following specific sites: Maple Ridge Park, Whonnock Lake Park, Jackson Farms, Albion Sports Complex/Fairgrounds, Thornhill and waterfront park spaces. G. Develop an Urban Forest Management Strategy.
Playgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Continue the Playground Renewal Strategy to identify targeted renewal / lifecycle schedules for all City managed playgrounds. B. Undertake a detailed inventory of play structures and spaces that includes a play opportunity rating. C. Continue to diversify the play inventory to ensure a balance of play opportunities (natural play, adventure play, etc.) and ensure accessibility across the children and youth age spectrum.
Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Develop a Recreation Trails Strategy to further explore trail system specific needs and provide the necessary strategic and tactical guidance. B. Establish a Trails Committee (as a sub-committee to the Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee) to advise administration on an ongoing basis.
Campgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Support Economic Development in a feasibility study to further explore the viability of a campground by the City of via partnership.

Amenity / Space Type	Recommended Strategies
Park Amenities and Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Continue to monitor picnic shelter bookings and consider further addition of picnic shelter supply if demand continues to trend upwards. B. Continue to identify new and creative ways to encourage and facilitate social gathering across the city's park spaces. C. Identify opportunities for increased placemaking across all classes of parks, including the integration of public art and features that create neighbourhood, community and city-wide connections. D. Continue to invest and sustain spray parks across the city and analyze the spatial distribution of spray parks across the City to guide development of new spray parks and features. E. Undertake an assessment of existing parks and identify opportunities to include trending amenities and features where appropriate in new and enhanced park spaces.
Dog Off-leash Areas (DOLA's)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Continue to utilize the engagement findings from the 2020 Dog Park Survey to inform operational and planning decisions. Consider replicating this survey every 3 years (2023) to track trends and shifting perspectives. B. Use the recommended criteria to assess the suitability of new or retrofitted parks to accommodate dog off-leash use.
Community Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Expand community garden supply with a priority on providing this amenity in parks with appropriate amenity and use characteristics. B. Expand community garden supply with a priority on providing this amenity in parks and vacant City-owned lands with appropriate amenity and use characteristics.



Recreation Facilities Strategies

*See Section 5 for additional details on each Strategy

Indoor Recreation Amenities

Facility / Amenity Type	Strategies to Sustain and Optimize Existing Infrastructure	Strategies to Meet Future Needs (increase supply of the facility / amenity type)
Aquatics Facilities	A. Continue to conduct regular assessments of the MRLC and undertake the necessary repairs and enhancements needed to keep this facility at a safe, functional and appealing level.	B. Undertake feasibility analysis for a new aquatics facility to serve the community. <i>*Additional suggestions on specific areas requiring further exploration are identified later in this section.</i>
Ice Arenas	A. Work with the Planet Ice arenas operator and arena stakeholder groups to confirm acceptable service standards that ensure facility sustainability and optimize user experience.	B. Expand the supply of arenas in the city by 2 sheets, with 1 sheet developed in the near term in order to meet ice and dry-floor needs. C. Use the recommended Ice Provision Approach Framework to guide future decision making on the best approaches to provide ice arenas in the city.
Indoor Walking / Running Tracks	N/A	A. Include this amenity in a new facility (arena, indoor multi-use facility or community centre).
Indoor Children's Play Space	N/A	A. Include this amenity in a new facility (arena, indoor multisport facility, pool or community centre) and/or as part of a future space retrofit.
Neighbourhood Hubs and Gymnasium Spaces	A. Review the infrastructure upgrade planned for the Hammond Community Centre site. B. Ensure the Whonnock Lake and Albion Community Centre sites are sustained through the appropriate asset management practices. C. Work with School District 42 to maximize community access to school gymnasiums as a primary means of increasing gymnasium supply in the community.	D. Use the recommended Neighbourhood Hub Service Level Targets to inform future capital investment and planning decisions.
Youth Focused Spaces	A. Develop a lifecycle plan to sustain the Greg Moore Youth Centre and undertake regular condition assessments to update the plan. B. As an ongoing practice, develop a business plan every 5 years that revisits trends, program practices and space optimization opportunities.	C. As new facilities are planned and brought online, ensure unstructured space needs for youth are considered.

Facility / Amenity Type	Strategies to Sustain and Optimize Existing Infrastructure	Strategies to Meet Future Needs (increase supply of the facility / amenity type)
Older Adult Focused Spaces	A. Continue to invest and sustain the Maple Ridge Seniors Activity Centre.	B. Ensure that evolving older adult activity needs are considered as all other types of new indoor recreation infrastructure are planned.
Racquet Court Sports	A. For the short to medium term, sustain the current courts at the Maple Ridge Leisure Centre. B. Monitor trends and utilization and consider re-purposing opportunities if higher value uses of these spaces are clearly justified.	N/A
Curling Facilities	A. Develop a lifecycle plan to ensure that the Golden Ears Winter Club facility is sustained at a safe, functional and appealing level.	N/A
Indoor Multi-Use Facilities	N/A	A. Establish a working group consisting of local indoor sport, recreation, and culture stakeholders to develop program and space needs for an indoor multi-use facility.
Climbing Walls	A. Sustain the climbing structure and bouldering wall in the Greg Moore Youth Centre.	B. Monitor private sector provision and trends. C. Consider including an aquatics climbing feature and/or dryland climbing feature as part of future recreation facility development based on trends, community engagement and assessed need as projects are implemented.
Fitness Facilities	A. Continue to sustain the existing fitness spaces at the Maple Ridge Leisure Centre at a functional and appealing level.	B. Include fitness spaces and amenities in future arena and aquatics facility development.
Recreation Support Spaces	N/A	A. Ensure that community-wide needs for meeting spaces, program rooms, social gathering space, and office space are considered as part of future arena and aquatics facility planning.

Outdoor Recreation Amenities

Facility / Amenity Type	Strategies to Sustain and Optimize Existing Infrastructure	Strategies to Meet Future Needs (increase supply of the facility / amenity type)
Pickleball Courts	A. Continue to monitor pickleball trends and determine the best and highest value use of existing court spaces.	B. Initiate planning for a hub pickleball facility (12+ courts) that can accommodate the growth of this activity and provide tournament hosting capability.
Outdoor Sports Courts	A. Continue to invest and sustain existing courts at a safe and functional level.	B. Include as a standard amenity offered in most new and renewed Community and Neighbourhood parks.
Skate Parks / Youth Amenities	A. Work with the wheeled sports community (skateboarders, scooter participants, etc.) to optimize existing amenities, monitor trends, and encourage participation in the various wheeled sports disciplines.	B. If future trends and community engagement suggest that more supply is needed, establish a working group to identify potential site options.
Sports Fields	<p>A. Develop a capital reserve fund specific to synthetic turf renewal.</p> <p>B. Continue to work with sport groups to identify opportunities to optimize the supply of, and access to, support amenities like washrooms, seating areas, and storage.</p> <p>C. Consider retrofitting or adding a synthetic turf ball diamond in order to increase capacity, multi-use functionality, and enable expanded shoulder season use.</p>	D. Work with the City of Pitt Meadows to develop a Ridge-Meadows Sport Field Supply Study.
Outdoor Aquatics	A. Continue to undertake basic repairs to the Hammond Outdoor Pool to sustain use for the short term.	B. Determine the future of the Hammond Outdoor Pool based on the outcomes of the Aquatics Feasibility Study.
Tennis Courts	A. Sustain the current supply of tennis courts.	B. Use Tennis Canada's Municipal Tennis Facilities Strategy & Partnership Framework (Let's Play Year-Round) and the Capital Project Delivery Process provided in Section 7 of this Master Plan document to guide future exploration and potential City involvement in a covered tennis facility.
Track and Field Venues	A. Consider taking on increased maintenance responsibility for the existing track at Maple Ridge Secondary in order to improve standards and user experience.	N/A (current track expected to meet community needs for the next 10 years)

Facility / Amenity Type	Strategies to Sustain and Optimize Existing Infrastructure	Strategies to Meet Future Needs (increase supply of the facility / amenity type)
Major Outdoor Event Venues	A. Work with stakeholders to develop a site Master Plan that better leverages the Fairgrounds and Albion Sports Complex.	B. Conduct a feasibility study to determine needs for a new outdoor stadium venue.
Equestrian Facilities / Amenities	A. Continue to support and maintain existing equestrian facilities.	B. Further investigate equestrian needs as part of the suggested Recreation Trails Strategy.
Mountain Bike Trails	A. Develop a Thornhill Trails Management Strategy.	B. Further explore future needs as part of the recommended Recreation Trails Strategy.
Bike Skills Parks and Amenities	A. Work with local stakeholders and users to support growth of the sport and encourage use of existing amenities and features.	B. Consider bike skills amenities and features as part of all new park builds.
Sand Volleyball Courts	A. Monitor utilization of the new sand volleyball courts being added in 2023.	N/A (current sand volleyball court supply is sufficient for the next 10 years)



Arts and Culture Infrastructure Strategies

**See Section 6 for additional details on each Strategy*

Arts and Culture Infrastructure Topic / Focus Area	Strategies
Policy Advancement	A. Continue to advance the infrastructure related Objectives and Supporting Actions identified in Walking Together, the City of Maple Ridge Culture Master Plan.
ACT Arts Centre	A. Ensure that a sufficient asset management plan exists for re-investment in the ACT Arts Centre.
Public Art	<p>A. Further integrate public art (including and especially Indigenous art) with recreation through installations and murals in recreation facilities, parks and trail features / signage.</p> <p>B. Establish a public art allocation commitment for new recreation facilities being considered (e.g. a % of the total project value).</p>
Integrating into Community Infrastructure	A. Ensure arts and culture stakeholders and space needs are considered as new community facility development is undertaken.



Service Delivery Strategies

*See Section 7 for additional details

Service Delivery Topic / Focus Area	Strategies
Data Collection and Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Enhance the collection, management and use of data to inform decision making. B. Develop KPI's to measure the City's success rates in the delivery of parks, recreation and culture services.
Child Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Continue focusing on providing programming and activity opportunities for children and youth during critical hours. B. Consider child care space needs as part of all future space planning.
Major Capital Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Use the recommended Capital Project Delivery Process to guide future major capital facility projects. B. Work with adjacent municipalities and other regional entities to ensure that capital planning for parks, recreation and culture infrastructure occurs collaboratively using a regional lens.
Service Delivery Approaches & Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Use the Recreation and Culture Opportunity Delivery Approaches Tool to guide programming and activity delivery decision making. B. Use the recommended Programming Triggers to inform decision making and when programming should be considered for expanded provision or retirement.
Increasing Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Continue identifying ways to engage equity seeking residents and those with social, physical and cultural barriers in active living opportunities. B. Improve communications and marketing in order to connect more residents with parks, recreation and culture opportunities.



Service Delivery Topic / Focus Area	Strategies
Policy Development and Refreshment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Develop a new Fees and Charges Policy in alignment with the recommended benefits continuum. B. Review the allocation policy, adopted in 2021, to ensure it meets the recommended principles. C. Refresh the Public Art Policy to include a commitment to a capital allocation for new recreation infrastructure (as previously identified in Section 6). D. Develop a new Facilities and Amenities Naming Policy.
A Commitment to Reconciliation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Develop a statement of commitment that reflects how the City will utilize parks, recreation and culture to implement pertinent Calls to Action identified by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. B. Engage with local Indigenous communities and rights holders to identify how the City's parks, trails, open spaces, programs and services can better connect to Indigenous culture and history.
Strategy Alignment and Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Adequately resource the implementation of previously developed strategies. B. Utilize parks, recreation and culture as a mechanism to advance the priorities and goals identified in the Economic Development Strategy and Maple Ridge Tourism Strategy. <p><i>*Section 4 identifies a number of outdoor space plans and strategies that should be undertaken to guide the development of potential new park spaces and optimization of existing ones.</i></p>