



# City of North Bay Parks Master Plan

Draft No. 4 | 2021/09





*Data Sources: City of North Bay GIS*

*The City of North Bay makes no guarantees, representations or warranties respecting the accuracy, completeness or reliability of the mapping Data either express or implied.*

*The City of North Bay specifically disclaims any and all liability, including without limitation, consequential and incidental damages, that may arise in any way from the use of or reliance on the mapping Data.*

*These maps are not legal plans or surveys and are not to be used as a navigational aid.*



# Content

<b>1.0 INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4.0 PARKS AND NATURAL SPACE NETWORK</b>	<b>36</b>
WHY PARKS MATTER	5	EXPANDED NETWORK COMPONENTS	38
PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS	7	APPLIED EQUITY MODEL	38
PREVIOUS WORKS	8	PARKS DISTRIBUTION	42
THE EXISTING POPULATION	8	EXTENDED CLASSIFICATIONS	102
BASELINE PARKS INVENTORY	9	LINEAR PARKS	102
CONDITIONAL STATEMENT	10	OPEN SPACE PARKS	104
BACKGROUND LESSONS	11	COMMEMORATIVE PARKS	106
<b>2.0 CONSULTATION AND CONCEPTS</b>	<b>12</b>	NON-CLASSIFIED PARKS	106
CONSULTATION PROCESS	12	<b>5.0 IMPLEMENTATION</b>	<b>108</b>
BIG IDEAS - YOUTH	12	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	108
COMMUNITY SURVEY	14	PHASE ONE	110
ACTIVITY PROGRAMMERS SURVEY	15	PHASE TWO	115
STAKEHOLDER SESSIONS	15	PHASE THREE	120
COMMUNITY WORK SESSIONS	17	PHASE FOUR	122
84 BIG IDEAS FOR NORTH BAY'S PARK NETWORK	17	PHASE FIVE	123
<b>3.0 INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>APPENDIX A</b>	<b>126</b>
EVOLVING DEMOGRAPHICS	20	<b>APPENDIX B</b>	<b>131</b>
POPULATION - PLANNING DISTRICT	23		
INVENTORY ANALYSIS	25		





# 1.0 Introduction

## A Parks Master plan for the City of North Bay

---

The City of North Bay is home to over 51,000 residents who enjoy a Northern Ontario lifestyle that includes access to world-class water and land-based environments. Lake Nipissing provides a venue for fishing, boating, swimming, snowmobiling, ice fishing, ice skating and beautiful sunsets. Lakes and unique landforms such as the Laurentian Escarpment provide exceptional recreational grounds for activities such as hiking, canoeing and biking. At their interface, the City of North Bay offers quaint residential neighbourhoods, busy commercial areas and a shoreline downtown that functions as a regional business, cultural and recreational focal point.

The City of North Bay is an amalgamated municipality. The Widdifield and West Ferris

townships joined the city in 1968, creating a single regional hub. The City of North Bay commissioned this master plan to:

- » To evaluate existing outdoor park sites to understand general condition and state of readiness within the context of an updated park network;
- » To work with residents and program delivery groups to understand future park facility needs within the context of existing and evolving recreation and sport participation models, and;
- » To develop a classified park network and establish service levels that meet resident outdoor recreation and sport facility needs.

This document, The City of North Bay Parks Master Plan, responds to these requirements with a vision-based, rationalized and classified series of park facilities forming a network and a phased approach to realizing this vision. When complete, the city's parks network will include park sites that provide recreational and social amenities at the neighbourhood, community, and regional levels. The network will support city and living, sport and recreation tourism, and become a powerful economic development tool. This master plan provides a roadmap that moves the city's existing parks network to the updated model over the next 20 years.





## WHY PARKS MATTER

Parks and urban park systems play a significant role in the physical and social health of residents, as well as the economic and environmental health of the city. For these reasons, city administrators increasingly view urban park systems as essential lifestyle and sustainable infrastructure networks that are rationalized relative to the following principles.

**PARKS FOR MENTAL HEALTH.** Parks provide residents with a place where daily life stress is replaced with clean air, rich vegetation, activity, social gathering and rest in outdoor environments (whether by yourself, or with friends and neighbours). Residents can choose how they wish to use a park, and who they wish to use a park with. The terms and place of use are completely up to the visitor.

**PARKS FOR PHYSICAL HEALTH.** Parks are designed to create opportunities to support active daily living in programmed or informal spaces. For example, residents wishing to walk their dog, run on trail systems, play

soccer or participate in yoga can find a place in the network. This available activity supports improved health. Park networks that offer a variety of programmed or informal activity support daily participation and increased personal health.

**RESIDENTS WITH IMPROVED PHYSICAL HEALTH REDUCE STRESS ON HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS.** The statistical and financial benefits of this are well documented by the Government of Canada Framework for Recreation (2015) and the Curbing Childhood Obesity: A Federal, Provincial and Territorial Framework for Action to Promote Healthy Weights (2010). As described in these documents, 2.5 hours of weekly walking, playing with children or cycling can reduce chronic health conditions such as stroke, colon cancer, osteoporosis, hypertension, breast cancer, type 2 diabetes or coronary heart disease while improving balance, strength, flexibility and general coordination. Reciprocally, this represents a significant reduction in health care requirements.



Cities play a significant health care role through the delivery of activity venues such as parks and trails. The National Health Officer's 2016 Health Status of Canadians document states that incidents of diabetes have doubled in all Canadians over 20 (between 2000 and 2011). Accessible and interesting activities and venues encourage residents to get out, get active and get healthy.

**PARKS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH.** Open spaces and parks provide the tree canopy required to sustain animal populations and keep water bodies cool. Additionally, the native plant communities found in parks and open spaces function as biological filters that provide human and animal life with clean air and water.

**PARKS FOR SPORT.** Programmed activities such as soccer, baseball, hockey, pickleball, tennis and basketball rely on both youth and adult interest to attract new participants that sustain sport programs. Online activities such as social media and gaming attracts youth toward digital platforms, away from activity. Day-to-day commitments attract adults from daily well-being activities. Therefore, parks must be available, accessible and provide amenities such as open turf area, multi-use courts and skating rinks that attracts and sustains interest in park spaces (that extends into sustained interest in minor sport programs as skills and desire to play at 'higher levels' grow).

**PARKS FOR EQUITY.** Not all activities are accessible to all residents for cost or access reasons; however, parks can be made easily accessible through locational strategies that provide equal and fair access. An equitable parks network built on spatial criteria rather than statistical distribution ensures that residents can access neighbourhood park spaces comfortably by foot while spaces that are shared by communities or the region, if not easily accessed on foot, can be accessed by bike or by transit.

**PARKS FOR SUSTAINABILITY.** Climate change has forced planners and engineers to adopt new approaches to collecting and managing flood waters resulting from more frequent and intense storm events. City-wide collection and management systems can become overwhelmed under contemporary climate change conditions. Parks, open spaces and natural landscapes can be designed to intervene in conventional systems through re-engineering the broad system to collect and treat storm flows at the neighbourhood level (prior to irrigating local vegetation or release into surface and ground water aquifers).

**PARKS FOR ECONOMY.** Community economic development is based on the notion that a city can provide the amenities that are attractive to companies and their employees. Companies seek accessible workforce and resource materials, quality transportation systems and opportunities for growth for the life of the corporation. Employees seek quality careers, good schools, as well as great parks, trails, and recreation opportunities as primary reasons for choosing a city to live and grow a family in. Parks and facilities play an important role in attracting and sustaining the workforce that sustains existing and future companies.





## PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Creating this master plan required significant input from key stakeholders and city residents. The enthusiasm of those who participated in the consultation process is directly reflected in the list of 84 Big Ideas, which expresses the desires and needs of park users, and which forms the foundation of this master plan. The following figure describes the plan development process.



**FIGURE 1 | PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS**



## PREVIOUS WORKS

The following studies and plans were reviewed to provide important context to be considered during the master plan process. The Previous Works Brief is included in appendix A.

- » *Active Transportation Master Plan* (2019);
- » *Downtown Waterfront Master Plan*;
- » *Strategic Plan* (2017);
- » *Age Friendly Action Plan* (2016);
- » *Multi-Use Recreational Feasibility Study* (2013);
- » *Multi-Use recreational Facility Update* (2019);
- » *Park Plan Update* (2009);
- » *Park Buildings Assessment Study*; and
- » *Official Plan*.

The review examined themes such as acquiring park land, aging residents, active transportation integration, definition and inventory, disposing of park land, the downtown and waterfront, non-municipal park areas and partnerships, policy, recreation trends, rural area, signage and branding, and urban residential area densities.

## THE EXISTING POPULATION

According to the 2016 Census, the City of North Bay is home to 51,553 residents (see Chapter 3 for population data). The population has declined by 3.8% in the period between 2011-2016; however, Council-approved economic development strategies and incentives will support growth over the next 20 years.

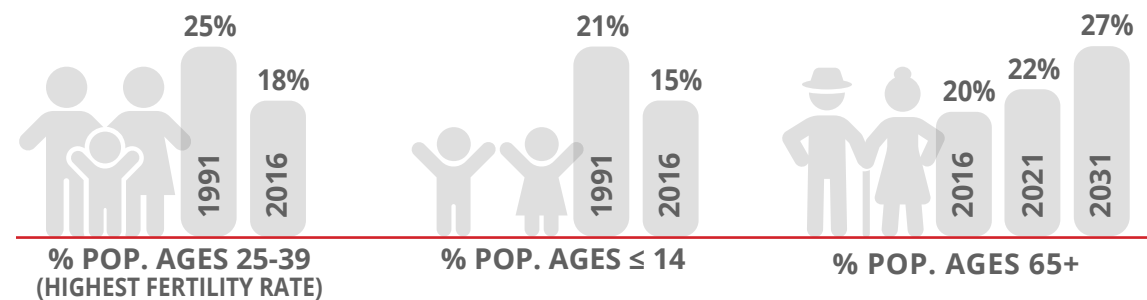
City Council is committed to "affordable, balanced growth"<sup>1</sup> to encourage existing residents to stay in the community and to attract new residents to live, work and play in North Bay.

<sup>1</sup>2017-2027 North Bay Strategic Plan

In 2019, the city commissioned a long-term growth forecast study by Hemson Consulting Ltd. The final report, entitled *Growth Forecast to 2046*, proposes initiatives through which the city can grow its population. As City Council is committed to pursuing initiatives and strategies to encourage economic and community growth, the Parks Master Plan considers the mid-range projections of the Growth Forecast report over the next 20 years, predicting a population of 53,340 people in 2041.

In 2021, school enrollment has shown a significant increase. The 2021 census data, when it becomes available, should be reviewed to determine the most current population and demographic trends.

**FIGURE 2 | NORTH BAY POPULATION**



## BASELINE PARKS INVENTORY

North Bay's park network includes 147 spaces which include playgrounds, sports fields, natural spaces, and waterfront access points located on city, provincial or federally-owned land or other authorities, such as the North Bay - Mattawa Conservation Authority. Figure 3 provides a brief overview of the existing city-owned park network; a more detailed overview is presented in Chapter 3, Inventory and Analysis. School playgrounds are not included in the analysis.

The City of North Bay owns 1 park for every 874 residents, or 15.5 Ha of park space for every 1000 residents (including school sites and natural spaces). For regional comparison, Greater Sudbury delivers parks at 714 residents/

park and Timmins at 921 residents/park. North Bay delivers park facilities within the regional median range and appears to have sufficient inventory to develop a classified network.

Figure 4, next page, illustrates a comparative model of various park amenities relative to adjacent communities. As illustrated in the figure, North Bay falls within the median ranges for all facilities except for emerging personal or small gathering activities such as basketball, beach volleyball, splash pads, dog parks and skateboard facilities. New hard surface courts can utilize multi-use facilities to address apparent court shortages. However, emerging dog-friendly and skateboard activities require evaluation relative to user needs and ideal

locations. The City's new splash pad addresses the water play needs within the context of a city with a rich beach and shoreline environment. The City's new basketball/ball hockey adjacent to the City's transit terminal will provide easy access for users as all City transit routes start and end at the terminal. This provides convenient and relatively quick access to the courts without the need for transferring buses

It is important to note that school facilities are not evaluated as part of the existing parks network. Some schools provide access to play and field spaces when not used by the school; however, this is not consistent across the city and, therefore, not considered as part of this master plan.

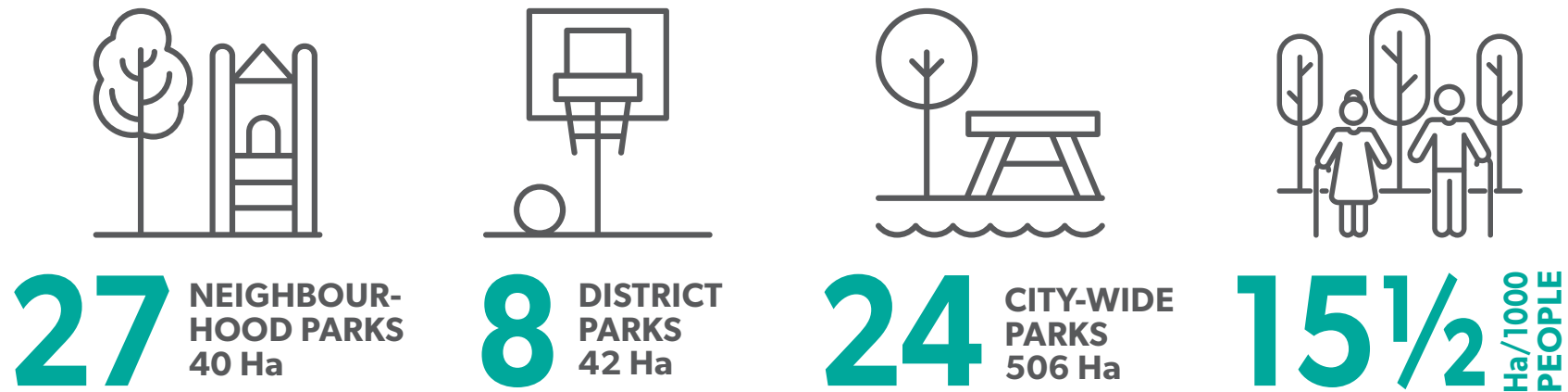


FIGURE 3 | EXISTING NETWORK OF CITY-OWNED PARKS



FIGURE 4 | NORTH BAY PARK FACILITIES



## CONDITIONAL STATEMENT

All quantity values require further evaluation through public and user group consultation (described in the next chapter); however, North Bay appears to be well-positioned to develop a classified park network. Further to this, site evaluations conducted during the creation of this master plan reinforced this point. North Bay's park facilities are exceptionally well cared for through a carefully formed and delivered operational plan. Approximately 37 full-and-part-time staff, supported by approximately one dozen summer students, care for the park network through facilities maintenance and basic sustainability operations. This number reduces to approximately 18 staff during the winter.

This master plan assumes that all projects must fall within existing staffing capacity to ensure that conditional service and site sustainability are retained. Any additional park spaces requiring additional staffing will also require additional funding. The development of these spaces must occur relative to residential growth, which supplies increased property tax revenues.

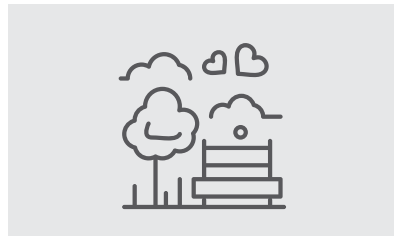


## BACKGROUND LESSONS

This chapter describes the statistical context that informs the parks master plan. The following points describe important lessons from this data to be considered in the creation of the classified park network.



The City of North Bay presently has a sufficient park and natural space inventory to establish a suitable recreation and sports facilities network; however, facilities that meet the needs of emerging activities are required.



The City of North Bay provides a high level of operational service within this network. Any modified inventory network must ensure operational sustainability within the existing tax base, and within existing staffing commitments.



The City of North Bay demographics are evolving; therefore, any parks network model should evolve to meet present and future residents' needs as the network matures.



The parks master plan must become an economic development tool that encourages youth and businesses to stay and encourages new residents and businesses to move to North Bay.





# 2.0 Consultation and Concepts

---

This chapter provides an overview of the various public, user group and stakeholder consultations conducted during master plan development.

## CONSULTATION PROCESS

Consultation began with a public survey highlighting activities and places that should be explored during open public sessions and stakeholder meetings. As with all good public consultation, initial data and solicited ideas evolve as the process proceeds. This chapter tracks this process, presents the results, and terminates with a series of big ideas that form the parks network plan.

## BIG IDEAS - YOUTH

Although meeting with students during the pandemic was not possible, results from sessions with students during consultation for the Active Transportation Master Plan were brought forward. During those sessions, students discussed the existing park network and how it related to their daily lives through an active transportation lens, specifically how they wanted to travel to park destinations and how long it should take to get there. Ultimately, the idea of park network components directly relates to the distance of these spaces from their homes.

The network's base component is the neighbourhood park. This classification

identifies parks located within a 10-minute walk from residents' front doors (650 meters). Amenities in neighbourhood parks include a small play structure sized to meet the needs of its service area, seating, shade, open play space and, if space permits, a small court for basketball or hockey. These amenities suggest a 2-acre park site.

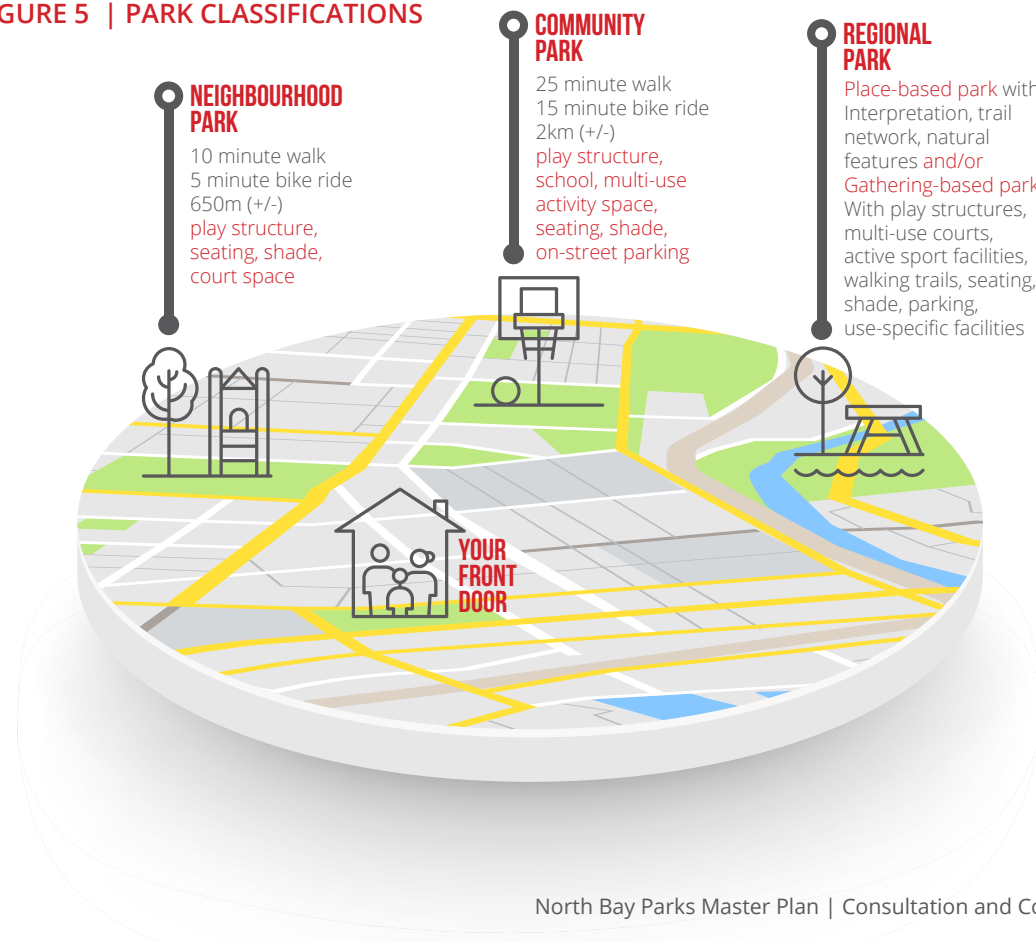
The next component is a larger community park located within a 25-minute walk, 15-minute bike ride or serves a 2.0 km service radius from residents' front doors. Amenities in community parks include larger neighbourhood amenities, a sports field and/or a rink, dog-friendly spaces or something that attracts people from around the city.



The largest primary park component is the regional park. This classification identifies a place like North Bay's waterfront, the Steve Omischl Sports Complex, Thomson Park, The Laurier Woods or the Laurentian Escarpment Conservation Area (non-city owned). These parks are located relative to a unique environmental or cultural setting and offer amenities to both residents and visitors.

These initial ideas were tested and further populated through the following consultation sessions, and summarized on figure 10.

**FIGURE 5 | PARK CLASSIFICATIONS**





## COMMUNITY SURVEY

An online public survey explored what types of activities residents were most interested in and what kind of park facilities are preferred. 423 people participated in the survey.

Top park activities include walking, biking, swimming, hiking and camping (see figure 6). The most popular outdoor activities respondents presently participate in, in addition to the previously mentioned activities, are illustrated in figure 7. The most desired activities of survey respondents include kayaking, archery, art and climbing (see figure 8). These results clearly indicate an interest in informal outdoor activity within the park network.

Finally, participating residents indicated neutral or somewhat satisfied as their highest response when questioned about their level of satisfaction with the existing park activities (see figure 9). These activity-based ideas were combined with youth park type concepts and further explored during the broad public sessions.

FIGURE 6 | TOP 5 PARK ACTIVITIES

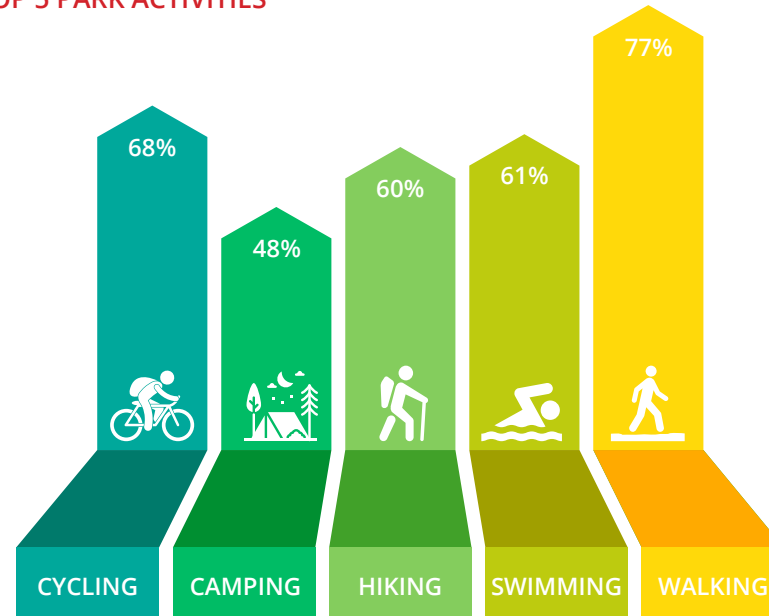


FIGURE 7 | TOP 7 ADDITIONAL OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

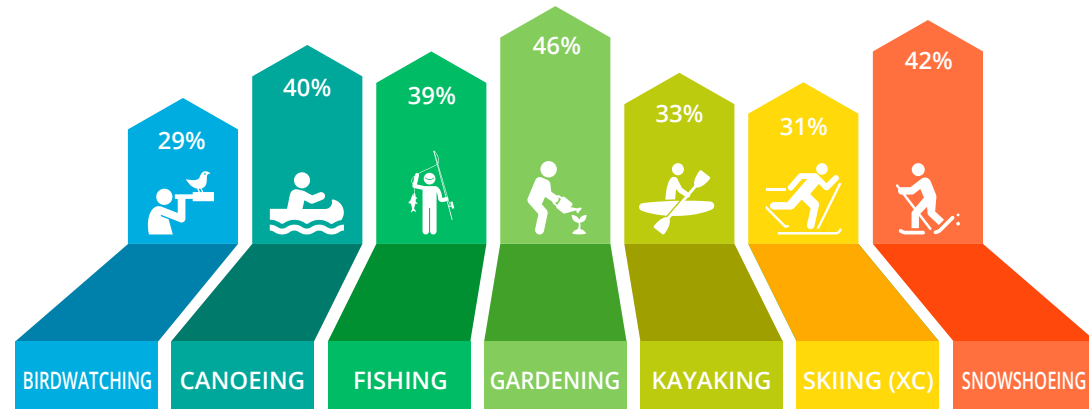


FIGURE 8 | TOP 7 DESIRED ACTIVITIES

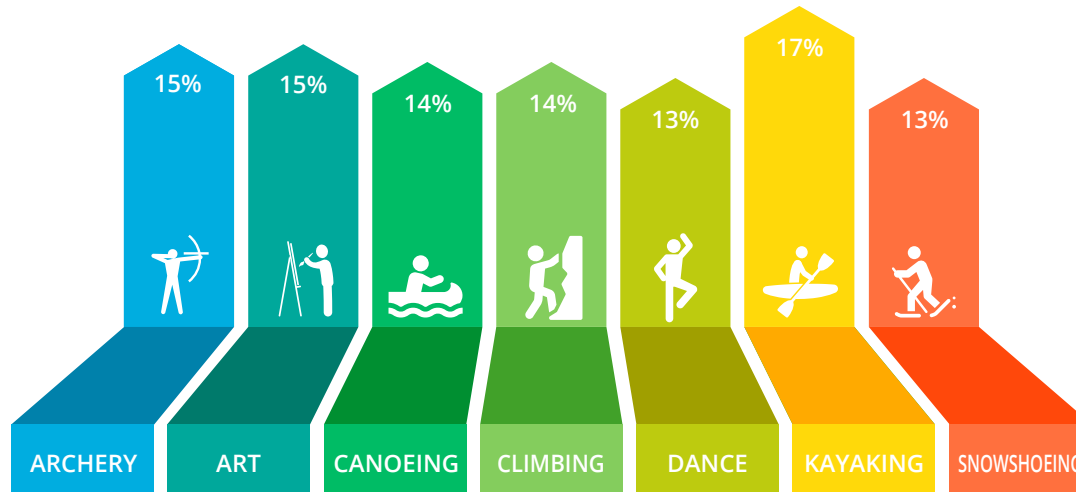
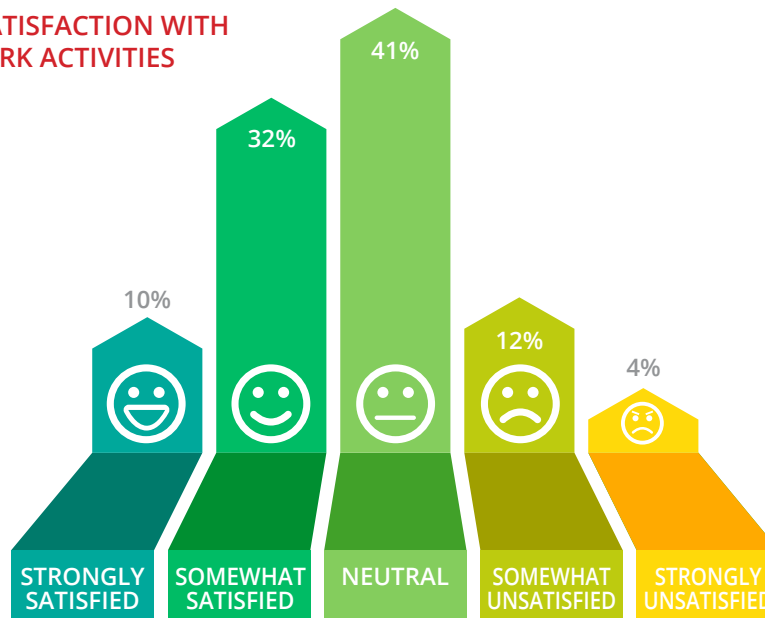


FIGURE 9 | SATISFACTION WITH AVAILABLE PARK ACTIVITIES



## ACTIVITY PROGRAMMERS SURVEY

An online survey offered activity programmers an opportunity to submit information about their organizations, their participants, and their relationship to the current park offerings in North Bay.

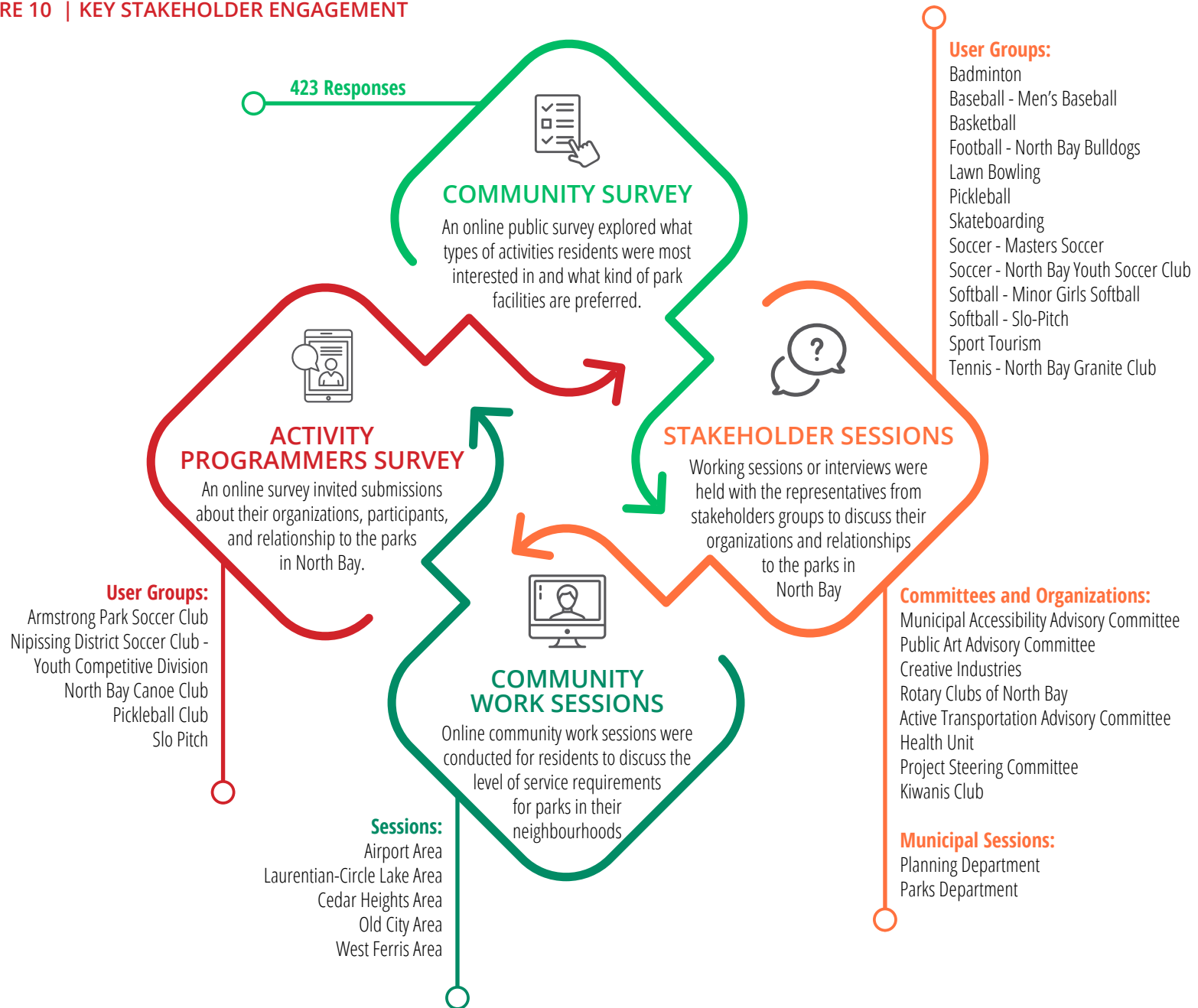
## STAKEHOLDER SESSIONS

Working sessions or interviews were held with the representatives from key stakeholder groups representing user groups, committees and organizations, and the municipality.

Figure 10 provides a snapshot of stakeholder engagement.



FIGURE 10 | KEY STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



## COMMUNITY WORK SESSIONS

Five online community work sessions were conducted for residents interested in the following areas of North Bay:

- » Airport Area
- » Laurentian-Circle Lake Area
- » Cedar Heights Area
- » Old City Area
- » West Ferris Area

Lively discussions took place during the meetings with a total of 150 comments received from participants. The live session recordings remained on the project's Facebook page where, collectively, they reached 6874 people, engaged 812 people and were viewed 2875 times.

## 84 BIG IDEAS FOR NORTH BAY'S PARK NETWORK

Figure 11, on the following pages, illustrates 84 big ideas generated during online public consultation and stakeholder sessions. The ideas propose a clear direction for in-park activities that populate the youth-developed classified park network.





FIGURE 11 | 84 BIG IDEAS

## Eco-Mobility Connectivity

- Incorporate conservation trails along Ski Club Rd at Johnston Rd
- Connect park system and green spaces using bike lanes and trails
- Include accessible walking paths within all parks
- Consider ecological connectivity: wildlife and habitat, lake access
- Develop active transportation connections for Laurentian-Circle Area parks
- Develop a safe connection from Cartier area to north end of Chippewa Trail off Airport Rd
- Make Main St and Memorial Park Dr more pedestrian and cyclist friendly
- Add cross walks to Memorial Drive
- Improve connections from Kate Pace Way to Main St. with bike lane extension to safely cross tracks
- Add pedestrian and cycling lanes to the Old City area
- Develop an environment mosaic network concept for Old City area
- Pair pedestrian friendly spaces with trees and green space
- Connect parks along Lakeshore Dr corridor to Memorial Dr/Waterfront
- Include active transportation infrastructure in all new developments
- Trail network at Thelma Ave and Bunting Dr

## ‘Green’ Growth

- Attract sports tourism to clusters of recreation facilities
- Develop ‘Ski Village’ concept for Ski Club Rd, along AT pathway from Algonquin Ave to Trout Lake Rd, with restaurants, food parks, etc.
- Fund future park projects with revenue from new business along these corridors / new sites
- Recognize that people moving to North Bay because of green space
- Reclaim vacant or brownfield properties for parkland to spur infill, intensification, and mixed-use development
- Consider green corridor along Lakeshore Dr to enhance marketability and economic viability

## Activated Lakefronts

- Explore Trout Lake waterfront opportunities
- Consider a dock at Circle Lake Park
- Connect waterfront areas by a great park, lake-shore boardwalks, running trails, bicycle lanes
- Protect access to Lake Nipissing

## Enhanced Sports Facilities

- Explore field house opportunities, perhaps partnered with YMCA or Nipissing University
- Ensure multi-use courts are designed to accommodate tennis and pickleball, or basketball and ball hockey.
- Consider casual players and competitive players for sporting facilities
- Consider additional baseball field for tournaments larger than 8-10 teams
- Consider additional grass football field to be used as a home base
- Consider lawn bowling facilities - near golfing, retirement centres, public transportation
- Consider a concrete all-wheels park, especially indoors
- Consider pump track
- Improve access to sport facilities with locked gates, etc. for organized and pick-up play
- Coordinate sports schedules for participating in more than one activity at a time
- Consider warm up areas for pitchers at all fields
- Consider change rooms, washrooms and water fountains at sporting facilities (e.g. Handley/Kelly)
- Consider small equipment storage at ballfields
- Consider adding batting cage at Omischl
- Increase access to indoor and outdoor basketball courts
- Invest in emerging sports and activities

## Facility Upgrades & Maintenance

- Consider new skate park at waterfront
- Include paved path / oval around play equipment in parks
- Incorporate more multi-use courts (basketball, pickleball etc.)
- Consider more climbing play structures
- Include more inclusive playgrounds like Kiwanis Lee Park
- Consider more dog-friendly spaces (north end, water access)
- Consider permitting off-leash dog visits at some parks at fixed times
- Consider obstacle course at Champlain Park/Bruman Community Dog Park
- Consider tennis courts / racquet sports
- Consider update and repairs at Bellevue Park
- Repurpose Tweedsmuir Park
- Employ summer students to help clean up parks (i.e., litter, graffiti)
- Implement safety/security measures

## Natural Landscapes

- Include Laurentian Marsh as part of plan, at the end of Chapais Street; used by many families, walkers, bikers, and runners
- Involve the restore your shore program by the NBMCA
- Increase naturalized feeling of the waterfront park - more trees, less sod
- Integrate natural features in designs
- Preserve some parks as naturalized and undeveloped areas

## Downtown

- Develop downtown as a pedestrian friendly and vibrant regional destination.
- Explore new plazas that increase human presence within the downtown and encourages adjacent mixed-use developments

## Amenities Supporting Atmosphere & Activity

- Sign trails and streets consistently with way finding
- Provide signs to communicate whether public access to open / green / park space is permitted
- Include green spaces
- Include shade trees for parks + trails
- Maintain trees; replace dead trees
- Increase in-park programming
- Provide street furniture and seating
- Include bike racks
- Incorporate public art, including pieces representative of indigenous heritage
- Provide spaces for buskers and artists
- Include shelters (e.g. Kinsmen Beach)
- Provide stone charcoal BBQ / picnic spaces
- Consider community fire pit for summer social and cultural events
- Consider parking requirements
- Improve communications, publicity

## Equitable Access to Park & Lake Spaces

- Consider that Bellevue Park is the only park space in Cedar Heights neighbourhood
- Plot out different activities and assets and strive to space them equitably through the City
- Consider that the Old City area lacks a park that neighbourhood kids can access
- Remember Lake Nipissing accesses allow for equitable and easy access to the lake for all citizens
- Include considerations for community members who face physical/visual barriers
- Consider lost recreation spaces from former schools, especially basketball courts
- Consider all-season uses for all ages and abilities
- Remember the social value of parks



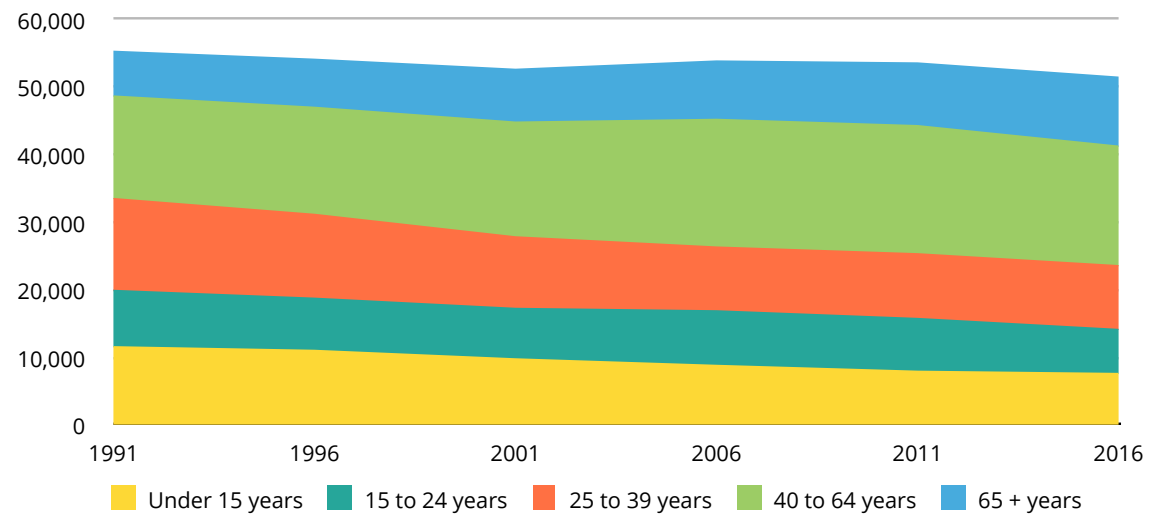
# 3.0 Inventory and Analysis

## EVOLVING DEMOGRAPHICS

Aspects of park provision are subject to demographic trends; changes in population have implications for desired park locations, activities and facilities, as well as the sustainability of park level of service provision moving into the future.

**EVOLVING POPULATION.** The population of North Bay was 51,553 in 2016. The rate of population change between 2011 and 2016 was -4% and between 2006 and 2011 was -1%. The 2016 population of 51,553 is nearly the same as the population in 1976: 51,639. North Bay's population peaked in 1991 at 55,405 residents. Significant population gains made between 1986 and 1991 (an increase of 4,782 people, or 9%) were gradually lost over the following years. Figure 12 illustrates the population by age group for North Bay.

**FIGURE 12 | POPULATION BY AGE GROUP, CITY OF NORTH BAY**







**GROWING AGEING POPULATION.** As the total population has evolved, the make-up of North Bay's population has changed considerably. The proportion of residents age 65+ was 12% in 1991; this proportion grew to 20% in 2016. Since 1981, the ageing population has grown continuously, averaging an increase of 12% between each Census period.

The senior population over the next 15 years will likely rise from 20% in 2016 to 27% by 2031. The integration of senior and accessible activity space will emerge as a primary aspect of park planning over this period.

**INCREASING LIFE EXPECTANCY.** The role of recreation in healthy ageing is especially important given that life expectancy in Canada continues to increase.<sup>1</sup> Ontario and British Columbia have the highest life expectancies of any province or territory in Canada: 82.5 years (both sexes combined).<sup>2</sup> In 2017, 21.6% of all deaths in Ontario occurred at ages 90 and older.<sup>3</sup> The senior proportion of the population will continue to increase as mature adults age and people experience longer life expectancies.

**DECREASING YOUTH POPULATION.** As the proportion of seniors has increased, the proportion of youth living in North Bay has decreased. In 1991, 21% of the population was aged 14 or under; by 2016, this proportion had shrunk to 15%. The number of children ages 0 to 14 has decreased in each census period, with the exception of the period between 1986 and 1991. In total, there were 7,675 children aged 14 and under in 2016, down from the peak of 11,635 in 1991.

<sup>1</sup><https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/180628/dq180628b-eng.htm>

<sup>2</sup><https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/180628/dq180628b-eng.htm>

<sup>3</sup><https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1310071001&pickMembers%5B0%5D=1.7&pickMembers%5B1%5D=3.1>

**FALLING FERTILITY RATE.** The smaller number of youth in North Bay occurs in the context of decreasing city population, a falling total fertility rate across Canada since 2009, and increasing ages of mothers at childbirth.<sup>4</sup> In 2016, Canada's total fertility rate was 1.54 children per woman, the lowest level observed since 2003 and close to the lowest fertility rate observed in Canadian history (1.51 children per woman in 2000 and 2002).<sup>5</sup> In 2016, the age groups in Canada with the highest fertility rates were ages 35 to 39 (56 births per 1,000 women), 25 to 29 (87.6 births per 1,000 women), and 30 to 34 (107.6 births per 1,000 women). In North Bay, the proportion of women ages 25 to 39 has decreased or remained the same in every census period since 1991 (averaging a decrease of -7% between each Census period). In 1991 there were 7,005 women between the ages of 25 and 39; in 2016, there were only 4,730.

**FUTURE POPULATION.** Long-term recreation plans must consider population vectors based on the probable and possible to ensure the city will deliver services to all residents to relevant cultural and statistical benchmarks. As previously mentioned in Chapter 1, this study considers North Bay's evolving demographic mid-range projections as presented in the 2019 *Growth Forecast to 2046* report, which projects the population will increase to 53,340 over the next 20 years.

Additionally, the City will need to consider the 2021 Census information when it becomes available to review any changes to trends identified. Other reliable sources of demographic information should also be considered in combination with the Census 2021 data (i.e. housing starts, elementary and secondary school enrolment and general development activity).

<sup>4</sup><https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/91-209-x/2018001/article/54956-eng.htm>

<sup>5</sup><https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/91-209-x/2018001/article/54956-eng.htm>

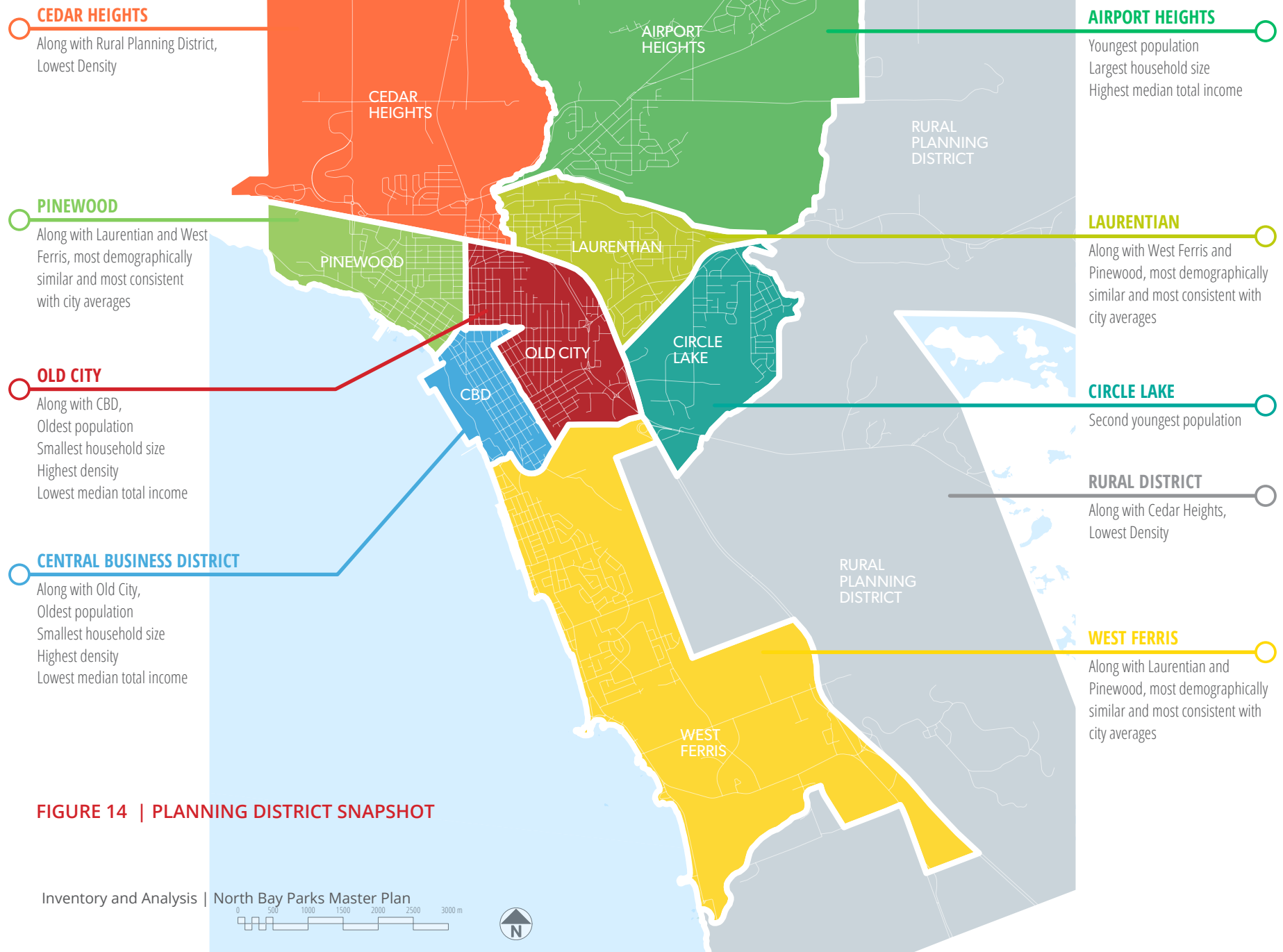
## POPULATION - PLANNING DISTRICT

The previous section's demographic information provides a picture of city population trends as a whole; however, there is a wide variety of demographic diversity found in different planning districts. This analysis uses demographic data from Census Profile Aggregate Dissemination Areas (ADA), most similar to the city planning districts; however, they do not represent these areas exactly. Comparable data for the city as a whole is listed adjacent to the ADA statistics in figure 13. Looking at the population at this more refined level suggests a few key foundational ideas to bring forward into parks planning Figure 14 illustrates the planning districts..

**FIGURE 13 | POPULATION BY PLANNING DISTRICT**

	ADA	POPULATION	AVERAGE AGE	UNDER 15	15-24 YEARS	25-39 YEARS	40-64 YEARS	65+	AVG. HOUSE-HOLD SIZE	POPULATION PER SQ. KM	MEDIAN TOTAL INCOME OF HOUSEHOLDS
<b>CITY OF NORTH BAY</b>		51,553	42.7	15%	13%	18%	34%	20%	2.2	161.6	\$60,731
<b>AIRPORT HEIGHTS</b>	35480025	4,610	37.7	19%	17%	16%	37%	11%	2.9	228	\$122,272
<b>CEDAR HEIGHTS + RURAL</b>	35480026	7,335	42.9	15%	12%	15%	40%	18%	2.4	2	\$60,731
<b>CBC + OLD CITY</b>	35480024	11,850	42.7	11%	13%	21%	32%	23%	1.9	2,384	\$60,731
<b>CIRCLE LAKE</b>	35480021	4,430	41.4	15%	12%	18%	34%	20%	2.4	100	\$60,731
<b>LAURENTIAN</b>	35480027	6,475	43.4	15%	12%	17%	34%	21%	2.2	1,640	\$61,771
<b>PINEWOOD</b>	35480011	5,530	42.7	15%	13%	19%	33%	20%	2.3	1,533	\$60,731
<b>WEST FERRIS</b>	35480023	12,585	42.9	16%	11%	18%	34%	21%	2.3	1,071	\$62,941





## INVENTORY ANALYSIS

This section reviews inventory relative to need and population change over the next twenty years. Appendix B provides a detailed overview of the existing assets located in each city-owned park (in alphabetical order). As previously noted, the city has sufficient inventory from which to develop a network; however, consultation indicates that facility upgrades are required to meet evolving activity and social needs. This is expected in all cities developing baseline parks, open space and trail inventory. Specific to North Bay, this is further compounded by the 1968 amalgamation, which resulted in an inventory of recreation sites created to serve smaller communities rather than an entire city. This master plan rationalizes all park, open space and trail assets relative to the chapter two vision and demographic evolution over the next twenty years.

Park spaces can be precedently evaluated based on population and/or spatial relationship to specific park users. Population-based comparisons illustrate the statistical distribution of parks relative to supporting tax base and the city's ability to support the parks. For example, if park quantities are comparably high, the city can struggle with maintaining all of the facilities. Additionally, the park can suffer from low visitation; which, can lead to problems such as vandalism. Where comparable park numbers are low, facilities can suffer from overuse that results in stressed capital upgrade budgets. Therefore, statistical-based analysis can indicate potential issues; however, it is not the best approach to delivering a parks network.

An equitable network relies on the spatial distribution of parks relative to the service area for each park classification. This method ensures all residents have close to equal access to outdoor activity within a maintained park setting. For North Bay, both analyses are utilized.

It is important to note that the City of North Bay's population is evolving; therefore, the analysis of city-wide parks and sports facilities must consider this. As mentioned earlier in this chapter, the city population is projected to increase to 53,340 by 2041. Although these statistics do not play a role in the spatial distribution of parks, they do play a role in the need for sports facilities such as ball and soccer fields.

The City's recreational infrastructure is used by and provides opportunities for residents that live in adjoining municipalities. The 2016 Census captures this population by way of the North Bay Census Agglomeration (CA) data. The North Bay CA population in 2016 was 70,378. The 2021 North Bay CA Census Data should be reviewed when it becomes available to capture any new trends.

## PLAYGROUNDS

There are twenty-two (22) city-owned parks with twenty-five (25) play structures in North Bay. Of these, three (3) have play structures for ages 2-5, and twenty-one (21) have structures for ages 5-12. Only Champlain Park and Waterfront Park have distinct play structures for both age groups. Adults can enjoy fitness equipment at Lee Park.

North Bay presently delivers playgrounds at 1 playground for every 2,062 residents (1:2,062). The Ontario city/town playground delivery average is close and comparable at 1:1,522. Operationally, North Bay provides excellent maintenance at its park facilities. A refined network that delivers parks based on the consultation-formed spatial distribution model will ensure equitable delivery of playgrounds throughout the city, and allow administrators to reallocate operational budgets toward service delivery gaps or winter maintenance (while maintaining maintenance standards).



FACILITY	#	AGE
Armstrong Park	1	5-12
Bellevue Park	1	5-12
Bourke Playground	1	5-12
Champlain Park	2	2-5, 5-12
Circle Lake Park	1	5-12
Feronia Playground	1	5-12
Ferris Lions Park	1	5-12
Graniteville Playground	1	5-12
Greenhill Playground	1	5-12
Kenwood Hills Playground	1	5-12
Kinette Playground	1	5-12
Laurentian Park / Centennial Field (Caldwell - Ellam)	1	5-12
Lee Park	2	5-12
Maple Ridge Playground	1	2-5
Portage Park	1	5-12
Pumphouse Playground	1	5-12
Sage Road Park	1	5-12
Sunset Park	1	5-12
Superior Crescent Park	1	5-12
Thomson Park	1	5-12
Veronica Park	1	5-12
Waterfront Park	2	2-5, 5-12





## BASKETBALL COURTS

There are two (2) city-owned parks with basketball facilities in North Bay.

FACILITY	# HOOPS
Graniteville Playground	1
Laurentian Playground	2

North Bay delivers basketball courts at one court per 25,777 residents, while the provincial average is 1:10,160. This low delivery number is concerning to residents participating in master plan consultation exercises. Additionally, increasing adult and senior populations desire courts that deliver more than basketball. Tennis, pickleball and ball hockey are emerging court activities that the city should include in court facilities; therefore, an equitable North Bay court model includes creating several multi-use courts that serve multiple population segments.



## TENNIS

There is one (1) city-owned outdoor park with three (3) tennis courts, one of which is a combined pickleball court, at the Sam Jacks Recreation Complex.

FACILITY	# COURTS
Sam Jacks Recreation Complex	3

Extending from the previous court discussion, the City of North Bay delivers tennis courts at 1:17,184 while the provincial average is 1:4,096. The North Bay delivery number is modified to 1:5,726 when the private North Bay Granite Tennis Club courts are considered; however, this does not improve informal and equitable play access to court spaces for all residents.

## BEACH VOLLEYBALL COURTS

There are two (2) city-owned beach volleyball courts at Waterfront Park.

FACILITY	# COURTS
Waterfront Park/Marathon Beach	2

North Bay delivers beach volleyball courts at a one court per 25,777 ratio, while the provincial average is 1:64,876. This delivery number may seem high; however, North Bay is a beach-rich city with a seasonal beach economy and an active local beach volleyball community. Master plan consultation confirms that North Bay's ratio is appropriate for day-to-day use; however, this number can exceed this ratio by creating a four-court tournament facility.

It is also important to note that the present Oak Street courts must be relocated as they were temporarily located on lands designated for the development of an Innovation District as described in the Downtown Waterfront Master Plan. This move has been identified in the capital budget to explore relocation to the Steve Omischl Sports Complex.

## ICE RINKS

There are eleven (11) city-owned parks with outdoor ice rinks, ovals or paths.

FACILITY	# SURFACES
Circle Lake Park	1
Caldwell / Ellam Park	1
Graniteville Playground	1
Greenhill Playground	1
James Kerr Park (Riverbend)	1
Kinette Playground	1
Lee Park (path)	1
Police Playground	1
Sage Road Park	1
West Ferris Lions Park	1
Veronica Park	1

North Bay delivers outdoor ice rinks at one rink per 4,686 residents, while the provincial average is 1;73,535. This is a very high delivery rate; however, North Bay residents embrace winter and want to continue skating at close-to-home locations for casual skating and pick-up hockey and at city-centre locations for large-gathering skating and social events.

As noted in the previous chapter, skating surfaces must evolve beyond single-use ice hockey rinks at the neighbourhood level while still maintaining hockey rinks within each recreational district. This suggests a modified outdoor hockey rink delivery ratio of 1:12,885. Neighbourhood skating surface ratios are to be determined by each neighbourhood where water services are available, and a local desire to maintain neighbourhood ice is realized.



## RUNNING TRACKS

There is one (1) city-owned outdoor walking / running track located at James Kerr Park (Riverbend).

FACILITY	# TRACK
James Kerr Park (Riverbend)	1

The city presently delivers tracks at a 1:51,553 ratio, while the provincial average is 1:12,066. It is important to note that the city track is at James Kerr Park and can not be considered a functional or full-size track. It is also important to note that track users presently access school, CFB North Bay and university/college facilities to meet present demand. This access moves the ratio to 1:8500 and is well within an acceptable ratio.



## FOOTBALL FIELDS

There are two city-owned football fields located at Steve Omischl Sports Complex and Thomson Park. The field at Omischl Sports Complex is artificial turf, as shown on Figure 15.

FACILITY	# FIELDS
Steve Omischl Sports Complex	1
Thomson Park	1

North Bay presently delivers football fields at a 1:25,777 ratio, while the provincial average is 1:12,066. This number indicates that the city is under-delivering these fields; however, football administrators access several academic facility fields to deliver programs on a daily basis and do not require new facilities.



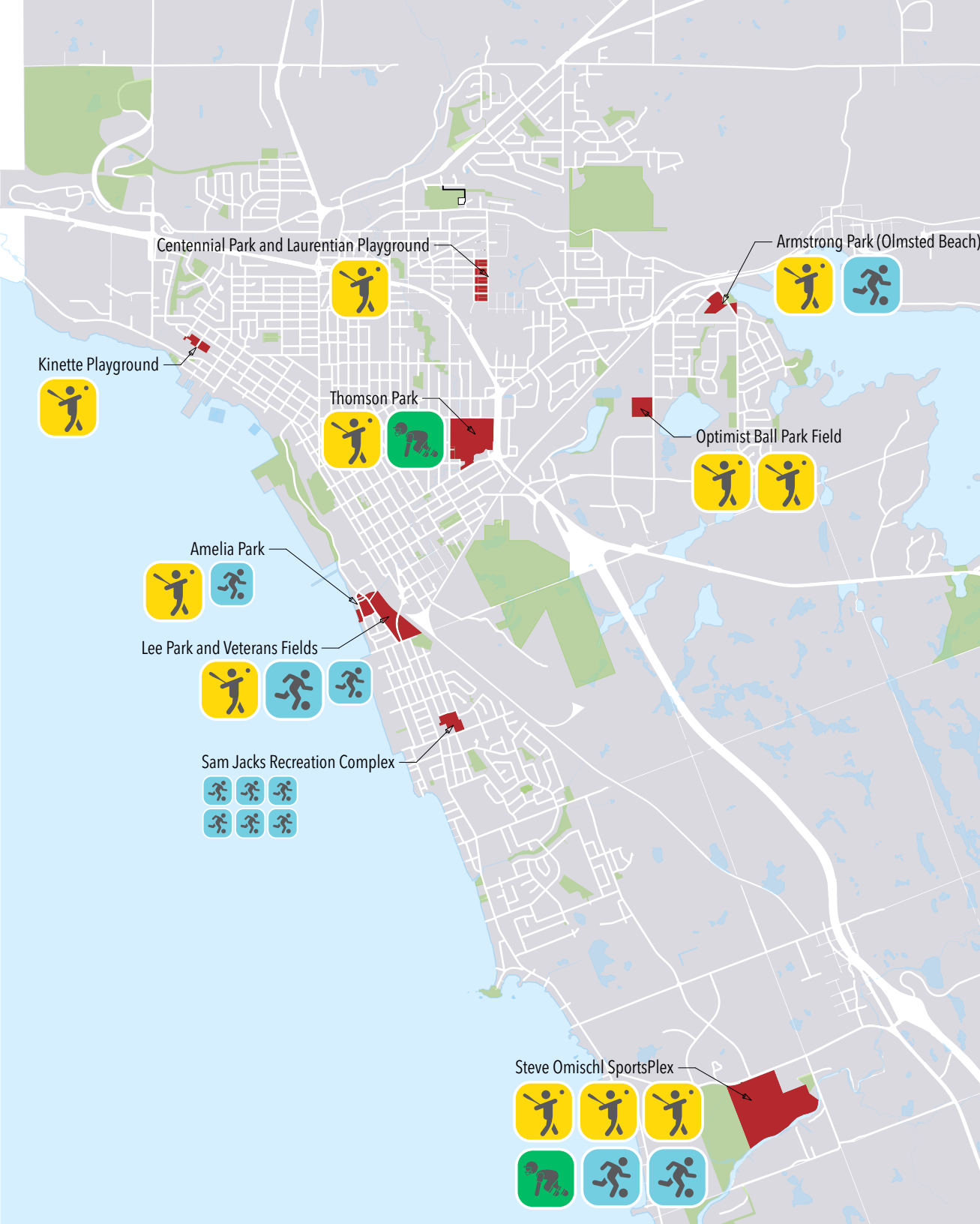


## Soccer Fields

The City of North Bay owns five (5) parks with a total of twelve (12) soccer fields. There are four (4) large fields, two (2) intermediate fields and six (6) mini fields, as shown on Figure 15, next page.

FACILITY	# FIELDS	SIZE
Amelia Park	1	Intermediate
Armstrong Park	1	Large
Sam Jacks Recreation Complex	6	Mini
Steve Omischl Sports Complex	2	Large
Veterans Fields	2	Intermediate, Large

The city delivers soccer fields at a 1:4,296 ratio, while the provincial average is 1:3,520. This indicates that delivery is slightly under the provincial average; however, the city provides lit and artificial turf fields that ensure extended daily and seasonal field use. This is accompanied by access to academic facility fields to ensure sufficient supply is available. For example, the City has a reciprocal agreement in place with Algonquin Secondary School for the use of their full size soccer/football field when needed.



## BALL FIELDS

There are twelve (12) city-owned baseball / softball diamonds in North Bay located at nine (9) parks, as shown on Figure 15.

FACILITY	# FIELDS
Amelia Park / Beach	1
Armstrong Park (West Side)	1
Kinette Playground	1
Laurentian Playground	1
Optimist Park	2
Steve Omischl Sports Complex	3
Thomson Park	1
Veterans Fields	1

North Bay presently delivers softball and baseball fields at a 1:4,687 ratio, while the provincial average is 1:4,072. This suggests that North Bay is delivering ball fields at a sufficient rate.

**FIGURE 15 | FIELD DISTRIBUTION**

### SPLASH PADS

There is one (1) city-owned outdoor splash pad located at Waterfront Park.

FACILITY	# PADS
Waterfront Park	1

The city presently delivers splash pads at a 1:51,533 ratio, while the provincial average is 1:35,103. This statistically suggests that a future splash pad is required; however, as confirmed through consultation, the city's water-edge environment provides sufficient venue for water-based activity.

### SKATE PARKS

There is one (1) city-owned outdoor skate park located at Thomson Park.

FACILITY	# PARKS
Thomson Park	1

North Bay presently delivers skate parks at a 1: 51,533 ratio, while the provincial average is 1:82,144. Statistically speaking, North Bay delivers skate parks at a reasonable ratio; however, master plan consultation confirms that the existing mobile ramp and asphalt pad facility do not meet the emerging need for a skatepark. Therefore, a highly accessible concrete plaza-style facility is required to ensure board, scooter, and BMX riders have a relevant and attractive facility for the next twenty years.

### OFF-LEASH DOG PARKS

The Bruman Community Dog Park is the only dog park in the city and is located adjacent to Champlain Park. This park is located on city land with a maintenance and operational agreement with the North Bay and District Humane Society Animal Control Services. Residents appear to also use outdoor ice rinks as enclosed dog park areas in the summer. City signs in these parks ask residents to leash and clean up after their pets.

FACILITY	# PARKS
Bruman Community Dog Park / Champlain Park	1

Although North Bay delivers dog parks at a ratio higher than provincial averages (1:51,533 vs. 1:82,144), the present location is not equitably accessible for all residents. Therefore, dog-friendly sites in current park facilities should be distributed across the city to ensure ease of use by residents with busy lives.





FIGURE 16 | ADVENTURE AND ACTIVE SPORTS

### ADVENTURE AND ACTIVE SPORTS

Facilities such as cross-country ski, mountain bike, downhill ski, snowshoeing and fat biking parks are not statistically comparable across municipalities because they rely on natural assets such as vegetation, slope and space. In almost all cases, these facilities will evolve from private or club activities. In many cases, these facilities will grow into regionally important sites. This is true for North Bay's downhill and cross country ski parks and mountain bike park.

These facilities are critically important to the North Bay lifestyle and regional economic development. Master plan consultations confirm that one of the reasons residents live in North Bay is because of adventure sports, facility quality, and accessibility. Economic development strategies must celebrate this in association with quality parks and schools to attract companies and people.

These facilities also provide sport tourism niche opportunities not readily and efficiently located in many other municipalities.



## EMERGING ISSUES

**SPORT MAINTENANCE.** The City of North Bay presently provides game-ready facilities at Steve Omischl, and charges rates that support this operational requirement. Other sport fields are not provided in game-ready condition, and can not be provided to sport groups without increasing user fees. The city can explore this option with sport groups.

**WINTER MAINTENANCE.** Master plan consultation (surveys, open houses and conversations) clearly indicates that trails' winter grooming is essential to supporting North Bay's all-season active living community. As maintenance of park assets such as winter rinks is reduced, reallocating resources to a select trail will support this desire.

Council can allocate additional operation funds for this purpose based on staff estimates for grooming and/or clearing on a per-meter basis.

**WINTER-SEASON SPORT.** Although this master plan explores parks as a gateway to sport during the summer seasons, this aspect of park use is removed during winter. Additionally, ball sports such as pickleball, football, tennis and soccer lack indoor facilities that simultaneously grow the sports and sustain competitive athlete training on an all-season basis.

## EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

**SPORT AND EVENT TOURISM.** All outdoor sport and adventure sports facilities should be developed with the understanding that facilities will host visitor events within the context of the park's offerings. For this reason, the oversight on park design must include representatives that understand how events are promoted, operated and 'cleaned-up.'

Additionally, the City of North Bay is positioned at 'Central Canada's Crossroads' (Routes 11 and 17). This transportation-centric position combined with proximity to regional and national population centres provides a unique opportunity for North Bay to work with its active North Bay community-based sport and tourism entities to grow sport and events on an all-season basis. This project's implementation plan further explores this opportunity.



# 4.0 PARKS AND NATURAL SPACE NETWORK

---

North Bay's park and natural space network is founded on public consultation results and detailed analysis of the existing park network to refine the existing network relative to the results. The following park development themes direct this process.

**CONTEMPORARY LIFESTYLE.** Residents lead busy lives and do not have an opportunity to participate in programmed activities at levels realized in past decades. This phenomenon is not unique and is a common theme in almost all Canadian towns and cities. As indicated in public survey results, residents desire park facilities that provide un-programmed activities in flexible environments (open spaces, trails, multi-use courts).

## **LAYERED PARKS CLASSIFICATION NETWORK.**

Parks can serve more than one role within the network. For example, a community park that provides sports fields can also host play spaces that deliver neighbourhood amenities. This multi-layered approach can ensure a level of service model that delivers minimal facilities and maximum benefit.

**LAYERED COURTS.** The notion of building single-use courts limits value in asphalt surface investment. Every city-owned court surface should function as multi-use to ensure maximum return on investment. Compatible surfaces include tennis and pickleball, and basketball and ball hockey (due to net locations). This ensures adaptability for day-to-day use, or for special event use without significant change to court layout.

## **ADAPTABLE PARKS IN EVOLVING**

**NEIGHBOURHOODS.** Parks should not be over-designed and be highly adaptive to the needs of an evolving neighbourhood. Wherever possible, amenities should be multi-use, accessible and of interest to multi-age patrons. No park should seek to separate ages and abilities; the inverse should be the goal.

**CELEBRATING NATURE.** Not all city-owned sites should be developed as parks. The previous theme points support the notion of minimal investment with maximum benefit. This approach leaves available land for no use at all. Prior to any development, these lands should undertake the necessary environmental studies.



**ALL-SEASON ACTIVITY.** Park and trail spaces celebrate all-season use, especially in city centre areas, to support visitation to downtown businesses. Activities such as skating, performance and gathering around a warm fire can bring residents together on cool evenings. Downtown businesses can attract these visitors into stores and restaurants for extended and recurring city-centre visits.

**MAXIMIZE EXISTING INVESTMENT.** Several existing park sites provide venues for additional or intensified use. Wherever possible, no new parks should be proposed unless no other facility is available to adapt to fill network gaps. Existing parks and existing maintenance and sustainability programs should be capitalized upon, first and foremost.

**OBSERVE TRENDS.** Several great ideas were proposed during public and stakeholder consultations; however, population trends suggest that North Bay should not seek to increase facility numbers without significant economic development (that results in increased tax revenues and user demand). Therefore, the park network must not increase its facility base and understand that population demographics are evolving.

Additionally, increased facility numbers requires additional operational staff, equipment and allocated budget. Residents are accustomed to a level-of-service that ensures quality and well-maintained facilities. The existing maintenance model must continue as facility numbers increase; thus, requiring additional operational budget.

**EVENTS, EVENTS, EVENTS!** Relative to hosting regional populations, North Bay is ideally located at the crossroads of two major highways, within four hours of Toronto and Ottawa, and within one hour and thirty minutes of Sudbury, Temiskaming Shores, the Muskoka Region and Quebec. This central location is marketable as hosting grounds for cultural and sporting events that can fill weekend hotel rooms on an all-season basis. This should be fully explored!



## EXPANDED NETWORK COMPONENTS

The previously described parks classification network is expanded beyond the neighbourhood, community and regional park with the following components.

**COMMUNITY PARK - BEACH ACCESS.** These park spaces are retained to conserve citizen access to the lake shore.

**URBAN PLAZA.** These city-centre spaces are created to bring residents together for social and cultural activity and use public art, landscape and urban design principles to achieve this.

**LINEAR PARK.** This active transportation corridor brings trails and natural spaces to create a mobility experience within the context of parks. Thus, the conservation of the corridor's natural aspects is equally important to moving through the corridor.

**COMMEMORATIVE SPACE.** These include cenotaph or monument sites where respect, appreciation and celebration combine to create a unique visitor environment.

**NATURALIZED SPACE.** These are spaces set aside, in natural or semi-natural form, and provide natural habitat space for urban flora and fauna.

## APPLIED EQUITY MODEL

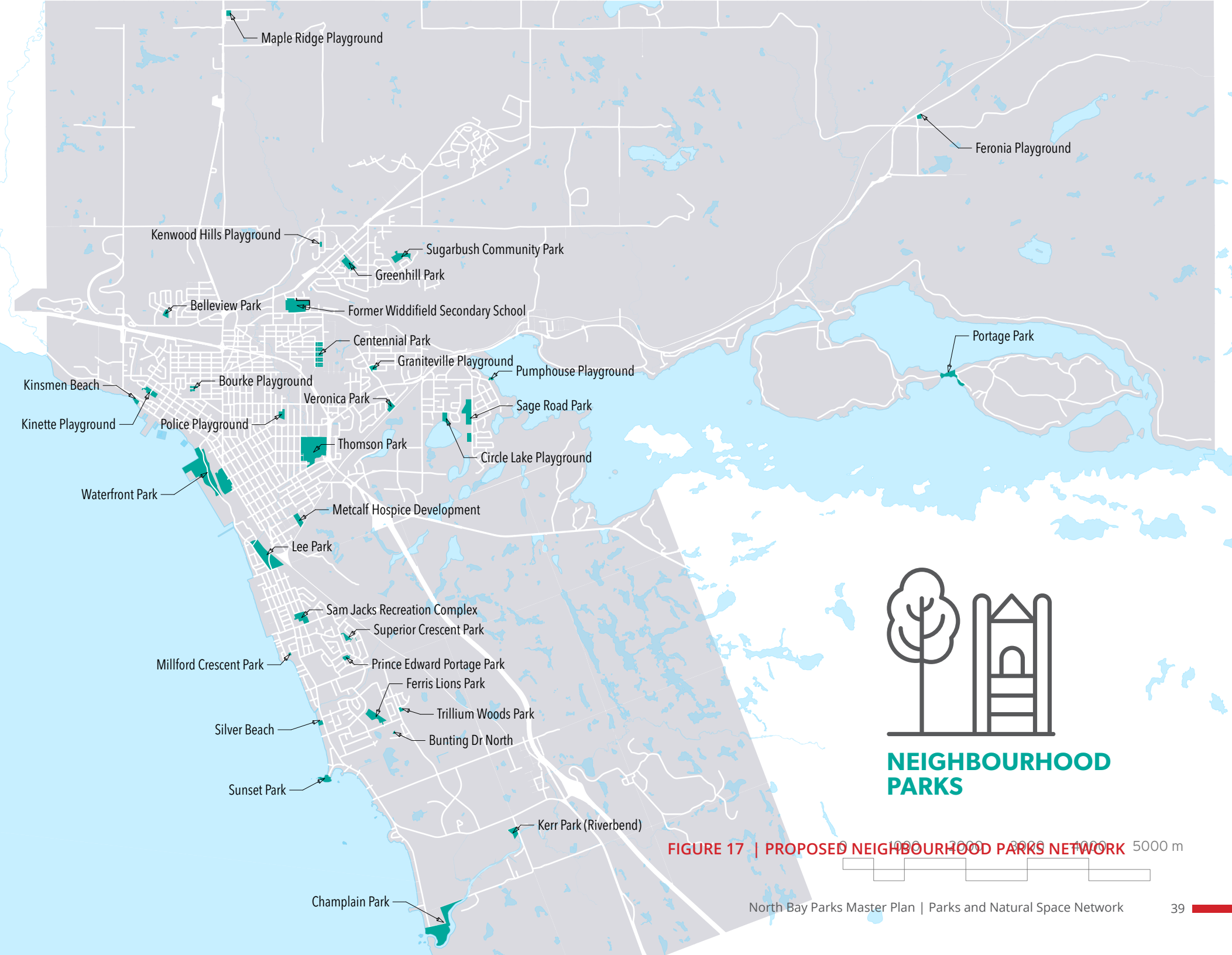
This section describes the primary sites proposed for the park network relative to the network component criteria. Park descriptions provide existing and proposed site conditions for each site, and associated figures locate each park and illustrate service areas where applicable.

### THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK NETWORK

As previously described, the neighbourhood park is an informal activity and social site that provides daily amenities for those located within a 650-meter service radius of the park. Assets placed within this park can include:

- » Youth-based play structure;
- » Small and informal turf open space;
- » Benches;
- » Trash Receptacle(s);
- » Shade created by tree planting;
- » Skating surface (where space permits and a former rink was located);
- » Trails (where a single and full edge of the park does not border a street, and is connected to adjacent neighbourhood through right-of-way access) and,
- » Wayfinding signage (gateway and use guideline panels).

Figure 17 illustrates the proposed neighbourhood parks network.



## THE COMMUNITY PARK NETWORK

These sites (figure 18) provide recreational amenity to a community of users that fall within a 2-kilometre radius of the park location. In some cases, these parks will attract a broader user base for amenities such as multi-use courts or skating surfaces; however, they will retain their community designation. Assets within the community park can include:

- » Multi-age and accessible play structures;
- » Large open turf space and/or sport field;
- » Community rink with associated washroom/storage building (where designated);
- » Skating surface (where space permits and a former rink was located);
- » Benches and Picnic tables;
- » Shade structure;
- » Trash receptacles and,
- » Wayfinding signage (gateway, use guideline and directional panels as required).



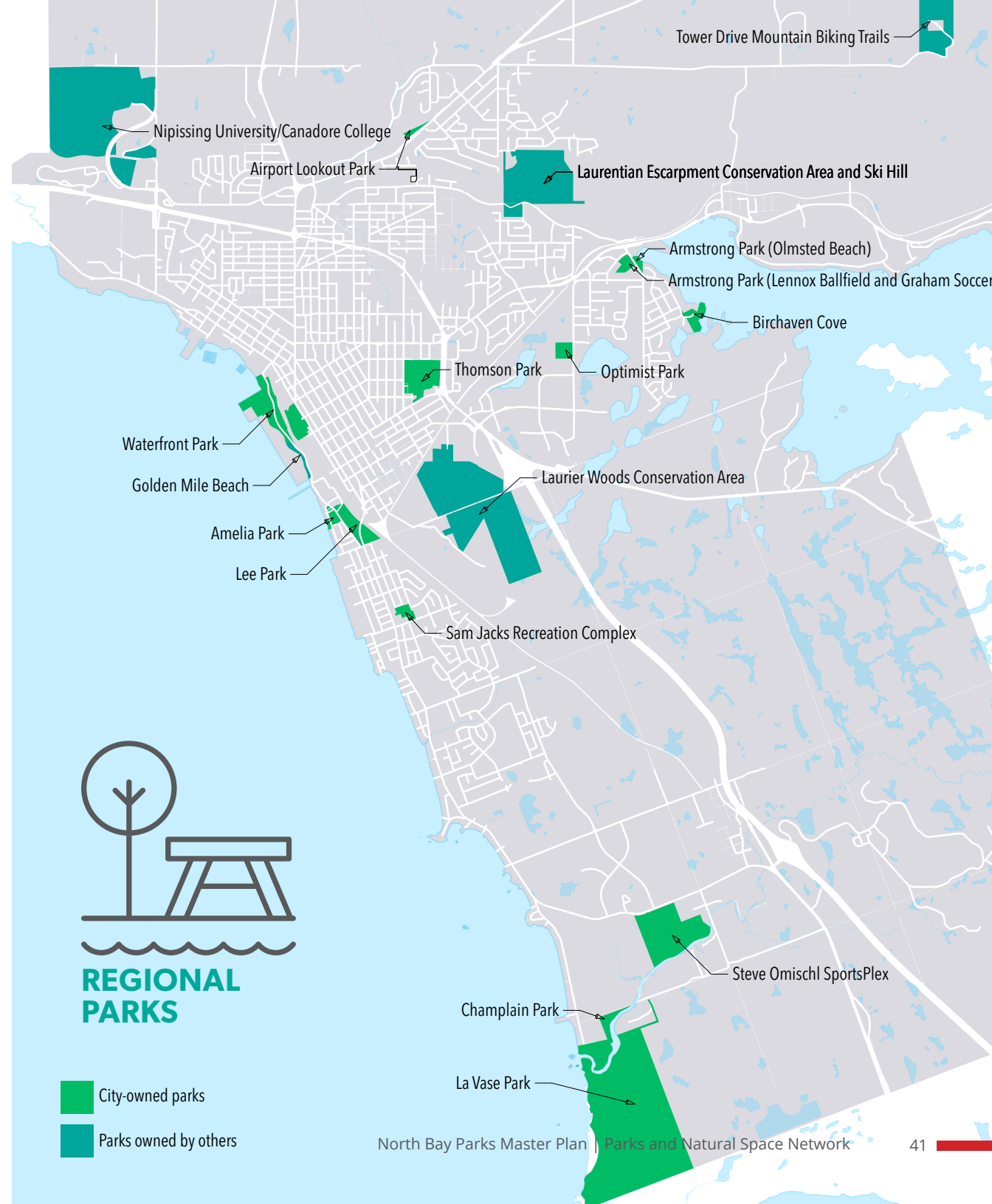
**FIGURE 18 | PROPOSED COMMUNITY PARKS NETWORK**

## THE REGIONAL PARK NETWORK

These parks provide recreational amenity to North Bay and regional residents and play a significant role in attracting visitors to the city for activities such as hiking, biking, waterfront enjoyment and sports tournaments. The City of North Bay recognizes these parks as both recreation and economic development assets; therefore, special attention must ensure that regional parks are high quality, diverse and highly relevant to all users. Every resident and visitor must find amenities within this park classification.

It is important to note that North Bay's statistical and athletic community trends do not require additional sports fields to deliver programmed activities and events. Simple treatments such as scheduling and additional field lighting extend field use within the existing inventory.

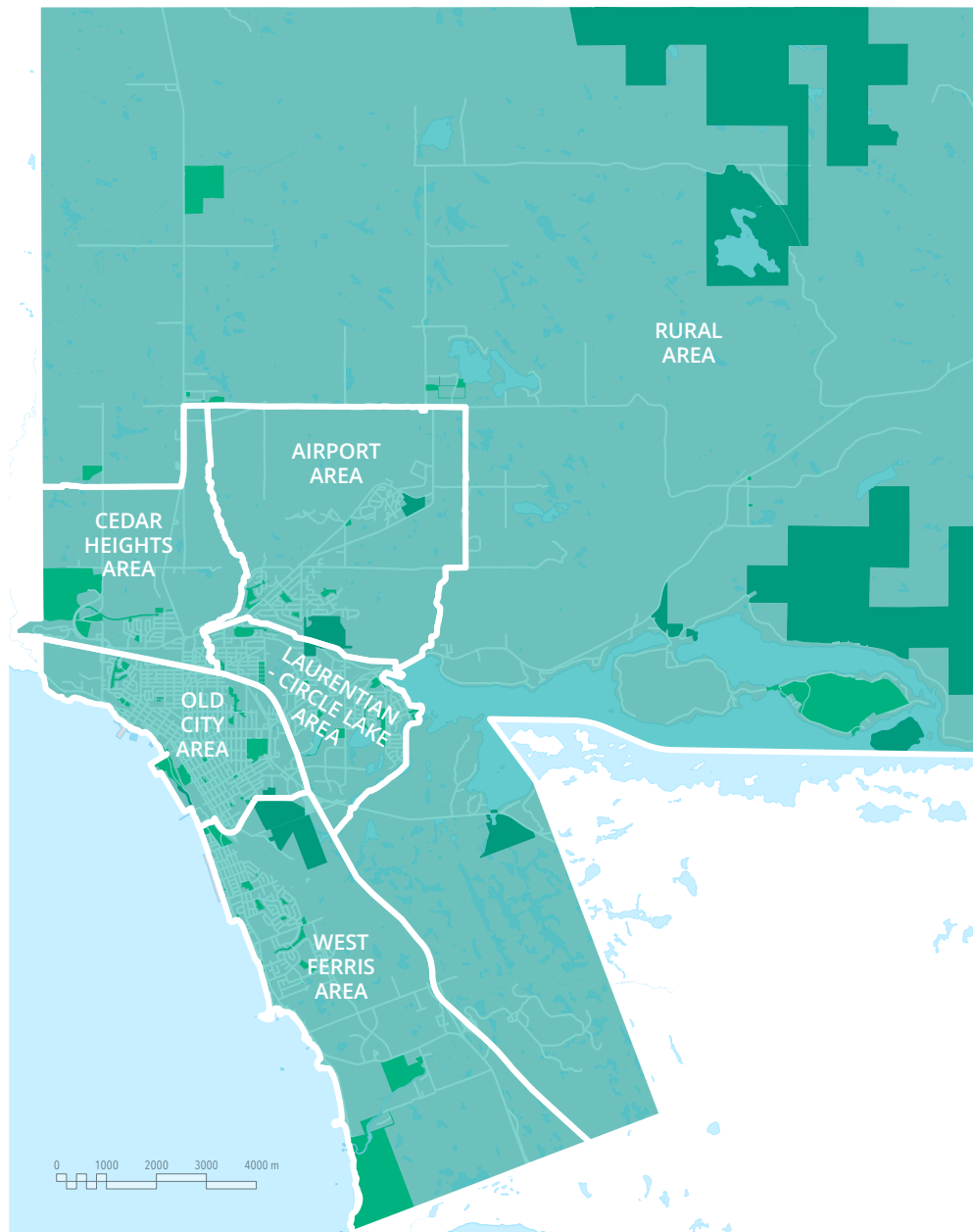
Figure 19 illustrates the proposed regional parks network.



**FIGURE 19 | PROPOSED REGIONAL PARKS NETWORK**



**FIGURE 20 | PARK ZONES**



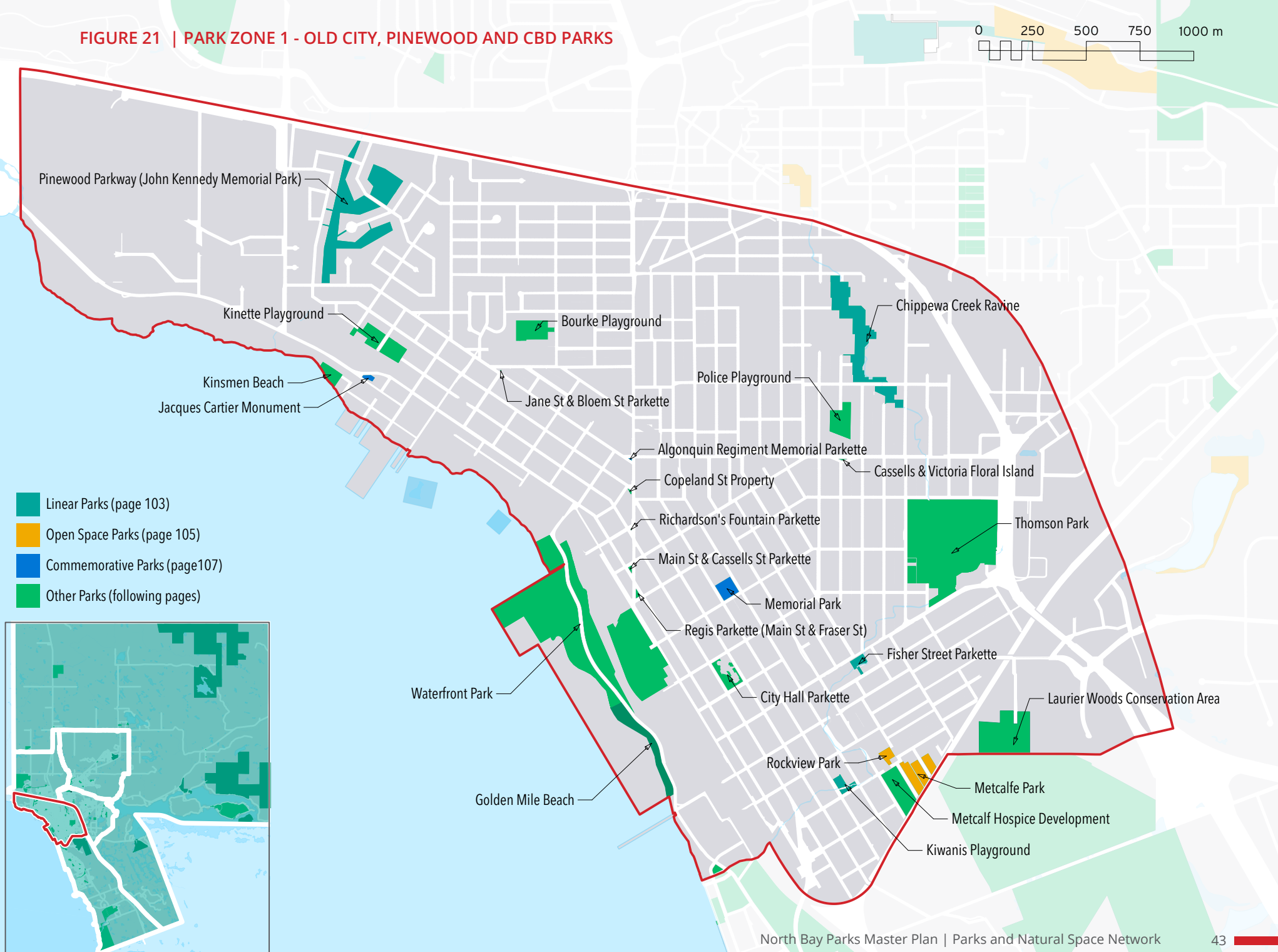
## PARKS DISTRIBUTION

The City of North Bay planning districts are combined into park zones where a shared sense of community is apparent, as determined through consultation (figure 20). The following pages, organized by park zones, describe each of the existing or proposed parks as regional parks, community parks, neighbourhood parks, and urban plazas, with a short description of characteristics, the master plan's proposed vision and proposed projects. Figures 21-26 illustrate the location of each park zone and its parks.

### PARK ZONE 1 - OLD CITY, PINEWOOD AND CBD PLANNING DISTRICTS

This area is the city's historical and cultural heart, with strong ties to the commercial core and the waterfront; therefore, many of the classified park components serve at least two classifications. This district is home to two community parks and one regional park that provide amenities at the community level.

**FIGURE 21 | PARK ZONE 1 - OLD CITY, PINEWOOD AND CBD PARKS**





# Bourke Playground

849 Beattie Street | 0.6 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park, Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** Existing accessible playground, parking area, multi-use/rink surface, large open space with rock out-croppings and associated building provide community amenity within the Pinewood district.

**VISION:** This park's school-side location ensures significance as both a neighbourhood and community asset. The accessible play and multi-use court areas provide amenity at both levels, while on-site parking supports community visitation.

The central location and available asphalt surface provides an ideal location for a city-owned 10-court pickleball surface cocomplete with 4' fence (for both casual and programmed use). The asphalt surface can be upgraded as courts with temporary washrooms and a central shade/ special events structure located between the court and play area.

It is important to note that this is presented as a single use court surface; however, temporary surface lines can be added for special events such as ball hockey. Therefore, any pickleball net or barrier systems should be mobile or easily removable.

**PROJECTS:** This park requires a master plan that explores all design features and associated requirements for parking, accessible circulation, pickleball court layouts and supporting surface treatments, and a central social/shade space (located between the courts and play area). This exercise with clarify all dimensional and cost requirements.



# City Hall Parkette

200 McIntyre Street E | 0.6 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Urban Plaza

**CHARACTERISTICS:** The City Hall site is adjacent to the Public Library and is highly accessible, and visible from adjacent streets.

**VISION:** The site provides an outdoor space for day-to-day pedestrian use, formal municipal ceremonial events as well as community events. It has a mix of tree shaded grass areas, landscaped features and hard paver surface with seat high retaining walls and benches. This space should not compete with Jack Burrows Place, which serves as the community's physical and civic heart; however, the city should explore this location for a future public art piece that is in keeping with regional natural and cultural heritages, as well as this site's administrative importance within this region.

**PROJECTS:** Additional lighting should be considered for safety purposes.





# Fisher St. Parkette

Fisher Street | 0.3 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Linear Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is an existing Kinsmen Trail gateway and roadside 'green oasis' that should remain in existing form as long as the trail exists.

**PROJECTS:** Because of this site's highly visible location, and because of the bordering four-lane street, this park requires a primary trail entry sign that clearly articulates trail access and the presence of pedestrians, cyclists, etc. that use this trail-street intersection.



# Golden Mile Beach



0 UNK WATERLOT LOC PA120 | 1.8 ha | Owner: Fisheries and Oceans Canada



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is part of North Bay's Waterfront Park and is a great example of how the city and volunteer community come together to beautify park spaces through planting and maintenance.

**VISION:** This area is to be maintained as is, and administratively used as precedent for future park beautification projects.



# Kinette Playground

430 Rock Street | 1.6 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park and Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This park hosts a play structure, rink and associated building, as well as a ball field. Parking is available on Rock Street (within the heart of the park).

**VISION:** The play area and rink portion of the site is to remain as is to fulfil the class designations while the existing building will require replacement in the next 10 years.

**PROJECTS:** Projects include the replacement of the rink/community building with a carefully programmed and designed building that, at a minimum, includes washrooms, storage, community use space, rink-related mechanical space and any city required utility space. Additionally, this building will include relocated storage and community use space from the Bourke Park building.





# Kinsmen Beach

1445 Henry Street | 0.6 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This park provides passive water access for north-city residents, winter access for vehicles and residents accessing the lake for recreation reasons.

**VISION:** This master plan considers residents' water access to pets by permitting, but not promoting, dog use of the park (both land and water). This permission requires park users to clean up after pets. Continued use of the park includes resident water access, snowmobile access to the frozen lake and hill sliding.

**PROJECTS:** Plant trees at the top of the hill, and down the slope to the beach to stabilize the slope where existing water access is not required.





# Metcalfe Hospice Park Project



0 Hardy Street | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a park space that is required to ensure adjacent neighbours have access to local play and social space.

**VISION:** A single play structure complete with seating, tree shade and an entry sign is located at a location adjacent to the hospice building. The site can extend to new trails that link this location to adjacent neighbourhoods as well as the Laurier Woods.

**PROJECTS:** This site requires a master plan that illustrates how the components can set within this location.



# Main & Cassells + Main & Fraser Parkettes



289 Algonquin Avenue | 0.028 ha | Owner: City Main Street W | 0.041 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Urban Plaza

**CLASSIFICATION:** Urban Plaza

**CHARACTERISTICS:** These are urban plaza spaces that function as small gathering space, gateway to the downtown, and break in the urban landscape.

**VISION:** As gateway and social gathering space, these plazas require public art that speaks to North Bay's unique cultural and natural history, and is highly tactile to attract visitation and support 'word of mouth'.

**PROJECTS:** The site's should be treated as a single public art project that may use multiple artists to create pieces within the context of the plaza vision.



# Police Playground

430 Stones Street | 1.3 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood and Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This city-centre site hosts a rink and former ball field space (with backstop and north-edge outfield fence remaining). The location is ideal to provide surrounding residents with a neighbourhood park, in addition to the community rink.

**VISION:** This important park site functions as both neighbourhood and community park with the placement of a play structure, central social area seating and site modification that support park visitation.

**PROJECTS:** The following site improvement projects are required.

First, the existing utility building is removed and replaced with an operational shed at a location immediately adjacent to the rink. The city must ensure water can be supplied to the new shed (due to rock outcropping and associated water line installation costs).

Second, the existing parking area is expanded to provide 10 spaces (on the former building location).

Third, a play structure is located on the former ball field site complete with seating and tree shade, and a new 4 foot-high fence that borders the north edge of the playground.

Finally, the existing boards will require replacement over the next ten years. When end-of-life is reached, the rink boards are replaced with half-boards on the sides, and full boards at each end.





# Thomson Park

100-186 Chippewa Street W | 15.4 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood, Community and Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This very important regional park is located immediately adjacent to the YMCA, Memorial Gardens and the Kinsmen Trail. A large play area, modular skate park, sliding hill, ball and football field, open turf areas and site trails serve regional, community and neighbourhood needs.

**VISION:** This highly accessible city-centre location is ideal for expansion that serves those community residents who wish to meet others while allowing their dogs to play with other dogs. The modular skate park will be replaced with a concrete skate plaza as proposed in the Downtown Waterfront Master Plan; therefore, this existing Thomson Park facility is removed and replaced with a pet-control gateway into the fenced dog park (that does not impact the adjacent sliding hill).

**PROJECTS:** The City of North Bay can replace a removed skate park with the pet-friendly gateway when placing new fencing around the north-east corner of Thomson Park.





# Waterfront Park

225-230 Memorial Drive | 21 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park and Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This regional park site presently hosts access to the shoreline area, as well as well-connected spaces on both sides of the existing rail line. Eastern site areas include the museum, a public gathering plaza, a splash pad, open space with trails and a temporary washroom building. The west portion of the site includes present waterfront play and social areas, as well as trail, the Kate Pace Way, and the marina.

This park is a regionally significant park that can intensify on available lands adjacent to the Museum to provide family amenities that support downtown visitation and extended tourism stays in North Bay. The Jack Burrows Place serves as the physical and civic heart of the community while the existing splash pad can expand to align all areas of the site to this context.

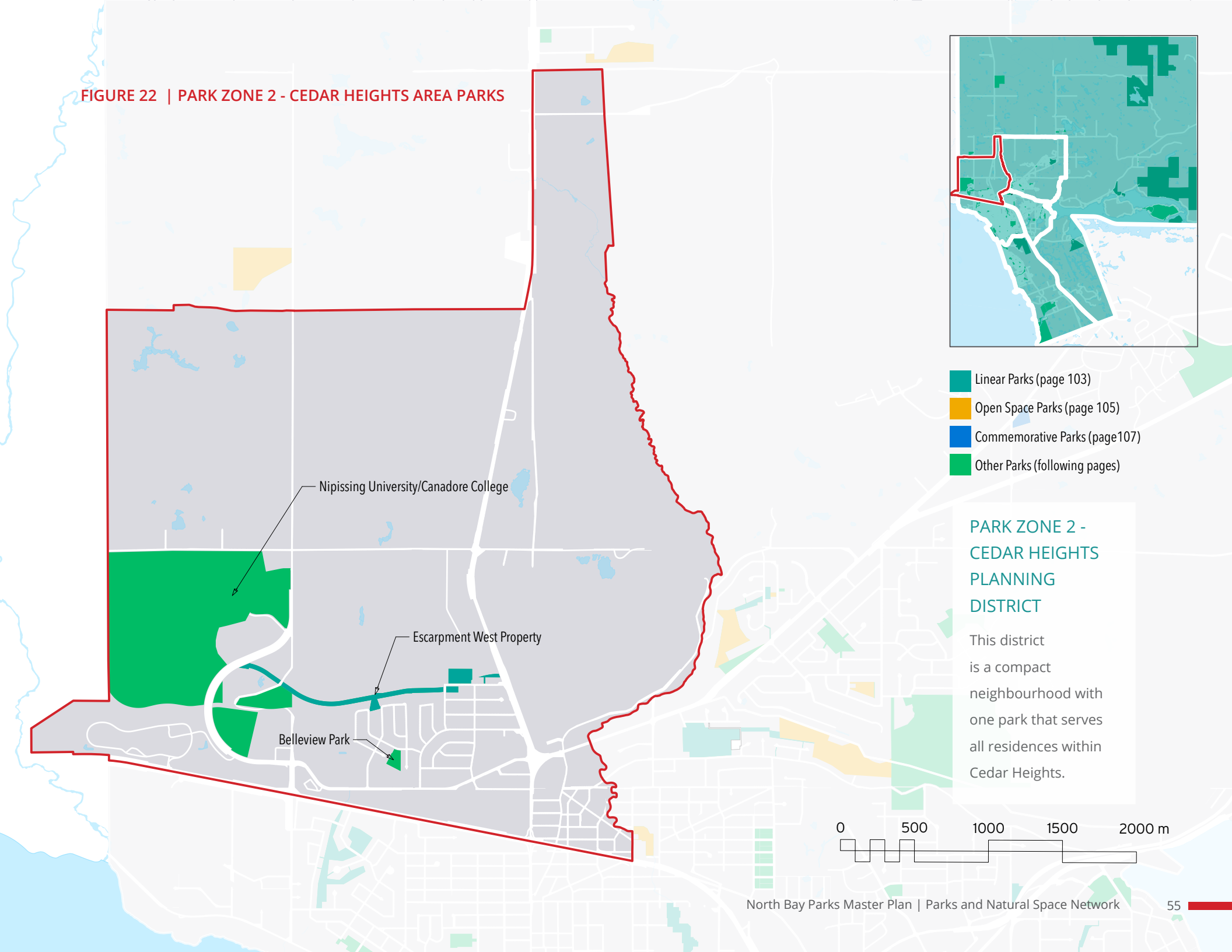
**VISION:** For Waterfront South-East, this master plan proposes the addition of a full and half-size multi-use court (basketball and ball hockey). Additionally added components including concrete skate plaza and asphalt pump track, as well as a centrally located shade pavilion for social gathering.

For Waterfront North-East, the existing splashpad expands to include an all-ages and all-abilities play park complete with play structures, seating, tree planting, a shade/events pavilion (play structure, central social/shade/storage/washroom building with shade canopy).

**PROJECTS:** The city should commission a detailed site plan that illustrates all above mentioned park elements.

The site plan will direct the creation of this project and will determine associated requirements such as transit access and parking, washroom and food services, as well as linkages to adjacent areas such as the waterfront and downtown. Additionally, careful planning and design must ensure this park does not impact the adjacent Dionne Quints Museum.

FIGURE 22 | PARK ZONE 2 - CEDAR HEIGHTS AREA PARKS





# Bellevue Park

20 McGibbon Street | 0.89 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This neighbourhood asset serves a city area separated from adjacent areas by significant transportation routes.

This neighbourhood park presently hosts a multi-age play area that requires seating and shade to meet its role as a neighbourhood park.

**VISION:** With minor modifications, this important park space will continue to provide passive amenity within the heart of the existing community.

**PROJECTS:** This master plan proposes adding seating and a shade structure.





# Nipissing University / Canadore College

100 College Drive | 107.2 ha | Owner: Board of Governors



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Facility

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This University and College Campus sits on the escarpment, at the north-end of the city's urban landscape. The campus combines with the Hospital to become a significant academic and health zone, and is adjacent to a projected residential growth area (to the north of the campus). Trails on this property are used by both students and the community. In the winter, these trails offer snowshoeing opportunities.

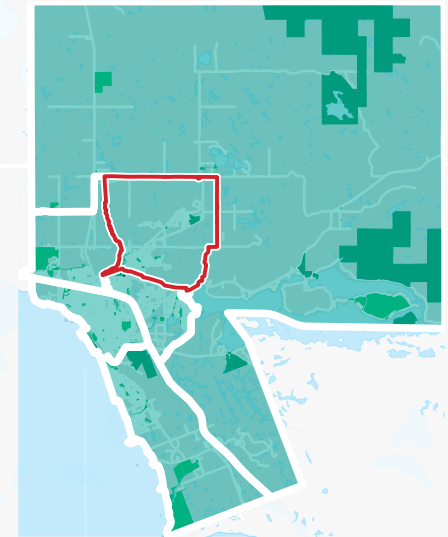
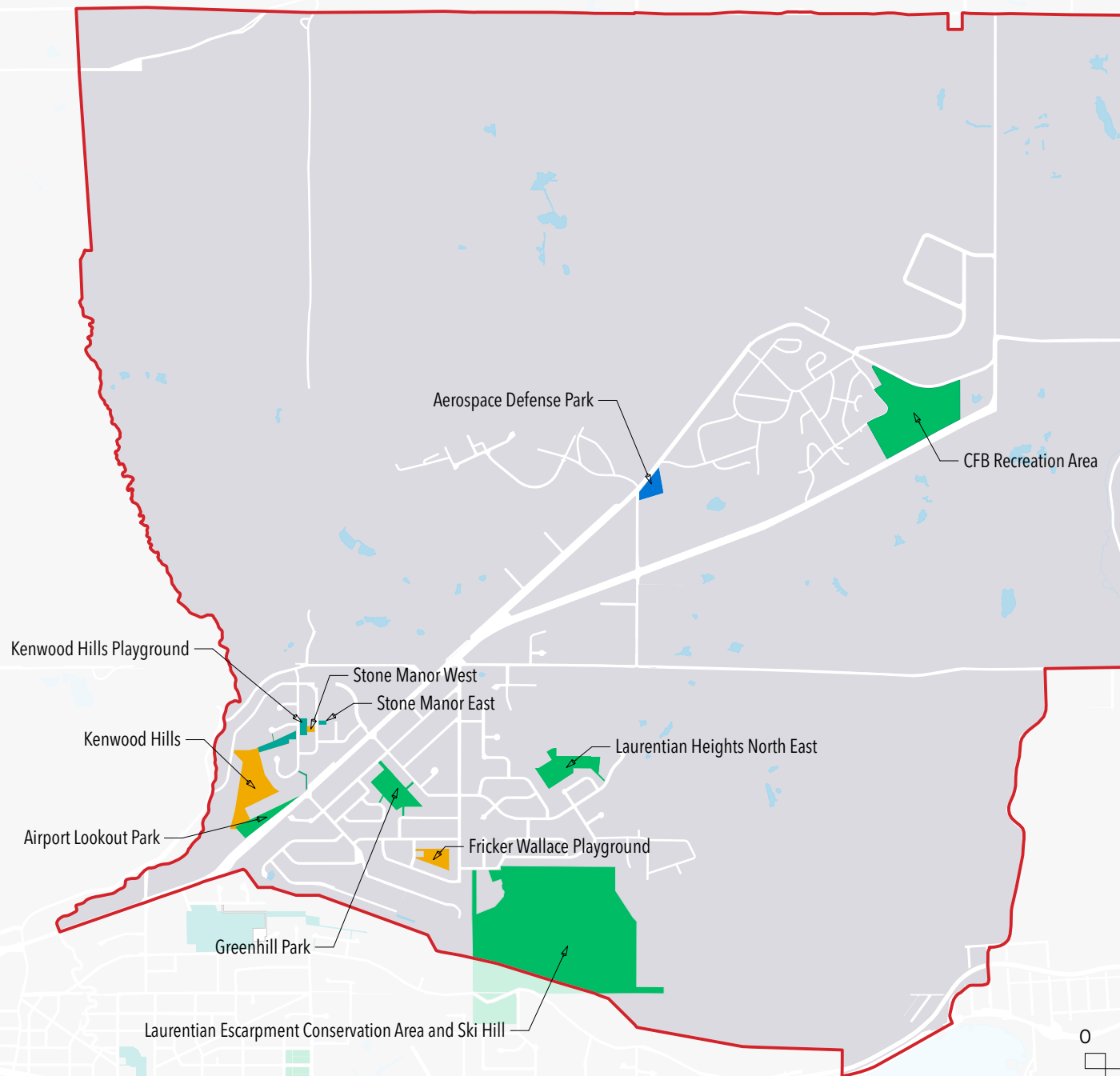
**VISION:** Where mutually beneficial, the City and Nipissing University and Canadore College can explore the development of a joint use agreement for use of the artificial turf field. The joint use agreement would explore capital and operating opportunities to off set on-going capital and operating costs.

If community user demand grows for the use of an additional artificial turf field this opportunity should be explored.

**PROJECTS:** The proposed joint use agreement feasibility can be explored when there is a community need. Any project feasibility must identify cost-neutral model that ensures revenues are sufficient to cover operational and sustainability costs. It is assumed capital investment is non-recoverable.



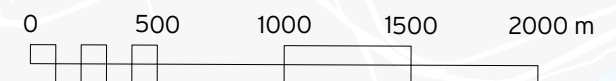
FIGURE 23 | PARK ZONE 3 - AIRPORT HEIGHTS AREA PARKS



- Linear Parks (page 103)
- Open Space Parks (page 105)
- Commemorative Parks (page 107)
- Other Parks (following pages)

### PARK ZONE 3 - AIRPORT HEIGHTS PLANNING DISTRICT

This relatively young community lies on either side of Airport Road. It is a city planning district planned for continued residential growth. This district hosts two community parks that provide complete recreation space coverage for Airport Heights residents when considering the adjacent neighbourhood parks.





# Airport Lookout Park

24 Lookout Heights Place | 1.23 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** The park space is a naturalized space where panoramic city and lake views blend with local flora and fauna to provide regional residents with a unique experience within North Bay.

**VISION:** This park remains in present form and condition.



# CFB Recreation Area

7 Mobile Crescent | 11.42 ha | Owner: National Defence Canada



**CLASSIFICATION:** Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** Site is part of the CFB North Bay Air Base; however, is used by local and regional residents for ball games.

**PROJECTS:** No projects are proposed for this site.





# Greenhill Park

251 Pearce Street | 2.5 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park, Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a well-vegetated back-lot site with several access points, an existing play structure and rink with associated building and lighting. The site also includes a community use building that is in poor condition.

**VISION:** This park provides both neighbourhood and community needs through an existing play structure, and rink. The existing buildings are in poor condition and can be replaced with a utility rink (shed).

**PROJECTS:** This site only requires the replacement of present buildings with a utility shed.





# Kenwood Hills Playground

Stone Manor Drive | 1.01 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park and Linear Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This park provides social and play amenity for the Kenwood Hills neighbourhood with natural space and street connectivity to surrounding streets. An existing play structure is a focal point with seating and tree shade.

**VISION:** The park fulfills its neighbourhood role without structural upgrades. Also, this site may include a future trail connections between the Airport Lookout Park and the developing residential areas to the east of Kenwood Hills (at Silver Maple Drive).

**PROJECTS:** No projects are required at this time; however, the above mentioned future trail connection may be required within the 20 year master plan implementation window.



# Laurentian Escarpment Conservation Area & Ski Hill



15 Ski Club Road | 48.8 ha | Owner: North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This site includes a ski hill, conservation centre and forested trail network that provides the region with a significant and all-season activity park. The Area is a great example of how escarpment lands are utilized as both recreational and conservation landscapes, with significant opportunity to grow this to become an important central Canadian destination.

**VISION:** This master plan encourages the city to work with the Conservation Authority to extend all-season use with relevant outdoor adventure sports such as downhill/mountain biking, fat biking, hiking, and trail running. Many similar facilities adopt this approach to extending facility use of capitalizing upon existing and non-utilized facilities (during summers). In fact, ski hills such as Whistler now record higher visitation during summer months (compared to winter visitation). This presents the Conservation Authority and city with an economic development opportunity that supports increased visibility, visitation and lifestyle-based living within North Bay. Additionally, the North Bay Mountain Bike Association (NB MBA) continues to develop trails at its Tower Drive location. The City of North Bay can work collectively with the NB MBA and the Conservation Authority to link their trail systems through the undeveloped lands between the two sites. It is important to evaluate the economic development and tourism opportunities associated with this link.

**PROJECTS:** The city can work with the Conservation Authority Board to develop an all-season site master plan and feasibility study that explores the cost-benefit of master plan implementation. All aspects of site improvement/development, land assembly, funding and operational partnerships, and sustainability should be explored as part of this evaluation.



# Sugarbush Community Park

Canterbury Crescent | 2.9 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park and Community Park

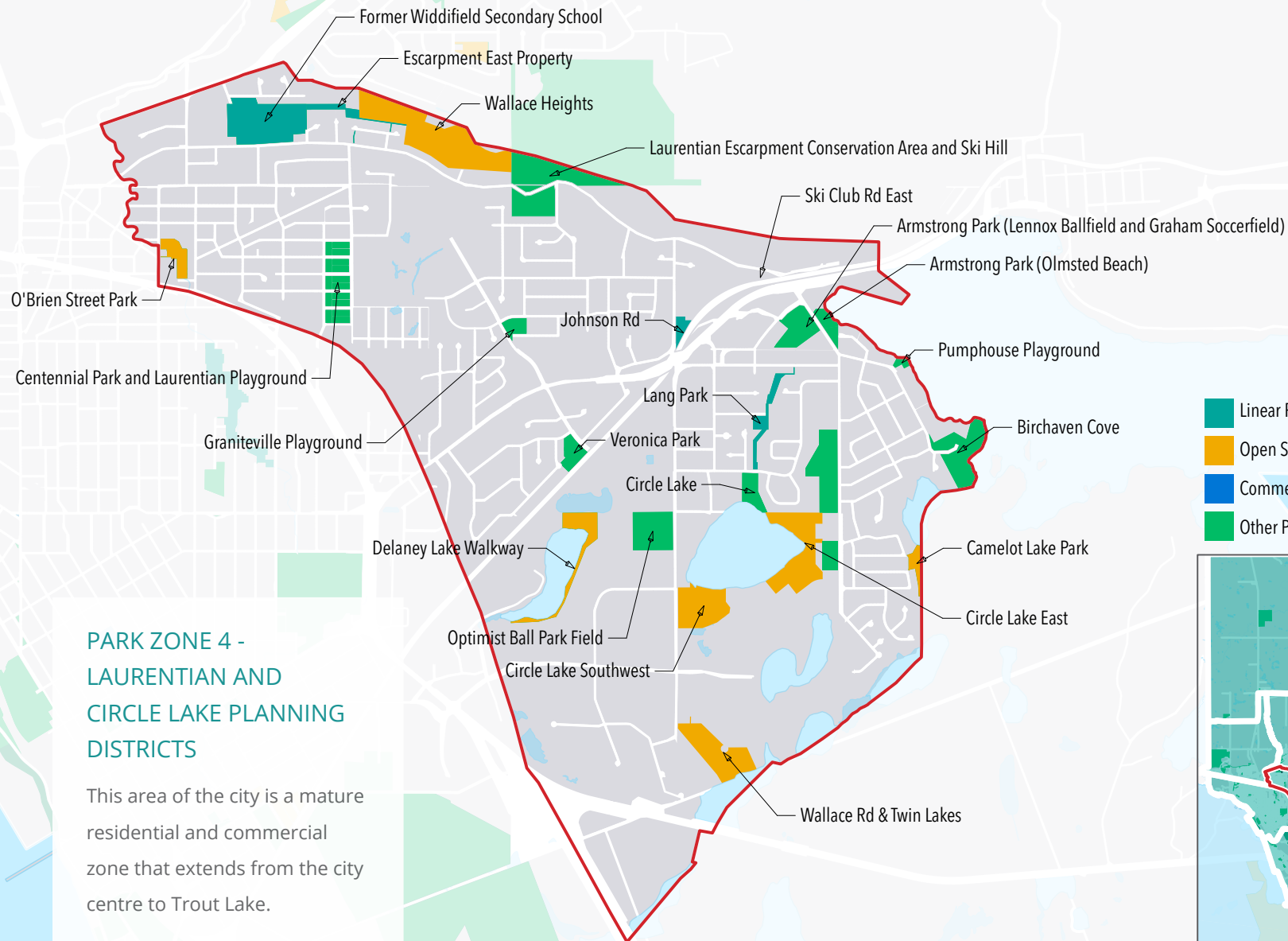
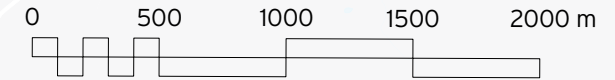
**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is located within a developing area of the city, and requires 2.9 hectares of land: acquired through park land dedication. The site is well vegetated, hosts local footpaths and is a busy dog-walk destination.

**VISION:** This is a future neighbourhood and community park site with a proposed play area to service community needs, two multi-use basketball/ ball hockey court pads, dog-friendly walking trails (where residents can walk through the woods with their pets in an unleashed and unfenced setting at predetermined times of day). The site also requires a social area (complete with seating, shade structure and trash receptacles), as well as gateway, guideline and wayfinding signage.

**PROJECTS:** This site requires a site development master plan that places the desired amenities within the proposed 2.9 hectare site (as residential development expands into this area). Development of the park should occur when expanding residential development touches the acquired land.



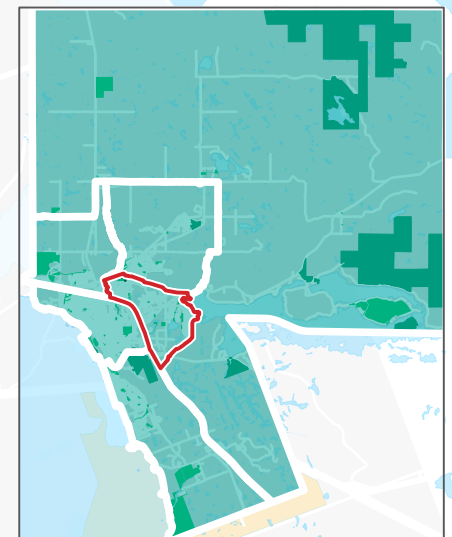
FIGURE 24 | PARK ZONE 4 - LAURENTIAN - CIRCLE LAKE AREA PARKS



#### PARK ZONE 4 - LAURENTIAN AND CIRCLE LAKE PLANNING DISTRICTS

This area of the city is a mature residential and commercial zone that extends from the city centre to Trout Lake.

- Linear Parks (page 103)
- Open Space Parks (page 105)
- Commemorative Parks (page 107)
- Other Parks (following pages)







# Armstrong Park

(incl. Olmsted Beach and Lennox Ballfield and Graham Soccerfield) | 60 Lakeside Drive | 3.8 ha | Owner: MNR and City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This diverse park includes land-side lit ball and soccer fields (Lennox Ball Field and Graham Soccer Field) and a water-side family activity park that provides water access for motorized boats, adjacent docking facilities, paddle boating facilities, and accessible washrooms, paths, beach, playground and parking.

An existing wetland area separates the park area from the existing boat slip, and will require upgrading when the boat slip is improved. A minor drainage problem exists on the south edge of the Graham Soccer Field. This can be addressed when and if the field is rebuilt in the future.

**VISION:** This significant regional park provides both active team as well as active and passive shoreline activity, and will continue within these contexts. The City will continue negotiations with the Province of Ontario regarding the lands formerly occupied by the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry to acquire their holdings as shown indicated in yellow. These lands will be utilized for a new parking area.

The lands shown indicated as blue should be acquired through a parkland dedication by way of any Subdivision or Condominium development approvals on the adjacent lands to the North to support slip and parking area improvements.

**PROJECTS:** If the City is successful in acquiring the lands, a parking lot should be developed adjacent to the south limit of the existing parking (adjacent to the sport fields). Future slip and parking area approvals can occur when subdivision permits.



# Birchaven Cove

465 Lakeside Drive | 4.54 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** Lakeside site (Trout Lake), complete with parking area, forested land, small beach and small boat dock.

**VISION:** This beautiful site functions well in present form; however, the existing washroom building will require replacement within the 20-year master plan window. This can occur at the present washroom/change building location.

**PROJECTS:** Upgrade projects include the design and construction of a washroom/change building.



# Centennial Park and Laurentian Playground

398 Carruthers Street | 4.4 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park, Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is an important site that includes the Caldwell Ellen Community Centre, an existing rink, play area, court space and ball field that provides both neighbourhood and community park amenity.

**VISION:** This park will continue to deliver amenity at two-levels, and requires minimal upgrades to meet this role. The park's position within a walkable distance at the heart of its community validates short-term investment at this location.

**PROJECTS:** The 'back-of-rink' existing court space is not ideally located. The court is proposed to move to another location (to be determined). The new location will require a new 2-court surface (complete with 8' fence, lighting, seating, etc.).





# Circle Lake

275 Lake Heights Road | 1.42 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park and Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This park is well positioned to deliver neighbourhood and community amenities due to the existing play equipment, parking lot and rink surface. Existing vegetation and open space provide an ideal platform from which to expand this park.

**VISION:** This park becomes a significant activity hub with the addition of a multi-use court (basketball and ball hockey). The single-season rink continues to operate seasonally. The existing buildings should be removed and replaced with a mechanical shed (for the rink). Existing building community use is relocated to EW Norman Public School when possible.

**PROJECTS:** Two projects are required:

First, the existing boards are replaced at end-of-life with half side boards and full end boards. The existing asphalt surface is in poor condition and should be replaced when the boards are replaced. Lights are returned to the site, and a new utility/mechaincal shed replaces the existing buildings (when removed).

Second, a new full court basketball/ball hockey asphalt surface is located on the site, and the existing basketball standard (located on the rink surface) is removed.





# Graniteville Playground

100 Carlo Crescent | 0.8 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood and Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This existing site includes a play area, rink, community building and utility shed with a well-vegetated street's edge.

**VISION:** This park will provide important youth activity and social space for residents located within its neighbourhood and community service areas. The existing shed is in poor condition and should be replaced. The addition of a half-size basketball/ball hockey multi-use court will ensure all-season activity within the park. Additionally, a new shade structure and seating area can function as a central social area for the park while connecting the play structure and multi-use courts.

**PROJECTS:** Projects include the placement of a new utility/mechanical shed, as well as a multi-use half-court surface and small social seating area.



# Optimist Ball Park Field

603 Wallace Road | 3.72 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This site hosts two ball fields, batting cages as well as parking and washrooms (available from the adjacent Pete Pelangio arena). The facility is in good condition, and is ideally suited for both community and tournament use.

**VISION:** This site continues to fulfill its role as a regional softball facility (with the ability to host youth baseball events).

**PROJECTS:** No projects are required to sustain this facility.



# Pumphouse Playground

248-302 Lakeside Drive | 0.3 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This existing park hosts a play structure, seating and shade, and meets neighbourhood park requirements.

**VISION:** This park will continue in present form to fulfil its neighbourhood role.





# Sage Road Park

Sage Road | 4.31 ha | Owner: City park on leased land



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park and Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This park consists of two components being the developed Sage Road Park Playground and outdoor rink and the undeveloped open space area to the north.

**VISION:** The developed Sage Road Park Playground and outdoor rink are leased by the City and is privately owned.

The vacant lands to the north should be maintained for the relocation of the developed park area if needed, or released for development if not needed.





# Veronica Park

44 Veronica Drive | 1.2 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park and Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This large site hosts an existing play area and rink, and an informal footpath that extends between Veronica Drive and Peruit Place.

**VISION:** This park retains existing play equipment to fulfil its neighbourhood classification role. The existing rink and associated building is retained for community use. A half-size multi-use court (basketball and ball hockey) is located at a location where sound can be muffled from neighbouring properties.

**PROJECTS:** Design and locate a half-size multi-use court in the area adjacent to the play structure and rink.



# Widdifield Secondary School (Closed)

320 Ski Club Road | 7.5 ha | Owner: Nipissing Board of Education



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park, Linear Park

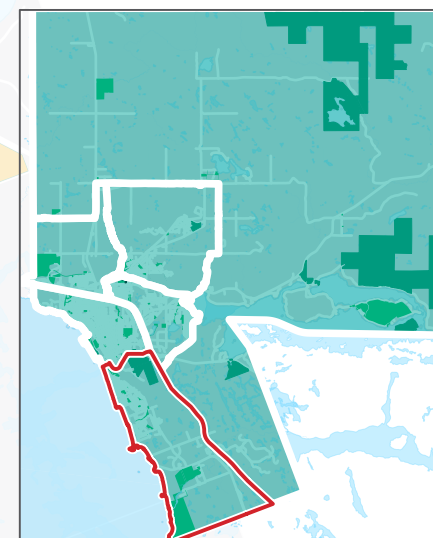
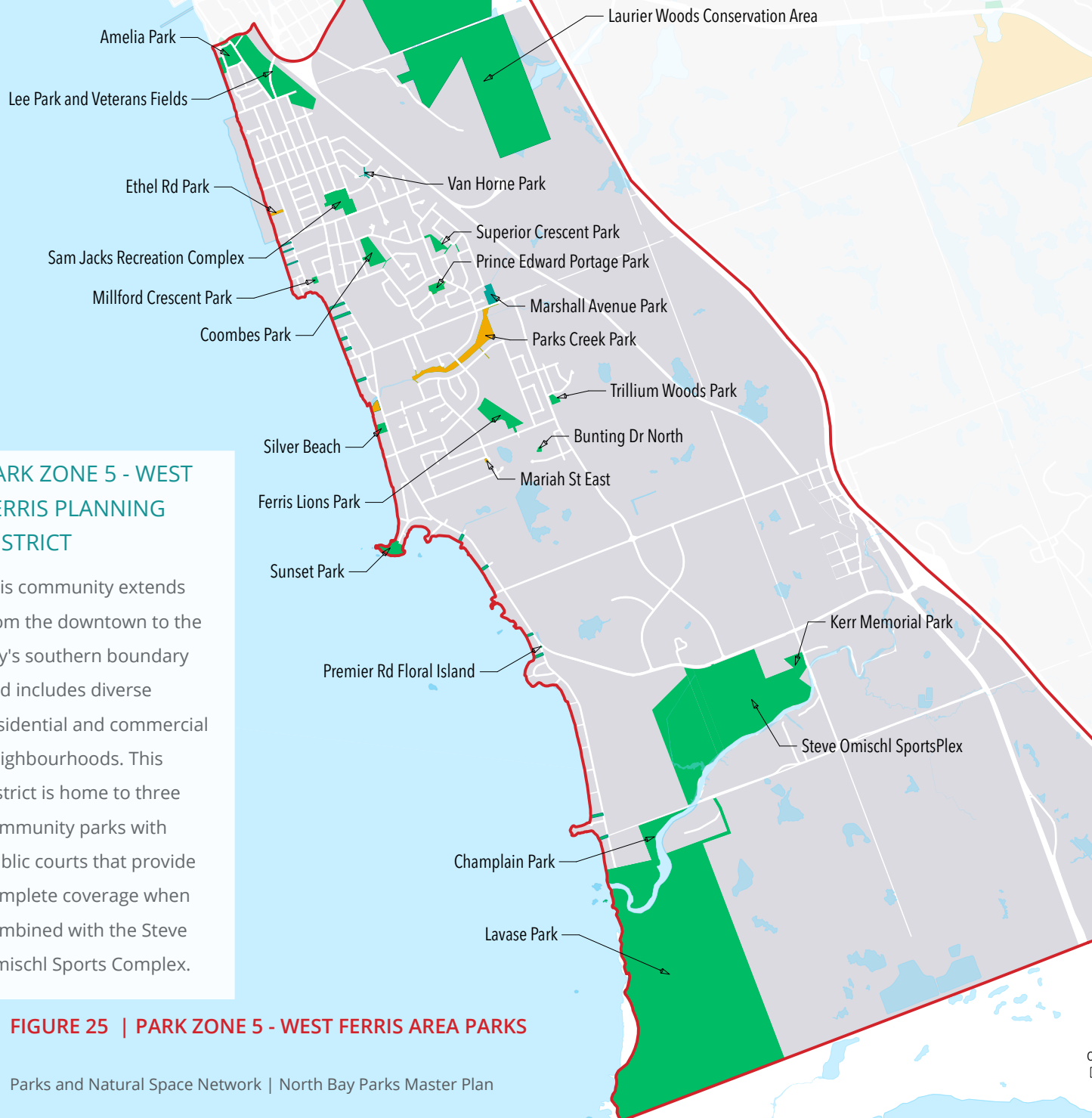
**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a former school site that remains undeveloped. The location is ideal for a trail connection and neighbourhood park if land or access can be acquired.

**VISION:** This area of the city requires a neighbourhood park to serve localized play and social needs. The attached diagram illustrates the proposed location of the park.

**PROJECTS:** This location requires the acquisition of approximately 1.5 acre of land to place a play area, planted shade and seating, and open turn space. Additional land is required for a trail connection between Ellendale Drive and Olympia Court. The city should work with the school board to acquire this parcel, prior to developing a park and trail plan for the lands.

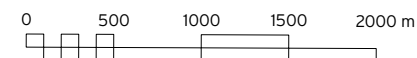
## PARK ZONE 5 - WEST FERRIS PLANNING DISTRICT

This community extends from the downtown to the city's southern boundary and includes diverse residential and commercial neighbourhoods. This district is home to three community parks with public courts that provide complete coverage when combined with the Steve Omischl Sports Complex.



- Linear Parks (page 103)
- Open Space Parks (page 105)
- Commemorative Parks (page 107)
- Other Parks (following pages)

**FIGURE 25 | PARK ZONE 5 - WEST FERRIS AREA PARKS**







# Amelia Park

755 Memorial Drive | 2 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is an important sports field site with a small and open shoreline area that extends Lee Park to the waterfront. Water conditions limit human use of the aquatic environment; however, the beach is usable as a lake viewing area.

**VISION:** This site will continue to function in present form. The existing fields and associated buildings are in good condition, and the aquatic environment is not suitable for human use.

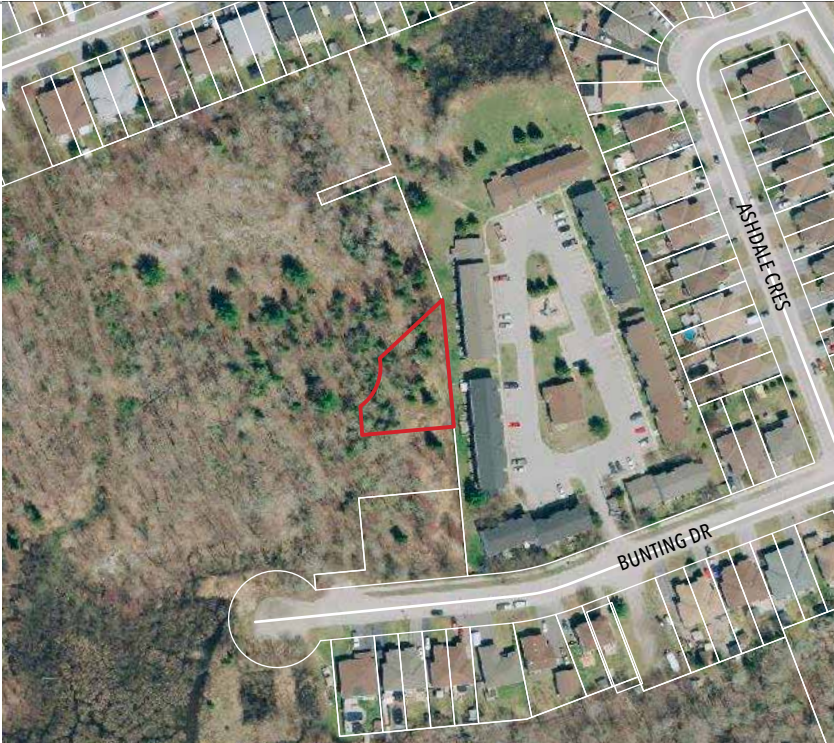
**PROJECTS:** No projects are required.





# Bunting Drive North

Bunting Drive | 0.121 ha | Owner: Private, 5% proposed



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a well vegetated vacant parcel reserved as a future neighbourhood park. The site sits within a developing mixed-income residential area, and will require attention within 20 years to meet adjacent neighbourhood park needs (those living within 600-meters from this site).

**VISION:** This is an important site that requires minimal investment requirements to meet its role. The city should conserve this space to ensure equitable delivery of playgrounds within this mixed-residential area.

**PROJECTS:** This future neighbourhood park will include naturalized play amenities and social seating areas, shade trees and gateway signage. The placed amenities must be visible from the street's edge, with trail linkages to surrounding streets.



# Champlain Park

125 Premier Road | 11.7 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park, Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This regional park also provides neighbourhood amenity through an existing play area complete with seating and shade. Additionally, city-wide visitors come to the park for the dog park and shoreline area for boating access to the lake, shoreline viewing/walking and beach use. A highly visible gateway can celebrate the park's namesake, Samuel de Champlain.

**VISION:** This park's network role remains as is; however, a trail is proposed to extend to Kerr Park along the Lavasse River, and connect to Ste Omischl Sportsplex.



# Coombes Park

39 Joseph Street | 2.2 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a passive walking park that should be retained in its present form and maintained on an all-year basis to provide accessible and all-season walking.

**VISION:** This is a unique asset within the heart of its service neighbourhood. The walking trails, topography and planting create a unique 'oasis' style park that is a model for passive gathering throughout the city. Any pressure to apply play amenities at this location is relieved by the adjacent Superior Crescent Park (approximately 200 meters from Coombes Park).

**PROJECTS:** This park receives branded gateway signage and shared-use guideline signage at all access points into the park.





# Ferris Lions Park

152 Massey Drive | 3.1 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park and Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is an important neighbourhood and community park that hosts an existing play area, rink and associated building, and parking area.

**VISION:** This master plan proposes to retain all components, and to replace the existing board system at end-of-life.

**PROJECTS:** The existing boards are in poor condition and should be replaced with a half-board system on the side, and full boards on the end. This should occur in the short-term, and provide an opportunity to evaluate the use of the proposed board system.





# Kerr Memorial Park

61 Riverbend Road | 1.6 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park and Regional Trail Gateway

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This site hosts a small track and parking area, as well as a rink with boards and an associated building. An adjacent school provides activity amenity to students on two play structures and adjacent open turf space.

**VISION:** This is an important skating area for the city's south-area residents. The existing rink is retained with board and building replacement at end-of-life.

Additionally, this park site is proposed as an eastern family gateway to the adjacent Steve Omischl Park, with future trail extension to the Champlain. Its position relative to the Kate Pace Way provides an opportunity to create a gateway into a new trail that connects this and the Steve Omischl Sports Complex to Champlain Park. The granular nature trail will create a 7 kilometer walking/cycling loop, and city wide connectivity on the Kate Pace Way. Additionally, the trail can link to the Kate Pace Way Trail directly by extending the corridor along the stream's edge (to the east).

The natural aspects of this site and the proposed trail, when considered with the family use of the Kate Pace Way and adjacent Steve Omischl Sports Complex suggest that a nature-based playground should replace the park's existing rink and track.

As gateway to a trail system, and play destination for the Kate Pace Way and Steve Omischl Sports Complex, the site will require parking as well as gateway, wayfinding and guideline signage. A future site development plan will evaluate all activities, and the site, to provide the city with a clear picture of park development.

**PROJECTS:** The future trail connection to Steve Omischl and Champlain Park require further evaluations, and are noted in this master plan's implementation section. The existing rink boards are replaced with a half-side and full end-board system.



# Laurier Woods Conservation Area

Old Callander Road | 101.7 ha | Owner: Friends of Laurier Woods Inc. and the North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a wonderful and busy city-centre natural park that continually improves through extended trail and boardwalk development.

**VISION:** This site is improved with the placement of gateway, wayfinding, orientation and reassurance signage to ensure a safe and comfortable visit by both experienced and novice trail walkers.

**PROJECTS:** This master plan proposes a joint effort with the City and the Laurier Woods governing bodies to develop and install a comprehensive wayfinding system based on the city's package. It is important to note that this site's unique and significant environmental setting should not be impacted by any signage; therefore, signage type, scale and location may be altered to be subservient to the park.



# Lavase Park

Lavase Road | 106.8 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is an under-utilized and large piece of land that is retained by the city for adoption as recreation lands as the south-region of the city expands, and the demand for a localized nature park increases.

**VISION:** This will become the City of North Bay's park network south anchor (when considered with Champlain and Kerr Parks, and the Steve Omischl Sports Complex). There are numerous informal trails located on the lands south of the LaVase River which are accessible during the winter months or by watercraft in the summer months. These trails can also be accessed at the southern limit by way of the Cranberry Marsh parking lot..

**PROJECTS:** Access to the park is possible from Riverbend or Cranberry Roads. This will be determined through future site master planning.





# Lee Park and Veterans Fields

800 Memorial Drive | 8.2 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park, Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This park provides neighbourhood amenity to the northern West Ferris and city-centre residents through accessible play space, adult fitness equipment, seating and planted shade. Additionally the scale of equipment and social areas supports regional use through comfort amenities such as seating, shade and high-capacity play events.

The park is also a significant winter asset through the skating trail and toboggan hill.

**VISION:** This park requires minimal intervention to retain and expand its important all-season visitation. Where possible, the skating trail should continually evolve and expand as capacity requirement increases through increased interest.

**PROJECTS:** The site requires the application of the wayfinding signage package. The city should develop a regionalized parking strategy for this park in conjunction with Amelia Park that examines capacity and requirement, time of day use, and a system that creates one parking strategy for all sites, in all seasons. Additionally, the city should explore retail opportunities within the park that support extended and increased visitation (hot chocolate, ice cream, etc.).





# Millford Crescent Park

Milford Crescent | 0.2 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is city-owned vacant land within the heart of a dense residential area that lacks park facilities, and is separated from other city areas with parks by Lakeshore Drive. The present site is well vegetated with a drainage swale extending from Milford Crescent to Parsons Avenue.

**VISION:** This is an important site that should be upgraded to neighbourhood park through the placement of minimal play equipment, seating, tree shade and a trail that extends from Milford Crescent to the play area.

**PROJECTS:** The park requires the placement of a play structure and associated seating and shade, as well as the placement of the entrance. The City of North Bay may require a small wetland on this space that, together with the play area, form the park.



# Prince Edward Portage Park

Portage Avenue | 0.673 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a naturalized space with informal trails that is to be retained in present form.



# Sam Jacks Recreation Complex

42 Gertrude Street E | 2.7 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park, Community Park and Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This site is home to the present Sam Jacks Recreation Complex, three tennis courts, youth soccer fields and an unused ball diamond. Site parking is available around the arena.

**VISION:** The complex provides amenity within the community and regional classification levels; however, a proposed play area complete with shade structures and seating will provide neighbourhood amenity, and provides the south area of the city with a complete facility. This is accomplished by expanding the asphalt surface with an additional multi-use court surface (basketball and ball hockey). The existing tennis courts are resurfaced for informal tennis play.

The new play area (play structure, central social/shade/storage/washroom building with shade canopy) creates a strong focal point between the court and soccer surfaces.

The former ball field is modified to host two additional soccer surfaces that can be lined in any desired format.

Additional parking is required to accommodate the proposed uses; therefore, the city should develop the site as additional parking space becomes available on the property.

**PROJECTS:** The city should develop a site master plan that locates the above mentioned assets considerate of the existing arena, and without the existing arena. Aspects such as site capacity and associated service requirements, parking and circulation requirements, noise, screening, visibility for safety and use, etc. should be fully explored in this project.





# Silver Beach

491 Lakeshore Drive | 0.53 ha | Owner: City.



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a lake access site with mature vegetation and open space for picnicking and viewing the water.

**VISION:** The site is retained in present form.





# Steve Omischl Sports Complex



1099-1105 Lakeshore Drive | 35.1 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a significant field facility complex that grows with the addition of the two-ice pad community centre. Thus, this location becomes a powerful all-season community and tournament use facility, and is a major economic development asset for both West Ferris and the City of North Bay.

**VISION:** This master plan proposes additional outdoor activities that capitalize on the regional attraction and site's high-capacity by adding four beach volleyball courts adjacent to the newly planned community centre, as well as a hard-cover central social structure between the ball fields (for daily and weekend use as a tournament refreshment station). Additionally, explore the notion of placing expanded outdoor activity on lands adjacent to the new centre.

**PROJECTS:** The following projects are proposed for this complex. First, the design and construction of a community-funded shade structure at a city-approved location between the ball fields. This project may also include future batting cages (built and maintained by the community).

Second, a master plan is required to illustrate how parking, access and configuration functions relative to a new four court beach volleyball complex and 18-hole disc golf course can work adjacent to the new community centre.

With the increased diversity of local population demographics, there is continued interest expressed in the development of a regulation size cricket pitch. This location is the most suitable within the City as it provides the necessary area, and is accessible by transit and active transportation routes and City transit.



# Sunset Park

65 Sunset Boulevard | 1.5 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park, Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a community beach access that includes a complete neighbourhood play space, including a play area, seating and shade.

**VISION:** This park fulfils its role in present structural format.



# Superior Cr. Park

Prince Edward Drive | 0.9 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a neighbourhood park complete with a play area, seating and shade, as well as a trail that connects Superior Crescent to Prince Edward Drive. This site is complete relative to its proposed role.

**VISION:** Park to remain in present condition.

**PROJECTS:** No projects are required.





# Trillium Woods Park



Corner of Booth and Trillium Drive | xx ha | Owner: City



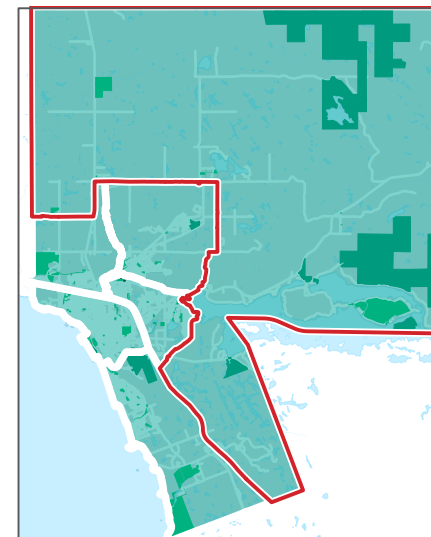
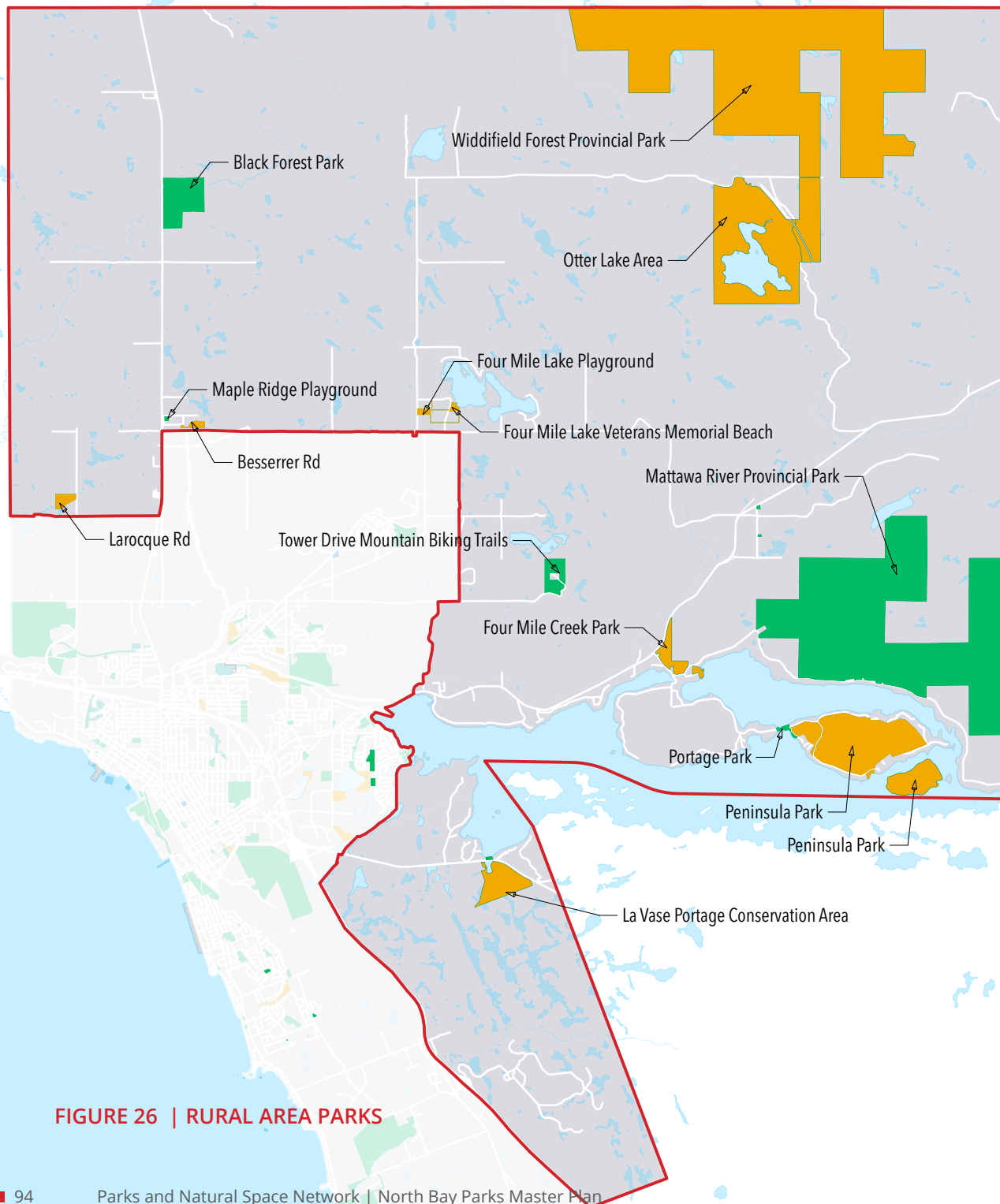
**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a vacant piece of land that requires a play structure, open turf space, seating and shade planting to service those living within the surrounding developing neighbourhood.

**VISION:** This site will deliver localized social and recreation activity for a compact neighbourhood, and is an important project to move forward with in early implementation stages.

**PROJECTS:** Create a site plan that illustrates the placement of the above mentioned park elements prior to building this park space.

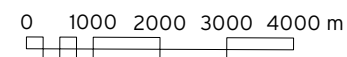




- Linear Parks (page 103)
- Open Space Parks (page 105)
- Commemorative Parks (page 107)
- Other Parks (following pages)

## PARK ZONE 6 - RURAL PLANNING DISTRICT

These park sites are placed for social and activity reasons throughout the rural areas of the city, and are to be maintained as noted below.



**FIGURE 26 | RURAL AREA PARKS**



# Black Forest Park

Hwy 11, intersecting Con. 4 & 5 boundary | 61.76 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Community Park

**VISION:** This natural space includes an interpretive trail system. The site is to remain in present form to retain its community park designation.



# Elks Lodge 25 Family Park Conservation Area



1200 Highway 17E | 0.567 ha | Owner: City owner; Operated by North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority



**CLASSIFICATION:** Community Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This space is a passive green space with water access. The site is to remain in present form to retain its community park designation.



# Feronia Playground

150 Cemetery Road | 0.49 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This space includes a small play structure and swings, and serves rural residents that walk and drive to the site.

**VISION:** This site is to remain in present form to retain its service level.

**PROJECTS:** The site requires park gateway and use guideline signage.





# Maple Ridge Playground

Gregory Drive | 0.69 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighbourhood Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** Small play structure and swings, and an open space with a well-vegetated edge.

**VISION:** This is a wonderful park site that can remain in existing form to meet its network role.

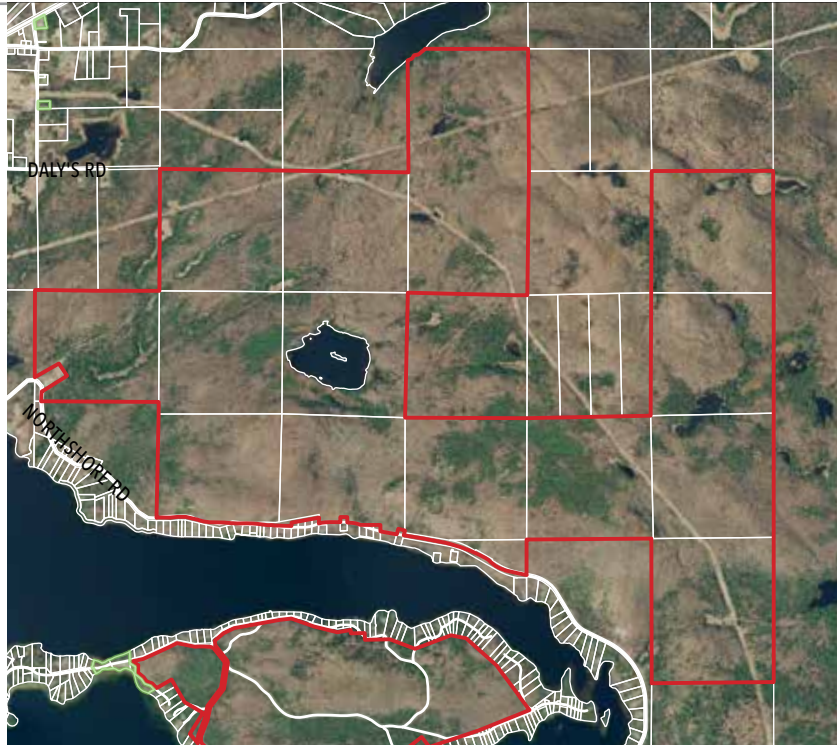
**PROJECTS:** This park only requires a gateway panel.



# Mattawa River Provincial Park



Northshore Road | 961.248 ha | Owner: Natural Resources Ministry



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS AND PROJECTS:** This is a club-lead park designed for cross-country skiing. No significant city projects are proposed for the site; however, the city can work with the club to place a comprehensive wayfinding system into the park.



# Portage Park

Peninsula Road | 2.56 ha | Owner: City



**CLASSIFICATION:** Neighborhood and Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This existing park hosts a play structure, seating beach access and washroom/change rooms, and meets both neighbourhood and regional park requirements (play structure and beach).

**VISION:** This park will continue in present form to fulfil its neighbourhood role; however, a new change building will be required.

**PROJECTS:** The city should explore replacing the existing washroom/change building with a new building (placed over the existing concrete pad and washroom 'holes' (at building end-of-life).



# Tower Drive Trails

Tower Drive



**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional Park

**CHARACTERISTICS:** This is a club-lead park designed for mountain biking. The majority of these trails are on MNRF property; the mountain bike association has a Memorandum of Understanding in place with the Province.

**PROJECTS:** No significant city projects are proposed for the site; however, the city can work with the club to place a comprehensive wayfinding system into the park.



## EXTENDED CLASSIFICATIONS

The previous classifications relate to the spatial and equitable distribution of parks across the city, as well as the location of larger park assets related to sport or natural environments. The following classifications relate to the evolution of the active transportation network, the location of important natural spaces that are set aside for habitat or future use, parks that are commemorative in nature, as well as parks that are not classified and can be made available for other uses.

## LINEAR PARKS

The following sites are natural or semi-natural spaces that include trails, or designated as trail spaces. The sites are retained for use as expansion of the active transportation network, or to make in neighbourhood trail connections between important sites/places. The following sites are illustrated on figure 27 with the City of North Bay Active Transportation routes, including the Kate Pace Way and the Kinsmen Trail.

### CHIPPEWA CREEK RAVINE

High Street | 4.59 ha | Owner: City

### ESCARPMENT EAST PROPERTY

Balsam Crescent | 1.02 ha | Owner: City

### ESCARPMENT WEST PROPERTY

0 UNK CON B PTL21 PTL22 | 6.9 ha | Owner: City

### FUTURE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

#### CITY CENTRE CONNECTOR

Lands North of Route 11/17 | Undetermined Size  
| Owner: Private

### PINEWOOD PARKWAY

#### (JOHN KENNEDY MEMORIAL PARK)

Parkwood Drive | 6.92 ha | Owner: City

### KATE PACEWAY & KINSMEN TRAIL

As shown on adjacent map

### KIWANIS PLAYGROUND

644 First Avenue E | 0.3 ha | Owner: City

### LANG PARK

Michener Drive | 1.52 ha | Owner: City

### MARSHALL AVE. PARK

128 Marshall Avenue E | 0.98 ha | Owner: City

### O'BRIEN ST. PARK

Hazel Avenue | 1.467 ha | Owner: City

### PARKS CREEK PARK

Labreche Drive | 4.204 ha | Owner: City

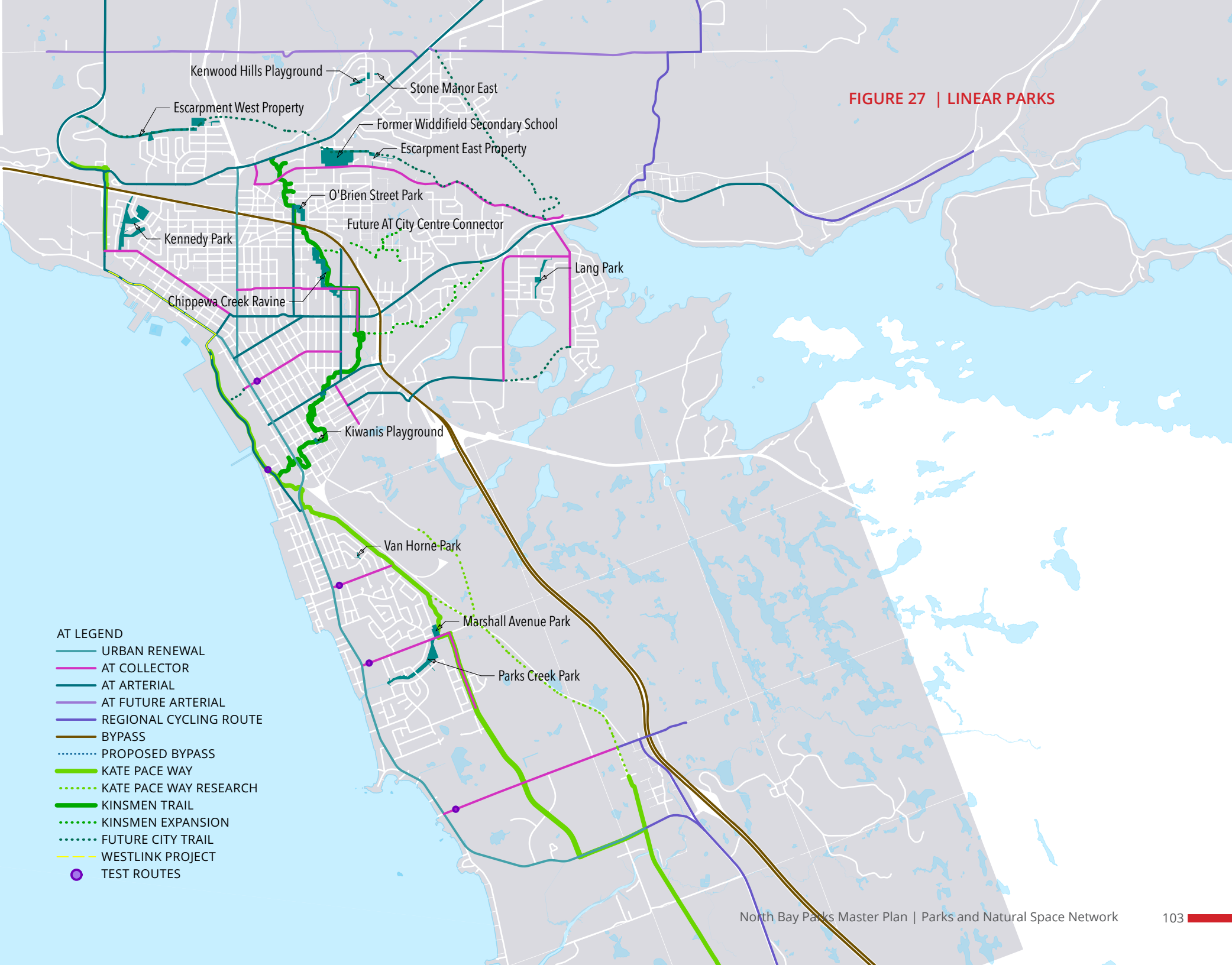
### VAN HORNE PARK

Van Horne Crescent | 0.142 ha | Owner: City

FIGURE 27 | LINEAR PARKS

AT LEGEND

- URBAN RENEWAL
- AT COLLECTOR
- AT ARTERIAL
- AT FUTURE ARTERIAL
- REGIONAL CYCLING ROUTE
- BYPASS
- ..... PROPOSED BYPASS
- KATE PACE WAY
- ..... KATE PACE WAY RESEARCH
- KINSMEN TRAIL
- ..... KINSMEN EXPANSION
- ..... FUTURE CITY TRAIL
- WESTLINK PROJECT
- TEST ROUTES



## OPEN SPACE PARKS

The following sites are identified as open space parks, and are retained for the purpose of conserving natural landscapes for habitat, beauty or yet to be determined uses. It is important to note that the City of North Bay shoreline access points fall within this category; therefore, these sites are to be conserved for habitat and local resident access to the lake. Figure 28 illustrates the locations of the open space parks.

### BESSERRER ROAD

Besserrer Road | 4.28 ha | Owner: City

### CAMELOT LAKE PARK

Shallot Crescent | 0.94 ha | Owner: City

### DELANEY LAKE WALKWAY

Seymour Street | 2.613 ha | Owner: City

### ETHEL ROAD PARK

Ethel Street | 0.22 ha | Owner: City

### EVA WARDLAW CONSERVATION AREA

451 Lakeshore Drive | 0.374 ha | Owner: North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority

### FOUR MILE CREEK PARK

22.29 ha | Owner: Province of Ontario

### FOUR MILE LAKE PLAYGROUND

10 Chadbourne Drive | 2.973 ha | Owner: City

### FRICKER-WALLACE PLAYGROUND

Crawford Drive | 1.148 ha | Owner: City

### KENWOOD HILLS

Kenwood Hills Blk | 4.25 ha | Owner: City

### LA VASE PORTAGE CONSERVATION AREA

0 UNK CON 17 PT LOTS 26/27 | 44.839 ha | Owner: North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority

### LAROCQUE ROAD

Larocque Road | 8.412 ha | Owner: City

### MARIAH STREET EAST

0 Mariah St | 0.61 ha | Owner: City

### MANITOU ISLANDS PROVINCIAL NATURE RESERVE

1759.77 ha

### METCALFE PARK

Winters Avenue | 1.349 ha | Owner: City

### OTTER LAKE AREA

Widdifield Station | 306.591 ha | Owner: City

### PENINSULA PARK

Peninsula Road | 179.878 ha | Owner: City

### PRINCE EDWARD PORTAGE PARK

Portage Avenue | 0.673 ha | Owner: City

### ROCKVIEW PARK

649 Hardy Street | 0.303 ha | Owner: City

### SPRINGDALE ACRES

14 Springdale Dr | 4.14 ha | Owner: City

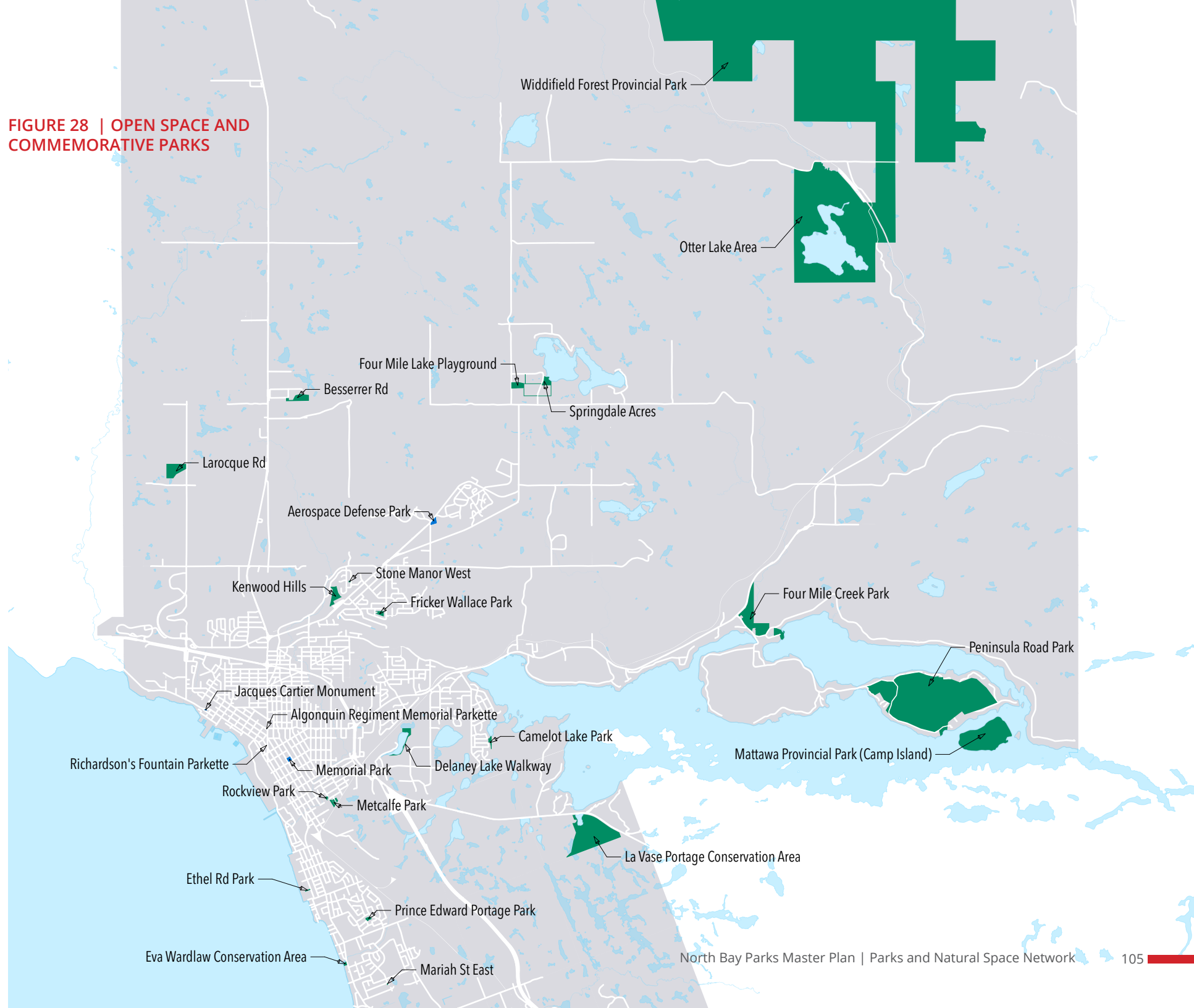
### STONE MANOR WEST

Stone Manor Drive | 0.11 ha | Owner: City

### WIDDIFIELD FOREST PROVINCIAL PARK

0 Laughrin Rd | 1147.85 ha | Owner: Province

**FIGURE 28 | OPEN SPACE AND  
COMMEMORATIVE PARKS**





## COMMEMORATIVE PARKS

The following sites are identified as commemorative parks that host cenotaph or other memorials. All of these sites are retained and maintained in present form. Figure 28 illustrates the location of these parks.

### AEROSPACE DEFENSE PARK

Airport Road | 0.96 ha | Owner: City

### ALGONQUIN REGIMENT MEMORIAL PARKETTE

Algonquin Avenue | 0.009 ha | Owner: City

### JACQUES CARTIER MONUMENT

Main Street W | 0.103 ha | Owner: City

### MEMORIAL PARK

First Avenue West | 0.649 ha | Owner: City

### RICHARDSON'S FOUNTAIN PARKETTE

Algonquin Avenue | 0.002 ha | Owner: City

## NON-CLASSIFIED PARKS

The following sites are identified as city-owned lands that can be made available for other uses, or be made available for development purposes (see figure 29 for location).

### CASSELLS & VICTORIA FLORAL ISLAND

Cassells Street | 0.01 ha | Owner: City

### COPELAND ST. PROPERTY

Algonquin Avenue | 0.019 ha | Owner: City

### JANE ST & BLOEM ST PARKETTE

Jane Street | 0.002 ha | Owner: City



**FIGURE 29 | NON-CLASSIFIED PARKS**



# 5.0 Implementation

The City of North Bay created this master plan to provide a twenty-year roadmap toward delivering an equitable network of park spaces to residents within the context of the existing outdoor recreation sites, evolving recreational needs, and evolving demographics. The previous chapters provide the background and rationalized components of this network; this chapter provides a roadmap to assembling the network through a series of clear implementation steps.

It is important to note that this chapter presents steps in a linear format; however, implementation is a highly iterative process that will not occur linearly. The city will move forward relative to budget availability, funding opportunities, emerging and evolving user

needs, etc. Changes to the implementation plan are normal and expected. Regular evaluation of the implementation strategy's direction and actions will ensure the city is accomplishing plan goals.

It is also important to note that the City of North Bay presently maintains a high-quality parks inventory. This plan does not propose to significantly overhaul this inventory; rather, it proposes to add or remove site amenities to the existing inventory at strategic locations to create the physical network desired by residents for developed areas of the city. No additional parks lands are required within the life of this master plan for these areas; however, additional parks and trails will be required for growth into new areas. Through master plan implementation, the

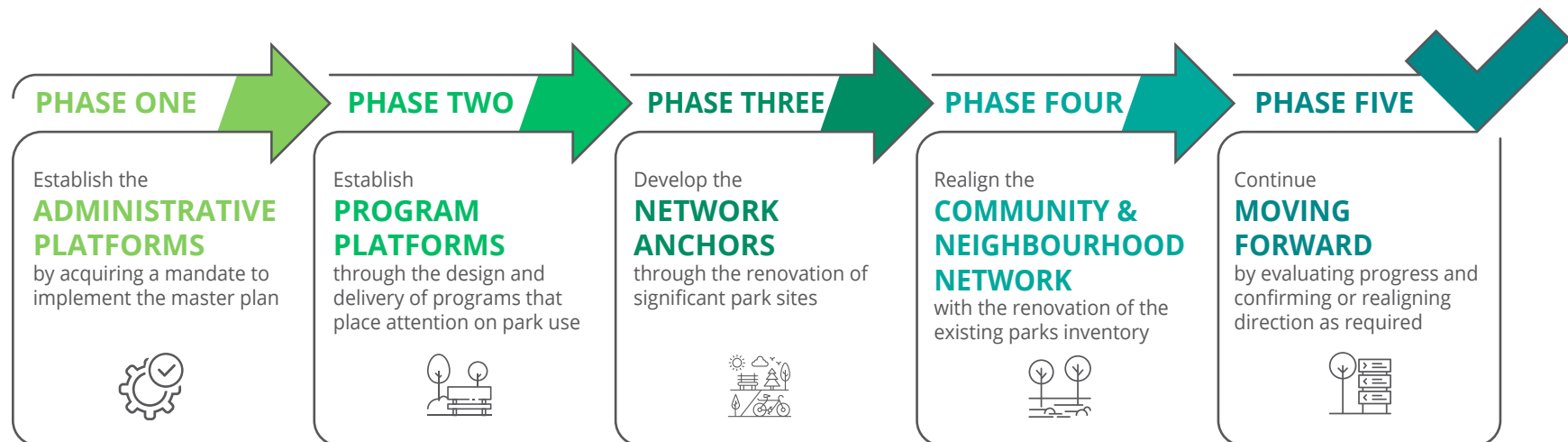
existing inventory blends with new growth area parks and trails to become this network.

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The implementation strategy is the thematic platform for updating North Bay's parks network. Although this master plan provides the roadmap to accomplish this, implementation will not go exactly as planned. Changing influences such as population demographics, budgeting and funding, staffing levels, partnership participation and council priority will require procedural changes as the City moves forward with implementation; however, sticking to the basic structure of this master plan will ensure success.



The notion of 'network' is essential to the success of this master plan. Planning, design, construction and operational actions must continue to move the inventory from a series of stand-alone recreation spaces to a resident desired parks network. This master plan proposes the following five-phase implementation strategy to accomplish this (see figure 30).



**FIGURE 30 | IMPLEMENTATION PHASES**



## PHASE ONE - ESTABLISH THE ADMINISTRATIVE PLATFORMS

The first phase includes acquiring the political and community mandate for plan implementation. This involves integration into official city plans, 'spreading the word' to local and regional residents, and informing provincial and federal political representatives that the City intends to update their recreation sites to a comprehensive parks network. The following tasks are included in this phase.

### REVISE THE CONSOLIDATED OFFICIAL PLAN TO SUPPORT NETWORK EVOLUTION

The City of North Bay's Consolidated Official Plan should be updated to reflect this updated Parks Master Plan, in conjunction with the Active Transportation Master Plan.

It is important to note that, in addition to addressing network parkland needs within the context of existing city structure and demographics, the policy considers city growth and the position of the Planning and Building Services Department relative to future parkland identification. The network must grow within future neighbourhoods on the lands best suited to host parks; in terms of location, size, landscape capability to host a park and relationship to an expanding active transportation plan. To ensure this, the Planning and Building Services Department must work with developers in a leadership role prior to, and during plan development processes.

### SUPPORTING POLICY:

***POLICY PMP-1** The City of North Bay's Official Plan shall be updated to incorporate the goals and objectives of the Parks Master Plan and be used as a guide of the future acquisition of parks and trails.*

***POLICY PMP-3** The City of North Bay shall update Appendix B of the Consolidated Official Plan to reflect Parks Master Plan.*

***POLICY PMP-4** Council shall use the Chapter 5.0 Implementation Plan as a guide to implementing the City of North Bay Parks Master Plan.*

***POLICY PMP-5** Council shall use the City of North Bay Parks Master Plan as a guide for expanding the hierarchical parks network within existing or developing city neighbourhoods, and communities.*

## SOLICIT SUPPORT FOR PARKS MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

This plan includes several important and long-term projects that require ongoing communication among regional political representatives, city council and staff. The City of North Bay should formally present this document to all relevant provincial and federal political representatives to spread master plan awareness.

The City of North Bay should also present this document to regional funding and support agencies such as the Province of Ontario's recreation and health staff, key local and regional residents highly involved in program or facility delivery, and all stakeholders involved in the creation of this plan. This will set the platform for future implementation phases and tasks.

### SUPPORTING POLICY:

**POLICY PMP-6** *City Staff shall meet with relevant provincial and federal funding partners to share the City's Parks Master Plan to ensure the partners are aware of the city's interrelated recreation and economic development approaches and actions over the next twenty years.*

## COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Staff within the City of North Bay should collectively develop a communication strategy designed to attract residents to the corporate website to explore the city's long-term vision, planned actions and expected outcomes related to this master plan. The website should also provide information related to available activities, where to access these activities and who to contact for further information. This blend between the existing and visionary recreation environments will provide an opportunity for the city to consistently update residents about plan implementation progress.

## PARKS STANDARD MUNICIPAL SPECIFICATIONS MANUAL

The city will develop several park and trail components over the next twenty years. The parks should be identifiable as City of North Bay parks and trails; therefore, a single set of standard municipal specifications for parking, fencing, play equipment, trail construction, seating, shade structures, trash receptacles, etc. should be adopted that expresses quality, unity and wayfinding.

The City of North Bay should commission a qualified consultant to create a Parks Standards Municipal Specifications Manual for use when developing or renovating park plans, or constructing new park or trail projects.

### SUPPORTING POLICY:

**POLICY PMP-7** *Council shall direct staff to develop a City of North Bay Standard Municipal Specifications Manual for Parks that provides a details palette for park planners and builders, and supports the equitable delivery of park components throughout the city.*

## DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

The City of North Bay predicts residential growth within three areas of the city (see figure 31). These areas will require carefully planned park space in keeping with this master plan; therefore, the city requires planning tools that support this effort. This section provides these tools.

Placing a classified parks system into city growth areas requires administrative activities that place city planners into leadership position relative to that growth. This suggests that planners are actively involved in the initial stages of development planning. There are two approaches to doing this.

First, the city can develop secondary plans for expanding areas that clearly articulate land use, transportation and servicing modelling as well as all other aspects of growth that are planned ahead of detailed design. This model of growth works where development build and absorption rapidly occurs following a secondary planning exercise; however, does not work well when planning and financial modelling evolves beyond the lifespan of a secondary plan.

Second, the city can move itself into a leadership role by creating an administrative platform that brings developers together with city planners, engineers, parks representatives, etc. prior to 'putting pen to paper' to talk about all development goals and associated municipal requirements. This process saves developer time and money, and ensures all city requirements are built into the initial development program.

This master plan proposes the creation of a Development Review Committee as the administrative platform that places the city in a

leadership and support role at the initial and evolving stages on planning and design. This committee is mandated to support developers in the formation of master plans, detailed design/contract documents, and applications. Pre-development application stage meeting(s) involve exploring the servicing, stormwater, transportation, parks, etc. requirements and/or constraints related to developer land parcels (relative to expected land uses and densities). Post-application meetings include master plan and drawing review leading toward various types of municipal approvals. City staff representation is selected based on the project.

This process ensures that the various park types are placed within city growth areas at the intervals required to satisfy the spatial specifications described in this master plan. Additionally, active transportation infrastructure can be combined street or linear park infrastructure in a manner that connects local residents to park assets, or to the city-wide active transportation network. Planners, engineers and the developer can also explore the integration of linear stormwater systems with linear park systems to create a single and integrated naturalized corridor that sustains existing ground flows, or creates new corridors that connect parks to each other, or to the city's network.

It is important to note that the parks allocation for any development will continue to collect 5% of a land parcel at areas identified by the City of North Bay. Land collected for developing parks and trails must be highly suitable for this purpose. Any lands required for the purpose of collecting, holding or distributing stormwater is in addition to this 5%.

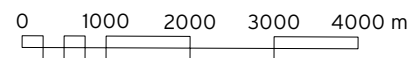
Three areas are identified as growth areas within the City of North Bay.

**FIGURE 31 | RESIDENTIAL GROWTH AREAS**

These include the lands north of Nippissing University, the lands west of Airport Heights, the lands east of the Laurentian area, and the lands between the exiting West Ferris residential areas and Lakeshore Drive (adjacent to the Steve Omischl Sportsplex). Figure xx illustrates these locations and proposes general locations for neighbourhood and community parks relative to their service areas. Additionally, the figure illustrates proposed trail corridor connections that should be included in development planning and design exercises for these areas.

As illustrated, the lands north of the university will require four parks to provide sufficient neighbourhood and community parks. Two to-be-located park spaces will require approximately 2.0 acres in size. A land parcel acquired at Laroque Road will service both neighbourhood and community need. At a minimum, community parks are 2.0 acres plus the space required to host the community recreational amenities (courts, rinks, trails, wooded areas open play fields, parking, etc.). The Laroque Road parcel is sufficient for this use and will permit the addition of asphalt courts, a trail system, etc. An additional acquired parcel at Besserrer Road is available to place a future neighbourhood park.

- 5 Percent Acquired
- 5 Percent Proposed
- Community Service Radius
- Neighbourhood Radius
- Trail Corridor





As lands develop to the west of Airport Heights, a proposed parcel noted as Escarpment East 2 is sufficient to provide space for a complete neighbourhood and community park, as well as a trail system and wooded areas for nature enjoyment. The land is significantly larger than required; however, all of the parcel should be retained for future 'unknown' uses. The noted Wallace Heights parcel is not required for park development; however, it is an important component of the city's active transportation plan.

Lands located to the east of the Laurentian area will require the use of proposed parcel at Laurentian Heights East for neighbourhood and community park, and the Tower Road parcel for a future neighbourhood park (that may grow into a community park). An additional 'to-be-located' two-acre parcel is required to the east of the Laurentian Heights East parcel (where illustrated). The identified Charmichael parcels are not required.

The lands located to the south of West Ferris require four neighbourhood parks. Three of these are to be located while one is located at Bunting Drive North. One future neighbourhood park is also designated as community park.

All of the proposed future parcels are proposed to be connected with a trail corridor; therefore, negotiations with developers must consider both park and trail spaces within the 5% land allocations.

## SUPPORTING POLICY:

***POLICY PMP-8** Council shall direct senior administrative staff to create a Development Review Committee that supports developers in the creation of plans that ensure city growth occurs relative to the parks distribution model described in the City of North Bay Parks Master Plan.*

***POLICY PMP-9** Council shall mandate the Development Committee to plan expansion of the city-wide parks and trails network on developer-owned lands deemed highly suitable by staff on lands proposed for development.*

## PARKS POLICY UPDATE

The City of North Bay By-Law No. 35-96, related to the use of public parks within North Bay, includes a list and geographic description of all park lands within municipal boundaries. This master plan provides an updated list of data that should influence a revision of this by-law at the early stages of master plan implementation.

## SUPPORTING POLICY:

***POLICY PMP-10** Council shall direct staff to revise the City of North Bay By-Law No. 35-96 to update all relevant by-law sections in a manner that brings the document up-to-date relative to the City of North Bay Parks Master Plan.*

## PHASE TWO - ESTABLISH PROGRAM PLATFORMS

Second phase actions include the design and delivery of programs that solicit resident attention toward increased park use, and to pave the way for phase three and four actions. The programs implemented in this phase collectively engage residents and staff in promoting all-season outdoor activity, and encouraging evolution toward the visionary network to sustain activity. The following tasks are included in this phase.

### PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

The city is creating a public art policy that will speak to the role of public art in North Bay, and how it is applied to various spaces. The group mandated to develop this policy should consider two important aspects of public art application (relative to public outdoor spaces):

- » **FIRST**, North Bay's downtown public plaza spaces are important public gathering spaces that should include public art as a means to express cultural and natural history, and as a way to attract visitors to the plaza. Additionally, because public plazas are a place of gathering, public art should be highly tactile and participatory within the downtown.
- » **SECOND**, North Bay's regional parks provide an ideal setting to place public art within the context of play and gathering. Therefore, public art should be whimsical, engaging, highly tactile and participatory with the regional parks.

The City of North Bay should mandate those charged with creating and implementing the policy to include downtown plaza and regional park spaces as important places to place public art within the context of the two statements above.

### SUPPORTING POLICY:

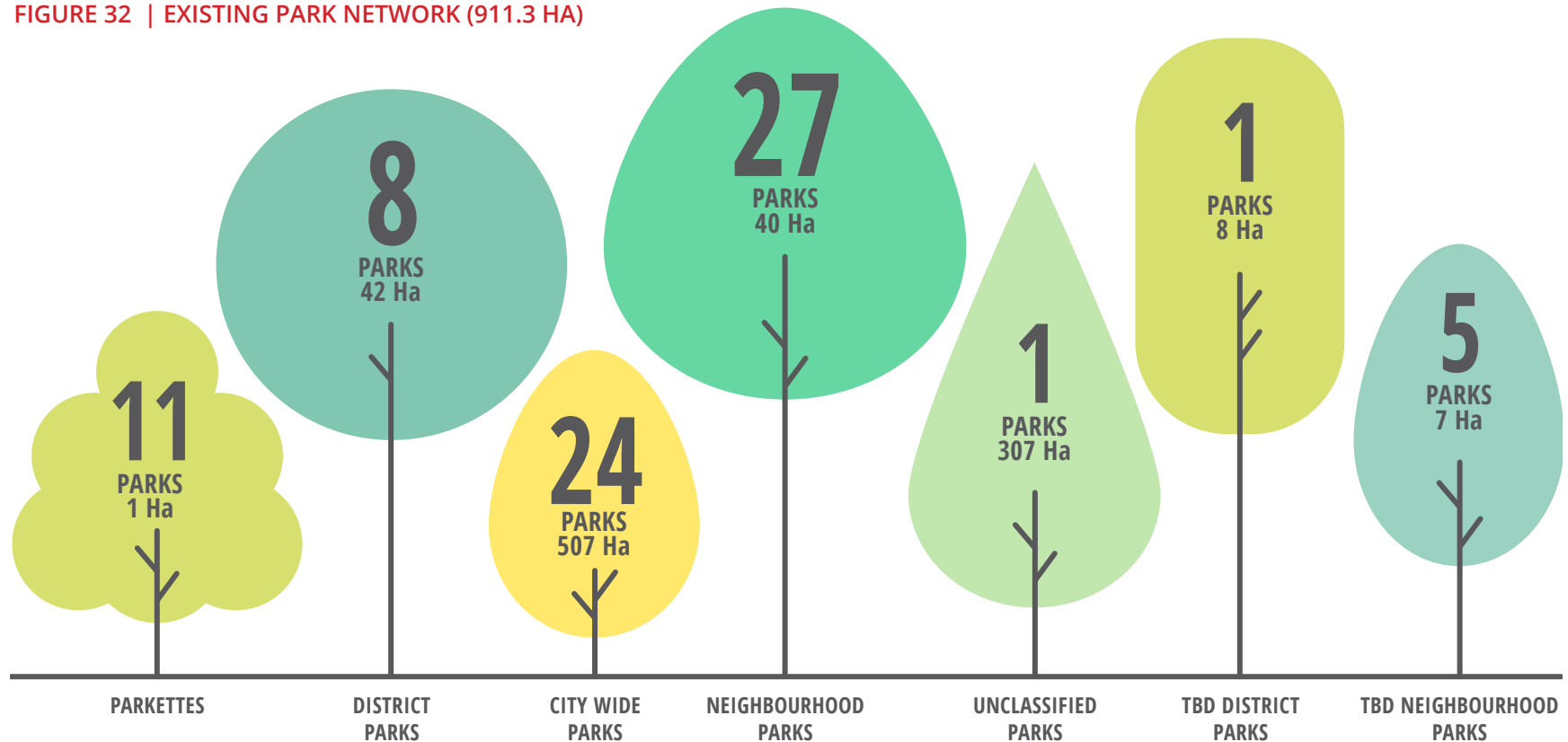
**POLICY PMP-11** *That the Public Art Advisory Committee identify the importance of downtown plazas and regional parks as a priority location for new public art in keeping with the goals and objectives of the City's Parks Master Plan.*

## OPERATIONAL PLAN UPDATE

This master plan proposes to remove parkland and in-park assets that are not required in the modified delivery model to support the re-allocation of operational resources toward much-desired activities such as in-neighbourhood ice surfaces, all-season trail walking and sport field maintenance. Removal of city-owned park space from the inventory will not affect operational budgets; therefore, this will not result in maintenance savings. In fact, the city-owned parklands inventory will increase by 3.2% under this master plan (see figures 31 and 32).

Resident desire suggests that the city should move toward winter grooming of the Kate Pace Way and Kinsmen Trails, and full maintenance and play preparation of all city-owned sport fields. Costs related to trail grooming can be partially recovered from the removal of maintenance on old or removed buildings; however, this will not cover the full cost. Winter trail grooming costs approximately \$2,000/km; therefore, the winter maintenance cost is approximately \$35,000 for the off-street portions of the trails (staffing, fuel, etc.; groomer cost is extra).

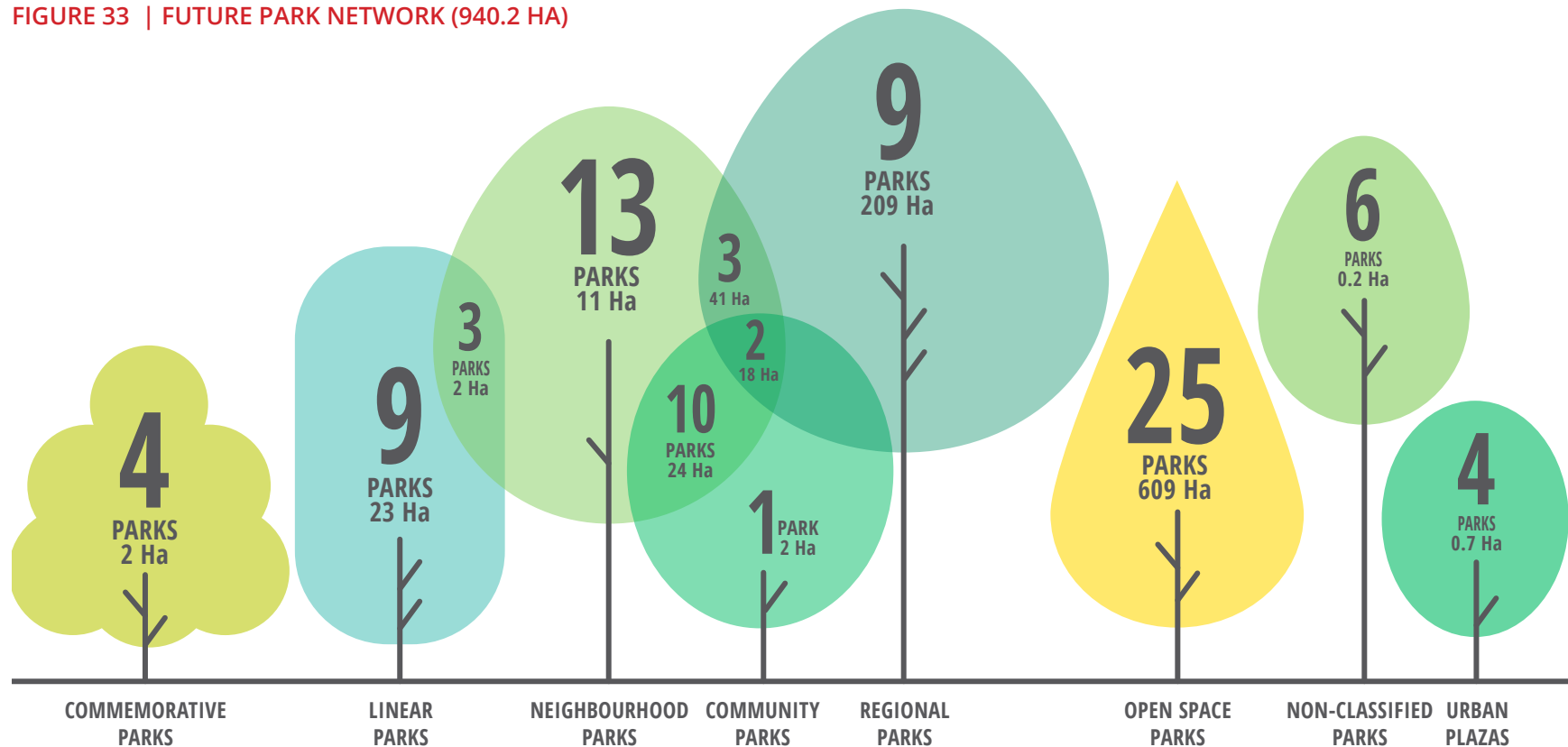
FIGURE 32 | EXISTING PARK NETWORK (911.3 HA)



Extending summer field maintenance to lining fields also comes at a cost that is not presently budgeted for. Like winter trail maintenance, revenues must be found to cover these costs if the existing recreation parks and facilities are maintained at present levels.

The City of North Bay should develop a baseline analysis of costs for all services related to operational maintenance related to activity and event hosting. This should include the cost of mowing sport fields, field lining, delivery, emptying and pickup of trash cans, picnic table provision, trail grooming, etc. This baseline analysis should appear like a shopping list, and will be helpful in understanding the actual costs related to effort, and is important in the next task.

**FIGURE 33 | FUTURE PARK NETWORK (940.2 HA)**





## USER GROUP SESSIONS

The City of North Bay generally operates on a 50% rental cost recovery for sport field use. This highly subsidized approach results in low user fees; and reciprocally, limited ability to fully maintain facilities (to user group wishes). Extending from the last task, the City of North Bay should meet with all of its user groups to talk about existing rental fees at all sport fields, the cost of any desired additional maintenance, and an agreed upon short-term plan to add maintenance while gradually increasing rental fees.

## EVENTS NORTH BAY

As previously mentioned, the City of North Bay is ideally positioned to plan and deliver events that fill hotels for as many year-round weekends as possible. Thus, the city council should designate a team of staff, influential residents, stakeholders and council members to work with sport and event tourism representatives to collectively develop a series of annual events that are publicly communicated to regional, provincial and national interests. The committee becomes the gateway to special events in North Bay, and actively works with relevant user groups and Tourism North Bay to propose and attract provincial and national-class events. In essence, the committee is the 'sharp edge of the arrow' that aggressively seeks out opportunity to bring people to North Bay.

Recreation staff can develop the terms of reference for the committee, and assist council with identifying and nominating members.

## SUPPORTING POLICY:

***POLICY PMP-12** Council shall nominate members of staff, the community, and relevant stakeholders to an Events North Bay committee, and mandate that committee to pursue significant event opportunities that showcase North Bay's community and recreation assets.*

## COMPREHENSIVE WAYFINDING PROGRAM

The branding of the parks system through contemporary signage articulates a strong message of unity, quality and outdoor activity. This master plan proposes to create an updated wayfinding system that can be applied to all park, trail and open spaces for this purpose. It is important to note that the wayfinding plan should be developed in association with a city-wide program of gateway and directional signage.

**PRIMARY PARK PANELS** are used as regional park gateway panels that articulate name and in-park activities.

**SECONDARY PARK PANELS** are used as community parks gateway panels to articulate name and in-park activities.

**PRIMARY TRAIL PANELS** are placed at significant trail entrances or endpoints.

**SMALL PARK/TRAIL PANELS** are used at neighbourhood parks, and as secondary gateway panels for trails along trail routes.

**ORIENTATION PARK PANELS** are in-park maps for regional parks that articulate what assets exist on site, and where they are located.

**ORIENTATION TRAIL PANELS** are on-trail maps that articulate routing, access points and various destinations along the trail.

**USE GUIDELINE PANELS** are in-park signs that articulate the various park use rules and safety guidelines.

**TRAIL ORIENTATION PANELS** are placed in parks and along trails where direction is required at important intersections.

**TRAIL REASSURANCE PANELS** are placed at strategic points along long trail routes to assure users that they are on the correct route.

The City of North Bay should ensure that a comprehensive parks signage package is developed as part of a city-wide wayfinding plan to ensure a seamless relationship between all municipal signage. This should include the detailed application of all signage within the existing and expanding parks network.

## PHASE THREE - DEVELOP NETWORK ANCHOR MASTER PLANS

This phase includes the creation of detailed site plans for the significant park sites that form anchor positions on the network. This will involve collaboration with specific park stakeholders and the various funding partners. The following tasks are included in this phase.

### DETAILED ANCHOR SITE PLANS AND INITIATIVES

The Waterfront, the Sam Jacks Recreation Complex, the Steve Omschl SportsPlex, Armstrong Park, Thompson Park, City Hall, the Laurentian Escarpment Conservation Area, and the future Laurentian Heights North-East Park sites are network anchors that require planning and design exercises to clarify site development programs, plans, and associated budget estimates (prior to placing into the park development queue).

Having this information available allows the city to quickly respond to partnership and funding opportunities as they arise; therefore, the city should commission the creation of these plans prior to commencing the next implementation phase.

### FIELD HOUSE OR DOME FEASIBILITY

Several groups and individuals declared a desire for a North Bay field house or dome facility for hosting turf and court-based training and events. Two approaches to emerged during master plan consultation:

**FIELD HOUSE APPROACH.** This includes expanding an existing recreation or academic facility with a hard surface floor and pre-engineered building envelope. Change, operational and administrative space exists in the existing facility. Approximate cost range: \$5.5 to \$6.5 million.

The hard surface floor includes a 250 meter track (+/-), multi use courts and visitor viewing space. A roll-out synthetic turf surface converts the court surface to a lined field.

**DOME APPROACH.** This includes placing a non-sealed edge dome over an existing academic facility's artificial turf field. The dome provides off-season venues for all field sports. Approximate cost range: \$1.5 to \$2.0 million.

**FACILITY OPERATIONS.** The field house approach is usable on a year-round basis while the dome is available during the November to April off season period. Annual field house operational costs are approximately \$450,000 when the building extends existing structural and operational systems. Annual six-month operation costs for a dome is approximately \$392,000 under the same conditions.

ITEM	DOME	FIELD HOUSE
Labour (administration and maintenance)	\$102,000	\$170,000
Energy	\$150,000	\$170,000
Operational Overhead	\$40,000	\$50,000
Capital Lifecycle	\$100,000	\$70,000
Totals	\$392,000	\$460,000

**IMPLEMENTATION TASK.** Field house and dome projects require partnerships with existing facilities that are capable of expanding structural and operational capacity. Construction capital costs are a one-time commitment from multiple levels of government in association with community and raising. This commitment is not a cost-recovery commitment; however, user fees must offset operational costs. Declared commitment from community user groups is required to fund operations.

Approximate operational costs for a field house averages \$213/hr (based on 6 hours of full-year round use per day) or \$9,000/week. Dome operational costs are approximately \$371/hr (based on 6 hours of half-year use per day) or \$16,000/week. Group, event and individual user fees must cover this cost.

The approximate costs represent a significant community commitment for a 51,000 person city. A new facility would require regional commitment to both capital and operational costs; therefore, this parks master plan recommends that, if City of North Bay Council wishes, establish a regional exploratory committee that includes representation from hosting facilities, the various user groups and adjacent municipalities to further explore feasibility, and to acquire the financial commitments to build and operate a field house or dome facility. Municipalities that fall within user group service areas should participate in this exercise.

This group can assemble funds to commission a detailed facility program and feasibility model that will fully explore all capital, operation and lifecycle costs prior to proceeding with commitment acquisition.



## PHASE FOUR - REALIGN NORTH BAY PARKS TOWARD THE RATIONALIZED NETWORK

At this point, city staff and residents will be prepared to move forward with the evolution of the existing parks inventory toward the rationalized distribution of park assets across North Bay. This will require staff, council and resident commitment to the physical and operational changes that support network evolution. All of the background pieces required to move forward. The following tasks are included in this phase.

### INSTALL THE MULTI OR SINGLE-USE COURTS

The court surfaces proposed in this master plan are highly desirable activity assets, and important to the evolution of the parks network. The city should develop and deliver a program that results in the design and installation of all courts described in this plan.

#### BASKETBALL/BALL HOCKEY COURTS

- » Waterfront (1.5)
- » Veronica Park (0.5)
- » Circle Lake Playground (1)
- » Laurentian Playground (1)
- » Graniteville Playground (0.5)
- » Sam Jacks Recreation Complex (1)
- » Tennis Courts
- » Sam Jacks Recreation Complex (3)

#### PICKLEBALL COURTS

- » Bourke Park (6)
- » Beach Volleyball
- » Steve Omischl SportsPlex (4)

### COMPLETE THE NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY PARKS

It is important to remember that residents live within specific neighbourhoods and are part of a recreation community that collectively participates in daily/weekly physical and social activity at the parks closest to their homes. For this reason, the city should move forward with the renovation of the neighbourhood and community park properties described in this master plan.

The site summary sheets included in this master plan describe the projects that are required to ensure the completion of the parks network, at the neighbourhood level. Work should commence with sites that do not have play equipment, and move the revitalization of park spaces that require minor upgrades to meet network requirements. Staff will need to determine where the highest level of need exists annually, place the projects into annual capital improvement budgets for council approval, and proceed with planning and implementation.

## PHASE FIVE - LOOKING BACK; MOVING FORWARD

Although this is a twenty-year plan; the life of the city as well as the evolution of recreational and social activity will continue during the phased implementation plan. Therefore, changes to the network will be required, and will continue in the years following the implementation of this master plan. Existing and future staff must be adaptable to cultural, economic and recreational change, and be willing to find places within the network to incorporate new ways of enjoying the outdoor environment, adapting to climate change or welcoming new cultural communities.

Several performance evaluation models exist and can be adapted for review of implementation-to-date. City of North Bay recreation leadership should adapt a model such as the Relevant Recreation Toolkit, available from the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association, and conduct a review of the process to identify success, failure, and areas that require modification to ensure success. Metrics to evaluate include:

- » Are we increasing the use of park and trail spaces?;
- » Are we encouraging our residents to increase their participation in outdoor activity?;
- » Are we creating a safe and comfortable park spaces that our residents want to visit? and,
- » Are we supporting the program providers that utilize our park spaces?





A black and white photograph of a large evergreen tree, possibly a spruce or fir, in a park setting. The tree is the central focus, with its thick trunk and dense foliage. In the background, other trees and a grassy area are visible. A red rectangular overlay is positioned on the right side of the image, containing the title text in white.

# Parks Master Plan Appendices





# Appendix A

## Previous Works Brief

---

This previous works brief provides important context that should be considered as the project team moves forward with the parks master planning process. The following studies and plans were reviewed to compile this brief:

- » *Active Transportation Master Plan* (2019);
- » *Downtown Waterfront Master Plan* (Draft 2017);
- » *Strategic Plan* (2017);
- » *Age Friendly Action Plan* (2016);
- » *Multi-Use Recreational Feasibility Study* (2013);
- » *Multi-Use recreational Facility Update* (2019);
- » *Park Plan Update* (2009);
- » *Park Buildings Assessment Study*; and
- » *Official Plan*.

This brief is organized into thematic sections, drawing from common parks-related topics discussed in each of the aforementioned previous works. Themes are organized alphabetically:

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| » Acquiring Park Land                     | » Policy                           |
| » Aging Residents                         | » Recreation Trends                |
| » AT Integration                          | » Rural Area                       |
| » Definition & Inventory                  | » Signage & Branding               |
| » Disposing of Park Land                  | » Urban Residential Area Densities |
| » Downtown & Waterfront                   |                                    |
| » Non-Municipal Park Areas & Partnerships | »                                  |



## ACQUIRING PARK LAND

The *Official Plan* outlines the methods by which the City can acquire land to complete its park system, including land dedication, land exchange, purchase of lands using funds from the cash-in-lieu-of-parkland dedication, or expropriation.

Because of the important role that school board properties play in the provision of parks and playgrounds, the *Official Plan* includes a policy where the City of North Bay reviews the *Parks Plan Update 2009* when a school board property is offered for sale, in order to determine if the property or a portion of the property is required for park space.

## AGING RESIDENTS

The *Age Friendly Action Plan (2016)* includes a Chapter entitled “Municipal Policy Influences” with a section (2.5) dedicated to the *Parks Plan Update 2009*. The Age Friendly Action Plan (AFAP) connects the condition, quality, and design of parks to the mobility, independence, and quality of life of aging residents. It notes that the *Parks Plan Update 2009* recommends

improving the City’s mix of park spaces, developing streetscape design guidelines, and ensuring new infrastructure is fully accessible. The AFAP lists among its potential future improvements and action items:

- » An increase in accessible public washrooms in City facilities including the south waterfront, Kate Pace Way, and other parks;
- » the development of a bench dedication program to improve seating on City streets and in parks;
- » a review of existing municipal parks to identify opportunities to provide informal sports facilities geared to seniors (e.g., shuffleboard and bocce); and
- » improving access to schools, community centres, and parks in off-peak hours for affordable, accessible, and age-friendly events.

Also related to aging residents, the *Official Plan* lists therapeutic parks and sheltered recreational areas as urban design improvements that may be required on new relevant senior citizen development sites.

## AT INTEGRATION

The *Active Transportation Master Plan* (ATMP) lists significant parks and schools in each of the eight neighbourhoods connected by the proposed active transportation (AT) network. During consultation, discussion of important destinations included mention of the Laurentian Escarpment Conservation Area, Armstrong Park, Optimist Park, Downtown and the Waterfront, the Laurier Woods Conservation Area, the Steve Omischl Sportsplex, and Champlain Park. Residents also proposed a couple park-specific extensions to the existing AT network:

- » An eastern extension of the Kinsmen Trail to include a new bypass that joins neighbourhoods and shopping assets to Thomson Park, the YMCA, Memorial Gardens, and downtown.
- » Trail connection at John Kennedy Memorial Park.

In its discussion of the City-Wide Trail Network, the ATMP lists the following projects that include connection to parks:

- » The Kate Pace Way Expansion Project One proposes to extend the Kate Pace Way from the northern portion of Memorial Drive, through Lee Park, to the Lakeshore / Memorial Drive Intersection.

The ATMP Implementation Plan includes the following park-specific tasks:

- » Phase Two, Task Two: Lee Park and Veterans Fields Gateway Project. “This master plan proposes a repositioning of the primary Lee Park [and Veterans Fields] elements based on AT integrations and celebration of these elements as significant North Bay heritage assets. To do this, the City of North Bay should commission a landscape architect to develop a detailed concept plan and costing relative to this master plan that prepares the site for future AT connectivity between Memorial and Lakeshore Drives. The cost of this study should be established with all relevant departments based on recreation, transportation and other interdepartmental study requirements.”
- » Phase Two, Task Four: Thomson Park-Northgate Shopping Centre Crossing Feasibility Study. “The Park, Memorial Gardens, YMCA, mall and adjacent residential neighbourhoods are important nodes in the AT Master Plan; however, the nodes are severed by the bypass. Tackling this issue requires research into feasibility and suitability prior to developing detailed plans. The City of North Bay should commission an engineering/landscape architectural team to develop concepts for creating a crossing and extending a multi-modal corridor through the mall to the adjacent neighbourhoods. The corridor should integrate with transit systems through a transit stop which will create an AT node within the mall grounds. The cost of this study should be established with the OMT and the City of North Bay’s relevant departments, and should consider the estimated life span of Highway 11/17.”

## DEFINITION & INVENTORY

A park is defined in the *Official Plan* as “municipally owned property that has been identified in the Parks Plan Inventory of the *Parks Plan Update 2009*, that has an associated development or maintenance strategy either for current or future use, and forms part of the Parks By-law.”

By contrast, open spaces are defined as “a land use designation for the purpose of this Plan that shows land that is available for the full spectrum of passive and active recreational activities that are owned either publicly or privately within the Settlement and Rural areas of the City.”

The *Parks Plan Update 2009* lists an inventory of properties intended for park use over the long term. It has provided the basis for future park location throughout the community.

## DISPOSING OF PARK LAND

Though the *Official Plan* states that *Parks Plan Update 2009*'s inventory-identified lands shall generally not be offered for sale or disposal, it presents criteria when surplus park land may be considered for sale or exchange:

- » There are overlapping service areas;
- » There are no facilities or under-utilization over a period of time;
- » There are no identified heritage resource features present;
- » The lands are located within an area that has an oversupply of existing or planned parkland; and
- » The lands are not needed for future parks or municipal infrastructure requirements.

## DOWNTOWN & WATERFRONT

Parks are a permitted land use in the Central Business District. The *Active Transportation Master Plan* (ATMP) notes that development of North Bay's waterfront park/promenade adjacent to the downtown core and along the Lake Nipissing shoreline began in the 1980s. The *Downtown Waterfront Master Plan* guides park development in this area.

## NON-MUNICIPAL PARK AREAS & PARTNERSHIPS

Related to location, the *Official Plan* includes a policy to develop and maintain a balanced distribution of Parks and Open Space designations across the planning districts, inclusive of City of North Bay lands, Conservation Authority property, school property, Crown lands, and in some instances, privately owned property.

The *Official Plan* includes a policy to “Support the formation of partnerships with the public, non-profit organizations, and/or the private sector for the provision and operation of recreational facilities and playgrounds where a benefit to the community can be achieved.”



## POLICY

The *Official Plan* devotes a section under “Part 4: Attractiveness & Sustainability” to (4.1) “Parks and Open Space.” Appendix B provides details about “Parks / Open Space & Trails / Active Transportation.” *Official Plan* guiding principals state that “Parks and Trails will be integrated and implemented in a manner that provides for natural environment corridors to traverse the City’s Settlement Area.”

Under the *Strategic Plan's* (2017) strategic priority “Natural, North & Near”, the city commits to identifying and pursuing opportunities to “Encourage development that better links the city to the natural environment, including parks, the waterfront and the north.”

The Parks By-law No. 35-96 (and its amendments) outlines regulations for the use of public parks within the City of North Bay.

The Planning Act provides tools such as parkland dedication (and cash-in-lieu of) to municipalities that aid in the creation of new parks.

## RECREATION TRENDS

The Multi-Use Recreational Facility Update (2019) lists “Growth in Unstructured Activities” as a general recreation trend that may relate to future shifts in demand. North Bay’s parks, trails, and outdoor spaces provide flexible opportunities to engage in these forms of recreation.

## RURAL AREA

The *Official Plan* states that new development or re-development will be reviewed with respect to the *Parks Plan Update 2009* to ensure identified recreational opportunities are provided, maintained, and enhanced where appropriate.

## SIGNAGE & BRANDING

Consistent signage branding is another component of AT and park integration mentioned in the ATMP, which notes park entries as one such opportunity.

## URBAN RESIDENTIAL AREA DENSITIES

The *Official Plan* lists parks as an example of common facilities included in high and medium density developments. The importance of not placing undue pressure on parks is noted in the City’s consideration of applications for higher density residential uses.



# Appendix B

## Existing City-owned Parks Inventory

The following charts summarize the existing inventory and the components presently hosted in each park

CITY FACILITIES	PARK IN USE	SIZE (HA)	CLASSIFICATION	PLAYGROUNDS	SPLASH PADS	SKATE PARKS	DOG PARKS	BASKETBALL COURTS	TENNIS COURTS	ICE RINKS (OUTDOOR)	MULTI-USE COURTS	VOLLEYBALL COURTS (BEACH)	DIAMOND FIELDS	SOCCER FIELDS	FOOTBALL FIELDS	TRACK (OUTDOOR)	BEACH
Aerospace Defense Park	1	0.96	District Park														
Airport Lookout Park	1	1.24	City Wide Park														
Algonquin Regiment Memorial Parkette	1	0.009	Parkette														
Amelia Park	1	2.03	District Park										1	1			1
Armstrong Park - Olmsted Beach, Lennox Ballfield and Graham Soccerfield	1	3.8	District Park	1									1	1			
Bellevue Park	1	0.89	Neighbourhood Park	1													
Besserr Rd		4.14	To be Developed - NP														
Birchaven Cove	1	4.54	City Wide Park														1
Black Forest Park	1	62.54	City Wide Park														
Bourke Playground	1	0.63	Neighbourhood Park	1													
Camelot Lake Park	1	0.84	City Wide Park														
Cassells & Victoria Floral Island	1	0.01	Parkette														
Centennial Park and Laurentian Playground	1	5.07	District Park	1				1		1			1				

CITY FACILITIES	PARK IN USE	SIZE (HA)	CLASSIFICATION	PLAYGROUNDS	SPLASH PADS	SKATE PARKS	DOG PARKS	BASKETBALL COURTS	TENNIS COURTS	ICE RINKS (OUTDOOR)	MULTI-USE COURTS	VOLLEYBALL COURTS (BEACH)	DIAMOND FIELDS	SOCCER FIELDS	FOOTBALL FIELDS	TRACK (OUTDOOR)	BEACH
Champlain Park	1	11.71	City Wide Park	2			1										1
Chippewa Creek Ravine	1	4.59	City Wide Park														
Circle Lake	1	1.42	Neighbourhood Park	1						1							
City Hall Parkette	1	0.6	Parkette														
Coombes Park	1	2.2	Neighbourhood Park														
Copeland St. Property	1	0.019	Parkette														
Delaney Lake Walkway		2.58	City Wide Park														
Escarpment East Property	1	1.02	City Wide Park														
Escarpment West Property	1	6.81	City Wide Park														
Ethel Rd Park		0.22	City Wide Park														
Feronia Playground	1	0.48	Neighbourhood Park	1													
Ferris Lions Park	1	3.13	Neighbourhood Park	1						1							
Fisher St. Parkette	1	0.3	Parkette														
Four Mile Lake Playground		2.97	Neighbourhood Park														
Fricker-Wallace Playground	1	1.17	Neighbourhood Park														
Graniteville Playground	1	0.83	Neighbourhood Park	1				1		1							
Greenhill Park	1	2.48	Neighbourhood Park	1						1							
Jacques Cartier Monument	1	0.103	Parkette														
Jane St & Bloem St Parkette	1	0.002	Parkette														
Kenwood Hills	1	5.25	City Wide Park														
Kenwood Hills Playground	1	1.01	Neighbourhood Park	1													
Kerr Memorial Park	1	1.58	Neighbourhood Park							1						1	

CITY FACILITIES	PARK IN USE	SIZE (HA)	CLASSIFICATION	PLAYGROUNDS	SPLASH PADS	SKATE PARKS	DOG PARKS	BASKETBALL COURTS	TENNIS COURTS	ICE RINKS (OUTDOOR)	MULTI-USE COURTS	VOLLEYBALL COURTS (BEACH)	DIAMOND FIELDS	SOCCER FIELDS	FOOTBALL FIELDS	TRACK (OUTDOOR)	BEACH
Kinette Playground	1	1.65	Neighbourhood Park	1						1			1				
Kinsmen Beach	1	0.38	City Wide Park														1
Kiwanis Playground	1	0.34	Neighbourhood Park														
Lang Park	1	1.52	City Wide Park														
Larocque Rd		8.39	To be Developed - DP														
Laurentian Heights North East		2.91	To be Developed - NP														
Lavase Park	1	159.45	City Wide Park														
Lee Park & Veterans Fields	1	8.2	District Park	2						1			1	2			
Main St & Cassells St Parkette	1	0.028	Parkette														
Main St & Fraser St Parkette	1	0.041	Parkette														
Maple Ridge Playground	1	0.68	Neighbourhood Park	1													
Mariah St East		0.06	To be Developed - NP														
Marshall Ave. Park	1	0.98	Neighbourhood Park														
Memorial Park	1	0.65	City Wide Park														
Metcalfe Park	1	1.35	Neighbourhood Park														
Milford Crescent Park		0.18	Neighbourhood Park														
O'Brien St. Park	1	1.47	City Wide Park														
Optimist Ball Park Field	1	3.61	District Park										2				
Otter Lake Area		306.59	-														
Parks Creek Park	1	4.2	City Wide Park														
Peninsula Park	1	173.14	City Wide Park														



CITY FACILITIES	PARK IN USE	SIZE (HA)	CLASSIFICATION	PLAYGROUNDS	SPLASH PADS	SKATE PARKS	DOG PARKS	BASKETBALL COURTS	TENNIS COURTS	ICE RINKS (OUTDOOR)	MULTI-USE COURTS	VOLLEYBALL COURTS (BEACH)	DIAMOND FIELDS	SOCCER FIELDS	FOOTBALL FIELDS	TRACK (OUTDOOR)	BEACH
Pinewood Parkway (John Kennedy Memorial Park)	1	6.92	Neighbourhood Park														
Police Playground	1	1.25	Neighbourhood Park							1							
Portage Park	1	2.4	City Wide Park	1													1
Premier Rd Floral Island	1	0.018	Parkette														
Prince Edward Portage Park	1	0.67	Neighbourhood Park														
Pumphouse Playground	1	0.23	Neighbourhood Park	1													
Richardson's Fountain Parkette	1	0.002	Parkette														
Rockview Park		0.31	Neighbourhood Park														
Sage Road Park	1	4.31	Neighbourhood Park	1						1							
Sam Jacks Recreation Complex	1	2.72	District Park						3					6			
Silver Beach	1	0.38	City Wide Park														1
Springdale Acres	1	4.08	City Wide Park														
Steve Omischl Sports Complex	1	35.14	City Wide Park										3	2	1		
Stone Manor East		0.08	To be Developed - NP														
Stone Manor West		0.11	To be Developed - NP														
Sunset Park	1	0.78	City Wide Park	1													
Superior Cr. Park	1	0.89	Neighbourhood Park	1													
Thomson Park	1	15.38	District Park	1		1							1		1		
Van Horne Park	1	0.14	Neighbourhood Park														
Veronica Park	1	1.25	Neighbourhood Park	1						1							
Waterfront Park	1	21.26	City Wide Park	2	1							2					1
TOTALS	66	911.31		25	1	1	1	2	3	12	0	2	12	12	2	1	7

trace

NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS | BUILT ENVIRONMENTS