



Confederation District Park

Master Plan



Edmonton

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

District activity parks (district parks) contribute to the quality of life, health and wellness for the citizens of Edmonton. These parks are an integral part of the City's park system and support a wide variety of facilities, programs and open space opportunities. As a part of a district park renewal strategy developed in 2013, the Edmonton's Urban Parks Management Plan (UPMP) 2006-2016 provided strategic direction for the acquisition, design, construction, maintenance, preservation and animation of parks. District parks are defined as busy, active sites that serve a population primarily within a single Area Structure Plan. These parks are the primary sites for adult-sized sport fields, senior high schools and major recreation centres. In 2017, Breathe - Edmonton's Green Network Strategy - replaced UPMP, but the main goal of district parks remains to plan for and sustain a healthy city by encouraging connection and integration of open space at the neighbourhood, district, city and regional levels. Parks continue to be a place where we value ecology, celebration and wellness.

District parks should accommodate a number of community needs identified in City Council approved plans and strategies including the Recreation Facility Master Plan, Outdoor Aquatic Strategy, 10-Year Arena Capital Development Strategy, WinterCity Strategy and Bicycle Transportation Plan. There is a requirement to develop, preserve and renew facilities and park amenities and ensure current park and facility development, maintenance and environmental standards are keeping with The Way Ahead: City of Edmonton Strategic Plan.

Mature neighbourhoods built prior to 1970 face the challenge of keeping communities liveable, lively, and vibrant when confronted with historical and demographic changes and aging infrastructure. Parks and recreation facilities are valued assets in these communities. Over half of the district parks are in mature neighbourhoods built with infrastructure beyond its expected life cycle. At the same time, some park components such as mature trees have a significant value and are important to preserve.

A long-term strategic approach to renew district parks located in mature neighbourhoods is provided through the District Park Renewal Program. The program identifies opportunities for consideration in the 10-Year Capital Investment Outlook and 4-Year Capital Budget based on an assessment and prioritization of these parks. The development of master plans will provide the details required to address community needs and to align infrastructure in these parks. Funding to advance designs beyond the Concept Phase (Checkpoint 2) will be considered as part of the capital budget process.

This document serves as the Master Plan to guide the future of Confederation District Park; it is supported by a development program and concept plan that respond to the recreational, community and partner needs identified through public and stakeholder consultation. Should aspects of the plan be funded to advance into development design, further public engagement will take place in the process of ultimately realizing the Confederation District Park Master Plan.

II. INTRODUCTION

Confederation District Park has been dedicated to sport, recreation and fitness for over 50 years. District parks contribute to citizens' quality of life through health, wellness, artistic, cultural, and celebratory activities by supporting a wide variety of facilities, programs and open space opportunities for residents and visitors. Through an initial park assessment, Confederation District Park has been identified as a priority for renewal to improve infrastructure and function and reflect the changing priorities of existing park users and the community within the catchment area.

1. BACKGROUND

Parkland Classification System

The parkland classification system in the UPMP guides the City and its community development partners as they manage these beautiful spaces. This tool ensures that the park system accommodates a variety of recreational needs while integrating parks into a functioning urban environment that consists of residential, commercial, industrial and institutional land users. Each type of park identified in the classification system provides a distinct range of program opportunities and activities.

District Park

District parks are busy active sites that serve a population primarily within a single Area Structure Plan. They are primarily sites for adult-sized sports fields, senior high schools and major recreation centres. These sites are typically located in the approximate centre of an Area Structure Plan and service a population of 40,000-80,000. District parks are prescribed to be approximately 33-35 hectares in size (depending on the program/function of the park), and located adjacent to major roadways.

The sports field component of a district park includes regulation-sized, bookable fields that can be used by all ages. A systematic approach to sports field planning allow rectangular fields to dominate one site and diamond fields to dominate a site in a neighbouring Area Structure Plan. This focused development approach helps user groups in delivering specific types of programming (e.g. tournaments, special events, etc.). However, both rectangular and diamond fields will generally be provided on each district park.

District Park Renewal Program

Over half of the district parks are in mature neighbourhoods built with infrastructure beyond its expected life cycle. A long-term strategic approach to renew district parks located in mature neighbourhoods is provided through the District Park Renewal Program. The program provides the renewal priorities for consideration in the 10-Year Capital Investment Outlook and 4-Year Capital Budget based on an assessment and prioritization of these parks. The development of master plans provides the framework to address the community needs and aging infrastructure for the following parks: Confederation District Park, Glengarry District Park and Queen Elizabeth School District Park.

Park Master Plan

A Park Master Plan outlines future park uses and development using a 10 to 20 year vision and anticipates how citizens' needs may evolve over time. A master plan is conceptual in nature and does not provide detailed design, although it sets up the framework for when and how improvements may occur. The end result is a plan that strives to increase people's opportunities to experience and enjoy the park while preserving and enhancing the ecological systems in place.

2. OVERVIEW

Confederation District Park is located in the Royal Gardens neighbourhood in the southwest quadrant of Edmonton. The park is bordered by 43 Avenue, Whitemud Drive, 111 Street and 114 Street. The park is approximately 20 hectares total including all parcels. The park serves a catchment area of 32 neighbourhoods with a population of approximately 55,998.

Numerous facilities are found on the park site, including: Harry Ainlay High School, Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High School, Confederation Leisure Centre, Confederation Arena, tennis courts, an outdoor shale running track, and several sports fields including baseball diamonds with a homebase agreement.

The park is intended to accommodate current and future recreation needs for local residents and the on-site schools. This park is also intended to be a recreational destination for the greater Edmonton area.

Figure 2.1 Confederation District Park



3. GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

Goal

The goal of the master plan is to deliver a long-term strategic approach to renew Confederation District Park based on the direction provided in the District Park Renewal Program. This includes renewal targets that consider the physical condition of assets, functionality and demand capacity of the parks, recreational needs identified through public and stakeholder consultation, and operational requirements to ensure sustainability of the park.

Objectives

The objectives for the Master Plan include:

1. Align with The Way Ahead: City of Edmonton Strategic Plan and key supporting documents including Breathe - Edmonton's Green Network Strategy, Approach to Community Recreation Facility Planning and WinterCity Strategy
2. Address the needs of citizens, educational institutions, non-profit sport, recreation and cultural organizations, and the community
3. Balance the immediate needs to renew parks with ongoing and preventative maintenance and rehabilitation based on the Risk-based Management System
4. Seek coordinated development opportunities within the Corporation and other partner organizations to maximize investments and minimize disruptions

Outcomes

The outcomes identified below define what success will look like and are aligned with the City's outcomes:

- Parks are connected to their diverse communities and are a source of pride in the city
- Parks are vibrant, connected, engaging, safe, accessible, and welcoming
- Parks support a vibrant, diverse sports sector
- Parks celebrate and promote healthy living
- Parks support a diverse, creative city with a rich and vibrant arts and cultural community
- Parks are environmentally sustainable

4. PLANNING PROCESS

The development of the Master Plan includes programming and concept planning prior to advancing into development design, which includes an assessment of needs and stakeholder consultation. Public engagement with the citizens of Edmonton and key stakeholders is an important component throughout the development of all plans. The Public Involvement Plan was designed to involve the appropriate people at the appropriate times in appropriate ways.

The process included a variety of techniques including a needs assessment and analysis, exploration of conceptual ideas, identification of a program and priorities, public and stakeholder engagement, final recommendations and plan approval.

The needs assessment and analysis included a research program and community input. The research program included demographic and participation profiles, trends analysis, analysis of nearby amenities and a review of municipal, provincial and federal strategic policy documents. A site and program analysis were completed to understand other factors and parameters. The development of a recommended concept plan was based on the needs assessment, site and program analysis, inventory of offerings in the area, understanding of future capital projects, exploration of options and reviews with key stakeholders. A second round of public engagement was held to refine and confirm the recommended Concept Plan.

Based on the inputs above, an implementation plan was developed. The final phase of the plan was reviewed and approved by the joint steering committee.

III. STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

This section provides an overview of the documents that set the context for this master plan, at the municipal, provincial and federal levels. The master plan is in alignment with these plans and policies.

1. CITY OF EDMONTON

The Way Ahead, City of Edmonton Strategic Plan 2009 - 2018

The Way Ahead focuses City efforts to deliver the greatest value of services and infrastructure that are most important to Edmontonians while managing the opportunities and challenges of our rapidly growing and changing city.

The Way Ahead guides decisions that will move us towards the achievement of the six 10-year goals and the City vision for Edmonton in 2040. The City has several integrated long-range strategic plans to advance each of these goals. The Confederation District Park Master Plan aligns with these plans and supports the 10-year goals and corporate outcomes.

Improve Edmonton's Livability (The Way We Live: Edmonton's People Plan)

- Citizens are connected to their diverse communities and have pride in their city
- Citizens use city infrastructure and participate in services and programs that provide enjoyment and personal health benefits
- Complete collaborative communities are accessible, strong, and inclusive with access to a full range of services

Transform Edmonton's Urban Form (The Way We Grow: Municipal Development Plan)

- The city has attractive and compact physical design with diverse neighbourhoods, amenities and public open spaces
- Edmonton has sustainable infrastructure that fosters and supports civic and community needs

Shift Edmonton's Transportation Mode (The Way We Move: Transportation Master Plan)

- Citizens use public transit and active modes of transportation
- The transportation system is integrated, safe and gives citizens many choices as to their mode of movement

Preserve & Sustain Edmonton's Environment (The Way We Green: Environmental Plan)

- The impact of City operations on air, land, and water systems is minimized

Ensure Edmonton's Financial Sustainability (The Way We Finance)

- The City has well managed and sustainable assets and services

Diversify Edmonton's Economy (The Way We Prosper: Economic Development Plan)

- The City has a positive and attractive reputation that make it competitive nationally and internationally

The Way We Live: Edmonton's People Plan

The Way We Live: Edmonton's People Plan, approved by City Council in 2010, acknowledges the municipal government's role in bringing people together to create a civil, socially sustainable and caring society where people have opportunities to thrive and realize their potential in a safe, attractive city. Throughout the design, development and implementation of people services, the City of Edmonton consults and works with residents and community groups to gain their views.

The Way We Live sets out six overall goals that focus on people services and quality of life issues. Edmontonians look to the City of Edmonton to promote healthy lifestyle and leisure opportunities as a means of building strong, connected communities. Each of these six goals is linked to the Master Plan outcomes for district parks:

- Goal One: Edmonton is a vibrant, connected, engaged and welcoming community
- Goal Two: Edmonton celebrates life
- Goal Three: Edmonton is a caring, inclusive, affordable community
- Goal Four: Edmonton is a safe city
- Goal Five: Edmonton is an attractive city
- Goal Six: Edmonton is a sustainable city

The Confederation District Park Master Plan is also guided by several City of Edmonton plans and strategies that support The Way We Live including:

- *Urban Parks Management Plan (will be superseded by BREATHE)*
- **BREATHE: Edmonton's Green Network Strategy*
- **Recreation Facility Master Plan 2005 - 2015 and 5-Year Review/Update*
- *Approach to Community Recreation Facility Planning*
- *10-Year Outdoor Aquatics Strategy*
- *10-Year Arena Capital Development Strategy*
- *Joint Use Agreement and 2005 - 2015 Field Strategy*
- *WinterCity Strategy*
- *Elevate: The Report of the Community Sustainability Task Force*
- *Child Friendly Edmonton Strategy*
- *Live Active Strategy 2016-2026*
- *Age Friendly Edmonton Access Design Guide*
- *City of Edmonton Design and Construction Standards*

**Note: Some plans and strategies are currently being updated*

2. GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

At the provincial level, the relevant policy is Active Alberta 2011 - 2021. The 10-year policy includes a refocus of government initiatives challenging partners and encouraging Albertans to become more active. This policy sets out a vision for recreation, active living, and sport, which lead to a high quality of life, improved health and wellness, strong communities, economic benefits, and personal fulfillment.

Active Alberta is intended to be an effective policy. Rather than a fixed plan of action, it establishes six key outcomes to be achieved during the next ten years. These will serve as yardsticks for measuring success in the year 2021:

1. Active Albertans: More Albertans are more active, more often
2. Active Communities: Alberta communities are more active, creative, safe and inclusive
3. Active Outdoors: Albertans are connected to nature and able to explore the outdoors
4. Active Engagement: Albertans are engaged in activity and in their communities
5. Active Coordinated System: All partners involved in providing recreation, active living and sport opportunities to Albertans work together in a coordinated system
6. Pursuit of Excellence: Albertans have opportunities to achieve athletic excellence

Strategic priorities are set out under each of the outcomes, with measures of what success will look like in ten years. Implementation of the *Active Alberta Policy 2011 - 2021* will be through a collaborative effort among the three levels of government as well as sport governing bodies.

3. GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

The Government of Canada's Canadian Sport Policy 2012 sets a direction for the period of 2012-2022 for all governments, institutions and organizations committed to realizing the positive impacts of sport on individuals, communities and society. The 2012 policy builds on the success of the 2002 version, which was endorsed by federal, provincial and territorial ministers responsible for sport, physical activity and recreation on June 27, 2012.

A desired outcome of Canadian Sport Policy 2012 is that both the number and diversity of Canadians participating in sport will increase over the time frame of 2012-2022. The Canadian Sport Policy 2012 sets out five broad objectives:

1. Introduction to Sport: Canadians have the fundamental skills, knowledge and attitudes to participate in organized and unorganized sport
2. Recreational Sport: Canadians have the opportunity to participate in sport for fun, health, social interaction and relaxation
3. Competitive Sport: Canadians have the opportunity to systematically improve and measure their performance against others in competition in a safe and ethical manner
4. High Performance Sport: Canadians are systematically achieving world-class results at the highest levels of international competition through fair and ethical means
5. Sport for Development: Sport is used as a tool for social and economic development, and the promotion of positive values at home and abroad

A Framework for Recreation in Canada 2015: Pathways to Wellbeing, provides a refreshed look at what recreation means and explores the challenges and benefits of recreation today. The framework provides a vision and suggests some common ways of thinking about the renewal of recreation, based on clear goals and underlying values and principles.

The framework includes four goals that are applicable to the master plan and priorities for action under each goal. These goals are to:

1. Foster active, healthy living through recreation
2. Increase inclusion and access to recreation for populations that face constraints to participation
3. Help people connect to nature through recreation
4. Ensure the provision of supportive physical and social environments that encourage participation in recreation and build strong, caring communities

The framework was endorsed by Provincial and Territorial Ministers (excluding Quebec) and supported by the Government of Canada in 2015.

IV. PLANNING CONTEXT: PEOPLE AND THEIR INTERESTS

1. DEMOGRAPHICS, TRENDS AND BEST PRACTICES

The following section provides the community context for the planning and renewal of Confederation District Park. The key factors for consideration are that the park is located within a mature neighbourhood and has a catchment area that includes 32 different neighborhoods.

Demographic Data

The 2016 Edmonton Civic Census was used to examine the population trends of the Confederation District Park surrounding neighbourhoods. The statistics for the catchment area provides key information on the social structure of the population, age characteristics and other key demographic indicators that reveal the diverse composition in this area.

Mature Neighbourhood

Confederation District Park falls within the Mature Neighbourhood Overlay, primarily neighbourhoods built before the 1970's. These neighbourhoods, including their recreation facilities and parks, are challenged with keeping their communities liveable, lively, and vibrant when confronted with historical and demographic changes, and aging infrastructure.

Catchment Area

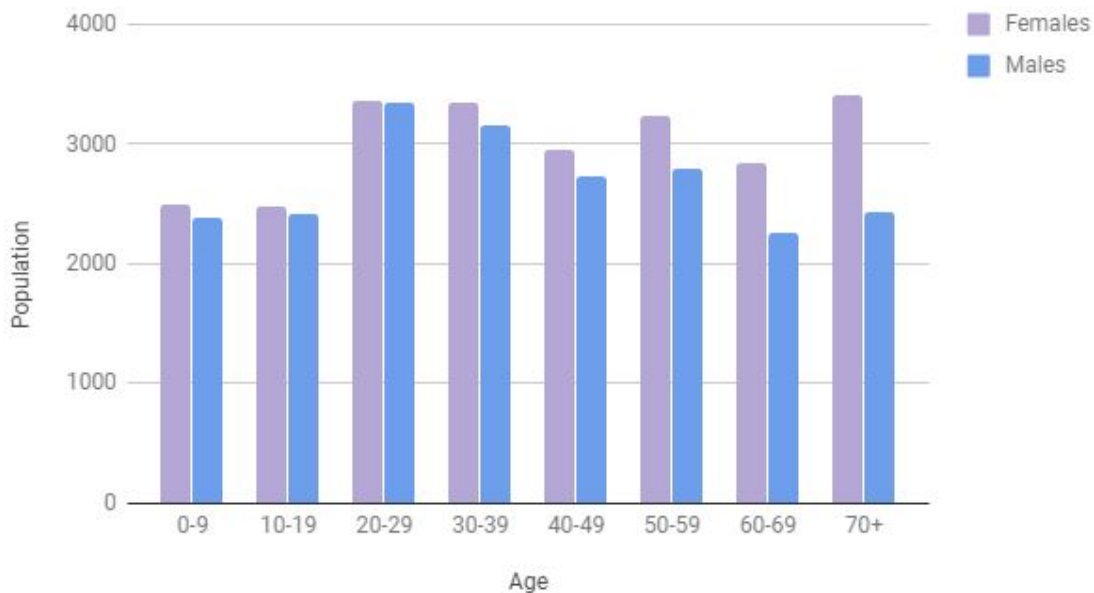
The catchment area of Confederation District Park includes the neighborhoods identified in Figure 4.1. Based on the 2016 Municipal Census survey, the total population of the Confederation District Park catchment area was approximately 55,998.

Age

Chart 1 illustrates the population by age and gender. The Confederation District Park catchment area distribution notes the following:

- There are significantly more women aged 70+ than men aged 70+
- 12.8% of people in this area are age 70+ compared to 9.3% city-wide

CHART 1: DEMOGRAPHICS OF CONFEDERATION DISTRICT PARK CATCHMENT AREA (2016)



Source: https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/facts_figures/municipal-census-results.aspx

Housing

The population in this catchment area who own their dwelling unit is 50%, which is lower than the municipal average (63%).

Languages

Edmonton is high in linguistic diversity; 67% of residents within the Confederation District Park catchment speak English as their first language. 3.7% of people within this catchment area speak French as their first language. Other prominent languages in this catchment area are as follows:

- 3.6% speak Mandarin as their first language, compared to 2.2% city-wide
- 2.2% speak German as their first language, compared to 1.2% city-wide

Employment

- The Confederation District Park catchment area has more retired people (17.5%) than the City's average (14%)

Trends and Best Practices

The analysis of trends and best practices is a critical factor in park and recreation facility planning. An understanding of past and emerging trends helps the City of Edmonton anticipate future demand for parks, recreation facilities and the program needs of both. The values and attitudes that people place on leisure influences participation, the environment, willingness to pay for services, and expectations to support those with special needs.

Trends in recreation services are continually evolving and require providers to remain current on activity preferences, societal shifts, and other factors that impact demand. Trends and observations in recreation:

- Low physical activity among children and youth (5 to 17 years) is an opportunity area.
- While many structured or organized activities remain important, there is an increasing demand for more flexibility in timing and activity choice. People are seeking individualized, informal pursuits that can be done alone or in small groups, at flexible times, often near or at home. This trend suggests that ensuring adequate, spontaneous opportunities for recreation are available is as important as planning for traditional structured programming.
- Recreation consumers in Edmonton have a variety of interests and motivations and demand more tailored activities. Therefore, it is essential to adapt to changing interests and activity preferences in recreation provision.
- As Edmonton continues to grow and evolve, there will be continued demand for inclusive recreational and leisure opportunities that reflect an increasingly multicultural and diverse population.
- Time constraints, cost, lack of interest/motivation, health, and location/transportation are common barriers to recreation participation in Edmonton. Using a combination of direct and indirect recreation provision, partner organizations, design, site locations, and a variety of amenities and services all help reduce barriers to recreation.

- Older adult populations are diverse with evolving needs, attitudes, and preferences. This intricate need may require a balance of provision of dedicated older adult facilities with those that are intended to be intergenerational.
- Partnerships help to support diverse needs. Partnerships include other public-sector organizations, private-sector developers and a wide range of non-profit organizations.
- Parks and green spaces contribute to citizen's perception of quality of life and benefits to the community.
- Parks provide a sense of place in the community and improve the image and livability of a neighbourhood.
- Perceptions of safety in parks and neighbourhoods and lack of opportunities near people's homes are barriers to participation.
- Increasing demand for safe and inviting places to walk, wheel and cycle.
- Major contributor to individual and community health.
- More importance is being placed on recreation and physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle.
- Government policies promote healthy living and increased physical activity.
- 61% of Edmontonians state walking/jogging is their main activity of active recreation.
- Walking is a highly desired physical activity with a low cost and individual and group opportunities offering flexibility.
- Desire for more nature based activities and recognition of nature's contribution to mental health.
- Growing disconnect between children and nature, fewer children playing outside for several reasons.
- Parental enjoyment of an activity is associated with higher levels of participation by their children.
- Desire for more winter activities.
- Increased demand and use of dog parks that serve as a social hub. Amenities included should provide physical activity for people and dogs.

2. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Public Consultation

The Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for this project was developed in 2016 and identified three stages:

1. Sharing Ideas: A community needs assessment that defines the needs and priorities for the park
2. Exploring Options: Testing concepts based on community need to develop a Park Master Plan
3. Setting the Direction: Sharing the final Park Master Plan

The results and findings from the public involvement are compiled in a separate “What We Heard” document.

Key Stakeholders and Organizations:

- Residents and businesses in the 2.5km catchment area
- Edmonton Public Schools
- Edmonton Catholic Schools
- Harry Ainlay High School
- Louis St. Laurent Jr/Senior High School
- South West Area Council
- Royal Gardens Community League
- Sports Groups (Local and On-Site Users)
- Sport Groups (City Wide)

Stage 1: Sharing Ideas

The goal of information gathering in stage 1 was to understand how people currently use the park, what elements of the park are working well and what could be improved to support future use of the site.

Qualitative Survey

As part of the public engagement activities in stage 1, qualitative and quantitative data was collected through online surveys and paper surveys. A public open house was hosted at Royal Gardens Community League to gather in person input. Surveys were available at the initial public open house as well as for 1 week prior and 6 weeks after (online and at the leisure centre). The results of that survey were compiled and were used to support concept development.

Survey and Open House Advertising Methods	
Sign Postings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary changeable copy road signs and Confederation Leisure Centre road sign
Electronic Distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project website on edmonton.ca • City of Edmonton Facebook and Twitter account notifications • City of Edmonton public engagement calendar • Public service announcement • Email invitations shared through on-site schools, local and regional sport user groups and area Community Leagues • Edmonton Sport Council newsletter • Edmonton Insight Community
Paper Distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flyers were distributed to all mailing addresses within 3km. • Posters were on display in the Confederation Leisure Centre • Examiner and Metro newspaper ads • Community Recreation Coordinators distributed information electronically to community contacts to share, and posted information in the "Neighbourhoods Park Bench" newsletter • Community League Newsletters

Additional Public Involvement Activities

Direct conversations with several public stakeholder groups were also held to gather additional information and input about the district park. This included direct conversations with: Sportsfield User Committee, Edmonton Public Schools, Edmonton Catholic Schools, Confederation Park Little League, Harry Ainlay High School Administration, Louis St. Laurent Administration, Mustangs Football, Royal Gardens Community League and the South West Area Council. Input was also gathered from several operational partners and City of Edmonton stakeholders.

Stage 2 Exploring Options

Concept Exploration Stakeholder Workshops

Input gathered and analysis completed in stage 1 was used to create preliminary concept ideas. Workshops were held with stakeholder organizations and partners to explore and further the preliminary concept ideas and options.

The following organizations were invited, including all organizations who booked 20 hrs or greater at the park in any of the last 3 seasons:

- Confederation Park Little League
- Edmonton Razorbacks Field Lacrosse
- Edmonton Sport and Social Club
- Edmonton Ultimate Players Association
- South West United Sports Club
- Royal City Soccer Club
- Special Olympics Edmonton
- South West Edmonton Minor Baseball
- South West Edmonton Minor Football
- South West Edmonton Minor Soccer Association
- Duggan Community League Soccer
- Royal Gardens Community League
- Edmonton Public Schools
- Edmonton Catholic Schools
- Harry Ainlay School
- Louis St. Laurent School

Based on the input gathered at the Concept Exploration Stakeholder Workshops, a number of concept options were developed and narrowed down to two concept plans. The two concept plans were further reviewed and analyzed by various City staff, school board staff and subject matter experts and utilized to develop a single concept plan for public feedback.

Stage 3 Setting the Direction

Final Concept Plan Public Consultation

A public engagement event was hosted at the Confederation Leisure Centre to gather public feedback and help refine and finalize the concept plan. A survey was also made available to the public for a two week period.

Open House and Survey Advertising Methods	
Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road signs were placed prior to the event and after to advertise the survey • Confederation Leisure Centre road sign • Digital signage and posters within Confederation Leisure Centre
Electronic Distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic invite to 22 sports organizations • Electronic invite to 14 local community organizations • City of Edmonton project website on edmonton.ca • Invitation provided to on-site schools to share • Royal Gardens Community League social media • City of Edmonton Facebook and Twitter account notifications and public engagement calendar • Public service announcement

The engagement results have informed the finalized concept plan included in this master plan document. Additional engagement will take place if any phases of the concept are funded to advance to the development design phase.

V. SITE AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

The site and program analysis contributes to the foundation for the master plan by defining the development (renewal) context for Confederation District Park and is broken into two sections. The site context section describes the overall site conditions. The site inventory, analysis, and use section describe aspects of the park related to master plan opportunities in more detail.

1. SITE CONTEXT

Confederation District Park is located in the Royal Gardens neighbourhood in southwest Edmonton. The bulk of the residential development in the neighbourhood occurred in the 1960s mainly comprising single-detached houses (42% of structures). Multi-family residences, such as duplexes/fourplexes, row houses, low-rise and high-rise are found in the neighbourhood as well. Four schools are located directly in Royal Gardens including two elementaries, a junior/senior high and high school. Major commercial development is nearby at Southgate Mall with Whitemud Crossing and Century Park falling within the catchment area as well.

Confederation District Park (11204 43 Ave NW), is approximately 20.1 hectares in size. Located within the park itself are two high schools - Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High and Harry Ainlay High School, sports fields, a running track, basketball and tennis courts and Confederation Leisure Centre and Arena (Figure 5.1). The park is also connected to communities north of Whitemud Drive by a pedestrian bridge, which is part of an active transportation route that connects to the Edmonton Transit System, University of Alberta, Downtown and River Valley/Ravine systems amongst other locations.

Confederation District Park is intended to serve current and future sports and physical activity programming associated with both schools and the leisure centre. The park is also intended to accommodate the recreational needs of residents living in the greater metropolitan Edmonton Area who will travel to the site to visit the schools, leisure centre, and other amenities. Figure 5.1 illustrates the various amenities and elements that make up Confederation District Park.

Figure 5.1: Confederation District Park - Amenities as of 2018



Confederation District Park is made up of seven lots. Three of the lots are zoned US and four are zoned AP. The majority of the site has shared ownership between the City of Edmonton, Edmonton Public Schools and Edmonton Catholics Schools, with the respective buildings having single ownership. Joint use sites are cooperatively planned and managed as per the terms of the Edmonton Joint Use Agreement for Land.

Legal description of park:

- US Zone
 - *Lot 2B, Block 31, Plan 9220063
 - Lot 5A, Block 31, Plan 9220063
 - Lot 1A, Block 31, Plan 1184NY
 - *Shared Ownership
- AP Zone
 - *Lot 6R, Block 31, Plan 1184NY
 - *Lot 2, Block 31, Plan 8722873
 - Lot 3B, Block 31, Plan 1016TR
 - *Lot 5B, Block 31, Plan 9220063

*Shared Ownership

The zoning for Confederation District Park provides the following opportunities:

- Public Parks Zone (AP) - The purpose of this zone is to provide an area of public land for active and passive recreational uses, and allow for an opportunity for public schools. Most of Confederation District Park is within the AP zone and jointly owned by the City and two school boards.
- Urban Services Zone (US) - The purpose of this zone is to provide for publicly and privately-owned facilities of an institutional or community service nature. In Confederation District Park, Edmonton Catholic Schools own one lot for Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High School. They also have rights to a second lot as part of a historical land exchange for the parking area just north of the school within the US zone. Edmonton Public Schools own one lot for Harry Ainlay High School within the US zone and has rights and maintenance responsibilities for Lot 5B through a tri-party agreement as part of the land exchange.

Within the park, there are site and zoning considerations where park assets are located on multiple lots including the running track.

Figure 5.2: Confederation District Park - Zoning and Registered Ownership



Table 5.1: Inventory of Community Organizations, Recreation Programs and Amenities in Catchment Area

Inventory of Community Organizations, Recreation Programs and Amenities in Catchment Area	
Organization/Amenity	Programs and services offered
Confederation Arena (located in Confederation District Park)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public indoor skating • Sport bookings (hockey, ringette, figure skating, etc.) • Single pad arena City of Edmonton Accessibility Rating: Excellent, Fully Accessible*
Confederation Leisure Centre (located in Confederation District Park)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public, family and community swim times • Children and adult swim lessons • Drop-in lane swimming • Aquatic fitness classes • Indoor playground • Fitness centre • 25 metre swimming pool (6 lanes) • Whirlpool • Steam room • Dive tank • Diving boards (1m, 3m) • Slide • Swing rope • Climbing rope • Multi-purpose room City of Edmonton Accessibility Rating: Excellent, Fully Accessible*
Harry Ainlay High School (located in Confederation District Park)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Badminton • Basketball • Cheer • Cricket • Cross country • Curling • Football • Golf • Handball • Rugby • Soccer • Swim • Track and field • Volleyball • Wrestling
Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Badminton • Basketball • Cross country running

<p>(located in Confederation District Park)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curling • Golf • Hockey academy • Soccer • Softball • Swimming • Track and field • Volleyball
<p>Royal Gardens Community League, 4030 117 St NW (located in the same neighbourhood as Confederation District Park)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor skating rink with boards (skating and hockey) • Tennis and Pickleball Multi-Sport Courts • Community league member swims at Confederation Leisure Centre • Family fun evenings • Recreation classes • Summer camps • Soccer programs • Community league hall (small and large hall) • Playground
<p>Neighbourhoods in catchment area</p> <p>Neighbourhood parks within the 2.5km catchment area of Confederation District Park have community leagues that provide outdoor amenities that serve the greater community as listed to the right</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community League Halls: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Greenfield ○ Parkallen ○ Allendale ○ Pleasantview ○ Lendrum ○ Grandview ○ Lansdowne ○ Malmo Plains ○ Empire Park ○ Duggan ○ Aspec Gardens ○ Royal Gardens ○ Blue Quill ○ Steinhauer • Playgrounds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are three traditional playgrounds directly in the neighbourhood and a significant number within the catchment area. Notably there are 5 in close proximity to the neighbourhood in Greenfield, Duggan Park, Rideau Park and Malmo Park.
<p>Whitemud Park</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ravine/Nature Reserve • Alfred H Savage Centre (on the edge of study area) - Warm-up & washroom facilities, outdoor education and environmental programs, publicly rentable rooms • Large tobogganing hill • Nature based walking trails (no cycling permitted) • Parking • Equine trail • Connection to River Valley and Ravine System

Snow Valley, 13204 Rainbow Valley Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ski hill • Terrain park • Ski/snowboard lessons • Aerial park • Bookable chalet and boardrooms
Rainbow Valley Campground 13204 Rainbow Valley Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seasonal camping
Derrick Golf and Winter Club 3500 - 119 Street NW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Golf ○ Gymnasium ○ Tennis ○ Aquatics ○ Curling ○ Badminton ○ Fitness ○ Social Activities ○ Banquet and meeting rooms ○ Private bookings available • *Jr. High Schools access curling rink for school curling teams
Saville Community Sports Centre (University of Alberta) 11520-65 Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gymnastics facility • 25 volleyball courts • 12 full size basketball courts • Competition gymnasium (seats 2500) • 30 badminton courts • 8 indoor tennis courts • Fitness centre • Fitness studios • 10 curling sheets • Meeting rooms and classrooms • Sports camps • Indoor track • Rentable spaces • Sports based programs/camps
Foote Field (University of Alberta) 11601 - 68 Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFL/CIS sized artificial turf field (football or soccer), seating for 3,500 with lighting, press box, scoreboard and public address system • Premier grass field, seating for 1,500 with press box, scoreboard and public address system. • Warm-up runway • 8 locker rooms • 4 natural grass fields (soccer, football or rugby) • IAAF standard 8 lane/400m track surface • Pole vault, high jump and throwing areas • Tennis courts • Multipurpose room

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports programs/camps • Spaces available for rental
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*City of Edmonton Accessibility Rating System: Excellent, Fully Accessible: Features and amenities meet and exceed the Alberta Building Code and take into consideration universal design principles. Main elements such as washrooms, entrances, parking, and amenities are barrier free.

Other nearby District Activity Parks with Recreation Facilities

<i>District Park/Facility</i>	<i>Programs and services offered</i>
Kaskitayo Park 1979 - 111 Street (adjacent to catchment area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William Lutsky YMCA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Aquatic centre ○ Child minding ○ Indoor playground ○ Fitness centre ○ Sports fields ○ Children and adults programming • Kinsmen Twin Arenas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public indoor skating ○ Sport bookings (hockey, ringette, figure skating, etc.) ○ 2 pad arena ○ Pool, fitness & children and adult programming • District level skateboard park
John Fry Sport Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masterplan update under development • Premier diamond (regulation baseball, 1500 seats) • Premier diamond (minor baseball, 1200 seats) • Premier softball/slo-pitch diamond (1200 seats) • 3 premier softball/slo-pitch diamonds (200 seats) • Park pavillion with change rooms, covered area, concession, official's room and public washrooms • 6 premier diamond sports fields with bleachers (range 200-1500) • 2 rugby sports fields • Beach volleyball courts • Driving range

Existing plans within area

Mature Neighbourhood Overlay

The purpose of this overlay is to regulate residential development in Edmonton's mature residential neighbourhoods, while responding to the context of surrounding development, maintaining the pedestrian-oriented design of the streetscape, and to provide an opportunity for consultation by gathering input from affected parties on the impact of a proposed variance to the overlay regulations.

Medium Scale Residential Infill Overlay

The purpose of this overlay is to accommodate the development of medium-scale infill housing in Edmonton's mature residential neighbourhoods in a manner that ensures compatibility with adjacent properties while maintaining or enhancing a pedestrian-friendly streetscape.

Capital Projects

Drainage Renewal

Royal Gardens underwent Drainage Neighbourhood Renewal in 2015. The work included renewal or replacement of sanitary, storm and combined sewers. All sewer lines, catch basins and manholes were televised as well as being reviewed for structural condition. All renewal or repair work was identified and completed at that time.

As part of the City-wide Flood Mitigation Strategy, a number of open space locations in south Edmonton were identified for potential future dry ponds. Confederation District Park was not identified as one of those locations.

Connect 43 Ave Shared-Use Path

The City of Edmonton developed a shared-use path along 43 Avenue from 106 Street to 119 Street. The SUP encourages active modes of transportation and connects several neighbourhood communities with Confederation District Park, providing access to the recreational, physical activity and educational opportunities at the park.

Royal Gardens Neighbourhood Renewal 2019-2020

In 2019 and 2020, the Royal Gardens Neighbourhood will see the replacement of its aging collector and local roadway surfaces, street lights and sidewalks as part of the City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood Renewal program for mature neighbourhoods. Enhancements to other City-owned areas within the neighbourhood are being explored including green spaces and parks, while looking for possible opportunities to make desired upgrades and enhancements in coordination with the Neighbourhood Renewal program. The coordinated timing of the Neighbourhood Renewal and District Park Master Plan has supported synergistic planning to look at how the park is accessed and integrates with the neighbourhood and how the respective plans can support one another. Specific items that have been considered included connections to and through the park, how the park works with the larger connectivity network and placemaking/integrating better with the neighbourhood itself. Widening of sidewalks along the south edge of the park is proposed to support the high level of pick-up and drop-off from the schools and facilities and to support a higher volume of people walking to and from the park and respective facilities.

Confederation Leisure Centre Fitness Expansion/Redevelopment

The Approach to Community Recreation Facility Planning in Edmonton was approved by City Council September 12, 2018. The approach evolved from the 2005-2015 Recreation Facility Master Plan, which identified expansion of Confederation Leisure Centre with a new fitness centre. Expansion has been identified in the 10 year Capital Investment Outlook for 2019-2028 (currently unfunded). Rehabilitation of critical mechanical, civil, structural and electrical systems are identified in the 2019-2022 Capital Budget. Rehabilitation of sidewalks around the building and the primary leisure centre parking lot south of the building will be considered as part of the facility rehabilitation.

Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High School

Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High School has undergone a major modernization. The project included:

- Upgrades to building systems
- Finishes
- Functions
- Specific classroom equipment and accessibility
- Sidewalk concrete repairs
- Bicycle parking areas
- Student space additions

Harry Ainlay High School

Harry Ainlay High School has been identified as a priority for modernization in the 2019-2022 Capital Plan (contingent on funding). An additional gymnasium has also been identified as a future need, however, there is no current funding for this amenity. The park master plan recommends space be protected around the existing school envelope to accommodate any potential future expansion here, should funding be identified at a later date.

Artificial Turf Facility

Confederation District Park has been identified as a possible future location for an artificial turf facility to support growing user demand and sport requirements in southwest Edmonton. The facility location and allotted space within the park are identified in the concept plan.

Further plans for an artificial turf facility at this location will be guided by the Approach to Community Recreation Facility Planning in Edmonton and future capital budgets. An artificial turf facility at this location is a potential long-term plan and is not currently funded for design or construction. A timeline and facility program details would be determined through future planning. A detailed parking impact assessment, to outline parking requirements in more detail, would be required if the Confederation District Park Master Plan or an artificial turf facility advance to further design.

2. SITE INVENTORY, ANALYSIS AND USE

Condition Assessment

As the City's infrastructure ages, more maintenance and rehabilitation is often required to ensure that infrastructure is performing well and continuing to meet the needs of citizens. At the same time, Edmonton is a growing city and demands arise for new infrastructure to support its growth.

To examine the state and condition of the City's assets, each asset is rated according to its physical condition, demand capacity, and functionality.

Physical - condition of an infrastructure element that enables it to meet the intended service levels. The Risk-based Infrastructure Management System is a tool that assists in the assessment of rehabilitation needs of the city and the allocation of renewal funds across the various infrastructure assets to ensure long-term value.

This proactive infrastructure evaluation approach helps with decisions about repairs – what is needed, where and when – to keep rehabilitation and construction costs as low as possible and make the most of capital assets.

Demand Capacity – ability of an infrastructure element to meet program delivery requirements and service ratios within a geographic catchment area (40,000 – 80,000 for district park)

Functionality - capacity of an infrastructure element to meet service requirements.

Functional improvements relate to user demand (interest, trends, demographics), standards (sport regulations, health, safety, accessibility, environment) and space needs (functional capacity, land availability) – these factors are all considered in the development of the Master Plan

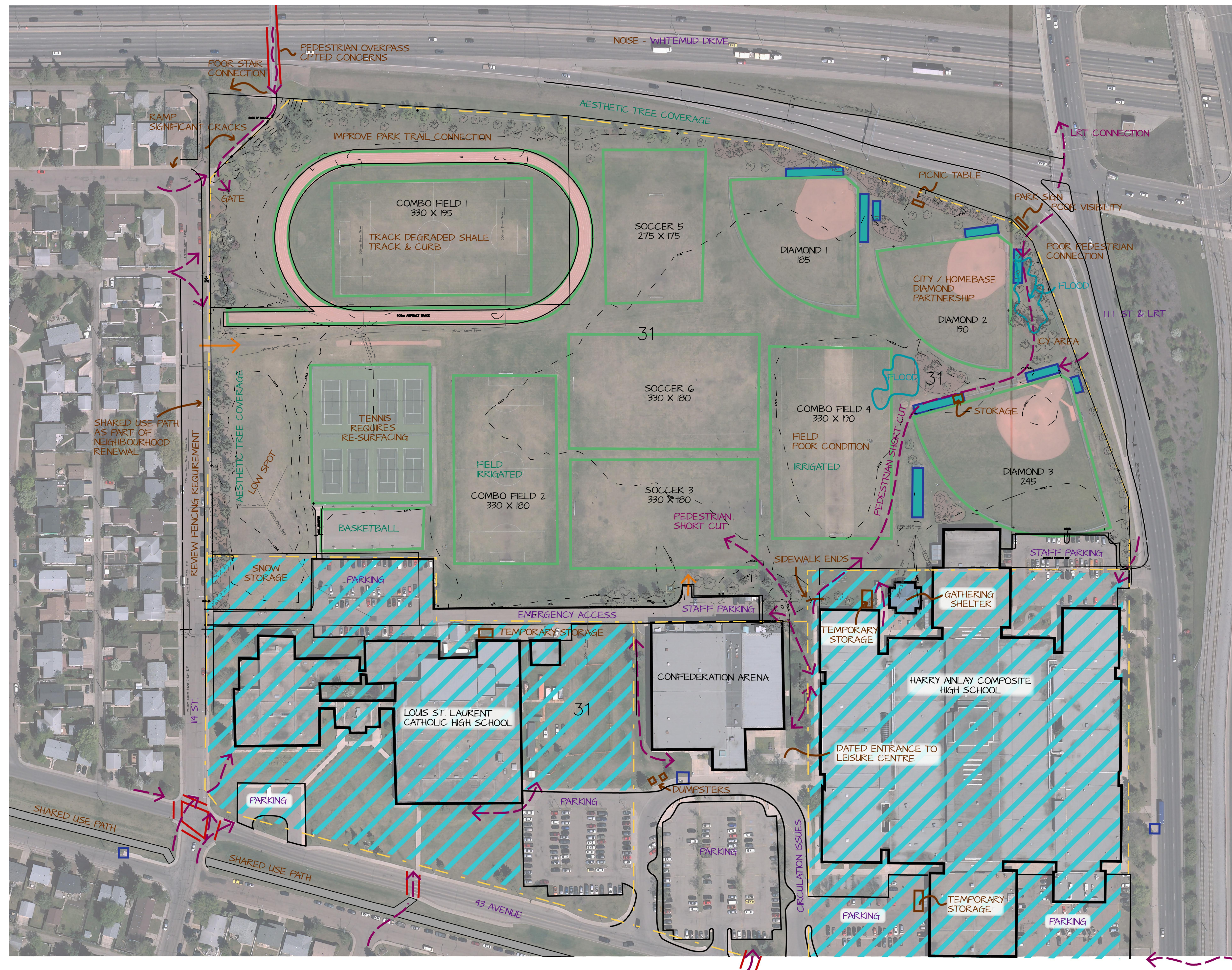
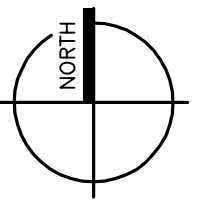
District Park Renewal Targets

District park renewal targets require a balance between immediate needs and ongoing rehabilitation and have been developed to compare the existing state of a district park with the desired target. Renewal targets align with the City's Risk-based Infrastructure Management System and consider the overall physical condition, functionality and demand capacity for each park.

The overall physical condition for each district park site has been evaluated based on a “super report” which averages the physical condition of the five key park asset types (access and circulation, furniture, playground, protection and sports fields). The scoring is done using a matrix of 1 to 5. The renewal target for parks is a Park Condition Assessment Score greater than 3.4.

Table 5.2 Park Condition Assessment

Assessment Types	Definition	District Park Renewal Targets
Physical Condition	<p>The overall physical condition for Confederation District Park based on the Park Condition Report is 3.51 for the key park type asset types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access and Circulation 3.30 • Protection 3.78 • Sports Fields 3.21 • Playground n/a • Furniture 3.75 	<p>Using a proactive infrastructure evaluation - Risk-based Infrastructure Management System</p> <p>Park Condition Assessment Score greater than 3.4 (scoring based on 5-point rating, 5 being the best)</p> <p>Utility improvements addressed</p>
Functionality		<p>Maximizing opportunities within Park Renewal Program Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access and Circulation • Sport • Recreation and Play • Arts, Culture and Celebration • Environmental Sustainability
Demand Capacity	Population in the 2.5km catchment area is 55,998	Service Level Target: 40,000 - 80,000 population / district park



- LEGEND:**
- PROPERTY LINE
 - WORN PEDESTRIAN PATH
 - PARKING LOT
 - EXISTING BUILDING
 - ISSUES OF CONCERN
 - ITEMS OF NOTE
 - VEHICLE CIRCULATION
 - RECREATION AREAS
 - DRAINAGE CONCERNS
 - PEDESTRIAN ACCESS POINT
 - VEHICULAR MAINTENANCE ACCESS
 - SCHOOL ZONE
 - ACTIVE RECREATION AREAS (SPORTS FIELDS)
 - PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
 - BUS STOP
 - CITY/ HOME BASE DIAMOND PARTNERSHIP AMENITIES (STANDS, BLEACHERS, CAGES, BENCHES)

confederation park analysis

Access and Circulation Activities

Access and Circulation Context

The east side of the park is bordered by 111 Street and the Capital and Metro Line Light Rapid Transit (LRT) corridor. This creates a very busy side to the park but the green space also acts as an attractive landmark for commuters and visitors as they pass. To the south, 43 Avenue provides the primary access route to the park, with bus pull-off areas and driveway access to parking lots servicing both schools and a looping driveway access to the leisure centre and parking lots. A low volume residential roadway, 114 Street, borders the park's western edge. The northern limit is established by Whitemud Drive, a high traffic, multi-lane freeway. Even though the freeway is set well below the elevation of Confederation District Park, noise is generated from the freeway. Despite this analysis, noise was not identified as a concern in the park during the process, and the City's Urban Traffic Noise Policy does not protect parks and sports fields from noise.

Vehicle Access and Parking

The parking on this site is very fragmented. One parking lot entrance is southbound on 111 Street on the north side of Harry Ainlay High School. This parking lot has restricted access with only a right-in and right-out turning option and is surrounded by the school building, ball diamond and 111 Street with no room for future expansion and is mainly used as teacher parking and access to the ball diamonds after school hours.

The main parking lots are accessible from 43 Avenue along the south side of the park with identified areas for students and leisure centre users. Circulation in the main parking lots is challenging, leading to vehicular congestion, increasing the risk of confusion and blockage of vehicles trying to get through. The lots are not designed to provide clear routes for through traffic and parking. During peak times, school traffic passes in front of the leisure centre resulting in challenging pedestrian access for users of facilities on the site. Some monitoring of the leisure centre parking lot is required to manage inappropriate parking. It is recommended that parking lot circulation be reviewed in more detail at the time of any capital facility upgrades.

To the north side of Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High School and the leisure centre, staff priority parking lots are available through access from 114 Street (Figure 5.5). Additional parking is available via on street parking along 114 Street.

Figure 5.5: Parking Lot North of Louis St. Laurent School



Pedestrian Connections

The main pedestrian connections are located in the four corners of the park. In the northeast corner, a pedestrian walkway along 111 Street over Whitemud Drive connects the park to the LRT and Southgate Mall. To the southeast, a major crosswalk connection at 111 Street and 43 Avenue provides access to a key bus stop and the adjacent residential neighbourhoods. To the southwest, the corner of 43 Avenue and 114 Street, connects the Royal Gardens neighbourhood to the park. Lastly, in the northwest corner, a shared-use, bicycle and pedestrian bridge crossing Whitemud Drive (Figure 5.6), provides connection to the Malmo Plains neighbourhood.

Pedestrian paths are provided via sidewalks and shared use trails along three sides of the park, 111 Street, 43 Avenue and 114 Street. On the north side of the park, along Whitemud Drive, there are no pedestrian walks. Pedestrians taking shortcuts from the pedestrian bridge and from 111 Street into the park have resulted in worn paths through the grass sports fields. A path along the north edge of the park and more paths through the parks could address this to some degree.

North-south pedestrian connections are limited to the periphery with street side sidewalks. A partial inner park connection located between the leisure centre and Harry Ainlay High School is provided (Figure 5.7). However, the sidewalk abruptly ends at the north side of the school, forcing pedestrians to create their own paths, cutting across the sports fields to access the north end of the site.

There are sightline concerns regarding the Whitemud Drive pedestrian overpass, mainly related to insufficient lighting and irregular paving and steps. Both the exit ramp and stairway – pictured in (Figure 5.8) - on the south side of the overpass are showing signs of aging. The south side exit leads pedestrians along a path into a dimly lit back alley.

Figure 5.6: Whitemud Pedestrian Overpass



Figure 5.7: Sidewalk Connection



Figure 5.8: Pedestrian Overpass Stairs



Trails/Active Transportation

Active transportation routes are currently provided on three sides of the park. A major north-south shared-use path is available along the east side of 111 Street with connections to the park via controlled crosswalks and sidewalks. At the south end of the park, along 43 Avenue, a newly constructed east-west shared-use path provides connections from Royal Gardens to 111 Street. As part of the Neighbourhood Renewal program, a new shared-use path is being considered for the west edge of the park, which would provide cyclists an alternative from sharing the road with vehicles and increased protection when cycling between 43 Avenue and the Whitemud pedestrian overpass.

Currently, there are no designated pathways through the park. Numerous worn paths from pedestrians cutting through the park are evident, including pathways from the northeast corner and east side of the park into and around the ball diamonds, and from the Whitemud pedestrian overpass into the northwest corner of the park. Chain link fences surrounding the majority of the park restricts the access points to a few key intersections and crossing locations.

Signage and Wayfinding

The park's signs consist of traffic and parking signage, bylaw signage, and tennis court usage signage, located within the parking lots and in front of the schools. The only formal Confederation District Park sign (pictured in Figure 5.9) is located at the corner of Whitemud Drive and 111 Street. Due to the signs position and orientation, it is obscured from daily vehicular traffic. Standard traffic signage for the leisure centre and informational signage for the schools are located along 111 Street and 43 Avenue.

Other than the one park sign, the park and its amenities are poorly identified and is lacking proper wayfinding markers to help guide and direct park users.

Figure 5.9: Park Signage



Park Lighting

The park and amenities have minimal lighting. One of the only light sources into the north part of the park is provided by light spillage from adjacent street and parking lot lighting. The lack of lighting has resulted in some concerns around perceptions and feelings of safety and may limit the park's use in the evenings, especially in the spring, fall and winter when daylight hours are reduced.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) helps make communities safer through planning, development, and maintenance. CPTED deters criminal activity through natural surveillance (visibility, positive social activities), natural access control (entry and exit points, fences), and natural boundaries (clear ownership, clearly marked private spaces).

A specific CPTED study has not been undertaken for this site; however, a few areas of the park were noted as possible opportunities for improvement. The pedestrian overpass (Figure 5.6 and 5.8) has poor visibility and low-level lighting on the overpass and at the entrances. The main access to the south directs pedestrians to the lighted street corner at 114 Street and 44A Avenue, but a second exit via stairs to the southwest, leads pedestrians to a poorly lit back alley. Poor lighting on the north side of Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High School and the leisure centre make for uncomfortable use of the parking lots for staff after hours. The shelter structure adjacent to Harry Ainlay High School was noted as a possible sightline concern and is being considered for future removal by Edmonton Public Schools.

Summary of Access and Circulation Activities: Opportunities and Constraints

- The lack of internal park walkways provides an opportunity for a new walkway design that considers where pedestrians have indicated their preferred routes with worn paths
- Existing park infrastructure could be used to help facilitate pedestrian connections, (e.g. existing running track)
- Existing trees are an asset, and walkways and seating opportunities can work around existing vegetation, avoiding obstructed views and preserving clear sightlines into the park in consideration of CPTED
- Pedestrian circulation and crossings outside the park are being considered in other City programs such as the Neighbourhood Renewal program
- The park's identity is not apparent and could be reinforced through defined entry 'gateways' or nodes and prominent aesthetic entrance signage and wayfinding signage, also considering changeable signage that highlights upcoming events
- The front of the Confederation Leisure Centre is challenged by a confusing and complicated arrangement of vehicle access, circulation and student drop-off that may be considered in future planning and design initiatives
- Improved bus access, circulation and drop-off could support sports tournaments and events
- Additional vehicular access and parking is required along the north side of Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High School and the Confederation Leisure Centre, particularly if more intensive use facilities are developed in the future

- If parking demands increase, opportunities exist for coordination and partnerships on the various owned lands for parking that supports the full site during various times of day
- Parking northeast of Harry Ainlay High School should remain for convenient school and sports field access

Sport Activities

Sports Field and Court Inventory

- 3 diamonds
- 3 rectangular fields (football/soccer combo)
- 3 rectangular fields (soccer specific)
- 8 tennis courts
- Basketball courts (12 hoops)
- Shale running track
- Jump pit

Sports Field Use

Major user groups of the sports fields have included baseball, soccer, football, lacrosse, ultimate frisbee and multi-sport organizations as well as Louis St. Laurent School and Harry Ainlay School. The booked use of sports fields at Confederation District Park for 2015 - 2017 are reflected in the tables below. This does not reflect drop-in, school or spontaneous use of the sports fields, tennis courts, track or basketball courts.

Figure 5.10: Existing Sports Fields



Diamonds

Confederation Park Little League currently holds a Home Base License Agreement with the City of Edmonton and is the primary user of the diamonds for childrens baseball programming. The group is responsible for specified ongoing premier level maintenance of the diamonds. Spontaneous use does occur in the spring and fall by the schools both with baseball and other field activities/games and many residents use the area (Figures 5.9, 5.10, 5.11). Due to the proximity of Diamond 3 to 111th Street, baseballs have been known to fly out into the road.

Table 5.3 Diamond Bookings 2015 - 2017

2015	2016	2017
Diamond 1 - Size 185		
Baseball - 258.3 hours	Baseball - 257 hours Tournament - 8 hours Weather Closure - 9.5 hours	Baseball - 226.5 hours Tournament - 8 hours Weather Closure - 25 hours
Diamond 2 - Size 190		
Baseball - 258.3 hours	Baseball - 255 hours Tournament - 8 hours Weather Closure - 9.5 hours	Baseball - 232.5 hours Tournament - 8 hours Weather Closure - 25 hours
Diamond 3 - Size 245		
Baseball - 247 hours	Baseball - 228.5 hours Weather Closure - 11 hours	Baseball - 230.75 hours Weather Closure - 25 hours

Figure 5.11: Diamond 1



Figure 5.12: Diamond Support Amenities



Combo Fields

This area of the park serves local schools and residents, as well as groups from all over the city. These fields are booked out by soccer and football groups with significant use for school programming (physical education, etc.) and school soccer and football teams (not reflected in booking hours).

Table 5.4 Combo Field Bookings 2015 - 2017

2015	2016	2017
Combo 1 - 330 x 195		
Football - 58.5 hours Soccer - 139 hours Tournament - 61.75 hours Weather Closure - 4 hours	Football - 16 hours Soccer - 184.5 hours Tournament - 34 hours Weather Closure - 5.5 hours	Football - 21 hours Soccer - 174.75 hours Tournament - 69 hours Weather Closure - 23.75 hours
Combo 2 - 330 x 180		
Football - 44 hours Soccer - 62.25 hours Tournament - 69 hours Weather Closure - 4 hours	Football - 62 hours Soccer - 44 hours Tournament - 34 hours Weather Closure - 2 hours	Football - 70 hours Soccer - 48.5 hours Tournament - 62 hours Weather Closure - 13 hours
Combo 4 - 330 x 190		
Football - 28.5 hours Soccer - 182.25 hours Tournament - 69 hours Weather Closure - 3.5 hours	Tournament - 34 hours	Football - 8 hours Soccer - 141.5 hours Tournament - 26 hours

Soccer Fields

This area of the park serves local schools and residents, as well as groups from all over the city. These fields are booked out by soccer, football, ultimate frisbee, field hockey and lacrosse groups with school programming (physical education, etc.) and school soccer and football teams (not reflected in booking hours). While these rectangular fields do not have football uprights, they support football practice time as well. Soccer field #5 has significant demand to support youth programming due to its smaller size.

Table 5.5 Soccer Field Bookings 2015 - 2017

2015	2016	2017
Soccer 3 - 330 x 180		
Field Hockey - 138 hours Lacrosse - 83 hours Soccer - 86.5 hours Tournament - 68 hours Ultimate Frisbee - 25 hours	Tournament - 34 hours	Football - 109 hours Soccer - 75 hours Tournament - 55 hours Ultimate Frisbee - 10 hours Weather Closure - 15 hours
Soccer 5 - 275 x 175		
Football - 2.5 hours Lacrosse - 52 hours Soccer - 273 hours Tournament - 69 hours	Football - 56.5 hours Lacrosse - 60 hours Soccer - 196.5 hours Tournament - 34 hours	Field Hockey - 3 hours Football - 6 hours Lacrosse - 48 hours Soccer - 189 hours Tournament - 55 hours Weather Closure - 10.5 hours
Soccer 6 - 330 x 180		
Field Hockey - 93 hours Lacrosse - 49.5 hours Soccer - 212 hours Tournament - 69 hours Ultimate Frisbee - 10 hours Weather Closure - 3 hours	Football - 146.5 hours Lacrosse - 59.5 hours Tournament - 34 hours Ultimate Frisbee - 4 hours	Football - 126 hours Lacrosse - 44 hours Soccer - 129.5 hours Tournament - 55 hours Ultimate Frisbee - 6 hours Weather Closure - 15 hours

Tennis Courts

There are eight existing tennis courts that require future resurfacing and are well utilized. Some courts are bookable and some are reserved for daily spontaneous use. Through the public consultation there was interest in exploring options for adding the ability to use two of the courts for pickleball in the future.

Table 5.6 Tennis Court Bookings 2015 - 2017

2015	2016	2017
All Tennis Courts (8)		
2115 hours	2778 hours	1660 hours

Figure 5.13: Tennis Courts



Basketball

The existing courts are in poor shape with cracked and heaving asphalt. There was a high desire to keep these courts available for public use, enhance and upgrade them to increase their functionality and ensure they are available for school programming.

Figure 5.14: Basketball Courts



Shale Running Track

A 400m-long track is located in the northwest corner of the park site. The surface and curbing of the shale running track are beginning to degrade, with cracked and broken curbing, areas of poor drainage and weed growth. There is one long jump/triple jump runway and jump pit just south of the track. Along the north side of the track, an appealing group of trees provides a buffer between the track and Whitemud Drive.

Figure 5.15: Running Track and Combo Field 1



Figure 5.16: Jump Pit



Spectator Experience

The site is currently limited in spectator amenities. Stakeholders noted a desire for increased benches, sports seating, lighting, garbage bins and washroom access.

Summary of Sport Activities: Opportunities and Constraints

- The number and size of the existing sports fields may limit other recreational opportunities
- Overlapping fields should be avoided
- The ball diamonds are to remain in the existing orientation and configuration
- The running track is to remain, but location may be shifted to maximise opportunities on the site
- Some existing fields have operating irrigation systems which may require adjustments to support reconfiguration or size adjustment of the fields
- Existing tennis courts are well used by the public and school programming; adding lighting could increase use during the shoulder seasons and winter
- Basketball courts need revitalization and could also support ball hockey; adding lighting could increase use during the shoulder seasons and winter

Recreation and Play Activities

Open Space

Confederation District Park is a destination park for organized sports for both school, community and city-wide sports user groups. Open space for informal use is limited, however the park does have small pockets of open space with grass and trees along 114 Street, 111 Street and within the park to support informal activities and small group use. There are few amenities such as picnic tables and benches to encourage the use of these existing spaces.

Fitness

Other than the running track, there are no outdoor amenities dedicated to individual fitness opportunities. There are opportunities to create fitness amenities (running trails, multi-use paths, fitness equipment) within the park.

Gathering

The park currently does not have any formalized gathering spaces. During sporting events, spectators can gather and socialize by making use of existing diamond bleachers, but many often bring folding chairs to watch the games or simply sit on the grass. Defined gathering spaces and amenities would greater support this type of experience.

Amenities and Site Furnishings

Park amenities currently include exposed aggregate concrete and barrel type waste receptacles (Figure 5.17) placed throughout the park, bike racks around the schools and spectator bleachers around the ball diamonds. Washroom facilities are provided within the leisure centre and schools, which are not always accessible to the general public or after hours.

Near the front entrance of the leisure centre, two commercial garbage dumpsters are placed on the grass just off to the edge of the public sidewalk (Figure 5.18). These impact the aesthetics and visual experience when arriving at facilities on site and have the potential to interrupt foot and vehicle traffic when the dumpsters are being emptied.

Figure 5.17: Barrel Waste Containers



Figure 5.18: Commercial Dumpsters



Play

Confederation District Park currently does not have any playground or play oriented outdoor spaces.

Fencing

Most of the park site is fenced with chain link fencing. Pedestrian access is provided through several breaks in the fencing at key intersections and crossing locations. The fencing is generally in good condition. The fence along 114 Street (Figure 5.19) does have minor holes and slightly bent posts at places with some discolouration. This fence in particular is perceived as a barrier to accessing the park and visual cue that it is not an inviting or publicly accessible open space. It does not currently serve as a barrier to balls from sports games leaving the park.

Figure 5.19: Western Border (114 Street) Fence



Figure 5.20: Northern Border (Whitemud Drive) Fence



Summary of Recreation and Play Activities: Opportunities and Constraints

- There is an opportunity to provide park amenities, such as seating and gathering areas, and fitness or play infrastructure, to provide more opportunities for diverse and unstructured activities and bring more people into the park
- Particular park amenity opportunities include site furniture and design that is unique to Confederation District Park, range of well-placed seating options supported by receptacles and bike racks, natural play features with seating nearby, and fitness amenities (e.g., fitness nodes) for use by residents and schools
- Additional groups of trees could help break up the expanse of the park and provide shade and habitat
- Existing trees are to be preserved as much as possible, therefore amenity development should work around existing vegetation, avoiding obstructed views and preserving clear sightlines into the park in consideration of CPTED
- Snow storage from the school parking lots needs consideration and may influence placement of park amenities and gathering areas
- Removal of the chain-link fence along 114 Street could make the site more inviting to the general public and increase site accessibility
- Winter use opportunities and activities could enliven the park in the winter and provide more activities for residents and students

Arts, Culture and Celebration Activities

Sense of Place

A park can be a place that assists in supporting the identity of the communities that it serves. Currently Confederation District Park has no clear sense of place because it lacks outdoor features beyond the basic athletic facilities and it lacks an entry with clear identification. The fields are well used by the schools and city-wide sports groups, but the park is not a place that people from the neighbourhood visit for everyday use. The park is currently perceived by the public as a school sports park and not as a public park space.

Community Event and Celebration Space

The open space in the park is currently defined by sports fields and although this space has some flexibility for event use, there are few amenities or supporting infrastructure that specifically support a community group to stage a significant sized event.

Public Art

There are currently no public art or interpretive elements (historical or cultural) in the park. Under the Percent for Art policy, locations for public art will need to be provided within the park to support any future capital investment.

Summary of Arts, Culture and Celebration Activities: Opportunities and Constraints

- The number and size of the existing sports fields may limit community celebration spaces, however several other spaces do exist in the catchment area that can support these activities.
- The lack of existing public art provides a new opportunity for future art feature development

Environmentally Sustainable

Tree Inventory

Confederation District Park has an inventory of approximately 302 trees on the 14.1 hectares of City and jointly owned park space. The Urban Parks Management Plan prescribes 45 trees per hectare in a district park, which would entail a tree inventory of 635; based on this, the park needs 333 more trees. At the discretion of the City, trees can be substituted with shrubs at a ratio of 7:1 to a maximum of 10% of the total number of required trees. Additional trees and shrub plantings will have to be provided, and the existing trees should be protected and integrated with any new development. In accordance with these requirements, planting of 300 trees and 231 shrubs would be an appropriate substitute.

Planting and Landscaping

The park is predominantly open with the majority of the tree plantings located around the perimeter of the park and around the schools and leisure centre. There is minimal shrub planting within the park. The City installed new planting beds and worked to revitalize some existing throughout the park within the last 5 years.

Figure 5.21: New Tree Planting



Topography

The park topography is relatively flat with a gradual drop in slope to the west. With the sports fields being a key priority for recreation opportunities on this district park, there is limited space for significant landforms and larger hills. Pockets of park space between the sports fields could be considered for minor hill or berm development for added visual interest, screening, seating or winter sledding. Any hill or berm development will have to take CPTED principles into consideration to ensure sight lines into the park are not disrupted. The planning of hills or berms also needs to retain overland drainage flows.

Utilities, Drainage, and Stormwater Management

There are two areas in the park that present water pooling and icing concerns during times of snowmelt or heavy precipitation. One is situated along the east side of the park adjacent to ball diamond #2, which impedes pedestrian access from the northeast corner and the pedestrian crossing at Whitemud Drive (Figure 5.22). The other area of concern is the northeast corner of combo field #4 which is already in poor condition (Figure 5.23).

Adjacent to the tennis and basketball courts, there is a shallow catchment area accepting runoff from the Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High School parking lot and access road. Although not confirmed by the study team, there could be runoff accumulation or saturated soils in this location at times.

Figure 5.22: Drainage Issues Near Ball Diamonds



Figure 5.23: Field Drainage Issues



Maintenance/Operations

Combo fields #1, 2 and 4 are all irrigated. The irrigation system is approximately 20 years old and is approaching the end of its life cycle.

Maintenance access to the site is provided from two locations - a commercial curb crossing along the western edge of the park, and via access from the staff parking lot at the rear of the leisure centre.

Snow removed from parking lots is typically placed around the perimeter of the lots and at times in the catchment area west of the tennis courts. Confederation Arena has an ice melt station, so ice shavings are rarely required to be melted outside.

Figure 5.24: Maintenance and Operations Access



Summary of Environmentally Sustainable: Opportunities and Constraints

- Existing trees are to be preserved, therefore development should work around existing vegetation, avoiding obstructed views and preserving clear sightlines into the park in consideration of CPTED
- School and leisure centre operations require space for winter snow dump and storage
- Existing plantings could be augmented with infill planting for better compliance with City policy, improved aesthetics, habitat values, and seasonal colours and flowering

VI. PARK MASTER PLAN

1. Design Principles and Program

The park goals, design principles, and program are based on the planning context, public consultation results, and the findings from the site and program analysis.

Access and Circulation Activities

Goal

- Provide safe, direct and comfortable walking and biking opportunities around and through the park, linking to the surrounding active transportation network and adjacent recreation and school facilities

Design Principles

- Provide landscaped walkways between the two schools and from adjacent neighbourhoods to improve connections and to prevent short-cutting across fields
- Improve access, circulation and drop-off for students, major sport tournaments and special park events
- Provide east-west and north-south pedestrian paths based on worn paths as indicators of needed routes
- Reinforce the park's identity through defined entry 'gateways' or nodes and prominent aesthetic entrance and wayfinding signage
- Retain arena and leisure centre emergency access north of the facilities (entrance from 114 Street) to ensure user traffic does not restrict emergency access
- Recognize that the potential future addition of an artificial turf facility will increase the parking requirements

Program

- Walkway connections and distinct access points throughout the park
- Entry signage and wayfinding signage
- Identification of additional parking locations for use by school, leisure centre and sports field users as demand on the site increases.
- Removal of chain link fence along 114 Street

Sport Activities

Goal

- Maintain Confederation District Park as a destination for field sports, ball diamond sports, tennis, school athletics, and indoor activities provided in the leisure centre and arena

Design Principles

- Identify a location on the site for a potential future artificial turf facility
- Maximize the utility of the sports fields to meet community sports needs and the academic needs associated with Harry Ainlay High School and Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High School
- Maximize sports field opportunities and minimize unusable space between phases of capital development
- Provide additional landscaping and trees to provide shade in key areas where spectators/players gather near fields
- Identify and provide opportunities to enhance spectator amenities
- Consider four-season use of the park space
- Explore additional sport and recreation opportunities that complement the local area and recreation/physical activity trends (e.g., pickleball, ball hockey, spontaneous use)

Program

- Reconfigured sports fields
- Reconfigured running track to maximize field and open space opportunities
- Reconfigured basketball courts with addition of ball hockey
- Relocated tennis courts, with two courts lined for joint tennis and pickleball
- Potential future artificial turf facility

Recreation and Play Activities

Goal

- Provide a variety of recreation and play opportunities for residents from throughout the neighbouring communities, school attendees and for families of those participating in formal sports activities

Design Principles

- Add activity opportunities to encourage health and wellness (e.g. paths for active transportation and exercise, outdoor exercise equipment)
- Design community amenities (e.g. benches, picnic tables, waste receptacles, bike racks) that make the park a more comfortable place to be for informal use and events
- Provide seating and picnic areas to accommodate parents, families, and friends during sports tournaments or practices, taking into consideration shade and windbreaks
- Washroom amenities to support the site would be considered as part of the potential artificial turf facility
- Add features that stimulate exploration and play (e.g. natural play elements)
- Provide some open spaces suitable for informal activities, such as frisbee and catch, with landscaping to define these spaces and create visual boundaries between different uses
- Explore individual fitness opportunities (e.g. outdoor fitness equipment, walking, jogging, cross country skiing, snowshoeing)
- Improve the aesthetic quality and accessibility of the site by removing aging and unnecessary fencing
- Adopt a consistent look and feel for amenities in the park to enhance the overall sense of place

Program

- Perimeter path with loops
- Fitness nodes
- Seating and gathering areas, with picnic tables, benches and waste receptacles
- Natural play elements made primarily from natural materials or using natural landscaping

Arts, Culture and Celebration Activities

Goal

- Provide opportunities to celebrate public arts, culture and their community within the park.

Design Principles

- Integrate locations for public art opportunities into the park or park elements
- Add prominent and attractive entrance and wayfinding signage
- Consider locations in the park for gathering and flexible open spaces that can be used to support small community events or sports tournaments
- Consider interpretive signs and/or public art that is unique and meaningful to the community and/or tells an important story about the community, people or the City

Program

- Locations for public art in high visibility and entry areas
- Entrance and wayfinding signage
- Retain some flexible open spaces

Environmentally Sustainable

Goal

- Protect and enhance the environmental values of the park by increasing the tree canopy and the amount of other vegetation

Design Principles

- Add trees to the park for their environmental benefits, including shade, cooling, carbon sequestration, and wildlife habitat, meeting the City's minimum tree planting requirements
- Use trees and landscaping to enhance and define the park edges and entrances, to separate and define activity spaces, to provide shade in gathering areas, and to provide an aesthetic buffer between the parking lots and park uses
- Group trees in mulched beds to reduce maintenance requirements

- Use a mix of tree species to enhance the biodiversity and aesthetics of the site and to provide places to play
- Add new park amenities and trails taking into consideration mature trees and preservation of healthy trees as much as possible
- Consider removal of unhealthy or stressed trees if necessary and replace with new trees
- Repair and re-grade flooding areas

Program

- Infill and perimeter tree and shrub planting
- Add ornamental plantings
- Parking lot planting
- Remove undesirable planting

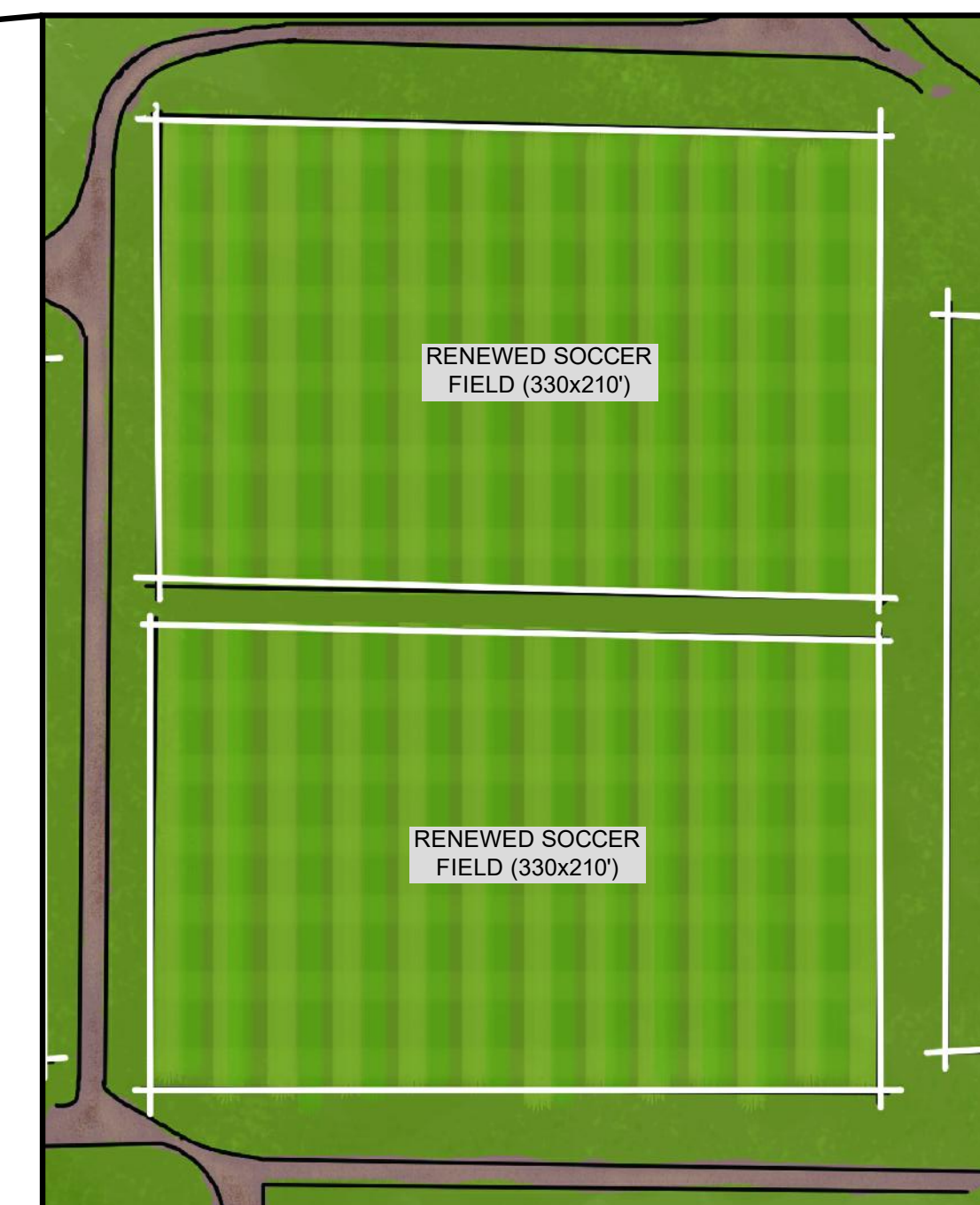
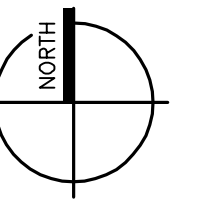
2. Final Concept Plan

Input gathered and analysis completed in the early stages was used to create preliminary concept ideas. Workshops and conversations were held with stakeholder organizations and partners to explore and advance the preliminary concept ideas and options. These were refined into two preliminary concept plans, and following stakeholder and public input, a final concept plan was prepared. Public feedback was used to refine and finalize the concept plan.

Park Overview:

Parks are connected to their diverse communities and a source of pride

The concept plan for Confederation District Park proposes renewal, reconfiguration and resizing of sports fields, adds gathering spaces and amenities to attract more park users to stay in the park for longer periods of time and protects space the potential of a future artificial turf facility. Landscape upgrades will improve the overall park character. Trails and seating areas will enable more people to pass through the park or to use it for exercise. Natural play features, more court use options, fitness nodes and flexible open spaces will provide opportunities for unstructured physical activities and improve user and spectator experiences during sporting activities.



NATURAL TURF FIELDS TO REMAIN UNTIL ARTIFICIAL TURF FIELD DEVELOPMENT



confederation district park

FIGURE 1

Access and Circulation Activities: Parks are vibrant, connected, engaging, safe, accessible and welcoming

Trails

Four primary trail routes are proposed through the park to be constructed as 3-metre-wide asphalt. The recommended trails include the following:

- East-west Whitemud connection - This trail connection is upgraded and is proposed to have pedestrian lighting and winter snow clearing. It connects the 114 Street pedestrian overpass along the edge of Whitemud Drive with the 111 Street pedestrian crosswalk.
- Path south of fields - The second east-west connection connects the 114 Street sidewalk to the ball diamonds and 111 Street. This trail follows the south side of the running track and ball diamonds, cutting between diamonds #2 and #3 to connect to the 111 Street sidewalk.
- 114 Street internal park path - This trail provides a north-south route from the Whitemud pedestrian overpass to Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High School. This pathway weaves through the western edge of the park providing a more scenic experience. Several seating areas are provided, with benches, picnic tables, waste receptacles, fitness stations and natural play features along the way. As part of the Neighbourhood Renewal program, a shared-use path is being considered along the boulevard of 114 Street.
- 111 Street path - This second north-south connection east of the ball diamonds ties the 111 Street/Whitemud crosswalk to Harry Ainlay High School. Several seating opportunities and natural play elements are provided along this trail.

Trail connections link the four primary routes and key parking and destinations in the park. All trails are proposed with open and unobstructed sight lines to ensure safe pedestrian travel per CPTED principles. Walkway lights are proposed along the primary path adjacent to Whitemud Drive and at key amenity stations within the park.

Parking

Concerns with parking capacity and flow on site were heard through the engagement process. Any significant capital facility development would likely require additional parking capacity and parking studies would be required to determine the exact amount of parking required.

Expanded parking and a drop-off and bus turnaround location has been identified to support sports tournaments that may be using the natural grass fields or potential future artificial turf facility.

The open space and existing parking lot north of Louis St. Laurent School are identified as a location for parking expansion and reconfiguration if required due to demand studies. Edmonton Catholic Schools has specific rights around this land based on historical land exchange in the park, so coordination with the school district would be required. There are approximately 86 spaces in the lots shown north of the school and leisure centre on City land, and another potential 38 reconfigured spaces and 20 new spaces to the west on school district land.

It is recommended that on-street parking adjacent to the park along 114 Street be retained to support easy access to the sports fields.

Wayfinding and Signage

Improved signage is proposed to address wayfinding. Park entry sign locations are proposed at two key corners of the park. The existing sign in the northeast corner adjacent to Whitemud Drive and 111 Street is proposed to be moved south to a more visible location, and a new sign is proposed for the southwest corner of the park (north of the Louis St. Laurent Junior/Senior High School parking lot). Additional wayfinding signage within the park is recommended for inclusion in any future designs.

Sport Activities: Parks support a vibrant, diverse sports sector

The approach to the sports fields and other sport activities is as follows:

- The existing ball diamonds including sizes are retained and they are managed and maintained under the City / partner homebase agreement as required.
- The existing 330'x190' combo field #4 is expanded to 330'x210' in alignment with the current standards of play and the field surface and irrigation are renewed to support continued use by school and community sports teams.
- The existing 330'x190' combo field #2 is expanded to 330'x210' in alignment with the current standards of play and the field surface and irrigation are renewed. The field is shifted towards the west to provide space for a potential future artificial turf facility and the widening of natural grass fields to the new standards of play.

- Soccer field #3 and #6 are renewed and retained in their existing location pending any future facility development in that location. They are to be expanded to 330'x210' in alignment with the current standards of play and will not be irrigated.
- The tennis courts and basketball courts are shifted west to provide space for the artificial turf facility and the full-size rectangular grass fields. All eight tennis courts are retained, with two courts lined to support pickleball. Four full-size basketball courts are retained with basic fixtures added to support use for ball hockey. Lighting is proposed for the tennis and basketball courts to extend hours and to provide improved winter use.
- The existing running track is shifted west and renewed with the starting area shifted to the northeast. The reconfiguration of the running track also includes reconfiguration of combo field #1, with the existing 330'x195' size retained. The location of the jump pit is retained with renewal to the current design standard for district park level jump pits.
- Soccer field #5 is rotated and the size is adjusted to 240'x180' to meet current standards of play. This smaller size is intended to support soccer opportunities for the U-12 age group while still providing practice space for other sports and ages.

Artificial Turf Facility

Confederation District Park has been identified as a possible future location for an artificial turf facility. The location allocated within the park is identified in the concept plan. Further plans for an artificial turf facility at this location will be guided by the Approach to Community Recreation Facility Planning and future artificial turf strategies/capital budgets. An artificial turf facility at this location is a long-term plan and is not currently funded for design or construction.

The exact field sizes, any additional line markings for other sports and support amenities would be confirmed should the location be selected and the field designed. To support future planning of the park, the space protected in this plan contemplates the following amenities:

- Single artificial turf field (combo sized with permanent FIFA soccer lines 105mx68m and permanent CFL football lines)
- Spectator seating
- Spotters box
- Team dressing rooms (4)

- Officials dressing rooms (2)
- Public washrooms and universal/family washroom
- Concession
- Maintenance storage and field equipment storage
- Operations staff office
- Mechanical/electrical space room and janitor's closet
- Power and lighting
- Parking as needed and possible partners spaces (contingent on partner interest).

Recreation and Play Activities: Parks celebrate and promote healthy living

Amenity Areas

Picnic tables are proposed for spectator viewing and passive recreational use around the ball diamonds. Seating is proposed adjacent to 114 Street as a community social gathering area supplementing the natural play area.

Natural Play Area

Two areas with natural play features are proposed, one adjacent to 114 Street and the other on the east side of the ball diamonds. The natural play areas are intended to be unique destination play opportunities that encourage imagination, physical activity, physical literacy, challenge/problem solving through risky play, and a relationship with nature. These are intended to be nature based with primarily natural materials and distinct from nearby traditional playgrounds.

Fitness Stations

The trail network in the park can be used for running/walking/rolling around the park with outdoor fitness stations available along the trails. These are intended to provide physical activity opportunities for residents, school classes and sports team training.

Site Furnishings

Site furnishings include benches, picnic tables, waste receptacles and bike racks. Site furnishings can also be used as an art opportunity for creative sculptural elements. Except for any public art pieces, site furnishing should maintain a consistent style to unify the park and to maintain a City standard with ease of maintenance.

Fencing

The fencing along 114 Street is to be removed and replaced with a vegetated barrier, mostly trees with high branches or low lying shrubs to address CPTED considerations. The trees will discourage unauthorized vehicle access, help to define spaces, and serve as a barrier from the road. The fencing in all other areas of the park is maintained to control access and to keep balls in the park.

Arts, Culture and Celebration Activities: Parks support a diverse, creative city with a rich and vibrant arts and cultural community

Public Art Opportunities

One percent of City capital project costs are allocated to public art. Three key potential locations are identified in the park:

- The southeast corner of the Confederation Leisure Centre and Arena
- Near the northeast park pedestrian entrance off 111 Street and Whitemud Drive
- The main entrance to the artificial turf facility just north of the parking access.

Parks are Environmentally Sustainable: Parks celebrate and promote healthy living

Landscaping

The park is deficient 333 trees. In the concept plan, the proposal is to add 300 trees and 231 shrubs (mix of coniferous and deciduous), which could be adapted during development and detailed design. Where possible, large, mulched planting beds (ornamental trees and shrubs) are proposed to add year-round interest and beauty, to separate and define activity spaces, to increase habitat values, and to reduce maintenance costs. The proposed development does not require the removal of any existing trees.

The vegetated edge that replaces the fencing along 114th Street is low ornamental shrubs and trees. A combination of low shrub vegetation and high branched trees will maintain sight lines into the park for visual surveillance.

Infill planting separating the sports fields and along Whitemud Drive is proposed to provide spectator shade opportunities, noise buffering from the freeway, year-round interest, habitat, and additional shelter for the currently open and exposed park space.

VII. IMPLEMENTATION

This section provides an implementation strategy for consideration. The phasing may be adjusted as required.

Phase 1

The following work is proposed as part of the Neighbourhood Renewal Program in 2019-2020 in association with the installation of a shared-use path along 114 Street:

- Removal of fence along 114 Street and replacement with a vegetated edge
- Landscape planting of trees and shrubs (10% of park total)

Phase 2

- Renewal and reconfiguration of combo field #2 and #4, including sod re-establishment, new goal posts, and irrigation system refurbishment
- Reconfiguration of basketball courts including shifting courts west, renewing retained base sections, resurfacing, addition of ball hockey fixtures, addition of lighting and renewal of fencing and basketball posts
- Reconfiguration of tennis courts including shifting courts west, renewing retained base sections, resurfacing, addition of pickleball lines on two courts and lighting.
- Addition of north primary trail, including planting, seating and lighting
- One new park identification sign

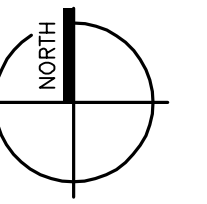
Phase 3:

- Reconfiguration and renewal of the running track and jump pit
- Reconfiguration and renewal of combo field #1 including topsoil, sod, new goal posts, and refurbishment of the irrigation system
- Reconfiguration and renewal of soccer field #5 including topsoil, sod and new goal posts
- New fitness pods (4), including concrete curbing, rubber surfacing and equipment (10 elements)

- New natural play element
- Site furnishings, including picnic tables, benches, and concrete seating
- Planting beds with trees and shrubs (45% of park total)
- One relocated park identification sign
- New trail connections

Phase 4

- New natural play element
- Fitness pods (3), including concrete curbing, rubber surfacing and equipment (6 elements)
- Site furnishings, including picnic tables, benches, and concrete seating
- New trail connections
- Landscape planting of trees and shrubs (45% of park total)
- Potential artificial turf facility
- As required based on parking studies and in association with capital facility development: Parking expansion and reconfiguration.



NATURAL TURF FIELDS TO REMAIN UNTIL ARTIFICIAL TURF FIELD DEVELOPMENT

LEGEND

- PHASE 1
- PHASE 2
- PHASE 3
- PHASE 4