

Parks & Open Space Master Plan

Public Open House - February 15, 2018



Community Workshop

Agenda

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Presentation | 6:00 – 6:30pm |
| 2. Roundtable Discussions | 6:30 – 7:45pm |
| a) Strengths, Opportunities | |
| b) Issues, Concerns, Gaps | |
| c) Vision, Ideas and Priorities | |
| 3. Summary & Next Steps | 7:45 – 8:00pm |
| 4. Adjournment | 8:00pm |

Fort Erie Parks and Open Space System



Parks (34) 140 ha / 300 ac.



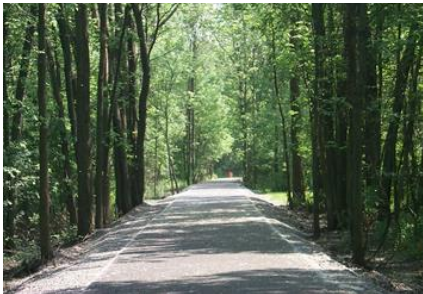
Sports Fields (28)



Playgrounds (16)



Water Play (4)



Recreation Trails (45km)



Water Access (26)



Natural Areas



Multi-Use Courts
& Tennis Courts



Dog Park



Skate Park

Also:

- Outdoor Pool
- Monuments
- Pavilions / Gazebos
- Other park features

Recap of 2006 Parks & Open Space Master Plan



Long-range
Budgeting

Skatepark



Sports Field Improvements



Ridgeway Village Square



Multi-use Courts



Stevensville Memorial Park

[illegible]

5

Master Plan Overview

Purpose / Objectives

- ❖ **Update to 2006 Master Plan**
- ❖ **Review Current Parks and Outdoor Recreation Assets**
 - Inventory and needs assessment to support future direction of recreation, parks, outdoor recreation facilities and trails
 - Strategies for managing existing and new assets
- ❖ **Plan for Change**
 - Significant population growth and change, tourism/visitors
 - Prepare for parks and recreation trends and needs
 - Align with Official Plan, Secondary Plans, Waterfront Strategy

Master Plan Overview

Purpose / Objectives

❖ **Plan for Parks and Outdoor Recreation Facilities and Services**

- Future parks, outdoor recreation facility needs
- Update recreational trails plan, integration with Active Transportation planning
- Natural areas management
- Trends analysis

❖ **Plan for Service Delivery, Implementation and Monitoring**

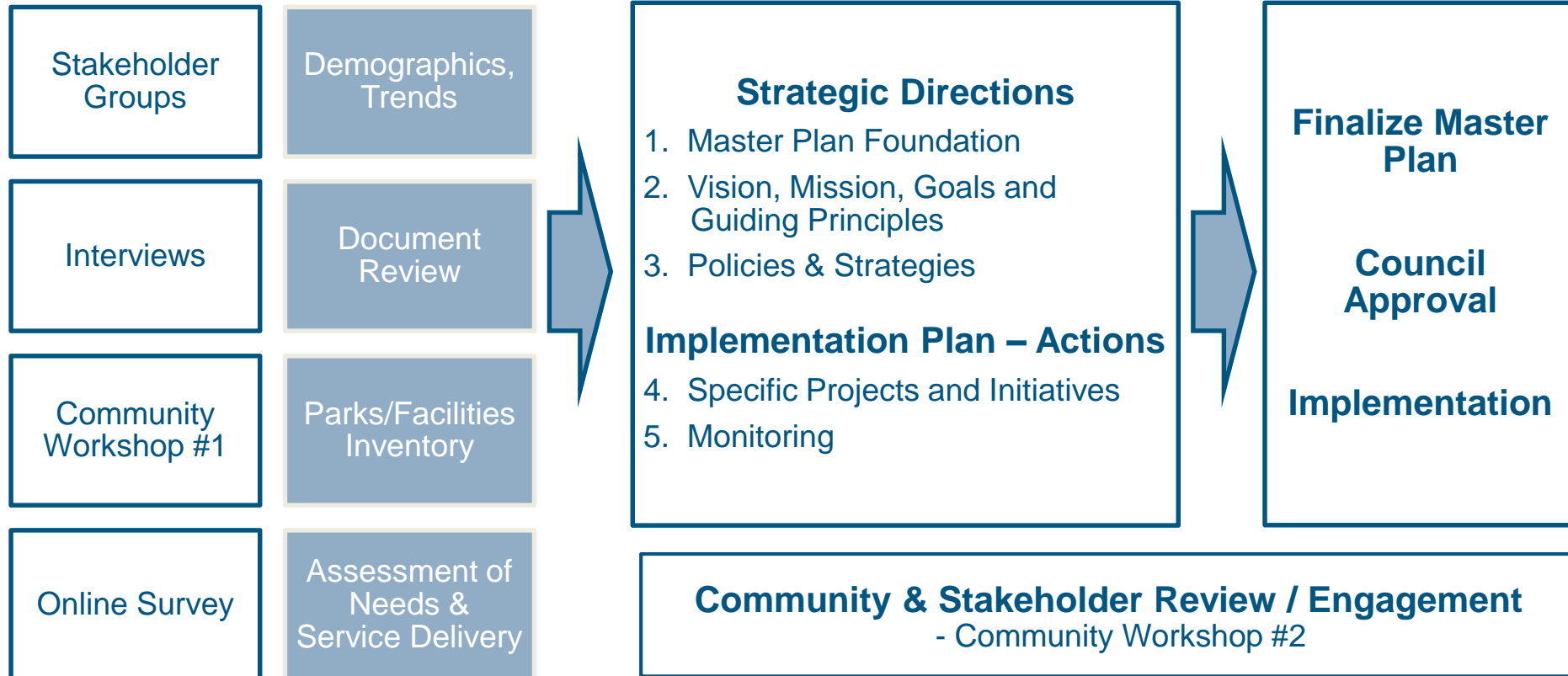
- Partnership opportunities
- 10-year action plan, timing, priorities and resources
- Evaluate and measure performance, tracking progress
- Asset management

Work Plan & Consultation

PHASE 1: BACKGROUND STUDY

PHASE 2: DRAFT MASTER PLAN

PHASE 3: FINAL MASTER PLAN



Trends and Changes

Demographics and Planning for Growth

- ❖ **2016 Census Population:** 30,710
- ❖ **Niagara 2041 Forecast Population:**
 - 37,780 (2031) ➡ 41,220 (2036) ➡ 43,940 (2041)
- ❖ **Aging population**
- ❖ **Cultural diversity**
- ❖ **Urban focus, intensification, transit supportive**
- ❖ **Accessibility and active transportation**
- ❖ **Fair and balanced service delivery**

Trends and Changes

Parks and Recreation



Trends and Changes

Parks and Recreation



What We Heard...

"Town has been undermarketed"

"Pickleball courts"

"Dog Park in Ridgeway / Crystal Beach please."

"Games and chess tables"

"Town parks offer diversity of experiences"

"Programs and activities for seniors"

"Provide smaller opportunities for skateboarding and extreme sports, spread out to more parks"

"Playgrounds are well-maintained and up to date"

Emerging Themes

❖ Parks:

- Update policies, strategies and guidelines
- Range of activities and facilities, active and passive, year-round, multi-use, multi-generational

❖ Waterfront:

- Implement recommendations of 2017 Waterfront Strategy

❖ Trails:

- Enhance the trails network (e.g. former rail corridor, unopened road allowances), active transportation
- Trail classifications and standards, accessibility, motorized and non-motorized uses

Emerging Themes

❖ Natural Areas:

- Plan for continued acquisition, linkages and corridors
- Balanced recreational opportunities with conservation, management

❖ Engagement:

- Community involvement, volunteer support, stewardship, partnerships

❖ Tourism:

- Promotion, marketing of parks, events and activities, multi-day overnight opportunities, parks as destinations
- Develop supporting facilities for events and high-use areas, sport tournaments, cycling routes, etc.

Roundtable Discussions



❖ At each table...

- Introduce yourselves
- Designate a group representative
- Discuss each question for approx. 15 minutes
- Write key points for each question on large note pad
- When the page is full, post it on the wall

❖ Report back / group summaries

Discussion Question #1

Thinking of the parks and open space system in Fort Erie:

- 1) What are the current strengths and opportunities of the parks and open space system?

Discussion Question #2

Thinking of the parks and open space system in Fort Erie:

- 2) What are your concerns, gaps and areas for improvement?

Discussion Question #3

Thinking of the parks and open space system in Fort Erie:

- 3) What is your vision for the future of the Town's parks and open space system, and what should be the key priorities for the next 10 years?

Summary



Next Steps & Wrap-Up

- ❖ **Background Study** – consultation, research summary and results, themes
- ❖ **Draft Master Plan** – vision, recommended strategies
- ❖ **Implementation Plan** – projects, resources, actions
- ❖ **Community Input / Feedback** – workshop #2 – June 2018
- ❖ **Final Master Plan** – Summer 2018
- ❖ **Council Presentation** – Summer 2018

Thank You.

Online Survey:
www.forterie.ca/parksandopenspacemasterplan

Contact information:

Signe Hansen OALA, CSLA, MBA
Manager of Community Planning
Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie
905-871-1600 ext 2506
SHansen@forterie.ca

Steve Wever, MCIP, RPP
Associate – Senior Planner
GSP Group Inc.
(519) 569-8883
swever@gspgroup.ca

Hugh Handy, MCIP, RPP
Senior Associate
GSP Group Inc.
(519) 569-8883
hhandy@gspgroup.ca