



PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE

MASTER PLAN

2019

Parks & Forestry
Services

FINAL REPORT

July 8, 2019



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Executive Summary

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan is a tool used to guide the overarching direction of the department, in alignment with the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP 2018) for the five year period of 2018-2022.

This plan explores current service levels and identified future needs for all departmental divisions and operations including Parks & Forestry, Facilities and Community Services (Recreation, Culture, Community Engagement and Environmental Stewardship).

Staff used the 2013 Master Plan Update as a baseline for evaluating where we are today and where we need to go, incorporating community and stakeholder feedback collected through a variety of mediums.

This update utilized a number of consultation initiatives to inform its assessments and recommendations, including:

- Surveys at recreational facilities
- Online Resident Survey;
- Staff Consultation;
- Interviews with Key Informants;
- Focus Groups with community stakeholders;
- Secondary and Elementary School Engagement; and
- Public Open Houses

While the previous plan indicated its outlook extended to 2023, it did indicate the need to re-examine the recommendations and forecast at the five year term.

Additional variables have also factored into the decision to begin a re-evaluation of the existing plan, most noticeably the change in the Township's population size and demographics.

While each departmental division of the plan will be created separately, it will link all of them together through one shared vision.

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Department's Vision Statement is as follows:

“The Parks, Recreation & Culture Department inspires people to engage in physical activity, culture, recreation and the natural environment.”

Planning Context

The municipality is experiencing significant growth, which brings with it both opportunities and challenges when providing adequate service levels within our communities. Balancing expectations and ensuring both new and existing residents' needs are met, where feasible, will continue to be the challenge for the Township over the next five years. Facility and park projects will need to blend rejuvenation projects with new construction to truly meet the desired outcomes of the community.

To ensure any increases to service delivery were properly evaluated, a simple analytical context was applied – what services do we need? What services do we want? And what services can we afford?

Community Consultations were used to determine the needs and wants for the residents of King Township. These consultation tools included online and hard copy surveys, meetings with key stakeholders (community groups, Township committees, Council), visits to classrooms in schools across the municipality, parent council meetings and three public meetings. Over 1000 individual pieces of feedback were received.

Online Survey

The survey was posted online for four months (November 2017-February 2018) and made available through the Township website. There were over 700 individual responses received.

Stakeholder Meetings

Throughout the process staff met with a number of interested parties including:

- King Township Minor Hockey
- The King City, Nobleton and Schomberg Skating Clubs
- The King City and Nobleton Tennis Clubs
- Aurora King Baseball Association
- Queens of King Baseball
- King United Soccer
- Kleinberg Nobleton Soccer Club
- King Curling Club
- Lions Organizations

Interviews

Staff conducted interviews with members of Council, staff and governing agencies (Region, Conservation Authorities) as part of the process.

School Engagement

Staff attended a number of schools and parent Council meetings to understand program needs from the perspective of both the children and parents. Students submitted drawings of their desired amenities and part of the process. The results can be found throughout the document.

Using the feedback results, staff analyzed the identified wants comparative to *current service levels/usage*, where applicable. For example, where there was a high indication for an increase in the number of soccer fields available, an analysis of current usage of fields was undertaken to validate the need.

Understanding that while the municipality is experiencing significant growth, there will be a limit to the amount of development and an *understanding of the operating costs* and potential impact to the tax requirement which need to be factored in.

Provincial Trends

Staff considered several provincial initiatives including:

- **Community Hubs in Ontario: A strategic framework and action plan**
- **Ontario Support for the Framework of Recreation in Canada**
- **The Benefits of Recreation, Parks and Recreation Ontario**
- **Game ON – The Ontario Government’s Sport Plan**

While the benefits of recreation continue to be an overarching theme to parks, recreation and cultural services in King, newer trends like community hubs and accessible programming will need to be strongly considered in the coming years.

Community Hubs

King is a predominantly commuter community with most residents venturing elsewhere for employment resulting in a limited amount of time for recreational activities. This can be a major barrier in accessing recreational services. Developing community hubs where individuals, families and multiple age demographics can all access recreation and leisure services in one facility will be a



vital part of ensuring our residents are staying active and healthy while enjoying the social benefit of interacting with others.

For reference, a community hub is defined as the following:

“Community hubs provide a central access point for a range of needed health and social services, along with cultural, recreational and green spaces to nourish community life. A community hub can be a school, a neighbourhood centre, an early learning centre, a library, an elderly persons centre, a community health centre, an old government building, a place of worship or another public space. Whether virtual or located in a physical building, whether located in a high-density urban neighbourhood or an isolated rural community, each hub is as unique as the community it serves and is defined by local needs, services and resources.

When people think of community hubs, they think of places where people come together to get services, meet one another and plan together. We’ve heard that community hubs are gathering places that help communities live, build and grow together. No community hub is like another, as each brings together a variety of different services, programs and/or social and cultural activities to reflect local community needs. It is this diversity of activity that allows community hubs to play a critical role in building economic and social cohesion in the community.”

In addition to the above mentioned benefits listed as part of the provincial framework, there are further benefits to developing community hubs from a municipal perspective including efficiencies in staffing opportunities and property and facility maintenance.

Equality & Access in Recreation

Other major influencer on services in King over the next five years will be diversified needs and participation of currently underrepresented and serviced populations. These considerations may include, but are not limited to:

- *Youth and seniors* continues to be a fringe area of programming however headway has been made through the Mayor’s Youth Action Team (MYAT) and the development of a planned expanded seniors centre.
- Focus must also shift to put emphasis on gender equality in programming with support for access of *women and girls* in sports, recognizing that this not only a Township initiative but a community one as well.
- Accessibility will continue to be a major consideration in the design and construction of new and renovation of existing facilities as the deadline for conversion of facilities draws closer in 2025. Accessibility must also transfer into parks and programming and although progress has been made – King installed its first accessible playground in 2016 and recently received a grant for accessible programming for over \$100,000 – continued

efforts will be required. *Persons with disabilities* must be able to participate in the same services as everyone else, should they chose to do so.

- *Newcomers to Canada* frequently cite organized sport as a vehicle for their integration and inclusion into their new communities, but can often face challenges due to unfamiliarity. The need for inclusion/welcome programs along with potential for varying facilities will need to be addressed.

Using these tools, information and outlook, staff formed the recommendations of the 2018 Master Plan Update.

Timelines

For the context of this report, the following timelines will apply;

- Short term, 1-3 years
- Mid- Term, 4-7 years
- Long Term 8+ years

Current Context

The Township engaged the Environics Institute to compile statistically significant data for the municipality. The following information is provided based upon reports generated using statistics from DemoStats 2018. The reports were broken down into four major catchment areas – King City, Nobleton, Schomberg and Rural – based upon the urban boundaries of the three major communities.

Population

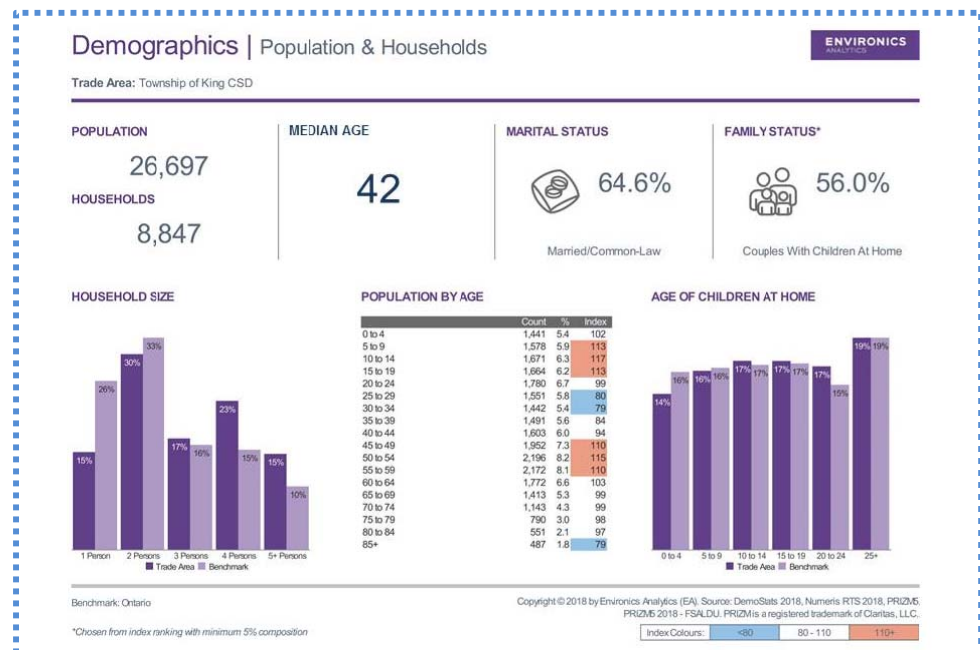
King Township is home to 26,697 residents – a growth of almost 6,800 since 2011 - spread across three major communities, a number of hamlet settlement areas and a large geographic rural area.

As projections predict continued population growth for the coming years, the Township must be ready to accommodate a more diverse offering of facilities, in addition to challenges in parks and recreational/cultural services. Current forecasting shows an increase in of 11,203 residents by 2041 according to York Region’s Preferred Growth Scenario.

In addition to sheer numbers, and although not yet reflected in census data, staff have seen a shift in the diversity of our residents within the new residential areas. This will require further consideration when planning various amenities and programs offered by the Township.

The four major population centres further break down as follows:

- King City – Population 7,721 within 2,533 dwellings
- Nobleton – Population 4,826 within 1,496 dwellings
- Schomberg – Population 1,370 within 534 dwellings
- Rural – Population 12,780 within 4,284 dwellings



Age Demographics

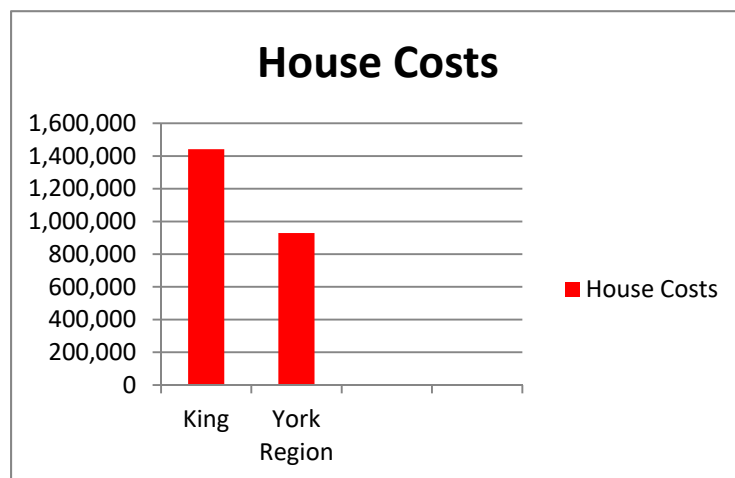
The Township has a median age of 42.4, just slightly lower than the 42.9 indicated in the 2013 Master Plan.

The following provides details of the four major population centres:

- King City – median age of 41, a decrease of two years compared to 2013 reporting, with over 59% of households showing children currently living at home. King City shows a very blended model of children with equal composition across the various age groups (0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-19)
- Nobleton – median age of 35.9, a decrease of more than five years comparative to 2013 data, Nobleton has the highest percentage of households with children at home with 64%. Modeling also indicates that Nobleton houses a younger aged family unit with higher averages in the 5-9 and 10-14 categories.
- Schomberg – median age of 46, this is a significant increase from the 2013 data however, this could be reflective of smaller catchment areas with Lloydtown and Pottageville being included in the evaluation of Schomberg in the previous master plan. In this iteration, they are solely within the rural section. Modeling also indicates that Schomberg consists of youth aged family demographics with higher averages in the 10-14 and 15-19 categories with the lowest percentage of children living at home at 41%.
- Rural – median age of 46, this area was not specifically identified with a median age in the 2013 plan however it was noted that the rural areas feature the highest percentage of King's population over 55, a trend that has not changed. The rural areas have an average of 53% of households with children at home and boast higher numbers in the older categories similar to Schomberg.

Employment Income

The median household income for King Township is approximately \$201,000 with individual averages around \$81,000. Despite higher incomes than the York Region average, we must also take into consideration that the cost of living in King is higher than that of our neighbouring municipalities.



*Trebnet May 2018

King City continues to show higher prices for house costs compared to Nobleton and Schomberg showing the lowest of the village areas.

Despite a significantly lower percentage of population comparative to York Region, affordability comparative to cost of living must be kept top of mind when considering access to recreation and leisure services in King.

What Are We Trying To Get Out Of The Parks & Forestry Services Component of the 2018/2019 Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan

This Parks & Forestry Plan will identify recommendations and action items based on the following:

- Current service levels
- Current requirements and service gaps
- Opportunities for changes to existing service levels
- Future requirements

What Parks Are We Talking About

The department operates a wide variety of parks facilities; categorized as Township, Community, Neighbourhood and Parkettes. This categorization system is used to define the types of services and amenities each park features.

The categories are defined as follows:

Township

Service Target:

1.7 acres
per 1,000 residents

Ideal Size:

Variable
(while Township Parks are the largest of the categorized parks, their size is reflective of program needs)

Primary Service Area:

Entire Township &
Beyond

Function:

Township Parks should serve residents throughout the entire municipality and attract visitors from beyond the municipal boundaries, by concentrating a wide range and intensity of uses from sports & recreation, arts & culture, and/or ecology. Township Parks are generally considered to be accessed by vehicular use.

Program:

Township Parks features and/or facilities that are intended to accommodate the highest intensity of recreational use, such as sports tournaments, festivals, concert events and other large gatherings. They may include major indoor and/or outdoor sports facilities, event space, pavilions and field houses, universally accessible playgrounds, water play features, specialty facilities such as skateboard or mountain bike parks, picnic areas, historic or cultural features, arts facilities, horticultural attractions or natural areas, as well as ancillary facilities such as washrooms and concession stands. Township Park features are determined on a case by case basis.

Community

Service Target:

3.7 acres
per 1,000 residents

Ideal Size:

7.5 to 25.0 acres

Primary Service Area:

Village/Hamlet Based

Function:

Community Parks serve the recreational needs of individual communities (e.g. King City, Nobleton, Schomberg, Kettleby, Pottageville, etc.) as walk/bike-to or drive-to based parks. They may also serve as community focal areas, highlighting characteristics that distinguish the local community from other areas of the Township, and/or as focal points for ecological regeneration.

Program:

Community Parks accommodate a variety of active and passive recreational and cultural opportunities suitable for all age groups, ranging from organized/permitted major or minor outdoor sports facilities (ex. soccer, baseball, tennis, pickleball), formal playgrounds, skateboard facilities and water play features to unstructured green space and natural areas. Grouping of multiple similar type athletic facilities (e.g. natural or artificial turf sports fields) are typically suitable within Community Parks. Lit sports fields may also be provided so long as any adverse impacts on adjacent residential or natural heritage lands are minimal. The type, number and scale of facilities provided within these parks is determined on a case-by-case basis.

Neighbourhood

Service Target:

2.0 acres
per 1,000 residents

Ideal Size:

2.5 to 7.5 acres

Primary Service Area:

800 metres (0.8km)

Function:

Neighbourhood Parks are primarily walk/bike-to parks, catering to the recreational needs of residents living within their general vicinity. They may serve as gathering points for residents living in close proximity of the park for unstructured and certain structured activities.

Program:

Neighbourhood Parks are intended for unorganized, spontaneous leisure activities, along with a limited number of organized facilities. They may accommodate a mixture of low to intermediate-level sports facilities (including a maximum of one unlit junior or intermediate sports field), informal and formal playgrounds, unstructured open space and natural areas. The type, number and scale of facilities provided within these parks is determined on a case-by-case basis.

Parkettes

Service Target:

Not applicable (based upon opportunity)

Ideal Size:

0.5 to 1 acre

Primary Service Area:

Not applicable

Function:

Parkettes are smaller specialized parks that are only suitable within the Township's higher density urban areas or within underserved areas where the acquisition of larger parks is not possible. Although the Township has created parkettes in the past, this practice should be discouraged unless in circumstances previously described. Parkettes may contain a greater degree of hardscaped elements or built features than other parks, though these parks may be designed, where feasible, to accommodate certain functions of other park typologies (e.g. acting as destination parks, recreational or cultural hubs, etc.).

Program:

Parkettes are intended to serve as interesting public spaces for unorganized, spontaneous and passive social gathering that should emphasize opportunities for provision of public art and cultural expression. They are intended to supplement the recreation needs of high density neighbourhoods and ensure walk-to access to parkland and may include unique structures, seating areas, and unstructured green space.

The Township should generally avoid acceptance of parkettes, or any parkland less than 2.5 acres in size as it limits the ability to program the space for active use.



Park Listings

Township Parks	Indoor Facilities	Trails	Mountain Biking	Climbing Wall/ Challenge Course	Parking	Pavilion/ Shade Structure			
Cold Creek Conservation Area	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Centennial Park		x	x		x	x			
Community Parks	Playground	Trails	Baseball Diamond	Basketball Court	Soccer Field	Splashpad	Pavilion/ Shade Structure	Tennis Court	Skate Park
Tasca Park	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Nobleton Lions Community Park	x		x	x	x		x	x	
Memorial Park	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Osin Lions Park	x				x				
Ansnoeveldt Park	x		x		x				
Pottageville Community Park	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Neighbourhood Parks	Playground	Trails	Shade Structure	Basketball Court	Soccer Field				
Salamander Park	x	x	x	x					
Kettle Lake Park	x	x	x	x					
Rafferty's Corners Park	x		x						
St. Andrew's Park	x	x							
Wellesley Park						x			
Blue Heron Park	x	x	x						
Mary Lake Park	x	x	x						
Laskay Park	x		x						
Davis Park	x	x				x			
Dean Plumber Park	x	x	x						
Fox Trail Park	x	x							
Hickstead* Memorial Park	x	x	x	x					

Schomberg Lions Play Park	x								
Neiuwland Park	x								

* Hickstead Memorial Park includes a splashpad despite being categorized as a neighbourhood park because Osin Lion’s Park is located within a flood plain and cannot accommodate this type of feature.

The Township also has a number of passive parks and parkettes throughout various villages and hamlets including:

<i>Doris Patton Park</i>	<i>King Road and Keele Street (Unnamed)</i>	<i>Cherry Park</i>
<i>Clifton Graham Parkette</i>	<i>Tyrwhitt Park</i>	<i>Jessie Lloyd Park</i>

Design Criteria

All Parks should feature adequate street frontage for visibility and safety and be linked to the overall parks/green space system. They should include best management practices for environmental sustainability; accessibility standards; and CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles. These parks may abut or provide linkages to trails and to other municipal assets such as stormwater management facilities to form contiguous green space parcels and provide opportunities for pedestrian activity.

Township and Community Parks should have adequate parking and direct access to an arterial or collector road and public transportation.

Where sports facilities are allocated, the park should have sufficient well-draining table land and an appropriate configuration for facility accommodation.



Current Service Levels – Parks & Trails

Currently the Township is serviced by 26 parks across the various categories. In addition there are several parks planned as part of upcoming development.

In total, the current land allocation for active park spaces is 272 acres – up from 246 in 2013, with an additional 37 acres to come through identified sites in currently planned/identified development applications. This does not include passive parkland, open spaces, environmental land, trail systems or woodlots.

The supply of parkland equates to a current service level of 10.98 acres/1000 residents.

Clarification	Number of Parks	Current Supply (ac)	Current Service Level
Township	2	142.8	5.34 ac/1,000
Community	6	95.53	3.57 ac/1,000
Neighbourhood	14	31.73	1.17 ac/1,000
Parkette	6	2.38	0.9 ac/1,000
Total	28	272.44	10.98 ac/1,000

Notes: Service Level is based on a current population of 26,697. Current Supply does not include passive spaces.

The process of tracking and measuring parkland in acres per 1,000 residents is a useful tool allowing us to understand our current service standards, our requirements moving forward and to measure our parkland established as part of growth. It can also assist when comparing parkland to other municipalities however, it should be cautioned that this exercise is not always a true comparison as all municipalities have different needs (i.e. more community parks vs. neighbourhood parks) depending on the types of amenities the community needs (i.e. playgrounds vs. sports fields).

Park service levels were established for each category of parkland (excluding Passive Open Space and Parkettes) as indicated in the *2013 Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan*. These service levels are generally based upon historical service levels in King Township:

Neighbourhood Parks	1.2 ac per 1,000
Community Parks	3.7 ac per 1,000
Township Parks	2.5 ac per 1,000
TOTAL PARKS*	7.4 ac per 1,000

**excluding Passive Open Space & Parkettes*

These services levels allow the Township to determine overall needs for both the quantity and types of parks as development continues to occur. It should be noted that this is only a guideline for establishing a benchmark for overall municipal needs and should not be used in determining parkland yield through the development application process.

Based upon the current supply, the Township is in fair shape with an excess in Township Park requirements and minor shortfalls in Community and Neighbourhood Parks.

Trails

The Township currently oversees 66.5 kilometres of trails in municipal or conservation authority ownership – up from 55 kilometres in 2013. Over the course of this plan it is anticipated there will be approximately an additional 13 kilometres of trails added.

In addition to these residents have access to extensive otherwise owned and operated trails systems (Joker’s Hill, Oak Ridges Trail, Cycling Infrastructure, Happy Valley Trails, etc.).

Types of Amenities and Usage

While park usage overall cannot be calculated as it is predominately open space, usage trends for specific amenities are vital in evaluating future needs.

Areas include baseball diamonds, soccer fields, tennis courts and any other programmable facilities.

For the purposes of planning and analysis, active park amenities with lights shall be counted at a 150% capacity (ex. Lit baseball diamond equals 1.5 baseball diamonds for capacity needs). Based upon this calculation, the following service levels of municipally owned facilities apply:

Amenities	Number	2018 Usage	2017 Usage	2016 Usage
Playgrounds – King City	7			
Splashpad – King City	1			
Basketball Courts – King City	2.5			
Outdoor Rink – King City	1.5			
Skatepark	1.5			
Soccer (Major) – King City	1	83 Hours	114 Hours	70 Hours
Soccer (Intermediate) – King City	2	200 Hours	155 Hours	208 Hours
Soccer (Minor/Mini) – King City	2	270 Hours**	257 Hours	490 Hours
Baseball (Hardball) – King City	1.5	373 Hours	263 Hours	509 Hours

Baseball (Softball) – King City	1	259 Hours	120 Hours	162 Hours
Tennis (Private) – King City	3	N/A – Exclusive Use		
Tennis (Public) – King City	2	230 Hours	119 Hours	234 Hours
Playgrounds – Nobleton	4			
Splashpad – Nobleton	1			
Basketball Courts – Nobleton	2.5			
Outdoor Rink – Nobleton	1.5			
Skatepark	1			
Soccer (Major) – Nobleton	1	82 Hours	111 Hours	82 Hours
Soccer (Minor/Mini) – Nobleton	5	234 Hours	214 Hours	288 Hours
Baseball (Hardball) – Nobleton	1.5	810 Hours	710 Hours	538 Hours
Baseball (Softball) – Nobleton	1.5	483 Hours	434 Hours	401 Hours
Baseball (Junior) – Nobleton	1	38 Hours	100 Hours	131 Hours
Tennis (Private) – Nobleton	3	N/A – Exclusive Use		
Tennis (Public) – Nobleton	3	147 Hours	207 Hours	176 Hours
Playgrounds – Schomberg	5			
Splashpad – Schomberg	1			
Basketball Court – Schomberg	0.5			
Soccer (Major) – Schomberg	1	90 Hours	54 Hours	119 Hours
Soccer (Intermediate) – Schomberg	1	82 Hours	33 Hours	89 Hours
Baseball (Softball) – Schomberg	0.5 **	19 Hours	17 Hours	10 Hours

Tennis (Public) – Schomberg	2	N/A – No Tennis Association		
Playgrounds – Pottageville	1			
Basketball Courts – Pottageville	1			
Soccer (Minor/Mini) – Pottageville	3	14 Hours	45 Hours	189 Hours
Baseball (Softball) – Pottageville	1.5	137 Hours	125 Hours	159 Hours
Tennis (Public) – Pottageville	3	78 Hours	100 Hours	84 Hours
Playground – Ansnorveldt	1			
Baseball (Softball) – Ansnorveldt	1.5	311 Hours	251 Hours	322 Hours
Playground – Laskay	1			

Service Level Summary (Municipally Owned & Operated)	
Playgrounds	19
Splashpads	3
Basketball Courts	6.5
Skateboard Parks	2.5
Outdoor Rinks	3
Soccer (Major)	3
Soccer (Intermediate)	4
Soccer (Minor/Mini)	10
Baseball (Hardball)	3
Baseball (Softball)	6
Baseball (Junior)	1
Tennis (Private)	6
Tennis (Public)	10

Additionally, the Township and user groups, through reciprocal or private use agreements, have access to additional soccer fields. These include:

Service Level Summary (Non-Municipally Owned) *	
Soccer (Major)	2
Soccer (Intermediate)	4
Soccer (Minor/Mini)	2

* Note: King Township organizations used these facilities for an additional 519 hours in 2018

While these additional facilities for users by residents and user groups work well as overflow, there are issues associated with using them when establishing and maintaining a municipal standard. These include, but are not limited to:

- Contingent on annual agreements which are subject to cancellation
- Inability to control field maintenance to levels established at the municipal level
- Inability to make capital improvements
- Inability to control cancellations

As such non-municipally owned fields are not considered when establishing and comparing the municipal standard.

Schools throughout King also have additional playgrounds or basketball courts that, while not formalized through agreements, are used by residents on a regular basis.

Capacity

If consideration is given to setting a prime time use similar to indoor facilities, an evaluation can be done to determine both capacity and in turn, usage statistics for outdoor amenities.

For the purposes of establishing a standard, the following time of use allocations shall be used. Seasons are determined by multiplying the weekly hours by four months, or 17 weeks.

Soccer – as all municipal fields are non-lit fields, usage is only available from 5:00pm to 8:30pm Monday to Friday and 8:00am to 8:30pm on weekends. Soccer fields located on York Region District School Board Property are subject to the requirement for two days of rest per week. For the purposes of this calculation rest days shall be defined as one evening and one weekend day.

The weekly allotment for prime time hours for Soccer is 26.5, or 450 hours per season.

Baseball – With a mix of fields that are both *lit and non-lit*, different standards are required. For *lit fields* usage is defined as Monday to Friday from 5:00pm to 11:00pm and 8:00am to 11:00pm on weekend days.

Non-lit field usage is only available from 5:00pm to 8:30pm Monday to Friday and 8:00am to 8:30pm on weekend days.

The weekly allotment for prime time hours on *lit fields* is 55, or 935 hours per season while the weekly prime time hours for *non-lit fields* is 42.5, or 722 per season.

Tennis – Tennis scheduling and usage is drastically different than other sports within the municipality in that it sees a significant amount of day usage. For *lit* tennis courts prime time is defined as 8:00am to 11pm, seven days per week.

The weekly allotment for prime time hours is 105, or 1785 per season.

Schomberg Tennis is the only *non-lit* tennis court and is not currently used for any organized activities.



Current Amenity Condition

Below is a brief summary of the information presenting current conditions of various amenities located in our parks and potential remediation action. This section applies only to Municipal assets.

King City

Baseball

Both diamonds have been recently reconstructed (2016-2018) and are in no need of further remediation for the foreseeable future.

Soccer

Most soccer fields are in fair to excellent condition. The fields associated with the former Eva L. Dennis Public School could be candidates for remediation should the board declare the property surplus and the Township be interested in acquisition.

Tennis

The four tennis courts were reconstructed in 2008 and will require resurfacing in the short to medium term. At the time of resurfacing all fencing and poles should also be replaced.

Lighting will also need to be replaced in the medium to long term.

Playgrounds/Splashpads

Of the seven playgrounds in King City, six are newly constructed or have been replaced within the last five years with the exception of the playground at St. Andrew's Park being the lone remaining original structure. This playground will need to be replaced within the next five years and ultimately expanded in alignment with intensification along Keele Street.

The splashpad was constructed in 2017 and should not need significant maintenance for 10 to 15 years.

Other Amenities – Basketball, Outdoor Rink, Skatepark

All amenities have been constructed within the last five years and should not require significant remediation for at least five more years.

Nobleton

Baseball

Two of the three diamonds have been recently reconstructed (2015-2019) and are in no need of further remediation for the foreseeable future. The third diamond has a partial reconstruction scheduled for fall 2018. Future replacement of outfield fencing and replacement of the lighting system will be required in the short to medium term.

Soccer

Most soccer fields are in fair to good condition. The field associated with the former Nobleton Junior Public School could be a candidate for remediation and lighting should the municipality acquire the vacant property.

Tennis

The four tennis courts were reconstructed in 2017 and should not require resurfacing within the next 10 years. Fencing and lighting replacement will be required in the short term.

Playgrounds/Splashpads

All of the four playgrounds in village of Nobleton are newly constructed or have been replaced in the last five years. No immediate action is required.

The splashpad was constructed in 2016 and should not need significant maintenance for 10 to 15 years.

Other Amenities – Basketball, Outdoor Rink, Skatepark

One of the basketball courts (Tasca Park) and the skatepark were constructed in 2016 and should not require significant remediation for at least 10 more years.

The Outdoor Rink/Basketball Court in the Nobleton Lions Community Park was constructed in 2007 and is beginning to heave and show significant wear and tear. Reconstruction may be required within the short to medium term.

Schomberg

Baseball

The only baseball diamond in Schomberg is sub-standard and is rarely used as a result. It is located in Osin Lion's Park which is part of a flood plain creating significant maintenance issues.

An alternative location should be explored for the construction of a new baseball diamond to ensure this service level is maintained in Schomberg.

Soccer

Both soccer fields are in good to excellent condition.

Tennis

The two tennis courts had minor resurfacing in 2017 and will require resurfacing within the short to medium term.

Playgrounds/Splashpads

Of the five playgrounds in Schomberg, only one is newly constructed or has been replaced in the last five years. Fox Trail and Lions Play Parkette will need replacement within the short term, Nieuwland Park within the medium term and Osin Lion's Park in the long term.

The splashpad was constructed in 2013 and should not need significant maintenance for 10 years.

Other Amenities – Basketball, Outdoor Rink, Skatepark

Schomberg has one half-court basketball facility, constructed in 2013. It does not require remediation in the short term to medium term.

Pottageville

Baseball

The baseball diamond in Pottageville is in need of an upgrade to the infield, fencing and lighting. These works are scheduled to be completed in the 10 year capital, more specifically in the short term.

Soccer

All soccer fields are in fair to good condition and do not require restoration in the short term to medium term.

Tennis

The two tennis courts were reconstructed in 2006 and will require a full re-build including surfacing, fencing and lights in the short term.

Playgrounds/Splashpads

The playground in Pottageville has been replaced within the last five years.

Other Amenities – Basketball, Outdoor Rink, Skatepark

Pottageville has one full sized basketball court that was constructed in the 1990's. It is beginning to show significant wear and tear and will require remediation in the short term.

Ansnorveldt

Baseball

The baseball diamond in Ansnorveldt has had restoration work and new lighting completed within the last 10 years and should not require significant investments in the short or medium term.

Through a partnership with the local baseball organization, protective netting is being installed in 2018 to stop balls from entering the canal.

Playgrounds/Splashpads

The playground in Ansnorveldt is scheduled for replacement in Spring 2019 with design currently underway.

Laskay

Playgrounds/Splashpads

The playground in Laskay was replaced in the fall of 2018.



Current Staffing Levels

Management and Oversight

The parks division is serviced by a manager and a supervisor. The manager is responsible for the overall operations of the division and capital projects similar to the recently approved facilities services manager.

The supervisor is tasked with ensuring day to day operations are completed, including but not limited to **landscaping, grass cutting, horticulture, streetscaping, garbage removal, sports field maintenance, winter maintenance of municipal parking lots, and special event assistance for both municipal and community events**. The parks division, through the supervisor and manager, also handle **arboriculture services** for the municipality, via a contracted service at this time.

Operations

There are four full time parks operators, two 12 month contract staff, three 8 month contract staff and 11 students (2018 complement).

Based on the current 272 acres, that translates to approximately 1 operational staff per 13.6 acres. The chart below identifies how our staff levels rate compared to similar municipalities in York Region, specifically within the N6.

Municipal Comparison

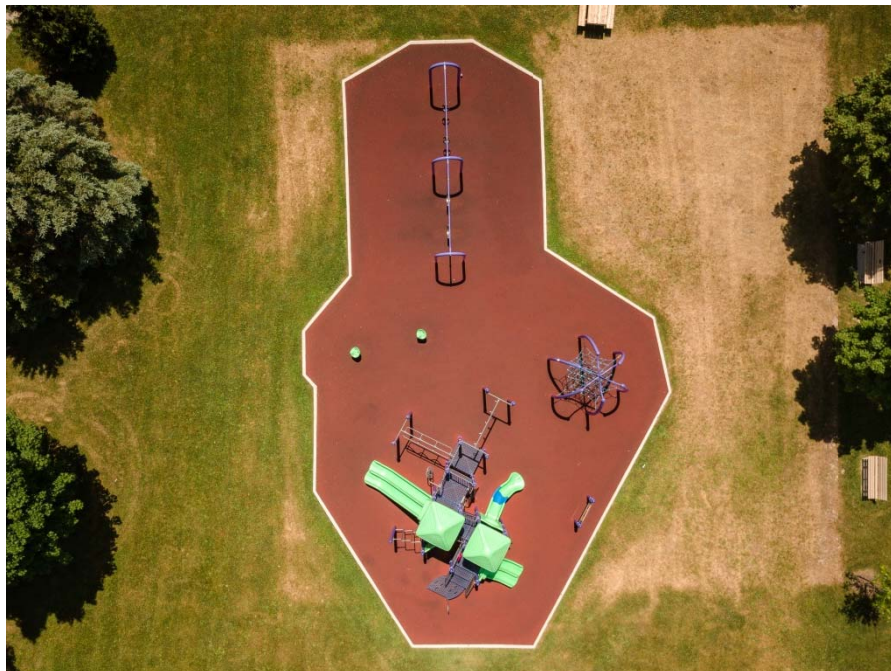
Municipality A	9 operators, 45 seasonal employees	306 acres	6 acres per staff
Municipality B	16 Lead Hands/Operators, ten 12 month contracts, seven 7 month contracts, 38 seasonal employees	800 acres	10 acres per staff
Municipality C	7 operators, seven 8 month contract operators, 12 students	306 acres	11 acres per staff

King is currently operating at a lower staffing level when compared to other similar sized municipalities within the region without consideration for expanded services and future parkland added to the municipalities assets.

Looking ahead

Over the next 10 years the Township will be faced with the challenge of continuing to supply adequate amounts and types of parkland for new and existing residents along with maintaining existing parks at standards residents have come to expect. Factors requiring consideration include, but are not limited to;

- Funding for maintenance and renovating existing parks
- Funding for constructing new parks in new subdivisions
- Renovations to existing parks due to intensification
- Provincial Requirements
 - Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)
 - Place to Grow Act
- Plateaued/Declining Usage
- Increasing Operating Costs
 - Utilities
 - Staffing, combined with impacts of Bill 148, Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act
- Changing municipal demographics
- Changes/additions to current service levels



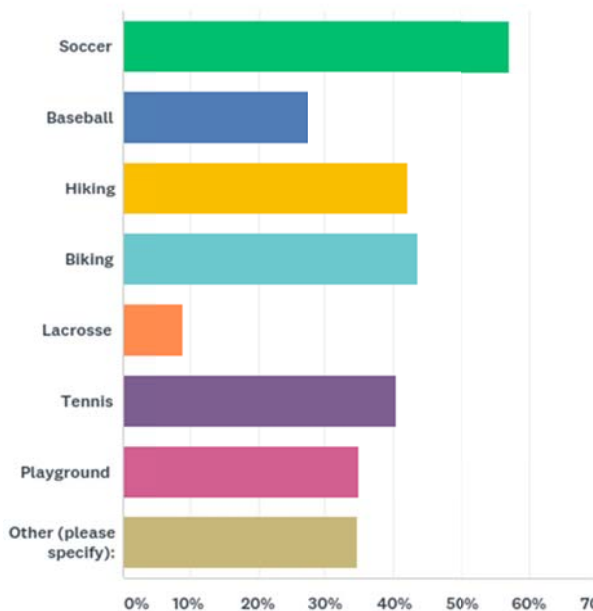
What do we want?

As part of the process for completing the Parks Master Plan, staff conducted a thorough consultation process as identified in the planning context (page 4). The outcome listed many features residents would like to see in outdoor park settings. The data will be useful when examining the overall parks needs for the municipality.

Over 850 people completed the survey while 225 more participated through other means (focus groups, open houses, student engagement).

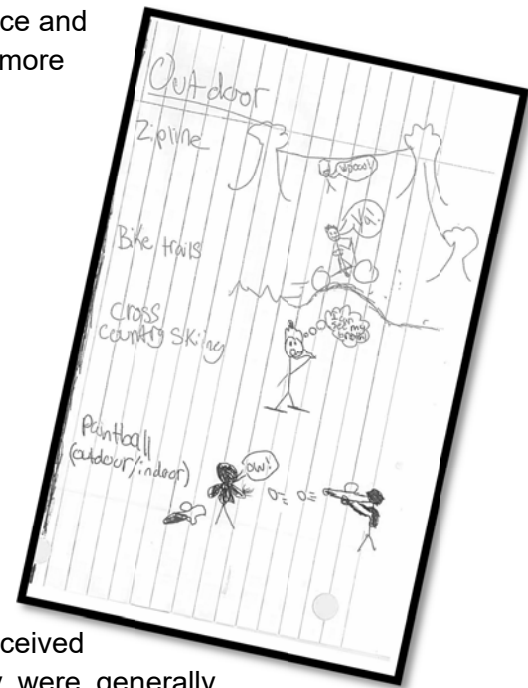
Below outlines what we heard from residents who filled out the survey related to parks and outdoor space needs:

What type of outdoor recreation interests you?



- Soccer, baseball and tennis were the major sports categories
- Hiking and biking options also scored high with requests
- Dog parks have scored high with requests outside of the consultation exercises.
- Other items identified during public meetings included meditation gardens, bocce and horseshoes, more challenging play/climbing structures

skating track Ball hockey Football Baseball Walking
 Biking Swimming Hiking hockey Soccer field
 Tennis splash pad Playground Running
 Outdoor skating trails Lacrosse Basketball



Note: Data collected through the survey was not always validated by other engagement exercises. Information received from the baseball and soccer organizations indicated they were generally happy with the current status of amenities.

If we were to evaluate service requests only on the input received, our future parks should include provisions for the following:

- Soccer Fields
- Baseball Diamonds
- Tennis Courts
- Active Transportation (hiking and biking)
- Requests for infrastructure to serve a wide range of ages (play for all)

While all of these amenities would certainly serve the community from a want perspective, an analysis of community needs and feasibility must be applied.



What do we need?

As we look ahead we must give consideration to several factors regarding parks. While we understand that we require additional parkland, the composition (Township, Community, or Neighbourhood) of the additions should be carefully considered.

We must also evaluate our current usage levels. The reality is not all of our facilities are being used to their full capacity. Prior to recommending additional amenities, questions must be asked to determine if they are truly required:

- Are we building to ultimate need? Or to peak capacity?
- Are there opportunities to use fields differently, i.e. weekend use vs. weekday use?
- Are there opportunities to expand/enhance the current reciprocal agreements currently enacted?
- Are there new parks services that are required?



Parkland Needs

At a minimum, the Township needs to look forward to acquiring future parkland as growth occurs to ensure compliance with the previously set municipal standards.

Based upon the proposed future population of King Township at 34,900, the Township requires an additional 60.70 acres of active parkland. If applied with the previously established standards (2013 Master Plan), the breakdown is as follows:

Neighbourhood Parks	9.84 acres
Community Parks	30.35 acres
Township Parks	20.31 acres
TOTAL	60.70 acres

**excluding Passive Open Space & Parkettes*

While the standard sets milestones based on other municipally established standards and while Township Parks provide different activities otherwise unavailable to residents, the reality is that Community and Neighbourhood Parks contribute to the overall activity, health and culture of King's community of communities at a substantially higher level.

Based upon this, the following recommendation for future planning purposes is to include the following standards for park requirements.

- 1. Recommendation** – Establish the following ratio of parkland/residents for future planning purposes.

Neighbourhood Parks	2.0 ac/1000
Community Parks	3.7 ac/1000
Township Parks	1.7 ac/1000
TOTAL PARKS	7.4 ac/1000

*These figures should only be used for the purposes of planning long term needs of the overall community and **not for the purposes of calculating the amount of parkland required for individual developments.***

With these revised standards the municipal needs do not change overall, but the proportionate alignment does. **The new breakdown is as follows:**

Neighbourhood Parks	16.40 acres
Community Parks	30.35 acres
Township Parks	13.95 acres
TOTAL	60.70 acres

Some of the required parkland can already be accounted for in coming developments with several parks planned in Nobleton and King City. These planned parks will reduce the municipal requirements by approximately 9.5 acres for community parks, 19 acres for neighbourhood parks and 7.5 acres for Township parks.

2. Recommendation – The Township should target an additional 60.70 acres of active parkland to meet the needs of its forecasted population of 34,900 inclusive of the forecasted additions identified through planned development.

The greatest emphasis should be placed on bolstering the amount of parkland servicing at the Community and Neighbourhood levels.

While Recommendation 2 outlines the land requirements for parkland in King, the service level – or more specifically the programming – requires further consideration. Additionally, the Township will need to evaluate amenities in parks that are situated near intensification sites as these developments will not likely yield land masses significant to contribute to the municipal parkland inventory. While this will impact King City in the immediate future, there will be some pressures felt in Schomberg as both communities are noted in the DRAFT Official Plan as applicable areas for intensification.

How do we get there?

Parkland Acquisition

There are several provincial and municipal regulations, policies and guidelines governing the acquisition and location of parkland, notably the *Ontario Planning Act* and the Township of King Official Plan document. With the Official Plan review currently underway, it is important to ensure appropriate language is incorporated with respect to the acquisition of parkland and furthermore, that due to initiatives and legislation related to intensification it is important to ensure municipal avenues for parkland acquisition are incorporated in order to allow the municipality to achieve the best possible results for current and future residents.

The current framework for the acquisition of future parkland is identified through By-Law 98-101, as amended by By-Law 2011-120 in accordance with Section 42, 51.1, and 53(13) of the *Planning Act*.

Language similar to the following should be the template for inclusion in the updated Official Plan and revisions to By-Law 98-101, as amended by By-Law 2011-120.

The Planning Act (R.S.O., 1990) establishes a framework for the dedication of parkland and possible alternatives to the dedication of land for park and recreation purposes. Parkland policies contained in the Official Plan – approved pursuant to the Planning Act – enable the Township to require parkland dedication and identify criteria by which this land is assessed, including factors to be considered when seeking cash-in-lieu of parkland. The Planning Act requires that lands dedicated to the Township as park, or purchased by the Township using cash-in-lieu of parkland, must be used for “park or other public recreational purposes”, which not only includes land acquisition, but also the erection or repair of buildings and the acquisition of machinery. The Provincial Policy Statement (2005) issued under the Planning Act also provides direction on matters of provincial interest related to land use planning and development, including guidance on public spaces, parks and open spaces.

Parkland Dedication Standards

1. That five percent of the land within a residential plan of subdivision or other residential development shall be dedicated as parkland.
2. That two percent of the land within industrial/commercial development shall be dedicated as parkland.
3. That in order to provide meaningful park experiences and functions, acceptance of parkland less than 2.5 acres in size should be avoided.
4. That, notwithstanding Sections 1 and 2, cash-in-lieu of parkland may be considered by the Township where:
 - a. The application of the rate of parkland dedication would render the remaining portion of the site unsuitable or impractical for development; and/or
 - b. The lands that may be available for parkland dedication do not add to the network of parks in an area; and/or
 - c. More suitable parcels of land are available for municipal park purposes in other nearby locations; and/or
 - d. Existing municipal parkland is available in sufficient quantity and quality to accommodate further development in a particular area.
5. That storm water management facilities will not be accepted to fulfil the requirements for parkland dedication.
6. That lands designated in our Natural Heritage System and lands in any required minimum vegetation protection zone and hazard lands such as floodplains or lands which are required for stormwater management facilities shall not be considered as any part of the required parkland calculation.

In addition to parkland dedication, there are other creative ways to increase the availability of public spaces in intensification areas, including working with the development industry to create recreational spaces directly within apartment building complexes (e.g. rooftop gardens, internal commons, etc.).

The Township should also consider alternative acquisition initiatives, supplemental to parkland supplies received through dedications, as a means to maintain an acceptable supply of parkland. Alternative acquisition measures to consider, among others, may include:

- municipal purchase or lease of land;
- land exchanges or swaps, particularly if development is to occur in valued natural areas;
- off-site conveyance of parkland;
- negotiating right of first refusal;
- reallocating surplus municipal lands to park use;
- negotiating access to non-municipal parks and facilities (e.g. through reciprocal agreements) and/or encouraging user groups to access these spaces on their own behalf;
- seek to acquire 'over-dedication' of parkland associated with new development and/or infill areas; and

- explore partnerships/ joint provision of lands with community partners.

With the demands that a growing population will require for recreational and cultural facilities and services, it is recommended that the Township continue its focus on obtaining parkland for active recreational uses and social gatherings. For example, if a local school board considers closure and sale of underutilized or aging schools, the Township should seek acquisition of such property (or a portion thereof) for the purposes of utilizing it as parkland and/or other municipal purposes such as community hub developments.

3. Recommendation – The Township should collect parkland for development(s) in accordance with the Planning Act, as amended from time to time.

Amenities/Capacity

The following analysis provides a need assessment based upon both standards for service levels established in the 2013 Master Plan Update, along with usage statistics for King's various programmable amenities where applicable.

Playgrounds

The 2013 Master Plan identified a target of *playgrounds* being made available within an 800m service radius of neighbourhoods in the urban settlement areas, with no major pedestrian obstructions. This will continue to be the standard target for the municipality. Playgrounds are constructed within new neighbourhood and community parks as part of the current service level. Consideration will need to be given to the expansion or addition of playgrounds to parks in close proximity to intensification sites. Over the five year horizon of this plan, staff believes this could impact parks in King City (Memorial, Wellesley, St. Andrew's, Salamander, Library & Seniors Centre Site) and Schomberg (Neiuiwland, Fox Trail).

Splashpads

The 2013 Master Plan provided no specific target for the provision of splashpad except to identify installation in King City, further review and install in Nobleton and Schomberg if successful.

From a community perspective, these installations have been received as a required service level, as well as an increase to the Township's historic standards. Additional splashpads should only be considered in future community parks, or retrofits to community parks on a case-by-case basis.

Similar consideration to accessibility/walkability similar to the avoidance of major pedestrian barriers could be used as a tool for determining new locations.

Skateparks

The 2013 Master Plan targeted the provision of one skatepark for each urban community (King City, Schomberg and Nobleton).

The final installation will be conducted in Schomberg in 2019.

No further planning/capacity for skateparks is required at this time.

Baseball

The 2013 Master Plan identified a target of one baseball diamond per 100 registrants as a standard. There is no indication that this should change at this time.

Numbers/Usage

Based upon the group membership for 2018 (350 adult, 650 youth) King requires 10 diamonds if the current standard is applied, meaning the current compliment is adequate. While growth in the number of users may appear to put additional pressure on these amenities, resulting in the need for additional diamonds, it should be noted that approximately 300 youth of the amalgamated Aurora King Baseball Association are not King Township residents that apply pressure to King facilities.

This situation will have to be monitored closely when making future decisions to construct new diamonds that replicate the existing service level of the municipality. Additionally, analysis of the usage shows that there are still opportunities for expansion of programming on the weekends.

Additional capacity can be found by exploring opportunities to install lighting at existing fields, which greatly increases the amount of playing time for user groups.

Quality/Level of Play

The 2013 Master plan identified that the Township should *“Focus on enhancing the functionality, amenity and player’s experience of ball diamonds in King Township (for both minor and adult leagues) through selected improvements and increased maintenance efforts.”*

Staff has done this by upgrading baseball diamonds in King City and Nobleton and will continue these efforts through enhancements to the Pottageville facility. The reality of the situation is that even with specific improvements and enhancements; the Township still lacks a true hardball diamond to serve older youth and higher levels of play. Given the land constraints in current parks, consideration to constructing a full hardball diamond with lighting must be considered for a future community park, or in conjunction with the Township Wide Recreation Centre, with the latter being the most desirable option as it will have less adverse impact on residential communities.

- 4. Recommendation** – Construct, at minimum, one (1) full size hardball diamond as part of the Township Wide Recreation Complex.

5. Recommendation – Continue to explore opportunities for alternate sites in Schomberg to provide a junior baseball diamond.

Soccer

The 2013 Master Plan identified a target of one soccer field per 80 registrants as a standard. There is no indication that this should change at this time.

Based upon the 2018 group membership (1649 members) King requires 20 soccer pitches if the current standard is applied, meaning the current compliment is adequate when consideration is given to accessing non-municipally owned fields.

There are varying considerations that must be taken into account when evaluating current and future needs for soccer fields. Non-resident usage, access to non-municipal fields and alternative time uses all need to be weighed with respect to field usage and future development. Additionally the consideration for changes implemented by the Canadian Soccer Association within the Long Term Player Development initiative (LTPD) will have some impact on municipal service levels, this should generally affect the size of the fields required more so than the quantity.

Non-residents – of the 1649 players listed as registered in 2018, 837 were non-residents. This significantly alters the need for additional municipal fields and should be given consideration when making decisions on future field requirements.

Access to non-municipal fields – while factoring in access to non-municipal fields assists in the overall position of the municipality with relation to field to participant ratios; this does not come without risk. Non-municipal fields are permitted by third parties that can and have historically, withdrawn permits with little to no notice and cause.

Alternate time/day uses – unlike baseball, soccer fields are not used significantly on weekends. Consideration must be given to altering use patterns as part of a long term strategy to manage capacity.

Additional capacity can also be found by exploring opportunities to install lighting at existing fields, which greatly increases the amount of access for user groups.

Quality/Level of Play

Similar to baseball, the 2013 Master Plan identified that the Township should continue to focus on enhancing facilities to meet an enhanced standard and functionality.

This will continue to be a need to ensure fields remain viable in the long term and must be part of a municipal strategy to invest in both new and existing infrastructure over the long term.

6. Recommendation – Due to issues related to access of non-municipal fields, the Township should ensure soccer fields are considered as part of the design for the Township Wide Recreation Complex.

Additionally, when developing neighbourhood parks, large passive spaces should be designed with the ability to create additional practice fields if future needs require them.

7. Recommendation – As the municipality is reliant on non-municipal fields and in order to maintain current levels of service, the Township should monitor school sites that become surplus where fields/parkland is included for strategic acquisition.

Tennis

The 2013 Master Plan identified a target of publically accessible tennis courts per 4,000 residents. There is no indication that this should change at this time however, quantity alone cannot be considered.

While this ratio could apply holistically to the municipality, it is harder to apply due to the spatial nature of King Township and the varying populations within the various communities. As historic service levels have defined and continue to be anecdotally true, residents will not and do not want to leave their villages to participate or enjoy recreational activities. This creates a service level issue when applying the ratio.

For example, Schomberg with two public courts is over served while King City with two public courts is currently adequately served but would require additional courts in the short term as the population increases.

Varying strategies can be applied in this effort including, but not limited to defining alternative use agreements with clubs that have exclusive use of courts (King City and Nobleton Tennis), lighting existing courts to increase capacity where needed or construction of new courts, preferably with lights to ensure as much additional capacity as possible. Due to various constraints, a combination of the efforts above will be required.

Quality/Level of Play

While no specific upgrades can be made to improve the current quality of courts, this infrastructure must be incorporated into a long term asset management plan that includes rehabilitation works near the middle of lifecycle (7-8 years) and full reconstruction after 15 years. These works should be further outlined in the long term capital program.

8. Recommendation – King City: Explore opportunities to limit club use of the public courts, undergo the installation of lights on the existing public courts and explore the installation of two new courts as part of the future community park (King Northeast) or a future phase of the Township Wide Recreation Complex.

Should the first two provisions of this recommendation not be implemented, the construction of new courts may increase to four.

9. Recommendation – Nobleton: No action is required at this time. Two addition courts may be required in the future if the population forecast increases and could be included in a future phase of either Nobleton Community Lions Park or Tasca Park.

10. Recommendation – Schomberg. No action is required at this time. Rough in for future lighting should be considered when the courts are reconstructed in order to minimize disruptions should lighting be required at a later date.

Active Transportation/Trails

In 2014 the Township adopted its first Trails Master Plan. This document, in conjunction with other efforts such as the transportation master plan has and will continue to define the municipalities' efforts from a trail, connectivity and active transportation perspective. As King updates the Transportation Master Plan in 2019/2020, and subsequently the Trails Master Plan in 2023 efforts are required to ensure full integration and symmetry between walking and cycling trails to ensure the maximum for residents are provided.

The plan identifies short, medium and long term initiatives designed to augment King's connectivity both internally and to other surrounding municipalities.

Continued investment in trails will be required over the next 5 years along with ensuring development of specific trails are done in conjunction with planned development.

An update of the trails master plan should be completed in conjunction with the next scheduled update of the Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan in 2023.

11. Recommendation – Ensure an update of the Trails Master Plan is completed in 2023 to provide an update on progress and re-prioritization of trail development based on community need. The 2023 update should give more consideration to cycling in addition to walking trails with greater emphasis on multi-use pathways.

Enhanced Services and programming

Streetscaping

Started in 2013 and based upon principals set out in the Urban Design Guidelines and re-affirmed in the Community Improvement Plan and Streetscaping and Beautification Plan, the streetscaping program continues to grow and expand into various villages with large investments made in King City and Nobleton to date. As indicated previously to council streetscaping and the addition of new infrastructure (banners, hanging baskets, trees and gardens) will require additional personnel to maintain on an annual basis.

Special Events

Over the past 5 years, the number and size of special events in King has steadily increased. There are now multiple festivals throughout the year that draw more than 5000 attendees on average. In conjunction with that there has been an increase in required municipal support, predominantly through the supply of in-kind services (picnic table, garbage cans, tables/chair, clean up, portable toilets, etc.) which can cause delays in day to day service delivery.

Garbage Removal

With new parks, streetscaped areas and increased density – specifically related to newer neighbourhood parks and community parks in general – the amount of accumulated garbage has significantly increased to the point where removal is required daily. In order to meet this demand, specialized equipment and additional personnel are required.

Consolidated Tree Services

In 2015 the Township Tree Management Program was consolidated under the parks division – previously split between parks and public works – and includes all urban areas, parks, trails, open spaces and woodlots.

The primary project undertaken following the consolidation was the replacement of all urban trees affected by the Emerald Ash Borer. This, similar to all previous municipal tree services, was based upon a reactive maintenance program. A comprehensive Municipal Tree Management Program is required in the short term. Any defined program must include at minimum a plan that includes **proactive maintenance**, reactive and emergency works. The plan should also outline the requirements for staffing and equipment required to complete the associated works.

Proactive tree management could include, but it not limited to items such as removal of invasive species, active tree pruning, additional tree planting, and related programs or roadside tree pruning and restoration.

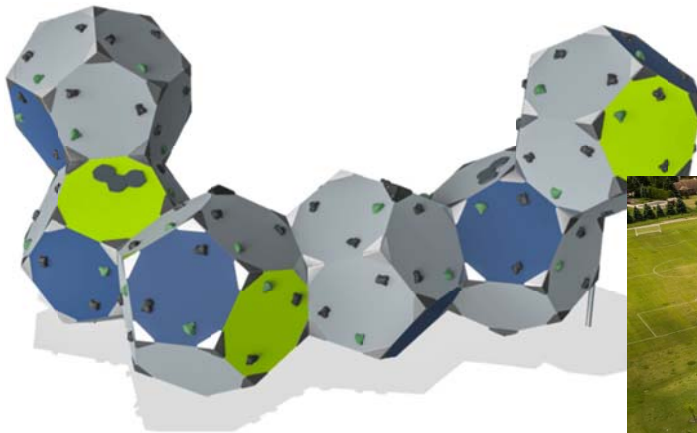
12. Recommendation – Increase staffing capacity where needed to ensure new service levels and amenities do not impact historical service needs through a combination of full time, contract and seasonal operators.

Innovative, Unique and Inclusive Designs

Over the past five years the Township has made efforts to ensure each of our parks are unique through their design and construction. While some elements remain the same – playgrounds, shade structures, pathways, sport facilities – the look and feel of them are different from one another. Sometimes it's relative to location, past uses of the site (Blue Heron Park – designed to include a farm based theme based on the past site use), a species of wildlife that inhabited the area (Salamander Park – a species heavily found in this area) or through feedback received during a community consultation. Considerations must be given to constructing versatile parks that can service multiple demographics and ages as King's population continues to grow and diversify. The Township continues to strive to design and construct parks that stand out, that include everyone and that are unique.

This trend should continue and be supported through larger investments in both the initial construction of parks and the later redevelopment.

13. Recommendation – Continue to find ways to be innovative in park design, creating unique spaces that tell stories of the history of King Township and continue to support this through increased financial investment in parks development.



What is Feasible?

Of the 13 recommendations listed, only two (2) have an immediate cost estimate. An additional eight (8) recommendations have potential future cost implications related to construction or acquisition costs.

Making these recommendation decisions will have impacts on the operating budget, capital budget and staffing compliment. The following sections detail the projected implications from a financial perspective, along with potential mitigation strategies.

Staffing

There are several major factors that will drive the requirements for additional staff, including assistance with higher levels of service related to day to day operations (streetscaping, garbage collection, tree maintenance), increased complexity (new elements introduced to parks over the last 5 years include splashpads, permanent washrooms, skateparks) in the operations of parks and the sheer increase in quantity of parks and parkland of the level of parks.

Staffing Complement

As the number of parks and related parkland within the municipality increases, along with the complexity of their operations, so do the needs for additional maintenance staff. As indicated on page 24, King is already performing more parks related maintenance than other municipalities with less staff. The introduction of newer parks and the effects of the streetscaping and tree programs are already being felt throughout the division. Some of this has been tempered by reliance on contracted services but a need for more staff to keep up with the additional forecasted growth will also be required.

The transition from contract staff to fulltime personnel will be vital as the division expands its year round operations with in-house winter tree maintenance. This will ensure continuity of operations and a reduction in redundant recruitment and training.

As indicated, some services are already provided in a blended model of staff and contractors. This could be expanded to keep staffing numbers down but potentially limits the level of quality and control that can be expected.

Specialized Services

The consolidation of the tree management program may require specialized personnel and equipment to implement, subject to Council approval. A level of service will be defined in a municipal tree management program expected to be completed for Councils consideration in 2019. It is anticipated an arbourist will be required on staff in the near future to assist with this program, as well as administrative duties associated with a new municipal tree by-law, should one be approved.

Operations

The items impacting park operations have been noted above. Increased and more complex service levels and more active parks/parkland/trails have added an additional workload to the division's day to day operations. Unfortunately, the parks division does not greatly benefit from an increased revenue stream to offset expenditures as a mitigation technique like facilities, recreation or culture.

That being said, a constant evaluation of service delivery is required to ensure the provision of services are done in the most economical manner while not sacrificing the quality residents have come to expect or at the expense of other services within the division.

Staff has and will continue to explore alternative service delivery methods (staff vs. contracted services) on an annual basis prior to requests for budgetary considerations.

Other operational areas affecting the parks division relate to the accumulating of facilities. Should this consideration not be given to divestment of surplus facilities as new buildings come on line, there will be a corresponding increase in funding requirements related to continued operations. The parks division is responsible for year round grounds maintenance of municipal facilities.

Capital

King has made significant strides in increasing the investment in infrastructure. The last few years have seen a tremendous effort to balance the investment in new park development and re-development of aging infrastructure.

This balance will continue to be the focus over the next five years with numerous projects requiring funding, both new and existing alike.

Efforts have been made and will need to continue to space out works associated with capital reinvestment to ensure a steady but not financially onerous replacement cycle continues. This includes items such as an annual playground replacement cycle and sport infrastructure spread out to lessen the financial burden.

Summary - Recommendations

The following chart provides a summary of the proposed financial implications based upon recommendations.

	Recommendation	ST	MT	LT	Cost								
1	<p>Establish the following ratio of parkland/residents for future planning purposes.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Neighbourhood Parks</td> <td>2.0 ac/1000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Parks</td> <td>3.7 ac/1000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Township Parks</td> <td>1.7 ac/1000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL PARKS</td> <td>7.4 ac/1000</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>These figures should only be used for the purposes of planning long term needs of the overall community and not for the purposes of calculating the amount of parkland required for individual developments.</i></p>	Neighbourhood Parks	2.0 ac/1000	Community Parks	3.7 ac/1000	Township Parks	1.7 ac/1000	TOTAL PARKS	7.4 ac/1000				No direct costs.
Neighbourhood Parks	2.0 ac/1000												
Community Parks	3.7 ac/1000												
Township Parks	1.7 ac/1000												
TOTAL PARKS	7.4 ac/1000												
2	<p>The Township should target an additional 60.70 acres of active parkland to meet the needs of its forecasted population of 34,900 inclusive of the forecasted additions identified through planned development.</p> <p>The greatest emphasis should be placed on bolstering the amount of parkland servicing at the Community and Neighbourhood levels.</p>				<p>No direct costs.</p> <p>It should be understood that there will be future operating and capital costs associated with the development and operations of the associated parkland.</p>								
3	<p>The Township should collect parkland for development(s) in accordance with the Planning Act, as amended from time to time.</p>				No direct costs.								
4	<p>Construct, at minimum, one (1) full size hardball diamond as part of the Township Wide Recreation Complex.</p>				\$1,150,000								

5	Continue to explore opportunities for alternate sites in Schomberg to provide a junior baseball diamond.		○		<p>No immediate costs. Construction cost would be a future requirement.</p> <p>A junior diamond with lighting would cost approx. \$600,000</p>
6	<p>Due to issues related to access of non-municipal fields, the Township should ensure soccer fields are considered as part of the design for the Township Wide Recreation Complex.</p> <p>Additionally, when developing neighbourhood parks, large passive spaces should be designed with the ability to create additional practice fields if future needs require</p>	○		○	<p>No immediate costs. Construction cost would be a future requirement.</p> <p>A full size soccer field with lighting would cost approx. \$500,000</p>
7	As the municipality is reliant on non-municipal fields and in order to maintain current levels of service, the Township should monitor school sites that become surplus where fields/parkland is included for strategic acquisition.	○			<p>No direct costs. Future acquisition would require a financing plan.</p>
8	<p>King City: Explore opportunities to limit club use of the public courts, undergo the installation of lights on the existing public courts and explore the installation of two new courts as part of the future community park (King Northeast) or a future phase of the Township Wide Recreation Complex.</p> <p>Should the first two provisions of this recommendation not be implemented, the construction of new courts may increase to four</p>		○		<p>No immediate costs. Construction cost would be a future requirement.</p> <p>Two courts with lighting would cost approx. \$300,000.</p>

9	Nobleton: No action is required at this time. Two addition courts may be required in the future if the population forecast increases and could be included in a future phase of either Nobleton Community Lions Park or Tasca Park.		o	No immediate costs. Construction cost would be a future requirement. Two courts with lighting would cost approx. \$300,000.
10	Schomberg. No action is required at this time. Rough in for future lighting should be considered when the courts are reconstructed in order to minimize disruptions should lighting be required at a later date.	o		No immediate costs. Construction cost would be a future requirement.
11	Ensure an update of the Trails Master Plan is completed in 2023 to provide an update on progress and re-prioritization of trail development based on community need. The 2023 update should give more consideration to cycling in addition to walking trails with greater emphasis on multi-use pathways.		o	No immediate costs.
12	Increase staffing capacity where needed to ensure new service levels and amenities do not impact historical service needs through a combination of full time, contract and seasonal operators.		o	Costs dependent on staffing level (FT, Contract, PT)
13	Continue to find ways to be innovative in park design, creating unique spaces that tell stories of the history of King Township and continue to support this through increased financial investment in parks development.		o	Cost is per individual park development plans.

Infographics, Villages

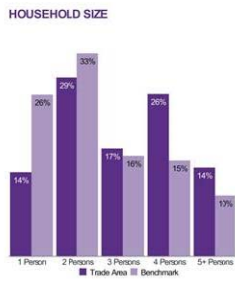
King City

Demographics | Population & Households



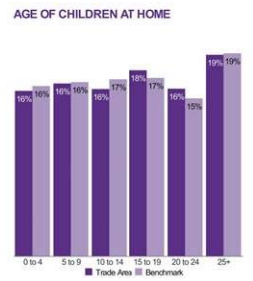
Trade Area: King City

POPULATION 7,721 HOUSEHOLDS 2,533	MEDIAN AGE 41	MARITAL STATUS 66.3% Married/Common-Law	FAMILY STATUS* 59.2% Couples With Children At Home
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POPULATION BY AGE

Age Group	Count	%	Index
0 to 4	471	6.1	115
5 to 9	480	6.2	119
10 to 14	467	6.0	113
15 to 19	511	6.6	120
20 to 24	486	6.3	93
25 to 29	462	6.0	83
30 to 34	468	6.1	88
35 to 39	496	6.4	97
40 to 44	469	6.1	95
45 to 49	580	7.5	114
50 to 54	598	7.7	108
55 to 59	579	7.5	101
60 to 64	463	6.0	93
65 to 69	384	5.0	93
70 to 74	324	4.2	97
75 to 79	228	3.0	98
80 to 84	159	2.1	97
85+	96	1.2	54



Benchmark: Ontario

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*Chosen from index ranking with minimum 5% composition

Index Colours: <80 80-110 110+

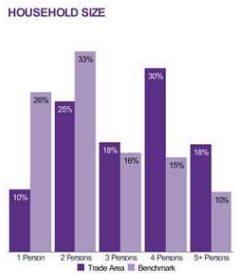
Nobleton

Demographics | Population & Households



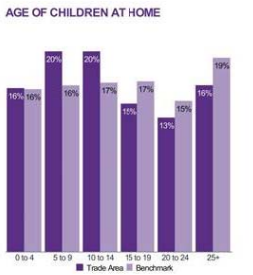
Trade Area: Nobleton

POPULATION 4,826 HOUSEHOLDS 1,496	MEDIAN AGE 37	MARITAL STATUS 66.7% Married/Common-Law	FAMILY STATUS* 64.4% Couples With Children At Home
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POPULATION BY AGE

Age Group	Count	%	Index
0 to 4	347	7.2	136
5 to 9	415	8.6	164
10 to 14	415	8.6	161
15 to 19	313	6.5	118
20 to 24	300	6.2	92
25 to 29	267	5.5	77
30 to 34	236	4.9	71
35 to 39	341	7.1	107
40 to 44	417	8.6	135
45 to 49	388	8.2	125
50 to 54	344	7.1	100
55 to 59	294	6.1	82
60 to 64	214	4.4	69
65 to 69	184	3.8	71
70 to 74	128	2.7	61
75 to 79	97	2.0	67
80 to 84	64	1.3	63
85+	52	1.1	46



Benchmark: Ontario

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*Chosen from index ranking with minimum 5% composition

Index Colours: <80 80-110 110+

Demographics | Population & Households



Trade Area: Schomberg

POPULATION

1,370
HOUSEHOLDS
534

MEDIAN MAINTAINER AGE

58
Index: 109

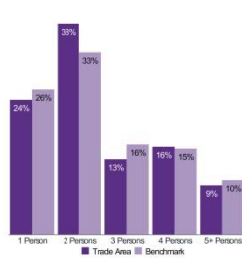
MARITAL STATUS

60.2%
Index: 105
Married/Common-Law

FAMILY STATUS*

42.6%
Index: 114
Couples Without Children At Home

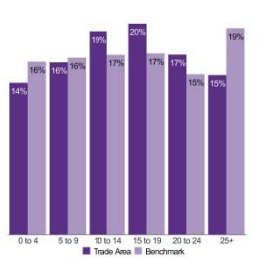
HOUSEHOLD SIZE



POPULATION BY AGE

Age Group	Count	%	Index
0 to 4	61	4.5	84
5 to 9	72	5.3	100
10 to 14	84	6.1	115
15 to 19	82	6.0	109
20 to 24	100	7.3	106
25 to 29	63	4.6	64
30 to 34	64	4.7	68
35 to 39	68	5.0	75
40 to 44	74	5.4	85
45 to 49	100	7.3	110
50 to 54	114	8.3	116
55 to 59	115	8.4	113
60 to 64	99	7.2	112
65 to 69	81	5.9	111
70 to 74	78	5.7	131
75 to 79	49	3.6	119
80 to 84	27	2.0	63
85+	39	2.8	123

AGE OF CHILDREN AT HOME



Benchmark: Ontario

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*Chosen from index ranking with minimum 5% composition

Index Colours: <80 80 - 110 110+

Rural

Demographics | Population & Households



Trade Area: Rural Areas

POPULATION

12,780
HOUSEHOLDS
4,284

MEDIAN AGE

46

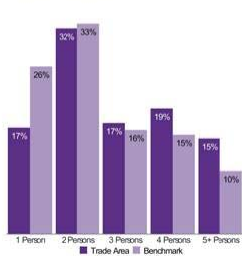
MARITAL STATUS

63.4%
Married/Common-Law

FAMILY STATUS*

52.5%
Couples With Children At Home

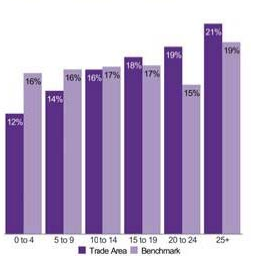
HOUSEHOLD SIZE



POPULATION BY AGE

Age Group	Count	%	Index
0 to 4	562	4.4	83
5 to 9	611	4.8	91
10 to 14	705	5.5	103
15 to 19	756	5.9	108
20 to 24	894	7.0	104
25 to 29	759	5.9	82
30 to 34	674	5.3	77
35 to 39	586	4.6	69
40 to 44	643	5.0	73
45 to 49	874	6.8	103
50 to 54	1,140	8.9	125
55 to 59	1,184	9.3	125
60 to 64	996	7.8	121
65 to 69	764	6.0	112
70 to 74	613	4.8	110
75 to 79	416	3.3	108
80 to 84	301	2.4	111
85+	300	2.3	101

AGE OF CHILDREN AT HOME



Benchmark: Ontario

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*Chosen from index ranking with minimum 5% composition

Index Colours: <80 80 - 110 110+

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