

# Whitchurch-Stouffville Parks Plan & Parkland Dedication By-law Update

Council Update | 2024.12.11



Stouffville

02

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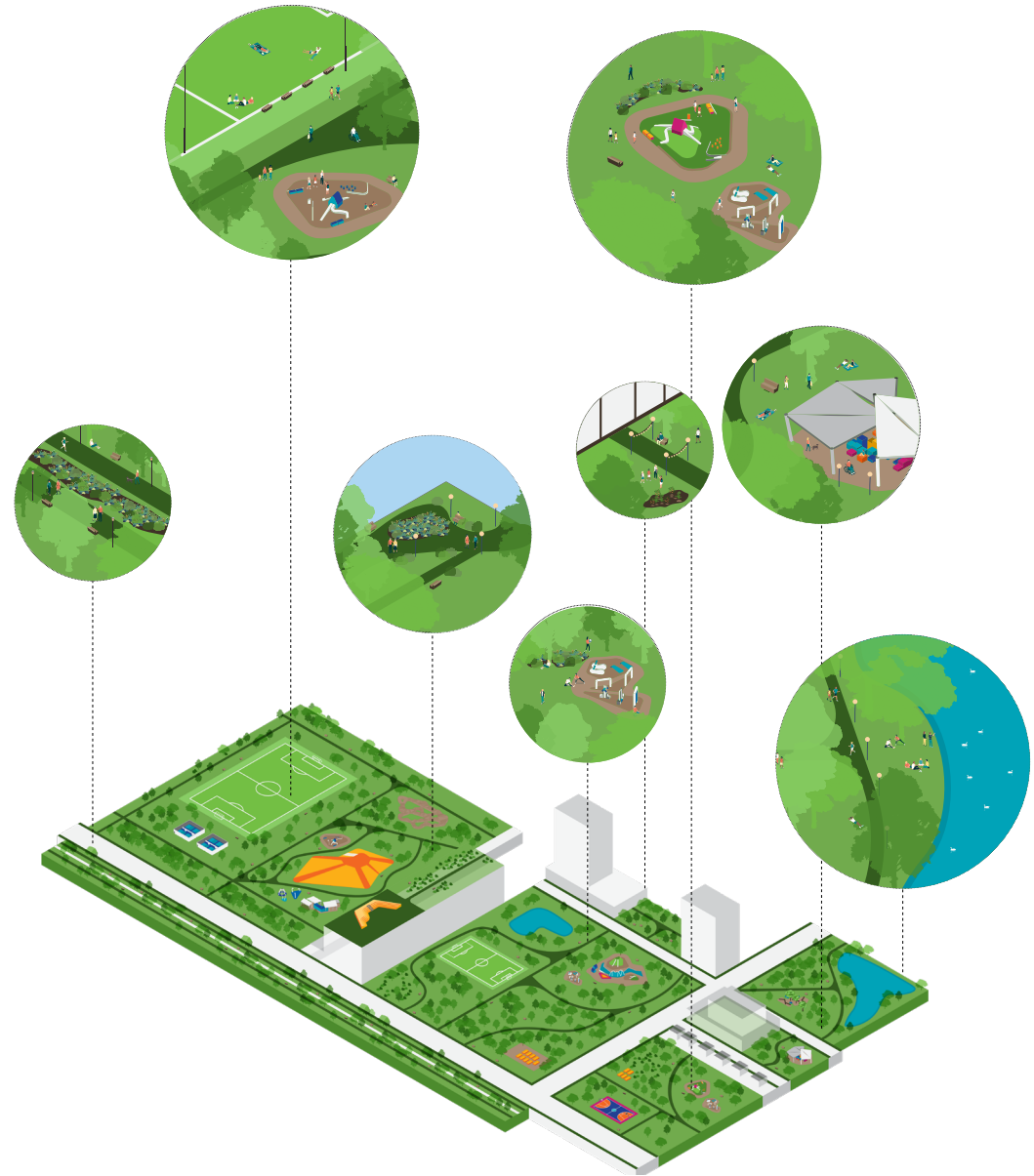
# Agenda

- + Mission statement
- + Project timeline update
- + Engagement Phases 1 and 2 findings
- + The Parks Plan & Parkland Dedication By-law Update
  - + Big Move 1: Refining Park Provision Target
  - + Big Move 2: Updating Typologies
  - + Big Move 3: Applying the Toolkit and Zones
- + Next steps

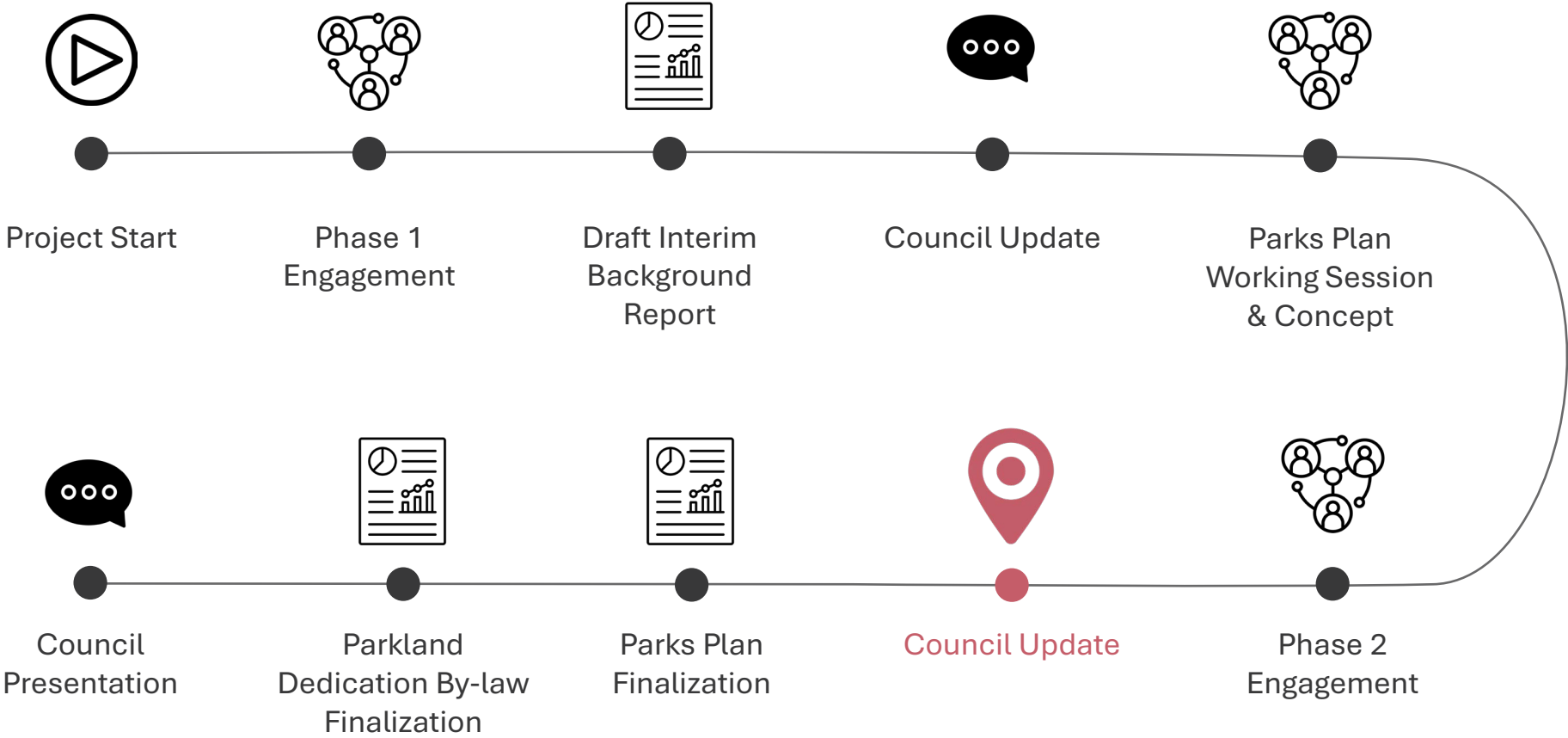
# Mission Statement

The Planning Act enables municipalities to approve a by-law requiring parkland dedication. A Parks Plan must be prepared before this by-law that examines parkland needs within the municipality.

This work will support the Town of Stouffville to secure sufficient parkland in line with anticipated urban growth and the expectations of the public.



# Project timeline update



# Engagement

## Phase 1 Setting Priorities Spring 2024

- + Town Steering Committee
- + Technical Advisory Committee
- + Community Stakeholder Meetings
- + Public Survey

## Phase 2 Parks Plan Development Fall 2024-Winter 2025

- + Town Steering Committee
- + Technical Advisory Committee
- + Community Stakeholder Meeting
- + Public Open House

## Phase 3 Parkland Dedication By-law Update Winter 2025

- + Town Steering Committee
- + Technical Advisory Committee

# Phase 1 Engagement - Online Survey Results

95 responses from residents of  
Whitchurch-Stouffville



**95%**

Say that parks have a positive impact on their overall quality of life and well-being



**44%**

Say that they visit parks closer to home more often than they did before the pandemic



**74%**

Say that they appreciate that the parks in Town provide them with access to nature

# Phase 2 Engagement - Open House Results

In Phase 2, the project team shared four primary principles of the Parks Plan with stakeholders and members of the public.

The community stakeholder meeting and public open house confirmed that these principles resonate well with residents in Stouffville.



## Expand

Grow the system to build capacity and prevent crowding



## Connect

Improve/build trails to stitch the network



## Enhance

Upgrade features and amenities where expansion is not feasible



## Preserve

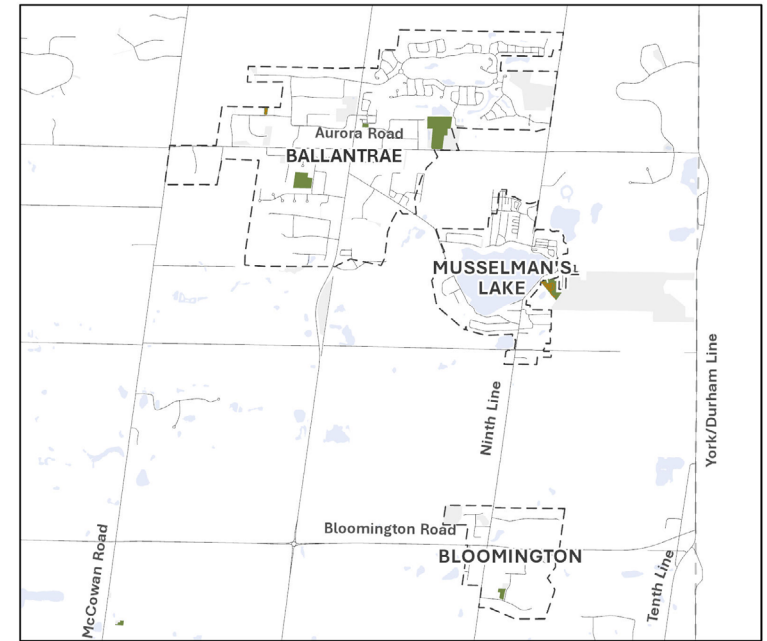
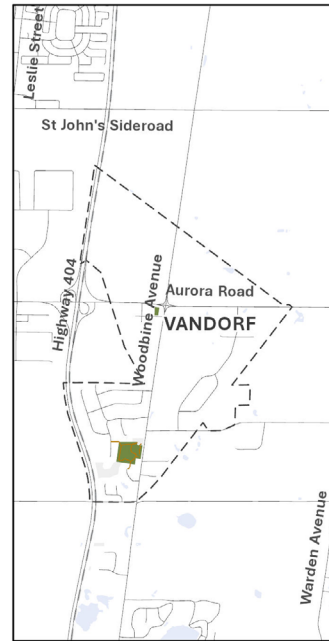
Reiterating value of keeping natural spaces as the Town grows

# The Parks Plan

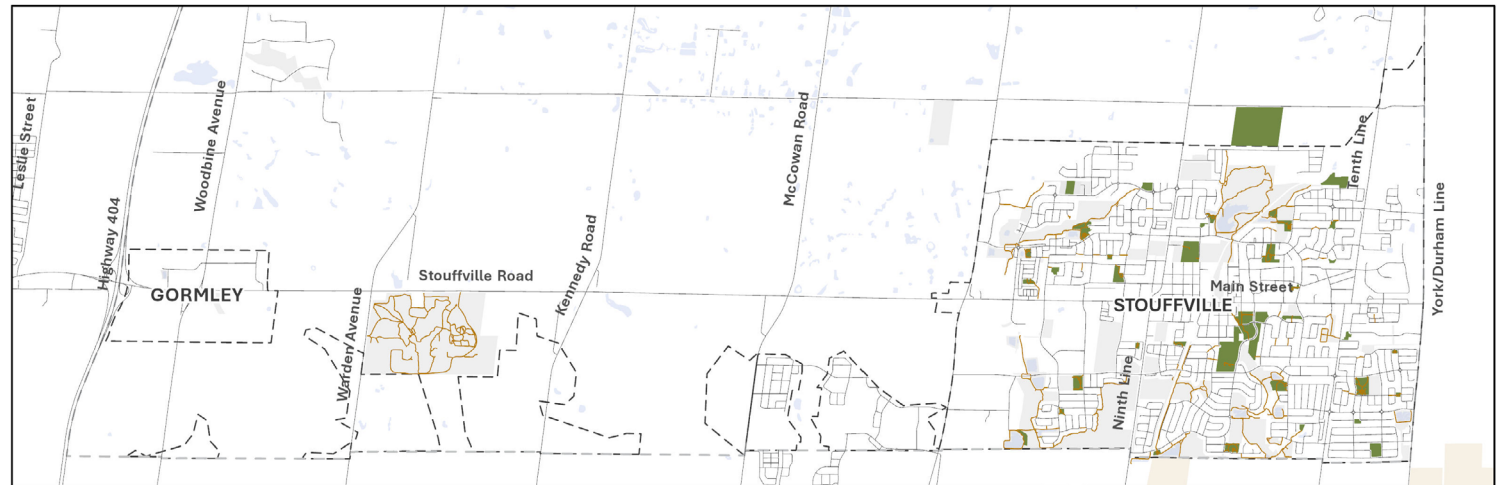
- + Needs
- + Strategies
- + Prioritization

## Parkland Dedication By-law

- + Sets rules around the process, rates and types for parkland conveyance



- Parks
- Waterbodies
- Road Network
- Settlement Area
- Publicly-owned Open Space
- Road Network
- Trails





# Needs Assessment

Evaluating how much parkland is needed



## Recreation and Leisure Needs

Parkland supply should enable the delivery of the park amenities recommended through Leisure and Community Services Master Plan



## Access

Ensure public can conveniently reach the network



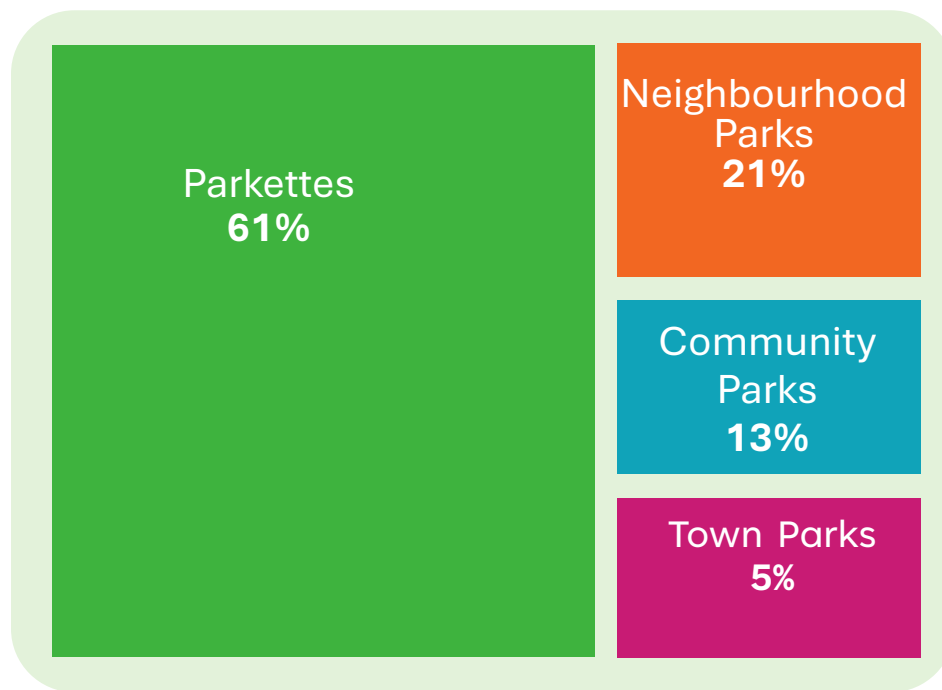
## Accommodating infill and intensification

Adapt and grow to serve new residents and more urban development

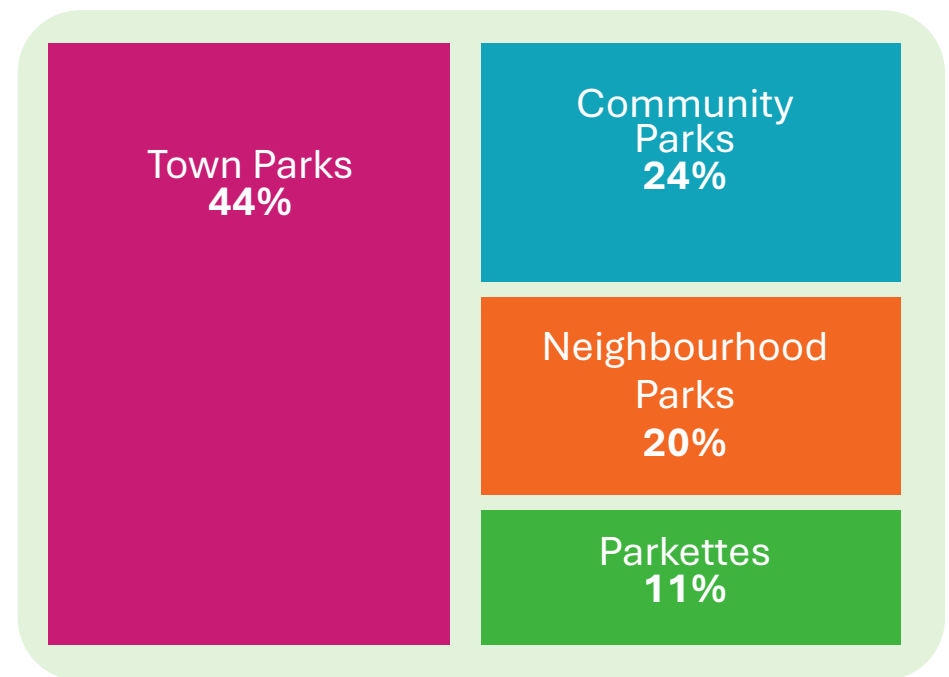
# Needs Assessment | Recreation and Leisure Insight

Parkette is the most common park type in the network, but these spaces are limited in recreation and leisure programming.

Portion of network by number of parks



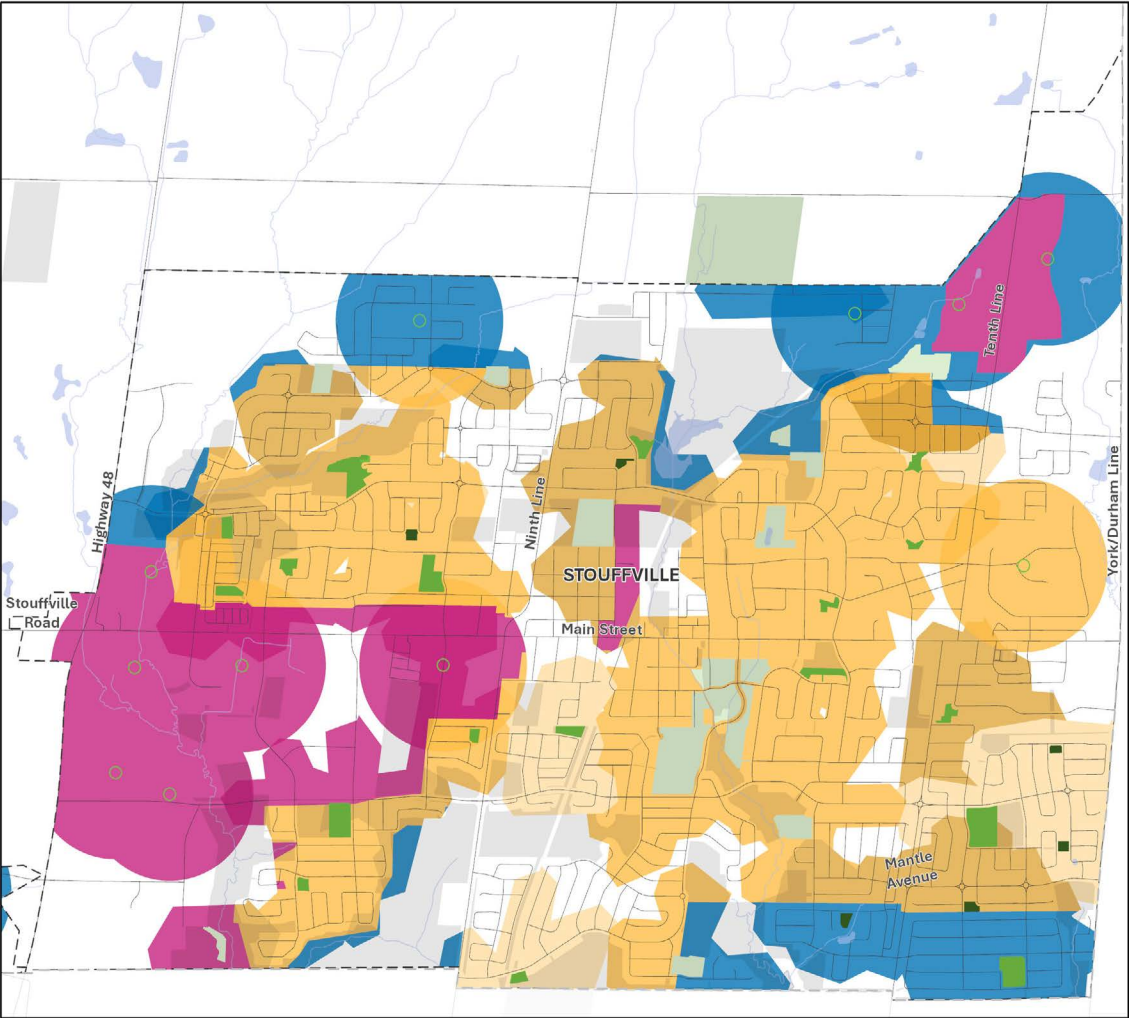
Portion of network by area of park



# Needs Assessment | Access and Growth Insight

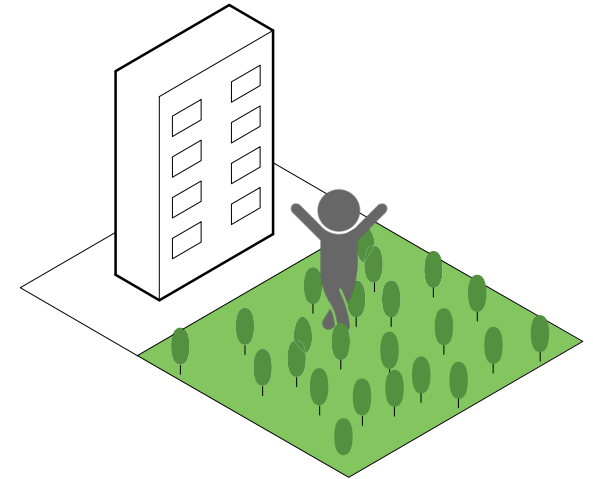
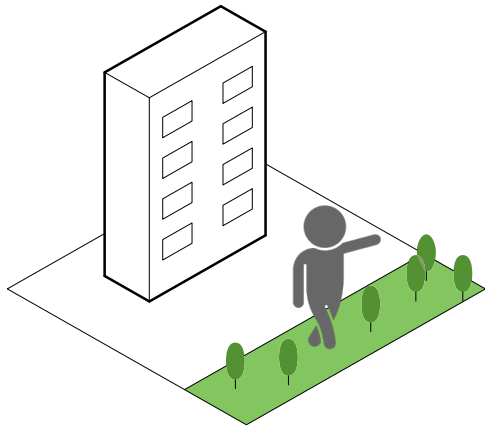
There are future gaps as well as parks that will serve more people in the future.

- Settlement Area
- Publicly-owned Open Space
- Road Network
- Future Conceptual Parks
- Park Pressure 2051**
- Low
- Medium
- High
- Park catchments**
- Infill Zone**
- 16 to 0 % pop. change
- 1 to 30 % pop. change
- 31 to 64 % pop. change
- Future Park buffer within Infill Zone
- Greenfield Zone
- Intensification Zone



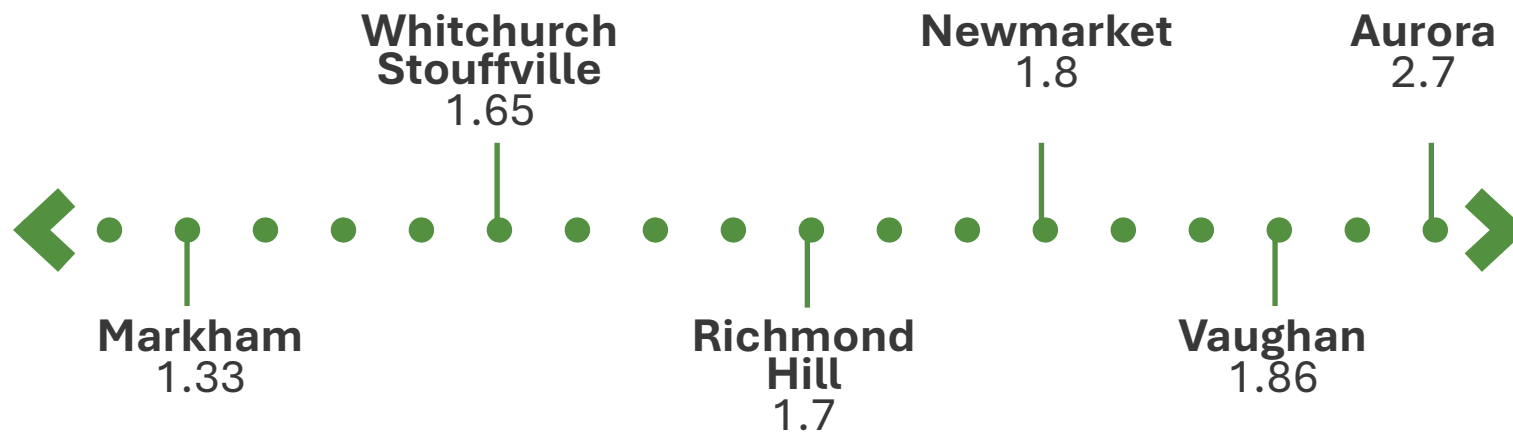
# The Big Move 1: Looking at Alternative Park Provision Target

Where Whitchurch-Stouffville sits relative to other municipalities in York Region.

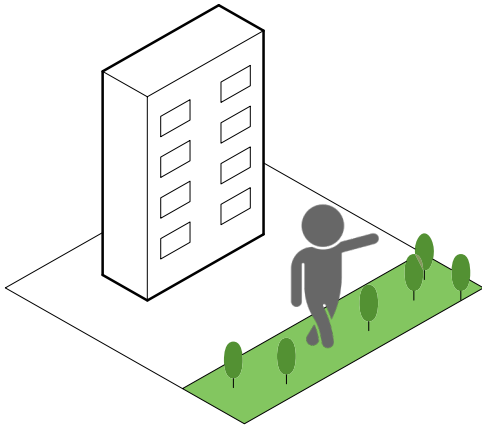


Lower Provision Rate

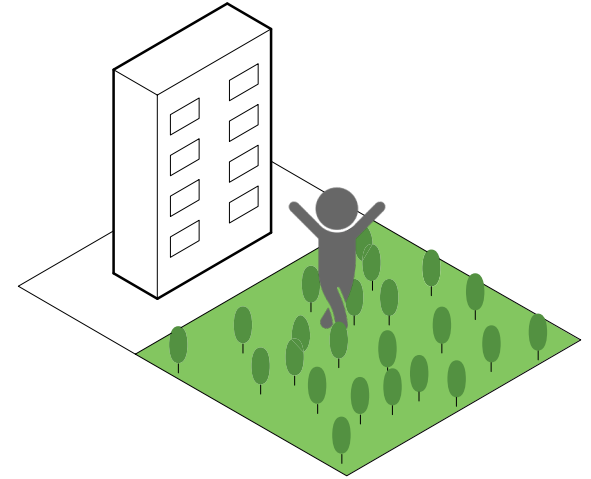
Higher Provision Rate



# The Big Move 1: Looking at Alternative Park Provision Target



**1** ha per  
1,000 people



**2** ha per  
1,000 people

**1.65** ha per  
1,000 people



Lower Provision Rate

Higher Provision Rate

**Stouffville's current provision rate**  
78 ha more to maintain in 2051

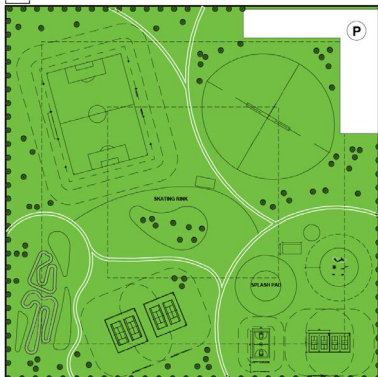
**Target in Leisure and Community  
Services Master Plan**  
113 ha more to reach in 2051

# The Big Move 2: Updating Typologies

Refining sizes and design guidance of existing typologies. And, developing new typologies to reflect a greater variety of spaces.

## Refining Existing Typologies

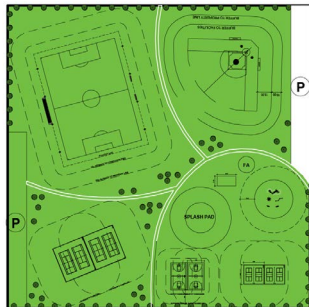
Town-wide Park: 5-15 ha



Parkette: 0.5-1.2 ha



Community Park  
5-10 ha



Neighbourhood  
Park: 1.2-3.2 ha

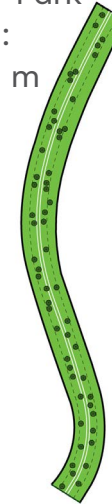


## Proposing New Typologies

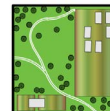
Eco-park: 4-8 ha



Linear Park  
Width:  
18-85 m



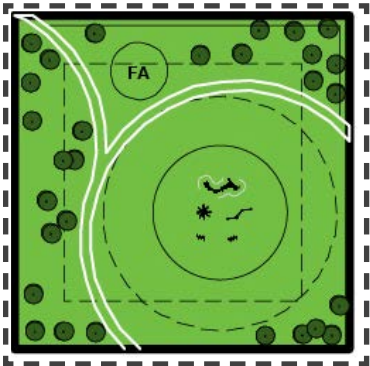
Agricultural Park  
1.25 ha +



# The Big Move 2: Updating Typologies with Overlays

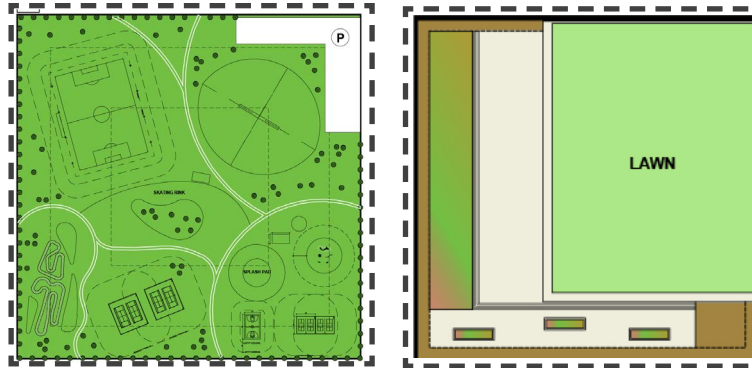
Provide more direction on special considerations or rules based on park context and ownership.

## Urban Overlay



Supports design of parks suited to Intensification Zones

## Alternative Ownership Overlay



Strata Parks

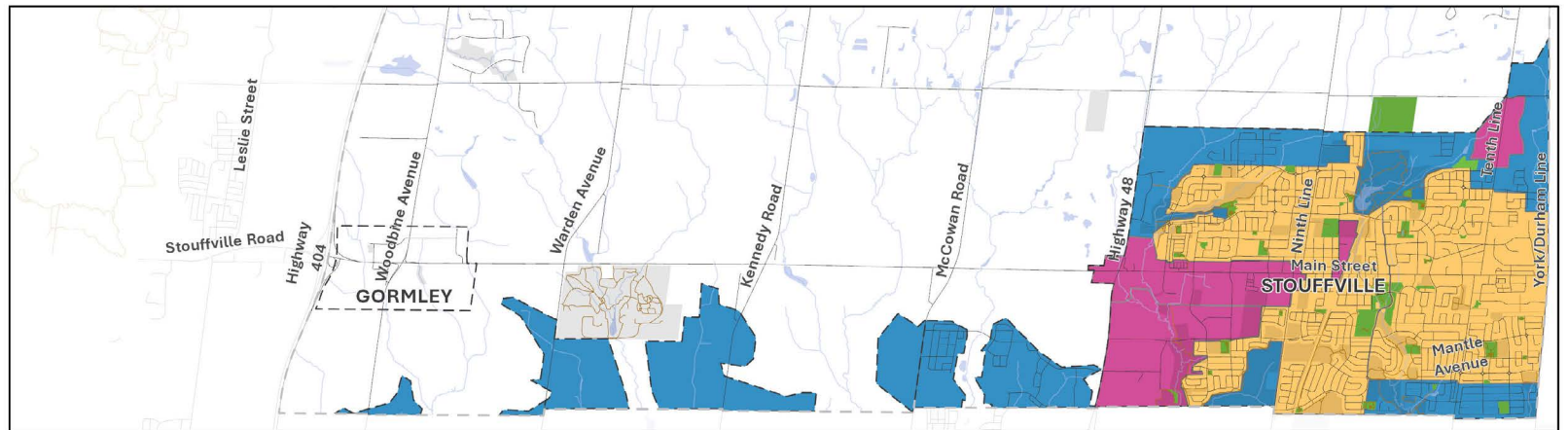
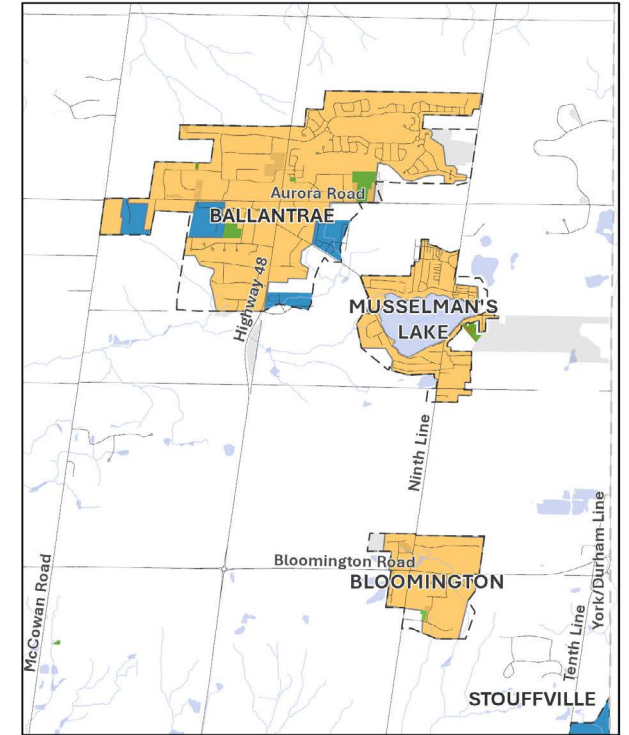
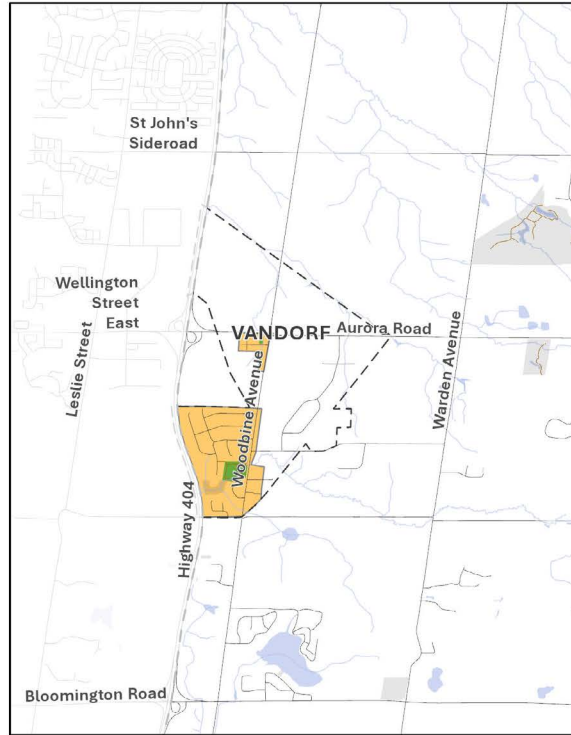
POPS

*\*Acceptance of when and in what arrangement has not been finalized*

# The Big Move 3: The Toolkit and Zones

- Active Parks
- Water
- Settlement Area
- Road Network
- Publicly-owned Open Space
- Trails
- Infill Zone
- Greenfield Zone
- Intensification Zone

0 1 km





# The Toolkit

*A selection of most the relevant tools to acquire parkland*

	Greenfield	Infill	Intensification
Dedication: 5% for low density and institutional. 2% for employment			
Dedication: Alternative rate for medium to high density			
Cash-in-lieu for land that would produce parks not meeting typology criteria			
Master Parkland Agreements and Off-site Dedication			
Land banking and proactive land acquisition			
Partnering with York Region and Conservation Authorities			
Easement Agreements			
Retrofitting existing parks			
Enhancing public use by working with schools			
Re-use of Town-owned parcels when opportunities emerge			
Donations and philanthropy			
Community Benefits Charges			
Support for trail and active transportation to increase access to parks			

# Next Steps

- + Finalization of Parks Plan
- + Development of Parkland Dedication By-law
- + Stakeholder consultation
- + Return to Council Presentation



Stouffville

Thank you