

ACTIVE PLACES

PARKS, FORESTRY & RECREATION
FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

TS9.1





TORONTO NEEDS A PLAN

Investing in the right facilities at the right times and in the right places



Growth

Over the next 20 years, Toronto will grow by 450,000 people, with almost half of that growth projected for the downtown core.



Demand

In 2007, 90,528 people were on program waitlists, a number that has grown to nearly 200,000 in 2016, despite new centres opening every few years.



Provision

The City's parks and recreation facilities have developed incrementally over decades, and pre-amalgamation municipalities each had their own approach to facility provision.



Aging Facilities

The average community recreation centre is almost 40 years old, and deteriorating facilities affect user experience, increase repair and operating costs and create risk and liability.

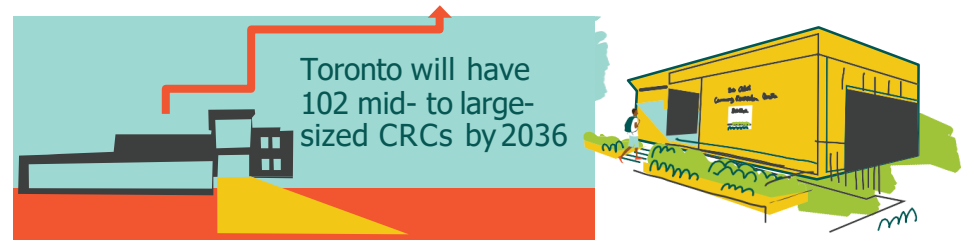
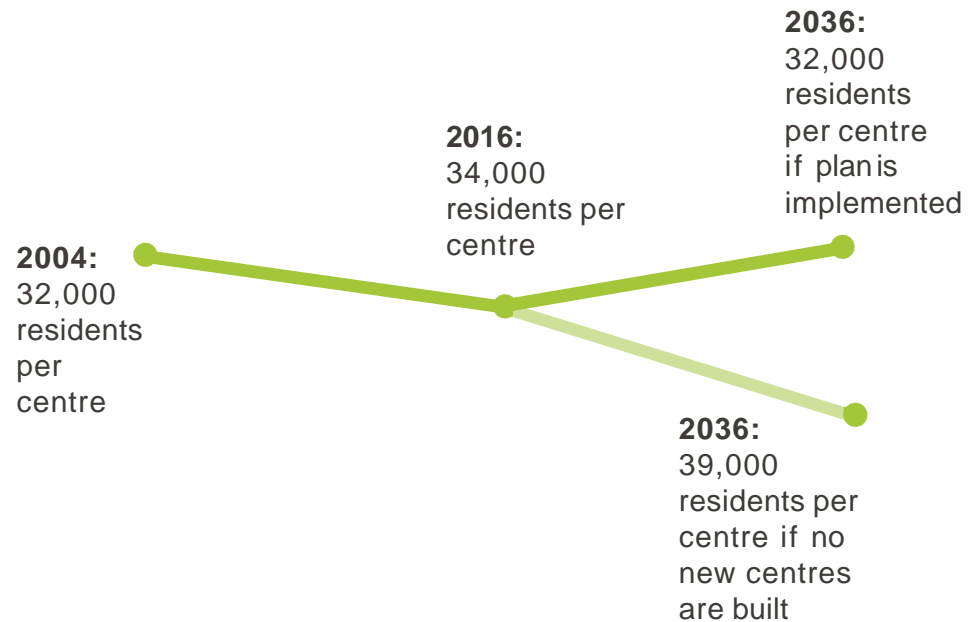
PLAN IN FOCUS

Toronto's recreation and park facilities are well-loved and well-used. This plan aims to maintain current provision rates over the next 20 years, in the face of a growing city.

Toronto is expected to grow from 2.85 million in 2017 to 3.3 million people in 2036.

Our recommendations also aim to ensure that we maintain our facilities in a state of good repair, and fill gaps where previous planning has left communities underserved.

Citywide Provision Rates



PLAN IN FOCUS

The following parks & recreation amenities were in scope for the review and planning exercise:

- Gymsnasiums
- Multipurpose, fitness and weight rooms
- Indoor walking tracks
- Specialized spaces (e.g. indoor playgrounds)
- Indoor, outdoor and wading pools
- Splash pads
- Indoor and outdoor ice and curling rinks
- Soccer, softball, baseball, cricket and multi-use fields and bubbles
- Tennis and basketball courts
- Bocce and lawn bowling facilities
- Bike and skateboard parks
- Fieldhouses and support buildings
- Off-leash dog parks

STATE OF GOOD REPAIR

Eliminate backlog

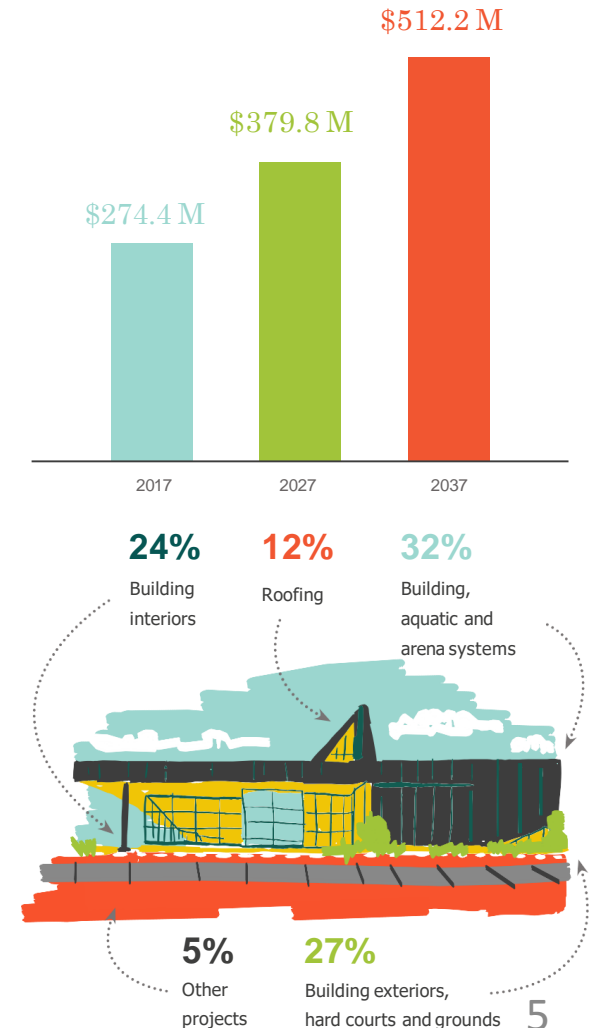
A annual increase of \$13.7 million to SOGR investment for each of the next 20 years will eliminate the backlog, ensuring that SOGR work is completed on a timely basis moving forward.

Increase investment

An ongoing commitment to increase SOGR investment by \$9.4 million annually to match the industry best practice of 2.1% will prevent significant backlogs from developing again.

Address spend rate

New staff added in 2017, combined with efficiencies in the procurement process will ensure that we are spending the funds Council has provided for this work.





COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTRES

NEW FACILITIES TO SERVE A GROWING CITY

The plan reconfirms 14 centres that are proposed or in progress through the 2004 plan, 2017-2026 Capital Budget and Plan, or through secondary and precinct plans and recommends three additional to fill gaps and meet growth.

REPLACING AGING FACILITIES

The plan recommends the replacement of 11 centres:

- Facilities 40 years older or more, with rising repair costs and deteriorating conditions
- A lack of suitable alternatives in the vicinity
- The facility serves one or more high-need areas
- The facility has outstanding AODA/barrier-free requirements

OTHER RECOMMENDED FACILITIES

- **45 soccer and multi-use fields**, potentially through collaboration with school boards and other partners
- **4 outdoor artificial ice rinks** and skating trails in areas that have lower levels of provision
- **30 multi-sport basketball** courts to address gaps across the city
- **4 skate parks**
- **14 splash pads**

INVESTMENT AND POLICY

\$37.8 M

additional annual investment required to achieve the plan's objectives

\$461.7 M

to eliminate repair backlog and increase ongoing investment

\$295 M

to meet growth and fill gaps with new and replaced facilities



1

Facilities will be optimized by prioritizing state of good repair and renewal.

2

Growth will pay for growth.

3

Outside of growth areas, we must pursue a variety of approaches.

4

Funding tools will be maximized and strategically applied.

5

Funding decisions will advance innovation and modernization.

6

Decision-making will be responsible, sustainable and transparent. The plan will be reviewed every 5 years.

IMPLICATIONS TO SCHOOL BOARDS

Longstanding Relationship

- Shared use agreements for community schools and indoor pools.
- Together contributing to health and wellbeing of students, their families and neighbourhoods
- Opportunity to partner in maximizing resources to address State of Good Repair

Partnership Success Stories

- Regent Park CC
- Canoe Landing CRC
- Alderwood CC
- Davisville

THE CITY-SCHOOL BOARD RELATIONSHIP

83

Evaluate the potential to **negotiate public access to facilities** supplied by other providers in areas of the city that lack municipal recreation facilities, for example at schools and YMCAs

84

Strengthen and **modernize agreements with local school boards** for achieving guaranteed and adequate public access, consistent maintenance and greater municipal oversight for needed parks and recreation facilities

85

Encourage partners – including school boards – to assist in meeting parks and recreation facility needs through the protection and renewal of community assets

THE CITY-SCHOOL BOARD RELATIONSHIP

26

Provide access to 45 new **soccer and multi-use fields** over the next 20 years. Possible strategies include collaborating with school boards to improve facilities and community access, ball diamond conversions, field upgrades and planning for a future sports complex

30

Provide access to up to five new **cricket pitches** within the next 20 years. New pitches should be regulation size and may be shared with other uses (e.g. across two full-size soccer fields). A variety of strategies such as partnerships with large landholders (e.g. schools, industrial areas, etc.), land acquisition and/or park redevelopment may be required to achieve this goal.

THE CITY-SCHOOL BOARD RELATIONSHIP

79

Consider the needs and strategies put forward in the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan in the evaluation of surplus school sites

93

Develop and implement a system for assessing progress and measuring success of the Facilities Master Plan. This will require understanding facility and program capacities, monitoring of facility usage, customer satisfaction levels, spending rates, dialogue with stakeholders, annual reporting on the implementation and more.

ACTIVE PLACES

PARKS, FORESTRY & RECREATION
FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

