

City Wide Study of **Existing City of Toronto Dogs Off-Leash Areas (OLA)**

Background

The City of Toronto's Parks Standards & Innovations Unit is leading an interdivisional study to examine how the City's existing Dog Off-Leash Areas (OLAs) can be reimagined to better harmonize with existing park uses, provide a satisfying user experience, and operate with optimum efficiency. This study is a result of the recommendation in the Parks & Recreation Facilities Master Plan (2017) to “develop criteria for improving existing dog off-leash areas.”

This study will explore common issues, global best practices, and potential solutions in an effort to develop design solutions to help improve the City's existing OLAs. The City will select eight case study sites and examine the variety of challenges and opportunities in OLAs of different size, context, and character. Ultimately, the Study will strive to address common issues, reflect consideration of a range of perspectives and needs, and propose site-specific recommendations that could apply to OLAs City-wide

Why Now

The City has heard that OLAs could be better

Improving existing OLAs will help the City maintain a successful park amenity.

Toronto's population (human and dog) is increasing

With more pets and dogs living in the City there is an increased demand to accommodate them in public space like parks.

Existing OLAs need to work as well as possible

In 2010, the City's People Dogs and Parks – Off-Leash Policy led to a capital investment of over \$5 million dollars to create and improve OLAs. With that capital investment completed in 2016, the City is focusing on improving what it already has.

Goals + Objectives

1. Improve existing OLAs through effective design, maintenance, and operations
2. Foster healthy relationships between dog owners and non-dog owners
3. Elevate OLAs as spaces that provide a healthy, safe, accessible, and sustainable environment
4. Adapt OLA designs to meet operational pressures, such as use and sustainability
5. Develop guidelines to ensure consistent maintenance and operation across Toronto
6. Develop design recommendations that can be applied to all existing OLAs
7. Identify required operating and/or capital budget to maintain & improve existing site
8. Improve community involvement and develop future ongoing partnerships

Phase One Building Understanding

Work Plan
March 2019

Review and Synthesis of Background Materials
April 2019

External Stakeholder Consultation #1
June 2019

Internal Stakeholder Consultation
July 2019

External Stakeholder Consultation #2
August 21st 2019

Public Survey #1
Early September 2019

Site Tour of 10 Case Studies
Early September 2019

Interviews with Local Stakeholders
Mid September 2019

High Level Concepts
Late September 2019

External Stakeholder Consultation #3
Late September/Early October 2019

‘Pup’ Ups
Mid October 2019

Public Survey #2
Mid October 2019

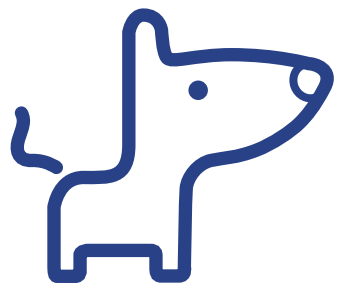
Concepts and Recommendations Finalized
Early November 2019

Draft Report
Late Novemeber 2019

External Stakeholder Consultation #4
Early December 2019

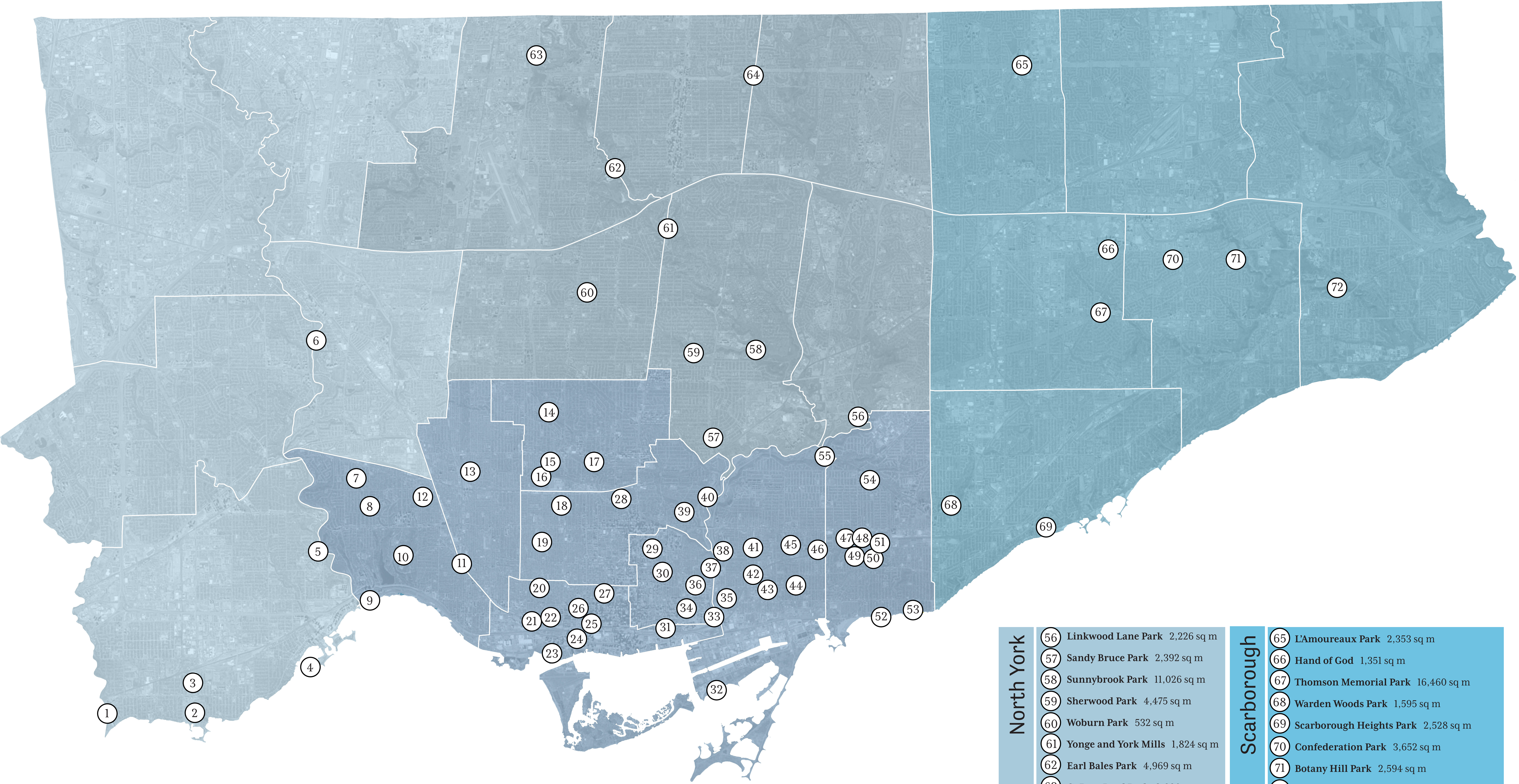
Final Report
End of December 2019

Phase Three Finalizing Recommendations



Phase Two Testing Ideas

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Etobicoke

- 1 Marie Curtis Park 4,764 sq m
- 2 Colonel Sam Smith Park 4,118 sq m
- 3 Don Russell Memorial Park 16,510 sq m
- 4 Humber Bay Park West 6,227 sq m
- 5 King's Mill Park 12,738 sq m
- 6 Raymore Park 3,781 sq m
- 7 Woolner Park 2,450 sq m

Toronto + East York

- 8 Beresford Park 2,805 sq m
- 9 Sir Casimir Gzowski Park 1,678 sq m
- 10 High Park 32,346 sq m
- 11 Sorauren Avenue Park 1,623 sq m
- 12 Baird Park 902 sq m
- 13 Earls court Park 1,785 sq m
- 14 Cedarvale Park (Seasonal) 4,390 sq m
Cedarvale Park (Year Round) 4,838 sq m
- 15 Wychwood Car Barns Park 1,231 sq m
- 16 Hillcrest Park 1,888 sq m
- 17 Sir Winston Churchill Park 4,730 sq m
- 18 Vermont Square 1,240 sq m
- 19 Bickford Park 2,258 sq m
- 20 Trinity Bellwoods Park 15,734 sq m
- 21 Bill Johnston Park 774 sq m
- 22 Stanley Park South 2,165 sq m
- 23 Coronation Park 6,020 sq m
- 24 Canoe Landing (Temporary) 532 sq m
- 25 Clarence Square 1,971 sq m
- 26 St. Andrew's Playground 545 sq m
- 27 Grange Park 624 sq m
- 28 Ramsden Park 2,372 sq m
- 29 Barbara Hall Park 968 sq m
- 30 Allan Gardens 2,650 sq m
- 31 David Crombie Park 1,496 sq m
- 32 Cherry Beach 38,806 sq m
- 33 Corktown Common 422 sq m
- 34 Orphan's Greenspace 1,695 sq m
- 35 Thompson Street Parkette 917 sq m
- 36 Regent Park 836 sq m

North York

- 56 Linkwood Lane Park 2,226 sq m
- 57 Sandy Bruce Park 2,392 sq m
- 58 Sunnybrook Park 11,026 sq m
- 59 Sherwood Park 4,475 sq m
- 60 Woburn Park 532 sq m
- 61 Yonge and York Mills 1,824 sq m
- 62 Earl Bales Park 4,969 sq m
- 63 G. Ross Lord Park 2,890 sq m
- 64 Bayview Arena Park 2,629 sq m

Scarborough

- 65 L'Amoureux Park 2,353 sq m
- 66 Hand of God 1,351 sq m
- 67 Thomson Memorial Park 16,460 sq m
- 68 Warden Woods Park 1,595 sq m
- 69 Scarborough Heights Park 2,528 sq m
- 70 Confederation Park 3,652 sq m
- 71 Botany Hill Park 2,594 sq m
- 72 Colonel Danforth Park 2,476 sq m

- 47 Merrill Bridge Road Park 5,005 sq m
- 48 Oakcrest Park 1,330 sq m
- 49 Wildwood Crescent Playground 1,486 sq m
- 50 Cassels Avenue Playground 6,129 sq m
- 51 Norwood Park 1,654 sq m
- 52 Kew Gardens (Beaches Park) 22,774 sq m
- 53 Silverbirch Park 13,844 sq m
- 54 Stan Wadlow Park 2,178 sq m
- 55 Coxwell Ravine (Taylor Creek Park) 1,038 sq m

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