

**Parkland County**

# Trails Implementation Plan

Consolidated

Completed by Authenticcity  
in Collaboration With  
Parkland County



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# 1.0 Introduction

*This report is a consolidation of the Trails Implementation Plan, capturing key highlights for high level discussion. Please refer to the complete report for in-depth analysis and recommendations for each section.*

## 1.1 Background

Investing in parks, trails, and open spaces offers numerous benefits that improve residents' quality of life while contributing to economic vitality and community cohesion. Although there are many factors influencing the decision of where to live, enhancing parks, trails, and open spaces can be a major draw for attracting and retaining people of all ages, including younger people. Additionally, these investments provide economic benefits by stimulating local economies, social and health benefits by promoting physical activity and community engagement, environmental benefits by preserving natural habitats and improving air and water quality, all while helping meet community needs by aligning recreational spaces with the preferences and accessibility requirements of residents.

For several years, one of the most prominent trends in recreation here in western Canada is trail use. Trails serve a range of social, health and economic benefits to a community. Once built, they provide no-cost recreation to people and their pets as a vital public amenity within parks and open spaces. While formal parks with amenities such as trails are often associated with more urbanized areas, trails are still a common amenity found in rural municipalities across Alberta and western Canada. Through recent research it has been found that Parkland County currently has a limited inventory of trails, and far less than other rural municipalities in the greater Edmonton region.

Authenticcity has been working with Parkland County for the past three years, developing strategy for the implementation of recreational trails within parks and open space. In 2023, Parkland County completed a "Trails Strategy", which included four primary components:

1. Inventory mapping, collecting data on all existing trails in the County;
2. Trails assessments, reviewing the condition of some trails in the inventory to determine the level of service offered to residents and any shortfalls in maintenance or performance of the trails;
3. Document review, ensuring we are aware of all the statutory and non-statutory documents in existence that pertain to the planning, construction, use and maintenance of trails in Parkland County; and
4. Community engagement, with several public open house sessions across the County to gather resident perspectives on trails.

While the terms of reference for the Trails Strategy demanded a robust background review, inventory and public engagement program, it lacked direction on implementation. Other recent trail-related initiatives have been completed since Council endorsement of the Trails Strategy in 2023. A summary of these is listed in the Trails Strategy document and are not duplicated here.

The 2023 Trails Strategy developed several values that apply to the development of trails, including:

- Increasing Connectivity – Trails that create an opportunity to connect to land and the environment. Trails connect key destinations;
- Cultivating Community – Trails which support engagement with the land in a culturally appropriate way. Trails support community growth;
- Building Communication – Trail wayfinding devices that are clear and intuitive;
- Enhancing the Natural Environment – Trails which promote the health of surrounding ecosystems;
- Forwarding Equity and Access – The benefits of trail use derived by all members of the community;
- Promoting Active living – Trails that support an active lifestyle;
- Expanding Partnerships – Trails that facilitate reciprocal relationships with community, businesses, the County, and the land. Trails are managed and used with respect to each other and the land;
- Ensuring Safety – Trail design and management creating a feeling of security and well-being for users;
- Facilitating Education – Trails which cultivate an understanding of the environment and cultural significance of the land; and
- Providing Recreation Opportunities – Trails in the County that provide opportunities for different recreation types.



## 1.2 Purpose of this Report

Ultimately, the purpose of this report is to bring more resolution to the 2023 Parkland County Trails Strategy and create a tool that County Administration can use to prioritize, plan and budget for trail development over approximately the next ten years. This report builds on the foundation established by the Trails Strategy document that came with significant public and stakeholder engagement, Council involvement and collaboration with County administrative staff. Given we are working hot off the heels of that project and its engagement, efforts are focused on an action plan – how trail projects are selected and prioritized, trail development standards and probable costs. This report identifies 14 proposed trail segments or networks to be developed, includes a summary of site assessments for a select sample of proposed trail segments, develops a prioritization tool for trail projects and provides probable costs of development for typical trail types.

With respect to action items, the 2023 Trails Strategy identified 11 immediate-term, eight medium-term and four long-term actions. The following actions are addressed to some degree by this report:

Work with developers to require the integration of municipal reserve and development of trails, where appropriate, within future residential developments	Immediate
Utilize the Conservation Master Plan mapping data when examining future trail opportunities	Immediate
Update trail classifications to more comprehensively address trail uses within Parkland County	Immediate
Incorporate accessibility standards into trail classification which align with universal design standards	Immediate
Partner with the Province to develop equestrian programming such as staging areas, designated trails and agreements with Jack Pine PGA leaseholders to expand equestrian oriented trail opportunities within the County	Medium
To expand or improve upon trails that are on Crown land, interest groups, such as recreation tourism operators, should work directly with the Province to get proper approvals and align with provincial standards	Medium
Develop a balanced approach to providing residents access to waterfront recreation such as a resident education campaigns, developing trails along waterfronts in MR setbacks (possibly ER) to be a visual aid between public vs. Private land, increasing the number of access points to waterfronts, etc.	Medium
Conduct active transportation opportunity assessments in Growth Hamlets	Medium

Table 1 - Trail Strategy Priority Action Items

### 1.3 Project Goals & Objectives

The following identifies project goals and objectives:

- Bringing more resolution to the directives of the 2023 Trails Strategy so that trails can be built;
- Considering the detailed inventory of exiting County-owned trails that was compiled in the 2023 Trails Strategy, identify gaps in the trails network and locations for newly proposed trails;
- Developing a comprehensive understanding of proposed trail development sites, including development opportunities and constraints;
- Refining trail typologies and providing guidance on recommended clearing zones, grades and construction methods;
- Creating a tool that Administration can use to prioritize trails, and having clear rationale for deciding how limited capital budgets should be spent; and
- Ensuring a consistent application of trail typologies, trail structures and proposed uses by different modes of movement to minimize conflict.

### 1.4 Balancing Conservation with Recreation

When trails are developed there needs to be a deliberate effort to minimize ecological disturbance, while still providing for human use of natural areas – whether in-fact, or previously disturbed. Not all parks and open spaces need to be heavily programmed and developed for active or passive recreational use. The County should encourage the designation of natural and conservation areas that are solely for the purpose of ecological preservation and maintaining a diversity of ecosystems thrive in the municipality. There are several tools to acquire land for this purpose, such as land trusts, conservation reserve easements, and designating land as environmental reserve. Trail development may need to use one of these acquisition tools given privately owned land that disconnects opportunities for continuous trails on public land.





## 2.0 Trail Typologies

*Please see the complete report for detailed analysis of each class type, recommendations, and cross sections for each classification included in the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Master Plan, along with recommended alterations to each. The following is an excerpt from the main report.*

- **Passive, Single-Track Trails:** Typically beginning as a game trail created by wildlife, these narrow trails are best suited to natural area appreciation, equestrian use or active mountain biking. Trail surfaces are typically either bare ground, or with minimal intervention such as wood chips or manufactured fines;
- **Passive, Gravel Trails:** Compacted granular trails that are open to a variety of uses such as walking, cycling, hiking, running, OHV travel, amongst others;
- **Multi-Use Trails:** Either wide granular surfaced, or paved trails that typically connect to major amenities, have a high level of public use or require winter snow clearing to allow for year-round use;
- **Active Transportation Corridors:** Typically built alongside roadways or directly on road carriageways, these routes are designated for cycling. Active transportation routes should only be considered in the densest of urban residential development in the County and should not be considered in any rural setting such as country residential subdivisions; and
- **Blue Ways:** These are water-based connections that people can travel using either motorized or non-motorized pleasure craft. These require specified and properly designed boat launches and waterway access points.

Trails should have appropriate clear zones on either side to allow for safe travel and to allow for people to pull off to the side to allow others to pass. At the same time, trail alignments should encourage tree plantings for the purpose of shade, to identify key access points or intersections, and overall aesthetics.

A review of the trail classification typologies developed as part of the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Master Plan was completed. Early on during engagement for the 2023 Trails Strategy, residents were quick to identify challenges with the classifications such as poor placement of equestrian corridors and improper trail materials for some uses. Opportunities that came out of conversations with the public also included integration of ecological sensitivities and trail etiquette into the classification system. The following should be considered as part of review of the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Master Plan Trail Classification.

Active transportation corridors and blue ways are not included in these typologies – active transportation corridors should be considered as part of County roadway development guidelines, and blue ways have a different level of jurisdictional planning given waterways are a Provincial responsibility. There are five trail types proposed, which should represent any of the proposed trail types in Parkland County. These five types include:

1. **Class 1** – multi-use, hard surfaced trails for year-round activities. Trails segments would be maintained year-round. These trails are intended for areas with highest volumes of traffic in more urbanized areas or when winter-time accessibility is desirable;
2. **Class 2** – multi-use trails that accommodate a great range of users including equestrian, pedestrian and wheeled conveyances. Trails are developed with a combination of grassed treads (equestrian and pedestrian use) and imported gravel surfaces (walking and wheeled conveyance access);
3. **Class 3** – single-track, minimalist trails that require the least amount of effort to construct and maintain. These trails create the greatest natural area experience by working with actual site conditions as much as possible with the least intervention;
4. **Class 4** – dedicated trails compatible with OHV use, while still allowing for pedestrian movement. As this typology has the highest erosion potential with bare or lightly compacted granular trail treads and the use of motorized OHVs, careful planning, construction oversight and long-term maintenance is required; and
5. **Class 5** – dedicated trails compatible with equestrian use, utilizing native soils and grassed surfaces. This typology also has high erosion potential particularly in areas of steeper slopes whereby horse hoofs disturb the ground.

A summary table has been provided outlining recommended parameters for developing each typology, typical use by class type and amenities provided:

## 2.1 Typical Trail Use by Class Type

	TYPICAL USES							
	HIKING	WALKING	EQUESTRIAN	MOUNTAIN BIKING	CYCLING	ROLLER BLADES	UNIVERSAL ACCESS	MOTORIZED VEHICLE
Class 1								
Class 2								
Class 3								
Class 4								
Class 5								

Table 2 - Typical trail uses by class type



TYPICALLY PROVIDED



OCCASIONALLY PROVIDED

## 2.2 Typical Trail Amenities by Class Type

	AMENITIES							
	FURNISHINGS	GARBAGE RECEPTACLES	KIOSK	REST AREAS	TOILETS	BICYCLE PARKING	VEHICLE PARKING	SIGNAGE
Class 1								
Class 2								
Class 3								
Class 4								
Class 5								

Table 3 - Typical trail amenities by class type



TYPICALLY PROVIDED



OCCASIONALLY PROVIDED

## 2.3 Typical Trail Use by Class Type

	<b>Class 1</b>	<b>Class 2</b>	<b>Class 3</b>	<b>Class 4</b>	<b>Class 5</b>
<b>Cross-fall</b>	0-3% slope	0-3% slope	0-5% slope	0-30% slope	0-20% slope
<b>Longitudinal slope</b>	0-8% slope	0-8% slope	0-15% slope	0-30% slope	0-30% slope
<b>Tread material</b>	Pavement / asphalt	Compacted gravel	Native soil, or woodchip	Lightly compacted gravel	Native grass
<b>Vertical clearing</b>	3m min.	3.5m min. equestrian side 2.5 min. pedestrian-only side	2.5m min.	2.5m min.	3.5m min.
<b>Horizontal clearing</b>	5.0-6.0m	5.0-6.5m	1.5m min.	3.0-4.0m	3.5m min.
<b>Ground / subgrade disturbance</b>	Significant - provide structure	Significant-provide adequate structure for gravel side, no disturbance equestrian side	Minimal (root / rock removal only)	Significant - provide adequate structure for gravel	Minimal (hazardous root / rock removal only)
<b>To mitigate for poor ground</b>	Requires geotechnical review	Woven geotextile fabric and / or geogrid ESC product	Avoidance: realign proposed trail	Woven geotextile fabric and / or geogrid ESC product	Avoidance: realign proposed trail

Table 4 - Trail Typology Classification Summary



## 2.4 Support Amenities: Wayfinding, Signage & Trail Amenities

*Please see the complete report containing proposed designs for each supporting amenity. The following is an excerpt from the main report.*

Wayfinding, signage, and trail amenities play an important role in facilitating a connected, accessible, and comfortable trail system. The following features were recommended through engagement as important wayfinding, signage and trail amenities that would enhance trail use and encourage more participation:

- Staging Areas – locations for parking including passenger vehicles and trucks with trailers;
- Trail Heads and Amenity Posts – maps and trail signs at the start of a key trail segment where public gathering or trail entry is anticipated;
- Interpretive Signage – providing historical, cultural and other educational opportunities;
- Benches – places for seating along trails and at trail heads;
- Waste Receptacles – to be in key locations to gather trash but also must be easily accessible for maintenance purposes;
- Lighting – being mindful of dark sky guidelines and the need to minimize disturbance that light has on natural areas and wildlife, while providing the ability for people to be safe and comfortable during nighttime conditions;
- End of Trip/Bike Maintenance Facilities – tools and convenient tables as examples of amenities that riders can use to make post-travel adjustment to their equipment;
- Design and Construction Standards – having consistent standards for how trails are planned, constructed and maintained; and

A range of sign types are recommended for trails for the purpose of wayfinding, promoting personal safety, to provide regulatory and usage guidelines, indicate park and trail names, amongst others.



# 3.0 Trail Project Scoring Matrix

The following is a proposed scoring matrix to evaluate potential trail projects, giving each a score. This tool will allow administration to compare one project to another and provides a priority ranking to ensure the most desirable project is completed first. The criteria were developed from engagement program from the 2023 Trails Strategy and subsequent dialogue with County Administration. Key considerations in the scoring matrix includes:

- A resident first approach
  - High density residential gets a priority
  - We are mindful of the needs of local residents before concern for tourist attractions and accommodating for demands from people outside the County
- Connecting key amenities for residents, allowing for more safe pedestrian experiences particularly for children and people with limited mobility
  - Emphasizing connections to key public amenities such as schools, community halls, post offices, amongst others
- Providing safe access
  - Recommending appropriate trail types for the intended users
  - In some instances, recommending trails with limited users allowed such as equestrian-only trails or not permitting motorized vehicles on particular trails
- Representing key ecosystems
  - Allowing for controlled enjoyment of sensitive environments, ensuring use is allowed while respecting the carrying capacity of certain ecosystems
  - Celebrating our ecological diversity and providing trails that allow people to explore various ecotypes
- Ecological Stewardship & Environmental Ethic
  - Developing trails and trail infrastructure that is mindful of the sensitivities of surrounding ecosystems
  - Limiting the need for complex regulatory approvals
  - Avoiding overly expensive trail costs (both construction and maintenance costs) where certain ecosystems come with complex conditions
- Developer Contribution
  - Financial commitments are available to the project as part of a development through developer contributions, to some extent
- Cost / Benefit
  - The extent that a project has economic benefits to the local economy, such as revenue generation from use, supporting local hotels and restaurants, amongst others

Item	Description	Description	Value	Weight	Score	Total	
1	Resident first approach	being mindful of the needs of local residents before concern for tourist / outside residents' benefits, and accommodating for demands from people outside the County	proposed trail has a focus on meeting resident needs	100	5%		0
			proposed trail has benefits to both residents and tourists	80			
			focus on tourists only	60			
2	Connection to key amenities	Emphasizing connections to key public amenities such as schools, community halls, post offices, amongst others	Connects two primary community amenities together	100	10%		0
			Connects one primary community amenity with a minor feature such as a trail head or parking area	80			
			Connects one minor feature to another	40			
			Does not connect any key public amenities or minor feature together	do not proceed			
3	Providing safe access	Suitable trails can be developed for the intended use. For example, sufficient width to accommodate all permitted modes of movement along with equestrian use along the same corridor	The proposed alignment can accommodate all proposed modes of movement with sufficient separation or tread width	100	10%		0
			The proposed alignment requires minimal alteration such as tree and brush clearing to accommodate	80			
			The proposed alignment requires significant alteration such as tree and brush clearing to accommodate	60			
			The proposed trail types cannot be easily accommodated along the proposed alignment	do not proceed			
4	Representing key ecosystems	Celebrating our ecological diversity and providing trails that allow people to explore various ecotypes	The proposed trail showcases five or more types of ecosystems	100	25%		0
			The proposed trail showcases three or four different representative ecosystems	80			
			The proposed trail showcases two different representative ecosystems	40			
			The proposed trail showcases only one representative ecosystem	0			
5	Ecological stewardship and environmental ethic	Developing trails and trail infrastructure that is mindful of the sensitivities of surrounding ecosystems and avoiding overly expensive trail costs (both construction and maintenance costs) where certain ecosystems come with complex conditions	The development of the trail will help restore disturbed ecosystems and improve ecological health on the site	100	25%		0
			The proposed trail will have no measurable or discernable effect on the site's ecosystems	60			
			The proposed trail will have impacts on surrounding ecosystems that can be mitigated for through additional site work	30			
			The proposed trail will have impacts on surrounding ecosystems that cannot be mitigated for	do not proceed			
6	Developer contribution	Financial commitments are available to the project as part of a development through developer contributions, to some extent	More than 70% of the project is funded by a developer	300	15%		0
			Between 30% and 70% of the project is funded by a developer	200			
			There are no developer contributions	0			
			The County is funding trails on private property that solely benefit a select group of residents only	do not proceed			
7	Cost / Benefit - Financial Return	The extent that a project has economic benefits to the local economy, such as revenue generation from use, supporting local hotels and restaurants, amongst others	Generates a significant economic benefit to the local economy	300	10%		0
			Generates a moderate economic benefit for the local economy	200			
			Limited positive economic benefit of developing the trail for the local economy	50			
			No foreseen economic benefit of developing the trail for the local economy	0			

Table 5 - Trail Development Prioritization Rubric

Total Project Score: 100% 0

Decision Summary:
81 and above - Proceed with project, high priority
61-80 - Proceed with project, medium priority
41-60 - Revisit project, develop an alternate proposal
0-40 - Do not proceed

## 4.0 Trail Typologies

*Please see the complete report for a detailed description of each project. The following is an excerpt from the main report.*

As the need for trails is identified, the County will need to determine the method in which suitable land is acquired. Limitations such as privately-owned land can be overcome with trail easements, the designation of public utility lots or the taking of land through conservation reserve under the guidelines set forth in the Alberta Municipal Government Act.

Trails shown in this report include some segments overlaid on privately-owned lands. Trail development on private land is most often realized through the subdivision process, whereby trail alignments can be secured through the taking of municipal reserve, environmental reserve, and utility easements. Early-on planning for trails is essential, particularly in the effort to offset trail development and maintenance costs through developer contributions.

Through a workshop session with Parkland County Administration staff, this study identified 14 potential trail development projects across the County. The following are potential candidate sites for upcoming trail development projects, ranging from enhancement of existing trails to the development of new ones. Trail types also range, from single track dirt or woodchip trail treads to multi-use trails and elevated boardwalks. Other projects may also be identified in future years, as new growth areas develop, when partnerships arise or new priority areas are identified.

This report proposes four distinct categories of trail location typologies, including:

1. high density residential areas;
2. connection of key amenities;
3. destination parks & open space;
4. conservation areas



Land use classifications have been provided and include the following zones. The chart also indicates which district trails can be developed, or are discretionary and will need to be developed with special considerations such as safety and perimeter fencing or other controls:

Zone	Description	Permitted	Discretion	Discourage
AG	Agriculture General	X		
AGC	Agriculture Conservation	X		
AROP	Acheson Residential Protection Overlay		X	
BI	Business Industrial	X		
C	Commercial		X	
CR	Country Residential	X		
DC	Direct Control		X	
ERD	Estate Residential	X		
FPO	Floodplain Protection		X	
MI	Medium Industrial		X	
HI	Heavy Industrial			X
RC	Rural Centre	X		
RS	Recreation and Community Services	X		
VR	Village Residential	X		
LSR	Lakeshore Residential		X	
N	Natural Areas		X	
RI	Resource Industry *			X
RR	Recreational Resort	X		
VC	Village Core	X		
VR	Village Residential	X		
VRM	Village Residential Multi-Unit	X		

\*Trail Development may occur after site has been reclaimed

The Alberta Municipal Government Act has provisions for land designations including Environmental Reserve (ER) and Conservation Reserve (CR). While any permanent development in ER areas should be limited, the development of passive trails and supporting amenities (signage, benches, waste receptacles) is allowed when it can be constructed and programmed with limited ecological disturbance. Trail and amenity development in ER is strongly encouraged given the physical and visual access it can provide to unique natural features.

#### 4.1 Proposed Projects by Distinct Development Category

High Density Residential Areas	Connection of Key Amenities	Destinations and Key Parks & Open Space	Conservation Areas
Big Lake – Hwy 60 to City of Edmonton Limits, and PULs	Spruce Grove to Edmonton – Along Hwy 16	Tomahawk Townsite to Tomahawk School	Wagner Natural Area Trails Extension
Acheson – Loop Trails Through SWMFs	RVA Connection at Prospector’s Point Park	Graminia School to Graminia Hall	RVA Trail Connection
Wabumun Connection – Future Marina to Park Connection		Hasse Lake	Sunshine Club Waterfront Trails
		Jack Pine Provincial Grazing Area	North Saskatchewan River Access
		Seba Beach OHV Area	
3	2	5	4

Table 6: Four distinct categories of proposed trail locations with proposed sample projects



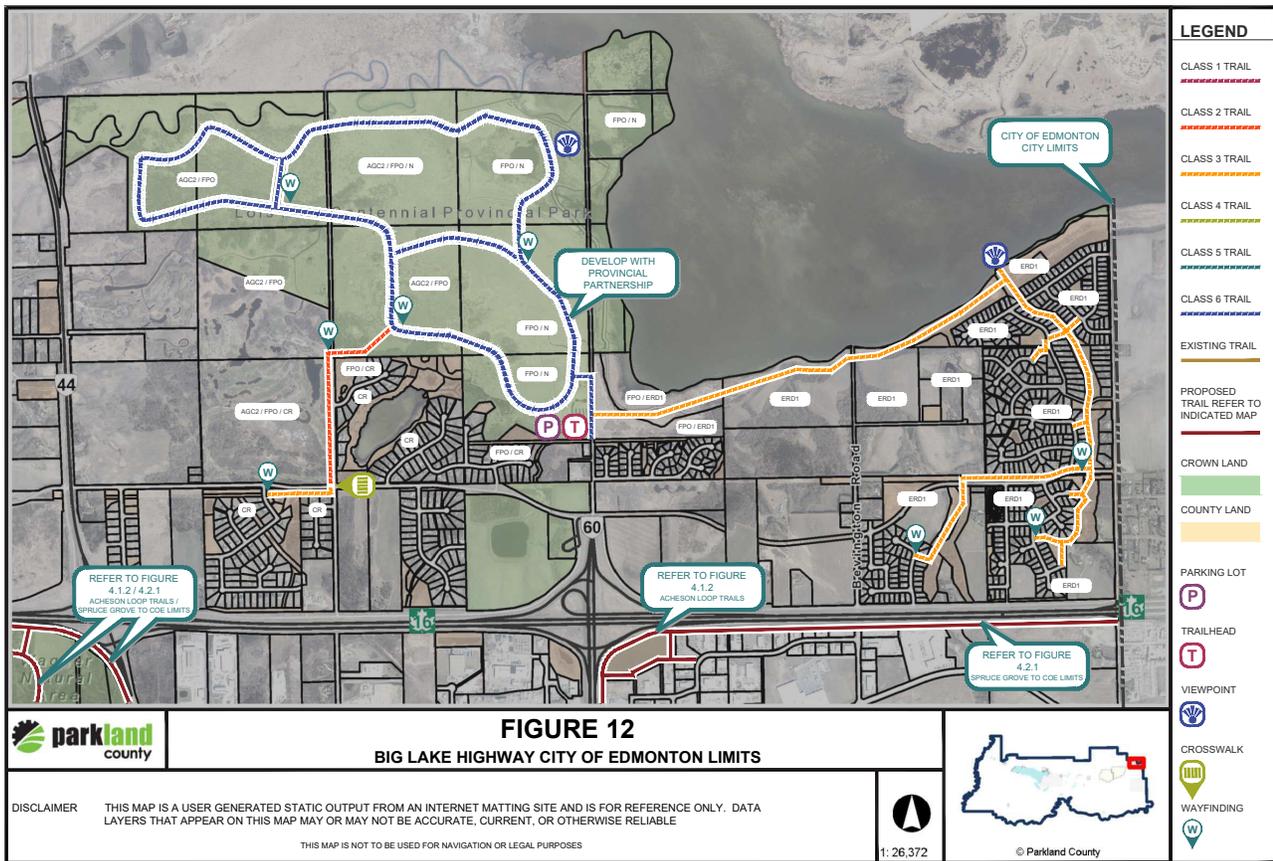


Figure 3 - Network of trails between Big Lake Developments to City of Edmonton limits trail, along waterfront

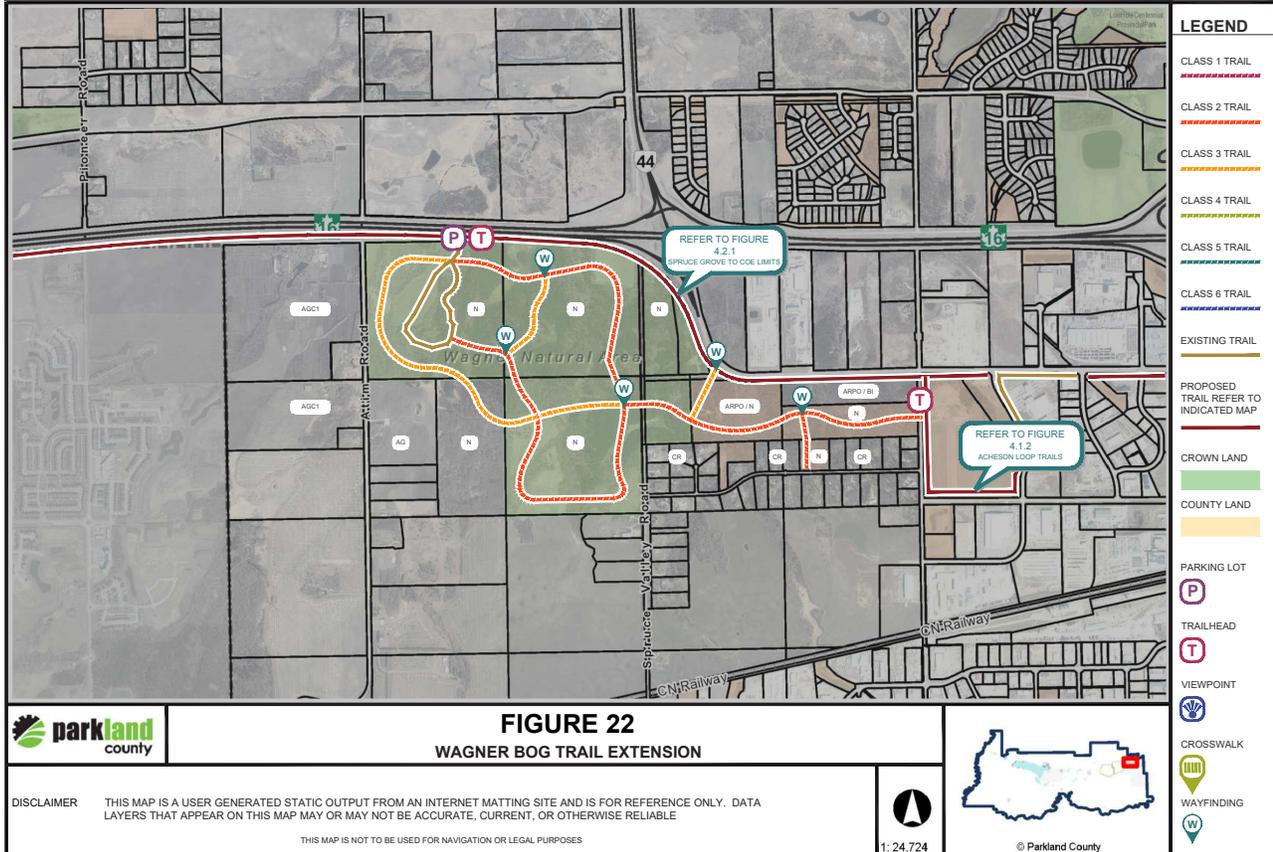


Figure 4 - Network of Trails to Expand on Existing Trails as Wagner Natural Area

# 5.0 Next Steps: Implementation

*Please see the complete report for a detailed description of competencies required for staff and professional services. The following is an excerpt from the main report.*

## 5.1 Staff Requirements

Beyond the capital cost of developing trails, Parkland County needs to consider long-term operational costs of trails. The addition of full-time equivalents (FTEs) may be required to take on a higher level of service. There are several staff competencies necessary to aid in trail management and long-term operations, including the following:

- long-range planning: Network-based decision-making and understanding how long-range plans can be sequenced and phased over time;
- capital program management and project management: Municipalities are often discouraged to conduct their own designs due to taking on the risk of professional liability. Oversight of hired consultants for capital planning and design is very important, and having the expertise to act as project managers for those tasks contracted out;
- recreation programming: Developing programs for residents to participate in, targeting the right audience, demographic, skill levels, etc. Delivering programming may be done by municipal staff, or through partnerships with private individuals or contracted entities. Operations of recreational facilities and open spaces that host programs are less common in rural municipalities and are more common in rural ones. While Parkland County does not maintain facilities such as large recreation centres, it does have an inventory of parks and open spaces suited to host programs and events for its rural residents that the trail network plays an important role in; Event Planning: Planning for and executing special events such as Canada Day celebrations, civic holiday events, fairs, and festivals. These types of events are more common in urban centres but can also be found in many rural municipalities where the hamlets and smaller communities within the broader municipality do not have the necessary staff capacity or financial resources;

- 
- community engagement : Public and stakeholder engagement is essential as trails, parks and open space are developed. Planning and hosting open houses, workshops, and information sessions, particularly for planning and design project, is essential;
  - technical support: while this can be provided by staff from other disciplines, competencies such as GIS, graphic design, and CAD support are needed for day-to-day trails operations and development planning;
  - trail maintenance: Assessing strategies to repair erosion and sedimentation, monitoring trail conditions, modifying trail tread and repairing surfaces, and long-term replacement of trail surfacing is an important skill required by internal staff. As important as the actual repairs are, proactive assessment and forecasting repairs are even more essential to reduce unnecessary costs; and

As new trail projects are identified, Administration is encouraged to forecast any special maintenance equipment, and the capacity of staff to address each of the above competencies. Additional FTEs may be required.

## 5.2 Professional Services

Municipalities are often discouraged to take on the role of designing public infrastructure due to the potential liabilities associated and lack of proper insurance in place. In addition, most municipalities do not have the range of professional and technical competencies to perform the range of design and planning activities required. The following are professional services necessary to properly plan and implement trails:

- Land use planning
- Geotechnical engineering
- Environmental approvals
- Erosion and sediment
- Trail design
- Signage and wayfinding
- Implementation monitoring

Parkland County may determine that some of the above tasks can be delivered internally, to reduce overall project costs. A risk / reward assessment should be completed at the onset of each project when determining what work can be done by internal resources.



# 6.0 Closure

*This consolidated report on the Trails Implementation Plan provides a high-level summary of the detailed report. The County is encouraged to review all findings, both high-level and detailed, as provided in the complete version, which includes thorough analysis, recommendations, and plans for implementing trails in the County.*

## 6.1 Next Steps

- More detailed assessments will be required to exact the proposed alignments, to generate proposed trail structures and to refine potential costs.
- Trail development and associated site work may also trigger the need for environmental site assessments and regulatory approvals for those segments passing through more sensitive landscapes such as wetland and fen areas.
- To refine costs, a detailed site survey, geotechnical testing and engineering recommendations will be required.
- Utilize the prioritization rubric included in this report to assist with evaluating proposed trails based on a wide range of considerations.
  - This will help defend decisions made and ensure the most important trails are completed first and not simply motivated by only one or a few considerations such as political pressure.
- The County is encouraged to initiate detailed site evaluations, design and construction oversight by qualified professionals that have significant experience in all facets of trail development.

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