



THE IMPORTANCE OF PARKS & RECREATION


- Parks and recreation facilities function as community hubs and focal points
- Encourage healthy lifestyles through physical activity and social interaction
- Provide opportunities for residents to play which is good for physical and mental health
- Achieve goals of environmental preservation
- Can contribute to economic prosperity



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PURPOSE OF THE MASTER PLAN

- Provides Brock with a strategy to guide decision-making with respect to its parks and recreation system
 - Defines the Township's mandate and role with respect to parks and recreation
 - Plans to the year 2022
- Sets a **framework** for the Township to evaluate needs and priorities for:
 - Recreation Facilities and Services
 - Parks and Open Spaces
- The Master Plan is currently in DRAFT form and has not yet been adopted by Council



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WORK COMPLETED TO DATE

- Review of relevant background documents
- Researched Brock's community profile & applicable trends
- Community consultations
 - Project Awareness (website)
 - Community Search Conference (15 attendees)
 - Stakeholder Surveys (21 responses)
 - PAN Household Survey (164 responses)
 - Interviews
 - Written Submissions
- Facility and service assessments
- Draft Master Plan



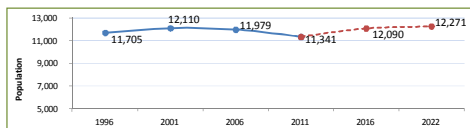
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What We Have Learned So Far

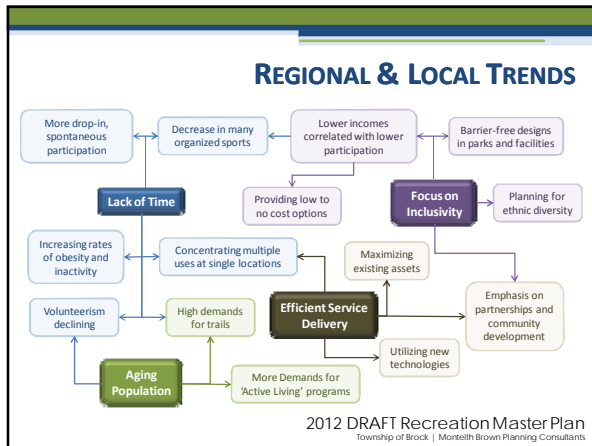


COMMUNITY PROFILE

- Brock is presently experiencing a declining population and is forecasted to experience a modest growth over the life of the Master Plan (10 years)
- The average age of residents is increasing (median age is 45, up from 42 five years ago) and is higher than Durham Region (39) and Ontario (40)
- The median Household Income is \$59,600 (Ontario is \$60,455)
- Brock has a high commuter rate (66% work outside of Brock)



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- ### THEMES FROM CONSULTATIONS
- People generally **value** the strength of the local **volunteer** system, they take pride in the **community events** that are offered, and appreciate the focus on **recreation**
 - Desire to see **better utilization** of local facilities while improving them so that they are **modern** and something residents can be proud of
 - Target **cost-effective** and **fiscally-responsible** services
 - Recognition that **partnerships** could help enhance local services
 - Better **communication** between all stakeholders can improve relationships, avoid duplicating services, coordinate volunteers, etc.
 - Need for a clear **point of contact** at the Township to answer questions from residents and facilitate access to recreation facilities for groups
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ICE PADS

- Reduce the municipal supply by 1 ice pad
- Preferred approach is to:
 - Retain arenas in Beaverton and Sunderland
 - Decommission and/or repurpose Cannington Arena as it is the least utilized facility and costs the most to operate – a feasibility study will need to be undertaken to determine future use
- Alternative approach is to:
 - Construct a new twin pad, multi-use facility and decommission all existing ice pads
 - Would require major capital investment



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COMMUNITY HALLS

- A number of hall spaces that duplicate each other from a recreational perspective, though good distribution achieved in urban and rural areas
 - Old Town Halls (3), Integrated Halls in Arenas (3), Community Halls (2)
- Cost implications of maintaining an oversupply
 - Nearly \$500,000 planned in 10 year capital budget
 - Operating subsidy totalled \$90,000 in 2011
- Encourage local hall boards or groups to assume a greater role and responsibility in operating the Manilla and Wilfrid Community Halls (including financial)
 - Work with groups to determine how halls could be enhanced to provide a greater/different range of services than offered at the Community Centres
 - If repurposing is not feasible or groups cannot assume operational responsibility, consider divesting of one or both Community Halls

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SPORTS FIELDS

- Assist the Brock Soccer Club in moving towards self sufficiency by providing appropriate supports
 - Club offers a great deal of programming on only two fields – field requirements may increase as its members move into older divisions
 - Could help the Club through lighting/irrigating fields or building new fields
- Encourage the Club to prepare a feasibility study and business plan for provision of their desired indoor turf facility
 - Could be integrated into a repurposed Cannington Arena
- Surplus of ball diamonds exists
 - Could consider repurposing an underutilized diamond (e.g. Manilla Park) to a more needed use such as a future soccer field or off-leash dog park

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PLAYGROUNDS & SPLASH PADS

- As part of the playground replacement program, on a case-by-case basis, install modern playgrounds that also provide barrier-free components for children with disabilities and special needs
 - Consider a fully-accessible, barrier-free playground at a major park such as Claire Hardy/MacLeod Park
- Assist the local service club as needed to provide a splash pad at Harbour Park in Beaverton



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MACLEOD PARK / CLAIRE HARDY PARK

- Undertake a Park Master Plan specifically for MacLeod/Claire Hardy Park
- Advance a Vision for the site, particularly if the community centre is repurposed
 - Ensures that investment is coordinated and makes efficient use of capital
 - Possibly relocate and expand the tennis courts so that organized tennis could take place in conjunction with the Lawn Bowling Club
 - Consider a BMX/Mountain Bike Park to complement the new skateboard park and basketball court (create a destination for youth)
 - Examine ways to enhance the park as a social space or place for community gatherings and special events



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PARKLAND

- Define a formal park classification system in the Official Plan
 - Neighbourhood Park, Community Park, Passive Open Space
- Ensure that the Official Plan clearly defines the Township's right under the Planning Act to require developments to convey:
 - 5% of residential land or 2% of other lands;
 - 1 hectare per 300 dwelling units; or
 - Cash-in-lieu equivalent
- Acquire an additional 2.2 hectares of parkland by 2022, assuming population growth occurs as forecasted
 - This will maintain existing level of service at 2.5 hectares per 1,000 pop.
 - Note: existing stormwater management ponds provide about 2.3 hectares and can be viewed as supplementary open space (but are not considered as parks)

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT APPROACH


The Township should continue to provide space while community providers offer services – this can be achieved by:

- Developing a Partnership Evaluation Policy to evaluate and respond to requests for partnerships in a transparent and equitable manner
- Facilitating convenient and cost-effective community access, where possible, to non-municipal facilities (e.g. schools, churches, etc.)
- Assisting volunteer groups with strategies aimed at awareness, recruitment and retention, and recognition
- Ensuring the necessary staffing supports by continuing relationships with the Physical Activity Network and its Physical Activity Coordinator, expanding the role of an existing staff person, or considering a new 'Recreation Facilitator'

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IMPLEMENTATION

- An implementation strategy is set out that prioritizes each recommendation:
 - High Priorities – to be implemented in the short-term (1-3 years)
 - Medium Priorities – to be implemented in the mid-term (4-6 years)
 - Low Priorities – to be implemented in the long-term (7-10+ years)
- Undertake a review of the Master Plan every 5 years to ensure it is reflective of future demographics and market circumstances



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Question & Answer Period

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