

Executive Committee

Wednesday, November 4, 2026
9:00 AM

Henry Baker Hall, Main Floor, City Hall

Public Agenda
Executive Committee
Wednesday, November 4, 2026

Approval of Public Agenda

Adoption of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held October 21, 2026

Administration Reports

EX26-117 Transit Route Adjustments – Route 1 and Route 17

Recommendation
That the Executive Committee approve the Route 1 and Route 17 adjustments outlined in Appendices A and B, with the intention of a Q2 2027 implementation date at its meeting on November 4, 2026.

EX26-118 2027 Council and Committee Meeting Calendar

Recommendation
The Executive Committee recommends that City Council:

1. Approve the 2027 meeting schedule for City Council, Executive Committee, Audit and Finance Committee and the Regina Planning Commission as outlined in Appendix A.

2. Approve this recommendation at its November 18, 2026 meeting.

EX26-119 Water & Property Tax Affordability Program

Recommendation
The Executive Committee recommends that City Council:

1. Remove item *CR25-127 Water & Property Tax Affordability Program* from its List of Outstanding Items; and

2. Approve this recommendation at its meeting on November 18, 2026.

EX26-120 Playgrounds

Recommendation

That the Executive Committee recommend that City Council:

1. Approve the playground service levels as outlined in this report;

2. Direct Administration to update the Recreation Master Plan, through the 2027 refresh, with approved playground service levels;

3. Direct Administration to share future Destination Playground designs and City Neighbourhood Playground designs using innovative or new products affecting accessibility with the Accessibility Advisory Committee;

4. Approve updates to the Accessible Playground Design Standard as outlined in Appendix F with the addition of one inclusive swing required where swings are included;

5. Consider approval of operating funding for an ongoing accessible playground grant program through the 2027 Budget deliberations with the removal of the requirement in the grant guidelines stating that 40% or more of estimated project costs must have already been raised;

6. Remove *MN25-5 Playground Accessibility* and *MN26-3 Accessible Playground Guidelines Related to Grant Program* from the list of outstanding items; and

7. Approve these recommendations at its meeting on November 18, 2026.

Resolution for Private Session

AT REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026

AT A MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
HELD IN PUBLIC SESSION

AT 9:00 AM

These are considered a draft rendering of the official minutes. Official minutes can be obtained through the Office of the City Clerk once approved.

Present:	Councillor David Froh, in the Chair Mayor Chad Bachynski Councillor Clark Bezo Councillor Mark Burton Councillor Victoria Flores Councillor Jason Mancinelli Councillor Shobna Radons Councillor Dan Rashovich Councillor George Tsiklis (Remote) Councillor Sarah Turnbull Councillor Shanon Zachidniak
Also in Attendance:	Acting City Clerk, Amber Ackerman Acting Deputy City Clerk, Martha Neovard Acting City Manager, Jim Nicol City Solicitor, Shannon Williams Deputy Manager, Communications, Service Regina & Tourism, Jennifer Johnson Deputy Manager, City Planning & Community Services, Deborah Bryden Deputy City Manager, City Operations, Kurtis Doney Acting Chief Financial Officer & Deputy City Manager, Jeff May Director, Assessment & Property Revenue Systems, Tanya Mills Director Community Standards, Faisal Kalim Director, Planning & Development Services, Autumn Dawson Director, Sustainable Infrastructure, Luke Grazier Senior City Planner, Heather Kindermann Senior City Planner, Michael Sliva

(The meeting commenced in the absence of Councillors Victoria Flores, Jason Mancinelli, Shobna Radons, Sarah Turnbull and Shanon Zachidnaik.)

APPROVAL OF PUBLIC AGENDA

Councillor Mark Burton moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the agenda for this meeting be approved at the call of the Chair, with the following adjustments:

- **ADD: The registered List of Delegations.**

- **AMEND: The published agenda to append report *ACC26-9 Parking Ticket Collections Process* from the August 31, 2026 Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, to item *EX26-109 Parking Ticket Collections Process.***

- **WITHDRAW**: **Delegation Steve Oke, Brandt Group of Companies from item *EX26-112 Review of Standalone Surface Parking Lots.***

- **MOVE**: **Item *EX26-112 Review of Standalone Surface Parking Lots* and related delegation to be considered after item *EX26-107 2026 2027 Budget Submission - Regina Public Library* and the related delegations.**

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Mayor Chad Bachynski moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the minutes for the meeting held on October 7, 2026 be adopted, as circulated.

(Councillor Shanon Zachidniak joined the meeting.)

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

EX26-107 2027 Budget Submission - Regina Public Library

Recommendation
That the Executive Committee refer the 2027 mill rate requests as submitted by the Regina Public Library (RPL) to the December 7, 2026 City Council budget deliberations.

The Chair called for a 5-minute recess due to technical issues.

The Committee recessed at 9:12 a.m.

The Committee reconvened at 9:16 a.m.

(Councillors Jason Mancinelli, Shobna Radons and Sarah Turnbull arrived to the meeting.)

The following addressed the Committee:

- Joanne Havelock, representing Friends of the Regina Public Library, Regina, SK

(Councillor Victoria Flores arrived to the meeting.)

The following addressed the Committee and gave a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the City Clerk:

- Marj Gavigan, Amber Christensen and Curtis Smith, representing Regina Public Library, Regina, SK

Councillor David Froh moved that the report be received and filed.

RECESS

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 33(2.1) of City Council's *Procedure Bylaw No. 9004*, a 15 minute recess was called.

The Committee recessed at 10:28 a.m.

The Committee reconvened at 10:46 a.m.

Councillor David Froh moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the Committee withdraw the motion on the floor.

Councillor David Froh moved the recommendation contained in the report be concurred in.

The referral motion was put and declared CARRIED.

RESULT:	CARRIED [9 to 2]
MOVER:	Councillor Froh
IN FAVOUR:	Councillors: Bezo, Burton, Flores, Froh, Mancinelli, Radons, Rashovich, Zachidniak and Mayor Bachynski
AGAINST:	Councillors: Tsiklis, Turnbull

EX26-112 Review of Standalone Surface Parking Lots

Recommendation

The Executive Committee recommends that City Council:

1. Subject to approval through the 2027/2028 Budget process, direct Administration to report to City Council by Q4 2028 following the completion of the City Centre Transportation Study and Parking Travel Demand Strategy, with an overview of the findings, a recommended delivery plan and implementation timelines for actions arising from this work;

2. Remove item *MN24-12 Nuisance and Underutilized Properties* from its List of Outstanding Items; and

3. Approve these recommendations at its October 28, 2026 meeting.

The following addressed the Committee:

- Mike Tate, Regina and District Chamber of Commerce, Regina, SK
- Mitch Molnar, Mitchell Developments Ltd, Regina SK

RECESS

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 33(2.2) of City Council's *Procedure Bylaw No. 9004*, a 45 minute recess was called.

The Committee recessed at 12:07 p.m.

The Committee reconvened 12:58 p.m. in the absence of Councillor George Tsiklis.

Members of Administration gave a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

(Councillor George Tsiklis returned to the meeting.)

Councillor Jason Mancinelli moved that City Council:

1. **Subject to approval through the 2027/2028 Budget process, direct Administration to report to City Council by Q3 2028 following the completion of the City Centre Transportation Study and Parking Travel Demand Strategy, with an overview of the findings, a recommended delivery plan and implementation timelines for actions arising from this work;**

2. **Remove item *MN24-12 Nuisance and Underutilized Properties* from its List of Outstanding Items; and**

3. **Approve these recommendations at its October 28, 2026 meeting.**

(Mayor Chad Bachynski temporarily left the meeting.)

(Councillor Jason Mancinelli temporarily left the meeting.)

(Mayor Chad Bachynski and Councillor Jason Mancinelli returned to the meeting.)

The main motion was put and declared LOST.

RESULT:	LOST [4 to 7]
MOVER:	Councillor Mancinelli
IN FAVOUR:	Councillors: Burton, Froh, Rashovich and Mayor Bachynski
AGAINST:	Councillors: Bezo, Flores, Mancinelli, Radons, Tsiklis, Turnbull, Zachidniak

RECESS

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 33(2.1) of City Council's *Procedure Bylaw No. 9004*, a 15 minute recess was called.

The Committee recessed at 2:31 p.m.

The Committee reconvened at 2:55 p.m.

Councillor David Froh moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee refer the following items to the October 28, 2026 City Council meeting:

- **EX26-109 Parking Ticket Collections Process**
- **EX26-110 Hawkstone Development Manager - Procurement Authority**
- **EX26-111 2026-29 Strategic Plan Progress Update**
- **EX26-113 Mayor's Heroism Award Policy Approval**
- **EX26-114 Emergency Treatment Fund Final Report**
- **EX26-115 2026 Cultural Site Annual Report**
- **EX26-116 2026 kâ-nâsihcikêwin Annual Report**

EX26-108 Housing Accelerator Fund Update

Recommendation

The Executive Committee recommends that City Council:

1. Direct the City Manager to amend the Downtown Office to Residential Conversion Policy in Appendix B – Downtown Office to Residential Conversion Policy to extend the pilot through 2027 and allow 30 per cent payment of grants when the agreement is executed, 30 per cent upon receiving the development permit, 30 per cent at substantial completion, and the final 10 per cent once all additional work required by the permit is completed (Appendix F – Downtown Office to Residential Conversion Policy Amendments);

2. Direct the City Manager to amend the Housing Incentives Policy in Appendix A – Housing Incentives Policy to:

    a. Introduce a new pilot program called Market Housing Capital Grant Incentive for the Downtown and Centre Square neighbourhoods as outlined in Appendix D – Housing Incentive Policy Amendments;
    b. Reallocate $1.5 million of Housing Accelerator Funding from the Rental Acquisition & Repair and Pre-Development Grant Pilots to the new Market Housing Capital Grant Incentive program and add other unallocated Housing Accelerator Funding funds for a total of $3 million (Appendix D – Housing Incentive Policy Amendments); and

3. Approve this recommendation at its meeting on October 28, 2026.

Councillor Burton moved that the recommendations contained in the report be concurred in.

Councillor Shanon Zachidniak requested a separate vote be taken on item #2 of the main motion.

Separate Vote - Item # 2

Item #2 of the main motion was put and declared CARRIED.

RESULT:	CARRIED [7 to 3]
MOVER:	Councillor Burton
IN FAVOUR:	Councillors: Bezo, Burton, Flores, Froh, Mancinelli, Rashovich, Tsiklis and Mayor Bachynski
AGAINST:	Councillors: Radons, Turnbull, Zachidniak

Separate Vote Items #1 and #3

Items #1 and #3 of the main motion were put and declared CARRIED.

RESULT:	CARRIED [Unanimous]
MOVER:	Councillor Burton
IN FAVOUR:	Councillors: Bezo, Burton, Flores, Froh, Mancinelli, Radons, Rashovich, Tsiklis, Turnbull, Zachidniak and Mayor Bachynski

RESOLUTION TO PRIVATE SESSION

Councillor Sarah Turnbull moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that in the interest of the public, the remaining items on the agenda be considered in private.

Councillor Sarah Turnbull moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the Committee recess for 10 minutes.

The Committee recessed at 3:58 p.m.

_____ _____

Chairperson Secretary

Transit Route Adjustments – Route 1 and Route 17

Date	November 4, 2026
To	Executive Committee
From	Executive Committee
Service Area	Transit
Item #	EX26-117

RECOMMENDATION

That the Executive Committee approve the Route 1 and Route 17 adjustments outlined in Appendices A and B, with the intention of a Q2 2027 implementation date at its meeting on November 4, 2026.

HISTORY

At its meeting held on October 27, 2026, the Accessibility Advisory Committee considered the attached report *ACC26-13 Transit Route Adjustments – Route 1 and Route 17* from the City Operations division.

The Committee adopted a resolution to concur in the recommendations contained in the report.

The recommendation contained within this report requires City Council approval.

Respectfully submitted,

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE



ATTACHMENTS
ACC26-13 Transit Route Adjustments – Route 1 and Route 17doc
Appendix A
Appendix B

Transit Route Adjustments – Route 1 and Route 17

Date	October 27, 2026
To	Accessibility Advisory Committee
From	City Operations
Service Area	Transit
Item No.	ACC26-13

RECOMMENDATION

The Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends that the Executive Committee approve the Route 1 and Route 17 adjustments outlined in Appendices A and B, with the intention of a Q2 2027 implementation date at its meeting on November 4, 2026.

ISSUE

Administration has identified an opportunity to modify Routes 1 and 17 to improve transit connectivity, pedestrian safety, and access to key destinations in Westerra and north Regina, including the new Costco development, Trinity Manor retirement home, and Brightwater Senior Living. The proposed changes would take effect in Q2 of 2027.

As shown in Appendix A, the proposed Route 1 changes would provide two-way transit service throughout the Westerra neighbourhood and add three new bus stops, improving access to the commercial area for residents, employees, and customers. No other changes to Route 1 are proposed.

As shown in Appendix B, the proposed Route 17 changes would expand service coverage within the Capital Crossing area and provide direct transit access to the Brightwater facility for residents, visitors, and employees. No other changes to Route 17 are proposed.

IMPACTS

Financial Impact
There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendation, as the changes can be implemented without additional resources. As part of the 2027 budget, additional trips to the Westerra neighbourhood are proposed to ensure all-day service to support customers and employees and would be implemented Q2 of 2027.

Policy Impact
This route adjustment supports the strategic priorities outlined in the Regina Transit Master Plan (RTMP) by improving customer experience.

Strategic Priority Impact
The adjustments to Routes 1 and 17 align with the Infrastructure Priority in the City's Strategic Plan, specifically the outcome that transportation networks are accessible and connected, supporting diverse travel modes and increased ridership. The adjustments optimize the existing transit network to better reflect current travel patterns and community needs, improving connectivity and supporting more effective transit service.

Labour Impact
There are no immediate labour impacts resulting from the recommendation. Both route adjustments can be accommodated within existing operational resources. As part of the 2027 budget, additional trips to the Westerra neighbourhood are proposed to ensure all-day service to support customers and employees. If that is approved, additional operators would be required as part of that budget request.

Environmental Impact
There are limited direct impacts on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and energy use resulting from this recommendation. The route adjustments are negligible compared to the existing route and are not expected to result in any significant increase in transit-related energy use or GHG emissions. Improved transit access to west Costco and Brightwater may support increased ridership and reduced reliance on personal vehicles over time.

Indigenous Impact
Safe, affordable and reliable public transit contributes to reconciliation, equity and sustainability. For Indigenous peoples, transit is not only a means of travel but a pathway to participation, cultural connection and environmental stewardship. Accessible transit ensures seniors, youth, and families can reach education, employment, healthcare and traditional programming without barriers, while also reducing safety risks for Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQIAP+ peoples. By embedding Indigenous perspectives in planning, transit systems support safety and inclusion while addressing systemic inequities and strengthening ties across communities.

At the same time, public transit reflects Indigenous values of respect for the land and collective responsibility. By reducing reliance on single-occupancy vehicles, it lowers emissions, improves air

quality and supports climate resilience. Routes that connect people to cultural and natural spaces reinforce the balance between human mobility and environmental respect, ensuring decisions made today protect the land for future generations.

Public transit is more than infrastructure; it is a social and environmental commitment. When designed with Indigenous input, it becomes a vehicle for equity, cultural continuity and stewardship of the land, advancing reconciliation while building a healthier, more sustainable future for all.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility (IDEA)
The proposed route adjustments support the City's Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) objectives by improving direct transit access to the west Costco area and Brightwater. This will make it easier for employees, customers and other visitors who rely on public transit to travel to and from these major employment, retail and residential destinations.

Improving access to employment and shopping opportunities helps reduce transportation barriers for residents who do not have access to a personal vehicle or choose to use transit. The proposed route adjustments support a more equitable and accessible transportation network by enhancing connectivity to important commercial areas while maintaining access to existing transit services.

OTHER OPTIONS

OPTION 1 – Approve the Route 1 and Route 17 adjustments – RECOMMENDED

- Implementing the route adjustment will allow for transit in both directions in the Westerra neighbourhood and provide direct service to the new west Costco and Trinity Manor retirement home, and other high-density residential buildings without having to cross the road to access these destinations.

- Implementing the Route 17 adjustment will increase overall service coverage in the Capital Crossing and Hawkstone area and provide direct transit service to the Brightwater facility for residents and employees.

OPTION 2 – Status Quo

- Maintaining the status quo would leave Route 1 unchanged, with buses continuing to travel only westbound through Westerra. Transit stops would remain located on the opposite side of the street from key destinations, including the future Costco, Trinity Manor retirement home, and other higher-density residential developments. As a result, customers would be required to cross a busy roadway to reach these destinations, creating an ongoing barrier to convenient transit access. Given the limited number of controlled crossing opportunities in the area, there is an increased likelihood that some pedestrians may choose to cross midblock, raising potential safety concerns.

- Maintaining the status quo would also leave Route 17 unchanged. Residents, visitors, and employees travelling to the Brightwater facility would continue to walk approximately 500

metres from the nearest bus stop along Big Bear Boulevard. This distance may present accessibility challenges for seniors, individuals with mobility limitations, employees travelling in adverse weather conditions, and others seeking convenient access to the facility, reducing the attractiveness and usability of transit for these trips.

COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

This report will first be presented to the Accessibility Advisory Committee on October 27, 2026, to obtain feedback before being presented to the Executive Committee.

DISCUSSION

Route 1 Adjustment

To address growing transit demand in the Westerra neighbourhood and to support upcoming developments, including the planned opening of Regina's second Costco in Q2 2027, Regina Transit is proposing an adjustment to Route 1. This adjustment will improve access to major destinations and enhance pedestrian safety in the area. The proposed adjustment is shown in Appendix A.

Current Service

Route 1 currently provides limited westbound-only service through Westerra during select times of the day. Within the neighbourhood, the route travels south on West Market Street, west on Canola Avenue, and north on Horizons Way before returning to Dewdney Avenue.

There are currently three bus stops in Westerra: two located on the north side of Canola Avenue at West Market Street (Stop 1646) and Alfalfa Street (Stop 1647), and one located on the east side of Horizons Way near the Co-op Gas Bar (Stop 1648).

Under the current routing, transit customers travelling to the future Costco development would be required to cross Horizons Way from the nearest bus stop to reach the site. As development and traffic volumes in the area increase, this arrangement may create safety and accessibility challenges for pedestrians. The proposed route changes would proactively improve access to key destinations, reduce the need for road crossings, and better position transit service to meet anticipated demand in Westerra.

Proposed Adjustment

Administration is proposing that Route 1 operate in both directions through Westerra. Under the proposed routing, eastbound buses travelling toward Downtown would operate south on Horizons Way, east on Canola Avenue, and north on West Market Street before rejoining the existing route. Westbound buses travelling toward the Global Transportation Hub (GTH) would continue to operate along the current alignment.

The proposed changes would allow for the addition of three new bus stops. A new stop on the west

side of Horizons Way would provide direct access to the future Costco development, eliminating the need for transit customers to cross the street and improving both safety and accessibility.

Two additional stops would be added along Canola Avenue, providing more convenient access to Trinity Manor retirement home, nearby higher-density residential developments, and the broader Westerra neighbourhood. Together, these changes would improve transit access to key destinations while better supporting current and future growth in the area.

Future Route 50 Extension
To further improve transit service to Westerra and the new Costco, a separate 2027 budget request proposes extending Route 50 to Westerra. If approved, the extension would:

- Provide all day, express-level transit service to Westerra
- Improve east-west connectivity across the transit network
- Provide convenient and consistent access to the new Costco and the growing Westerra neighbourhood.

The Route 50 extension would also support the RTMP recommendation to provide express transit service to Westerra through the Dewdney Avenue corridor. This new route would provide the first east-west express route that will allow customers to travel quickly across the city.

Route 17 Adjustment
Regina Transit is proposing a minor adjustment to Route 17 through Capital Crossing to improve access to the Brightwater facility, expand service coverage and support future ridership growth. The proposed adjustment is shown in Appendix B.

Current Service
Route 17 currently operates along Big Bear Boulevard, Vanstone Street, and Rochdale Boulevard. There are two bus stops serving the Capital Crossing area: Stop 1589 on Vanstone Street at Big Bear Boulevard and Stop 1578 on Rochdale Boulevard across from Mark's Work Wearhouse.

Under the current routing, employees, residents, and visitors travelling to the Brightwater Senior Living facility must walk approximately 500 metres, or about 10 minutes, from the nearest bus stop. This distance may present accessibility challenges, particularly for seniors, individuals with mobility limitations, and those travelling during adverse weather conditions.

Proposed Adjustment
Administration proposes that Route 17 be adjusted through Capital Crossing to provide more direct access to key destinations. The proposed adjustment would have buses travelling eastbound on Rochdale Boulevard, northbound on Argyle Street, eastbound on Big Bear Boulevard and southbound on Vanstone Street. The adjustment would maintain service to the existing bus stops while also adding service to bus stop 1569, which is beside the Mark’s store, and a new bus stop located beside Brightwater. The proposed adjustment would:

- Improve access to Brightwater and other destinations in the area
- Expand transit service coverage within Capital Crossing and Hawkstone
- Better position the transit network to support current and future growth in northwest Regina.

DECISION HISTORY & AUTHORITY

The *Committee Bylaw No. 2009-40* provides Executive Committee the delegated authority to determine the routing for buses.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nathan Luhning, Director
Transit

Respectfully Submitted,

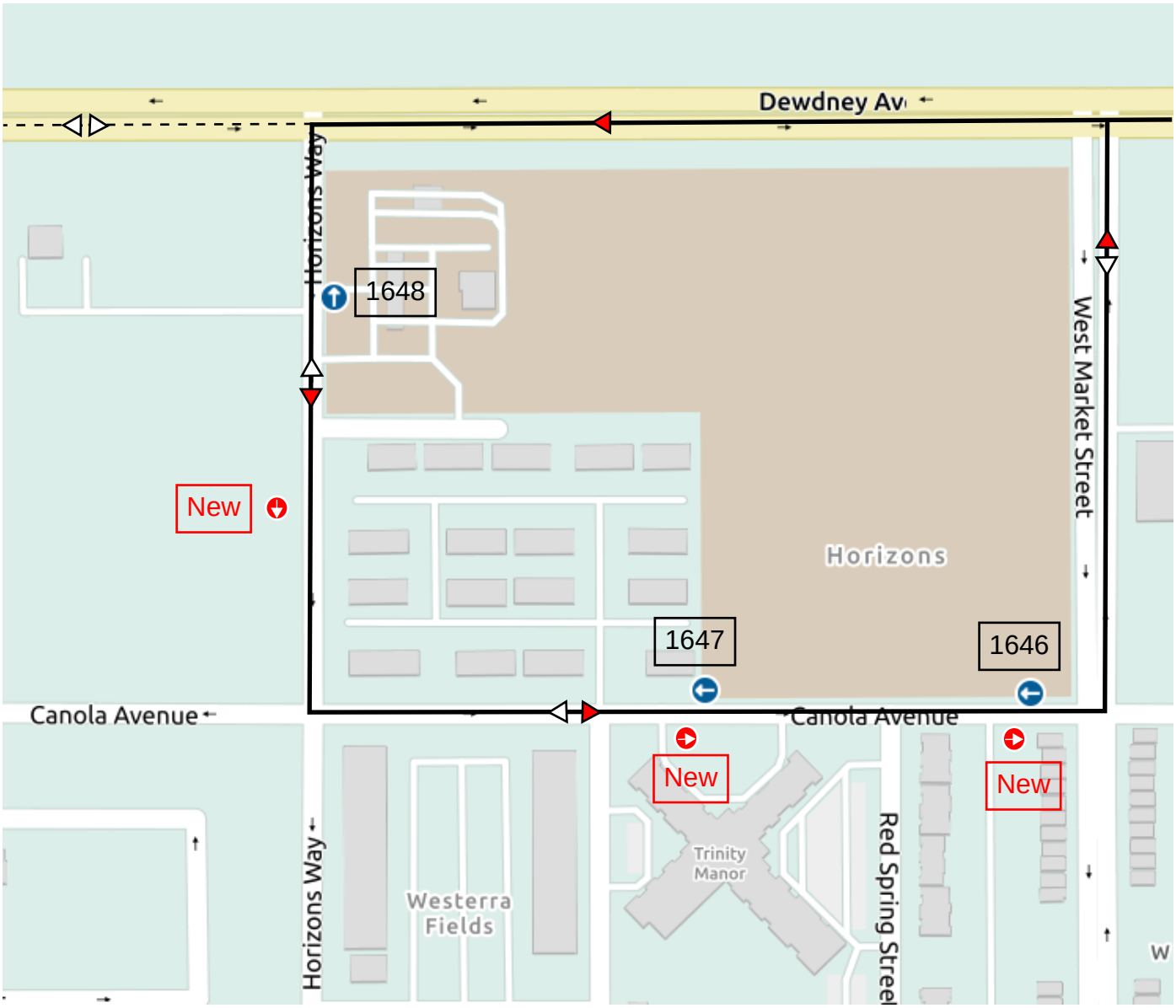


Kurtis Doney, Deputy City Manager
City Operations

Prepared by: Krista Forsythe, Manager, Transit Administration

ATTACHMENTS
Appendix A
Appendix B

Appendix A: Route 1 Adjustment

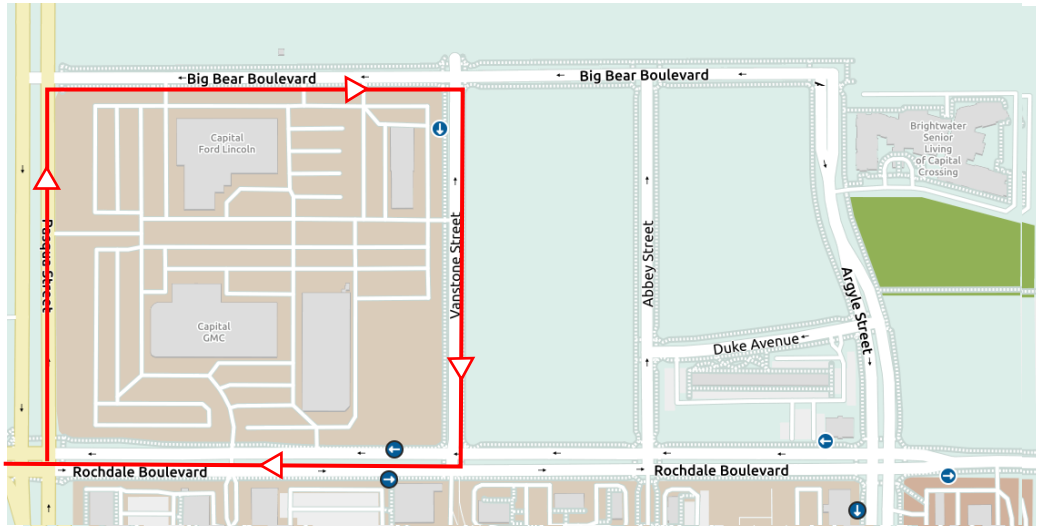


Legend

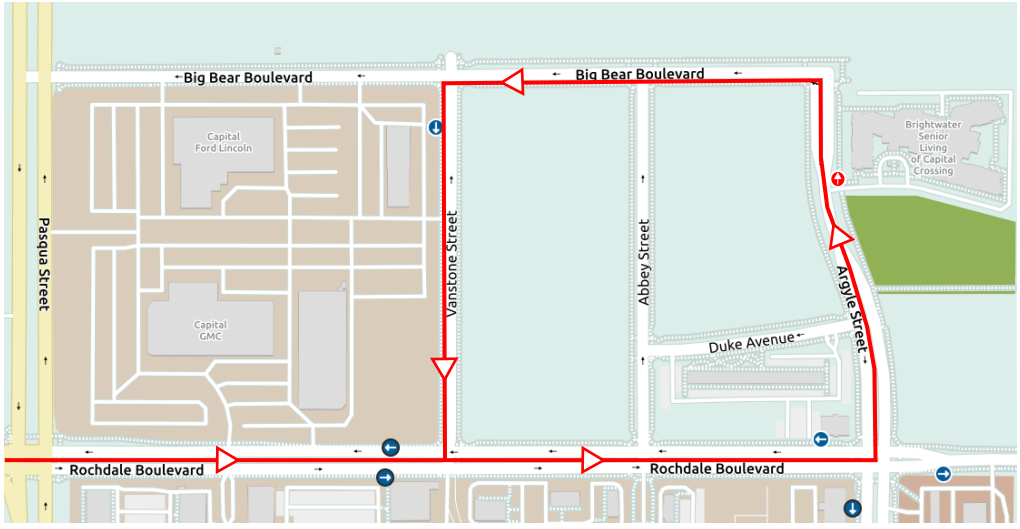
- Route 1 Path
- Route 1 Path to GTH
- Existing Route 1 / GTH Direction
- Adjusted Route 1 Direction (Westerra, Broad North)
- Existing Bus Stop
- New Bus Stop

Appendix B - Route 17 Adjustment

Current Route 17



Proposed Route 17 Adjustment



Legend

- Adjusted Route 17
- Existing Bus Stop
- New Bus Stop

2027 Council and Committee Meeting Calendar

Date	November 4, 2026
To	Executive Committee
From	City Clerk's Office
Service Area	Office of the City Clerk
Item No.	EX26-118

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Committee recommends that City Council:

1. Approve the 2027 meeting schedule for City Council, Executive Committee, Audit and Finance Committee and the Regina Planning Commission as outlined in Appendix A.

2. Approve this recommendation at its November 18, 2026 meeting.

ISSUE

The Procedure Bylaw, Bylaw No. 9004, requires that the annual schedule for City Council and Committees of Council meetings be approved by City Council prior to the last City Council meeting in December of each year.

IMPACTS

Legal

In accordance with section 5 of *The Procedure Bylaw, Bylaw. No 9004* regular Council meetings and Committee of Council meetings shall be approved by City Council.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility impacts

The recommended 2027 Council and Committee calendar provides for a regular and predictable meeting schedule for 2027.

The proposed calendar reflects that the governance and decision-making responsibilities of City Council are complex and can be time-consuming. It attempts to appropriately balance the increasing time requirements of Council members with the accessibility and availability of residents wishing to address members on a variety of issues.

There are no financial, labour, environmental, Policy, or Indigenous impacts respecting this report.

OTHER OPTIONS

Option 1 **(Recommended)**
Approve the 2027 Council and Committee Meeting Calendar as presented in Appendix A of this report.

Option 2
Refer the meeting schedule back to the City Clerk to return with other options as directed by City Council.

COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

The 2027 Council and Committee meeting calendar will be published publicly on Regina.ca, upon City Council approval.

DISCUSSION

The meeting schedule will be effective January 1, 2027. The establishment of the meeting calendar assists Administration with meeting agenda preparation and distribution deadlines.

City Council has met bi-weekly on Wednesdays commencing at 1 p.m. and adjourning no later than 9 p.m. unless extended by a majority vote. The Executive Committee has met bi-weekly on alternate Wednesdays commencing at 9 a.m. and adjourning no later than 5 p.m. unless extended by a majority vote.

The proposed calendar outlined in Appendix A makes no changes to the meeting day of the week or times for City Council or the Committees of Council, with the exception of an additional City Council meeting scheduled on the following Tuesdays to consider preliminary budget discussions for the 2028 General Operating, General Capital and General Utility Operating and Capital budget:

- Tuesday, July 20, 2027
- Tuesday, August 17, 2027
- Tuesday, September 14, 2027

The City Council Budget meeting scheduled from November 29 to December 3 will commence at 9 a.m. each day to consider the proposed 2028 General Operating, General Capital and General Utility Operating and Capital budget.

Meetings of the Regina Planning Commission will occur on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. Meetings of the Audit and Finance Committee will occur on Thursdays at 4 p.m. The late afternoon start time is to accommodate the schedules of the citizen members who sit on these committees.

Meetings dates for the Board of Police Commissioners, the Accessibility Advisory Committee, School Board/City Council Liaison Committee and the three quasi-judicial boards (Board of Revision, Development Appeals Board and Regina Appeal Board) are to be established independently at their initial meetings in 2027. These will be added to the approved meeting schedule at that time.

DECISION HISTORY & AUTHORITY

The recommendation contained within this report requires City Council approval.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amber Ackernan, Acting City Clerk

Respectfully Submitted,



Martha Neovard, Acting Deputy Clerk

Prepared by: Kaylyn Demyen, Executive Support

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A – 2027 Council and Committee Meetings

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A - Recommendation

REGINA

2027 COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

APPENDIX A

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					◆1	2
	BREAK					
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	BREAK					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 EX	21	22	23
24 / 31	25	26	27 CC	28	29	30

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3 EX	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 CC	11	12	13
14	◆15	16	17	18	19	20
			BREAK			
21	22	23 RPC	24 EX	25 AFC	26	27
28						

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3 CC	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 EX	11	12	13
14	15	16 RPC	17 CC	18 Mayor's Address	19	20
21	22	23	24 EX	25 AFC	◆26	27
28	◆29	30	31			
	BREAK					

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
	BREAK					
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	SUMA					
11	12	13	14 CC	15	16	17
18	19	20 RPC	21 EX	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 CC	29 AFC	30	

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5 EX	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 CC	13	14	15
16	17	18 RPC	19 EX	20	21	22
23 / 30	◆24 / 31	25	26 CC	27 AFC	28	29

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2 EX	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
				FCM		
13 FCM	14	15 RPC	16 CC	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 EX	24 AFC	25	26
27	28	29	30			
			BREAK			

All meetings are held in Henry Baker Hall unless otherwise indicated.

CC = City Council - meets at 1 p.m.

EX = Executive Committee - meets at 9 a.m.

RPC = Regina Planning Commission – meets at 4 p.m.

AFC = Audit & Finance Committee – meets at 4 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK AT 306-777-7262

REGINA

2027 COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

APPENDIX A

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				◆ 1	2	3
			BREAK			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			BREAK			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			BREAK			
18	19	20 CC	21 CC	22	23	24
25	26	27 RPC	28 EX	29 AFC	30	31

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	◆ 2	3	4	5	6	7
			BREAK			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			BREAK			
15	16	17 CC	18 CC	19	20	21
22	23	24 RPC	25 EX	26 AFC	27	28
29	30	31				

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 CC	2	3	4
5	◆ 6	7	8 EX	9	10	11
12	13	14 CC	15 CC	16	17	18
19	20	21 RPC	22 EX	23 AFC	24	25
26	27	28	29 CC	◆30		

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6 EX	7	8	9
10	◆ 11	12	13 CC	14	15	16
17	18	19 RPC	20 EX	21	22	23
24 / 31	25	26	27 CC	28 AFC	29	30

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3 EX	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 CC	◆11	12	13
14	15	16 RPC	17 EX	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 CC	25 AFC	26	27
28	29	30				
	BUDGET					

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
	BUDGET					
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			BREAK			
26	◆27	◆28	29	30	31	
			BREAK			

All meetings are held in Henry Baker Hall unless otherwise indicated.

CC = City Council - meets at 1 p.m.

EX = Executive Committee - meets at 9 a.m.

RPC = Regina Planning Commission – meets at 4 p.m.

AFC = Audit & Finance Committee – meets at 4 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK AT 306-777-7262

Water & Property Tax Affordability Program

Date	November 4, 2026
To	Executive Committee
From	City Planning & Community Development
Service Area	Assessment & Property Revenue Services
Item No.	EX26-119

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Committee recommends that City Council:

1. Remove item *CR25-127 Water & Property Tax Affordability Program* from its List of Outstanding Items; and

2. Approve this recommendation at its meeting on November 18, 2026.

ISSUE

On October 8, 2025, through report *CR25-127 Water & Property Tax Affordability Program*, City Council directed Administration to report back to the Executive Committee within one year on the water and property tax affordability programs, including the impact of the approved changes outlined in the report.

This report summarizes the impacts of the recommendations approved in report *CR25-127 Water & Property Tax Affordability Program* and provides an overview of similar water and tax affordability programs in comparable municipalities across Canada.

IMPACTS

Financial Impact

The increases to the daily rebate amounts are projected to result in an additional $17,800 in annual expenditures in 2026, bringing the total forecasted Water Rebate Program expense to $72,100. When combined with the forecasted High-Efficiency Water Retrofit Program expenditures of $30,100, total program costs remain within the approved annual budget of $214,000. Despite operating under a reduced budget while providing enhanced benefits to participants, the programs continue to effectively serve their intended target population.

Strategic Priority Impact

These programs support the IDEA principles of the City of Regina's (City) 2026-29 Strategic Plan by improving equity for low-income households with senior citizens and persons living with disabilities through more affordable property taxes and water services.

Indigenous Impact

This program supports the Treaty Principle pimâcihowin (making a living), outlined in kâ-nâsihcikêwin (the City's Indigenous Framework) by helping residents maintain access to essential services and remain connected to their homes and communities. Indigenous peoples continue to be overrepresented among low-income populations and may experience disproportionate impacts from rising household costs. By reducing financial barriers associated with water and property taxes, the program supports household stability, advances equitable access to municipal services and contributes to improved well-being for all residents experiencing financial hardship.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility (IDEA)

The affordability programs support the equity and well-being goals identified in the *Community Safety & Well-being Plan* (CSWP). The programs aim to improve equity for low-income households with senior citizens and people living with disabilities through more affordable property taxes and water services.

There are no legal, policy, labour or environmental impacts respecting this report.

OTHER OPTIONS

None with respect to this report as it is an informational report.

COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

A communications and marketing strategy was developed to help increase awareness of the programs following the City Council approval of increased rebate amounts. Below are the promotional initiatives undertaken:

- Water and Municipal Tax Affordability Program inserts were sent to all utility customers with the June 2026 Water and Waste Bill.
- Informational posters have been distributed to community-based organizations supporting the programs target groups.
- Promotional postcards were inserted into food hampers distributed by the Regina Foodbank and Regina Education & Action on Community Hunger (REACH).

DISCUSSION

The changes that were approved with report *CR25-127 Water & Property Tax Affordability Program* in October 2025 increased the water rebate available to approved households without changing the program's eligibility requirements. City Council also approved a reduction to the affordability program budget, as the original estimates used during program implementation were higher than required. These changes did not affect the applicant volumes, and all eligible applicants continue to be accepted into the programs.

In that report, City Council approved an increase to the Water Rebate daily credit to $0.82 per day ($25/month), and the Enhanced Rebate (for very low-income households) to $1.64 per day ($50/month). These rates are now to be updated with any Council-approved utility rate changes. Council also approved a reduction to the overall program budget from $500,000 to $214,100, and the elimination of the High-Efficiency Water Retrofits Program Affordability Surcharge of $0.01 per day, which had been charged to all water account holders.

Program Descriptions:

The Water Rebate, High Efficiency Water Retrofits, and Municipal Property Tax Deferral Programs are designed to support low-income households that include at least one senior citizen or person living with a disability. These programs help eligible residents remain in their homes longer while improving affordability of water and property-related costs.

A household is considered low income if the total before-tax income of all household members aged 18 years and older is less than or equal to the applicable Before-Tax Low-Income Cut-Off (LICO) for the household size, as published by Statistics Canada for the most recent year (see Table 1). Eligibility is determined using the combined income of all household members aged 18 years and older, as well as the total number of people living in the household, including children.

Table 1: 2025 Before-Tax Low-Income Cut-off Amounts

1 Person	2 Persons	3 Persons	4 Persons	5 Persons	6 Persons	7+ Persons
$27,478	$34,206	$42,053	$51,058	$57,908	$65,313	$72,715

The Water Rebate Program provides a rebate that is applied directly to a participant's monthly

Water and Waste Bill. The standard rebate is $0.82 per day, or approximately $25 per month. Households with very low-incomes, defined as those with a household income at or below one-half of the applicable LICO threshold, are eligible for an enhanced rebate of $1.64 per day, or approximately $50 per month.

To qualify for the Water Rebate Program, applicants must have an active water account. Many low-income households rent apartments where water utility costs are included in the rent and therefore not billed directly for water services. As the rebate is applied as a credit to a water account, these households are not eligible for the program because there is no mechanism to direct the rebate to individual tenants.

The High-Efficiency Water Retrofit Program provides eligible households with water efficiency audits and installation of high-efficiency water fixtures, such as low-flow toilets, kitchen and bathroom faucets, showerheads, and aerators. Approved participants receive these services from City-approved plumbing contractors who have been pre-approved by the City to help ensure high-quality workmanship and service.

Rental properties are eligible for this program, provided the property owner signs a consent form. This enables tenants to benefit from potential water savings and reduced utility costs resulting from the water-efficiency audit and fixture upgrades.

The Low-Income Municipal Tax Deferral Program allows eligible households to defer a portion of their municipal taxes until the property is sold or permanently vacated. The program does not apply to Library or Education taxes. Approved applicants can defer one of three amounts: the incremental increase in municipal property taxes, $600, or $1,200.

The Waste Rebate Program is administered alongside the Water Rebate Program and provides a rebate that is applied directly to a participant's monthly Water and Waste Bill. The rebate is $0.15 per day, or approximately $4.50 per month. Households with very low incomes, defined as those with a household income at or below one-half of the applicable LICO threshold, receive an enhanced rebate of $0.30 per day, or approximately $9 per month.

Implemented in 2024 in conjunction with the introduction to curbside waste fees, the Waste Rebate Program is not included in this review. Funding for the program is provided through a separate budget and was not affected by the changes approved in October 2025.

Program Participation

To date, the Affordability Programs has received 472 applications and approved 318 applicants into the programs. The breakdown of applicants approved is provided below in Table 2, with expenditures provided in Table 3.

Table 2: Program Participant Characteristics

Income Level	Seniors 65+	Persons Experiencing a Disability	Total Participants	Percentage
Low Income	216	50	266	**84%**
Very Low Income	24	28	52	**16%**
Total	240	78	318	**-**
Percentage	**77%**	**23%**	**-**	**100%**

Table 3: Program Expenditures to September 30, 2026

Program Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026 (to Sept 30, 2026)	Total
Water Rebate	$22,917	$51,730	$54,300	$52,300	**$181,247**
High-Efficiency Water Retrofit	$35,786	$23,569	$6,960	$12,059	**$78,374**
Total	**$58,703**	**$75,299**	**$61,260**	**$64,359**	**$259,621**

Enrollment Trends

Following the initial enrollments during the first two years of the program, the number of new applicants has gradually declined each year. There are currently 198 participants enrolled in the Water Rebate Program. Table 4 provides a summary of annual approvals, deregistrations, and the total number of participants enrolled in the program each year.

Table 4: Affordability – Annual Enrollments

Year	New Approvals	Deregistered	Total Approved (active applicants)
2023	**+141**	**-1**	141 **(140 active)**
2024	**+101**	**-43**	242 **(198 active)**
2025	**+41**	**-57**	283 **(182 active)**
2026	**+35**	**-19**	318 **(198 active)**

Water Rebate Programs

The Water Rebate Program has the highest enrollment of all three affordability programs, as all approved applicants are enrolled in the program. While overall enrollment growth has slowed in recent years, applications continue to be received from residents who become eligible due to changes in age, household income, or other qualifying circumstances.

High Efficiency Water Retrofits Program
To date, 78 approved applicants have participated in the High Efficiency Water Retrofit Program.

Municipal Property Tax Deferral Program
To date, a total of 40 unique applicants participated in the Municipal Property Tax Deferral Program. A total of $96,000 in municipal levies have been deferred by applicants.

Jurisdictional Review
A review of affordability programs in comparable cities (see Appendix A – Jurisdictional Review) revealed that the availability and design of municipal water and tax affordability programs across Canada is inconsistent, with many municipalities offering limited or no support. A survey was distributed to 49 municipalities, with 25 municipalities (51%) responding. Of those that responded:

- 52% reported that they do not offer any water or property tax assistance programs for low-income households.
- 48% indicated that they do provide some level of support.
- Overall, only 12 of the 25 responding municipalities offer any form of water or property tax assistance.
- 3 provinces (Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia) offer property tax deferrals.

Overall, the findings indicate that municipal water and tax affordability programs across Canada share a common objective of reducing financial burdens for residents and are primarily targeted toward low-income seniors.

Property tax deferral programs are the most common form of affordability support. Some programs charge interest rates ranging from 4 per cent to 5 per cent, making them less beneficial for residents than Regina's program, which does not charge interest. Water and waste rebate or grant programs are less common, with comparatively few municipalities offering targeted assistance in these areas. High-efficiency water retrofit programs are particularly rare.

The scan also found that affordability programs are generally targeted toward specific demographic groups, particularly seniors and persons living with disabilities. Seniors are the primary beneficiaries in most municipalities, followed by individuals with disabilities, while relatively few municipalities provide programs that are broadly accessible to all low-income households. Eligibility is typically income-based and often relies on measures such as LICO. Many municipalities periodically adjust income thresholds to account for inflation and maintain program accessibility.

High Efficiency Water Retrofit Program Client Satisfaction Survey
A customer satisfaction survey (Appendix B – What We Heard) was distributed to participants of the High Efficiency Water Retrofit Program. The survey, conducted in June 2026 among households

enrolled in the program between January 2023 and May 2026, found strong overall satisfaction with both program delivery and outcomes.

Twenty-one participants responded to the survey, representing just over half of eligible program participants. Feedback highlighted positive experiences with installation services, with most respondents reporting that plumbers were professional, courteous, and communicated clearly throughout the process. Nearly all participants indicated installations were completed on time and work areas were left clean following service. Satisfaction with the performance of the installed water-efficient fixtures was also very high.

DECISION HISTORY & AUTHORITY

On September 29, 2021, City Council considered item *CR21-130 Tax Policy and Affordability Report* and adopted a resolution directing Administration to develop a municipal property tax deferral program for low-income senior citizens and people living with disabilities for Council's consideration by Q2 of 2022.

On October 13, 2021, City Council considered item *CR21-142 Utility Affordability Report* and adopted a resolution directing Administration to develop a Water Rebate Program and a High-Efficiency Water Retrofits Program for low-income senior citizens and people living with disabilities for City Council's consideration by Q2 of 2022.

On June 1, 2022, City Council considered items *CR22-65 Retrofit Rebate Program* and *CR22-68 Property Tax & Utility Affordability Program* and approved implementation of the Low-Income Municipal Property Tax Deferral Program, the High-Efficiency Water Retrofit Program, and the Water Rebate Program for implementation on January 1, 2023.

On October 8, 2025, City Council considered item *CR25-127 Water & Property Tax Affordability Program* and adopted a resolution to:

1. Approve a reduction to the Water Rebate budget (130-J207-8602-68112) from $414,100 to $214,100;
2. Instruct the City Solicitor to prepare amendments to Schedule "B" of Bylaw No. 8942, being The Regina Water Bylaw, for consideration with the 2026 Budget to remove the High-Efficiency Water Retrofits Program Surcharge of $0.01 effective January 1, 2026;
3. Instruct the City Solicitor to prepare amendments to Schedule "E" of Bylaw 8942, being The Regina Water Bylaw, to increase the $0.66 Standard Daily Rebate to $0.82 daily credit, and the $1.32 Increased Daily Rebate to $1.64 daily credit for the Water Rebate effective January 1, 2026, and to update the rate annually as per future City Council approved utility rate changes; and
4. Direct Administration to report back in one year to Executive Committee with a report on the

Water and Property Tax Affordability Program, including the impact of changes outlined in this report.

Respectfully Submitted,



Tanya Mills, Director
Assessment and Property Revenue Services

Respectfully Submitted,



Deborah Bryden, Deputy City Manager
Community Planning and Community Services

Prepared by: Raman Visvanathan, Coordinator, Policy & Programs

ATTACHMENTS
Appendix A - Jurisdictional Review
Appendix B - What we Heard

Property Tax Affordability Programs Inter-Jurisdictional Scan
A Jurisdictional scan of 49 municipalities in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec found 13 municipalities that have a property tax affordability programs. Programs identified are tax deferrals (11 municipalities), property tax assistance (5 municipalities). The scan of provinces also identified 3 provinces (Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan) with provincial deferrals and grants.

Table 1 - Property Tax Deferral

Municipality	Eligibility	Program Details	Interest and Fees
Regina, Saskatchewan	Seniors (65+) or persons living with a disability, and Total household income below the Low-Income Cut-off (LICO)	Eligible property owners may defer the municipal portion of the property taxes only. Cumulative deferral amount and outstanding taxes cannot exceed 50% of the assessed value of the property. Deferral amounts can be $600, $1,200 or annual increase in municipal taxes.	None
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	Seniors (65+) or persons living with a disability, and Total household income below the Low-Income Cut-off (LICO)	Eligible property owners may defer all or a portion of the municipal and library property taxes. Deferral amounts can be full amount, $600, $1,200 or annual increase in municipal and library taxes.	4% annual interest charge. No interest charge if only deferring the annual increase in taxes.
Hamilton, Ontario	Seniors (65+) or persons living with a disability and receiving disability benefits, and Total household income below the Low-Income Cut-off (LICO)	Eligible property owners may defer all or a portion of the municipal and education property taxes. Cumulative deferral amount and outstanding taxes cannot exceed 40% of the assessed value of the property. Deferral amounts can be up to 100% of their municipal and education property taxes.	4.45% (2026 rate) compounded annually A non-refundable application fee of $200 must be paid at the time of application and an annual renewal fee of $100 thereafter
Newmarket, Ontario	Seniors (65+) or persons living with a disability and receiving disability benefits	Eligible property owners may defer the year-over-year property tax increase. The cumulative amount of all deferred and outstanding taxes cannot exceed 75% of the property's total assessed value.	None

Appendix A - Jurisdictional Review

Table 1 - Property Tax Deferrals, Grants and Assistance

Municipality	Eligibility	Program Details	Interest and Fees
Ottawa, Ontario	Seniors (65+ or age 60-64 and receiving Old Age Security Allowance, or age 55+ and receiving a pension under *The Income Tax Act*), or persons living with a disability and receiving disability benefits, and Current assessed value of the property may not exceed $498,000	Eligible property owners may defer up to 100% of their annual property taxes or annual increase in taxes. The cumulative amount of deferrals cannot exceed 75% of the property's total assessed value.	Interest rate of 5%. A non-refundable application fee of $181 is charged to the tax account upon receipt of the application. For subsequent years, a renewal fee of $64 will be charged.
Richmond Hill, Ontario	Seniors (65+) receiving Federal Guaranteed Income Supplement, or persons living with a disability receiving Ontario Disability Support and have a single family income of less than $23,000 or a family income of less than $40,000	Eligible property owners may defer the property tax increase. Cumulative deferral amount cannot exceed 75% of the assessed value of the property.	None
Toronto, Ontario	Seniors (65+ or age 60-64 and receiving Guaranteed Income Supplement or age 50+ and receiving a pension under the *Income Tax Act),* or persons living with a disability receiving disability benefits, and Combined household income must not exceed $62,000 Residential assessment below $975,000	Eligible property owners may defer the property tax increases.	None
Vaughan, Ontario	Seniors (65+) receiving Guaranteed Income Supplement, or persons living with a disability receiving support under the Ontario Disability Support Program.	Eligible property owners may defer the property tax increases. Cumulative deferral amount and outstanding taxes cannot exceed 75% of the assessed value of the property.	None
Waterloo, Ontario	Seniors (65+) receiving Guaranteed Income Supplement, or persons living with a disability receiving support under the Ontario Disability Support Program.	Eligible property owners may defer property tax increases exceeding 3%, and where the impact is greater than $50 following reassessments.	None

Table 1 - Property Tax Deferrals, Grants and Assistance

Municipality	Eligibility	Program Details	Interest and Fees
Mount Pearl, Newfoundland	Households with combined income less than $40,000	Eligible property owners may defer a portion of their property taxes. The allowable deferrable amount gradually decreases as income increases to $40,000. Deferral amount decreases by 10% for every $1,000 of taxable income earned over $30,000 (up to the $40,000 ceiling)	None
Halifax, Nova Scotia	Households with combined income of $59,000 or less, and Principle residence has a maximum value of $425,000	Eligible property owners may defer payment of the remaining current year taxes. Local improvement charges can also be deferred	Prime - 2% for active program participants and Prime + 2% for customers who did not reapply.

Table 2 - Provincial Tax Deferral Programs			
Jurisdiction	**Eligibility**	**Program Details**	**Interest and Fees**
Saskatchewan	Seniors (65+), and Total household income below $70,000 per year	**Seniors Education Property Tax Deferral Program** Approved home owners are enrolled for a 10 year period. The province pays the Education tax portion directly, creating a low interest loan secured with a lien. The owner must have a minimum of 25% equity in the home.	Interest rate is established annually. For 2026 it is 3.79%
Alberta	Seniors (65+)	**Seniors Property Tax Deferral Program** Defer all or part of their residential property taxes, including the education tax portion. This is done through a low-interest home equity loan with the Government of Alberta The owner must have a minimum of 25% equity in the home.	4.45% annual interest charge

Table 1 - Property Tax Deferrals, Grants and Assistance

Jurisdiction	Eligibility	Program Details	Interest and Fees
British Columbia	Age 55+ or a surviving spouse of any age, or persons living with a disability	**Property Tax Deferment Program** The property tax deferment loan program allows B.C. residents to defer their current year property taxes. **Home Owner Grant Program** The regular grant amount is $570 for properties in BC. Property owners must pay at least $350 in property taxes before receiving the Regular grant. The Families with children program requires a minimum equity of 15% equity of the property's assessment value, and the property owners must be a parent, step-parent, or financially supporting a child. The owners must maintain a minimum equity of 25% of the property's assessed value.	Prime plus 2%, compounded annually

Table 3 - Other Property Tax Assistance Programs		
Jurisdiction	**Eligibility**	**Program Details**
Burlington, Ontario	Seniors (65+) receiving Guaranteed Income Supplement or persons living with a disability and receiving Ontario Disability Support	**Low-Income Property Tax Reduction** $575 property tax reduction directly from the city.
Mississauga, Ontario	Seniors (65+) receiving Guaranteed Income Supplement or persons living with a disability and receiving Ontario Disability Support	**Property Tax Rebate** An annual property tax rebate of up to $571. Approved applicants also automatically qualify for the city's stormwater charge subsidy.

Appendix A - Jurisdictional Review

Table 1 - Property Tax Deferrals, Grants and Assistance

Jurisdiction	Eligibility	Program Details
Newmarket, Ontario	Seniors (65+) receiving Guaranteed Income Supplement, or seniors receiving pension annuity under the Income Tax Act, or persons living with a disability and receiving disability benefits	**Seniors' Tax Assistance Rebate** Provides property tax assistance of $381.
Richmond Hill, Ontario	Seniors (65+) receiving Guaranteed Income Supplement	**Senior Tax Grant** Provides property tax assistance of $454.
Toronto, Ontario	Seniors (65+ or age 60-64 and receiving Guaranteed Income Supplement or age 50+ and receiving a pension under the Income Tax Act), or persons living with a disability receiving disability benefits, and Combined household income must not exceed $62,000, and Assessed property value under $975,000	**Property Tax Increase Cancellation Program** Cancels eligible property tax increases.
Halifax, Nova Scotia	Households with combined income of $59,000 or less, and Principle residence has a maximum value of $425,000	**Affordable Access Program - Tax Bill Payment Assistance** The municipality will pay a portion of the property taxes and the amount of the rebate varies with income and the residential tax. After the rebate has been applied, the remaining current year taxes can be deferred.

Table 2 - Water Rebate and Assistance Programs			
Municipality	**Eligibility**	**Program Details**	**Annual Application**
Regina, Saskatchewan	Seniors (65+) or persons living with a disability, and Total household income below the Low-Income Cut-off (LICO)	A water rebate is applied directly to the Water and Waste bill. Water Rebate Program – participants receive a rebate of $0.82 per day (approx. $25/month, or $300/year). This amount is doubled for households with extremely low incomes.	Annual application for the rebate
Toronto, Ontario	Seniors (65+ or age 60-64 and receiving Guaranteed Income Supplement or age 50+ and receiving a pension under the *Income Tax Act),* or persons living with a disability receiving disability benefits, and Combined household income must not exceed $62,000 Residential assessment below $975,000	Rebate on the water consumption portion of customer's utility bill (representing approximately 30% reduction), provided the metered annual water consumption is under 400 m^3 annually.	Annual application for the rebate
Newmarket, Ontario	Residents receiving Ontario Works Assistance, the Guaranteed income Supplement or the Ontario Disability Support Program.	Residential Water/Wastewater Rebate program provides a rebate of $41.99 per month ($503.88 per year).	Annual Application for Residential Rebate

Table 2 - Water Rebate and Assistance

Municipality	Eligibility	Program Details	Annual Application
Hamilton, Ontario	Seniors (65+) with a combined household income of $44,568 or less.	The program provides an annual utility rebate of $175 applied as a credit towards water costs.	If the senior qualifies for the Seniors Property Tax Rebate, they will automatically qualify for the water related rebate and no further action is required.
Mississauga, Ontario	Seniors (65+), low-income residents, or households that meet the requirements of an extremely low water user.	The Water Bill Relief program is a temporary program to provide financial relief to eligible applicants facing increased water bills due to the new rate structure implemented on April 1, 2024. Eligible households receive a credit to their water bill to help offset rate increases. The credit is phased out over three years, providing 60% in 2025, 40% in 2026, and 20% in 2027.	Yes
Calgary, Alberta	Income-qualified homeowners and renters are eligible based on the number of people living in the home and total household income. One person household maximum income of $52,884.	Home Upgrades and Retro Kit provide do-it-yourself retro kits which include aerators and water leak detection tablet pack. Retrokits are provided free of charge.	One time application.
Nanaimo, British Columbia	Seniors (65+) who own and occupy the property as their principal residence, and meet specific income thresholds (e.g., $28,146 per person or $35,037 per household.)	The City of Nanaimo provides a Sewer and Water User Fee Subsidy for eligible low-income senior homeowners. The subsidy covers 50% of the base sewer and water utility charges.	Annual renewal.

Table 2 - Water Rebate and Assistance

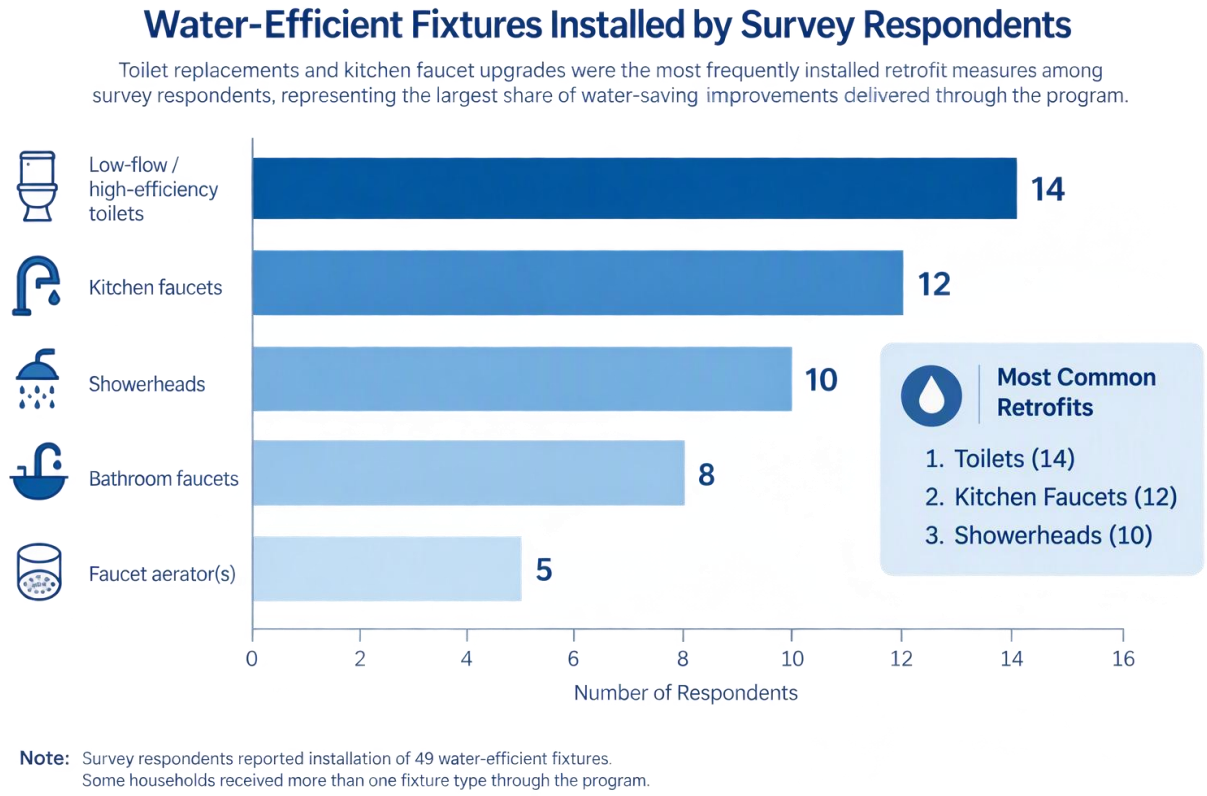
Municipality	Eligibility	Program Details	Annual Application
Ottawa, Ontario	Seniors (65+ or age 60-64 and receiving Old Age Security Allowance, or age 55+ and receiving a pension under the Income Tax Act), or persons living with a disability and receiving disability benefits, and Current assessed value of the property may not exceed $498,000 Gross household income must be less than $59,398.	The full amount of the water bill may be deferred. Deferred water bill amounts are subject to interest at an annual rate of 5%. The outstanding balance becomes repayable when the applicant no longer qualifies for the program or upon the sale or transfer of the property.	Annual renewal. Application and renewal fees are added to the tax account.

High-Efficiency Water Retrofit Program – Participant Survey Summary

The survey was conducted online from June 5 to June 19, 2026 and was distributed to 40 participants by mail and email. A total of 21 responses were received, representing a response rate of 52%. Of those responses, 12 were submitted through mailed paper surveys and 9 were completed online.

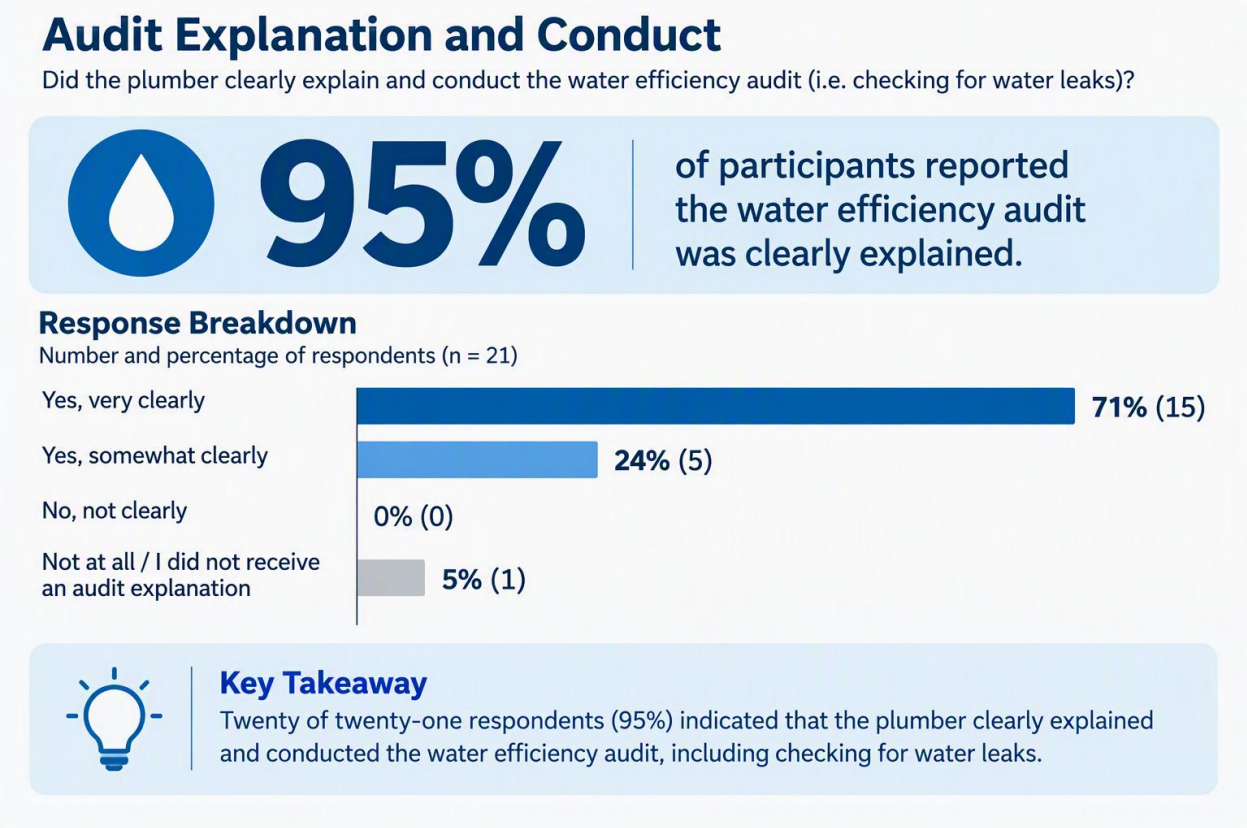
Program Delivery and Installation Experience

Overall, feedback regarding installation services was highly positive. Most participants reported receiving a range of water-efficient fixtures, including low-flow toilets (67%), kitchen faucets (57%), showerheads (48%), bathroom faucets (38%), and faucet aerators (24%).



Note: Survey respondents reported installation of 49 water-efficient fixtures. Some households received more than one fixture type through the program.

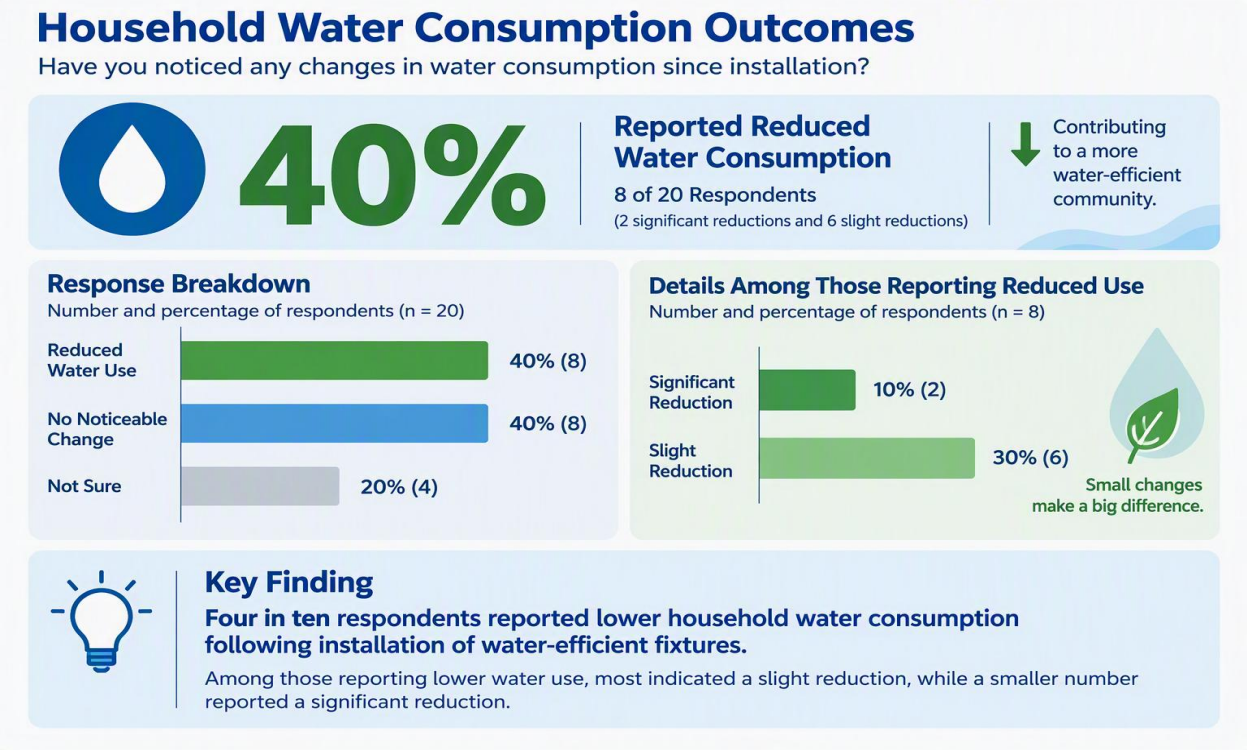
Communication and service delivery by plumbers were generally well received. The majority of respondents (71%) indicated that plumbers clearly explained the water efficiency audit process, including leak checks. Similarly, 71% noted that fixture options were clearly explained, while an additional 24% found the explanations somewhat clear.



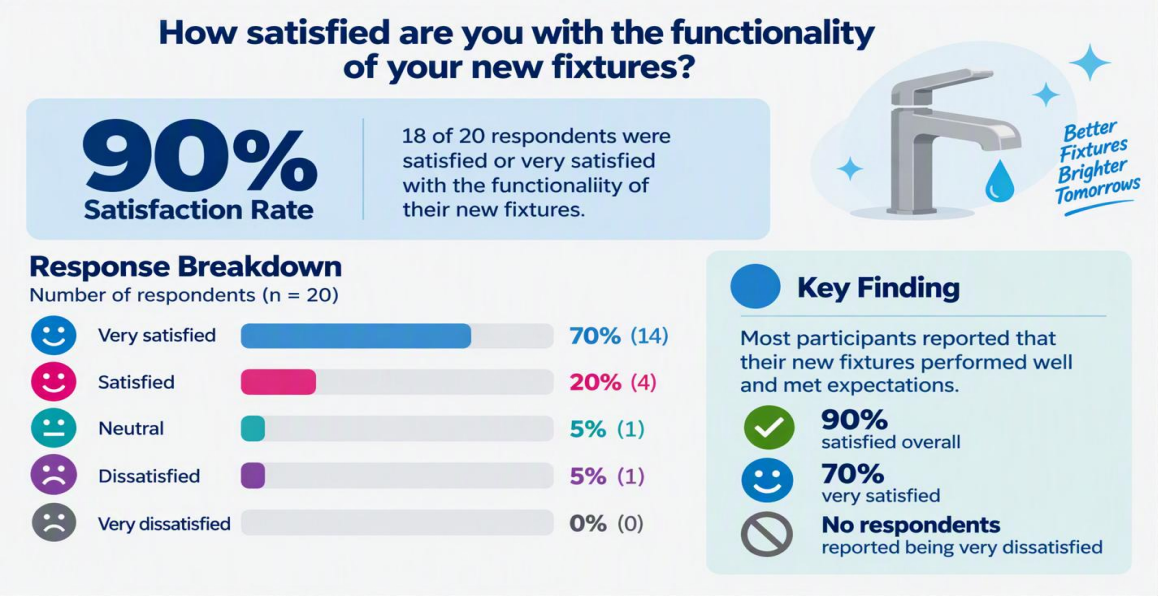
Satisfaction with service professionalism and conduct was strong. 81% of participants reported satisfaction with plumber professionalism, while a strong majority 96% reported that plumbers were courteous and respectful during their visits. Timeliness and completion of installations were rated exceptionally well, with 100% of respondents reporting installations were completed on schedule. In addition, 95% reported that work areas were properly cleaned after service.

Fixture Performance and Outcomes

Importantly, the program appears to be achieving its intended outcome of reducing water consumption. Seventy percent of respondents reported noticing a reduction in water use following installation, while 30% did not observe a significant change.



Participants expressed high levels of satisfaction with the functionality of installed fixtures, with 90% reporting satisfaction. Most participants (70%) reported no issues with their new fixtures. However, 25% reported minor issues, and 5% experienced major concerns.



Overall Program Satisfaction

The program received strong overall ratings from participants. Eighty percent of respondents reported being satisfied with their overall experience, and 86% indicated they would recommend the program to others. These results demonstrate a high level of participant satisfaction and suggest that the program is delivering meaningful value to its target population.

Opportunities for Improvement

While overall satisfaction is high, participants identified several opportunities to enhance program effectiveness:

- Some respondents recommended installing single-lever shower faucets that allow users to temporarily shut off water during use without affecting temperature, potentially increasing water savings.
- Participants emphasized the importance of ensuring all installations are completed correctly and function as intended.
- Some respondents suggested implementing additional screening measures, such as criminal record checks, for contractors entering homes.
- Several participants noted that greater outreach and promotion could expand program reach and accessibility.
- A small number of respondents expressed dissatisfaction with the program. However, due to the anonymous nature of the survey, it was not possible to follow up with them directly or address their concerns.

Recent Survey Improvements

The survey instrument has been updated to allow respondents to provide their contact information, enabling program administrators to follow up on issues or concerns identified through the survey.

Playgrounds

Date	November 4, 2026
To	Executive Committee
From	Executive Committee
Service Area	Recreation & Cultural Services
Item #	EX26-120

RECOMMENDATION

That the Executive Committee recommend that City Council:

1. Approve the playground service levels as outlined in this report;
2. Direct Administration to update the Recreation Master Plan, through the 2027 refresh, with approved playground service levels;
3. Direct Administration to share future Destination Playground designs and City Neighbourhood Playground designs using innovative or new products affecting accessibility with the Accessibility Advisory Committee;
4. Approve updates to the Accessible Playground Design Standard as outlined in Appendix F with the addition of one inclusive swing required where swings are included;
5. Consider approval of operating funding for an ongoing accessible playground grant program through the 2027 Budget deliberations with the removal of the requirement in the grant guidelines stating that 40% or more of estimated project costs must have already been raised;
6. Remove *MN25-5 Playground Accessibility* and *MN26-3 Accessible Playground Guidelines Related to Grant Program* from the list of outstanding items; and
7. Approve these recommendations at its meeting on November 18, 2026.

HISTORY

At its meeting held on October 27, 2026, the Accessibility Advisory Committee considered the attached report *ACC26-16 Playgrounds* from the City Planning & Community Services division.

The Committee adopted a resolution to concur in the recommendations contained in the attached report, with amendments to items #4 and #5 to read as follows:

4. Approve updates to the Accessible Playground Design Standard as outlined in Appendix F with the addition of one inclusive swing required where swings are included;

5. Consider approval of operating funding for an ongoing accessible playground grant program through the 2027 Budget deliberations with the removal of the requirement in the grant guidelines stating that 40% or more of estimated

The recommendation contained within this report requires City Council approval.

Respectfully submitted,

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE



ATTACHMENTS
ACC26-16 Playgrounds
Appendix A - Mapping Analysis of Playgrounds
Appendix B - Service Level Options
Appendix C - APDS Community Feedback
Appendix D - Engineered Wood Fibre Testing
Appendix E - Accessible Playground Grant
Appendix F - Proposed Updates to APDS

Playgrounds

Date	October 27, 2026
To	Accessibility Advisory Committee
From	City Planning & Community Development
Service Area	Recreation & Cultural Services
Item No.	ACC26-16

RECOMMENDATION

The Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends that the Executive Committee recommend at its meeting on November 4, 2026, that City Council:

1. Approve the playground service levels as outlined in this report;
2. Direct Administration to update the Recreation Master Plan, through the 2027 refresh, with approved playground service levels;
3. Direct Administration to share future Destination Playground designs and City Neighbourhood Playground designs using innovative or new products affecting accessibility with the Accessibility Advisory Committee;
4. Approve updates to the Accessible Playground Design Standard as outlined in Appendix F;
5. Consider approval of operating funding for an ongoing accessible playground grant program through the 2027 Budget deliberations;
6. Remove *MN25-5 Playground Accessibility* and *MN26-3 Accessible Playground Guidelines Related to Grant Program* from the list of outstanding items; and
7. Approve these recommendations at its meeting on November 18, 2026.

ISSUE

Through *MN25-5 Playground Accessibility* (MN25-5), Council requested that Administration report back on:

- Testing of engineered wood fibre as an accessible surface.
- Investigation of a location for an indoor playground that is centrally located and 300 m².
- A grant program for accessible playgrounds.
- Sharing playground designs with the Accessibility Advisory Committee prior to final decision and purchase.
- A strategic plan for the location of Destination Playgrounds with a maximum travel time of 25 mins on a transit route or 8 mins by car. Prioritizing locations with adjacencies to schools, child-care centres, community centres, group homes, senior centres and health centres.

Subsequently, Council approved, *MN26-3 Accessible Playground Guidelines Related to Grant Program* (MN26-3), which requested Administration conduct community engagement to identify opportunities to address challenges that community organizations were experiencing implementing the Accessible Playground Design Standard (APDS).

Administration also committed to share information with Council on the management of the City's current playground inventory including lifecycle costing prior to budget deliberations.

IMPACTS

Financial Impact

Accessible Playground Grant Funding: As part of the 2026 Budget deliberations, Council approved $160,000 in one-time capital funding to establish the Accessible Playground Grant Program (APGP). Continuation of the APGP would require allocation of $160,000 in operating funding ongoing through the 2027 Budget deliberations.

Capital Playground Renewal Funding: The proposed 2027 Capital Budget currently includes $610,000 in capital funding for playground renewal. Future budget requirements will be determined through the development of the playground renewal plan in 2027 and funding will be requested through future budgets.

Policy Impact

Recommendations provided through this report align with the:

- *Design Regina: The Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 2013-48* (OCP), Goal 2 – Access to Recreation Programs and Services.
    - Ensure access to a variety of recreation programs and services in all neighbourhoods.
        - 9.64 Recreation programs will consider the needs of the most vulnerable populations.

- Recreation Master Plan's (RMP) strategic action to increase provision of accessible playgrounds, both in quantity and quality.
- Parks Master Plan recommendation to create asset inventories to form a comprehensive database for use in planning, management and budgeting.
- Corporate Accessibility Plan guiding principle that all community members should have equal opportunity to fully and meaningfully participate in community life in Regina with autonomy and dignity.

Strategic Priority Impact
Accessibility is increased for residents and visitors by enhancing neighbourhood recreation amenities that promote physical activity, mental well-being and community connection.

Recommendations in this report also advance the City's goals of maintaining modern, safe infrastructure that supports existing communities and future growth, while creating vibrant places and spaces that foster community pride, inclusion and overall well-being specifically addressing the following strategic priorities:

- Infrastructure: Modernized, safe infrastructure supporting existing communities and future growth.
- Vibrancy: Places, spaces and programs enabling community connection, city pride and well-being.

Indigenous Impact
Indigenous world view considers the whole person and their connection to the land and community. Parks and playgrounds play a significant role in promoting physical activity, mental well-being and community connection. This supports the kâ-nâsihcikêwin (Indigenous Framework) principle of wihci-atoskêwin askîhk (WEE-chey-AH-toe-skay-win AHS-keek) – living together on the land, in harmony.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility (IDEA)
The recommendations in this report will directly enhance the accessibility and inclusivity of playgrounds and the gathering spaces surrounding them, therefore fostering an equitable environment and removing barriers to promote inclusive participation for all.

There are no legal, labour or environmental impacts respecting this report.

OTHER OPTIONS

Option #1 – Approve Playground Service Levels as Outlined in this Report – RECOMMENDED
Based on the geospatial mapping analysis in Appendix A, Administration is recommending that the approved service level targets remain unchanged.

- The current approved level of service for Destination Playgrounds is one every three kilometres, which leads to a requirement for nine Destination Playgrounds.

    - There are currently three Destination Playgrounds and a fourth planned at the Indoor Aquatic Facility.
    - To achieve this target an additional five destination playgrounds would be required.
- The current approved level of service for Neighbourhood Playgrounds is one every 800 metres, which leads to a requirement for 103 Neighbourhood Playgrounds.
    - There are currently two Neighbourhood Playgrounds that meet the APDS, with a third under construction at Parkdale Park.
    - As the current supply of Neighbourhood Playgrounds exceeds the established level of service, divesting of select playgrounds is recommended. Through further analysis and consultation as described in this report, Administration will bring forward a divestment strategy.

Impacts of Recommended option:

- Provides access to accessible playgrounds for most residents at the APDS service level.
- Supported by the OCP, Strategic Plan, RMP and the Corporate Accessibility Plan.
- Reduces inventory to manage cost, while still meeting service levels.
- Requires further consultation through the RMP refresh as an inventory reduction may not be supported by residents.
- The annualized cost for the recommended option is $3.3 million.
- Funding gap of approximately $2.3 million.

Other options demonstrating different service level targets, required funding and potential impacts can be found in Appendix B.

COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

In response to MN26-3, Administration conducted stakeholder feedback sessions with:

- Community Associations and School Community Councils planning or implementing playground projects using the APDS.
- The RCS Disability Reference Group.
- The Accessibility Advisory Committee.
- School Boards.
- Local developers and design professionals.

A summary of stakeholder feedback is provided in Appendix C.

DISCUSSION

Background

The City currently maintains an inventory of 152 playgrounds, 46 per cent of which are in poor or fair condition. Currently only five playgrounds (three Destination and two Neighbourhood) meet the approved APDS. The new playground to be located at the Indoor Aquatic Facility will add a fourth Destination Playground and the new playground under construction at Parkdale Park will add a third

Neighbourhood Playground. This means it will be decades before the levels of service are met.

Establishing the APDS was an important step toward improving equitable access to play opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities; however, Administration did not have the information available at the time to present the full lifecycle costs associated with the playground inventory and the revised service level. This report revisits the APDS in context of lifecycle cost and seeks to confirm service levels.

In addition, this report responds to Council approved MN25-5 and MN26-3. MN25-5 requested Administration report back on several items related to the delivery and service levels of playgrounds. MN26-3 asked Administration to consider opportunities to modify the APDS to address concerns raised through community feedback. These motions can be found in the decision history of this report.

Analysis and Findings

The following responds to specific items within the two motions and provides additional analysis that should be considered when confirming the level of service laid out in the APDS.

Engineered Wood Fibre as an Accessible Playground Surface MN25-5, 1 a.

Through MN25-5, additional information was requested regarding the use of Engineered Wood Fibre (EWF) on pathways and playgrounds, including the maintenance requirements necessary to achieve ASTM F1951 accessibility standards.

To assess these requirements, three playground locations were selected for testing and enhanced maintenance. The sites were chosen based on usage levels and planned maintenance activities. Details of the testing methodology, maintenance activities to achieve ASTM F1951 standard and costing analysis are provided in Appendix D.

The results demonstrated that EWF can achieve ASTM F1951 compliance; however, doing so is labor-intensive and costly. While EWF has a lower initial capital cost than poured-in-place rubber surfacing, the ongoing maintenance required to maintain ASTM F1951 compliance results in comparable lifecycle costs. Furthermore, due to the loose-fill nature of EWF, accessibility cannot be reliably maintained, as surface conditions can change immediately through regular use.

Based on these findings, Administration recommends that EWF continue not to be used as an accessible playground surfacing material.

Indoor Playground Investigation – MN25-5, 1 b.

The RMP recommends exploring opportunities to provide one or more publicly operated indoor playgrounds and incorporating indoor play space into future recreation facilities. Motion MN25-5 further asked Administration to investigate opportunities for a centrally located indoor, year-round Destination Playground of at least 300 m², including potential City-owned, Regina Exhibition Association Limited (REAL) Campus and private partner locations.

Investigation results:

- No existing City recreation facilities currently contain sufficient vacant space to accommodate a playground of this size.
- Existing private indoor play facility locations of varying types exist throughout Regina. Most operate on a fee-for-service basis and their accessibility standards are unknown.
- REAL Campus is a potential location for an indoor playground. However, given the ownership and governance changes that have occurred since Motion MN25-5 was adopted, further discussions regarding a municipally operated indoor playground at this location are premature.

Administration recommends that:

- The need and priority for a municipally supported indoor playground continue to be explored through the RMP refresh.
- Opportunities at the REAL Campus or private partnership opportunities could be explored following the RMP refresh.

Any private partnership opportunities should be pursued through an open and transparent public call for partnerships, following the Recreation Amenity Partnership Framework, which is also being reviewed through the RMP refresh.

Accessible Playground Grant Program – MN25-5, 1 d & MN26-3, 1.

There are two streams of funding through the current Community Investment Grant Program that organizations can apply to for capital playground projects.

Funding Stream	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Funding Amount	Funding Model	Accessible Playground Project Eligibility
Sport & Recreation	Non-profits and School Community Councils	Up to $40,000 combine funding	50/50 matching	Eligible
Adapted Sport & Recreation	Non-profits and School Community Councils	Up to $200,000	No matching funds required	Eligible

As part of the 2026 Budget deliberations, Council approved $160,000 in one-time funding to establish the APGP. The program was intended to augment the grant funding already available (shown above) to support the capital development of publicly available accessible playgrounds, by non-profit organizations and school community councils. In 2026, the entire budget was allocated to three planned playground projects. Full details on the 2026 APGP can be seen in Appendix E.

If Council chooses not to allocate ongoing operating funding for the continuation of the Accessible Playground Grant as part of the 2027 Budget deliberations, the Sport & Recreation and Adapted Sport & Recreation Stream funding will continue to be available.

Sharing Playground Designs with the Accessibility Advisory Committee – MN25-5, 1e.
Through MN25-5, Council asked Administration to report back on presenting playground designs to the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) for review prior to procurement. In 2026, Administration presented design options for new Destination Playgrounds and a Neighbourhood Playground, which will pilot a new type of ASTM F1951 playground surfacing, to the AAC for review. This review process added approximately two months to the approval timeline of playground designs.

Currently playgrounds are built by the City, developers and community organizations on private and City-owned property. Although all playgrounds being constructed on City-owned property or receiving City funding are reviewed for compliance with the APDS by a qualified Landscape Architect and the Accessibility Advisor, they are not all shared with AAC.

City grant funded and developer-built playgrounds have timeline service standards that are set from the time of application to the time of approval. This provides a clear understanding to applicants of when they can expect approval, allowing them to schedule their projects accordingly. Adding an AAC review to these processes would mean that current service standards would not be met. For this reason, Administration recommends continuing the process of a professional design compliance review by Administration, without an additional review by the AAC.

For City-led Neighbourhood Playground replacements, procurement timelines are typically shorter due to the lower complexity of these projects. Playground designs must be approved during contract negotiations so that pricing can be finalized and the contract awarded. Requiring all Neighbourhood Playground designs to be reviewed by the AAC would extend the procurement process and could result in contract award and construction delays. However, Administration recommends seeking AAC feedback when a project proposes a new playground surfacing type or an accessible play experience that has not been used previously, as these elements may introduce new accessibility considerations.

Administration is also recommending that Destination Playground designs continue to be reviewed by Administration for compliance as well as the AAC due to their broader community impact. In addition, these projects are typically more complex with a longer negotiation period during procurement, which allows time to share designs with AAC without incurring project delays.

Accessible Playground Guidelines Related to Grant Program – MN26-3, 1.
The 2026 APGP required applicants to implement the APDS through their playground designs. This requirement garnered concern from some community organizations. In response, Council approved MN26-3 asking Administration to seek community feedback and consider potential updates to the APDS.

Consultation included school boards, community associations and school community councils

designing playgrounds, AAC, RCS Disability Reference Group and local developers and design professionals.

Community organizations indicated that the cost of meeting the APDS requirements was disproportionately high relative to the grant funding available. Organizations also requested greater flexibility in applying the standard, particularly for school community council and other community-led playground projects. In response, Administration reviewed the feedback and is proposing changes to reduce project costs while maintaining accessibility objectives. For playground projects developed by community organizations on City-owned property, gathering space elements such as site furniture, shade trees, and accessible parking will be funded by the City, subject to available capital funding. For projects on private property that receive City funding, gathering space elements will no longer be required. A summary of community feedback and the proposed APDS amendments is provided in Appendix C.

The requirement for ASTM F1951 compliant playground surfacing is unchanged, for the reasons shared earlier related to EWF. With the reduction in costs for gathering space requirements for community projects on City-owned land and for schools, Administration feels the APGP, if continued, can assist groups in offsetting costs related to playground surfacing and pathway development.

City playground replacements and developer-built playgrounds, which become City assets, will continue to follow all the playground and gathering space requirements in the APDS. The proposed revised APDS can be found in Appendix F.

Strategic Playground Plan – MN25-5, 1c.
Playground level of service is defined by the type and level of accessibility (Destination or Neighbourhood), the number of each type of playground and the geographic service area each playground serves or level of access to playgrounds. A strategic plan needs to balance the service goals, cost of the service and the City's fiscal and human resource capacity. The following provides background information on the existing playground inventory, service level analysis and associated lifecycle costs.

Service Level Analysis
In 2019 playground service levels were set through the approval of the RMP. Subsequently in 2025, City Council approved the APDS, establishing a new level of service target for Destination Playgrounds and minimum accessibility requirements that must be followed for all new, upgraded or replaced playgrounds as well as playground projects receiving City funding. The following provides a breakdown of the playground service level targets:

Playground Type	2019 Recreation Master Plan (RMP)	2025 Accessible Playground Design Standards (APDS)
Destination Playgrounds	One for every 45,000	One within a 3-kilometre

	residents.	driving distance of most households (85% of residents).
Neighbourhood Playgrounds	One within an 800-metre walking distance of most households (85% of residents).	No change

Analysis was completed to compare different levels of access, number of playgrounds to achieve those levels of access, and the lifecycle costing of those different scenarios. MN25-5 offered an alternative level of service for access to Destination Playgrounds than what is included in the APDS, which also formed part of the service level analysis. Appendix A includes a summary of the geospatial analysis of the different service levels.

Using this analysis, the recommendation is to maintain the access to playground level of service as three kilometres driving distance from most households for Destination Playgrounds and 800 metres walking distance from most households for Neighbourhood Playgrounds. As the Neighbourhood Playground analysis demonstrates, some areas of Regina exceed the target for Neighbourhood Playgrounds and the total complement of accessible Neighbourhood Playgrounds can be reduced to 103, while the number of accessible Destination Playgrounds would be increased to nine.

Current State
There are two annual program budget lines that are used to fund playground maintenance, renewal and replacement. These budgets total $1.035 million and are split into:

- Operating & Maintenance – This budget line is typically $425,000 per year. This is used to fund the day-to-day operations and maintenance of existing playgrounds, such as inspections, cleaning and replacing bolts. This budget is also used for minor renewal (parts under $15,000).

- Capital Renewal, Upgrades and Replacement – This budget line is currently projected to be $610,000 per year over the next five years. This budget is used for the renewal, upgrades and replacement of playgrounds and surfacing to meet CSA Z614 children's playground equipment (CSA) and the APDS where possible. Funding has typically been used for one to two replacements a year or renewal of up to three playgrounds depending on the required repairs.

Currently, work to complete playground operating, maintenance, renewal, upgrades and replacements are shared between the Parks & Open Space Services Department and the Recreation & Cultural Services Department. These functions are necessary to ensure City playgrounds remain compliant with CSA standards and that upgrades and replacements meet the APDS.

As playground assets age, components become worn or damaged and replacement parts are often no longer available from original manufacturers. Staff then research, source, procure and install compatible replacement components that meet CSA requirements, a process that is both time-consuming and resource intensive. In addition, staff delivering City playground design, upgrades and replacements are also responsible for all playground renewal planning, restoration and park redevelopment projects, and assisting with design and managing community projects in City parks. This challenges staff capacity to maintain service levels.

Lifecycle Costing Analysis

To understand the true costs of an asset, analysis includes associated costs for maintaining, operating, renewing, upgrading and replacing the asset over its life. The term *annualized costing* is commonly used in asset management planning to describe these costs distributed evenly over each year of the assets entire useful life.

Annualized costing also considers the Average Annual Asset Consumption (AAAC), which is similar to depreciation. By considering the eventual replacement cost and useful life of the infrastructure, the AAAC estimates the annual value of infrastructure being used up or consumed each year. Comparing renewal investment to AAAC helps determine whether the organization is investing enough to sustain its assets, prepare for the eventual cost of replacement of the assets and avoid a growing infrastructure deficit.

Based on the analysis completed, the average annualized cost of the recommended service level to operate, maintain, renew, upgrade and replace playgrounds is approximately $3.3 million. This represents a shortfall of approximately $2.3 million.

Future playground operating and capital budgets would require an increase to a level that can sustainably achieve this level of service. The recommendation also includes the divestment of up to 40 playgrounds as they are not required to achieve the recommended level of service and maintaining additional playgrounds increases the financial need to support this service. Divestment of playgrounds could mean demolition of the playgrounds at end of useful life and converting the space to grass to match the surrounding park space. This will have an impact on surrounding residents and may not be supported by community. The process for the decommissioning of recreation assets in addition to residents' willingness to fund access to recreation assets will be explored through the refresh of the RMP taking place in 2027. Through that refresh a divestment strategy will be developed and shared with Council in 2028.

As noted, it will take decades to achieve a playground network that fully achieves the recommended level of service. Upon the approval of these recommendations and completion of the RMP refresh, Administration will undertake development of a Playground Asset Management Plan. That plan will include locations for new Destination Playgrounds using the criteria from MN25-5 as a guide, a divestment strategy and lifecycle management and costing for all playgrounds. The plan will also consider the required human resources, equipment and materials to deliver the work. The asset management plan will be used to inform future budget requirements and the pace at which the new APDS standards can be implemented for the entire playground network. Future capital budgets will

need to balance upgrading or replacing playgrounds to the APDS while also making appropriate investments in renewal of non-standard playgrounds when components are at end of life or required attention to maintain safety and functionality of the playground until proper replacement can be achieved.

Next Steps

The approval of service level targets is the first step toward the development of a long-term plan for the management and funding of City-owned and maintained playgrounds. The following provides steps that will be taken by Administration in follow-up to this report.

- Over the winter of 2026 and 2027, staff will compile an interim prioritized list of playground renewal projects, including costing, to maintain the current playground inventory.
- Prioritization of playgrounds as part of the delivery of recreation and sport amenities will be confirmed through the refresh of the RMP in 2027.
- A process for the potential decommissioning of recreation assets will be explored through the refresh to the RMP in 2027.
- Through consultations on the RMP, different approaches to recreation amenities in neighbourhoods with higher density will be considered. This could include discussions regarding size and numbers of playgrounds in new development areas and areas of intensification.
- Upon completion of the RMP refresh, Administration will return to Council with a Playground Asset Management Plan that will include:
    - A divestment strategy.
    - Lifecycle management and costing of all playgrounds, including required human resources, equipment and materials to deliver the work.
    - A plan for the proposed locations of new Destination Playgrounds, taking into consideration the criteria approved by Council as part of MN25-5, as well as other neighbourhood planning considerations. The plan will also share proposed timing of capital investments.

DECISION HISTORY & AUTHORITY

At its meeting held on March 26, 2025, City Council considered item *MN25-5 Playground Accessibility* and adopted a resolution to:

1. Direct Administration to make the following changes to the City of Regina Accessible Playground Standard effective immediately respecting all new and ongoing projects:
    a. Definition of accessible playground: Accessibility is about travel, movement, and approach or entry. A playground that is accessible is one that is easy for a person who uses a mobility device to maneuver to and around.
    Definition of inclusive playground: designed to meet the needs of a variety of disabilities such as visual impairments, hearing impairments, communication, cognitive disabilities, sensory sensitivities, physical disabilities etc, designed thoughtfully to encourage engagement and interaction of multiple abilities.

Both Neighborhood and Destination playgrounds are to meet the principals of both accessible and inclusive playgrounds.

b. Accessible play elements must be appropriate for a person with a mobility device to maneuver around. Neighborhood playgrounds have a minimum accessible element changed from 40% to 50%;
c. both destination and neighborhood playgrounds are constructed with only accessible surfacing to meet ASTM1951 standards and remove engineered wood fiber as an acceptable choice;
d. A maximum of 15% of the accessible elements require a person to exit their mobility device;
e. accessible play routes have a minimum width of 1100mm;
f. sensory planting beds should have a minimum of 20% of the beds raised to the following accessibility dimension requirements; Have a top surface of 860 mm maximum; and Have knee and toe space for a front approach that is 735 mm minimum high at the front edge, 500 mm minimum deep, and 900 mm minimum wide;
g. Transfer stations are not to be included within an accessible route;
h. All areas designed for accessibility devices including quiet spaces also to include space for an adult caregiver or friend;
i. Sensory plantings or plants are not to be included in the count as play components;
j. Destination playgrounds are to be located on a transit route;
k. A minimum of a 1525mm turning diameter, must be provided at the end of an accessible path, walkway or corridor, including platforms for slides/poles/climbing structures;
l. One of each type of play experience is to be accessible. Type of play experiences is listed in Appendix B. Preference for side-by-side play of varying abilities;
m. Destination Playgrounds: Consideration of service dog accommodations and consideration for mobility device/stroller parking;
n. Minimum size for a Destination Playground is to be 300m2;
o. Elevated play is not a requirement of an accessible playground;
p. Washroom is not a requirement of an accessible playground, but is encouraged.

2. Designate that playgrounds and parks that do not meet the standard of the Regina Accessible Playground Standard are not identified or labelled as accessible and are removed from the destination playground map and other published materials.

3. Direct Administration to utilize the Regina Accessible Playground Standard when preparing future park and playground site reports.

4. Require developers to follow the Regina Accessible Playground Standard for new playgrounds.

5. Direct Administration to report back in Q4 2026 in advance of the budget deliberation for

2027/2028 respecting:

a. Current pathways or playgrounds constructed with Engineered Wood Fiber be tested to meet ASTM1951 levels with a Rotational Penetrometer, with a subsequent recommendation to outline maintenance or replacement solutions to keep surfaces maintained to an ASTM1951 level.
b. Investigation of a central indoor location for the creation of an indoor all year-round destination playground, minimum 300m2 in size. Include City of Regina properties, REAL properties and possible private partnerships. Include within recreational master plan.
c. Develop a strategic playground plan to develop access to a destination playground for all residents within a maximum travel time of 25 mins on a transit route or 8 mins by car. Prioritize locations with adjacencies to schools, child-care centers, community centers, group homes, senior centers and health centers. Include possible partnerships, timelines and cost options to achieve full community coverage. Include strategic playground plan within the recreational master plan, with a minimum recommendation of renewing a playground annually.
d. Investigate options to create or utilize an existing grant program for community groups who are upgrading or creating new playgrounds to meet the Regina Accessible Playground Standard. Include stakeholder engagement to understand effective financial incentives and groups.
e. Present proposed new playground design to accessibility committee for review prior to final decisions and purchase.

At its meeting held on March 25, 2026, City Council considered item *MN26-3 Accessible Playground Guidelines Related to Grant Program* and directed administration to consult with school boards, representatives of school community councils, community associations and the Accessibility Advisory Committee to investigate avenues to modify the APDS to address concerns.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diana Burton, Director
Recreation & Cultural Services

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Bryden, Deputy City Manager
City Planning & Community Services

Prepared by: Janine Daradich, Manager, Planning & Partnerships

ATTACHMENTS
Appendix A - Mapping Analysis of Playgrounds

Appendix B - Service Level Options
Appendix C - APDS Community Feedback
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Appendix A – Mapping Analysis of Playgrounds

A geospatial mapping analysis was completed to analyze several service levels to determine how they compared to the base level of service in the Recreation Master Plan (RMP). The base level of service in the RMP is: “Every resident will have reasonable access to publicly supported recreation opportunities”. The document then goes on to define reasonable as 85 per cent of residents. This base level of service was used for all analysis unless otherwise requested.

For the purposes of this analysis, the Indoor Aquatic Facility is shown as an existing Destination Playground, as it is planned and is a commitment made to community by the previous Council.

LIST OF MAP FIGURES

Figure 1 – Destination Playgrounds 5 Kilometre Driving Distance of Most Households
Figure 2 – Playgrounds 800 Metre Walking Distance of Most Households
Figure 3 – Destination Playgrounds 3 Kilometre Driving Distance of Most Households
Figure 4 – Destination Playgrounds, 8 Minute Drive from All Residents
Figure 5 – Existing Destination Playgrounds, 25 Minute Transit Trip from All Residents
Figure 6 – Destination Playgrounds APDS Service Level, 25 Minute Transit from Most Households
Figure 7 – Neighbourhood Playgrounds 1,600 Metre Walking Distance of Most Residents

PLAYGROUND SERVICE LEVELS – RMP

Prior to the issuance of the Accessible Playground Design Standard in 2025, the RMP directed playground service levels, as noted below:

Destination Playgrounds – RMP (2019)

The service level for Destination Playgrounds is one Destination Playground for every 45,000 residents. This service level is illustrated in **Figure 1**. Geospatial analysis completed determined that this service level would equate to one playground within five kilometers driving distance of most households. Achieving this service level requires the addition of one Destination Playground in the north and one in the southeast. With these additions, the recommended service level would be met.

In the figure, intensification areas are shown in dark green and red. The five-kilometer driving distance from the existing Destinations is shown in blue and the green areas in the north and southeast demonstrate how gaps could be filled and the service level met.

Neighbourhood Playgrounds – RMP (2019)

The service level for Neighbourhood Playgrounds is one playground within 800-metre walking distance of most households. This service level is illustrated in **Figure 1**: Destination Playgrounds 5 Kilometre Driving Distance of Most Households (1/45,000 residents)

. The figure identifies existing residential areas (red hatch) not currently served, which are within the 15 per cent allowed through the RMP base level of service. Areas shown in yellow are located within an 800-metre walking distance of a playground. Areas with a higher concentration of playgrounds, or exceeding the service level target, are shown in darker shades progressing to blue, indicating overlapping service coverage.

PLAYGROUND SERVICE LEVELS – Accessible Playground Design Standard (APDS)

The Accessible Playground Design Standard, 2025 increased the service level for Destination Playgrounds from the RMP as noted below, while the service levels for Neighbourhood Playgrounds remains unchanged from the RMP.

Destination Playgrounds – APDS (2025)

The service level for Destination Playgrounds is one Destination Playground within a three-kilometre driving distance of most households. This service level is illustrated in **Figure 3**. The analysis shows the three-kilometre service area in green around each of the four Destination Playgrounds in relation to the city's intensification areas, shown in dark grey and blue. The analysis determined that five additional Destination Playground locations (for a total of nine) would be required to achieve the recommended base level of service. The orange areas demonstrate how gaps could be filled and the service level met.

Neighbourhood Playgrounds – APDS (2025)

The service level for Neighbourhood Playgrounds in the APDS remains unchanged from the Recreation Master Plan and continues to be one Neighbourhood Playground within 800 metres walking distance of most households. This service level is illustrated in **Figure 1**: Destination Playgrounds 5 Kilometre Driving Distance of Most Households (1/45,000 residents)

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COUNCIL MOTION MN25-5 SERVICE LEVEL ANALYSIS

Through Motion MN25-5, Council requested analysis of the following playground service levels for Destination Playgrounds:

Eight-Minute Driving Distance

MN25-5 requested that Administration analyze the service level of one Destination Playground within an eight-minute drive of all residents. This service level is illustrated in **Figure 4**. The analysis demonstrates that all residents are within an average eight-minute drive of the existing four Destination Playgrounds, and no additional Destination Playgrounds would be required to meet this service level.

Twenty-Five-Minute Transit Travel Time

Council Motion MN25-5 also requested that Administration analyze a service level of one Destination Playground within a maximum transit travel time of 25 minutes for all residents. This analysis did not consider paratransit, as paratransit service will drop registered users at any park or recreation facility.

When considering conventional transit trips for the Destination Playgrounds, the work had to be completed manually, so there may be a margin of error. **Figure 5** illustrates the areas of the city that will be within a 25-minute transit ride of the four existing Destination Playgrounds. This measure does not align with the base level of service target in the RMP. Administration also analyzed the APDS service level for Destination Playgrounds against the 25-minute transit ride. This service level is illustrated in **Figure 6**. With nine Destination Playgrounds the base level of service is met.

ALTERNATE SERVICE LEVEL OPTIONS ANALYSIS

Neighbourhood Playgrounds – Option 4

Option 4 in Appendix B introduced a revised service level target for Neighbourhood Playgrounds of one every 1,600-metre walking distance from most households. **Figure** demonstrates how the adjusted service level could be achieved and illustrates the distribution of playgrounds required to meet the revised target in purple. For Option 4, local non-accessible playgrounds would then be used to fill in the gaps to achieve the 800-metre walking distance of most households.

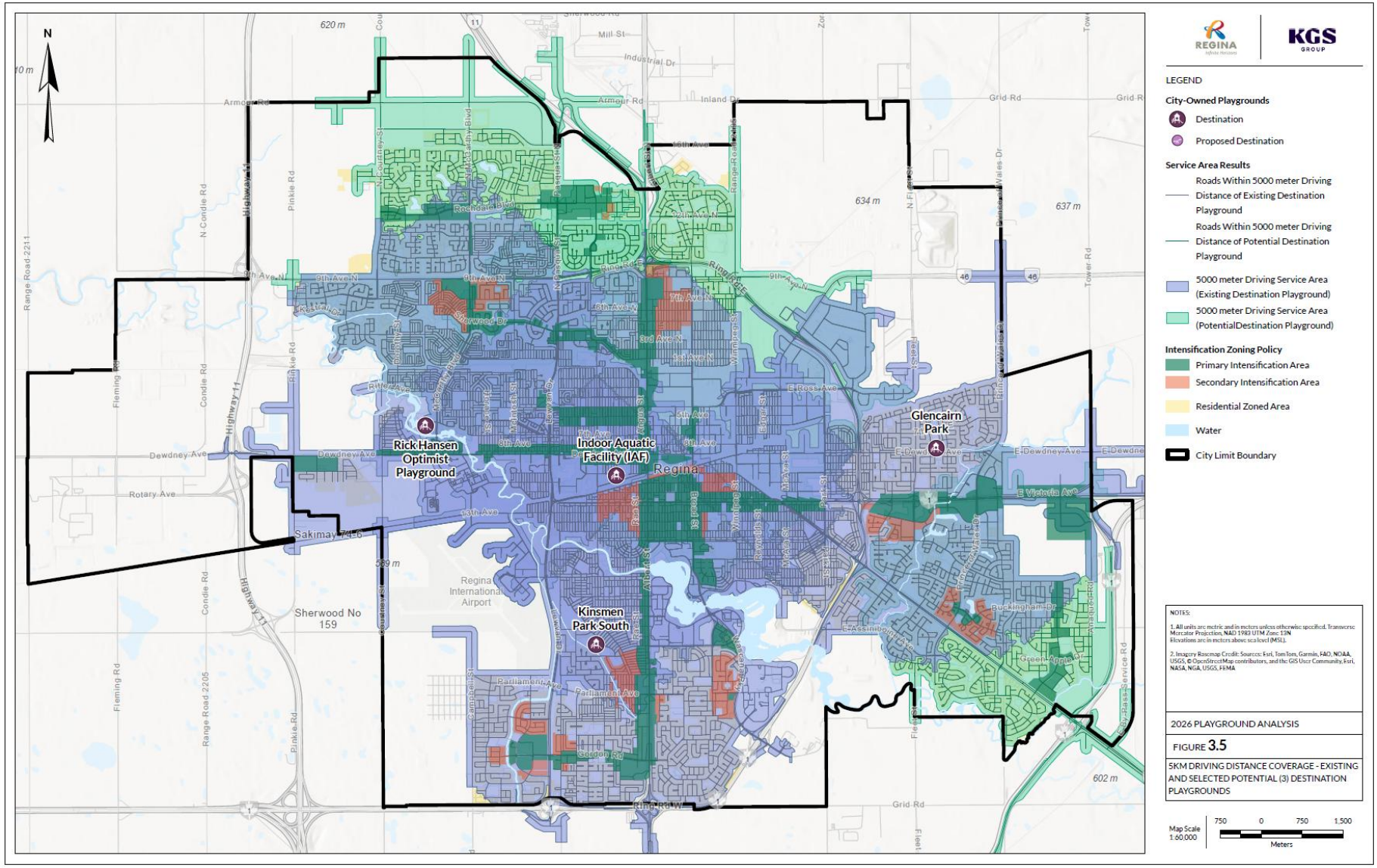


Figure 1: Destination Playgrounds 5 Kilometre Driving Distance of Most Households (1/45,000 residents)

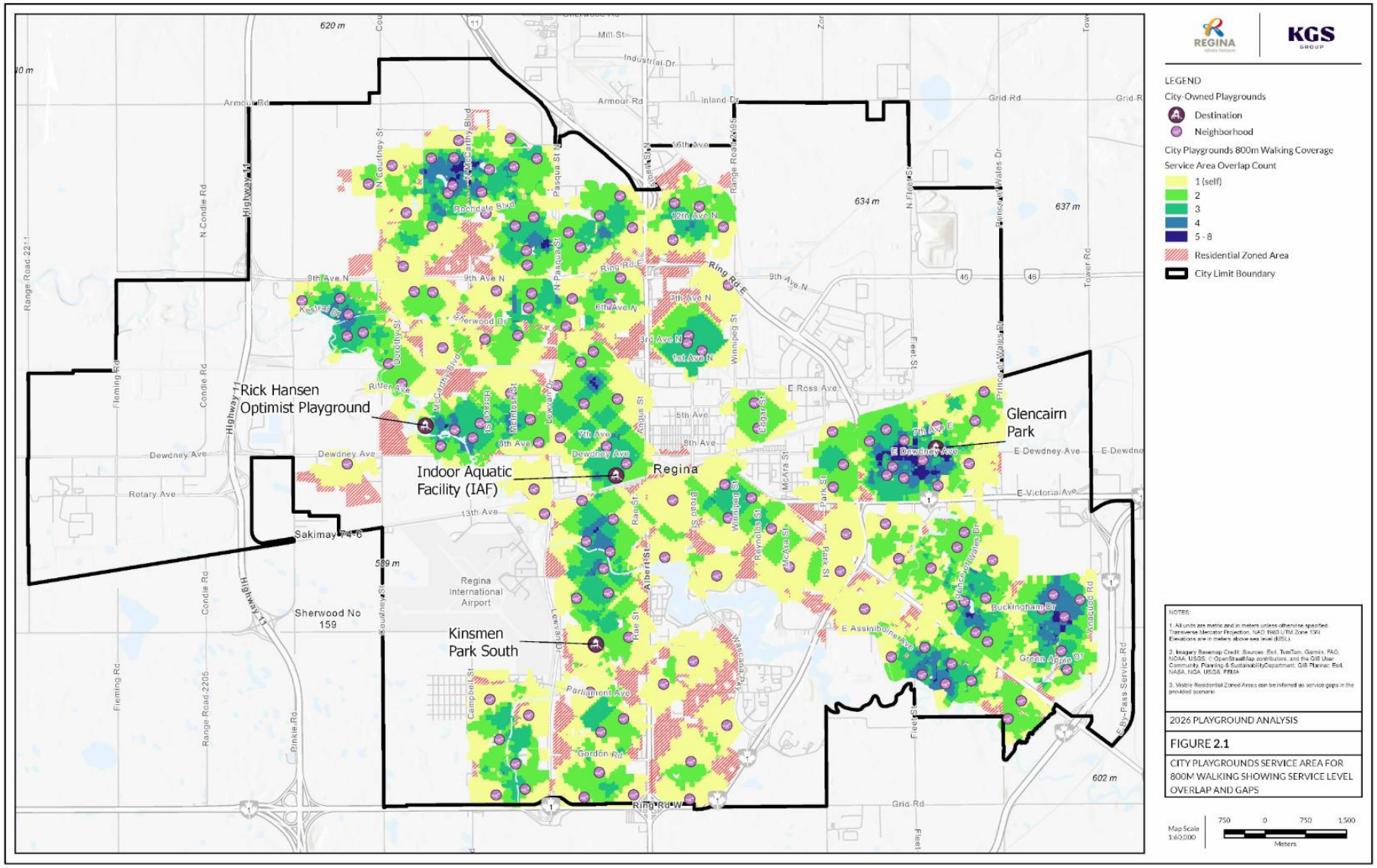


Figure 2: Playgrounds 800 Metre Walking Distance of Most Households

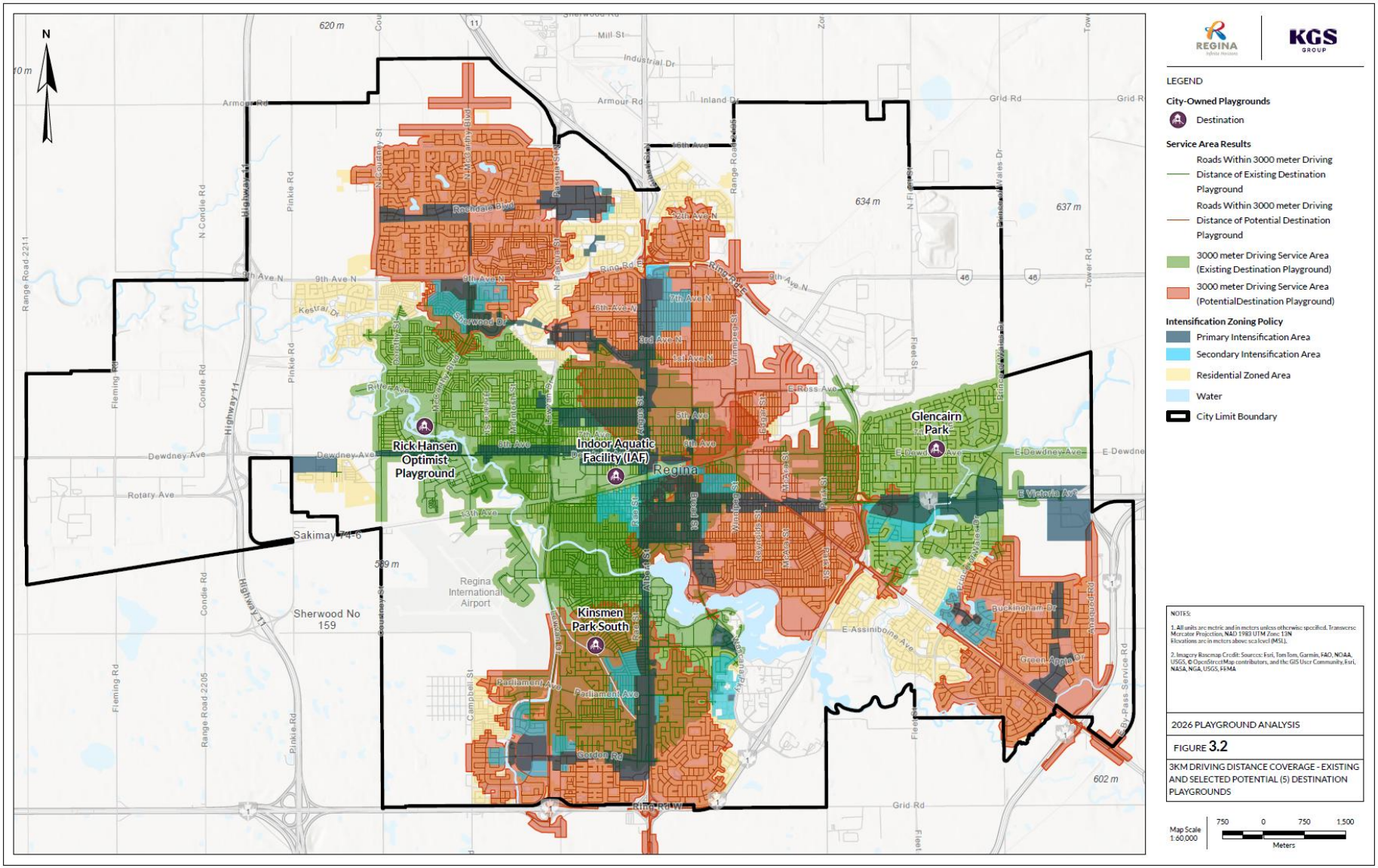


Figure 3: Destination Playgrounds 3 Kilometre Driving Distance of Most Households

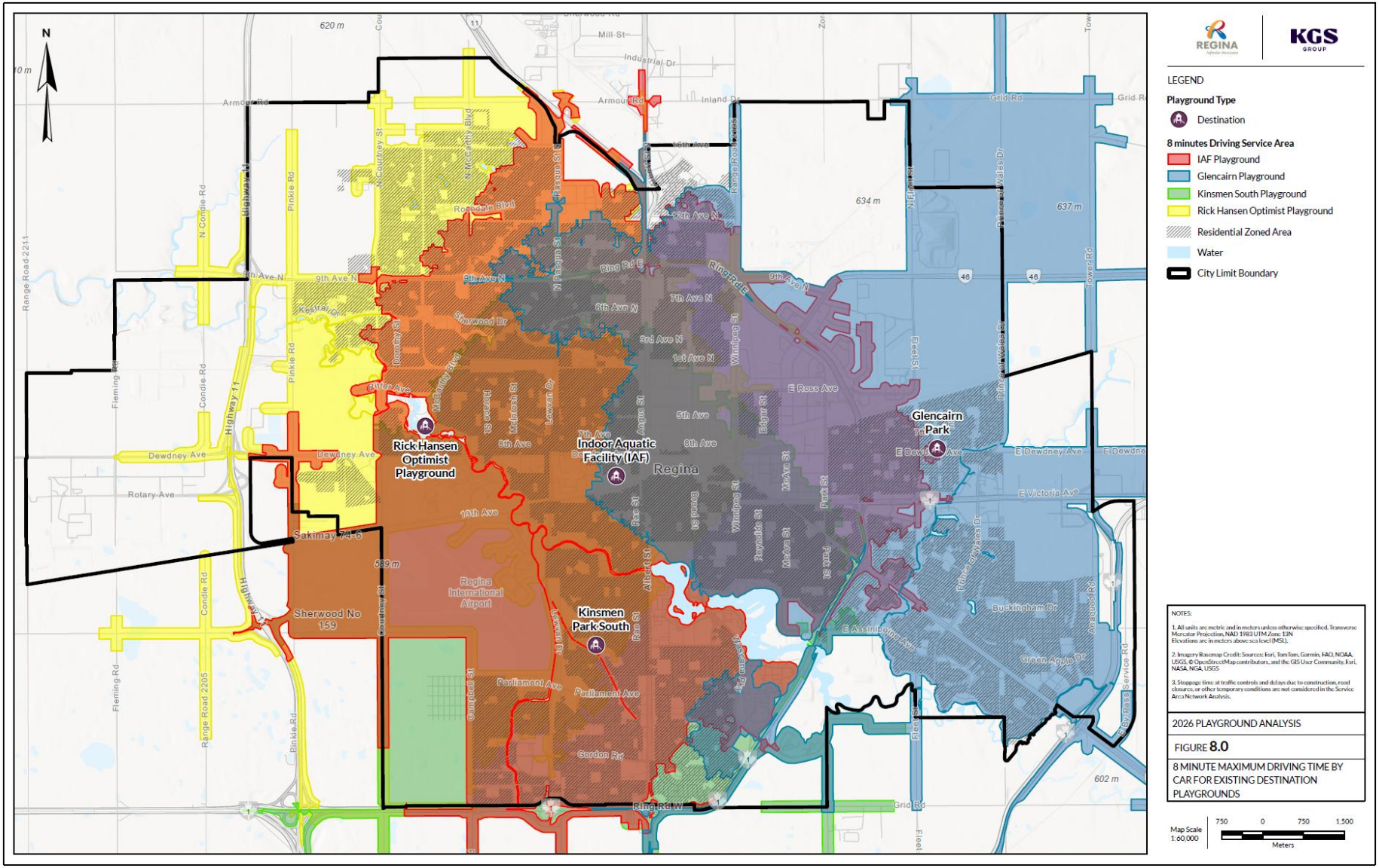


Figure 4: Destination Playgrounds, 8 Minute Drive from All Residents

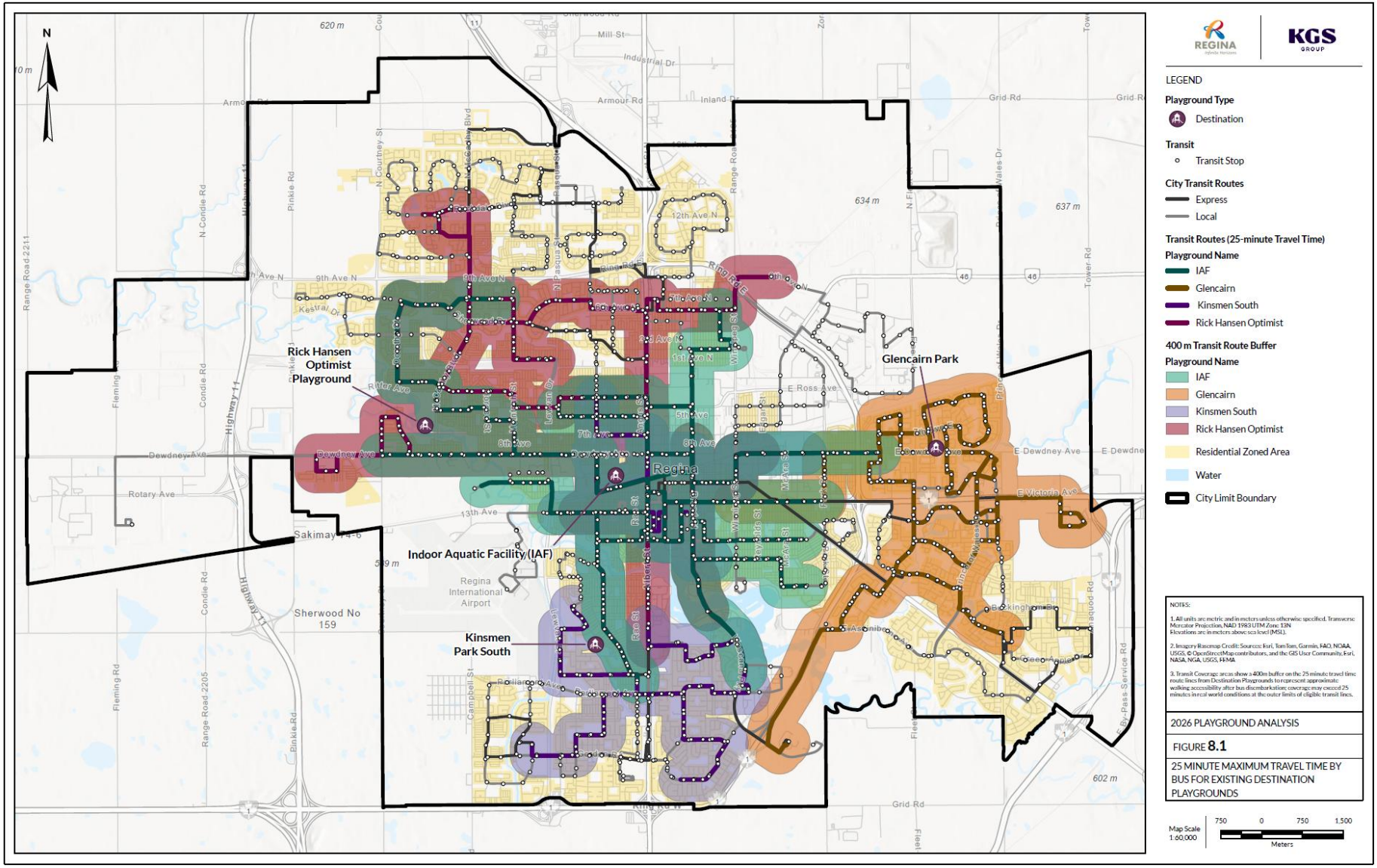


Figure 5 – Existing Destination Playgrounds, 25 Minute Transit from Most Households

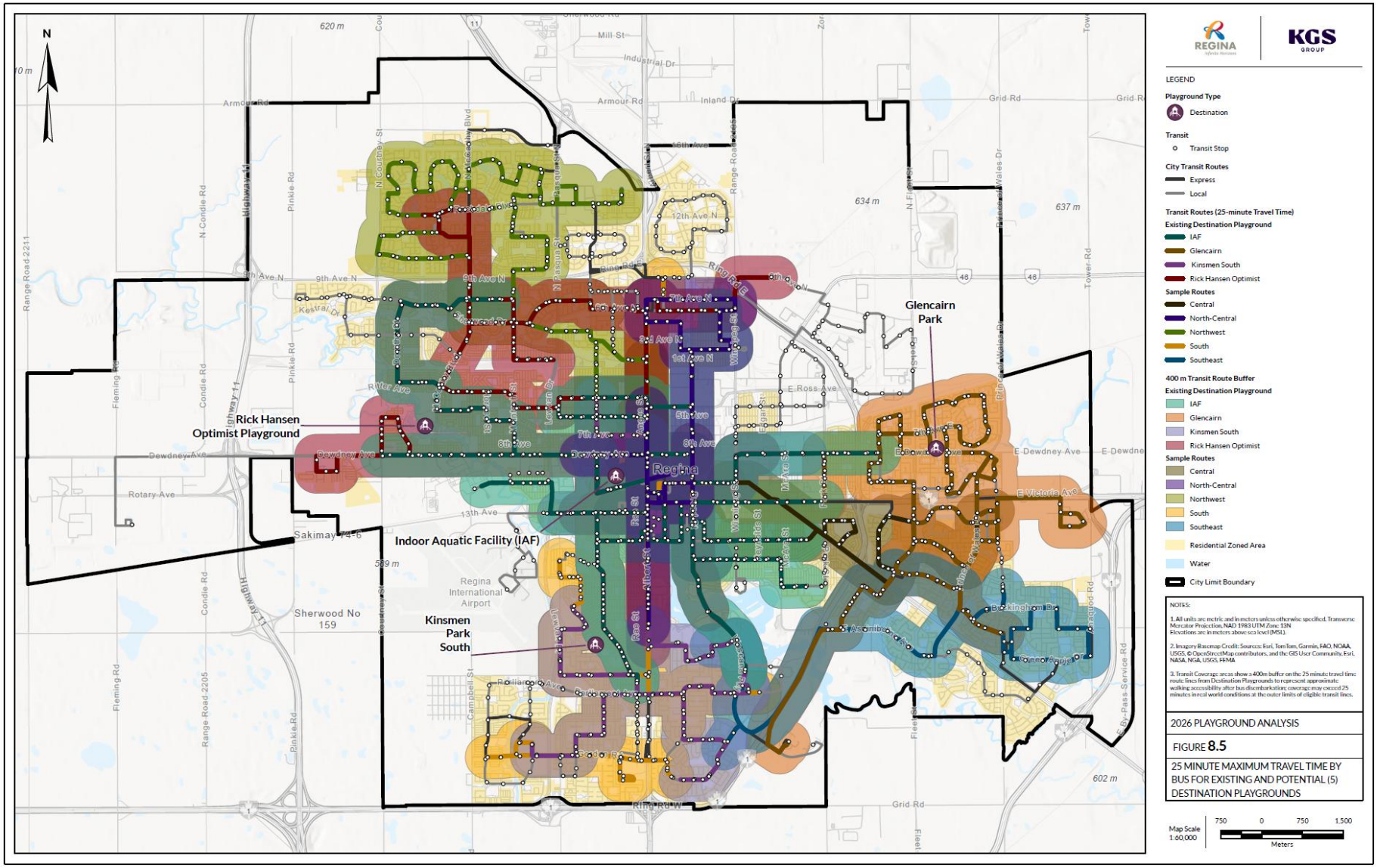


Figure 6 – Destination Playgrounds APDS Service Level, 25 Minute Transit from Most Households

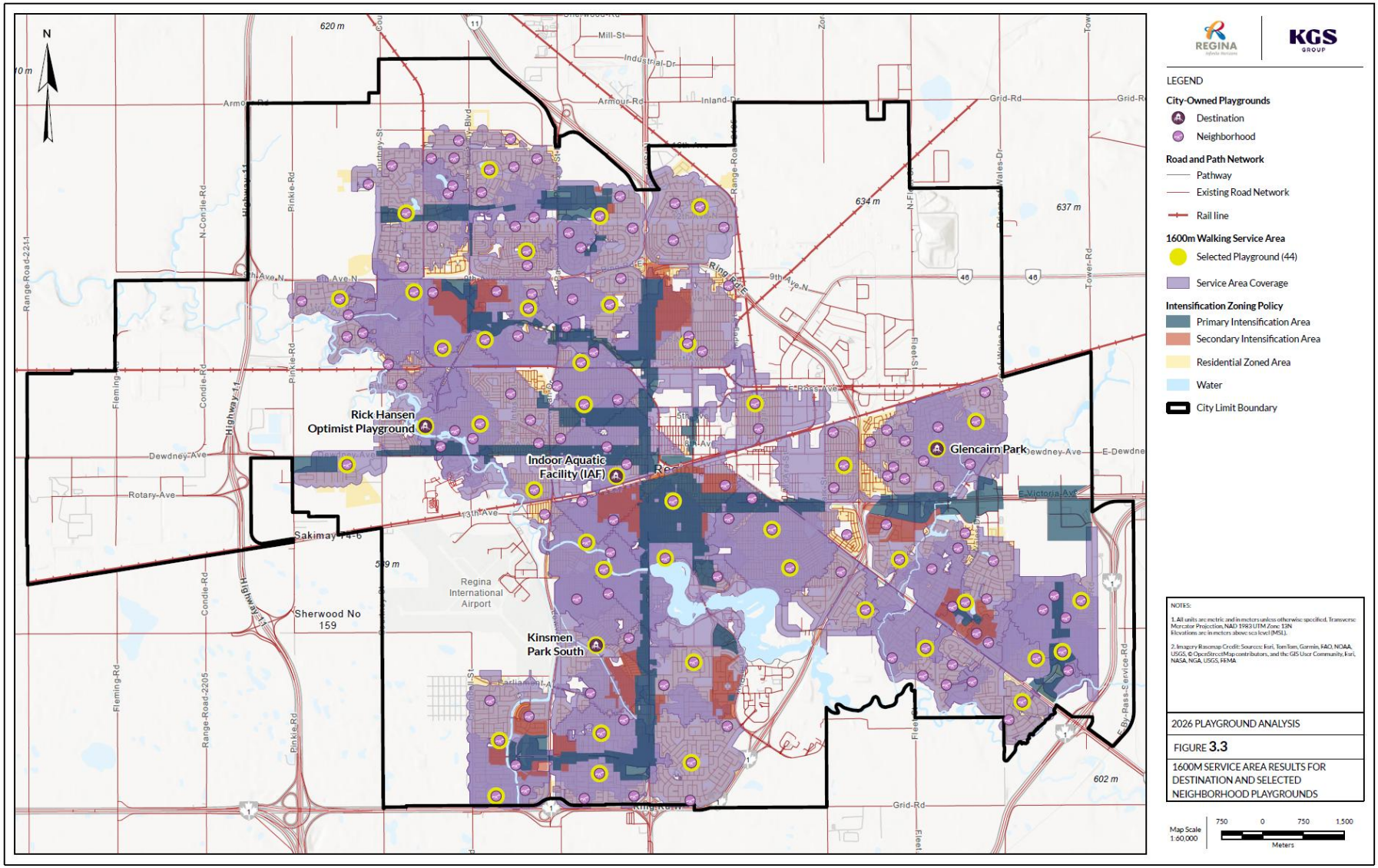


Figure 7: Neighbourhood Playgrounds 1,600 Metre Walking Distance of Most Residents

Appendix B – Service Level Options

Service Level Options	Service Level for Destination Playground (DP)	# DP ($41.4 K - $46 K/PG)	Service Level for Neighbourhood Playgrounds (NP)	# NP ($27 K - $31 K/ PG)	Service Level for Local Playground (LP) (not build to APDS)	# LP (or other) ($11.5 K - $14.2 K/PG)	# Divest-ments	Total Annualized Life Cycle Cost ($/Yr)	Impacts
Option 1 - Current Approved Service Level from APDS 2025 (RECOMMENDED)	**1 DP within in 3 km driving distance of most households**	**9**	**1 NP within 800 m walking distance of most households**	**103**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**40**	**$ 3.3 million**	• **Provides access to accessible playgrounds for most residents at the APDS service level.** • **Supported by Strategic Plan and City policy.** • **Reduces inventory to manage cost, while still meeting service levels.** • **Inventory reduction will require consultation and may not be supported by residents.** • **Funding gap of approximately $2.3 million.**
Option 2 -Current State (Status Quo)	N/A	3	N/A	3	N/A	146 (varying sizes, configuration and cost)	0	$2.2 million (Note: Average Annual investment has been $1.04 million)	• Does not provide accessible playgrounds for most residents. • Is not supported by Strategic Plan and City Policy. • Funding gap of approximately $1.2 million.
Option 3 - Upgrade or replace all current playgrounds to accessible	1 DP within 3 km driving distance of most households	9	1 NP within 800 m walking distance of most households	143	N/A	N/A	0	$4.4 million	• Provides access to accessible playgrounds for most residents. • Supported by Strategic Plan and City Policy. • Exceeds service level for Neighbourhood Playgrounds • Does not reduce inventory • Funding gap of approximately $3.4 million.
Option 4 - Adjusted Service Level 1 – Some Non-accessible Playgrounds and Divestments	1 DP within an 8 min by car or 25 min by transit ride (Specified in MN25-5)	6	1 NP within 1600 m walking distance of most households	40	1 LP within 800 m walking distance of most households	66	40	$2.2 million	• Provides access to accessible playgrounds for residents at a lower service level. • Vibrancy and accessibility of neighbourhoods affected. • Reduces inventory to manage cost. • Inventory reduction may not be supported by residents. • Does not increase funding gap any more than the current inventory which is approximately $1.2 million.
Option 5 - Adjusted Service Level 2 – Only Accessible Playgrounds and Divestments	1 DP within 3 km driving distance of most households	9	N/A	65	N/A	0	78	$2.2 million	• Provides access to accessible playgrounds at a lower service level. • Vibrancy and accessibility of neighbourhoods affected.

									• Reduces inventory significantly to manage cost. • Reduction in inventory may not be supported by residents. • Does not increase funding gap any more than Option 2 and 4 which is approximately $1.2 million.
Option 6 – Adjusted Service Level 3 - Destination Playgrounds at Current Service Level, Some Accessible Neighbourhood Playgrounds and Significant Divestment - No change to average annual budget	1 DP within 3 km driving distance of most households	9	N/A	24	N/A	0	119	$1.04 million	• Provides access to accessible playgrounds at a lower level. • Vibrancy and accessibility of neighbourhoods affected. • Reduces inventory significantly to manage cost. • Reduction in inventory may not be supported by residents. • No additional funding required.

Appendix C – Community Feedback

The following is a high-level summary of feedback heard from community non-profits and people with lived experience that were engaged by the City of Regina regarding the Accessible Playground Design Standard, dated July 2025 (Standard).

Comments received from community non-profit groups addressed the following sections of the Standard: 1. Scope, 5. Design Requirements: Gathering Area and 6. Design Requirements: Playground. General comments were also received regarding the playground design and review process. Comments in the tables below have been organized by the section of the Standard they relate to.

Abbreviations:
PIP = Poured in Place Rubberized Safety Surfacing
EWF= Engineered Wood Fiber Safety Surfacing

Table A – 1. Scope

Accessible Playground Design Standard Design Requirement	Feedback Received	Administration's Proposed Updates to APDS
1. Scope: This accessible playground standard shall guide the design of playgrounds in City of Regina (City) parks, including existing playgrounds that have been selected by the City for refurbishment or replacement. This Standard shall also guide the design of all City funded or partially funded playgrounds. This design standard does not apply to fitness equipment.	**Community Feedback:** • Feedback indicated that the Standard is overly rigid and should allow greater flexibility to allow groups to partially meet the Standard. For example, only install a communication board or only upgrade safety surfacing to rubber. **Feedback from People with Lived Experience:** • There was mixed support for partially following the Standard.	**Playgrounds located on City Property – Developers and City of Regina** 1. All new, replaced and upgraded playgrounds located on City property shall comply with all gathering area and playground requirements. **Playgrounds located on City Property – Non-profit-led** 1. If a non-profit community organization has upgraded, replaced or built a Neighbourhood Playground located on City property, it shall follow the playground requirements and the City shall fund and install gathering space requirements.

		Playgrounds not located on City Property – Non-profit-led 1. Non-profit organizations who will receive City funding for the purpose of upgrading, replacing or building a new public playground not located on City property shall meet all playground requirements.
1. Scope (con't) This standard describes design requirements for two types of City playgrounds: 1. Neighbourhood Playground with Accessible Elements 2. Destination Accessible Playground	**Community Feedback:** • There should be a third playground which serves a specific, much smaller group of residents. • Could there be a third Standard created only for schools and develop it in collaboration with the school boards. **Feedback from People with Lived Experience:** • Mixed feedback. Some felt schools should not be held to different standards and others felt the school divisions should make their own decision on accessible playground standards.	• See proposed update above. • Schools only required to follow the Accessible Playground Design Standard when receiving City funding.

Table B – 5. Design Requirements: Gathering Area

Accessible Playground Design Standard Design Requirement	Feedback Received	Administration's Proposed Updates to APDS
5.2 Accessible Pathway: Accessible Pathways shall have a slip-resistant, continuous and even surface.	**Community Feedback:** • Allow accessible pathways and site furnishing pads to be made of crusher dust to save on cost. **Feedback from People with Lived Experience:** • Asphalt or concrete is a dependable material which remains wheelchair accessible. Crusher dust moves around and can become uneven; it is not dependable.	• No updates proposed as accessibility of crusher dust cannot be guaranteed.
5.3 Shade The Gathering Areas shall provide trees for users to rest in shade.	**Community Feedback:** • Remove requirement for shade trees as the cost to plant and care for them is expensive and in the case of schools is not always supported by the school divisions. **Feedback from People with Lived Experience:** • Shade is very important to help those who are unable to easily regulate or sense their body temperature. • Allows people to stay at the playground/park longer.	• Required for playgrounds on City property. • If a community-led project on City property, the City will fund shade trees as budget allows. • Requirement of shade trees removed for school playgrounds receiving City funding.
5.4 Site Furnishings <u>Benches:</u> Minimum quantity of benches required at neighbourhood playgrounds: two (2) Benches shall have good sightlines to play area.	**Community Feedback:** • Site furnishings are expensive and should not be the responsibility of the community groups to provide, especially if furnishings exist but are in poor condition. **Feedback from People with Lived Experience:**	• Required for playgrounds on City property. • If a community-led project on City property, the City will fund as budget allows. • Requirement for benches and trash units removed for school playgrounds receiving City funding.

Benches shall have a back and arms. Any other bench style to be approved by the City's Manager, Planning & Partnerships or designate. <u>Trash Units:</u> Minimum quantity of trash units required at neighbourhood playgrounds: one (1)	• Benches are required for people who may not have the ability or stamina to stand at the playground for an extended amount of time. • Benches with backs and arms provide more support to those that require it.	
5.6 Park Amenities Playgrounds shall provide accessible on-street parking.	**Community Feedback:** • Remove requirement for designated street parking at neighbourhood playgrounds as they are frequented by those walking. • Relax requirement for accessible parking at neighbourhood parks by only making it a required for locations where street width is wide enough. **Feedback from People with Lived Experience:** • Mixed feedback received. While some felt that it should not be assumed parking isn't needed for neighbourhood playgrounds, others felt it was most important at destination playgrounds. • Some felt that if accessible parking can be accommodated at a neighbourhood playground then it should be considered.	• Neighbourhood parking will be included where possible. • For community-led projects on City property, the City will fund where budget allows. • Requirement for accessible parking removed for School playgrounds receiving City funding.

Table C – 6. Design Requirements: Playground

Accessible Playground Design Standard Design Requirement	Feedback Received	Administration's Comments and Proposed Updates to APDS
6.3 Accessible + Inclusive Playgrounds All new playgrounds are to meet the definitions of accessible and inclusive playgrounds.	**Community Feedback:** • Confusion around which play components meet the definition of accessible. • Allow play components that require transfer from mobility device to count as accessible. **Feedback from People with Lived Experience:** • Understand it can be confusing since different definitions of accessibility are used. The spectrum of disability is very broad, but mixed feedback on including a definition for mobility device accessible.	• **ADD** the following term to clarify the definition of accessible playground: **Mobility Device Accessible:** A play component or play experience that is appropriate for a person with a mobility device to maneuver around and allows the person to remain with their mobility device. Users are not required to transfer away from their mobility device to participate in the intended play activity. • **ADD** sentence to existing definition of accessible playground. • 'An accessible playground will provide a minimum percentage of mobility device accessible play components based on its Playground Type.' • Additions will help clarify the emphasis on accommodating people using mobility devices.
6.5 Materials – Safety Surfacing Loose materials, including but not limited to, EWF, sand and pea stone shall not be accepted as accessible safety surfacing material at new or refurbished City playgrounds.	**Community Feedback:** • Rubberized surfacing makes up a large percentage of a project's cost and EWF should be allowed. **Feedback from People with Lived Experience:** • Accessible playgrounds require surfaces that are truly accessible and maintain accessibility over time.	• No updates proposed as accessibility of EWF cannot be guaranteed. • Lifecycle costs for EWF is comparable to PIP and provide a greater assurance of accessibility for people with lived experience.

	• Some find rubberized servicing smoother to navigate on with a white cane. • Some felt communities should have flexibility to use either surface material. Providing options reduces costs through vendor competition.	
6.8 Play Components Neighbourhood playground: Minimum percentage of play components along an accessible route: **50 per cent** A maximum of **15 per cent** of accessible play components requires a person to exit their mobility device.	**Community Feedback:** • 50 per cent for neighbourhood level and 75 per cent for destination level playgrounds is too high, especially for rebuilds and the smaller playgrounds. • Consider reducing the requirements as the standards for accessible play are restrictive and reduce the level of fun at a playground as a lot of the fun elements require you to leave a mobility device. • Remove 15 per cent requirement. **Feedback from People with Lived Experience:** • Understood how it could be confusing and could be limiting for certain types of play components. • To increase the number of physical play elements could consider removing swings and slides from the component counts.	• To allow for more variety of components: **ADD**: Swings and slides can be excluded from the total count of play components.
6.10 Sensory Cues and Contrast A play structure's surface colours (platforms/ramps) shall be in high contrast to its vertical elements (hand/guard rail colour) e.g dark brown ramp and light blue handrail. A high contrast colour shall be used on accessible safety surfacing to indicate obstacles, such as the end of the slide or free-standing items like a post of a swing set. Additionally, high-	**Community Feedback:** • Relax the standard and make sensory cues and contrast requirements for the PIP optional as they add cost to the surfacing. • Understanding colour contrast and where it is needed can be confusing. **Feedback from People with Lived Experience:** • The consensus was that these requirements are an important accessibility feature and should remain in the Standard.	• No updates to the requirement for colour contrast proposed. • Supplementary information and images will be appended to the Standard to confirm contrasting colours, through consultation with CNIB.

contrast colour shall indicate the safety areas of swinging, spinning or other movement-based play features. A high-contrast colour shall be used to indicate the boundary or perimeter of the playground.		

Table D – General Feedback on Accessible Playground Standards Received from Community Groups

Community Feedback:	Administration Response to Feedback:
Process Improvements • Process for development of community led capital projects on City property could be improved as it can be confusing.	• Administration will lay out the process in a one pager that can be shared with organizations wanting to implement projects on City property. • City's Community Consultants will act as first point of contact for community groups.
Document is confusing, too technical • Accessible Playground Design Standard is technical and hard to understand. • There should be one document for the design professionals/ playground suppliers and another document for community members.	• Once the Standard is approved, Administration will create graphics to help describe requirements. • A checklist will be available to be a quick reference for design professionals and community. • The destination and neighbourhood playground requirements have been separated to reduce confusion.
Grant Funding • Applying for grant funding is very competitive. There isn't enough money to go around.	• The City understands that grant programs are competitive, but change would require addition budget.

Appendix D – Engineered Wood Fiber Testing

MN25-5, 1a. Engineered Wood Fiber ASTM F1951 Accessibility Testing and Playground Operations

Background

Engineered Wood Fibre (EWF) has been used nationally as an accessible playground surface for several years. This usage was based on the CSA Z614:20, which is a national standard for Children's Play Equipment and Surfacing (CSA Standard). In Annex D – Recommended Protective Surfacing, table D.1, lists EWF as wheelchair accessible. However, the same CSA Standard in Annex H references ASTM F1951, which is a standard for the determination of mobility device accessibility of surfaces.

MN25-5 directed Administration report back on *"*current pathways or playgrounds constructed with EWF be tested to meet ASTM1951 levels with a rotational penetrometer, with a subsequent recommendation to outline maintenance or replacement solutions to keep surfaces maintained to an ASTM1951 level*"*. Based on this direction, the Parks & Open Space Services Department conducted ongoing testing and costing analysis this spring/summer at three locations to determine the true accessibility of EWF as a playground surface.

Test Sites

Currently the City has 42 playgrounds with EWF surfacing out of 152 playgrounds in the current inventory.

The playgrounds selected for testing were high-traffic sites, that required top up and maintenance of the EWF, which provided good conditions for assessing accessibility and costing.

Testing Methodology

ASTM F1951 testing was completed using a rotational penetrometer device, which measures surface firmness and stability, by assessing the depth and resistance of an impression in the surfacing material. The test is intended to evaluate whether a mobility device wheel can effectively maneuver over the surface.

The testing process involves using a calibrated rotational penetrometer device to take several readings at various locations throughout the playground along routes of travel between playground features.

Sites were tested twice per week in June and July.

Testing Process:

- Sites were first tested for compliance.
- If additional EWF was required, material was added.
- EWF was raked and redistributed.
- The surface was watered to allow for compaction.
- Surface was then compacted with a tamping machine.
- Sites were then retested for compliance and the process repeated until the EWF met the ASTM F1951 requirements.

By July 2026, all three EWF sites were able to achieve a passing ASTM F1951 measurement.

Testing Results and Findings

Key observations from the testing program included:

- EWF surfacing can be maintained to meet ASTM F1951 accessibility requirements when sufficient material depth and compaction are achieved.
- Additional material, watering and compaction were generally required to achieve passing test results.
- Current staffing and funding levels do not allow for the rigorous schedule that would be required for the testing and required maintenance procedures to meet ASTM F1951 requirements.
- Due to the loose nature of the EWF material, accessibility is difficult to maintain and cannot be guaranteed for every visit.

Current and Estimated Annualized Cost

Administration’s analysis found that the annualized cost of EWF, including the maintenance required to maintain accessibility, is approximately $24,000, compared to $28,000 for Poured in Place Rubber (PIP) surfacing. Considering the marginal cost difference, PIP represents a more effective investment, as it provides a consistently accessible surface while accessibility cannot be assured with EWF due to the loose nature of the material.

Appendix E – Accessible Playground Grant

MN25-5, 1d. – 2026 Accessible Playground Grant Program Summary

As part of the 2026 Budget process, City Council approved $160,000 in one-time funding for an Accessible Playground Grant Program. The program was intended to support the development of publicly accessible playgrounds by non-profit organizations and school community councils.

2026 Accessible Playground Grant Program Eligibility and Requirements

The main eligibility criteria for the Accessible Playground Grant Program:

- The playground would be available for public use.
- The project would meet the City's Accessible Playground Design Standard.
- At least 40 per cent of total project costs had already been secured by the applicant organization.
- Applicants were only eligible for up to $80,000 combined grant funding for a specific playground project.
- The playground had to be constructed two years from notification of a successful grant application.
- Priority would be granted to projects on City-owned land.
- Other program requirements and project criteria were met.

Accessible Playground Grant Program Results

The call for applications originally resulted in:

- Three applications requesting a combined total of $203,900.
- Allocation of the full $160,000 available through the program.

After the application deadline, Administration was notified of one additional application that was submitted to an incorrect email address. Following review, this project was awarded $20,000 through the Grant Appeals Fund from the Community Investment Grant Program, which is available to address process-related issues and exceptional circumstances.

Following notification of funding decisions, one successful applicant advised the City that it would no longer proceed with its project under the Accessible Playground Grant Program. The organization sited an inability to raise the remaining project funding within the two-year timeframe established by the program for the return of funds.

As a result, $20,000 in grant funding was declined by the applicant.

Funded Project Status

Based on information provided by successful applicants:

- Two playground projects were completed in 2026.
- One playground project is planned for construction in 2027.

These projects will contribute to the expansion of publicly available accessible playgrounds within the community.

Appendix F - Accessible Playground Design Standard

Revision date: October 27, 2026

Note:

Proposed updates to the Accessible Playground Design Standard, dated July 2025, have been highlighted in yellow.

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1. SCOPE OF STANDARD

1.1. The Accessible Playground Design Standard (Standard) shall guide the design of:

.1 All new, replaced or upgraded playgrounds located on City of Regina (City) property.

.2 All new, replaced or upgraded public playgrounds that will receive City funding.

1.2. See 8. Glossary of Terms **Playground Development Terms**

1.3. for definitions.

1.4. This Standard does not apply to fitness equipment.

2. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

2.1. City of Regina Recreation Master Plan

2.2. City of Regina Parks Master Plan

2.3. CSA Z614:20 Children's playground equipment and surfacing

2.4. ASTM F1951-21 Standard Specification for Determination of Accessibility of Surface Systems Under and Around Playground Equipment

3. PLAYGROUND TYPES

3.1. This Standard describes design requirements for two types of City playgrounds:

Neighbourhood Playground

A Neighbourhood Playground shall function as a community amenity intended to serve residents of the surrounding neighbourhood. Key features of a Neighbourhood Playground include a minimum of 50 per cent of play components being accessed via an accessible route, mobility device accessible safety surfacing that meets ASTM F1951, an accessible pathway connecting users to the playground, and a shaded area for rest.

Destination Playground

A Destination Playground shall be located at a **Community Recreation Hub** that serves residents from across the City and could accommodate large groups of visitors. Key features of a Destination Playground include a minimum of 75 per cent of play components being accessed via an accessible route, mobility device accessible safety surfacing that meets ASTM F1951, an accessible pathway connecting users to the playground, a shaded area for rest, designated accessible parking and access to an accessible washroom.

4. ACCESSIBLE + INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND DEFINITIONS

4.1. All new, replaced or upgraded Destination and Neighbourhood playgrounds shall meet the definitions of accessible, inclusive and mobility device accessible playgrounds as defined below.

Accessible Playground:

Accessibility is about travel, movement and approach or entry. A playground that is accessible is one that is easy for a person who uses a mobility device to maneuver to and around. An Accessible Playground will provide a minimum percentage of **Mobility Device Accessible** play components based on its playground type.

Inclusive Playground:

An Inclusive playground is designed to meet the needs of a variety of disabilities such as visual impairments, hearing impairments, communication, cognitive disabilities, sensory sensitivities, physical disabilities etc., designed thoughtfully to encourage engagement and interaction of multiple abilities.

Mobility Device Accessible:

A play component or experience that is appropriate for a person with a mobility device to maneuver around and allows the person to remain with their mobility device. Users are not required to transfer away from their mobility device to participate in the intended play activity.

4.2. See **Glossary of Terms**

4.3. for additional definitions used throughout this Standard.

5. WHICH REQUIREMENTS APPLY?

This section identifies which requirements of this Standard apply based on playground location and project proponent (e.g., non-profit community groups, developers, City)

5.1. **Playgrounds located on City Property – Developers & City of Regina**

.1 All new, replaced and upgraded Neighbourhood Playgrounds located on City property shall comply with all Neighbourhood Playground design requirements N1-N11 identified in this Standard, including both Gathering Area and Playground requirements.

.2 All new, replaced and upgraded Destination Playgrounds located on City property shall comply with all Destination Playground design requirements D1-D15 identified in this Standard, including both Gathering Area and Playground requirements.

.3 This includes projects undertaken by the City, non-profit community groups, and developers, whether for the upgrade or replacement of an existing playground or the construction of a new playground.

5.2. **Playgrounds located on City Property – Non-profit-led**

.1 Non-profit community organizations who upgrade, replace or build a new playground on City-owned property shall, at a minimum, supply and install design requirements for a Neighbourhood Playground N1-N8.

.2 If a non-profit community organization has upgraded, replaced or built a Neighbourhood Playground located on City property, the City shall fund and install design requirements N9-N11.

5.3. Playgrounds not located on City Property – Non-profit-led

.1 Non-profit organizations who will receive City funding for the purpose of upgrading, replacing or building a new public playground not located on City property shall, at a minimum, supply and install design requirements for a Neighbourhood Playground N1-N8.
.2 Design requirements N-9-N-11 are not required for compliance of this Standard.

5.4. Playgrounds not located on City Property and not funded by City

.1 Non-profit organizations who do not receive City funding for the purpose of upgrading, replacing or building a new public playground on non-city-owned lands are not subject to this Standard.

6. DESIGN REQUIREMENTS – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAYGROUND

6.1. Playground Design Requirements - Neighbourhood (N1-N10)

N.1 Accessible + Inclusive Playgrounds

.1 All Neighbourhood Playgrounds shall meet the definitions of **Accessible Playground** and **Inclusive Playground** defined in this Standard.

N.2 Materials – Play Component

.1 Play component materials shall meet safety standards described in CSA Z614:20 Children's playground equipment and surfacing.
.2 Manufactured playground components shall be made of metals and plastics. Other manufactured play component materials to be approved by the Manager, Planning & Partnerships or designate.

N.3 Materials – Safety Surfacing

.1 Safety Surfacing shall meet safety requirements as described in CSA Z614:20 Children's playground equipment and surfacing.
.2 Accessible safety surfacing shall meet ASTM F1951 standards.
.3 All high-wear locations e.g. bottom of slides, under swings etc. shall double the thickness of the specified Poured in Place Rubber wear layer to provide increased durability.
.4 Loose materials, including but not limited to, Engineered Wood Fibre (EWF), sand and pea stone shall not be accepted as an accessible safety surfacing material.

N.4 Accessible Play Route

.1 An accessible play route within a playground's fall zone, shall be safety surfacing that meets ASTM F1951 standards, a play structure ramp or a play structure platform accessed by a ramp.
.2 Transfer stations shall not act as the primary means of access to an accessible play route but may be included as a secondary access

option. e.g. An elevated accessible play surface requires a ramp as the primary means of access.

.3 A transfer station may be used as the primary means of access to individual play components (e.g. slide) that otherwise meet the requirements of this Standard.

.4 An accessible play route shall have a minimum width of 1100mm.

.5 A minimum of a 1525mm turning diameter, must be provided at the end of accessible play routes.

N.5 Play Components

.1 At a Neighbourhood Playground a **minimum of 50 per cent** of play components shall be accessed by an Accessible Play Route

.2 Preference for side-by-side play of varying abilities.

.3 Of the 50 per cent of play components along the accessible route, a maximum of 15 per cent of those play components can require a person to exit or transfer away from their mobility device to play with the component. Therefore, a minimum of 85 per cent of play components required along the accessible route shall be **Mobility Device Accessible**.

.4 A minimum of one of each type of play experiences (sensory, social and physical), shall be **Mobility Device Accessible** and located along an accessible route. See Appendix D-1 Play Experience Types.

.5 Elevated play not required. However, if elevated play is provided, the Mobility Device Accessible portion of the elevated play route shall have play components along its route and/or shall have a **Mobility Device Accessible** play component at its terminus.

.6 Counting play components:

.1 Functionally linked play elements, such as a parkour climbing system, where the primary type of play provided is 'climbing', will be counted as one play component. Similarly, if five stepping-stones and a balance beam are grouped together, they would be counted as one play component, promoting balance.

.2 Each play panel may be counted as one play component, so long as each play panel provides a different play experience to the play panel(s) located adjacent.

.3 Swings and slides can be excluded from the total count of play components.

.4 Sensory plantings or plants are not counted as play components.

.5 Communication boards are not counted as play components.

N.6 Sensory Cues + Contrast

.1 Play structure surface colours (platforms/ramps) shall be in high contrast to its vertical elements (hand/guard rail colour). e.g. dark brown ramp and light blue handrail.

.2 High contrast colour horizontal strips shall be located along the edge of each stair tread and at the top and bottom of each ramp to demarcate a change in elevation e.g. dark blue ramp and yellow horizontal strip.

.3 A high contrast colour shall be used on accessible safety surfacing to:
   i. indicate obstacles e.g. the end of a slide, a free-standing swing-set post etc.
   ii. indicate high activity areas that could lead to physical injury e.g. swing zone/path of swing, areas around spinning or other movement-based play features etc.

.4 A high contrast colour shall be used to indicate the boundary or perimeter of the playground. This may be achieved through using a high contrast safety surfacing colour or by painting the curb around the safety surfacing a high contrast colour.

N.7 Communication Board

.1 The playground shall provide a City-approved communication board containing Boardmaker® symbols, or equivalent approved by the City. Preference is for the City of Regina to supply a digital file of the communication board design for organizations to use for sign fabrication.

N.8 Accessible Pathway

.1 An accessible pathway shall be provided that meets the following criteria:
   i. provides a direct route of travel to playground from park entrance(s).
   ii. provides a direct route of travel to playground from designated accessible parking stall(s), where applicable.
   iii. provides a direct route of travel to playground from accessible washroom, where applicable.
   iv. be constructed of a slip-resistant, continuous and even surface
   v. provides ramps, wherever required, to overcome a difference in elevation greater than 13 mm. e.g. at sidewalks, parking areas, transition from pathway into safety surfacing etc.
   vi. Existing pathways shall have a minimum width of 1,100 mm.
   vii. New pathways shall have a minimum width of 1,600 mm.
   viii. has a maximum vertical slope five per cent.
   ix. has a maximum cross slope one per cent.

.2 If plant material is adjacent to pathways, plant material shall:
   i. not drop any fruit or debris that can create a barrier on pathways for mobility devices;
   ii. shall not impede the clear headroom of 2,100 mm when overhanging accessible routes/pathways; and/or
   iii. shall be planted away from playground safety surfacing to avoid fruit and needles falling onto the playground's safety surfacing.

6.2. Gathering Area Design Requirements - Neighbourhood (N9-N11)

All new or refurbished Neighbourhood Playgrounds located on City property shall meet the following Gathering Area design requirements.

N.9 Shade

.1 The Gathering Areas shall provide a place for users to rest in shade.

.2 Trees are the preferred form of shade provision and should be prioritized wherever feasible. Tree species selection shall be approved by Manager, Parks Technical Services.

.3 A permanent shade structure e.g. shade sail, gazebo, picnic shelter etc. shall only be considered upon approval by the Manager, Planning & Partnerships.

N.10 Site Furnishings - required

.1 All site furnishings shall be commercial grade and tamper resistant.

.2 Benches

i. A minimum of two benches shall be provided in the gathering area.

ii. All benches shall:

a. be accessed by an accessible pathway or accessible play route.

b. be installed on a reinforced concrete pad and will accommodate a stroller or mobility device beside the bench.

c. have good sightlines to play area.

iii. A minimum of one bench shall:

a. be located in shade.

b. have back and arms. Any other bench style to be approved by the Manager, Planning & Partnerships or designate.

.3 Trash Units

i. A minimum of one trash unit shall be provided in the gathering area.

ii. All trash units shall:

a. be a 32-gallon top-loading receptable complete with bin liner and lid.

b. be accessed by an accessible pathway.

c. be anchored onto a reinforced concrete pad.

d. be located away from benches, play structure, picnic tables and other gathering places to reduce user's proximity to odors and insects.

N.11 Designated Accessible Parking

.1 City Traffic Engineering shall be engaged by City Landscape Architect to determine feasibility to accommodate on-street designated accessible parking at a Neighbourhood Playground.

.2 If City Traffic Engineering identifies a location to accommodate designated accessible parking, the parking stall shall:

i. be connected to the playground via an accessible pathway, including pedestrian ramps, where needed.

ii. be clearly designated with City-approved signage.

.3 If City Traffic Engineering identifies that on-street designated accessible parking can not be accommodated, then it is not required.

6.3. Optional Design Features - Neighbourhood (N12-N15)

Design features N15-N18 are optional site improvements and are not required for compliance with this Standard.

N.12 Site Furnishings – Optional

.1 All site furnishings shall be commercial grade and tamper resistant.
.2 Bike Racks
  i. If a bike rack is provided, it shall:
    a. be anchored onto a reinforced concrete pad;
    b. be accessed by an accessible pathway.
.3 Picnic Tables
  i. If a picnic table is provided, it shall:
    a. be accessible such that the table will accommodate a minimum of one wheelchair user;
    b. be anchored onto a reinforced concrete pad;
    c. be accessed by an accessible pathway.

N.13 Mobility Device/Stroller Parking – Optional

.1 If mobility device/stroller parking is provided, it shall:
  i. provides a level accessible surface for mobility devices and/or strollers to park. This space shall be in addition to the space for mobility devices next to benches;
  ii. be accessed by an accessible pathway;
  iii. be constructed of a slip-resistant, continuous and even surface;
  iv. has a maximum cross slope one per cent; and
  v. has a minimum dimension of 1,525 mm x 1,800 mm.

N.14 Sensory Relief Area – Optional

.1 If a sensory relief area is provided, it shall:
  i. create a quieter or cozy spot to find refuge and/or rest, located in the gathering area.
  ii. Is on an accessible pathway;
  iii. includes space for a friend or adult caregiver.

N.15 Sensory Planting Beds – Optional

.1 . If a sensory planting bed is provided, it shall:
  i. provide sensory experiences including sounds, sight, touch and smell through provision of planting beds composed of trees or woody shrubs. Perennial plants to be considered at the discretion of the Manager, Parks Maintenance or designate;
  ii. Is on an accessible play route and/or accessible pathway; and
  iii. have a minimum of 20 per cent of the beds raised to the following accessibility dimension requirements; have a top surface of 860 mm maximum; and have knee and toe space for a front approach that is 735 mm minimum high at the front edge, 500 mm minimum deep and 900 mm minimum wide.

7. DESIGN REQUIREMENTS – DESTINATION PLAYGROUND

All new, upgraded or replaced Destination Playgrounds located on City property shall meet all Playground design requirements listed below.

7.1. Playground Design Requirements - Destination (D1-D9)

D.1 Accessible + Inclusive Playgrounds

.1 All Destination Playgrounds shall meet the definitions of **Accessible Playground** and **Inclusive Playground** defined in this Standard.

D.2 Materials - Play Component

.1 The design requirements of Section N.2 shall apply.

D.3 Materials – Safety Surfacing

.1 The design requirements of Section N.3 shall apply.

D.4 Total Play Area

.1 All new or refurbished Destination Playgrounds shall have a minimum total area of 300 m^2.

D.5 Accessible Play Route

.1 The design requirements of Section N.4 shall apply.

D.6 Play Components

.1 The design requirements of Section N.5 shall apply, except:

i. At a Destination Playground a **minimum of 75 per cent** of play components shall be along an Accessible Play Route

ii.

D.7 Sensory Cues + Contrast

.1 The design requirements of Section N.6 shall apply.

D.8 Communication Board

.1 The design requirements of Section N.7 shall apply.

D.9 Accessible Pathway

.1 The design requirements of Section N.8 shall apply.

7.2. Gathering Area Design Requirements – Destination (D10-D15)

All Gathering Areas at new or refurbished Destination Playgrounds shall meet all Gathering Area design requirements listed below.

D.10 Shade

.1 All Destination Playgrounds shall provide a place for users to rest in shade of trees and a permanent shade structure e.g. shade sail, gazebo, picnic shelter.

.2 Size, materials, construction and location of shade structure to be approved by the City's Manager, Planning & Partnerships or designate.

D.11 Site Furnishings

.1 Site furnishings at Destination Playground Gathering Areas shall be commercial grade and tamper resistant.

.2 Benches

i. A minimum of four benches shall be provided at Destination Playgrounds.

ii. A minimum of two out of four benches shall:

a. have back and arms. Any other bench style to be approved by the Manager, Planning & Partnerships or designate.
b. be accessed by an accessible pathway or accessible play route.
c. be installed on a reinforced concrete pad and will accommodate a stroller or mobility device beside the bench.
d. shall have good sightlines to play area.
e. will be located in shade.

.3 Trash Units

i. A minimum of three trash units shall be provided at Destination Playgrounds.

ii. All three trash units shall:

a. be along an accessible pathway.
b. be located away from benches, play structure, picnic tables and other gathering places to reduce user's proximity to odors and insects.
c. Be anchored onto a reinforced concrete pad.
d. be a 32-gallon top loading receptable complete with bin liner and lid.

.4 Bike Racks

i. One or more bike racks shall be provided at Destination Playgrounds to accommodate a minimum of 6 bikes.

ii. The bike rack(s) shall:

a. be anchored onto a reinforced concrete pad;
b. be along an accessible pathway.

.5 Picnic Tables

i. A minimum of three picnic tables shall be provided at Destination Playgrounds.

ii. All three picnic tables shall:

a. accommodate a minimum of one wheelchair user;
b. be anchored onto a reinforced concrete pad;
c. be along an accessible pathway.

iii. A minimum of one out of three picnic tables shall be located in shade.

D.12 Supporting Amenities

.1 Washroom facilities

i. Destination Playgrounds shall provide access to an accessible washroom.

.2 Designated accessible parking

i. Destination Playgrounds shall provide designated accessible parking.

ii. Off-street parking is the preferred style of parking and should be considered first, however on-street parking may be accepted.
iii. If the site does not accommodate off-street parking, City Traffic Engineering shall be engaged to determine location for and quantity of on-street parking stalls.
iv. Designated accessible parking shall:
    a. be connected to the playground via an accessible pathway, including pedestrian ramps, where needed; and
    b. be clearly designated with City-approved signage.

D.13 Mobility Device/Stroller Parking

.1 All Destination Playgrounds shall provide mobility device/stroller parking that shall:
    i. provide a level accessible surface for mobility devices and/or strollers to park. This space shall be in addition to the space for mobility devices next to benches;
    ii. be along an accessible pathway;
    iii. be constructed of a slip-resistant, continuous and even surface;
    iv. have a maximum cross slope one per cent; and
    v. have a minimum dimension of 1,525 mm x 1,800 mm.

D.14 Sensory Relief Area

.1 Destination Playgrounds shall provide a sensory relief area that shall:
    i. create a quieter or cozy spot to find refuge;
    ii. be located away from the playground;
    iii. be along an accessible pathway; and
    iv. include space for a friend or adult caregiver.

D.15 Perimeter Fencing

.1 Perimeter fencing shall be provided at Destination Playgrounds.
.2 Perimeter fencing shall:
    i. define the boundary of the playground and gathering area to reduce the risk of children leaving the playground unattended.
    ii. be 1,070 mm height black chainlink fence, or equivalent material approved by Manager, Planning & Partnerships or designate;
    iii. provide limited number of person entry/exit points (typically 2). The quantity of entry points may vary depending on the size of the playground and gathering area.
    iv. Person entry/exit points shall:
        a. have a minimum clear opening width of 1,100 mm and maximum clear opening of 2,000 m.
        b. not have a latching gate. Preference is for the entry/exit points to have an overlap of fence with 1,525 mm clear space measured at a right angle to the entry way.

7.3. Optional Design Features - Destination (D18)

D.16 Sensory Planting Beds

.1 The provision of sensory planting beds at a Destination Playground is optional. If a sensory planting bed is provided, the design requirements of Section N.5 – Sensory Planting Beds shall apply.

8. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

For definitions of **Accessible Playground**, **Inclusive Playground** and **Mobility Device Accessible**, see Section 4. , mobility device accessible safety surfacing that meets ASTM F1951, an accessible pathway connecting users to the playground, a shaded area for rest, designated accessible parking and access to an accessible washroom.

Accessible + Inclusive Playground Definitions.

"Accessibility means that all people can take part in their communities through work, play and other daily activities. Accessibility is about removing barriers so people can feel included and have independence. Accessibility is important for everyone, especially people with disabilities." - The Accessible Saskatchewan Act - Summary | Accessibility Legislation for Saskatchewan, 2023

Accessible Pathway: An accessible pathway is a continuous, connected and unobstructed pathway that leads directly from park entrance(s) and park amenities to the playground's safety surfacing.

Accessible Play Route: An accessible play route is an unobstructed route that connects users to play components and has a minimum width of 1,100 mm. An accessible play route shall be monolithic safety surfacing (e.g. poured in place rubber surfacing), a ramp or play structure platform accessed by a ramp.

Accessible Playground: See Section 4. , mobility device accessible safety surfacing that meets ASTM F1951, an accessible pathway connecting users to the playground, a shaded area for rest, designated accessible parking and access to an accessible washroom.

Accessible + Inclusive Playground Definitions

Community Recreation Hub: A park with 4 or more recreation amenities or a City owned and operated recreation facility.

Disability: A complex term that is based on a person's physical body experiencing barriers created by the environment that prevent a person from fully participating in the community to the greatest extent possible. Many members of the disability community prefer the term disability, however this is not necessarily the case for everyone and other terms may be preferable for some members of the community.

The Accessible Saskatchewan Act defines **disability** as:

"Any impairment that, in interaction with a barrier, hinders an individual's full and equal participation in society and includes:

(a) a physical, mental, intellectual, cognitive, learning, communication or sensory impairment; and

(b) a functional limitation; whether permanent, temporary or episodic in nature, or

evident or not." - *The Accessible Saskatchewan Act - Summary | Accessibility Legislation for Saskatchewan, 2023*

Inclusion: "Inclusion is a universal human right and its objective is to accept, welcome and embrace all people irrespective of race, gender, disability, medical or other need. Inclusion consists of the efforts and practices to ensure groups or individuals with different backgrounds are culturally and socially accepted and treated equally." – What is Inclusion? Inclusion Ontario. 2022

Inclusive Playground: See Section 4. , mobility device accessible safety surfacing that meets ASTM F1951, an accessible pathway connecting users to the playground, a shaded area for rest, designated accessible parking and access to an accessible washroom.

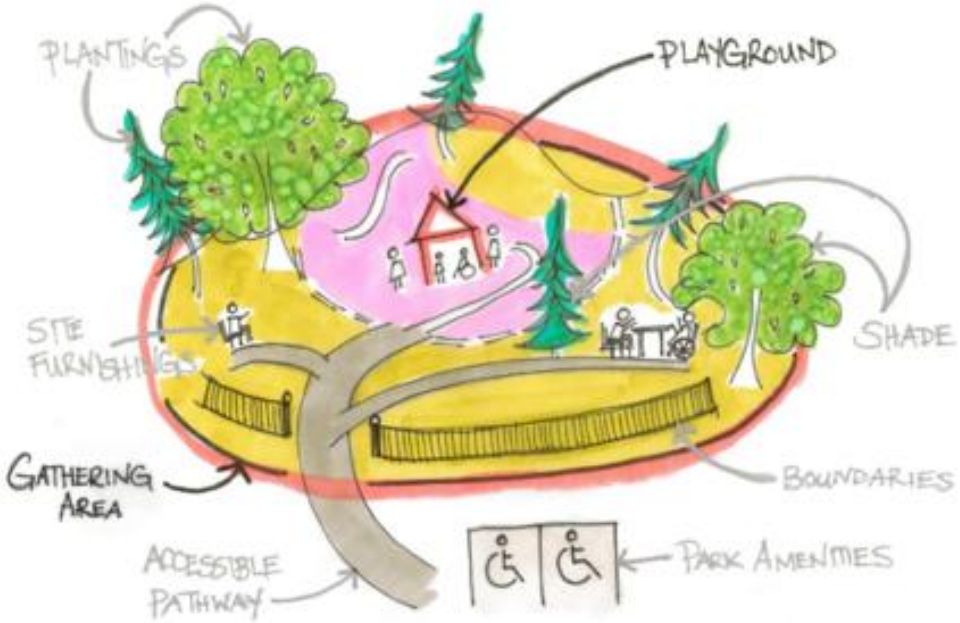
Accessible + Inclusive Playground Definitions.

Gathering Area: A portion of a park surrounding and/or adjacent to a playground with supporting amenities for the purpose of creating a welcoming environment to rest and socialize. See below: Playground & Gathering Area Diagram

Mobility Device Accessible: See Section 4. , mobility device accessible safety surfacing that meets ASTM F1951, an accessible pathway connecting users to the playground, a shaded area for rest, designated accessible parking and access to an accessible washroom.

Accessible + Inclusive Playground Definitions.

Playground: A portion of a park intended for play that meets safety requirements described in CSA Z614:20. A playground typically includes a play structure within an area of safety surfacing defined by an edger or curb. See below: Playground & Gathering Area Diagram.



Playground & Gathering Area Diagram

Alt Text: A drawing illustrates a pink and red playground surrounded by green trees with a grey

pathway that leads to it. Benches and a picnic table are shown next to the pathway. The pink and red play structure is labeled ‘Playground’. Encircling the whole scene is an orange/red circle labeled ‘Gathering Area’.

Play Components: An element intended to generate specific opportunities for play, socialization, or learning. Play components shall meet safety standards described in CSA Z614:20.

Playground Development Terms

New Playground: The installation of a playground in a location where there is no existing playground.

Playground Renewal: The repair or replacement of existing playground that has become worn or no longer function as intended to meet CSA Z614:20.

Playground Replacement: The demolition of an existing playground that has met its useful life and is being replaced with a new playground that meets the Accessible Playground Design Standard.

Playground Upgrade: Changes to an existing playground to increase accessibility to meet the Accessible Playground Design Standard.