

TOWNSHIP OF MALAHIDE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

NOVEMBER 2021



Contents

INTRODUCTION.....4

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....5

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN - PROCESS.....6

TOWNSHIP PLANNING HIERARCHY8

POPULATION FORECAST.....10

POPULATION HIGHLIGHTS11

POPULATION AGE DISTRIBUTION.....12

SELECTED TRENDS.....13

GOALS14

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS.....15

 Stakeholder Relations.....15

 Building Community Capacity.....15

 Improved & Integrated Marketing.....16

 Operational Efficiencies & Policies.....16

 Asset Management.....16

 Strategic Planning & Investment17

 Risk Management.....17

 Universal Access18

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION19

SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS.....20

RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUPPORTING RATIONALE21

INTRODUCTION.....21

LEISURE SERVICE DELIVERY – A Shared Responsibility.....22

TOWNSHIP ROLE IN RECREATION SERVICE DELIVERY24

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT27

 Self-serve and on-line support to Groups.....27

IMPROVED & INTEGRATED MARKETING29

OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES31

INDOOR FACILITIES.....35

 Arenas35

Multi-Purpose Space	36
Gymnasiums	37
Indoor Aquatic Facilities	38
OUTDOOR FACILITIES	38
Ball Diamonds	38
Soccer Fields	39
Playgrounds	40
Outdoor Fitness	41
Tennis and Pickleball	41
Basketball and Multi-Purpose Courts	41
Action Sport Parks	42
Outdoor Pools	42
Splashpads	42
Off-Leash Dog Parks	43
Outdoor Skating Rinks	43
PARKS, OPEN SPACE, AND TRAILS	44
Township of Malahide – Park Inventory	44
Parks and Open Space	44
Parkland Acquisition	45
Future Park Design and Park Revitalization	45
Trails	46
Cycling	47
WATERFRONT	48
FUNDING	51
PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN – IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	57
SCHEDULE A – PLAYGROUND PROVISION STANDARD	62
SCHEDULE B – SURVEY RESULTS	63

INTRODUCTION

The Township of Malahide was formed in 1998 through the amalgamation of the former Township of South Dorchester, the former village of Springfield, and the former Township of Malahide. It is the second largest municipality by population of the 7 municipalities that comprise Elgin County. The Township is bordered by Bayham Township and South-West Oxford to the east, Thames Centre to the North, Central Elgin Township to the west, and Lake Erie to the south. With a current population of approximately 9,700 residents, the Township covers a large geographical area of 395.05 square kilometers and serves several villages, hamlets, and settlement areas. The Township also enjoys the unique shoreline access to Lake Erie through Port Bruce.

The Township of Malahide uniquely surrounds the Town of Aylmer which is a separate municipality within Elgin County and is governed by a separate Council and Administration. Both municipalities work cooperatively to jointly serve its constituency as evidenced by the capital and operating agreements with the East Elgin Community Complex, learn-to-swim programming at the Aylmer Swimming Pool, and reciprocal use of services by residents of both municipalities.

The parks and recreation facilities and services in Malahide are an integral contributor to a vibrant, healthy, and inclusive community. They represent services and participation opportunities that are important to residents from several key benefit perspectives:



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Township of Malahide would like to extend thanks to all stakeholders, groups, organizations, and residents for their input in this Parks and Recreation Master Plan Process. Your passion for your community is truly inspiring.

The preparation of this Parks and Recreation Master Plan is to establish a clear action plan to lead the Township in the development of future parks and recreation infrastructure and services. The Parks and Recreational Master Plan will provide the Township with the necessary framework to manage its parks, open spaces, programs, events, facilities, and to support the municipality during development agreements, in future grant applications, and all other recreational elements in a cost-effective manner consistent with industry leading and evidence-based practices.



TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Mayor Dave Mennill

Deputy Mayor Dominique Giguère

Ward 1 Councillor Mark Widner

Ward 2 Councillor Max Moore

Ward 3 Councillor Rick Cerna

Ward 4 Councillor Scott Lewis

Ward 5 Councillor Chester Glinski

TOWNSHIP STAFF

Adam Betteridge, CAO

Matt Sweetland, Director of Public Works

Chris Cox, Community Services Coordinator

Arundhati Mohile, Director Finance Services/Treasurer

Christine Strupat, GIS Technician

Talya Jones, Public Works Coordinator

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN - PROCESS

The Township of Malahide values their investments in parks and recreation services. They understand how these investments contribute to the quality of life for residents throughout the Township, fosters community volunteerism through its valued service organizations, and encourages the community to be engaged in shaping their leisure needs.

The Township Council is tasked by its citizens to make informed and strategic decisions about how to invest tax-payer dollars in the community. The development of a comprehensive parks and recreation master plan supports that very effort.

The master plan process involves three main outcomes. Before we understand where we need to go into the future, we need to know where we are now. Taking the time to understand the extent to which the community is being served currently is the first step in developing a master plan that will guide the development of services for the next ten years.



The purpose of the Situational Analysis Report was to establish just that. It is designed to create a benchmark with respect to how the Township is currently meeting the parks and recreation service needs of its residents. This benchmarking exercise is evidence-based. It includes quantitative results of the current inventory of assets, utilization rates, financial performance, demographics, and growth. It also includes qualitative evidence through stakeholder engagement, policy alignment, trends and best practices, and sound planning principles.

The Situational Analysis Report is ultimately designed to determine what (if any) gaps currently exist and how, when, where, and why those gaps could be addressed. The report also identifies which community needs the Township is already positioned to meet over the ensuing ten years.

This report was tabled with Council on August 12, 2021, and serves as a companion report to the overall Parks and Recreation Master Plan. A summary of the content is outlined to the right and the full report can be accessed on the Township website.

Draft Master Plan

The Draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan summarizes the key themes of the Situational Analysis Report, provides an assessment of any new parks and recreation infrastructure that may be required over the duration of the plan, and outlines a series of recommendations and associated timelines to be addressed.

The Draft Master Plan is subsequently distributed to key stakeholders and the public at large to obtain feedback on the assumptions and recommendations contained in the report. This part of the process is an important step in ensuring the final Master Plan is community-driven and has addressed all key areas that are important to residents and community stakeholders in recreation and parks services.

Final Master Plan

This final Master Plan is intended to be approved in principle by Council as their future policy and planning document for the next ten years.

Situational Analysis Report Content

- Community Profile
- Community Characteristics
- Demographic Profile
- Population Forecast
- Literature Review - Policy Framework
- A Framework for Recreation in Canada
- Township of Malahide Strategic Plan (2015)
- Service Delivery and Organizations Review (2020)
- Official Plan Review
- Integrated Community Sustainability Plan
- Development Charges Background Study
- Service Delivery Review
- Facility Condition Analysis
- Parks and Recreation Critical Infrastructure
- Township Owned Parks, Open Space, and Trails
- Financial Analysis
- Operating Budget (2017-2020)
- Capital Budget
- Capital Reserves
- Facility Utilization
- Rates and Fees
- Trends
- S.W.O.T. Analysis
- Stakeholder Consultation
- Summary of Findings
- APPENDIX A – ELGIN COUNTY CYCLING MASTER PLAN UPDATE
- APPENDIX B – RATES AND FEES COMPARISON
- APPENDIX C – Township Maps

TOWNSHIP PLANNING HIERARCHY

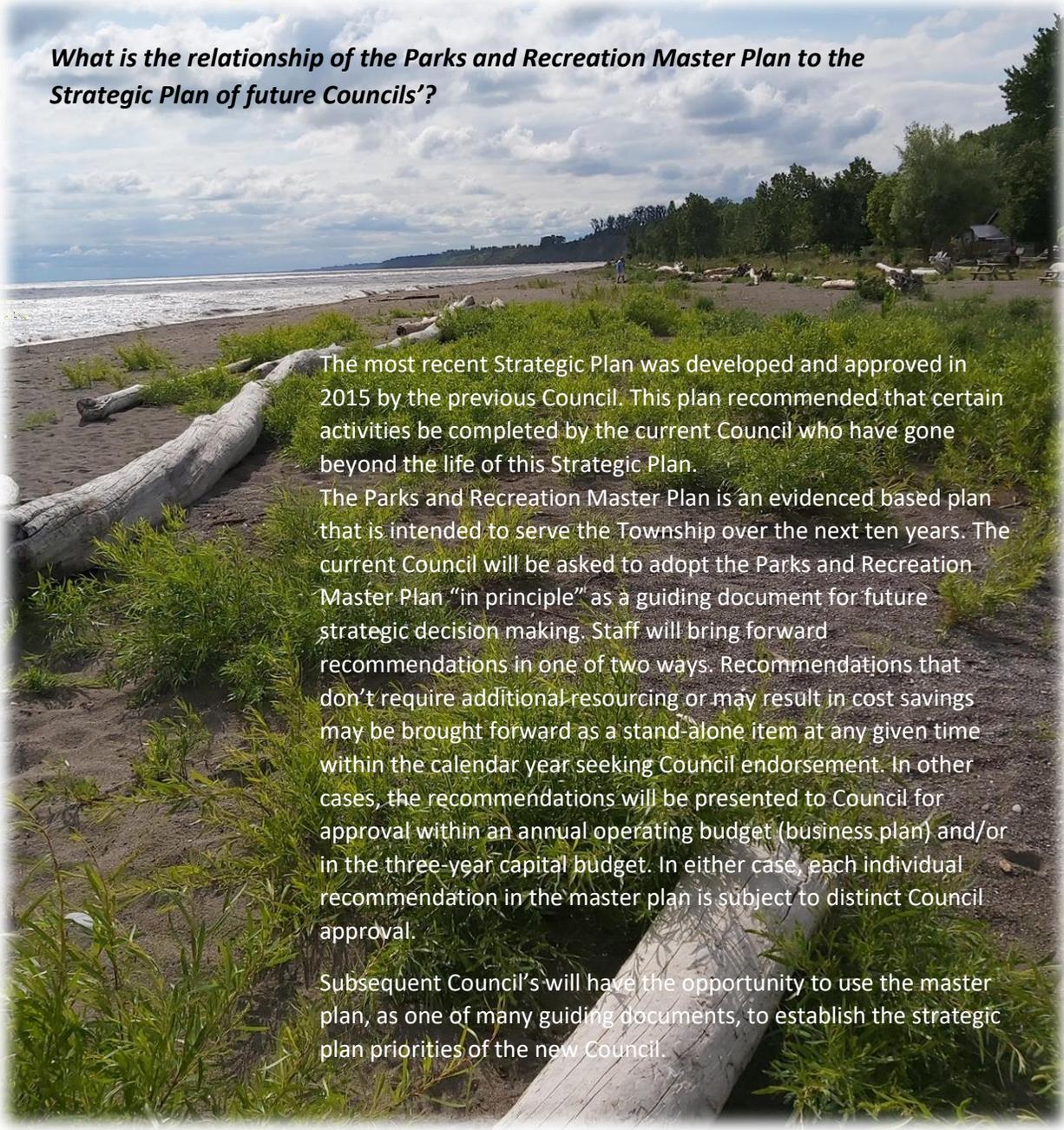
Where exactly does the Parks and Recreation Master Plan fit within the overall planning framework of the Township?

The Township of Malahide has two overarching long term planning documents which include the Official Plan (review and update in-progress) and the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan. These plans serve longer term planning horizons across the entire municipality and are subject to incremental revisions.

It is imperative that any subsequent service area plans such as the Parks and Recreation Master Plan be either aligned with such plans or in some cases serve to better inform and refine the broader based plans.



The Township's Parks and Recreation Master Plan is presented as a ten-year plan with corresponding recommendations and actions to be addressed over the life of the plan. It recognizes that some of the recommendations could be addressed in a timely manner, whilst other recommendations should be monitored and addressed later. Consideration is also given to recommendations that may include additional financial investment, whereby the municipality may require additional time for planning for such investments. For this reason, the implementation strategy of the master plan recommendations and actions are categorized over short-term (1-3 years), medium term (3-7 years), and longer term (7-10 years).



What is the relationship of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan to the Strategic Plan of future Councils'?

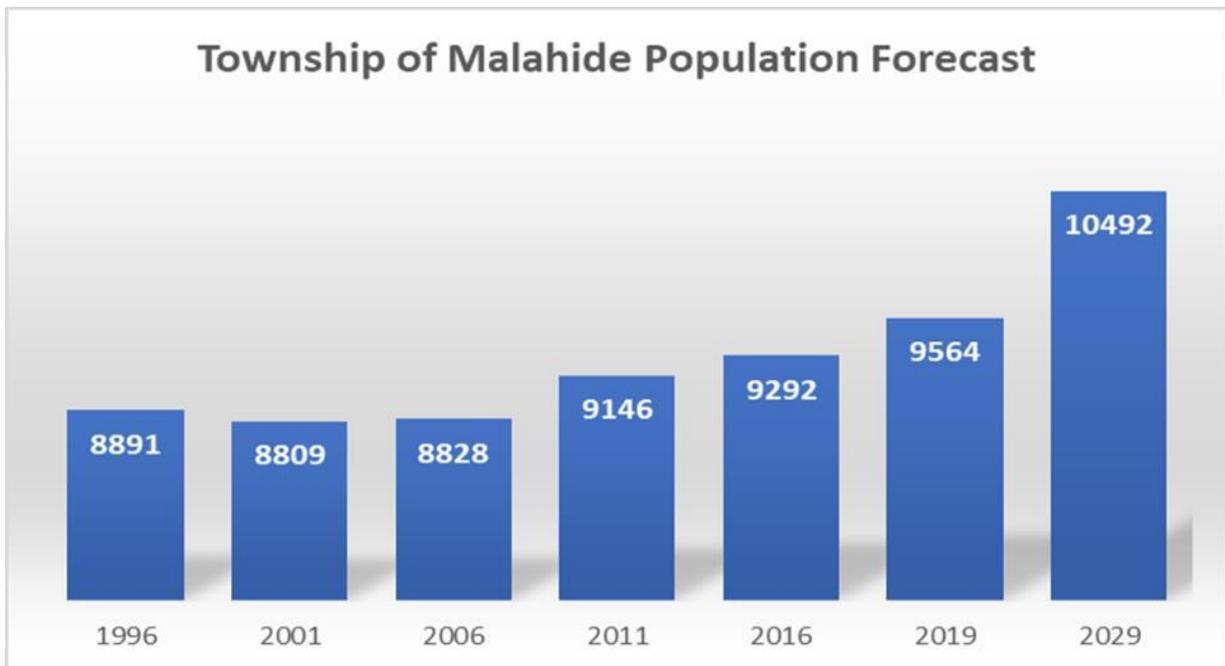
The most recent Strategic Plan was developed and approved in 2015 by the previous Council. This plan recommended that certain activities be completed by the current Council who have gone beyond the life of this Strategic Plan.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is an evidenced based plan that is intended to serve the Township over the next ten years. The current Council will be asked to adopt the Parks and Recreation Master Plan "in principle" as a guiding document for future strategic decision making. Staff will bring forward recommendations in one of two ways. Recommendations that don't require additional resourcing or may result in cost savings may be brought forward as a stand-alone item at any given time within the calendar year seeking Council endorsement. In other cases, the recommendations will be presented to Council for approval within an annual operating budget (business plan) and/or in the three-year capital budget. In either case, each individual recommendation in the master plan is subject to distinct Council approval.

Subsequent Council's will have the opportunity to use the master plan, as one of many guiding documents, to establish the strategic plan priorities of the new Council.

POPULATION FORECAST

The growth rate in the Township of Malahide has been relatively stable over the past decades. The most recent census data of 2016 showed a population count of 9,292 representing a 1.6% increase from 2011. As the 2021 census data was not available at the time of preparing this master plan, the population estimates from the Township’s 2019 Development Charge Study were used. The Study was completed by Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., who concluded that the Township’s population was 9,564 in 2019 and forecasted growth to increase to 10,492 by 2029. Since the Parks and Recreation Master Plan has been developed as a ten-year plan, the recommendations contained herein has anticipated 930 net new residents. The Official Plan review anticipates directing most of this growth to the village of Springfield and will be subject to the expansion of existing water and waste-water servicing.



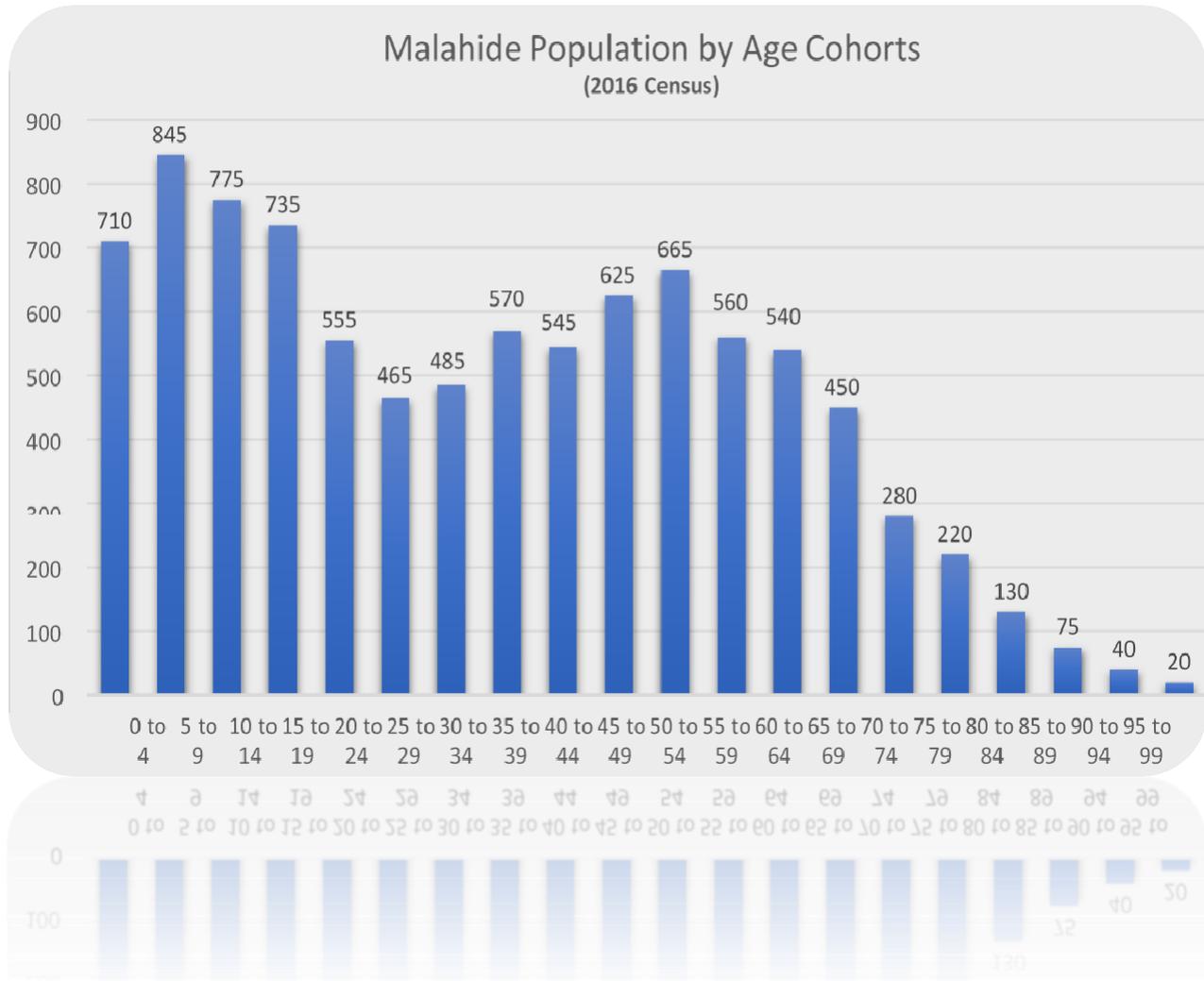
SOURCE: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., Development Charges Background Study – Township of Malahide, 2019.



POPULATION HIGHLIGHTS



POPULATION AGE DISTRIBUTION



Understanding the Township’s growth potential and population characteristics is an important part of formulating recommendations. One can assume that Township’s growth projection of 930 net new residents will likely maintain the current population characteristic and age distribution. Assumptions can be made that the Township will continue to have a significant portion of their population that will be under the age of 19 and will continue to place the same demand on both structured and unstructured activities and programs. Similarly, activities favoured by younger families and active adults will continue to increase.

SELECTED TRENDS

Outdoor Activities – Covid-19 has further compounded the growing trend towards outdoor un-structured activities including walking, hiking, running, and cycling.

Fitness and Wellness Programs – Yoga, Tai Chi and general fitness classes promote physical activity and mental health for all ages.

Extreme Sports - Outdoor skate parks, BMX tracks, mountain biking trails, pump tracks all offer low cost, multiple skill levels, un-structured, full-day access to physical activity.

Multi-Use Facilities and Parks – Increase participation rates, promote inter-generational interaction, build's community spirit, and operate more efficiently.

Universal Design – Anticipates independent access for people of all abilities as active participants, and/or attendants to active participants to parks and recreation areas.

Community Trails - Tie neighbourhoods together, link park and recreation opportunities, and serve as active transportation routes.

Pickleball – Rapidly growing indoor and outdoor activities in Canada, particularly among older adults and seniors for it's social and joint-friendly attributes.

Community Hubs – As an extension of multi-use recreation facilities, the extension and inclusion of other complimentary health and social services promote one-stop access.

Partnerships & Collaborations – Will continue to emerge as a preferred and economical way to deliver services, optimize resources, and eliminate duplication.

Nature / Waterfront – Providing access to nature and natural ecosystems in an environmentally sensitive manner offers multiple physical and mental health benefits.

GOALS

The Township should adopt the Vision, Values, Principles, Goals, and Priorities as outlined in the Framework for Recreation in Canada and endorsed by the Province of Ontario.



Canadian Parks and Recreation Association/Interprovincial Sport and Recreation Council (February 2015). *A Framework for Recreation in Canada - 2015 - Pathways to Wellbeing*. Ottawa: Canadian Recreation and Parks Association. 40 pages. www.lin.ca

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Situational Analysis identified several “strategic themes” that became evident through the analysis and subsequent findings throughout the report. Those themes were identified as follows.

Stakeholder Relations

Building Community Capacity

Improved & Integrated Marketing

Operational Efficiencies & Policies

Asset Management

Strategic Planning & Investment

Risk Management

Universal Access

The following section will illustrate the various recommendations contained in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan under these strategic themes. There is no implied priority given to the order of the themes or the recommendations themselves. The rationale for the recommendations is provided in the main text of this report. Recommendation priorities will be outlined as part of the Implementation Strategy outlined later in this document.

Stakeholder Relations

- Meet annually with senior officials of the Knights of Columbus, Port Bruce Provincial Park, Town of Aylmer, and Catfish Creek Conservation Authority, Elgin County, YWCA, and School Boards to support on-going sustainability of services provided.
- Ensure public input is a fundamental component to influence future park design and revitalization.

Building Community Capacity

- Continue to seek out, support, and evaluate third party interest in providing critical sport and recreation facilities for Malahide residents.
- Consult residents on a continuous basis to determine emerging interests in programs, events, and services.
- Maintain current grants to community groups process to support group led activities and events.
- Continue to develop and expand joint programming opportunities with the Elgin County Library Branch at MCP.
- Proactively explore third party partnership opportunities with the County of Elgin and other family service organizations to create a County Hub.
- Develop a framework for “support to groups and organizations” that expands the Township’s support to existing community groups.
- Create a dedicated community group website page that assembles resources for community groups to access topical information.
- Continue to negotiate increased community access to existing school gymnasiums for use by community sport groups.
- Work proactively with the Mount Salem Church community to support their efforts in the development and construction of their planned multi-use recreation complex which is to include two gymnasiums.

- Promote and support the benefits of volunteerism in sport and recreation as a key contributor to an active lifestyle and community engagement.
- Consider outdoor skating rinks at MCP and/or SDCH for a potential family winter activity in cooperation with the community.

Improved & Integrated Marketing

- Develop a marketing strategy that includes a platform for all activity types and/or facility types available within the Township to promote “one-stop-shopping” for residents.
- Invest in the use of roadside portable signs at Township properties to promote activities, events, and rentals.
- Feature up to four revenue generating seasonal signature events at Malahide Community Place to bring the community together and showcase the capacity for use of the facility.
- The Township should conduct a rates and fees analysis with “competing” municipalities to ensure they are optimizing their potential yields on an annual basis.

Operational Efficiencies & Policies

- Revise the role, function, workplan and title of the current Community Development Coordinator to “Parks and Facilities Manager”.
- Create a new part-time Community Development Coordinator position to optimize facility use and to support and enhance the Township’s community development responsibilities.
- Review expenditures and revenues in existing cost centre to ensure that all appropriate cost and revenues are aligned to support the KPI reporting structure.
- Determine “rentable hours” framework for each facility type that has associated utilization fees.
- Develop and administer a “customer satisfaction tool” to address KPI requirements and inform on-going operations.
- Revise the fee structure on ball diamond use from a “per-game-fee” to an “hourly fee” to ensure consistency and fairness.

Asset Management

- Explore re-purposing multi-purpose spaces, including the EECC to accommodate purpose specific activities, such as a dedicated fitness/wellness/dance studio.
- The Township should monitor the success of the planned outdoor fitness equipment at CopenhagenPark.
- The Township could consider the existing trail loop at Malahide Community Place as a candidate site for future outdoor fitness equipment.
- Consider a combination tennis and pickleball courts as part of the new residential neighbourhood park.
- Consider the construction of a medium to full-size outdoor multi-purpose court over the next 10 years.
- Monitor demand for skate/cycle park during the next 10 years.

- The Township should plan for a capital contribution to the revitalization/reconstruction of the Aylmer Pool to maintain an adequate supply of outdoor pools in the area.
- The Township should explore options to locate a splashpad and integrated play area at MCP or in the planned new development in Springfield which may require the purchase of additional parkland.
- An additional playground will be required to meet growth related needs, subject to servicing, in the south are of Springfield.
- Monitor dog-owner interest and be prepared to designate an existing and under-utilized township owned lands for consideration of an off-leash dog area.
- Continue to revitalize the waterfront area in a strategic fashion until such time as the recommended site- specific waterfront master plan is considered. (Paved parking, accessible parking spaces, expanded picnic area in green space.)

Strategic Planning & Investment

- The Township should adopt a ten-year capital forecast based on qualified Facility Conditions Assessments for its major facilities.
- Continually assess the EECC partnership provisions to ensure that Township Council is receiving evidenced-based comparative data such as utilization rates and program trending to inform decision making.
- The Knights of Columbus currently provides an adequate supply of soccer fields. The Township should proactively nurture this partnership to ensure financial sustainability, including future financial support of playfield lighting and shade amenities.
- Adopt a provision standard of one playground within 500 metres in urban area of Springfield to guide future development.
- Identify strategic lands to be considered for future acquisition to address the Township's deficiency in parkland and open space.
- Employ various strategies to acquire strategic parkland, open spaces, and trail linkages over time.
- Define the future role of the waterfront.
- Contract a landscape architect to develop park revitalization plans for South Dorchester Open Space, and Malahide Community Place to guide future phased enhancements.
- Target 2.2 hectares of parkland for the future phase of development in Springfield.

Risk Management

- Conduct a Lifesaving Society Ontario Comprehensive Safety Audit for the waterfront area.
- Commission a site-specific master plan in cooperation with the County of Elgin and the Province of Ontario for the waterfront area to address vehicular, cycling, and pedestrian interface and user amenities.
- Continue to work with the County of Elgin to support Cycling Master Plan recommendations to facilitate increased and safe cycling throughout the Township.

- Assess the need for a separate turning lane to improve access and exists from the Knights of Columbus Soccer facility.

Universal Access

- Future revitalization of playgrounds should embrace a universal design theme that anticipates users and caregivers with mobility challenges from the point of park entry.
- Design the entry point at the South Dorchester Open Space to create safe access.
- The Township should extend the MCP asphalt trail along the viewing areas of all ballfields and pavilion and link back to designated accessible parking areas in the existing asphalt parking lot.



Image of "Community Caterpillar" at Cenotaph Park.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

One of the foundational principles of a meaningful master plan is the extent to which it reflects the needs of its residents. The consultation program for the Township of Malahide was developed purposefully. It included a mix of strategies to generate a broad base of input. This mix included personal interviews, on-line focus groups, key informants, “pop-up” consultations, and on-line participant surveys.

INTERVIEWS

- 4 Interviews were conducted with members of Council.

FOCUS GROUPS

- 12 Focus Groups Conducted with a total of 50 participants.

PARTICIPANT SURVEYS

- 75 residents responded to the online survey.

POP UP CONSULTATION

- 20 Motorcycle Riders visiting Port Bruce on a Port Tour.

KEY INFORMANTS

- 7 Interviews with sport leaders representing 1,000 participants.



SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

90 % OF RESPONDENTS WERE ADULTS AGED 25-64 YEARS.

80 % OF RESPONDENTS BELIEVE THE TOWNSHIP SHOULD DELIVER MORE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES BEYOND WHAT GROUPS ARE CURRENTLY OFFERING.

84 % OF RESPONDENTS RATE RECREATION FACILITIES AS BEING VERY IMPORTANT TO EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO THEIR FAMILY.

45 % OF RESPONDENTS ARE SATISFIED OR VERY SATISFIED WITH THE RECREATION AND PROGRAMS OFFERED BY THE TOWNSHIP.

76 % OF RESPONDENTS RATE PARKS AS BEING VERY IMPORTANT TO EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO THEIR FAMILY.

58 % OF RESPONDENTS ARE SATISFIED OR VERY SATISFIED WITH THE PARKS OFFERED BY THE TOWNSHIP.

92 % OF RESPONDENTS TRAVEL TO ANOTHER MUNICIPALITY FOR BETTER AMENITIES WHILE 67 % TRAVEL BECAUSE THE FACILITIES ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN MALAHIDE.

66 % OF RESPONDENTS TRAVEL 30 MINUTES OR MORE FOR PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

72 % OF RESPONDENTS RELY ON SOCIAL MEDIA TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OFFERED BY THE TOWNSHIP.

76% OF RESPONDENTS USE THE BEACH AREA AT PORT BRUCE MAKING IT THE MOST POPULAR AMENITY AT THE WATERFRONT.

- Refer to Schedule B for complete survey results.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUPPORTING RATIONALE

INTRODUCTION

This section of the report will offer the rationale associated with the various recommendations summarized earlier. The summary of recommendations previously presented were identified under the “strategic themes” that were introduced in the Situational Analysis Report. This section will present the recommendation under the following headings.

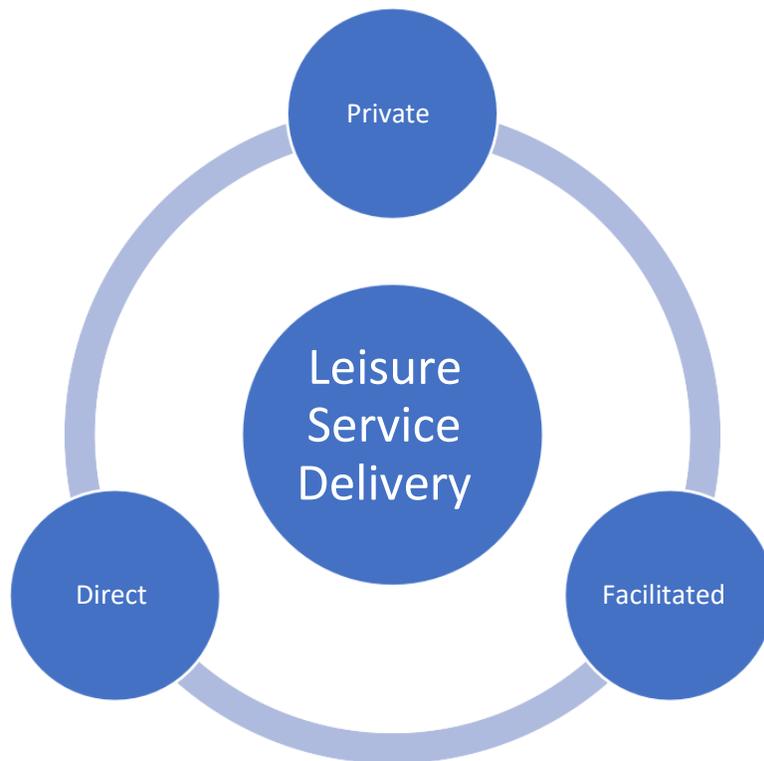
- TOWNSHIP ROLE IN RECREATION SERVICE DELIVERY
- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
- IMPROVED & INTEGRATED MARKETING
- OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES
- INDOOR FACILITIES
- OUTDOOR FACILITIES
- PARKS, OPEN SPACE, AND TRAILS
- WATERFRONT

Each recommendation or in some cases statement is color coded to assist the reader in determining the relative status of the statement/recommendation. Statements in green signify that no further action or amenity is required, recommendations in yellow represent those areas that need to be monitored for potential action, and those recommendations in red illustrate those recommendations that require implementation.



LEISURE SERVICE DELIVERY – A Shared Responsibility.

The Township has embraced the historic leisure services delivery model in Ontario. This model has traditionally included three key pillars which include (i) privatization of leisure services, (ii) facilitated services delivery, (iii) direct service delivery.



The model is premised on the notion that the responsibility for leisure services in a community is a shared responsibility. It also assumes that the municipality should play a leadership role in the overall planning and facilitation of leisure services. This role includes encouraging the private sector, the public sector, local groups, and community organizations to contribute to the provision of sport and recreation activities while mitigating duplication of services.

The Township has been successful in encouraging third parties to provide for many facilities that are typically operated by a municipality. These include (i) the East Elgin Community Complex, (ii) the outdoor soccer complex owned and operated by the Knights of Columbus, (iii) the Aylmer outdoor pool, (iv) Port Bruce extended public beach access, (v) Catfish Creek Conservation Authority nature trails, (vi) Elgin County Library Branch, and (vii) YWCA.

This approach has led to significant capital and operating costs savings for the municipality for decades. It is incumbent that the Township invest sufficient effort in maintaining these critical relationships.

Instituting a systemic meeting protocol to identify issues and develop strategic solutions with such major service provider should be a priority. Financial implications should be identified proactively through regular meetings in a manner that can be integrated into the Townships long-term capital forecast.

Meet annually with senior officials of the Knights of Columbus, Port Bruce Provincial Park, Town of Aylmer, and Catfish Creek Conservation Authority, Elgin County, YWCA, and School Boards to support on-going sustainability of services provided.

The Church Community in Mount Salem is currently planning for the construction of a Multi-Use Indoor Recreation Complex (MURC) that would comprise a field house for indoor soccer and other field sports, and two full sized gymnasiums. This facility would continue to serve the current and future needs of Malahide residents for decades to come. Given the substantial benefit this indoor MURC facility has to offer residents, the Township should support the development and construction process as a priority. The Township would benefit three-fold including (i) capital cost avoidance, (ii) operating costs and management avoidance, (iii) service delivery avoidance for a variety of indoor field and gym sports for decades.

Continue to seek out, support, and evaluate third party interest in providing critical sport and recreation facilities for Malahide residents.



Calton Wetland Complex – Catfish Creek Conservation Authority

TOWNSHIP ROLE IN RECREATION SERVICE DELIVERY

The Service Delivery and Organization Review completed in 2020 outlined a preference for the Township to continue to support and facilitate community groups and organizations to provide recreation activities. Specifically, there was little support expressed to have the Township play a role in direct delivery of recreation programs and activities.

Most municipalities use a combination of program delivery which are based on the three pillars expressed earlier. They use a combination of private, facilitated, and direct delivery strategies to offer a full suite of recreation activities and programs. Adopting a purely “community development” approach has distinct resourcing implications that the Township is not fully realizing.

The Service Delivery and Organization Review findings identified this very shortfall when it was recognized that the current “Community Services Coordinator” role was more appropriately serving the role of “Facilities Manager”. The report also identified the importance of the Community Service Coordinator in supporting and developing community groups, thereby mitigating the risk of program discontinuation.

The current “Community Services Coordinator” has been doing a formidable job at supporting existing groups, however the operational demands of parks and facilities operations and management dominates his ability to effectively perform both roles as they should be executed. There are sufficient additional demands that will be placed on the parks and facilities management role to justify a distinct Parks and Facilities Manager.

Revise the role, function, workplan, and title of the current Community Development Coordinator to “Parks and Facilities Manager”.

A dedicated Parks and Facilities Manager will allow this role to focus entirely on the key recommendations associated with Asset Management, Policy, Operational Efficiencies, Strategic Planning and Investment, Waterfront, and Risk Management. The complete summary of recommendations applied to this new role is detailed in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan – Implementation Strategy.

Given the Township’s desire to maintain its current community development approach, it is recommended that they invest in dedicated resources committed to supporting and growing the Township’s capacity to offer needed programs and activities.

There are specific and proven benefits associated with a community development approach, there are equally important responsibilities and risks. The Service Delivery and Organizational Review identified the most significant risk to this approach. If any group or organization involved in providing key recreation activities can no longer sustain themselves, the responsibility will default to the municipality.

Maintain current grants to community groups process to support group led activities and events.

Providing supports and resources to existing organizations is a critical responsibility. Considering the current under-utilization of the South Dorchester Community Hall, and the Malahide Community Place for recreation activities, the Township needs to develop its effort to attract increased programming from third parties. Ultimately the Township needs to develop a proactive strategy to recruit service providers and develop a user-friendly framework to support groups and third parties on a continuous basis. Understanding resident needs is an equally important role that the municipality should assume leadership for. Residents did express some concerns over the lack of proactive engagement activities from the Township. Staff should create opportunities and avenues for residents to continuously express their needs and interest.

Proactively promote and recruit program providers to operate recreation and leisure programs at SDCH and/or MCP - Specifically target preschool, youth, and older adult programs and activities.

Consult residents on a continuous basis to determine emerging interests in programs, events, and services.

The Township already enjoys a solid working relationship with the County of Elgin with the provision of library services at Malahide Community Place. There is opportunity to expand joint programming between the library and potential third-party service providers. Creating parallel tot literacy programs whilst parents attend a wellness class at MCP provides for inviting family outing. Story boards along the MCP trail can offer a great opportunity for integrating physical activity and literacy.



Continue to develop and expand joint programming opportunities with the Elgin County Library Branch at MCP.

Sample “Story Walk” partnership with Burlington Library and Parks and Recreation to promote trails and literacy.

Many municipalities are exploring the development of community hubs. The community hub concept goes beyond the notion of a multi-use recreation facility. It builds on the benefit that “one-stop-shopping” multi-use recreation experience provides; and extends the scope of services beyond sport and recreation. Given the existing relationship with the County of Elgin, the Township should explore further County services for seniors, employment services, social services, early years, and community policing that could all have a strategic presence at Malahide Community Place. The Township should not limit its outreach as there are many established service providers such as the YMCA/YWCA that can also supplement a community hub.

Proactively explore third party partnership opportunities with the County of Elgin and other family service organizations to create a County Hub.



Image of partnership potential in bringing community and business together for a great cause.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

To meet the community needs for recreation activities and programs through a community development model, the Township needs to employ several strategies to create a welcoming and supportive model for third party service providers.

Develop a framework for “support to groups and organizations” that expands the Township’s support to existing community groups.

When introducing new programs and activities, one of the leadership roles that municipalities play is to offer it directly. In so doing they accept a greater risk of potentially subsidizing a new program to determine if there is sufficient interest in the community to ultimately sustain the activity.

Municipalities will use their existing promotional resources, human resources support to recruit staff, free use of facility space, and use of existing cash handling system to handle registration income. Once it’s determined that there is sufficient interest to sustain a new activity, program revenues are then able to offset staff wages, facility rental fees, and contributions to overhead over time. If there is a lack of interest the municipality accepts the trial investment as a planned risk.

In a community development model, the support framework should be expanded to encourage support for new programs and activities. The Town currently has a fee waiver or discount for community organizations which existing groups confirm is critical to their success. In its efforts to encourage new programs and activities that Township could also consider subsidies or waivers of fees for advertising a new program, facility rentals, website promotion, and social media promotion. In recommending this expanded framework, we further suggest that there is a transparent reporting requirement from the service provider as well as time limitations to the support of waivers and discounts. The goal is to have programs that are self sustaining and contribute on-going rental revenues once established.

Self-serve and on-line support to Groups

Optimizing limited Township resources is an underlying goal of this master plan. We know that each community group, organization, or potential serve provider is unique. Their common interest is “what”, “where”, and “when” to get information from the Township. The most user-friendly and scalable strategy to support groups is to create a one-stop website location that contains any/all information that groups need or can benefit from.

Create a dedicated community group website page that assembles resources for community groups to access topical information.

Sample Web Page Content

MAYORS MESSAGE TO GROUPS

FORMS

- Facility Rental Request
- Special Event Request
- Grant to Groups
- Special Occasion Permit
- Road Closure Application
- Health Department – Food Vending
- License Application
- Portable Sign Application
- Advertising Request
- Insurance

POLICIES

- Grants to Groups Policy
- Facility Use Policy
- Municipal Alcohol Policy
- Special Events Policy
- Portable Sign Policy
- Rates and Fees Schedule
- Insurance

VOLUNTEER RESOURCES

- Volunteer Canada
- Volunteering in Ontario | Ontario.ca
- Employment & Volunteering - Elgin County
- [HIGH FIVE - The Best Way to Play](#)

FUNDING RESOURCES

- Homepage | Ontario Trillium Foundation (otf.ca)
- Funding Programs | Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (gov.on.ca)
- Home | Jumpstart (canadiantire.ca)
- KidSport Canada | So all kids can play

OTHER RESOURCES

- Staff and Volunteer Training Manuals
- Promotion and Advertising Resources
- Social Media and Digital Channels
- Marketing Not-For-Profit Organizations

IMPROVED & INTEGRATED MARKETING

A municipality serving a large geographical area that includes many providers of services, people may not be fully aware of who does what. This is especially true for new residents who often rely on word-of-mouth to know what is available to them. As part of the Township’s leadership responsibility, it is incumbent on them to inform residents on what parks and recreation resources are available throughout the Township and who provides them. This is especially important given the Township’s community development role.

People tend to look for activities or amenities by general area. Trail users for example will look for what trail options are available to them, while people looking for playfields will want to know which playfields are available to them. Since the Township works with a variety of organizations who provide different forms of recreation infrastructure, it is important to share information to residents by category, regardless of which organization provides the infrastructure.

The Township should expand its marketing of recreation and parks infrastructure by marketing and promoting amenities “by type” that are available in Malahide. The following areas at minimum should be promoted in an integrated fashion on the Township’s website and in marketing materials:

- Walking Trails
- Cycling Routes
- Parks and Open Spaces
- Playfields
- Facilities
- Waterfront
- Activities
- Programs
- Social Events

Develop a marketing strategy that includes a platform for all activity types and/or facility types available within the Township to promote “one-stop-shopping” for residents.

Invest in the use of roadside portable signs at Township properties to promote activities, events, and rentals.

The Township should invest in establishing up to four signature events at Malahide Community Place as a means of bringing the community together and promoting how the facility can be used. The events should showcase different ways that the facility can be used. An event that brings together different caterers, decorators, cake and pastry makers, party rentals, balloon specialists, wineries, and the like will serve to further promote weddings, banquets, and special occasions. An event that brings together various summer camp and summer program providers together in the spring will provide an opportunity for service providers to promote their services and offers one-stop-shopping for young families of Malahide.

A similar event can be featured in late summer that draws program providers offering fall/winter/spring activities for people of all ages.

Feature up to four revenue generating seasonal signature events at Malahide Community Place to bring the community together and showcase the capacity for use of the facility.

The Township could also consider using Malahide Community Place to host a weekly farmers market during the prime growing season that features Mennonite and Amish vendors to promote greater connectivity.



OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES

The Service Delivery and Organizational Review identified Key Performance Indicators (KPI’s) for all areas of the Township. These KPI’s will serve to better inform Council as to current performance and may lead to introducing new performance targets as necessary. The KPI’s for Parks and Recreation Services include the following quantitative and qualitative measures.

OUTPUTS	EFFICIENCY	EFFECTIVENESS
Facilities # Of Rentable Hrs/facility # Of Maintenance Hrs/Facility	Revenue/Hour/Facility Cost/Hour/Facility	% Facility Utilization % Expenditure Recovery User Satisfaction
Sport Fields # Of Rentable Hrs/Field # Of Maintenance Hrs/Field	Revenue/Hour/Field Cost/Hour/Field	% Field Utilization % Expenditure Recovery User Satisfaction
Parks Hectares of Parks # Of Rentable Hrs/Amenity	Cost of Maintenance/Ha. Revenue/per amenity	User Satisfaction % Facility Utilization
Trails # Klms of Trail	Cost per Klm. of Trail	Trail Use by # User Satisfaction

There are distinct operational changes that are required to effectively support this KPI model. The Townships current operating budget structure is well positioned to support this KPI model as the current cost centres are specific to each area of operations, except for trails. That is to say that the cost of trails operations is integrated into the overall parks’ operations budget. To support the KPI structure staff will need to allocate costs associated with trail operations and maintenance separately. This could be done as a separate costs centre or line items within the existing parks budget. Staff should look at the current expenses/revenues allocated within each of the costs centres to determine that all costs and revenues that allocated are aligned to accurately inform true hourly expenditures.

Review expenditures and revenues in existing cost centre to ensure that all appropriate cost and revenues are aligned to support the KPI reporting structure.

Rentable hours should be established for each rentable facility. Each asset will have unique “rentable hours”. Ballfields rentable hours generally include weeknights from 6:00 – 11:00pm for lit fields, and weekends from 8:00 am to 11:00 pm on weekends – during the prime ball season. Malahide Community Place and South Dorchester Community Hall’s rentable hours will be much greater as they can accommodate daytime uses and operate year-round. The Township will be required to establish its rentable hours by facility type to support the KPI framework.

Determine “rentable hours” framework for each facility type that has associated utilization fees.

Most rates are already established on an hourly basis except for ballfields which are currently assessed as a “per game” rate. A recommendation to transition to an hourly rate for ballfields has been identified as a separate recommendation later in this report in support of this KPI framework and fairness.

Determining satisfaction rates is a qualitative measure. To accurately report satisfaction levels as part of the KPI framework, staff will need to develop a customer satisfaction tool that is tailored to each facility asset that is rented. The survey toll should be easy to complete and offer both importance and satisfaction level numerical scales. Additionally, all aspects of the rental experience should be assessed including facility availability, facility quality, ease of rental, staff support, cleanliness, and other attributes important to the customer experience.

Develop and administer a “customer satisfaction tool” to address KPI requirements and inform on-going operations.

Residents in Malahide are familiar with travelling to Aylmer, St-Thomas, Tillsonburg, and London to access recreation and park amenities and programs. While there are several factors that residents will use to rent a given facility, price is always a factor. The most significant revenue producing amenities the Township has includes the EECC, South Dorchester Community Hall, Malahide Community Place multi-purpose rooms/halls, and the MHC ball diamonds. It is incumbent that the Township uses a balanced approach to establishing its annual rates. This balance includes the desire to increase revenues to offset expenditures, while ensuring that such rates don’t serve as a barrier for people interested in renting facilities. The Township should continually monitor its rates and fees with “competing” municipalities to ensure they are optimizing their potential yields.

The Township should conduct a rates and fees analysis with “competing” municipalities to ensure they are optimizing their potential yields on an annual basis.

To promote the use of facilities during non-prime-time hours the Township should also consider introducing discounted rates to incent interest and utilization.

The South Dorchester Community Hall and the Malahide Community Place are relatively new and are very well maintained. The current capital reserve contributions to these facilities have accommodated the required minor capital revitalization to maintain their condition. It is anticipated that by the end of this ten-year plan, these two facilities will require more significant capital repairs with major mechanicals, roofing, and asphalt resurfacing likely needing to be addressed. The current four-year

capital plan has provided a sufficient window to anticipate required minor capital repairs and replacement. To better plan for future major capital repairs and replacement, the Township should adopt a ten-year capital budget and forecast so that the Treasurer and Council can phase-in increased contributions to the respective capital reserves. Commissioning Facility Conditions Assessments for a ten-year lifespan by third-party professionals will serve the Township’s capital planning well into the future.

The Township should adopt a ten-year capital forecast based on qualified Facility Conditions Assessments for its major facilities.



Image of South Dorchester Community Hall.

The introduction of a part-time “Community Development Coordinator” is acknowledged as a key recommendation to address the optimization of the under-utilized facilities, and the Township’s role in developing and enhancing its many new community development objectives. This role is also critical in addressing the various recommendations around Stakeholder Relations, Improved and Integrated Marketing, and Building Community Capacity. Investing in this role on a part-time basis will pay dividends with regard to stakeholder sustainability and increased revenues through enhanced rentals and other revenue development opportunities. The complete summary of recommendations applied to this new role is detailed in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan – Implementation Strategy.

Create a new part-time Community Development Coordinator position to optimize facility use, and support and enhance the Township’s community development responsibilities.

Proposed Reporting Relationship



The Part-Time Community Development Coordinator should work very closely with the newly revised Parks and Facilities Manager position. Since the focus of the Community Development Coordinator is to optimize facility utilization and grow the types of activities and events to be provided at Malahide Community Place and South Dorchester Community Hall, there needs to be an on-going relationship with facility operations and maintenance. The reporting relationship proposed above is to illustrate that these positions should be aligned under the same department. It is assumed that the CAO may re-structure departments from time to time and recognize that these two positions may report to a director from a different or new department in the future.

INDOOR FACILITIES

Arenas

The Township has a financial partnership with the Town of Aylmer for the operation and management of the East Elgin Community Complex. The agreement requires the Township to contribute 50% of the net annual operating expenditures, as well as contributions to capital. The municipal provision standard is one ice pad for every 400 registered youth skaters. According to the Aylmer Minor Hockey Association and the Figure Skating Club, participation numbers are being maintained and their ice needs are being adequately served.

The General Manager of the EECC has also confirmed that there is sufficient ice available to accommodate current needs and they have not had to modify or compress ice scheduling. This confirms that the Township provides for an adequate supply of ice pads through its partnership with the Town of Aylmer and the East Elgin Community Complex.

The Township provides for an adequate supply of ice pads through its partnership with the Town of Aylmer and the East Elgin Community Complex.

The current partnership framework is largely scoped to governance and financial contributions by the Township. Specifically, the Council's of Malahide and Aylmer serve as the governing body responsible for managing the partnership framework. As noted above the Township of Malahide is also responsible for covering 50% of the annual operating costs as presented by the General Manager of the East Elgin Community Complex, who is also the Director of Recreation for the Town of Aylmer.

The management, operations, and marketing of the EECC is delegated to Town of Aylmer staff. There is no formal relationship between recreation staff from the Township and the management staff of the EECC. EECC staff were unable to provide any structured facility utilization data and/or program trending for the past three years as their facility booking was administered manually. Staff indicated that they plan to introduce facility booking software to facilitate reporting in the future. In the absence of clear and comparative data, it is difficult to assess operating performance year-over-year. The absence of a formal relationship among Town and Township recreation staff, the Township is at a clear disadvantage for determining where future opportunities and synergies might exist.

Continually assess the EECC partnership provisions to ensure that Township Council is receiving evidenced-based comparative data such as utilization rates and program trending to inform decision making.

Multi-Purpose Space

The Township has multi-purpose space throughout its geographical area. There is multi-purpose space at South Dorchester Community Hall, and up to six different room size configurations at Malahide Community Place, and an additional six different room combinations at the East Elgin Community Complex.

Based on current utilization rates of the multi-purpose space the Township is in a surplus supply position. There will not be a need for additional indoor multi-purpose space over the next ten years.

The Township has a surplus of multi-purpose space and will not require additional multi-purpose space in the next ten years.



Image of Malahide Hide Community Place with staff and consultant.

Among the Township's multi-purpose space including EECC, there is a surplus of space to accommodate social gatherings, weddings, and banquets. Through their partnership interest in the EECC, the Township should consider re-purposing some or all the multi-purpose space at EECC to accommodate distinct activities which would include installing lines for pickleball, shuffleboard, and other indoor activities that could be effectively accommodated in this space. There would be a conscious decision to make these spaces less attractive to higher-end social gatherings that might be accommodated currently. In the interest of inter-municipal cooperation, such events could be referred to Malahide Community Place.

Explore re-purposing multi-purpose spaces, including EECC to accommodate purpose specific activities.

Gymnasiums

The Township does not have a municipally owned gymnasium. There is an expressed need for an indoor gymnasium and indoor sport training space to better accommodate the needs of youth sports. The Township does not have a High School where many smaller municipalities rely on to accommodate indoor sport needs.

In the interim and given the current role of facilitated service delivery, the Township should continue to support community access to existing elementary school gymnasiums for use by community sport groups.

Continue to negotiate increased community access to existing school gymnasiums for use by community sport groups.

As identified previously, the Mount Salem Church community is at the conceptual and feasibility stage of a multi-use community centre that anticipates two full-sized gymnasiums and a field house with artificial turf. The Township should work proactively with the Salem Church community to support their efforts in the development and construction of their planned multi-use recreation complex which is to include two gymnasiums.

Work proactively with the Mount Salem Church community to support their efforts in the development and construction of their planned multi-use recreation complex which is to include two gymnasiums.

This could include developing a rental agreement for Township use which would contribute to their operating model. Should this facility not come to fruition as planned, the Township should proactively work with other organizations that would see the construction of indoor sports and full-sized gymnasiums space.



Indoor Aquatic Facilities

The Township does not own or operate an indoor pool. Aquatic programs are offered at the Terrace Lodge Pool, the Aylmer Police College, and surrounding municipalities. The Township should continue to work in partnership with current providers to offer access to swimming lessons, aquatic exercise, and recreation. There was no expressed need for an indoor aquatic facility through the consultation process and limited interest in the on-line survey.

An indoor pool is not recommended at this time.

OUTDOOR FACILITIES

Ball Diamonds

The Township has 2 senior lit ball fields and a junior ball field located at Malahide Community Place. A municipal benchmark for planning purposes is one ball field for every 90-100 registered minor players. The lit fields in baseball serve to double the capacity of a single unlit field, therefore providing the unit equivalent (UE) of four senior fields and one junior field (4.5 fields). The 2019 player registration was 234 players and participation rates are on a decline year over year. Approximately 60% of participants in the competitive program are Malahide residents (140). Participants in the development programs all come from either Malahide or Aylmer.

The Township has a sufficient supply of ball fields to accommodate up to 171 new players which will readily accommodate new growth projections over the next 10 years.

The Township has an adequate supply of ball fields to accommodate new growth over the next 10 years

The Township fee schedule for ball diamonds is structured on a “fee-per-game” model. Considering that the duration of games is different depending on the level of play, the current model should be revised to an “hourly fee” structure to be fair and consistent. The hourly fee structure would be consistent with Key Performance Indicator (KPI) framework that was recommended in the Service Delivery and Organizational Review and further supported in a proceeding recommendation in this report.

Revise the fee structure on ball diamond use from a “per-game-fee” to an “hourly fee” to ensure consistency and fairness.

Soccer Fields

The Township relies on a private-public partnership between the Knights of Columbus and the East Elgin Soccer Association for the provision of community soccer. The Knights of Columbus (K of C) own and operate 4 full sized senior irrigated soccer fields. The fields can be configured to accommodate 10 medium sized fields or 14 small fields. A municipal benchmark for planning purposes is one soccer field for every 80 registered players.

The EESA is an independent co-ed house league soccer program with approximately 800 participants ranging from preschool to adults. Participation rates vary year over year with a high of 950 participants. Total participants for 2019 was in a slight decline at 800 participants. Township of Malahide residents make up between 35-40% of participants (280 – 320) with even representation between females and males. Based on current provision standards, the Township would otherwise need to provide a minimum of one senior lit soccer field and two medium sized unlit fields.

This partnership results in a capital cost avoidance of over one million dollars excluding land costs, and annual operating costs of approximately \$109,737 (based on 2020 parks maintenance costs of \$14,910 per hectare).

The Knights of Columbus currently provides an adequate supply of soccer fields. The Township should proactively nurture this partnership to ensure financial sustainability, including future financial support of playfield lighting and shade amenities.

Should participation rates increase un-expectedly over the next ten years, the Township in cooperation with the Town of Aylmer should consider capital contributions for lighting which would increase capacity by half a playfield per lit facility. The East Elgin Soccer Association did express concerns around congestion and road safety during gameturn-over times whereby many vehicles are exiting and accessing the entrance way. There is currently no dedicated turning lane which causes safety concerns at these peak times.

Assess the need for a separate turning lane to improve access and exists from the Knights of Columbus Soccer facility.

There is an identified concern about succession of new member to the EESA board of directors and volunteers that is critical to the future sustainability of the soccer program.

Promote and support the benefits of volunteerism in sport and recreation as a key contributor to an active lifestyle and community engagement.

Playgrounds

The Township has five playgrounds distributed geographically. An accessible playground in Wonnacott Park, one in Lyons Park, and three in Springfield located in Tracey Street Park, Mill Street Park, and Malahide Community Place. The municipal standard for the provision of playgrounds is one playground within 500 meters in residential areas. Schedule A in this report illustrates the current supply of playgrounds in Springfield with 500 metre catchment lines showing an adequate supply of playgrounds based on this standard.

Adopt a provision standard of one playground within 500 metres in urban area of Springfield to guide future development.

The Township has an adequate supply of playgrounds

An additional playground will be required to meet growth related needs, subject to servicing, in the south area of Springfield

The Township playgrounds are in generally good repair. The Township should ensure that their playgrounds are maintained to CAN/CSA Z614:20 standards. The revitalization of existing playgrounds should embrace universal design standards that anticipate walkers, strollers, wagons, bicycles, in addition to wheelchair access. Consideration needs to be given to the user of the playground as well as the persons supervising the user (parents, grandparents, support workers) who may also have mobility challenges. The revitalization of future playgrounds should embrace a universal design approach from the entrance of the park or parking lot where applicable.

Future revitalization of playgrounds should embrace a universal design theme that anticipates users and caregivers with mobility challenges from the point of park entry.

Outdoor Fitness

There is no established municipal standard for outdoor fitness stations and is usually based on resident interest. The Township is planning its first location for outdoor fitness stations at Copenhagen Park in 2021. The Township should monitor the use of the outdoor fitness amenities at Copenhagen Park and use this site as a barometer for future sites.

The Township should monitor the success of the planned outdoor fitness equipment at Copenhagen Park.

Future outdoor fitness sites could be considered along the existing trail at Malahide Community Place which would assist in animating this trail loop.

The Township could consider the existing trail loop at Malahide Community Place as a candidate site for future outdoor fitness equipment.

Tennis and Pickleball

The Township does not provide any tennis courts or pickleball courts. The municipal standard for the provision of tennis courts is 1:5000 population or 1 court for every 75-100 frequent users. The popularity of pickleball is increasing significantly in Ontario municipalities with the initial demand generated by snowbirds. Most municipalities have used existing tennis courts to accommodate play for emerging pickleball interest. Some municipalities are investing in dedicated pickleball facilities to meet demand for all age groups. There are 2 outdoor pickleball courts at the Port Bruce Provincial Park. The Township should plan for the inclusion of a combination outdoor tennis and pickleball courts, particularly considering future development.

Consider a combination tennis and pickleball courts as part of the new residential neighbourhood park.

Basketball and Multi-Purpose Courts

The Township has one basic multi-purpose pad with a single basketball standard. The pad was recently installed at Mill Street Park. The municipal standard is one multi-purpose court for every five thousand residents. This recent installation provided a minimum provision standard for the Township. The Township's 2019 Development Charges background study estimated the Township's population at 9,564 and will bridge the ten thousand population in the life of this plan. The Township will need to consider an additional medium to full-size multi-purpose pad in the next ten years.

Consider the construction of a medium to full-size outdoor multi-purpose court over the next 10 years.

Action Sport Parks

The Township constructed its first pump-track in 2021 providing an adequate supply of pump-tracks over the next ten years. The rationale for the pump-track (as opposed to a skate/cycle park) was based on the fact that there was an existing skate park in Aylmer. The introduction of a pump-track in Springfield would serve to expand options for youth and young adults. The Township should continue to monitor the need for a skate/cycle park over the life of this plan.

Monitor demand for skate/cycle park during the next 10 years.

Outdoor Pools

The Township does not have an outdoor public pool and relies on the outdoor pool in Aylmer to satisfy local needs. There was no distinct need expressed for an additional outdoor pool during the community consultation process. There was however a concern expressed over the aging Aylmer pool. The Township should plan for capital contribution to the revitalization/reconstruction of the Aylmer Pool in the next ten years.

The Township should plan for a capital contribution to the revitalization/reconstruction of the Aylmer Pool to maintain an adequate supply of outdoor pools in the area.

Splashpads

The Township does have a single spray feature in Wonnacott Park that is well utilized but offers limited play value. The opportunity to expand into a more fulsome splashpad is constrained by the site playground and pavilion. The Township is otherwise deficient, as there should be at least one splashpad in Springfield. The Township should assess whether MCP has the capacity to accommodate a splashpad.

If not, consideration should be given to acquiring additional lands adjacent to MCP, or to acquire sufficient parkland in the planned new development in Springfield to accommodate a splashpad among other required amenities.

The Township should explore options to locate a splashpad and integrated play area at MCP or in the planned new development in Springfield which may require the purchase of additional parkland.

Off-Leash Dog Parks

The Township does not have a dedicated off-leash dog park. There is no distinct standard for the provision of such parks and are often driven by dog-owner interest/demand. The Township should monitor dog-owner interest and be prepared to designate an existing and under-utilized township owned lands for consideration.

Monitor dog-owner interest and be prepared to designate an existing and under-utilized Township owned lands for consideration of an off-leash dog area.

Outdoor Skating Rinks

Residents identified a lack of outdoor winter activities and amenities to access. While weather dependent, the Township should consider the installation of outdoor skating rinks as a low-cost option. Preference should be given to park and open space areas that have a water supply, table lands, and plowed parking areas. Many communities attempt to provide at least one location that is maintained by staff, and in turn encourage other opportunities only when supported by a resident group to take care of flooding and winter control.

Consider outdoor skating rinks at MCP and/or SDCH for a potential family winter activity in cooperation with the community.



Images of themed splash pad with multi-aged features.

PARKS, OPEN SPACE, AND TRAILS

Township of Malahide – Park Inventory

	PARKS SIZE		LOCATION
	Hectares	Acres	
COMMUNITY PARKS			
Malahide Community Place	3.90	9.64	Springfield
Wonnacott Park	0.36	0.89	Port Bruce
SDCH – Green Space	1.60	3.95	Lyons
NEIGHBOURHOOD PARKS			
Cenotaph/Memorial Park	0.20	0.49	Springfield
Tracey Street Park	0.26	0.64	Springfield
Mill Street Park	0.13	0.32	Springfield
Copenhagen Park	0.91	2.25	Wales Sub-Division
TOTAL	7.36	18.18	

Parks and Open Space

The Township does not currently have a parkland provision standard. Its current ratio is .77 hectares per thousand based on the 2019 population estimate in the Township’s Development Charges Background Study of 9,564. Typical targets for smaller municipalities range between 2.2 to 3 hectares per thousand population. At first glance, the Township has a parkland deficit of 13.6 hectares assuming the lower end of the standard range.

The Knights of Columbus soccer fields have negated the need for 5.3 hectares of parkland. Once these lands are factored in the Township ratio changes to 1.3 hectares per thousand population. Another contributing factor to the apparent shortfall of parkland is that the Mennonite and Amish communities are self-sufficient with respect to parks and recreation facilities, and those lands are not factored into the supply ratio.

The Township should take the opportunity to supplement the parkland dedication that will be associated with future development in Springfield. A target of 2.2 hectares of parkland should be used to accommodate this next phase of growth. This will allow the Towns to create a neighbourhood park that is large enough to accommodate amenities to serve multi-generations and serve as a true park destination.

Target 2.2 hectares of parkland for the future phase of
development in Springfield.

Parkland Acquisition

The Township should develop a strategy to increase its parkland and open space supply over time. Priority should be given to the following areas:

- Property adjacent to Malahide Community Place.
- Property that is strategically located in Port Bruce to support functionality.
- Open space and linear land tracts that can facilitate trail connectivity to and through Springfield and Port Bruce.

Identify strategic lands to be considered for future acquisition to address the Township's deficiency in parkland and open space.

There are several strategies that the Township could consider for acquiring future strategic parkland areas outlined above, including:

- I. Proceeds of the Cash-in-lieu of parkland reserve (re-enforcing the value of enforcing CIL contributions)
- II. Proceeds from general reserves.
- III. Conveyances from landowners and developers (particularly open spaces and linear tracts).
- IV. Conveyance in-kind (donations) in exchange for tax receipts.
- V. Sale of surplus properties.
- VI. Land swaps from surplus properties.
- VII. Establishing first right of refusal agreements with strategic properties (K of C lands)

Employ various strategies to acquire strategic parkland, open spaces, and trail linkages over time.

Future Park Design and Park Revitalization

The Townships current parks have a traditional design whose component parts have been upgraded and/or expanded over time. Older parks did not benefit from the design standards that are used today. New designs incorporate a series of standards such as:

- I. Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA).
- II. Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation, Ontario Regulation 191/11.
- III. CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design).
- IV. CAN/CSA Z614:20.
- V. Age-Friendly Design Principles

Inclusivity and animation are themes that should underscore park design. In the same way that multi-purpose recreation facilities and community hubs are proving to be more efficient and more effective in meeting community needs, so to are parks. Smaller single purpose parks are being replaced with larger parks that incorporate multi-uses for different generations.

There are new standard considerations including such things as park entrance seating, accessible pathways that are integrated with each amenity, amenities to suit different ages, shade structures, water-fill stations, fountains for people and dogs, and intuitive signage.

Contract a landscape architect to develop park revitalization plans for South Dorchester Open Space, and Malahide Community Place to guide future phased enhancements.

People are passionate about their park amenities. They want to be able to provide input in what they want and don't want in their local parks. As part of the Township's leadership role in parks development and revitalization, public engagement should underscore what amenities should and should not be included. Professional parks planners know how to design parks, while residents know what they want in their parks. When these two interests come together, the potential for a well utilized asset is amplified.

Ensure public input is a fundamental component to influence future park design and revitalization.

Trails

The Township of Malahide has two trails. There is a .46-kilometer gravel trail at South Dorchester Open Space and a .36-kilometer paved trail around the perimeter of Malahide Community Place which is maintained over the winter. Neither trail loop could be considered accessible. The trail entry at South Dorchester Open Space begins with a slope that is not accessible making it a significant challenge at the point of entry.

Design the entry point at the South Dorchester Open Space to create safe access.

The south entrance to the paved pathway at MCP is accessible as an extension to the asphalt parking area, however the north end of the trail transitions from asphalt to the gravel parking area. At minimum the Township should create an asphalt cul-de-sac to signify a return point. Ideally the asphalt trail should extend along the viewing area of all three ballfields, pavilion, and link back to designated accessible parking space in the asphalt parking area.

The Township should extend the MCP asphalt trail along the viewing areas of all ballfields and pavilion and link back to designated accessible parking areas in the existing asphalt parking lot.

This recommendation would complete the trail loop and provide a distinct and purposeful linkages to each of the playfield viewing and play areas.

Cycling

The interest in active transportation and particularly cycling continues to grow exponentially as a pandemic-safe outdoor activity. Cycling in Malahide is largely accommodated on County Roads. The County roads offer avid cyclist ideal routes of interest. Cyclist will be continuously drawn to enjoy the attractive countryside views, fresh air, and relatively uncongested roadways. As more cyclists explore cycling in Malahide, there will be increased safety concerns around vehicular and cycling safety.

The County of Elgin’s Updated 2020 Cycling Master Plan was tabled in the Situational Analysis Report. The Township should continue to support the County of Elgin in their Cycling Master Plan efforts, particularly as it relates preferred routes, expanded road profiles to accommodate cyclists, and expanded road safety marketing efforts. The Township should also consider revising their Township related road profiles to accommodate cycling in future road reconstruction.

Continue to work with the County of Elgin to support Cycling Master Plan recommendations to facilitate increased and safe cycling throughout the Township.



Image of rural road profile with designated cycling lane.

WATERFRONT

The Township enjoys unique access to the wonder that Lake Erie has to offer its resident and visitors. Through a maintenance and access agreement with the Port Bruce Provincial Park, the Township provides extended beachfront access and complimentary visitor amenities. Visitors to Port Bruce can avail themselves to the following activities:

- Walking
- Wading
- Swimming
- Sight Seeing
- Reflection
- Fishing
- Boating (non-motorized)
- Picnicking
- Playground Activities
- Waterplay



Given the force and unpredictable weather along Lake Erie the Township has a responsibility to ensure that the waterfront area is safe and anticipates potential risks mitigation or emergency responses. The Township should complete a comprehensive risk assessment of the waterfront area and address any recommendations in a timely manner.

Conduct a Lifesaving Society Ontario Comprehensive Safety Audit for the waterfront area.

The waterfront is a natural attraction and has a great deal to offer its visitors. The waterfront area is also compact and there are several points of interface among pedestrians, cyclist, and motorist. There is no clear pedestrian or cycling plan to guide users of the area. There is a need to complete a site-specific master plan for the waterfront area to create a clear and safe access ways through the area and to and

from the various amenities. Prior to completing such a plan, the Township Council should establish a defined role for the waterfront area. More specifically, is it to serve the residents of Malahide and Provincial Park occupants? Or is there a desire to promote the area as a local tourist destination. Establishing the role of the waterfront will be an important precursor to developing a site-specific master plan.

Define the future role of the waterfront.

Commission a site-specific master plan in cooperation with the County of Elgin and the Province of Ontario for the waterfront area to address vehicular, cycling, and pedestrian

The following are specific items that should be considered as part of the site-specific master plan once the Township has determined the primary role of the waterfront:

- Develop green space north of the Pier for permitted picnic spaces or other uses.
- Work with the Ontario Trails Council, and the Great Lakes Waterfront Trails to link the waterfront trail network and seek opportunities to promote fitness, recreational and related activities such as active transportation.
- Improve pedestrian areas along the roadways by adding pedestrian friendly amenities such as pedestrian / cycling lanes and trails.
- Continue to enhance the partnership among the Conservation Authority, Provincial Parks and Municipality to ensure the long-term sustainability of the waterfront lands, as it relates to climate change and associated operating costs for maintenance of the waterfront, beach, and public areas.
- Protect the natural assets and enjoyment of the waterfront by ensuring compliance with local bylaws and provincial regulations through increased enforcement/bylaw officers.
- Identify priority areas for municipal land acquisition in and around the Port Bruce area and develop a long-range financial plan to fund the purchase of such lands.
- Implement one-way traffic direction to improve flow and reduce congestion during busy periods.
- Improve drainage in gravel parking lot to reduce pooling of water and icy winter conditions.
- Continue to work with the Provincial Government and Conservation Authority on flood/weather warnings and develop strategies and improvements to mitigate flooding risks due to climate change in the community and along the shoreline.
- Consider paid parking in the future as other amenities are added to the area to offset costs of maintaining the grounds.
- Public boat launch for non-motorized boats along the area on south side of new bridge as this is being used informally as a non- motorized boat launch.
- Expand, modernize and update of washroom facilities with additional change facilities.
- Encourage private investment in amenities such as watersports, food services, artisans, etc.

The Township consider some of the minor improvements in the short term that will not unduly influence the outcome of the site-specific master plan:

- Install foot wash stations at beach entrances to reduce sand clogging pipes in washrooms due to beachgoers washing their feet in the sinks.
- Increase temporary “port-a-potty” seasonal washroom facilities, with additional temporary seasonal changeroom facilities.
- Install drinking fountain(s) for beachgoers.
- Locate garbage and recycling containers in strategic locations to encourage waste reduction and reduce garbage on beach and in lake.
- Engage the community volunteers to consider more opportunities to host events or programs at waterfront. These could include local artisans, local food / restaurants, music, and Canada Day events.
- Install a livestream camera on the Town’s website to view current beach and water conditions, and activities taking place at the beach.
- Increase bylaw monitoring at the waterfront area.

Continue to revitalize the waterfront area in a strategic fashion until such time as the recommended site- specific waterfront master plan is considered. (Paved parking, accessible parking spaces, expanded picnic area in green space.)



Image of Port Bruce Pier.

FUNDING

The Township of Malahide has done an amazing job of securing funding for a host of facilities and parks and recreation assets using various funding sources. The following section is offered to the Township to consider additional funding resources that may or may not have been used in the past.

This list of funding resources may have limited timelines and are always subject to revisions, cancellations, or replacement in favour of other governmental and corporate priorities over time. The Township is encouraged to continue to leverage grant funding to mitigate operating and capital pressures.

[National Urban Parks Program](#)

- announced August 4, 2021
- program to “support creation of a network of national urban parks”
- from [News Release](#): “Parks Canada will collaborate with municipalities, provinces, Indigenous partners, and conservation organizations, among others, to identify opportunities for creating or expanding national urban parks in urban and near-urban settings across Canada”
- details to come from Parks Canada

[Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund](#) (DMAF), Infrastructure Canada

- launched in 2018, initial allocation of \$2bn; Budget 2021 added \$1.375bn over 12 years
- to invest in “structural and natural infrastructure projects to increase resilience of communities impacted by natural disasters triggered by climate change”
- projects in Ontario have been primarily oriented towards stormwater management, flood protection, shoreline rehabilitation, and tree canopy restoration
- minimum eligibility requirements:
 - o organization is an eligible Recipient
 - o organization owns/will own, or has/will have secured all necessary rights and interest in, the asset(s) to be funded
 - o submission is for “a project to expand, improve, or build new public infrastructure that prevent, mitigate, or protect against the impacts of climate change on Canadian communities, with the exclusion of emergency services infrastructure and man-made disasters”
 - o total eligible cost for project is at least \$1 million
 - o project not solely for land acquisition
 - o project will be substantially completed no later than December 31, 2032
- apply through Infrastructure Canada portal

[Healthy Communities Initiative](#), Infrastructure Canada & Community Foundations of Canada

- provides up to \$31 million over two years “to help communities adapt public spaces and local services in a way that meets people’s needs both during and following the COVID-19 pandemic”

- supports projects that:
 - o create safe and vibrant public spaces: create or adapt existing public places (parks, commercial main streets, indoor spaces) so people can “participate safely in cultural or physical activities”
 - o improve mobility options: deliver a range of transportation and mobility options to allow physical distancing while making it easier for people to get around
 - o offer digital solutions: provide digital solutions that “connect people, facilitate citizen engagement, and support delivery of community services and activities”
- application period for Round 2 (the second of two planned rounds of funding) closed June 25, 2021

Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF), Employment and Social Development Canada

- funding for projects that “make Canadian communities and workplaces more accessible for persons with disabilities,” “create more opportunities for persons with disabilities to take part in community activities, programs and services”
- three program “components” that issue separate calls for funding
- small projects component (last application period was June–July 2020): up to \$100,000 for projects including “small construction, renovation or retrofit of existing spaces to improve accessibility,” with priority given to “projects that improve accessibility and safety for persons with disabilities in places where they work or could work,” “construction projects for ramps, accessible doors and accessible washrooms”
- mid-size projects component: municipal governments eligible (last application period closed at end of July 2021); projects must “improve accessibility and safety for persons with disabilities in Canadian communities and workplaces” and “increase access to programs, services or employment opportunities that focus on a holistic approach in addressing the social or labour market integration needs of persons with disabilities”

Infrastructure Ontario Loan Program

- loan to municipalities for infrastructure projects; all Ontario municipalities eligible
- either long-term or short-term (construction) financing
- eligible projects include “culture, tourism, administration and recreation infrastructure”
- may select repayment terms of 5–30 years (but not to exceed expected life of asset)
- online application process

Rural Economic Development Program

- “provides cost-share funding to support activities that create strong rural communities in Ontario”
- projects need to “benefit rural Ontario, have tangible outcomes, [and] reach beyond one community”
- encourages applicants to have co-applicants and partners
- Strategic Economic Infrastructure Stream: cost-sharing of 30%, up to \$250,000, for minor capital projects — three project types: (1) rehabilitation of cultural, heritage or tourism attractions; (2) redevelopment of vacant/underutilized buildings; (3) streetscaping and landscaping
- rehabilitation projects: involve the rehabilitation of an “existing cultural, heritage, or tourism attraction, as defined through previously completed strategies and projects that establish its

- significance for economic development”; list of example projects includes trail rehabilitation
- streetscaping and landscaping projects: “defined through previously completed strategies that improve the design quality of public areas”; examples include wayfinding and “beautification”
- assessment criteria include “reducing economic barriers,” job creation/retention or attraction of business and investment; “regional, sector, or value chain impacts”; economic sustainability

[Gender Equity in Recreational Sport](#)

- offered through Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA); municipalities are eligible to apply
- 2020–2021 application period closed, but program will have “minimum of three annual intakes over the course of 2019–2022”
- grants awarded in three categories: (1) up to maximum of \$2,500; (2) up to maximum of \$5,000; (3) up to maximum of \$15,000
- allowable costs focus on program delivery, promotions and communications, policy implementation, capital costs ineligible
- objective: to support “implementation of targeted community-level interventions through programs, events, practices and/or policy changes” with the potential to increase participation/retention of girls and women in recreational sports

[Ontario Trillium Foundation \(OTF\) Capital Grant](#)

- OTF identifies specific Grant Results that will be funded: successful application “should have a clear alignment with the chosen Grant Result”
- Grant Results include “Active People: Fostering more active lifestyles”
 - o Grant Result: Infrastructure for unstructured and structured physical activities (priority outcome: higher quality programming and infrastructure to support physical activities)
 - o Grant Result: Infrastructure is accessible and available for physical activity (priority outcome: more people become active)
- project types listed include new construction, renovations/repairs, purchase of land/building
- grants awarded for 2019–2020 to municipalities:
 - o Infrastructure for unstructured and structured physical activities:
 - Municipality of Tweed: “\$84,400 grant over 4 months to replace a canvas dome and cement flooring as well as adding accessible entrances”
 - Municipality of Brighton: “\$125,000 grant over 12 months to expand an existing skateboard park, adding new ramps and making additional improvements for local youth”
 - o Infrastructure is accessible and available for physical activity:
 - Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh: “\$50,000 grant over 11 months to make accessibility upgrades to Lucknow’s community fitness centre and pool, increasing access to recreational activities”
 - Municipality of Arran-Elderslie: “\$83,500 grant over 12 months to make accessibility upgrades to the Chesley Lawn Bowling Club’s kitchen and washroom facilities”

OTF “Grow Grant” & “Seed Grant”

- meant to help expand a successful project, improve quality of current program being delivered, recreate/adapt a project that has been successful elsewhere
- Grant Results under “Active People”:
 - o “Trained and certified coaches, officials and volunteers”
 - o “Programs are safe, inclusive, fair, and age- or ability-appropriate”
 - o “Ontarians participate in an active lifestyle” (requires measurement of outcomes using OTF data collection tool)
- Seed Grant for 2019–2020:
 - o Township of Perth East: “\$16,300 grant over 10 months to pilot the Pop-Up Play program, offering people-of-all-ages in five communities free, recreational activities” (Ontarians participate in an active lifestyle)

FCC AgriSpirit Fund

- to support capital projects in rural communities; open to municipalities with population of 150,000 or less; list of “Types of projects we consider” includes “Play structures and recreation areas”
- FCC is a “financially self-sustaining federal commercial Crown corporation reporting to Canadians and Parliament through the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food”
- application period re-opens March 2022
- projects must be completed within two years of receiving funding and must “recognize FCC’s contribution”
- projects in Ontario from 2020 include \$10,000 for upgrades to pedestrian rail trail (Municipality of Arran-Elderslie), \$10,000 for new LED lighting and replacement of broken fixtures for ball diamond and soccer field (Township of Rideau Lakes)

MLSE Foundation

- programs include Community Grants and Community Spaces
- Community Grants:
 - o “Up to \$50,000 to organizations that are creating positive outcomes for youth in physical health, mental health, academic achievement, and work readiness”; municipalities are eligible (classified as Qualified Donee by CRA)
 - o Expression of Interest period for 2021 closed
 - o funding for programs, training, and capacity development (not capital projects)
- Community Spaces:
 - o projects to “refurbish athletic facilities, creating more opportunities for youth to get moving in their communities”
 - o goal “to build equity through the power of sport by empowering communities to reimagine their play spaces”
 - o contact MLSE for details

[Community Development Grant, Jumpstart \(Canadian Tire\)](#)

- available to CRA Qualified Donees
- to support program delivery; program must run minimum of 5 hours, consist of at least five sessions, include minimum of 25 participants aged 4–18, remove barriers to participation for kids from families in financial need (and has data reporting requirements)

[TD Friends of the Environment Foundation \(FEF\) Grant](#)

- municipalities are eligible to receive funding
- primary focus on “environmental education and green space programs”
- eligible projects: “schoolyard greening, park revitalization, community gardens, park programming and citizen science initiatives” (capital costs, land acquisition, playground equipment not eligible)

[Ontario Great Lakes Strategy](#)

The Government of Ontario has created Ontario’s Great Lakes Strategy. The Strategy focuses on

- empowering action by all partners on Great Lakes – from provincial ministries to local service clubs – and on restoring Great Lakes water, beaches, and coastal areas.
- conserving biodiversity and deal with invasive species
- guiding our Great Lakes work and addresses the need for climate change adaptation.
- engagement with a wide variety of Great Lakes experts, First Nations and Métis communities and Great Lakes stakeholders.
- the need to protect shorelines, beaches, and wetlands, reduce impacts of sewage and runoff, tackle algae problems and provide opportunities for people to clean up their corner of the Great Lakes.
- no “one-size-fits-all” solution; there are different needs
- building on existing frameworks and partnerships.
- public engagement and cooperation which are essential to success.
- the importance of science and information to make good decisions and monitor progress.

Staff should continue to monitor the Government of Ontario’s environmental and climate change website for future grants available for municipalities located along the great lakes.

[Great Lakes Protection Initiative](#)

Through the Great Lakes Protection Initiative, the Government of Canada takes action to address the most significant environmental challenges affecting Great Lakes water quality and ecosystem health by delivering on Canada’s commitments under the Canada-United States Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. It focuses on 8 priority areas for action:

- working with others to protect the Great Lakes
- restoring Great Lakes Areas of Concern (AOCs)
- preventing toxic and nuisance algae
- assessing and enhancing the resilience of Great Lakes coastal wetlands
- evaluating and identifying at risk nearshore waters
- reducing releases of harmful chemicals
- engaging Indigenous Peoples in addressing Great Lakes issues
- increasing public engagement through citizen science

The application submission period for funding under the restoring Great Lakes Areas of Concern stream of the Great Lakes Protection Initiative is now closed. Staff should continue to monitor the Government of Canada's environmental and climate change website for future grants available for municipalities located along the great lakes.

Best In Science Grants

The Best in Science program encourages scientists to undertake research in the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change's priority areas. This research adds to our scientific knowledge and encourages research partnerships.

The grant supports the following priority research areas:

- **Climate change** through methods and technologies for reducing emissions of greenhouse gases; and the impacts of climate change on water quantity and quality.
- **Water quality research**, including prediction, monitoring and prevention of blue-green algae blooms, nutrient inputs to the Great Lakes; and the environmental impact of chlorides and road-salt alternatives on aquatic ecosystems.
- **Pathogens and environmental pollutants**, including measurement of pathogens and chemical contaminants in air, water, and soil; and source tracking of toxic metals including chromium and mercury.
- **Pollinator health** through the measurement of the effect neonicotinoid pesticides have on wild species of pollinators that could be at risk.

Scientific research is the foundation of good environmental policies that help ensure Ontario has clean air and water, safe communities, and healthy ecosystems.

GrantWatch

Posts on GrantWatch that might be of interest (can't view details without paid subscription; some of these may already be included above):

- ID#172543: "Grants of up to \$15,000 to Ontario charities, municipalities, and registered amateur athletic associations for programs that benefit residents in eligible regions"
- ID#181113: "Grants to Canada registered charities, educational institutions, municipalities, and Indigenous groups to support environmental projects. Special consideration is given to green space initiatives and environmental education"
- ID#173735: "Grants to Canada charitable organizations, municipalities, and indigenous bands for projects to benefit local communities. A Letter of Inquiry must be submitted prior to applying. In previous years, grants have been awarded to support arts, education, conservation, ..."
- ID#191389: "Grants to Canada municipal governments, and organizations partnering with municipal governments, to improve management practices related to infrastructure. Funding is intended to support a wide range of activities related to the management of natural and built assets, ..."

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN – IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The first two recommendations are the two priority recommendations that will lead to the successful implementation of the master plan. The current “Community Services Coordinator” simply does not have the time in his current role to address the many recommendations contained herein that require continuous annual effort. Separating the roll of the current Community Services Coordinator into a dedicated role of Parks and Facilities Manager (PFM) will allow him to address recommendations related to asset management and revitalization, while the new part-time role focussed on “Community Development” (CDC) will permit a focussed effort on marketing, stakeholder relations, and optimizing facilityuse through increased programs and service attraction. All of which result in increased revenues to offset the cost of this position.

#	RECOMMENDATIONS	NOTES	RESOURCING LEAD	2022 TO 2024	2025 TO 2028	2029 TO 2031
1	Revise the role, function, workplan and title of the current Community Development Coordinator to “Parks and Facilities Manager”.		Existing Internal Staff			
2	Meet annually with senior officials of the Knights of Columbus, Port Bruce Provincial Park, Town of Aylmer, and Catfish Creek Conservation Authority, Elgin County, YWCA, and School Boards to support on-going sustainability of services provided.		CDC			
3	Consult residents on a continuous basis to determine emerging interests in programs, events, and services.		CDC			
4	Continue to seek out, support, and evaluate third party interest in providing critical sport and recreation facilities for Malahide residents.		CDC			
5	Maintain current grants to community groups process to support group led activities and events.		CDC			
6	Continue to develop and expand joint programming opportunities with the Elgin County Library Branch at MCP.		CDC			

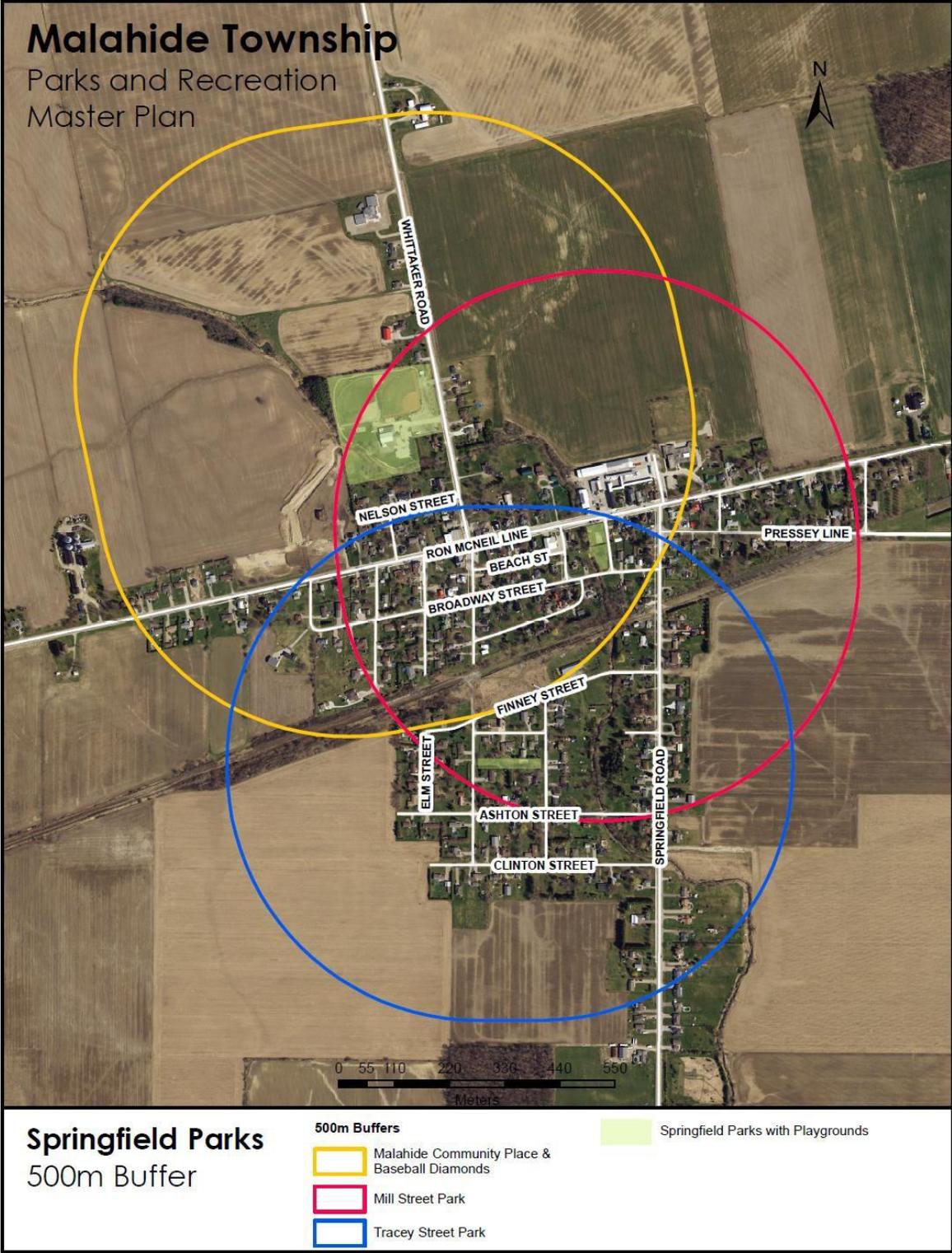
#	RECOMMENDATIONS	NOTES	RESOURCING LEAD	2022 TO 2024	2025 TO 2028	2029 TO 2031
7	Proactively explore third party partnership opportunities with the County of Elgin and other family service organizations to create a County Hub.		CDC			
8	Develop a framework for “support to groups and organizations” that expands the Township’s support to existing community groups.		CDC			
9	Create a dedicated community group website page that assembles resources for community groups to access topical information.		CDC			
10	Develop a marketing strategy that includes a platform for all activity types and/or facility types available within the Township to promote “one-stop-shopping” for residents.		CDC			
11	Invest in the use of roadside portable signs at Township properties to promote activities, events, and rentals.		CDC	(5k)	(6k)	(7k)
12	Feature up to four revenue generation seasonal signature events at Malahide Community Place to bring the community together and showcase the capacity for use of the facility.	Festival and Events Ontario	CDCPFM			
13	Review expenditures and revenues in existing cost centre to ensure that all appropriate cost and revenues are aligned to support the KPI reporting structure.		PFM Finance			
14	Determine “rentable hours” framework for each facility type that has associated utilization fees.		PFM CDC			
15	Develop and administer a “customer satisfaction tool” to address KPI requirements and inform on-going operations.		PFM CDC			
16	The Township should conduct a rates and fees analysis with “competing” municipalities to ensure they are optimizing their potential yields on an annual basis.		PFM			
17	The Township should adopt a ten-year capital forecast based on qualified Facility Conditions Assessments for its major facilities.		PFM Finance			
18	Create a new part-time Community Development Coordinator position to optimize facility use, and support and enhance the Township’s community development responsibilities.		New Part-time staff addition		45k	50k
19	Continually assess the EECC partnership provisions to ensure that Township Council is receiving evidenced-					

#	RECOMMENDATIONS	NOTES	RESOURCING LEAD	2022 TO 2024	2025 TO 2028	2029 TO 2031
	based comparative data to inform decision making.					
20	Explore re-purposing multi-purpose spaces, including the EECC to accommodate purpose specific activities.		PFM CDC	50k	75	25
21	Work proactively with the Mount Salem Church community to support their efforts in the development and construction of their planned multi-use recreation complex which is to include two gymnasiums.	Cost avoidance	PFM CDC	2.2 Million	22.1 Million	➤
22	Revise the fee structure on ball diamond use from a “per-game-fee” to an “hourly fee” to ensure consistency and fairness.	Increased Revenue	PFM			
23	The Knights of Columbus currently provides an adequate supply of soccer fields. The Township should proactively nurture this partnership to ensure financial sustainability, including future financial support of playfield lighting and shade amenities.	Grant support	CDC	50 K	100k	50k
24	Assess the need for a separate turning lane to improve access and exists from the Knights of Columbus Soccer facility.		Engineering			
25	Promote and support the benefits of volunteerism in sport and recreation as a key contributor to an active lifestyle and community engagement.		CDC	50k Turning lane		
26	Adopt a provision standard of one playground within 500 metres in urban area of Springfield to guide future development.		PFM			
27	Future revitalization of playgrounds should embrace a universal design theme that anticipates users and caregivers with mobility challenges from the point of park entry.		PFM			
28	The Township should monitor the success of the planned outdoor fitness equipment at Copenhagen Park.		PFM			
29	The Township could consider the existing trail loop at Malahide Community Place as a candidate site for future outdoor fitness equipment.	Grants	PFM	50k	50k	10k
30	Consider outdoor skating rinks at MCP and/or SDCH for a potential family winter activity in cooperation with the community.		PFM			

#	RECOMMENDATIONS	NOTES	RESOURCING LEAD	2022 TO 2024	2025 TO 2028	2029 TO 2031
31	Consider a combination tennis and pickleball courts as part of the new residential neighbourhood park.		PFM	50k	300,000	50k
32	Consider the construction of a medium to full-size outdoor multi-purpose court over the next 10 years.		PFM	100k		
33	Monitor the demand for skate/cycle park during the next 10 years.		PFM			100k
34	The Township should plan for a capital contribution to the revitalization/reconstruction of the Aylmer Pool to maintain an adequate supply of outdoor pools in the area.		Finance	100k	100k	100k
35	An additional playground will be required to meet growth related needs, subject to servicing, in the south are of Springfield.		PFM		120k	
36	The Township should explore options to locate a splashpad and integrated play area at MCP or in the planned new development in Springfield which may require the purchase of additional parkland.	Land Costs	PFM		150,000	250,000
37	Monitor dog-owner interest and be prepared to designate an existing and under-utilized township owned lands for consideration of an off-leash dog area.		PFM		15k	
38	Target 2.2 hectares of parkland for the future phase of development in Springfield.		PFM Planning			
39	Identify strategic lands to be considered for future acquisition to address the Township's deficiency in parkland and open space.		PFM Planning			
40	Employ various strategies to acquire strategic parkland, open spaces, and trail linkages over time.		Planning Finance			
41	Contract a landscape architect to develop park revitalization plans for South Dorchester Open Space, and Malahide Community Place to guide future phased enhancements.		PFM	40k		
42	Ensure public input is a fundamental component to influence future park design and revitalization.		PFM	5k	5k	5k
43	Design the entry point at the South Dorchester Open Space to create safe access.		PFM	20k		
44	The Township should extend the MCP asphalt trail along the viewing areas of all ballfields and pavilion and link back to		PFM	100k		

#	RECOMMENDATIONS	NOTES	RESOURCING LEAD	2022 TO 2024	2025 TO 2028	2029 TO 2031
	designated accessible parking areas in the existing asphalt parking lot.					
45	Continue to work with the County of Elgin to support Cycling Master Plan recommendations to facilitate increased and safecycling throughout the Township.		Engineering	5k	5k	5k
46	Conduct a Lifesaving Society Ontario Comprehensive Safety Audit.		PFM	10k		
47	Define the future role of the waterfront.		Planning			
48	Commission a site-specific master plan for the waterfront area to address vehicular, cycling, and pedestrian interface and user amenities.		PlanningPFM	100k		
49	Continue to revitalize the waterfront area in a strategic fashion until such time as the recommended site- specific waterfront master plan is considered. (Paved parking, accessible parking spaces, expanded picnic area in green space).		PFM	35k	70k	35k

SCHEDULE A – PLAYGROUND PROVISION STANDARD

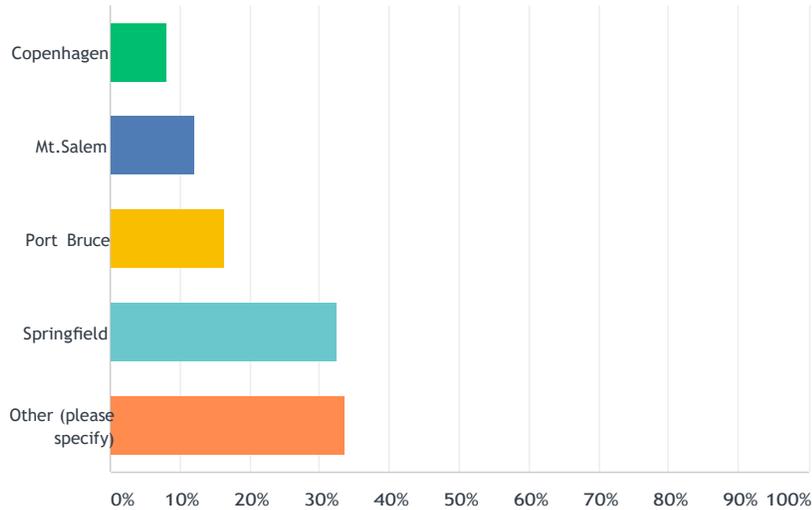


SCHEDULE B – SURVEY RESULTS

Township of Malahide

Q1 What hamlet do you live in the Township of Malahide

Answered: 74 Skipped: 1



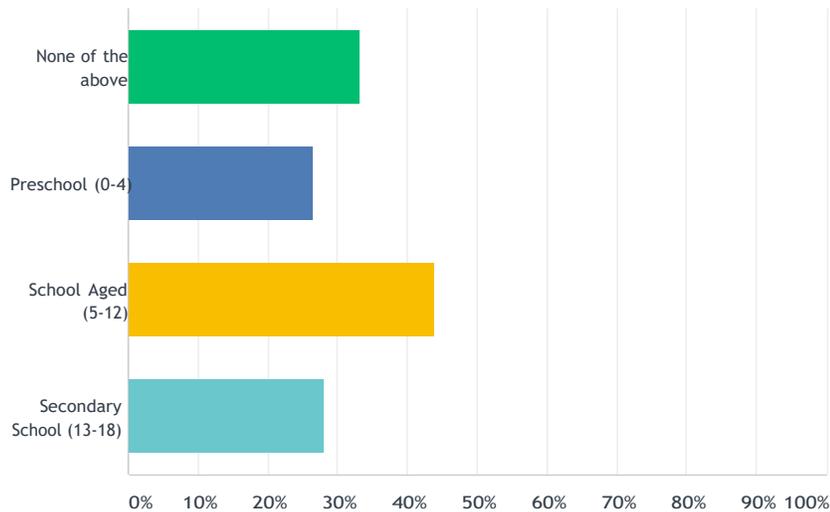
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Copenhagen	8.11%	6
Mt. Salem	12.16%	9
Port Bruce	16.22%	12
Springfield	32.43%	24
Other (please specify)	33.78%	25
Total Respondents: 74		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	St. Thomas	8/29/2021 11:13 AM
2	Luton	8/29/2021 8:46 AM
3	Rural	8/28/2021 12:37 PM
4	outside of Springfield	8/27/2021 3:10 PM
5	Aylmer	8/27/2021 3:00 PM
6	Lyons	8/25/2021 9:16 PM
7	Lyons	8/25/2021 11:42 AM
8	Lyons	8/24/2021 7:40 AM
9	North of Belmont, near 73 highway	8/23/2021 10:03 PM
10	Avon	8/23/2021 9:54 PM
11	Aypmer, children play baseball Springfield	8/23/2021 9:40 PM

12	Summers Corner	8/23/2021 9:37 PM
13	North of Copenhagen	8/21/2021 9:53 PM
14	Luton	8/21/2021 6:03 AM
15	Kingsmill Corner	8/20/2021 9:58 PM
16	Aylmer	8/19/2021 11:21 PM
17	Jaffa	8/19/2021 8:47 PM
18	No hamlet...Rogers Road area	8/19/2021 8:07 PM
19	Aylmer	8/19/2021 4:42 PM
20	Avon	8/19/2021 4:31 PM
21	Mapleton Line/Kingsmill	8/12/2021 6:06 AM
22	Farm	8/12/2021 1:30 AM
23	Luton	8/10/2021 4:04 PM
24	I don't live in the Township	8/3/2021 2:56 PM
25	Burlington	8/3/2021 2:23 PM

Q2 What are the ages of your children (if any) in your household? Select all that apply

Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



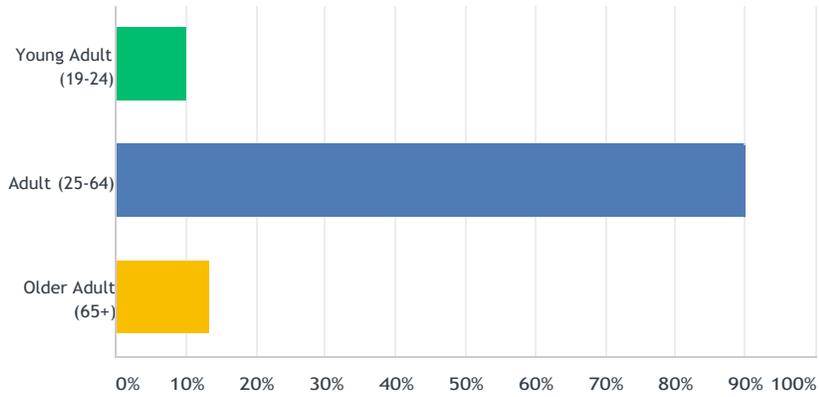
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	33.33%	25
Preschool (0-4)	26.67%	20
School Aged (5-12)	44.00%	33
Secondary School (13-18)	28.00%	21

Total Respondents: 75

#	OTHER	DATE
1	19 - University	8/19/2021 4:31 PM

Q3 What are the ages of the adults in the household? Select all that apply

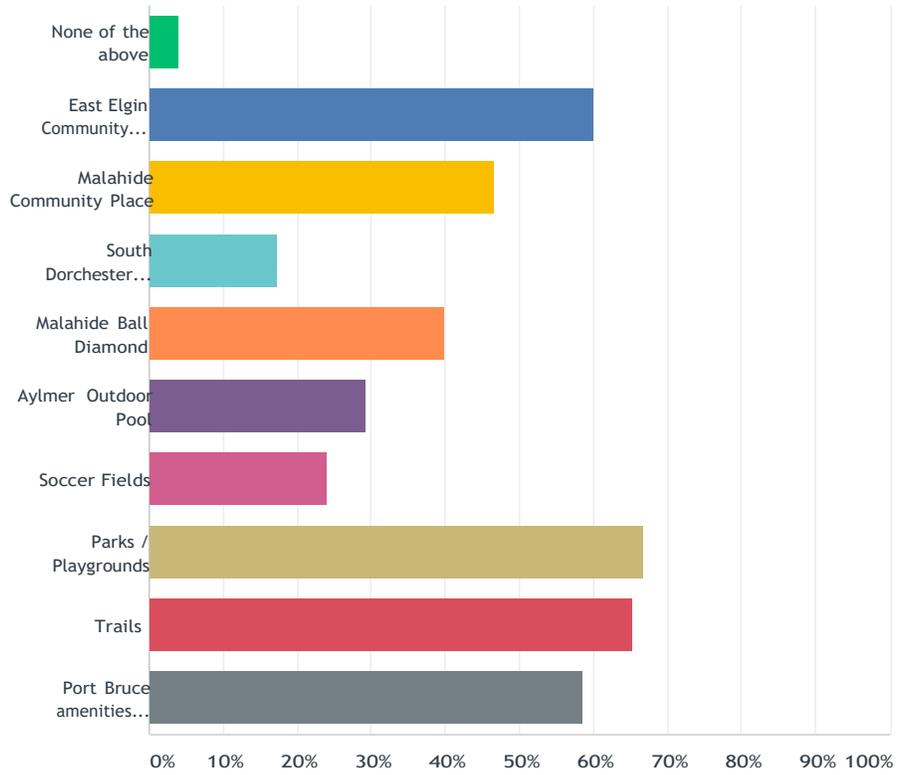
Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Young Adult (19-24)	10.67%	8
Adult (25-64)	90.67%	68
Older Adult (65+)	13.33%	10
Total Respondents: 75		

Q4 What recreation facilities do you/members of your household use in the Township of Malahide? Select all that apply

Answered: 75 Skipped: 0

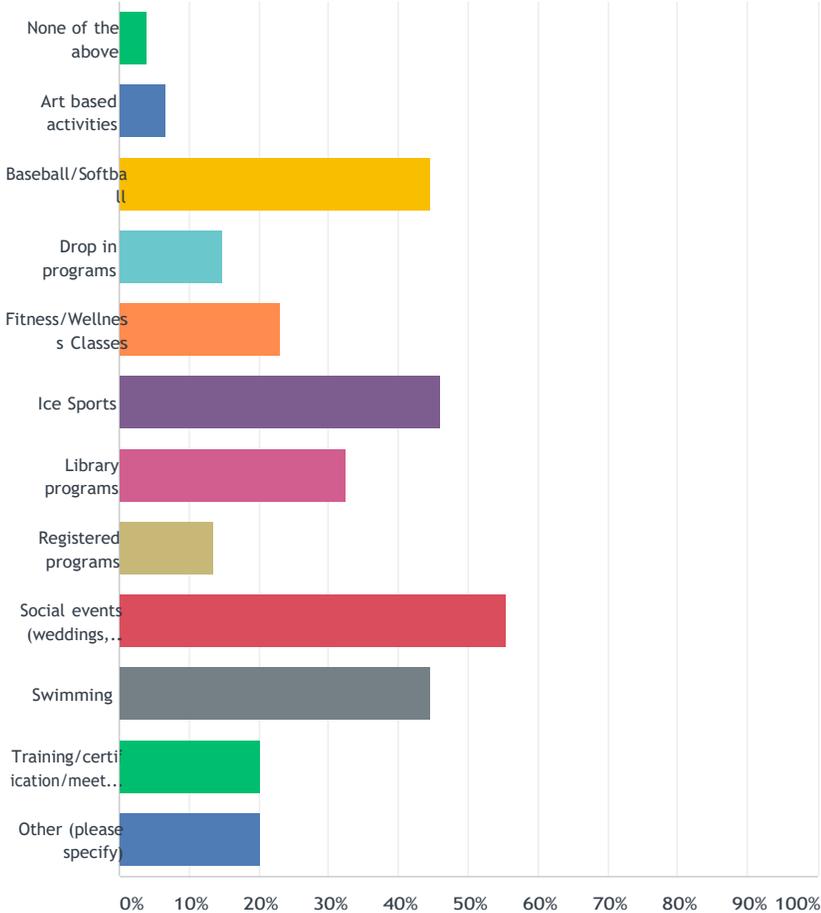


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	4.00%	3
East Elgin Community Complex	60.00%	45
Malahide Community Place	46.67%	35
South Dorchester Community Hall	17.33%	13
Malahide Ball Diamond	40.00%	30
Aylmer Outdoor Pool	29.33%	22
Soccer Fields	24.00%	18
Parks / Playgrounds	66.67%	50
Trails	65.33%	49
Port Bruce amenities waterfront and beach	58.67%	44
Total Respondents: 75		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	We would have used more, just haven't because of covid	8/24/2021 4:28 PM
2	Springfield Ball Diamond	8/24/2021 7:58 AM
3	Bike lanes	8/21/2021 9:53 PM
4	Tillsonburg arena and trails in middlesex	8/19/2021 4:31 PM
5	The pastry shop	8/3/2021 2:23 PM

Q5 What do you or members of your household use the above facilities for?

Answered: 74 Skipped: 1



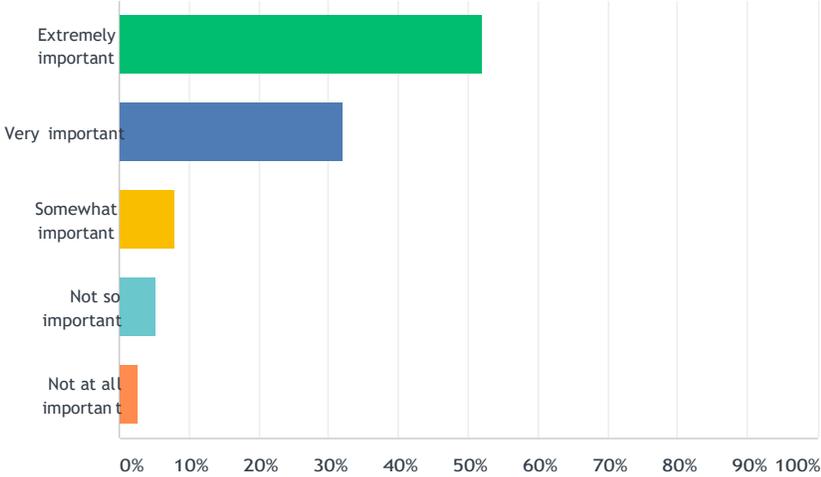
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	4.05%	3
Art based activities	6.76%	5
Baseball/Softball	44.59%	33
Drop in programs	14.86%	11
Fitness/Wellness Classes	22.97%	17
Ice Sports	45.95%	34
Library programs	32.43%	24
Registered programs	13.51%	10
Social events (weddings, family get togethers)	55.41%	41
Swimming	44.59%	33
Training/certification/meetings	20.27%	15
Other (please specify)	20.27%	15

Total Respondents: 74

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Exercise	8/27/2021 7:55 AM
2	volunteer events and activities (South Dorchester Optimists)	8/25/2021 9:16 PM
3	Community events ie Fish Fry/ Perch Derby etc...	8/25/2021 4:49 PM
4	Exercise	8/25/2021 1:13 PM
5	walking	8/25/2021 10:11 AM
6	Again, would have used more if not covid	8/24/2021 4:28 PM
7	Health and Wellness	8/24/2021 7:58 AM
8	Family fun	8/23/2021 9:25 PM
9	Biking	8/21/2021 9:53 PM
10	Leisure, hanging out.	8/20/2021 7:25 AM
11	Youth Soccer	8/19/2021 8:47 PM
12	Walks	8/19/2021 4:45 PM
13	Walking trails	8/12/2021 1:30 AM
14	Everyday walking and riding	8/11/2021 5:03 PM
15	skeet shooting	8/3/2021 2:23 PM

Q6 How Important are recreation facilities to you and your family?

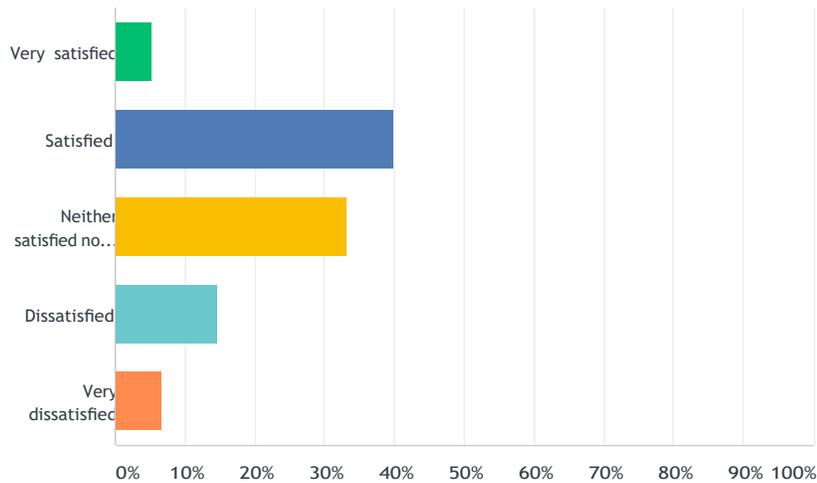
Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely important	52.00%	39
Very important	32.00%	24
Somewhat important	8.00%	6
Not so important	5.33%	4
Not at all important	2.67%	2
TOTAL		75

Q7 How satisfied are you with the recreation services and programs currently being offered by the Township?

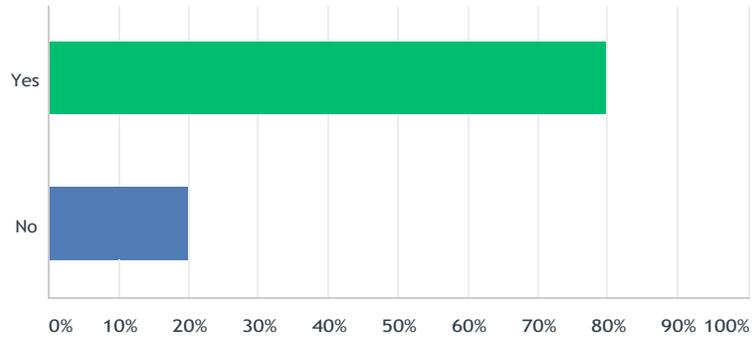
Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied	5.33%	4
Satisfied	40.00%	30
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	33.33%	25
Dissatisfied	14.67%	11
Very dissatisfied	6.67%	5
TOTAL		75

Q8 Do you believe that the Township of Malahide should deliver more programs and services to supplement the programs and events delivered by volunteers?

Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	80.00%	60
No	20.00%	15
TOTAL		75

Q9 What other recreation program and services would you like to see offered at the Township facilities?

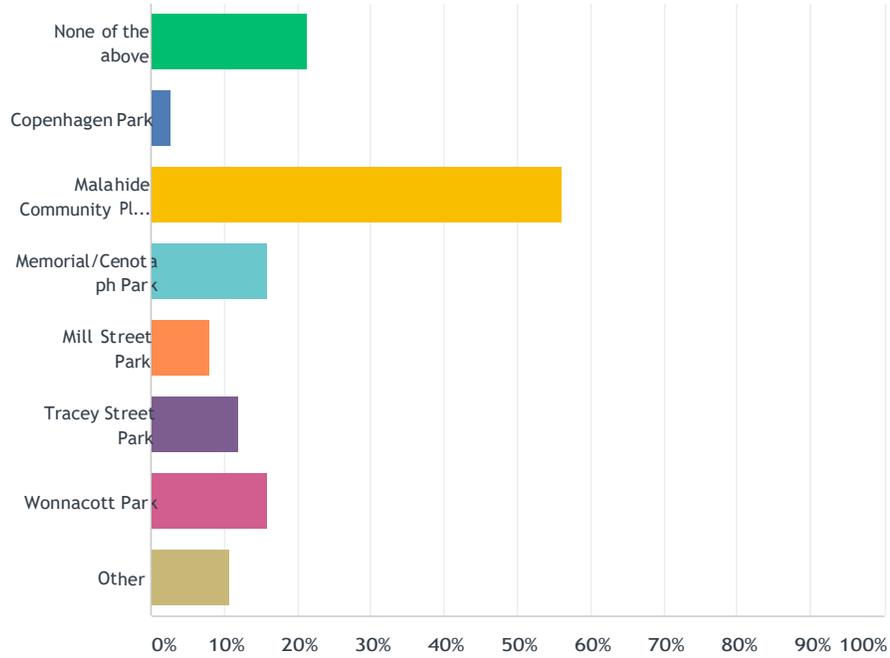
Answered: 45 Skipped: 30

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	senior activities after 4pm	8/31/2021 10:40 AM
2	There are no facilities close to us.	8/28/2021 12:37 PM
3	Programs and services for people over 65! Other than ice skating they are sadly lacking	8/28/2021 12:22 AM
4	Cards,darts	8/27/2021 5:15 PM
5	Exercise programs Education programs ie) Adult Learning Sessions , potentially affiliated with Fanshawe College Art programs	8/27/2021 3:10 PM
6	Indoor pool for public use	8/27/2021 3:00 PM
7	Tai chi for senior	8/27/2021 2:46 PM
8	Programs for seniors.	8/27/2021 2:26 PM
9	I'd like to see more community based programs. Kids instructional, day camps, seniors programs,	8/27/2021 1:37 PM
10	History related activities, more sports act&vities	8/27/2021 10:09 AM
11	for MCP and South Dorchester - perhaps more daytime events for those seniors and retired - utilize the buildings more! Line dancing, yoga, card games, arts and crafts, 50+ fitness, educational programs (computers, digital cameras, etc). Maybe offer monthly lunches - Any of these could be organized with a local service group.	8/27/2021 9:13 AM
12	More Hiking/walking trails, soccer (so many go to st Thomas) Bike paths on rural roads	8/26/2021 7:56 AM
13	yoga and other exercise and health/wellness classes	8/26/2021 7:54 AM
14	Indoor recreation opportunities including drop in and pre-registered children's programs. Aimed at youth 10 and under. Neighbourhood events to allow residents of Malahide to meet eachother and learn what is available for them in the community. Fitness for older adults.	8/25/2021 9:16 PM
15	N/A	8/25/2021 1:13 PM
16	Baseball camps More summer programs/ camps Soccer camp	8/25/2021 11:42 AM
17	Pool and splash pad in springfield.	8/25/2021 11:19 AM
18	Fitness classes, summer camps	8/25/2021 11:02 AM
19	Yoga classes, art classes, photography, games night,	8/25/2021 10:16 AM
20	Volleyball, basketball, family sport nights/events, art club after school hours, karate, dance. I would really like to see some partnership with mental health professionals to offer supports for kids like art therapy within our community, especially due to the pandemic and need for more mental health supports.	8/24/2021 4:28 PM
21	More parks and trails. Partner with Province and increase recreational opportunities on crown and municipal land. Walking paths at Aylmer Wildlife Area would be great for the community.	8/24/2021 7:58 AM
22	Baseball camps More summer programs/ camps Soccer camp	8/24/2021 7:40 AM
23	public gym and indoor courts	8/23/2021 9:59 PM
24	More youth activities, day camps	8/23/2021 9:40 PM
25	Springfield splash pad	8/23/2021 9:31 PM

26	Karate, better swimming (I.e., heated pool, NOT Terrace Lodge), dance, Zumba	8/23/2021 9:25 PM
27	Not sure	8/20/2021 9:58 PM
28	Nothing more, nothing less.	8/20/2021 7:25 AM
29	Indoor basketball courts. There's house league for hockey, baseball and soccer, I don't see why not basketball too. More baseball diamonds for Diamond flexibility for programs to allow for increased number of participants. Also, better maintenance and care taken of current facilities, especially the ball diamonds.	8/19/2021 11:21 PM
30	kids yoga classes, indoor kids basketball facilities	8/19/2021 9:04 PM
31	Playgrounds.	8/19/2021 8:47 PM
32	None	8/19/2021 8:07 PM
33	I think indoor facilities would be an asset to our community	8/19/2021 7:05 PM
34	More kids sports alternatives. Hockey only has one option and if you can't make that option work then your kids can't play hockey. Mid week sports. Sports fields and facilities to use	8/19/2021 4:48 PM
35	More spaces for programs and family get togethers. More walking trails.	8/19/2021 4:45 PM
36	Better parks, walking nature trails. Not a trail that goes around a baseball diamond or a open circle behind south dorchester firehall Dog parks More attractions north of aylmer instead of just at port bruce	8/19/2021 4:31 PM
37	Indoor baseball and soccer facilities. Indoor pool. More outdoor baseball diamonds	8/19/2021 4:27 PM
38	Daycare centre, hairdresser, availability for ghost kitchens, drop-in nurse station, baseball activities/training, soccer, outdoor programs (yoga, meditation etc), summer camps, fitness gym, senior centre	8/18/2021 11:03 AM
39	Trails, bike paths, improvements to the Port Bruce beach area (benches, tables, boardwalks)	8/12/2021 6:06 AM
40	programs geared to kids and seniors	8/11/2021 5:03 PM
41	More availability to indoor sports facilities other than hockey.	8/11/2021 10:54 AM
42	Attract companies/business owners to use our facilities to offer different classes (karate, yoga, etc).	8/10/2021 4:04 PM
43	not alot of things for older children - dances - socials	8/3/2021 2:56 PM
44	yoga, day camps, and fitness classes	8/3/2021 2:23 PM
45	preschool programs, social programs, fitness classes, dance	8/3/2021 12:22 PM

Q10 Which Township parks do you or the members of your family use? Select all that apply

Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	21.33%	16
Copenhagen Park	2.67%	2
Malahide Community Place Park	56.00%	42
Memorial/Cenotaph Park	16.00%	12
Mill Street Park	8.00%	6
Tracey Street Park	12.00%	9
Wonnacott Park	16.00%	12
Other	10.67%	8

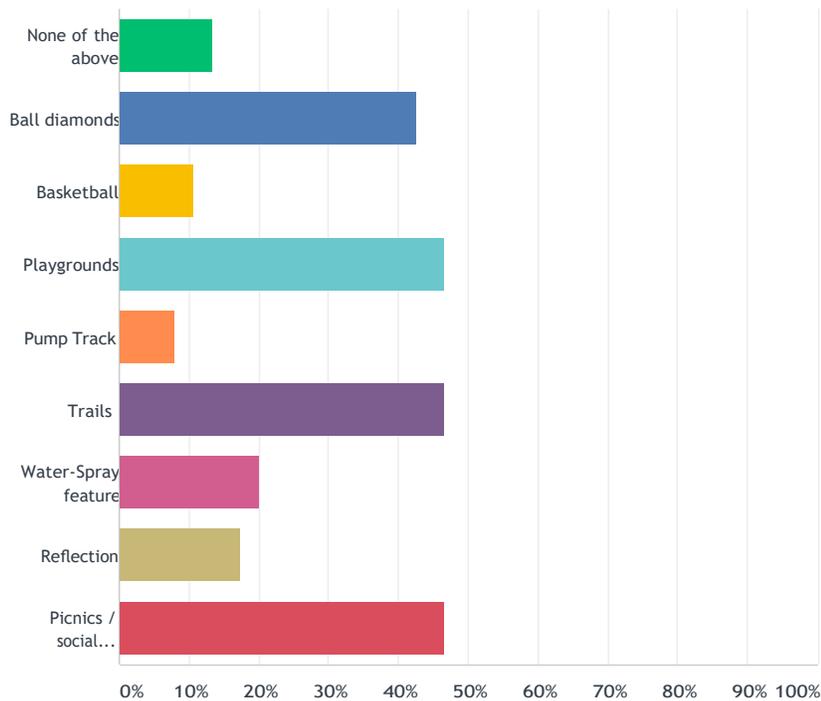
Total Respondents: 75

#	OTHER	DATE
1	Springwater Trails	8/29/2021 11:13 AM
2	I didn't even know Copenhagen had a park and how can you even call the memorial cenotaph a park?	8/27/2021 7:55 AM

3	South Dorchester	8/25/2021 11:42 AM
4	pinafore park	8/25/2021 10:11 AM
5	Lots outside of malahide	8/24/2021 4:28 PM
6	South Dorchester	8/24/2021 7:40 AM
7	Never even heard of most of these parks	8/21/2021 6:03 AM
8	Lyons	8/12/2021 1:30 AM

Q11 What do you or members of your household use the above parks for? Select all that apply

Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	13.33%	10
Ball diamonds	42.67%	32
Basketball	10.67%	8
Playgrounds	46.67%	35
Pump Track	8.00%	6
Trails	46.67%	35
Water-Spray feature	20.00%	15
Reflection	17.33%	13
Picnics / social gatherings	46.67%	35
Total Respondents: 75		

#	OTHER	DATE
1	walking! The improved path is fantastic to connect to other street	8/27/2021 9:13 AM
2	pickle ball	8/25/2021 10:11 AM

Q12 What other activities would you like to see offered at Township parks?

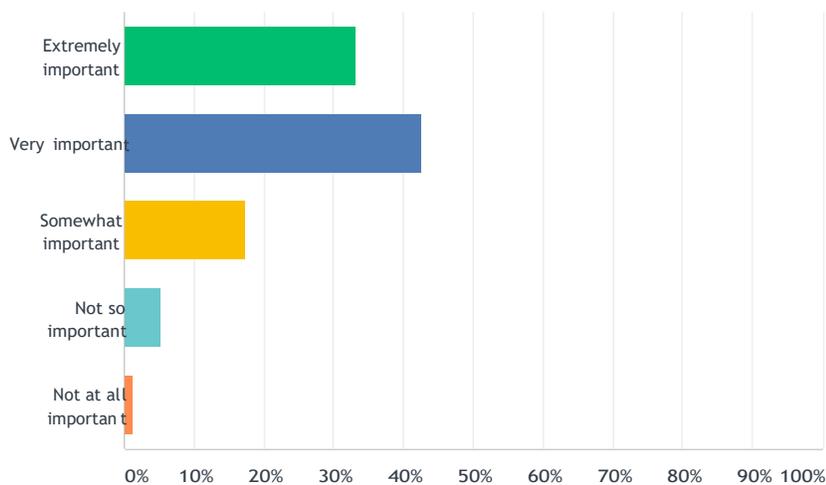
Answered: 41 Skipped: 34

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	exercise parks	8/31/2021 10:40 AM
2	Large Garbage pick up	8/28/2021 12:37 PM
3	Activities for people over 65	8/28/2021 12:22 AM
4	Bird watching	8/27/2021 5:15 PM
5	Recreation activities for children on holidays etc.	8/27/2021 3:10 PM
6	Dog park	8/27/2021 3:00 PM
7	Basketball nets	8/27/2021 2:26 PM
8	Outdoor and indoor instructional programs for the community	8/27/2021 1:37 PM
9	More walking trails	8/27/2021 9:39 AM
10	something besides BASEBALL at MCP! pickleball???	8/27/2021 9:13 AM
11	More garbage pails so all the ignorant people have a place to put their garbage instead of the beach	8/27/2021 7:55 AM
12	More opportunity to enjoy nature	8/26/2021 7:56 AM
13	Basketball - half court Accessible play equipment, more challenging and engaging play equipment Spray pad Picnic sites - tables near the play equipment with a possible gazebo or pavilion for families/larger gatherings	8/25/2021 9:16 PM
14	All good	8/25/2021 1:13 PM
15	Water activities	8/25/2021 11:19 AM
16	More activities in Port Bruce.	8/25/2021 10:16 AM
17	See the list in the previous word answer question. My kids would also enjoy a skate park, but I would prefer more programs as opposed to activities.	8/24/2021 4:28 PM
18	Splash pads	8/24/2021 5:11 AM
19	tennis, pickle ball	8/23/2021 9:59 PM
20	Splashpad	8/23/2021 9:40 PM
21	Splash pad	8/23/2021 9:31 PM
22	Basketball net	8/23/2021 9:25 PM
23	More baseball diamonds.	8/20/2021 7:53 AM
24	Ice cream.	8/20/2021 7:25 AM
25	More variety for sports. Pickle ball or badminton possibility's by tennis courts. More courts/sports pads around town that can play multiple sports	8/19/2021 11:21 PM
26	Walkways	8/19/2021 9:49 PM
27	Until they were listed above, I didnt know malahide had parks/playgrounds. (With the exception of port bruce). Now I will have to look up where they are.	8/19/2021 8:47 PM
28	None	8/19/2021 8:07 PM
29	More lake access points	8/19/2021 4:54 PM

30	Hiking, biking, running track open sports fields to practice on	8/19/2021 4:48 PM
31	More soccer fields and trails	8/19/2021 4:45 PM
32	Dog parks. Natural walking trails Nature bike trails	8/19/2021 4:31 PM
33	More basketball	8/19/2021 4:27 PM
34	Bigger Pavillion	8/19/2021 3:06 PM
35	outdoor exercise machines	8/11/2021 5:03 PM
36	More baseball facilities and space for sports	8/11/2021 10:54 AM
37	basketball, pickleball	8/10/2021 4:04 PM
38	more picnic areas	8/3/2021 2:56 PM
39	splash pad	8/3/2021 2:23 PM
40	geo cashing, safer way to travel to them no sidewalk	8/3/2021 12:22 PM
41	tennis pickleball mutli sport pad water fountains, outdoor shower	8/3/2021 12:10 PM

Q13 How Important are Parks to you and your family? (scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the highest)

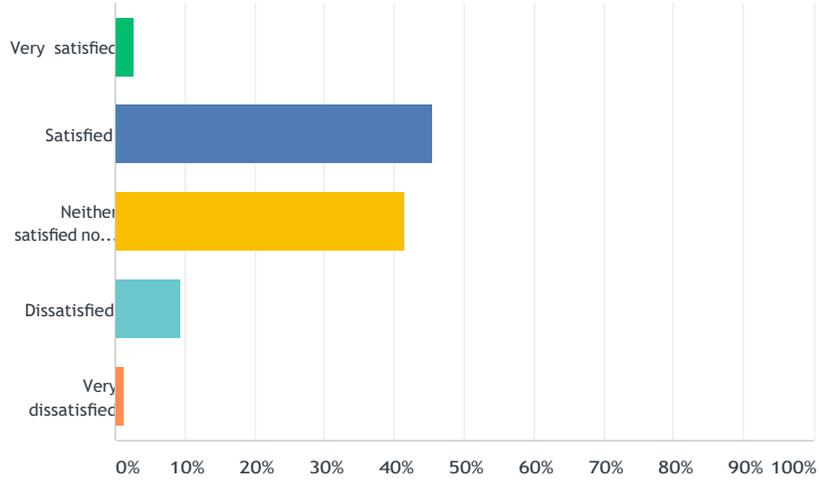
Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely important	33.33%	25
Very important	42.67%	32
Somewhat important	17.33%	13
Not so important	5.33%	4
Not at all important	1.33%	1
TOTAL		75

Q14 How satisfied are you with the Township of Malahide parks?

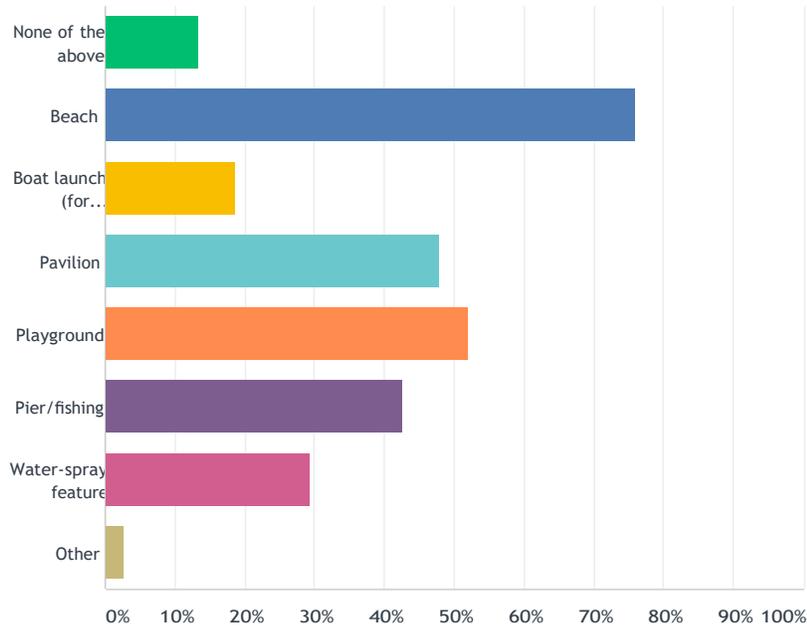
Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied	2.67%	2
Satisfied	45.33%	34
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	41.33%	31
Dissatisfied	9.33%	7
Very dissatisfied	1.33%	1
TOTAL		75

Q15 What waterfront amenities do you or the members of your family use? Select all that apply

Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	13.33%	10
Beach	76.00%	57
Boat launch (for non-motorized vessels)	18.67%	14
Pavilion	48.00%	36
Playground	52.00%	39
Pier/fishing	42.67%	32
Water-spray feature	29.33%	22
Other	2.67%	2

Total Respondents: 75

#	OTHER	DATE
1	Walking on beaches	8/24/2021 7:58 AM
2	Water fountain , bike tools	8/21/2021 9:53 PM

Q16 What other activities would you like to see offered at the waterfront?

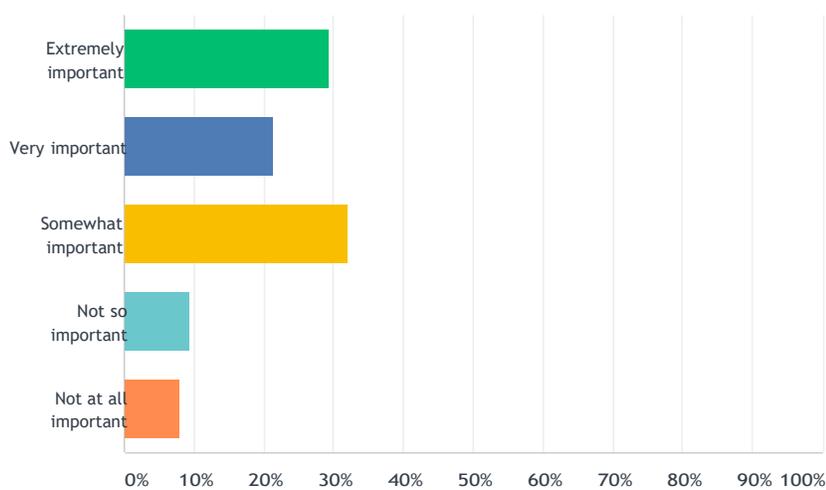
Answered: 40 Skipped: 35

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	canoe and pedal boats	8/31/2021 10:40 AM
2	None	8/28/2021 12:37 PM
3	Rentals of beach accessible wheel chairs	8/28/2021 12:22 AM
4	Fish derby	8/27/2021 5:15 PM
5	recreation activities for families and children ie) fishing etc	8/27/2021 3:10 PM
6	Allow dogs park on beach	8/27/2021 3:00 PM
7	Instructional based community programs	8/27/2021 1:37 PM
8	don't live by the water so don't use the waterfront	8/27/2021 9:13 AM
9	None	8/26/2021 7:56 AM
10	clean up the beach more parking and traffic control measures bike lane or sidewalks in Port Bruce	8/25/2021 2:47 PM
11	None	8/25/2021 1:13 PM
12	Splash pad or a area to wash feet after the beach	8/25/2021 11:42 AM
13	None	8/25/2021 11:19 AM
14	Splash pad	8/25/2021 11:02 AM
15	Paddleboard and canoe rentals and lessons.	8/25/2021 10:16 AM
16	Rental of kayaks and other water sport equipment.	8/24/2021 4:28 PM
17	Splash pad or a area to wash feet after the beach	8/24/2021 7:40 AM
18	N/a	8/23/2021 9:40 PM
19	Unsure	8/23/2021 9:31 PM
20	More beach so we can spread out from other people	8/23/2021 9:25 PM
21	Cleaner beach	8/21/2021 6:03 AM
22	Ice cream.	8/20/2021 7:25 AM
23	Not sure here	8/19/2021 11:21 PM
24	Clean walkways	8/19/2021 9:49 PM
25	N/a	8/19/2021 8:47 PM
26	None	8/19/2021 8:07 PM
27	Splash pad	8/19/2021 6:25 PM
28	How about the township of Malahide clean up the beach , make it more useable like neighbouring townships??	8/19/2021 5:48 PM
29	Clean up the beach would attract more people and help with future business development	8/19/2021 4:54 PM
30	Beech volleyball, nicer sand	8/19/2021 4:48 PM
31	None	8/19/2021 4:45 PM

32	None. Want activities north of aylmer. Lyons, Springfield, Avon	8/19/2021 4:31 PM
33	better pedestrian movement, cycling, better pavilion booking, beach activities,	8/18/2021 11:03 AM
34	Boardwalk do that a stroller/wheel chair could be pushed along the shore line	8/12/2021 6:06 AM
35	Kayak launch;	8/12/2021 1:30 AM
36	community bike rentals	8/10/2021 4:04 PM
37	bike and boat rentals, fun things to do in water	8/3/2021 2:56 PM
38	splash pad	8/3/2021 2:23 PM
39	wash station and fountain, better picnic areas	8/3/2021 12:22 PM
40	water programs learn to swim, paddleboard, sand castle events	8/3/2021 12:10 PM

Q17 How Important is the waterfront to you and your family?

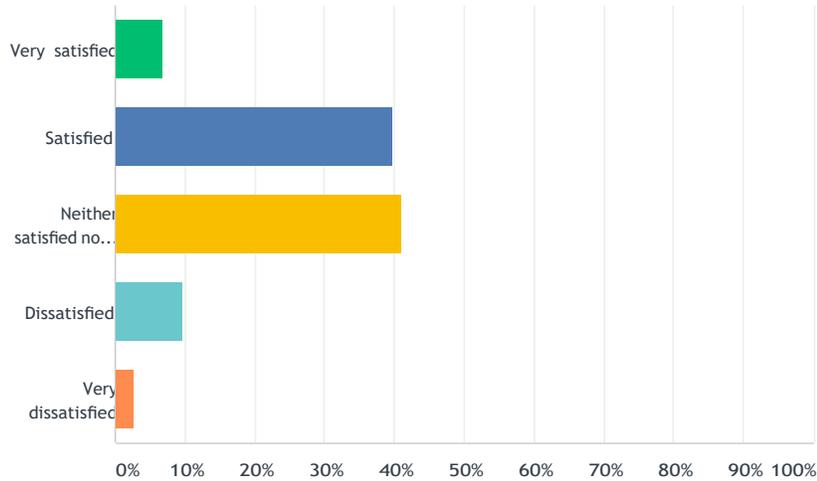
Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely important	29.33%	22
Very important	21.33%	16
Somewhat important	32.00%	24
Not so important	9.33%	7
Not at all important	8.00%	6
TOTAL		75

Q18 How satisfied are you and the members of your household with the waterfront in Malahide?

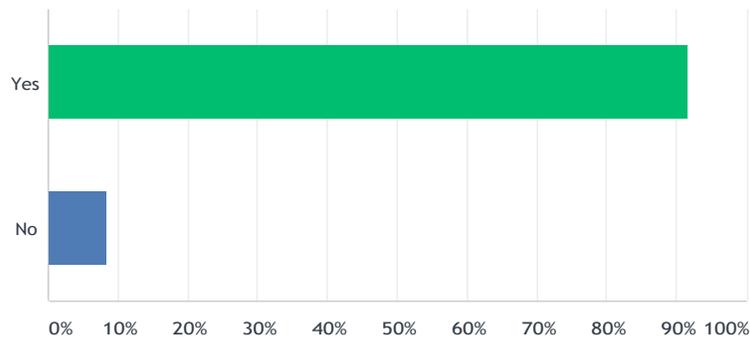
Answered: 73 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied	6.85%	5
Satisfied	39.73%	29
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	41.10%	30
Dissatisfied	9.59%	7
Very dissatisfied	2.74%	2
TOTAL		73

Q19 Do you or members of your family travel outside of the Township of Malahide to access recreation activities?

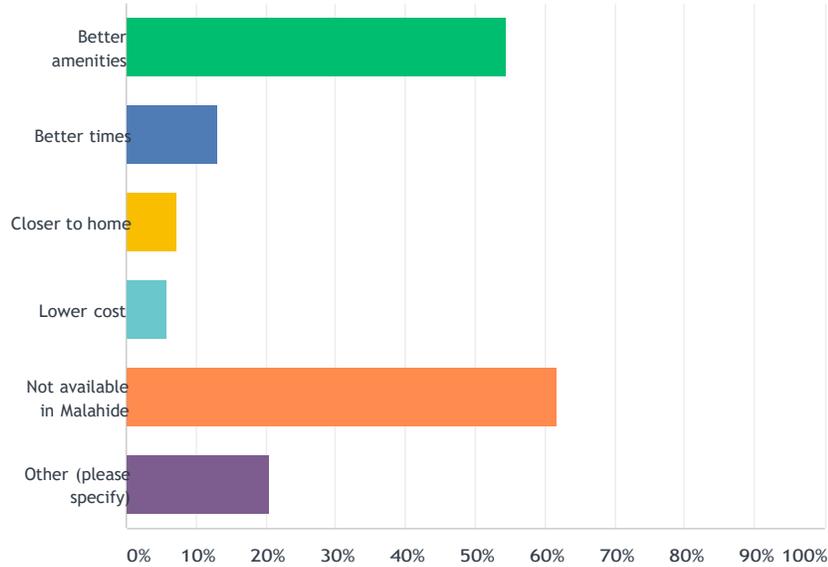
Answered: 72 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	91.67%	66
No	8.33%	6
TOTAL		72

Q20 If yes to above question, why do you travel outside the Township of Malahide for recreation?

Answered: 68 Skipped: 7



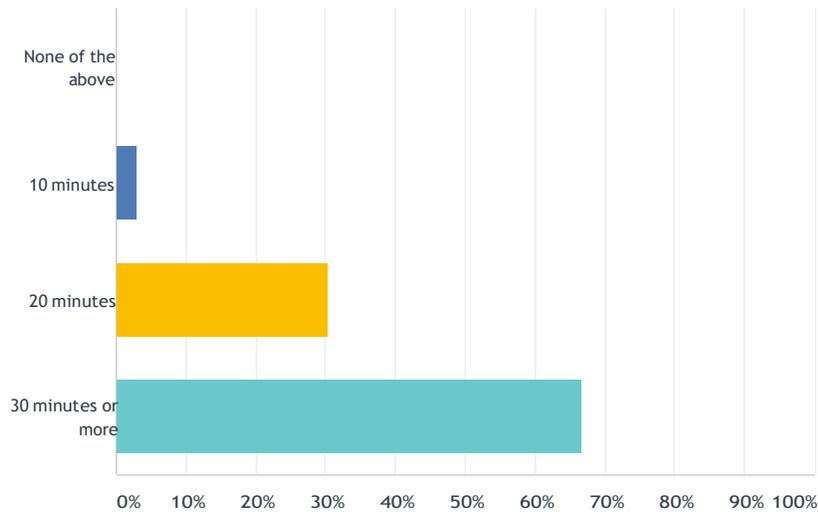
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Better amenities	54.41% 37
Better times	13.24% 9
Closer to home	7.35% 5
Lower cost	5.88% 4
Not available in Malahide	61.76% 42
Other (please specify)	20.59% 14
Total Respondents: 68	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	clean up port bruce beach like burwells sandy beaches!!!!	8/31/2021 10:40 AM
2	Change of scenery - short distance travel	8/29/2021 11:13 AM
3	cleaner beaches	8/29/2021 8:46 AM
4	Pool	8/27/2021 3:00 PM
5	To explore	8/27/2021 10:09 AM
6	Variety	8/27/2021 7:55 AM

7	Offensive lighting at Wannacott Park forces us away in the evenings.	8/26/2021 7:54 AM
8	Use different parks arena etc in Elgin County	8/25/2021 5:59 PM
9	Just to get away	8/25/2021 1:13 PM
10	Change of scenery	8/24/2021 8:31 AM
11	Different teams	8/23/2021 9:54 PM
12	Trails, beach and able to kayak and canoe all in one at Springwater and camp	8/23/2021 9:40 PM
13	The sand is nicer. But I don't want nicer sand in Bruce.	8/20/2021 7:25 AM
14	we don't travel we actually travel in	8/3/2021 2:56 PM

Q21 If yes, how far are you or your family members willing to travel to access recreation facilities?

Answered: 69 Skipped: 6

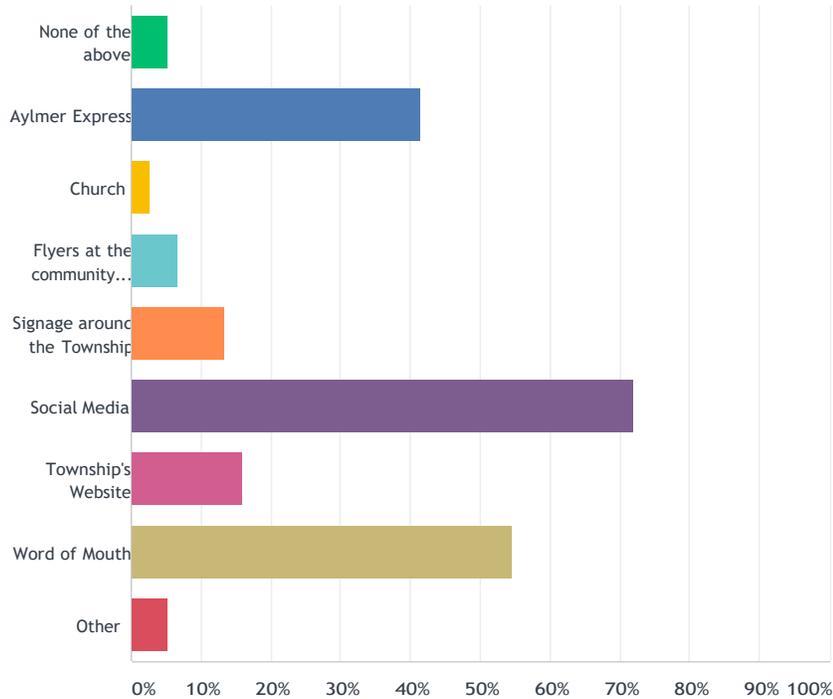


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	0.00%	0
10 minutes	2.90%	2
20 minutes	30.43%	21
30 minutes or more	66.67%	46
TOTAL		69

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	No limit. Have travelled as far as komoka, London and norfolk for sports and walking trails	8/19/2021 4:31 PM

Q22 Where do you currently hear about or receive information about the Township programs and services? Select all that apply

Answered: 75 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	5.33%	4
Aylmer Express	41.33%	31
Church	2.67%	2
Flyers at the community centres	6.67%	5
Signage around the Township	13.33%	10
Social Media	72.00%	54
Township's Website	16.00%	12
Word of Mouth	54.67%	41
Other	5.33%	4

Total Respondents: 75

#	OTHER	DATE
1	94.1	8/29/2021 11:13 AM
2	I don't hear of any programs currently being offered	8/27/2021 1:37 PM
3	Email from brewers	8/23/2021 9:40 PM
4	Springfield Swans newsletter	8/23/2021 9:25 PM

Q23 Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about parks and recreation in the Township of Malahide?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 44

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	clean up port bruce beach!!!!	8/31/2021 10:40 AM
2	Not available to all taxpayers due to the distance from facilities in the east end of the township.	8/28/2021 12:37 PM
3	No	8/27/2021 5:15 PM
4	Need an indoor pool	8/27/2021 3:00 PM
5	You are doing a good job updating the parks in Springfield recently! KEEP IT UP!	8/27/2021 9:13 AM
6	You waste tax payers money with all the new vehicles you have and all the people driving around in them amongst other things Like this bs plan you're heading into	8/27/2021 7:55 AM
7	we have some great local spots - our kids love the new pump park in Springfield. We'd like more opportunity for outdoor sports, indoor classes in winter would be great. But mostly - more opportunity to enjoy and learn about nature. We love the Aylmer wildlife area and springwater (we know it's not municipal) ... more of this type of experience for people is needed.	8/26/2021 7:56 AM
8	Lighting in Wannacott Park should be replaced or modified to be less offensive. Light pollution from park causes sleep deprivation for local residents.	8/26/2021 7:54 AM
9	The park space in Lyons and Springfield are very limited. There is no reason to go to Springfield unless I am there for my son's baseball games and practices. There are no other amenities for him to use. The halls lack programming. Other than going for volunteer events, I don't have any reason to go to the halls. They serve more as a hall for rentals, not a community space.	8/25/2021 9:16 PM
10	Concerned about Naming Opportunities in Wannacott Park. Who maintains designation plaques on benches and trees? Is there a scale for monetary donations for such naming opportunities or is it a matter of local preferences/favours? Park is public space-can anyone decide they are going to designate a naming opportunity? In most other locations naming opportunities are left for historical persons of interest. Port Bruce has allowed Wannacott Park to become a scrap book. I understand that someone's wedding is important to them but is it important enough in the community to warrant a long term designation? Normally those types of naming opportunities come with large or at the very least significant cash donations. If so donations to who, Township, Rate Payers, Port Bruce Community???? Is there a formal policy??? When making public designations one must be careful not to leave someone out.... Naming benches and trees is a tricky game!	8/25/2021 4:49 PM
11	Wish the beach was maintained better. Trash cans available closer to beach. Beach debris moved or removed. Leave larger driftwood but comb the beach.	8/25/2021 1:13 PM
12	I think a real skate park is needed in Springfield and a pool with splash pad.	8/25/2021 11:19 AM
13	Since Port Bruce has become more popular, there is a definite lack of services, including available recycling. At present, the recycling is being taken care of by community volunteers. This should be done by the township. Also, there are far, far too many memorials in Wannacott Park. It looks like a cemetery in there and it is not necessary.	8/25/2021 10:16 AM
14	Lots of boats, seados and weather damaging the banks on the Creekside. Is there any intention of looking at saving the banks or are there grants to help save the banks. Looking at being proactive.	8/25/2021 10:11 AM
15	No. We appreciate all of the volunteers and employees who give of their time to set up programs for the kids.	8/24/2021 4:28 PM

16	Nice new skateboard and bike park in Springfield	8/24/2021 7:58 AM
17	The ball diamonds need some attention. The back stop fencing is curled up, looks terrible and is a safety concern. The lip from the infield to outfield grass is very dangerous.	8/23/2021 9:54 PM
18	Kept well maintained and clean	8/23/2021 9:40 PM
19	Please allow service club's to offer different programs without the enormous cost of renting the facilities. For example, we could run an art club but the cost would be too huge because of the rental. It isn't to make money but rather to provide the community with something fun.	8/23/2021 9:25 PM
20	I think they are good. Bruce is the best! I like how it's nice enough to be a hidden gem, but doesn't cater to tourists with an excess of shops and activities.	8/20/2021 7:25 AM
21	School flyers, and have the same info in multiple places so it's harder to miss	8/19/2021 11:21 PM
22	No	8/19/2021 8:07 PM
23	Copenhagen Park? You mean the one that was supposed to be installed by the developer?	8/19/2021 5:48 PM
24	No	8/19/2021 4:45 PM
25	We just need more in general. Mount Salem doesn't have any public parks. With baseball becoming more popular, there aren't enough diamonds available. Also, more bike trails and lanes for safer biking would be appreciated.	8/19/2021 4:27 PM
26	great facilities that are under-used	8/18/2021 11:03 AM
27	Like to see river or creek watercourse travel such as kayak launch spots and safe paddling courses	8/12/2021 1:30 AM
28	we use the ball diamonds primarily	8/3/2021 2:56 PM
29	I love the consultants...they are amazing to work with!	8/3/2021 2:23 PM
30	There is not much to do except baseball for kids	8/3/2021 12:22 PM
31	we have great buildings but just not alot offered inside the buildings	8/3/2021 12:10 PM