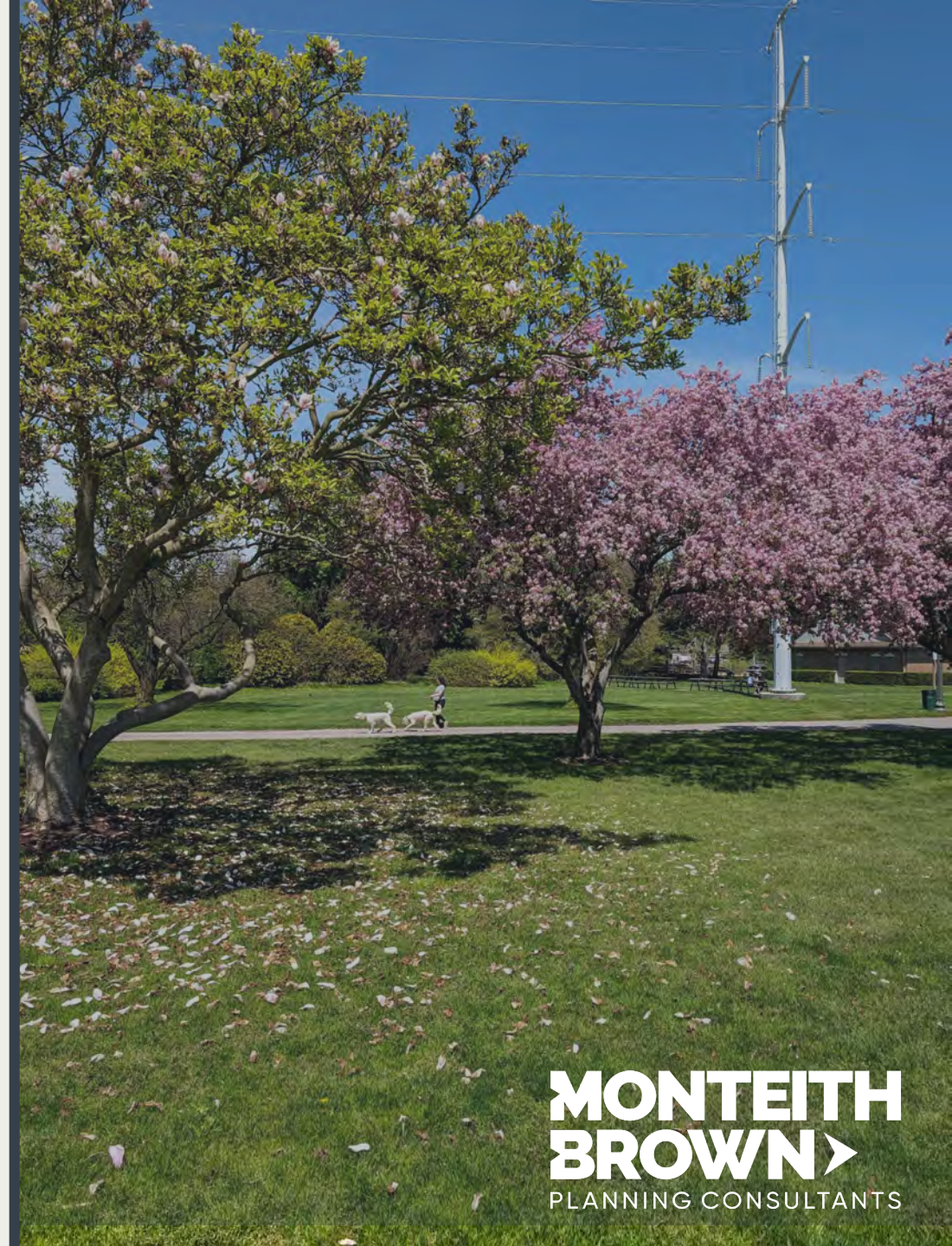


Parks Plan

Presentation to City Council

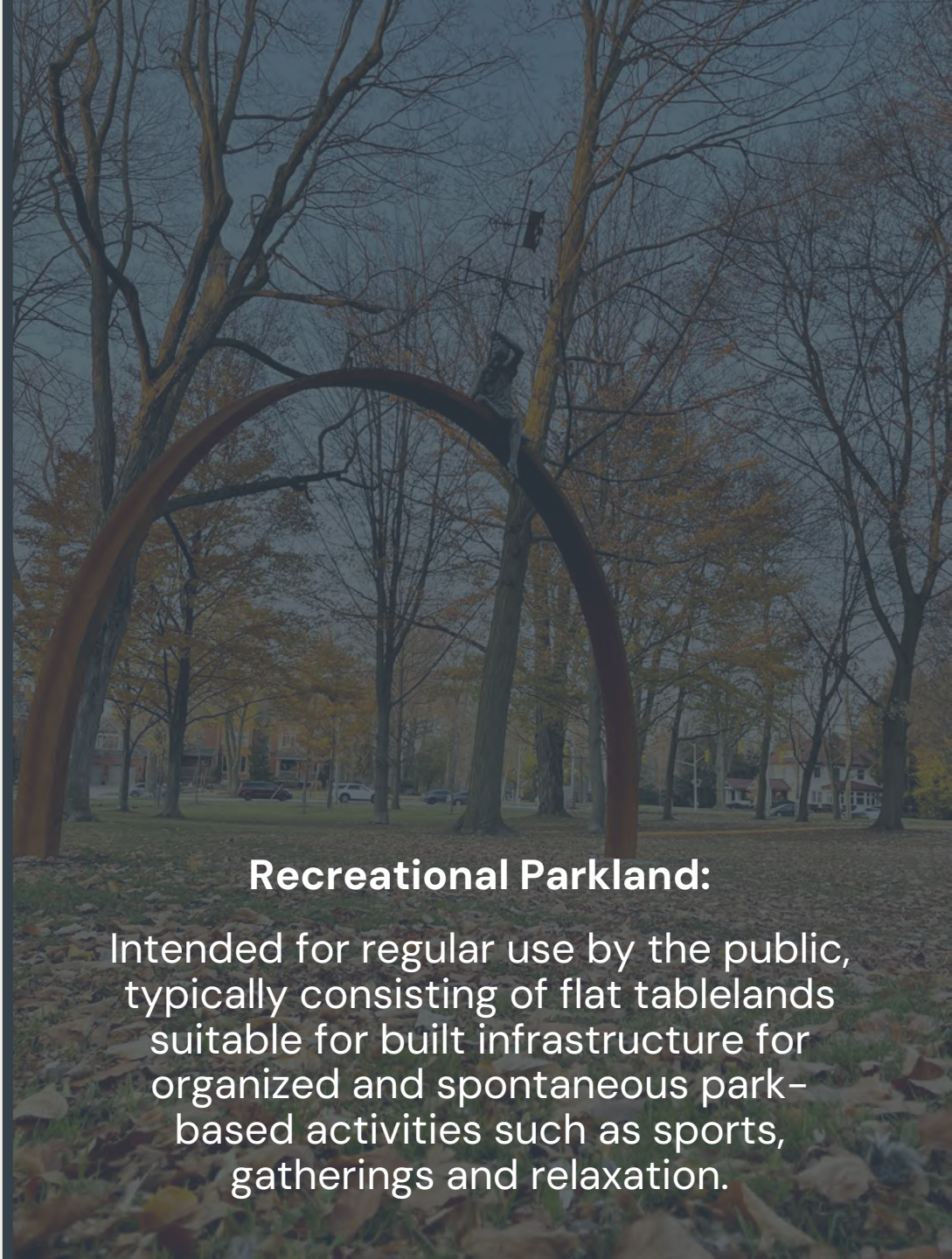
April 3, 2025



Project Context

A Parks Plan is required by the Planning Act in order for the City to require parkland dedication as a condition of the land development process.

The Parks Plan examines how much recreational parkland is required, the types of parks needed, and areas of the City where parkland should be sought.

A photograph of a park with large trees and a street in the background. The trees are mostly bare, suggesting late autumn or winter. The ground is covered with fallen leaves. In the background, there are houses and a street with a few cars.

Recreational Parkland:

Intended for regular use by the public, typically consisting of flat tablelands suitable for built infrastructure for organized and spontaneous park-based activities such as sports, gatherings and relaxation.

Supply

The City of Woodstock maintains 194.5 hectares (481 acres) of recreational parkland distributed over 56 parks. This level of service translates into **4.0 hectares per 1,000 residents**

194.5 hectares
of recreational parkland
in 56 parks

Supply of Parkland in Woodstock

Park Type	Hectares	Number	Average Size	Service Level
Community Parks	113.2 ha	6	18.9 ha	2.3 ha per 1,000
Neighbourhood Parks	79.3 ha	40	2.0 ha	1.6 ha per 1,000
Parkettes	2.0 ha	10	0.2 ha	0.04 ha per 1,000
Total	194.5 ha	56	3.5 ha	4.0 ha per 1,000

Provision Standards

Municipalities across Ontario target their provision rate based on their historical parkland supply, size of their geographic territory, population density, value put on public parkland, funding capabilities, and unique characteristics of their urban structures.

Current Provision Standard & Recommended Provision Target

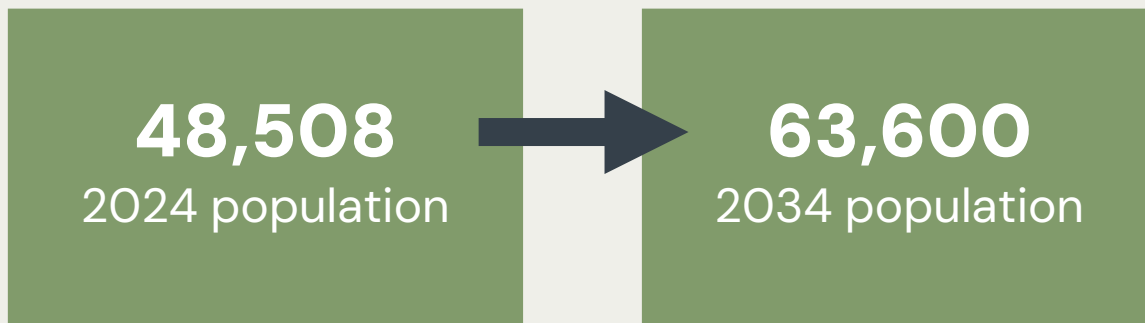
Park Type	Current Standard	Recommended Target
Community Park	2.3 ha per 1,000	2.0 ha per 1,000
Neighbourhood & Parkette (combined)	1.6 ha per 1,000	2.0 ha per 1,000
Total	4.0 ha per 1,000	4.0 ha per 1,000



Needs

With the City's population forecasted to grow, the needs of the current and future residents will influence the amount and types of parks in Woodstock.

Based on a provision target of 4.0 ha per 1,000 residents, in 2034 the City will require a total of **254.4 ha** of recreational parkland.



Sources: City of Woodstock Development Charges Background Study, 2022; 2034 Population has been extrapolated from the Oxford County Comprehensive Review: Population, Employment and Housing Projections to 2061, 2024

49.0 hectares
of parkland required
by 2034

=

14.0 hectares
of community parkland

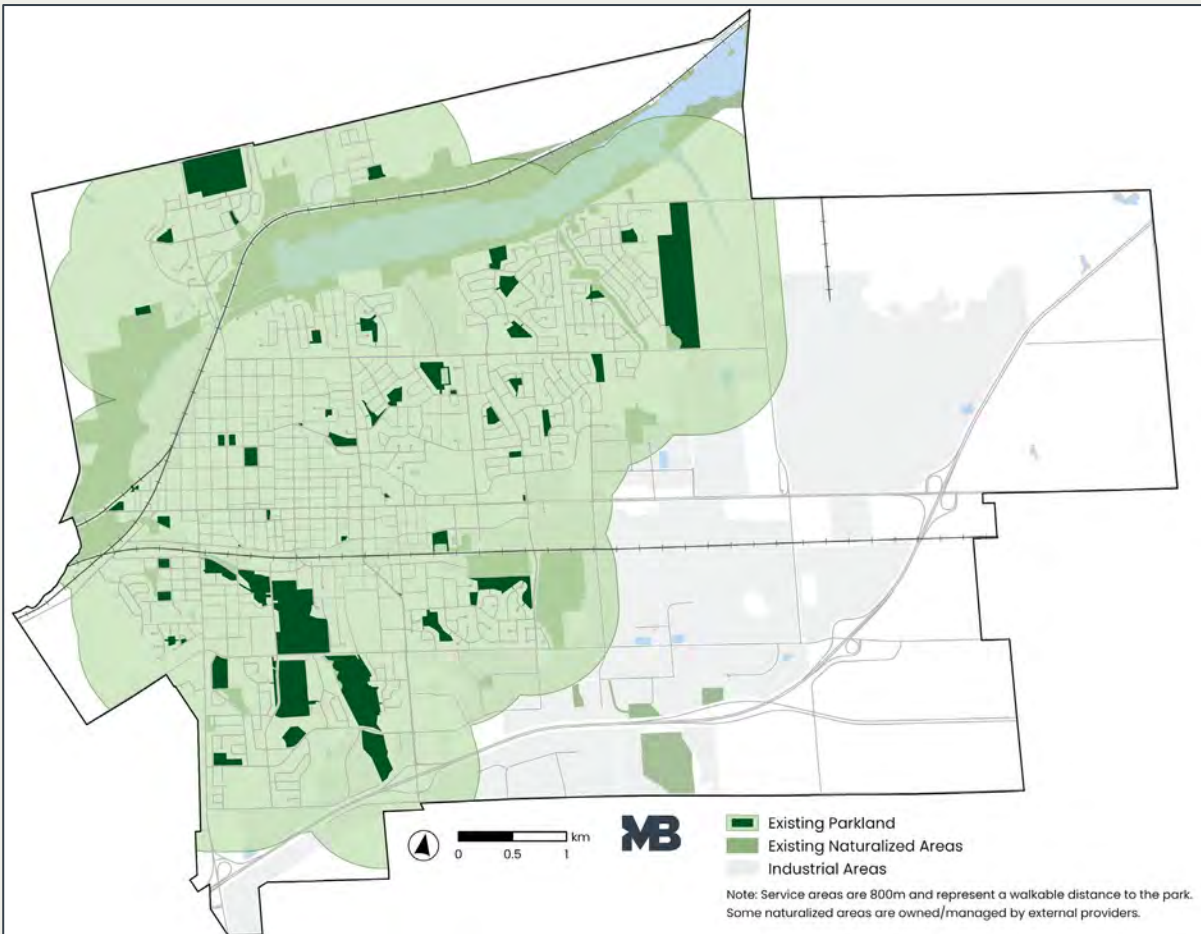
+

35.0 hectares
of neighbourhood &
parkette parkland

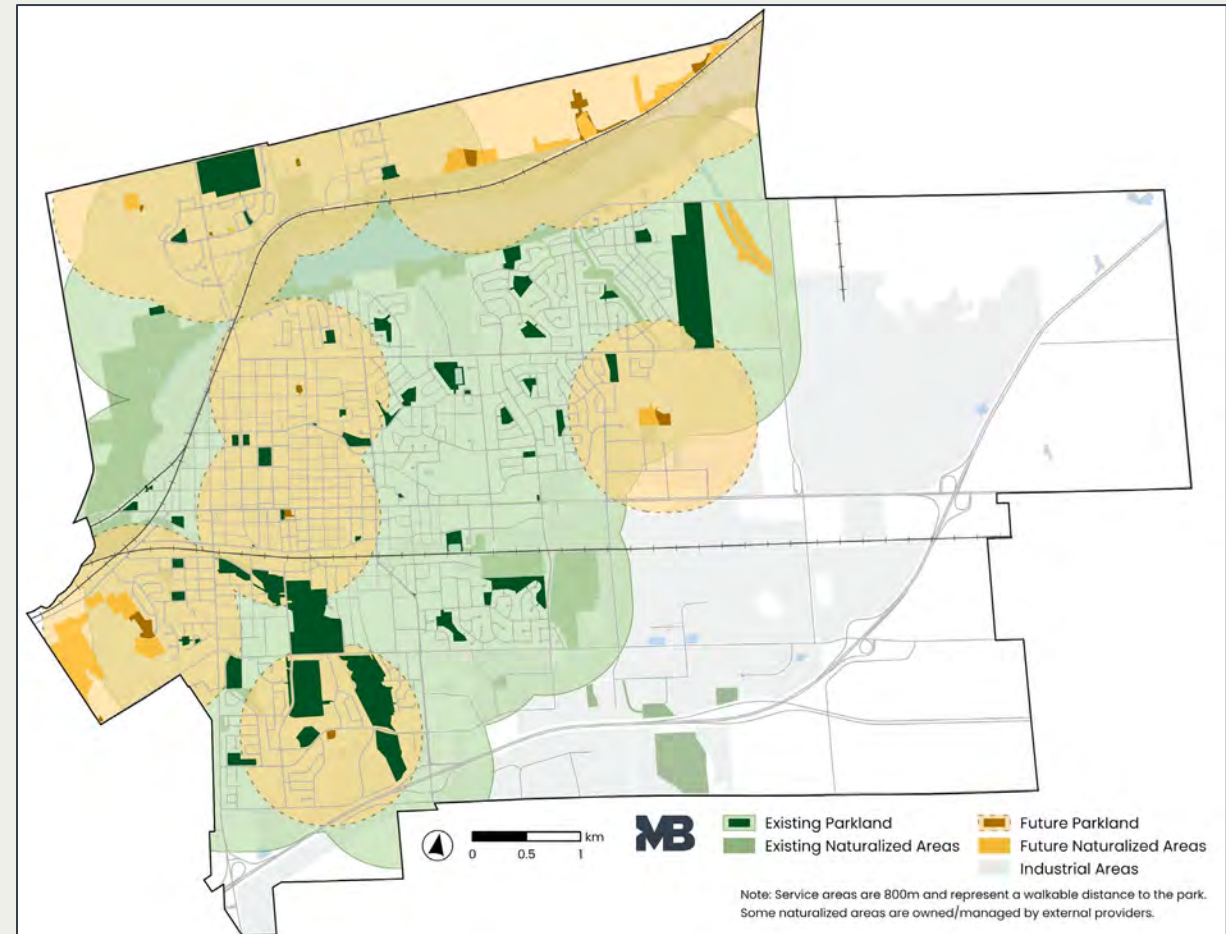
Distributional Analysis

The City's residential areas are well served by parks using an 800 metre catchment (roughly a 10 minute walk).

Existing Parkland Distribution



Existing & Future Parkland Distribution



Conveyance & Acquisition

To meet the recommended parkland target, the City should adopt a “parkland-first” approach to prioritize the dedication of land rather than cash-in-lieu during the development review process.

Land Use Type & Conveyance of Land as per the *Planning Act*

Land Use	Physical Conveyance	Cash-in-lieu
Standard Rate		
Commercial or Industrial Uses	2% of the land	2% of the value of the land
All Other Uses	5% of the land	5% of the value of the land
Alternative Rate		
All Land Uses	1 ha per 600 units	1 ha per 1,000 units



Parks Plan Actions

- Action 1.** Adopt the Parkland Classification system consisting of Community Parks, Neighbourhood Parks, and Parkettes.
- Action 2.** Maintain the City of Woodstock provision target of 4.0 hectares per 1,000 residents for parkland, falling under the Parkland Classification.
- Action 3.** Parkland or cash-in-lieu obtained through conveyances should be primarily assigned to support outdoor park functions. Land for Neighbourhood Parks and Parkettes should be secured to meet growth related needs.
- Action 4.** Prepare a Parkland Dedication By-Law to acquire parkland as a condition of development.



Thank you!



City of
Woodstock

**MONTEITH
BROWN** 
PLANNING CONSULTANTS