

APPENDIX 1

Parkland Classification System

Summary:

Neighbourhood Park: A Neighbourhood Park's primary purpose is to meet the recreational needs of its immediate neighbourhood. *Depending on the needs of the residents, it could include a playground, community gardens, passive space with benches, paths, informal natural areas, or other options. In response to residents' needs, a neighbourhood park may change over time.*

Community Park: A Community Park's primary purpose is to provide the space and supportive facilities needed for active recreation in the community.

A community park is characterized by sports fields and/or other sports facilities, but often includes opportunities for other uses such as play equipment, paths, picnic areas, or natural areas.

A Community Park will often meet nearby residents' needs for a park in their neighbourhood (and so is understood to play a dual role as a neighbourhood park for that area). However, distinct from a Neighbourhood Park, a Community Park is designed to serve the active recreational needs of the wider community.

The James Jerome playing fields is an example of a Community Park.

Regional Park: A Regional Park's primary purpose is to be a focal point for the City as a whole, due to its unique attributes, function, and size. It may also be a tourist attraction.

A Regional Park will often meet nearby residents' needs for a park in their neighbourhood (and so is understood to play a dual role as a neighbourhood park for that area). However, distinct from a Neighbourhood Park, a Regional Park is designed to play a unique role, and to serve the entire City.

Bell Park is the classic example of a Regional Park.

Linear Park: The primary purpose of a Linear Park is to be a connector linking different areas of the City. Linear Parks may be trails, waterways, or habitat corridors.

Linear Parks will often run through, or connect to, other park types. These connections should be noted in the park description as they enhance all parks involved.

The Junction Creek Waterway Park, and the Rotary Trail are two examples of Linear Parks.

Natural Park: The primary purpose of a Natural Park is the protection of a natural area while meeting residents' needs for passive recreation.

A Natural Park may be small or large, and may serve a neighbourhood, community, or entire region. The primary focus of a Natural Park is the protection of the natural area. Therefore, even Natural Parks known only to local residents are distinct from Neighbourhood Parks, which can be developed in diverse ways. Oak Hill is an example of a Natural Park.

Cultural/Historical Special Purpose Park: The primary purpose of a Cultural/Historical Special Purpose Park is the protection of a site with historic, scientific, cultural, social, or spiritual importance.
Anderson Farm, Bell Park Estate, the Flour Mill Silos are all potential examples.

Ecological Reserve: The primary purpose of an Ecological Reserve is the preservation of a significant natural area with ecological and/or geological importance, or that captures a characteristic natural feature of the City.
Conservation Areas are potential examples of Ecological Reserves.

	Neighbourhood Park	Community Park	Regional Park
Purpose	To meet the recreational needs of the neighbourhood	To provide the space and supportive facilities needed for active recreation in the community	to be a focal point for the City as a whole, due to its unique attributes, function, and size
General Description	<p>Easily accessible neighbourhood park space. May contain play equipment, sand boxes, benches, informal playing fields, natural areas, benches, community gardens, etc, depending on the needs of the neighbourhood.</p> <p>Could be further classified as: ‘T’ – ‘Tot Lots’ – a micro park, generally one lot ‘S’ – ‘School Park’ (school yard used by the neighbourhood outside of school hours)</p>	<p>Developed park that can provide a focus for active recreation.</p> <p>Multi-purpose and catering to all ages.</p> <p>Centrally located close to major residential areas, if possible – designed pedestrian access; on arterial or collector roads for ease of community access.</p>	<p>Large park providing a unique function to the entire City of Greater Sudbury. May also be a tourist attraction. Can accommodate City-wide use and larger venues.</p>
Facilities/ Features	<p>Safe pedestrian access.</p> <p>May contain play equipment, room for casual play, shaded rest areas. May also contain open space, natural areas, walking trails and other features.</p>	<p>Facilities for active recreation such as sports fields, hard courts, outside rinks, indoor facilities, beaches, picnic areas, paths, natural areas.</p> <p>Safe pedestrian and bicycle access, access by public transit, and sufficient parking</p>	<p>Vary with special nature of each park: may be waterfront areas, beaches, special attractions or entertainment facilities.</p> <p>Should be linked to trail system, public transport, and be easily accessible by car, with sufficient parking.</p>
Size	Typically 0.2 – 1 hectare. Up to 4 hectares if it includes a significant portion of open space.	Typically 2 – 10 hectares.	Varies. May be larger than 10 hectares.
Service Area and Standard	<p>Serves immediate neighbourhood (up to 10 minute walk)</p> <p>4 ha per 1000 residents, within 800m without crossing a major barrier (including community parks within this area).</p> <p>Service area / standard-varies depending on the needs of the neighbourhood.</p>	<p>Serves a community (up to 20 minute walk - see service areas in master plan).</p> <p>4 ha per 1000 residents, within 800m without crossing a major barrier (including neighbourhood parks within this area).</p>	<p>City of Greater Sudbury.</p> <p>?</p>

	Linear Park	Natural Park
Purpose	To be a connector linking different areas of the City	the protection of a natural area while meeting residents' needs for passive recreation
General Description	<p>Corridors connecting different areas – e.g. trails, waterways, cliff systems, and or habitat connectors.</p> <p>May be a tourist attraction.</p> <p>Park description must specify it as: 'trail' – to connect parks and other points of interest. To provide the opportunity for alternative transportation; 'waterway' – to preserve and provide public access to waterways, lake and river shorelands; 'habitat corridor' – to connect core natural areas and provide the opportunity for wildlife movement between them.</p> <p>No new roads.</p>	<p>Landscapes in a predominately natural condition. Varies from a small patch of nature valued by the immediate neighbourhood to a large natural area drawing residents from throughout the City.</p> <p>Provides residents and visitors with access to natural areas with recreational, educational, and scenic value. May have a history of use by residents. Benefits include protection of watersheds, and critical wildlife habitat, educational uses, green infrastructure, aesthetic and economic value of the area, and economic activity such as berry-picking and tourism.</p> <p>Park description should specify the landscape and natural assets included: E.g., 'aquatic' - lakes, rivers, shoreline, wetlands; and, 'terrestrial' - valley lands, woodlots, cliffs, hill top, geological / geomorphological features</p>
Facilities/ Features	<p>Varies as appropriate to site.</p> <p>Possible facilities include trail heads, trail markers, rest areas.</p> <p>Adjacent natural areas may be included.</p>	<p>May have no facilities, but may include informal walking trails, educational signage, cross-country ski trails, and rest areas.</p> <p>No new roads.</p> <p>May be linked to trail system, public transport, and be easily accessible by car, with sufficient parking.</p> <p>Parking, washroom facilities, rest areas, or interpretive centres could be concentrated in a small area of the park (but will not use more than 1% of area).</p>
Size	<p>A width of 15 metres centred on a trail is a minimum to accommodate trail activity.</p> <p>Connectors of other park classes could have a width up to several kilometres where possible.</p>	<p>Varies</p> <p>Generally, a goal of > 15ha will be used where possible, but the importance of much smaller areas providing access to nature in existing neighbourhoods is also recognized.</p>
Service Area & Standard	<p>City of Greater Sudbury</p> <p>The object is connectivity of parkland and other key areas between and among wards.</p>	<p>Varies. Smaller natural parks (<5ha) may serve a neighbourhood; larger natural parks (>5ha) may serve Greater Sudbury.</p> <p>The objective is to provide all neighbourhoods with access to a natural area, with larger natural parks serving the wider community.</p>

	Cultural / Historical Special Purpose Park	Ecological Reserve
Purpose	The protection of a site with historic, scientific, cultural, social, or spiritual importance	The preservation of a significant natural area with ecological and/or geological importance, or that captures a characteristic natural feature of the City
General Description	Lands and or waters that may have aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social or spiritual importance for past, present or future generations.	<p>Lands and/or waters with ecological and/or geological importance. May have a natural or scientific importance as a particular natural asset. It may be deemed important to the community.</p> <p>The park description will further identify the type of natural assets, and landscapes included, as well as key features and sensitivities.</p>
Facilities/ Features	<p>May include archaeological sites, native heritage sites, built heritage, cultural landscapes identified by residents. May or may not have facilities such as signage, interpretive centres or walks, rest areas, etc, and/or may include conservation efforts to sustain a feature.</p> <p>Adjacent natural areas may be included.</p>	<p>Contains a natural feature worthy of protection for its natural function, uniqueness, sensitivity, or environmental value.</p> <p>May also capture a characteristic natural feature of Greater Sudbury</p> <p>May or may not be publicly accessible, depending on appropriate land use. If public access is appropriate may contain minimal supportive infrastructure such as trails, boardwalks, interpretive signage. This infrastructure will never exceed 0.5% of the area, or impinge on the natural value of the site.</p> <p>The protection of the natural assets is always the guiding principle.</p> <p>No new roads.</p>
Size	As determined by the site.	<p>Varies</p> <p>Generally >15ha, but recognizing that in some cases very small Ecological Reserves may have value (eg. for a specific habitat or nesting site)</p> <p>The goal should be to protect the asset in its entirety if possible, with a further buffer zone from developed areas.</p>
Service Area and Standard	Greater Sudbury	Greater Sudbury