

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (WORKING SESSION) – JUNE 2, 2021**  
**COMMUNICATIONS**

<b><u>Distributed May 21, 2021</u></b>	<b><u>Item(s)</u></b>
C1. Presentation material (Revised May 28, 2021)	3
<b><u>Distributed May 28, 2021</u></b>	
C2. Patricia Marsili, dated May 27, 2021.	3
C3. Peter Budziak, dated May 27, 2021.	3
C4. Babak Jamali, dated May 27, 2021.	3
C5. Laura Rinaldo, South Maple Ratepayers Association, dated May 27, 2021.	3
C6. Lorenzo A. Schiavone, dated May 28, 2021.	3
C7. Gloria Beresford-Last, dated May 25, 2021.	3
<b><u>Distributed June 1, 2021</u></b>	
C8. Mario Marmora, dated May 31, 2021.	3
C9. Robert A. Kenedy, MacKenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association, dated May 31, 2021.	3
C10. Robert A. Kenedy, MacKenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association, dated May 31, 2021.	3
C11. Gloria Beresford-Last & Heidi Last, dated May 31, 2021.	3
C12. Gerry Sciara, dated May 31, 2021.	3
C13. Carla Ancona, dated May 31, 2021.	3
C14. Susanna Blasetti, dated May 29, 2021.	3
C15. Bill & Kathy Papadopoulos, dated May 31, 2021.	3
C16. Oleg Radov, dated May 31, 2021.	3
C17. Emilia Rozenblit, dated May 28, 2021.	3
C18. Presentation material	2
<b><u>Distributed June 2, 2021</u></b>	
C19. Presentation material	1

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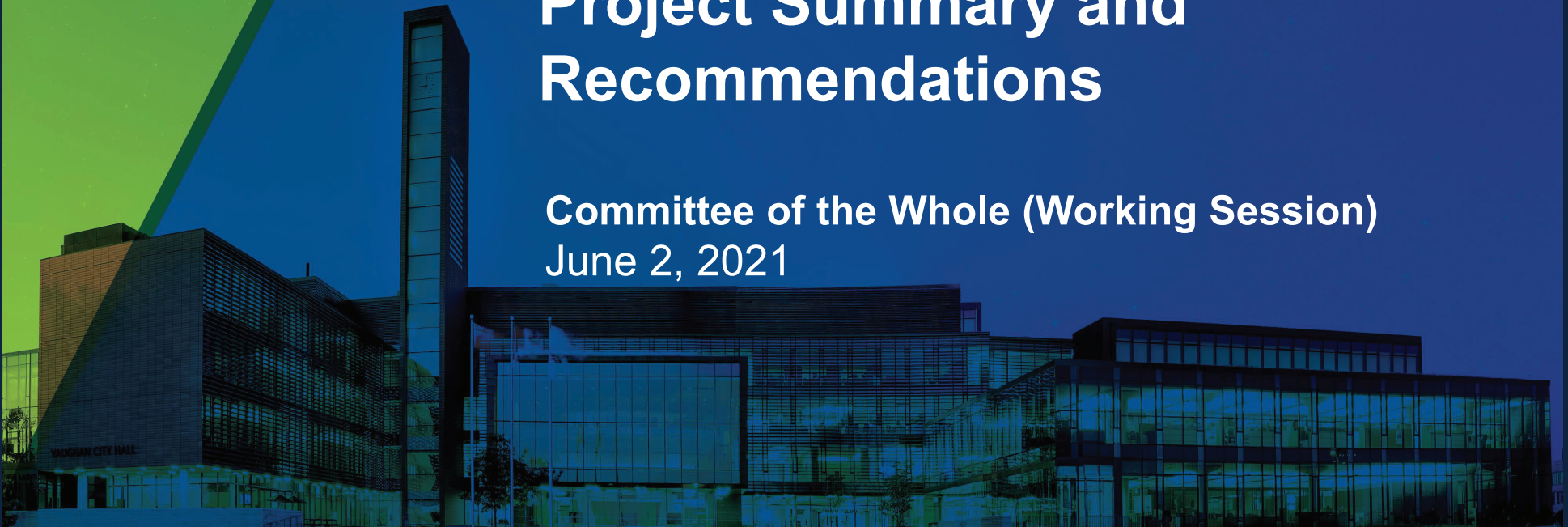
(Revised Copy - May 28, 2021)

C1  
Communication  
CW (WS) – June 2, 2021  
Item(s) # - 3

# Local Off-Leash Dog Areas Strategy

## Project Summary and Recommendations

Committee of the Whole (Working Session)  
June 2, 2021





# Local Off-Leash Dog Areas – Background

**2009:** First primary off-leash dog area opened at Concord / Thornhill Regional Park

**2013:** Review and update to ATMP identified commitment for additional primary off-leash areas

**2014:** Petition and resolution by City Council to identify primary off-leash areas West of Hwy 400

**2016:** Completed Primary Off-Leash Area study and identified suitable sites West of Hwy 400

**2018:** Updated ATMP identify recommendations for a study to identify local off-leash dog areas

**2019:** Commenced City-wide study and implementation plan for local off-leash dog areas across the City

## Primary vs. Local Off-Leash Dog Areas

- Primary off-leash dog parks would service a city-wide population and encompass a larger footprint (>1ha), ideally within larger parks. These facilities should offer multiple amenities such as parking lot, furniture, shade, lighting, enclosed spaces for small and large pets, etc..
- Local off-leash dog areas would be walk-to facilities located within Neighbourhoods and Intensification areas. These facilities are often within local parks, smaller in size (>0.5ha) and have fewer amenities.



Concord / Thornhill Regional Park Primary Dog Area

# Local Off-Leash Dog Areas Strategy

In response to interest identified by the community, Vaughan started this study to define a process for developing local off-leash dog areas.

In September 2019, the City retained Wood to identify local Off-Leash Dog Areas across the City. Their work included:

- Reviewing available information from the City;
- Conducted a review of municipal best practices;
- Undertake community and stakeholder consultation including workshops, surveys and an online self-directed workshop (in place of a public open house);
- Provided recommendations on site selection criteria, evaluation conditions and assessment scoring;
- Identified priority areas and list of potential sites;
- Identified a short-list of recommended sites across the City



## Local Off-Leash Dog Areas Public Engagement

Stakeholder and public engagement workshops included: 4 on-line surveys (1716 responses, including 222 citizens interested in becoming off-leash stewards), 10 pop-up events, and interviews with 7 ratepayer groups.



Engagement Task	Date	Participation
<b>1 staff workshop</b>	October 2019	5 staff
<b>1 dog owner workshop</b>	November 2019	12 residents
<b>1 ratepayer group workshop</b>	November 2019	2 ratepayer groups
<b>MMOC interviews</b>	November 2019	Interviewed Mayor and Regional and Ward Councilors
<b>Online survey</b>	December 3, 2019 to July 13, 2020	917 residents participated
<b>10 pop-up events</b>		
<b>Online Self-Directed Workshop to provide feedback on 8 short listed locations</b>	July 23, 2020 to August 31, 2020	699 residents participated 5000 letters sent On site signage at all locations 222 respondents interested in becoming off-leash stewards
<b>Ratepayer groups interviews</b>	October 2020	7 groups interviewed
<b>Off-leash stewards questionnaire</b>	November 2020	91 confirmed their interest





## Background Research

Research looked at Canadian and International practices and innovations in developing and maintaining local off-leash dog areas.

### Governance

- **By-laws and policies** are critical to establishing operational parameters and enforcement.
- **Education** is important to communicate regulations, set expectations regarding etiquette and address misinformation.
- **Community involvement** through volunteer groups is essential to the identification of locations and long-term operation and management of facilities.
- **Well-being** of people and dogs must be considered through the lens of safety and security.

### Location

- Clearly defining **setbacks** and **places of acceptable use** is important to manage expectations.
- “People with and without dogs share park space more effectively in dog off-leash areas with clearly marked boundaries, since people know where off-leash dogs are allowed and to be expected.” (Source: Vancouver Park Board, 2017)



## Background Research ... continued

### Accessibility

- A common issue with local off-leash dog areas is the ability for residents to access them. Most residents prefer local off-leash dog areas to be located within **walking distances** (max. 15-minute walk) to their homes or a short drive, which has become an increasing level of demand for municipalities.
- Connecting pathways to local off-leash dog areas (sidewalks and trails) are important considerations.

### Design

- The design considerations that impact the use of local off-leash dog areas are size, microclimate, and drainage. The design of these facilities must be **inclusive**, considering a wide variety of factors and suitable for all dogs. Design must also consider the **carrying capacity** of a park in order to create an area that will adequately serve the community.



## Background Research ... continued

### Layout & Amenities

- The aspects of layout and amenities for local off-leash dog areas must consider fencing, gates, access, surface material, shade, site furnishing and waste management. Research indicates that users typically **socialize** while their dogs play at the park. Adequate seating is required; considering movable chairs that can create a more comfortable atmosphere.



### Cost

- The cost of **developing, operating, maintain and enforcing** local off-leash dog areas is an important consideration. Some municipalities use the licensing fees of dogs to fund the maintenance of the park and the enforcement of policies, and others require volunteer groups to raise half the funds in advance or raise funds for any non-standard features.



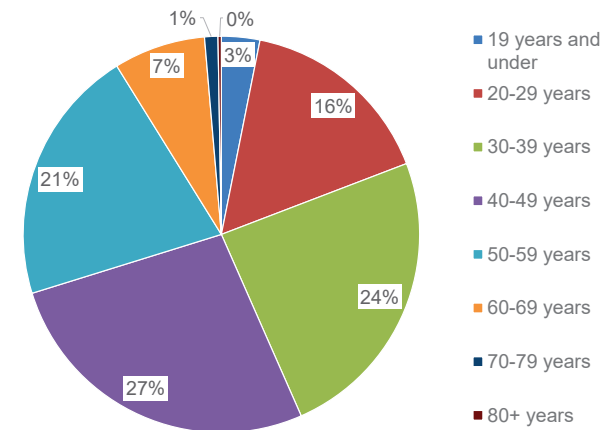
# What the City Has Heard: Survey

**Number of Survey Responses: 917** (July 14, 2020)

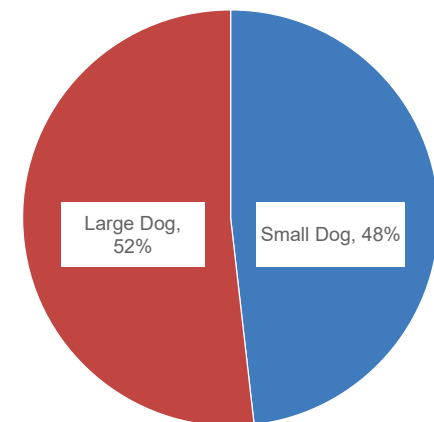
## Key Feedback

- Dog owners like off-leash areas because they allow dogs to exercise, roam freely, and socialize with others within a safe confined space.
- Areas that are nearby (or within walking distance) to many potential users would be a benefit.
- Efficient by-law enforcement is required (i.e., aggressive dogs, inappropriate use, poop & scoop waste collection, etc.).
- Areas should be maintained, and “rules” of use enforced as much as possible.
- Beneficial to have separate areas for small and large dogs.
- Areas should be used year-round (weatherproof) and could be used during various weather conditions (i.e., rain, snow, sun, wind, etc.).
- The area should be located away from children’s playgrounds and provide amenities for visitors to use (i.e. water, waste bins, two-gated entry, etc.).
- Different types of local off-leash areas (i.e., located within open space, along trails, etc.) would be beneficial.

Age of Respondents



Size of Dogs Owned by Respondents

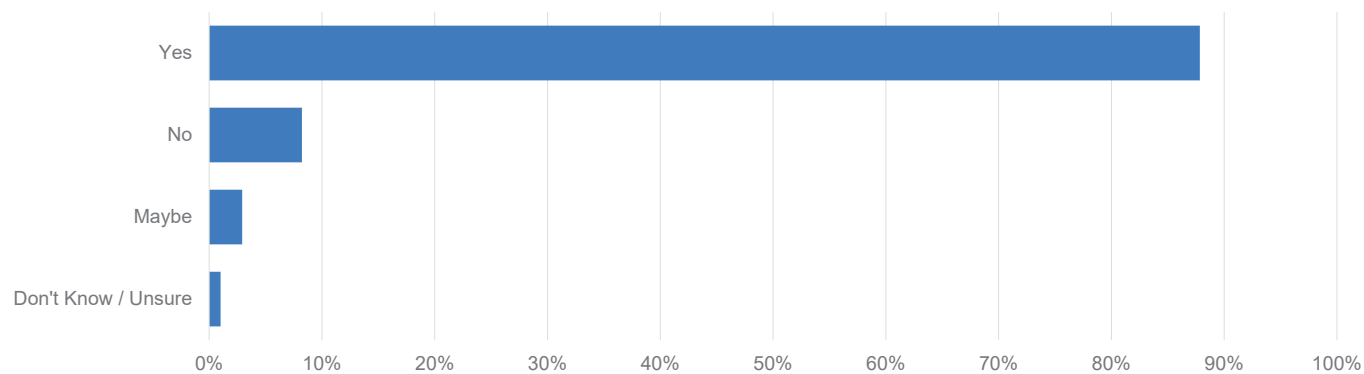


## What the City Has Heard: Survey ... continued

### Key Takeaway

Close to 90% of respondents support a local off-leash dog area within their neighbourhood.

Would you support a local off-leash dog area in your neighbourhood?



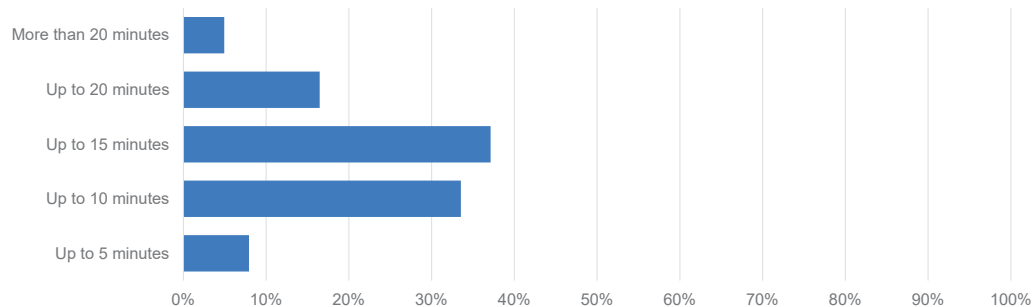


## What the City Has Heard: Survey ... continued

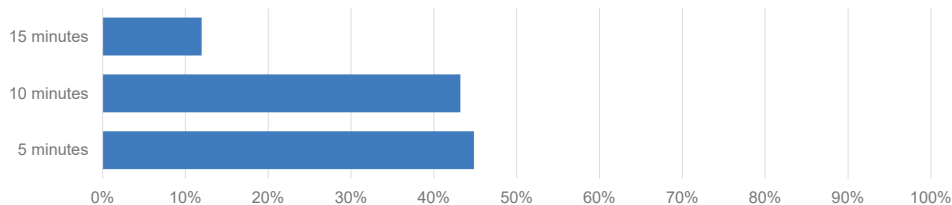
### Key Takeaways

- Most people are willing to drive 5 to 10 minutes
- Most people are willing to walk up to 15 minutes
- Most people would visit in the later afternoon into the evening

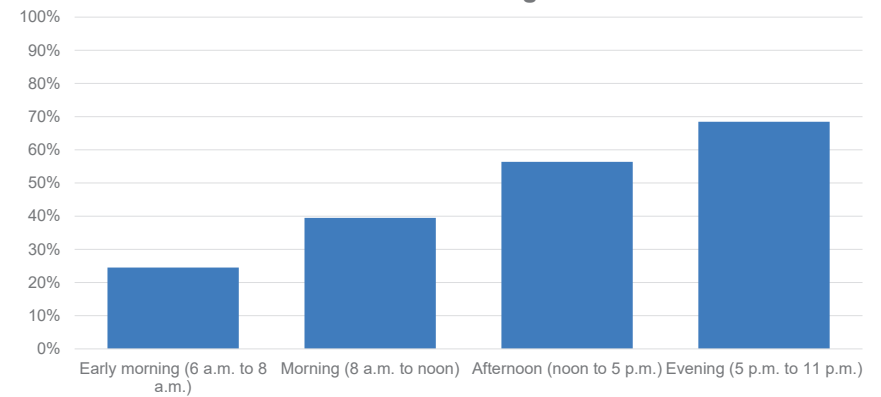
Time Respondents Would Spend Walking



Time Respondents Would Spend Driving



Time of Day Respondents are Most Likely to Visit a Local Off-Leash Dog Area

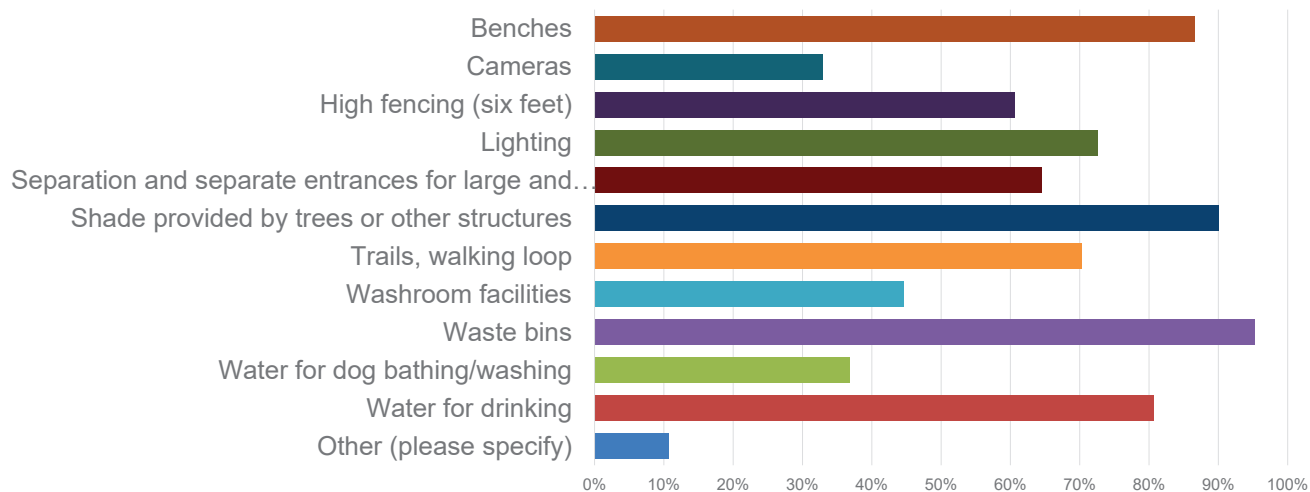


## What the City Has Heard: Survey ... continued

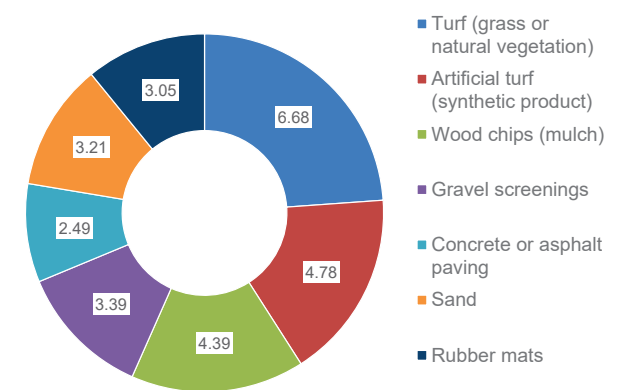
### Identified Concerns

- Need for consistent and responsive maintenance
- Need for consistent by-law regulations & enforcement
- Safety of dogs of different sizes within the area and protection from outside threats (i.e., coyotes, harmful plant species, etc.)
- Ensure there is ample education on expected behaviour and rules of the area
- Need for area to be apart from playgrounds or sports fields
- Preference for surfaces of turf and artificial turf in local off-leash areas

Respondents Ratings of Amenities



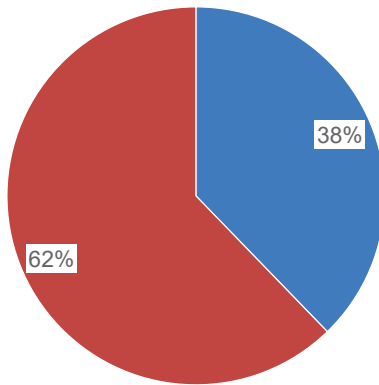
Respondents Rating of Surface Material



## What the City Has Heard: Short Survey

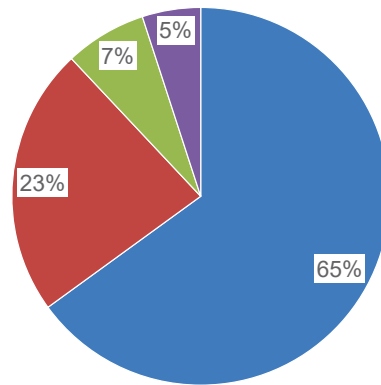
Between March 9 and 22, 2020, 100 community members provided input through a short telephone-based survey through Access Vaughan.

Identified as a Dog Owner



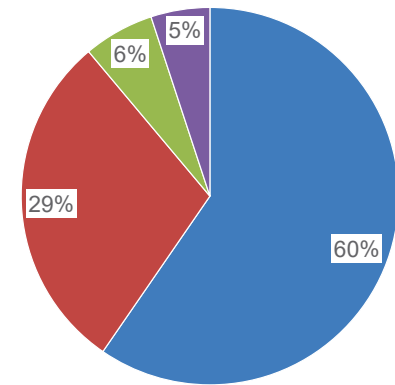
■ Yes ■ No

Identified Local Off-Leash Dog Areas as Beneficial



■ Yes ■ No ■ Maybe ■ Don't know

Support Off-Leash Dog Areas in Their Neighbourhood



■ Yes ■ No ■ Maybe ■ Don't know

# What the City Has Heard: Community Workshops

Three workshops were conducted with City staff, dog-owners and ratepayers. The key findings include:

- Animal Services will need **additional funds to support enforcement**.
- Concerns regarding lack of owners with licensed dogs, not properly watching over their dog and their actions.
- Some parks are '**hot spots**' of **complaints** and concern that should not be considered for off-leash dog areas.
- Need to consider **amenities** such as water features, lighting, entrances etc. as well as area accessibility for intensifying neighbourhoods.
- **Education and communication** activities identified as being important to provide community-wide, include good dog care, responsibilities of dog-owners, and how dog owners care for their dogs when using local off-leash dog areas.





## What the City Has Heard: Community Workshops ... continued

- The need for **lighting** to allow for evening use, microclimate features either natural or constructed shade and adequate drainage (after rain).
- A variety of **funding options** (creating a user fee or annual membership, encouraging increased dog licensing, and private sector sponsorship) and a variety of methods for governance (volunteers, dog-owners association collaborating with the City, etc.) exist.
- There are several **educational communication and outreach strategies** such as making use of the existing City communication channels, local posters in parks and community centers, local newspapers and engaging with schools and stakeholders.
- Additional features would be beneficial such as a **poster board** (information kiosk) area for residents who may have lost a dog, want to post information or share facility updates.



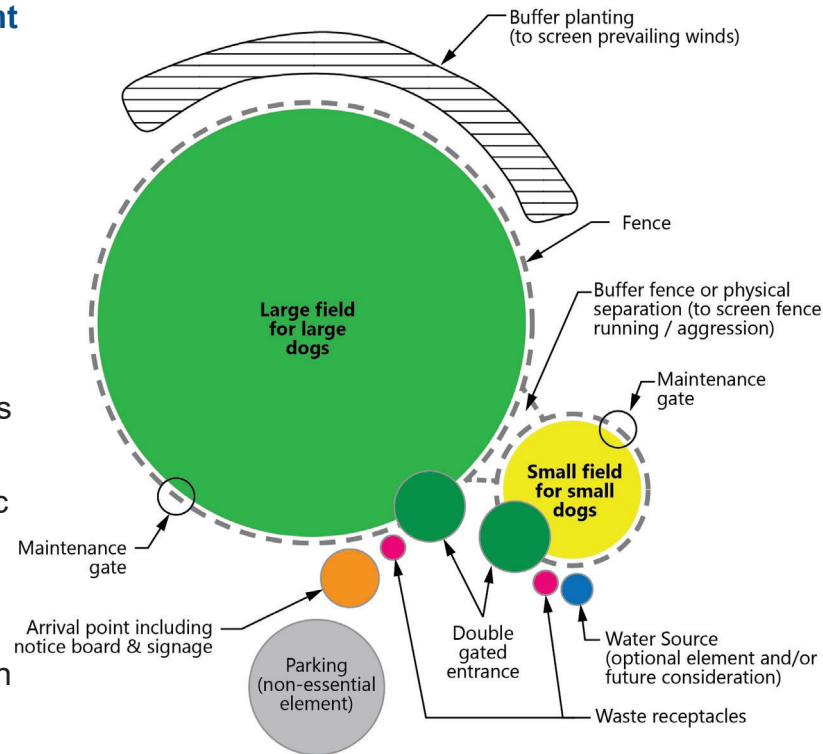
# What Makes a 'Good' Local Off-Leash Dog Area?

## Sound Planning and Management

- Governance / Stewardship
- Education and Awareness
- Effective Guidelines for Design, Operation, and Use
- Effective and Responsive Maintenance

## Features and Facilities

- Separate enclosure for small dogs
- Shade trees and structures
- Outdoor furniture (benches, picnic tables)
- Perimeter fencing and double gates
- Surfaces that are easy to maintain
- Waste receptacles
- Clear signage
- Accessibility (transit, sidewalk, trails, parking option)



*Note: Placement of off-leash infrastructure may vary depending on site-specific conditions.*

## Characteristics

- Appropriate size
- Close proximity to enable walking
- Access to transit and parking
- Safe, secure, and accessible
- Social space
- Part of the community
- Accessible to maintenance equipment
- Practical to monitor
- Screened to limit nuisance

## Limitations for Local Scale

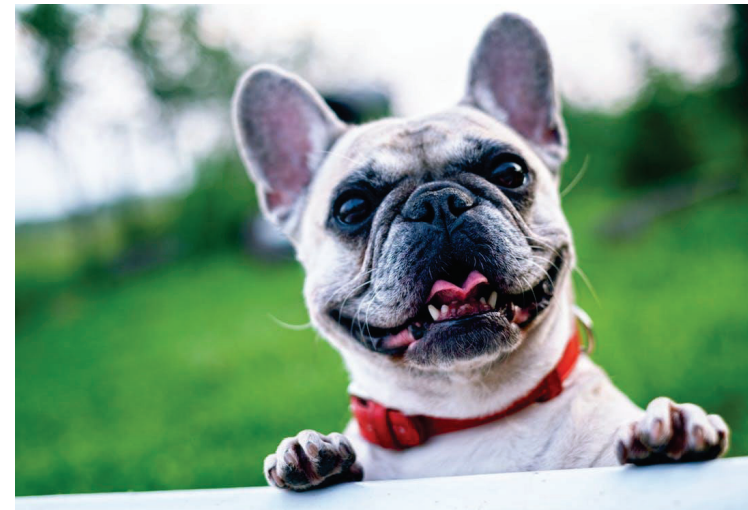
- Size
- Proximity to residential areas
- Proximity to school yards, play areas, athletic fields, and environmental areas
- Existing protection from the elements
- Available infrastructure (water, lighting, washrooms)

# Local Off-Leash Dog Area Etiquette

## Rules and Regulations (Animal By-Law 066-2020)

- **Licensing of Dogs**
  - All dogs are to be licensed with each dog having a valid tag and rabies certificate
  - Licenses are to purchased when acquiring a dog, and must be renewed annually
  - All dogs must always wear a license (numbered metal tag)
- **Running at Large (Unleashed)**
  - Dogs must be leashed in public parks, if this is not the case then the animal may be impounded by Animal Control
  - Pet owners must not let their pet trespass on public or private property
- **Animal Waste**
  - Pet owners must always clean up and dispose of their pet's waste on public or private property
- **Off-Leash Area Rules**
  - No dog under the age of four months is permitted
  - Dogs must be spayed or neutered
  - Dogs must not be left unattended
  - Dog owners must carry a leash for each dog
  - Dog owners may bring up to three dogs per visit into an off-leash area
  - Dog owners must not bring any biting or menacing dog or pit bull

**Dog Owners are expected to:  
Abide by Ontario's Dog Owners'  
Liability Act (R.S.O. 1990) which  
includes a list of offences, and  
other regulations**



# Local Off-Leash Dog Area Stewardship Program

## Responsibility of Stewards

- Foster a positive social environment for dogs and people
- Educate others on off-leash dog area regulations and etiquette
- Communicate any safety concerns to City
- Share feedback about operations and maintenance
- Collaborate with City on sharing feedback on local off-leash areas (opportunities for improvement and enhancement)

## Each site will require an annual review to determine if:

- The stewardship group has remained active
- There are no significant issues the City identified
- Costs fall within existing operating expenditures
- The site will be developed as a formal location

## Each location considered must include

- Stewardship group (min. 3 volunteers)
- Evaluation of usage, complaints, operation and maintenance
- Consideration of all costs





# Site Selection Process

- Potential locations reviewed by the City and filtered to potential locations.
- Assess potential locations against Tier 1 criteria to determine suitability, identify opportunities / advantages and challenges / disadvantages
- Advance those sites that meet the 75% threshold to the Tier 2 evaluation

- Prepare report of findings and final recommendations
- Submit report and present to Council



## TIER 1 CRITERIA ASSESSMENT:

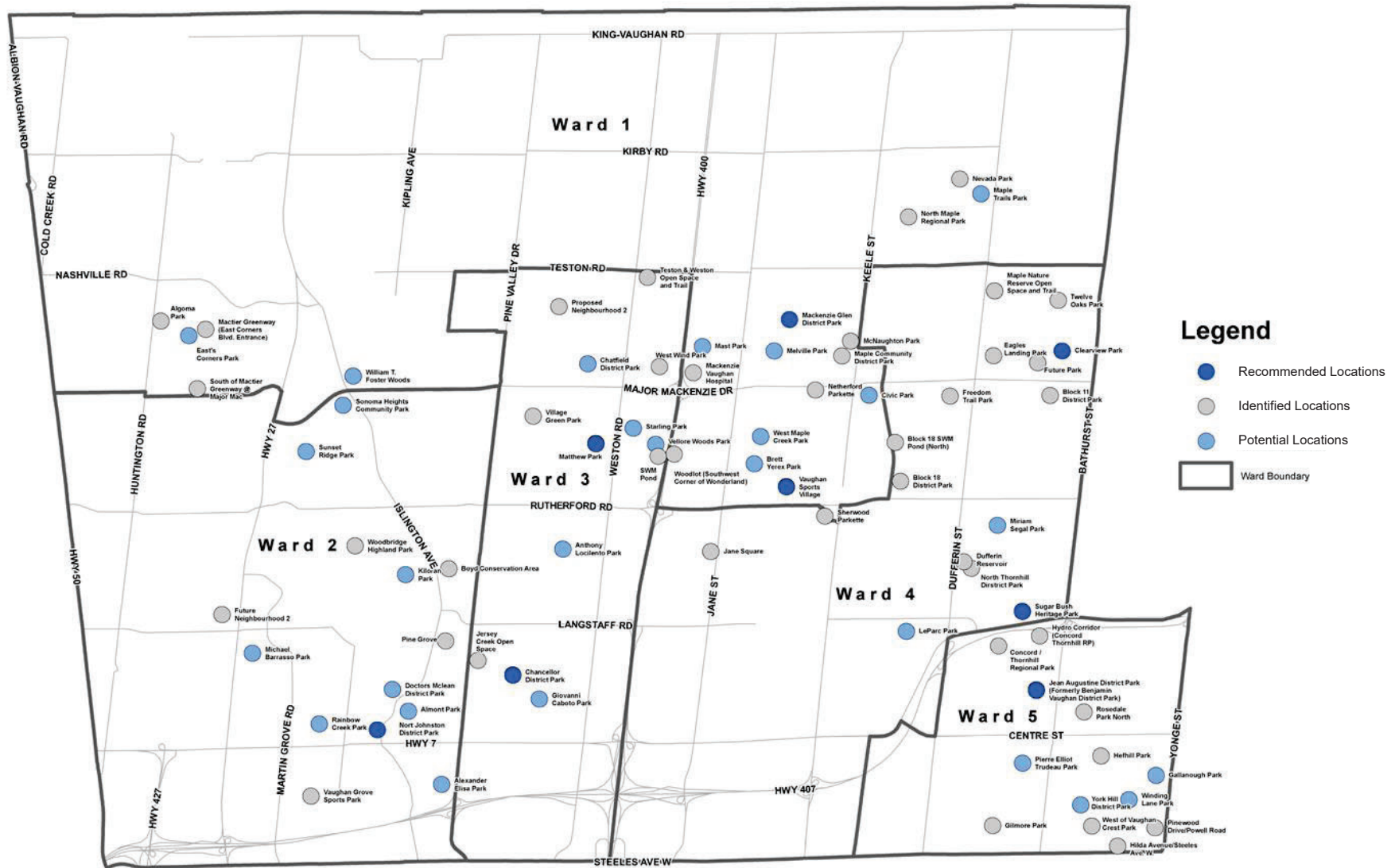
- Purpose
- Governance
- Location
- Accessibility
- Design

## TIER 2 CRITERIA ASSESSMENT:

- Governance
- Accessibility
- Layout and amenities
- Cost
- Public input

- Assess short listed locations against Tier 2 criteria
- Conduct site visit to field verify evaluation
- Engage community on Recommended Local Off-Leash Dog Areas
- Update evaluation based on community input
- Identification of potential stewards
- Review of location based on development and operation checklist

# Local Off-Leash Dog Areas: Potential Locations Reviewed by City



# Selecting the Locations: Tier 1 Evaluation Matrix and Criteria

Criteria	Criteria Description	Criteria Scoring	Weighting
<b>A. Purpose</b>			
<b>Purpose</b>	Proposed location is intended to use existing City-owned, designated park areas as a local-scale off-leash dog area for socialization and exercising dogs within the City's by-laws and policies.	1: No 5: Yes	10
<b>B. Governance</b>			
<b>By-laws, Policies &amp; Regulations</b>	Potential site would easily comply with existing by-laws, policies, and land regulators (i.e., TRCA, MNRF, etc.)	1: No, changes are required 5: Yes, no changes are required	10
<b>Education</b>	Potential site would require educational efforts for neighbouring residents and park users.	1: Yes 5: No	5
<b>Park Stewardship</b>	Proposed location has potential to foster stewardship amongst neighbouring residents and park users (Adopt-a-Park, ratepayers association, etc.)	1: Limited Potential, low probability of volunteers 3: Potential, moderate probability of volunteers 5: Good Potential, volunteers have been identified	5
<b>Safety and Security</b>	Potential site considers users and non-users safety and security (easily visible, electricity for lighting). CPTED principles to be applied.	1: Poor 3: Average 5: Good	10
<b>Public Opinion</b>	What is the general public opinion of the proposed location? Has the location been recommended by residents? (Workshop and pop-up events)	1: Opposition 3: Neutral 5: Supported	10
<b>C. Location</b>			
<b>Ownership / Designated Park</b>	Potential site must be City-owned, designated park.	1: Not City-owned, undesignated park 3: City-owned, undesignated park / Owned by others, designated park 5: City owned, designated	10
<b>Proximity to residential areas</b>	Potential site within residential area but distance away from residences (including visual, odour and noise buffers), with greater distance preference.	1: < 15 m (49 ft.) 3: 15 m to 30 m (59 ft. to 98 ft.) 5: > 30 m (98 ft.) (or if adjacent to high-rise residential)	10
<b>Proximity to Play Areas and School Yards</b>	Potential site considers proximity from fence to play areas and school yards with greater distance preferred.	1: < 15 m (49 ft.) 3: 15 m to 30 m (59 ft. to 98 ft.) 5: > 30 m (98 ft.)	10
<b>Proximity to Athletic Fields or Courts</b>	Potential site considers proximity from fence to athletic fields and courts with greater distance preferred.	1: < 15 m (49 ft.) 5: > 15 m (98 ft.)	5
<b>Proximity to Environmental Areas</b>	Potential site cannot result in negative environmental effects. Distance away from Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) and Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), with greater distance preferred. (Reference Natural Heritage Network Core)	1: < 5 m (16 ft.) 3: 5 m to 15 m (16ft. to 59 ft.) 5: > 15 m (59 ft.)	5
<b>D. Accessibility</b>			
<b>Parking</b>	Potential site has access to dedicated parking facilities.	3: No Dedicated Parking Facility (On-Street Only) 5: Dedicated Parking Facility	10
<b>Service Area Catchment</b>	Density of residents within a 500-m service radius of the potential site.	0: No Residential 1: Low Density 3: Medium Density 5: High Density	10
<b>Sidewalks (Including park walkways)</b>	Potential site is accessible by sidewalks.	1: None 3: One 5: More than one	10
<b>Trails</b>	Potential site is accessible by trails (within 100m)	1: None 5: One or More	5
<b>E. Design</b>			
<b>Size</b>	Potential site must be large enough to accommodate required facility design.	1: < 0.25 ha (0.6 acres) 3: 0.25 - 0.5 ha (0.6 to 1.2 acres) 5: > 0.5 ha (1.2 acres)	15
<b>Microclimate</b>	Potential site considers exposure to the elements (sun, wind, snow, rain) and other environmental factors such as natural shade	1: Full exposure 3: Average exposure 5: Limited exposure/protected	5
<b>General Grading</b>	Potential site should be well drained. Max slope 10%	1: Poor, additional grading required 3: Average, minor additional grading may be required 5: Good, no additional grading required	10

# Selecting the Locations: Tier 2 Criteria

## Tier 2 Criteria

### Engagement with Citizens

Feedback through Online Self-Directed Workshop

Input from ratepayer group

Input from Ward Councilor

Input from the broader community

### Identification of Interested Stewards

A minimum of three stewards are required for a location to be recommended as a Local Off-Leash Dog Area

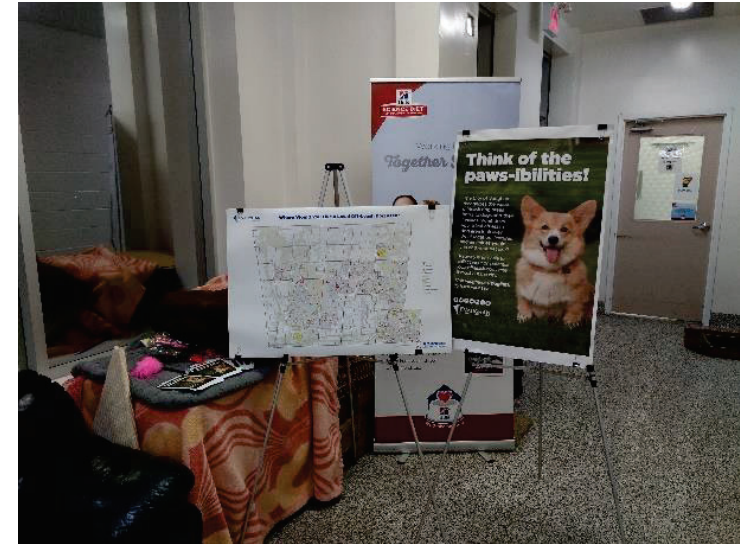
### Checklist

Layout and Amenities

- Fencing
- Surface material
- Shade
- Waste management
- Benches
- Lighting (enhanced)
- Water (enhanced)

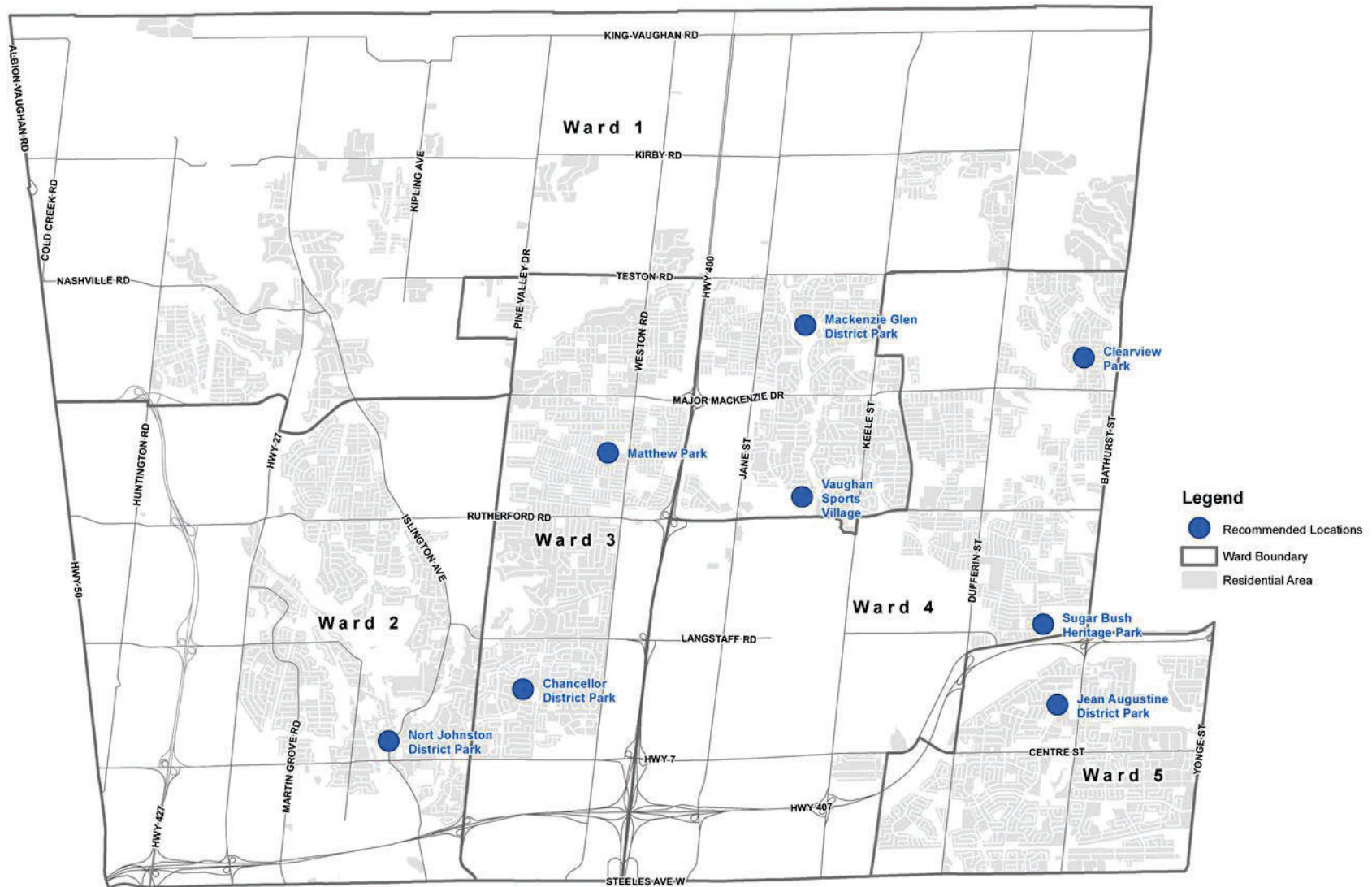
Costs

- Construction Cost
- O&M costs
- Governance and Enforcement
- External funding





## 8 Locations presented through the Online Self-Directed Workshop





# Online Self-Directed Workshop

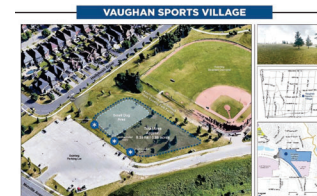


## Online Self-Directed Workshop to provide feedback on 8 short listed locations

Workshop held from July 23, 2020 to August 31, 2020

### 699 residents participated

- Included an introductory video presentation (2:32 minute in length), survey and supporting background documentation.
- 5000 letters sent to addresses within approximately 250 meters of the eight short listed locations
- Notification Signage placed at all locations
- 222 respondents interested in becoming off-leash stewards
- Follow-up meetings with 7 ratepayer groups



## 7 Site Identified Following Online Self-Directed Workshop Findings

Location	Ward	Community	Tier 1 Score	Number of Confirmed stewards
Vaughan Sports Village District Park	Ward 1	Maple	98%	13
Mackenzie Glen District Park	Ward 1	Maple	90%	16
Legion Park <sup>1</sup>	Ward 2	Woodbridge	77%	15
Chancellor District Park	Ward 3	Woodbridge	77%	8
Matthew District Park	Ward 3	Woodbridge	88%	13
Sugar Bush Heritage Park	Ward 4	Carrville	76%	13
Jean Augustine District Park <sup>2</sup>	Ward 5	Thornhill	77%	11
<b>Total</b>				<b>89</b>

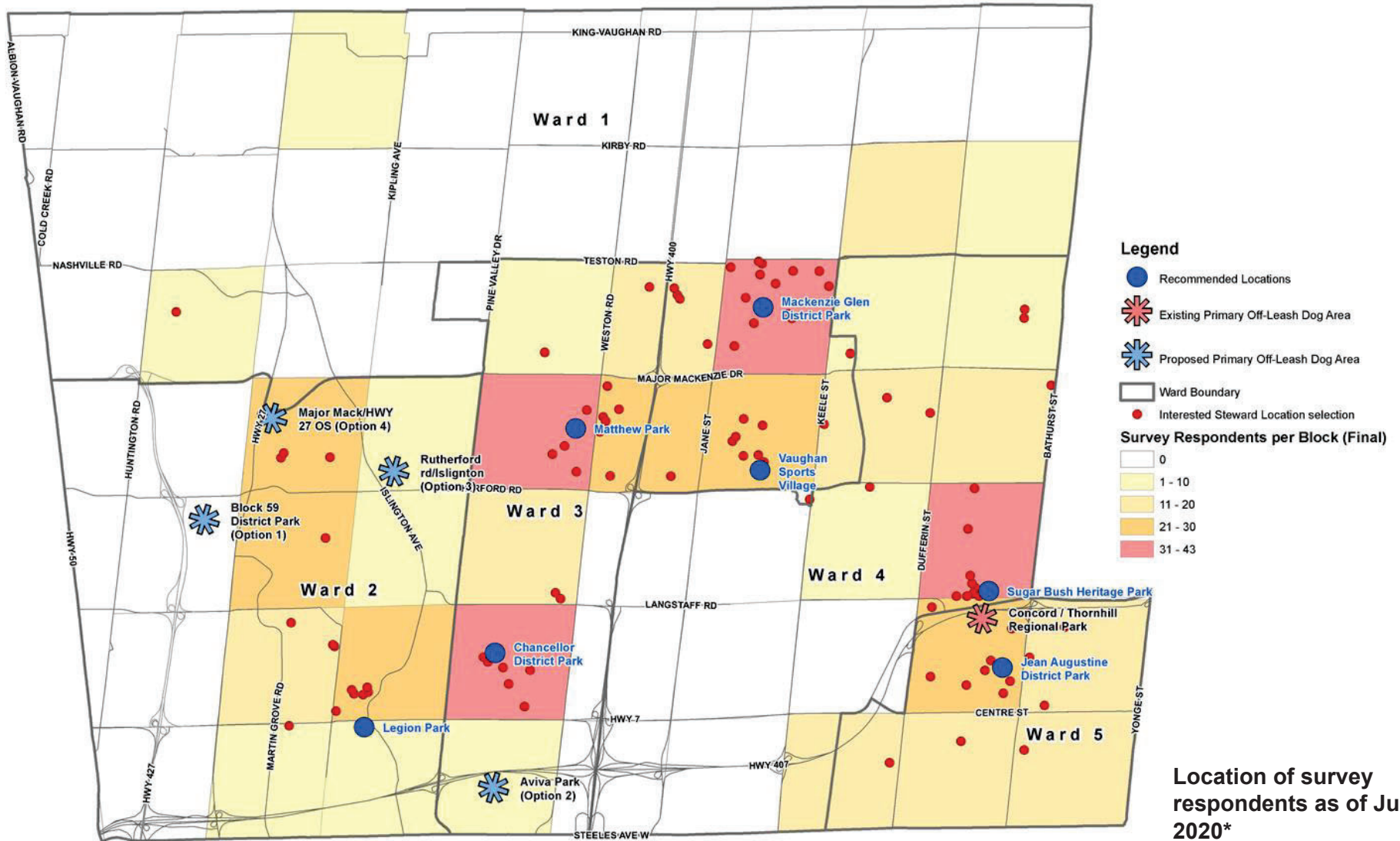
### Actions following Online Self-Directed Workshop

- 1 - Nort Johnson District Park was replaced with Legion Park as a preferred alternative site.
- 2 - Park was renamed, formerly Benjamin Vaughan District Park
- 3 - Clearview Park was dropped from the list due to the low interest from residents to become stewards.



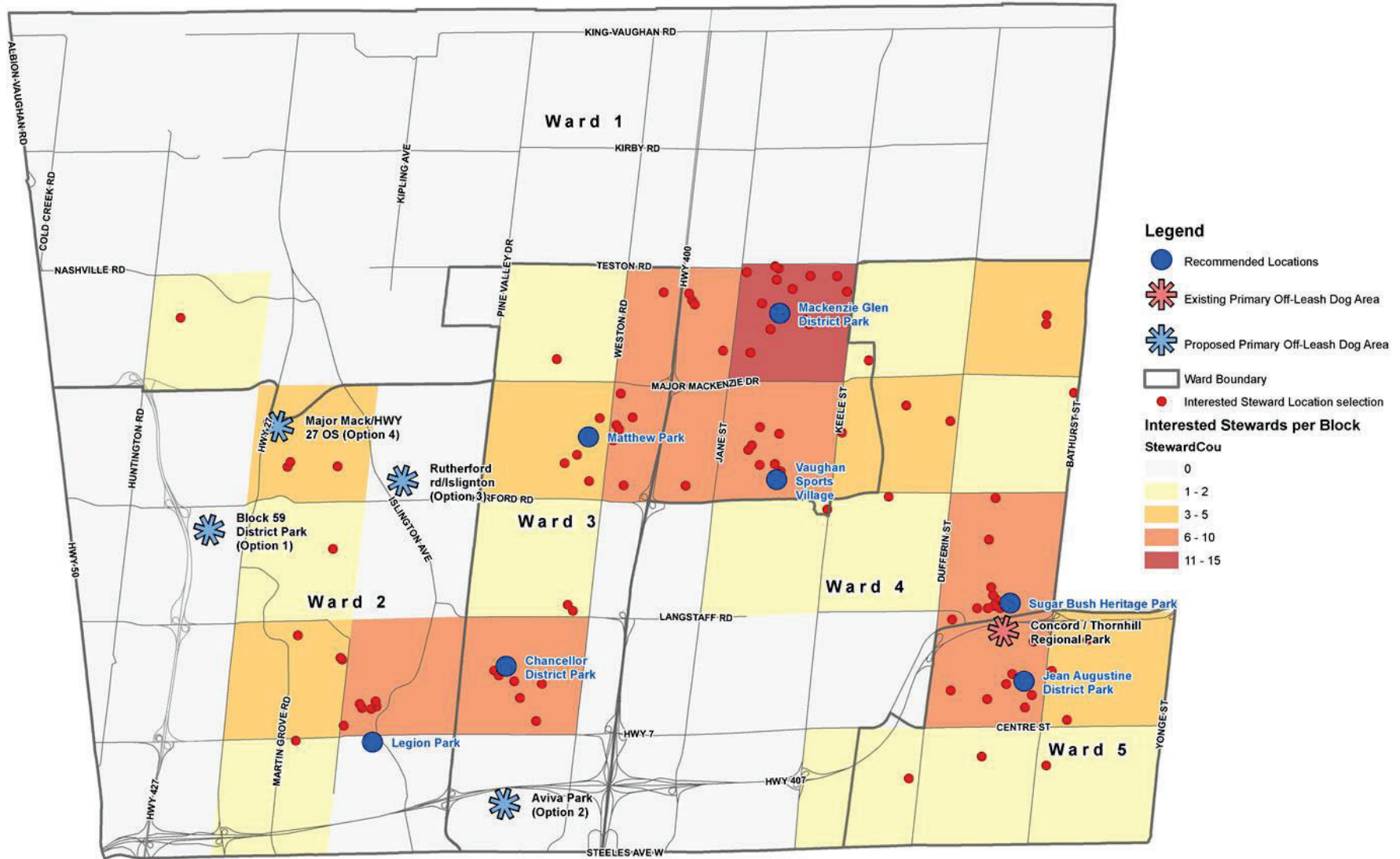


# Recommended Locations & Survey Respondents Overlay

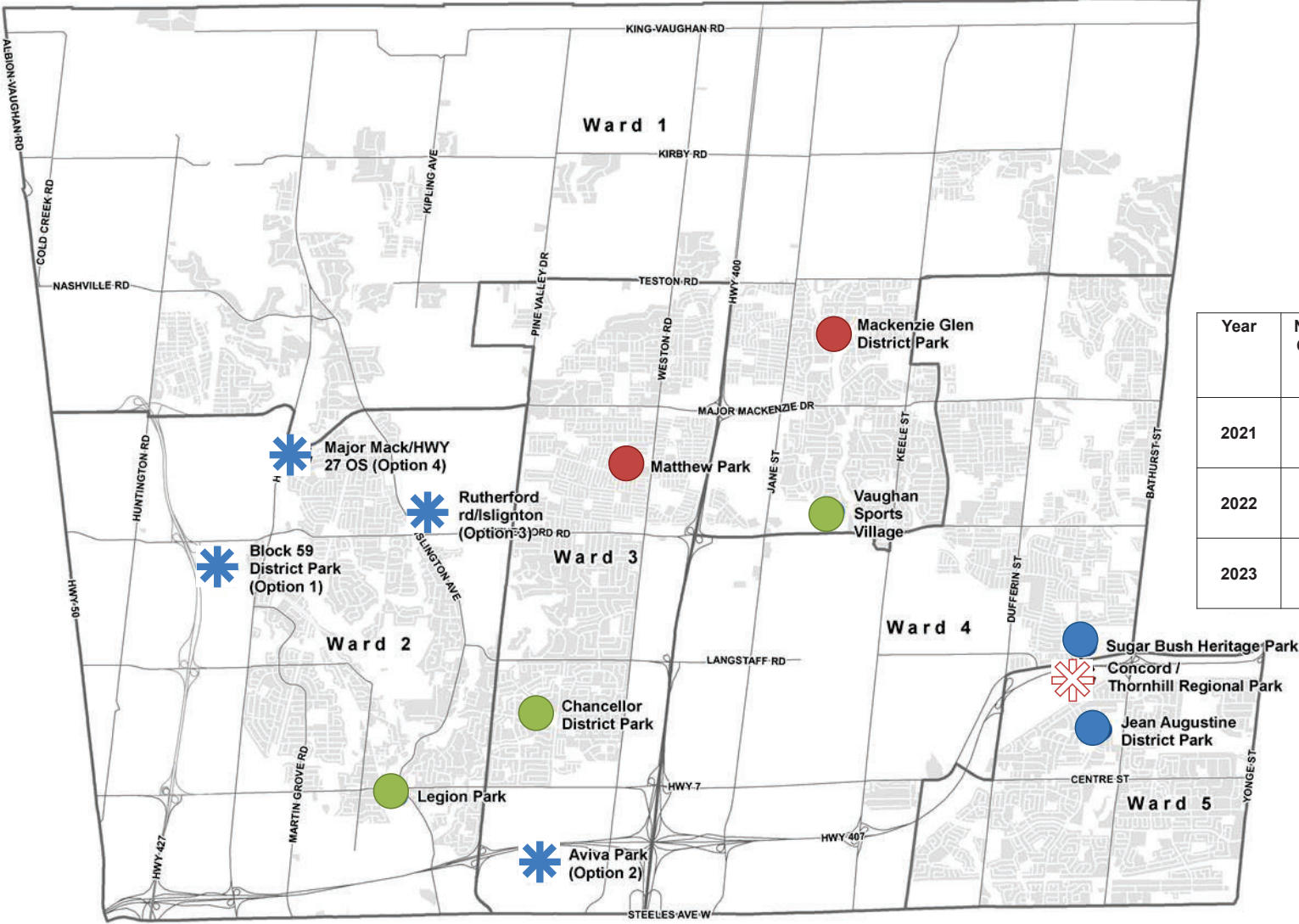


\* Based on 513 respondents who shared valid Postal Codes with the City of Vaughan

# Local Off-Leash Dog Areas: Confirmed Interested Stewards



# Local Off-Leash Dog Areas: Recommended Roll Out Plan



Year	New Local Off-Leash Area	Upgrades to existing Primary Off-Leash	New Primary Off-Leash Dog Area
2021			
2022			
2023			



# Implementation Roll Out Plan

				Estimated Capital Cost		Estimated Operating Cost (annualized)		
Year	#	Location	Ward	Park Construction <sup>1</sup>	Animal Services Vehicles <sup>2</sup>	Park Maintenance <sup>3</sup>	Animal Services Enforcement <sup>4</sup>	
2021	1	Mackenzie Glen District Park	1	\$55,000	\$126,000	\$12,000	\$175,000	1 F/T ASO 1 P/T ASC
	2	Matthew District Park	3	\$55,000		\$7,000		
	3	Concord/Thornhill Regional Park	5	\$330,000		\$0		
2022	4	Primary Off-Leash Dog Park West of Hwy 400	2	\$580,000	\$126,000	\$23,000	\$185,000	1 F/T ASO 1 P/T ASO
	5	Sugar Bush Heritage Park	4	\$55,000		\$7,000		
	6	Jean Augustine District Park	5	\$55,000		\$7,000		
2023	7	Vaughan Sports Village District Park	1	\$55,000	\$126,000	\$7,000	\$65,000	1 P/T ASO
	8	Legion Park	2	\$55,000		\$7,000		
	9	Chancellor District Park	3	\$55,000		\$7,000		
TOTAL COST <sup>6</sup>				\$1,295,000	\$378,000	\$77,000	\$425,000	
				\$1,673,000		\$502,000		
2021 Budget Required				2021	2021 & 2022	4 months in 2021		
				\$440,000	\$252,000	\$7,000	\$73,000	
				\$692,000		\$80,000		

\* 2021 capital budget required will be funded by available capital budget in existing projects to be transferred over.

\* 2021 operating budget required will be temporarily supported within existing approved department budgets and positions, and/or labour gapping, until additional funding is requested through the 2022 annual budget process.

- Non-labour costs include non-recoverable HST. Capital costs also include labour recovery & 3% admin recovery fee
- Refer to report for notes 1, 2, 3, 4

## Questions and Comments

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] OFF LEASH DOG PARK  
**Date:** May-27-21 12:13:40 PM

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**From:** Patricia Marsili [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 27, 2021 12:09 PM  
**To:** Clerks@vaughan.ca  
**Cc:** SouthMapleRatePayers <southmapleratepayers@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [External] OFF LEASH DOG PARK

Hello,

In regards to the upcoming Committee of the Whole, in particular the off leash dog park, please accept this email as my notice that I am against The Sports Village location for the off leash dog park.

I as a member of the community have worked hard to help maintain and preserve the park area and do not want an off leash dog park next door to my home.

Council is requested to choose another location rather than The Sports Village.

Regards,  
Patricia Marsili  
Hollybush Drive Resident

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Dog Park  
**Date:** May-27-21 12:13:59 PM

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**C3**  
**Communication**  
**CW (WS) – June 2, 2021**  
**Item(s) # - 3**

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**From:** Peter Budziak <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 27, 2021 11:57 AM  
**To:** Clerks@vaughan.ca; southmapleratepayers@gmail.com  
**Subject:** [External] Dog Park

Good afternoon...

My name is Peter Budziak and I live at [REDACTED] Hollybush Dr.

I am writing to notify the City of Vaughan that I am AGAINST the Off-Leash Dog Park being planned for Sports Village park. A MUCH better idea would be to put a playground at Sports Village park as the residents surrounding the park do not have a playground in short walking distance.

Thank you,  
Peter Budziak  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:**  
**Date:** May-27-21 12:14:23 PM

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**From:** Babak Jamali <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 27, 2021 11:37 AM  
**To:** Clerks@vaughan.ca  
**Cc:** SouthMapleRatePayers <southmapleratepayers@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [External] Off-Leash Dog Park

Hello There,

Recently I completed the survey about the Off-Leash Dog Park. I understand one of the proposed locations is the Sports Village Park on Hollybush Dr. in Maple.

I expressed my opinion in the survey but want to emphasise that as a resident of Hollybush Drive, I am against placing the off-leash dog park at Sports Village Park.

I believe the park needs more attention in terms of appearance and placement of a kid playground than what is proposed by the City.

Regards,  
Babak Jamali



**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Proposed Dog Park —Sports Village Park  
**Date:** May-27-21 12:47:40 PM

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**From:** SouthMapleRatePayers <[southmapleratepayers@gmail.com](mailto:southmapleratepayers@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 27, 2021 12:39 PM  
**To:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**Cc:** SouthMaple RatePayers Laura Rinaldo <[southmapleratepayers@gmail.com](mailto:southmapleratepayers@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [External] Proposed Dog Park —Sports Village Park

Good afternoon,

I trust this email finds you well.

My name is Laura Rinaldo and I am the President of the South Maple Ratepayers Association.

The SMRPA and residents, are in consensus that we are opposed to the proposal of an off-leash dog park at the Sports Village Park.

Firstly, I would like to point out that we have made our name and our voices heard the last few years during our opposition to the expansion of the Sports Village. It would have been greatly appreciated to be consulted on how we felt about having an off-leash dog park on Hollybush, prior to adding the Sports Village park as a proposed area. While I can appreciate there will be interest throughout the community, the residents of Hollybush, and local area, do not look forward to the issues an off-leash dog park will present to our established neighbourhood.

In the last 20 years, many residents in our area, including myself, requested a play park for the children of the area. The COV always came back advising that this was an unavailable option. My heart goes out to dog owners but if we can't provide a play area for children, I don't know why we would entertain the idea of a play park for dogs.

This park, in particular, has a history of being poorly maintained by both the Mentana Group, who run and operate the Sports Village, and the City of Vaughan. Having an off-leash dog park can only exacerbate this issue.

Parking is another issue. This type of park will invite many residents of Vaughan to come into our residential area and park on our streets (Hollybush, Seafield, Glenside). Inviting outside residents to park in a residential area raises many safety issues in itself, again, thinking of the many children that play in the area.

We are sure that with your other proposed areas you will find an appropriate location that is not disruptive to an existing residential area. Once again, I would like to reiterate that this park in particular has a poor history of being maintained. To invite all of Vaughan to use this area for their dogs will make our neighbourhood extremely vulnerable to an unkept and dirty area, and bring unwanted traffic to our peaceful community.

We kindly ask that the Sports Village be removed as a proposed area for the off-leash dog park and that a more suitable location be considered.

For example, the new Maple Park.

This area has many available acres and a dog park would make sense considering it is an area open for Vaughan residents to attend and enjoy.

We trust that the Vaughan Regional and Local Councillors, and our Mayor, will vote in favour of the community on June 2nd at the Community of the Whole Working Session.

Thank you and stay well.

Regards,  
Laura Rinaldo  
President, SMRPA

--

Regards,  
Laura Rinaldo  
SMRPA, President

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Proposed Off-leash Dog Park for Ward 1 in Vaughan  
**Date:** May-28-21 8:45:05 AM

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**From:** Lorenzo SCHIAVONE [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 27, 2021 10:54 PM  
**To:** Clerks@vaughan.ca  
**Cc:** SouthMapleRatePayers <southmapleratepayers@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [External] Proposed Off-leash Dog Park for Ward 1 in Vaughan

Dear Members of City Council,  
Thursday, May 27, 2021

I trust all is well, especially during this period with the pandemic. I am writing as a resident on behalf of my family and as a member of our local ratepayer's association in Ward 1, South Maple Ratepayer's Association concerning the proposing of the adjacent park to my home and residential neighbourhood, as we have been asking to develop our park with a playground and improved walking and cycling pathways and areas for local residents and due to these needs being priority in our residential area, an off-leash dog park would be better suited in a park that does not have a high density of adjacent homes.

Through staying informed on Proposed Off-leash Dog Parks in Vaughan and knowing my local residential area needs to further develop the Sports Village Park with amenities as a playground for children with improved walking and cycling paths and due to this park being so closed to residential homes, the public use of the park as an Off-leash Dog Park will not support these family and residential activities that are usually accommodated for within a park. The improvement of our Sports Village Park with activities around recreation and exercise for the residents have been asked for and including when we had to protect our park from being developed commercially.

In reviewing the shared information provided by the City of Vaughan around proposed Off-leash Dog Parks that involved planning and considerations for the whole region, I would appreciate that at the June 2nd, Committee of The Whole meeting, that all Council Members consider the development of my neighbourhood Sports Village Park for Recreational use by local residents and another more suitable area in a park within Ward 1 as needed for an Off-leash Dog Park. Possibly the Park in The Study completed by City of Vaughan that has drawn the highest number of Stewards in our Ward 1, would be an area in Vaughan that would be suitable as an Off-leash Dog Park.

Your attention to the matters and concerns that I have raised is much appreciated.

Respectfully and Local Vaughan Resident on Behalf of My  
Family,

Mr. Lorenzo A. Schiavone

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: FW: [External] Off-Leash Dog Park - North Maple Regional Park (NMRP)  
**Date:** May-28-21 1:34:44 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Off-Leash Dog Park Poster.pdf](#)  
[Off-Leash Dog Park - North Maple Regional Park.pdf](#)  
[Map - Zoom Out.png](#)  
[Map - Zoom In.png](#)

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**From:** Habib, Michael <Michael.Habib@vaughan.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 28, 2021 1:33 PM  
**To:** Clerks@vaughan.ca  
**Cc:** Foy, Julie <Julie.Foy@vaughan.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: [External] Off-Leash Dog Park - North Maple Regional Park (NMRP)


Hello,

We received this email related to the upcoming Off Leash Dog Area Strategy item to be presented at COW Working Session June 2, 2021 at 9:30 am.

Please include as communication as requested by the resident below.

## Local Off-Leash Dog Park (North Maple Regional Park)



 Gloria Beresford-Last started this petition to City of Vaughan and 2 others

This petition has been organized on behalf of the many dog owners from the Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association and the surrounding communities in the City of Vaughan.

Based on information shared at the City of Vaughan's meetings that were held back in 2019 focusing on the development of **Off-Leash Dog Parks** throughout the city of Vaughan, we are aware that plans to develop an Off-Leash Dog Park at **North Maple Regional Park (NMRP)** are in the works. That being said, we understand that such a Dog Park may not be constructed for another 8 to 10 years as other plans for development in the park are taking priority.

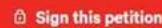
Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we can only assume that many of those plans have been set back due to ongoing social restrictions and the uncertainty that the future currently holds. With such plans being set back or even put on hold, we think that this serves as an opportune time to place more focus, time, and resources on the development of the Off- Leash Dog Park at NMRP.

Thanks,  
Michael

187 have signed. Let's get to 200!

Maple, L6A  
Canada

☒ Display my name and comment on this petition

 Sign this petition

By signing, you accept Change.org's [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#), and agree to receive occasional emails about campaigns on Change.org. You can unsubscribe at any time.

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**From:** Gloria Beresford-Last [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 25, 2021 1:48 AM  
**To:** Amato, Christina <[Christina.Amato@vaughan.ca](mailto:Christina.Amato@vaughan.ca)>  
**Cc:** Robert A Kenedy <[rkenedy@yorku.ca](mailto:rkenedy@yorku.ca)>; Tavares, Martin <[Martin.Tavares@vaughan.ca](mailto:Martin.Tavares@vaughan.ca)>; Habib, Michael <[Michael.Habib@vaughan.ca](mailto:Michael.Habib@vaughan.ca)>; Bronsema, Jamie <[Jamie.Bronsema@vaughan.ca](mailto:Jamie.Bronsema@vaughan.ca)>; Kyte, Johanna <[Johanna.Kyte@vaughan.ca](mailto:Johanna.Kyte@vaughan.ca)>; Ciampa, Gina <[Gina.Ciampa@vaughan.ca](mailto:Gina.Ciampa@vaughan.ca)>; Heidi Last [REDACTED] >; Lafrate, Marilyn <[Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca](mailto:Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: FW: [External] Off-Leash Dog Park - North Maple Regional Park (NMRP)

Hello Christina,



Thank you for your patience in awaiting my reply. I had intended to reply to your email more promptly, however, due to unforeseen work commitments, I was unable to.

Firstly, in regards to the Local Off-Leash Dog Park Area Strategy, my mother, Heidi Last (who is CCed to this email), and I attended two different workshops at Vaughan City Hall in mid- to late-2019. We also took the time to provide our feedback via the online survey. During these workshops, my mother and I requested from the facilitators that we be kept up to date regarding the unfolding of these plans. Unfortunately, we never received any further information or feedback, including any information pertaining to the top seven sites you speak of above.

In regards to the upcoming report that will be presented to Vaughan Council on June 2, 2021, my mother and I would like to request our involvement in and presence at this presentation. Your email states that the "presentation will highlight feedback heard from residents." We would like our petition on Change.org (<https://www.change.org/NMRPDogPark>) and its pertaining data (i.e. description, supplementary information, number of signatures, etc.) to be included as **a part of this report to Vaughan Council on June 2, 2021.** It is PARAMOUNT that the information and data in our petition be SERIOUSLY considered in this report. With well over 100 signatures, this petition CLEARLY demonstrates STRONG AND CURRENT support and commitment by our community and the residents of the Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association (MRRA).

To aid in the prompt advancement of plans for and development of an Off-Leash Dog Park at North Maple Regional Park (NMRP), we are VERY interested in developing a Stewardship Program through the MRRA. I am willing to take charge in the development and implementation of this Stewardship Program. If the prompt development of an Off-Leash Dog Park at NMRP is absolutely and completely out of the question at this point in time, then I am willing to take charge in the development and implementation of this Stewardship Program for an Off-Leash Dog Park on TRCA lands at one of the sites I proposed in my initial letter to Councilor Iafrate (I have attached a copy of the map and documents that I sent to Councilor Iafrate to this email for your reference).

In essence, we speak on behalf of the community of MRRA when we say that we request the development of an Off-Leash Dog Park at NMRP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, NOT in the distant future.

We look forward to hearing back from you regarding the above.

Kindest Regards,

—Gloria Beresford-Last

On Tue, May 18, 2021 at 4:39 PM Amato, Christina <[Christina.Amato@vaughan.ca](mailto:Christina.Amato@vaughan.ca)> wrote:

Good Afternoon Gloria and thank you for your inquiry on off-leash dog parks in the City. The City is currently working on finalizing a [Local Off-Leash Dog Area Strategy](#) that started in September 2019. Throughout the study, the City collected feedback from residents through various engagement activities including workshops, pop-ups, surveys

as well as direct feedback from residents. The City reviewed several locations and narrowed these down to the top seven (7) sites based on site-specific features that best matched site selection criteria and what residents said was important to them. A report to Council with future off-leash dog area recommendations will be presented on June 2, 2021. The presentation will highlight feedback heard from residents. One location that has been selected for a local off-leash dog site is **Mackenzie Glen District Park**, located in Ward 1 at 220 Cranston Park Ave. A key requirement to advance any proposed off-leash dog area is to maintain **local off-leash dog area stewards**, adopting sites in their community. If City Council approves the recommended sites, the next step is to develop the Stewardship Program, begin the detailed designs and commence implementation of the off-leash dog program over the next several years. Through this program and if additional sites that meet the recommended site selection criteria for local off-leash dog areas are identified with a strong community support and commitment, these sites will be reviewed by staff for capital and operating costs for future budget approval processes. With regards to the North Maple Regional Park, a primary off-leash park had been identified (Northeast Quadrant of the City) based on the review and update of the Active Together Master Plan, with further review during future phases of the regional park development. [Active Together Master Plan](#)

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Martin Tavares, Manager of Parks and Open Space Planning.

For more information please visit [Vaughan.ca/dogpark](http://Vaughan.ca/dogpark)

Thank you,

**Christina Amato**  
**Citizen Service Representative of Parks Infrastructure Planning & Development**  
905-303-2069, ext. 8061 | [christina.amato@vaughan.ca](mailto:christina.amato@vaughan.ca)

**City of Vaughan | Infrastructure Development**  
2141 Major Mackenzie Dr., Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1  
[vaughan.ca](http://vaughan.ca)



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**From:** lafrate, Marilyn <[Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca](mailto:Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 06, 2021 10:13 AM  
**To:** Gloria Beresford-Last <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Robert A Kenedy <[rkenedy@yorku.ca](mailto:rkenedy@yorku.ca)>; Heidi Last <[REDACTED]>; Ciampa, Gina <[Gina.Ciampa@vaughan.ca](mailto:Gina.Ciampa@vaughan.ca)>; Bronsema, Jamie <[Jamie.Bronsema@vaughan.ca](mailto:Jamie.Bronsema@vaughan.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Off-Leash Dog Park - North Maple Regional Park (NMRP)

Thank you Gloria for your email and letter expressing a desire for an off-leash dog park.

To bring you up to date on the North Maple Regional Park (NMRP), funding for the groundworks

for Phase 2 was approved last year to move the earth on 130 acres (balance of the parcel of land that is not currently developed), construct the necessary infrastructure (sewer and water) to service the lands for the future facility installations.

Starting later this year, the majority of the park will be fenced off and heavy equipment will be moving in to begin the work.

This work will take approx 18 months to complete barring any unforeseen problems.

Therefore, the current park will not be available for any new use.

Your letter included a map of suggested locations for the off-leash dog park in particular Nevada Park.

I would appreciate a little more information regarding that location ie are you looking at being able to use the actual park or lands down the hill?

We have had ongoing complaints from the residents around that park about people coming into the park that don't belong there, traffic, parking issues and debris left behind.

Another noted location that you have suggested is located on TRCA lands.

Any use for a dog park here would be totally up to TRCA as they govern those lands.

The City also needs to determine the costs for fencing a temporary dog park and would need to be considered in the 2022 budget by Council.

Finally, there is a proposal for a pilot project that seems to be acceptable to the local community at Mackenzie Glen Park which is located just south of Teston Rd along Cranston Park.

Realistically, this has a far better chance of proceeding faster than the TRCA lands but that doesn't mean we won't ask TRCA.

Finally, an off-leash dog park already exists in the eastern part of Vaughan and Council was clear in wanting the next one to be located in the western part of Vaughan. However, the pilot project at Mackenzie Glen Park is of a different scale and thus more likely to proceed.

I am taking the liberty of forwarding your email to our Parks Development staff who will review your request and respond accordingly.

Kind regards,  
Marilyn Iafrate

Sent from my iPad

On May 5, 2021, at 3:11 AM, Gloria Beresford-Last <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hello Councillor Iafrate,

Please find attached to this email a letter regarding the **URGENT** need for an **Off-Leash Dog Park in North Maple Regional Park (NMRP)**.

We have also included a link below to an ongoing petition on Change.org that has been created and distributed throughout our

community in support of this letter:

<http://chnng.it/vhyD5Wf9>

Please know that I have CC'ed the president of Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association, Robert Kenedy, to this email.

Thank you for your time, attention, and immediate action regarding this matter.

Looking forward to your reply.

Kindest Regards,

—Gloria Beresford-Last & Heidi Last

Glacier Ct, Maple, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

<Off-Leash Dog Park - North Maple Regional Park.pdf>

This e-mail, including any attachment(s), may be confidential and is intended solely for the attention and information of the named addressee(s). If you are not the intended recipient or have received this message in error, please notify me immediately by return e-mail and permanently delete the original transmission from your computer, including any attachment(s). Any unauthorized distribution, disclosure or copying of this message and attachment(s) by anyone other than the recipient is strictly prohibited.

# Would you like to see a local Off-Leash Dog Park?

The City of Vaughan is considering plans for a local Off-Leash Dog Park either at **North Maple Regional Park (NMRP)** or on **Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)** lands.

We need **YOUR** help to set these plans in motion and expedite the process!

For more information and to pledge your support, please scan the QR Code below:



Or visit the following link:

<https://www.change.org/NMRPDogPark>

## Off-Leash Dog Park – North Maple Regional Park (NMRP)

Hello Councillor Iafrate,

April 26, 2021

We are reaching out to you today on behalf of many dog owners from the Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association and the surrounding communities.

Based on information shared at the City of Vaughan's meetings that our family attended back in 2019 focusing on the development of Off-Leash Dog Parks throughout the city of Vaughan, we are aware that plans to develop an Off-Leash Dog Park at North Maple Regional Park are in the works. That being said, it is to our understanding (based on a previous conversation with you) that such a Dog Park may not be constructed for another 8 to 10 years as other plans for development in the park are taking priority.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we can only assume that many of those plans have been set back due to ongoing social restrictions and the uncertainty that the future currently holds. With such plans being set back or even put on hold, we think that this serves as an opportune time to place more focus, time, and resources on the development of the Off-Leash Dog Park at NMRP.

Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, Humane Canada has reported a 30% to 70% increase in pet adoptions and fostering in Canada (this statistic does not account for the increase in pet purchases, only fostering and adoptions) (Pruden). Given this recent boom in pet ownership, it is fair to assume that there is/will also be a MAJOR increase in the need/demand for an Off-Leash Dog Park, especially one that is within close proximity to downtown Maple.

People need to get out with their pets, and while walks are, of course, a healthy and safe way of achieving exercise, proper socialization of pets is also of the utmost importance to their development (Tudor). Not only is proper socialization essential to both the physical and mental health of a pet, but it is also paramount to human physical activity and mental health as well (Tudor). An Off-Leash Dog Park is a great way for both pets and their owners to socialize in a healthy and safe manner while allowing people to maintain proper physical distancing protocols.

As such, we kindly urge the City of Vaughan to reconsider building the NMRP Off-Leash Dog Park AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Taking into account the above-mentioned points, NOW is the time that we need this Off-Leash Dog Park more than ever!

While the establishment of an Off-Leash Dog Park in NMRP would by far be preferential in terms of location (it is a very central point in Maple), if, for whatever reason, it is simply not possible to achieve within a reasonable timeframe, we have attached a map at the bottom



of this letter indicating other possible sites/locations (indicated in red) where an Off-Leash Dog Park can be built in the interim on Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) lands. Please keep in mind that it is very important that any potential site for an Off-Leash Dog Park be easy to find and easily accessible. This includes being within a short walking distance to a parking lot (NMRP) or on-street parking where visitors to the Off-Leash Dog Park can park.

In addition, perhaps acquiring sponsorships could help to expedite the development and construction of this very-much-needed Off-Leash Dog Park (preferably in NMRP).

Please note that along with this letter, we will be putting together a petition which will be signed by fellow pet owners who are in support of this letter. We will also be forwarding a copy of this letter and petition to our Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association president, Robert Kenedy.

On behalf of our fellow residents of the Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association, the surrounding communities, AND our pets, we thank you for taking the time to read this, for your consideration, and for your immediate action.

Kindest Regards,

—The residents of the  
Mackenzie Ridge  
Ratepayers Association and  
surrounding communities  
AND our pets.



## Alternative Sites/Locations for an Off-Leash Dog Park



Zoomed Out  
← ← ←



Zoomed In  
→ → →

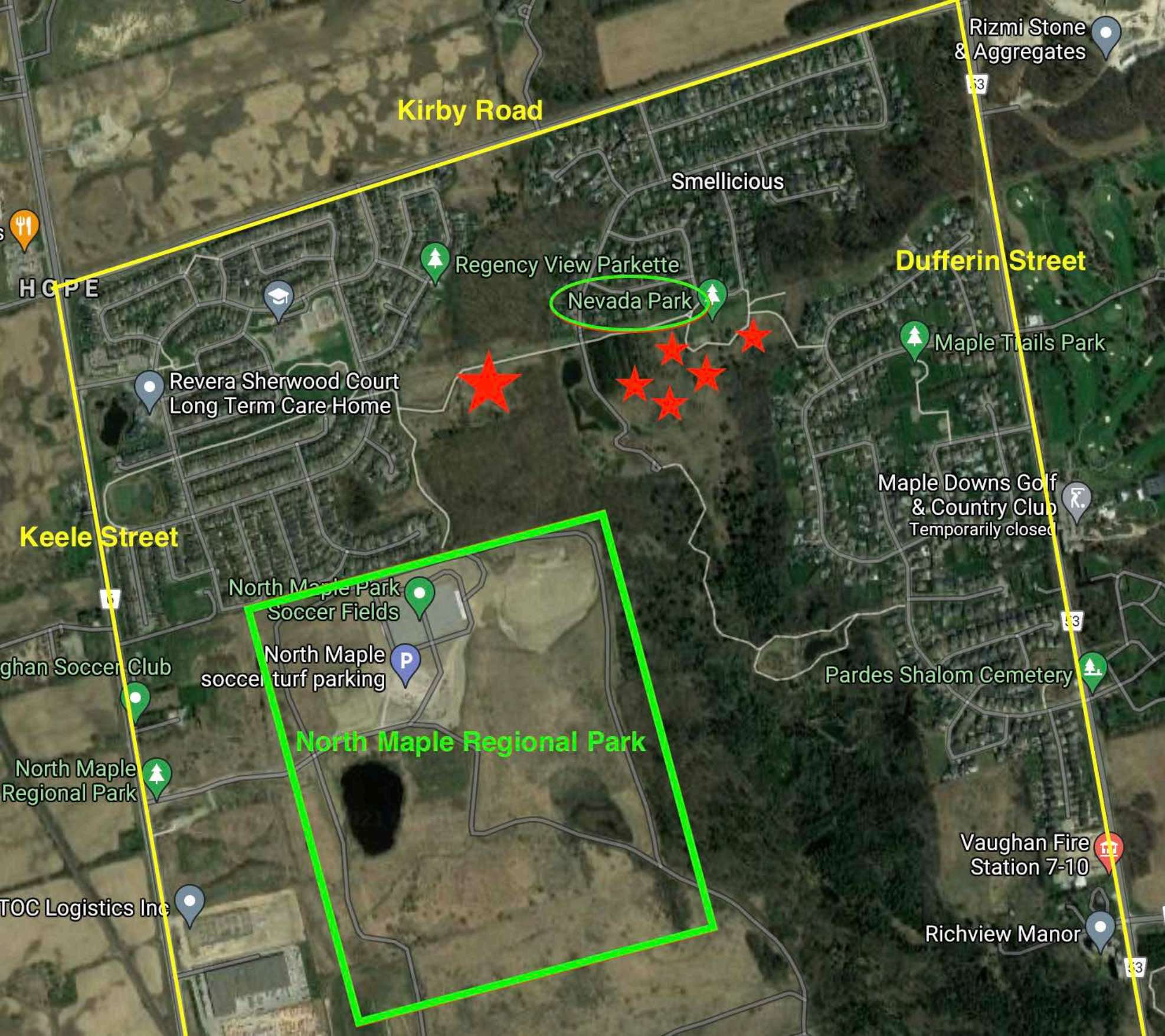
## Sources

Evans, Pete. "Pandemic Isolation Sees Booming Demand for Pets — And for Business That Cater to Them." *CBC*, 27 December 2020, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/pandemic-pet-business-1.5850051>  
Accessed 27 April 2021.

Pruden, Jana G. "Dogs in High Demand as Canadians Crave Companionship During COVID-19 Lockdown." *The Globe and Mail*, 17 May 2020, <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-dogs-in-high-demand-as-canadians-crave-companionship-during-covid-1/>  
Accessed 27 April 2021.

Tudor, Ken. "4 Reasons Why Socialization is Important for Your Dog's Health." *PetMD*, 13 August 2014, <https://www.petmd.com/blogs/thedailyvet/ken-tudor/2014/august/4-reasons-why-socialization-important-your-dogs-health-31938>  
Accessed 27 April 2021.





Rizmi Stone & Aggregates

Kirby Road

Smellicious

Dufferin Street

Regency View Parkette

Nevada Park

Maple Trails Park

Revera Sherwood Court  
Long Term Care Home

Maple Downs Golf  
& Country Club  
Temporarily closed

Keele Street

North Maple Park  
Soccer Fields

North Maple  
soccer turf parking

North Maple Regional Park

North Maple Soccer Club

North Maple  
Regional Park

TOC Logistics Inc

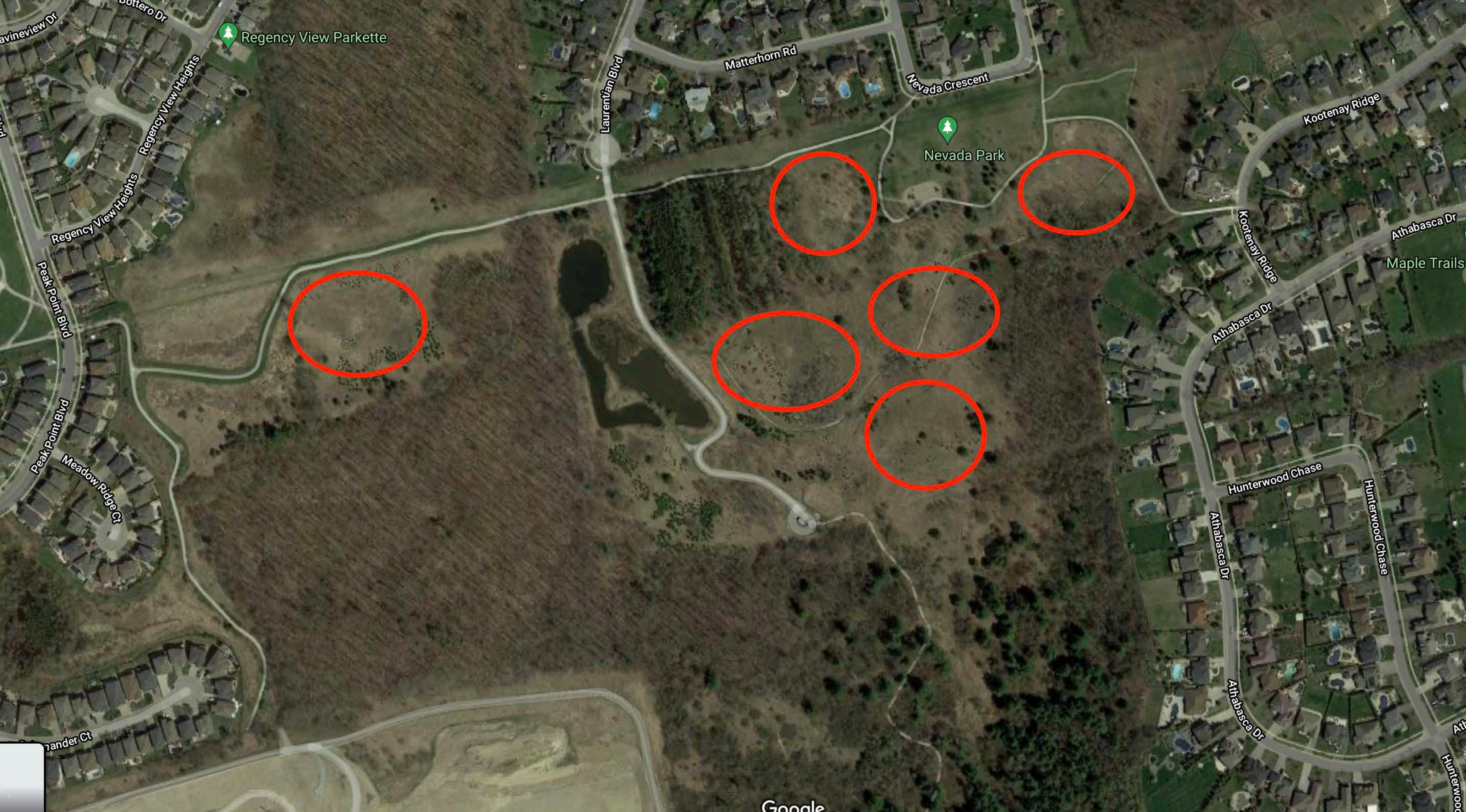
Vaughan Fire  
Station 7-10

Richview Manor

33

33







**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Off Leash Dog Park at Sports Village  
**Date:** May-31-21 3:33:44 PM

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**C8**  
**Communication**  
**CW (WS) – June 2, 2021**  
**Item(s) # - 3**

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**From:** M M [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 31, 2021 3:30 PM  
**To:** Clerks@vaughan.ca  
**Subject:** [External] Fw: Proposed Off Leash Dog Park at Sports Village

Hello,

I hope this email finds you well.

I am a resident of Hollybush Drive and I would like to state that I am opposed to an off-leash dog park on the Sports Village District park. I myself am a dog owner and I find that a dog park in this already established residential area will be a problem. The existing dog park in Concord has no residential homes within 250m of the park. This proposed area at the sports village will have homes less than 40m away. Residents will be waking up and going to sleep with the constant barking and noise from a dog park. There will be increased traffic in this residential area in an already busy park. The park is currently not maintained to a high standard. Recently, garbage cans have been over flowing for example, how much worse will it be with the increase in foot traffic and vehicle traffic?

Prior to any additions to any park, there should be a full-scale needs assessment completed to see what the community is lacking and what the residents as a whole would like to see. A complete plan for the park development should be put into place for every park instead of the piece meal process that seems to be taking place. The Sports Village park needs more amenities for ALL residents to enjoy before a dog park is even considered. For example, we have many elderly residents in this area that would benefit greatly by having more benches installed, covered sitting areas and even game tables for a game of chess. Also, there is no play ground on the entire 33 acres of this land. I have lived here for 20 years and would have loved a playground for my children, the kids that live here now, would love a playground or even a splash pad. Sports Village park is situated in block 25, there is only one tennis court in the entire Block 25. How about a tennis court on the Sports Village park? My point is, there are many items a park situated in an established residential community should have well before the money is spent on a dog park. I love dogs but I prefer my tax dollars spent on amenities for children and the elderly first. A **full and complete survey** should be brought to ALL the residents of this community as well as the local Ratepayer's group.



The 2016 Primary Off-Leash Dog Area West of Highway 400 Report showed parks west of highway 400 that would be ideal. Why would a second dog park east of the 400 be placed prior to one being added on the west end of the City? If a dog park needs to be placed somewhere in Maple, there are many other parks in residential areas that already have amenities for the community and a dog park may be a welcomed addition. The Sports Village District Park has two, a short walking path and a baseball diamond. Our outdoor skate path was not maintained and deteriorated beyond repair over 17 years ago. It's time the residents of this area, both young and old, have more amenities to enjoy thus helping to achieve one of the values stated in the **Vaughan Accord**, "Strive to achieve the best possible quality of life and standard of living for Vaughan residents".

I oppose a dog park at the Sports Village park.

*Mario Marmora*

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Attached Submission and Deputation Request - Off-Leash Dog Park  
**Date:** May-31-21 11:22:23 AM  
**Attachments:** [Off-Leash Dog Park for the Mackenzie Ridge Area June 2, 2021 930am Item 3 .pdf](#)

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**From:** Mackenzie Ridge Rate Payers Association <mackenzieridgerpa@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 31, 2021 11:14 AM  
**To:** Council@vaughan.ca; Clerks@vaughan.ca; Leung, Isabel <Isabel.Leung@vaughan.ca>  
**Cc:** lafrate, Marilyn <Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca>; Ciampa, Gina <Gina.Ciampa@vaughan.ca>; Mackenzie Ridge Rate Payers Association <mackenzieridgerpa@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [External] Attached Submission and Deputation Request - Off-Leash Dog Park

Please note that I would like to submit the attachments and do a deputation on June 2 at 9:30am (Item 3).

Best,

Robert A. Kenedy  
President of the MacKenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association

■ Giogia Crescent  
Maple, ON  
■

May 31, 2021

Dear Mayor and Vaughan Councillors,

Neighbors who are part of the Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association have been advocating for an **off-leash dog park in NMRP ( June 2 at 9:30am – Item 3)**. They pointed out that an off-leash dog park in the NMRP will be positive in terms of not impacting neighbourhoods in terms of parking, leaving a mess close to neighbour's houses, or bothering neighbours. Due to the size of the NRMP and facilities/services, NMRP can provide water for dogs, washrooms for pet owners, and not be visible or obstruct views of homeowners. We hope that within the next few years, a NMRP off-leash dog area will be built to serve Vaughan and the rest of the region close to it.

Neighbours who are part of the Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association also support the potential **pilot project of an off-leash area for dogs and their owners on TRCA lands**. Please see some suggested sites (**see below**) close to the Trans Canada pipeline near Nevada Park and up the Trans Canada pipeline trail going west toward the Kirby and Keele area. These areas being suggested for a pilot project provides alternatives that could work for many neighbours in terms of not being too close to houses, away from the Trans Canada pipeline, but still close to a well-used walking trail. The preferred choice is more typical of the Oak Ridges Moraine, in terms of providing some hills for dogs, yet still being relatively level. It is **between Maplewood Ravines - Laurentian (Nevada Park) and Peake Point neighbourhood/park**. This choice is close to NMRP where there is water, restrooms, and other facilities.

Robert A. Kenedy  
President of the MacKenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association  
■ Giogia Crescent  
Maple, ON  
■

**President of the MacKenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association**

Associate Professor  
Department of Sociology  
238 McLaughlin College  
York University  
4700 Keele Street  
Toronto, Ontario M3J 1P3  
CANADA  
[rkenedy@yorku.ca](mailto:rkenedy@yorku.ca)  
416 736-2100 ext. 77458  
FAX 416 736-5715

**C10**  
**Communication**  
**CW (WS) – June 2, 2021**  
**Item(s) # - 3**

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Attached Submission and Deputation Request June 2, 2021 at both 9:30am and 1pm Establishment of Speed Limits on City Roadways and the Traffic Study proposed by Councillor Iafrate  
**Date:** May-31-21 11:22:02 AM  
**Attachments:** [Mackenzie Ridge Roadway Speed Limits Item 1 930am & Athabasca Traffic Study Item 23 at 1pm June 2, 2021.pdf](#)

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**From:** Mackenzie Ridge Rate Payers Association <mackenzieridgerpa@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 31, 2021 11:13 AM  
**To:** Council@vaughan.ca; Clerks@vaughan.ca; Leung, Isabel <Isabel.Leung@vaughan.ca>  
**Cc:** Iafrate, Marilyn <Marilyn.Iafrate@vaughan.ca>; Ciampa, Gina <Gina.Ciampa@vaughan.ca>; Mackenzie Ridge Rate Payers Association <mackenzieridgerpa@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [External] Attached Submission and Deputation Request June 2, 2021 at both 9:30am and 1pm Establishment of Speed Limits on City Roadways and the Traffic Study proposed by Councillor Iafrate

Please note that I would like to submit the attachments and do a deputation on June 2 both at 9:30am (Item 1) and 1pm (Item 23). The attachments are related to both deputations and items.

Best,

Robert A. Kenedy

President of the MacKenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association

■ Giogia Crescent

Maple, ON

■

May 31, 2021

Dear Mayor and Vaughan Councillors,

Neighbours who are part of the Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association support **both the Establishment of Speed Limits on City Roadways (Item 1 June 2 at 9:30am) and the Traffic Study (Item 23 June 2 at 1pm)** proposed by Councillor Iafrate dated Tuesday June 1, 2021. This study is long overdue, and we are hoping that there will be other traffic studies throughout Vaughan neighbourhoods to make sure we live in safe neighbourhoods. Slowing down traffic with **appropriately placed stop signs (four and three way), appropriate traffic calming measures, and other creative solutions are necessary (i.e., viable and effective versions or alternatives to speed humps and bumps and other options – not painting lines on roadways that fade and are ignored).**

Connected to this and **Establishing Roadway Speed Limits (Item 23 June 2 at 1pm)**, please consider the request for the City of Vaughan to have **permanent signage similar to Milton (see the accompanying attachments) and encourage similar corrugated plastic signs that are endorsed by the City of Vaughan, YPR, and the Region** (similar to the ones that are supported and endorsed by Milton and HRP). At the very least, there should be a pilot project of posting these signs. We need to live in a community with safe streets where children are the focus and drivers slow down!

May 31, 2021

Dear Mayor and Vaughan Councillors,

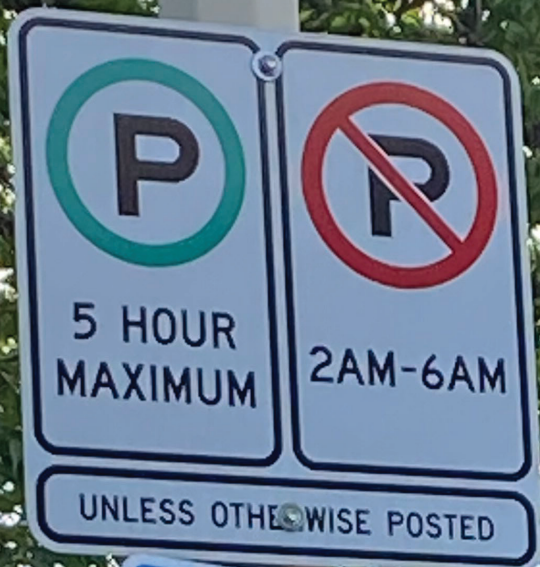
Neighbours who are part of the Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association support **both the Establishment of Speed Limits on City Roadways (Item 1 June 2 at 9:30am)** and the **Traffic Study (Item 23 June 2 at 1pm)** proposed by Councillor Iafrate dated Tuesday June 1, 2021. This study is long overdue, and we are hoping that there will be other traffic studies throughout Vaughan neighbourhoods to make sure we live in safe neighbourhoods. Slowing down traffic with **appropriately placed stop signs (four and three way), appropriate traffic calming measures, and other creative solutions are necessary (i.e., viable and effective versions or alternatives to speed humps and bumps and other options – not painting lines on roadways that fade and are ignored).**

Connected to this and **Establishing Roadway Speed Limits (Item 23 June 2 at 1pm)**, please consider the request for the City of Vaughan to have **permanent signage similar to Milton (see the accompanying attachments)** and encourage similar **corrugated plastic signs that are endorsed by the City of Vaughan, YPR, and the Region** (similar to the ones that are supported and endorsed by Milton and HRP). At the very least, there should be a pilot project of posting these signs. We need to live in a community with safe streets where children are the focus and drivers slow down!

Due to the **tragedy on Sunday May 23, 2021** in our area resulting in the death of two neighbourhood children and significant injuries of another neighbour, I would respectfully submit that these items are especially relevant and are interrelated.

Robert A. Kenedy  
President of the MacKenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association  
■ Giogia Crescent  
Maple, ON  
■











Due to the **tragedy on Sunday May 23, 2021** in our area resulting in the death of two neighbourhood children and significant injuries of another neighbour, I would respectfully submit that these items are especially relevant and are interrelated.

Robert A. Kenedy  
President of the MacKenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association  
87 Giogia Crescent  
Maple, ON  
L6A 4R2

**Robert A. Kenedy, PhD**

President of the MacKenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association  
Associate Professor  
Department of Sociology  
238 McLaughlin College  
York University  
4700 Keele Street  
Toronto, Ontario M3J 1P3  
CANADA  
[rkenedy@yorku.ca](mailto:rkenedy@yorku.ca)  
416 736-2100 ext. 77458  
FAX 416 736-5715

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] NMRP OFF-LEASH DOG PARK DEPUTATION  
**Date:** May-31-21 8:30:32 AM  
**Attachments:** [Off-Leash Dog Park - North Maple Regional Park.pdf](#)  
[NMRP Dog Park Petition Signatures.pdf](#)  
[Off-Leash Dog Park Poster.pdf](#)  
[NMRP Dog Park Petition Comments.pdf](#)  
[Map - Zoom Out.png](#)  
[Map - Zoom In.png](#)

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**From:** Gloria Beresford-Last [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 31, 2021 5:26 AM  
**To:** Council@vaughan.ca; Clerks@vaughan.ca; Leung, Isabel <Isabel.Leung@vaughan.ca>  
**Cc:** lafrate, Marilyn <Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca>; Mackenzie Ridge Rate Payers Association <Mackenzieridgerpa@gmail.com>; Robert A Kenedy <rkenedy@yorku.ca>; Ciampa, Gina <Gina.Ciampa@vaughan.ca>; Amato, Christina <Christina.Amato@vaughan.ca>; Tavares, Martin <Martin.Tavares@vaughan.ca>; Habib, Michael <Michael.Habib@vaughan.ca>; Bronsema, Jamie <Jamie.Bronsema@vaughan.ca>; Kyte, Johanna <Johanna.Kyte@vaughan.ca>; Heidi Last [REDACTED] >  
**Subject:** [External] NMRP OFF-LEASH DOG PARK DEPUTATION

Dear Mayor, Vaughan Councillors, and Clerks,

We would like to make a deputation to be included at the upcoming Committee of the Whole (Working Session) council meeting on Wednesday, June 2, 2021, at 9:30am. This deputation will address *Item #5 (Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion)*, Section 3: **Local Off-Leash Dog Area Strategy**. In particular, we will be addressing the **PROMPT** development of an **Off-Leash Dog Park** at **North Maple Regional Park**.

Please see below for a synopsis of our deputation that we will be presenting at the Committee of the Whole (Working Session) council meeting:

**AGENDA:**

**PROMPT** development of an **Off-Leash Dog Park** at **North Maple Regional Park**

**SUBMISSIONS:**

1. Original **PDF letter** to Councillor Marilyn lafrate sent on May 5, 2021 titled, **Off-**

***Leash Dog Park - North Maple Regional Park*** (letter attached)

2. Ongoing Change.org **Petition** with 280+ signatures (and counting) at link: <https://www.change.org/NMRPDogPark>
3. **List** of petition signatures (attached in PDF format)
4. **List** of petition comments (attached in PDF format)
5. **2 Maps** (one zoomed in, one zoomed out—both in .png format) indicating ALTERNATE locations on TRCA lands for Pilot Project Off-Leash Dog Parks (maps attached)
6. **Poster** posted on some community mailboxes (attached in PDF format)

**KEY POINTS:**

1. Since the onset of Covid-19, Humane Canada has reported a 30% to 70% increase in adoptions and fostering of dogs in Canada (this statistic does **NOT** include purchases).
2. The City of Vaughan currently only has **ONE** Off-Leash Dog Park, located at Concord Thornhill Regional Park.
3. NMRP is a central and up-and-coming location in Vaughan for outdoor recreation.
4. NMRP is easily accessible via walking trails and public transit.
5. In the City of Vaughan's May 2018 ATMP Review & Update, under 'Analysis & Recommendations,' it states that, "the City of Vaughan should provide primary Off-Leash Dog Parks in **all four** quadrants of the city." It specifies the Northeast quadrant as one of the **required** sites. NMRP **is** a primary location in the Northeast quadrant.
6. Delayed plans to develop other facilities/services in NMRP due to Covid-19 creates a GREAT opportunity to put a **permanent** Off-Leash Dog Park **immediately**.
7. Not In My Backyard (NIMBY): Other Ratepayer Associations in Vaughan, such as the South Maple Ratepayers Association (SMRA) are opposed to pilot project dog parks in their areas but are in FULL support of an Off-Leash Dog Park at NMRP.
8. NMRP already has the infrastructure for the following facilities and services:
  - a. Ample parking
  - b. Plumbing (Restrooms and Hydration for Dogs & People)
  - c. Electrical (Lighting and Cameras)

- d. Disposal Facilities & Collection
  - e. Plenty of Space
9. NMRP will have no negative impact in the surrounding neighbourhoods regarding the following:
- a. Local Traffic
  - b. Noise (i.e. traffic, people, dogs barking, etc.)
  - c. Obstruction of Views
  - d. Litter
  - e. Dog Excrement
10. An Off-Leash Dog Park is conducive to the physical, social, and mental wellbeing of both dogs and people.
11. An Off-Leash Dog Park easily allows for physical distancing protocols to be maintained.
12. **MANY** residents of Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association (MRRRA) are in full support of an Off-Leash Dog Park at North Maple Regional Park.

**WE WANT AN OFF-LEASH DOG PARK AT NMRP NOW!**

Should the development of an Off-Leash Dog Park at NMRP not be feasible for the IMMEDIATE future, many residents of the MRRRA are in support of a pilot project on TRCA lands as an ALTERNATE location to NMRP in the interim. Several of these potential pilot project locations have been indicated in the attached maps (as mentioned above). The most preferential location, however, is the one indicated as a star inside of a circle.

Whether an Off-Leash Dog Park is developed at NMRP or on TRCA lands (or both), we are willing to assist in the creation and development of a Stewardship Program under the Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association.

On behalf of the dogs and dog owners of Vaughan, we thank you for your attention regarding this very important matter.



—Gloria Beresford-Last & Heidi Last



 Glacier Court

Maple, ON



## Off-Leash Dog Park – North Maple Regional Park (NMRP)

Hello Councillor Iafrate,

April 26, 2021

We are reaching out to you today on behalf of many dog owners from the Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association and the surrounding communities.

Based on information shared at the City of Vaughan's meetings that our family attended back in 2019 focusing on the development of Off-Leash Dog Parks throughout the city of Vaughan, we are aware that plans to develop an Off-Leash Dog Park at North Maple Regional Park are in the works. That being said, it is to our understanding (based on a previous conversation with you) that such a Dog Park may not be constructed for another 8 to 10 years as other plans for development in the park are taking priority.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we can only assume that many of those plans have been set back due to ongoing social restrictions and the uncertainty that the future currently holds. With such plans being set back or even put on hold, we think that this serves as an opportune time to place more focus, time, and resources on the development of the Off-Leash Dog Park at NMRP.

Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, Humane Canada has reported a 30% to 70% increase in pet adoptions and fostering in Canada (this statistic does not account for the increase in pet purchases, only fostering and adoptions) (Pruden). Given this recent boom in pet ownership, it is fair to assume that there is/will also be a MAJOR increase in the need/demand for an Off-Leash Dog Park, especially one that is within close proximity to downtown Maple.

People need to get out with their pets, and while walks are, of course, a healthy and safe way of achieving exercise, proper socialization of pets is also of the utmost importance to their development (Tudor). Not only is proper socialization essential to both the physical and mental health of a pet, but it is also paramount to human physical activity and mental health as well (Tudor). An Off-Leash Dog Park is a great way for both pets and their owners to socialize in a healthy and safe manner while allowing people to maintain proper physical distancing protocols.

As such, we kindly urge the City of Vaughan to reconsider building the NMRP Off-Leash Dog Park AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Taking into account the above-mentioned points, NOW is the time that we need this Off-Leash Dog Park more than ever!

While the establishment of an Off-Leash Dog Park in NMRP would by far be preferential in terms of location (it is a very central point in Maple), if, for whatever reason, it is simply not possible to achieve within a reasonable timeframe, we have attached a map at the bottom

of this letter indicating other possible sites/locations (indicated in red) where an Off-Leash Dog Park can be built in the interim on Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) lands. Please keep in mind that it is very important that any potential site for an Off-Leash Dog Park be easy to find and easily accessible. This includes being within a short walking distance to a parking lot (NMRP) or on-street parking where visitors to the Off-Leash Dog Park can park.

In addition, perhaps acquiring sponsorships could help to expedite the development and construction of this very-much-needed Off-Leash Dog Park (preferably in NMRP).

Please note that along with this letter, we will be putting together a petition which will be signed by fellow pet owners who are in support of this letter. We will also be forwarding a copy of this letter and petition to our Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association president, Robert Kenedy.

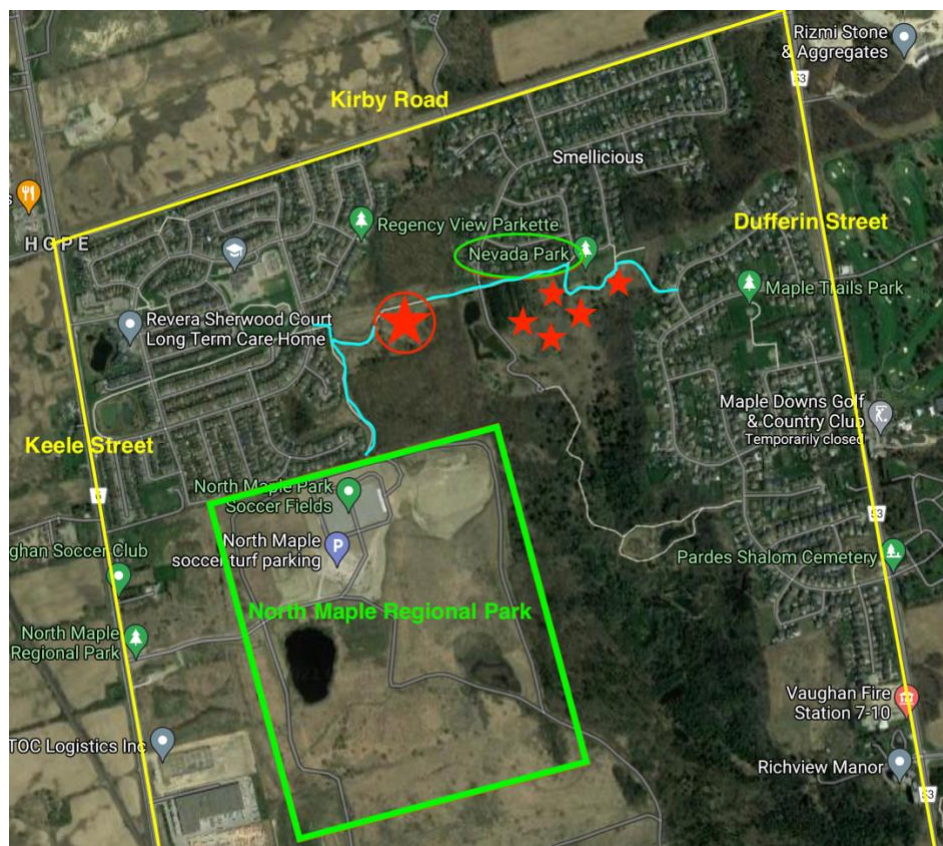
On behalf of our fellow residents of the Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association, the surrounding communities, AND our pets, we thank you for taking the time to read this, for your consideration, and for your immediate action.

Kindest Regards,

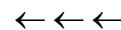
—The residents of the  
Mackenzie Ridge  
Ratepayers Association and  
surrounding communities  
AND our pets.



## Alternative Sites/Locations for an Off-Leash Dog Park



Zoomed Out



Zoomed In



## Sources

Evans, Pete. "Pandemic Isolation Sees Booming Demand for Pets — And for Business That Cater to Them." *CBC*, 27 December 2020, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/pandemic-pet-business-1.5850051>  
Accessed 27 April 2021.

Pruden, Jana G. "Dogs in High Demand as Canadians Crave Companionship During COVID-19 Lockdown." *The Globe and Mail*, 17 May 2020, <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-dogs-in-high-demand-as-canadians-crave-companionship-during-covid-1/>  
Accessed 27 April 2021.

Tudor, Ken. "4 Reasons Why Socialization is Important for Your Dog's Health." *PetMD*, 13 August 2014, <https://www.petmd.com/blogs/thedailyvet/ken-tudor/2014/august/4-reasons-why-socialization-important-your-dogs-health-31938>  
Accessed 27 April 2021.





### **NOTICE OF PETITION**

A petition has been submitted with respect to the following matter and a copy is on file in the Office of the City Clerk:

**Meeting & Date:** Committee of the Whole (Working Session)  
June 2, 2021

**Agenda/Report No.:** Item 3

**Item:** LOCAL OFF LEASH DOG AREA STRATEGY

**Particulars of the Petition:**

**No. of Signatures:** 284

**Pages:** 15

**Comments page:** 3 additional page (ncludes 10 comments)

**Subject:** Local Off-Leash Dog Park (NMRP)

**For a copy of the petition contact:**

**City of Vaughan, City Clerk's Office, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Vaughan, L6A 1T1  
Tel: (905) 832-8504 Fax: (905) 832-8535**

# Would you like to see a local **Off-Leash Dog Park?**

The City of Vaughan is considering plans for a local Off-Leash Dog Park at  
**North Maple Regional Park (NMRP)** in 8 to 10 years.

We need **YOUR** help to set these plans in motion and expedite the process!

**We want this Dog Park NOW!**

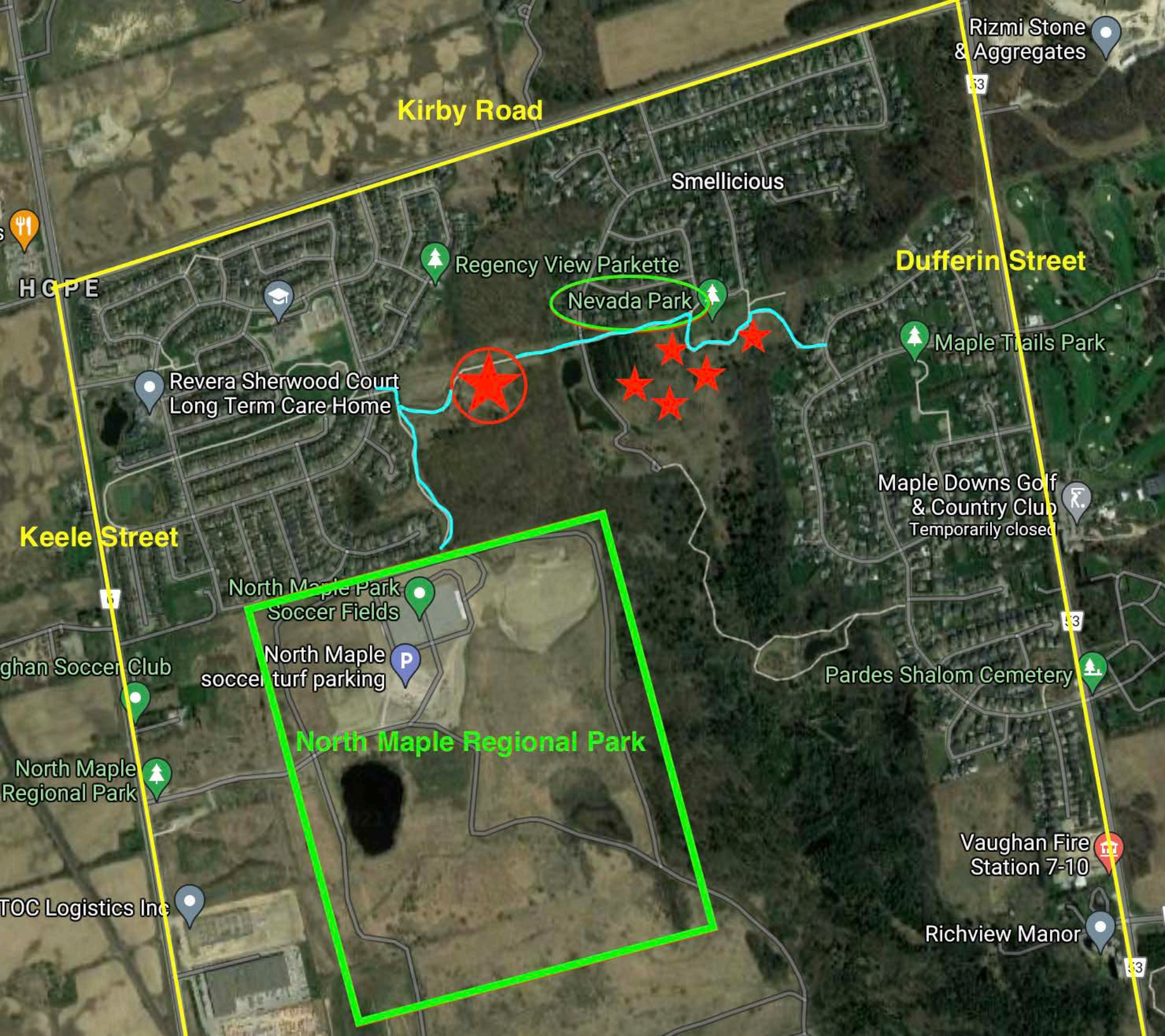
For more information and to pledge  
your support, please scan the QR  
Code below:



Or visit the following link:

<https://www.change.org/NMRPDogPark>





Rizmi Stone & Aggregates

Kirby Road

Smellicious

Dufferin Street

HOPE

Regency View Parkette

Nevada Park

Maple Trails Park

Revera Sherwood Court  
Long Term Care Home

Maple Downs Golf  
& Country Club  
Temporarily closed

Keele Street

North Maple Park  
Soccer Fields

North Maple  
soccer turf parking

Pardes Shalom Cemetery

North Maple Regional Park

gha Soccer Club

North Maple  
Regional Park

Vaughan Fire  
Station 7-10

TOC Logistics Inc

Richview Manor





Regency View Parkette

Nevada Park

- Easily Accessible (via paths) from all four surrounding neighbourhoods (Maplewood Ravines, Maple Highlands, Northdale, & Mackenzie Ridge) and North Maple Regional Park (NMRP).
- Parking, Recreational Facilities, Restrooms, and Water all available close by at NMRP.



**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to off-leash dog park on the Hollybush (Sports Village Park)  
**Date:** May-31-21 9:24:52 AM

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**From:** Gerry Sciarra [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, May 31, 2021 9:24 AM  
**To:** Clerks@vaughan.ca  
**Subject:** [External] Opposition to off-leash dog park on the Hollybush (Sports Village Park)

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of Hollybush Drive and I am writing to your attention to advise that I am opposing the off leash dog park.

This type of amenity should be placed in an area with vast space away from an established residential area. Myself and the other residents of Hollybush worked diligently to ensure the safety of our park during the proposal of the expansion of the sports village. For all the same reasons we brought to your attention at that time i.e., safety and cleanliness, we do not want the off-leash dog park.

I would also like to mention that with small children in the area we have a greater safety concern if any of these dogs should escape their confined area.

Years ago, requests were made for a playground in the park and the City Of Vaughan refused with excuses of it not being an appropriate area, money was not in the budget, etc. I do not feel that putting in a dog park would be fair when the children of the neighbourhood were never considered.

The North Maple regional park would be an ideal area. It is a beautiful park with the vast space meant to attract the residents of Vaughan, an off-leash dog park would be welcomed and appreciated at that location.

Please take the residents of Hollybush and surrounding areas into consideration and make the right choice and keep this off-leash dog park away from established residential areas.

Thank you.

Regards,  
Gerry Sciarra



**C13**  
**Communication**  
**CW (WS) – June 2, 2021**  
**Item(s) # - 3**

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Off Leash Dog Park  
**Date:** May-31-21 8:27:30 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Carla Ancona [REDACTED] >  
Sent: Saturday, May 29, 2021 10:11 PM  
To: Clerks@vaughan.ca  
Cc: SouthMapleRatePayers <southmapleratepayers@gmail.com>  
Subject: [External] Off Leash Dog Park

To whom it may concern,

I have been advised that there are discussions regarding a possible off leash dog park here in our community. As a resident living close to the park (Glenside Dr.) I just want to let you know that I oppose the idea. We do not think this community can handle additional traffic on our streets and we would prefer that the park upkeep improve.

I hope that you consider this in your discussions.

Regards,

Carla Ancona  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Proposed Sports Village Dog Park  
**Date:** May-31-21 8:27:22 AM

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**From:** Susanna BLASSETTI [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 29, 2021 8:38 PM  
**To:** Clerks@vaughan.ca; southmapleratepayers@gmail.com  
**Subject:** [External] Proposed Sports Village Dog Park

Hi,

My name is Susanna Blasetti and I am a Maple resident in very close proximity to Vaughan Sports Village. It has come to my attention that the City of Vaughan is proposing an off-leash dog park in this area. While I am an animal lover and I understand the importance of dogs having an area where they can run free, I don't feel this is an appropriate location for the following reasons:

#### **NOISE**

This proposed location is very close to a residential area - there are houses just across the street. The sounds of barking dogs are going to be a nuisance to residents. I pay very high property taxes and I should be able to enjoy my property but now the sound of barking dogs is going to be a constant disruption, affecting my outdoor peace and quiet and my ability to sleep.

#### **INCREASED DOG TRAFFIC**

Having this dog park is going to cause an increase in the number of dogs in the park. This proposed location is unique to the other locations in that it is close to Villa Giardino. We have MANY seniors who use this park regularly and now they are going to have to contend with all these extra dogs in the area. Many seniors have a fear of dogs and it's not fair for them to be fearful every time they decide to take a stroll through the park.

#### **MAINTENANCE**

Who is going to maintain this area? The dog owners? The City? Pardon me if I don't have faith in either of them. My son and I walk through this area nightly and the amount of excrement we see is ridiculous and it's there night after night - no one ever cleans it up unless it gets washed away by the rain. I've even had to throw out a pair of shoes after inadvertently stepping in some that was literally on one of the park paths. This is not only disgusting and unsightly, it's unhygienic.....feces can contain bacteria such as E. coli and salmonella as well as parasites—roundworms, hookworms, and tapeworms.

Not to mention the deteriorated shape Sports Village is currently in.....eroded parking lot, overgrown trees and shrubs, ill maintained pathways. Not a very good attestation to possible future maintenance.

## SAFETY ISSUES

***For people:*** this location is right next to a baseball diamond, close to a school (Everest Academy), a rock climbing wall....all heavily frequented by children. What if a dog should get free? I shudder to think what could happen. While most dog owners are very responsible, some are not and it just takes one dog to get free for a disastrous consequence. There is too much activity / traffic for this to be a safe location.

***For the dogs:*** this area is too close to a baseball diamond - what if a ball makes it's way into the dog area? This could possibly harm a dog.

Not to mention the proximity to a police station with loud sirens and Wonderland with their seasonal fireworks....all sounds which cause dogs anxiety. Who knows what damage an anxious, off-leash dog could inflict on other dogs?

In conclusion, while I like the idea of having an area for dogs to be free of their leashes and run wild with their friends, I don't feel this is an appropriate location.



**C15**  
**Communication**  
**CW (WS) – June 2, 2021**  
**Item(s) # - 3**

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Proposed off leash dog park  
**Date:** May-31-21 8:26:55 AM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathy Papadopoulos [REDACTED] >  
Sent: Saturday, May 29, 2021 7:15 PM  
To: Clerks@vaughan.ca  
Cc: southmapleratepayers@gmail.com  
Subject: [External] Proposed off leash dog park

Dear Sir or Madame,

I live on Hollybush Drive in Maple and I have recently become aware that there is a proposal to make the green space/park in front of our street an off leash dog park. I as well as several neighbours greatly oppose this decision. It would cause a lot of traffic and people would park their cars on our street and I truly believe it would be a safety hazard for the children in our community. I don't think a bunch of dogs running around without a leash is a good idea because this also would be a safety hazard for our kids as well. What if a dog chases after a child and the child runs onto the road and gets hit by a car???? I ask you to reconsider this decision and chose a location that is a little more remote which would be more suitable for people to let their dogs run free.

Sincerely,  
Bill & Kathy Papadopoulos

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Dog Park —Sports Village Park  
**Date:** May-31-21 8:25:00 AM

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**From:** Oleg Radov (oradov) [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Friday, May 28, 2021 10:12 PM  
**To:** Clerks@vaughan.ca  
**Cc:** SouthMapleRatePayers <southmapleratepayers@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** [External] Proposed Dog Park —Sports Village Park

Hi

My name is Oleg Radov, resident of [REDACTED] Hollybush Drive .

I have discussed the proposal of an off-leash dog park at the Sports Village Park with my neighbors and would like to convey that we are strongly against it.

My neighbors and I work very hard to keep our park safe and clean. Where my home is located, in the court, I am already battling with garbage issues. On a windy day, blue box items are whipped down Hollybush Drive and into the court and into my front yard. On recycling days I am removing a bag or two of garbage from the area surrounding our houses just not to let things get worse.

The Sports Village area is not maintained properly by Mentana Group.  
The skating area surface is crumbling and turning into a danger for kids playing there.  
Instead of creating yet another problem let's put some efforts together as a community to maintain it clean safe.

We trust that Vaughan Regional and Local Councilors will take our opinion into the account and vote against the proposed off-leash dog park and in favor of park area for kids and residents

Thank you in advance  
Best regards  
Oleg Radov

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Bellisario, Adelina](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Re: Sports Village - Off-Leash Dog Park  
**Date:** May-28-21 4:16:19 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-ibqsoqwo.png](#)  
[image001.png](#)

---

FYI

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**From:** Ciampa, Gina <Gina.Ciampa@vaughan.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 28, 2021 4:12 PM  
**To:** Clerks@vaughan.ca  
**Cc:** Coles, Todd <Todd.Coles@vaughan.ca>; lafrate, Marilyn <Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Re: Sports Village - Off-Leash Dog Park

Hello,

Please include as part of the communication for the June 2<sup>nd</sup> CW-Working Session.  
Thank you.

*Gina Ciampa*

**Executive Assistant to Councillor Marilyn lafrate**  
905-832-8585, ext. 8723 | [gina.ciampa@vaughan.ca](mailto:gina.ciampa@vaughan.ca)

**City of Vaughan | Office of Councillor, Ward 1, Maple/Kleinburg**  
2141 Major Mackenzie Dr., Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1  
[vaughan.ca](http://vaughan.ca)



To subscribe to Councillor Marilyn lafrate's E-Newsletter, please click [here](#)

**From:** Emilia Racippo <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** May 28, 2021 at 3:14:38 PM EDT  
**To:** "Ciampa, Gina" <[Gina.Ciampa@vaughan.ca](mailto:Gina.Ciampa@vaughan.ca)>  
**Cc:** "lafrate, Marilyn" <[Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca](mailto:Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca)>, Ward 1 Support Staff  
<[SupportStaff.Ward1@vaughan.ca](mailto:SupportStaff.Ward1@vaughan.ca)>, SouthMapleRatePayers  
<[southmapleratepayers@gmail.com](mailto:southmapleratepayers@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Sports Village - Off-Leash Dog Park

Hello,

With the upcoming council meeting on June 2, covering the off Leash dog park, I wanted to express my concerns once again.

I am a resident of Hollybush Drive, where the proposed dog park could be located, and



I do NOT want an off leash dog park on the proposed lands of Sports Village. There are many reasons for this, here are some but not limited to, residents already do not pick up after their dogs, and my concern is it will create an even bigger problem than we already have, where dog waste can be found all over the sidewalks. In summer heat the neighbourhood is going to smell so badly from the garbage bins full of dog waste. You are also going to be taking away more land that families could be enjoying with their kids. Dogs off leash can be dangerous to children in the neighbourhood if they are able to escape the compound or their owner. An off-leash dog park should be in a more secluded area and not on a residential street.

I have been asking for a play-ground for children, as the closest one is a 20 minute walk. There are many kids on the street and in the neighborhood that would benefit from a park instead of an off leash dog park. Make the children a priority.

Thank you,

Emilia Rozenblit

---

**From:** Ciampa, Gina <[Gina.Ciampa@vaughan.ca](mailto:Gina.Ciampa@vaughan.ca)>

**Sent:** August 17, 2020 3:49 PM

**To:** 'emiliaracippo@hotmail.com' <[REDACTED]>

**Cc:** lafrate, Marilyn <[Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca](mailto:Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca)>; Ward 1 Support Staff <[SupportStaff.Ward1@vaughan.ca](mailto:SupportStaff.Ward1@vaughan.ca)>

**Subject:** Sports Village - Grow Zone and Off-Leash Dog Park

Good afternoon Emilia,

On behalf of Councillor Marilyn lafrate, this will confirm receipt of your email outlining your concerns with the grow zone and off-leash dog park.

With regards to the grow zone, staff advised they looking for enhancing opportunities to revise the mowing program and plant grow zones with seeding to ensure these are pollinator-friendly plants throughout Vaughan (this is also in-line with the City's 'Monarch Pledge'). There are a number of benefits of doing so, including: sustainable landscaping, encourage native plant growth and reduces weed growth, reduce maintenance costs, and improve biodiversity. While these areas will not be mowed, they will ensure there is a mow-strip behind residential properties. The area in question zoned as open space as such, it is not a permitted area or play field. Attached is the modifications of grow areas within the park. There will also be two proposed locations for two picnic tables.

The link for the Local Off-Leash Dog Area Strategy can be found here.

[https://www.vaughan.ca/projects/community/off\\_leash\\_park/Pages/Get-Involved.aspx](https://www.vaughan.ca/projects/community/off_leash_park/Pages/Get-Involved.aspx). There is an online section for community engagement to share your views.

I hope this helps. Let me know if you require any additional information.

*Gina Ciampa*

**Executive Assistant to Councillor Marilyn Iafrate**

905-832-8585, ext. 8723 | [gina.ciampa@vaughan.ca](mailto:gina.ciampa@vaughan.ca)

**City of Vaughan | Office of Councillor, Ward 1, Maple/Kleinburg**

2141 Major Mackenzie Dr., Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1  
[vaughan.ca](http://vaughan.ca)



**To subscribe to Councillor Marilyn Iafrate's E-Newsletter, please click [here](#)**

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**From:** Emilia Racippo <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** August 16, 2020 at 2:21:47 PM EDT

**To:** "Iafrate, Marilyn" <[Marilyn.Iafrate@vaughan.ca](mailto:Marilyn.Iafrate@vaughan.ca)>

**Subject:** [External] Sports Village Park

Dear Mrs. Iafrate,

I am a resident of Hollybush Drive, and I have 2 concerns regarding our neighbourhood, the grow zone and dog park at Sports Village Park.

My concern surrounding the grow zone is that the city is removing parkland where my kids can play and replacing it with weeds and tall grass, that is atrocious to look at. Residents are not allowed to let their grass grow out of control without being given a warning by the city or facing fines. The city is being hypocritical by allowing the grass to get out of control on city owned, but funded by tax payers, land. If you are looking for suggestions for the land why not make it even more family friendly by installing a play yard for children. The closest park to us is at Major Mackenzie and Avro, that is pretty far for most of the community to travel. I have to get in my car to drive their or walk 30 mins with small kids. It is such a beautiful area why not have residents enjoy it? If not a play area for kids then plant trees instead of just having grass grow for a nice appeal. My husband and I moved into this neighbourhood because of the beautiful park land. Please keep it beautiful by planting trees or allowing us to enjoy it with our small but growing family.

Regarding the dog park. residents already do not pick up after their dogs, and my concern is it will create an even bigger problem than we already have, where dog waste can be found all over the sidewalks. In summer heat the neighbourhood is going to smell so badly from the garbage bins full of dog waste. You are also going to be taking away more land that families could be enjoying with their kids. Dogs off leash can be dangerous to children in the neighbourhood if they are able to escape the compound or their owner. An off-leash dog park should be in a more secluded area and not on a residential street.

Please consider putting a park for children in the neighbourhood.

Thank you for your time,

Emilia Rozenblit

- [REDACTED]

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C18  
Communication  
CW (WS) – June 2, 2021  
Item(s) # - 2

Infrastructure Planning & Corporate Asset Management

# Asset Management Plans | Core Assets

June 2, 2021

# Agenda

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**Purpose: Present an overview of the Asset Management Plans (Core Assets) for Council endorsement.**

1. Ontario Regulation 588/17
2. Asset Management Plans – Approach
3. Asset Management Plans – Levels of Service
4. Asset Management Plans – Funding Needs Analysis



Once endorsed, the AMPs will be posted to the City's website as required by O. Reg. 588/17.



# Core Assets

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## Water



## Stormwater



## Wastewater



## Roads & Bridges





# Strategic Alignment

Good Governance

Financial Stewardship  
& Sustainability

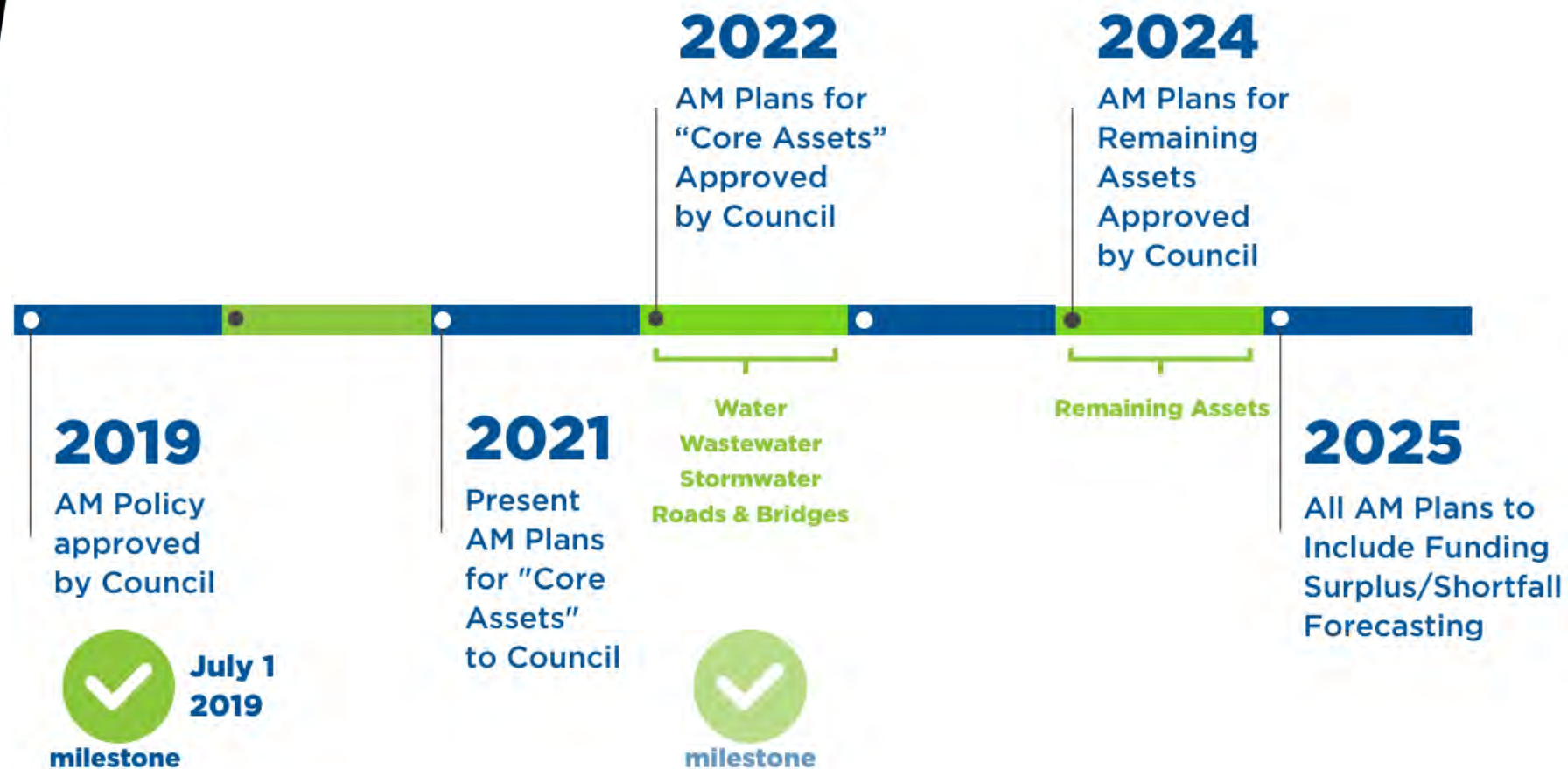


# 1. Ontario Regulation 588/17





# Ontario Regulation 588/17: AM Milestone Dates

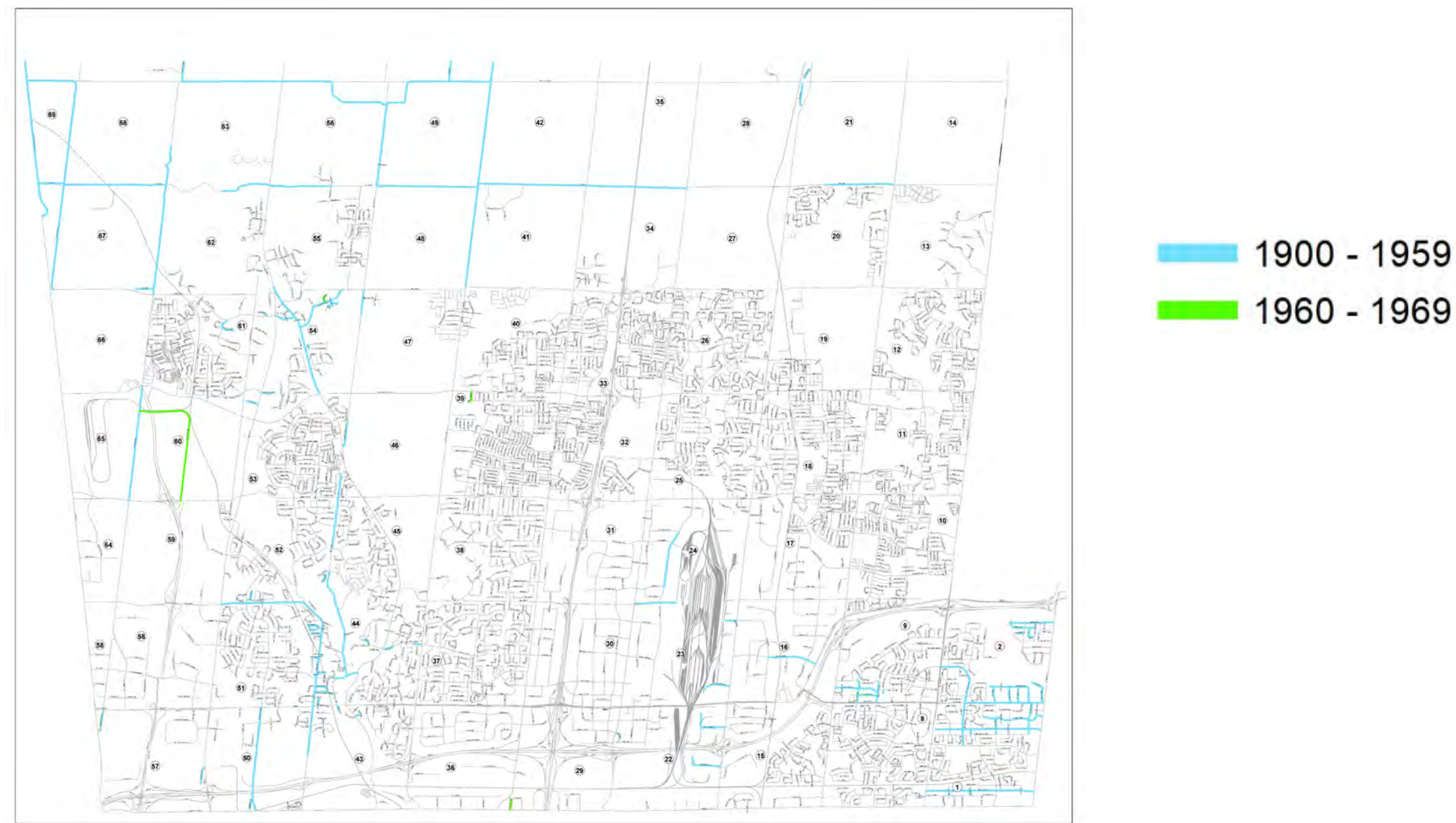




## 2. Asset Management Plans Approach



# City of Vaughan: Development By Decade



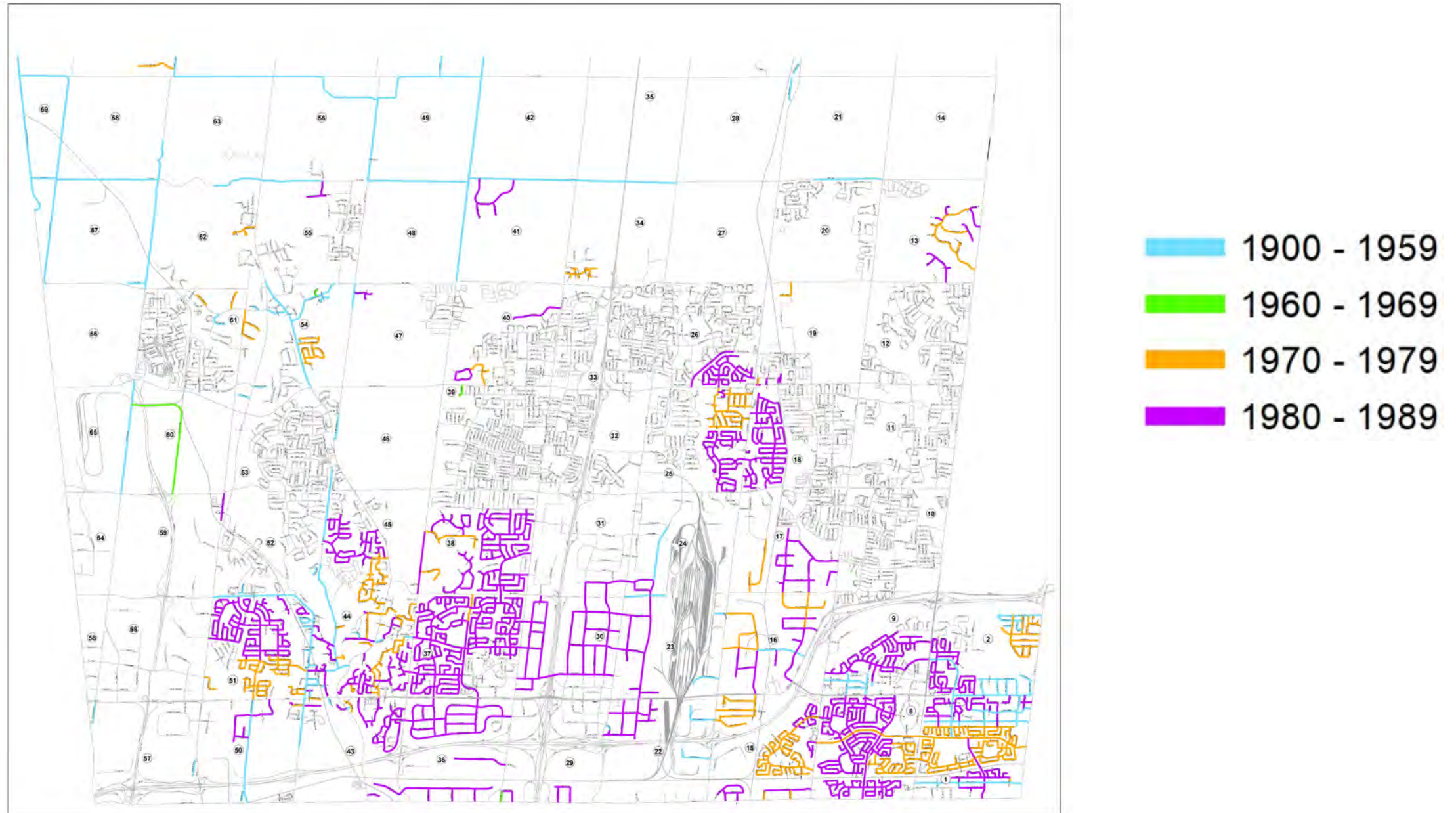


# City of Vaughan: Development By Decade

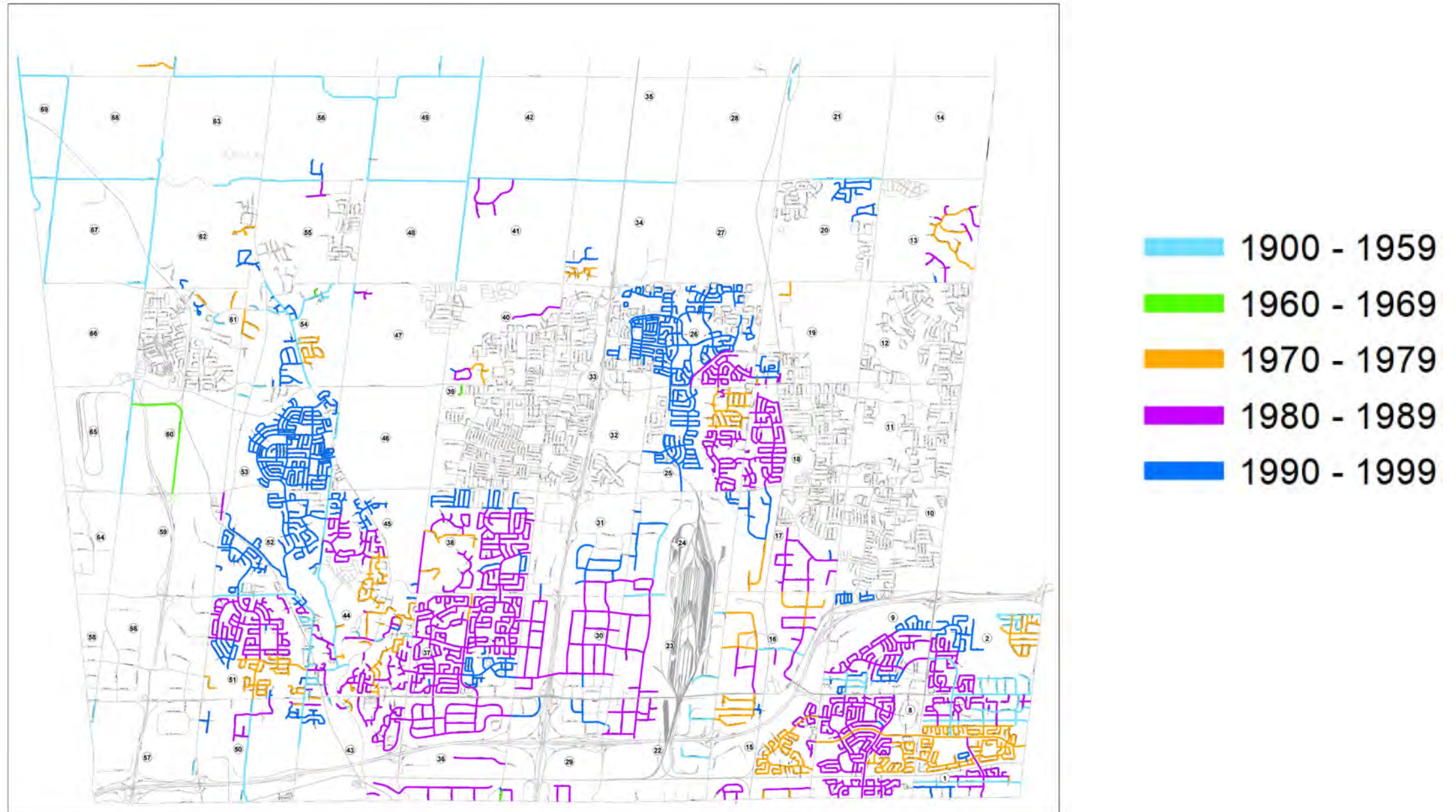




# City of Vaughan: Development By Decade

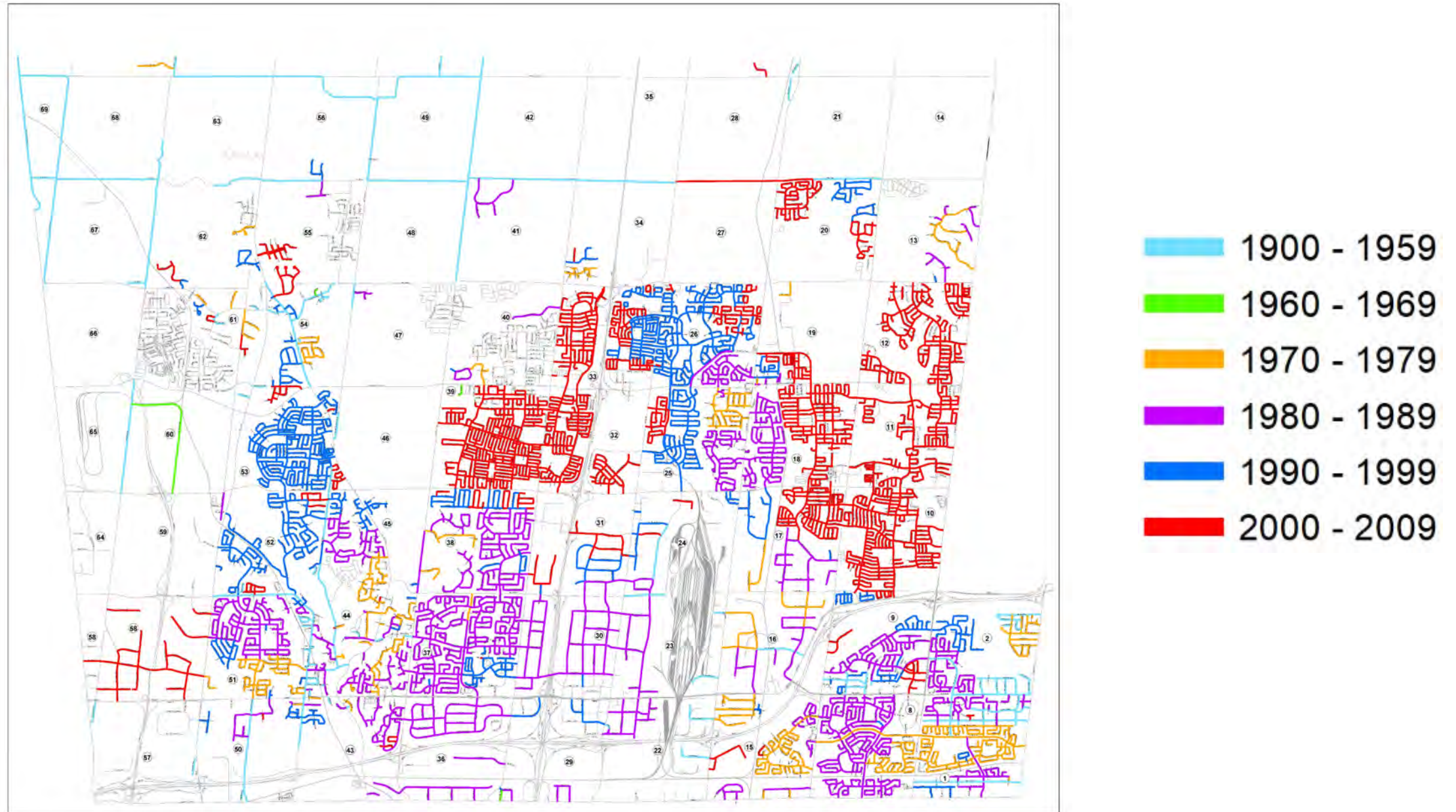


# City of Vaughan: Development By Decade



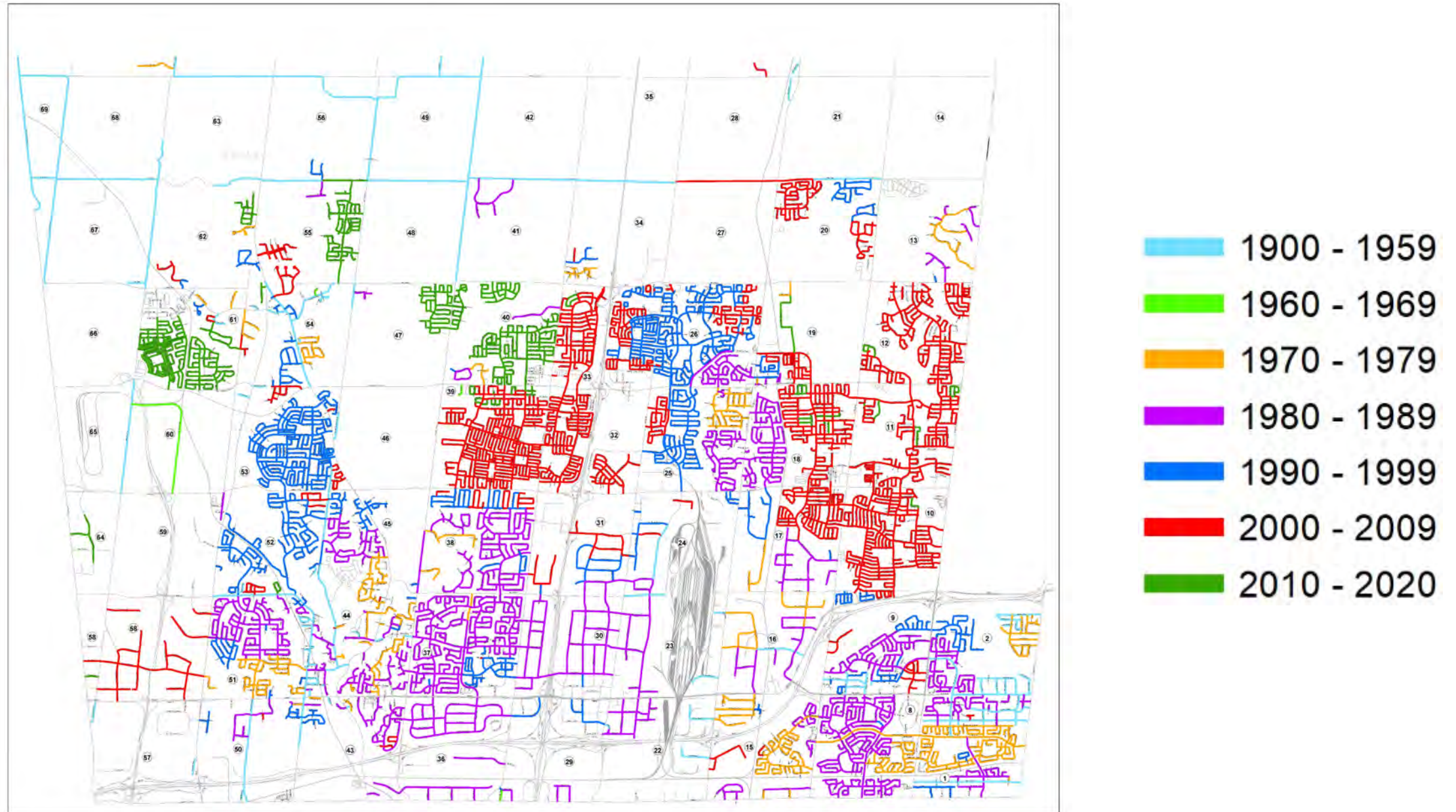


# City of Vaughan: Development By Decade

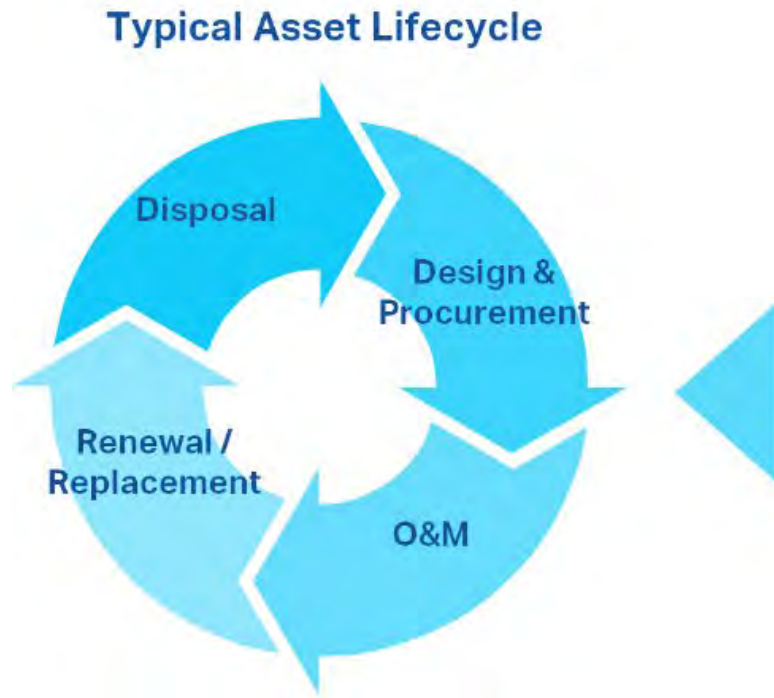




# City of Vaughan: Development By Decade

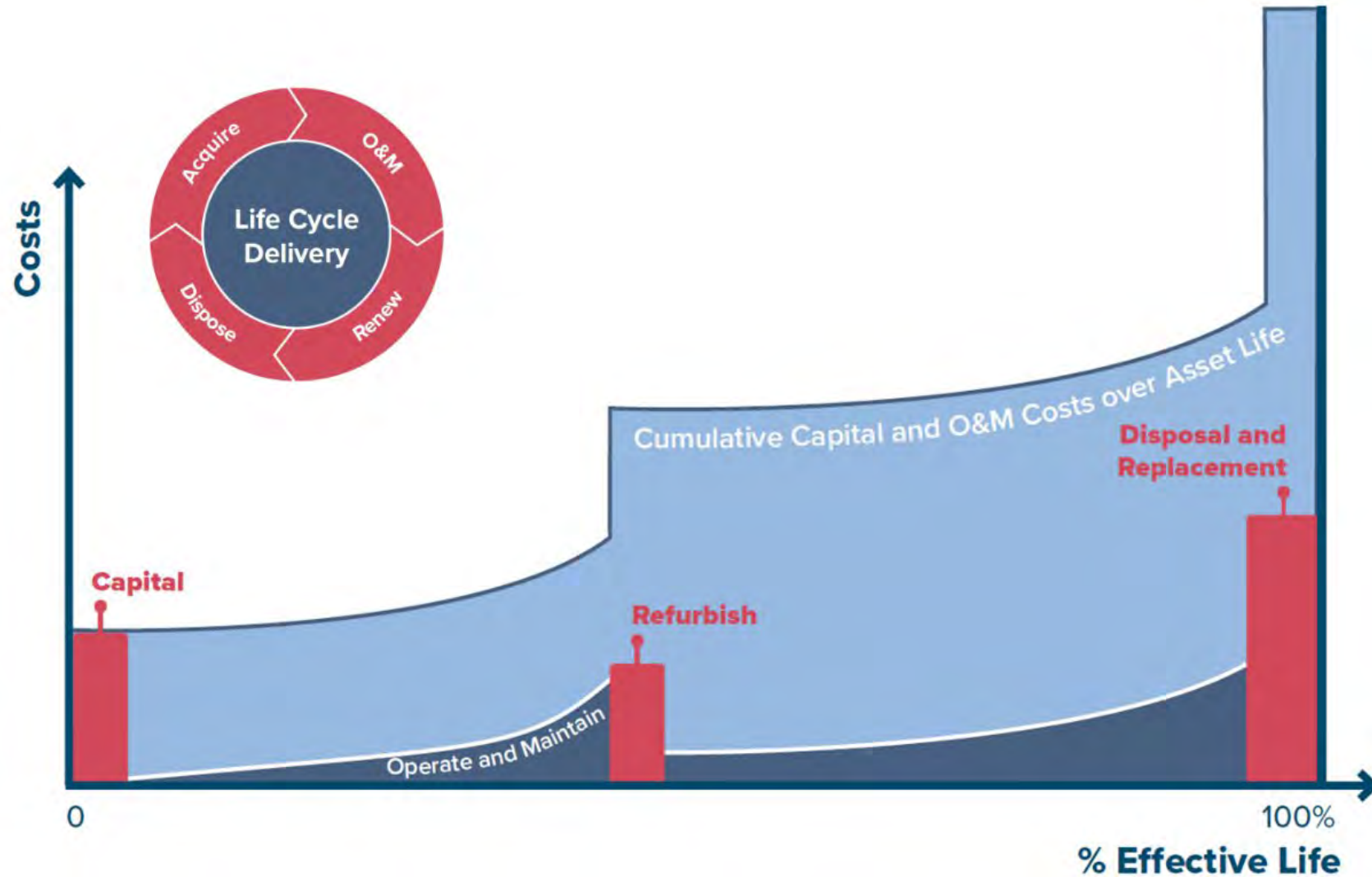


# Asset Management Plans: Approach





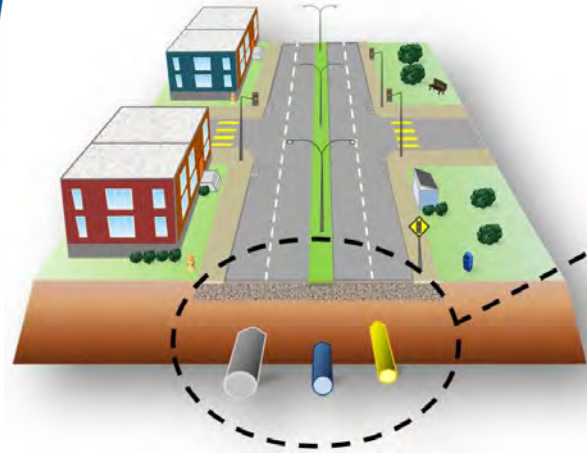
# Asset Management Plans: Life Cycle Activities





# Risk-Based Multi-Asset Lifecycle Management

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Road Corridor  
Asset Management Integration

- **Decision support system (dTIMS) formalizes a comprehensive approach to the risk-based optimization of capital funding allocations across multiple asset classes.**
- **Geo-coordination of capital projects across Road, Water, Wastewater and Stormwater assets can yield up to 20% in cost savings.**
- **Cross-asset geo-coordination also reduces duration of interruption impacts for the affected local community.**

# 3. Asset Management Plans

## State of the Infrastructure





# Water Asset Inventory



**\$ 1.5 B**

<b>Components:</b>	<b>Inventory:</b>
<b>Chambers</b>	<b>10,421</b>
<b>Hydrants</b>	<b>10,309</b>
<b>Junctions</b>	<b>29,993</b>
<b>Service Connections (Commercial)</b>	<b>3,616</b>
<b>Service Connections (Residential)</b>	<b>87,943</b>
<b>Valves</b>	<b>52,642</b>
<b>Water Mains</b>	<b>1,146 km</b>
<b>Water Meters</b>	<b>91,081</b>



# Wastewater Asset Inventory



## Components:

## Inventory:

**Flow Meters**

**45**

**Generator Station**

**1**

**Laterals**

**246 km**

**Manholes**

**16,174**

**Pump Stations**

**12**

**Sanitary Sewer Mains**

**1,000 km**

# Stormwater Asset Inventory



**\$ 2 B**

## **Components:**

## **Inventory:**

**Catch Basins**

**21,375**

**Culverts**

**177**

**Ditches & Devices**

**776**

**In/Out Structures**

**756**

**Laterals**

**226 km**

**Manholes**

**16,125**

**Storm Sewer Mains**

**1,213.5 km**

**Stormwater Management Ponds**

**153**

# Road Asset Inventory



**\$ 1.5 B**

## **Components:**

## **Inventory:**

**Collector Roads**

**744 lane km**

**Laneways**

**15 lane km**

**Rural Roads**

**110 lane km**

**Urban Local Roads**

**1,273 lane km**

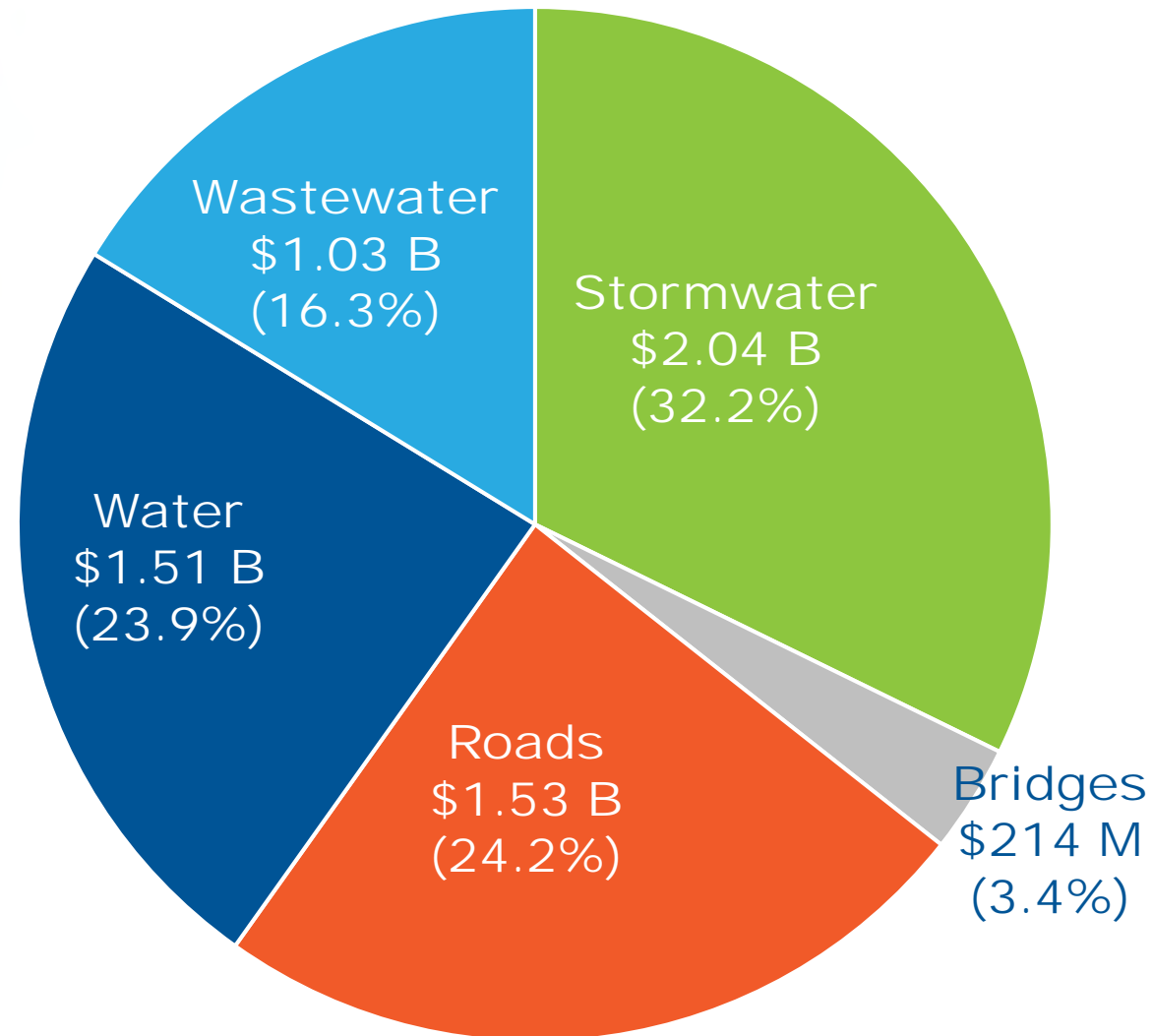


# Bridge Asset Inventory



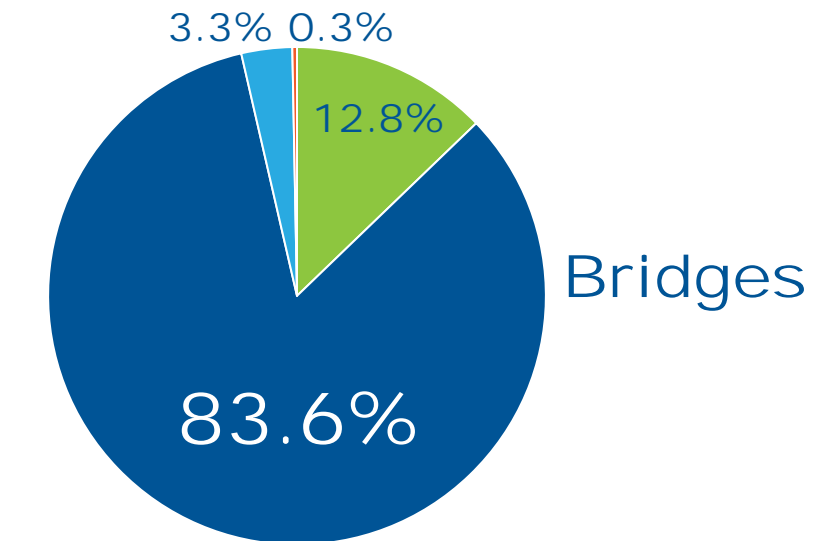
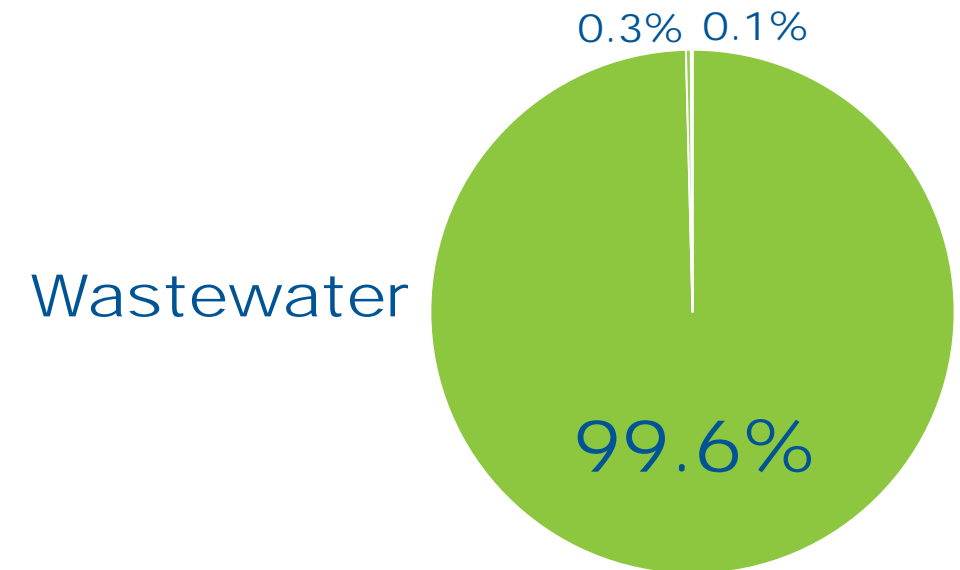
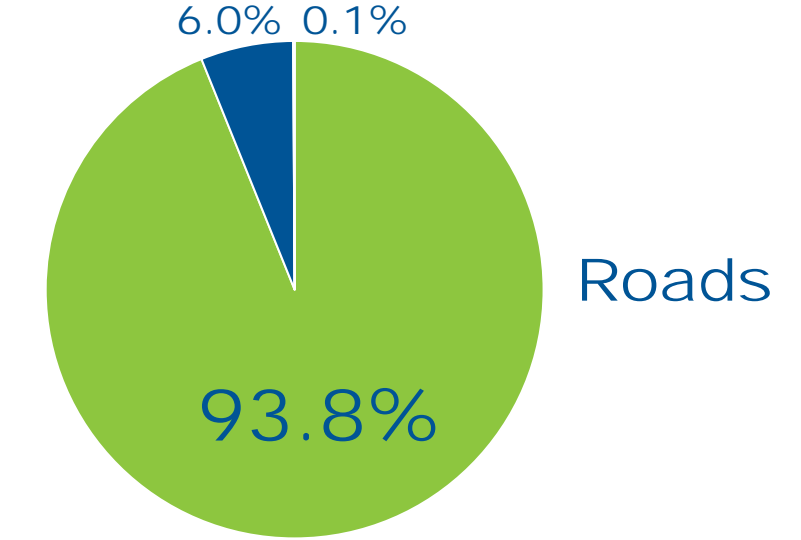
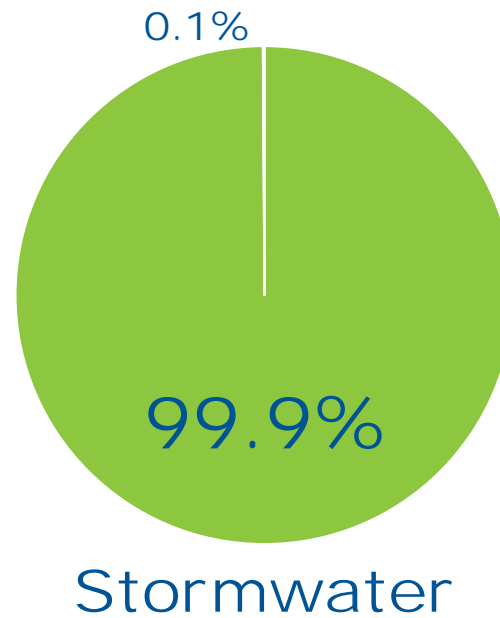
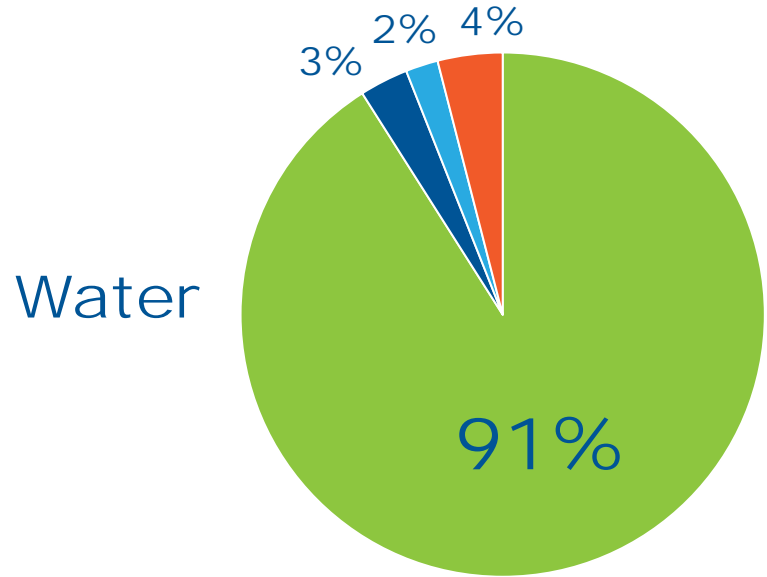
Components:	Inventory:
Bridges	33
Culverts	115
Pedestrian Bridges	41
Pedestrian Culverts	4

# Total Asset Replacement Value



Total  
Valuation of  
Core Assets  
= \$6.3 B

# Asset Condition





# 3. Asset Management Plans

## Levels of Service



# Level of Service Measures

Major Asset Class	Community LOS Measures	Technical LOS Measures
Water	Map illustrating areas that are connected to the water system.	% of properties with access to the water system.
Wastewater	Map illustrating areas that are connected to the wastewater system.	% of properties with access to the wastewater system.
Stormwater	Map illustrating areas that are serviced by the stormwater system.	% of properties resilient to 100-year storm.
Roads	Images illustrating the different levels of road pavement conditions.	Average road pavement condition index value.
Bridges	Images illustrating the different levels of bridge conditions.	Average bridge condition index value.



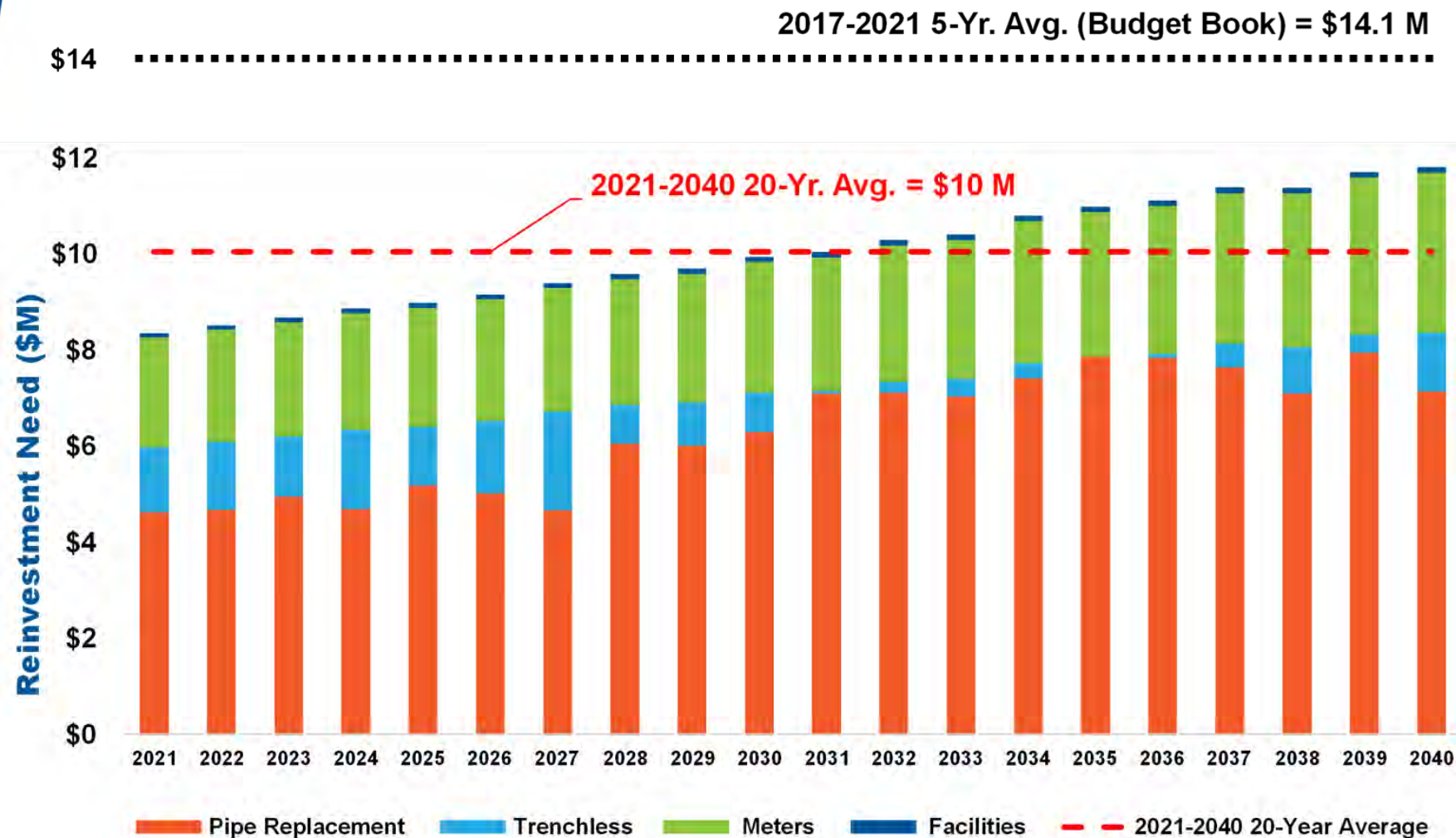
# 4. Asset Management Plans

## Funding Needs Analysis

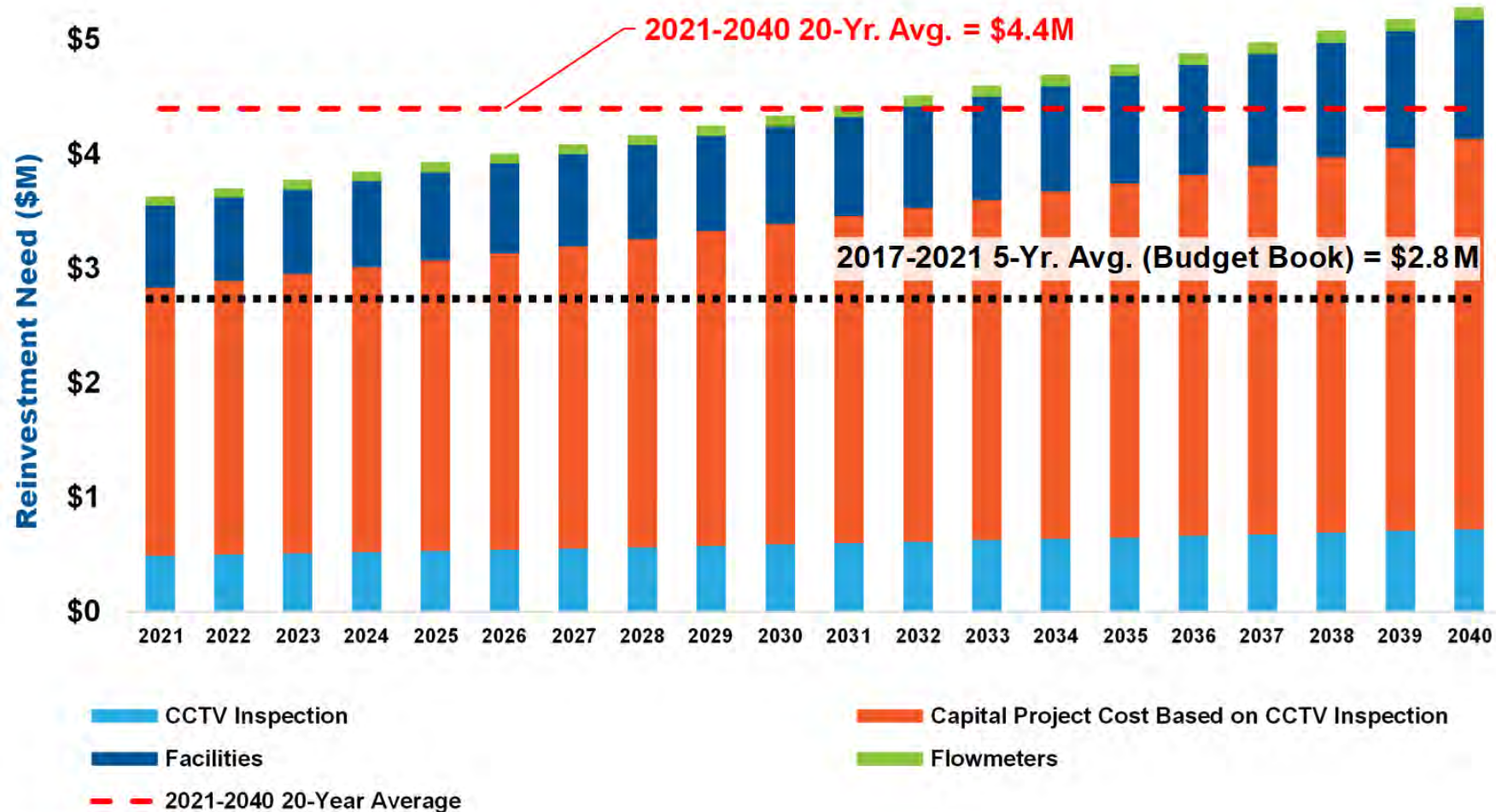




# Annual Capital Funding Needs: Water

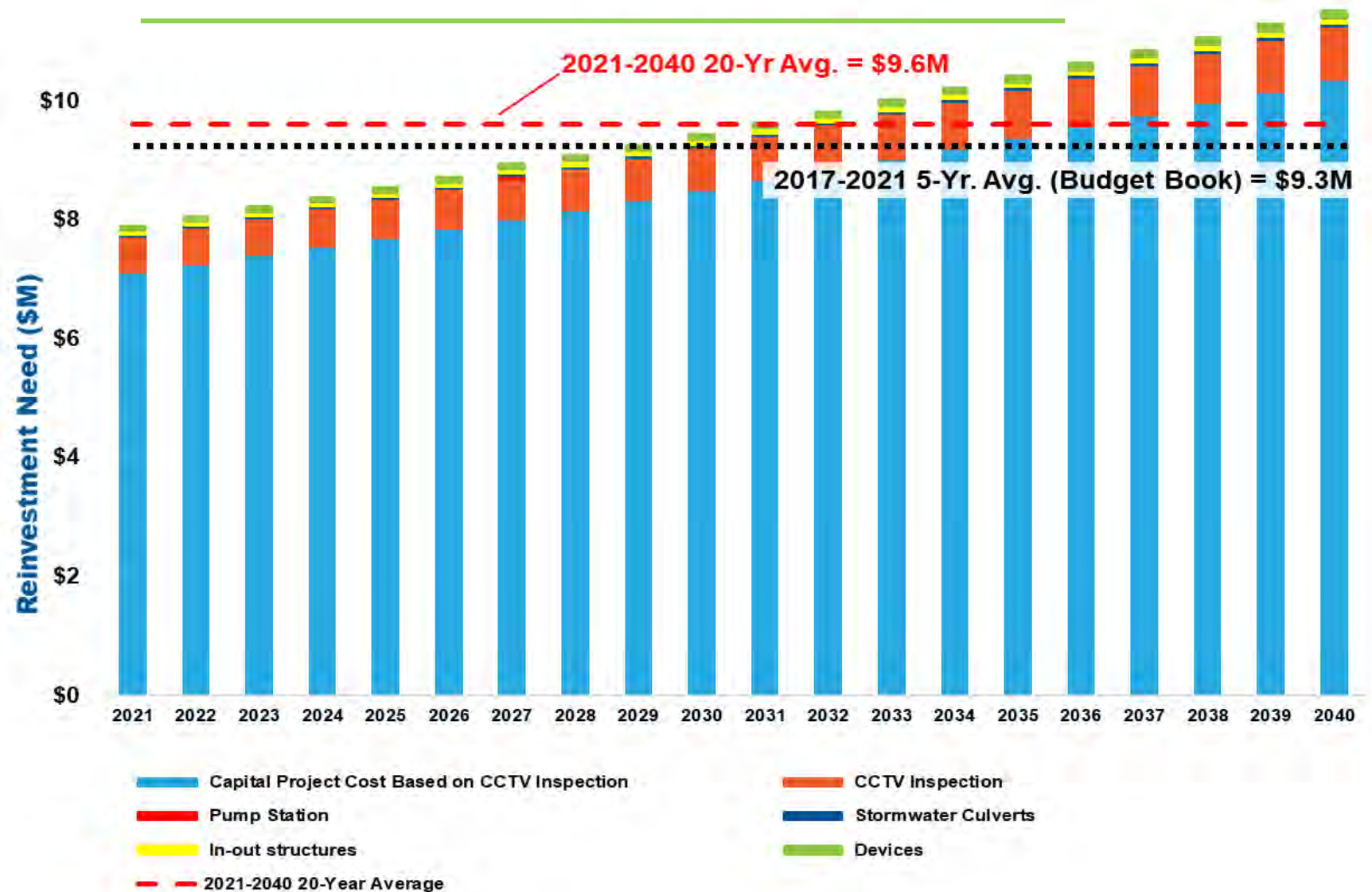


# Annual Capital Funding Needs: Wastewater



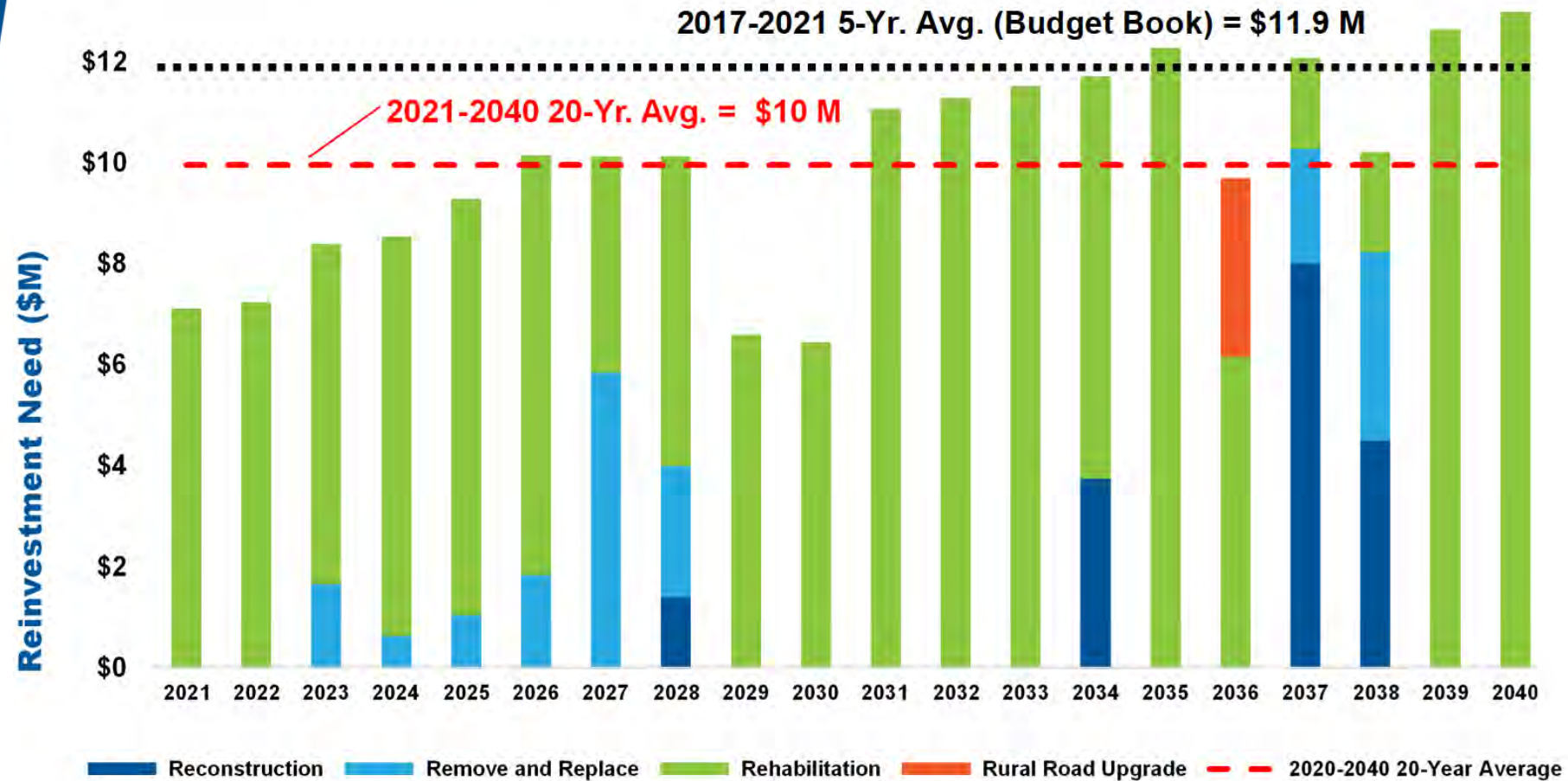


# Annual Capital Funding Needs: Stormwater





# Annual Capital Funding Needs: Roads



# Summary of Annual Asset Needs Analysis



# Program Management Process

## Infrastructure Development Portfolio





# Next Steps

---

## **Council Endorsement: Asset Management Plans for Core Assets**

- Council Endorsement of AM Plans
- Posting of AM Plans on City Website
- Input into Allocation of Capital Funds and Prioritization of Capital Projects (Infrastructure Development)
- Input into Long Term Fiscal Model and Plan (Finance)
- Development of AM Plans for Remaining Non-Core City Assets

# Questions







Thank You.





Committee of the Whole  
(Working Session)  
June 2, 2021

**MOVESMART**

# Speed Limit Policy





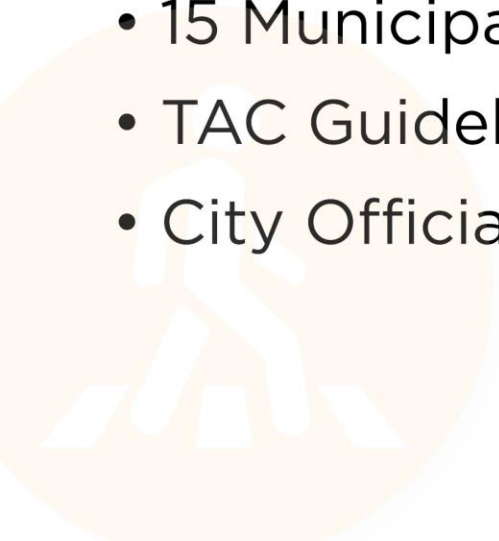
# Background

## Why do we need a policy?

- Inconsistent Speeds on City Roads
- Urbanization and Growth
- Need to protect Vulnerable Road Users

## Environmental Scan

- 15 Municipalities
- TAC Guidelines and HTA
- City Official Plan and Transportation Planning Policies



# Foundation

## **Safety**

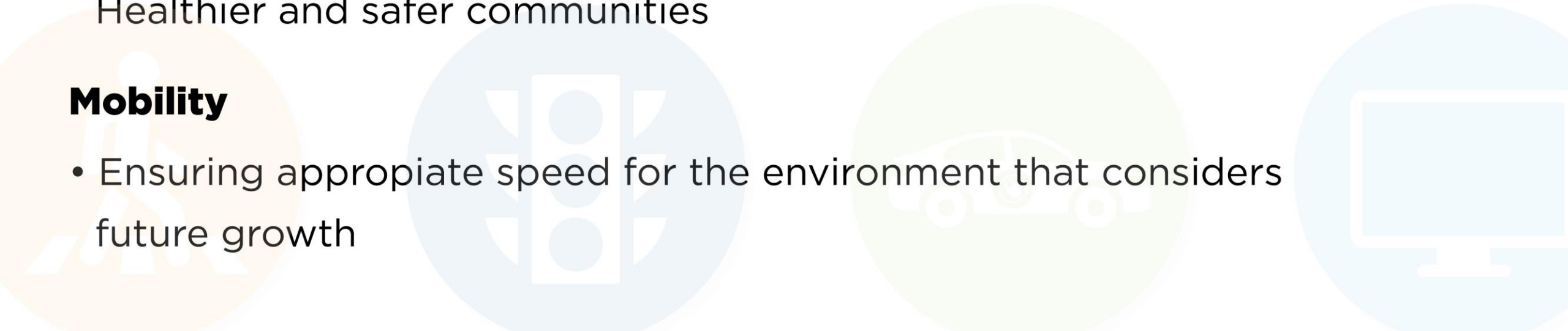
- Road Safety Addressing the needs of all road users, including pedestrians and cyclists

## **Sustainability**

- Facilitating sustainable and active transportation to create Healthier and safer communities

## **Mobility**

- Ensuring appropriate speed for the environment that considers future growth





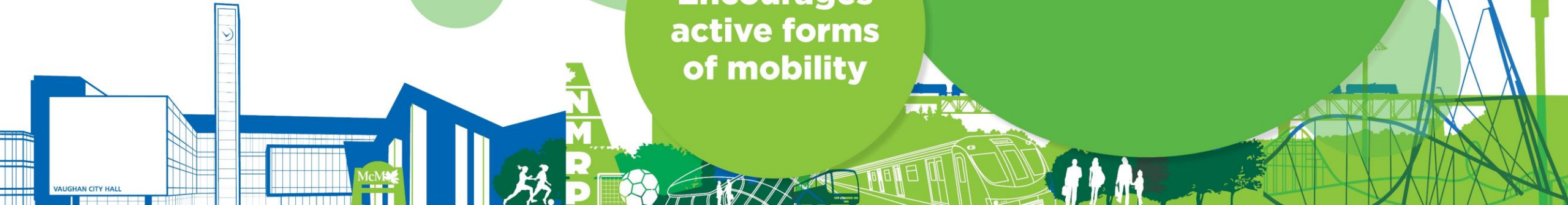
# Creating Healthier Communities

**Improves  
air quality**

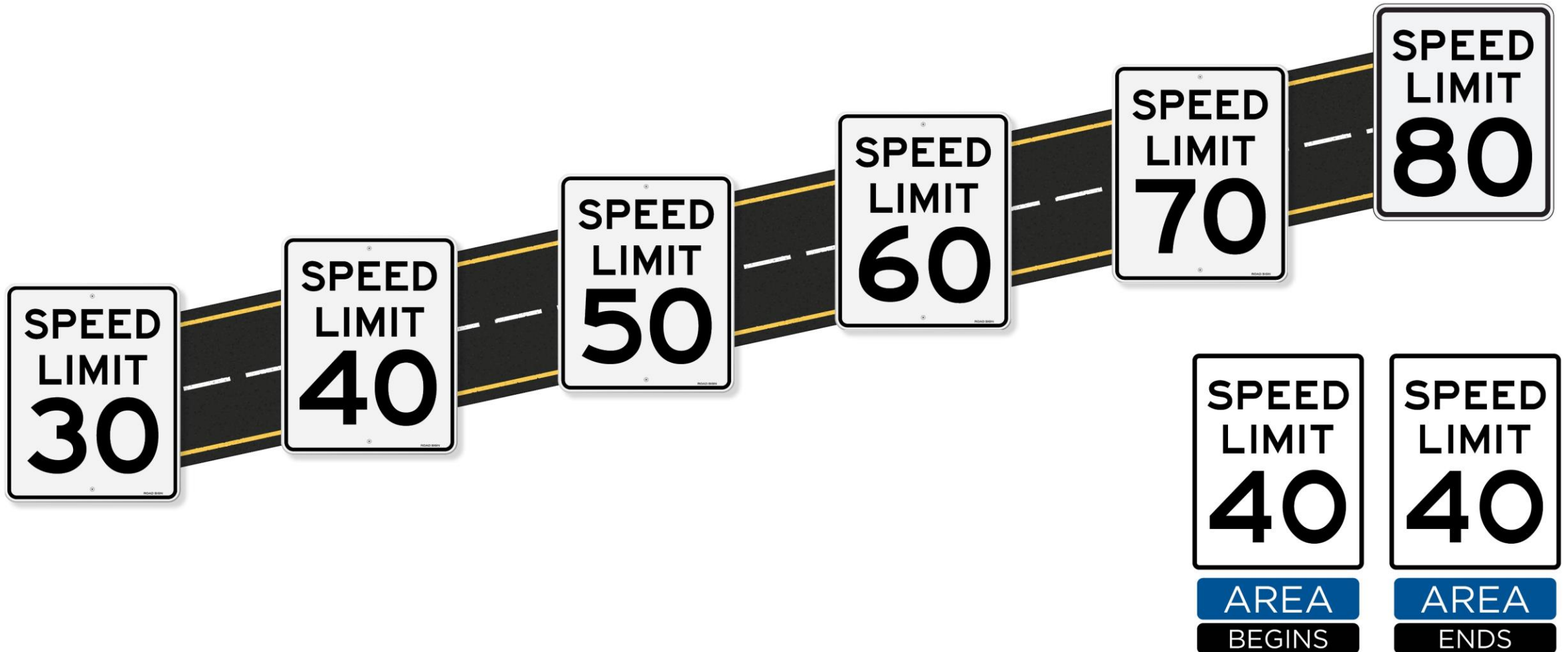
**Reduces  
chronic  
disease**

**Increases comfort  
and safety for  
all users**

**Encourages  
active forms  
of mobility**



# Setting Appropriate Speeds Based on Environment





# **SPEED LIMIT POLICY: Four Primary Zones**



**Rural roadways**



**Built-Up/Urban Areas  
including School Areas**



**Public Laneways**



**Neighbourhood Areas**



# **SPEED LIMIT POLICY: Rural Roadways**

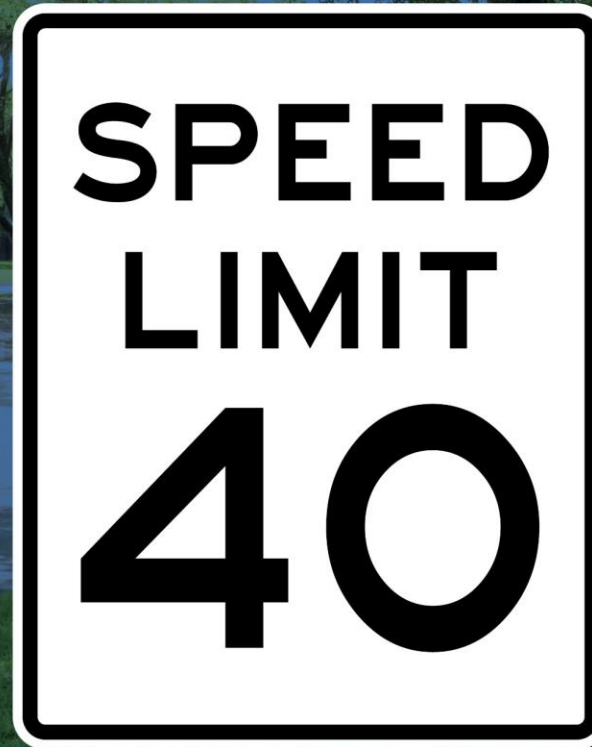
- TAC Guidelines
- New growth areas are impacting roadway usage (all modes of travel)
- New Developments and capital projects to assess rural roadway speeds





# **SPEED LIMIT POLICY: Built-Up and Urban Areas**

- Mainly local streets and minor collectors
- 40km/h speed limit:
  - roadway width
  - operating speed
  - Pedestrian/cycling environment

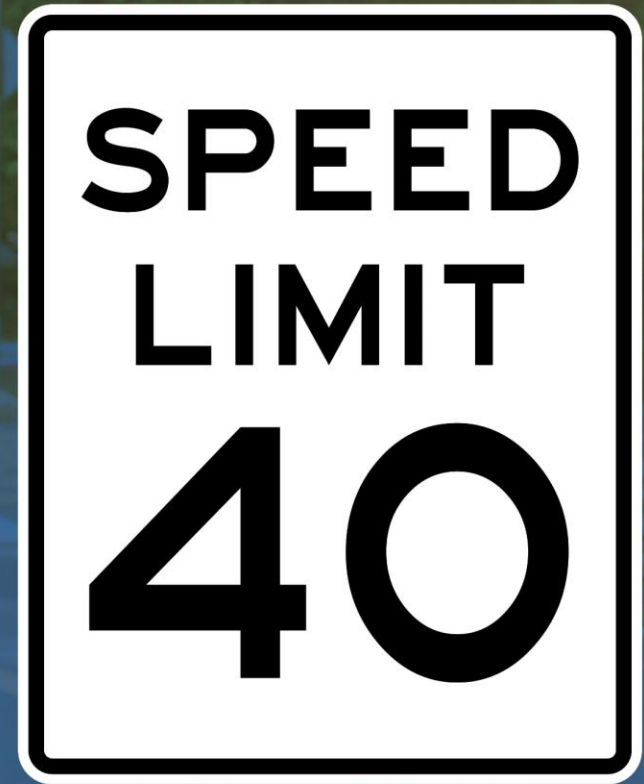




# **SPEED LIMIT POLICY: School Areas**

All School Zone Areas to be posted at 40 km/h, to raise awareness that school children and pedestrians are present

- Schools (elementary/secondary)
- Parkland connecting to school
- Roadway providing direct access to school (via walkway)





# **SPEED LIMIT POLICY: Public Laneways**

- All laneways to be posted at 30 km/h
- Typical Public laneways
  - 8.0m Right-of-way
  - 6.0m travelled portion
  - 1.0m buffer on either side
  - Lack of sidewalks
  - Garage Accesses
- No pedestrian infrastructure





# **SPEED LIMIT POLICY:** **40 km/h Neighbourhood Areas**

- Bill 65 allows municipalities to create designated Neighbourhood Areas
- Signs required at entry and exit points
- Targeting local roads in urban areas where collector roads at 40km/h

**SPEED  
LIMIT  
40**

**AREA  
BEGINS**

**SPEED  
LIMIT  
40**

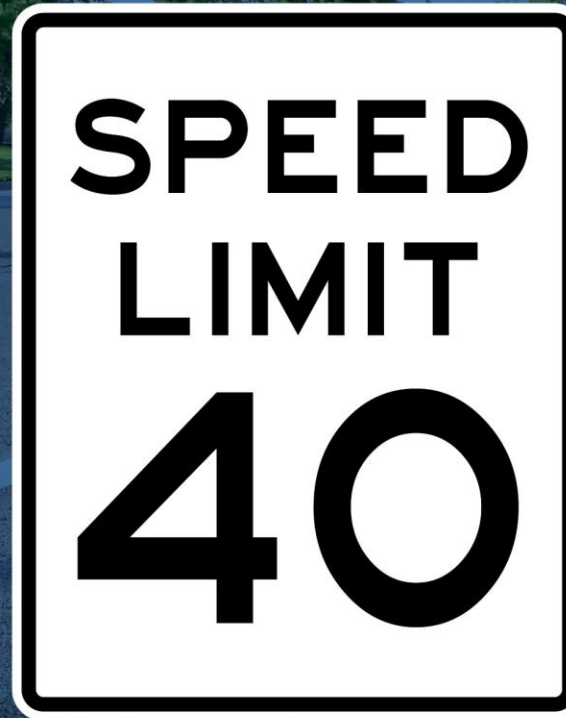
**AREA  
ENDS**



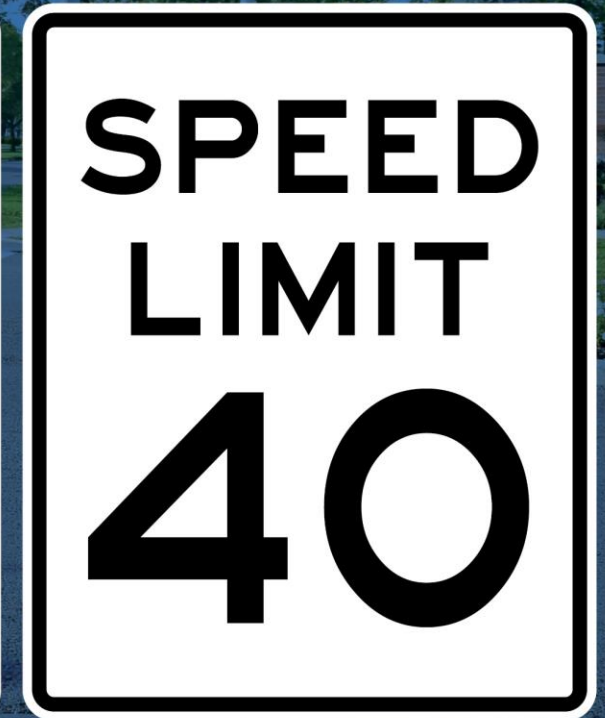
# **SPEED LIMIT POLICY:**

## **40 km/h Neighbourhood Areas cont.**

- Collector roads not at 40km/h to be assessed based on operating speed
- All new Development areas to be assessed for the establishment of 40km/h Neighbourhood Area



**AREA  
BEGINS**

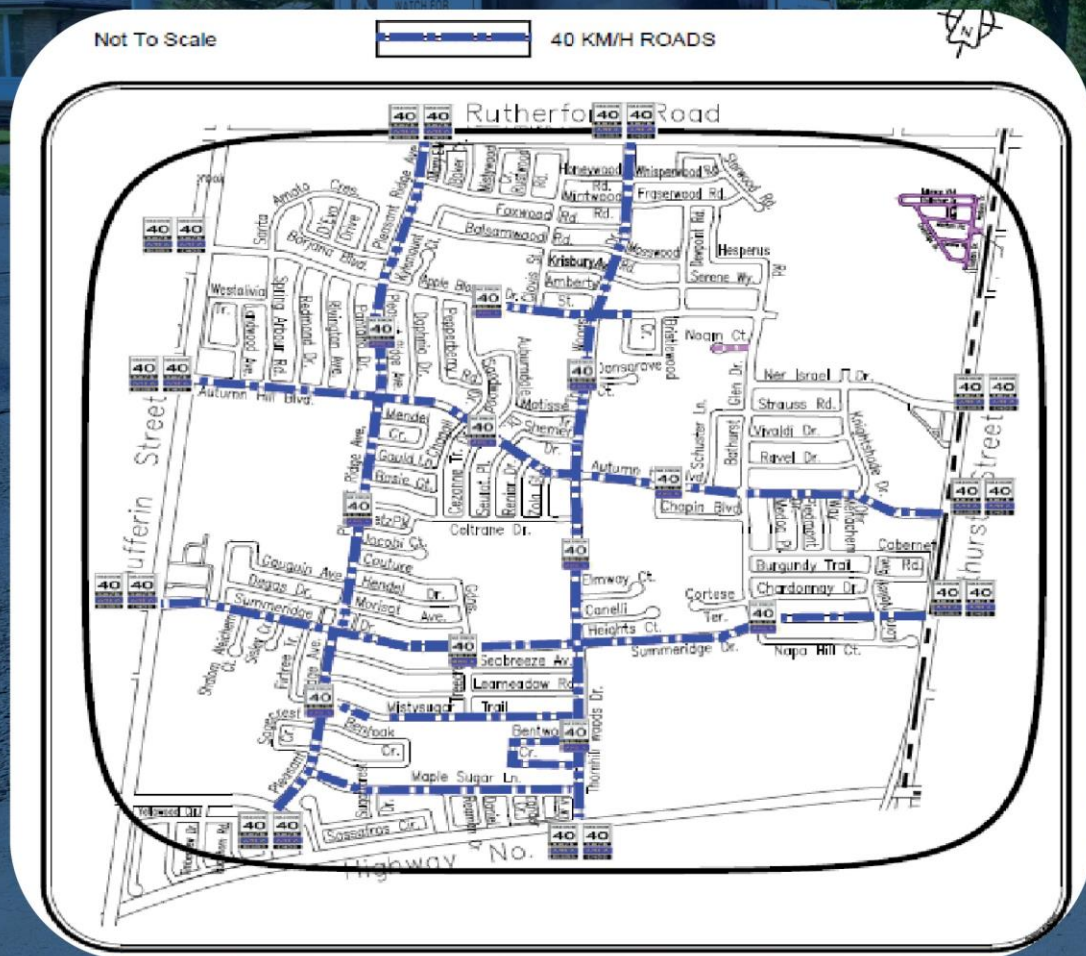


**AREA  
ENDS**



# SPEED LIMIT POLICY:

## 40 km/h Neighbourhood Areas cont.



**SPEED  
LIMIT  
40**

**AREA  
BEGINS**

**SPEED  
LIMIT  
40**

**AREA  
ENDS**



# Communication Plan

- Key stakeholders will be informed (YRP, EMS, transit, school boards, York Region Public Health)
- A public communication plan ( e.g website, Regional partners, Social media, Mobile signs, Educational video series)
- New Speed Limit Signage



# Education, Enforcement, Engagement and Partnerships





# Education, Enforcement, Engagement and Partnerships



**ROAD SAFETY  
PROGRAM**



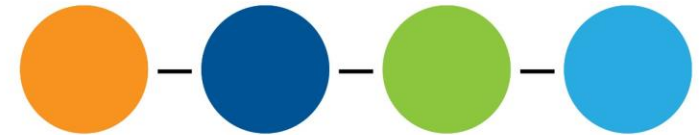
**MOBILITY  
MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAM**



**SUSTAINABLE  
MOBILITY  
PROGRAM**



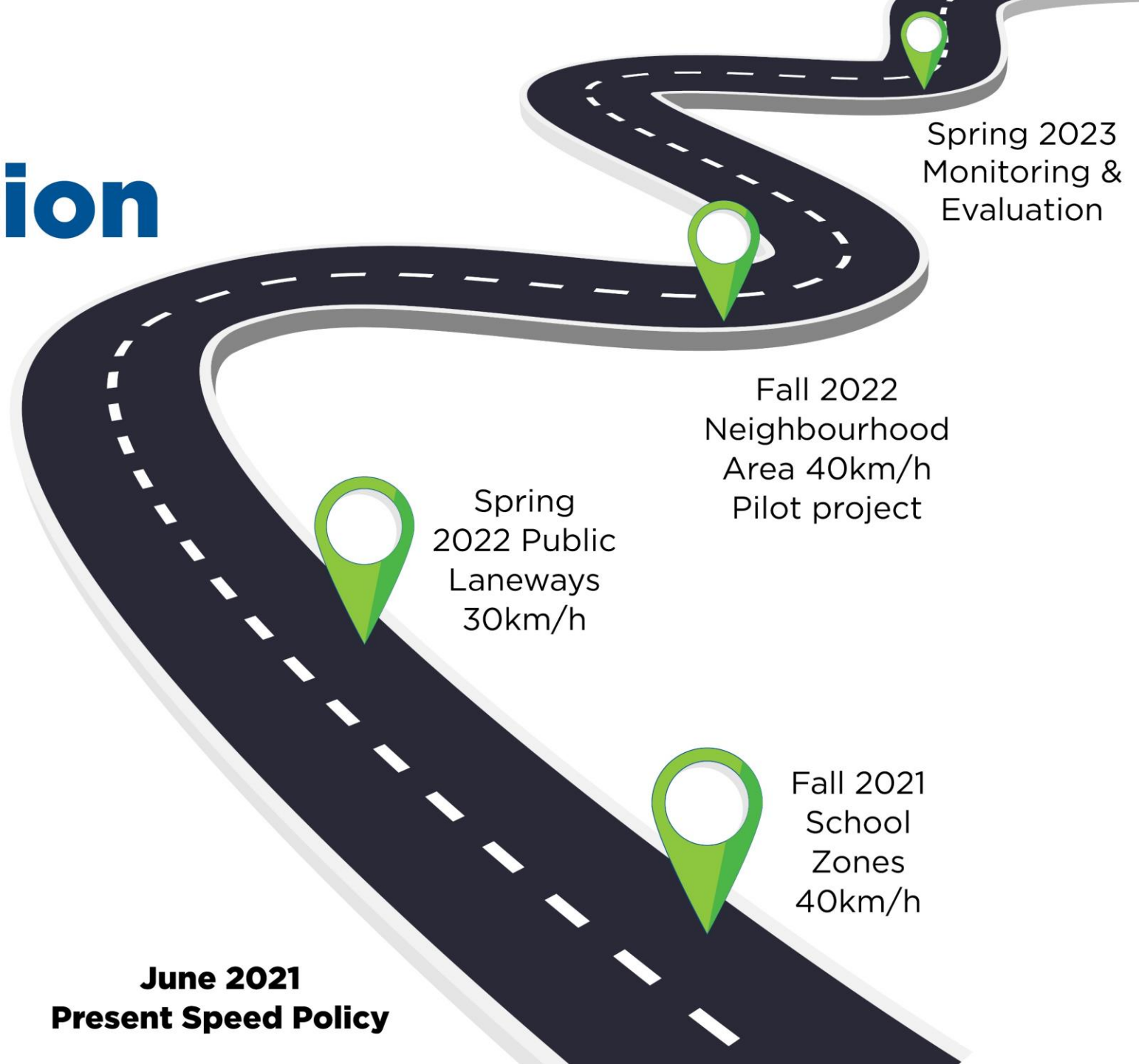
**TRAFFIC DATA  
MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAM**



**Communications and Public  
Awareness Initiative**

Ongoing awareness of  
tangible benefits through  
communication and education

# Anticipated Implementation Schedule





# Report Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- Council approve the speed limit policy.
- Council approve the speed limit changes listed for the public laneways (30km/h) and School Zones (40km/h) and the necessary by laws be prepared.
- Council approve the implementation of 40km/h Neighbourhood Areas and the necessary by laws be prepared.
- Staff be authorized to administer the speed limit policy.
- To forward a copy of the report to York Regional Police, York Region and School boards.





# THANK YOU

