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**Communication**

**Age-Friendly Vaughan**

**Advisory Committee – September 30, 2024**

**Item No. 1**

# **Growing Together:** Vaughan Community Spaces Plan



Age-Friendly Advisory Committee  
**September 30, 2024**

# Agenda



1. Community Spaces Plan Overview
2. Connecting to the Age Friendly Community Action Plan
3. Discussion Questions

# Our Team



## Monteith Brown Planning Consultants

Lead Consultant,  
Recreation, Parks  
and Library Specialist



## MJMA Architecture & Design

Public Engagement  
Lead, Design  
Consultant



## Tucker-Reid & Associates

Recreation Service  
Delivery Specialist



## Jake Tobin Garrett

Public Space  
Specialist



# Plan Overview

- ▶ The **Community Spaces Plan (CSP)** will strategically guide the future direction of Vaughan's parks, recreation, and library facilities.
- ▶ It will include implementation strategies for both the short term (**next five years**) and the long term (**ten to twenty-five years**).
- ▶ The CSP will replace the **Active Together Master Plan (ATMP)**.



North Maple Regional Park



# In-Scope Community Spaces



- Community Centres
- Indoor Pools
- Gymnasiums
- Arenas
- Fitness centres
- Indoor courts
- Youth and games rooms
- Seniors' spaces
- Activity rooms



## Sports Fields

- Soccer
- Baseball
- Cricket
- Football
- Rugby
- Multi-use fields

## Sport Courts

- Basketball
- Tennis
- Pickleball
- Ball hockey
- Volleyball
- Outdoor bocce
- Ice rink/skating

## Aquatics

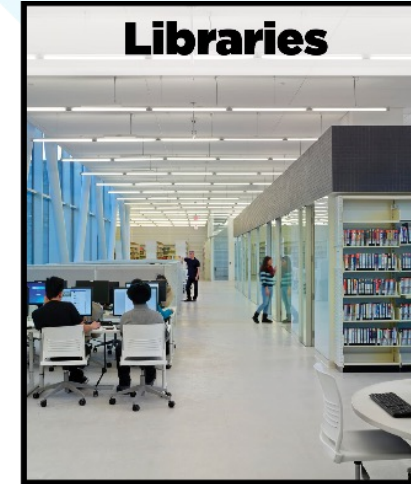
- Waterplay and Splash pads
- Outdoor pools

## Action Sports

- Skateboard parks
- Pump tracks and BMX parks

## Community Features

- Playgrounds
- Outdoor fitness
- Off-leash dog areas
- Community gardens



- Library spaces
- Creation spaces
- Express locations and kiosks
- Study spaces
- Program rooms
- Outdoor reading gardens

# Key Considerations



# Key Drivers of the Plan

1 | Population Growth

2 | Shifting Demographics

3 | Residential Intensification

4 | Changing Provincial Growth Policies

5 | Climate Change

6 | Expanding Needs and Opportunities

7 | Aging Infrastructure

8 | Rising Costs

9 | Greater Competition for Municipal Funding

10 | Reduced Land Opportunities

# Timeline

- ▶ Primary Research (April to August 2024) – **Complete**
- ▶ Assessment Review (July to October 2024) – **In Progress**
- ▶ Stakeholder and Community Engagement (September 2024 to April 2025) – **In Progress**
- ▶ Development of Facilities Plan and Implementation Strategy (December 2024 to April 2025)
- ▶ Risk Assessment (April 2025)
- ▶ Final Report and Presentations to Library Board and Vaughan Council: **June, 2025**



# Public Engagement

- ▶ Online Community Survey (closes October 18)
- ▶ Telephone Survey (complete)
- ▶ Deep Dive Focus Groups
- ▶ Indigenous Focus Groups
- ▶ Stakeholder Workshops
- ▶ Pop-up Consultations (community and youth)

Please visit [vaughan.ca/communityspaces](https://vaughan.ca/communityspaces) for more info.







# Age Friendly Perspectives

- ▶ Vaughan's older adult population is growing rapidly, making parks, recreation, and libraries essential for community wellbeing
- ▶ The Community Spaces Plan (CSP) must align with the **Age-Friendly Community Action Plan** to support this demographic.
- ▶ Your feedback will help shape a plan that keeps residents of all ages active, engaged, and connected to their community.

By 2031, 34% of Vaughan's population will be older adults (age 55+).

# Today's Objective

- ▶ We're seeking **insights from older adults** to better understand community space needs and enhance age-friendly planning in Vaughan.
  - The CSP focuses on **recreation facilities, active park spaces, and libraries** to meet community needs.
  - We're also exploring **facility and service strategies** for growing areas, including high-density communities.

# Age-Friendly Community Action Plan

## Outdoor Spaces and Public Buildings



### **ACTION 2:**

Through parks planning, continue to ensure that park and open space design incorporate spaces and amenities that are accessible and encourage physical activity, wellness, and recreation opportunities for all ages.

### **ACTION 4:**

Expand opportunities to support the development of community gardens accessible to all ages and abilities.



# Age-Friendly Community Action Plan

Community  
Support and  
Health Services



## **ACTION 24:**

Explore opportunities to develop a Community Hub.

Social  
Participation



## **ACTION 26:**

Continue to explore options to expand recreational program delivery including more options for intergenerational programs, programs for people living with dementia, programs that meets the needs of diverse ethno-cultural groups, programs in other languages, and outdoor and virtual programming.

# Age-Friendly Access

1. How age-friendly are Vaughan's parks, recreation, and library facilities and services?
2. What barriers exist when accessing community spaces in Vaughan?
3. How can these barriers be overcome?

# Age-Friendly Spaces in High-Density Areas

1. How important are community spaces in areas of intensification?
2. If you lived in a vertical neighbourhood, what type of community space would you access the most?
3. How can these spaces be designed to be age-friendly?

# Older Adult Spaces & Services

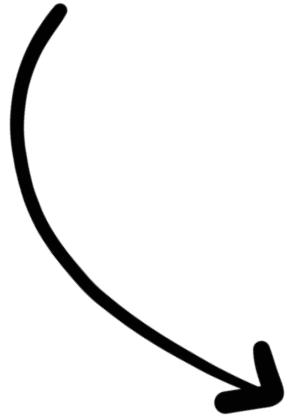
1. What is your vision for a "community hub," and how do you see recreation fitting into this concept? Which area of the city would benefit the most from such a service?
2. Is the current model of older adult clubs effective, and if not, what improvements would you suggest?

# Focus Groups

1. In your opinion, what is the best method (virtual or in-person) and time of day to engage older adults?
2. Are there people in your network or community that would be interested in the opportunity?



[vaughan.ca/communityspaces](https://vaughan.ca/communityspaces)



**ONLINE  
SURVEY**



**FOCUS  
GROUPS**





# Thank you!