

APPENDICIES

APPENDIX A GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Active Recreation

Refers to activities such as team sports or organized sports with facilities, which require the alteration of the landscape (e.g., baseball fields).

Annexation

The transfer of land from the jurisdiction of one municipal government to another municipal government.

Area Redevelopment Plan (ARP)

A statutory plan, adopted by bylaw, which provides a land use strategy for the redevelopment of a specific area of land. These plans specifically address: neighbourhood public participation, transportation and noise attenuation, requirements, public transportation (if applicable), servicing infrastructure and capacities, recreation and open space, redevelopment levies (if applicable), architectural controls, neighbourhood population and housing types, schools and school population, the identification and protection of environmentally sensitive areas and locally significant environmentally sensitive areas.

Area Structure Plan (ASP)

A statutory plan, which describes land use, road networks, servicing, park locations, and public facilities within an undeveloped area of land within a municipality.

Alberta Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA)

ARPA unites province-wide advocates of recreation and parks into a proactive and effective force for building healthy citizens, their communities and their environments in Alberta.

Best Management Practices (BMP)

Practices or methods to manage stormwater, retaining as much of the natural runoff and absorption characteristics of a catchment area as required to minimize impacts on the watershed. The methods will address both water quantity and quality issues that are economically acceptable to all parties. These parties include the Province, the Municipality and relevant stakeholders, such as individual landowners.

Biophysical Impact Assessment (BIA)

BIA is an assessment of the likely biophysical impacts and changes to nature's services that a project may have. The purpose of the assessment is to ensure that decision-makers consider biophysical impacts before deciding whether to proceed with new projects.

Buffer

A buffer consists of trees, shrubs, earth berming, open space, fencing or a combination thereof to provide visual screening, sound attenuation and/or separation between sites and districts.

Cemetery

Publicly owned and administered land base for burial and memorial purposes, developed as landscaped passive parkland.

City

The Municipal Corporation of the City of Spruce Grove, and where the context requires, means the area of land contained within the boundaries of the Municipality's corporate limits.

Community/ Conceptual Area Structure Plan (CASP)

CASP provide the link between the Spruce Grove City Plan and the ultimate design of neighbourhoods in the City. It shows, in conceptual form, the general layout of major sectors of the City by locating roads and other servicing corridors, open spaces, and general categories of land use.

Community Centre

The primary public activity centre within a community. Community centres are intended to provide a mix of public and commercial activities, including transit, provision for goods and services, community facilities, schools and open space to serve the needs of the community.

Community-level Pathway

Provides secondary routes within communities, linking residential areas to facilities such as neighborhood parks, schools, and other local community destinations. Local pathways may also serve as linkages to the regional pathway system and are generally asphalt or composed of granular material.

Community Needs Assessment

A decision-making tool used within the inner city or established suburbs to evaluate the need for proposed new open space and/or open space redevelopments by screening potential options against public demand, participation, opportunity, and fiscal assessments.

Community Parks

Community Parks are planned parks with a variety of active and passive opportunities. These parks are usually large in size containing soccer fields and/or baseball diamonds and serve a community area at least 1 -2 miles in radius.

Conceptual Scheme (Concept Plan)

A plan, adopted by bylaw, which relates a proposed development to future and existing development of adjacent lands and provides a strategy for subsequent redesignation, subdivision, and development of a specific area.

Constructed Wetlands

Designed and/or modified permanent water bodies that fluctuate with water drainage peaks but hold water at all times. Used to improve stormwater runoff quality through nutrient and sediment removal using vegetation, detention, settlement and other best management practices.

Contamination

The presence in soil, water, groundwater, air or structures of a material or condition that may adversely affect human health or the natural environment (e.g. soil, water, land, buildings). The intrusion of these undesirable elements may render a site inappropriate for certain land uses or types of development.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Design and use of the built environment that leads to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime and an overall improvement of quality of life.

Cultural Landscapes

Geographical areas that have been modified or influenced by human activity.

Day Use Areas

Lands designated for the daily use by the public for outdoor recreation purposes and may include uses and facilities such as parks, playgrounds, picnic areas, tennis courts, golf courses, campgrounds, and beaches.

Destination Recreation Parks

Park development and site programming that is undertaken to meet unique city-wide needs, including major festivals. There is a recreational and/or cultural emphasis in their use, design, development, and programming. They serve as in-city destinations for residents on half-day or day outings.

Downtown Open Space

Comprised of, but not limited to, publicly accessible parks, plazas, street edge and streetscapes with a mix of

hard and soft landscaping designed to beautify the city core and provide “green” respites from the heat, noise and congestion of the downtown area.

Dry Storm Ponds

Designed, low lying areas that temporarily fill with water in peak drainage conditions with controlled outflow rates. These sites are used to manage the peak volume and runoff rates of stormwater. The sites may be designed as multi-use facilities with sports field use when they are dry.

Easement

An acquired privilege or right of use or enjoyment which an individual, firm, corporation, person, unit of government, or group of individuals has in the land of another.

Eco-Industrial Park

An eco-industrial park or estate is a community of manufacturing and service businesses located together on a common property. Member businesses seek enhanced environmental, economic, and social performance through collaboration in managing environmental and resource issues. By working together, the community of businesses seeks a collective benefit that is greater than the sum of individual benefits each company would realize by only optimizing its individual performance (source:<http://www.indigodev.com/Ecoparks.html>).

Ecological Parks / Reserves

Ecological reserves (and parks) are established for the maintenance of biological diversity and are permanent sanctuaries (source: <http://www.ecoreerves.bc.ca/erwhy.html>).

Environmental Open Space

Includes the Creek Valley System, Natural Environment Parks and Environmentally Significant Areas.

Environmental Reserve (under the Municipal Government Act)

A part of a parcel of land that is the subject of a proposed subdivision and is to be provided as environmental reserve as required by the subdivision authority if it consists of:

- a. A swamp, gully, ravine, coulee or natural drainage course,
- b. Land that is subject to flooding or is, in the opinion of the subdivision authority, unstable, or
- c. A strip of land, not less than 6 metres in width, abutting the bed and shore of any lake, river, stream or other body of water for the purpose of:
 - i. Preventing pollution, or
 - ii. Providing public access to and beside the bed and shore.

Environmentally Significant Area (ESA)

A natural area that has been inventoried prior to potential development and because of its natural features and characteristics is significant from an environmental perspective.

Escarpment

An extended linear topographical feature of relatively steep slope and significant change in elevation.

Established Community

Established neighborhoods and communities that are outside the defined inner city. They do not include the city's edge communities currently undergoing new development.

Floodplain/Flood Fringe

The lands abutting the floodway. The boundaries of the floodplain are indicated by floodwaters of a magnitude likely to occur once in 100 years.

Floodway

The creek channel and adjoining lands which would provide a pathway for flood waters in the event of a flood of a magnitude likely to occur once in 100 years.

Framework

The set of ideas, principles, and agreements that provides the basis of a plan.

Golf Course

Public golf courses owned by the City and operated by private owner.

Green Infrastructure

Includes municipal infrastructure related to water and wastewater systems, water management, solid waste management and recycling, and capital expenditures to retrofit or improve ecological functioning and quality of life for humans and wildlife.

Green Roofs

Green roof development involves the creation of “contained” green space on top of a human-made structure. A green roof system is an extension of the existing roof which involves a high quality water proofing and root repellent system, a drainage system, filter cloth, a lightweight growing medium and plants. Green roofs are aesthetically pleasing, reduce the urban heat island effect, reduce carbon dioxide impact, reduce winter heat demand, reduce noise, remove nitrogen pollution in rain, etc.

Historical Resource

Any property, area, place, district, building, structure, site, neighborhood, scenic view-plain or other object having special historical, cultural, architectural or aesthetic value.

Inner City

The geographic boundary of the inner city communities, where there has been an evolution of land uses and housing mixes.

Joint Use Site

Municipal reserve lands owned jointly by the City of Spruce Grove and local School Boards through the Joint Use Agreement. Provisions concerning planning, development and maintenance of sites are included in the agreement. Sites may contain schools, playfields, community association facilities, recreation facilities, dry ponds, etc.

Land Use Bylaw (LUB)

The bylaw that divides a municipality into land use districts and establishes procedures for processing and deciding upon development applications. It sets out rules that affect how each parcel of land in a municipality may be used and developed.

Landscaping

The modification and enhancement of a site through the use of any or all of the following elements:

- (a) Soft landscaping consisting of vegetation such as trees, shrubs, hedges, grass and ground cover;
- (b) Hard landscaping consisting of nonvegetative materials such as brick, stone, concrete, tile and wood, excluding monolithic concrete and asphalt; and
- (c) Architectural elements consisting of wing walls, sculpture and the like.

Linear Park

A narrow open space area/park that is often in linear form containing a pathway or trail connecting adjacent parks or open spaces.

Maintenance Agreement

A formal agreement between the City and a project partner that defines who is responsible for maintaining park amenities when these costs are in excess of what the city regularly maintains (i.e. above base level maintenance). In the agreement the project partner agrees to perform the maintenance or pay for it to occur. It also specifies who is responsible for (and defines the mechanisms used to) remove the improvement and restore the site if the feature becomes unsafe or has reached the end of its useful lifecycle or if the partner no longer wants to support the required level of maintenance.

Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

Establishes a mutually satisfactory relationship between the parties.

Municipal Development Plan (MDP)

A statutory plan that guides the future growth and development of a municipality as it relates to transportation, housing, economic activity, recreation, the environment, social issues and other matters.

Municipal Government Act (MGA)

The Municipal Government Act RSA 2000, Chapter M-26, and amendments thereto.

Municipal Reserve (MR)

Reserve land dedicated for park and open space purposes.

Municipal School Reserve (MSR)

Reserve land used for educational sports fields, community recreational sport fields and school building sites.

Natural Areas (Park) / Natural Environmental Parks (NEP)

An open space containing unusual or representative biological, physical or historical components, which, although it need not be completely undisturbed, either retains or has had re-established a natural character.

Natural Environment Park

A park classified as MR and/or ER, where the primary role is the protection of an undisturbed or relatively undisturbed area of land or water, or both, and which has existing characteristics of a natural/native plant or animal community and/or portions of a natural ecological and geographic system. Examples include wetlands, escarpments, riparian corridors, natural grasslands and woodlots.

Natural Open Space

Defined as undeveloped land left in its natural environment it often includes wetlands, steep hillsides, environmentally sensitive areas, creek and river corridors, and woodlots.

Naturalization

An alternate landscape management technique to conventional high maintenance landscapes. Natural processes of growth and change are less restricted and areas are allowed to return to a natural state.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood Parks are the combination of tot lot/playgrounds and park designed for the primary purpose of non-organized recreation activities. These types of parks are generally small in size and offer children's play structures and picnic areas.

New Communities

The substantially unbuilt/undeveloped residential areas toward the edges of the city. Although unbuilt, planning policies are in place in all of these new communities areas prior to development.

Non-Statutory Planning Study

A non-statutory study that contains policies approved by Council but not adopted by bylaw.

Non-Traditional Open Space Uses

Uses that have a more specialized appeal in terms of participation rates than “traditional” activities such as ball, soccer and hockey. Programming for non-traditional open space uses is typically provided by specialized sports, recreational or user groups.

Off-Site Levies

A fee charged on development within a defined geographical area, typically for roadways and utilities.

Open Space

All lands not covered by structure or development that provides aesthetic or activity related value to the public.

Outdoor Joint Use Agreements

Outlines the roles and responsibilities of the parties related to usage of facilities, capital costs and maintenance costs related to facilities.

Park

A specific-use open space area that is managed to provide opportunities for recreation, education, cultural or aesthetic use.

Parks & Open Space Master Plan (POSMP)

A document that expresses the public goals, objectives, needs and priorities for recreational facilities and protection of open space and parks.

Pathways and Trails

Designated areas for walking, bicycling, and other non-motorized activities and serve as a means to linking various part of the community. Trails can serve single purpose or be multi-purpose serving a range of activities which may include mountain biking, rollerblading, walking and horseback riding.

Passive Recreation

Refers to activities that are more of an individual activity rather than a team activity, they usually are non-motorized, non-commercial, and non-competitive requiring little to no alteration to the natural landscape i.e. walking.

Performance Indicators

Measures of progress towards the vision for Spruce Grove.

Preservation

Designed to provide protection and maintenance of currently undisturbed natural areas and enhancement of existing natural features. Human access to these areas would be limited.

Protected Open Space

Open space that is subject to certain restrictions that limit the use of the lands and ability to transfer of the property such as conservation easements.

Public Utility Lot

Land required to be given under the Municipal Government Act for public utilities. A public utility is a system or works used to provide certain services for public consumption or benefit. Examples of public utilities include water, public transportation, irrigation, drainage, waste management and telecommunications.

Recreation

The activity that a person takes part in for pleasure or relaxation outside of the workplace. Recreation has different meanings to people, for some it is the physical activity of hiking, climbing or playing soccer, for others it is the intellectual activity of studying nature through birdwatching or photography. Both parks and open spaces provide for active and passive recreational opportunities respectively.

Recreational Open Space

One of the three major types of open space (along with environmental and urban design open space). Recreational open space is open space that is acquired primarily to provide places for accessible public recreation.

Regional Pathway System

A city-wide linear network that facilitates non-motorized movements for recreation and transportation purposes. The spine of the system parallels the major physical features of the river valleys park system, including waterways, escarpments and ravines. It connects communities by linking major parks, recreation facilities and natural features. The regional pathway system may also link other major community facilities such as schools, community centres and commercial areas. The regional pathway is hard-surfaced, typically asphalt and located off-street. It is a multi-use facility and no one user or type of user is to be given elevated status.

Regional Recreation Parks

Parks developed for general recreation. May consist of either natural or constructed features, or both. Regional Recreation Parks are located and designed to serve more than one community but less than the entire city. They usually accommodate multiple activities for half or full day outings. Major features and amenities include: riverbank escarpment, passive recreation areas, picnicking, winter recreation, tot lots, local and regional pathway connections, and sports field areas.

Creek Valley

Sloping area abutting the creek channel.

Right-of-Way / Roadway Greens

A type of open space located within road rights-of-way. In addition to mowed grasses, they commonly include amenities such as trees, pathways, benches, natural areas and, less commonly, flower beds, sculptures, playgrounds and play fields.

School Grounds

Are defined by the Municipal School Reserve (MSR) and can be under a joint-use agreement. The grounds can be owned either by the public or private school board.

Skate Park

Commonly called skateboard parks, although they accommodate in-line skating and other similar activities. Skate parks are usually cement structures with a series of moguls and edges to accommodate stunts and tricks.

Sports Fields

Developed open space providing educational and recreational opportunities for specialized sports activities; traditionally baseball, softball and soccer, with some fields for non-traditional uses including rugby, lawn bowling, cricket, field hockey, etc.

Sports Fields – Community Level

Educational and recreational sports field requirements for public elementary schools, public junior high schools, public elementary and junior high schools, separate elementary schools and separate elementary and junior high schools, as per City's "Development Guidelines and Standard Specifications—Landscape Construction."

Sports Fields – District Level

Educational and recreational sports field requirements for public and separate high schools as per the Site Planning Team’s Joint Use Site Guidelines, as shown in the City’s “Development Guidelines and Standard Specifications—Landscape Construction.”

Sport Fields – City-Wide Level

Indoor and outdoor facilities that are available at dedicated sites. They have onsite staff and include Spruce Grove’s major athletic parks. Both children and adult programs are offered at the city-wide facilities. They are built to accommodate advanced levels of play.

Stormwater Management

The planning, analysis, collection, storage and controlled discharge of urban stormwater runoff. A series of techniques is used to manage where and how much water passes through a system after a storm. The term “best management practices” is used to describe techniques that work in conjunction with the natural systems.

Sub-neighborhood Park

The smallest of the parks, it usually functions as a play area for small children or as a passive park. May be combined with a larger park.

Sustainable Development

Economic and social development within the limits required to sustain long-term environmental well-being. Such development ensures that our use of the environment and natural resources today does not harm the prospects for use by future generations.

Tourist Facility or Destination

A destination or attraction for the purposes of City owned direction signs and, in the opinion of the Approving Authority, which draws people regionally, for the purpose of entertainment, recreation, leisure, or cultural purposes.

Trails

Constructed linear paths with a granular surface and are generally located in natural areas. As a management tool they identify intended public routing and can formalize desire lines to minimize the impact on the natural environment.

Triple Bottom Line (TBL)

TBL captures an expanded spectrum of values and criteria for measuring organizational (and societal) success - economic, environmental and social.

Unprotected Open Space

Open space owned by individuals, private companies, groups or societies with the right to develop the lands as they wish, (e.g., private golf course).

Urban Agriculture

Is the practice of agriculture (include crops, livestock, fisheries, forestry activities) within or surrounding the boundaries of cities. The land used may be private residential land, public roadside land or river banks.

Urban Design Open Space

Open space where the main function is to contribute to the quality, form and function of the built environment through visual aesthetics, character, variety, sun allowances, noise/sight buffering, and public areas. Examples include roadway greens, escarpments, landscaped boulevards, sidewalks and urban plazas.

Urban Forest

The sum of all woody and associated vegetation in and around dense human settlement. It is the sum of street trees, residential trees, parks trees and green belt vegetation. It includes trees on unused public and private lands, trees in transportation and utility corridors and forests on watershed lands.

Urban Plaza

A place where the design, function and programming are its key characteristics and, therefore, it shall be maintained as a Class A park. The adjacent land uses, the plaza's unique features, interesting surface treatments, grade changes and seating contribute to its distinct identity and create a sense of place. It is an outdoor public space where cars are excluded. Its main function is for casual use by all Spruce Grove residents, regardless of ability, age, gender, culture or socio-economic status. However, it can also be used as a public gathering place for such activities as festivals, carnivals, art shows, exhibits, concerts, rallies and street markets. The three types of Plazas are:

- a. Downtown and Commercial District Plazas: These plazas contribute to the livability, character and vitality of the downtown and commercial districts, and primarily service nearby retail services and office buildings.
- b. Community Squares: These plazas contribute locally to a greater sense of community by their distinct identity and sense of place.
- c. City-wide Plazas: These centrally located and highly visible plazas contribute to a greater sense of community on a city-wide basis.

Utility Open Space

Classified as "miscellaneous open space," it includes undeveloped parklands, buffer strips, roadway greens, boulevards and medians, easement and utility rights-of-way.

Viewshed

Is an area of land, water, and other environmental elements that is visible from a fixed vantage point (source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viewshed>).

Walkability

Communities are designed in a manner that integrates and promotes daily walking in the lives of residents. The goal is to maximize the number of trips made on foot and make the experience enjoyable

Wet Storm Ponds

Constructed, permanent water bodies that fluctuate with water drainage peaks but hold a permanent level of water at all times. Site is managed for stormwater quantity and quality objectives. Live storage area may encourage vegetation, but is not necessarily vegetated. Depth may vary depending on site security and public access. Site may have restricted access.

Wetland

An area where standing water is retained for a portion of the year and unique vegetation and animals have adapted to the aquatic environment.

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The sum of all woody and associated vegetation in and around dense human settlement. It is the sum of street trees, residential trees, parks trees and green belt vegetation. It includes trees on unused public and private lands, trees in transportation and utility corridors and forests on watershed lands.

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