



MIDLAND PARKS AND TRAILS MASTER PLAN

FINAL NOVEMBER 2019

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE OF THE MASTER PLAN

The Purpose of this plan is to provide a Parks and Trails Master Plan describing future parks needs, goals and programming requirements for individual existing parks, recommended improvements for currently undeveloped park lands and to provide a conceptual design for a Town-wide trail system connecting Town parks and neighbouring municipalities.

STUDY AREA

This plan covers the entire Town of Midland which is home to 26 community parks covering 321 acres, as well as over 18 km of paved and natural trails which connect the parks and offer peaceful and scenic views. These parks and trails allow all members of the community to enjoy a wide variety of activities. These environments include waterfront/shoreline urban forests, naturalized areas, and formal landscapes. There are many places to enjoy physical activities such as baseball diamonds, basketball courts, beach-volleyball courts, a skateboard park, soccer fields, disk golf, dog off-leash area, and playground equipment for younger children. Additionally, the parks offer many picnic areas and covered picnic shelters for friends and families to use at their leisure.

STUDY PROCESS

Beginning in the Fall of 2017, this study involved an extensive site review, inventory and assessment process of the Town's inventory of parks, trails and facilities, a multi-faceted community and stakeholder engagement process including surveys of residents, businesses and organized groups, two open houses, and one-on-one interviews with Municipal Representatives.

The findings were then developed and refined into a series of 54 project recommendations which were then organized into four streams:

1. City wide Improvements and Strategies (Projects 1 to 8)
2. Park Redevelopments (Projects 9 to 34)
3. New Parks (Projects 35 to 41)
4. Trails (Projects 42 to 54)

PLAN ORGANIZATION

This master plan summarizes the site work, consultation process, recommendations and implementation strategy into the following sections:

- Introduction
- Context
- Community engagement
- Key Issues
- Inventory and Analysis
- Recommendations
- Implementation
- Appendix A: Survey Results
- Appendix B: Existing Parks Inventory and Condition Assessment
- Appendix C: Recreation facility inventory
- Appendix D: Building Review and Recommendations
- Appendix E: Existing Parks: Design Concepts
- Appendix F: New Parks: Design Concepts
- Appendix G: Trail Recommendations
- Appendix H: Resource Strategy

INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT

These first two sections provide the framework for the study and the policy context for parks and trails in Midland. This includes a summary of eleven Municipal plans and policies which must be considered in the development of the parks and trails master plan. Each study is summarized with key considerations for the plan identified.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This section summarizes the community engagement process with a summary of survey results. Appendix A provides more detail on the results of the three surveys.

INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

This section summarizes Midland's parks and trails network. It provides information on existing facilities, their condition and an analysis of how well these parks and trails are addressing user needs. Details regarding the inventory and assessment are provided in three appendices:

- Appendix B: Existing Parks Inventory and Condition Assessment
- Appendix C: Recreation facility inventory
- Appendix D: Building Review and Recommendations

KEY ISSUES

This section summarizes the key issues raised during the site inventory and analysis work, and the stakeholder consultation process. This includes interviews with Town staff, Town Councilors, Open House/Workshop, and the three surveys. These include:

- Waterfront access
- Maximizing potential of existing parks and trails
- Underutilization of existing parks, trails and associated infrastructure
- Maintenance of parks, trails and outdoor facilities
- Distribution of parks across Midland
- Tourism and special events
- Trails network and connectivity
- Environmental protection and enhancement
- Use of, and improvements to, scheduled facilities
- Accessibility and safety

RECOMMENDATIONS

The section outlines the recommended improvements and initiatives for Midland's parks and trails network. It is organized into the following headings:

- Types of recommendations (primary, secondary and tertiary)
- Recommendations for existing parks
- Recommendations for new parks
- Recommendations for undeveloped parkland
- Recommendations for trails

Details, including concept drawings for the Town's 26 existing and 7 proposed parks, along with mapping for the Town's existing and proposed trails are provided in the following appendices:

- Appendix E: Existing Parks: Design Concepts (26)
- Appendix F: New Parks: Design Concepts (7)
- Appendix G: Trail Recommendations (13)

IMPLEMENTATION

The recommendations described in the preceding section and outlined in Appendix D, E and F are organized into fifty four (54) projects to be implemented over the next 20 years. A forecast schedule is provided which organizes the projects into four streams with estimated budgets for design and implementation provided for each project and each year.

All together, the 54 projects are estimated to cost 14 million dollars over 20 years or \$700,000 per year. This plan is an important tool for budgeting purposes each year. The plan must be viewed as a living document to be updated and adjusted over time (revisited every 10 years) Further, the recommendations may be advanced, delayed or amended to address current and future directions of Council.

Each project will need to go through a separate engagement process to confirm program and concept. The concept designs and proposed programming should be viewed as a guide only. Future Councils, in consultation with Town Staff, will determine if, when and how these projects are implemented.

INTRODUCTION

OVERVIEW

The Town of Midland is home to 26 community parks covering 321 acres, as well as over 18km of paved and natural trails which connect the parks and offer peaceful and scenic views. These parks and trails allow all members of the community to enjoy a wide variety of activities. These environments include waterfront/shoreline urban forests, naturalized areas, and formal landscapes. There are many places to enjoy physical activities such as baseball diamonds, basketball courts, beach-volleyball courts, a skateboard park, soccer fields, disk golf, dog off-leash area, and playground equipment for younger children. Additionally, the parks offer many picnic areas and covered picnic shelters for friends and families to use at their leisure.

PLAN OBJECTIVE

The objective of this plan is to provide a Parks and Trails Master Plan describing future parks needs, goals and programming requirements for individual existing parks, recommended improvements for currently undeveloped park lands and to provide a conceptual design for a Town-wide trail system connecting Town parks and neighbouring municipalities.

Intended as a living document, this Plan provides a road map for implementing improvements and serves as a blueprint to enhance Midland's Parks and trails over the next twenty years, with the intent that the plan is reviewed and updated within the next ten years.

STUDY PROCESS

This study included an extensive site review, inventory and assessment process of the Town's parks, trails and facilities, a multi-faceted community and stakeholder engagement process including surveys of residents, businesses and organized groups, two open houses, and one-on-one interviews with Municipal Representatives.

The information gathered during the inventory and consultation stages was developed into a series of recommendations, including concept plans for each park and mapping of trails to help link parks and key destinations throughout Midland. Each recommendation was assembled into a series of projects and priced for budgeting purposes. These projects were then placed into a forecasting schedule for implementation.

CONTEXT

STUDY AREA

The Town of Midland is situated on the shore of Georgian Bay, at the gateway to the picturesque 30,000 Islands. It is a key component and largest municipality within the Huronia Region in Simcoe County, which consists of Midland, Penetanguishene, Tiny and Tay.

The resident population is approximately 17,000. As the largest urban area in the region, the Town also supports an influx of seasonal residents during the summer months. Tourism is also an important aspect of Midland's economy with visitors attending local festivals, hotels, provincial and national parks.

RELATED PLANS, POLICIES AND STUDIES

This section provides an overview of relevant plans, policies and studies that must be considered and conformed to in preparing the Parks and Trails Master Plan. These include:

- Official Plan Update (ongoing)
- Midland Transportation Master Plan (2012)
- Downtown Master Plan and Community Improvement Plan (2015)
- King Street Rejuvenation (2017 - ongoing)
- Multi-Year Accessibility and Transit Plan (2016)
- Unimin Waterfront Lands Master Plan (2013)
- Midland Bay Landing Official Plan Amendment
- Standards for Barrier-Free Design For Municipal Facilities
- Snowmobiling Policy Review (2016)
- Service Delivery Review (2017)

The following provides a brief summary of each plan, policy document and study followed by key relevant points discussed in the document that need to be considered in this plan's recommendations.

OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE (ongoing)

In 2015 the Town of Midland launched its five year review of its Official Plan to bring it into conformity with various Provincial and County legislation and policies. As outlined in the June 2018 Official Plan public information meeting, the “big moves” being proposed in the Official plan include:

- Disaggregation of the Employment designation
- Support for a comprehensive intensification strategy
- Implementation of the Downtown Master Plan
- Opportunities for new greenfield development
- Identification of Midland’s Natural Heritage System
- Addressing Midland’s Duty to Consult with Indigenous communities
- Support for a multi-modal transportation system and the creation of healthy and successful communities
- Policies addressing sustainable design and climate change mitigation

As of the middle of 2018, the Official Plan review process has been paused to address conformity with Simcoe County’s Official Plan update. The Official Plan update process is expected to resume in the Fall of 2018 following municipal elections.

Key Considerations for the Plan

While the Official Plan Review is draft, key considerations for this Plan include:

- Parks are highlighted as an important aspect of creating a successful community in regards to providing citizen’s with a beautiful complete community
- Promotion of design excellence in the development of parks and open spaces
- Promotion of sustainable landscape practices in parks (use of water efficient, drought resistant plant materials)
- Following the principles of CPTED including adequate lighting; clear sight lines, allowing views from one end of the walkway to the other; appropriate landscaping, (while avoiding the creation of blind spots or hiding places) adequate fencing; and clear signage that delineates permitted use and speed
- Urban forestry goals including adequate shade and achieving 40% urban tree canopy cover
- Designation of a Waterfront District which is based on the Midland Bay Landing Project previously approved as part of an Official Plan Amendment
- Waterfront Parks and Open Space Sub Designation which provides a framework for an open space system within the proposed Waterfront District
- Recommendation that Council consider preparing a Parks and Recreation Master Plan, to consider the distribution of

parks, community gardens, community centres, libraries and other community facilities, with the objective of minimizing travel distance for residents, providing facilities in an equitable and sustainable manner, and identifying and prioritizing service gaps that can be addressed by the Town, or other providers, through a neighbourhood by neighbourhood assessment of parkland and community facility provision

- Recommendation that Council consider preparing a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to guide Town-wide investments
- Recommendation that Council consider the development of Master Design Plans for each Town park
- A series of linear parks and multi-modal trails should be located along the waterfront, the water's edge and adjacent to Bayshore Drive to accommodate passive uses and serve as connector routes for pedestrians and cyclists to link to existing trails
- Maintain and extend a multi-level recreational trails system for local and regional interests.
- Accessible and secure bicycle parking shall be provided in all public parks

MIDLAND TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN (2012)

When this study was undertaken in 2012, the objectives of the plan were as follows:

- Provide an assessment of existing conditions with respect to traffic operations;
- Consider anticipated development growth, identify the future travel demands;
- Identify road improvements required to support future travel demands within the Town in a safe and efficient manner; and
- Provide supporting documentation for the Town's Official Plan and Development Charges studies both of which completed in 2014.

Key Considerations for the Plan

- Further development of pedestrian routes by addressing missing sections of sidewalk
- Further development of cycling network by addressing missing sections of both on and off road networks

DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (2015)

The role of this strategic master plan is to build on the downtown’s many assets and identify the improvements needed to maximize downtown’s potential as a place to live, enjoy and prosper. It sets out a broad set of goals for downtown and guidelines for both private development and public investment. Equally important, it also identifies key initiatives to be pursued over the next 20 years, including “priority projects” for the next 2-5 years.

This document is also a Community Improvement Plan (CIP). Section 42 of the Ontario Planning Act allows municipalities to establish Community Improvement Areas and prepare Community Improvement Plans aimed at revitalizing targeted areas through municipally driven or incentive-based programs. Chapter 4 describes the CIP tools and financial incentives that will assist in implementing the Downtown Master Plan and Community Improvement Plan (2015).

Key Considerations for the Plan

A number of this study’s recommendations pertain to parks and trails and are considered in the preparation of the Parks and Trails Master Plan. This includes:

- Enhance public open space on the waterfront
- Host more festivals and other special events

- Improve connections between downtown, the recreation centre and Little Lake Park,
- The creation of a new waterfront park
- Expansion of Harbourside park and relocation of Central Marine and the Boathouse Eatery
- Improved signage and wayfinding

Key Initiatives

- 1 New Waterfront Park
- 2 Waterfront Park Expansion
- 3 Bayshore Drive Realignment
- 4 Waterfront Development
- 5 New Market Square
- 6 King Street Rejuvenation
- 7 New Pedestrian Crossings on King Street
- 8 King-Yonge Intersection Improvements
- 9 Midland Avenue Streetscape Enhancements
- 10 Potential Parking Structure
- 11 Cross-street Streetscape Enhancements
- 12 Potential Educational Institution
- 13 First Street Infill Development
- 14 First Street Streetscape Enhancements



Figure 1: Key initiatives from Downtown Master Plan and Community Improvement Plan, 2015. Image courtesy of Urban Strategies Inc.

KING STREET REJUVENATION

(2018 - ONGOING)

The King Street Rejuvenation Project came out of the Downtown Master Plan as one of the key initiatives to help revitalize Midland's downtown. The plan which is scheduled for construction in 2019, looks at improvements to King Street from Bayshore Drive to Yonge Street. The project's primary objectives include:

- Define an aesthetic that expresses the unique character of Midland
 - Improve access and mobility (pedestrian-first principles)
 - Enhance business opportunities for outdoor retail (merchandise displays and patio)
 - Create opportunities for community expression and seasonal displays
 - Establish sense of place and 'destination' (gateways)
 - Provide infrastructure for events and festivals
 - Calm traffic on Bayshore Drive and improve access to the waterfront
 - Replace and improve aging storm sewers, sanitary sewers and water system infrastructure
- New gathering spaces at key intersections along King Street to expand public realm including the intersections of Bayshore and King Street, and Yonge and King Street

Key Considerations for the Plan

- Improved pedestrian connection from Downtown to Bayshore resulting in improved access to the Rotary Trail



Figure 2: Key initiatives from King Street Rejuvenation Project.
Image courtesy of Envision Tathem

MULTI-YEAR ACCESSIBILITY AND TRANSIT PLAN (2016)

The objective of this plan is to describe the measures the Town has taken to date and will undertake in the future to identify, remove and prevent barriers to municipal facilities and services. The plan also highlights the efforts the municipality will undertake to achieve full compliance with the standards established under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

Key Considerations for the Plan

The plan addresses the design of public spaces. Accessibility achievements specifically related to parks and trails include:

- The recently constructed fully accessible playground installed at Harbourview Park
- Rotary Waterfront Trail connection to Penetanguishene was completed.

Barriers identified in the plan still to be addressed include:

- Play Structure at Bayview Park cannot be modified, and needs to be replaced to address accessibility requirements
- Play Structure at McAllen Park cannot be modified, and needs to be replaced to address accessibility requirements

While these are specific deficiencies identified to date, the Master Plan will also provide overall direction on improving accessibility for Midland's parks and trails.

UNIMIN WATERFRONT LANDS MASTER PLAN (2013)

As described in the final report adopted by Council on June 24, 2013, the intent of this Waterfront Master Plan is to provide the Town with the guidance necessary to transform the Unimin property into a mixed-use, pedestrian-oriented, accessible neighbourhood. The Plan promotes development that complements the Downtown and surrounding neighbourhoods, and encourages high-quality design and 'green' building practices. The Plan also addresses the need for employment opportunities, while maintaining a mix of uses including residential, recreational, cultural, institutional, employment and commercial uses.

Key Considerations for the Plan

Some of the key themes and recommendations which came out of this master plan that have a direct impact on the Parks and Trails Master Plan include:

- Participants in the process promoted the idea of developing high-quality parks and open spaces along the waterfront which would support a range of year round activities including but not limited to splash pads, sports areas, ice fishing opportunities, public gardens, urban plazas, tobogganing areas and lookout points
- Creating great parks and open spaces to ensure that the entire waterfront is walkable and pedestrian friendly including providing a promenade and

boardwalk which would link to the existing Rotary Trail

- The Master Plan allows for waterfront oriented event spaces as part of the redevelopment of these lands

MIDLAND BAY LANDING OPA

This Official Plan Amendment dated December 2015 re-designates the Unimin site from “Employment Area” to “Waterfront Mixed-Use” which is consistent with the recommendations with the Unimin Waterfront Lands Master Plan.

Key Considerations for the Plan

The Official Plan Amendment provides detailed justification for the change in land use and outlines the principles of the plan. Key principles that the Parks and Trails Master Plan address include:

- Public Art shall be promoted and encouraged in visually strategic locations to enhance the public realm and serve as a wayfinding tool
- The parks system shall offer programmed and passive areas, hardscapes and green parks and multi-modal trails to serve the varying year-round needs of residents and visitors and contribute to the vitality of the Site
- All parks and open spaces should link into the Town’s existing open space system
- Permitted uses include passive and active recreation uses, playgrounds, conservation areas, nature, multi-modal trails, waterfront promenade, and public art
- Small-scale commercial uses, complementary to the recreational function of the area may be permitted by the Town, subject to an appropriate Development Permit, or Zoning By-law
- A landscaped public square shall be located adjacent to the waterfront to act as a neighbourhood focal point and gathering space
- Other park components shall be located in key locations to provide green amenity spaces for residents
- A series of Linear Parks and Multi-Modal Trails should be located along the waterfront, the water’s edge and adjacent to Bayshore Drive to accommodate passive uses and serve as connector routes for pedestrians and cyclists to link to existing trails
- Any Open Space deemed not suitable for urban recreation use shall be considered for natural regeneration and wildlife habitats, and shall not be acceptable as part of the required parkland dedication;
- The Town may consider innovative techniques related to the provision of parkland, for example, park space may be provided on top of below-grade parking garages or stormwater management facilities.



Figure 3: Midland Bay Landing Plan. Image Courtesy of The Planning Partnership

STANDARDS FOR BARRIER-FREE DESIGN FOR MUNICIPAL FACILITIES

This document is intended to provide guidance on the minimum requirements for barrier-free design in Town owned and occupied facilities. It provides specific direction regarding parking and drop off areas, walkways and ramps, entrances and exits, building design and both interior and exterior amenities.

Key Considerations for the Plan

Some specific requirements outlined in the document which must be considered in park and trail design include:

- Walkway and ramp design
- Tactile warning strips
- Drinking fountains
- Accessible seating provision requirements
- Signage
- Washroom facilities

SNOWMOBILING POLICY REVIEW (2016)

As described on the Town's Snowmobiling Policy Review web page:

The Town has launched a review of its policies and regulations regarding Snowmobiling and in particular the support that it provides to Snowmobiling in respect of the Town's land use planning program including identifying and protecting trails. Currently, Midland does not have planning policies in its Official Plan or a formal overall policy regarding snowmobiling. The Town, by agreement with the Georgian Bay Snowriders Club, permits the use of certain Town lands for use and maintenance of OFSC Trails. Currently, the Town regulates snowmobiling in Town Parks by By-law 94-13 (passed in 1994), and the Town prohibits the operation of snowmobiling on sidewalks and boulevards pursuant to By-law 69-2927 (passed in 1969).

As identified through the study's preliminary work however, this approach poses a number of problems that should be addressed through the policy review. This includes:

- As development occurs, the Town has no policy support to protect and preserve trails on private lands. Therefore, as trails are lost connections become much harder to achieve.
- Town has no role in resolving land use matters where the trail is on private lands

- It has not established, in an open and transparent way, whether there is a long term role for the Town in identifying and securing trails

Key Considerations for the Plan

In a November 2016 presentation on the study, eight questions were proposed which are relevant to the direction of the Parks and Trails Master Plan:

- Should Midland encourage and support the use of Town-owned lands for multi-use trails that would also permit snowmobiling?
- Should Midland permit snowmobiling trails in new residential neighbourhoods? Should Midland permit snowmobiling trails in existing residential neighbourhoods?
- Should the 1969 By-law be updated? If so, how?
- Should the 2004 By-law be updated including regulating where snowmobiling is permitted in Little Lake Park? If so, how should it be changed?
- Should Midland require developers to provide lands to the Town of Midland for multi-use trails that would also permit snowmobiling?
- Should Midland use its parkland requirements to secure parkland for trails which could accommodate snowmobiling?

- What criteria should Midland have for the establishment of new snowmobiling trails in the Town of Midland?
- Should Midland assist the GBSR Club in securing rights to use of private lands? What role should the OFSC/Club play?

This Plan's recommendations regarding the trail network and design need to consider the current and potential future use of snowmobiles on Town lands.

SERVICE DELIVERY REVIEW (2017)

A service delivery review was undertaken in 2017 to assist the Town in assessing its programs to provide an objective view of services, explore opportunities for alternatives and make recommendations for improvements.

The key focus was to determine if the municipality has opportunities to improve service and outcomes, meet new or increased demand from customers for services, improve service delivery mechanisms and processes, maintain existing service levels in the face of competing priorities or decreasing revenues, and to reduce costs; and/or improve revenues.

Key Considerations for the Plan

The review makes note of a number of factors related to parks and trails. This includes:

- The natural amenities, trails and parks, are a reason Midland is a great place for families and businesses
- Opportunity to explore options for waterfront development to attract year round visitors including snow based sports and water parks
- Operations is responsible for three season maintenance of all of Midland's parks and trails
- Maintenance and beautification of green spaces, parks, harbour and trails adds to the overall impression of the Town and attracts many visitors leading to economic benefits

- While not specifically noted in the Service Delivery Review related to parks and trails, there is the potential for cost reductions through consolidating parks that are not well used

SIMCOE COUNTY TRAILS STRATEGY (2014)

The trails strategy for Simcoe outlines a vision and provides a framework for a county wide network of multi-purpose passive use trails. It provides guidance on where the County of Simcoe can play a role in trail development.

Key Considerations for the Plan

Key aspects of the strategy that are directly applicable to Midland's existing and proposed trail network include:

- The need to close the gap between Midland and Tiny with a roadside route between Perkinsfield and Midland
 - Trail design is primarily the responsibility of the local municipality with some guidance provided through the Trails Connecting Communities program and the County of Simcoe Transportation Master Plan (2014)
 - Support for the development of a consistent wayfinding, signage and mapping - especially where trails connect to adjacent municipalities
 - Promotion of a trail network that complies with Accessibility Standard for the Design of Public Spaces
 - Potential funding for trails projects through Simcoe County's Trails Connecting Communities Program which will match funds with the local municipality
- Development of a world-class trail network in Simcoe County is a key consideration in promoting Tourism as part of RT07
 - Potential funding and future collaboration opportunities with Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Sport.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This study included an extensive community engagement process to provide everyone in the Town of Midland with an interest in the Town's park's and trails with multiple opportunities to contribute their views and opinions in a variety of ways. This included consultation with the Town, public, and online surveys for residents, businesses and user groups.

MUNICIPAL CONSULTATION

To kick-off the study the consulting team engaged in one-on-one interviews with the Mayor, Councilors, CAO and various representatives from Planning, and Building Services and Operations. Interviews were scheduled for approximately one hour to discuss key issues and anticipated priorities for the study. A second set of telephone interviews was arranged for February to accommodate those who were unable to make the first session.

The key findings from these interviews formed part of the Key Issues summary provided in the next section of this report.

Subsequent meetings with staff have occurred throughout the process to review findings and draft recommendations.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

OPEN HOUSE/WORKSHOP

The first of two public open houses was held on April 12, 2018 at the North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre from 6 to 9 PM. Eight panels mapping parks and trails were displayed for the community to review the team's preliminary findings on existing conditions and to solicit feedback on key issues, concerns and recommendations on what the Plan should address to improve parks and trails in Midland.

In addition to discussion with the consultants and noting thoughts on the maps themselves, attendees were provided a comment sheet to provide additional documented feedback. The questions posed on the form were as follows:

1. What do you think are the three most important improvements to PARKS in Midland?
2. What do you think are the three most important improvements to TRAILS in Midland?
3. Do you use any of the parks or trails during the winter months? If yes which ones and how?
4. Other comments/suggestions

Unfortunately, turnout for the meeting was extremely low with only a few members of the public attending. The panels were posted on the Town's website. However, this effort did not result in any additional feedback.

SURVEYS

Three surveys were prepared to receive feedback from three sections of the community: residents, businesses and organized groups that use the Town's outdoor recreation facilities, parks and/or trails.

OVERVIEW OF RESIDENT SURVEY RESULTS

The survey was hosted on the Town's website from mid-April to mid-May, 2018. This timeframe included one extension to the original deadline, along with widespread promotion of the survey's availability, to improve an initial low response. A postcard to advertise the survey was prepared and made available at various locations across Midland. A total of 319 people initiated a response to the resident survey for the Parks and Trails Master Plan.

The full results of the survey, along with other relevant information and research, is used to inform the Master Plan's needs assessments and recommendations. The resident survey results can be found in Appendix A.

Residents who participated in the online survey are park users. A very large majority (97.7% or 261) of 270 respondents or members of their household use parks in the Town of Midland, either as part of organized groups (e.g., ball, soccer leagues, special events, etc.) or for unstructured activities (e.g., playgrounds, dog walking, swimming, observing nature, etc.).

There is a very strong orientation to waterfront parks and trails among residents, in relation to inland parks. Almost all (98.5%), and a

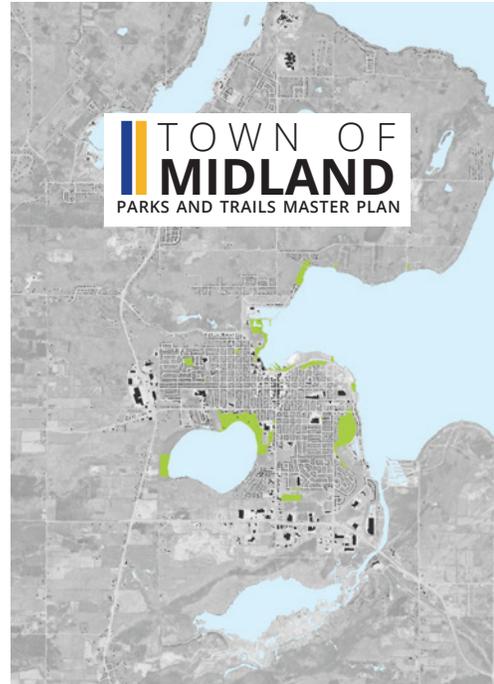


Figure 3: Postcard used to promote resident survey

large majority (89.4%), of respondents or their household members use the Town's waterfront parks and trails, respectively. In comparison, 69.7% of respondents or members of their household use inland parks - most often indicating lack of awareness of park locations/ what they offer and/or no interest in using these parks (34%) as reasons for not using these spaces. A relatively large number of parks were reported as never being used by the majority of respondents: Ernest T. Bates Memorial, Regent, Quota, Frazer Parkette, Trillium Woods, Bob Merkley, Vas Kuchar Memorial, Carpenter and Georgian View.

Almost three quarters 73.3% of respondents think waterfront and/or inland parks in the Town of Midland that they or other members of their household use require upgrades or improvements. The two most frequently noted improvements to parks were additional benches, picnic tables, and seating areas; washrooms and/or change rooms. Less than half (44%) indicated the need for trail improvements - most often noting the need for better maintenance, and rest areas (seating, picnic tables). Personal safety and security emerged as a noticeable concern that appears to prevent people from using parks and trails, particularly in some locations. There also appears to be some polarization on future investment in Little Lake Park, with those against often suggesting that the waterfront take priority in capital investment.

A large minority (41.8%) of respondents disagreed that The Town should consolidate some of the smaller inland parks and provide larger parks instead. However, the majority (61%)

of respondents were uncertain about whether or not they think that, if the Town consolidates some of its smaller inland parks into fewer parks, there are areas that will be under-serviced and should be considered for a park location. About one-fifth (22%) of respondents did not think this would be the case, and the remaining 17% indicated that consolidation would result in under-serviced area(s).

OVERVIEW OF BUSINESS SURVEY RESULTS

Sixty-five (65) Midland businesses were invited to participate in an online survey that requested information on the importance of visitors to Midland for their business, the attractiveness of local parks and trails to visitors, and views on opportunities to improve these assets.

A letter of introduction about the Master Plan and purpose of the survey to its preparation was emailed from the Town to each business, along with the link to access the questionnaire. The survey was available from late-April until mid-July, 2018. This timeframe included several extensions to the deadline, emailed reminders to the businesses requesting their participation, and a final posting on the Chamber of Commerce website in an effort to improve a low response rate.

Seventeen (17) businesses or 26% of those contacted accessed the survey, and a maximum of eight (8) responded to the survey questions. The results reported in Appendix A, therefore represent a very limited sample of the Town's business community.

Although 5 of 8 respondents reported that they benefit from additional trade that is generated by visitors to Midland, none indicated that the sustainability of their business depends on trade generated by visitors to Midland.

All agreed that Little Lake Beach/Park and the Town Docks are attractive to visitors. Generally, other key waterfront parks and trails generated greater agreement on attractiveness than did smaller waterfront spaces and major,

inland parks. The improvements to Midland's park, trails and related features indicated as being most important to future visitor market development focused on the waterfront and include: mixed development, infrastructure to accommodate cruise ships, more/improved special event venues, and more amenities such as washrooms.

Three respondents noted general improvements to Midland's non-waterfront parks, trails and related features that they think are needed to enable them to sustain or grow your visitor-related operations, including covered areas; Promotion of Tay bike trail connection between downtown Midland and Wye Marsh would assist with bringing in additional foot traffic; trail connection through Little Lake to Hwy 93.

Four businesses reported that they would like to generate additional trade from visitors to Midland (2) or that they actively seek opportunities, and engage in product development strategies/promotions, to generate additional trade from visitors to Midland (2). One noted that they would like to begin generating trade from visitors to Midland. The only reported type of support the municipality could provide was bringing people/visitors into town.

In terms of overall directions, the strongest agreement emerged for: more major, commercial events that attract visitors / tourists (e.g., concerts, races) should be held in Little Lake Park and at the waterfront to increase revenue generation; more small-scale commercial activity (e.g., food trucks, SUP rentals/lessons, chair/umbrella rentals) should occur on the waterfront and in Little Lake Park

to increase revenue generation. The strongest disagreement emerged for: property tax increases should be considered as a means of funding for parks and trails development; fees to use parks, playing fields and to attend special events should be increased and earmarked for parks / trails projects or operations.

OVERVIEW OF USER GROUP SURVEY RESULTS

A total of 18 groups that offer recreation programming to Town residents and are major users of parks, outdoor facilities and trails were invited to participate in an online survey. The survey requested detailed information on their programs/activities, participation levels, park, trail and outdoor facility use, needs/interests for improvements to these assets, areas of potential municipal support, and ability to help finance future service development. The survey was available from late-April until mid-July, 2018. This timeframe included several extensions to the deadline, two emailed reminders to the organizations requesting their participation, and a final posting on the Chamber of Commerce website in an effort to improve a low response rate. In the end, nine (9) groups accessed the survey, and two of these did not complete it. These groups were:

1. Ganaraska Hiking Trail Association - Midland Club
2. No name provided: incomplete survey
3. YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka: does not use parks, school green space or trails
4. No name provided: incomplete survey
5. Huronia Soccer Club
6. Georgian Bay Rowing Club
7. Midland Disc Golf Club
8. Wednesday Night Beach Volleyball League (WNBVL)
9. North Simcoe Soccer Club

Collectively, the groups offer a wide range of water and land-based programs, activities and special events to residents throughout the year. Most of the groups provide programs for teens, young adults, adults 35 and 44 years of age, and those from 55 to 64 years of age - and all comprise both male and female participants. While all groups largely comprise members/participants from the Town of Midland, they also serve Penetanguishene and Tay residents. With the exception of the North Simcoe Soccer Club, all groups providing figures reported stable or increasing membership/participation over the last three years.

Eight of the nine groups use municipal parks and or school green spaces in Midland; one occasionally uses high school green spaces in Town. Five groups use waterfront parks for at least the occasional program or event, and three groups use Little Lake Park for regular programming. The only waterfront park that is not used is Sunrise. Of the sixteen inland parks in Midland, three are used for at least the occasional program or event: Carpenter Park, Tiffin Park, and Galloway Park. Galloway Park is used regularly for soccer.

The few facilities that are regularly used by the groups are soccer fields, beach volleyball courts, pavilions/shade structures, and disc golf. The groups appear to be very satisfied with the facility time available to them, although disc golf and beach volleyball are interested in improved scheduling on existing facilities or access to ancillary facilities such as shade structures, to support programs.. Other than hours used/needed, six of seven groups are satisfied with the facilities they use; one group noted that

their facilities are regularly vandalized.

Five groups indicated the interest in Town assistance with advertising and promotion, volunteer recognition, communicating with parks and recreation services, and improving maintenance of outdoor facilities/parks used.

Three of seven responding groups pay fees for the facilities they use, while the others do not pay. On balance, the groups favour financing service development through methods that would engage them in helping with fundraising rather than paying/paying higher user fees or contributing to capital costs of facilities.

In terms of overall directions, the highest levels of agreement emerged for: the Town should solicit more support from the business sector (e.g., adopt-a-trail, signage sponsorships, etc.); more major, commercial events that attract visitors / tourists (e.g., concerts, races) should be held in Little Lake Park and at the waterfront to increase revenue generation; property tax increases should be considered as a means of funding for parks and trails development. The highest levels of disagreement emerged for: fees to use parks, playing fields and to attend special events should be increased and earmarked for parks / trails projects or operations; the Town should sell undeveloped parkland and earmark the proceeds for capital investment in parks and trails. The results of the survey are contained in Appendix A.

KEY ISSUES

The following summarizes the key issues raised during the site inventory and analysis work, and the stakeholder consultation process. This includes interviews with Town staff, Town Councilors, Open House/Workshop #1, three surveys and comments received on the draft master plan. The issues identified here are provided in no particular order and are consolidated under general themes based on the many points and concerns raised during the consultation process. The Master Plan's recommendations strive to address these and other issues based on our experience in other communities. These include:

- Waterfront access
- Maximizing potential of existing parks and trails
- Underutilization of existing parks, trails and associated infrastructure
- Maintenance of parks, trails and outdoor facilities
- Distribution of parks across Midland
- Tourism and special events
- Trails network and connectivity
- Environmental protection and enhancement
- Use of, and improvements to, scheduled facilities
- Accessibility and safety

The following summarizes the key points raised under each of these themes.

WATERFRONT ACCESS

As with most waterfront communities, public access to the shoreline is an important aspect to the parks system. The following comments regarding accessing the waterfront were received:

- Little Lake Park provides the best waterfront access
- Public access to Georgian Bay is limited, and should be enhanced
- Gawley Park is not well used. Most residents don't know about it
- Expansion of Midland Bay Landing should provide better waterfront access
- Opportunities for swimming should be explored and enhanced where possible
- Veterans Waterfront Park has waterfront access, but is not well known
- Pete Pettersen Park has a beach, but is not a good spot for water access or swimming

MAXIMIZING POTENTIAL

The theme of enhancing and making better use of what the Town already has available was a reoccurring theme. Many thought the Town has sufficient parks and trails, but that for a variety of reasons they are not being used to their full potential. Some specific points raised include:

- Little Lake is not as active as it once was and needs to be programmed to reinvigorate the park
- Midland Bay expansion should focus on opportunities that program the space for large scale waterfront activities. Currently within Midland, there are limited spaces for hosting large events
- The majority of Tiffin Park is unused. The park contains only a few amenities compared to its vast area
- Focus investment on a few parks where it will benefit the most people
- Opportunities for public/private partnerships should be investigated (especially at Little Lake)
- Leases on parks should better reflect cost and Town's previous investments
- The Town owns a number of undeveloped park parcels that are not advertised/known to the public

UNDERUTILIZATION

In relation to the issue of maximizing potential of existing parks and recreation facilities, there is also a feeling that there is an over supply of parks as some parks are not well used. Key points raised include:

- Consider potential to consolidate smaller, inner parks that are not used
- Too many small, unused park parcels
- Currently, the Town has a portfolio of undeveloped parks with no assets in them
- a number of inland parks are underutilized and/or the community is unaware of their existence
- Explore focusing investments on a few parks to provide improved amenities for the larger community (Strategic Asset Management)
- Practice of naming parks after specific individuals makes it difficult to change names should the need arise. Town should consider other means of honouring Midland citizens
- Accepting cash in lieu of park space may be more desirable in some instances than acquiring small parcels
- Volleyball courts at Little Lake are no longer utilized to an extent that justifies the amount of space they occupy

MAINTENANCE

The challenges associated with maintenance of the current parks and trails system was recognized by many. Some of the key points raised regarding maintenance include:

- Too many smaller parks need to be maintained, which causes operations to be spread too thin (insufficient staff resources)
- Not cost effective
- Need to find ways to reduce costs
- Naturalization offers potential of environmental benefit and reduced costs (unnecessary mowing takes resources)
- Promote existing tree and bench sponsorship program
- Potential for an “Adopt a Park” or a “friends of park” program that can aid in maintaining parks
- Town receives complaints on amount of grass cutting (both that there is too much and too little grass cutting)
- Complaints received on lack of snow clearing on trails (only maintained for three season access)
- Parks are dark after 5 p.m. in winter- need for sufficient lighting
- Aging population is calling for greater level of maintenance
- Proactive tree management

SUPPLY & DISTRIBUTION

The distribution and access to parks was raised by many. Key issues include:

- The Sunnyside neighbourhood, with lots of young families doesn’t have a park – landowners in vicinity might be willing to donate land or do land swap
- Some communities have several parks or park parcels
- If, and how, school board properties contribute to the supply and distribution of green space available for community use

TOURISM & SPECIAL EVENTS

Tourism and special events are an important aspect of life in Midland. A large majority of those consulted support and recognize the importance of tourism to the community. Key points raised include:

- Potential for more tourism at Little Lake Park
- Cruise ships arrive in Midland during the summer – potential to better capitalize on these visits
- Need infrastructure in parks to support tourism (power, water, etc.)
- Should streamline/simplify bookings for special events (online, packages, etc.)
- Special events have grown considerably without additional staff support
- Special events take considerable staff time and resources
- Should dedicate a space for special events; Midland Bay Landing would be ideal
- Parking along waterfront is a challenge during tourist season
- Balance tourism needs with residents needs

TRAILS

While Midland already has a great trail network, more could be done to improve the system. Suggestions from the community include:

- Opportunity to provide more bike repair stations (tools and pump)
- Better connectivity needed. Some trails lead “nowhere”
- Need more trees along Trans Canada Trail to provide shade
- Winter use is limited, as the pathways are not cleared; however, this is due to liability/safety concerns
- Cycle tourism study recently completed by Cycle Simcoe should be considered
- Designated parking for trail users should be provided
- Trail network should be part of the Town’s active transportation system
- Partnerships with snowmobile clubs should be made
- Make trails a destination for tourism
- Investigate potential for a trail connection to Little Lake
- Trail around Little Lake should be investigated – what is the potential given the Provincially sensitive wetland at west end
- E-Bikes becoming more common on Midland’s trails – need a policy to address this user group

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT

Ensuring the protection and enhancement of the environment is a common interest among all groups. Some of the key points raised include:

- Better urban tree management – more investment/financial resources needed
 - Need for a tree planting strategy
 - More park naturalization (less manicured park spaces) needed to help reduce maintenance
 - Invasive species management plan is needed
 - Poison Ivy strategy is required
 - Perceived water quality – there is currently a stigma regarding water quality (Floaty Fest was initiated to address this).
 - Water quality at Little Lake is good despite what some people feel
 - Community gardens should be added to parks
 - Pollinator gardens should be provided
 - Planting of edible species should be considered (fruit trees, raspberry bushes)
 - Geese problems at some parks (Pete Pettersen Park)
 - Opportunity to educate public on environmental issues through interpretation and educational signage
- Prescribed burns at Little Lake (Oak Savana) no longer done (5-6 years since last burn)
 - Butterfly habitat, water quality, bat species, need to be considered in park planning

FACILITIES

Suggested improvements to park and trail facilities include, but not limited to:

- Outdoor fitness
- Natural playgrounds (currently only one at Mac McAllen Park)
- Need more shade in parks
- Shade structure previously in Pete Pettersen Park was removed. Need to replace and/or provide additional structures
- Disc golf – better integration of the course within Little Lake
- Lack of pavilions for rentals
- Outdoor skating rink desired by some, but difficult to maintain with warmer winters
- Splash pad needs in Town (vs visiting Penetanguishene’s splash pad)
- More parking downtown (Downtown Master Plan recommended removal of significant amount of parking)
- Parking revenue should help in cost recovery for maintaining parks that support special events
- Downtown Master Plan recommended placing a restaurant at end of Pier
- Gawley Park – needs shade to compliment the seating
- Accessibility needs to be improved including providing accessible pathways and seating
- Solar or wind power to run lights in off-leash dog park
- Interest in pickleball is growing (opportunity to convert tennis to pickleball should be investigated)
- need to determine if scheduled facilities (e.g., ball fields, soccer pitches, etc.) are sufficient to meet current and future demand
- need to consider if, and how, outdoor facilities on school board properties can contribute to meeting community demand for recreation, if unmet demand existing now or may emerge in the future as a result of population growth
- additional washrooms (portable toilets) should be considered to address demand as well as the feasibility of extending the seasons washrooms are open for use (early spring until late fall)

ACCESSIBILITY, SAFETY AND SECURITY

As noted above, the AODA Design of Public Spaces Standard will need to be integrated in future major renovations to existing, and designs of new, Town parks, trails and recreation facilities.

Of particular concern to Midland residents is personal safety and security in parks and on trails - especially at night - and undesirable behaviour or criminal activity - that takes place in these spaces. Specific areas noted included Pete Pettersen Park and vicinity, the Town Dock area, and sections of trails that are not highly visible.

As per the Official Plan update, CPTED principles are to be incorporated in the Master Plan, many of which align with specific suggestions from the community, including:

- emergency lights and emergency phones
- general night lighting
- regular police and/or volunteer safety patrols
- removing drug use paraphernalia and broken glass

The desire for winter maintenance in parks and on trails was also a common request. However, the desire for all season access needs to be weighed against the challenges associated with cost, resources and liability associated with trying to keep routes clear of ice and snow during the winter. Like in most municipalities,

winter maintenance in Midland is reserved for key locations determined on a case by case basis.

INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

The following section summarizes Midland's parks and trails network. It provides information on existing facilities, their condition and an analysis of how well these parks and trails are addressing user needs.

PARKS

The Town of Midland has twenty six (26) parks, all of which are listed below and located on the map in Figure 5.2. These range in size and type providing a wide array of active and passive recreation opportunities. The following comprises an inventory and assessment of Midland's parks system to help understand the level of service provided and the condition of each park. For further details on the condition of Midland's parks, please refer to Appendix B: Existing Parks Inventory and Condition Assessment.

For the purposes of our analysis, Midland's parks have been organized into three types:

- neighbourhood
- community
- waterfront

PARKS

1. Bob Merkley Park
2. Trillium Woods Park
3. Quota Park
4. Ernest T Bates Memorial Park
5. Cenotaph Park
6. Frazer Parkette
7. Regent Park
8. Georgian View Park
9. Neezhoday Park
10. Carpenter Park
11. Mac McAllen Park
12. Bayview Park
13. Galloway Park
14. Tiffin Park
15. Edgehill Park
16. Vas Kuchar Memorial Parkette
17. Veterans Waterfront Park
18. Midland Bay Landing Park
19. Harbourside/ David Onley Park
20. Little Lake
21. Town Dock
22. Pete Pettersen Park
23. McCullough Park
24. Gawley Park
25. Glenbrook Gardens
26. Sunrise Park

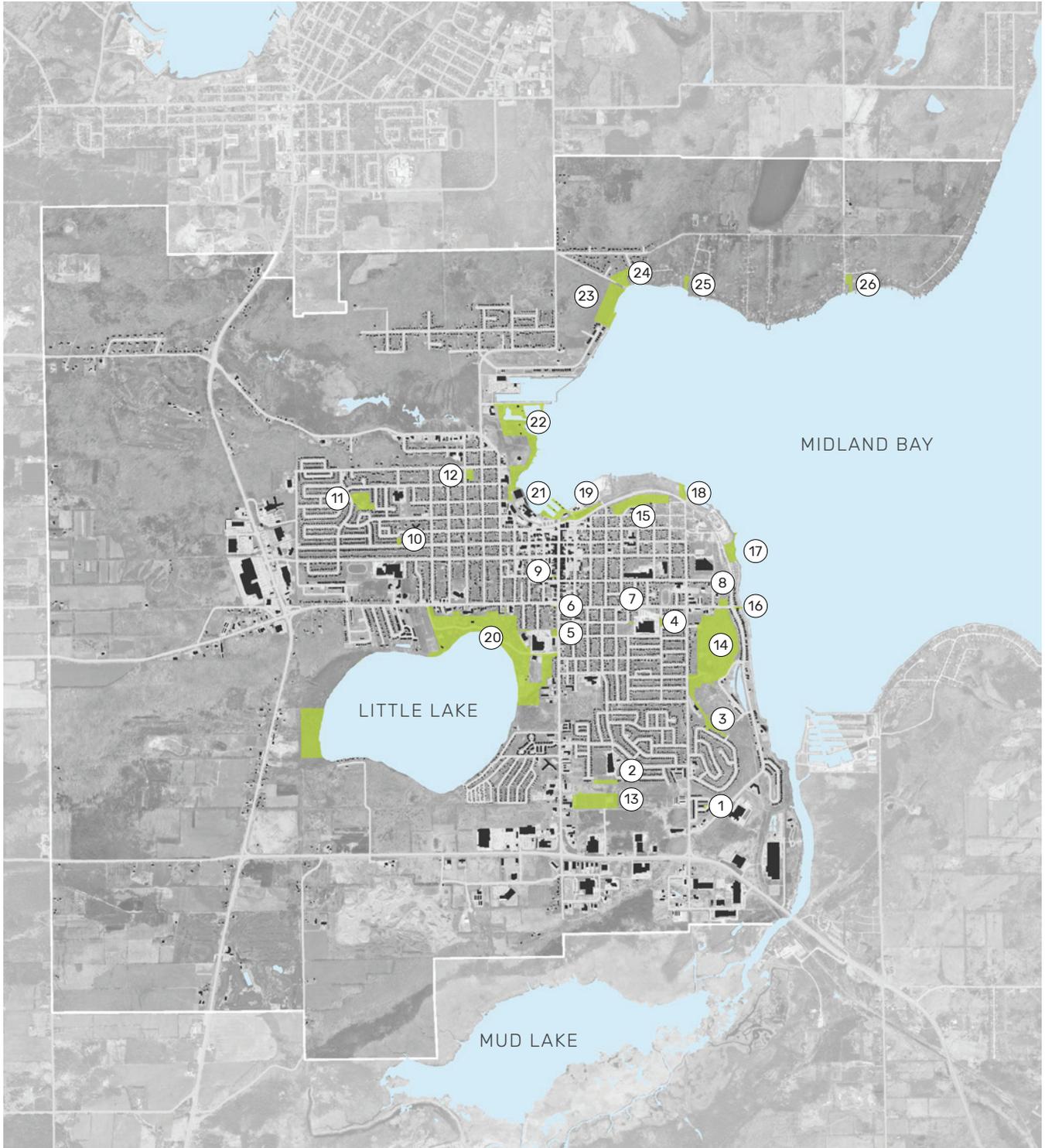


Figure 4: Town of Midland Parks Map

NEIGHBOURHOOD PARKS

Neighbourhood Parks are inland parks less than one (1) ha in size. Twelve parks fit into this category:

1. Bob Merkley Park (0.07 ha)
2. Trillium Woods Park (0.64 ha)
3. Quota Park (0.5 ha)
4. Ernest T Bates Memorial Park (0.15 ha)
5. Cenotaph (0.29 ha)
6. Frazer Parkette (0.05 ha)
7. Regent Park (0.07 ha)
8. Georgian View Park (0.45 ha)
9. Neezhoday Park (0.05 ha)
10. Carpenter Park (0.18 ha)
11. Mac McAllen Park (2.1 ha)
12. Bayview Park (0.5 ha)

Bob Merkley Park

This small suburban parkette contains playground equipment and benches.

Trillium Woods Park

This park includes an open lawn, wooded area, access to school outdoor facilities and a stormwater management pond. This land was acquired in the early 1990's.

Quota Park

This park includes trail access to Tiffin Park, and features playground equipment and seating area.

Ernest T Bates Memorial Park

A small linear green space between Elcan Optical Technologies and a residential area. This parkland offers a pedestrian link for residents on Irwin St.

Cenotaph

Located adjacent to North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre, this park features a monument to commemorate Canada's War Veterans. It is the site of annual Remembrance Day Ceremonies and the Candlelight Tribute Ceremonies. This park was officially dedicated in 1927.

Frazer Parkette

This is a small passive park at the corner of Yonge St and King St with horticultural displays.

Regent Park

This small parkette was donated by Elcan Optical Technologies in 2010 and features a play unit and seating areas.

Georgian View Park

Donated by the Kuchar Family in 2011, this wooded area serves as a link within the Midland trail system and connects to Tiffin Park.

Neezhoday Park

This downtown green space is connected to the outdoor area of the newly expanded Midland Public Library, and was renamed in 2014. It features a seating area, trail access to Easy Street and horticultural displays.

Carpenter Park

This park features a lit pathway connecting Dominion Avenue and Bay Street. It includes a seating area, wooded/naturalized area, and a horticultural display.

Mac McAllen Park

This neighbourhood park features play equipment, a ball diamond, basketball court, parking lot, seating area and a recently completed natural playground area.

Bayview Park

This neighbourhood park has dated play equipment, open lawn and basketball court.



Figure 5: view of Quota Park



Figure 6: view of Cenotaph



Figure 7: view of Bayview Park

COMMUNITY PARKS

Community Parks are parks that support the broader community, and can include outdoor recreation facilities for organized or individual sports. These are parks larger than one (1) ha in size. Four parks fit into this category:

13. Galloway Park (4.59 ha)
14. Tiffin Park (18.9 ha)
15. Edgehill Park (3.77 ha)

Little Lake Park (167 ha) will be discussed under Waterfront Parks and therefore not included here.

Galloway Park

A large, three soccer field park located to the East of King St. This park includes a large gravel parking lot, change room/washroom facilities, and spectator seating.

Tiffin Park

Formerly the Town's waste disposal site, major upgrades to the baseball and tennis facilities were made in 1995. The ball diamond honours Gord Dyment former professional baseball pitcher and star for the Midland Indians Team. In addition to the baseball diamond, this park features tennis and pickleball courts, washroom facilities, play equipment, scenic nature trails, and a natural woodlot with an off-leash dog area.

Edgehill Park

A portion of the park sits on the former grounds of the mansion owned by James Playfair, one of Midland's most prominent businessmen and entrepreneurs. Adjacent to the park equipment is a fence known as the "Playfair Fence", which was constructed of steel that came from a mill in Scotland. In 1996, portions of the fence were relocated to the Huronia Museum to preserve a piece of this heritage. Designated as Midland's "Peace Park" as part of Canada's 125th Birthday in 1992. Edgehill is a passive park with a scenic lookout, naturalized areas, play equipment, and the Edythe Clark Memorial Garden.



Figure 8: views of Galloway Park



Figure 9: views of Tiffin Park



Figure 10: views of Edgehill Park

WATERFRONT PARKS

These are parks that are physically located on water, provide access to the water, and provide visitors with a waterfront experience. Eleven parks fit into this category.

16. Vas Kuchar Memorial Parkette (0.17 ha)
17. Veterans Waterfront Park (8.37 ha)
18. Midland Bay Landing Park (0.73 ha)
19. Harbourside/ David Onley Park (1.40 ha)
20. Little Lake Park (167 ha)
21. Town Dock (3.1 ha)
22. Pete Pettersen Park (13.0 ha)
23. McCullough Park (8.1 ha)
24. Gawley Park (1.53 ha)
25. Glenbrook Gardens (0.67 ha)
26. Sunrise Park (0.7 ha)

Vas Kuchar Memorial Parkette

Formerly known as the Tiffin by the Bay Parkette, the park features trail access to the Rotary Waterfront Trail, a gazebo with seating, and a lookout to Midland Bay.

Veterans Waterfront Park

This park was dedicated to Canadian War Veterans in 2005. It features a scenic waterfront trail connecting to the Rotary Waterfront Trail, a naturalized waterfront, natural woodlot, horticultural displays, a wheelchair accessible seating area and the site of Scouts Arboretum.

Midland Bay Landing Park

The former site of the Midland coal dock, this land was donated to the parks system by Unimin Ltd. The park features a scenic lookout, fishing, and ample seating areas.

Harbourside/ David Onley Park

These sites sit on the former CN station and rail line. These parks include a beautiful rock water feature, peace garden, accessible play equipment, millennium time capsule garden, display garden, carpet bed, and a monument for workers who died on the job.

Little Lake Park

Little Lake Park was the first official parkland of Midland and was developed in the 1920s. The picturesque park has both natural and active areas. It is home to the YMCA, Georgian Bay Rowing Club, North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre, Huronia Museum and Huron Ouendat Indian Village, Huron Ouendat

Ossuary, Midland Curling Club, and the Midland Lawn Bowling Club. Facilities and amenities include a skateboard park, ball diamond, sand beach volleyball, basketball, and tennis courts, off-leash dog park, disc golf course, play equipment, prescribed burn and naturalized areas, community garden, picnic shelters, three separate washroom facilities, and a snack bar.

Town Dock

Features seasonal public boat dockage, seating areas, picnic areas, Harbour Master's Office, seafood restaurant, washroom and shower facilities, as well as the Trumpeter Swan Sculpture, done by the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre. From the Town Docks, there is a view of the largest historical mural in North America.

Pete Pettersen Park

Features of this park include one public boat launch (for boats over 10hp) in Midland, as well as a sandy beach/swim area, washroom facilities, lighted ball diamond, and playground equipment. This park is part of the Trans Canada Trail System.

McCullough Park

This park connects Gawley Park with Bayport Blvd. This undeveloped park includes a paved asphalt trail through the woodlot to a scenic lookout area along the water, with a picnic area.

Gawley Park

Features a sandy beach, playground equipment with swing set, nature trails, natural woodlot, scenic lookout, and horticultural displays at the park entrance sign.

Glenbrook Gardens

Parkette with nature trails and a natural woodlot leading to the waterfront connects Glenbrook Rd and Portage Park Lane.

Sunrise Park

A small, undeveloped park, with a natural dirt trails leading to the waterfront.

UNDEVELOPED PARKLAND

The Town also has over 6.25 ha of undeveloped parkland, which is located on the map on the facing page and listed below.

	Description	Legal Description	Address	Area (ha)
1	Undeveloped	Plan 51M825 BLK 17	166 Southwinds Cres	1.46
2	Undeveloped	Plan 1508 LOT 34	808 Birchwood Dr	0.05
3	Vacant	CON 3 TAY PT LOT 20 RP;51R25728 PARTS 1 & 2	415 William St	0.71
4	Vacant Lot	Plan 51M848 LOT 26	433 Russ Howard Dr	0.06
5	Vacant lot	Plan 51M848 LOT 27	435 Russ Howard Dr	0.06
6	Vacant lot	Plan 51M848 LOT 28	439 Russ Howard Dr	0.06
7	Vacant lot	Plan 51M848 LOT 29	441 Russ Howard Dr	0.06
8	MSS land for future trail connection	Plan 1158 PT BLK B RP;51R37914 PARTS 1 TO 3		0.38
9	LRG	Plan 51M989 BLK 57		0.16
10	Undeveloped	Plan 1250 LOT 17	1037 Ingram Cres	0.13
11	Undeveloped	Plan 1250 LOT 18	1041 Ingram Cres	0.07
12	Undeveloped	Plan 1158 LOT 94	305 Penetanguishene Rd	0.07
13	Penetanguishene Rd @ Ingram Cres.	Plan 1158 LOT 95	309 Penetanguishene Rd	0.09
14	Undeveloped	Plan 1158 PT LOT 93	297 Penetanguishene Rd	0.05
15	LRG	Plan 51M989 BLK 56		0.18
16	Bayport Entrance (Undeveloped)	Plan 51M953 BLK 89	1169 Harbourview Dr	0.05
17	Bayport Entrance (Undeveloped)	Plan 51M953 BLK 74	1161 Harbourview Dr	0.05
18	Foundry Park (Undeveloped)	Plan 51M953 BLK 85	457 Bayport Blvd	0.79
19	Bayport Undeveloped Park (Water Lot)	Plan 51M953 BLK 79		0.28
20	Undeveloped Park	Plan 51M953 BLK 86	365 Bayport Blvd	0.14
21	Undeveloped	CON 3 LOT 94A PT RP 51R1410;PART 1	701 Midland Point Rd	1.00
22	Undeveloped	Plan 1266 LOT 9	349 Lakewood Dr	0.18
23	Undeveloped	Plan 1421 LOT 7	340 Lakewood Dr	0.15

Table 1: Undeveloped Parkland in Midland

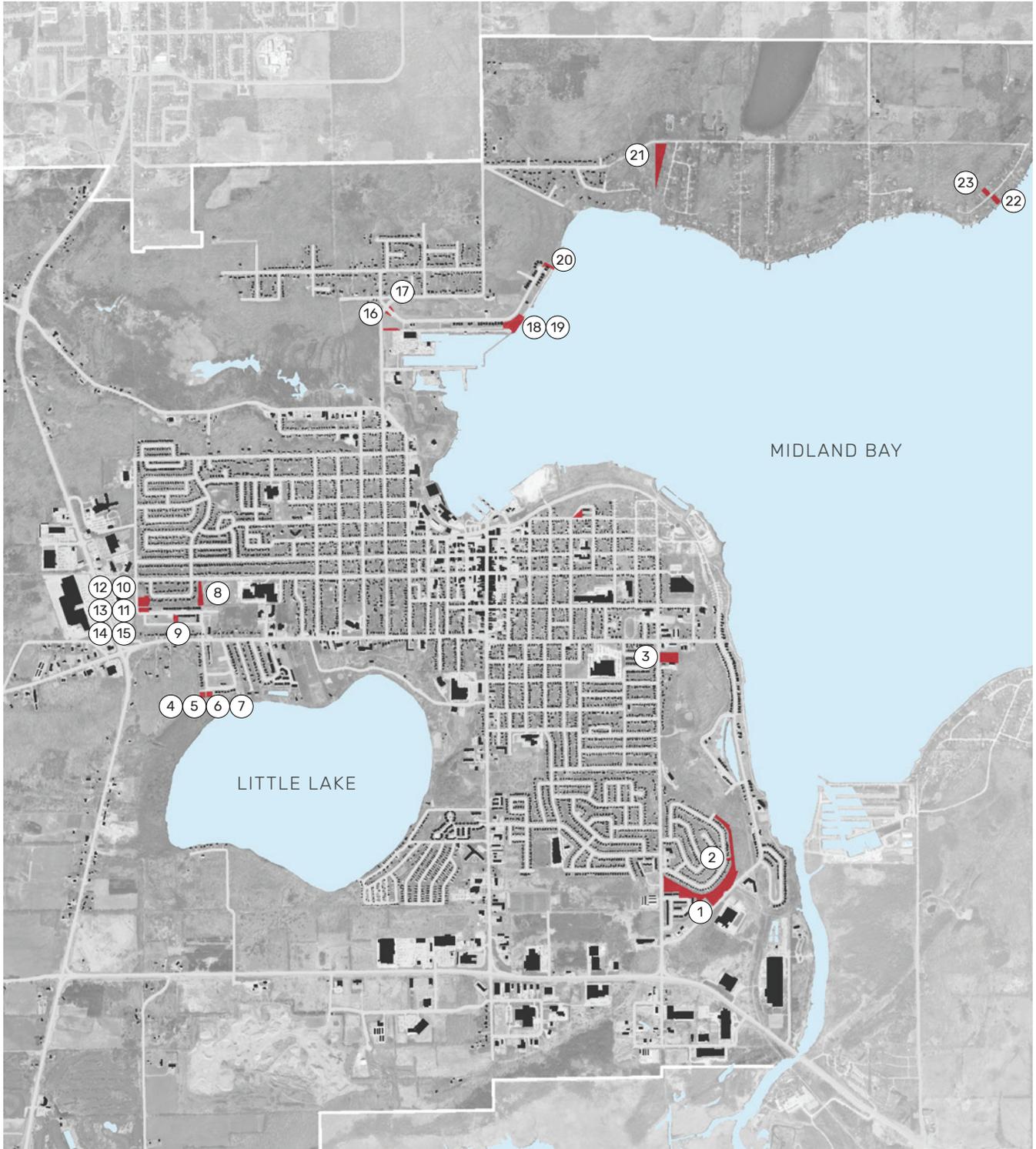


Figure 11: Town of Midland Undeveloped Parks Map

TRAILS

The Town of Midland has over 18 kilometres (not including Tiny Beaches Loop) of trail that connect to a larger network of both on and off road routes linking to the neighbouring municipalities of Penetanguishene, Tay and Tiny. Together this network forms the Heart of Georgian Bay Cycling Routes which is part of Simcoe County's tourism strategy for the region. Trails within the municipality are listed opposite, and located on the map on the facing page.

The following section provides an inventory and assessment of Midland's Trail system to help understand the level of service provided by the trail system, the condition of each section of trail.

TRAILS

-  1. Rotary Waterfront Trail (8.5 km)
-  2. Mid-Pen Link (1.8 km)
-  3. Tiny Beaches Loop (30 km)
-  4. Little Lake Trails- Paved + Natural (4.5 km)
-  5. North (1.25 km)
-  6. Central (1.25 km)
-  7. Southeast (1.9 km)
-  8. Hanson OS –south side of Little Lake (0.9 km)
-  9. Northwest side of Little Lake (2.0 km)
-  10. Galloway to Tiffin (3.0 km)

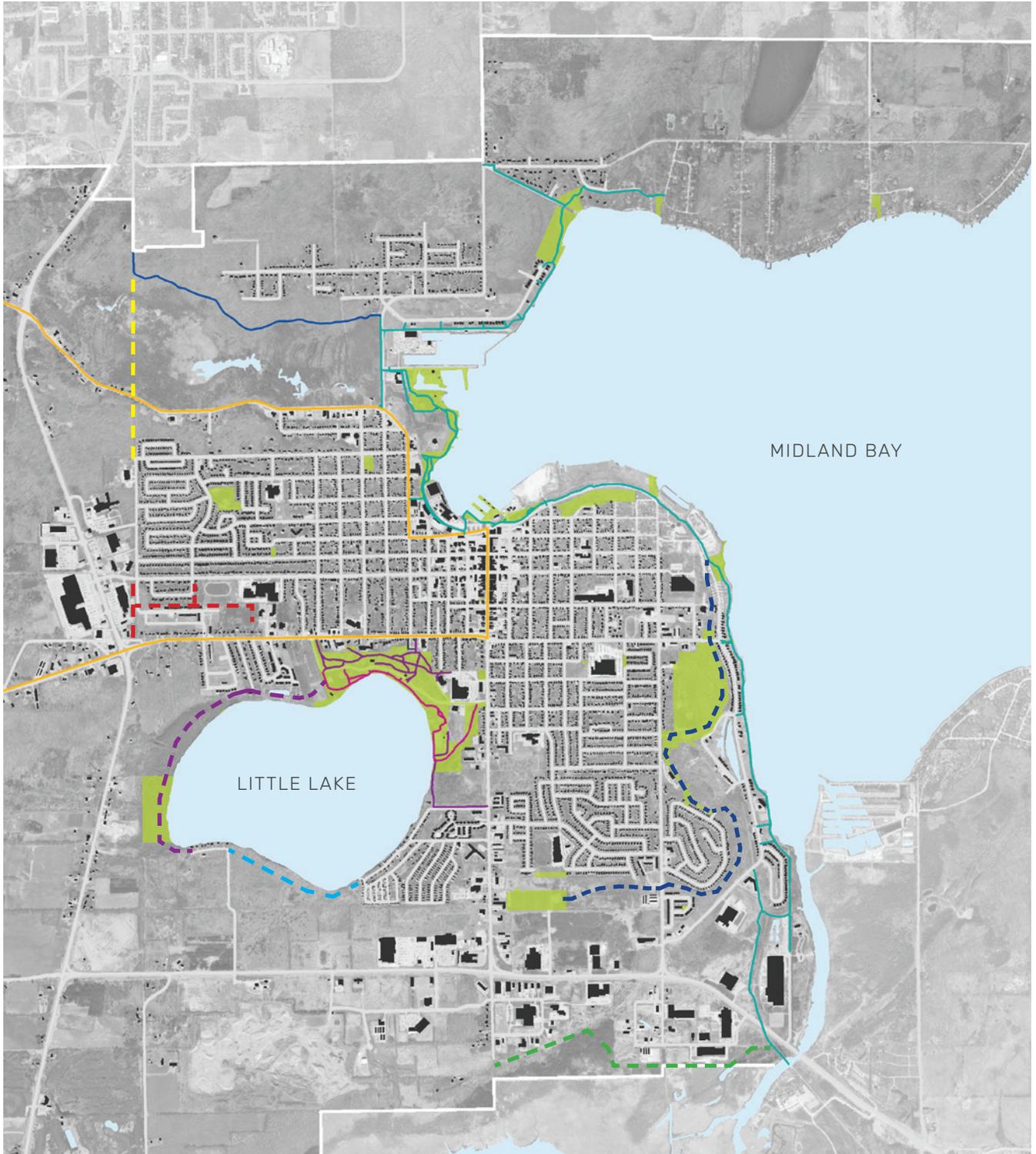


Figure 12: Town of Midland Trails Map

FORMAL TRAILS

1. Rotary Waterfront Trail

This 8.5 kilometre long primarily asphalt trail, which forms part of the Trans Canada Trail, connects the Tay Shore Trail from Ste. Marie Among the Hurons (at Wye Valley Road and Highway 12) to just past Gawley Park. The trail links to ten of Midland's parks including:

1. Vas Kuchar Memorial Park
2. Veteran's Waterfront Park
3. Midland Bay Landing park
4. Edgehill Park
5. Harbourside Park
6. David Onley park
7. Town Docks
8. Pettersen Park
9. McCulloch Park
10. Gawley Park

Ste. Marie Park provides access and parking at the south end of the trail, while the Town docks and Pete Pettersen Park provide parking at the north end. Washrooms are available at Gawley, Pete Pettersen and the Town Docks.



Figure 13: Lookout off Waterfront Trail



Figure 14: Rotary Waterfront Trail along Midland Bay

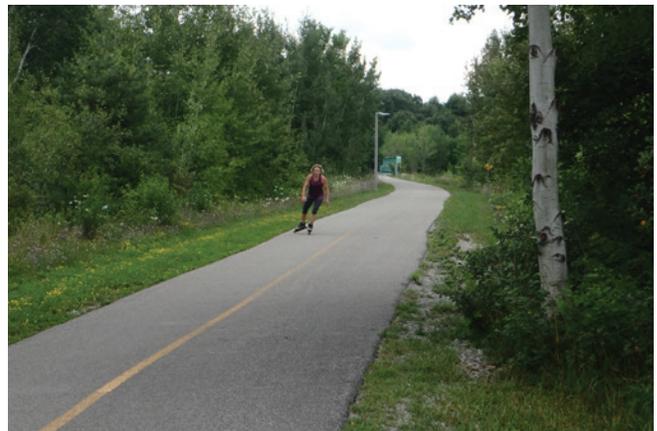


Figure 15: Rotary Waterfront Trail

2. Mid-Pen Link

This 1.8 kilometre section of trail runs from Harbourview Drive, south of Bayport Blvd, west towards Penetanguishene, and connecting to Murray Street. At the Murray Street trailhead signage and mapping is provided.

This asphalt trail is approximately 4 metres in width through a forested area between Midland and Penetanguishene. The trail has a number of extremely steep sections as it climbs towards Penetanguishene making it largely inaccessible. Signage at the north end request that cyclists dismount and not ride down the trail towards Midland.

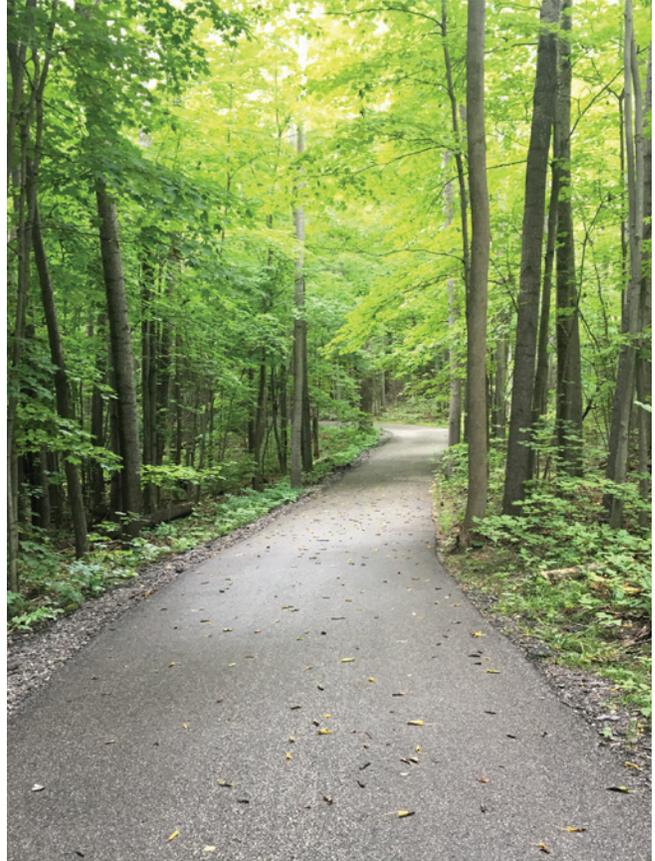


Figure 16: Asphalt Trail through Woodlot

3. Tiny Beaches Loop

This 30 km on road bike loop connects Midland to Tiny and Balm Beach. It follows Yonge Street in Midland to Balm Beach Road, heads north of Tiny Beaches Road to Concession 12, west to Golf Link Road and crosses Highway 93 into Midland via Vindin Street.

The Tiny Trails Master Plan prepared in 2015 identifies an off road trail connection between Tiny and Midland via Balm Beach Road.



Figure 17: Balm Beach



Figure 18: Tiny Township Balm Beach Signage

4. Little Lake Trails

Little Lake Park has approximately 4.5 kilometres of trails. This consist of a mix of paved, granular, and natural surface sections with a number of staircases to address the park's topography.

The main spine of the trail network is an approximately three metre wide asphalt pathway with a yellow centre line that runs from the Rowing Club and ball diamond at the north west to the Boat Launch at the south end. The trail then changes to a granular surface at is leads to the Bowling Club. This trail connects the major park facilities to the parking lots and one another.

Through the central portion of the park, secondary pathways and stair cases connect to the parking lot and park road. North of the park road, the pathways are mostly granular and natural surface.

The trails are in various states of disrepair and are in need of maintenance or replacement. The staircases are also in need of repair and upgrades to improve accessibility, including handrails and tactile warning strips to bring them up to current AODA standards.



Figure 19: Multi-use trail through Little Lake Park



Figure 20: Asphalt roadway needing repair work



Figure 21: Stairway connections within Little Lake Park

INFORMAL TRAILS

5. North Trail

There is potential for a future trail connection from the Midland Penetanguishene Trail, crossing Vindin Street south to Penetanguishene Road at Dina Crescent. Portions of this route currently exist as natural surface trails.

This trail would be approximately 1.25 km long and would link to the sidewalk on the west side of Penetanguishene Road. This sidewalk would continue to the future trail at Penetanguishene Road and Cook Drive.

6. Central Trail

This network of trails is currently under construction as part of the Devonleigh Homes Development on Cook Drive. The total length of the trail connection would be 1.25km. The main spine would run east west between Penetanguishene Road and Hartman Drive, passing through the Woodlot south of Georgian Bay District Secondary School. A north south connection to Hugel Avenue was recently constructed.

The west end the trail links to a north-south trail linking to Yonge Street to the south and to Cool Drive to the north. This trail provides access to the sidewalk on the west side of Penetanguishene Road (north of Hugel Ave) which links to the North Trail connection described above, and connects to the Midland Penetanguishene Trail.

7. Southeast Trail

This trail currently exists as a double track trail behind the industrial complex west of the south end of King Street, and totals 1.9km. This trail has the potential to link King Street to the Rotary Trail at the south end.

8. Hanson OS –south side of Little Lake

The proposed Hanson Development on the south side of Little Lake, from Stans Circle on the East to west of Sumac Lane provides the opportunity for a 0.9 km section of trail around a portion of Little Lake. The Draft Plan of Subdivision, dated May 2017, provides publicly accessible lands including Open Space, Park, woodlot and stormwater management facilities. Trails in this area will help support the creation of a loop around Little Lake. A trail on these lands will need to consider the wetland portions of the site and may require raised boardwalk sections to complete it.

9. Northwest side of Little Lake

Currently there is a gap in the trail network proposed around Little Lake. The section of trail on the northwest end consists primarily of wetland. Trails in this area will need to consist of raised sections of boardwalk. Total trail length proposed for the north west side of Little Lake would be 2.0km.

10. Galloway to Tiffin Trail

There is potential to connect and formalize a trail from Galloway Park to Tiffin Park. Currently, there are existing informal trails from Quota Park to Tiffin, and through Tiffin Park, but no formal trail exists to Galloway Park. This segment would increase the existing informal trail to include approximately 1.6km of additional trails.

BASE LEVEL OF SERVICE

The following section helps understand the current level of service provided by Midland's park, trails and schools. This evaluation is undertaken from two perspectives:

1. Town wide: Park, trail and school distribution, ease of access, and gaps in service/amenities
1. Park/trail specific: How each park and trail compares to the other parks and trails in Midland in regards to the type and level of service provided.
2. School facilities available for use by the public

PARK AND TRAIL DISTRIBUTION

Parks

Understanding the distribution of parks across the Town is important to ensuring residents are provided a reasonable level of access to parks, and their associated amenities. Based on this evaluation any gaps in service and oversupply in other areas will be identified. This information will prove particularly important to understanding park planning moving forward, specifically, the development of new parks and the possibility of divesting where there is an oversupply.

The plan on the facing page: "Figure 16: Midland Parks Catchment Areas (400 metres)" illustrates the catchment area for each park based on a 400 metre radius (5 minute walk). This plan illustrates there is a gap in service in the Northwest of Midland.

Trails

The Town's trail system extends along the entire length of the Georgian Bay shoreline from the North end of Midland Bay south into Tay Township. There are also a number of less developed trails which provide links between different neighbourhoods within Midland, as well as providing connections beyond Midland's boundary. This includes the Mid-Pen Link to the northwest and the Rotary Trail Connection to Tiny in the south east.

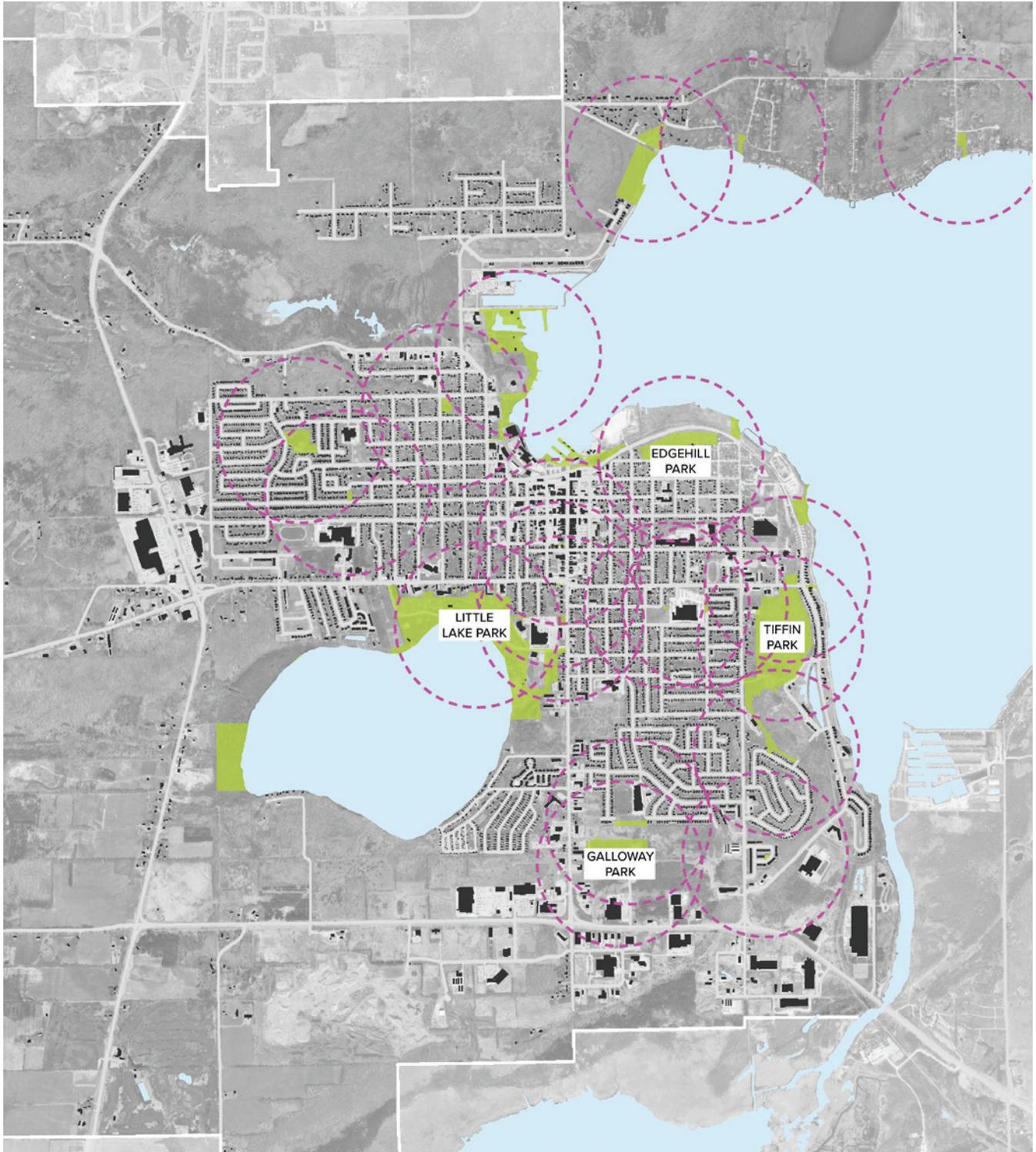


Figure 22: Midland Parks Catchment Areas (400 metres)

Key Findings

Some key findings resulting from the parks and trails distribution analysis which contributed to the recommendations in the next section include:

Parks

- Midland has an excellent supply of parks with most residents living within 400 metres (5 minute walk) of a park
- Residents in the north end of Midland (Sunnyside) are under served regarding access to municipal parkland
- There is an excess supply of parkland centrally, meaning that some of the smaller parkettes are superfluous from a planning perspective
- The four largest (community) parks (Little Lake, Edgehill, Tiffin and Galloway) are well located to ensure most residents are within a kilometre of one of these parks

Trails

- The trail network is well developed, providing a very connected active transportation route along the shore of Georgian Bay and in Little Lake Park
- Three trails intersect at Harbourview Drive at Baypoint Boulevard. However, this key node is underserved in regards to trailhead amenities that would be typically associated with this type of node
- Linkages to trails from the surrounding neighbourhoods rely primarily on on-street connections (sidewalks)
- There are a number of existing natural surface trails that are not well developed but could better serve the surrounding community with some minor enhancements and connections

PARK AND TRAIL EVALUATION

Each of Midland’s 26 parks and four formal sections of trail have been evaluated based on the criteria described below. Under each criteria on parks and trails that fully address the criteria received a full mark. Partial fulfillment received a half mark. Where an element or criterion was inadequate a dashed circle is indicated. If the park or section of trail doesn’t address the feature or criterion no mark was assigned. Total number of marks were then tallied to assign a total score.

The scoring results provide an indication of how each park and trail compares to the other parks within each category and identifies where improvements in the provision of various park and trail amenities may be required. The results assist in developing programming and design recommendations in this plan.

The criteria used in each park’s and trail’s evaluation is listed below with a brief description and rationale for why the criteria is an important consideration in park and trail programming and design.

Park Evaluation Criteria

The following 19 criteria have been used to help evaluate each of the 26 parks. This includes:

Facilities and Features

1. Seating (benches and picnic tables)
2. Shade (structure or natural)
3. Community gathering space
4. Playgrounds
5. Sports court(s)
6. Sports field(s) / Open Lawn
7. Washrooms (and/or change rooms)
8. Signage (wayfinding & interpretation)
9. Storage
10. Commercial kiosks/rental space
11. Ornamental planting
12. Naturalization/woodlot

Safety and Security

13. Lighting
14. CSA (Playground)
15. Visibility (internal & external)

Access + Use

16. Waterfront
17. Connectivity
18. Parking
19. Accessibility (AODA)

Park Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Description	Rationale
Facilities and Features		
1. Seating (benches and picnic tables)	Formal seating is provided as either a bench or picnic table. Seating should be provided in high activity areas or strategically located at rest locations.	Seating will enhance user experience. It is especially important to supporting aging populations.
2. Shade (structure or natural)	Shaded seating locations are provided by either formal shade structures or seasonally by canopy trees.	Shade is an important aspect of public health in parks to help reduce instances of heat stroke and skin cancer. Shade should be strategically provided in association with seating, playgrounds and recreation facilities to provide users/caregivers with shaded activity/viewing locations.
3. Community gathering space	Designated location appropriate for organized community events or to host private gatherings.	Key component of providing a park which can support community building and social networking without negatively impacting other amenities or park users; private rentals can generate revenue and contribute to park vibrancy.
4. Playgrounds	Play areas suitable for children between the ages of 2 to 5 and 5 to 12 years. Equipment should cater to a range of abilities and provide equipment and a surface that is both accessible and CSA compliant.	Playgrounds should ideally be located throughout the Town to provide recreation opportunities to children between the ages of 2 and 12.

Table 2: Park Evaluation Criteria

Park Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Description	Rationale
5. Sports court(s)	Hard surface paving suitable for ball play (basketball, tennis, pickleball, etc.). Multi-sport courts may be suitable in some locations.	Courts should cater to a range of formal and informal user groups.
6. Sports field(s) / open lawn	Turf (or stone dust) areas suitable for formal or informal field games such as soccer or baseball.	Fields should be designed to cater to a range of activities, skill levels and age groups.
7. Washrooms (and/or change rooms)	Washroom and change facilities (may include portable toilets).	Amenities to support a park's function as a destination for the wider community and/or tourists, especially in larger parks which may host tournaments, water based activities or young families.
8. Signage (wayfinding + interpretation)	Directional, park identification signage, and educational signage.	Proper signage will enhance the user experience. Interpretive (education) signage pertaining to site specific environmental, cultural or historic events at the park or vicinity will further contribute to user enjoyment.
9. Storage	Secure space for the Town and local service clubs to store equipment.	Secure on site equipment storage assists organizations and groups that use the park by making it easier to run programs/activities.

Table 2: Park Evaluation Criteria cont'd

Park Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Description	Rationale
10. Commercial kiosks/rental space	Designated space in the park to be leased to private commercial vendors or organizations to provide a service or commercial enterprise within the park	Revenue generating opportunity in parks and opportunity to provide additional services like boat and equipment rentals.
11. Ornamental planting	Tree, shrub and perennial planting to help visually enhance the space	Planting will help make a space more inviting and provide green space in the community.
12. Naturalization / woodlot	Provision and maintenance of naturalized (meadow or woodlot/forest) landscape in parks	Less expensive to maintain compared to turf and facilitates efforts to increase biodiversity.
Safety and Security		
13. Lighting	Park lighting, including sports field lighting	Lighting can enhance user experience, extend playing time on sports fields, and improve safety and security.

Table 2: Park Evaluation Criteria cont'd

Park Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Description	Rationale
14. CSA (Playground)	<p>Does the playground meet current Canadian Standards Association (CSA) playground standards.</p> <p>The CSA Standard provides detailed information about materials, installation, strength of the equipment, surfacing, inspection, maintenance, performance requirements, access to the playground, play space layout and specifications for each type of equipment. All playgrounds should meet current Canadian Standards Association (CSA).</p>	To help ensure play spaces are safe for users and minimize the Town's liability, playground equipment and fall surfaces should meet current CSA standards.
15. Visibility (internal + external)	Views into the park and within the park should be unobstructed and follow the principles of CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design).	Ideally, parks should be visible to the surrounding community and views within the park should be open and avoid hidden spaces which may cater to illicit activities or other undesirable behaviour.
Access + Use		
16. Waterfront	Access to/from the water for both individuals and for watercraft for activities like swimming, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, etc.	Waterfront is a cherished asset. Waterfront access should be maximized wherever possible to provide Midland citizens the opportunity to enjoy their waterfront for a variety of activities.

Table 2: Park Evaluation Criteria cont'd

Park Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Description	Rationale
17. Connectivity	Linkages/connections of parks to residential areas and between each other to the surrounding trail network via various methods of transport - walking, cycling, public transit, etc.	A parks system will help maximize citizen access and enjoyment of Midland's parks and trails system.
18. Parking	Parking on site for park users (either dedicated parking or temporary parking areas)	Larger parks that support sports and recreation activities and special events which draw the larger community and tourists should provide space for parking.
19. Accessibility (AODA)	Accessible pathways and amenities as per current AODA standards	Park spaces and amenities are to be made accessible to the fullest extent possible as per current legislation and best practices.

Table 2: Park Evaluation Criteria cont'd

Trail Evaluation Criteria

The following ten criteria have been used to help evaluate each section of trail in the Town of Midland. This includes:

Facilities and Features

1. Seating (benches and picnic tables)
2. Bike parking
3. Signage (wayfinding and interpretation)

Safety and Security

4. Lighting
5. Trail road crossings

Access + Use

6. Trailheads
7. Mapping
8. Parking
9. Accessibility (AODA)



Figure 23: Rotary Waterfront Trail along Bayshore Dr.



Figure 24: Rotary Waterfront Trail along waterfront



Figure 25: Rotary Waterfront Trail at south end of Midland

Trail Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Description	Rationale
Facilities and Features		
1. Seating (benches and picnic tables)	Seating at regular intervals and at key locations including trailheads, decision nodes, viewing areas and rest locations.	Provide seating at key locations, which will enhance the trail user's experience and encourage more people to use the system, knowing there are places to sit.
2. Bike Parking	Designated location to secure bicycles (typically at a trail head).	Some users may ride their bikes to the trail and leave them at the trailhead - particularly where sections of trail that are not conducive to some types of bicycles.
3. Signage (wayfinding and interpretation)	Directional wayfinding and educational interpretive signage pertaining to site specific environmental, cultural or historic events along the trail or vicinity	Signage is critical to the comfort of users who like to know where they are, where they want to go and how to get there, and distances to destinations in terms of km or time. Interpretive signage can be used to provide self-directed activities and learning experiences.
Safety and Security		
4. Lighting	Pedestrian lighting at trail heads or along the more urban sections of trail.	Enhanced user experience, safety and extended use at night and seasonally in darker months.
5. Trail road crossings	Intersections with public roads are sufficiently signed and properly designed to allow for safe road crossings.	Safety for trail users where the trail crosses a public road.

Table 3: Trail Evaluation Criteria

Trail Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Description	Rationale
Access + Use		
6. Trailheads	Formal access points to the trail system, which typically include information signage, a map, seating, waste receptacles and parking. Access to washrooms may also be provided.	Helps to consolidate trail amenities in one location to enhance the trail user's experience at night and seasonally in darker months.
7. Mapping	Mapping to help orient users along the trail and the trail's location in relation to important/key destinations.	Clear and informative mapping will enhance the user experience, especially for those not familiar with the trail, the network and surrounding community.
8. Parking	Designated vehicular parking, typically provided at trailheads.	Parking will encourage use of the trail systems by those who do not live in close proximity of the trail.
9. Accessibility	Level of accessibility will vary depending on the section of trail. At a minimum, information on the level of accessibility should be provided at trail heads so users understand the minimum and average trail width, average and maximum grade/slope, trail surface condition, etc.	Where reasonable the trail should be as accessible as possible. However, the trail network does not need to be fully accessible to all users across its entire length. It is important, however to provide signage which quantifies the level of accessibility provided. Trails which have sections that might be technically challenging for any reason should be clearly indicated using signage at the trail head.

Table 3: Trail Evaluation Criteria cont'd

Inventory of Neighbourhood Parks

Facilities & Features

	Evaluation Criteria							
	Size (ha)	Seating (benches and picnic tables)	Shade (structure or natural)	Community gathering space	Playground	Sports court(s)	Sports field(s) / Open Lawn	Washrooms (and/or change rooms)
1. Bob Merkley Park	0.07	●	○	◐	●		●	
2. Trillium Woods Park	0.64	○	●	●			●	
3. Quota Park	0.05	●	●		●			
4. Ernest T Bates Memorial Park	0.15	●	○	●			●	
5. Cenotaph Park	0.29	●	○	●			◐	
6. Frazer Parkette	0.05	○	○	●			●	
7. Regent Park	0.07	●	○		●		●	
8. Georgian View Park	0.45	○	●					
9. Neezhoday Park	0.05	○	○				●	
10. Carpenter Park	0.18	●	●	●			●	
11. Mac McAllen Park	2.10	●	○	●	●	●	●	
12. Bayview Park	0.50	●	○	●	●	●	●	

Legend

- Good, meets or exceeds
- Inadequate
- ◐ Fair (needs improvement)

* Refer to Appendix A for details

Facilities & Features <i>(continued)</i>	Safety and Security	Access + Use	Total (/20)
Signage (wayfinding + interpretation)			
Storage			
Commercial kiosks/rental space	●		7.5
Planting			4
Naturalization / Woodlot			5.5
Lighting	●		7
CSA (playground)	●		5
Signage (wayfinding + interpretation)			5
Visibility (external)			6.5
Waterfront			2
Community			3
Parking			7
Accessibility (AODA)			11
			7

Table 4: Inventory of Neighbourhood Parks

Inventory of Community Parks

Facilities & Features

		Evaluation Criteria							
		Size (ha)	Seating (benches and picnic tables)	Shade (structure or natural)	Community gathering space	Playground	Sports court(s)	Sports field(s) / Open Lawn	Washrooms (and/or change rooms)
13.	Galloway Park	4.59	●	○				●	●
14.	Tiffin Park	18.90	●	○		●		●	
15.	Edgehill Park	3.77	●	○	●	●	●	●	●

Legend

- Good, meets or exceeds
- Inadequate
- ◐ Fair (needs improvement)

Facilities & Features <i>(continued)</i>	Safety and Security	Access + Use	Total (/20)
Signage (wayfinding + interpretation)			
Storage			
Commercial kiosks/rental space			
Planting			
Naturalization / Woodlot			
Lighting			
CSA (playground)			
Signage (wayfinding + interpretation)			
Visibility (external)			
Waterfront			
Community			
Parking			
Accessibility (AODA)			
			8.5
			9
			9.5

Table 5: Inventory of Community Parks

Inventory of Waterfront Parks

Facilities & Features

	Evaluation Criteria							
	Size (ha)	Seating (benches and picnic tables)	Shade (structure or natural)	Community gathering space	Playground	Sports court(s)	Sports field(s) / Open Lawn	Washrooms (and/or change rooms)
16. Vas Kuchar Memorial Parkette	0.17	●	●					
17. Veterans Waterfront Park	8.37	●	○					
18. Midland Bay Landing Park	0.73	●	○	●				
19. Harbourside/ David Onley Park	1.40	●	○		●		●	
20. Little Lake Park	167.00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
21. Town Dock	3.10	●	●	●			●	
22. Pete Pettersen Park	13.0	●	○		●		●	●
23. McCullough Park	8.10	●	●				●	
24. Gawley Park	1.53	●	●		●		●	
25. Glenbrook Gardens	0.67	●	●					
26. Sunrise Park	0.70	●	●					

Legend

- Good, meets or exceeds
- Inadequate
- ◐ Fair (needs improvement)

Facilities & Features <i>(continued)</i>	Safety and Security	Access + Use	Total (/20)
Signage (wayfinding + interpretation)			
Storage			
Commercial kiosks/rental space			
Planting	●		7
Naturalization / Woodlot			
Lighting	●		5
CSA (playground)			7
Signage (wayfinding + interpretation)			9
Visibility (external)			17
Waterfront			13
Community			12
Parking			8.5
Accessibility (AODA)			10
			4.5
			6

Table 6: Inventory of Waterfront Parks

Inventory of Trails

	Evaluation Criteria									Total (/9)	
	Length (m)	Seating (benches and picnic tables)	Bike parking	Signage (wayfinding + interpretation)	Lighting	Trail road crossings	Trailheads	Mapping	Parking		Accessibility (AODA)
1. Rotary Waterfront Trail	●	○	◐	●	●	◐	◐	◐	◐	●	6.5
2. Little Lake Trails	●	◐	◐	◐	◐	◐	◐	●	○	◐	5.5
3. Midland/Penetang Trail	○	○	◐	○	○	◐	◐	◐	○	○	2
4. Tiny Beaches Loop	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	0

Table 7: Inventory of Trails

Legend



Good, meets or exceeds



Fair (needs improvement)



Not provided/inadequate

FACILITIES AND AMENITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT

“Table 8: Town of Midland Park-based Sports and Recreation Facilities” on page 74 summarizes the inventory of parks-based sports and recreation facilities in the Town of Midland by ownership (municipal and school board) and whether or not they are scheduled for community use. Appendix C contains more detailed facility inventory data. This information was used to calculate preliminary population-based service ratios using an estimated population of 17,646, which is the first year of the Master Plan’s term. Appendix C contains population calculations for the ten-year time frame.

Facility Type	Total Municipal Facilities	Total Scheduled	Total School Board Facilities	Total Schedules for Community Use	Population-based Service Ratio 17,646 (2018) for Schedule Facilities
Sports Fields					
ball diamonds	4 (2 lit)	6 unlit (equivalency)	4 scrub	none	1:2,941
soccer fields	3	3	5 (2 scrub)	none	1:5,882
disc golf	1	1			1:17,646
lawn bowling green	1	1			1:17,646
Sports Courts			1 (scrub)		
tennis courts	6 lit (2 used for pickleball)	4 tennis 2 pickleball	2	none	1:2,941
basketball courts	2.5	na			na
beach volleyball courts	12	12			1:1,470
Running tracks			3	none	
Outdoor Skating Rinks	0	na			
Playgrounds/areas	15 (in 11 parks)	na			na
Skateparks	1	na			na
Non-motorized Boat Launches	4	na			na
Community Gathering Spaces	5	2			na

Table 8: Town of Midland Park-based Sports and Recreation Facilities

Notes:

- 1 lit field = 2 unlit fields (for the purposes of scheduled use)

NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR SCHEDULED SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Purpose and Approach

The purpose of this assessment is to determine the need for additional, scheduled parks-based sports and recreation facilities over the term of the Master Plan. The need for facilities for informal use such as splash pads, playgrounds/structures, basketball courts, and amenities such as shade structures, picnic areas, is assessed elsewhere in the Plan. Similarly, trail amenities are discussed separately.

The types and numbers of scheduled facilities - e.g., ball diamonds, soccer fields, tennis courts, etc. - is determined based on existing supply and use, in relation to indicators of current unmet demand or available time for additional scheduling, and considers broader trends in sports and recreation interests. These factors are collectively analyzed to establish an appropriate level of supply by facility type for the Town's current population. This number may be greater or less than the existing supply of the facility being considered. The resulting ratio is expressed in terms of 1 facility per X,XXX population (e.g., 1 ball diamond per 2,000 population). This provision level is then applied to future population to the end of the Plan's term to determine the number of facilities required to meet anticipated demand generated by growth.

How facility needs are met - whether through municipal provision or improvements to existing supply, access to school board facilities or those owned by not-for-profit organizations - is considered once the number and types of facilities required is established. This part of the assessment incorporates factors such as where facilities will be needed in relation to how they might be provided, the existence of other potential providers, opportunities for the Town to partner with other providers, etc.

The assessment is based on the following:

- inventory counts based on our team's site visits to each of the Town's parks, and web-based mapping of school properties;
- available information regarding how facilities are used;
- community survey results, and comments from open house attendees, on facilities they would like to see made available;
- user group survey information, which is limited to soccer, beach volleyball, disc golf and rowing. Groups offering ball, tennis, pickleball and Frisbee golf did not respond.
- overall population projections from the Town's planning department.

Community Use and Interest in Scheduled Facilities

Residents

The survey of residents produced limited use of/or interest in additional facilities for scheduled sports and recreation. Between 53% and 88% of residents reported use of waterfront parks for the following activities: walking/running; relaxation and appreciating water views/vistas; nature/wildlife appreciation; community special events; cycling and picnicking; family/social gatherings. Although fewer people reported use of inland parks, the types of uses were the same. The top activities reported were: walking/running; nature/wildlife appreciation; relaxing; cycling; playing at the playground; dog walking; picnicking, family/social gatherings; community special events.

In contrast, participation in organized team field sports (e.g., baseball, soccer, Frisbee golf) and courts sports (e.g., tennis, pickleball) at waterfront parks was reported by 16% and 9%, respectively. Corresponding figures for inland parks was 23% and 9%, respectively.

User Groups

Five of nine sports and recreation groups that provide organized programs using parks-based facilities in Midland responded to the Master Plan survey. These were the Huronia Soccer Club, the North Simcoe Soccer Club, the Wednesday Night Beach Volleyball League (WNBVL), Midland Disc Golf Club and the Georgian Rowing Club.

The findings on use and need for additional / improved facilities among the groups that responded were:

- All these groups use municipal parks and or school green spaces in Midland. Midland Disc Golf Club (one of seven respondents) uses school green space at Georgian Bay District Secondary School and St. Theresa's Catholic High School for an occasional program or event.
- The organizations appear to be very satisfied with the facility time available to them. Two groups (of four responding) indicated the need for additional time on facilities they pre-book or schedule. Disc Golf indicated the need for >12 additional non prime-time use of pavilions and/or shade structures. Non-prime time was defined as weekday daytime, and Saturday and Sunday evenings. Beach Volleyball identified the need for additional time on the courts, to improve opportunities for preferred scheduling. Days and times, however, vary depending on interest. It was noted that this league only runs once a week but would like to make the courts available to members when possible.
- Other than possible additional time requirements, six of seven groups indicated the facilities they use are well suited to their program/activity needs. One group indicated that their facilities are regularly vandalized.

Needs Assessment: Sports Fields

Ball Diamonds

As shown above in “Table 8: Town of Midland Park-based Sports and Recreation Facilities” on page 74, there are a total of 8 ball diamonds in the Town of Midland: 4 (2 lit) municipally owned fields and 4 school fields. Municipal diamonds are scheduled for community use. The school diamonds are only suitable for pick up play. In terms of numbers only, therefore, the provision level of scheduled fields is 1 for every 2,941 population (assuming 1 lit field is the equivalent of 2 unlit fields). “Table 9: Town of Midland Ball Diamond Use” on page 77 notes the use data for the Town’s fields for the most recent season, and our calculations on average hours per use, total hours available per fields, and the proportion of total capacity used. This information is used below to determine the need for additional facilities during the term of the Master Plan.

Diamond	# Sessions*	Hours Utilized*	Average Hours/ Use	Total Hours Available	% Capacity Used
Tiffin Park (lit)	145	850	5.9	850	100%
Pete Pettersen (lit)	94	294.5	3.1	850	34.6%
Mac MacAllan	57	168	2.9	425	39.5%
Little Lake	150	715	4.8	425	168.2%
Total		2,027.5		2,550	79.5%

Table 9: Town of Midland Ball Diamond Use

May 1 to September 30, 2018 comprises a 22-week season. Tiffin Park, which accommodates the most use, averages of 5.9 hours per session (850/145), which is typical of lit fields.

A total of 850 hours / 22 weeks at Tiffin Park indicates the field is being used an average of 38.6 hours / week. If we assume six hours per weeknight, or 30 hours per week total Monday to Friday, the diamond is also being used on weekends. Full weeknight use combined with this level of weekend activity suggests the diamond is being used to capacity.

Assuming 850 represents total available hours on a lit diamond, the Pete Pettersen diamond can also accommodate this level of use. At 294.5 hours, therefore, Pettersen is currently used to 34.6% of its capacity suggesting it is considerably underutilized. While we have no information on why this diamond is not better used it appears to be a good candidate for relocation from a use perspective.

Total hours available on each of the two unlit diamonds - Mac MacAllan and Little Lake - is half that of the lit diamonds or 425 hours. In relation to hours used, therefore, Mac MacAllan is at 39.5% of capacity while the Little Lake diamond is overused at 168.2%. The heavy use of the Little Lake diamond is likely a reflection of relatively high levels of weekend use for special events/tournaments. The low levels of use on Pete Pettersen and Mac MacAllan are offset to some extent by over capacity use of the Little Lake diamond. Collectively, the Town's four diamonds are used to 79.5% capacity.

For the purposes of determining a current diamond provision level and anticipating facility needs over the term of the Master Plan, the two lit and two unlit diamonds are treated as six unlit fields. Use on all six fields totals 2,027.5 hours per season (79.5% capacity), or 4.8 unlit fields (2,027.5/425). Using 2018 population of 17,646 results in a current provision level of 1 field for every 3,676 people (17,646/4.8). Applying this provision level to anticipated 2028 population produces demand for the equivalent of 5.8 unlit fields (21,376/3,676).

No ball diamond user groups responded to the survey for the Master Plan, and the municipality indicated that there is no apparent outstanding demand for access to fields. Overall trends in ball participation also suggest relatively stable to declining participation in future. Town staff also report there is currently no pressure for community use of school board fields, and that municipal facilities accommodate school activity, as required. The community, therefore, will be well served with the existing supply of ball diamonds to the end of the Master Plan.

If, in the long term, the diamond at Pete Pettersen is decommissioned to allow this park to be integrated into a larger waterfront park scheme, it should be replaced elsewhere if use levels warrant its relocation. Both school boards have policies that support organized, community use of facilities during non-academic hours. School facilities, therefore, may offer opportunities to replace this diamond in a cost-effective way. The ball diamond at St. Theresa's High School may be a

preferred location for a community league level diamond, given that the school property abuts Trillium Woods Park. The Town should consider the potential to enter a formal partnership agreement with the Simcoe County Catholic District School Board for upgrades to this facility.

Soccer Fields

As shown above in “Table 8: Town of Midland Park-based Sports and Recreation Facilities” on page 74, there are a total of 8 soccer fields in the Town of Midland: 3 municipally owned fields and 5 school fields. Municipal diamonds are scheduled for community use. Although several of the school fields are high quality, they are not used for league activity. In terms of numbers only, therefore, the provision level of scheduled fields is 1 for every 5,882 population. (This includes the existing field at North Simcoe Secondary School, which will be replaced when site is fully reconstructed). “Table 10: Town of Midland Soccer Field Use” notes the use data for the Town’s fields for the most recent season, and our calculations on average hours per use, total hours available per fields, and the proportion of total capacity used. This information is used below to determine the need for additional facilities during the term of the Master Plan.

Galloway Park	# Sessions*	Hours Utilized*	Average Hours/ Use	Total Hours Available	% Capacity Used
Ed Walker Field #1	88	203	2.3	203	100%
Ed Walker Field #2	36	82	2.3	203	40%
Ed Walker Field #3	15	36	2.4	203	17.7%
Total Regular		321		609	52.7%
Field #s 1, 2 and 3	2	16			

Table 10: Town of Midland Soccer Field Use

* from Town’s May 1 to September 13, 2018 usage report

May 1 to September 13, 2018 comprises a 20-week season. A total of 203 hours / 20 weeks on Field #1 indicates it is being used an average of 10.2 hours per week, which at 2.3 hours per use, suggests the field is booked 4 to 5 (4.4) nights a week. This is typical for soccer fields, and generally represents 'capacity' booking for regular (i.e., non-tournament) programming.

Assuming Field #1 is used to capacity, and 203 represents the hours that are also available on the other fields, Field #2 and Field #3 are used now to 40% and 17.7% of their capacity, respectively, for regular programming.

Regular programming on all three fields totals 321 hours per season (52.7% capacity), or 1.6 fields (321/203). Using 2018 population of 17,646 results in a provision level of 1 field for every 11,029 people (17,646/1.6). Applying this provision level to anticipated 2028 population produces demand for 1.9 fields (21,376/11,029). Demand for soccer fields that is generated by population growth alone, therefore, can be well accommodated with the existing facility supply.

Two soccer groups responded to the Master Plan survey - the Huronia Soccer Club and the North Simcoe Soccer Club. While neither group reported current outstanding demand for access to soccer fields, Huronia has experienced an increase in participation over the past three years (130 to 180 players) and anticipates future growth due to interest in soccer and the quality of its marketing and promotional efforts. The North Simcoe Soccer Club has experienced a slight drop

in participation over the past three years (325 to 300) and expects future membership to remain stable for a number of reasons, including the availability of volunteers, design/capacity of facilities, competition from other service providers, interest and demographic changes. On balance, future participation levels may increase somewhat and this would inflate demand for fields to some extent. The existing supply of three municipal fields, however, can accommodate additional demand assuming scheduling practices remain the same.

Neither soccer group currently uses school fields. Town staff report there is currently no pressure for community use of school board fields, and that municipal facilities accommodate school activity, as required. While our assessment suggests there will be no need for additional soccer fields during the term of the Master Plan, school fields would appear to be the most reasonable option to accommodating such beyond 2028, depending on the potential for the Town to establish formal agreements with the boards. The facilities at St. Theresa's High School are high quality, and the reconstruction of the public secondary school will include a new soccer/football field.

The North Simcoe Soccer Club suggested converting one of Ed Walker fields into an indoor pitch that could also be used for tennis, golf and baseball. Communities often express interest in indoor fields and, given sufficient demand and budget, these types of facilities can be the preferred way to expand supply. Future growth and soccer participation in

Midland, however, is not expected to warrant this option. Moreover, to cover a soccer field and introduce other types of use will necessarily detract from its primary purpose and so likely displace soccer activity.

Disc Golf

Disc Golf is working with the Town to expand the course at Little Lake, and has prepared and provided plans for this purpose. The Disc Golf group noted in the survey a plan for expanding the course was submitted to the Town. The group also indicated the need for pavilions and/or shade structures.

The Little Lake Park concept plan (see Appendix E) indicates a potential route for the course, that takes into account other potentially, concurrent uses of the Park and the need to ensure existing and future plant material is undamaged.

Lawn Bowling

The Midland and District Lawn Bowling Club was formally established in 1977. The facility has been developed over the years and now comprises a clubhouse and a green that is about 120 feet square with 8 (and sometimes 9) rinks. The green is maintained by a paid greens-keeper and with the help of volunteers. In 2018, the Club had 115 active bowlers. It is volunteer-led and operated. The Club provides a school program that, in cooperation with area elementary and secondary schools, introduces young people to the game. Community Living Huronia clients bowl during July.¹

Typically, municipalities with population bases comparable to Midland support a maximum of one lawn bowling club. Facilities are generally provided by the municipality and operated at arms length by a formally constituted lawn bowling club. This is the case in Midland. The Club rents the facility from the Town, the municipality is responsible for capital costs, and the Club for ongoing maintenance. We understand that the lease is coming up for renewal in the near future. The need for an updated user fees policy that covers all Town parks and recreation facilities is discussed in the Recommendations section.

1 <http://www.midlandlawnbowlingclub.ca/#members>

NEEDS ASSESSMENT: SPORTS COURTS

Tennis

There are currently six lit municipal, and two school, tennis courts in Midland. It is our understanding that Midland's tennis club only uses the Town's courts.

Municipal tennis courts are currently provided at a level of one court per 2,941 population. Two of these courts, however, are currently used for pickleball. For the purposes of the assessment, therefore, the court supply is divided between the two activities, resulting in a total of four tennis courts or one court for every 4,411 people (17,646/4).

Adult Tennis did not respond to the survey for the Master Plan, and the municipality did not report community interest in additional access to tennis courts. Based on the current supply level and assumed stability in demand, a population increase of 3,730 to 2028 population will not be sufficient to support another court. Trends in tennis also tend to fluctuate over time, although there is always some level of activity in the sport and good courts are needed to sustain it both organized and unstructured use, as well as to provide facilities for children and youth learn and play.

Pickleball

As noted above, two tennis courts are designated and used as pickleball courts, which results in a provision level of eight courts total or one court for every 2,206 people. (Typically, one tennis court can be converted into four pickleball courts, provided the corners are square and they are regulation size of 60 x 120).

Based solely on the current supply level, population growth to 2028 will be sufficient to support 1.7 additional courts (3,730 population increase/2,206 people per court). Pickleball, however, is a relatively new sport and is experiencing considerable growth in participation, particularly among older people. Many municipalities are working to accommodate this demand, either through tennis court conversion, dual use of tennis courts for both sports, or building separate pickleball courts.

During the term of the Master Plan, therefore, there may be a need to increase total supply of dedicated pickleball courts to more than 10. As it is reasonable to anticipate providing these facilities in groups of four, any additional facilities should be planned accordingly, and located to better distribute facilities geographically.

Introducing new pickleball courts at Little Lake where beach volleyball currently occupies a large area that is underutilized should be considered in the future if warranted due to increased demand.

Volleyball

Beach Volleyball noted that the Town has always been very supportive of their efforts. As the interest in beach volleyball has changed in the past 15 years, however, they do not use all of the courts that are available and have discussed the possibility of reducing the number of courts with the Town. They primarily use the two rows of courts closest to the play structures and the pavilion. Given this situation, it is suggested that the number of beach volleyball courts be reduced to six (6) from the current 12 and that this level of supply will be sufficient to meet demand over the long-term.

Beach Volleyball also noted the need for access to the courts during times other than the regular weekly league activity, so that members could play at other times. To facilitate/encourage more use of these courts some type of arrangement to allow nets to be available for general public use should be investigated.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR UNSTRUCTURED USE FACILITIES AND AMENITIES

Purpose and Approach

The purpose of this section is to assess the needs for unstructured recreation facilities. Since user numbers are not readily available for these types of recreation amenities, the evaluation is based on the number and type of recreation amenities provided in other communities of similar size, a review of Midland's park and recreation amenities, and information gathered through staff and community consultation and the surveys completed by residents, user groups and businesses.

Community Use and Interest in Unstructured Use Facilities

Residents

As discussed above, interest in new facilities focused on those that are used for unstructured, self-directed activity, which aligns with current activity patterns in residents' use of parks. Use of parks by Midland residents, therefore, is in line with broader trends that show shifts in how people are recreating and using parks for outdoor activity, fitness/wellness and social interaction. Midland and area is also blessed with a natural environment and an existing trails system that encourages both water and land-based outdoor, self-directed recreation. Key facility interests noted by residents were:

- splash pad/waterpark
- new/accessible/inclusive play structures and areas
- natural playgrounds
- beach and swim area other than Pettersen Park
- exercise stations in parks/along trails
- covered areas for events/with seating for performances
- mountain bike pump track/mini off road track or skill course
- outdoor skating area
- mini-putt
- more amenities for greater winter access to/use of parks
- mini/scooter skatepark

User Groups

User group responses focused on their programs and facilities, but one group indicated that the town does not have a good beach facility on Georgian Bay. It was suggested that, to generate increased tourism, the Town should consider the creation of a beach area in the hub area of the town. The existing beach at Pettersen Park, located beside a marina, and set quite a distance from the downtown core is not a destination and lacks appeal.

Businesses

Among eight (8) respondents, the improvements to Midland's park, trails and related features indicated as being most important to future visitor market development appear to be focused on the waterfront and include: mixed development, infrastructure to accommodate cruise ships, and more/improved special event venues.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT: UNSTRUCTURED FACILITIES

The following describes the current supply and anticipated need for unstructured recreation facilities and amenities in Midland. This discussion is organized into three groups:

1. Amenities with inadequate/limited supply
2. Underutilized Amenities
3. Missing amenities

Amenities Inadequate/Limited Supply

The following park amenities are found infrequently in Midland's Parks. More of these should be considered in the planning of new parks and in the revitalization of existing parks. These include:

- Seating
- Shade structures
- Bicycle amenities
- Off-leash dog area
- Swimming
- Anglers/Fishing
- Small Craft Launch
- Trailheads
- Public art
- Signage and wayfinding
- Washrooms
- Litter Receptacles

Seating

Additional benches and picnic tables should be considered throughout Midland's park and trails. Benches should be provided at regular intervals as rest points. The design of benches and picnic tables should be as per current AODA standards. This includes providing seating on a pad with an accessible route from the main path to the seat. Proper placement of armrests and backrests on some benches, and providing space for wheelchairs, either immediately adjacent to benches and as a place at picnic tables should be provided. At least 20% of all seating should be accessible.



Figure 26: Bench at Pete Pettersen Park

Shade Structures

Shade structures are located in five of Midland's Parks. As a matter of community health and safety, adequate shade needs to be provided in each park, either through tree canopy or a built structure.

Given the importance of providing shade in parks, more shade structures should be constructed. Permitting larger shade structures for groups / special events can both encourage use of parks and help offset costs of providing shade structures.



Figure 27: Shade structure at Little Lake Park

Bicycle Amenities

To encourage cycling within the community and to and from parks, designated secure locations to park bicycles are needed. Each park should have a few spaces where users can lock up their bikes. Bike racks at strategic locations like trailheads can also encourage tourists to stop along the trail and venture into the community.

Bike repair stands will also encourage bike use on trails. One repair station at David Onley Park was noted. Other stations should be strategically located along the trail network and in selected parks.



Figure 28: Bike Repair Station at David Onley Park

Off Leash Dog Area

Only Tiffin Park, and Little Lake Park have an official, designated dog off-leash area. Suitable locations for additional off-leash areas should be considered as part of the planning of Midland's recreation amenities in anticipation of future demand.



Figure 29: Off-leash Dog park at Little Lake Park

Swimming

Formal access points to enter Midland's water bodies for swimming are limited. Only five parks provide access appropriate for swimming:

1. Gawley Park
2. Glenbrook Gardens
3. Little Lake Park
4. Pete Pettersen Park
5. Sunrise Park

While McCullogh Park and Veterans Waterfront Park have waterfront, conditions prevent easy access for swimmers.

Opportunities to provide additional access points to Midland's waterfront, and opportunities to improve access for swimming should be explored.

Anglers/Fishing

Only Midland Bay Landing Park provides amenities related to fishing. Given the popularity of the sport and a desire to provide citizens with greater access to fishing, a designated location for fishing, with associated amenities should be considered in the planning and design of waterfront parks. This includes rod holders, receptacles for fishing line disposal, information signage and strategically located seating. Fish cleaning stations should also be considered where appropriate, along with proper disposal protocols and equipment.



Figure 31: Swimming Access at Gawley Park



Figure 30: Fisherman at Midland Bay Landing Park

Small Craft Launch

The use of small watercraft for recreational purposes, including canoes, kayaks and stand-up paddle boards (SUP), continues to grow in popularity. More designated locations for launching these watercraft should be provided which may include a location for easy entry, a rack for temporary placement of boats, seating, signage and a grass or granular staging area.



Figure 33: Boat Launch at Little Lake Park

Inclusive Play Structures and Natural Playgrounds

While there are currently 15 playgrounds in 11 of Midland’s park, there is only one playground is considered accessible to current standards and another that is designed as a natural play space. As Midland’s playgrounds are upgraded opportunities for more accessible/inclusive play and natural play features should be explored.



Figure 34: Boat Launch at Little Lake Park

Full Service Trailheads

Trailheads should be provided at key locations to help improve the trail user’s experience. They should include signage (mapping, rules and regulations, emergency contact information and accessibility information), seating, trash and recycling containers, bicycle parking, and vehicle parking (where appropriate).

The occurrence of trailheads (as described above) in Midland is limited. The harbour area is one key location that could be significantly improved by providing a key starting point to



Figure 32: Little Lake Park Trailhead

access Midland’s trail network. While some information is provided, it is not consolidated and is incomplete.

Public Art

The frequency and integration of public art into the fabric of the parks and trails systems can be significantly increased. Through the revitalization of parks, public art should be used to enhance and celebrate Midland. Opportunities include both stand alone commissioned pieces and art integrated into new park and trail infrastructure such as, but not limited to paving, fencing, lighting, seating, signage/wayfinding and planting.

Signage and Wayfinding

The frequency and amount of information provided at key locations across Midland should be increased. The trail network and signage presumes users are familiar enough with the Town and key landmarks to easily navigate the trails. However, there is a significant lost opportunity to make the trail network more transparent and inviting by formalizing a system of trailheads, information signage, and blazes to explain and promote the trail to both residents and visitors to Midland. This should also be coordinated with surrounding municipalities, in particular Penetanguishene and Tay which are directly linked to Midland using the off road trail network. However signage in both of these communities is not clear in this regard. A joint municipal approach to implementing signage that acknowledges trail connections between



Figure 35: Public Art at Town Docks



Figure 36: Public Art at Little Lake

neighbours would help make the area more attractive to trail users interested in exploring the larger Huronia Region.

Washrooms

Currently washrooms are provided at most of Midland's larger destination parks where park use and activity supports the larger community and tourism. Washrooms should also be provided at Midland's primary trailheads whenever possible. This may be accomplished through the provision of portable toilets spring to fall. Especially when water and sanitary service is not available.

Litter Receptacles

Litter receptacles should be provided at all of Midland's Parks and trailheads. This is particularly important where dog walking is popular. High use areas should have more than one container or more frequent pickup to avoid overflowing containers, especially during long-weekends or during special events.



Figure 37: Portable toilet at Trailhead at Gawley Park

Underutilized Amenities

The following amenities appear to be underutilized or improperly sited and may be worth replacing or relocated to maximize use of the park for the enjoyment of more Midland citizens. These include:

- Ball Diamonds at Pete Pettersen Park
- Beach Volleyball at Little Lake
- Turf/sodded areas
- Waterfront lookouts

Ball Diamonds at Pete Pettersen Park

Waterfront land is precious and must be preserved for use by all members of the public. Regardless of the extent the diamond at Pete Pettersen Park is used now, or in the future, the park would better serve the community by using the site for activities that can benefit more than just the few who play baseball on evenings and weekends for a few months of the year. Relocating the diamond to another park allows this previous waterfront space to be used by more people all year round.



Figure 38: Herb Beauchamp Ball Diamond at Pete Pettersen Park



Figure 39: Beach Volley Ball courts at Little Lake Park

Beach Volleyball at Little Lake

The twelve beach volleyball courts at Little Lake occupy a considerable area of lake front. While beach volleyball was a popular and programmed activity in the past in Midland, it is no longer highly engaging. Transforming this area of the park to another use should be considered in future planning for Little Lake.



Figure 40: Turf grass at McCullough Park

Turf/Sodded Areas

A significant amount of the parks in Midland are primarily grass turf. Turf is used as the primary surface treatment. This includes areas that are not used for active or passive recreation purposes. Turf areas require significant resources for regular maintenance and provide minimal ecological benefit. Replacing some turf areas with other more diverse types of planting would provide a range of ecological benefits as well as reducing the cost and maintenance burden associated with turf grass.

Waterfront Lookouts

A number of locations provide good views of the waterfront. However, these viewing locations lack any formal structure or easy access to allow for their full enjoyment. These locations should be designed as formal lookout points with stair or ramp access, railings and seating where possible. Interpretive signage could also be provided to convey the industrial heritage of the structure the lookout is situated on.



Figure 41: Potential lookout at Pete Pettersen Park



Figure 42: Industrial remnants at Pete Pettersen Park

Missing Amenities

The following amenities not currently provided in Midland's parks but are worth considering as part of future planning and design of new and existing parks and trails. These include:

- Drinking fountains and water bottle filling stations
- Adult fitness stations
- Accessible Playground Safety Surface
- Splash pad
- Bike skills park/pump track
- Outdoor skating rink
- Floating playground
- Water cable park

Drinking Fountains and Water Bottle Filling Stations

When feasible, a drinking fountain or water bottle filling station should be provided in an accessible location. Currently, the preference is for bottle filling stations or for a fountain that acts as both a drinking fountain and bottle filling station. A pet bowl is also a common accessory, especially when provided in a dog off leash area or in a large park frequented by dog walkers.

Adult Fitness Stations

Equipment to support adult fitness has been gaining popularity over the last five to ten years. This is especially true with an aging population looking for new and interesting ways to stay active. Fitness stations are either grouped in a location, or located along a walking or jogging trail at key destinations.



Figure 43: Adult fitness station

Accessible Playground Safety Surface

All of Midland’s playgrounds use a sand fall surface. While this meets CSA standards for safety, it is not accessible and limits the ability for those with mobility issues to access the play equipment. A rubber safety surface will improve accessibility and will minimize the potential for the fall surface to become compromised by shifting sand. However, rubber surface is significantly more expensive, and is not appropriate in combination with sand as sand can clog the rubber reducing its effectiveness. Therefore rubber surfacing should be used in appropriate locations and be budgeted for early in the playground development process.



Figure 44: Safety Surface at Little Lake Park



Figure 45: Safety Surface at Gawley Park



Figure 46: Safety Surface at Bayview Park

Splash Pad

Desire for a splash pad in Midland was raised during the consultation activities. It is considered a safe and accessible means for children to access to water play during the summer. However, splash pads are expensive, not only as an initial investment in construction, but for ongoing operation and maintenance.

In conjunction with the proposed development of the Unimin site/Midland Bay Landing, there is the potential to incorporate a splash pad as part of the skating facility proposed in the new community's park design. Dual purpose facilities with skating in the winter with a splash pad option in the summer are not uncommon and provide the opportunity to animate a space throughout the year. Splash pads which also serve as a public art element/water feature is also an approach used in some urban spaces, however this can be challenging from a design perspective and may limit the play value depending on the location and desired aesthetic.

Other larger community destination parks in Midland, such as Little Lake, may also be suitable for a splash pad in the long term.

While most splash pads use a system where potable water is sprayed and then drained directly to sanitary, recycled systems where sprayed water is collected, screened and treated using ultraviolet light and chemicals, are becoming more common place. However, there are a number of challenges associated

with these systems that must be carefully considered to determine whether this approach is feasible. This includes:

- review and approval by local public health authorities of the system's design is required to ensure the system's treatment will meet health and safety standards
- initial cost to construct treatment system is significantly more. Payback on investment would take years.
- space requirements for below ground tanks and treatment/water monitoring facility
- dedicated trained staff to monitor and maintain equipment to ensure system is working properly and to address issues as they arise (similar to pool maintenance)
- Increased probability that system may fail due to contamination and/or mechanical or system failure which would result in system shut down until the issue can be addressed

Bike Skills Park/Pump Track

Bike skills parks, which may include a pump track, dirt jumps, or technical trail features are gaining popularity in municipalities to address the recreation needs of youth not engaged in traditional organized sports. Unlike the costs associated with skate parks, bike skills parks are typically less expensive as they are constructed from earth and timbers. However maintenance, if not adopted by a local volunteer group or bike club, can be challenging since the dirt mounds (berms and jumps) need regular inspection and upkeep to ensure they are safe and perform properly.

Typically, bike skills parks and pump tracks are constructed in areas which are undeveloped where there is access to earth that can be contoured and shaped for construction. Woodlots and fields with minimal ecological sensitivity are typically used. The facility should also have some topography which can be capitalized on, access to water which can be sprayed onto the mounds during construction and maintenance, and easy access/connectivity to trails so youth can access the park without having to drive or bicycle on busy roads.

When possible, it is most desirable to combine a bike skills park with other park amenities such as washrooms, drinking fountains and parking.



Figure 47: Pump track



Figure 48: Bike skills area

Outdoor Skating Area

The Town does not have any outdoor skating areas, and these types of facilities are increasingly more difficult to provide in a changing climate. Covered, artificial ice must be provided to optimize the potential to maintain it for the season - with no guarantees that the capital investment will provide an adequate level of service. It is not recommended, therefore, that the Town begin providing outdoor rinks and that residents interested in outdoor skating continue to be encouraged to use rinks in Tiny and Port McNicoll.

However, an artificial rink is promoted as part of the Midland Bay Landing development. Should this proposal be implemented, it has the potential to serve a dual purpose of skating in the winter and splash pad in the summer. There is also the possibility to develop an synthetic ice rink which is not temperature or season Dependant. As this technology evolves this may be a suitable solution for recreation skating.

Floating Playground

Over the last few years floating playgrounds are becoming a common feature in many of Ontario's waterfront communities and resorts. These floating playgrounds can range in size and complexity but typically include inflatable elements anchored approximately 20 to 50 metres off shore in deeper water. It may include slides, trampolines and climbing structures of various sizes to accommodate different ages and abilities.

Various companies own and operate these facilities and lease the space from the land owner in exchange for being able to charge for the public to use the playground. As part of the agreement lifeguards and staff are provided by the company. If successful, this type of arrangement may generate revenue for the Town.

Given the growing popularity of floating playgrounds there needs to be some discussion and development of a town policy on whether to support this type of recreation as well as other revenue generating public/private partnerships.

It is our understanding that at least one company has approached the Town of Midland to investigate the potential for a business partnership with the Town to allow for a floating playground at Little Lake.



Figure 49: Floating Trampoline

Wakeboard Cable Park

While currently more popular in Europe, water cable skiing is growing in North American and Ontario. It consists of a cable connected to a motor which can pull a water skier or wake boarder over the water along a route which may be 10 metres wide by 300 metres long. The system has numerous advantages over being pulled by a boat such as costs, noise, space requirements, capacity for riders and safety.

The infrastructure required for a water cable park includes a power source, a cable connected between two poles, with one pole on land and the other in the water. Floating obstacles (such as ramps) and buoys to demarcate the course are also provided. The system requires an operator to control the speed of the cable, with additional staff to assist with ticket sales and lifeguarding.

Given the growing popularity of water cable parks there needs to be some discussion and development of a town policy on whether to support this type of recreation as well as other revenue generating public/private partnerships .

It is our understanding that at least one company has approached the Town of Midland to investigate the potential for a business partnership with the Town to allow for a water cable park at Little Lake.



Figure 50: Rail Yard Wake & Aqua Park.
Image source yorkdurhamheadwaters.ca

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following section outlines the recommended improvements and initiatives for Midland’s parks and trails network. It is organized into the following headings with further details provided in the appendix:

- Types of recommendations (primary, secondary and tertiary)
- Recommendations for existing parks
- Recommendations for new parks
- Recommendations for undeveloped parkland
- Recommendations for trails

The next section outlines the proposed implementation strategy.

TYPES OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations for each park and trail (existing and proposed) are organized into three types:

1. Primary
2. Secondary
3. Tertiary

PRIMARY RECOMMENDATIONS

Primary recommendations are focused on public/user safety and accessibility as per the Canadian Standards Association’s requirements (CSA), Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) requirements, and considerations of the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). This includes but is not limited to:

- playground safety (protective fall surfaces and CSA approved equipment)
- accessible routes through parks and at beaches
- seating (location and configuration)
- wayfinding and user information
- shade (built structures and planting)
- emergency information signs in parks
- bicycle parking

SECONDARY RECOMMENDATIONS

Secondary recommendations look at addressing repairs and enhancements to existing facilities and amenities that do not fall under the CSA, AODA, or CPTED. This includes:

- improvements, relocation and/or reconfiguration of existing outdoor facilities
- naturalization and pollinator gardens
- major trailheads
- tree canopy improvements/enhancements

- lookouts and viewing opportunities
- shoreline improvements
- swimming access
- small craft launches
- special events spaces

TERTIARY RECOMMENDATIONS

Tertiary recommendations focus on new outdoor facilities and amenities - in particular, those requiring significant costs/public sector investment and/or that cater to a limited segment of the population. This includes:

- new park elements (fields, courts, plazas, and other amenities and equipment)
- lighting
- public art
- storage space
- fishing amenities
- display gardens/planting
- woodlot management

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXISTING PARKS

The following tables identify recommended improvements for each of Midland's 26 parks. The recommendations are numbered and organized into the three tiers: Primary, Secondary and Tertiary. Details on recommendations for each park along with concept plans, are provided in Appendix E: Existing Parks Design Concepts.

For information on the implementation strategy and priority projects please refer to the implementation section of this report.

The recommendations for each park are organized as follows into Neighbourhood, Community and Waterfront Parks.

Neighbourhood Parks

1. Bob Merkley Park
2. Trillium Woods Park
3. Quota Park
4. Ernest T Bates Memorial Park
5. Cenotaph Park
6. Frazer Parkette
7. Regent Park
8. Georgian View Park
9. Neezhoday Park
10. Carpenter Park
11. Mac McAllen Park
12. Bayview Park

Community Parks

13. Galloway Park
14. Tiffin Park
15. Edgehill Park

Waterfront Parks

16. Vas Kuchar Memorial Parkette
17. Veterans Waterfront Park
18. Midland Bay Landing Park
19. Harbourside/ David Onley Park
20. Little Lake
21. Town Dock
22. Pete Pettersen Park
23. McCullough Park
24. Gawley Park
25. Glenbrook Gardens
26. Sunrise Park

PARKS FOR DISPOSAL

Two existing parks may be considered for disposal:

#25 Glenbrook Gardens

#26 Sunrise Park

Both of these parks have limited utility as park space, have received minimal investment by the Town in park infrastructure and have high potential for sale as new residential development which would integrate well into the neighbourhood.

Proceeds from the sale of these parcel should be used to subsidize improvements to existing parks and fund new park development.

Should the Town consider disposal, the community should be further consulted and new investment in park facilities in the neighbourhood should be made.

Recommendation Summary: Neighbourhood Parks

Recommendations	Primary							Secondary				
	Playground improvements (CSA)	Additional play equipment	Accessibility improvements to pathways	Accessible seating/picnic tables	Bike parking	Shade structure	Signage / mapping / user information	Litter Receptacles (additional)	Naturalization / reduce sod	Sports play surface/asphalt repair	Additional planting	Additional park amenities
1. Bob Merkley Park				●	●	●			●			●
2. Trillium Woods Park												
3. Quota Park	●	●	●	●	●	●						●
4. Ernest T Bates Memorial			●	●				●		●		
5. Cenotaph Park			●	●	●							
6. Frazer Parkette				●		●				●	●	
7. Regent Park	●	●		●	●	●				●		
8. Georgian View Park			●	●	●		●					●
9. Neezhoday Park			●	●	●		●			●	●	
10. Carpenter Park			●	●				●				
11. Mac McAllen Park	●			●	●	●				●		
12. Bayview Park	●		●	●	●	●		●	●		●	

Tertiary	Additional Comments
<p>Introduce public art</p> <p>Adult fitness station(s)</p> <p>New or conversion of lighting to LED</p> <p>Woodlot management</p> <p>Additional park amenities</p>	
<p>●</p>	
<p>●</p>	
<p>●</p>	
<p>●</p>	<p>remove light attached to tree, remove fencing</p>
<p>●</p>	<p>develop as a gateway to Midland's downtown</p>
<p>●</p>	
<p>●</p>	<p>provide formal pedestrian crossing of Yonge Street</p>
<p>●</p>	
<p>●</p>	
<p>●</p>	
<p>●</p>	

Table 11: Recommendation Summary: Neighbourhood Parks

Recommendation Summary: Community Parks

	Primary								Secondary			
	Playground improvements (CSA)	Additional play equipment	Accessibility improvements to pathways	Accessible seating/picnic tables	Bike parking	Shade structure	Signage / mapping / user information	Litter Receptacles (additional)	Naturalization / reduce sod	Sports play surface/asphalt repair	Additional planting	Additional park amenities
1. Galloway Park			●	●	●	●	●	●			●	●
2. Tiffin Park	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	
3. Edgehill Park	●	●	●	●	●	●		●		●	●	

Tertiary	Additional Comments
Introduce public art Adult fitness station(s) New or conversion of lighting to LED Woodlot management Additional park amenities	
	
	
	

Table 12: Recommendation Summary: Community Parks

Recommendation Summary: Waterfront Parks

Recommendations	Primary							Secondary				
	Playground improvements (CSA)	Additional play equipment	Accessibility improvements to pathways	Accessible seating/picnic tables	Bike parking	Shade structure	Signage / mapping / user information	Litter Receptacles (additional)	Naturalization / reduce sod	Sports play surface/asphalt repair	Additional planting	Additional park amenities
1. Vas Kuchar M. Parkette				●	●		●					
2. Veterans Waterfront Park				●	●		●					
3. Midland Bay Landing			●	●	●	●			●		●	
4. Harbourside/ David Onley				●	●	●	●		●			
5. Little Lake Park	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
6. Town Dock			●	●	●	●	●			●		
7. Pete Pettersen Park	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●
8. McCullough Park			●	●	●	●	●			●		
9. Gawley Park	●		●	●	●	●	●		●			
10. Glenbrook Gardens			●	●			●					
11. Sunrise Park			●	●								●

Tertiary	Additional Comments
<p>Introduce public art</p> <p>Adult fitness station(s)</p> <p>New or conversion of lighting to LED</p> <p>Woodlot management</p> <p>Additional park amenities</p>	
●	
●	
● ●	
● ● ● ● ●	remove light attached to tree, remove fencing
●	develop as a gateway to Midland's downtown
●	
●	
●	provide formal pedestrian crossing of Yonge Street
●	
●	
●	

Table 13: Recommendation Summary: Waterfront Parks

RECOMMENDATIONS ILLUSTRATED

The following before and after photomontages illustrate some of the plan's key recommendations using five test sites:

- Little Lake
- Midland Bay Landing
- Pete Pettersen Park
- Lookout at Pete Pettersen Park
- Tom McCullough Park

Some of the key recommended improvements illustrated include:

- Pathway accessibility improvements
- Accessibility Seating improvements
- Improved waterfront access
- Shade structures
- Planting
- Enhancing existing infrastructure



Figure 51: BEFORE – Little Lake



Figure 52: AFTER – Little Lake



Figure 53: BEFORE – Midland Bay Landing



Figure 54: AFTER – Midland Bay Landing



Figure 55: BEFORE – Pete Pettersen Park

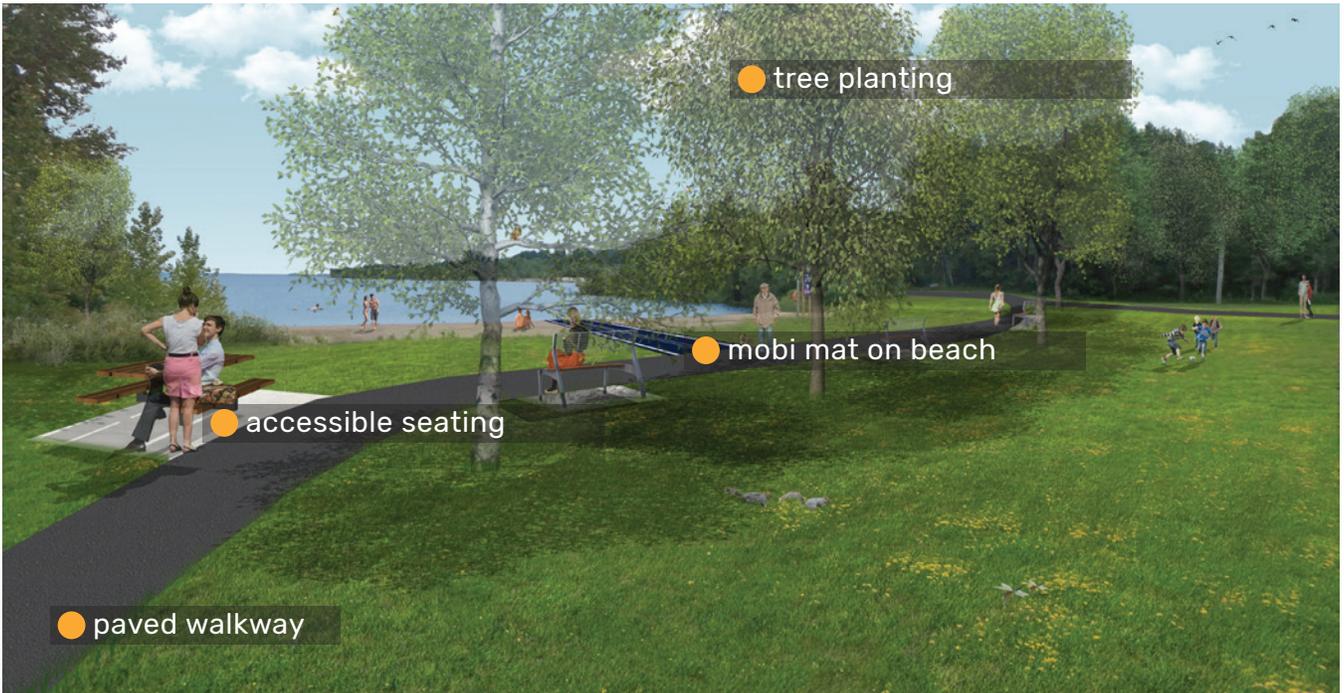


Figure 56: AFTER – Pete Pettersen Park



Figure 57: BEFORE – Lookout at Pete Pettersen Park



Figure 58: AFTER – Lookout at Pete Pettersen Park



Figure 59: BEFORE – Tom McCullough Park



Figure 60: AFTER – Tom McCullough Park

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEW PARKS

While Midland is well supplied from a parks and open space perspective a number of parks are proposed to address the needs specific needs of residents or neighbourhoods. This includes:

- One new park in the Sunnyside neighbourhood
- Park and waterfront trail as part of the proposed Unimin/Midland Bay Landing development
- Development of Town owned undeveloped parkland

SUNNYSIDE PARK

Through a detailed inventory and analysis of Midland’s existing park supply and its proximity to residents, the need for a park in the Sunnyside Neighbourhood was confirmed. A park in Sunnyside would provide residents access to parks and recreation amenities currently enjoyed by other neighborhoods in Midland. A new park would be especially beneficial to children who currently need to travel beyond what is typically expected to access a municipal park.

At a minimum, the programming for a new park in Sunnyside should provide the following:

- multipurpose play field
- multipurpose asphalt court for ball play
- shade structure
- children’s playground for ages 2 to 12
- seating and picnic tables
- bicycle parking
- tree planting

For further information and a concept for this park please refer to Appendix D: New Parks.

UNIMIN/MIDLAND BAY LANDING PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

The new park spaces proposed in the 2013 master plan have the potential to be an important and exciting waterfront destination not only for the new mixed use community proposed but also for all Midland residents. The plan also encourages a continuous linear waterfront park and trail with a connection to Midland Bay Landing park at the east end.

Some key features to be considered in the development of the proposed park spaces for the Unimin/Midland Bay Landing development include but not limited to:

Park

- open lawn/amphitheater space for large gatherings
- power and lighting for special events
- linkages to Rotary Trail bike pathway
- bicycle parking
- Skating rink with potential for conversion to a fountain/splash pad in summer
- waterfront access (docking for watercraft)

Waterfront Trail

- coordination of pathway alignment with design of Midland Bay Landing
- continuous pathway connection across entire shoreline of site
- connection to Bayshore Drive at west end of site
- viewing platforms

- seating
- signage and wayfinding

UNDEVELOPED PARKLAND

Seven (7) new parks are proposed on parcels currently classified as “undeveloped parkland”. This includes (note: names are descriptive only and not official names):

1. Russ Howard Park
2. Cook Drive Parkette (recently constructed)
3. Ingram Park
4. Harbourview Gateway
5. Foundry Park
6. Bayport Park
7. Lakewood Park

For further information regarding these seven parks please refer to the next section regarding the Town’s undeveloped parkland, as well as Appendix D: New Parks for recommended programming and concepts plans for each park.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UNDEVELOPED PARKLAND

The Town of Midland has 23 undeveloped park parcels. These are identified and located in “Table 14: Undeveloped Parkland Recommendations” on page 124.

The following outlines the recommended direction for each parcel:

- develop as a new park (17)
- trail connection (5)
- sell/hold (1)

DEVELOP AS NEW PARK SPACE

Seventeen undeveloped parcels should be assembled into seven (7) new neighbourhood parks. These parcels were dedicated as parkland through the subdivision process. Therefore they are in locations in need of parkland to support the adjacent growing community. The park names proposed are used for descriptive purposes only. The naming of each park should occur through the Town’s formal park naming process. The seven proposed parks include:

1. Russ Howard Park
2. Cook Drive Parkette (recently constructed)
3. Ingram Park
4. Harbourview Gateway
5. Foundry Park
6. Bayport Park
7. Lakewood Park

The following provides additional information on each park. The numbers in brackets refer to the parcel number from “Table 14: Undeveloped Parkland Recommendations” on page 124

While features are proposed for each park based on the work of this plan, it is recommended further consultation occur with the local community as part of the design and implementation process for each park. For park concepts and more detailed programming recommendations refer to Appendix D: New Parks.

1. Russ Howard Park

Russ Howard Park is a 0.36 ha park assembled from the following parcels:

- 433 Russ Howard Drive (4)
- 435 Russ Howard Drive (5)
- 439 Russ Howard Drive (6)
- 441 Russ Howard Drive (7)

This neighbourhood park will service the adjacent new community. Key features of this park for consideration may include:

- playground
- seating
- shade structure
- walkways
- planting
- lighting
- Trailhead for future connection to the Little Lake trail (Future Link 2.3)

2. Cook Drive Parkette

This recently constructed 0.16 ha parkette is as part of the new subdivision on Cook Drive. It includes a small playground, concrete walkway, sod, lighting and planting. This park will be assumed by the Town in the near future.



Figure 61: Cook Drive Parkette

3. Ingram Park

Ingram Park is a 1.4 ha park assembled from the following parcels:

- 1037 Ingram Cres (10)
- 1041 Ingram Cres (11)
- 297 Penetanguishene Rd (14)
- 305 Penetanguishene Rd (12)
- 309 Penetanguishene Rd (13)

This new neighbourhood park should service the adjacent new community. Key features of this park may include:

- playground
- seating
- shade structure
- walkways
- planting
- lighting

4. Harbourview Gateway/Entrance

The Harbourview Gateway is consists of two 0.5 hectare parcels flanking Bayport Boulevard at Harbourview Drive:

- 1169 Harbourview Dr (16)
- 1161 Harbourview Dr (17)

These parcels should be used to help create a gateway to the community. Key features of this new gateway may include:

- planting
- architectural feature / public art

5. Foundry Park

Foundry Park is a 0.79 ha park located at 457 Bayport Boulevard. There is also a 0.28 ha water lot associated with this parcel.

This park will service the adjacent community and includes an important waterfront trail link. Key features of this park may include:

- Lookout structure over Midland Bay
- Shade Structure
- Children’s Playground
- Seating
- passive gathering spaces



Figure 62: Foundry Park

6. Bayport Park

Bayport Park is a 0.14 ha park located at 365 Bayport Boulevard. This parcel is immediately adjacent to McCullough Park. It is recommended that this parcel be formally incorporated into McCullough Park. However, no further improvements are proposed with the exception of some wayfinding signage and mapping to help orient trail users.



Figure 63: Bayport Park



Figure 64: Entrance to Bayport Park

7. Lakewood Park

Lakewood Park is a 0.18 ha park located at 349 Lakewood Drive at the western edge of Midland.

This small park will service the adjacent community. Key features of this park may include:

- Small craft launch/water access
- Seating

UNDEVELOPED PARKLAND

The Town also has over 6.25 ha of undeveloped parkland. Recommendation for each undeveloped parcel – as described above – is summarized below.

	Description	Address	Area (ha)	Recommendation
1	Undeveloped	166 Southwinds Cres	1.46	Trail Connection
2	Undeveloped	808 Birchwood Dr	0.05	Trail connection
3	Vacant	415 William St	0.71	Sell/hold
4	Vacant Lot	433 Russ Howard Dr	0.06	four parcels assembled into new neighbourhood park
5	Vacant lot	435 Russ Howard Dr	0.06	
6	Vacant lot	439 Russ Howard Dr	0.06	
7	Vacant lot	441 Russ Howard Dr	0.06	
8	MSS land for future trail connection	Hugel Ave	0.38	Trail connection
9	LRG (currently under development)	Cook Drive	0.16	Parkette
10	Undeveloped	1037 Ingram Cres	0.13	six parcels assembled into new park
11	Undeveloped	1041 Ingram Cres	0.07	
12	Undeveloped	305 Penetanguishene Rd	0.07	
13	Penetanguishene Rd @ Ingram Cres.	309 Penetanguishene Rd	0.09	
14	Undeveloped	297 Penetanguishene Rd	0.05	
15	LRG		0.18	
16	Bayport Entrance (Undeveloped)	1169 Harbourview Dr	0.05	Gateway / entrance feature
17	Bayport Entrance (Undeveloped)	1161 Harbourview Dr	0.05	
18	Foundry Park (Undeveloped)	457 Bayport Blvd	0.79	New park
19	Bayport Undeveloped Park (Water Lot)		0.28	
20	Undeveloped Park	365 Bayport Blvd	0.14	New park
21	Undeveloped	701 Midland Point Rd	1.00	Trail connection
22	Undeveloped	349 Lakewood Dr	0.18	New park
23	Undeveloped	340 Lakewood Dr	0.15	Trail connection

Table 14: Undeveloped Parkland Recommendations

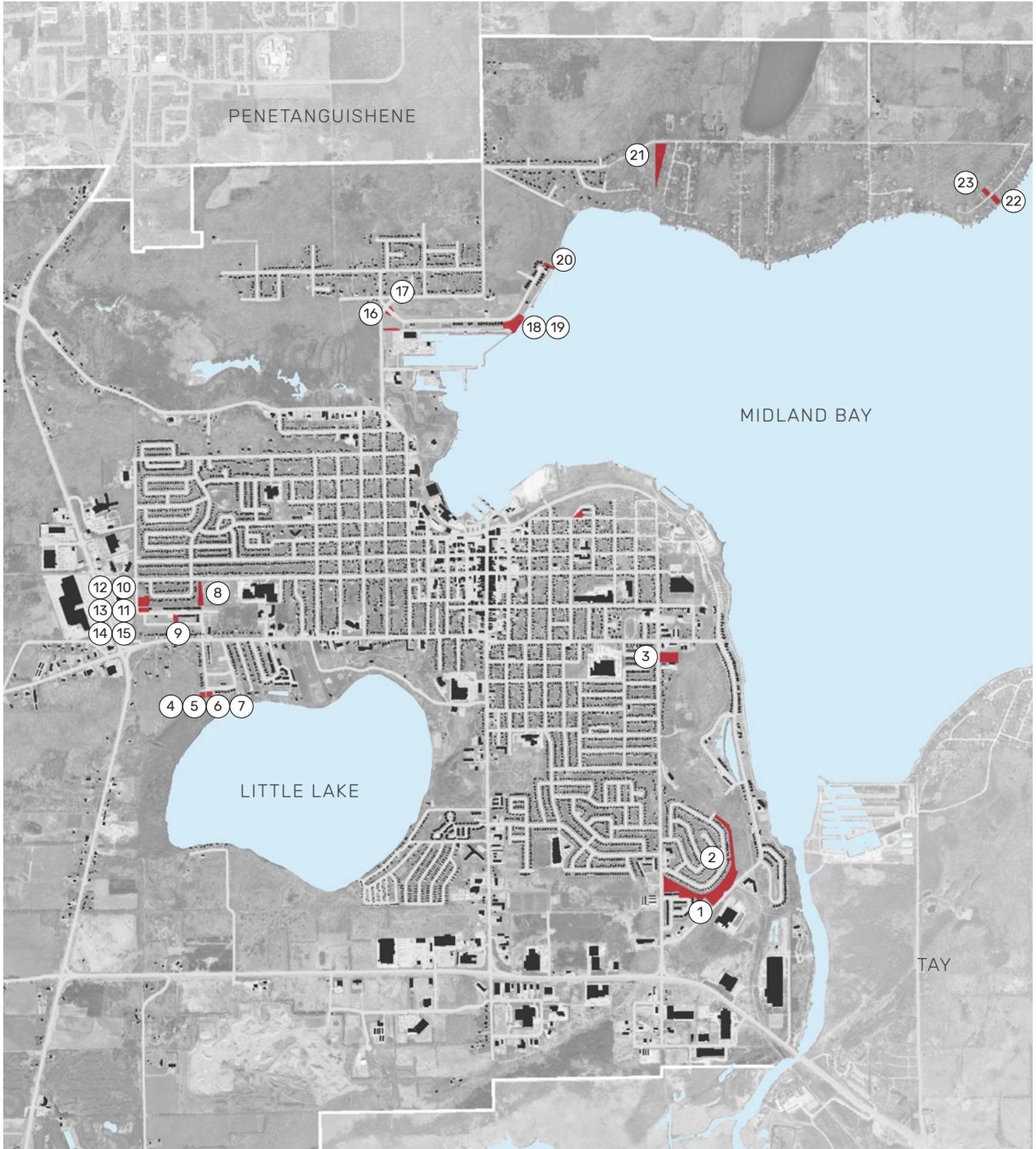


Figure 65: Undeveloped Parkland Map

TRAIL CONNECTIONS

These five (5) parcels will help improve the Town's trail network. They are immediately adjacent to parcels which current have trails or currently support informal trails. These parcels include:

- 166 Southwinds Crescent (1)
- 808 Birchwood Drive (2)
- MSS parcel (8)
- 701 Midland Point Road (21)
- 340 Lakewood Drive (22+23)

The numbers in brackets refer to the parcel number from table and map in the previous section: Undeveloped Parkland.

166 Southwinds Crescent (1)

This 1.46 ha parcel is an important future trail connection west of Birchwood Drive between Williams Street north of Southwinds Crescent and Quota Park.

808 Birchwood Drive (2)

This 0.05 ha parcel allows for a trail connection to a proposed trail west of Birchwood Drive. There is also sufficient space for a minor trail head.

MSS parcel (8)

This parcel previously owned by the Midland Secondary School (MSS) is 0.38 ha and links Simcoe Boulevard to Hugel Avenue. It also

intersects with the proposed east-west trail connecting Penetanguishene Road to Hartman Drive.

701 Midland Point Road (21)

This 1.0 ha parcel is part of an open space connection between Midland Point Road and Glenbrook Gardens. A formalized trail link will provide a easier access to the waterfront.

340 Lakewood Drive (22 + 23)

This parcel provides a future link to the new waterfront park proposed across the street at 349 Lakewood Drive. This parcel should be developed in the future in conjunction with the surround future subdivision.

SELL/HOLD

Only one of the 23 undeveloped parcels is proposed for disposition as there is no foreseeable value to the Town as park land.

The parcel is located at 415 William Street immediately adjacent to Tiffin Park. Given the parcels proximity to Tiffan Park, this parcel would provide minimal opportunity to improve the park's portfolio for this area without already duplicating park amenities.

Proceeds from the sale of this parcel should be used to subsidize improvements to existing parks and fund new park development.

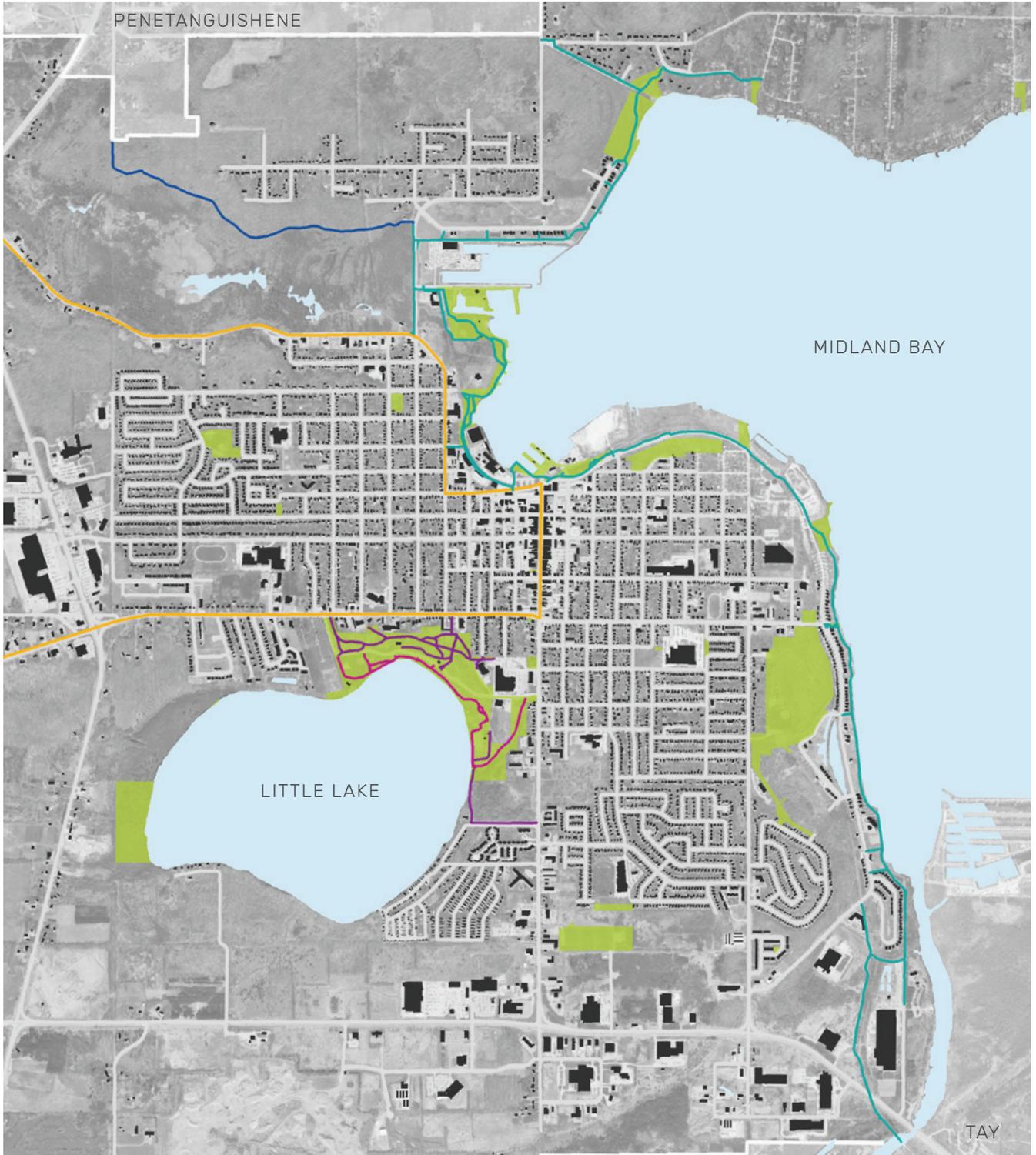


Figure 66: Map of Town of Midland Existing Trails

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXISTING TRAIL SEGMENTS

Midland has an extensive trail network which provides access to the waterfront, linkages to key destinations within the Town as well as connections to the neighbouring municipalities of Penetanguishene, Tiny and Tay.

While trail use in the summer is primarily geared to walking and cycling, winter activities include cross country skiing, snowshoeing with snowmobiling permitted on some of the Town's trails. Therefore, the design of all trails (existing and proposed) should consider winter use.

Midland's existing trail network includes:

-  Rotary Waterfront Trail
-  Little Lake Trails
-  Mid-Pen Link
-  Tiny Beaches Loop

Key recommendations for each section of trail are summarized below. For further details on trail specific recommendations refer to Appendix E: Trails.

ROTARY WATERFRONT TRAIL

Midland's Rotary Trail is over nine (9) kilometres long connecting from the south end of Midland at the Midland/Tay boundary at Highway 12 to Gawley Park at the north following Midland's waterfront linking key waterfront destinations.

The trail currently consists of both asphalt and concrete paved sections and supports a section of the Trans Canada Trail.

Key recommendations include:

- Additional signage along the trail to highlight distances to key destinations such as the Wye Marsh and Saint Marie among the Hurons
- Additional trail heads at key locations along the trail
- Trail widening as part of future park improvements to help accommodate level of use and different types of trail users (cyclists, joggers, walkers, etc.)

LITTLE LAKE TRAILS

Little Lake park has an extensive network of trails with the main trail connecting the Rowing club at the west to the Bowling Club to the east. Specific recommendations for these trails are provided in Appendix E: Existing Parks Design Concepts. While recommendations for trails to encircle Little Lake are outlined under the next section with covers proposed trails.

The goal for the trail network at Little Lake is to better connect the parks with its amenities as well as improve linkages between the park and the surrounding community.

Over the long term, the goal of a trail the encircles Little Lake should be pursued through the subdivision/planning process, easements and possibly the purchase of lands to provide the community with better access to the lake.

MID-PEN LINK

This recently constructed link is approximately 1.7 kilometres long. It starting at Harbourview Drive at Bayport Boulevard to Murray Road in Penetanguishene. This is a wide, well paved asphalt connection. However the pathway has many long steep sections making it a challenging route for many walkers and bikers and beyond what could be considered accessible.

Key recommendations include:

- Creation of a major trailhead kiosk at Harbourview Drive
- Provide signage at Murray Road clearly indicating distance to Midland and its attractions
- Provide information at Murray Drive regarding slope and distances

TINY BEACHES LOOP

Tiny Beaches Loop is a 30 km on road bike route from Midland to Tiny. Beginning at the Town Docks, it runs south on King to Young. East on Yonge Street to Balm Beach via Balm Beach Road. The route then travels north in Tiny to Concession 12. Then west on Concession 12 back to Midland and the Town Docks via Golf Links Road, Vindin Street, 4th Street, to Victoria Street and the Rotary Trail.

While the majority of the Tiny Beaches Loop falls outside of Midland, there are a few key recommendations proposed for consideration:

- Trail head at the Town Docks highlighting the on road trail route to Tiny
- Signage in Midland identifying the route to Balm Beach
- Work with the Town of Tiny to further formalize the route between Tiny and Midland



Figure 67: Map of Town of Midland Recommended Trails

RECOMMENDED NEW TRAIL SEGMENTS

To help improve trail connections throughout the Town, the following new trail segments are proposed. While some of these trails currently existing informally, the following trails are recommended to be formalized as multi-use trails. This includes:

- — — North Trail
- — — North East-West Trail
- — — Central Trail
- — — Southeast Trail
- — — Hanson OS –South side of Little Lake
- — — Northwest side of Little Lake
- — — Galloway to Tiffin Trail

Recommendations for each section of proposed trail are grouped and summarized in the following pages. For further details on trail specific recommendations and associated mapping of the proposed alignments, refer to Appendix E: Trails.

The future use and design of these trails should be determined through the detailed design and community consultation process. This includes working with the community to determine whether these trails should permit uses such as snowmobiling in the winter.

LITTLE LAKE TRAILS

The proposed trails ‘Hanson OS- South side of Little Lake’, and ‘Northwest Side of Little Lake’ will connect with existing trails for a continuous loop. The trails are to be implemented as part of the subdivision process as new developments are proposed and park land and open space is secured through the land subdivision process. The west end of the trail will likely be challenging given the topography. Therefore some sections may need to be raised and boardwalks constructed. Land ownership will also need to be considered and access granted through easements or purchase. A completely connected trail should be a long term goal with on street bypasses used in the interim until access across privately owned parcels can be secured.

MID-PEN LINK

A number of informal off shoots from the Mid-Pen Link already exist. The ‘North’ trail connections should be formalized to improve connectivity within Midland and to Penetanguishene. Topography within this area is challenging and will require appropriate route planning to help with accessibility. Part of this network can also be formalized using existing sidewalks and road right of ways.

NORTH EAST-WEST TRAIL

The ‘North East-West’ trail is an important connector which helps to form a loop with the Mid-Pen Link. The north-south segment follows the existing Harbourview Drive

shoulder to Vindin Street. With the east-west section running along the north side of Vindin Street to the proposed Mid-Pen south connectors A and B. A third segment extends further west to Highway 93, it also help provide a off-road route into Midland from the north leg of the Tiny Beaches Loop. The intent being that all three off-road trail segments would be developed within the existing road right of way.

GALLOWAY TO TIFFIN TRAIL

The proposed Galloway to Tiffin trails would provide a connection from Galloway Park to Quota Park and then on to Tiffin Park, Georgian View Park and ending in the vicinity of Aberdeen and Bay Street for approximately 3 km of trail. This trail network would formalize a number of existing trails.

CENTRAL TRAIL

These trails provide linkages within the new development on Cook Drive with links to the surrounding community at Hugel Avenue, Penetanguishene Road and east to Hartman Drive. These trails are formalizing existing trails.

SOUTHEAST TRAIL

These trails formalize approximately 2.5 kilometres of existing trails and complete a link between the south end of King Street and the Rotary Trail.

TRAILS

-  1. Rotary Waterfront Trail (8.5 km)
-  2. Mid-Pen Link (1.8 km)
-  3. Little Lake Trails- Paved + Natural (4.5 km)
-  A. North (1.25 km)
-  B. North East-West (4.4 km)
-  C. Central (1.25 km)
-  D. Southeast (1.9 km)
-  E. Hanson OS –south side of Little Lake (0.9 km)
-  F. Northwest side of Little Lake (2.0 km)
-  G. Galloway to Tiffin (3.0 km)

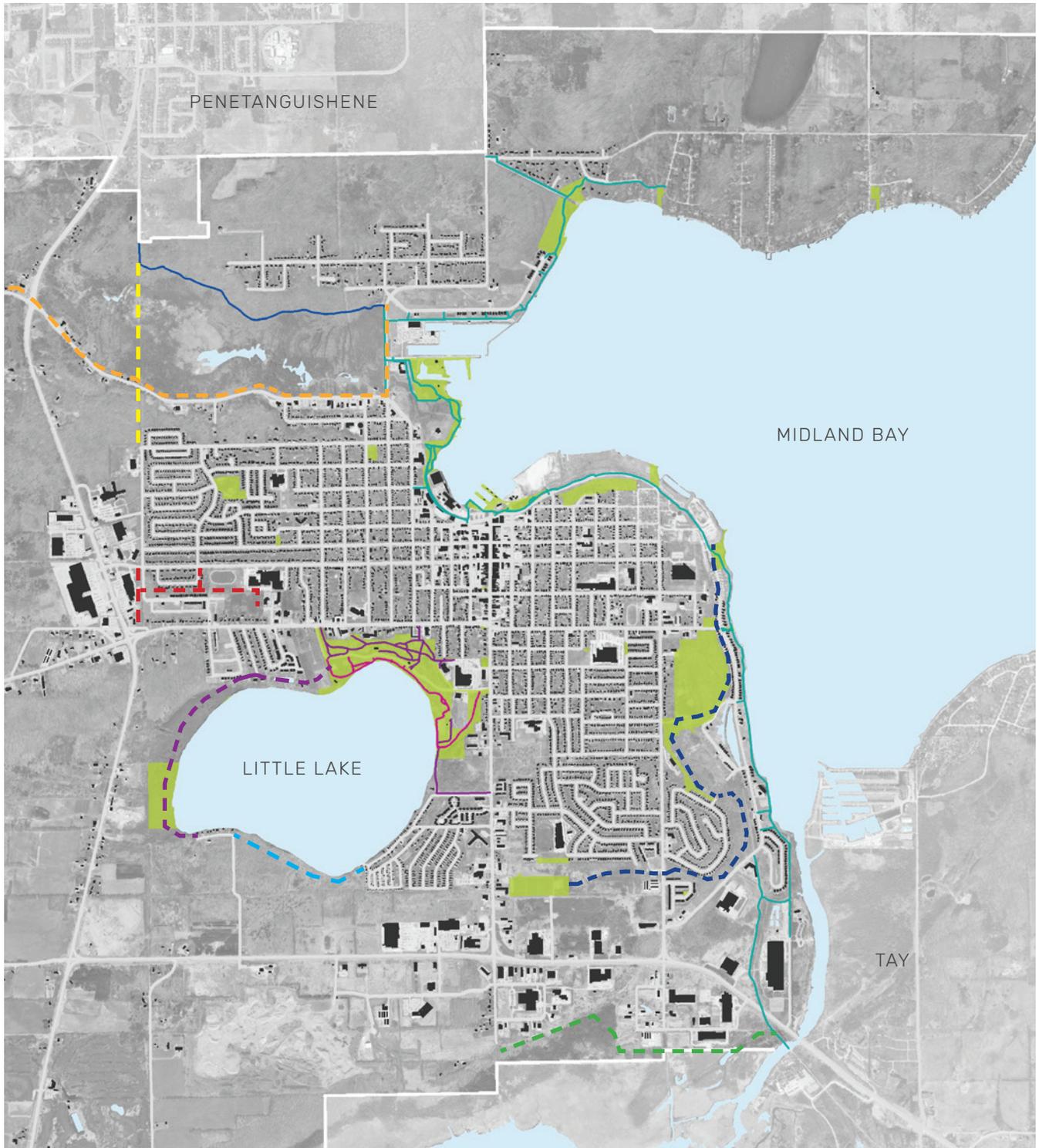


Figure 68: Town of Midland Trails Map

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY OVERVIEW

The recommendations described in the preceding section and outlined in Appendix D, E and F are organized into fifty four (54) projects to be implemented over the next 20 years.

These fifty four projects are organized into four streams:

1. City wide Improvements and Strategies (Projects 1 to 8)
2. Park Redevelopments (Projects 9 to 34)
3. New Parks (Projects 35 to 41)
4. Trails (Projects 42 to 54)

1. City wide Improvements and Strategies

These eight (8) projects address parks, trails and recreation improvements Town wide and focus on safety, accessibility, health and the environment. Project 1 to 8 fit into this stream.

2. Park Redevelopments

Midland has twenty six (26) existing parks and playgrounds that are in need of various levels of repairs and enhancement.

3. New Parks

Seven (7) new parks are proposed for Midland. These are parks to support recently constructed communities as well as neighbourhoods under serviced by parks and playgrounds.

4. Trails

Thirteen (13) trail projects are proposed to improve existing trails and provide new connections across Midland.

PROJECTS

The fifty-four (54) projects are described below. Refer to the recommendations section of this report or appendix for further details.

STREAM 1: TOWN WIDE IMPROVEMENTS AND STRATEGIES

Projects 1 to 8

These eight projects address Town wide parks and trails initiatives. This includes:

- Project #1: CSA Playground improvements
- Project #2: Accessibility
- Project #3: Shade
- Project #4: Bicycle Parking
- Project #5: Signage and Wayfinding Strategy
- Project #6: Urban Forestry Plan
- Project #7: Public Art Strategy
- Project #8: Resource Strategy

Project #1: CSA Playground improvements

As identified through the recreation facility inventory (Appendix B), a number of Midland's playgrounds require upgrading to ensure they meet current Canadian Standards Association (CSA) standards. This primarily requires addressing fall zones in terms of size and area. While the playground equipment in some older parks requires is in need of retrofitting or full replacement to meet current CSA standards.

While some parks may benefit from a total renovation, others simply may need some adjustments and application of additional sand or engineered wood fiber surfacing to make the playground CSA compliant.

It is recommended that the Town of Midland engage the services of a certified playground inspector who can evaluate each park and identify which parks require immediate attention to ensure they are CSA compliant. Based on the playground inspector's finding, it is expected that implementing their recommendations would be undertake over a two to three year period. With some parks undergoing only minor upgrades until a full park renovations can be completed.

Project #2: Accessibility

Meeting the requirements of The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) is a requirement for all municipalities to ensure their public spaces are accessible for people with disabilities by 2025. The Accessibility Standard for the Design of Public Spaces helps to achieve this. However, it is important to note that the Accessible Standard for the Design of Public Spaces is not retroactive and there is no obligation for the Town of Midland to retrofit their existing public spaces to comply the standard.

Despite the fact their is no obligation for the Town, the recommended design improvements for Midland's 26 parks as described in Appendix E highlight a number of accessibility improvements that should be undertaken to help improve user experience for all Midland residents including the elderly and

those with mobility challenges. Therefore this project incorporates a number of accessibility initiatives into one project to be implemented over a two to three year period.

This includes:

- Establishing a Town standard for park benches and picnic tables
- Replacing and upgrading park benches and picnic tables
- Providing an accessible (paved) route through all parks to key destinations
- Installation of handrails and guardrails

Project #3: Shade

Exposure to ultraviolet radiation (UVR) – especially during the summer months – is linked to a number of significant health problems including skin cancer. The exposure of children to UVR is of particular concern given their susceptibility to the sun’s damaging effects. Therefore, the Town of Midland pro-actively incorporate both natural and constructed shade in its parks wherever possible with a particular focus on playgrounds and other recreation amenities. Shade structures and planting should be strategically located to provide shade to children and their caregivers.

Implementing these improvements should occur over a two to three year period with a focus on parks that are not scheduled to be revitalized in the near future.

A strategy should be undertaken to identify which parks should be targeted, the type of shade provided and the schedule for implementation.

Project #4: Bicycle Parking

This project provides bicycle parking throughout Midland’s parks and trailheads to encourage cycling throughout Midland and along its trail network. A budget should be established to install bike racks across the park and trail system over a two to three year period. The program should initially focus on larger destination parks frequented by tourists with smaller, neighbourhood parks receiving bike racks later in the implementation process.

Project #5: Signage and Wayfinding Strategy

A town wide strategy is needed for signage and wayfinding in Midland’s Parks, trailheads, and along its trails. The strategy should:

- establish a hierarchy of signage including mapping, directional signs, distance markers and trail icons
- identify location and installation requirements
- develop an aesthetic/graphic design for each type of sign
- determine funding/budget requirements
- outline an implementation/phasing strategy

For additional information, refer to Appendix __.

Project #6: Urban Forest Management Plan

This project involves the development of an urban forest and woodlot management plan for Midland's Parks and public spaces to help develop, maintain and enhance a sustainable urban forest.

The plan should address but not limited to:

- Woodlot management strategy
- Invasive species and pest management
- Risk management and assessment
- Recommended tree species and species composition targets
- Succession planting

The results of this strategy would be used to inform the design and implementation of all future park improvement projects.

Project #7: Public Art Strategy

Public art can animate parks and open spaces by creating points of interest, celebrating community, enhancing infrastructure, and encourage tourism. The strategy will outline an approach to incorporating art into Midland's parks and open spaces. Both stand alone pieces and artistic elements integrated into infrastructure should be included in the strategy. This includes but is not limited to:

- sculptures
- murals
- temporary Installations
- community Art Projects
- monuments

- street Furniture
- artistic features incorporated into engineering or architectural features

This strategy will inform the process for procuring public art, placement, budget and implementation strategy.

Project #8: Resource Strategy

This project involves the renewal of existing, or formulation of new, policies and procedures directed to enhancing the resources for implementing the Master Plan's recommendations. This includes but not limited to policies associated with:

- Service Delivery
- Volunteers in Parks
- Community Affiliation
- User Fees
- Commemorative Programs
- Donation Programs

For more information and details on these policies and procedures refer to Appendix H.

STREAM 2: PARK REDEVELOPMENT

Projects 9 to 34

These twenty six projects include Midland's 12 Neighbourhood Parks, 3 Community Parks and 11 Waterfront Parks. The details for the proposed improvements are described and illustrated in Appendix E. For the proposed priority sequence for this projects, refer to the table and forecasting schedule provided in the next section.

Neighbourhood Parks

- Project #9: Bob Merkley Park
- Project #10: Trillium Woods Park
- Project #11: Quota Park
- Project #12: Ernest T Bates Memorial Park
- Project #13: Cenotaph Park
- Project #14: Frazer Parkette
- Project #15: Regent Park
- Project #16: Georgian View Park
- Project #17: Neezhoday Park
- Project #18: Carpenter Park
- Project #19: Mac McAllen Park
- Project #20: Bayview Park

Community Parks

- Project #21: Galloway Park
- Project #22: Tiffin Park
- Project #23: Edgehill Park

Waterfront Parks

- Project #24: Vas Kuchar Memorial Parkette
- Project #25: Veterans Waterfront Park
- Project #26: Midland Bay Landing Park
- Project #27: Harbourside/ David Onley Park
- Project #28: Little Lake
- Project #29: Town Dock
- Project #30: Pete Pettersen Park
- Project #31: McCullough Park
- Project #32: Gawley Park
- Project #33: Glenbrook Gardens
- Project #34: Sunrise Park

The implementation of the recommended improvements for each park requires further design in consultation with the community.

STREAM 3: NEW PARKS

Projects 35 to 41

These seven new parks support recently constructed communities as well as neighbourhoods under serviced by parks and playgrounds. These projects include:

- Project #35: Sunnyside Park
- Project #36: Russ Howard Park
- Project #37: Ingram Park
- Project #38: Harbourview Gateway
- Project #39: Foundry Park
- Project #40: Bayport Park
- Project #41: Lakewood Park

Details on these seven projects are provided in Appendix F.

STREAM 4: TRAILS:

Projects 42 to 54: Trails

Trail recommendations are organized into 13 projects. These projects will lead towards the completion of Midland’s trail system. The projects include:

- Project #42: Rotary Waterfront Trail Signage and Trailheads
- Project #43: Little Lake Trail (Section 2.2)
- Project #44: Little Lake Trail (Section 2.4)
- Project #45: Mid-Pen Link (Sections 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3)
- Project #46: Mid-Pen Link (Sections 3.4)
- Project #47: Mid-Pen Link (Sections 3.5 and 3.6)
- Project #48: Midland-Tiny Link (Sections 4.1 and 4.2)
- Project #49: North East-West (Sections 5.2, 5.3, 5.4)
- Project #50: Tiffin Links (Sections 6.3, 6.4, 6.5)
- Project #51: Tiffin Links (Section 6.6 and 6.7)
- Project #52: Tiffin Links (Section 6.8)
- Project #53: Central (Sections 7.1 and 7.2)
- Project #54: South-East (Sections 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3)

The following provides additional details on each of these projects. For further information, refer to appendix G.

Project #42: Rotary Waterfront Trail Signage and Trailheads

This project encompasses all sections of the Rotary trail/Trans Canada Trail between Gawley Park at the north south to the Township of Tay. Improvements along this over 9 kilometre section of trail are primarily focused on signage and wayfinding, as well as the development of trailheads not associated with parks along the route.

Project #43: Little Lake Trail (Section 2.2)

This trail is on road along existing sections of roadway of McMurtry Drive and Lakeshore Drive. It links the trails of Little Lake (at the Lawn bowling club) to the proposed Hanson Development. The work associated with this project are primarily focused on sign and wayfinding. The timing of implementing this project should coincide with the development of the trail connection through the Hanson/Season’s development.

Project #44: Little Lake Trail (Section 2.4)

This section of trail provides a number of challenges – including land ownership and terrain – to achieve an uninterrupted linked trail around the western portion of little Lake. Negotiations with landowners to secure an alignment should be undertaken as soon as possible and in conjunction with development applications and site plan approval if/when they occur. This project should be seen as a long term initiative.

Project #45: Mid-Pen Link (Sections 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3)

The existing Mid-Pen Link requires upgraded trailheads at either end with secondary trail connections to Hallen Place (3.2) and a connection south to Vindin Street (3.3). Trails 3.2 and 3.3 could be implemented in phases with the alignment established through clearing and grading as phase one, with paving undertaken at a later date in phase two if the level of use warrants.

Project #46: Mid-Pen Link (Section 3.4)

The trail between Victoria Street and Vindin Street currently exists as a natural surface trail. Over the long term, this trail should be upgraded to asphalt and realigned to address slope/accessibility.

Project #47: Mid-Pen Link (Sections 3.5 and 3.6)

This project completes a north south connection along Pentanguishene Road to Yonge Street. The alignment primarily follows existing the existing sidewalk on Penetanguishene Road and an unopened road allowance south of Cook Drive.

Project #48: Midland-Tiny Link (Sections 4.1 and 4.2)

This connection to the Township of Tiny and Balm Beach is a long term initiative that requires land acquisition and working with the County to achieve its full potential as an off road connection between Midland and Tiny. A key aspect of this project is establish a gateway

feature and major trailhead kiosk in the vicinity of Highway 93 and Yonge Street/Balm Beach Road East.

Project #49: North East-West (Sections 5.2 5.3, 5.4)

Formalizing the east-west link on Vindin Street from Harbourview Drive to Highway 93/ Golf Link Road. The existing right-of-way has sufficient width to accommodate a new off-road connection. Ideally this would be a wide asphalt pathway designed to accommodate two way traffic on the north side of the road.

On the south side of Vinden at the commercial area from Harbourview Drive/Fifth Street to Ludlow, a sidewalk is proposed to provide a safe route for pedestrians walking on the south side of the Street.

Project #50: Tiffin Links (Sections 6.3, 6.4, 6.5)

These three sections of trail pass through the wooded area behind Birchwood Drive linking to various access points throughout the community. This includes Quota Park, the municipal parking lot on Aberdeen Boulevard and Tiffin Park. These trails should be first established as a natural surface trail but could be expanded into an asphalt network should volume or use necessitate.

Project #51: Tiffin Links (Section 6.6 and 6.7)

This project focuses on the improvement of trails in Tiffin Park to help better connect Tiffin park to the surrounding community. This

project should be design and implemented in conjunction with the redevelopment of Tiffin Park, Project 22.

Project #52: Tiffin Links (Section 6.8)

This trail connects Georgian View Park to Aberdeen Boulevard, west of Veterans Memorial Park. There will be some challenges establishing the alignment due to land ownership and topography.

Project #53: Central (Sections 7.1 and 7.2)

The alignments for these trails are already established by the new community development underway including the new high school. Some formalization at the east end of the trail will be required.

Project #54: South-East (Sections 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3)

Section 8.1 follows an existing trail alignment and will therefore require minimal improvement over the short term. However sections 8.2 and 8.3 will need to be established and may required some clearing and regarding to provide connections to Heritage Drive and the bridge at Highway 12. Over time, upgrading these trails to asphalt may be warranted.

PROJECT FORECAST

The tables on the following pages illustrates the implementation schedule over a 20 year schedule.

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

The priority sequence for these projects is based on undertaking each projects as early as possible in the implementation schedule based on the following considerations:

- safety (CSA) and accessibility (AODA) related projects are first priority
- Town wide strategies, which will likely have influence over individual park and trail projects should be implemented first
- feedback from Town staff
- prioritize parks that are in rapid decline or in need of immediate attention to address aging infrastructure
- prioritize parks that are well used and the focus of tourism/used by tourists
- Total cost/budget for all projects to be implemented in any given year
- Staff resources available to manage the planning, design and implementation of the projects in any given year

It should be noted that the priority sequence is a guideline only and that projects will be advanced or delayed as council's priorities changed based on staff and community feedback. New projects may also be identified, which will impact the sequence of implementation.

The proposed sequence is listed on the facing page.

Project implementation Sequence

Note: Project Number is provided in brackets (#)

1. CSA Playground improvements (#1)
2. Accessibility (#2)
3. Shade (#3)
4. Bicycle Parking (#4)
5. Signage and Wayfinding (#5)
6. Urban Forestry Plan (#6)
7. Bayview Park (#20)
8. Sunnyside Park (#35)
9. Ingram Park (#37)
10. Rotary Trailheads (#42)
11. Central Section 7.1 and 7.2) (#53)
12. Resource Strategy (#8)
13. Little Lake (#28)
14. Mid-Pen Link (Section 3.1 & 3.2) (#45)
15. Public Art Strategy (#7)
16. Little Lake (Phase 2) (#28)
17. Neezhoday Park (#17)
18. Russ Howard Park (#36)
19. Mid-Pen Link (Sec 3.3 & 3.4) (#46)
20. Town Docks (#29)
21. Tiffin Park (#22)
22. Foundry Park (#39)
23. Mid-Pen Link (Sec 3.5 & 3.6) (#47)
24. Harbourside/David Onley (#27)
25. Pete Pettersen Park (#30)
26. Lakewood Park (#41)
27. Mid-Pen Link (Sec 6.6 & 6.7) (#51)
28. Cenotaph Park (#13)
29. McCullough Park (#31)
30. Midland Bay Landing (#26)
31. Gawley Park (#32)
32. Mac Allen Park (#19)
33. Georgian Views Park (#16)
34. Galloway Park (#21)
35. North East-West (Sec 5.2, 5.3, 5.4) (#49)
36. Edghill Park (#23)
37. Georgian Views Park (#16)
38. Georgian Views Trail (Sec 6.8) (#52)
39. Tiffin Links (Sec 6.3, 6.4 and 6.5) (#50)
40. Carpenter Park (#18)
41. Quota Park (#11)
42. Little Lake (Sec 2.2) (#43)
43. Little Lake (Sec 2.4) (#44)
44. Veterans Waterfront Park (#25)
45. Frazer Parkette (#14)
46. South East Trail (Sec 8.1, 8.2, 8.3) (#54)
47. Regent Park (#15)
48. Bob Merkley Park (#9)
49. Mid-Pen Link (#48)
50. Ernest T Bates Park (#12)
51. Vas Kuchar Memorial Park (#24)
52. Trillium Woods Park (#10)
53. Glenbrook Gardens (#33)
54. Sunrise Park (#34)

Cost/Budget

An important consideration in forecasting the 54 projects is understanding the other projects that will also need to be implemented within the same budget period. To help balance costs and ensure project implementation is reasonable from a cost perspective, the proposed forecast keeps capital spending to an average of approximately 700 thousand dollars per year (14 million over twenty years). This includes project design and management costs and capital/construction costs.

On going maintenance costs are not factored into this budget. The tables on the following pages lists each project, the anticipated soft costs, capital construction costs, and total costs.

Soft Costs

These costs are based on a percentage of capital construction costs anywhere from 10 to 20% depending on the size and complexity of the project. This includes but is not limited to consulting design fees, permits and approval fees, and internal costs for staff time and resources.

Capital Construction Costs (Hard Costs)

These costs are an estimate only based on the design concepts provided in Appendix E, F and G. However it should be noted that these designs are conceptual only and further consultation with the community, council and staff is necessary to develop the finer details of each project. It is through that process that the design and actual construction budgets

would be determined. Therefore, the numbers provided here should be used for preliminary planning and budgeting purposes only. There would also be some cost savings and efficiencies found by consolidating multiple smaller projects into one larger project.

Stream 1: Town Wide Improvements and Strategies Estimated Costs

#	Project Name	Soft Costs	Hard Costs	Total Cost
1	CSA Playground improvements	\$50,000	\$500,000	\$550,000
2	Accessibility	\$60,000	\$600,000	\$660,000
3	Shade	\$75,000	\$740,000	\$815,000
4	Bicycle Parking	\$15,000	\$56,000	\$71,000
5	Signage and Wayfinding Strategy	\$90,000		\$90,000
6	Urban Forestry Plan	\$60,000		\$60,000
7	Public Art Strategy	\$50,000		\$50,000
8	Resource Strategy	\$50,000		\$50,000
	TOTAL	\$450,000	\$1,896,000	\$2,346,000

Table 15: Cost Estimate for Town Wide Improvements and Strategies

Stream 2: Park Redevelopment

#	Project Name	Soft Costs	Hard Costs	Total Cost
9	Bob Merkley Park	\$10,000	\$40,000	\$50,000
10	Trillium Woods Park	\$8,000	\$20,000	\$28,000
11	Quota Park	\$20,000	\$165,000	\$185,000
12	Ernest T Bates Memorial Park	\$10,000	\$90,000	\$100,000
13	Cenotaph Park	\$20,000	\$200,000	\$220,000
14	Frazer Parkette	\$10,000	\$50,000	\$60,000
15	Regent Park	\$12,000	\$80,000	\$92,000
16	Georgian View Park	\$8,000	\$25,000	\$33,000
17	Neezhoday Park	\$30,000	\$125,000	\$155,000
18	Carpenter Park	\$15,000	\$65,000	\$80,000
19	Mac McAllen Park	\$30,000	\$80,000	\$110,000
20	Bayview Park	\$200,000	\$2,800,000	\$3,000,000
21	Galloway Park	\$30,000	\$300,000	\$330,000
22	Tiffin Park	\$44,000	\$440,000	\$484,000
23	Edgehill Park	\$10,000	\$30,000	\$40,000
24	Vas Kuchar Memorial Parkette	\$10,000	\$50,000	\$60,000
25	Veterans Waterfront Park	\$50,000	\$430,000	\$480,000
26	Midland Bay Landing Park	\$15,000	\$100,000	\$115,000
27	Harbourside/ David Onley Park	\$150,000	\$250,000	\$400,000
28	Little Lake		\$900,000	\$900,000
29	Town Dock	\$50,000	\$500,000	\$550,000
30	Pete Pettersen Park	\$45,000	\$380,000	\$425,000
31	McCullough Park	\$10,000	\$50,000	\$60,000
32	Gawley Park	\$10,000	\$50,000	\$60,000
33	Glenbrook Gardens	\$8,000	\$15,000	\$23,000
34	Sunrise Park	\$10,000	\$65,000	\$75,000
TOTAL		\$815,000	\$7,300,000	\$8,115,000

Table 16: Cost Estimate for Park Redevelopment

Stream 3: New Parks

#	Project Name	Soft Costs	Hard Costs	Total Cost
35	Sunnyside Park	\$60,000	\$400,000	\$460,000
36	Russ Howard Park (by Developer)			\$-
37	Ingram Park (by Developer)			\$-
38	Harbourview Gateway	\$8,000	\$25,000	\$33,000
39	Foundry Park (by Developer)			\$-
40	Bayport Park	\$10,000	\$45,000	\$55,000
41	Lakewood Park	\$15,000	\$150,000	\$165,000
TOTAL		\$93,000	\$620,000	\$713,000

Table 17: Cost Estimate for New Parks

Stream 4: Trails

#	Project Name	Soft Costs	Hard Costs	Total Cost
42	Rotary Waterfront Trail Signage and Trailheads	\$10,000	\$30,000	\$40,000
43	Little Lake Trail (Section 2.2)	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$25,000
44	Little Lake Trail (Section 2.4)	\$60,000	\$530,000	\$590,000
45	Mid-Pen Link (Section 3.1, and 3.2)	\$10,000	\$40,000	\$50,000
46	Mid-Pen Link(Section 3.3 and 3,4)	\$10,000	\$315,000	\$325,000
47	Mid-Pen Link (Section 3.5 and 3.6)	\$10,000	\$40,000	\$50,000
48	Midland-Tiny Link	\$50,000	\$-	\$50,000
49	North East-West (Sections 5.2, 5.3, 5.4)	\$64,000	\$500,000	\$564,000
50	Tiffin Links (Sections 6.3, 6.4 and 6.5)	\$30,000	\$300,000	\$330,000
51	Tiffin Links (Sections 6.6 and 6.7)	\$30,000	\$300,000	\$330,000
52	Georgian Views Trail (Sections 6.8)	\$10,000	\$75,000	\$85,000
53	Central (Sections 7.1 and 7.2)	\$20,000	\$105,000	\$125,000
54	South-East (Sections 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3)	\$20,000	\$200,000	\$220,000
TOTAL		\$329,000	\$2,455,000	\$2,784,000

Table 18: Cost Estimate for Trails

YEAR 1 YEAR 2 YEAR 3 YEAR 4 YEAR 5

Stream 1: City Wide Improvements and Strategies

1 Project #1: CSA Playground Improvements	Design: 50,000	Construction: 125,000	Construction: 125,000	Construction: 125,000	Construction: 125,000
2 Project #2: Accessibility	Design: 60,000	Construction: 150,000	Construction: 150,000	Construction: 150,000	Construction: 150,000
3 Project #3: Shade	Design: 75,000	Construction: 185,000	Construction: 185,000	Construction: 185,000	Construction: 185,000
4 Project #4: Bicycle Parking	Design: 15,000	Construction: 28,000	Construction: 28,000		
5 Project #5: Signage & Wayfinding	Planning 90,000	12 Project #8: Resource Strategy		Planning: 50,000	
6 Project #6: Urban Forestry Plan	Planning: 60,000		15 Project #7: Public Art Strategy		Planning: 50,000

Stream 2: Park Redevelopment

7 Project #20: Bayview Park	Design: 30,000	Construction: 80,000		
		13 Project #28: Little Lake	Design: 150,000	Construction: 250,000

Stream 3: New Parks

8 Project #35: Sunnyside	Design: 60,000	Construction: 400,000	Not including land acquisition costs	
Design and implementation costs by developer	9 Project #37: Ingram Park	Design: 000,000	Construction: 000,000	

Stream 4: Trails

10 Project #42: Rotary Trail Heads	Design: 10,000	Construction: 30,000		
11 Project #53: Central (Sec 7.1 & 7.2)	Design: 25,000	Construction: 105,000		
	14 Project #45: Mid-Pen Link (Sec 3.1 & 3.2)	Design: 10,000	Construction: 40,000	

year total 350,000 578,000 998,000 705,000 800,000

Table 19: Implementation Forecast: Years 1 to 5

YEAR 6 YEAR 7 YEAR 8 YEAR 9 YEAR 10

Stream 2: Park Redevelopment

16	Project #28: Little Lake <i>(continued)</i>	Construction:	Construction:		
		500,000	400,000		
17	Project #17: Neezhoday	Design:	Construction:		
		30,000	125,000		
20	Project #29: Town Dock	Design:	Construction:		
		50,000	500,000		
21	Project #22: Tiffin Park	Design:	Construction:		
		30,000	300,000		
24	Project #27: Harbourside/Onley	Design:	Construction:		
		15,000	100,000		
25	Project #30: Pete Pettersen	Design:	Construction:		
		45,000	380,000		
28	Project #13: Cenotaph Park	Design:	Construction:		
		20,000	200,000		
29	Project #31: McCullough Park	Design:	Construction:		
		10,000	50,000		

Stream 3: New Parks

18	Project #36: Russ Howard Park	Design:	Construction:	Design and implementation costs by developer
		000,000	000,000	
22	Project #39: Foundry Park	Design:	Construction:	Design and implementation costs by developer
		000,000	000,000	
26	Project #41: Lakewood	Design:	Construction:	
		15,000	150,000	

Stream 4: Trails

19	Project #46: Mid-Pen Link (Sec 3.3 & 3.4)	Design:	Construction:
		40,000	315,000
23	Project #47: Mid-Pen Link (Sec 3.5 & 3.6)	Design:	Construction:
		10,000	50,000
27	Project #51: Tiffin Links (Sec 6.6 & 6.7)	Design:	Construction:
		30,000	300,000

year total 540,000 930,000 945,000 960,000 250,000

Table 20: Implementation Forecast: Years 6 to 10

YEAR 11 YEAR 12 YEAR 13 YEAR 14 YEAR 15

Stream 2: Park Redevelopment

30	Project #26: Midland Bay Landing	Design: 50,000	Construction: 430,000		
31	Project #32: Gawley Park	Design: 10,000	Construction: 50,000		
32	Project #19: Mac Allen Park	Design: 15,000	Construction: 65,000		
33	Project #16: Georgian Views Park	Design: 8,000	Construction: 25,000		
34	Project #21: Galloway Park	Design: 200,000	Construction: 1,400,000	Construction: 1,400,000	
36	Project #23: Edgehill Park	Design: 44,000	Construction: 440,000		
37	Project #16: Georgian Views Park	Design: 8,000	Construction: 25,000		
40	Project #18: Carpenter Park	Design: 10,000	Construction: 45,000		
41	Project #11: Quota Park	Design: 20,000	Construction: 165,000		

Stream 4: Trails

35	Project #49: North East-West (5.2, 5.3, 5.4)	Design: 64,000	Construction: 500,000		
38	Project #52: Georgian View Trail (Sec 6.8)	Design: 10,000	Construction: 75,000		
39	Project #50: Tiffin Links (Sec 6.3, 6.4, 6.5)	Design: 30,000	Construction: 300,000		
42	Project #43: Little Lake (Sec 2.2)	Design: 5,000	Construction: 20,000		
43	Project #44: Little Lake (Sec 2.4)	Design: 60,000	Construction: 530,000		

year total 283,000 2,034,000 1,992,000 935,000 760,000

Table 21: Implementation Forecast: Years 11 to 15

YEAR 16 YEAR 17 YEAR 18 YEAR 19 YEAR 20

Stream 2: Park Redevelopment

44	Project #25: Veterans Waterfront Park	Design: 10,000	Construction: 50,000		
45	Project #14: Frazer Parkette	Design: 10,000	Construction: 50,000		
47	Project #15: Regent Park	Design: 12,000	Construction: 80,000		
48	Project #9: Bob Merkley Park	Design: 10,000	Construction: 40,000		
50	Project #12: Ernest T Bates Park	Design: 10,000	Construction: 90,000		
51	Project #24: Vas Kuchar Memorial Park	Design: 10,000	Construction: 30,000		
52	Project #10: Trillium Woods Park	Design: 8,000	Construction: 20,000		
53	Project #33: Glenbrook Gardens	Design: 8,000	Construction: 15,000		
54	Project #34: Sunrise Park	Design: 10,000	Construction: 65,000		

Parks to be considered for disposal with proceeds used to invest in other parks in neighbourhood

Stream 4: Trails

46	Project #54: South-East (8.1, 8.2, 8.3)	Design: 20,000	Construction: 200,000		
49	Project #48: Midland-Tiny Link	Design: 50,000	Construction: TBD		

year total 40,000 372,000 140,000 146,000 100,000

Table 22: Implementation Forecast: Years 16 to 20

