



2020 to 2023 Business Plan

Service: Parks Planning & Design

\$0.01

Cost per day for the average rate payer (2020 to 2023)

0.14%

Of the 2020 to 2023 City of London Net Property Tax Supported Budget

Who we are:

- This service area provides professional and technical services for the planning, design and construction of new and existing parks, pathway systems and public spaces.
- This service supports development approval processes, neighbourhood improvement programs, growth and LCR capital projects.

What we do:

- This service supports neighbourhoods by providing attractive recreation opportunities, making places more livable and inclusive, and by helping them to be better linked with other neighbourhoods.
- This enhances quality of life and makes the community a more attractive place to live, move to and locate businesses. It also ensures the dedication of parklands and natural areas for the protection of species and their habitats and provides opportunities for all Londoners to access and benefit from experiences in nature – proven to increase appreciation.

Why we do it:

- **Mandatory** – Planning and design of parks and open space is a component of the City’s planning responsibilities under the Planning Act and a “Parks Plan” is required. Providing access to parks, natural areas and waterfronts is also a goal of the Provincial Policy Statement 1.5.1.

The following table provides an overview of the budget for this service:

Budget Summary (\$000’s)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2020 to 2023 TOTAL
Gross Operating Expenditures	\$967	\$982	\$996	\$999	\$3,945
Other Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Tax Levy Supported Operating Budget	\$967	\$982	\$996	\$999	\$3,945
Total Capital Expenditures	\$17,448	\$11,503	\$10,710	\$12,528	\$52,189
Full-Time Equivalents (FTE’s)	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	N/A

Reflects 2020 to 2023 Council Approved Budget – January 12, 2021.

The following section provides an overview of the key activities the service plans to undertake from 2020 to 2023 to implement the Corporation’s 2019 to 2023 Strategic Plan, as well as an overview of the risks and challenges the service is anticipated to experience during this period:

Service Highlights 2020 to 2023

- We will continue to expand and enhance the Thames Valley Parkway to link all areas of the City
- We continue to enhance neighbourhoods by improving parks, adding community gardens and making parks and natural areas more accessible.
- We will build and improve sport and recreation amenities throughout the community, guided by the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Risks and Challenges Anticipated 2020 to 2023

- Bill 108 is changing the Planning Act which will have significant impacts to the way the City can acquire parkland through development processes.
- Bill 108 is changing the Development Charges Act which may have a significant impact on the City's ability to pay for the development of new parks.
- With the dam being removed, the high-level former river shoreline is eroding and infrastructure is at risk. The river banks are full of invasive species.

The service directly supports the following components of the Corporation's 2019 to 2023 Strategic Plan:

Strengthening Our Community

Londoners have access to the supports they need to be successful.

Expected Result: Improve the health and well-being of Londoners.

Strategy:

- Continue to provide access to planned and managed pathway systems and nature trails and open spaces. (SOC-15)

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
1.33M user trips on the Thames Valley Parkway	1,180,000	1,215,400	1,251,800	1,289,400	1,328,000
185km of pathways	173	176	179	182	185
66km of trails	62	63	64	65	66
# of connections completed in the TVP	0	1	1	0	0

Londoners are engaged and have a sense of belonging in their neighbourhoods and community.

Expected Result: Increase the number of meaningful opportunities for residents to be connected in their neighbourhoods and community.

Strategy:

- Strengthen engagement opportunities for all Londoners to participate in their neighbourhoods. (SOC-20)

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
# of Neighbourhood Decision Making Ideas implemented in Parks.	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

Strengthening our Community

Londoners have access to services and supports that promote well-being and safety in their neighbourhoods.

Expected Result: Increase participation in recreation, sport and leisure.

Strategy:

- Remove barriers to access recreation, sport, leisure and leadership programs and services.

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
8 new play structures with enhanced safety surfaces	1	2	1	2	2

Expected Result: Increase participation in recreation, sport and leisure.

Strategy:

- Increase the number of recreation, sport and leisure opportunities.

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
539 city owned recreation facilities and major park amenities	1	2	1	2	2
% Increase the number of garden plots constructed	0%	6%	0%	6%	0%

Expected Result: Increase resident use of community gathering spaces.

Strategy:

- Invest in community building projects.

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
5 new seating areas introduced into existing parks	1	1	1	1	1

Strengthening our Community

London's neighbourhoods have a strong character and sense of place

Expected Result: Increase the number of community gathering spaces in neighbourhoods.

Strategy:

- Invest in community building projects.

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
100% of school sites analyzed for parkland opportunities	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Building a Sustainable City

London's Infrastructure is built, maintained and operated to meet the long-term needs of our community

Expected Result: Maintain or increase current levels of service.

Strategy:

- Continue to develop the City's Public Art/Monument program.

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
# of public art and monuments created in parks to reflect London's identity	0	1	0	1	0

Expected Result: Build infrastructure to support future development and protect the environment.

Strategy:

- Review, expand and develop parks and recreation facilities and conservation areas in appropriate locations to address existing gaps.

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
49 new parks developed	9	9	10	10	11

Building a Sustainable City

London has a strong and healthy environment.

Expected Result: Improve London's resiliency to respond to potential future challenges.

Strategy:

- Advance sustainability and resiliency strategies.

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
# of Low Impact Development projects completed in parks	1	2	2	2	2

Expected Result: Improve London's resiliency to respond to potential future challenges.

Strategy:

- Implement recommendations associated with the River management Plan and One River.

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
13 projects completed from Environmental Assessment	0	2	5	3	3

Londoners can move around the City safely and easily in a manner that meets their needs.

Expected Result: Improve the quality of pedestrian environments to support healthy and active lifestyles.

Strategy:

- Plant more trees to increase the City's tree canopy cover

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
# of trees planted in parks.	150	150	150	150	150

Building a Sustainable City

Londoners can move around the City safely and easily in a manner that meets their needs

Expected Result: Improve the quality of pedestrian environments to support healthy and active lifestyles.

Strategy:

- Respond to changing participation patterns and emerging activities by adapting public spaces and programs

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
270 benches added to parks	50	50	55	55	60
11 lighting systems added to parks	3	2	2	2	2
96% of public satisfied with parks and open spaces	95%	96%	96%	96%	96%
18km of pathways improved	3	3	4	4	4

Growing Our Economy

London is a leader in Ontario for attracting new jobs and investments.

Expected Result: Increase public and private investment in amenities that attract visitors, a talented workforce and investment.

Strategy:

- Increase partnerships funding, sponsorships and donations to recreation services and amenities

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
\$ in partnerships, sponsorships and donations in parks	\$30k	\$25k	\$50k	\$75k	\$100k

Growing Our Economy

London is a leader in Ontario for attracting new jobs and investments.

Expected Result: Increase partnerships that promote collaboration, innovation, and investment.

Strategy:

- Participate in City Studio

Metric	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
10 City Planning projects completed in collaboration with educational institutions	1	1	1	1	1

Other reference information:

- 2019 Parks & Recreation Master Plan - Available by request at recreation@london.ca or 519 661-5575
- One River Environmental Assessment - Available by request at recreation@london.ca or 519 661-5575
- Cycling Master Plan - Available by request at recreation@london.ca or 519 661-5575

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