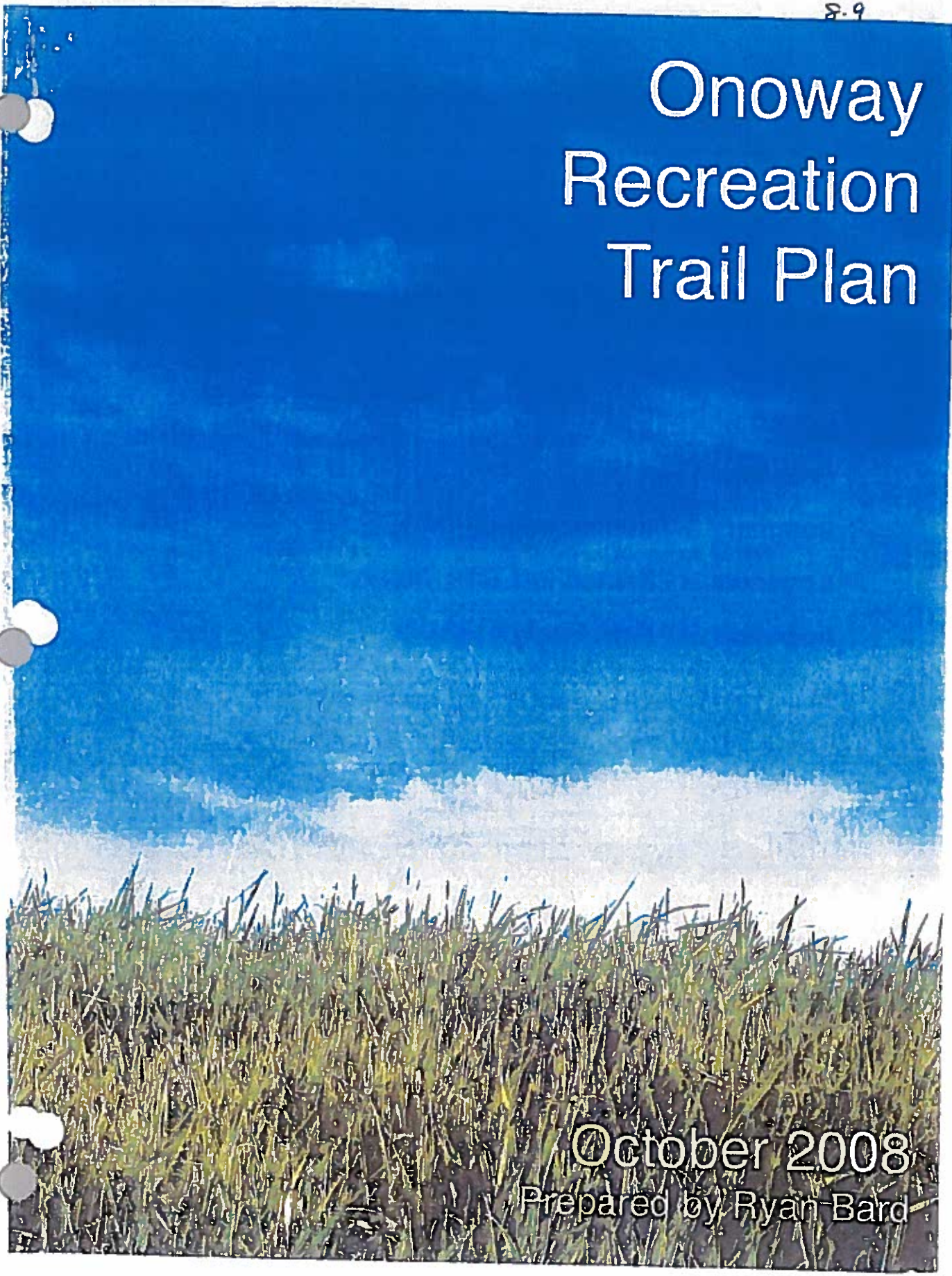


Onoway Recreation Trail Plan

October 2008
Prepared by Ryan Bard



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Introduction

The Town of Onoway is undertaking a recreation trail strategy for the first time. As part of the 2007 Council Strategic Plan, developing a linkages plan for the recreational assets in the community was identified as a priority project.

Council's goal is to develop a multi-phase project that can be completed with volunteer efforts and fundraising to provide this important community asset without negatively impacting property taxes.

The intention is to construct a multi-use trail system that connects existing and future recreational assets in the community, and to provide a secondary recreational transportation system to key places in the community.

This plan identifies individual phases, proposes an asset action plan, and outlines possible construction standards. As part of the research phase for this report, a community-focused survey was completed and the results are also included in this report.

Construction standards and funding scenarios are later discussed. Through the use of existing grant dollars, new grant dollars, in-kind donations and fundraising, the impact of this new trail development should be minimal. This leaves only the ongoing maintenance and operational cost considerations for Council's consideration.

The Issue

Recreational opportunities form one of the key foundations in community development and in the overall appeal of a municipality.

Historically, the Town of Onoway has focused on core services, including infrastructure, water and sewer service and snow removal. Peripheral services such as recreation and FCSS have not been a part of the normal operations for the Town of Onoway, which has relied on a contractual financial pooling of grant dollars with Lac Ste. Anne County and managed by the Region 1 FCSS & Recreation Board.

Key initiatives, such as the development of a recreation trail system and other recreational assets is outside of the scope of the current setup, and therefore the Town must recognize the current need and formulate an action plan should Council wish to expand operations in this direction.

Recreation facilities and trail systems have many community benefits:

Health Benefits

Likely the most commonly cited benefit for community recreation facilities and trail networks is the resulting benefit to resident physical and mental health as a result of the exercise potential of the facilities. By providing recreational opportunities, residents are more likely to take up recreational activities. Furthermore, by providing a sensible secondary transportation method through recreational trails, residents are more likely to take advantage of self-propelled transportations rather than automobiles.

Economic Benefits

As one might expect, recreational facilities and trail networks add value to local properties, and provides attractive incentives for businesses to relocate to the Town of Onoway or remain in the community. The Town in turn is able to better promote development opportunities to developers, who in turn develop more property in the area. This increases the overall tax base for the community and brings more goods and services to residents.

Societal Benefits

Recreational facilities and trail networks provide opportunities for residents to engage in recreational activities that also provide social opportunities for youth, and residents of all ages. These social opportunities can strengthen family bonds, deter socially-negative activities, and develop a greater sense of community.

Environmental Benefits

A properly developed trail network can also provide a secondary transportation system. The vast majority of residents in the Town of Onoway rely on automobile transportation in the community. By using the recreational trail network as a linkage between recreational assets and other facilities such as the downtown core, schools, and other facilities, residents may opt to use the trail network instead of an automobile.

Educational Benefits

Educational opportunities can also be incorporated through the use of educational information regarding the trail, nature and historical resources, and orientation opportunities.

In order to proceed in with the development of a trail system in a sensible manner, this report will make use of existing linkages, resident feedback, previous studies and community information, and other information as much as possible. Several questions will need to be answered in the planning of this trail system:

1. Who are the proposed users of this trail network?
2. What are the proposed uses of this trail network?
3. What accessibility issues must be overcome with this trail network?
4. What construction standard will be required to permit these uses?
5. How is the trail system going to be funded?
6. How can expenditures for the trail system be offset through other means?

Background

Since the Town (at the time Village s) incorporation, several recreational assets have been brought in to the Town land inventory either through development, donation, reclamation or partnership.

Major Assets

Ruth Cust Park

Dennis Bretzlaff Park

Elks Park

Edgewood Estates Park

Minor Assets

Shaul Park

Kids Corner Park

Other Assets (non-Town owned)

Ag Society Hockey Rink

Outdoor Hockey Rink

Curling Rink

Swede Moren Park

As part of this report, there is a need to prioritize each asset based on the survey and municipal administration feasibility, in order to determine a sensible way to handle and enhance each asset.

The Town also has a road and sidewalk network to assist in providing additional resources for the trail system.

Methodology

The Town of Onoway has several existing recreational assets. An assessment of these assets was conducted, to form the basis of the current state of overall recreational facilities in the Town of Onoway.

Based on the results from the resident survey, in combination with the recreational asset assessment and the Town's newly revised Municipal Development Plan, a phased plan was developed to manage the development of the recreational trail system and expansion of existing recreational assets in a funding-sensitive manner.

Findings

Town Assets

The Town of Onoway recreational assets are shown here in green:



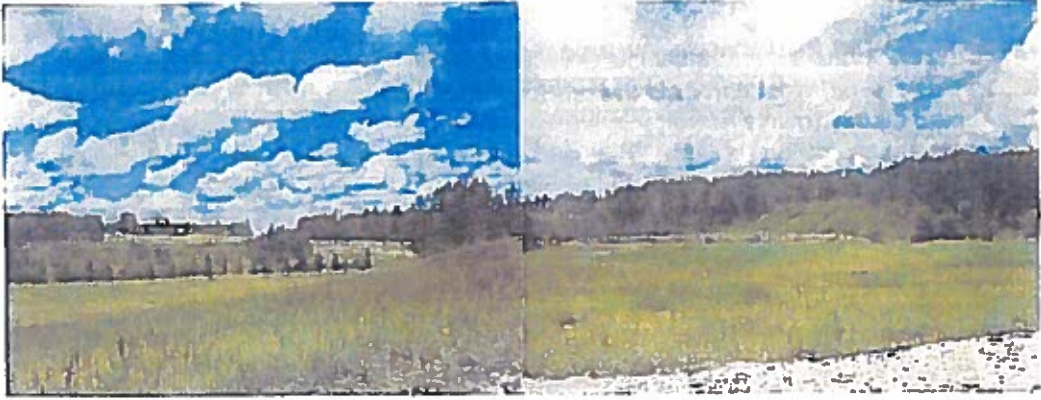
An asset visual assessment of each of the Town owned recreational assets was performed.

Ruth Cust Park

Ruth Cust Park has a substantial low area that is an integral part of the Town's drainage system. The south west corner is the predominant flood area, and the south east side is occupied by the Town's sewage lift station. The north side of the park is undergoing a multi-year naturalization project. The east side of the park has a natural amphitheater-style hill with toilet facilities. The toilet facilities are not in operable condition and would require additional investment to regain functionality.

Ruth Cust Park would make an ideal cross-country skiing area, concert area and natural off-leash area. Parking facilities are good.





Dennis Brezlaff Park

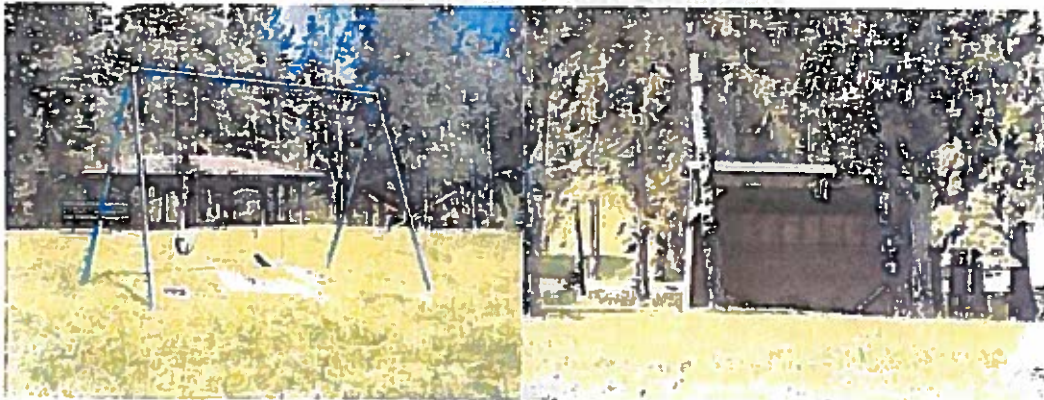
Dennis Brezlaff Park provides one soccer pitch, one basketball court and one baseball diamond, in addition to a reasonable amount of parking. This park may require relocation in the future as part of future development requirements of the land to the south east as outlined in the new Town of Onoway Municipal Development Plan, and therefore investment in this park should be considered in conjunction with the timelines associated with the relocation. Existing facilities are in reasonable condition, although the soccer pitch requires ongoing maintenance, and could benefit from more extensive work to upgrade the grass surface. Dennis Brezlaff Park benefits from the proximity to the gas pipeline right-of-way which will provide excellent trail access from the current or proposed future location.





Elks Park

Elks Park provides a tremendous opportunity for the trail system providing the only natural recreation trail space, and opportunity for wilderness gravel walking trails. The facilities in Elks Park are some of the best in terms of condition in the Town, however recent vandalism has damaged a number of features. Vandalism in Elks Park is common due to the remoteness and lack of public visibility. The park has good access through 50th Avenue, and several access points through 48th avenue. The creek feature on the south west side of the park can be utilized as a visual enhancement to the park.





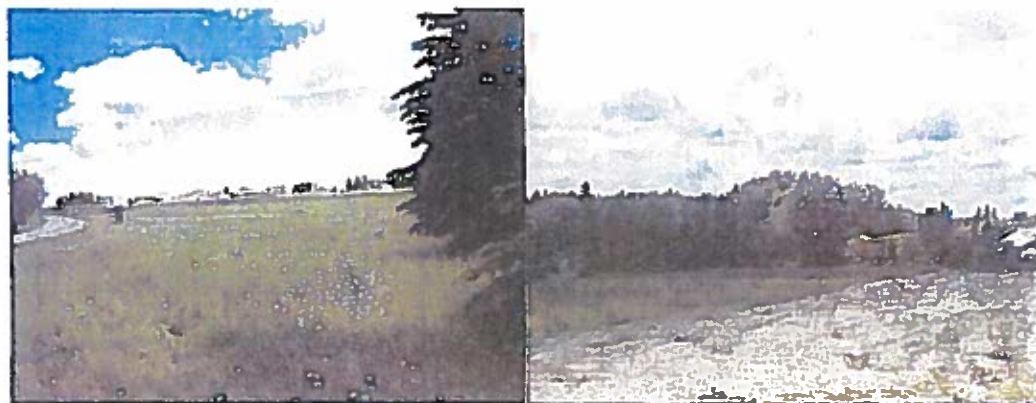
Edgewood Estates Park

Edgewood Estates Park (current working name) was acquired in 2007 by the Town of Onoway as part of an upcoming development in the area. The land had been used historically as a baseball diamond. As part of the development, the developer may use part of the park for a collection pond which can be a visual addition to a park space. Development on this park space should be done in conjunction with the developer and planned accordingly.



Heritage Heights Phase 2 Park

Heritage Heights Phase 2 Park (current working name) will be acquired by the Town at the time the Heritage Heights Phase 2 residential subdivision proceeds. This land is ideally suited for park space, and fills a gap in recreational space in the south-central area of Onoway. It is adjacent to the existing Kids Corner Park, which may present a project funding opportunity by divesting Kids Corner Park, and investing in this area instead.



Shaul Park

Shaul Park is the first of two community parks. The property is a serviced residential R1 lot in a mature subdivision. Some of the equipment is new (within 3 years), and some is older. Overall condition is average, but functional.



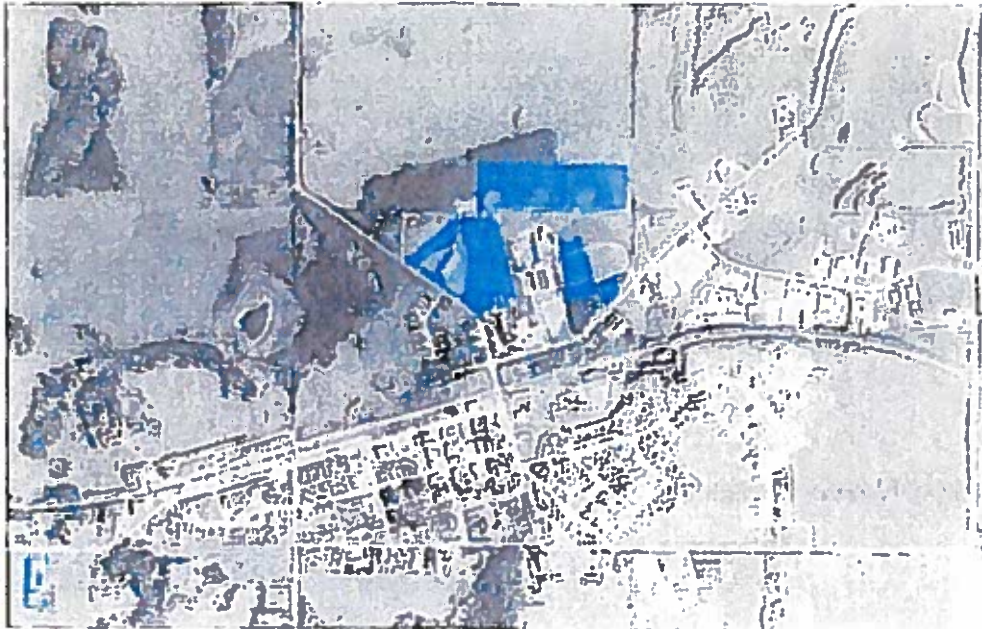
Kids Corner Park

Kids Corner Park is the second of two community parks. The property is a serviced residential R1 lot in a mature subdivision. The playground apparatus is functional and in average condition. All other equipment is in a state of disrepair and no longer functional.



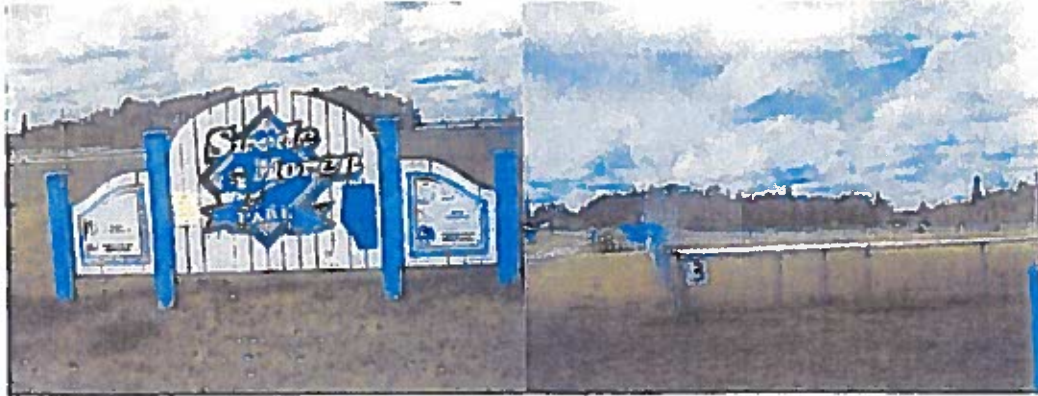
Non-Town Assets

Recreation assets that are not owned by the Town of Onoway are shown here in blue:



The non-Town assets include Swede Moren Park, the Ag Society Hockey Arena and outdoor rink, the curling rink, and Onoway school facilities (including soccer, playground and track).

Swede Moren Park



Ag Society Hockey Facilities



Curling Rink



School Facilities





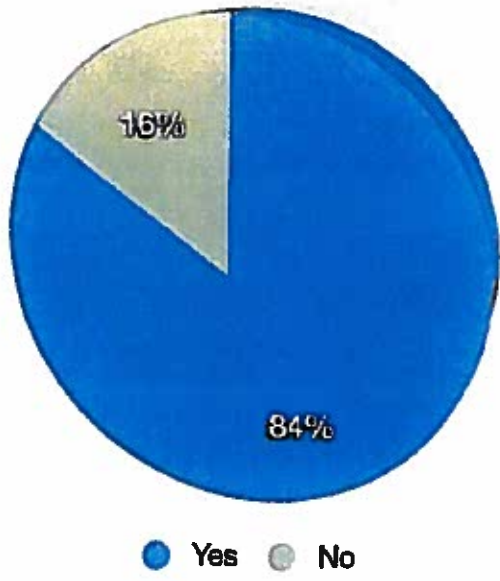
There are also several recreational assets outside the boundaries of the Town of Onoway including Salters Lake, Devils Lake and Imrie Park. In the future, once the core trail system is complete, extension could be developed in partnership with Lac Ste. Anne County.



In developing this trail plan, several planning issues arise. Through the use of surveying, Town documents, and administration input, we have developed the following strategies:

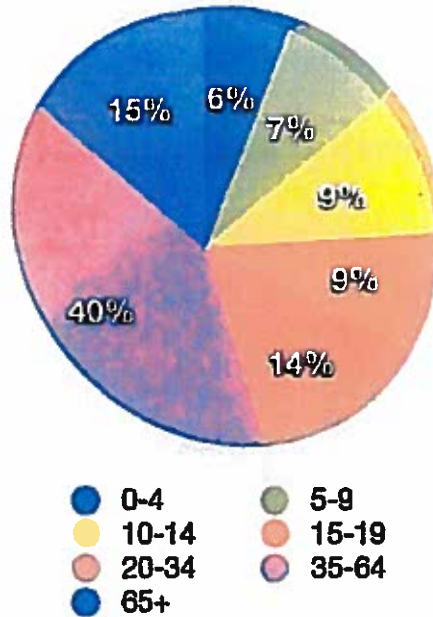
Proposed users of the trail network

Currently Use Sidewalks & Trails



Survey respondents were asked if they currently take advantage of recreational opportunities in the Town of Onoway. 84% responded that they did. The remaining 16% did not identify with the current recreational assets, or were not aware of them. In addition, some of the respondents that did not use the facilities stated that it was due to the facilities not meeting the needs of their particular activity.

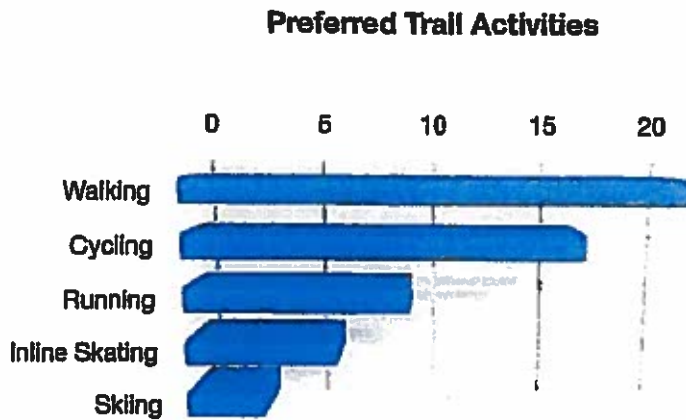
Onoway Demographics



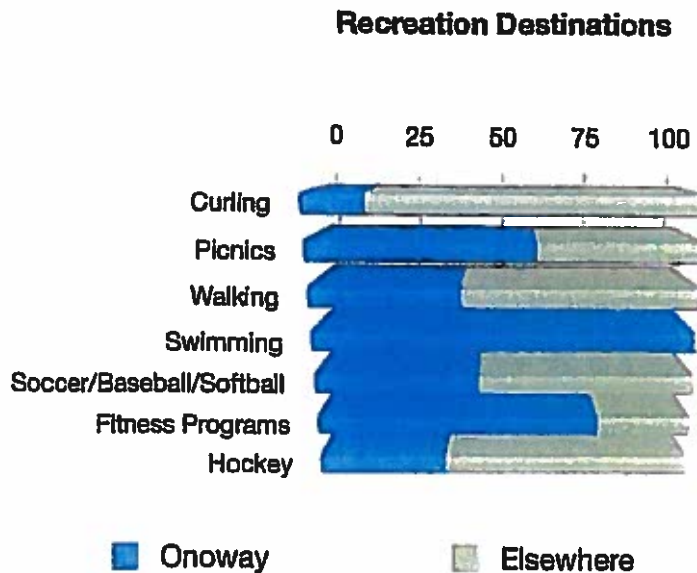
Briefly examining the demographics of the Town of Onoway, we can see that the population is well distributed, with a large mature adult group (35-64 years) representing 40%. This demographic is increasingly concerned with recreation and general fitness, and is likely to use these facilities with spouses and children.

Proposed uses of the trail network

The recreation survey also inquired with regard to the types of activities that respondents would use a trail system for. Walking/running and cycling represented the vast majority of responses.

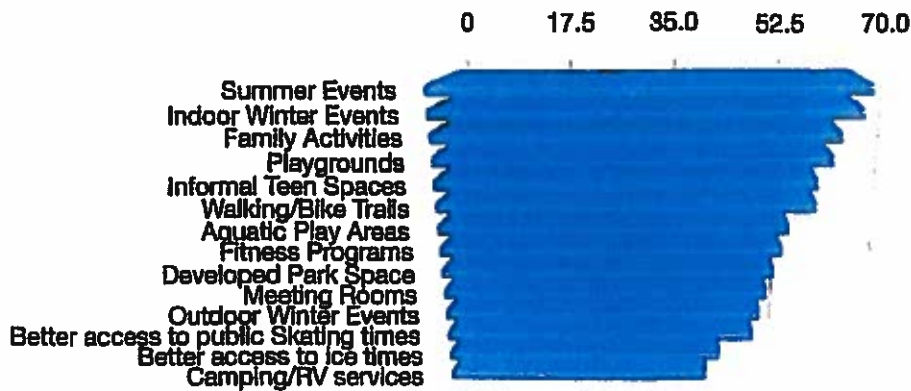


These statistics, adapted from the Hargreaves & Associates needs assessment study from early 2008, shows the breakdown of recreational destinations between Onoway and other areas.



These statistics, adapted from the Hargreaves & Associates needs assessment study from early 2008, shows the relative importance placed on each type of activity.

Importance of Program or Service



The Hargreaves & Associates also found that the outdoor rink has proven to be very popular. There is also a need for some recreation development for teens, such as BMX or skateboard facilities. Improved integration and connectivity between facilities is also important.

Accessibility Issues

The Town of Onoway currently does not have an accessibility standard or policy. Many of the existing sidewalks and roadways are not accessible to a wide range of users, for motorized or manual chairs and scooters. As part of this study and overall trail plan, areas have been designated as using existing municipal sidewalks. These should be designed to accommodate accessibility ramps. In addition, trail construction which will be discussed in a moment, should be considered to allow use to people with reduced mobility and whom face accessibility issues.

Construction standards

One major consideration for the construction of the trail system is the construction standard. There are several standards that can be used, and can be grouped by paved and unpaved trails.

Paved trails are approximately three times the price of gravel trails, however survey respondents indicated in some instances that a paved trail was desirable over unpaved (gravel, wood chip etc.) trails.

Paved trails also increase the accessibility of the trail system to users with reduced mobility.

The decision between paved and unpaved trails is not exclusive. A blended trail system is a common solution, and would be advisable as an interim measure to develop the trail, but reduce the standards until such time as funding is available to upgrade to a paved standard.

Looking at the activities respondents indicated use, we can comment on the trail standard that is most desirable:

Walking: A paved or unpaved standard is sufficient for walking trails, however accessibility is enhanced with paved trails.

Cycling: In Alberta, mountain bikes predominantly outsell all other kinds of bikes. A paved or unpaved surface is sufficient for cycling, especially for mountain bikes. However, the use of cycling trails is greatly enhanced when the trails are paved.

Running: A paved or unpaved standard is sufficient for running trails, however paved trails enhance the running surface grip, and increases accessibility.

Inline Skating: Paved trails are generally required for inline skating, however the level of inline skating has been diminishing over the past 10 years.

Cross Country Skiing: Trail construction standards are generally not a factor for cross country skiing, so long as the trail surface does not inhibit the snow surface for skiing.

Trail construction details adapted from the City of Edmonton are included in the appendix.

Funding

The recreation trail system has a number of sources of funding:

Municipal

Property Taxes: while not an ideal source of funding for the trail development, this would be a suitable place to fund ongoing upkeep and maintenance.

Endowments: the Town has funds for specific projects, such as the Elks Park, that could be dedicated to local improvements in these facilities.

Debt: The Town could take on debt for the construction of the trail. This is the least desirable option, as there are many other avenues for funding.

Grants

Municipal Sustainability Initiative: The MSI grant includes a capital portion that could be used to expand recreation facilities and trails, and an operating portion that can be used to fund ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the system. This is a multi-year grant program that started in 2007/2008 from the Province of Alberta.

Municipal Sponsorship Grant: The Municipal Sponsorship Grant includes priority areas. In 2008, a priority area was recreation, and the Town applied for funding under a recreation trail project. Funding should be announced early in 2009. Future years of the Municipal Sponsorship Grant can also be used towards future phases of the trail system.

Fundraising

Private Business Contributions: Private businesses often have a portion of revenues set aside for community contributions and sponsorships. A recreation trail in the Town of Onoway provides an ongoing legacy for the business, and can provide much-needed seed money for the project.

Community Fundraising: As a community facility, the community can be a tremendous contributor to the project. Both with fundraising financially, and in contributing volunteer hours to fundraise or to actually build the facilities themselves. Many community members will possess the required skill and knowledge to assist, and there is always a role to fill for an interested community member. Engaging the community at this level, and at all other levels, is essential for the project.

Memorial Bench Program: By instituting an ongoing memorial program to fund trail furniture, it provides an opportunity for both the donor and the community.

The program is simple, and several municipalities (e.g. the Municipality of Jasper) currently have programs in place.



Other

Sale of Land: The Town has several parcels of land that, if sold, would present one time funding opportunities ideal for one time projects such as a recreation trail. In the recreational survey, there was very low preference to the Shaul park. This, and the Kids Corner Park are located on serviced lots that could be sold for development, and the proceeds used to fund the project. The Kids Corner Park, in particular, would be redundant if the Heritage Heights Phase 2 Park were to proceed.

Development: The Town currently has several development projects underway. These development projects would benefit greatly by expanded recreational opportunities close to their development. As such, the developer and Town can jointly fund some recreational facilities.

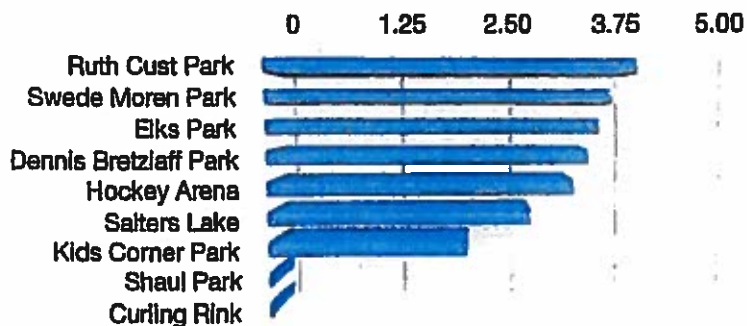
Options

Community Parks versus Regional Parks

There are two competing schools of thought regarding recreational asset development. Over the past 20 years, municipalities have been consolidating park assets to create regional parks with larger playground features and increased play space. These developments usually coincide with sporting features such as baseball or soccer fields.

More recently, there has been a resurgence in community parks. Community parks are smaller, and serve a smaller area. Often, these parks are installed in new developments in partnership with the developer as an incentive for property sales. These community parks require less transportation to access, and foster an increased sense of local community among immediate neighbors.

Facility Access Preference



Based on the recreation trail survey, the respondents seem to favor larger recreational facilities such as Ruth Cust Park, Swede Moren Park, Elks Park and Dennis Bretzlaff Park. Shaul Park has very low interest.

This suggests that the community may be more interested in well connected regional parks at the moment. Larger naturalized spaces with recreational developments well served by a trail system would allow increased usage of both the trail system and the facilities themselves by all residents.

Proposed Plan

Trail Plan

This plan has been developed to maximize existing land available to the municipality, or can be easily available to the municipality. Use of existing right of ways, sidewalks, parks, municipal reserve and other assets have been incorporated.

One major issue that is facing the creation of the trail system relates to the CN rail crossing. There is currently an unofficial crossing across from the old Onoway Elementary School. This trail contemplates a crossing at 49 street and 52 street to minimize cost. The current usage patterns show that the unofficial crossing is the preferred location, however this crossing occurs on private land and therefore is unlikely available for a municipal trail system.

During the engineering design phase of this project, drainage considerations will be important. In sections adjacent to the creek, the trail must be above the flood area. In other areas, enhancing natural drainage through material selection and proper slope of the trail.

In addition, this trail system will create additional maintenance, cleaning and upkeep concerns for the Town's public works department. This will increase the maintenance costs for the municipality's operation budget, and should be considered as well. A poorly maintained trail will not be used to the full potential that a well maintained trail will. Year round funding allocation will be required to maintain the trail. During the trail survey, several respondents indicated concern at the ability to maintain the trail system in the long term. Community groups and volunteers may be of assistance with the trail upkeep. The Town can provide equipment for the maintenance, and in some instances the groups may have specialized equipment already available (e.g. cross country skiing trails).

Crime prevention is a major concern for this trail plan, especially for isolated sections such as Ruth Cust Park and Elks Park. Design, trail features such as lighting and proximity to residences, and sight lines are important to consider during detailed design.

In order to combine existing infrastructure with a new trail system, roadways must be crossed. To make the crossing as safe as possible for both trail system users and motorists, crosswalks must be identified and signs erected to warn pathway users of road crossings. A crosswalk may range from a simple painted line identifying the crosswalk to motorists, to pleasant looking paving patterns, such as the pattern used on the sidewalks along 50th street.

Parkway systems combine both rural and urban features add a variety of scenery to the paths. In order to prevent vandalism or other crime along the pathway system, some

form of surveillance must be possible. The proposed system has been designed to allow much of it to be seen from areas used by the public and by home owners along the parkway. This, in itself, is a good deterrent of undesirable activity. Lighting of the system for night use and monitoring may also be useful.

Plan requirements:

Linkages

Linkages must be sensible and tie all areas of the community together. If other routes are more efficient, the network will not be successful.

Street Furniture

Street furniture is an important feature of the trail system. Furniture should be sturdy and suitable for long term environmental impact and frequent public use. A common theme can be used to tie the visual design of the entire trail together. Furniture should also be designed to accommodate the elderly and people with disabilities. Benches, picnic tables, and garbage receptacles are common street furniture items. Some municipalities fund street furniture acquisitions through memorial programs, where family and friends can make dedications of furniture in someone's name.

Optional Features

There is a wide range of features that can be added to the trail when the budget allows. These features will promote the use of the trail by making it more functional and esthetically pleasing to users.

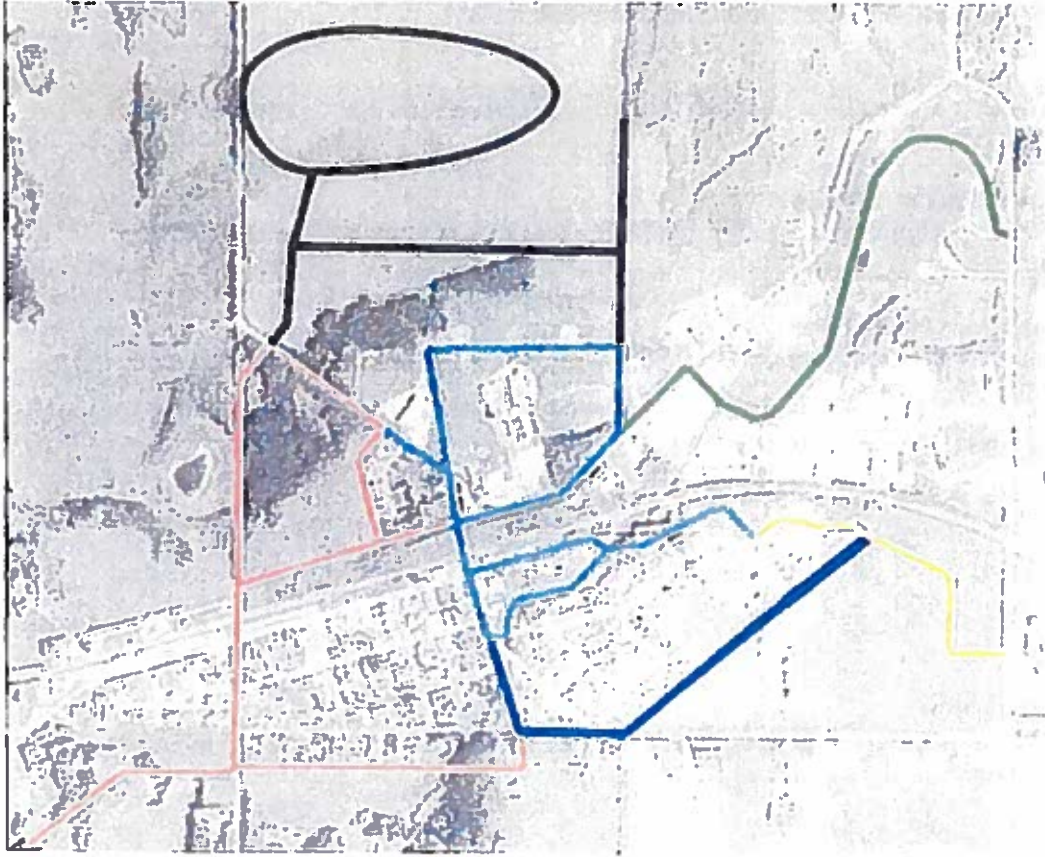
Some possible features are:

Flowers, trees and shrubs: along sections of the pathway system provide shelter from sun and wind, and help to blend natural and man made features along the route.

Lighting: Lighting along popular portions of the trail will enhance the safety and usability of the facilities. At night, and earlier in winter, users will be reluctant to use the trail system if a sense of security is not maintained.

Signs: trail signage allows users to properly orientate themselves. Distances and direction are common items to include on the signs, and allow users to gauge their progress. Signage can also be informational, either advising users of hazards or features (e.g. hill ahead), or for educational purposes.

Onoway Recreation Trail Phased Conceptual Plan



This recreation trail development plan proposes seven phases. The phases are listed in order of existing and highest benefit first, moving to proposed development areas last. Phases four through seven rely on a partnership with the developer to establish municipal reserve and possibly fund the project. Therefore, phases four through seven may occur in a different order depending on the development timelines for each project.

Likewise, each project has a projected 2008 cost for paving and unpaved (gravel) standards. Some phases will already have existing infrastructure, however it may require upgrading or expansion to accommodate the recreation trail use.

It is important to note that this conceptual plan, and corresponding phases are conceptual, and should be further circulated through the community for feedback. The

community may approach the phasing differently through their preferences that were not expressed during the public surveys.

Recreation Trail Phase Order and Projected Cost

School/Elks Park Loop

Phase 1: Approximate Length 3150m, Paved Cost \$976,500, Unpaved Cost \$315,000

Gas Right of Way Loop

Phase 2: Approximate Length 1050m, Paved Cost \$325,000, Unpaved Cost \$105,000

Ruth Cust Park Loop

Phase 3: Approximate Length 1800m, Paved Cost \$558,000, Unpaved Cost \$180,000

Edgewood Estates Park Loop

Phase 4: Approximate Length 2250m, Paved Cost \$697,500, Unpaved Cost \$225,000

South East Oneway Loop

Phase 5: Approximate Length 1000m, Paved Cost \$310,000, Unpaved Cost \$100,000

North Loop

Phase 6: Approximate Length 3700m, Paved Cost \$1,147,000, Unpaved Cost \$370,000

South West Loop

Phase 7: Approximate Length 2500m, Paved Cost \$750,000, Unpaved Cost \$250,000

All costs are in 2008 construction dollars.

Other Features

While the trail plan will be a much needed addition to the Town's recreational opportunities, consideration must also be given to expanding the assets themselves, and repairing and maintaining existing assets.

A few major points arise in this area, and should be considered:

Ruth Cust Park

Ruth Cust Park is a naturalized area without any formal recreation equipment or other assets. There are two main things that would improve the area. The washrooms require major repair work due to vandalism. Along with the repair work, a deterrent system such as the Mosquito Audible Deterrent System would be useful to prevent vandalism. The parking area could also use some refurbishment of the parking surface in order to accommodate increased use.

Dennis Bretzlaff Park

Dennis Bretzlaff is a sporting park with baseball, soccer and basketball facilities. The parking area could use some refurbishment of the parking surface in order to accommodate increased use. An assessment of the sports structures should be conducted to facilitate necessary repairs. Upgrading the soccer playing surface is desirable due to the damage caused by gophers.

Elks Park

Elks Park is a combination naturalized area with recreational equipment. The equipment is in relatively good repair, but should be assessed for repair. Vandalism has also damaged the toilets, which will require rebuilding.

Edgewood Estates Park

This is a proposed new park to be constructed in conjunction with the developer. The developer and Town should jointly plan for the space, and funding for the majority of the facility should be contributed from the developer. A playground, natural drainage, and possibly sports fields are recommended for the area.

Heritage Heights Phase 2 Park

This is a proposed new park to be constructed in conjunction with the developer. The developer and Town should jointly plan for the space, and funding for the majority of the facility should be contributed from the developer. A playground and natural field or sports field is recommended for the area.

Shaul Park

Shaul Park, should it continue to be part of the Town's recreation facilities, should be assessed for repair as required.

Kids Corner Park

Kids Corner Park, should it continue to be part of the Town's recreation facilities, should be assessed for repair as required.

Summary & Recommendations

The Town of Onoway recreation trail plan is a unique project for the community for a number of reasons. It is the first significant recreational development in a number of years, and would signal a shift from the current core municipal operations to increased activity in recreation.

With the projected residential development in Town, the timing is right to start to consider projects like the recreation trail plan. By having a general plan in place, Council can commence an expanded consultation process with the community to get feedback and direction for the initiative. Partnerships can also be formed with business and developers to advance the plan. Conditions can be included in new developments to provide these facilities as part of the development.

First Steps

The first step of any community project like a recreation trail is to engage the community for their thoughts and feelings on the project, the design, the phase, funding options and other aspects to provide information to Council. The power of a community based committee to steer a recreation trail plan is unparalleled, and can provide invaluable insight which will enhance the quality of the final product tremendously.

With the creation of this report, the first step by Council is completed. Now, comes the time to get community buy in to this project. The survey provided a good opportunity for initial public buy-in, and the comments from the surveys are included for Council's reference and are reflected in the development of this report.

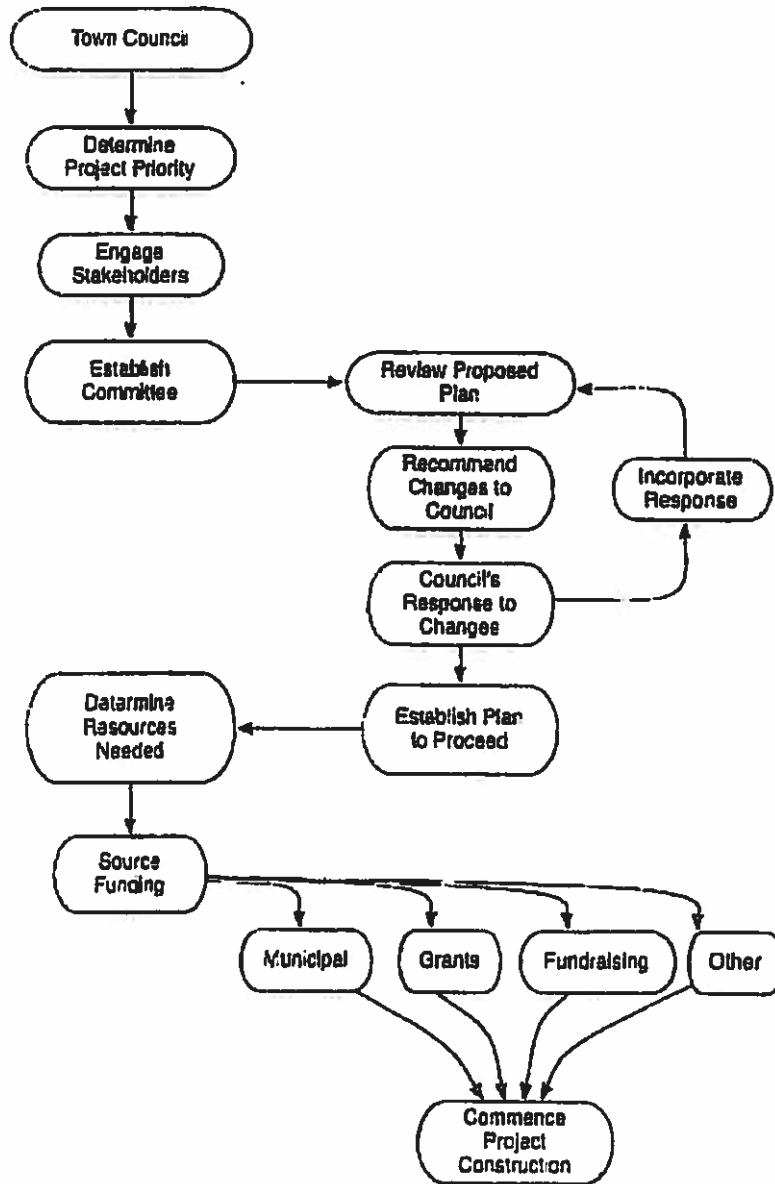
Once Council determines the timeline and steps that are feasible to complete this project, this must be clearly communicated to groups involved. By ensuring the public is fully informed, they will also be fully motivated.

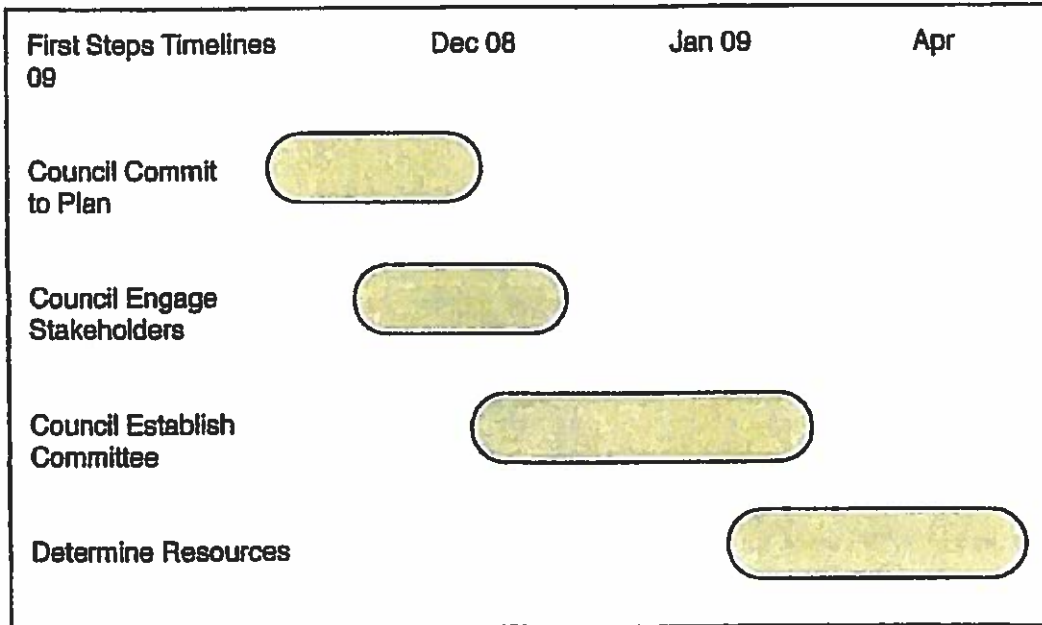
Once the goal is established, it is time to commence fundraising efforts. The requirements for the trail rely on a number of factors:

- The number of volunteers available
- Fundraising timelines
- Startup funds available
- Amount of funding required
- Grant availability
- Fundraising experience among volunteers
- Facilities and equipment available

At the same time as the recreation trail plan, the Town should engage current developers for their thoughts for their development needs. Negotiating specifics prior to a development is premature, but to generate some conceptual ideas and providing the developers with a sense of what the Town is looking for will allow the developer to incorporate these ideas into their plans.

Onoway Recreation Trail Plan Community Engagement Model





Funding Recommendations

Due to the minimal use experienced, and interest expressed in the Shaul Park, and the potential redundancy between the Kids Corner Park and the upcoming Heritage Heights Phase 2 Park, it is recommended that Council consider the viability of selling these parcels as residential lots. The funds from these sales can act as seed money for the project, which in turn can be matched through other grants.

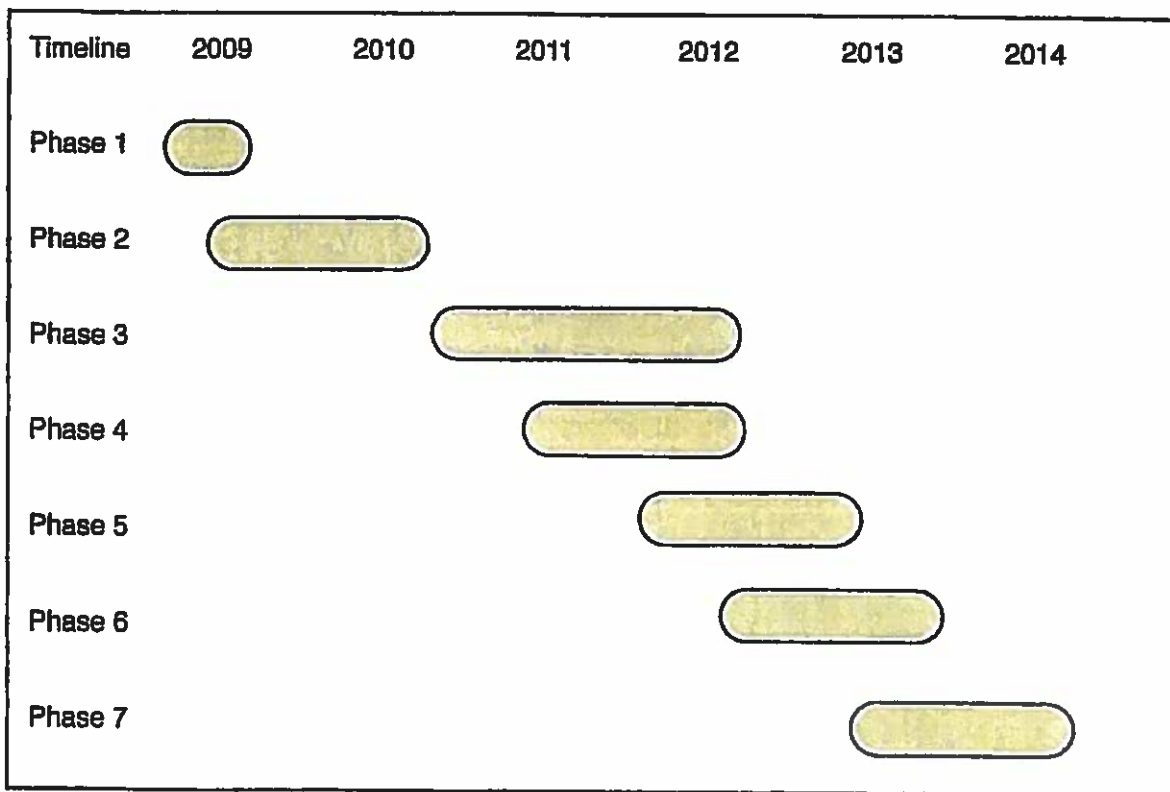
In early 2009, the Town should also be learning of the status of the 2008 Municipal Sponsorship Grant, which was applied for on the basis of funding a portion of the recreational trail plan.

Next Steps

Once both Council and the Community are comfortable with the plan, sourcing funding, making grant applications, possibly listing the two park properties, and other startup initiatives can take place.

Following that, all that remains is adequately funding the phases of the project, and constructing the phases of the project. This plan is intended to span a number of years, and not to be done all at once. The project phases have been selected principally to provide the largest exposure and benefit first, thus gaining the best "bang for the buck".

The next steps timeline suggests possible times that the trail build-out could take place.



Final Thoughts

While the dollar figures in this report may be surprising, one must consider the size of project that this represents, and the benefit it would provide to the community.

Recreation and recreation facilities is quickly becoming one of the largest determining factors in where residents choose to live. While it is acknowledged that the Town of Onoway is not able to support larger aquatic and indoor recreation facilities, there is a substantial number of things that the Town can do to promote a healthy lifestyle outdoors.

As contemplated in the 2008 Developer Cost Analysis report, the Town can fund these initiatives by prioritizing programs. Over the life of the developments contemplated in this report, this trail system could be fully funded by a program the size of the Development Incentive Policy. And with residents looking closer at communities based on the facilities they have, than the property tax rebate programs, Council may wish to consider abandoning the Development Incentive Program in favor of investing those dollars directly in to recreation and other community initiatives. In 2008, this would represent approximately \$50,000 annually. It is also important to note that out of the total project costs (\$4,789,000 for paved trails, \$1,545,000 for unpaved trails), that there is a good chance to have over half of this cost covered by developers through the inclusion of the trail development in their development plans.

This trail plan, if key stakeholders buy in to the project, is manageable for the Town of Onoway over time. Like the other initiatives that Council is investigating, it is merely a matter of prioritizing this project versus others.

Appendix A - Recreation Trail Survey

RECREATION TRAIL SURVEY

The Town of Onoway is developing a plan for a recreation trail system in the community. As part of this plan we would like your input. Please complete this short survey and return it to the Town office in person, by mail or by fax.

Please return surveys by August 13th.

Town of Onoway, Box 540, Onoway, AB T0E 1V0. Fax: 967-5338

Thanks for your participation!

Do you currently use sidewalks or trails in the community for recreational opportunities (running, walking, inline skating, cycling etc.)?

What activities would you use a recreation trail for? (check all that apply)

- Walking Running Inline skating
 Cycling Cross Country Skiing
 Other

The recreation trail system could be used to link existing parks and recreational facilities. Which facilities do you think should be accessible by this trail? Please select in order of importance to you, with 1 being most important and 8 being least important (Map on back side of survey)

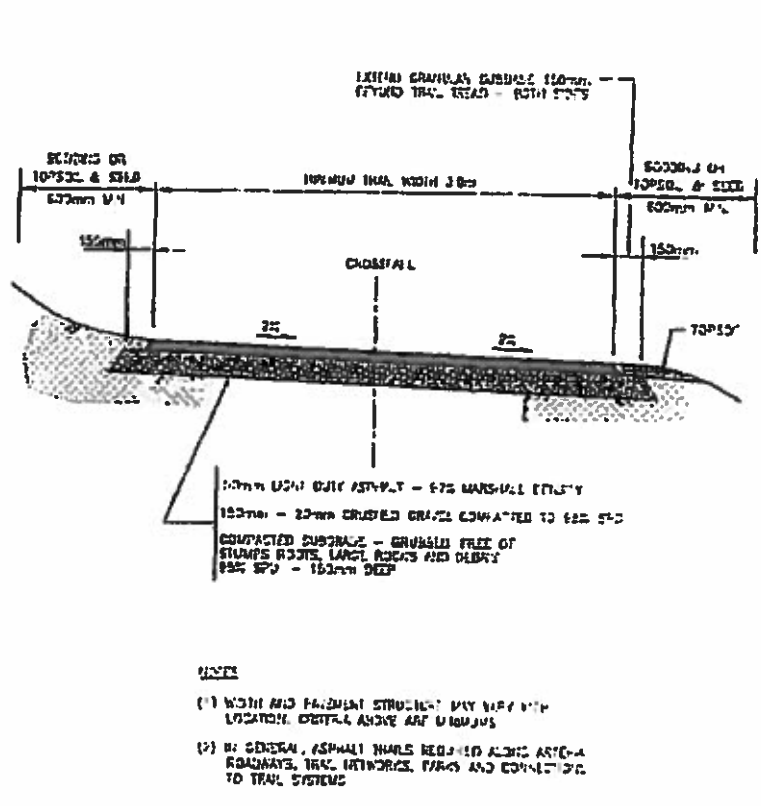
- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swede Moren Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Dennis Biggstaff Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ruth Cust Park | <input type="checkbox"/> IGds Corner Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spaul Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Elks Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hockey Arena | <input type="checkbox"/> Curling Rink |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Softers Lake | |

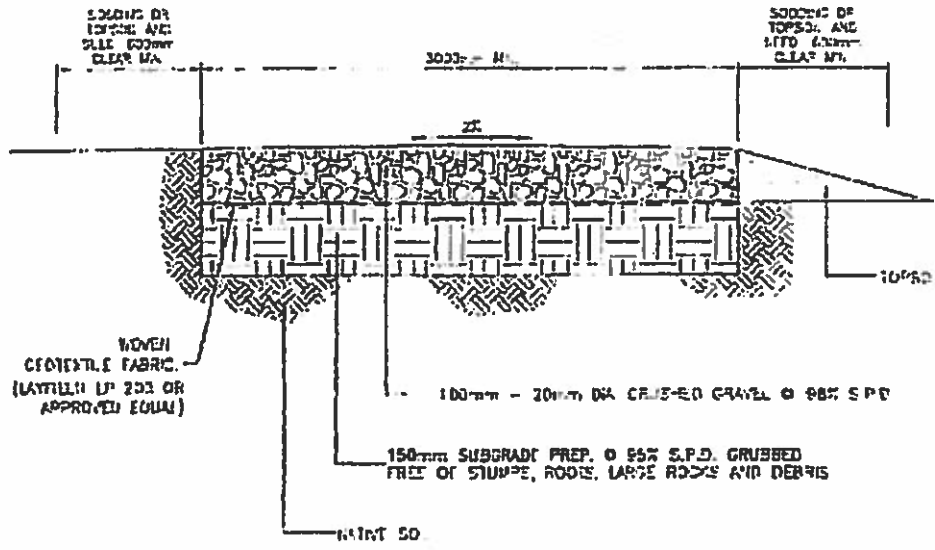
What factors would determine if you would use this trail regularly?

Any other comments?



Appendix B - Path Design Details





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TRAIL SYSTEMS

I talked to Stephen at Gibbs & Brown Landscape Architects, out of Edmonton. He asked me to get some preliminary information before he comes out to meet with Council.

Following are a few considerations he suggested.

Identify Users

Trail substance (mulch, asphalt, gravel etc.)

Who will maintain the trail?

Will the trail be year round use?

Width is important (emergency service vehicle access)

Seniors usage would mean more loops, with rest areas every 100 metre (approx.)

Fit people would be more linear use

Implement the trail in phases



