



Hamilton

City of Hamilton
**Indoor Recreation
Facilities Study Update**
(Phase 1)

August 19, 2016

Hamilton

Appendix A to Report ECS07068(d)
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Monteith Brown
planning consultants



City of Hamilton

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Section 1: Introduction

Keeping pace with future indoor recreation facility needs is vital to ensuring that residents continue to have opportunities to be healthy, active, and engaged.

In 2008, the City of Hamilton completed the Use, Renovation and Replacement Study for Hamilton Recreation and Public-use Facilities (herein referred to as the “Indoor Recreation Facilities Study”). The purpose of this Study was to identify a long-range sustainable strategy for managing Hamilton’s portfolio of indoor community-use recreational infrastructure, including options for facility renewal, repurposing, and new construction. This was achieved through a comprehensive assessment of facility condition and usage, a public input program, and the identification of future facility needs.

The City has made excellent progress with a number of the Study’s recommendations, while others have proved to be more challenging for a variety of reasons. Given the amount of time that has passed and the changing needs of the community, the time has come for the Indoor Recreation Facilities Study to be updated. The City has chosen to undertake this update through a phased approach. Like the last report, the scope of this study includes community and recreation centres, indoor pools, seniors’ centres, arenas, community halls, and outdoor pools. A separate strategy relative to the City’s outdoor parks facilities and sports fields was prepared in 2011 and is not part of this initial scope of work.

The first phase of work will assist City staff and Council with understanding the progress that has been made in relation to implementation of the 2008 Study, as well as gauge residents’ use and needs through an initial public engagement program. Future phases of work, which may include the examination of policies and approaches affecting facility demand, an updated assessment of facility needs, and the development of an updated facility provision strategy, have not yet been initiated.

Key deliverables for this first phase include the following:

- status report card of 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study recommendations
- inventory and mapping updates
- a high level review of facility provision and design trends that have changed or emerged since the 2008 Study was completed
- preliminary analysis of arena facility needs given declining usage and surplus municipal ice capacity
- public and stakeholder engagement through a random sample telephone survey and public information sessions, as well as an online survey of local stakeholder and user groups; City officials have also been consulted

Monteith Brown Planning Consultants were retained to prepare this report; this firm was also responsible for the development of the 2008 Study and has a great familiarity with the City and its recreational landscape. A Steering Committee consisting of key City of Hamilton staff from various Divisions provided oversight and assistance to the consultant throughout this initial phase of work.

Section 2: Report Card

This section examines changes in market demographics and trends, along with key accomplishments that have taken place since the City's previous Indoor Recreation Facilities Study.

2.1 Recent Accomplishments / Inventory Summary

Recreation facilities are vital contributors to strong, vibrant communities and help residents to achieve many of their personal goals. Since the 2008 Study was received by Council, the City has completed a large number of indoor recreation facility infrastructure projects, including (but not limited to) the following:

- a) Rebuilt the Westmount Recreation Centre (Hamilton Mountain)
- b) Built the Stoney Creek Recreation Centre, which resulted in the closure and demolition of the Stoney Creek Scout Hall (Lower Stoney Creek)
- c) Added a new ice pad at Morgan Firestone Arena (Ancaster)
- d) Replaced the older North Wentworth Arena and Community Centre with a new twin pad arena – Harry Howell (Flamborough)
- e) Replaced the Beasley Community Centre with a larger facility in partnership with the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB); retained ownership of the former Beasley Community Centre (Lower Hamilton)
- f) Currently designing the Bernie Morelli Recreation & Senior's Centre within the Stadium Precinct; when complete, this project will include a leisure pool to complement the existing Jimmy Thompson Pool, seniors' space, youth space, multi-purpose rooms, activity rooms, and a kitchen/cafeteria/lounge space; this project resulted in the closure of Scott Park Arena (Lower Hamilton)
- g) Built the 420m² (4,500ft²) Flamborough Seniors' Centre (Flamborough), a joint project completed with the Hamilton Public Library
- h) Currently planning for the Beverly School and Community Hub and Greensville School and Community Hub (Beverly)
- i) Purchased the former Creek Community Church for use as a temporary community hall and Winona Public School for use as a temporary community centre (Lower Stoney Creek)
- j) Redesigned and redeveloped several outdoor pools, including Inch Park, Coronation, Green Acres, Rosedale, Walker, and Birge (in progress)
- k) Identified Normanhurst Hall as surplus to the City's recreation needs (Lower Hamilton)
- l) Completed a variety of smaller scale capital improvements focused on accessibility, energy efficiency, lifecycle upgrades, etc.
- m) Partnered with HWDSB on a number of community integrated projects, several of which are identified above
- n) Notable changes to the supply of non-municipal facilities, including the development of the Gateway Ice Centre (3 pads) and closure of Hamilton Doublerinks (2 pads)

For comparative purposes, the following table identifies the number of municipal and quasi-public facilities in both 2008 and present. Mapping of the City's current facility inventory is identified in **Appendix A**.

City of Hamilton Inventory Comparison, Number of Facilities

Facility Type	2008			2016		
	Municipal	Other*	Total	Municipal	Other*	Total
Community Centres	16	7	23	18	7	25
Indoor Pools	17	7	24	18	7	25
Seniors' Centres / Clubs	10	2	12	10	2	12
Arenas (ice pads)	24	8	32	25	9	34
Community Halls	28	n/a	28	27	n/a	27
Outdoor Pools	10	n/a	10	10	n/a	10

*Other includes: Community Centres (YMCAs, YWCAs, Boys and Girls Club, F. H. Sherman Recreation & Learning Centre); Indoor Pools (YMCAs, YWCAs, Boys and Girls Club, David Braley Athletic Centre); Seniors Centres (clubs in public housing developments); Arenas (2 ice pads at Mohawk 4-pad and private arenas; First Ontario Centre is excluded).

The City should be proud of the scale and scope of capital projects completed in recent years – these achievements are particularly impressive given the recent period of slow economic growth. Many of the recommendations from the 2008 Study have been implemented, even with the Study's long-term outlook and need for secondary funding and assistance from community partners. As a whole, these capital projects have made the City's network of facilities more responsive, accessible, modern, and efficient than they were eight years ago, representing a big step in the right direction. Nevertheless, additional improvements will be necessary to address outstanding deficiencies and respond to changing community needs.

2.2 Summary of Recommendations from the 2008 Study

On September 3, 2008, Council received the Use, Renovation and Replacement Study of Hamilton Recreation and Public-Use Facilities (Report ECS07068(b)) with the following direction:

That staff be directed to review and update those recommendations made in Option 4 – the Strategic Renewal and New Construction strategy, as shown on pages 137-156 of the Use, Renovation and Replacement Study of Hamilton Recreation and Public-Use Facilities (attached as Appendix A (pages 137-156) to Report 08-011), every five years and recommend changes, as necessary.

The 2008 Report contained 55 recommendations identifying project and time-specific actions. Since the completion of the original study, some options have changed and new pressures have emerged, resulting in shifts from certain recommendations. In addition, 19 continuous best practices were identified, providing overall direction on facility provision and design.

A number of recommendations made in 2008 have been achieved with new facilities such as the planned Bernie Morelli Recreation & Seniors' Centre, the new Stoney Creek and Westmount Recreation Centres, and the removal of some older facilities from the municipal inventory. In

other cases, due to changing community needs or other factors, Council pursued different directions. Notably, several old and out-of-date facilities recommended for removal from the municipal inventory have been refurbished or updated.

Of the 55 recommendations put forward in the 2008 Study, 34 were identified for implementation between 2008 and 2016, while 21 are longer-term actions. **53% of these recommendations have been completed, partially completed, or are in progress.** 32% have not been acted upon for various reasons, such as lack of funding, other priorities, or a change in direction. 15% require further review due to changing circumstances and emerging options. Nearly half of the recommendations that have not been implemented relate to the City's arena facilities.

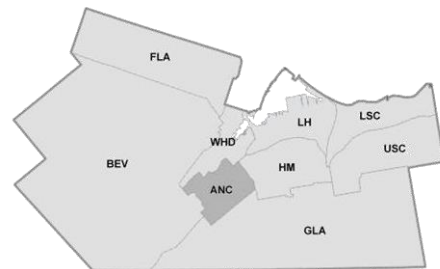
Report Card – 2008 Study Implementation to Date

Action (to date)	Number of Recommendations	Percent
Completed	10	29%
Partially Complete	4	12%
In Progress	4	12%
No Action / Change in Direction	11	32%
Further Review Required	5	15%
Total	34	100%
Timeframe Not Yet Reached	21	--

The following text provides a detailed discussion of the community- and facility-specific recommendations from the 2008 Study and their current status. This information provides an overall profile of achievements, works in progress, changes in direction, and projects that have been postponed or have not yet been considered. More information on recommendations can be found in **Appendix B** corresponding with the recommendation reference number provided in the text (e.g. R.1). Where appropriate, findings from a 2013 Internal Review of arena utilization have also been included in the summaries.

Ancaster

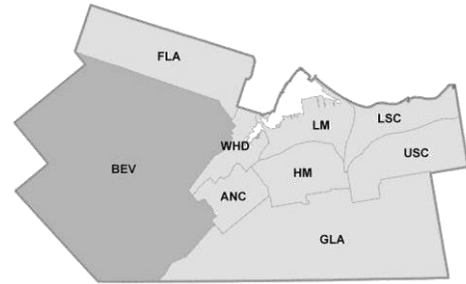
The 2008 Study suggested that this community could only justify two ice pads and that a second ice pad should be added to Morgan Firestone Arena (R.1). Once this was completed, the Study recommended the removal of Spring Valley Arena from service. While a second ice pad was added to Morgan Firestone Arena in 2015, capital renovations were approved for Spring Valley Arena. The assessment contained in the Internal Review completed in 2013 suggested that modest improvements be made to Spring Valley Arena in the short-term, but that this facility eventually be replaced by a twin pad facility that would also serve Hamilton Mountain; the timeframe for this recommendation (2018-2021) has not yet been reached.



The 2008 Study also recommended major refurbishment of the Ancaster Aquatic Centre as it would reach its normal functional lifespan by 2018. The City plans for major accessibility upgrades at this location between 2016 and 2018.

Beverly

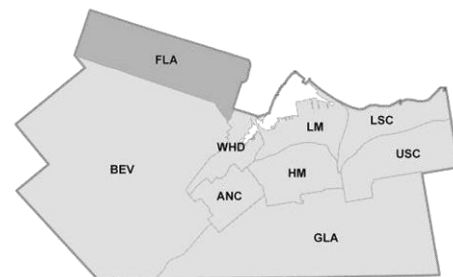
A number of the recommendations for the community of Beverly have seen a change in direction. The 2008 Study recommended selling the facilities of Greenville Community Hall and Beverly Township Hall (R.4-5). Council approved capital renovations for Greenville Community Hall in 2015. A new hall, as part of the new Greenville School and Community Hub, is also to be constructed in Greenville in 2016-2018. Another hall will be built in Beverly in 2016-2018 as part of the Beverly School/Community Hub and will be shared with HWDSB. Both existing halls will be revisited after the completion of the new Hubs.



The Study also recommended an assessment to determine the need for a dedicated seniors' space at Beverly Arena & Hall (R.6). No assessment was completed but a seniors' space will be incorporated into the new Beverly School and Community Hub. While the Study recommended major refurbishment of the existing Beverly Arena & Hall (R.7), the City now plans to revisit this plan after 2018 following the construction of the Hub.

Flamborough

The Study recommended the development of a stand-alone senior's centre in this community (R.9) which was completed in 2015 with the new seniors' centre at the Waterdown Library. Sealy Park Scout Hall was originally a potential location for a new seniors' centre but instead received minor capital renovations to features such as the kitchen and furnace in 2015; the City is not currently considering the removal of this site from the municipal inventory.

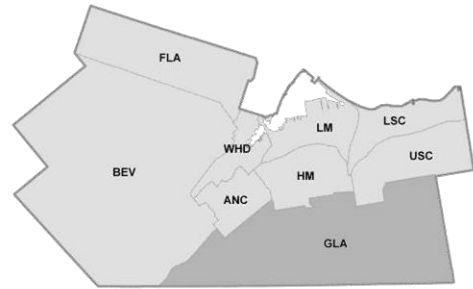


The Study also recommended that the utilization of Carlisle Arena be reassessed following the completion of Harry Howell Arena (R.8). The 2013 Internal Review of arenas suggested continued maintenance and accessibility improvements to Carlisle Arena, which are scheduled for 2019 or beyond.

The removal of Waterdown Memorial Hall (Village Theatre) from municipal inventory was also recommended (R.10), however, significant capital renovations are currently underway at this hall.

Glanbrook

The Study recommended that the municipal servicing constraints at Glanbrook Arena & Hall be resolved (R.11) and that major refurbishment may be required (including accessibility improvements identified in the 2013 Internal Review), potentially adding a multi-purpose community centre (R.13). Capital improvements to this facility were completed in 2014 and a HVAC retrofit was underway in 2015. However, no action has been taken to add a multi-purpose community centre to the facility.

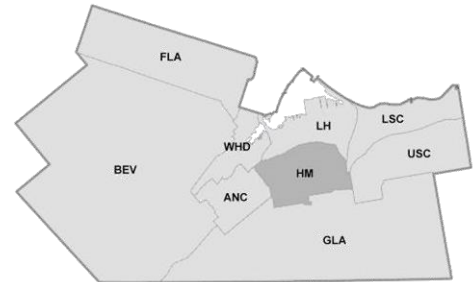


The sale and removal of Mount Hope Hall from municipal inventory was recommended following the completion of a new community centre (R.12). However, the City received a federal funding grant (CIF 150) for capital work at Mount Hope Hall, with a focus on accessibility improvements; this grant was approved by Council for the 2016-2018 timeframe.

Hamilton Mountain

The Study recommended the addition of youth and community program space and family change rooms to Sir Allan MacNab Recreation Centre (R.14). This recommendation was partially completed with family change rooms and pool office space added in 2012.

A replacement multi-purpose facility for Westmount Recreation Centre was recommended (R. 15); this project was completed in 2013, assisted by senior government funding.



The removal of Chedoke Outdoor Pool was also recommended (R.15) but the replacement of this pool with a splash pad has been postponed until at least 2020. The recommended redesign and redevelopment of Inch Park Outdoor Pool was completed in 2013 (R.17).

The Study recommended the removal of Eastmount Community Hall from municipal inventory (R.18). In 2014, minor capital renovations were completed on this facility. No plans to sell this site are currently in place.

It was recommended that the Lawfield Arena site be considered for playing fields if it was no longer required should new ice pads be developed in Stoney Creek (R.19). No new or replacement municipal ice pads have been built in Stoney Creek and thus there are currently no plans to re-purpose Lawfield Arena. The 2013 Internal Review identified a potential need for a new twin pad to serve both the Hamilton Mountain and Ancaster areas, coinciding with the removal of Spring Valley Arena from the active inventory.

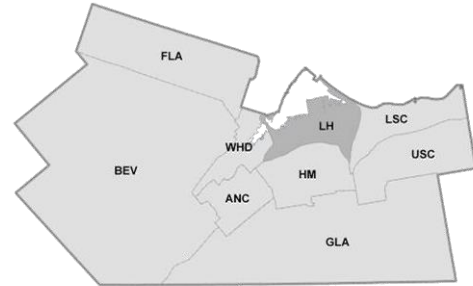
The Study highlighted that major refurbishment may be required for Sir Allan MacNab Recreation Centre (R.20) and Hill Park Recreation Centre (R.21) as they approach the end of their normal functional lifespan. At this time, no action has been taken on either facility, though studies are underway regarding: the separation of services at Hill Park Recreation Centre; and, a renovation project (both projects are identified within the City's long-term capital forecast for 2018 or beyond). The Study also recommended reassessing the need for an additional

community centre south of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway (R.22); a detailed assessment is anticipated to commence in 2016.

Lower Hamilton

The Study recommended a number of options for the Lower Hamilton community.

It was recommended that Beasley Community Centre be removed and redeveloped into a larger facility adjacent to the redeveloped public school (R.23). The New Beasley Community Centre was completed prior to 2012 but the Old Beasley Community Centre is still in use. The refurbishment and expansion of Norman Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre was recommended when the attached school closed (R.24). A multi-purpose facility was recommended with a gymnasium, indoor pool tanks, seniors' space, and other features. While the attached school has since closed, the large capital expansion at this centre was cancelled. Currently, gym expansion is proposed for 2020 or beyond.



The Study recommended the removal of Normanhurst Hall from municipal inventory (R.25). The Hall was declared surplus by the City and is currently on the market, though no acceptable offers have been received by the City to date.

It was also recommended that Rosedale Outdoor Pool be redesigned and redeveloped (R. 26); the new facility was completed and opened in 2014. The Study recommended the redesign and redevelopment of Parkdale Outdoor Pool (R.29) which is planned for 2017; minor capital works have been completed at this pool in recent years. The long-term replacement of Birge Outdoor Pool and Victoria Outdoor Pool was recommended following a detailed assessment of the function, condition, and usage of these facilities (R.36). The complete capital replacement of Birge Outdoor Pool is already underway, while capital replacement of Victoria Outdoor Pool has been incorporated into the 10 year capital plan.

The Study recommended the identification of a site for the development of a large seniors' centre in a centralized location in Lower Hamilton (R.27). Bernie Morelli Recreation & Seniors' Centre is currently in detailed design phase with tender and building permit anticipated in 2016. This facility will include a seniors' centre, leisure pool, and additional community centre components. As part of this project, Scott Park Arena has been closed (R. 28).

The 2008 study recommended the removal of Eastwood Arena and the re-purposing of the site in conjunction with waterfront redevelopment (R.30); this was also supported by the 2013 Internal Review. Currently the arena is being used by Skate the Dream and also offers bike storage in the shoulder season and football storage in the summer. Freon upgrades are proposed for 2018 and there is no interest in removing the arena at this time. It is being considered as a possible location for an indoor/outdoor skate park.

Pat Quinn Parkdale Arena is also approaching its normal functional lifespan and the Study recommended that major refurbishment may be required and that the need for this facility should be assessed after 2021 (R.34). Currently, except for Freon upgrades proposed for 2017, no other renovations are in the 10-year capital plan for Parkdale Arena.

The addition of a dedicated seniors', youth, and program space and pool renovations were recommended for Sir Winston Churchill Recreation Centre (R.31) and this project has been placed in the City's long-term capital forecast for 2021 or beyond.

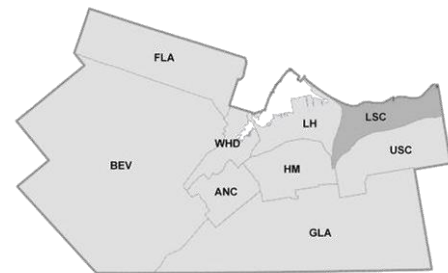
As Ryerson Recreation Centre will be approaching its normal functional lifespan by 2021, the Study recommended major refurbishment (R.32); this is currently proposed for 2018 or beyond.

The Study recommended that the City seek opportunities to establish dedicated seniors' space, youth space, and program space at Bennetto Recreation Centre (R.33). At this time, no action has been taken, but this project has been placed in the City's long-term capital forecast.

The Study also recommended that major refurbishment may be required for Central Memorial Recreation Centre and that the need for this centre should be reassessed beyond 2021 (R.35). Capital replacements of mechanical systems were completed in 2014.

Lower Stoney Creek

It was recommended that a study be completed to identify and assess the provision of community centre space in Lower Stoney Creek to meet gaps in program opportunities, seniors' space, and arenas (R.37). A number of options were put forward including building a large multi-use centre near the downtown core of Lower Stoney Creek (preferred) or re-purposing existing facilities, though existing sites were considered insufficient for meeting long-term needs. A new recreation centre in Lower Stoney Creek was completed in 2013, which included a new aquatic centre and program space.



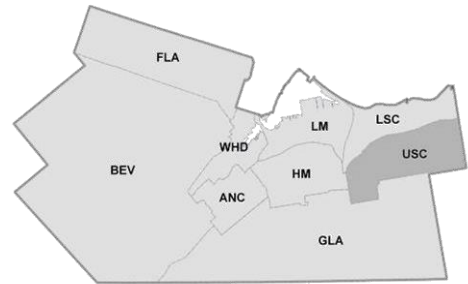
The 2008 Study identified a need for one additional ice pad in the short-term and another in the long-term. A private triple pad ice arena (Gateway Ice Centre) opened in 2013 and has filled this need, while also drawing a number of community rentals away from the City's nearby rinks. The 2013 Internal Review recommended that Saltfleet Arena be closed or repurposed and that the City explore opportunities for partnering with private arenas in the vicinity, and that Stoney Creek Arena be renewed (accessibility improvements, change room expansion, etc.) between 2018-2021. Both Stoney Creek and Saltfleet Arenas remain open and are not currently identified for renewal in the City's long-term capital plan.

Appeals of planning decisions in the Fruitland-Winona area have contributed to delays in securing a permanent site for a community centre. To address space needs in this growing area, the City purchased a school (as well as a former church) and Council approved renovations to convert it into a community centre. This site was purchased as a temporary community space with the strategic intent to sell in order to finance the new recreation centre proposed for the Fruitland-Winona Secondary Plan Community Park. Once complete, a high-level review of all recreation facilities in this community is considered for late 2016.

Although not recommended in the 2008 Study, upgrades to the gymnasium within Sir Wilfred Laurier Recreation Centre are included in the City's long-term capital forecast for 2018 or beyond.

Upper Stoney Creek

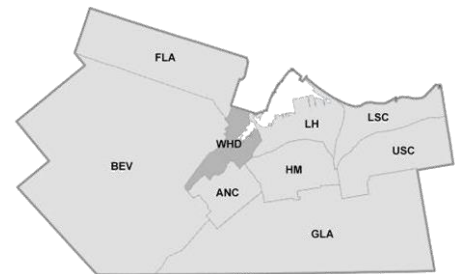
A number of recommendations were made for Upper Stoney Creek including: securing land for the provision of a large multi-use community centre (containing ice pads, an aquatic centre, gymnasium, youth and seniors' space, etc.); seeking opportunities to establish dedicated seniors' space, youth space, program space, and expanded library space at Valley Park Community Centre; considering the development of an outdoor pool if needed; and refurbishing the Valley Park indoor pool (R.45-49). The 2013 Internal Review also found long-term demand for a twin pad.



At this time, no actions have been taken, though most of the recommendations were set for beyond 2021, to be driven by future population growth. Staff have noted that some space may be made available for seniors' and youth spaces at Valley Park Recreation Centre after the new library is constructed (2018-2020).

West Hamilton / Dundas

For this community, a replacement community centre was recommended for Dalewood Recreation Centre (R.50). The plans to construct a new facility at Dalewood were cancelled due to lack of funding. At this time, capital renovations are underway at Dalewood to refurbish the mechanical system, roof, and pool, as well as completely replace the change rooms. This work is in collaboration with HWDSB as it is a joint facility.



The Study recommended the removal of Nigel Charlong Hall from the municipal inventory (R.51). A feasibility study is underway regarding the development of a pavilion at the soccer field. The removal of the hall will be revisited following the completion of the feasibility study.

The 2008 Study recommended selling J.L. Grightmire Arena (R.53), however, at this time, there is no interest in disposing of this property. In fact, this facility was recently upgraded in 2014 and further renovations are underway (new change rooms, improved accessibility, and other features); additional funding will be required to complete the full scope of renovations. Given the degree of public interest in maintaining this facility, the 2013 Internal Review supported the renovations.

The Study recommended seeking opportunities to re-purpose Coronation Arena and Outdoor Pool (R. 54). Coronation Outdoor Pool was redeveloped in 2012 and there is no interest at this time to remove the Arena. The 2013 Internal Review supported its continued operation.

The 2008 Study recommended that Olympic (Westoby) Arena be redeveloped into a twin pad facility to replace other arenas that were recommended for closure (R.52). However, no action was taken as the site may not be suitable for twinning due to it being a former landfill site, the ESA abutting the property, and its proximity to floodplain lands. Federally-funded roof renovations and City-funded parking lot renovations are currently in the planning stages. The 2013 Internal Review suggested the arena's eventual closure or re-purposing, as the area is well served with ice pads.

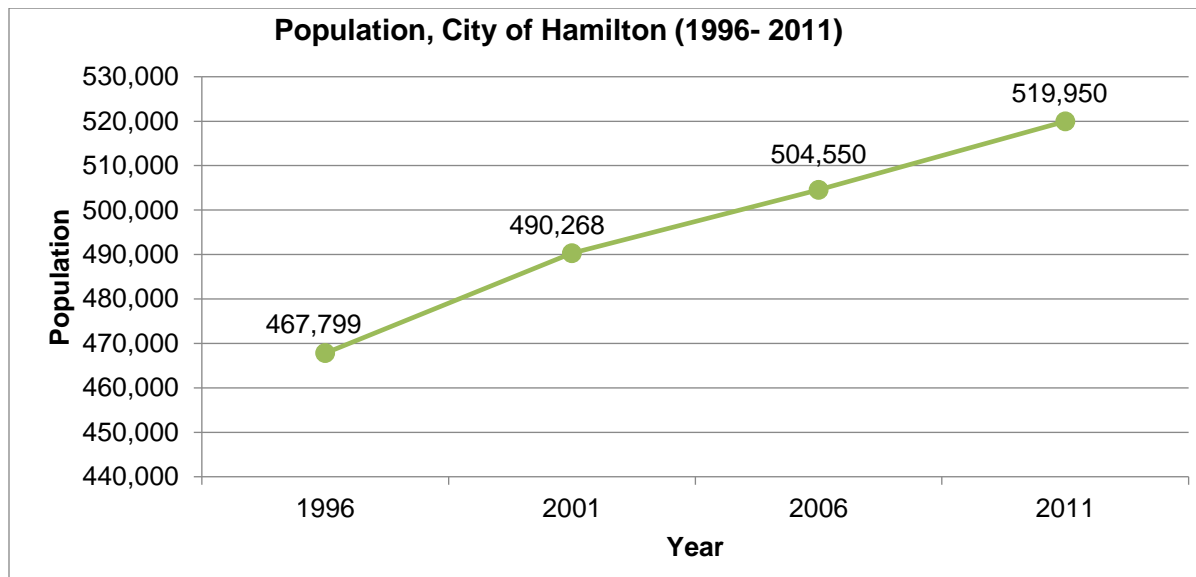
Section 3: Community Profile & Trends

3.1 Updated Community Profile

This section outlines the demographic features of the City of Hamilton and its various communities to develop a more complete picture of local needs and changes since the 2008 Study was prepared. In keeping with the 2008 Study, the City has been divided into nine distinct planning areas: Ancaster, Beverly, Flamborough, Glanbrook, Hamilton Mountain, Lower Hamilton, Lower Stoney Creek, Upper Stoney Creek, and West Hamilton / Dundas. The information presented here is based on the Statistics Canada Census and National Household Survey (NHS), most notably data collected in 2011, which is more recent than the 2008 Study. Please note that with the elimination of the mandatory long form survey in 2011, NHS data can provide estimates but is less accurate than previous censuses¹; the Government of Canada reinstated the mandatory long-form census in 2016.

Population

The Census reported that Hamilton's population reached 519,949 in 2011, an increase of 6.1% since 2001, making it one of Ontario's largest cities. The City covers 1,117.23 km² with a population density of 465.4/ km². The chart below shows steady population growth since 1996.



Source: Statistics Canada Census Data 1996, 2001, 2006, & 2011 (excluding undercount).

Statistics Canada estimates that the population of the City of Hamilton was **556,359** as of July 1, 2015; this figure has been adjusted to account for 3% census net undercoverage and is considered to be a reliable estimate for the purposes of this planning exercise. Adjusting for

¹ The National Household Survey was a voluntary, self-administered survey conducted for the first time in 2011 as a replacement for the long census questionnaire. Due to the survey methodology, the City of Hamilton data has a global non-response rate of 29% which may affect data quality.

undercoverage, this suggests that the City grew by nearly 31,000 persons since the 2008 Study was completed, a growth of 6%.

While Hamilton has experienced steady growth over the past few decades, this growth is experienced differently throughout the city. The following table summarizes growth projections from the original 2008 Study, along with recorded growth from the 2011 Census. What this shows is that while some areas, such as Glanbrook and Hamilton Mountain, grew faster than expected, other areas did not keep pace with the projections in the 2008 Study, most notably: Lower Hamilton, West Hamilton/Dundas, and Lower Stoney Creek. Slower than expected population growth may be due to a number of reasons, particularly broader market forces and an economic slowdown in the intervening years between the 2006 and 2011 censuses.

Population by Planning Area, 2006 & 2011: A Comparison

Planning Area	2006 Census	2011 Projection from 2008 Study	2011 Census	Difference 2008 Projection and 2011 Census
Ancaster	29,230	33,251	32,917	-334
Beverly	17,675	18,717	17,634	-1,083
Flamborough	23,340	23,594	24,249	655
Glanbrook*	13,729	15,782	20,077	4,295
Hamilton Mountain*	151,171	151,817	154,799	2,982
Lower Hamilton	133,855	139,972	132,253	-7,719
Lower Stoney Creek	75,585	81,025	77,460	-3,565
Upper Stoney Creek	20,470	23,295	21,128	-2,167
West Hamilton/Dundas	39,415	43,927	39,432	-4,495
TOTAL	504,470	531,381	519,950	-11,431

Source: Statistics Canada Census Tract Level Data 2006 & 2011 (excluding undercount). City of Hamilton, Indoor Recreation Facilities Study, 2008.

*A portion of Census Tracts 101.01 and 101.02 are shared between Hamilton Mountain and Glanbrook. The figures used in this table have been adjusted to align with the community boundaries established in the 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study.

The City has experienced positive population growth since 2011. Specific areas of growth have not been documented in this Phase 1 Report as geo-based population estimates are not currently available, but should become available through the 2016 Census in early 2017. The location of recent and short-term growth areas should be a focus of further analysis.

The City's official population forecasts remain those created through Growth Related Integrated Development Strategy (GRIDS), initially prepared in 2003 based on 2001 Census data. These forecasts were used extensively in the 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study. The City's Planning Division has indicated that a process will be initiated shortly to update the GRIDS forecasts, though the new datasets may not be available until 2017 at the earliest.

The following table summarizes growth projections for Hamilton's planning areas through to 2031 based on the GRIDS figures presented in the 2008 Study. This data suggests that Upper Stoney Creek, Flamborough, and Glanbrook are projected to grow the fastest over this time period, by 242%, 56%, and 44%, respectively, due to anticipated housing development in those areas.

Population Projections by Planning Area (2011-2031)

Planning Area	2011 Census	2031 Projection	2011-2031 Forecasted Growth	2011-2031 Forecasted Change
Ancaster	32,917	39,042	6,125	18.6%
Beverly	17,634	19,527	1,893	10.7%
Flamborough	24,249	37,771	13,522	55.8%
Glanbrook*	20,077	28,985	8,908	44.4%
Hamilton Mountain*	154,799	167,065	12,266	7.9%
Lower Hamilton	132,253	155,001	22,748	17.2%
Lower Stoney Creek	77,460	95,233	17,773	22.9%
Upper Stoney Creek	21,128	72,336	51,208	242.4%
West Hamilton/Dundas	39,432	45,229	5,797	14.7%
TOTAL	519,950	660,190	140,240	27.0%

Sources: 2011 data: Statistics Canada Census Tract Level data, 2006 & 2011 (excluding undercount).
2031 Projection: City of Hamilton, 2007 (GRIDS) / Indoor Recreation Facilities Study, 2008.

* A portion of Census Tracts 101.01 and 101.02 are shared between Hamilton Mountain and Glanbrook. The figures used in this table have been adjusted to align with the community boundaries established in the 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study.

It bears noting that the 2013 Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe modified the 2031 population forecast for the City of Hamilton upward from 660,000 to 680,000 (and 780,000 in 2041). This latest data suggests that the City is poised to grow slightly faster than previously forecasted.

Age Composition

Age is an important factor for planning indoor recreation facilities. Meeting the diverse needs of families with children and aging populations is a primary concern for many. Younger populations tend to frequent recreation facilities at a higher rate and prioritize programs for children and youth, while older populations may favour more passive forms of recreational activities and flexible schedules. Overall, the Canadian population is aging as the baby boom generation enters their senior years. The following table shows the slowly rising median age in Hamilton and Ontario between 2001 and 2011.

Median Age, City of Hamilton (2001-2011)

Location	2001	2006	2011
Hamilton	37.6	39.6	40.9
Ontario	37.2	39.0	40.4

Source: Statistics Canada Census Data 2001, 2006, & 2011 (excluding undercount).

Due to overall slower than expected growth, some age groups did not achieve the level of growth that was forecasted in the 2008 Study, although the 0 to 9 and 10 to 19 cohorts were very close. The following table provides more detail on population changes within each cohort and differences between 2011 projections and 2011 Census data.

Population by Age, City of Hamilton, 2006 & 2011: A Comparison

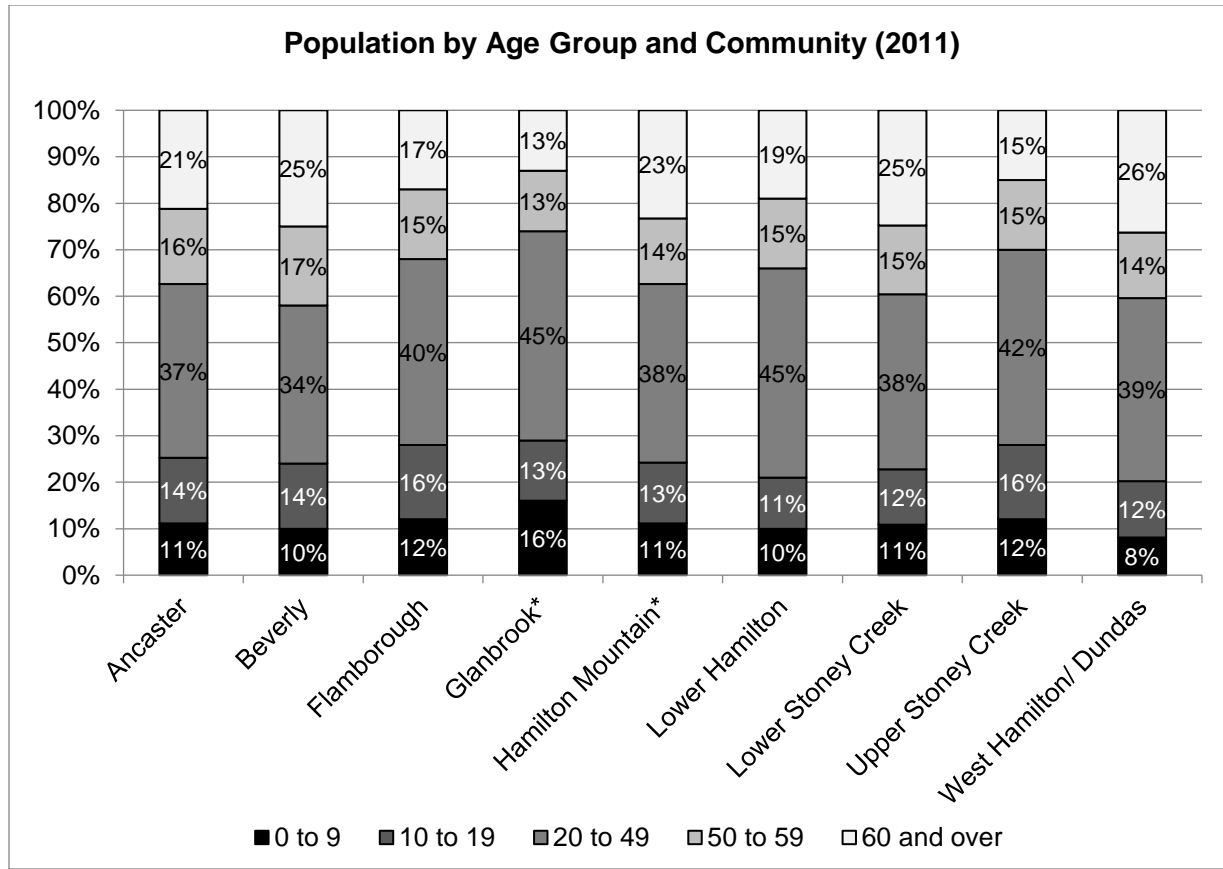
Age Group	2006 Census	2011 Census	2006-2011 Change	2011 Projection from 2008 Study	Difference 2008 Projection and 2011 Census
0 to 9	56,388	55,425	-1.7%	56,216	-791
10 to 19	68,441	66,490	-2.9%	65,682	808
20 to 49	212,243	209,345	-1.4%	214,051	-4,706
50 to 59	67,952	76,305	12.3%	78,803	-2,498
60 and over	99,446	112,385	13.0%	116,627	-4,242
TOTAL	504,470	519,950	3.1%	531,381	-11,431

Sources: Statistics Canada Census Data, 2006 & 2011 (excluding undercount). City of Hamilton, Indoor Recreation Facilities Study, 2008.

“Hamilton’s Plan for an Age-Friendly City” notes that the number of older adults and seniors in the City is projected to double in the next two decades. The previous table reflects this trend. Between 2006 and 2011, the number of residents aged 0 to 49 decreased while the number of residents aged 50 and over increased dramatically (12.7%). Statistics Canada estimates for 2015 suggest similar rates of growth for older adults and seniors, while the size of the 10-19 age group has declined every year since 2004, with the most notable declines being seen since 2010.

In considering indoor recreation facilities for older adults, research has indicated that the needs and expectations of emerging older adults (who are expected to be healthier and more active than previous generations) may be very different than past generations. For some, “seniors” programs or facilities may appear unattractive because they may not yet identify as “seniors”. Many older adults continue to be engaged, active, and working later than other generations. For others, there may be barriers to accessing indoor recreation facilities and programs due to health challenges and disabilities.

The following chart also shows how age distributions varied between planning areas in 2011.



Source: Statistics Canada Census Tract Level data, 2011 (excluding undercount).

* A portion of Census Tracts 101.01 and 101.02 are shared between Hamilton Mountain and Glanbrook. The figures used in this table have been adjusted to align with the community boundaries established in the 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study.

There are currently no official age cohort-based population projections for the City of Hamilton. In the absence of City-created forecasts, the projections prepared by the Ontario Ministry of Finance are reasonable indicators of age-based population changes. As shown in the table below, the proportion of children and youth living in Hamilton are projected to remain relatively stable over the next 20+ years. The proportion of residents ages 60 and over are expected to increase substantially to 2031, largely at the expense of the younger and middle-age adults. As these figures illustrate proportionality and the City's overall population is expected to grow, it is possible that all ages may still see positive growth over the long-term.

Projections by Age Group, Proportion of City of Hamilton Population, 2016-2041

Age Group	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
0 to 9	10%	10%	11%	10%	10%	10%
10 to 19	11%	11%	10%	10%	11%	11%
20 to 49	40%	39%	38%	38%	37%	36%
50 to 59	15%	14%	12%	12%	12%	12%
60 and over	23%	26%	29%	30%	31%	31%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: Ontario Ministry of Finance, Ontario Population Projections, 2013–2041 (2014).

Household Composition

Families with or without children may have different needs for programs and facilities. The 2011 Census counted 144,125 families living in private households, 45% of which have children living at home. Families with a range of age groups living under the same roof may require more diverse recreation options in their neighbourhood to meet their needs.

Furthermore, as the following table demonstrates, Hamilton (18.9%) had a higher proportion of lone-parent families than the Ontario average (16.7%) and this percentage has increased slightly since 2006. Lone-parent families may face additional barriers to accessing indoor recreation facilities such as reliance on a single income or need for additional childcare.

Household Type, City of Hamilton (2006-2011)

Household type	2006		2011	
	#	%	#	%
Couple families	115,720	82.2%	116,905	81.1%
Lone-parent families	25,085	17.8%	27,215	18.9%
All families	140,805	100%	144,125	100%

Source: Statistics Canada Census Data 2006 & 2011 (excluding undercount).

Diversity and Language

The City of Hamilton is a diverse community. Different cultures value recreation differently, or may be interested in non-traditional recreational activities. As of 2011, 24.5% of residents were born outside of Canada, a slight decrease from 2006, indicating a large but relatively stable immigrant population. 58% of Hamiltonians born outside of Canada immigrated prior to 1990, 78% prior to 2000. Furthermore, 16% of residents identify as a visible minority.

Immigration, City of Hamilton (2006-2011)

Population	2006		2011	
	#	%	#	%
Non-Immigrants	366,315	73.6%	380,090	74.6%
Immigrants	126,485	25.4%	125,010	24.5%
Non-permanent residents	4,595	0.9%	4,530	0.9%

Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006 & National Household Survey 2011 (excluding undercount).

The following table shows how Hamilton's diversity is also reflected in reported first languages. In 2011, 118,420 residents, or 23% of Hamiltonians, reported that their mother tongue was not English or French, a slight reduction from 2006.

First Languages, City of Hamilton (2006-2011)

Language	2006		2011	
	#	%	#	%
English	363,115	73.0%	378,590	73.8%
French	6,410	1.3%	6,765	1.3%
Non-official languages	127,045	25.5%	118,420	23.1%
English and French	820	0.2%	1055	0.2%
English/French and non-official language ²	n/a	n/a	8345	1.6%

Source: Statistics Canada Census Data 2006 & 2011 (excluding undercount).

The following table shows that since 2006, there has been a slight decrease in the percentage of Hamiltonians who most often speak English at home, but a rise in the percentage who speak multiple languages at home.

Languages Most Often Spoken at Home, City of Hamilton (2006-2011)

Spoken most often at home	2006		2011	
	#	%	#	%
English	423,205	85.1%	431,670	84.1%
French	1,840	0.4%	2,245	0.4%
Non-official languages	62,325	12.5%	60,180	11.7%
Multiple languages	10,020	2.0%	19,075	3.7%

Source: Statistics Canada Census Data 2006 & 2011 (excluding undercount).

Income

Research shows that higher levels of income are associated with higher levels of participation in recreational activities. For lower-income households, costs associated with transportation, user fees, and equipment may pose barriers to participation.

Median Income, City of Hamilton & Ontario (2005-2010)

Population	2005	2010
Hamilton	\$66,915	\$60,259
Ontario	\$59,377	\$66,358

Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006 & National Household Survey 2011.

In 2010, Hamilton's median income was lower than the provincial median income and fell between 2005 and 2010. Hamilton also had a lower labour force participation rate than Ontario in general and a slightly higher unemployment rate. Since 2006, labour force participation has shrunk slightly but the unemployment rate has also decreased.

² The 2006 and 2011 Censuses collected language information slightly differently. The 2011 Census collected information on multiple first languages (English and/or French plus non-official language), while the 2006 Census only collected information on those who spoke English and French, and absorbed multiple responses into Other Language(s).

Labour Force Participation and Unemployment, City of Hamilton & Ontario (2006-2015)

Employment	2006		2011		Dec 2015	
	Hamilton	Ontario	Hamilton	Ontario	Hamilton	Ontario
Participation Rate	64.7%	67.1%	62.8%	65.5%	63.2	65.2%
Unemployment Rate	6.5%	6.4	8.7%	8.3%	5.4%	6.7%

Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006, National Household Survey 2011, Labour Force Survey 2015.

Studies have identified a number of barriers that low-income families face in accessing recreation opportunities including: lack of awareness of programs, parental mistrust, lack of knowledge on the importance of recreation, lack of transportation, unaffordable user fees, stigmatizing subsidy processes, transportation costs, equipment costs, and lack of places for both informal and structured recreation. The proportion of households considered low income was higher in 2011 than 2006 throughout Ontario³. The proportion of households considered low income in Hamilton (15.7%) continues to be higher than the Ontario average (13.9%).

Education

Education is strongly correlated with income and past research has shown that higher levels of education are correlated with increased participation in recreational activities. Compared to the Ontario average, Hamilton has a greater percentage of residents without any certificate, diploma, or degree, and a lower percentage of residents with postsecondary education. The following table summarizes educational attainment in Hamilton compared to Ontario averages. Between 2006 and 2011, Hamilton saw a 3% increase in the number of residents with postsecondary certificates, diplomas, or degrees (the Ontario average increased by 4%).

Educational Attainment, City of Hamilton & Ontario (2006-2011)

Education	2006		2011	
	Hamilton	Ontario	Hamilton	Ontario
No certificate, diploma, or degree	25%	22%	22%	19%
High school diploma or equivalent	27%	27%	27%	27%
Postsecondary certificate, diploma, or degree	48%	51%	51%	55%

Source: Statistics Canada National Household Survey 2011. *Totals may not add due to rounding.

Modes of transportation

How residents move around the city plays an important role in understanding their access to recreational facilities and their willingness to travel. Presently, a higher percentage of Hamiltonians drive than the provincial average. Since 2006, there has been a small increase in transit usage but no change in car travel and a small decrease in walking and biking.

³ Note: Statistics Canada changed its methodology for calculating low income between 2006 and 2011. The 2006 Census uses the Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) measure which indicates the proportion of households spending 63.6% or more of its income on food, shelter, and clothing. The 2011 NHS uses the Low Income Measure (LIM-AT) which indicates the proportion of households making less than half the median income after tax. Because of this, the figures are not directly comparable.

Transportation Modes, City of Hamilton & Ontario (2006-2011)

Mode	2006		2011	
	Hamilton	Ontario	Hamilton	Ontario
Private vehicle	83.5%	79.2%	83.5%	78.6%
Transit	9.3%	12.9%	9.9%	14.0%
Walked or biked	6.3%	6.8%	5.7%	6.3%
Other methods	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%	1.1%

Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006 & National Household Survey 2011(excluding undercount).

“Our Future Hamilton” reports that residents want active transportation to be prioritized in neighbourhood design. Easy access by walking, cycling, or public transportation can also help remove barriers to participation, especially for those who do not drive because of affordability, disability, or lifestyle preferences. The City has also recently embarked on a Light Rail Transit Initiative.

3.2 Profiles of Hamilton Planning Areas

Based on the information presented above, this section provides a more detailed account of the demographics within each of Hamilton’s planning areas. This section should be updated when new community-specific population forecasts are developed.

Ancaster

The planning area of Ancaster is located on the west side of the City of Hamilton and residents here possess high average incomes and educational attainment rates. Its population reached 32,917 residents in 2011, a growth of 3,687 residents since 2006 and slightly less than the figure projected in the 2008 Study (33,251). Based on 2007 GRIDS figures, this area is projected to be one of Hamilton’s fastest growing community’s and expected to grow by 19% between 2011 and 2031. The age distribution in this planning area is similar to the City average with slightly lower proportion of residents aged 20-49.

Beverly

A population of 18,717 was reported for the planning area of Beverly, stable since 2006 and growing slower than projected in the 2008 Study. However, 2007 GRIDS figures indicate that it is expected to grow by 11% between 2011 and 2031. This planning area has a lower percentage of residents aged 20-49 than the Hamilton averaged but a higher percentage of residents aged 50 and over.

Flamborough

Flamborough’s population grew by 909 residents between 2006 and 2011, faster than projected in the 2008 Study, reaching a population of 23,594. This planning area is projected to be one of the City’s fastest growing areas with a projected growth rate of 56% between 2011 and 2031 (2007 GRIDS figures). The proportion of residents under the age of 20 is higher than the Hamilton average and the proportion of residents ages 60 or over is lower.

Glanbrook

The planning area of Glanbrook saw faster than projected growth between 2006 and 2011. In 2011, a population of 20,077 was reported, 6,348 more residents than in 2006. 2007 GRIDS

figures project this planning area to grow by 44% between 2011 and 2031. Compared to the average age distribution of Hamilton, Glanbrook reported a higher proportion of residents aged 0 to 9 and 20 to 49, a slightly lower proportion of residents aged 50 to 59, and a significantly lower proportion of residents over the age of 60.

Hamilton Mountain

Hamilton Mountain is the City's largest planning area with a population of 154,799 in 2011. It grew faster than what was projected in the original 2008 Study, gaining 3,628 residents between 2006 and 2011. However, 2007 GRIDS growth projections suggest that this will experience the slowest growth among City of Hamilton communities over the next 15 years. Its age distribution is similar to the City average with slightly lower proportion of residents aged 20-49.

Lower Hamilton

Lower Hamilton is the City's second largest planning area with a population of 132,253 in 2011. The population shrunk by 1,602 between 2006 and 2011, contrary to growth projections published in the 2008 Study. However, between 2011 and 2031, 2007 GRIDS figures indicate that this area will grow by 17%, a relatively high rate of growth that will be boosted by high density residential developments in and around the downtown core. Lower Hamilton has a higher proportion of residents aged 20-49 year olds than the City-wide average and a lower proportion of residents 60 years of age and older.

Lower Stoney Creek

Lower Stoney Creek, located on the east side of the City, reported a population of 77,460 in 2011, 3,565 less than what was projected in the 2008 Study. However, the planning area is projected to grow by 23% between 2011 and 2031 (2007 GRIDS figures). This community has a higher proportion of residents 60 years of age or older and slightly lower proportion of residents between the ages of 20 and 49.

Upper Stoney Creek

The planning area of Upper Stoney Creek reported a population of 21,128 in 2011, 2,167 less than originally projected in the 2008 Study. 2007 GRIDS figures project dramatic growth for this area of 242% between 2011 and 2031. In 2011, this area had a much lower proportion of residents over the age of 60 than the City-wide average and slightly higher proportion of residents aged 49 and under.

West Hamilton Dundas

At 39,432 residents, the planning area of West Hamilton Dundas remained stable between 2006 and 2011, though it was projected in the 2008 Study to grow by around 4,500 residents during this time period. From 2011 to 2031, 2007 GRIDS figures suggest that this area could grow by 15%. The proportion of residents aged 0 to 19 is lower than the City average, while the proportion of residents aged 60 or over is higher.

3.3 Emerging Trends Influencing Facility Provision

The 2008 Study contained a very comprehensive review of trends and best practices relating to the provision and design of indoor recreation facilities, as well as the activity trends that are driving demand. Most of these trends continue to apply to the City moving forward, such as the need to ensure that facilities be as multi-functional and flexible as possible. The following are some specific trend areas that are worthy of revisiting and/or should be given greater emphasis in future phases of this Study.

Activity & Sport Trends

Interest in recreation activities changes with time, driven not only by trends in leisure and sport, but also by community diversity, land use patterns, and new outlooks regarding physical activity. The Indoor Recreation Facilities Study Update provides an opportunity to look to the future to anticipate emerging needs and respond in a strategic manner. For example, lack of time is consistently cited as the number one reason for not participating in recreation and leisure activities, ahead of financial or accessibility barriers. As a result, unstructured activities that are easier to fit into busy schedules are becoming more popular, sometimes at the expense of traditional team sports. Walking, group fitness, and casual play are just some of the types of self-regulated activities that are on the rise.

The popularity of sports and leisure activities also changes with time. For example, racquetball and aerobics have given way to activities such as pickleball and new forms of body weight training. Participation in several youth-oriented activities, such as organized ice sports, are beginning to decline, partially due to an aging population.

Accessibility

Technical building standards relating to the accessibility of indoor recreation facilities are largely governed by the Ontario Building Code (OBC), the City's Barrier-Free Design Guidelines, as well as the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). Several of these items have been modified or expanded since the 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study was completed and should be considered in the Study Update. In addition to the physical accessibility of built facilities, appropriate consideration should also be given to the specialized equipment needs of persons with disabilities, such as pool chair lifts, shower benches, adult change tables, and other assistive technologies that are in high demand.

The OBC is governed by the Building Code Act and applies to the construction, renovation, and change-of-use of recreation buildings, among many other classes of structures. The OBC was amended in 2013 to enhance accessibility in newly constructed buildings and existing buildings that are to be extensively renovated. Amended requirements cover a range of areas – many of which may apply to recreation infrastructure – such as elevators, power door operators, barrier-free washrooms and universal washrooms, barrier-free access to public pools and spas, and accessible and adaptable seating spaces.

The AODA came into effect in 2005 and includes mandatory accessibility standards aimed at identifying, removing, and preventing barriers for people with disabilities. The 2008 Indoor Study included the AODA and more broadly, barrier-free accessibility, as part of a strategic direction. Since the 2008 Study was completed, regulatory standards for the AODA have since been put into place. The area that is most pertinent to built infrastructure is Design of Public Spaces Standard, which establishes a set of minimum technical design requirements that apply to

several outdoor elements, such as exterior paths of travel, playgrounds, parking, etc., as well as the maintenance of accessible public spaces.

Community Hubs

A community hub is a central access point for a range of needed health and social services, along with cultural, recreational, and green spaces to nourish community life. A community hub can be a recreation centre, school, early learning centre, library, seniors' centre, community health centre, place of worship, or another public space. This concept is gaining traction across the Province as it offers tremendous social benefits, strengthens community cohesion, and fosters enhanced quality of life by providing a central location to deliver a range of services in consultation with the residents who will use them.

In 2015, the Province of Ontario published "Community Hubs in Ontario: A Strategic Framework and Action Plan" to assist in the planning and delivery of integrated hub projects. Locally, "City School" – a multi-agency partnership with locations in Hamilton's Keith and Jamesville neighbourhoods – was recently highlighted in the Province's Community Hub One Year Progress Update. The City of Hamilton is also pursuing projects in Beverly and Greensville involving community hub and school elements.

Section 37 (Bonusing) and Residential Intensification

Certain areas of the city are growing faster than others, creating new pressures and opportunities. Hamilton is beginning to experience residential intensification through the development of condo towers, reclamation of underused buildings, and infill projects. While this provides an opportunity to maximize use of existing facilities, it will also become more difficult and more costly to find room for new or expanded recreation facilities in these areas. To respond to this growth, the City must be creative with existing spaces and seek new ways of doing things.

One opportunity is Section 37 of the Ontario Planning Act, which allows municipalities to authorize increases in permitted height and/or density through the zoning by-law in return for community benefits. The benefits generally represent services, facilities, or matters that would not otherwise be provided for through the Planning Act or the Development Charges Act. In this way, they cover a variety of community services and facilities, such as recreation centres, park improvements, public art, child care, space for non-profits, affordable housing, heritage preservation, streetscapes, and many other improvements.

Although Section 37 has been in place for many years, it is a tool that has become more commonplace in large urban areas in recent times. For example, between 1998 and 2013, the City of Toronto "secured \$309 million in Section 37 cash benefits and received \$212 million in payments and accrued interest, as well as significant additional un-quantified in-kind benefits that may exceed the value of the cash contributions."⁴ Many of these Section 37 funds have been used in Toronto to undertake upgrades and expansions to community centres, pools, sports fields, parks. Further study is needed to investigate the opportunities and constraints with implementing Section 37 within a Hamilton context.

⁴ Gladki Planning Associates. Section 37 Review. City of Toronto. January 2014.

Bonusing policies are reflected in the City's Urban Official Plan (Section F.1.9), however, there have been very few (if any) instances where these policies have been applied in exchange for public benefits relative to recreation facilities in Hamilton. Going forward, Section 37 represents a significant opportunity for the City within areas of intensification.

Partnerships & Funding

There are many recreation facility providers in Hamilton, including other City divisions, non-profits (such as YMCAs), schools, private businesses, and more. To maximize investments, the City is increasingly partnering with other providers to fund, develop, and/or operate recreation facilities, such as through school and community hub developments in Beverly and Greensville. A variety of approaches will continue to be required to maximize access for residents.

In Hamilton and elsewhere, many community centres are connected to schools and/or there are agreements with school boards to provide increased access to school gymnasiums. Unfortunately, school facilities also face many of the same issues as municipal facilities, including accessibility challenges, antiquated designs, aging infrastructure, etc. There is concern that recent and proposed school closures across the province will reduce community access to recreation facilities, including gymnasiums. A number of Hamilton schools have been identified as surplus in recent years and the City has established a process for assessing these opportunities as they arise.

In many areas, there is a strong desire among residents to see new recreation facilities built and existing facilities enhanced, including barrier-free accessibility. Despite ongoing repairs and recent improvements, the capital renewal backlog is growing and priorities must be established. However, current planning processes and growth patterns can create challenges to the equitable provision of facilities. For example, development charge funding is restricted to the construction of new facilities and upgrades and cannot generally be used for facility replacement or new service levels. A continued emphasis on consistent funding levels, partnerships, and priority-setting is required.

3.4 Recent Initiatives in the City of Hamilton

Hamilton is a growing, dynamic city. With that comes the need to identify strategies and undertake initiatives that move the city forward. The following list identifies some of the more notable initiatives being carried out by the City and/or local organizations that have the potential to influence the demand for and provision of indoor recreation facilities. These and other projects may require further elaboration and investigation in future phases of the Indoor Recreation Facilities Study Update.

- Our Future Hamilton (Draft) – a 25-year Community Vision for Hamilton (summary provided at the end of this section)
- Light Rail Transit (LRT) initiative – with construction starting in 2018/19, the LRT will run from McMaster University to the Queenston Traffic Circle; this project will have dramatic impacts on the way in which people move about the city, as well as future investment areas
- West Harbour Project – as part of Hamilton's ongoing waterfront redevelopment, West Harbour is undergoing a makeover, with the potential to enhance recreational offerings in the vicinity

- Neighbourhood Action Plans – through the Neighbourhood Action Strategy, the City is working with community partners, neighbourhood groups, and residents to focus local level investment and foster partnerships that build healthier communities
- Non-municipal initiatives – the following proposals and ongoing initiatives may result in enhanced or expanded public/private recreation facilities for community use and should be monitored:
 - McMaster University is undertaking a Facility Assessment and Master Plan Study for its Athletics and Recreation Complex, which may impact indoor aquatic facilities that are heavily used by the community
 - Sport Hamilton is coordinating a Task Force that is seeking the development of a new Multi-Sport Facility potentially consisting of an indoor track and hard surface courts
 - School closures and construction projects continue to impact the availability of community recreation spaces, many of which are provided in partnership with the City
- Since the 2008 Study was developed, the City has updated a variety of datasets, such as those addressing facility condition, accessibility, and usage; these should be reviewed and incorporated into future phases of the Study Update

Our Future Hamilton (Draft)

Our Future Hamilton is a 25-year Community Vision for Hamilton that serves as an update to Vision 2020. To date, a Community Vision framework has been developed using the inputs and ideas gathered from over 54,000 residents and community stakeholders. Six themes emerged as key community priority areas, which are furthered by a number of strategic directions and signs of success that will be put into action through an implementation plan that will soon be developed. The City of Hamilton recently adopted a 2016-2015 Strategic Plan with many of these themes in mind.

This Study Update seeks to align with the Our Future Hamilton effort in a number of ways, including the following Strategic Directions:

- listening to and considering the views of all impacted stakeholders
- ensuring that each organization keeps the interests of the community in mind when making decisions
- promoting active and healthy lifestyles
- ensuring residents enjoy a high quality of life
- providing access to affordable outdoor and indoor recreation opportunities to people in all neighbourhoods
- providing sports and leisure opportunities for people across age groups, abilities, and income levels
- providing well-maintained public spaces

Public engagement through efforts such as Our Future Hamilton have indicated that residents are passionate about affordable and quality access to recreation, including spaces such as ice skating rinks, swimming pools, splash pads, and skate parks.

The six themes from Our Future Hamilton and the potential implications on indoor recreation are highlighted below.

Theme 1: Engaged & Empowered Community

Like the 2008 Study, this Update emphasizes public engagement. To understand how indoor recreation needs and opinions have changed, a number of strategies were utilized in addition to the Our Future Hamilton (draft) process, including: household surveys, stakeholder group surveys, and public information sessions.

Theme 2: Prosper & Grow

Accessible and affordable indoor recreational activities promote inclusion and participation for residents across income levels, ages, and abilities.

Theme 3: Healthy & Safe

Indoor recreation facilities are about providing opportunities for residents to achieve healthy lifestyles. They offer access to sports and leisure activities across age groups and the City works to reduce financial barriers to participation through programs such as the Recreation Fee Assistance Program.

Theme 4: Clean & Green

Indoor recreation facilities also offer an opportunity to promote the Clean and Green theme highlighted by Our Future Hamilton (draft) through using environmentally sustainable materials and technologies in new facilities, using green energy sources, and ensuring that waste is properly recycled and disposed of.

Theme 5: Built Environment & Infrastructure

Indoor recreational facilities provide safe and clean public spaces for community gathering places, hosting local groups and activities throughout the year. High quality indoor recreation facilities ensure that Hamilton residents have access to indoor sports and leisure activities.

Theme 6: Culture & Diversity

Indoor recreation facilities also serve as community hubs and must be as inclusive as possible. This may mean providing information in non-official languages when there is a large immigrant community in the area, offering programs that appeal to individuals across age groups, hosting cultural events, and building accessibility into facility design.

Section 4: Public & Stakeholder Input

As part of the Phase 1 report, the City is seeking to understand how the community's priorities may have shifted and to identify emerging issues or concerns. By re-engaging the community in a fashion similar to the 2008 Study, metrics can be established to support the study update and/or capital planning decisions. The Phase 1 consultations generated input from over 1,000 individuals and organizations through a variety of means, including a random sample household survey, a stakeholder group survey, public information sessions, Councillor interviews, and written submissions.

4.1 Random Sample Telephone Survey

Purpose

A statistically significant household telephone survey of Hamilton residents was conducted in November and December of 2015 to assess changes in resident opinion since the original survey and to identify emerging needs and trends. The survey for the 2008 Study was conducted in April and May of 2007.

Survey questions sought to identify patterns of participation in indoor recreational activities, satisfaction with indoor recreation facilities, barriers to participation, and willingness to travel. The survey also collected opinions on current facility conditions, preferences for facility types, and future priorities.

This report provides comparisons with the original survey results to identify potential changes and, where significant, correlates survey responses with geographic and demographic data to help provide a more complete picture of the Hamilton community and its recreation needs. While the survey presented here compares in many ways to the one completed in 2007, some new questions were asked to understand opinions on emerging issues. Results that show a statistically significant change from the original Study are highlighted.

Methodology

A telephone survey of 804 randomly selected households within Hamilton was conducted by Monteith Brown Planning Consultants between November 16 and December 7, 2015. To qualify, respondents were required to be 16 years of age or older and reside in the City of Hamilton.

Postal code monitoring was used to ensure geographic representation and phone numbers were randomly selected through public phone directories. Surveys were conducted during weekdays between the hours of 10am and 9pm, with most of the calls occurring between 5pm and 9pm, Monday to Thursday.

The sample size yields a confidence level of 95% with a confidence interval of $\pm 3.5\%$ (i.e. the survey provides for an accuracy of $\pm 3.5\%$, 19 times out of 20 on a City-wide level). Subsets of the sample will have a larger confidence interval, resulting in lesser reliability.

Demographics

This section of the report presents a profile of survey respondents based on responses to demographic questions. The following table summarizes average household size and gender ratios with data from the 2011 Census and 2007 household survey for comparison. Female gender bias is common in such non-controlled sample surveys.

Demographic Distribution

Demographic statistic	2015 Survey	2011 Census	2007 Survey
Average household size	2.7	2.5	3.1
Female	63%	51%	59%
Male	37%	49%	41%

The following table identifies the age distribution of respondent households with 2011 Census data and 2007 survey data for comparison.

Age Distribution

Age	2015 Survey	2011 Census	2007 Survey
under 10 years	11%	11%	13%
10 - 19 years	13%	13%	16%
20 - 34 years	11%	19%	17%
35 - 54 years	27%	29%	32%
55 and over	38%	28%	21%
Total	100%	100%	100%

- Respondents ranged from 16 to 97 years old and the average respondent was born in 1958, or 57-58 years old. The average year of birth for respondents in 2007 was 1959 indicating that this sample is older on average than the original survey.
- 33% of surveyed households contain youth under the age of 20. In 2007, 46% of surveyed households contained youth under the age of 20.
- The proportion of households surveyed with adults over the age of 55 was 17% higher in 2015 than in 2007.

The following table summarizes the location of residence of the 98% of households who provided the first three digits of their postal code.

Geographic Distribution

Community	2015 Survey	2015 (Canada Post)	2007 Survey
Ancaster	10%	6%	7%
Hamilton Mountain	26%	27%	30%
Lower Hamilton*	21%	30%	22%
Lower Stoney Creek*	15%	14%	14%
Upper Stoney Creek	3%	4%	4%
West Hamilton Dundas	12%	9%	12%
Rural	13%	10%	11%
Total	100%	100%	100%

* Note: Postal code area L8K overlaps between Lower Stoney Creek and Lower Hamilton. For the purpose of this survey, responses from L8K were split evenly between these two geographic areas.

Participation in Indoor Recreational Activities

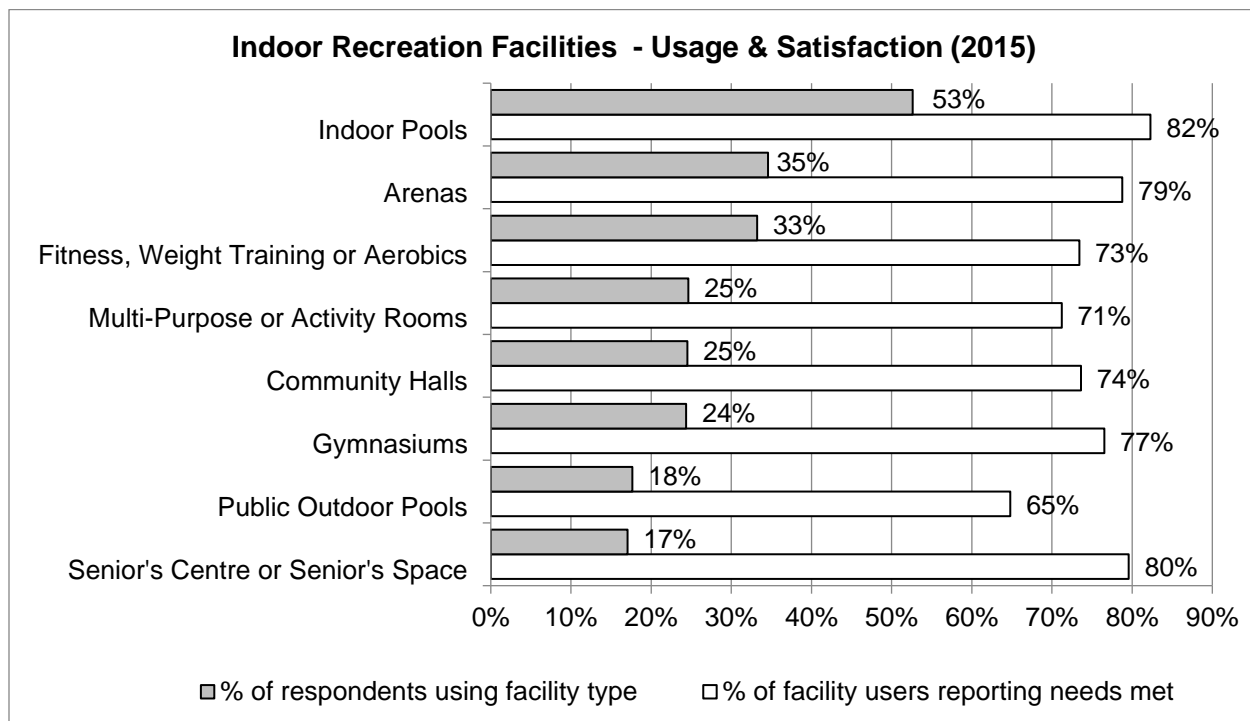
This section outlines the survey results related to the types of indoor recreation facilities that Hamilton residents use, their assessment of the facilities, and the barriers that prevent their participation in recreational activities. Respondents were asked which facilities they have used over the past two years and how well these facilities meet their needs.

In 2015, 71% of respondents reported using or visiting a public or private indoor recreation facility in Hamilton in the past two years, comparable to responses in 2007. Among those that reported using or visiting a facility in the past two years, key findings include:

- Indoor pools, arenas, and fitness, weight-training, or aerobics facilities continue to be the most used recreation facilities, with 33% or more of Hamilton households using them in the past two years.
- Respondents generally reported high levels of satisfaction across all facility types, with indoor pools (82%), arenas (79%), and seniors' centres or seniors' spaces (80%) receiving the highest reported levels of satisfaction.
- Public outdoor pools received the lowest levels of satisfaction (65%).

Note: The original survey included the following response options: stadiums, YMCAs, indoor sports fields, indoor racket sport facilities, Boys & Girls Clubs, and indoor bocce courts. These were not included in the 2015 survey. Public outdoor pools were included in 2015 but not 2007.

The following chart summarizes the percentage of respondents who reported using each facility type in the past two years and how well these facilities met the needs of their household:



* "Don't know" responses have been excluded.

The following table summarizes the top three most commonly used facilities by community:

Most Commonly Used Facilities by Community

Community	1st	2nd	3rd
Ancaster	Indoor pools	Arenas	Fitness/weight-training
Hamilton Mountain	Indoor pools	Fitness/weight-training	Arenas
Lower Hamilton	Indoor pools	Fitness/weight-training	Arenas
Lower Stoney Creek	Indoor pools	Arenas	Fitness/weight-training
Upper Stoney Creek	Indoor pools	Fitness/weight-training	Gymnasiums
West Hamilton Dundas	Indoor pools	Community halls	Arenas
Rural	Indoor pools	Arenas	Fitness/weight-training
City-wide	Indoor pools	Arenas	Fitness/weight-training

Significant findings relative to survey subsets include the following:

- 82% of respondents 55 years of age and under reported using an indoor recreation facility in the past two years. Respondents over the age of 55 were significantly less likely to report using indoor recreation facilities in the past two years (63%). However, respondents over the age of 55 reported higher levels of satisfaction with indoor recreation facilities.
- Households with children were significantly more likely to have used indoor recreation facilities in the past two years (88%) than households without children (63%). However, frequency of use was similar between these two groups, as was reported ability to participate in recreational activities.
- 8% more respondents reported using seniors' centres or seniors' spaces than in 2007.
- On average, women were more satisfied with seniors' centres and seniors' spaces than men.

The following table summarizes the frequency of visits to an indoor recreation facility by Hamilton households. Responses were comparable to 2007 results:

Frequency of Use

Frequency of use (visits per year)	2015 Survey	2007 Survey
< 6 times	16%	16%
7-12 times	10%	10%
13-24 times	10%	13%
25+	62%	61%
Don't know	2%	n/a
Total	100%	100%

Significant findings relative to survey subsets based on frequency of use include:

- Less frequent users (24 times a year or less) were more likely to report a lack of personal time as the main barrier to participating in indoor recreation facilities as often as they would like.
- Respondents who identified Ancaster as their place of residence were more likely to be frequent users of indoor recreation facilities (25 times a year or more).

As in 2007, 56% of households reported that they or members of their household were able to participate in recreation activities as often as they would like. Of the 43% who indicated that they were not able, the following chart summarizes reported barriers to participation:

Barriers to Participating in Indoor Recreation

Barrier	2015 Survey	2007 Survey
Lack of personal time/Too busy	39%	59%
Health problems/Disability/Age	23%	18%
Program not offered at convenient time	10%	6%
Lack of desired facilities or programs	8%	5%
Lack of transportation/Facility too far away	7%	4%
Lack of money/Too expensive	5%	5%
Lack of information/Unaware of opportunities	1%	0%
Language or cultural barrier	0%	0%
Other (specify)	5%	3%
Don't Know	0%	1%
Total	98%*	100%

* Totals do not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Significant findings related to barriers to participating in recreational activities include:

- The age distribution of respondents who reported barriers to participation was similar to those who reported no barriers. The average age for both groups was 56 to 58.
- Compared to 2007, 20% fewer respondents reported that a lack of personal time or being too busy was a barrier to participating in recreational activities. Changes in other reported barriers were not statistically significant.
- Households with children were more likely to report that a lack of personal time/being too busy was a barrier to participating in indoor recreational activities.
- For respondents who felt that desired facilities or programs were not available to them, a number of options were cited including: seniors' facilities, adult daytime or drop-in programs, programs for children and youth, futsal, dodgeball, pickleball, and childcare options.
- Households that had not visited an indoor recreation facility in the past two years were more likely to report that health problems, disability, or age prevented them from participating. Facility users were more likely to report lack of personal time/being too busy, or inconvenient program times as barriers to participating in indoor recreation facilities as often as they would like.

Respondents were asked to report approximately how many minutes they would be willing to travel to certain types of recreation facilities. Across all facility types, 61% to 71% of respondents reported not being willing to travel more than 15 minutes. 93% to 98% of respondents are not willing to travel more than 30 minutes. Similar results were reported in 2007 as reflected in the following table:

Distance Willing to Travel (minutes)

Facility type	2015 Survey			2007 Survey		
	0-15 min	16-30 min	31+ min	0-15 min	16-30 min	31+ min
Arena	61%	32%	7%	58%	35%	7%
Seniors' Centres	63%	33%	4%	64%	33%	3%
Community Hall	62%	33%	4%	55%	40%	5%
Fitness/Weight-training	70%	29%	4%	73%	25%	3%
Gymnasium	71%	27%	2%	72%	18%	3%
Indoor Pool	71%	28%	2%	72%	25%	3%

* The percentage of respondents who indicated that they "don't know" or "don't use" these facilities have been excluded.

On average, respondents are willing to travel a maximum of:

- 19 minutes to an arena, seniors' centre, or community hall; and
- 17 minutes to a fitness, weight-training, or aerobics facility, gymnasium, or indoor pool.

The following table summarizes the average maximum number of minutes respondents were willing to travel to each facility type:

Average Maximum Travel Time (minutes)

Facility type	2015 Survey	2007 Survey
Indoor Pool	16.88	17.17
Gymnasium	17.20	17.36
Fitness/Weight-training	17.49	16.90
Community Hall	18.90	20.93
Seniors' Centres	18.94	19.14
Arena	19.32	20.15

Key findings among user groups include:

- Frequent users of indoor recreation facilities are willing to travel longer to access facilities – on average almost two minutes longer.
- Respondents from rural areas are willing to travel the longest to get to an indoor recreation facility – up to 20 minutes on average.
- Respondents from Lower Stoney Creek are willing to travel the shortest amount of time – on average, just under 17 minutes maximum for any indoor recreation facility.

Future Directions & Priorities

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement toward various statements related to facility provision and future funding priorities for the City. The following chart summarizes responses. Statements in bold indicate they appeared on surveys in both 2007 and 2015.

Opinion on Facility Provision and Future Funding Priorities

Statement	Agree	Disagree
The City's indoor recreation facilities are clean and well-maintained.	74%	7%
The City's indoor recreation facilities provide good value for your tax dollars.	74%	9%
Upgrades to existing indoor recreation facilities should be a high priority for City Council.	67%	11%
The development of new indoor recreation facilities should be a high priority for City Council.	61%	15%
For facilities that are not well used, the City would be better off to transfer this funding to enhance other facilities within the same area.	66%	15%
It is easy to find and recognize the City's indoor recreation facilities in your community.	63%	16%
The City does a good job of informing the community about its indoor recreation facilities and programs.	51%	22%
Indoor recreation facilities are distributed equitably across the entire City of Hamilton.	49%	27%

* The percentage of respondents who indicated that they are "neutral" or "don't know" on specific statements have been excluded.

Specific findings and correlations related to these statements include:

- Compared with responses from 2007, 8% fewer respondents agreed with the statement: "The City does a good job of informing the community about its indoor recreation facilities and programs".
- Households with children reported higher levels of agreement with the statement: "Indoor recreation facilities are distributed equitably across the entire City of Hamilton" than households without children.
- On average, respondents who did not use indoor recreation facilities reported lower agreement with the statement: "Indoor recreation facilities are distributed equitably across the entire City of Hamilton".
- Respondents who reported barriers to participating in indoor recreational activities were less likely to agree with the statement: "It is easy to find and recognize the City's indoor recreation facilities in your community".

To determine preferences for the size and scope of future indoor recreation facilities, respondents were asked to indicate which of the following options they preferred:

1. The City should provide fewer, but larger recreation facilities that offer a wide range of activities; or
2. The City should provide more, but smaller recreation facilities that offer a narrow range of activities.

In regards to facility preference, this survey found a number of differences among demographic groups:

- Overall, 50% of respondents preferred “fewer, but larger recreation facilities that offer a wide range of activities”, while 43% preferred “more, but smaller recreation facilities that offer a narrow range of activities”. (8% could not decide on either of these options.) From 2007, this represents an increase of 8% in respondents preferring larger, multi-purpose facilities.
- While households without children were evenly divided in preference of facility size (46% vs. 46%), households with children strongly preferred fewer, but larger recreation facilities (58% vs. 36%).
- Respondents 55 years of age and younger indicated a stronger preference for fewer, but larger recreation facilities. Respondents over the age of 55 were more likely to prefer more, but smaller facilities.
- Respondents living in the Hamilton Mountain area were more likely to prefer fewer, but larger indoor recreation facilities.

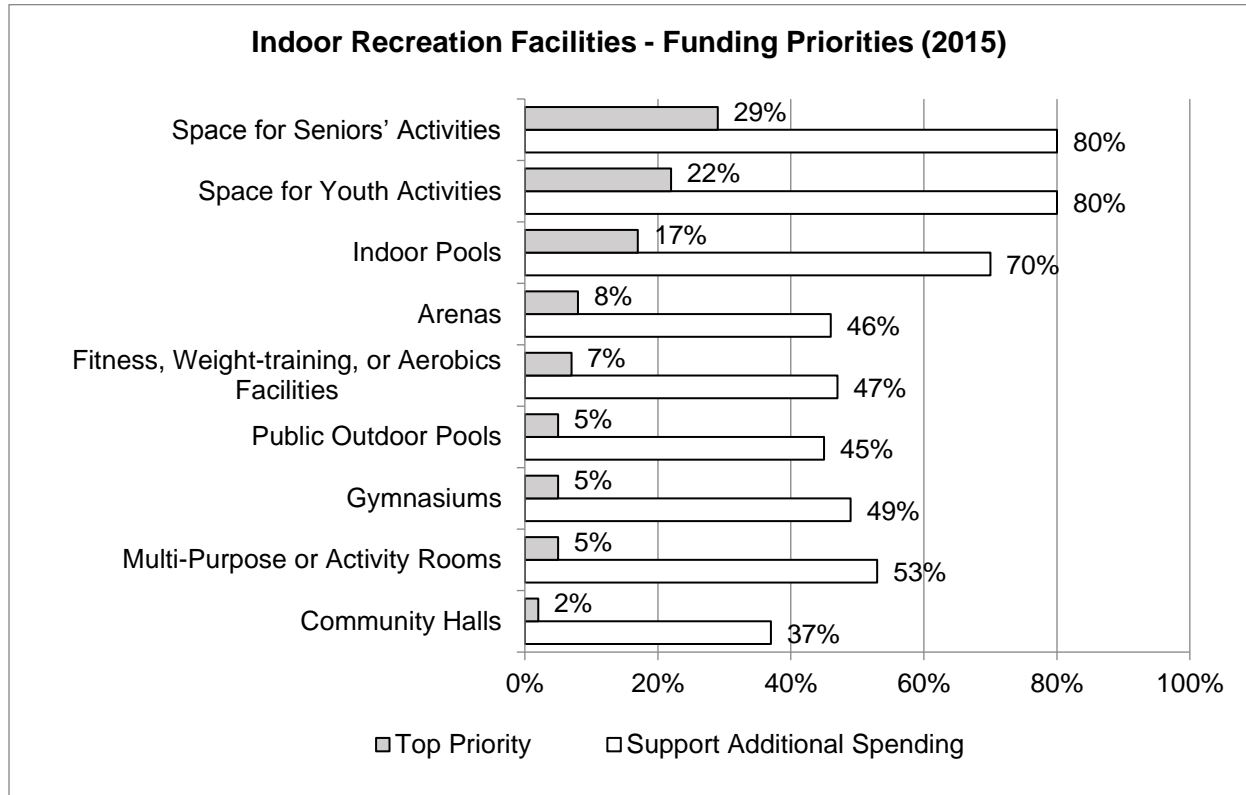
Respondents were also asked to indicate their preference for pool design by indicating which of the following two options they preferred:

1. A traditional rectangular design primarily for lane swimming, lessons, and aquatic clubs; or
2. A leisure design with a slide and other features that would be primarily for recreational swimming and swim lessons.

Though preference for pool design was almost evenly split, some demographic differences were noted:

- Overall, 44% of respondents reported that they preferred a leisure design, while 40% reported that they preferred a traditional rectangular design. 9% indicated they would prefer both, while 7% could not decide on either option.
- Respondents 55 years of age or under and those belonging to households with children preferred a leisure pool design.
- Respondents who preferred larger facilities also preferred a leisure pool design.

Respondents were asked to what degree they opposed or supported the spending of additional public funds on a variety of indoor recreation facilities in Hamilton. They were also asked to identify which two facilities were most needed in their community. The following chart summarizes overall preferences for additional funding as well as which facilities were prioritized highest by respondents.



Key findings include:

- Respondents continue to support additional public spending on space for seniors' activities, space for youth activities, and indoor pools. These facilities were reported as the highest priority for public spending on indoor recreation facilities. According to respondents, community halls were the lowest priority for spending.
- Respondents indicated slightly higher degrees of support for additional public spending on all types of recreation facilities than in 2007.
- Indoor recreation facility users reported higher levels of support for additional public spending across all facility types than non-users.
- Compared with results from 2007, support for funding for spaces for seniors' activities has increased 21%, rising from third most prioritized to first. In 2015, 14% more respondents indicated that space for seniors' activities was a priority in their area than in 2007.

- Support for public funding for space for youth activities increased by 13% since the 2007 survey. Fitness facilities (11%), community halls (9%), gymnasiums (9%), and arenas (8%) saw more modest increases in support for additional funding over the 2007 survey.
- Respondents 55 years of age or under expressed slightly higher support for additional public funding for indoor recreation facilities.
- On average, Upper Stoney Creek residents indicated stronger support for additional public spending on indoor recreation facilities.

Record of Calls

A. Total Calls Attempted	8,529
1 - Not in Service / Duplicates	788
2 - Fax Modem/Cell Phone/Pager	44
3 - Business Number	41
B. Total Eligible Numbers	7,656
4 - Answering Machine/No Answer/Busy Signal	5,083
5 - Language Barrier	90
6 - Illness/Incapable	59
7 - Adult Not Available	24
C. Total Asked	2,400
8 - Respondent Refusal	1,538
9 - Respondent Break-off	23
D. Co-Operative Contacts	839
10 - Disqualified - Non-Resident	35
11 - Completed	804
Response Rate (11/D)	11%

4.2 Stakeholder Group Survey

A self-administered survey was emailed to 211 local stakeholder groups, including adult and youth sports clubs and leagues, social service organizations, youth organizations and drop-in centres, and service clubs in the City of Hamilton. Stakeholder groups were selected from the City's permit database, with those who had booked more than 25 hours of indoor recreation facility time in 2014/2015 chosen to complete the survey. A total of 73 surveys were completed (for comparison, 52 were completed for the 2008 Study), representing over 7,000 participants. Information collected included:

- Past and current registration;
- Plans to reduce, maintain, or expand registration;
- Adequacy of facilities and hours currently available to the group;
- Types of facilities used, frequency of use, and suggested improvements;
- Modes of transportation used by participants and travel times;
- Ratings of facilities' location, physical condition, cleanliness and maintenance, accessibility, support spaces, parking, functionality and design, and overall satisfaction;
- Use of private facilities and facilities outside of Hamilton; and
- Preferences for future facility provision options.

This voluntary survey sought to collect mostly qualitative data and is not intended to be statistically significant. However, this survey provides a snapshot of how stakeholder groups interact with and feel about the facilities they use, as well as their current and future facility needs. The composition of survey respondents is summarized below according to the type of organization and/or their area of interest. A list of the organizations/groups that responded, along with their registration numbers, is provided in **Appendix C**.

Distribution of Respondent Groups by Group Type

Group Type	#	%
Outdoor sports	13	18%
Indoor sports (excluding hockey and aquatics)	13	18%
Hockey	11	15%
Aquatics or pool-related clubs	7	10%
Fitness programs	7	10%
School groups	5	7%
Youth-based organizations/Drop-in centres	5	7%
Service clubs	4	5%
Health services organizations and special needs	3	4%
Community organizations/associations	3	4%
Church groups	2	3%
Total	73	100%

Compared to the 2008 Study, the number of completed surveys increased and responses were received from a wider variety of stakeholder groups. Results were generally similar, though there has been a decrease in satisfaction rates for a number of facility features. The following sections summarize survey results according to topic of concern.

Enrollment

- 64% of respondent groups indicated they are planning to expand their activities in the next 5 years, though no sport stood out as undergoing more rapid change than others. Only one group was planning to reduce activities and the rest were expecting no change. Groups expecting an expansion of activities include:
 - 9 out of 13 outdoor sports groups (e.g. baseball, soccer, lacrosse, among others);
 - 7 out of 13 indoor sports groups (e.g. basketball, volleyball);
 - 6 out of 11 hockey groups; and
 - 4 out of 7 aquatics groups.
- All user groups reported that at least 50% of their participants were City of Hamilton residents, with 71% reporting that 95-100% of participants were City of Hamilton residents.
- 41% of respondent groups reported that they primarily served the entire City of Hamilton and 38% reported they primarily served those living within the former city of Hamilton. (Note: respondents were able to select multiple areas.) Communities outside the City served by respondent groups include: Brantford, Burlington, Grimsby, Haldimand County, Niagara, Oakville, Selkirk, and Simcoe.

- For those providing registration figures, participation has increased by an average of 7% over the past three seasons/years.

Participant Travel Modes and Times

- 95% of groups reported that some participants used private vehicles to access indoor recreation facilities. Of these 69 respondent groups, 42 reported that 80% or more of their participants drove. 20 groups reported that 100% of their participants drove to indoor recreation facilities.
- 49% reported that some participants used public transit to access indoor recreation facilities. The majority of these (21 out of 36) reported that 10% of their participants used public transit.
- 58% of respondent groups reported that some participants walked or biked to access indoor recreation facilities. The majority of these (25 out of 42) reported that 10 to 20% of their participants walked or biked.
 - Wever Core (100%), Hamilton Bike Polo Club (80%), Routes Youth Centre (80%), and Fit Active Beautiful Foundation (70%) reported the highest number of participants walking or cycling to indoor recreation facilities.
- 31% of respondent groups reported that participants were willing to travel 21 to 30 minutes to a facility, 26% reported 11 to 20 minutes, 15% reported more than 30 minutes, and 11% reported 10 minutes or less. The median travel time is 21 to 30 minutes.

Facilities Used

- 60% of respondent groups reported that they were users of sport facilities (such as arenas, pools, gyms, or active spaces) and 23% reported that they were users of both sport facilities and meeting rooms or halls.
- The following table summarizes most commonly used facilities with gymnasiums the most used and non-ice arenas the least.

Types of Facilities Used by Respondents

Facility Types	#	%
Gymnasium	20	27%
Arena - ice	13	18%
Other (mainly outdoor facilities)	9	12%
Indoor Pool	8	11%
Multi-Use Activity Room	7	10%
Meeting Room	6	8%
Community Hall	4	5%
Arena - floor	3	4%
Multiple	3	4%
Total	73	100%

- Carlisle Arena, Carlisle Memorial Hall, Chedoke Twin Pad Arena, Spring Valley Arena, and Westmount Recreation Centre were the most commonly use facilities noted by respondents.

Satisfaction with Facilities

Respondent groups were asked to rate a variety of facility features on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 represented “poor” and 5 represented “excellent”. The majority of respondent groups reported that all features of indoor recreation facilities were generally good or very good. However, accessibility for persons with disabilities and support spaces were slightly more often rated poor or fair.

The following table summarizes average ratings for each facility feature, from the highest rated feature to lowest.

Reported Satisfaction with Facility Features

Areas of Satisfaction	Average Rating (1 to 5)
Access to parking	3.85
Location	3.85
Overall satisfaction	3.76
Physical condition and state of repair	3.68
Maintenance and cleanliness	3.61
Support spaces (e.g. change rooms, washrooms, seating)	3.61
Accessibility for persons with disabilities	3.55
Functionality and design	3.54

Facility Location

- 60% of respondent groups reported that they use City of Hamilton indoor recreation facilities.
- 60% of respondent groups also reported that they use facilities in Hamilton not owned by the City (e.g. schools, colleges, private facilities, non-profit facilities, among others). Of those, half reported that they use facilities in Hamilton not owned by the City more than 80% of the time (19 out of 38). The most commonly cited reasons for using providers other than the City were: the facility is not provided by the City, the facility is not available at the desired times, and non-City facilities were less expensive to use.
- 32% of respondent groups reported that they regularly use indoor recreation facilities outside of the City of Hamilton. Of these, the majority used facilities outside of Hamilton less than 20% of the time (12 out of 18). The lack of desired facility in Hamilton was the most commonly cited reason for using outside facilities.

The following table summarizes the type of facilities being used. For each facility type, the number or percentage of groups that use City of Hamilton facilities, non-municipal facilities in Hamilton, and facilities outside of Hamilton are identified. Because some respondents use multiple facility options to meet their needs, rows will not add up to the total number of respondent groups using each facility type.

Location of Facilities Used

Facility Type	Total Respondents Using This Facility Type	City of Hamilton Facilities	Non-Municipal Facilities in Hamilton	Facilities Outside Hamilton
Gymnasium	20 (27%)	65%	65%	20%
Arena - ice	13 (18%)	69%	38%	8%
Other	9 (12%)	22%	67%	56%
Indoor Pool	8 (11%)	88%	50%	25%
Multi-Use Activity Room	7 (10%)	57%	57%	43%
Meeting Room	6 (8%)	67%	33%	33%
Community Hall	4 (5%)	75%	50%	25%
Arena - floor	3 (4%)	67%	67%	67%
Multiple	3 (4%)	33%	0%	0%
Total	73 (100%)	60%	60%	32%

Future Needs

- 44% of respondent groups reported that they expect to need access to new indoor recreation facilities within Hamilton in the next 5-10 years, 19% reported that they did not, 25% reported maybe, and 14% said they don't know/not applicable. The most frequent requests were for:
 - Arenas (6)
 - Meeting spaces (5)
 - Gymnasiums (4)
 - Indoor track and field facilities, including jumping and throwing areas (4)
 - Volleyball court/facility (4)
 - Concrete surfaces (3)
 - Indoor turf (3)
- When asked for their preference for new facilities, 34% reported that they preferred completely rebuilding aging recreation facilities (even if it means moving them to another location), 25% preferred renovating aging recreation facilities, and 41% couldn't decide.

Additional Comments

At the end of the survey, respondents were asked to provide comments related to changes or improvements that could be made to specific indoor recreation facilities. The following represents a sample of feedback received.

"The development of a new multi-sport facility has the ability to accommodate a variety of different demographics with different interests, including: clubs, cultural associations, youth groups, seniors' programs, sports associations, etc. As a joint initiative between the City of Hamilton, local school boards, and corporate partners, we have the opportunity to achieve a cost effective solution to our aging recreational infrastructure and provide recreation and competitive sport programming to local residents as well as the Southern Ontario Region which would contribute to our growing sports tourism industry." (Hamilton Sport Groups)

“The City of Hamilton requires a quality 50 metre deep pool for aquatic sports. McMaster is the only provider and it is a substandard facility and parking costs are prohibitive. The closest quality facility is the Gretzky Centre in Brantford. Our club has existed since 1932 and provided aquatic programming second to none in Canada at one time. The renovations to existing pools and planned renovations at Jimmy Thompson are appreciated. However, some of the new recreation pool designs are not designed for all aquatic sports in mind and are inadequate for training and competition. Hamilton needs a top-tier facility.” (Hamilton Aquatic Water Polo Club)

“The City needs to take a look at other municipalities when it comes to recreational facilities combining needs: pools, libraries, seniors’ centres, and ice hockey all in one location. We are way behind cities like St. Catharines, Kitchener, London, Oshawa, and even smaller municipalities.” (Hamilton Minor Hockey Initiation Program)

“The City did a fantastic job renovating Spring Valley Arena. I have been skating on that rink since the first outdoor game in 1967, watched it covered, and now with new renovations. I was so happy the rink was saved. Well done.” (Ancaster Maroons)

“We suggest that the City of Hamilton takes a look at Riverworks in Buffalo, a great example of an unused building being repurposed for sport, recreation, meetings, etc. In general, we are happy with the indoor facility we get to use for half of the year (Coronation Arena), we just need something for the whole year. In order to meet the needs of our organization, we just need one arena with no ice year-round. We have spoken with other organizations who could also use this type of space (Boys and Girls Clubs, floor hockey, roller hockey, bike polo, etc.) so we feel that if Hamilton leaves the ice out of one arena, a diverse group of organizations [would use it]”. (Hammer City Roller Girls)

4.3 Public Information Sessions

In February 2016, six open house-style public information sessions were hosted at the following locations:

- a) Stoney Creek Recreation Centre (February 2, 2016)
- b) Ryerson Recreation Centre (February 3, 2016)
- c) Bennetto Recreation Centre (February 4, 2016)
- d) Westmount Recreation Centre (February 9, 2016)
- e) Glanbrook Arena (February 10, 2016)
- f) Harry Howell Arena (February 11, 2016)

The purpose of these sessions was to introduce Phase 1 of the Study Update to the public and stakeholders and to seek input on indoor recreation facility satisfaction, expectations, and needs. Sessions were advertised through a variety of media: the City website and Twitter, Councillor websites, posters at City Hall and in all City recreation centres, pools, arenas, and advertisements in the Spectator newspaper and website. The public information sessions were scheduled during busy program times at each facility, encouraging the participation of regular facility users who may not have been aware of City engagement opportunities. Overall, at least 151 residents contributed their input during the public information sessions.

Display panels provided a summary of the Study Update and offered an opportunity for public input. Attendees were asked to provide their responses to a series of multiple choice questions using stickers. Opportunities for providing written responses to the questions or to other areas of concern were also provided and attendees were able to discuss their concerns and ideas with

representatives of the City and Consulting Team. At each session, attendees were asked four questions and the responses are summarized below.

Q1 - How satisfied are you with the City's existing recreation facilities?

Respondents reported the highest level of satisfaction with arenas and the lowest levels of satisfaction with fitness centres, seniors' centres, and gymnasiums. The table below summarizes satisfaction responses.

Reported Satisfaction by Facility Type

Facility Type	Not at all satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied	Total
Fitness Centres & Studios	52%	40%	8%	100%
Senior centres	51%	37%	13%	100%
Gymnasiums	49%	33%	18%	100%
Indoor Pools	44%	21%	36%	100%
Public Outdoor Pools	40%	44%	16%	100%
Multi-use Activity Rooms	37%	44%	19%	100%
Community Halls	29%	57%	14%	100%
Multi -Use Activity Rooms	25%	50%	25%	100%
Arenas	11%	43%	47%	100%

Q2 - The City of Hamilton has many aging recreation facilities that are reaching the end of their useful life. If the City decides to replace these recreation facilities or build new ones, which of the following two options would you most prefer?

- Option 1: The City should provide fewer, but larger recreation facilities that offer a wide range of activities
- Option 2: The City should provide more, but smaller recreation facilities that offer a narrow range of activities
- I like both equally
- I don't like either option

Overall, Option 1 was the most preferred choice (44%). However, there was wide variation between public information sessions. While more than 50% of attendees at the sessions at Glanbrook Arena, Westmount Recreation Centre, and Harry Howell Arena preferred Option 1, attendees at other facilities were more divided between Option 2 and "I like both equally". A majority of participants at Ryerson Recreation Centre preferred Option 2.

Attendees were also given the opportunity to provide comments. A number of responses indicated that a strong contingent of residents from Ainslie Wood felt that a recreation facility was needed in that area.

Q3 - If the City were to build new indoor pools in the future, which of the following options would you most prefer?

- Option 1: A traditional rectangular design primary for lane swimming, lessons, and aquatic clubs
- Option 2: A leisure design with a slide and other features that would be primarily for recreational swimming and swim lessons
- I like both equally
- I don't like either option

There was a near even split between Option 1 (34%), Option 2 (36%), and "I like both equally" (30%). Respondents at Westmount Recreation Centre were much more likely to prefer Option 1, while respondents at Glanbrook Arena overwhelmingly preferred Option 2.

Specific comments received in relation to this question included: support for a 50-metre competitive pool, support for a recreation facility in Ainslie Wood, and support for aquatics facilities that combine both traditional and leisure designs.

Q4 - What suggestions do you have for improving our facilities?

The final question asked for general comments and suggestions for improving five types of indoor recreation facilities.

Most Frequently Received Suggestions by Facility Type

Facility Type	Suggestions
Community Centres & Halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor and outdoor running/walking tracks • More fitness centres • Recreation facility in Ainslie Wood
Seniors' Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally needed
Arenas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More public skating • Skate rentals
Indoor Pools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50-metre competitive pools • Saltwater pools
Public Outdoor Pools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More outdoor pools

Public information session participants also provided additional feedback on comment sheets. The following is a summary of feedback received:

- Interest in a recreation facility in Ainslie Wood
- Residents from outside of Dundas using Dundas Lions Memorial Community Centre report below average customer service
- Interest in a field training facility for football and soccer in winter months
- Concern that needs of rural residents are not being heard

4.4 Additional Public Feedback and Correspondence

Email correspondence was also collected from residents unable to attend a public information session. A full transcript of correspondence is available in **Appendix C**. The following represents a summary of key issues and suggestions collected through e-mailed feedback:

- a) Need for recreation facility in Ainslie Wood/West Hamilton area – multiple submissions
- b) Interest in an indoor running track – multiple submissions, including a submission from the Sport Hamilton Multi-Sport Facility Task Force
- c) Interest in a competitive pool and pool renewal projects that can accommodate a variety of sports, including water polo
- d) Endorsement of plan to cover Tim Hortons Field
- e) Interest in more access and equipment for pickleball
- f) Interest in a recreation centre in Waterdown and Binbrook

4.5 Councillor Consultation

In 2016, interviews were completed by staff with all 15 Hamilton City Councillors to introduce them to the Phase 1 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study Update. The purpose of this pre-consultation was to understand their impressions of City facilities based on communications with their constituents and to align their comments with what we were hearing from the community. These sessions provided a wide variety of input relative to facility challenges, needs, and priorities. A high level summary of common themes is presented below.

On the whole, the comments from Councillors were very representative of what we heard through the public consultation program, including the telephone survey and public information sessions. The need for additional space and services to meet the needs of growing older adult and seniors populations was the most common mention and highest priority (including covered bocce courts and pickleball), followed closely by space and services for youth. Additional recreation programming (as well as adjusted program times and fees) was suggested by several Councillors as a way to enhance the impact and efficiency of facilities.

In general, many Councillors expressed a desire to keep up with growing needs through facility upgrades, expansion, and new development – all of which should be supported by an updated gap analysis. While Councillors overall felt that facility upgrades should be a priority, many indicated that there remain gaps in geographic distribution that could only be addressed by new facilities (e.g., seniors' facilities and gymnasiums). They have seen the positive impacts and benefits of recent capital projects and would like to see this good work continued, though it was noted that needs are often outpacing budgets. Partnerships and collaborations, particularly with school boards and through the creation of community hubs, were identified as options to assist in bridging the funding gap and maximizing value.

Some Councillors noted concerns around under-utilized infrastructure, particularly arenas, and suggested that rationalization and/or repurposing may be considered in certain cases. There were also specific requests for additional indoor pools and recreation centres in key areas identified by the public (e.g., Ainslie Wood, Binbrook, etc.). Along with the public input, the Councillor feedback will be helpful in informing future phases of the Indoor Recreation Facilities Study.

Section 5: Preliminary Assessment of Arena Facility Needs

Ice sports and activities have been an important part of Hamilton's quality of life for many generations. However, arena usage is in decline and the City's arenas require significant investment going forward. Based on the existing surplus, below average cost recovery rates, and mounting capital requirements, the current provision and funding model is not sustainable over the long-term.

There is a need to update the arena strategy outlined in the 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study. This will determine which arena facilities are surplus to community needs and should be decommissioned or repurposed, along with those that should be renewed or redeveloped. In addition, options for enhancing usage, cost avoidance, future investment, and multi-use facility development should be considered. Within this Phase 1 Update, a preliminary analysis of arena facility needs has been prepared to highlight key trends and concerns and to lay the groundwork for future research. Additional analysis – including the recalibration of the long-term arena provision strategy – is anticipated through future phases of work.

5.1 Arena Inventory

When the initial Indoor Recreation Facilities Study was completed in 2008, the City had a supply of 24 municipal ice pads. With the twinning of Morgan Firestone, development of the Harry Howell Arena, and closure of the former Wentworth Arena and Scott Park Arena, the City's inventory of ice pads now includes a total of 25 rinks: 15 single pad arenas, 4 twin pad arenas, and 1 quad pad arena (2 rinks at the Mohawk 4 Ice Centre are covered under the community use agreement and are counted toward the municipal inventory). Excluded from this is the First Ontario Centre, which is operated as the City's premier event venue through a third party partnership. The private sector also operates 9 rinks (2 additional pads at the Mohawk 4-pad, 2 at the F.H. Sherman Recreation Centre (AcelorMittal Dofasco), 2 at Wentworth Arenas, and 3 at Gateway Ice Centre).

5.2 Arena-Specific Directions from 2008 Study

The 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study recommended the following arena provision strategy; for various reasons, many of the directions were ultimately not carried forward and require reassessment.

Status of Arena-related Recommendations from 2008 Indoor Facilities Study

Recommended Strategy (2008)	Proposed Timing	Status / Update
Develop one new ice pad in Lower Stoney Creek , possibly at the proposed recreation centre site in Winona	2009-11	Development of Winona Recreation Centre has been delayed but is unlikely to include an arena; the privately-operated Gateway Ice Centre has since been built and is serving this area
Twin Morgan Firestone Arena in Ancaster	2012-16	Completed
Remove Eastwood Arena from the inventory; consider re-purposing	2012-16	Usage has been reduced, but the arena remains in operation
Remove Spring Valley Arena from the inventory	2012-16	Usage remains strong and expansion of the change rooms and other improvements were recently completed

Recommended Strategy (2008)	Proposed Timing	Status / Update
Remove Coronation Arena from the inventory	2012-16	Facility upgrades were undertaken in 2010 and usage has been moderately improved
Remove J.L. Grightmire Arena from the inventory	2012-16	Phased upgrades have begun; there is community support for the facility's retention
Develop a twin pad on the Olympic Arena site in place of Olympic, Coronation, and Grightmire Arenas	2012-16	No longer applicable due to improvements to Coronation Arena and proposed upgrades to J.L. Grightmire Arena
Reassess Carlisle Arena once the North Wentworth Twin Pad Arena was operational	2012-16	Arena serves as rural community hub and is not a likely candidate for removal
Reassess Lawfield Arena after other arena investments made in surrounding areas	post-2021	This remains an option to consider over the longer-term
Develop a twin pad in Upper Stoney Creek	post-2021	This remains an option to consider over the longer-term
Refurbishment of Glanbrook Arena, Beverly Arena, Scott Park Arena, and Stoney Creek Arena	as necessary	Some upgrades have been completed at Glanbrook Arena; Scott Park has been closed as part of Pan Am Stadium Precinct project

5.3 Arena Condition

In general, City of Hamilton arenas are well maintained, with several undergoing recent improvements to improve energy efficiency (e.g., low-e ceilings), functionality (e.g., dehumidification), accessibility (e.g., elevators), and to respond to lifecycle requirements. However, each arena is a product of its era of construction and, as a result, many of the City's older rinks have significant limitations, such as the following:

- many were designed to different construction and design standards and may have antiquated facility components (structural or mechanical);
- many lack modern amenities, such as larger (or a sufficient number of) change rooms, heated viewing areas, and multi-use designs;
- many have smaller ice pads, which creates safety and quality of play concerns with bigger, faster players having less space to skate;
- many are single pad designs that cannot offer the convenience and cost savings of multi-pad arenas (the vast majority of recent arena construction across the province has been in the form of multi-pad venues);
- many may not be barrier-free for persons with disabilities; and
- many are not energy efficient and thus have higher operating costs.

Based on an internal review undertaken by the City of Hamilton's Recreation Division in 2013, eight of the City's arena buildings had a facility condition index that rated in the "critical" category, indicating that the capital backlog amounted to 30% or more of the facility replacement value. Facilities with a "critical" facility condition index are nearing the end of their useful lives and should be given strong consideration for either comprehensive renewal or replacement.

As was the case in 2008, the amount of deferred maintenance relating to municipal arenas is significant. As of 2013, the average capital backlog amounted to approximately \$1.45 million per

ice pad, representing 19% of the overall facility replacement value. The City's State of the Infrastructure report (2009) identified a capital funding need of \$12 million per year for all recreation facilities, with stable funding currently being allocated at a rate of approximately \$3 million per year. Capital maintenance and renewal costs increase as facilities age, which will place additional pressure on the City's financial resources and could have a detrimental effect on other high priority projects.

It should also be noted that the City of Hamilton's arena facilities recover only 36% of their direct expenses and less than 30% of their overall expenses when facility capital costs and arena administration/overhead costs are included. Arenas, like most community services, are heavily subsidized through taxation. As such, any changes to the arena supply, demand factors, pricing, and operations can have a substantial impact on annual budget requirements.

5.4 Arena Utilization & Registration

The internal review conducted by the City of Hamilton's Recreation Division in 2013 examined historic and current utilization at that time. As in the past, minor hockey is the dominant user group of municipal arenas, while adult activity is largely focused at private rinks. City staff indicate that this has been shifting as the higher quality private rinks are beginning to attract more youth rentals, particularly from competitive programs that can afford higher rental rates in exchange for consistent access and enhanced facilities.

There are opportunities for greater utilization within the current arena system. **As a percentage of the overall supply, the average system-wide utilization rate has been in decline since 2010/11 and is currently below 50%.** In other words, Hamilton's arenas are sitting empty about half the time they are open, largely due to unused ice time during the daytime Monday to Friday. Based on time of day, utilization during non-prime and night time hours are noticeably in decline, while prime time utilization has been in slower decline in recent years – **prime time utilization is estimated to be around 70%** (this increases to closer to 80% if the shoulder months of September/October and March/April are removed), suggesting ample capacity within the system.

According to City Staff, user groups are increasingly reluctant to utilize hours on the edges or the shoulders of prime time, thus scheduling groups in the early morning (6 or 7 a.m.), early evening (prior to 6 p.m. on weekdays), and late night hours is becoming more difficult – the prime time window is shrinking. Furthermore, it would appear that rentals fees do not play a major factor in declining utilization as the City of Hamilton has the lowest ice rates in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.

Another indicator of demand is the number of participants registered in arena ice sports. As shown in the following table, the municipal arena market is dominated by users associated with minor sports or figure skating clubs.

Registration in Organized Youth Ice Activities, Municipal Arenas – 1999/2000 to 2015/16

Activity	1999/2000	2004/05	2012/13	2015/16
Minor Hockey (including Girls)	9,956	11,045	9,111	8,456
Figure Skating	3,744	2,416	2,710	2,877
Junior	69	260	249	294
Other (Ringette, Speed Skating, Sledge Hockey)	n/a	360	152	160
TOTAL	13,769	14,081	12,222	11,787

Sources:

1999/2000 data – New City of Hamilton Ice Pad Needs Assessment (2000)

2004/05 data – City of Hamilton 2005 OMBI Submission

2012/13 & 2015/16 data – City of Hamilton Recreation & Culture Department staff

Overall, youth registration has declined by 4% since 2012/13 and 16% since 2004/05.

During these time periods, the City-wide population of 5 to 19 year olds has declined, while the City's overall population grew modestly. It would appear that the erosion in youth participation can be partially attributed to an aging population, although there are likely other factors at play (e.g., cost, transportation, ethnicity, preference for other activities, etc.). While there was once evidence that certain activities (e.g., girls hockey, hockey development, etc.) were under-developed due to a lack of facilities, this no longer appears to be a significant concern, as supply and demand factors are better aligned and the City's affiliation policy has created greater equity in accessing municipal rinks.

An examination of 2004/05 and 2015/16 youth registration data yields the following observations:

- boys' minor hockey participation declined by 28% during this timeframe, which is notable given that they account for approximately two-thirds of all youth registrations; it is notable that Hamilton is both an OMHA and Alliance Centre and that some smaller, inner-city groups are amalgamating due to declining enrolment;
- conversely, registration in girls' hockey increased by 16%;
- figure skating registration fluctuates the most from year to year, but has increased by approximately 19% over this time;
- the City also accommodates niche sports such as ringette (which has declined), speed skating (which is small but emerging), and sledge hockey (which is generally steady); these sports represent a low percentage of overall ice participants; and
- geographically, all areas of the City have been affected by declining registration; organizations within Lower Hamilton and Hamilton Mountain have accounted for the majority of the losses, followed by Stoney Creek and Beverly/Wentworth.

Hamilton is not alone. Based on data from Hockey Canada's Annual Reports, changes in hockey registration are notable. Both Hockey Canada and the Ontario Hockey Federation have experienced declining registrations in the Juvenile and younger divisions (ages 5 to 20) since the 2008/09 season. Registration has declined by 16% in Ontario since this time (while national registration are down 9%), a time period that coincides with the economic downturn and very slow youth population growth. Female registrations also peaked in 2008/09 and have declined by 12% since that time. Currently, 8% of Canadian children and youth play hockey, less than half the percentage that played twenty years ago. Skate Canada has also experienced a slow decline in figure skating registrations over the past decade.

With an estimated 91,762 residents in Hamilton's 5-19 age cohort (2015 estimate⁵) and 11,787 registrants (2015/16 season), about 13% of children and youth participate in organized ice sports at municipal arenas. Not captured in this figure are youth that participate in leagues in private arenas (e.g., AcelorMittal Dofasco Arena) or residents that are registered with out-of-town organizations (e.g., some Flamborough residents may play in Burlington).

Given that the City's youth population remains in decline, it is reasonable to expect that minor hockey and figure skating will find it challenging to maintain current registration levels within the local youth market. All of this suggests that there will be fewer children and youth participating in ice sports over at least the short-term, despite an overall growth projected in the City's population. Over the longer-term, the youth population is anticipated to grow, though likely slower than the overall City population.

5.5 Arena Demand

While a more fulsome analysis based on the most up-to-date data is recommended as part of a future phase of the Indoor Recreation Facilities Study Update, an initial examination of public input, trends in ice sport participation, and arena utilization allows for a preliminary assessment of arena needs.

The public consultation program conducted for this Phase 1 Update yielded contrasting viewpoints. The general public was largely satisfied with the current supply and quality of arenas (79% of household survey respondents were satisfied with arenas and only 8% reported arenas as their top funding priority), while new and improved arenas are a frequent request from user groups.

In terms of total population per ice pad (municipal), there is currently one municipal rink per 3,670 youth in Hamilton. Supply is measured against the youth population as this group is the primary user of municipal arenas – with adult usage largely occurring in non-prime time, unused prime time, or at private rinks – and this priority system is embedded in the City's affiliation and allocation process. The City's 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study recommended a provision standard of 1 municipal ice pad per 4,100 youth (ages 5 to 19). To determine if this remains a reasonable provision target for the City, it is helpful to consider current prime time utilization as an indicator of demand.

Most notably, the number of available prime time hours City-wide has been increasing in recent years. Based on the 2013 internal review, only 80% of prime time hours during the peak winter months (November and February) were used at that time, suggesting ample capacity and no latent demand. A prime time utilization rate of 90% represents a trigger point through which further assessment is recommended prior to removal of an arena; Hamilton is well below this threshold, suggesting a surplus scenario. **The unused capacity is estimated at a minimum of two (2) surplus ice pads;** updated data would be required to update this figure to the current year, though there are strong indications that this remains a conservative estimate. For every 4% that the prime time usage rate declines, another ice pad could conceivably be removed from the system without restricting ice availability to youth groups (although time and location would be affected).

⁵ Statistics Canada. Table 051-0062 - Estimates of population by census division, sex and age group for July 1, based on the Standard Geographical Classification (SGC) 2011, annual (persons)

By applying the provision target recommended in the 2008 Study to population forecasts for the child and youth market (and using the existing 13% rate of participation), future arena needs can be extrapolated. Based on current forecasts, short-term arena demand will continue to weaken. Driven by population growth, the City may return to current demand levels by 2021, after which it should see positive gains over current levels. However, arena demand is not likely to increase as rapidly as the population, as the number of youth is growing at a slower rate and participation rates are being negatively affected by other socio-demographic factors. The findings of this demand analysis are similar to those contained in the 2008 Study, which identified the need for a City-wide supply of 26 municipal indoor ice surfaces by 2031. Changes in population, arena utilization, and ice sport participation should be monitored and reassessed at the appropriate time to ensure that these findings remain appropriate.

5.6 Summary

The following is a summary of key findings relevant to arena provision and demand:

- a) **Aging Arena Infrastructure:** Many of Hamilton's arenas are approaching or beyond their functional lifecycle based on industry standards. Older arenas do not operate or functionally serve their users as efficiently or effectively as newer facilities, particularly with respect to energy efficiency, required capital maintenance, accessibility, comfort, sport tourism opportunities, etc.
- b) **Decentralized Facilities:** The City continues to provide a highly decentralized level of service with a number of single-pad arenas across the municipality. However, with new twin pads at Morgan Firestone and Harry Howell Arenas, Hamilton has begun to move in line with other communities that are concentrating multiple pads within one facility.
- c) **Declining Number of Youth:** A recent decline in the youth population (ages 5-19) has contributed to a 16% decline in minor ice sport registrants since 2004/05. Based on the further contraction of the youth population forecasted over the next few years, declining registrations in arena activities can be expected barring any increase in participation rates. Currently, approximately 13% of youth participate in organized ice activities in Hamilton's municipal rinks. Several private arenas already exist to serve adult markets.
- d) **Decreasing Ice Sport Participation:** In line with provincial trends, Hamilton is experiencing decreasing participation in organized ice sports. Recent increases in female hockey participation have helped to reduce this impact, however, trends suggest that these participation rates have stabilized and/or are in decline.
- e) **Declining Demand and Increasing Prime Time Capacity:** Despite changes to the municipal arena supply, the number of prime time hours that are being utilized are in decline. System-wide, the City's arenas are operating at 80% capacity or less during prime time hours in peak months; a target of 90% capacity is recommended. Softening of demand is most notable during shoulder times, but is also being seen during prime time hours.
- f) **Surplus of Ice:** Based on an internal review completed in 2013, the City could remove a minimum of two ice pads without affecting the number of hours allocated to its affiliated groups. Population forecasts suggest that demand will eventually stabilize and increase slowly over the long term. Changes in population, arena utilization, and ice sport participation should be monitored and reassessed at the appropriate time to ensure that these findings remain appropriate.

The lack of progress relating to the arena recommendations contained within the 2008 Study – coupled with the number of changes that have occurred since that time – support the **development of a new arena provision strategy, including options for facility repurposing**. A more fulsome analysis should be included in a future phase of work and should include the assessment of updated data and consultation with the community and stakeholders.

In the interim, there are other steps that the City should consider. First, the City should continue to explore **administrative and operational practices** that aim to improve ice utilization and cost efficiency, such as the re-purposing of surplus arenas, adjustment to hours of operation (e.g., “prime time” arena model, an approach implemented by many other communities), partnering with other providers, etc. Second, **opportunities to work together with private arena operators should be explored**, most notably in the maximization of ice time for affiliated groups in the Stoney Creek area.

Section 6: Key Findings

This Phase 1 Update provides a status report card of the 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study based on a wide-reaching public engagement program, trends review, and inventory updates. It is clear that the City has made excellent progress with a large number of the recommendations contained within the previous study, however, the needs of the community are changing, new demands are emerging, and new directions are required.

The key findings from this initial phase of work are summarized below.

The review of the 2008 Study noted a number of important observations:

1. Excluding longer-term directions, **53% of the recommendations from the 2008 Study have been completed, partially completed, or are in progress.**
2. The 2008 Study was ambitious in proposing major changes to a number of facility types, some of which required funding levels beyond the City's financial resources. For example, nearly half of the unimplemented recommendations relate to the City's arena facilities. Other intervening factors include: the rising costs of renovating and building facilities (along with the cost of land) and the challenge of gaining public support for facility closures or repurposing. **Although significant progress has been made in a short time, the city could benefit from a re-examination of arena and community hall directions in particular.**
3. The lack of progress relating to the arena recommendations contained within the 2008 Study – coupled with the number of changes that have occurred since that time – support the **development of a new arena provision strategy, including options for facility repurposing** (which would allow the Division to redirect cost savings to other priorities). A more fulsome analysis of both arenas and community halls should be included in a future phase of work and should include the assessment of updated data and consultation with the community and stakeholders.
4. Prior to preparing a new arena provision strategy, the City should explore **administrative and operational practices** that aim to improve ice utilization and cost efficiency, such as the re-purposing of surplus arenas, adjustment to hours of operation (e.g., “prime time” arena model, an approach implemented by many other communities), partnering with other providers, etc. Furthermore, **opportunities to work together with private arena operators should be explored**, most notably in the maximization of ice time for affiliated groups in the Stoney Creek area.
5. Full implementation of the 2008 Study required an average annual capital expenditure of \$13.6 million (in non-escalated 2008 dollars), with greater funding levels required in the earlier years. At the time, the City had historically funded recreation facilities (both renewal and new construction) at an amount of \$10.5 million annually. It is understood that the Department's Block Funding was increased for a number of years, before being returned to past levels. While this Phase 1 Update does not include a financial analysis, this should be addressed as part of a future phase, which should also examine the amount of recent funding (including from alternate sources) and its **impact on the state of good repair and future funding requirements.**

Looking at Hamilton's socio-demographic profile, a number of emerging trends are likely to have implications on the City's indoor recreation facility provision strategies:

6. The **City grew by nearly 31,000 persons** since the 2008 Study was completed, representing 6% growth (adjusting for net Census undercoverage). Statistics Canada estimates that the population of the City of Hamilton was 556,359 as of July 1, 2015.
7. The City's growth over the past few decades has been experienced differently throughout the city. **Some areas grew faster than expected** (e.g., Glanbrook and Hamilton Mountain), **while other areas did not keep pace with the projections in the 2008 Study** (e.g., Lower Hamilton, West Hamilton/Dundas, and Lower Stoney Creek).
8. Projections from the 2013 Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe suggest that **the City is poised to grow slightly faster than previously forecasted**. Unfortunately, the GRIDS population forecasts (prepared in 2003 based on 2001 Census Data) are the most recent forecasts available, although the City's Planning Division has indicated that it will initiate a process to update these figures shortly. Area-specific population estimates will become available through the 2016 Census in early 2017, while the City's new forecasts may not be available until later in 2017 at the earliest. **Reliable and updated growth forecasts are a necessary input to future Study phases.**
9. **The City's population is aging**, a trend seen throughout North America. Provincial forecasts suggest that the proportion of children and youth living in Hamilton will remain relatively stable over the next 20+ years, while the proportion of residents ages 60 and over will increase substantially. This will have implications on the design and provision of a variety of indoor recreation facilities.

Several recent and ongoing municipal initiatives, policy directions, recreation and participation trends, and other factors are also likely to affect the demand for and way in which the City responds to the provision of indoor recreation facilities:

10. This Phase 1 Report noted a number of **emerging activity trends** with implications on future facility planning, including growing demand for unstructured activities, casual play, group fitness, and sports such as pickleball. Further trends assessment may be part of future study phases, with a focus on local participation trends.
11. Several technical building standards for **barrier-free accessibility** have been modified or expanded since the 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study was completed and should be considered in the Study Update.
12. The funding of facility upgrades and expansions continues to be a challenge for most municipalities and the application of the Ontario Planning Act's **Section 37 provisions** is becoming more common. Section 37 allows municipalities to authorize increases in permitted height and/or density through the zoning by-law in return for community benefits, such as recreation centres, park improvements, public art, child care, space for non-profits, and many other improvements. Going forward, Section 37 represents a significant opportunity for the City, especially within the downtown core and areas of intensification.
13. The City is increasingly **partnering with other providers** to fund, develop, and/or operate recreation facilities, such as through school and community hub developments.

A number of **school closures** in Hamilton have also been identified, presenting both challenges and opportunities for indoor recreation services.

14. Hamilton is a growing, dynamic city. With that comes the need to identify strategies and undertake initiatives that move the city forward. Some of the more notable **initiatives being carried out by the City and/or local organizations** that have the potential to influence the demand for and provision of indoor recreation facilities include: Our Future Hamilton, Light Rail Transit initiative, West Harbour Project, Neighbourhood Action Plans, and Development Charges Background Study, to name a few. These will require monitoring and alignment through future Study phases, as well as further examination of updated datasets regarding capital improvements and usage levels.

The household survey also yielded a number of notable findings:

15. The profiles identified by the 2007 and 2015 household surveys were very similar. In particular, there was **little change in the facility utilization frequencies and willingness to travel opinions between the two surveys**. This suggests that the Study's guiding principles and strategic directions, which were heavily based on public input, are still largely applicable.
16. Overall, **resident satisfaction levels with the City's indoor recreation facilities are good to very good**, although the equitable distribution of indoor recreation facilities was noted as an area requiring improvement. **There appears to be a growing preference for larger, multi-purpose facilities**, which is one approach to mitigating the leading participation barrier (lack of time).
17. The majority of residents **support additional public spending on spaces for seniors' activities, spaces for youth activities, and indoor pools**, with the first two garnering more support in the latest survey. On average, residents of Upper Stoney Creek indicated the greatest support for facility investment.

The initial public input generated excellent introductory dialogue to be considered as part of the Indoor Recreation Facilities Study Update. In particular, a number of requests were made for the following via the public open houses and stakeholder group survey:

18. While the City's facilities are generally rated as good or very good among stakeholder groups, there has been a **decrease in satisfaction rates for a number of facility features, particularly accessibility for persons with disabilities and support spaces**.
19. Stakeholder groups rely not only on City of Hamilton indoor recreation facilities, but the majority also regularly use non-municipal facilities within the City, and many also travel outside Hamilton to access facilities. It was noted that **McMaster University** is undertaking a Facility Assessment and Master Plan Study for its Athletics and Recreation Complex, which may impact **indoor aquatic facilities** that are heavily used by the community.
20. User groups reported that **registration levels increased by an average of 7% over the past three years**. As a result, 44% of the groups expect that they will require access to new indoor recreation facilities within the next 5 to 10 years. The most frequent requests were for **arenas, meeting spaces, gymnasiums, and indoor track and field facilities**.

21. Participants at the public open houses reported higher level of satisfactions with arenas and **lower levels of satisfaction with fitness centres, seniors' centres, and gymnasiums.**
22. Written submissions reflected a desire for a **recreation facility in Ainslie Wood/West Hamilton (supported by a local petition), a 50-metre competitive pool and pool renewal projects, and more facilities in Binbrook and Waterdown,** amongst other requests. Sport Hamilton is coordinating a Task Force that is seeking the development of a new **Multi-Sport Facility** potentially consisting of an indoor track and hard surface courts.

Section 7: Next Steps & Recommendations

The information from this Phase 1 Report provides the City of Hamilton with a preliminary understanding of how the community has changed (including public opinion) and the successes and challenges associated with the implementation of the 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study. It is anticipated that the findings from this report be used to guide future phases of work.

While the previous Indoor Recreation Facilities Study has successfully guided capital investment in the City of Hamilton since 2008, some recommendations were more challenging to implement, namely those involving the rationalization of arenas and community halls. Prior to embarking on the next phase of the facility analysis (e.g., Phase 2 of the Indoor Recreation Facilities Study Update), these and other matters would benefit from a closer examination and further direction. **Specifically, additional research into various operational, service delivery, and policy options that may impact the usage of current facilities and demand for future capital projects is recommended.** These may include (but are not limited to):

1. Programming of facilities, particularly community and recreation centres;
2. Maximization of space, including facility allocation and related tactics and procedures;
3. Hours of operation;
4. Pricing and rates of cost recovery;
5. Options (e.g., partnerships, alternate uses, decommissioning, etc.) for underutilized facilities, with a focus on community halls that are experiencing low community use, are in poor physical condition or are not barrier-free, and that are in reasonable proximity to other recreation facilities that can accommodate existing users; and
6. Capital funding alternatives and options.

Once direction is provided on key policy and operational matters, it is recommended that a Phase 2 report be prepared in order to develop an updated needs assessment and strategy for the future provision of major recreation facilities. This phase, which would culminate in the development of an updated Indoor Recreation Facilities Study, may include:

1. Reaffirming the Guiding Principles contained in the 2008 Study;
2. Consolidating and analyzing updated data and information on facility condition, barrier-free accessibility, and facility usage trends;
3. Incorporating updated population and growth forecasts (age cohort and community-specific);
4. Reassessing the best practices and facility provision targets based on updated research;
5. Updating the facility needs and gap assessment;
6. Expanding the internal and external engagement program to include discussion on possible facility provision strategies;
7. Updating the facility provision strategy;
8. Creating alignment with other municipal initiatives, such as Our Future Hamilton;
9. Identifying capital cost estimates, financial implications, and potential funding sources; and
10. Developing an updated Council-approved Implementation Plan.

Appendix A: Inventory Mapping

See following pages.



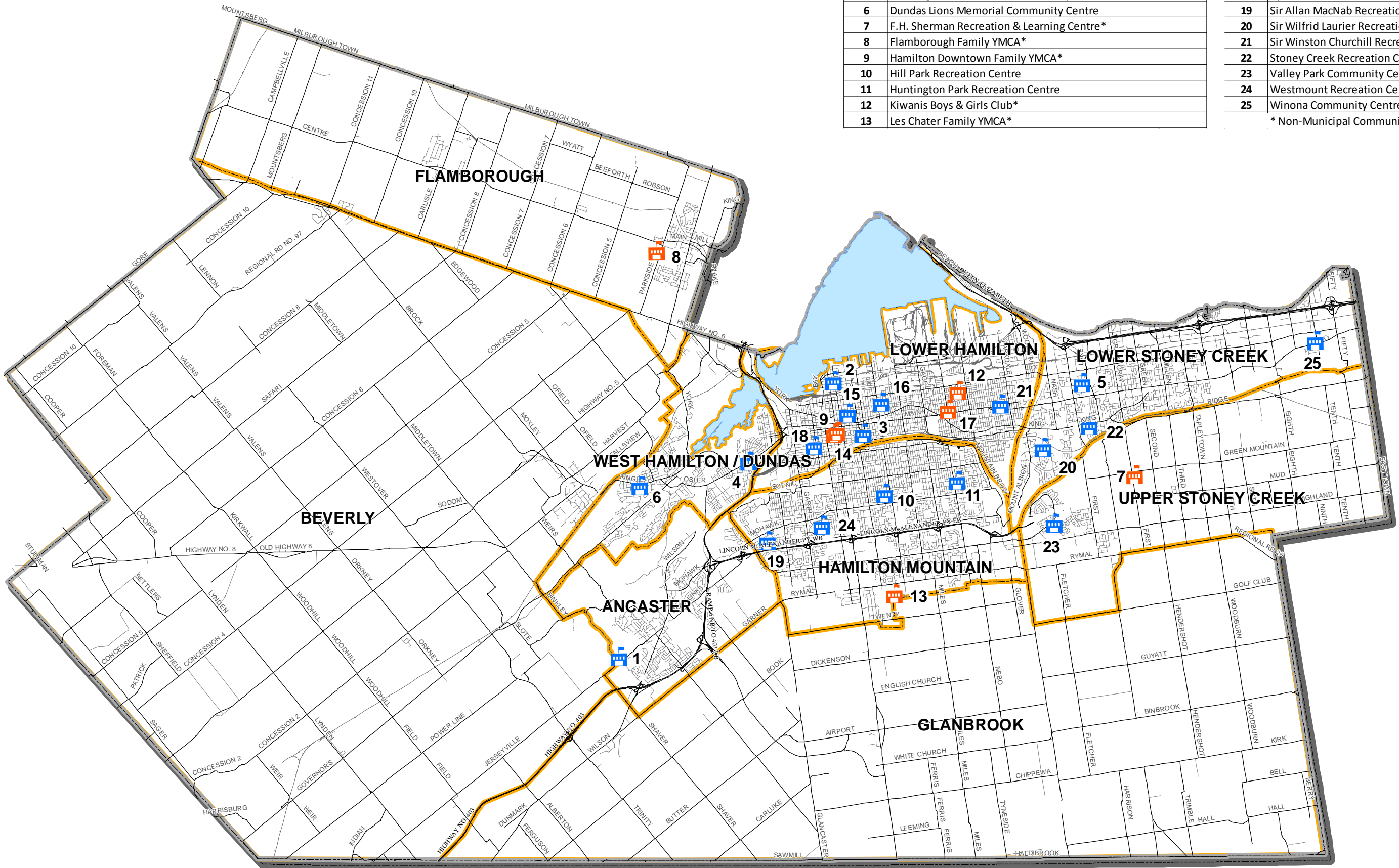
Indoor Facilities Study Update

Community & Recreation Centre Inventory

ID#	COMMUNITY & RECREATION CENTRE NAME
1	Ancaster Rotary Centre
2	Bennetto Recreation Centre
3	Central Memorial Recreation Centre
4	Dalewood Recreation Centre
5	Dom. Agostino Riverdale Community Centre
6	Dundas Lions Memorial Community Centre
7	F.H. Sherman Recreation & Learning Centre*
8	Flamborough Family YMCA*
9	Hamilton Downtown Family YMCA*
10	Hill Park Recreation Centre
11	Huntington Park Recreation Centre
12	Kiwanis Boys & Girls Club*
13	Les Chater Family YMCA*

ID#	COMMUNITY & RECREATION CENTRE NAME
14	MacNab St. YWCA*
15	New Beasley Community Centre
16	Norman Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre
17	Ottawa St. YWCA*
18	Ryerson Recreation Centre
19	Sir Allan MacNab Recreation Centre
20	Sir Wilfrid Laurier Recreation Centre
21	Sir Winston Churchill Recreation Centre
22	Stoney Creek Recreation Centre
23	Valley Park Community Centre
24	Westmount Recreation Centre
25	Winona Community Centre (Temporary)

* Non-Municipal Community Centre



Legend

- City Boundary
- Community Boundary
- Community Centre
- Non-Municipal Community Centre



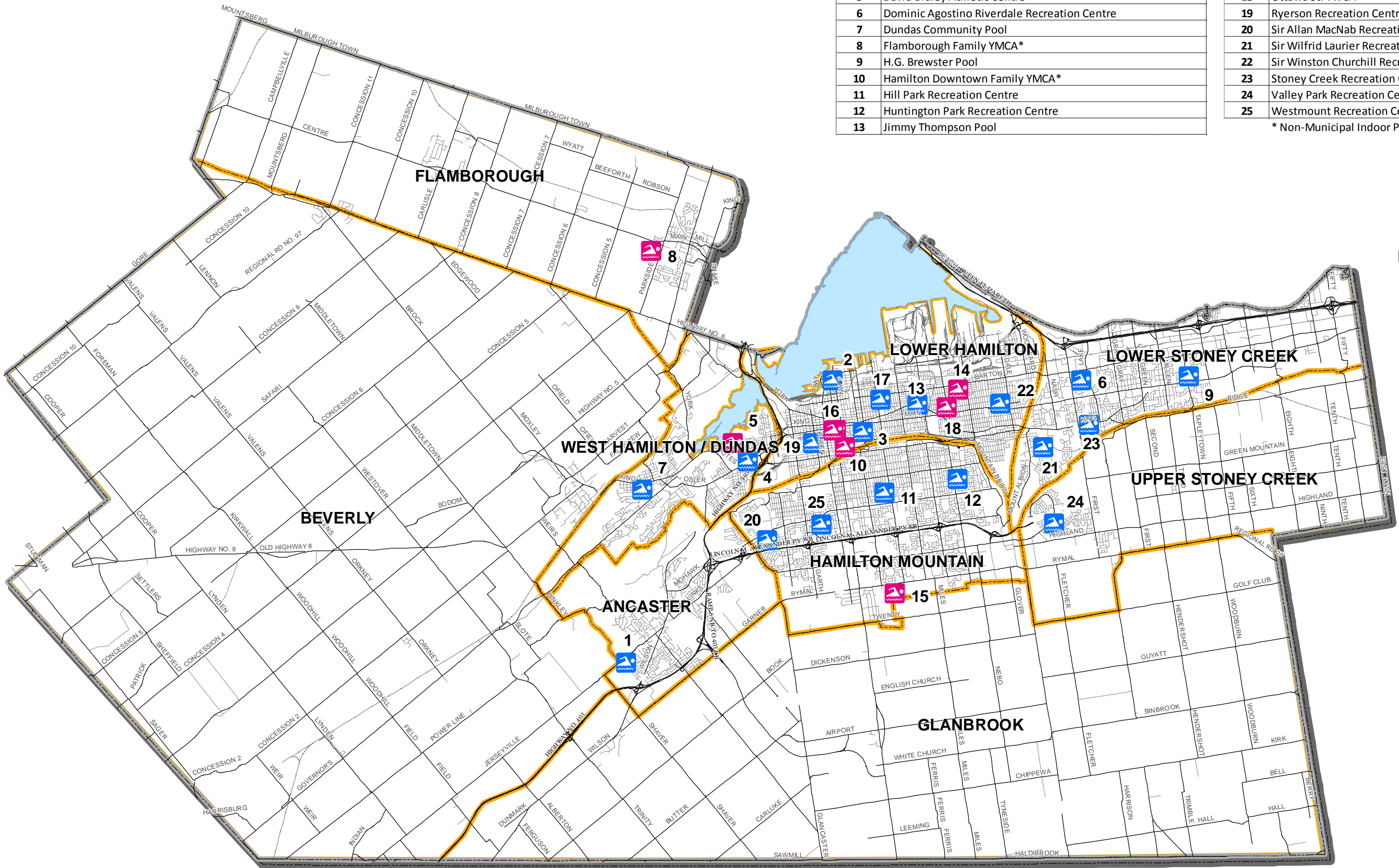
Indoor Facilities Study Update

Indoor Pool Inventory

ID#	INDOOR POOL NAME
1	Ancaster Aquatic Centre
2	Bennetto Community Centre
3	Central Memorial Recreation Centre
4	Dalewood Recreation Centre
5	David Braley Athletic Centre*
6	Dominic Agostino Riverdale Recreation Centre
7	Dundas Community Pool
8	Flamborough Family YMCA*
9	H.G. Brewster Pool
10	Hamilton Downtown Family YMCA*
11	Hill Park Recreation Centre
12	Huntington Park Recreation Centre
13	Jimmy Thompson Pool

ID#	INDOOR POOL NAME
14	Kiwanis Boys & Girls Club*
15	Les Chater Family YMCA*
16	MacNab St. YWCA*
17	Norman Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre
18	Ottawa St. YWCA*
19	Ryerson Recreation Centre
20	Sir Allan MacNab Recreation Centre
21	Sir Wilfrid Laurier Recreation Centre
22	Sir Winston Churchill Recreation Centre
23	Stoney Creek Recreation Centre
24	Valley Park Recreation Centre
25	Westmount Recreation Centre

* Non-Municipal Indoor Pool



Legend

- City Boundary
- Community Boundary
- Municipal Pool
- Non-Municipal Pool





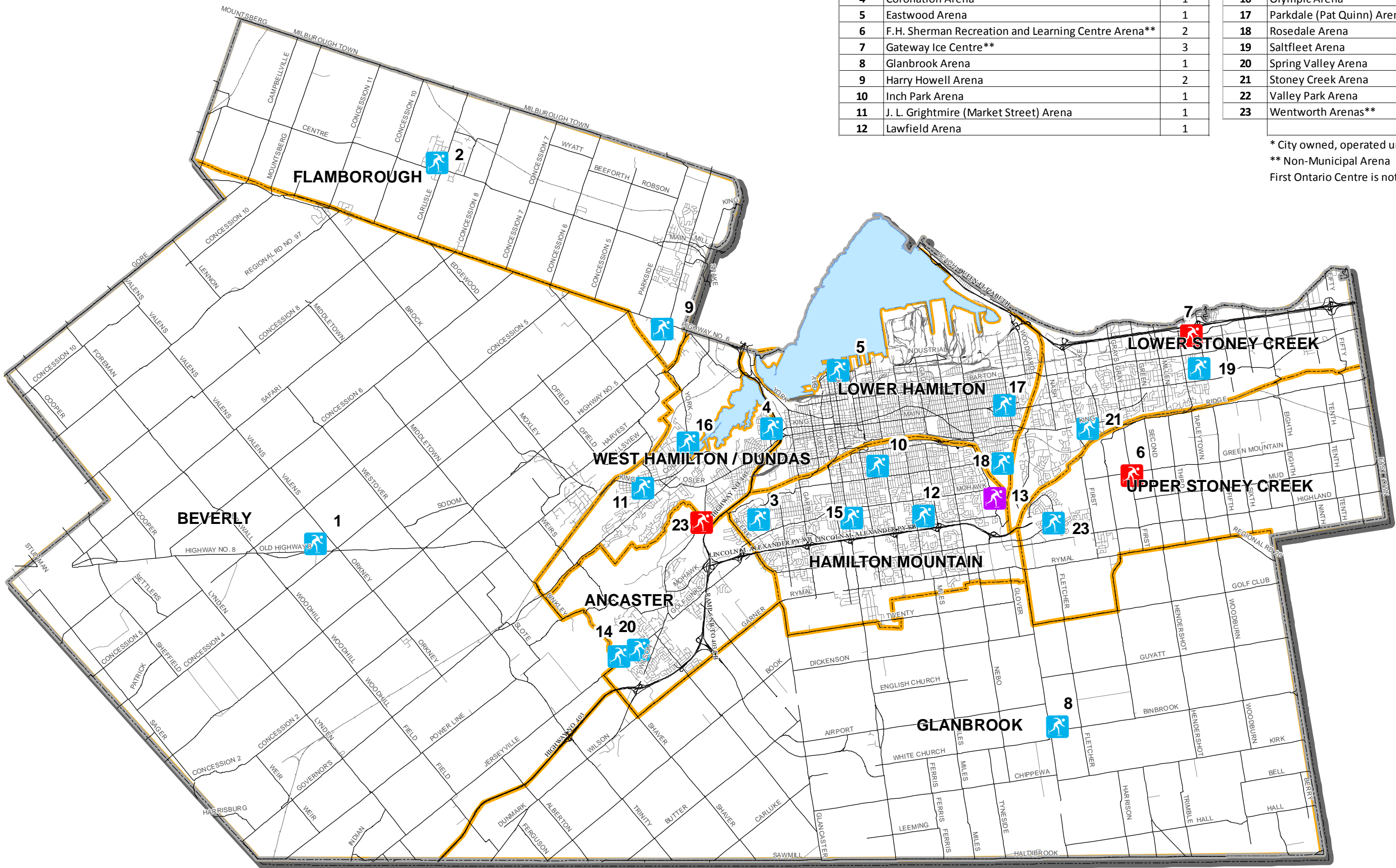
Indoor Facilities Study Update

Arena Inventory

ARENA ID#	ARENA NAME	# OF ICE PADS
1	Beverly Arena	1
2	Carlisle Arena	1
3	Chedoke Twin Pad	2
4	Coronation Arena	1
5	Eastwood Arena	1
6	F.H. Sherman Recreation and Learning Centre Arena**	2
7	Gateway Ice Centre**	3
8	Glanbrook Arena	1
9	Harry Howell Arena	2
10	Inch Park Arena	1
11	J. L. Grightmire (Market Street) Arena	1
12	Lawfield Arena	1

ARENA ID#	ARENA NAME	# OF ICE PADS
13	Mohawk 4 Ice Centre*	4
14	Morgan Firestone Arena	2
15	Dave Andreychuk Mountain Arena & Skating Centre	2
16	Olympic Arena	1
17	Parkdale (Pat Quinn) Arena	1
18	Rosedale Arena	1
19	Saltfleet Arena	1
20	Spring Valley Arena	1
21	Stoney Creek Arena	1
22	Valley Park Arena	1
23	Wentworth Arenas**	2
Total		34

* City owned, operated under third party partnership
** Non-Municipal Arena
First Ontario Centre is not shown.



Legend

City Boundary

Community Boundary

Municipal Arena

Municipal Owned, Third Party Operated Arena

Non-Municipal Arena

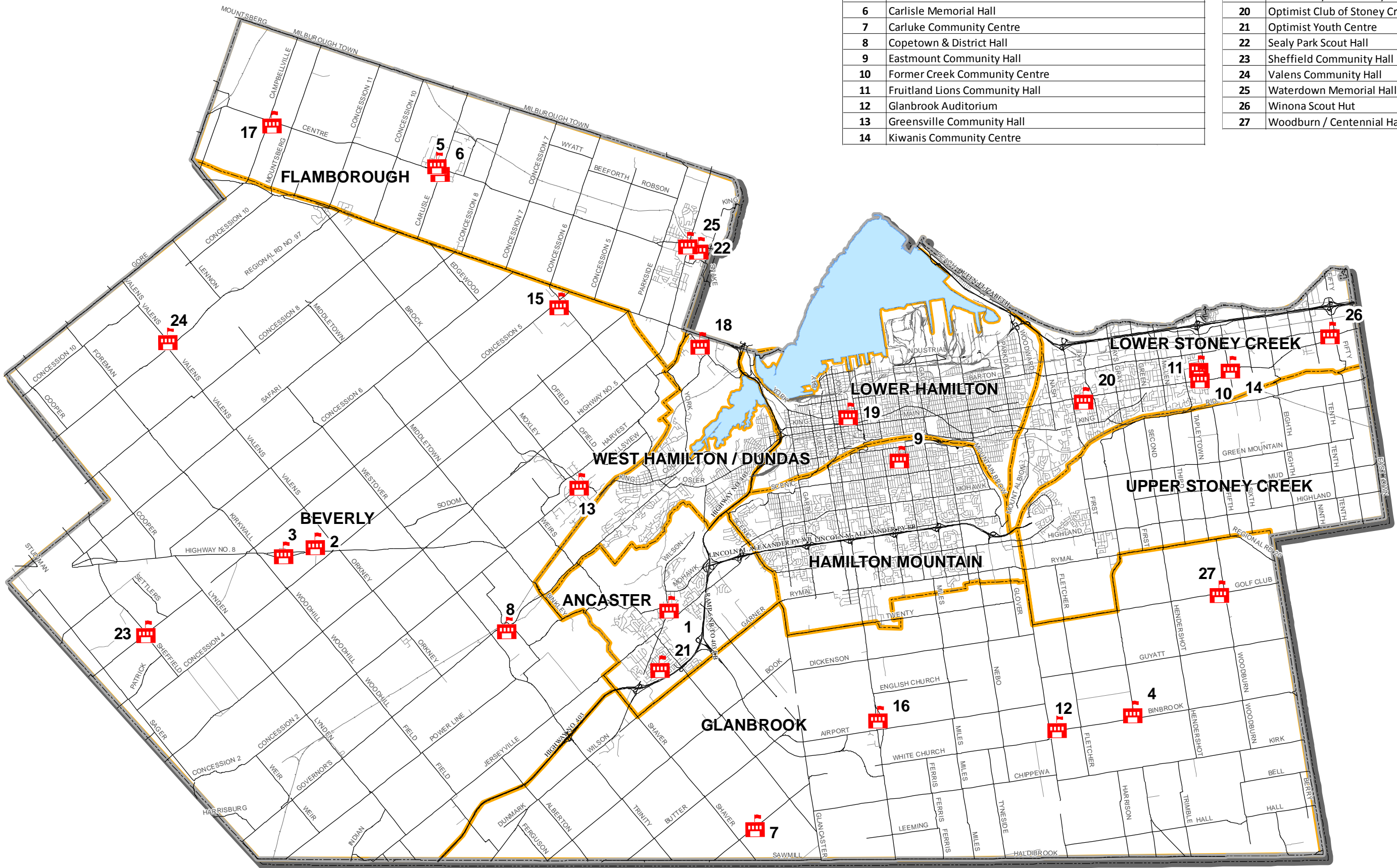


Indoor Facilities Study Update

Community Hall Inventory

ID#	COMMUNITY HALL NAME
1	Ancaster Old Town Hall
2	Beverly Arena Hall
3	Beverly Township Hall
4	Binbrook Memorial Hall
5	Carlisle Arena Hall
6	Carlisle Memorial Hall
7	Carlisle Community Centre
8	Copetown & District Hall
9	Eastmount Community Hall
10	Former Creek Community Centre
11	Fruitland Lions Community Hall
12	Glanbrook Auditorium
13	Greenville Community Hall
14	Kiwanis Community Centre

ID#	COMMUNITY HALL NAME
15	Millgrove Community Hall
16	Mount Hope Hall
17	Mountsberg Hall
18	Nigel Charlong Hall
19	Old Beasley Community Centre
20	Optimist Club of Stoney Creek
21	Optimist Youth Centre
22	Sealy Park Scout Hall
23	Sheffield Community Hall
24	Valens Community Hall
25	Waterdown Memorial Hall
26	Winona Scout Hut
27	Woodburn / Centennial Hall



Legend

- City Boundary
- Community Boundary
- Community Hall



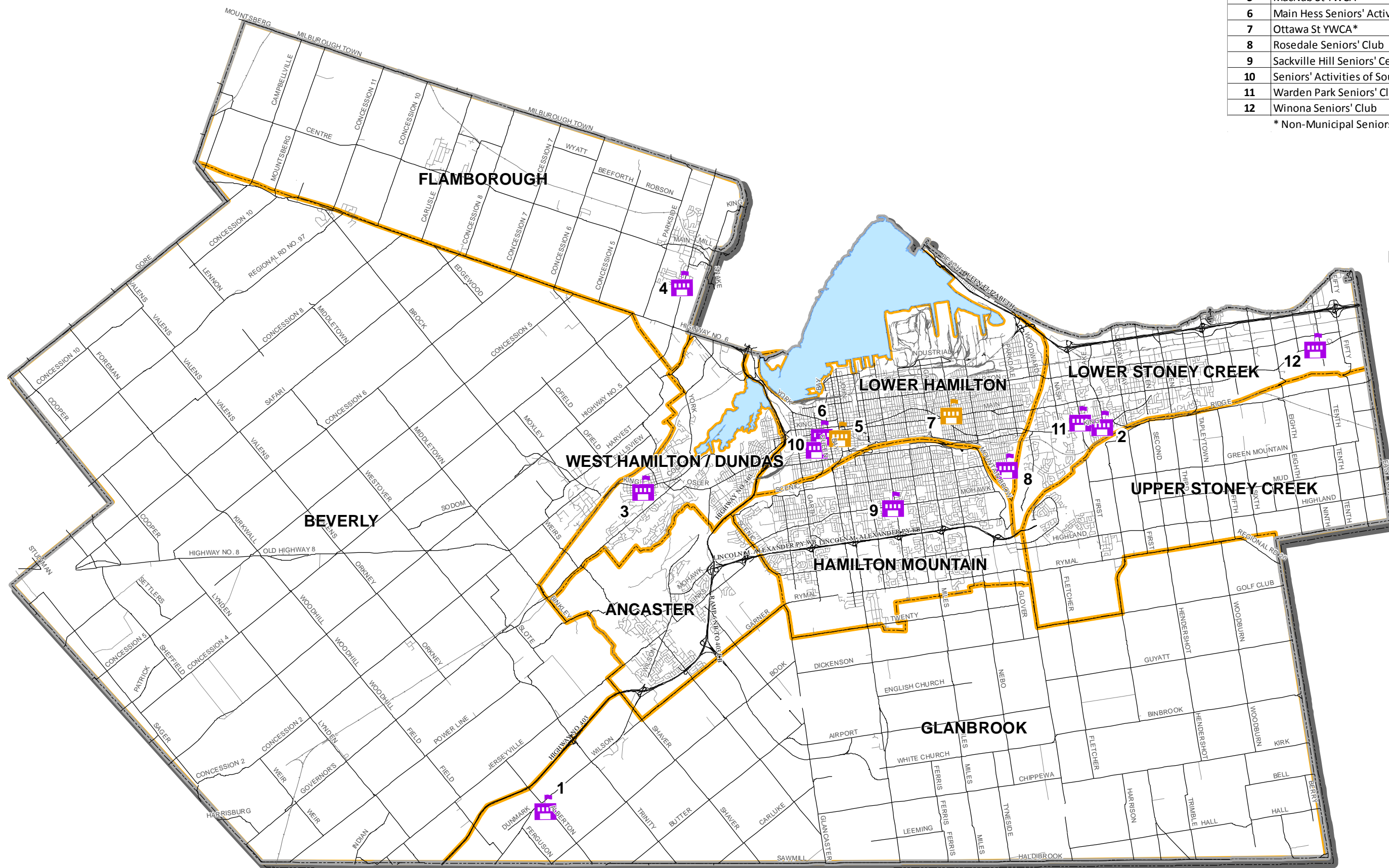


Indoor Facilities Study Update

Seniors' Centre Inventory

ID#	SENIORS' CENTRE NAME
1	Ancaster Seniors' Achievement Centre
2	Club 60 Seniors' Club
3	Dundas Rotary Cattel Seniors' Club
4	Flamborough Seniors' Centre
5	MacNab St YWCA*
6	Main Hess Seniors' Activity Club
7	Ottawa St YWCA*
8	Rosedale Seniors' Club
9	Sackville Hill Seniors' Centre
10	Seniors' Activities of Southwest Hamilton (S.A.S.H.) Club
11	Warden Park Seniors' Club
12	Winona Seniors' Club

* Non-Municipal Seniors' Centre



Legend

- City Boundary
- Community Boundary
- Municipal Seniors' Centre
- Non-Municipal Seniors' Centre



Indoor Facilities Study Update

Outdoor Pool Inventory

ID#	OUTDOOR POOL NAME
1	Ancaster Lions Outdoor Pool
2	Birge Pool
3	Chedoke Pool
4	Coronation Pool
5	Green Acres Pool
6	Inch Park Pool
7	Parkdale (Pat Quinn) Pool
8	Rosedale Pool
9	Victoria Park Pool
10	Walker Pool



Legend

- City Boundary
- Community Boundary
- Municipal Outdoor Pool



Appendix B: Update to Recommendations from the 2008 Indoor Recreation Facilities Study

January 2016

Recommended Strategies	Timing	Update	Status
Ancaster			
1. Ancaster can only justify two ice pads. Add a second ice pad to Ancaster Rotary Centre (Morgan Firestone Arena). Coinciding with the pre-planning work for the arena project, a study should be undertaken to assess the need and feasibility of developing dedicated older adult space at the Ancaster Rotary Centre.	2012-2016	A second ice pad was added to Morgan Firestone Arena in 2011. Dedicated older adult space has not been added, but general community programming is delivered through existing spaces.	Completed
2. Once Morgan Firestone Arena is twinned, remove Spring Valley Arena from service (\$534,414 backlog).	2012-2016	Council-approved capital renovations at Spring Valley Arena which were completed in 2015.	Change in Direction
3. The Ancaster Aquatic Centre was built in 1978 and will approach the normal functional lifespan of an indoor pool by 2018. Major refurbishment of this facility may be required.	2017-2021	Major accessibility upgrades planned for 2016-2018.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
Beverly			
4. Remove Greensville Community Hall from municipal inventory (built in 1875, lowest utilization of any community hall; \$22,104 backlog). Seek opportunities to sell the building/property for other purposes.	2009-2011	Council approved capital renovations for Greensville Hall, primarily exterior structural repairs commencing in 2015. A new hall attached to the new Greensville School and Community Hub was approved by Council and construction will begin in 2016-2018. The existing Greensville Hall will be revisited once the Community Hub is complete.	Further Review Required
5. Consider the sale/removal of Beverly Township Hall from the municipal inventory (built 1976 or earlier; low utilization, close to Beverly Arena Hall; \$89,372 backlog). Seek opportunities to sell the building/property for other purposes.	2017-2021	A new hall will be constructed as part of the new Beverly School and Community Hub in 2016-2018. This site will be used by HWDSB as a school and shared with the City. The existing Beverly Hall will be revisited after 2018 once the new Community Hub is built.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached

Recommended Strategies	Timing	Update	Status
6. An assessment should be undertaken to determine the need for a dedicated seniors' space to be established at the Beverly Arena & Hall. At present, it is expected that this area is adequately served by the Ancaster Seniors' Achievement Centre and/or opportunities provided by groups such as the Woman's Institute and Agricultural Society; however, this could change over time.	2017-2021	To date, no formal assessment has been completed. A seniors' space will be incorporated into the new Beverly School and Community Hub in 2016-2018.	In progress
7. The Beverly Arena & Hall was built in 1974 and will approach the normal functional lifespan of an arena by 2024. Major refurbishment of this facility may be required.	Post-2021	The existing Beverly Hall will be revisited after 2018 once the new Community Hub is constructed.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
Flamborough			
8. When the new Flamborough twin pad arena is operational, utilization of Carlisle Arena should be reassessed (built 1978; \$322,218 backlog) to determine if it is required to meet long-term ice needs in the Flamborough community.	2012-2016	Harry Howell Arena is complete (formerly North Wentworth/Flamborough twin pad arena). Carlisle Arena capital renovations are tentatively proposed for 2019 design.	Completed
9. Develop a stand-alone seniors centre, possibly through the re-purposing of Sealy Park Scout Hall, development at Memorial Park, or at an alternate site. Space should also be provided to accommodate local youth groups / scouts. Whether or not this facility is built in Sealy Park, the Sealy Park Scout Hall (built 1855; average utilization; \$57,251 backlog) should be removed from the municipal inventory at this time.	2012-2016	A new seniors' centre was completed at Waterdown Library in 2015. Minor capital renovations were completed to Sealy Park Scout Hall in 2015, including updates to the kitchen, furnace, and other features.	Partially Complete
10. Remove Waterdown Memorial Hall from the municipal inventory (built 1922; utilized primarily by the Village Theatre; \$59,449 backlog). Seek opportunities to sell the building/property for other purposes.	2017-2021	Council approved significant capital renovation to Waterdown Memorial Hall and these renovations are currently underway.	Change in Direction

Recommended Strategies	Timing	Update	Status
Glanbrook			
11. Resolve the municipal servicing constraints at the Glanbrook Arena & Hall in order to allow for the proper function of this existing facility.	2009-2011	Capital improvements of this facility were completed in 2014. HVAC retrofit is underway in 2015.	Completed
12. Consider the sale/removal of Mount Hope Hall from the municipal inventory once new community centre developed (built 1960; low utilization; \$467,945 backlog). Seek opportunities to sell the building/property.	2017-2021	Council approved complete capital upgrades at Mount Hope Hall through a federal funding grant (CIF 150) in 2016-2018. This work will focus on accessibility.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
13. The Glanbrook Arena & Hall was built in 1975 and will approach the normal functional lifespan of an arena by 2025. Major refurbishment of this facility may be required around this time. Around this same time, a community centre consisting of an indoor pool, gymnasium, dedicated seniors space, and program space may be required. Consideration should be given to adding the community centre onto a refurbished Glanbrook Arena or removing the Arena from service and building a community centre (with one ice pad) at an alternative location in the area. Partnerships with the public library should also be explored at this time.	Post-2021	No update	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
Hamilton Mountain			
14. Add youth and community program space, as well as family change rooms, to Sir Allan MacNab Recreation Centre.	2009-2011	A family change room and pool office was added to this facility in 2012. No additions were made to youth and community program space.	Partially Complete

Recommended Strategies	Timing	Update	Status
15. Given the deteriorating condition of Westmount Recreation Centre (which was built 1965, is shared with a school, and requires very costly repairs to the pool walls and roof), a replacement community centre should be developed. The new facility should consist of two indoor pool tanks, gymnasium, and program space. Consideration may be given to developing on the existing site or south of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway, possibly at the William Connell park site. A feasibility study should be undertaken in the short-term to establish appropriate direction.	2012-2016	The new federally-funded and council-approved Westmount Recreation Centre was completed in 2013.	Completed
16. Remove Chedoke Outdoor Pool from service (oldest remaining outdoor pool – built in 1960; very shallow; not heated; \$250,000 in repairs) and replace it with a splash pad.	2012-2016	Chedoke Outdoor Pool is popular with the community and does not have major operating costs. The outdoor pool replacement with a splash pad has been postponed until at least 2020.	Further Review Required
17. Redesign/redevelop Inch Park Outdoor Pool (\$550,000 in repairs) as it is an older facility that does not meet modern standards or community expectations.	2012-2016	The new Inch Park Outdoor Pool was completed in 2013.	Completed
18. Remove Eastmount Community Hall from the municipal inventory (low utilization; close to community centres; low architectural value; \$173,971 backlog). Seek opportunities to sell the building/property.	2017-2021	Minor capital renovations were completed in 2014. There is no interest at this time to sell the building/property.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
19. Once new ice pads have been developed in Upper and/or Lower Stoney Creek, assess the need for Lawfield Arena (built 1975). If no longer required, consider utilizing this site for playing fields.	Post-2021	No update.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
20. The indoor pool at Sir Allan MacNab Recreation Centre was built in 1983 and will approach the normal functional lifespan of an indoor pool by 2023. Major refurbishment of this facility may be required.	Post-2021	No update.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached

Recommended Strategies	Timing	Update	Status
21. Hill Park Recreation Centre was built in 1973 and will approach the normal functional lifespan of a community centre by 2023. Major refurbishment of this facility may be required.	Post-2021	The HWDSB has closed Hill Park High School but has not released the property for sale. A study is underway regarding the separation of the services at Hill Park Recreation Centre. Renovation of the recreation centre is identified within the City's long-term capital forecast for 2018 or beyond.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
22. Reassess the need for an additional community centre south of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway, depending on the decisions made around the redevelopment of existing community centres, as well as other investments by non-profit agencies (e.g., YM/YWCA).	Post-2021	A recreation needs assessment and feasibility study process is anticipated to be undertaken in 2016/17.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
Lower Hamilton			
23. Redevelop the Beasley Community Centre (built 1994) by removing the existing Beasley Community Centre from the municipal inventory and redeveloping it as a larger and improved facility, adjacent to the redeveloped public school.	2009-2011	The new Beasley Community Centre completed prior to 2012. The Old Beasley Community Centre is still in use.	Partially Complete
24. Refurbish and expand Norman Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre when attached school closes (built 1981; \$226,216 backlog); this will require acquisition of the school parcel. Once complete, centre should include gymnasium, indoor pool tanks (including barrier free access, family change rooms), seniors space, youth space, program space, improved parking, etc.	2009-2011	The attached school has now closed. However, the proposed capital expansion at Norman Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre was cancelled. Gym expansion is currently proposed for 2020 or beyond. Dedicated seniors' space will be developed at Scott Park (Stadium Precinct).	No Action
25. Remove Normanhurst Hall from the municipal inventory (built 1940; low utilization, no architectural value; \$223,344 backlog). Seek opportunities to sell the building/property for other purposes.	2009-2011	Normanhurst Hall was declared surplus by the City and Real Estate has the property available to the market. No interested buyers have come forward yet.	Completed
26. Redesign/redevelop Rosedale Outdoor Pool (constructed in 1973; \$350,000 in repairs) as it is not designed to modern standards and is experiencing considerable structural and/or mechanical problems. An alternate site may be required (ideally associated with an indoor recreational facility) should its existing location be unable to accommodate a modern pool footprint.	2009-2011	Complete and opened in 2014.	Completed

Recommended Strategies	Timing	Update	Status
27. Identify a site and develop a large seniors' centre (e.g., similar to Sackville Seniors Centre) in a centralized location on a bus route in Lower Hamilton. A site adjacent to a complementary municipal service location is preferred, but not essential. Consideration should be given to locating this facility adjacent to Scott Park Arena.	2012-2016	Bernie Morelli Recreation & Senior's Centre is in detailed design phase. The tender and building permit are anticipated for 2016.	In Progress
28. Scott Park Arena was built in 1962 and has surpassed the normal functional lifespan of an arena (\$154,886 backlog). Refurbishment of this facility is required. Consideration should be given to adding other needed community uses (e.g., seniors centre) to this facility in order to make it more multi-use; opportunities may exist to redevelop the facility on adjacent lands if required.	2012-2016	Scott Park Arena has been demolished and being redeveloped as the Bernie Morelli Recreation & Senior's Centre (no indoor ice).	In Progress
29. Redesign/redevelop Parkdale Outdoor Pool (constructed in 1950, renovated in 1961; \$550,000 in repairs) as it is not designed to modern standards and is experiencing considerable structural and/or mechanical problems.	2012-2016	Minor capital works have been completed at Parkdale Outdoor Pool and capital redesign and redevelopment is planned for 2017.	No Action
30. Seek opportunities to re-purpose Eastwood Arena for public purposes in conjunction with waterfront redevelopment proposed in the area (e.g., sports fields). Remove the Arena from service (built 1955; utilization is below average; \$1,870,133 backlog).	2012-2016	Eastwood Arena is being utilized for Skate the Dream and also for bike share storage in the shoulder season and football storage in the summer. Freon upgrades (legislatively required) are proposed for 2018. There is no interest at this time for removal of the arena. It is being considered as a possible location for a partial indoor/outdoor skateboard park as part of a study which will provide recommendations in March 2016.	Change in Direction
31. Add dedicated seniors', youth and program space to Sir Winston Churchill Recreation Centre and undertake renovations to the indoor pool.	2017-2021	The expansion and renovation of Sir Winston Churchill Recreation Centre is proposed for 2021 or beyond.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached

Recommended Strategies	Timing	Update	Status
32. Ryerson Recreation Centre was built in 1971 and will approach the normal functional lifespan of a community centre by 2021; the pool will reach its normal functional lifespan by 2011. Major refurbishment of this facility will be required, including barrier free access and family change rooms.	2017-2021	The refurbishment of Ryerson Recreation Centre is proposed for 2018 or beyond.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
33. Seek opportunities to establish dedicated seniors' space, youth space, and program space at Bennetto Recreation Centre and consider partnership with library.	2017-2021	An expansion to Bennetto Recreation Centre is proposed for 2019 or beyond	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
34. Pat Quinn Parkdale Arena was built in 1965 (and renovated in 1995) and will be approaching the normal functional lifespan of a renovated arena. Major refurbishment of this facility may be required. The condition of this building and the need for it as an ice venue should be reassessed beyond 2021.	Post-2021	Freon upgrades proposed for 2017. No other renovations are currently in the 10 year capital plan for Parkdale Arena.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
35. Central Memorial Recreation Centre was built in 1900 (and expanded in 1997) and will be approaching the normal functional lifespan of a renovated community centre. Major refurbishment of this facility may be required. The condition of this building and the need for it as a venue for community recreation should be reassessed beyond 2021.	Post-2021	Capital replacements of mechanical systems were completed in 2014.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
36. Birge Outdoor Pool (constructed in 1965) and Victoria Outdoor Pool (constructed in 1974) will both be approaching the normal functional lifespan of an outdoor pool. Replacement of each of these facilities may be required in the long-term, dependent upon a more detailed assessment of the function, condition, and usage of these facilities. If redevelopment is recommended, consideration may be given to relocating them to alternate nearby locations, where warranted.	Post-2021	Complete capital replacement of Birge Outdoor Pool is currently underway. Capital replacement of Victoria Outdoor Pool is proposed for 2018 or beyond.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached

Recommended Strategies	Timing	Update	Status
<p>37. Undertake a study to identify and assess options for the provision of community centre space in Lower Stoney Creek. This area is under-served in terms of program opportunities, seniors space, and arenas and these needs will grow over time. The preferred option would be to build a large multi-use centre near the downtown core of Lower Stoney Creek; however, land availability is limited and may result in adopting a more dispersed facility strategy that looks to improve service to existing neighbourhoods and provides new opportunities for growth areas to the east.</p> <p>Re-purposing existing facilities should also be considered. Stoney Creek Arena is a good candidate for redevelopment or expansion as this facility was built in 1969 and will be approaching the normal functional lifespan of an arena by 2019 (\$364,915 backlog). This location also offers an opportunity to serve the core area of Lower Stoney Creek and should be considered as a potential site for expansion and/or consolidation of indoor municipal recreation facilities (including community and seniors space and an indoor pool).</p> <p>Existing sites are not expected to be sufficient to meet long-term needs in this community. Acquisition of one or more sites should be a high priority for this area. If improvements to Stoney Creek Arena are undertaken, there will be a need for one additional ice pad in the short-term and one more (along with an indoor pool and youth/seniors space) in the long-term, all of which would require a new site, ideally in the Winona area. This could be a phased development, with an arena, gymnasium and community centre space being constructed in the initial phase.</p>	<p>2009-2011 (study & Stoney Creek Arena improvements - tbd)</p> <p>2012-2016 (Winona-area facility – phase 1)</p> <p>Post-2021 (Winona-area facility – phase 2)</p>	<p>The new Recreation Centre in Lower Stoney Creek was completed in 2013. Stoney Creek Arena is still operational.</p> <p>A school in Winona was approved by Council for purchase by the City and is currently being renovated to convert it into a temporary community centre with a focus on children's programming. This decision was made as a strategy to sell in order to finance the new recreation centre proposed on the Fruitland-Winona Secondary Plan Community Park. This project is identified in the City's long-term capital forecast for 2018 or beyond.</p> <p>At this time, there is no update on a possible future large acquisition and/or phased redevelopment of a large recreation facility site in Winona. The City is currently at the OMB working with appellants through land acquisition appeals. Once the appeal is complete, a high level recreation review considering all of the recreation facilities in this Recreation District should be considered to move forward in a planned and strategic effort. Timing for study Q3/Q4 2016.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

Recommended Strategies	Timing	Update	Status
38. Assess options for the long-term provision of seniors space and maintenance of the Winona Senior Citizen Centre (built in 1982; \$280,582 backlog), Club 60 Senior Citizen Centre (built in 1971; \$148,247 backlog), and Warden Park Seniors' Centre (leased space). Complete redevelopment, removal, and/or consolidation of these facilities could be options. If removed, dedicated seniors space should be provided elsewhere in combination with a municipal community centre (see previous recommendation).	2009-2011	Assessment has not been completed and all facilities remain within the active inventory.	Further Review Required
39. Remove Stoney Creek Scout Hut from the municipal inventory (built in 1969; \$17,105 backlog). This building's functions should be replaced at a new community centre in the area.	2009-2011	The Stoney Creek Scout Hut was demolished in order to make way for the Lower Stoney Creek Recreation Centre, which was completed in 2013.	Completed
40. Develop an indoor pool at a municipal community centre site (to be determined, possibly at Stoney Creek Arena) and remove Brewster Pool from service. This facility is attached to a school, a single-use facility, and is not of a modern design (built in 1972; \$658,425 backlog).	2009-2011	Lower Stoney Creek Recreation Centre, including a new indoor pool, was completed in 2013. Brewster Pool is still operating.	Partially Complete
41. Redesign/redevelop Green Acres Outdoor Pool (constructed in 1957; \$550,000 in repairs) as it is not designed to modern standards and is experiencing considerable structural and/or mechanical problems.	2009-2011	The complete redevelopment of Green Acres Outdoor Pool was finished in 2015.	Completed
42. Reassess options for the Fruitland Lions Community Hall (built in 1960; \$230,061 backlog).	2012-2016	No update.	Further Review Required
43. Reassess options for the Winona Scout Hut after building condition assessment is undertaken.	2012-2016	No update.	Further Review Required
44. Seek opportunities to establish dedicated seniors, youth and program space at Dominic Agostino Riverdale Community Centre.	2017-2021	Capital renovations are proposed to commence in 2018.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached

Recommended Strategies	Timing	Update	Status
Upper Stoney Creek			
45. Secure land for the provision of a large multi-use community centre site.	2009-2011	A recreation needs assessment and feasibility study process is anticipated to be undertaken in 2015/16, including investigation of a suitable location.	No Action
46. Seek opportunities to establish dedicated seniors' space, youth space, program space, and expanded library space at Valley Park Community Centre.	2012-2016	No update. Some space reconfiguration opportunities for seniors and youth may be freed up at Valley Park Recreation Centre after the new library construction is completed in 2018-2020.	No Action
47. Establish a community centre potentially consisting of two indoor pools, two ice pads, gymnasium, dedicated seniors space (large), dedicated youth space and program space. Due to the existence of private arenas and the proximity to the Mohawk 4-pad, particular attention should be given to a proper assessment of indoor ice needs in this area. Consider partnership with library.	Post-2021	No update.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
48. Consider the development of an outdoor pool, but only if existing and planned indoor pool facilities are deemed to be insufficient to meet such needs.	Post-2021	No update.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
49. Valley Park indoor pool was built in 1986 and will be approaching the normal functional lifespan of an indoor pool by 2026. Major refurbishment of this facility may be required.	Post-2021	No update.	Timeframe Not Yet Reached
West Hamilton / Dundas			
50. Given the deteriorating condition of Dalewood Recreation Centre (which was built 1965 and is shared with a school; \$693,167 backlog), a replacement community centre should be developed. The new facility should consist of seniors' and youth space, an indoor pool, and programming and activity space. Consideration should be given to locating the facility at the existing site or another preferred site in the vicinity.	2009-2011	The project to construct a new facility at Dalewood was cancelled due to lack of funds. Modest capital renovations are underway at Dalewood to refurbish the mechanical system, roof, and pool, and to completely replace the change rooms. Work is taking place through collaboration with the HWDSB.	Change in Direction

Recommended Strategies	Timing	Update	Status
51. Remove Nigel Charlong Hall from the municipal inventory (built 1960; used primarily for non-recreational uses; \$54,375 backlog). Seek opportunities to sell the building/property for other purposes.	2009-2011	The soccer field at this location is well utilized and a feasibility study is currently underway for a pavilion at the soccer field on this property. The removal of Nigel Charlong Hall is to be revisited after the feasibility study is complete.	Further Review Required
52. Redevelop Westoby Arena (built 1978; utilization is average; \$305,643 backlog) into a twin pad facility to replace other arenas that are to be removed from service.	2012-2016	No update on the twinning of Westoby/Olympic. Site may not be suitable for twinning due the landfill site, the ESA abutting the property, and floodplain lands. Federally-funded roof renovations and city-funded parking lot renovations are in the planning stages.	No Action
53. Remove Grightmire Arena from service (built 1952; utilization is average; \$993,837 backlog) and seek opportunities to sell the site for other purposes.	2012-2016	Capital renovations were completed in 2014 for the Allen Cup. The planning of further capital renovations are currently underway, including new change rooms, accessibility, etc. Additional funding will be required to complete the full scope of renovations. There is no interest to sell the building/property.	Change in Direction
54. Seek opportunities to re-purpose Coronation Arena and Outdoor Pool for other public purposes (e.g., sports fields). Remove the Arena (built 1981; \$622,491 backlog) and Outdoor Pool (not heated; built in 1981; usage is average to low; not built to modern standards; \$550,000 in repairs) from service.	2012-2016	Coronation Outdoor Pool was redeveloped in 2012. There is no interest to remove the Arena from the inventory.	Change in Direction
55. If required and feasible, explore the potential for a beneficial partnership with a third party provider for guaranteed community access to the equivalent of one additional ice pad.	2012-2021	The potential partnership considered at the time did not materialize and is no longer being considered.	Completed

Directions / Best Practices	Update
Community Centres	
<p>A. A City-wide provision standard of one community recreation centre (municipal or not-for-profit) for every <u>30,000 residents</u> is a reasonable target – particularly for new growth areas – as this is more reflective of the broader scope of services modern community centres offer. Translated directly, this application of this standard would mean that the City is oversupplied by approximately 5 community centres at present, but would be at equilibrium by 2031. Given the extreme importance and community value placed on recreation centres at the local level, it is recommended that the City give strong consideration to not reducing the supply of this facility type and that the proposed provision standard be applied predominantly to under-supplied areas and where new growth is anticipated.</p>	<p>With a supply of 25 community recreation centres (municipal and not-for-profit), the current ratio is one facility per 22,254 residents (based on a 2015 population estimate of 556,359). As per the previous direction, the City has not reduced its supply of community recreation centres.</p>
<p>B. Under the larger umbrella of community recreation centres, it is recommended that the City establish a target of 1 A-rated municipal community centre for every 200,000 residents (does not include non-profit operations, such as the YMCA/YWCA or Boys & Girls Club, which offer several comparable facilities). This means that the City is undersupplied by 2 such facilities at present and 1 more will be needed by 2031 (for a total of 3). New development and/or facility expansion will be required to achieve this goal.</p>	<p>The City still has 0 A-rated major multi-use centres (i.e., facilities with at least a gymnasium, a multi-purpose room, an indoor pool, dedicated seniors and/or youth space, and one other major recreational facility such as an arena, library, full fitness centre, etc.)</p>
<p>C. If any existing arenas become surplus through new development, there could be opportunities to repurpose some buildings into B-rated community centres where needed.</p>	<p>Besides Scott Park Arena which was demolished (and being redeveloped as a B-rated community centre), no arenas have become surplus.</p>
<p>D. Furthermore, school closures could create opportunities to purchase land for community centre development in areas of need. Unfortunately, as schools close, the School Boards are frequently selling these sites for residential development. This can result in the loss of sports fields and also reduces the potential for the City to redevelop the sites for community recreation purposes. Furthermore, newer school blocks are not as large as they used to be, which is limiting the City's ability to partner on capital projects that have the potential for a joint school and community centre complex.</p>	<p>The City has purchased Winona Public School (for a temporary community centre) and Memorial School in Ancaster (for the Ancaster Memorial Arts Centre). A number of other board surplus properties are also being considered.</p> <p>The City is partnering with the HWDSB on a number of new construction projects: Bernie Morelli Centre on the South Pan Am Precinct (North Secondary School), Beverly School and Community Hub and Greensville School and Community Hub.</p>
<p>E. Where new indoor pools (and arenas, to a lesser extent) are needed, it is recommended that they be located at community centre sites. It is also suggested that other municipal services (such as youth services, senior services, libraries, etc.) seek to locate within community centres; the need for more youth centres ranked very high on the household survey.</p>	<p>The City's newest recreation facility projects have involved multiple components and/or partners, including the development of an indoor pool to complement other facilities at the Stoney Creek Recreation Centre.</p>
Indoor Pools	

Directions / Best Practices	Update
F. First and foremost, whether through redevelopment or new construction (or both), the City needs to improve the quality and condition of its indoor pools.	New pools have been built in Westmount and Lower Stoney Creek. A new pool is forthcoming at the new Bernie Morelli Recreation & Seniors' Centre.
G. A target of 1 municipal/non-profit indoor pool for every <u>30,000 residents</u> should be established. Non-profit pools (e.g., YMCA/YWCA and Boys & Girls Club) have been included in this ratio because each sustains a high level of community usage and there is a history of partnership between these agencies and the City. With a current supply of 23 indoor pools, implementation of this target means that the City has an oversupply of 6 facilities (a need for only 17 pools). Over time, this oversupply will decline to one facility (a need for 22 pools by 2031).	With a supply of 25 indoor pools (municipal and not-for-profit), the current ratio is one facility per 22,254 residents (based on a 2015 population estimate of 556,359).
H. In order to improve the quality of the existing stock and meet the long-term target of 1:30,000 (City and non-profit), several outdated indoor pools should be redeveloped.	Refurbishment of indoor pools is underway; Sir Allan McNab Recreation Centre has been completed, Dalewood Recreation Centre is underway, and Ancaster Aquatic Centre is forthcoming. Westmount Recreation Centre was redeveloped and new indoor pools were built at the Stoney Creek Recreation Facilities and Bernie Morelli Recreation & Seniors' Centre (underway).
I. Despite the recommended target of 1:30,000 residents, an equitable geographic distribution of indoor pool facilities may result in the construction of one or more new indoor pools and the redevelopment of one or more indoor pools as outlined later in the more detailed review of each geographic area	Since the 2008 Study was completed, one new municipal indoor pool have been added (Stoney Creek Recreation Centre) and another project is underway (Bernie Morelli Recreation & Seniors' Centre)
Seniors' Centres	
J. Establish a target of 0.7 square feet of dedicated seniors' space per resident age 60+, declining to approximately 0.5sf by 2031. This standard is higher than the existing level of provision due to an existing deficiency in dedicated space for seniors. The declining ratio reflects an expectation that the usage of other community centre components by future seniors will likely increase, thereby decreasing the reliance on dedicated space. Application of this proposed ratio means that the City as a whole is undersupplied by approximately 14,000 square feet at present and will require 48,000 additional square feet by 2031 (for a total of over 103,000sf of dedicated seniors' space).	In keeping with this direction, the City has increased its supply of seniors' centre space through new developments in Flamborough and the Stadium Precinct.

Directions / Best Practices	Update
<p>K. Wherever possible, new seniors' space should be integrated into community centre facilities (a minimum of 3,000 square feet). No new stand-alone centres should be considered, unless within a seniors' housing project, within a joint-use public/government facility, or where no other viable opportunity exists.</p>	<p>The City's newest seniors' centres are all integrated with recreation centres or other partnership models. The new Beverly School and Community Hub and Greensville School and Community Hub are examples of integrated community facilities with joint-use with the HWDSB.</p>
Arenas	
<p>L. Improvements to existing arenas and development of new arenas will generally be a lower priority than investments relating to indoor pools and activity space for youth and seniors.</p>	<p>Youth and seniors' spaces have been prioritized through the development of the new Bernie Morelli Recreation and Seniors' Centre, renovations to Ancaster Senior Achievement Centre, renovations to Sackville Seniors' Centre, Winona Community Centre (temporary), and the Greensville and Beverly School and Community Hubs. New facility construction at Westmount Recreation Centre, Stoney Creek Recreation Centre, and upcoming at Bernie Morelli Recreation and Seniors' Centre shows indoor pool investment.</p>
<p>M. Given the lower priority placed on arenas in the household survey and availability of prime time ice in many arenas, the current level of supply appears to be sufficient to meet needs on a City-wide basis (recognizing that some geographic inequalities may exist). It is widely accepted that children and youth are the primary user of municipal arenas – with adult usage largely occurring in non-prime time, unused prime time, or at private rinks – and that this priority system should continue. The present supply of 24 ice surfaces is equivalent to one pad for approximately every 21,000 residents or 4,100 youth (ages 5 to 19). As such, it is recommended that Hamilton adopt a City-wide provision target of <u>one municipal (or partnered) ice pad for every 4,100 youth</u>. Application of this target shows that there is presently an overall balance of supply and demand and that there will be a need for 2 additional ice surfaces by 2031 (for a total of 26). Arena demand will not increase as rapidly as the population, as the number of youth is growing at a slower rate due to the aging of society.</p>	<p>With a supply of 25 ice pads (municipal and partnered), the current ratio is one ice pad per 3,670 youth (based on a 2015 population estimate of 91,762 youth, ages 5 to 19). The surplus of municipal ice time has grown considerably since the 2008 Study was completed and future arena needs and strategies should be reassessed.</p>
<p>N. New development should occur in the form of multi-pad facilities (through twinning or new construction).</p>	<p>The City's most recent arena development projects have both been twin pad facilities Morgan Firestone Arena (twinning of an existing single pad) and Harry Howell Arena (new twin pad).</p>
<p>O. Replacement and/or re-purposing of selected older single pad arenas will also likely be required.</p>	<p>To date, Scott Park Arena has been repurposed into the Bernie Morelli Recreation and Seniors Centre.</p>

Directions / Best Practices	Update
P. Changes to the supply of privately-operated rinks could impact the City's facility development programme.	Since 2008, Barton Doublerinks has closed and the Gateway Ice Centre has been developed, increasing the private supply by one ice pad, most notably impacting the Lower Stoney Creek area. Further review of arena needs is required as part of this Phase 1 Update.
Community Halls	
Q. Closure of underused halls that require significant investment is possible, particularly where these functions can be wrapped into a nearly facility upgrade and in areas where an adequate supply already exists. This may not be an option for the large majority of rural halls.	To date, two underused halls in urban areas have been removed from the inventory (Normanhurst Hall and Stoney Creek Scout Hut). Several community halls in rural areas have been renovated; their long-term maintenance requires further review.
R. The City may wish to continue to divest community hall operations to volunteer boards where the facilities no longer meet municipal recreation needs or where management by a non-profit community organization would be more responsive to local needs. Policies should be developed for the disposition and maintenance of community halls.	There is no update on the disposition and maintenance of community halls. Several volunteer boards are becoming increasingly short on volunteers, thus this direction requires further review.
Outdoor Pools	
S. The City should retain outdoor pools that are located in high needs areas and/or in areas that do not have adequate access to quality indoor pools. A City-wide provision standard of one outdoor pool for every 12,500 youth ages 5 to 19 should be used as a target for future planning, recognizing that other factors may supersede this established ratio. The standard references children and youth specifically as this age group is the predominant user of outdoor pools; given the City's current demographic mix, this ratio roughly translates into one pool per 77,000 total residents.	With a supply of 10 outdoor pools, the current ratio is one outdoor per 9,176 youth (based on a 2015 population estimate of 91,762 youth, ages 5 to 19).
T. Should any existing pools be removed from the inventory, strong consideration should be given to replacing them with children's splash pads.	Armstrong and Waterdown wading pools have been removed but splash pads were not put into place. No other wading pools or large outdoor pools have been removed.

Appendix C: Record of Public Input

Summary of Public Information Sessions

Six public information sessions were held in February 2016. The location and date of the sessions are as follows:

- February 2nd—Stoney Creek Recreation Centre
- February 3rd—Ryerson Recreation Centre
- February 4th—Bennetto Recreation Centre
- February 8th—Glanbrook Arena
- February 9th—Westmount Recreation Centre
- February 11th—Harry Howell Arena

All sessions were held in the evenings and, in addition to a multi-pronged promotion strategy, effort was made to schedule these sessions during busy programming times to allow facility users to participate. In total, at least 151 residents participated in these sessions.

An open-house format was used for each public information sessions with a series of display boards providing information on the Study Update. At each session, participants were encouraged to provide their feedback on a number of multiple-choice using stickers to vote for their preferred answer and markers to write down additional comments. The results of the multiple-choice questions are summarized below. Please note that these results are not statistically significant and may not be representative of the community. Any directions expressed in this report based on public input (explicit or implicit) may not necessarily be the positions taken by the consultant in the final report.

Question 1: How satisfied are you with the City's existing recreation facilities?				
Facility Type	Not at all satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied	Total
Arenas	11%	43%	47%	100%
Community Halls	29%	57%	14%	100%
Fitness Centres & Studios	52%	40%	8%	100%
Gymnasiums	49%	33%	18%	100%
Indoor Pools	44%	21%	36%	100%
Multi -Use Activity Rooms	25%	50%	25%	100%
Public Outdoor Pools	40%	44%	16%	100%
Seniors' centres	51%	37%	13%	100%
Multi-use Activity Rooms	37%	44%	19%	100%

Question 2: The City of Hamilton has many aging recreation facilities that are reaching the end of their useful life. If the City decides to replace these recreation facilities or build new ones, which of the following two options would you most prefer?				
Option 1: The City should provide fewer, but larger recreation facilities that offer a wide range of activities	Option 2: The City should provide more, but smaller recreation facilities that offer a narrow range of activities	I like both equally	I don't like either option	Total
44%	27%	22%	6%	100%

Question 3: If the City were to build new indoor pools in the future, which of the following options would you most prefer?				
Option 1: A traditional rectangular design primary for lane swimming, lessons, and aquatic clubs	Option 2: A leisure design with a slide and other features that would be primarily for recreational swimming and swim lessons	I like both equally	I don't like either option	Total
34%	36%	30%	1%	100%

The following three tables show responses at each session and additional comments provided.

Question 1: How satisfied are you with the City's existing Recreation facilities?				
Public Information Session Location	Facility Type	Not at all Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Stoney Creek Recreation Centre	Arenas	3	13	7
	Community Halls	1	12	3
	Fitness Centres & Studios	8	11	3
	Gymnasiums	12	4	1
	Indoor Pools	2	8	18
	Public Outdoor Pools	7	10	6
	Multi-use Activity Rooms	5	10	6
	Senior centres	0	9	1
Ryerson Recreation Centre	Arenas	4	7	6
	Community Halls	9	7	0
	Fitness Centres & Studios	12	4	1
	Gymnasiums	9	5	1
	Indoor Pools	24	5	5
	Public Outdoor Pools	8	7	2
	Multi-use Activity Rooms	11	9	2
	Senior centres	18	4	1
Bennetto Community Centre	Arenas	0	6	2
	Community Halls	1	1	0
	Fitness Centres & Studios	1	1	2
	Gymnasiums	1	3	4
	Indoor Pools	1	4	9
	Public Outdoor Pools	1	8	1
	Multi -Use Activity Rooms	1	2	3
	Senior Centres	3	0	0
Glanbrook Arena	Arenas	2	4.5	8.5
	Community Halls	0	9	0
	Fitness Centres & Studios	3	7	0
	Gymnasiums	2	4	0
	Indoor Pools	5	6	3
	Public Outdoor Pools	7	5	0
	Multi -Use Activity Rooms	3	5	0
	Senior Centres	2	2	0
Westmount Recreation Centre	Arenas	0	0	6
	Community Halls	0	4	2
	Fitness Centres & Studios	7	5	0
	Gymnasiums	2	4	3
	Indoor Pools	8	3	10
	Public Outdoor Pools	0	4	4
	Multi -Use Activity Rooms	4	1	2
	Senior Centres	4	3	1
Harry Howell Arena	Arenas	0.5	7.5	12
	Community Halls	7	3	4
	Fitness Centres & Studios	12	5	1
	Gymnasiums	9	4	4
	Indoor Pools	19	2	3
	Public Outdoor Pools	11	4	1
	Multi -Use Activity Rooms	0	8	3
	Senior Centres	5	5	5

*Half-mark responses (0.5) indicate participant intentionally placed sticker to overlap between two options

Question 2: The City of Hamilton has many aging recreation facilities that are reaching the end of their useful life. If the City decides to replace these recreation facilities or build new ones, which of the following two options would you most prefer?					
Public Information Session Location	Option 1: The City should provide fewer, but larger recreation facilities that offer a wide range of activities	Option 2: The City should provide more, but smaller recreation facilities that offer a narrow range of activities	I like both equally	I don't like either option	Additional Comments
Stoney Creek Recreation Centre	14	4	15	2	
Ryerson Recreation Centre	5	18	3	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no amenities in Ainslie Wood/Ainslie Wood needs facilities • Narrow range of activities only serves a narrow range of citizens • Update public tennis courts - numbers increasing nationally
Bennetto Community Centre	4	5	7	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi Sport large complex with many gyms, tracks, fitness centre, health services, pool, indoor track, spectator arena • LOCAL is key!
Harry Howell Arena	14	5	4	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can do both! • Large scale, modern, multi use facilities for greater community-wide participation + cost effective • Examine each wards needs (rural/urban)
Westmount Recreation Centre	14	6	0	1	
Glanbrook Arena	12	1	3	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both - some larger central recreation centres and some smaller ones are useful

*Bolded comments indicate this comment was received from multiple participants.

Question 3: If the City were to build new indoor pools in the future, which of the following options would you most prefer?					
Public Information Session Location	Option 1: A traditional rectangular design primary for lane swimming, lessons, and aquatic clubs	Option 2: A leisure design with a slide and other features that would be primarily for recreational swimming and swim lessons	I like both equally	I don't like either option	Additional Comments
Stoney Creek Recreation Centre	7	14	13	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saltwater pool • Pool in Binbrook • No more slides - never open and liability
Ryerson Recreation Centre	14	11	12	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitive pool • Ainslie Woods needs a recreation centre • Pool design must address accessibility • Mix of facilities
Bennetto Community Centre	3	9	4	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long overdue, competitive pool needed! Hot pool + teach tanks in North end
Harry Howell Arena	13	5	9	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can do both • Circle pools for laps • More family involve for fitness/different pools for different areas of use • Combine features in 1 pool, like Tansley Woods + use good scheduling
Westmount Recreation Centre	13	2	6	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions too limiting
Glanbrook Arena	1	13	1	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leisure pool - splash pad • Indoor pool in Glanbrook • 2 indoor pools - one for lessons, one for recreational use

Question 4 was open-ended and asked participants for suggestions for improving selected facility types, specifically: community centres and halls, seniors' centres, arenas, indoor pools, and public outdoor pools. Responses are summarized below for each session to show different needs in different areas. Responses in bold indicate that this comment was received from multiple participants.

Question 4: What suggestions do you have for improving our facilities?					
Public Information Session Location	Community Centres & Halls	Seniors' Centres	Arenas	Indoor Pools	Public Outdoor Pools
Stoney Creek Recreation Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More fitness centres • Indoor running track • Better rental access to gymnasiums • More evening programs • Birthday party rentals for indoor playground • New facility in Binbrook • Educate patrons on using family change rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stoney Creek needs a facility like Sackville 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More public skating • Skate rentals • Updated, bigger change rooms • Too cold • Motion sensor doors (to make it easier to carry in equipment) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deeper pools • Pay more attention to people entering the pool without showering • Refill shower soap • Improve hot tub - fix jets, hotter water • Improve change room maintenance • Longer lane swim hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More outdoor pools in Stoney Creek • More wading pools
Ryerson Recreation Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ainslie Woods needs a community centre • Very few facilities • Community gyms/fitness centres as opposed to commercial ones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services, recreation, and programs for seniors are needed • Ainslie Woods needs a seniors centre • My area has no facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skate rentals • Multi-pads and more arenas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern, competitive pools • Saltwater pools • Lane swimming • Ainslie Woods needs an indoor pool • Need more pools • Parking facilities • Water refill stations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ainslie Woods needs an outdoor pool • More outdoor pools needed

Public Information Session Location	Community Centres & Halls	Seniors' Centres	Arenas	Indoor Pools	Public Outdoor Pools
Bennetto Community Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indoor track for use during cold weather for youth & seniors (at least 200m) Full size gyms for competitive court sports (i.e. basketball, volleyball etc.) Spectator space for viewing competition Meet the needs of variety of sport clubs More indoor games like table tennis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking indoor track (200m) Fitness equipment 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build a 50m pool, 8 lanes with spectator space Diving board for competitive training for diving Fix existing pools facilities first before expanding/building new ones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build an outdoor pool in the North End
Harry Howell Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need Indoor running track Need Outdoor running track Need larger multi-sport facilities for competitions More programs (babysitting, cooking) Gym and arts programs at every centre Allow option for water polo at each pool While parents are waiting we should be able to use fitness equipment - maybe extra fee? Treadmill, bike, walking lane, indoor path 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need indoor fields for Winter Training programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More availability of public open skates, figure skating, outside of Flamborough skate club times Keep arenas open all year long in Waterdown Exercise options for parents at arenas while their kids skate! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need major competitive pool for aquatics Build a City pool - current YMCA schedule does NOT accommodate summer daytime public swims for kids. In addition, swim lesson costs of monthly membership fee far more expensive than City programs Please build more facilities like Westmount or Valley Park as they serve so many 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bigger Pools with family arenas Sun shades, lots Outdoor pool for Flamborough

Public Information Session Location	Community Centres & Halls	Seniors' Centres	Arenas	Indoor Pools	Public Outdoor Pools
Westmount Recreation Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need Indoor running track • Need Outdoor running track • Need larger multi-sport facilities for competitions • Gym and arts programs at every centre • While parents are waiting we should be able to use fitness equipment - maybe extra fee? Treadmill, bike, walking lane, indoor path 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More availability of public open skates, figure skating, outside of Flamborough skate club times • Keep arenas open all year long in Waterdown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build a City pool - current YMCA schedule does NOT accommodate summer daytime public swims for kids. In addition, swim lesson costs of monthly membership fee far more expensive than City programs 	
Glanbrook Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fitness facility with indoor pool! • Continued/improved variety of programming • Varied gym equipment at facilities (small basketball nets) 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Binbrook needs one! • Valley Park - better viewing area for toddler pools • Indoor pool in Binbrook or Glanbrook 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glanbrook splash pad/outdoor pool

Stakeholder Group Survey

The stakeholder group survey captured a large and diverse set of groups and organizations that use the City's indoor recreation facilities. The 73 respondent groups are listed in the following table, along with registration data if it was provided.

Group Type	Group Name	Total Registration		
		2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
Outdoor Sports	ABC Soccer Co.			
	FC Vratnik			
	Gage Park Softball Association			
	Hamilton Bike Polo Club			
	Hamilton Challenger Baseball	30	30	30
	Hamilton Lacrosse Association	550	600	625
	Hamilton Olde Sports Slo-Pitch Association	224	224	224
	Hamilton Olympic Club	120	125	138
	Hamilton Sparta	60	80	100
	Hamilton Sport Group	63	70	88
	Leander Boat Club			
	Rosedale Community Council			
	Rosedale Tennis Club			
Indoor Sports	Blessed Sacrament Yellow Jackets Basketball Club	500	500	500
	Central Men's Basketball Club	23	25	25
	Flamborough Fire			
	Hamilton Area Roller Derby			
	Hamilton Basketball Association			
	Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic Athletic Association			
	Hammer City Roller Girls	90	86	103
	Informal Basketball Group (No name)			
	McMaster Men's Volleyball	325	350	400
	Mountain Volleyball Club			
	Pickleball Hamilton			
	Reach Forth Sports	1,250	1,300	1,322
Hockey	SportHamilton			
	Ancaster Avalanche Jr. Hockey Club			
	Ancaster Maroons	24	24	24
	Ancaster Men's Hockey League	130	130	130
	Ancaster Minor Hockey League	780	750	750
	Carlisle Sunday Night Hockey League	56	56	56
	Chedoke Minor Hockey League	456	466	452
	E. Mazzuca Hockey			
	Flamborough Girls Hockey Association	155	160	190
	Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club	80	300	
	HMHIP	338	420	439
	Lawfield Minor Hockey Association	575	565	565

Group Type	Group Name	Registration		
		2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
Aquatic or pool-related clubs	Ancaster Masters Swim Club	40	45	50
	Dundas Seahawks Swim Club	30	30	30
	Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club	97	126	154
	Hamilton Aquatic Club			
	Hamilton Aquatic Water Polo Club	30	40	50
	Hamilton Water Polo/Ancaster Skating club			
	York Sub-Aqua Club			
Fitness programs	Cameron Strength & Conditioning			
	Canadian Tai Chi Academy			
	Fit Active Beautiful Foundation	200	180	180
	Hamilton Barbell			
	J.R.'s Karate Club	20	20	15
	Positive Energy Pilates & Fitness			
	Sahaja Yoga/VND Educational Society			
School groups	Ancaster High School			
	Bennetto Elementary School			
	Hamilton District Christian High			
	Saltfleet District High School			
	Westmount Secondary School/SMASH Volleyball		30	30
Youth-based organizations & drop-in centres	1st Winona Scouting			
	779 Black Knight Squadron-Air Cadet League of Canada			
	Routes Youth Centre			
	Sea Cadets (RCSCC Dundas/Navy League)			
	Wever Community CORE	500	500	500
Service clubs	Kinsmen Club of Hamilton			
	Mount Hope Lions Club			
	Optimist Club of Carlisle			
	Rockton Lions Club			
Health services organizations & special needs	Community Living Hamilton			
	St. Joseph's Healthcare-Schizophrenia Outpatient Clinic			
	Woodview Mental Health and Autism Services			
Community organizations/associations	AWWCA (Ainslie Wood / Westdale Community Association of Resident Homeowners Inc.)			
	Hamilton Association for Residential and Recreational Redevelopment Programs			
	PL4ALL Steering Committee			
Church groups	Community Church			
	Holy Name of Jesus	160	170	175

Email Correspondence

Residents who were unable to attend the public information sessions or who had additional feedback were able to submit their comments by email. All emailed feedback received during this Phase 1 Study Update is compiled below. Names and contact information has been removed.

Subject: Indoor turf in Hamilton

Further to our discussion last week...

I volunteer with the Hamilton Ultimate Club (ultimate frisbee). We rent fields year round and play our sport indoors and out. Through the media, I learned of plans to put a dome over Tim Horton's field. I endorse this idea. We have been trying to expand our indoor league and offer tournaments to bring teams from other towns in... and there is never a venue with enough availability.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Subject: Recreation

In Ainslie Wood there are no recreation facilities. Why? We have needs too around here. Please look into something at Alexander Park.

Subject: Dundas rec centre needed!

I saw the tweet regarding rec centre indoor space and I was wondering why the west end of Hamilton never seems to get any of these facilities?

In Dundas or Ancaster (some of the highest paying property tax prices) there is no rec centre, amazing pool, public rental rooms, gyms or twin arenas like so many other communities (eg Stoney creek) I feel like this end of city has been neglected. A big beautiful rec centre would be absolutely perfect on the old Parkside property right on the Dundas Driving Park. I hope this will be considered.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Subject: Fwd: Indoor Recreation Study Update 2015

I belong to Pickleball Hamilton club and have enjoyed playing at Hill Park outdoor courts all summer. There is a big need for wind screens as it is very open there. The courts are beautiful so thank you to the city of Hamilton for providing them to pickleball players for use.

I would like to thank the city of Hamilton for such a reasonably priced membership to all the recreation centres which encourages and includes all ages to get exercise.

Pickleball originated in 1965 in Washington State. It recently has exploded in Canada especially to us seniors. My 4 children and husband enjoy the sport as well. It has become so popular that at times, the whole bench is full waiting. I've seen up to 12 people waiting to get on a court both here and at Ancaster Rotary Centre.

I think we would appreciate more time for pickleball and maybe split sessions where you have a beginner/intermediate followed by intermediate/advanced sessions to encourage more total participants. Proper equipment of paddles and nets would be nice especially for those who would like to see what the sport is about.

Subject: Indoor Rec Facilities Study

I recently learned of the Indoor Recreation Facilities Study. Looking at the City's website, think I just missed the PICs. Please advise on best way for me to submit comments. Is the questionnaire still being used?

I would also like to be added to your email list of those wishing to be notified when information is circulated and announcements are made.

Subject: Fw: multi sport facility

I have attached a letter of support on behalf of Hamilton Masters, for Kevin Gonci and his Hamilton Sport Group, advocating a new indoor multi sport "Recreational Centre", for Hamilton., to include a 200 metre running track.

I have also attached a summary of my running achievements for Hamilton and the Hamilton Olympic Club.

Just a brief follow-up with regards to our initial conversation about the Sport Hamilton proposal for a new multi-sport facility development in Hamilton.

Please find attached a synopsis of our findings which will provide a general overview of the need for such a facility within our community.

Our initial findings have concluded that the sport of Athletics (track & field) is currently underserved and is being sadly neglected within our community. Actual participation rates for this sport are somewhat skewed due to the exclusion of related sports such as cross country running and road racing/marathons which are conducted annually.

As you will find it is extremely difficult for our sport to build capacity when (unlike other sports) we lack adequate indoor training & competition facilities and the only public outdoor facility has a backlog of critical repairs.

Your feedback on the attached material would be very much appreciated,

Submitted document:

January 20, 2016

SPORT HAMILTON – MULTI-SPORT FACILITY TASK FORCE

Thanks again for allowing us the opportunity to participate in the Phase 2 facility review. As previously discussed our group has been working on a proposal towards the development of a new multi-sport facility in Hamilton and a great deal of the information which we initially consulted was contained within the Phase 1 review.

In addition to support and interest from our local track & field community we have received tremendous interest from other sport groups including baseball, soccer, volleyball, lawn bowling, pickleball, floorball, basketball and the YWCA. Our proposal philosophy is based on an all – inclusive community facility which allows for program synergies and flexibility through both structured and recreational activities.

Based on the information contained within the 2008 Study, we have identified that our proposed facility would fit well with the "Option 4" recommendation as either a new facility build or existing facility renewal project in a potential partnership with local school boards, City of Hamilton or both.

The bullet points on page two summarize key indicators from the 2008 and 2011 City of Hamilton reports which would substantiate the development of a new multi-sport facility in the City of Hamilton. The remaining highlights further detail the benefits of a multi-sport facility design for both individual members of our community and elite level athletes.

If you have any further questions regarding our proposal please feel free to contact either Helen Downey or myself directly,

USE, RENOVATION AND REPLACEMENT STUDY OF HAMILTON RECREATION AND PUBLIC-USE FACILITIES – RECOMMENDATIONS (AUGUST 2008)

- A significant portion of the City's recreational facility inventory is in significant need of backlog repair and upgrading and has been described as being in "crisis".
- Community consultations revealed that families and local sport groups support the development of a multi-sport facility which provides a "one-stop shopping opportunity". With increasing trends towards physical inactivity and the associated rationale of "not having enough time", the multi-sport facility option provides physical activity opportunities for family members with a variety of recreational interests.
- Multi-Sport facility designs provide for a more cost effective "economies of scale" towards the construction and operational costs of new facility development or renewal.
- Recommendation is made to identify and secure potential "creative partnership" opportunities for further cost savings and efficiency and perceived impact of future school closures. Recently, Nustadia Recreation has expressed interest in the development of such a facility within Hamilton and the YWCA has indicated an interest in conducting community health and wellness programming within such a facility.
- A significant portion of Hamilton's population includes the aging "baby boomer generation" which seeks to maintain a more active lifestyle than previous generations of seniors, as seniors today and tomorrow are expected to be more physically active than past generations.
- A multi-sport, multi-activity, multi-event, multi-purpose facility is most suitable for multi-generation seniors groups who currently rely on stand-alone seniors centres.
- The "Canadian Community Health Survey (2000/2001)" identified that the most popular physical activity for adults over the age of 20 is "walking for exercise".
- Consultants have identified that the City of Hamilton is currently underserved by two "A-Rated Facilities" (major multi-use centres) which are recommended at a ratio of 1:200,000.
- 72% of household survey respondents supported larger, multi-purpose facility development.

OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES & SPORTS FIELD PROVISION PLAN (NOVEMBER 2001)

- "Indoor running/walking tracks are the most popular due to their ability to accommodate year-round access", as noted in Hamilton's Indoor Recreation Study.
- "Should community and competitive demands warrant, the city may consider developing an indoor track in a future indoor recreation facility".

REGIONAL CONCEPT AND BENEFITS TO SPORTS TOURISM

We have received over 60 Letters of Support from area secondary schools who have indicated an interest in utilizing the proposed indoor track & field facility for weekly training sessions and hosting competitions.

RATIONALE

Most secondary school track & field programs cease training between the months of November to March which hinders skills and conditioning development for nearly one thousand local and three thousand athletes throughout the region. Each season there are between five to six secondary school indoor competitions being hosted in Guelph and Toronto and locally schools are unable to host such competitions due to a lack of proper facilities.

Expressions of interest from track & field clubs and organizations throughout the region have expressed interest in utilizing the proposed indoor track & field facility for weekly training sessions and to host open and provincial championship competitions:

- Hamilton Olympic Club.
- Stoney Creek Athletics.
- Monte Cristo Track & Field Club.
- HEAT Athletics.
- Niagara Olympic Club, St. Catharines.
- Burlington Track & Field Club.
- Brantford Track & Field Club.
- 91st Highlanders Athletic Association (Hamilton Indoor Games).

RATIONALE

In 2014 the organizers of the annual Hamilton Indoor Games identified the need for substantial refurbishment of the current indoor portable track used annually at First Ontario Center. Participation levels have been steadily declining over the last few years and has been attributed to the irregular dimensions of the current track (160m). The 91st Highlanders Athletic Association has expressed support for the development of a new indoor 200m track & field facility which would be compliant with IAAF standards and allow for this legacy event to continue in Hamilton. There would also be a significant cost savings to the City of Hamilton Grant Program as this event would no longer depend on annual funding assistance.

Capacity growth of our local track & field clubs has been hindered due to a lack of compliant indoor track & field facilities. As with local volleyball, soccer, hockey and basketball clubs who are capable of hosting annual tournaments and competitions, local track & field clubs are unable to generate much needed revenues to sustain and increase program capacity from hosting similar events placing them at a tremendous disadvantage.

Each season there are approximately six to eight indoor track & field competitions hosted between Guelph and Toronto including provincial championship events. Sport governing bodies including local clubs have identified Hamilton as a “centralized” location within the Golden Horseshoe Region and by hosting up to four championship events in one season, would contribute to nearly a half million dollars to our local economy (Sports Tourism).

LONG TERM ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT (LTAD) MODEL

The LTAD framework is a seven-stage training, competition and recovery pathway that guides individuals’ experiences in sport and physical activity from infancy through all phases of adulthood.

The twelve month training cycle required for elite level track & field development cannot be achieved within the City of Hamilton due to the lack of suitable indoor training facilities. This lack of proper training facilities has resulted in area athletes having to travel out of town during the indoor season and has created a stagnation in the training progression of several of our top young athletes.

Letters of endorsement from the following sport governing bodies:

- Athletics Canada.
- Athletics Ontario.
- Royal Canadian Legion.
- Special Olympics.
- Minor Track Association.

RATIONALE

The standard for indoor track & field facilities is the 200m track oval including facilities for throws and jumps. Most configurations allow for the accommodation of other sport and athletic activities within the infield or perimeter of the track area including court or turf sports.

Each of the governing bodies noted above host an annual indoor championship event (1-2 days) and have expressed an interest in hosting their event in Hamilton at any facility in compliance with IAAF standards. Based on the calculations provided by the Province of Ontario's TRIEM Model, the local economic benefits to our area from hosting these events can be quite substantial.

CURRENT SUPPLY OF INDOOR TRACK & FIELD FACILITIES

The City of Hamilton lacks adequate indoor track & field facilities which would enhance the long term development of our area track & field athletes. Currently local athletes cease indoor training during the winter months or travel out of town to facilities in Guelph or Toronto.

The current indoor running track at McMaster University is not totally accessible to local club/school programs as this facility mainly caters to university faculty and students. The track configuration does not allow for indoor competitions, there is a lack of spectator seating and no facilities for field events (throws and jumps).

MULTI-SPORT BENEFITS

The required floor space for a standard indoor track & field facility is between 56,000 to 75,000 square feet. The total floor area represents the potential for additional sport activities and events through the use of a durable floor surface and various court configurations.

In addition to community recreation and sports activities, the multi-use features which this facility allows includes public gatherings, conventions, special events, cultural events, health and wellness programs, youth and senior activities and sports entertainment events.

The multi-sport benefits of such a facility would allow for competitive programs to conduct year-round training and competition under "one roof" and would contribute to the overall efficiency to the co-ordination of sport programming and facility management.

RUNNING DEMOGRAPHICS

The City of Hamilton has historically been a "hot bed" for quality running events and competitions which attract world recognition and participation annually. The former Hamilton Spectator Indoor Games, Around The Bay Road Race, Road To Hope Marathon, Boxing Day Road Race combined with several 5km and 10km road races throughout our region each year, make Hamilton a desirable Sports Tourism destination for running enthusiasts from around the country.

The Sport Calgary, Sport Facility Supply & Demand Study (May 2014) recognizes both "Cross Country Running" and "Running/Marathons" as sport activities popular among Canadians which have been increasing in popularity. Participation rates for both sports have

more than doubled over the past five years 2008 – 5,998 vs. 2013 – 11,998 combined with the participation rate of Athletics 5,999 establishes this as a very significant sport participation demographic. If you translate these participation rates locally, you would anticipate that we would be capable of either matching or exceeding these numbers.

Can you please let me know if there is a Waterdown area recreation Centre in the plans? If not, can you please provide me with the appropriate contact person and department to discuss how fellow community members and I can facilitate the conversation into action.

Thanks. Have a great day!

Subject: Ainslie Wood Needs A Recreation Centre

Thanks for the opportunity to explain why Ainslie Wood needs a recreation centre.

My family lives in Ainslie Wood, which is a struggling, underserved community. We do not have any community, educational or recreation facilities available to the public here at all. Neighbouring Westdale, on the other hand, has three public schools, two recreations centres with pools (Dalewood and Coronation Park), a community hub at Churchill Park's lawn bowling club, a public library, a post office, soccer fields, public tennis courts and McMaster's facilities. Ainslie Wood has none of those things, but we do (unlike the surrounding neighbourhoods) have four large public-housing buildings and half a dozen group homes.

According to the Spectator's Code Red series, Ainslie Wood has more poverty, community stress and related illnesses than any of the surrounding communities. But despite our clear needs, we enjoy much less in terms of public services than the surrounding communities do.

To address these inequities, our community has been asking for years for a recreation centre at Alexander Park, at the site of the recently closed Prince Philip elementary school. A petition with 1700 signatures supporting this idea was presented to City Hall. Both the Ainslie Wood Community Association and the Ainslie Wood Westdale Community Association of Resident Home-Owners support a recreation centre at Alexander Park. Several hundred thousand dollars has been set aside under the Participatory Budget process for a recreation centre at Alexander Park. Councillor Aidan Johnson, MPP Ted McMeekin and MP Filomina Tassi have stated their support for a recreation centre at Alexander Park.

Please break with tradition and direct recreation spending to neighbourhoods, such as Ainslie Wood, which are historically disadvantaged and most in need of recreation facilities.

Subject: Future of rec centres in Hamilton

First off I would like to compliment the person I talked to at Westmount on Tues evening. She was informative and organized in her thoughts. I love that the city is looking to the future needs of its population, what works and what doesn't for each community and the population as a whole. I have been involved in aquatics with a focus in water polo for decades, in rec, rep, and high school levels.

As for my comments/suggestions my main areas of focus are the following:

1. I hope the city would ensure water polo is not just considered but enabled at each rec centre since I believe this sport is one of the best methods to learn to be a strong swimmer while having fun playing a multi-skilled game. The number of kids 13 and under has more than doubled in the city and plans are to increase that number each year.

2. Build a large pool in a rec centre that allows the option for competitive aquatics. This facility will be multiuse allowing the public and many different fitness-oriented groups to use it for all types of programming including recreation. Hamilton is in a prime location to be a kind of competitive centre for athletics and aquatics should be considered strongly as a focus.

3. Design – natural light and energy conservation. The fact that most old pools are not insulated or have the doors wide open in the winter frustrates me as a taxpayer. All retrofits should minimize energy expenditure in the future while brightening with natural light. Looking at the long term I believe things like drain water heat recovery on shower drains, minimize glass pointing North, and logical heating/cooling technologies are the sort of things that should be considered.

Thanks for the opportunity to share my thoughts.

Subject: Meeting on City Rec Centres at Ryerson last night.

Thank you for arranging the public meetings on City Rec facilities and Rec services. My husband and I attended at Ryerson last night.

I thought the poster format and stickers worked very well, and it generated a lot of opinions, discussions, issues to consider, and even mild and friendly "arguments" on needs and wants, as folks worked their way together through the displays.

It was nice of you to assist some of us in responding to the display questions. Those who came from my neighborhood found it difficult to respond to many of the questions, as we have no public or Recreation services in Ainslie Wood to comment on. So thank you for encouraging us to write this freely on the boards, and to be able to express our feelings and frustrations on the lack of Rec and services here.

I very much look forward to find out the result of these public consultations, so please keep me posted. We hope the recommendations will consider the situation in Ainslie Wood, and that these public hearings will draw attention to the lack of recreational and public services here.

Subject: Rec Centre

Any chance of a rec centre being built in Binbrook?

Community is growing, would love pool, indoor soccer, squash courts.

Just curious about a possibility?

Subject: Recreation Center study

Just a reminder that the Ainslie Wood area in West Hamilton is in dire need of recreation facilities and a petition has already been submitted to various levels of government and institutions.

This important petition is attached.

Subject: Indoor Track

I'm writing to you in support of an indoor track and field facility for Hamilton and surrounding area.

I'm a 2012 Olympian, born and raised in Hamilton. I am currently on track to compete in the 2016 Olympic marathon in Rio. I developed, like most marathoners, through track and field

competing at the 2005 World Championships in the 5000m. Having year-round facilities is crucial to the development of track and field athletes, especially those in shorter distances and field events. I believe a facility that includes an indoor track will be beneficial to athletes at all levels from recreational, cross-training for other sports right up to professional track athletes.

Having a facility that can host official meets can attract many levels of competition. Hosting multi-day meetings can have a great economic impact on the community.

Thanks for your time.

Subject: Future of Rec Centres in Hamilton

I would like to introduce myself as it seems the two have been proactively looking for input of the future planning of our centres in Hamilton. I have been involved in aquatics for over 30 years, mainly focusing on water polo. My first coach and life role model was Jimmy Thompson's son Robert. I have for many years and currently coach water polo at every level including elementary, high school, club, as well as also being a player in the provincial and national levels.

I wanted to ask if I could help shape the decisions in any way by being a part of any discussions or groups that may form. I am certain my experience and business sense will be a valuable asset as we form decisions that will affect our future Hamiltonian population.

Subject: Hamilton Recreational Facility Study

I wanted to send a quick note regarding the above study that is ongoing. As a resident of Binbrook with young children, we are always looking for affordable recreational activities to enrol our children in.

Even though City programming is offered at affordable rates and we know that our kids would really enjoy going to more of these programs - everything from badminton and cooking to music and trampoline - there just isn't anything offered close to home; we feel that our family time can be better spent than driving 20+ minutes to and from facilities in other parts of the City several times a week.

In my opinion, better programming and infrastructure across all demographics are long overdue here in Binbrook.

Subject: Dundas Recreation Facility

I am writing to express our desires for an updated recreation facility in Dundas. As a new young family in Dundas we are very excited about the possibility of a beautiful recreation facility close to home where we can get to know our community a bit better while participating in activities we love and keep us healthy. We spend our days driving to Burlington for work and it is a waste of time with young kids to be driving back to the city in the evenings to play. We would love to have access to an indoor track, updated pool, fitness facilities, gymnasiums, squash courts (to name a few).

We hope you will sincerely consider the opinions of the Dundas community.

Thank you for your time.