

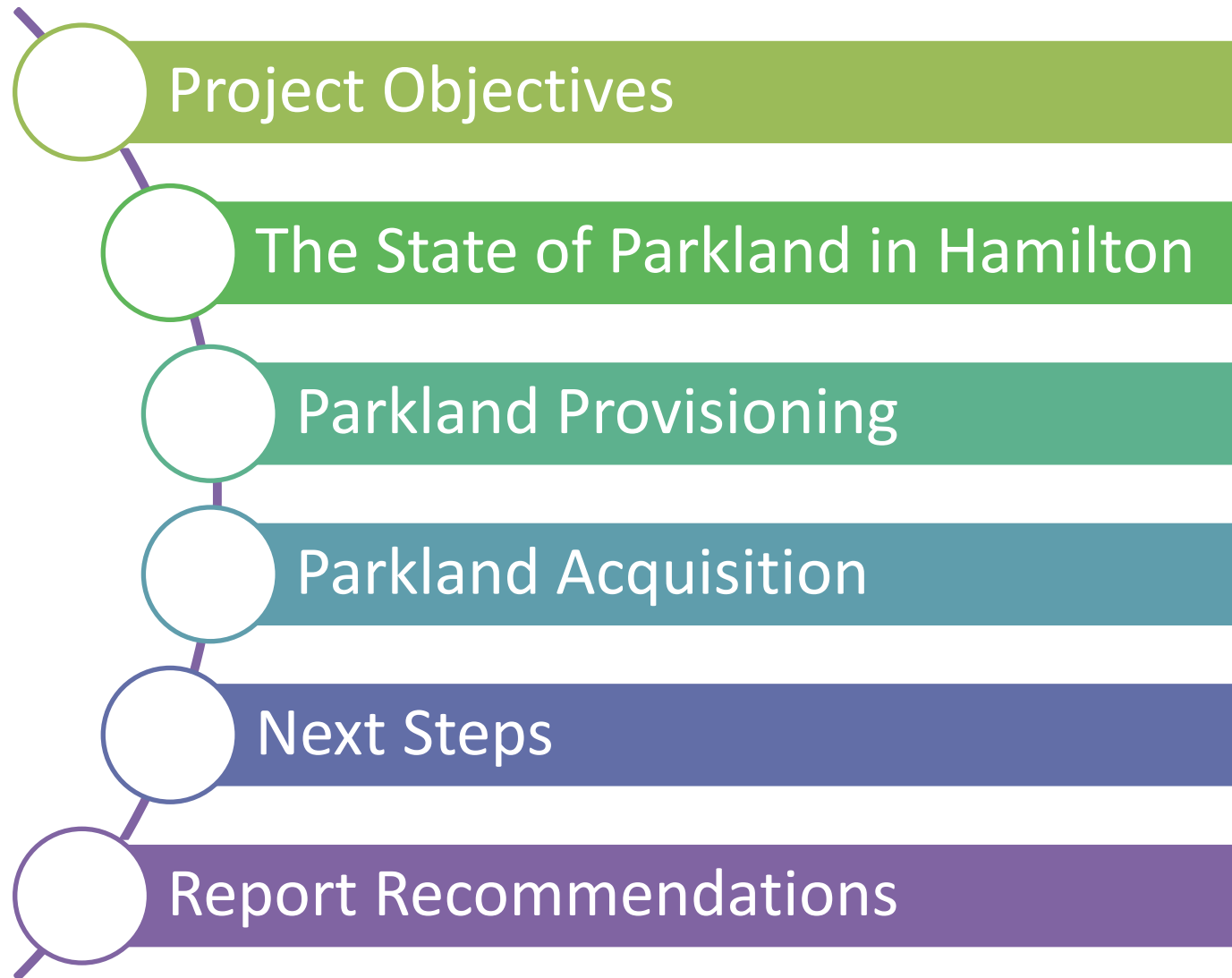


Hamilton

PARKS MASTER PLAN

GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

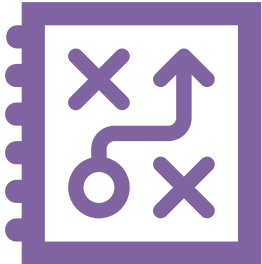
October 4th, 2023



PROJECT DRIVERS



Provincial
legislation



Lack of a Parks Master
Plan guiding document



PURPOSE OF THE PARKS MASTER PLAN

- Articulate a long term vision for Hamilton's park system
- Assess / identify:
 - How much parkland we should provide
 - Where parkland should be located, and
 - How investment should be prioritized
- Provide direction on the future development / enhancement of parkland
- Ensure that we're responsive to current and future parkland needs



PROJECT OBJECTIVES



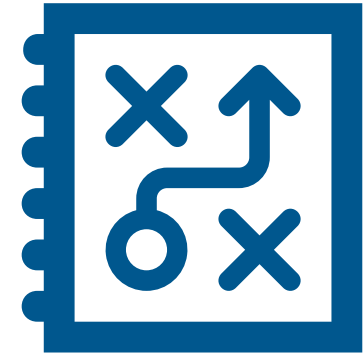
Identify & Assess

the current state of parkland and where gaps exist



Incorporate

feedback and precedence of comparable municipalities and build buy-in through stakeholder engagement



Plan & Articulate

the City's vision of a parks system that connects, supports, and celebrates Hamilton's communities through a sustainable, accessible and inclusive network of green spaces

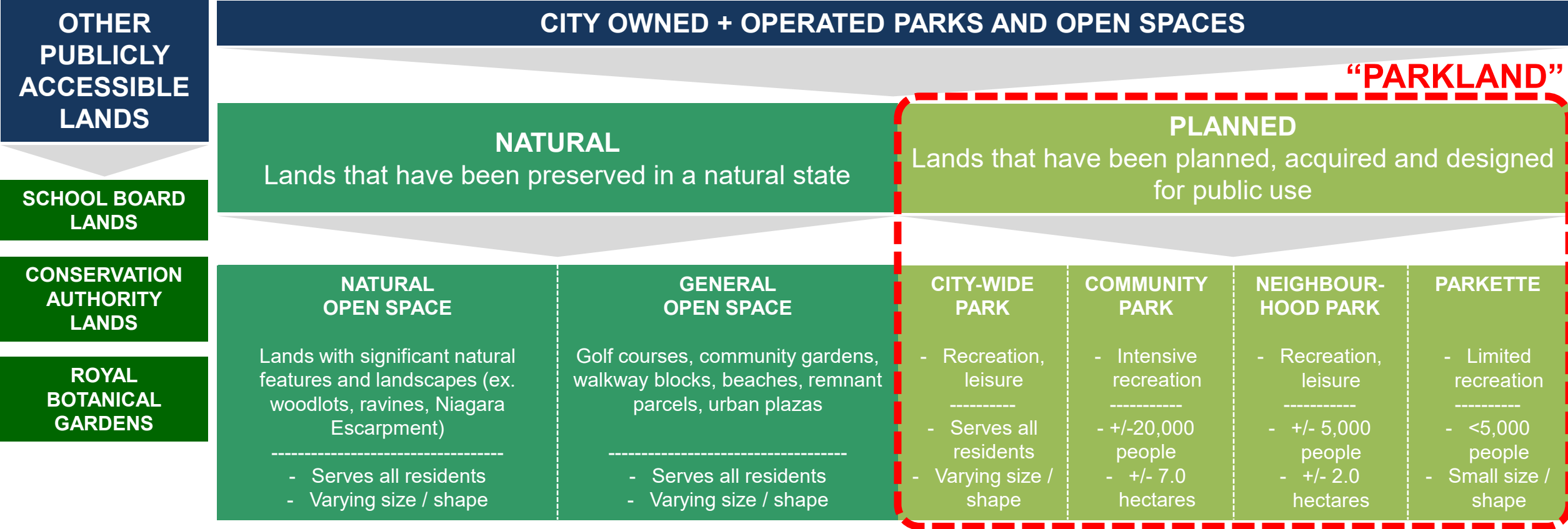
WHAT IS PARKLAND?

Classifying parks for the purposes of the Parks Master Plan:



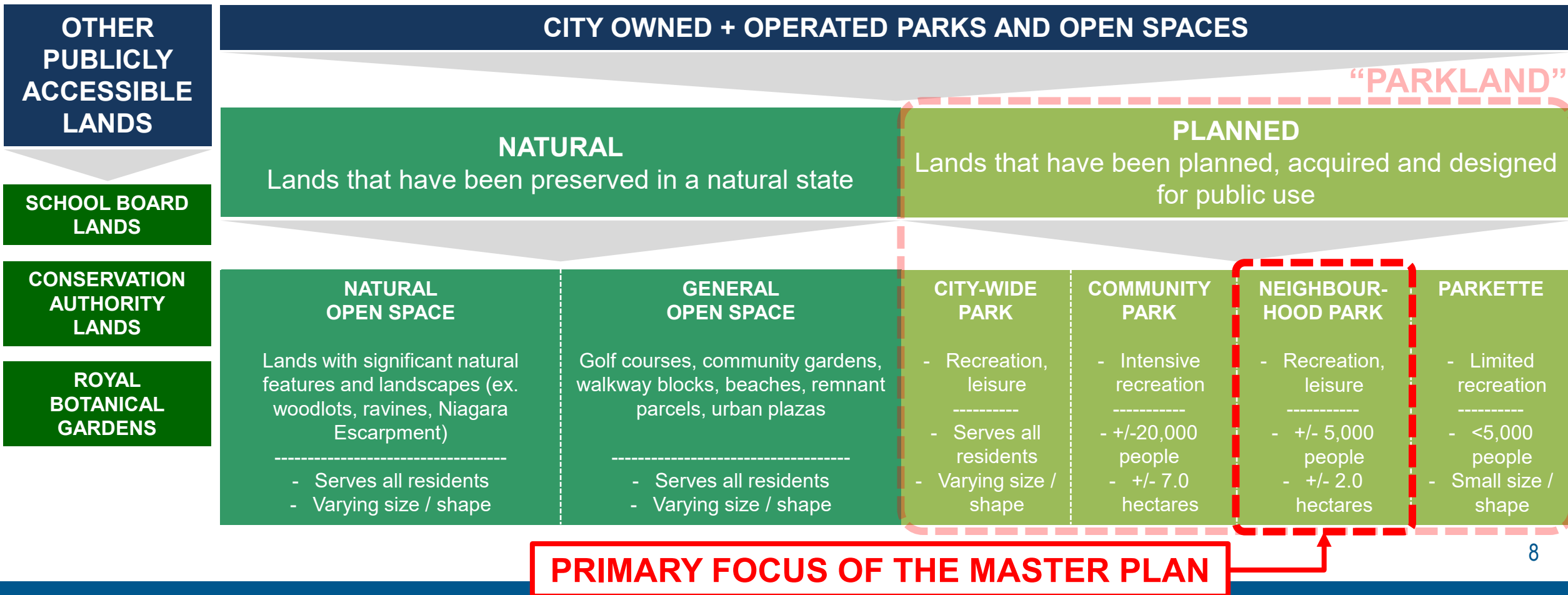
WHAT IS PARKLAND?

Classifying parks for the purposes of the Parks Master Plan:



WHAT IS PARKLAND?

Classifying parks for the purposes of the Parks Master Plan:



THE STATE OF PARKLAND IN HAMILTON

Current statistics:

Total Municipal Parkland: 1.98 hectares / 1000 people
Neighbourhood Parkland: 0.51 hectares / 1000 people

Municipal Parkland: 1,155 hectares
Neighbourhood Parkland: 298 hectares



below 7 m²
park area/person
(0.7 hectares / 1000)



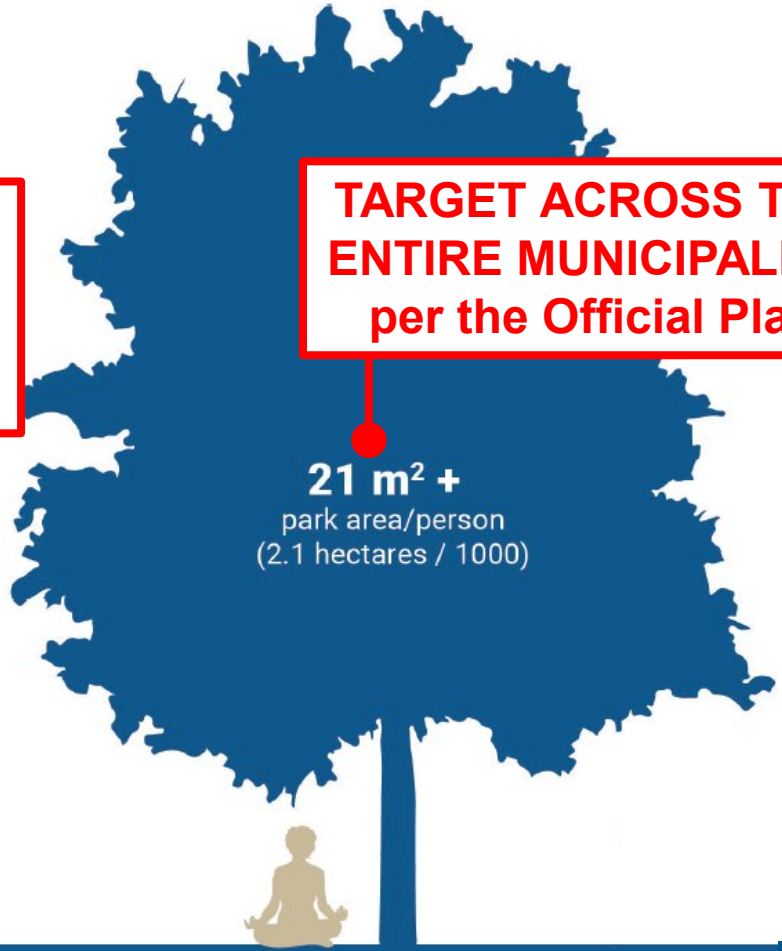
TARGET FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PARKLAND, per the Official Plan

7 m²
park area/person
(0.7 hectares / 1000)



TARGET ACROSS THE ENTIRE MUNICIPALITY, per the Official Plan

21 m² +
park area/person
(2.1 hectares / 1000)



THE STATE OF PARKLAND IN HAMILTON



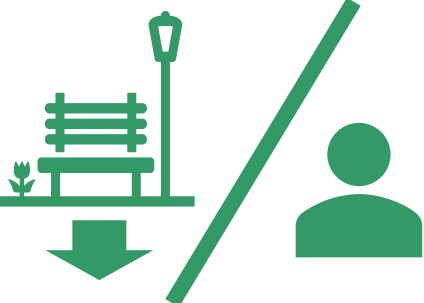
Climate emergency



Competing financial priorities



Population growth and intensification



Per capita parkland provision rates are dropping



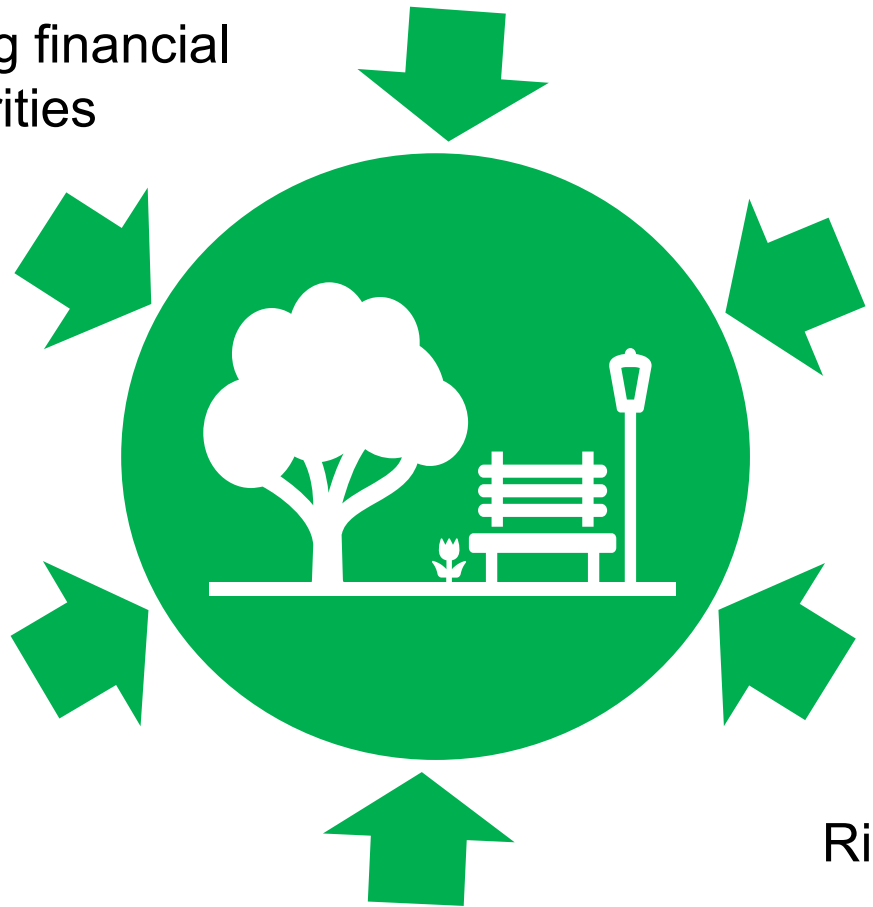
Geospatial disparities



Land assembly challenges



Rising development costs



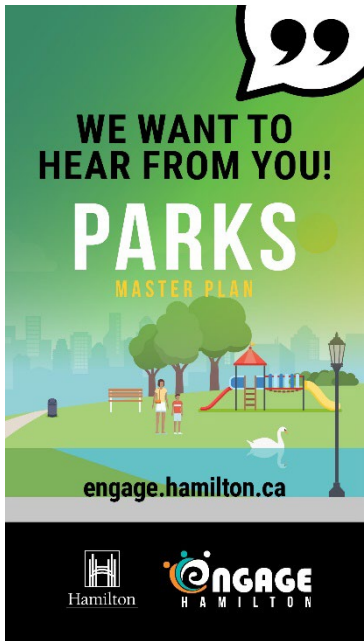


Who We Engaged:

- Staff
- Key stakeholders
- The wider community

How We Engaged:

- Public facing web page and Engage Hamilton web page
- Meetings and workshops
- Workbooks
- Signs in parks
- Social media posts
- Online surveys
- Mail-outs
- Email address: ParksMasterPlan@hamilton.ca



TRENDS AND BEST PRACTICES

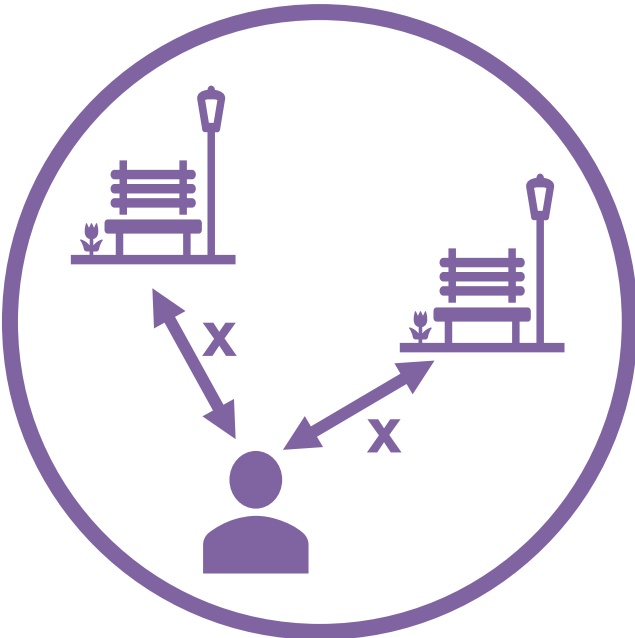
Identify **common themes**, **best practices**, and **principles** that can inform the Parks Master Plan.

Most commonly, municipalities measure parkland in two ways:



Park supply

OR

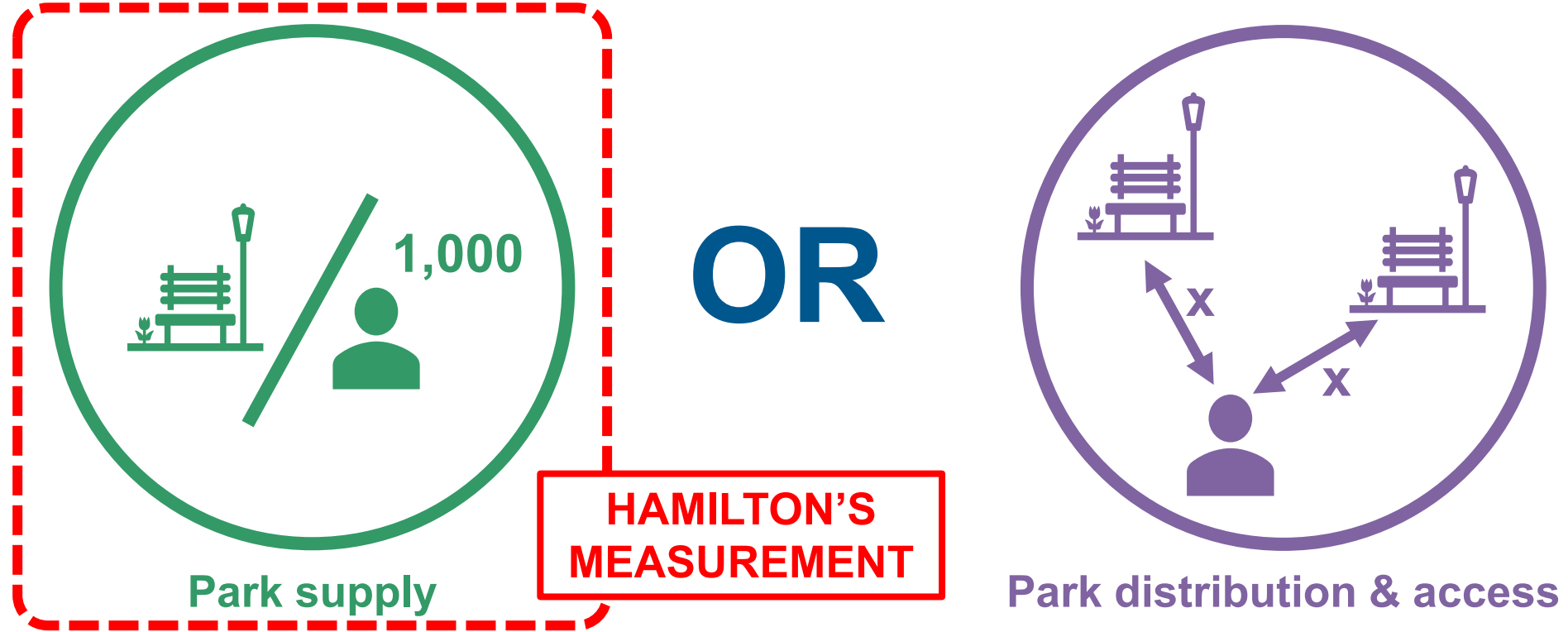


Park distribution & access

TRENDS AND BEST PRACTICES

Identify **common themes**, **best practices**, and **principles** that can inform the Parks Master Plan.

Most commonly, municipalities measure parkland in two ways:



TRENDS AND BEST PRACTICES

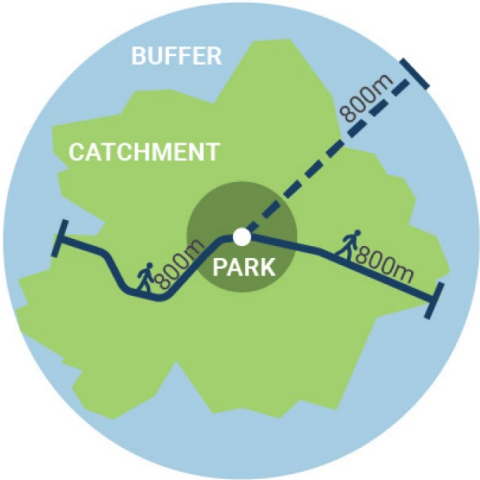
Park planning has shifted away from a focus on simple per capita measures of park area, to more nuanced assessments of parkland distribution, functionality and access.

Hamilton's urban fabric varies substantially, and so too do the parkland needs and requirements of its neighbourhoods.

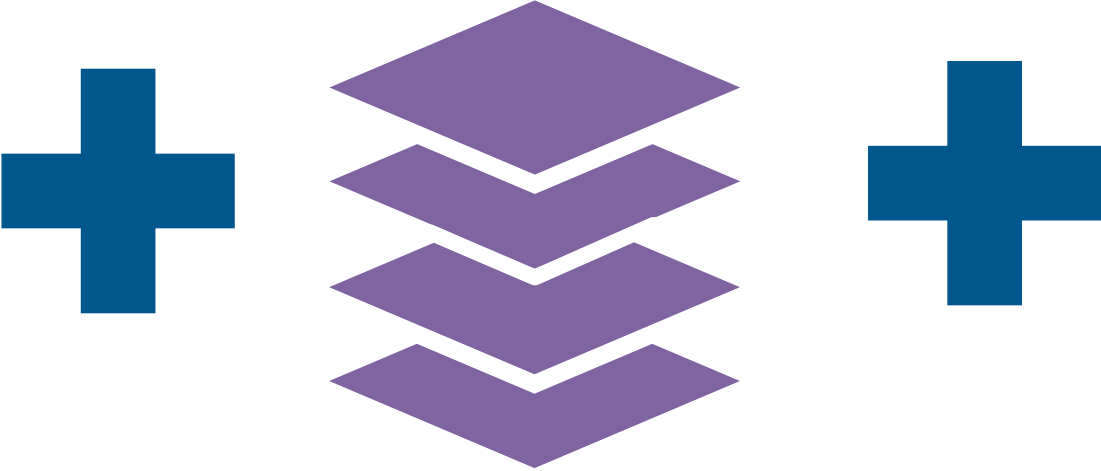


PARKLAND PROVISIONING ANALYSIS

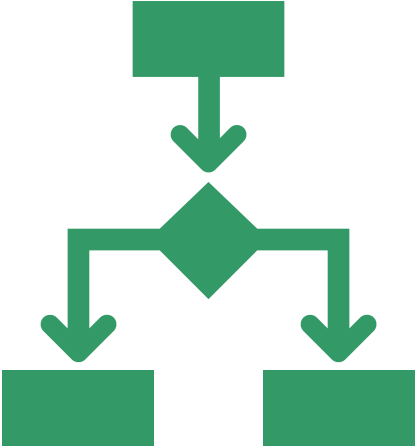
Catchment area analysis



Focus factor overlay

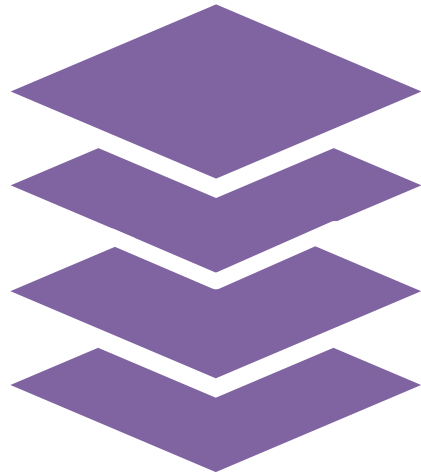


Decision making process



PARKLAND PROVISIONING ANALYSIS

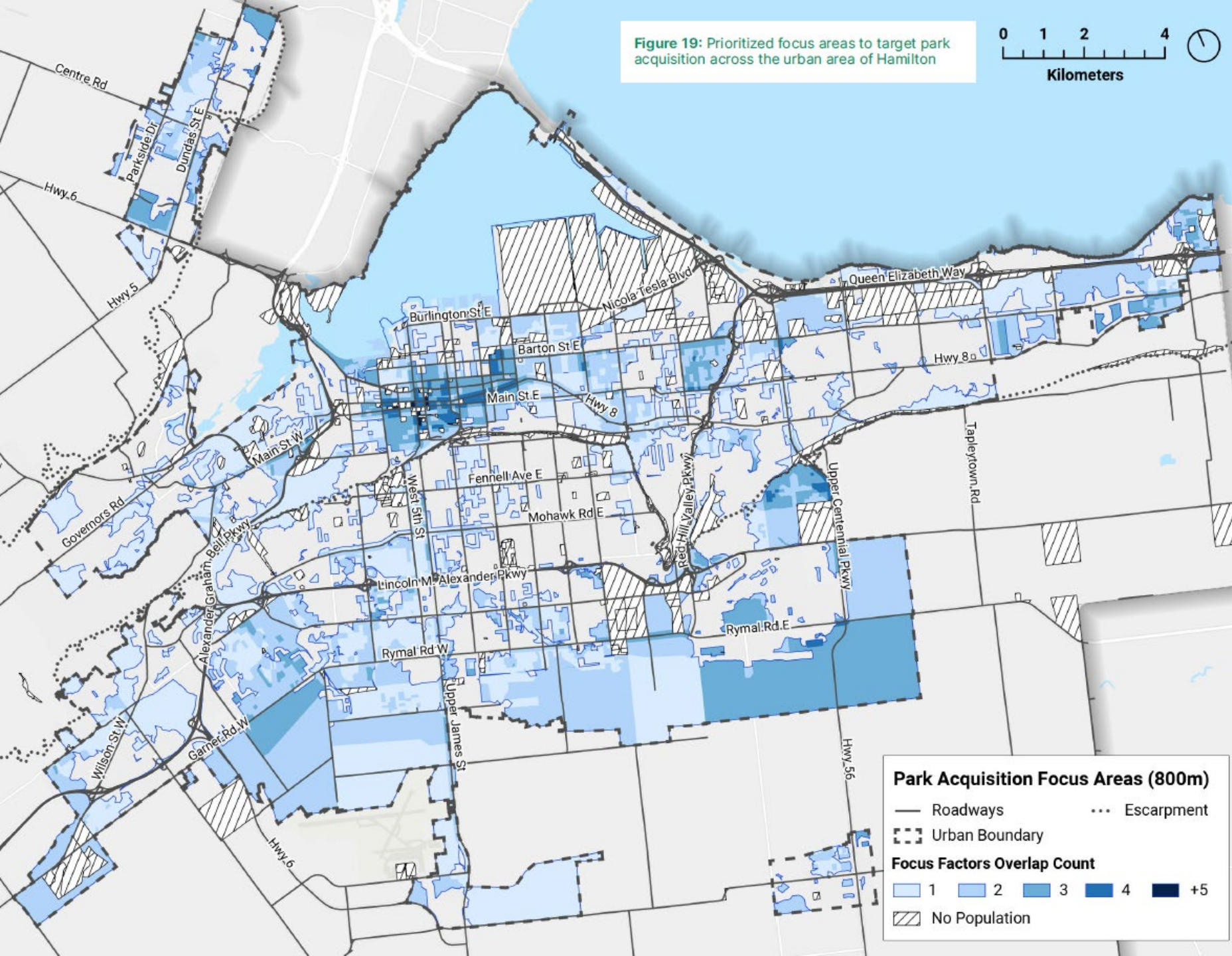
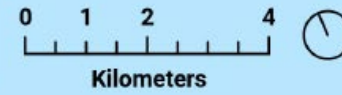
Focus factor overlay



- 1 Low or no municipal parkland
- 2 High density (Existing)
- 3 High density (Planned intensification)
- 4 Transit oriented development corridors
- 5 Low income (>25% low-income residents)
- 6 Child and youth population (>25% less than 19 yrs old)

ACQUISITION FOCUS AREAS

Figure 19: Prioritized focus areas to target park acquisition across the urban area of Hamilton



Park Acquisition Focus Areas (800m)

- Roadways
- ⋯ Escarpment
- - - Urban Boundary

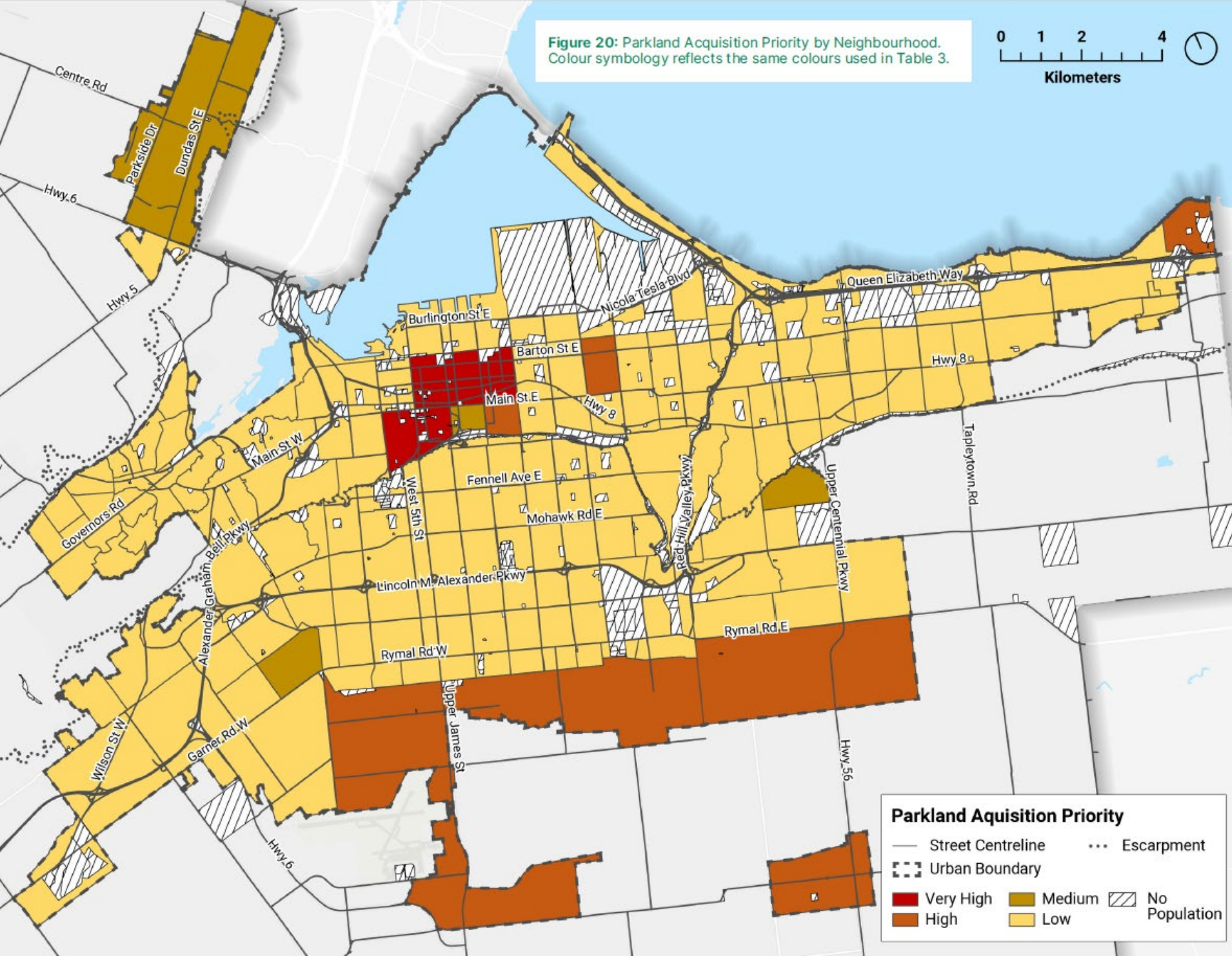
Focus Factors Overlap Count

- Lightest Blue: 1
- Light Blue: 2
- Medium Blue: 3
- Dark Blue: 4
- Darkest Blue: +5
- Diagonal Hatching: No Population

Figure 20: Parkland Acquisition Priority by Neighbourhood. Colour symbology reflects the same colours used in Table 3.



ACQUISITION FOCUS AREAS (BY NEIGHBOURHOOD)



PARKLAND ACQUISITION

Existing parkland acquisition tools:

Parkland Dedication

- Conveyance of land for park / recreational use; or
- Cash-in-lieu of parkland

Land Purchase

- Funded through parkland cash-in-lieu reserve, grants, or more commonly, through taxes

Reciprocal Agreements

- Between the City and school boards, allowing the use of each other's facilities during off-peak times

Expropriation

- Taking of land in the exercise of the authority's statutory powers

License Agreements

- Construction of trails within utility rights-of-way

Open Space Redevelopment / Intensification

- Repurposing of land to support the surrounding community (street closures, parking lot to park conversion, etc.)

PARKLAND ACQUISITION

Explore **new** tools to acquire parkland:

Proactive Parkland Acquisition Strategy

- Strategy to communicate priority parkland acquisition focus areas to identify opportunities for land acquisition

Privately Owned Public Spaces (POPS)

- Working with private landowners / developers to incorporate publicly accessible lands into the urban fabric

Strata Parks

- City-owned lands that overlap with shared infrastructure such as parking structures

Repurposing of Municipal Lands

- Parking lots / underutilized lots to parks

Partnership Models with Agencies, Community Groups

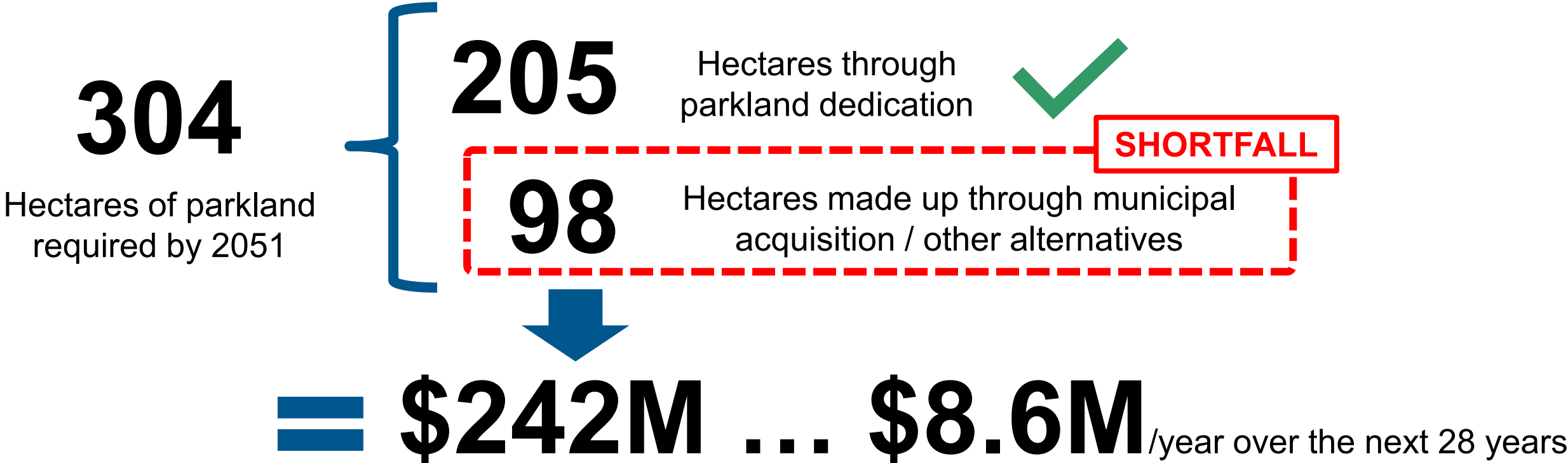
- Establish funding, acquisition and programming partnership model to find ways to increase park provision

20

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION

Looking forward – summary of parkland needs to 2051:

In order to meet the City’s target of 2.1 hectares of parkland per 1,000 residents ...



MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- The Plan provides recommendations to assist decision makers in setting priorities to maximize opportunities for parkland acquisition:
 - Short term (within 4 years) – ex. Official Plan amendments to align current policies with the Parks Master Plan and with the Parkland Dedication Bylaw
 - Medium term (5 to 10 years) – ex. Investigate opportunities to acquire surface parking to convert to parkland.
 - Long term (10+ years) – ex. Form partnerships with aggregate site owners and operators the viability of quarry rehabilitation to public parkland.

NEXT STEPS

- Begin implementing the Master Plan recommended actions.
- Utilize the decision-making framework (as part of the Master Plan) to identify specific priority areas for parkland acquisition at the neighbourhood level.
- Parkland Advisory Review Committee to continue to provide technical review of sites for potential parkland use

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) That Appendix "A" attached to Report PW23064 respecting (Parks Master Plan, prepared by O2 Planning + Design Inc.) be approved as the basis for the planning of parkland.
- b) That staff be directed to update the City's Parkland Dedication policies and By-law in accordance with the approved Parks Master Plan.
- c) That staff be directed to develop parkland acquisition strategies (including funding) for priority focus areas identified as being 'High', 'Very High' or 'Medium' in the Parks Master Plan, and to submit capital and/or operating budget requirements, to support the Parks Master Plan to the appropriate budget process(es) for consideration, as required.
- d) That staff be directed to develop a strategy to communicate priority parkland acquisition focus areas at the neighbourhood level (including parks, planning, funding and financing), as identified in the Parks Master Plan.
- e) That the matter respecting OBL Item E, regarding the Parkland Acquisition Strategy (PW Report 18-008, Item 9) be identified as complete and removed from the Public Works Committee Outstanding Business List.



Hamilton

THANK YOU