

Town of Stettler



Parks and Open Space Master Plan

February 2025



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STETTLER

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1. Introduction

1.1 Parks & Open Space Master Plan Purpose

The Parks and Open Space Master Plan (Plan) provides a planning basis for future park and community development enhancement within the Town of Stettler. The Plan is structured to provide park and community based planning principles, criteria, classifications, and design guidelines that are specific to Stettler.

Key objectives of the Plan are to:

- Effectively engage Town Administration/Council and key stakeholders to establish a shared vision for future park development. This includes providing analysis and assessment feedback on current park issues, constraints, and opportunities; involvement in defining park plan updates and supporting the proposed Parks Master Plan Update.
- Establish park plan updates that relate to unique qualities of the Town of Stettler; supports community tourism and growth; and is consistent with current Town plans, policies, guidelines, and directions. Design will include play structures, walking routes, future locations of proposed venues (e.g. gazebo/ stage), natural vs. groomed vegetation, hardscape and soft landscape features.
- Identify park plan foundations, principles, and criteria that relate to current Town statutory and non-statutory plans, policies, and community programs/activities.
- Establish a community framework to effectively assess and identify park plan updates and other potential community enhancement opportunities.
- Through the assessment of the 2006 Parks Master Plan, establish a park plan framework and classification system to support the update of existing and future gaps in parks, open space, natural areas, recreational facilities, sports fields, trail networks, and provide recommendations and amenity guidelines on enhanced park activity and use; comfort, convenience, accessibility, and inclusivity; and site servicing, operations and maintenance.
- Develop community design guidelines to support specific park planning and design initiatives with a focus on key community strategies, such as a Safety and Inclusivity; Accessibility and Connectivity; Green Space Preservation and Enhancement; Vibrancy and Livability; Sense of Place and Community; Green and Sustainable; Pride and Celebration; Tourism Growth; and Legibility and Cohesiveness.
- Establish an implementation strategy to define key park plan updates; their implementation priority (high to low); suggested roles and responsibilities; order of magnitude funding; sources of funding and joint project development and implementation; implementation recommendations; and phasing timelines. The Implementation Strategy is to assess and incorporate current Town funding standards, models, procedures, and policies.



The Plan is comprised of four key sections:

Plan Foundations, Principles, & Criteria

This section gives a general view of the town's current official and unofficial plans, rules, and related community programs. These will help shape the plan and make sure it follows the plan's principles and goals.

Community Framework

This section explores the essential qualities that give Stettler its unique character. These qualities combine to create consistent themes that inspire and guide the plan and specific design guidelines for community and parks.

The Community Framework assesses and defines the existing and potential interactions between districts, landmarks, nodes, edges, and corridors. It also identifies future district-specific development and enhancement considerations and design guidelines informed by the identified community essence and theme.

Design Guidelines & Park Classifications

The Community Framework is further developed to include an assessment of existing parks and corridors and the development of a Parks Classification System. The Parks Classification System provides direction on the types of parks, open space, special use areas, and corridors to be considered in the future development and enhancement of parks within the Town of Stettler. Each classification includes a catchment area that provides guidance on where and how each park, open space, special use area, and trail type should be located within the community, along with specific requirements and design guidelines for each classification type.

Implementation Plan

This section provides a proposed action and implementation program for the Plan.



2. Plan Foundations, Principles & Criteria

2.1 Plan Foundations

The Parks and Open Space Master Plan has been developed in alignment with current Town statutory and Non-Statutory Plans and policies, and related community programs/activities. Future parks and community development enhancements must adhere and align with these plans and programs, which are described below.

The Town of Stettler Inter-municipal Development Plan (2022)

The Inter-municipal Development Plan (IDP) provides the current guiding principles, goals, and policies that form a framework and vision for future growth and development within the Town of Stettler and Stettler County. In accordance with Section 631(2) of the Municipal Government Act the IDP addresses:

- A procedure used to resolve or attempt to resolve any conflict between the municipalities that have adopted the plan.
- A procedure to be used, by one or more municipalities to amend and appeal the plan.
- Provisions relating to the administration of the plan.
- Future land uses within the area.
- Proposed future development in the area.
- Any other matter relating to the physical, social, or economic development of the area that councils considers necessary.

The IDP vision of Stettler is to form a vibrant prosperous growing community and develop as a regional center. Future orientated community that is development ready.

The main goals of the IDP are:

- To promote the quality of life for residents in both Stettler and the County.
- To identify areas that provide growth and development of each municipality, and for the annexation of lands by the Town.

- To identify and foster opportunities for working together, for example, the provision of coordinated infrastructure and natural areas across municipal boundaries and the establishment of design guidelines for mixed business development in the gateway locations.
- To provide a framework for consistent decision making, inter-municipal communication, the joint review of planning matters and the resolution of disagreements that is effective and efficient while meeting statutory requirements.



The Town of Stettler Municipal Strategic Plan (2009)

The Town of Settler's Municipal Strategic Plan was developed in 2009 and is updated every year to reflect the goals and priorities that the Town will undertake that year and in the years to come.

Mission Statement

"We will provide a high quality of life for our residents and visitors through leadership and the delivery of effective, efficient and affordable services that are socially and environmentally responsible."

Corporate Identity Committee - Master Signage Plan (2023)

The Town has completed a Master Signage Plan that will guide future wayfinding development. The Parks and Open Space Master Plan references the Master Signage Plan with regards to future signage recommendations for the Town.

Trail Plan (2023)

The Town assesses the current Trail Master Plan each year to identify future trail development, priorities, and required capital funding. The current Trail Plan has been referenced in this Plan in accordance with recommended trail and sidewalk enhancements and development.

Parks and Open Space Master Plan (2006)

The last Parks and Open Space Master Plan for the Town was completed in 2006. The new plan will include an assessment of the old plan to determine if any parts are still relevant and if any changes are needed to meet the current needs of the community.



2.2 Plan Principles and Criteria

The following principles and criteria will guide future park and community planning, development, and enhancement. Each principle includes a rationale and specific planning criteria that will be used to evaluate proposed park and community developments. When applied effectively, these principles and criteria will ensure that all new developments and enhancements align with the town's vision.

The principles and criteria are described below and apply equally to the overall plan and to individual future projects, unless otherwise noted. Implementing and following these guidelines will help define the Town's needs beyond the scope of existing Statutory Plans. Applying these principles will lead to a variety of meaningful, impressive, and creative design solutions.

Plan Principles are concepts that guide decisions about the future development and enhancement for the community and park spaces.

Plan Criteria outlines the specific planning direction that will be evaluated for each principle.



Plan Principles:





Rationale:

Creating clearly defined community districts is crucial to making Stettler an appealing place to live and work. Developing these districts can help the town and its neighborhoods stand out, foster a sense of community, and showcase Stettler's unique character. To achieve this, a Community Framework is needed. This framework will identify key districts and outline a systematic approach to identifying important development and improvement opportunities. It will also prioritize these opportunities, integrate them into capital and operating budgets, and ensure they align with enhancing community life, living standards, health, and well-being.

Criteria:

Promote Health & Wellness

Protecting and enhancing parks, open space, and natural areas to support inclusivity and enhance physical and mental well-being of all residents.

Create Social Interaction

District development and enhancement defines and creates further opportunities for social interaction, cultural exposure and cohesion, and information exchange in vibrant, safe, well-connected areas.

Establish a Vibrant Economy

Establishing an attractive downtown destination with a mixed street frontage, synergistic business integration opportunities with local and regional industry and agriculture, and enhancing diversity for entrepreneurship, goods, services, and employment.

Ensure Recreation Capacity

Ensuring that future community and parks development and enhancement supports the continued and sustainable growth of various community and parks/recreational activities and programs.

Sustain & Define Community Identity

Establishing opportunities for continued and sustainable development with respect to community ownership, organization, involvement, integrity, management, and pride.

Rationale:

Enhancing community connectivity involves establishing safe, secure, accessible, and inclusive community corridors. Through the development of a Community Framework, a hierarchy of key corridors and nodes can be identified to address current connectivity issues within and between specific districts of the community.

Criteria:

Ensure Safety, Security, and Barrier-free Accessibility

Establishing a safe, secure, and more walkable and pedestrian orientated community based on a diversity of well-defined nodes and interconnections between different areas of the community.

Integrate Parks & Open Space

Parks, open spaces, and natural areas are to be preserved, enhanced, and integrated into the community corridor network to support safe, secure, inclusive, and accessible routes.

Establish Wayfinding

Promote wayfinding for pedestrians and motorists directing them to important assets in the community in a way that is consistent with the Master Signage Strategy.



Rationale:

People have a wide variety of recreational needs, and no single park or district can meet everyone's desires. To address these needs, we must intentionally create a community that offers a diverse range of year-round recreational opportunities that are appealing and inclusive to everyone.

Criteria:

Utilize Park Classification System

Creating a Parks Classification System will help us evaluate the town's current parks, open spaces, natural areas, and recreational facilities. We can then identify any gaps in our park and recreation offerings and provide recommendations for development and improvement to address these gaps. This will ensure that the parks and recreational facilities offer a variety of year-round activities and experiences for all residents.

Most of the recommendations laid out in the 2006 Parks and Open Space Master Plan have been completed to date, except for the development of a downtown urban plaza, a future district park, a future natural/decorative park, and a future linear park along Red Willow Creek in West Stettler Park. The Plan will review the previously proposed park and open space improvements and analyze them in comparison to existing development plans and community needs.



Rationale:

To ensure that future generations can enjoy what Stettler offers, existing parks, open spaces, and natural areas must be preserved. This will be done by integrating ecological systems and green infrastructure into the community.

Criteria:

Ensure Conservation

Park systems are planned, designed, and operated to protect and conserve high priority natural areas and maintain or enhance natural ecosystem processes. Incorporating natural design elements and native species will reinforce ecological integrity within the Town.

Promote Landscape Connectivity

The network of parks, open spaces, and natural areas should be planned and sited to maintain and support community connectivity throughout the Town and the surrounding region.

Utilize Ecological Design & Green Infrastructure

Future community and park development and enhancement should include low impact development practices (e.g. stormwater management, rainwater harvesting, alternative energy use, etc.) as part of future operating or capital infrastructure improvement projects.

Placemaking



Rationale:

Placemaking offers an opportunity to re-imagine and develop a vision for future development and improvements that create a distinctive and unique sense of place. By identifying key community values and themes, and using a community framework, the Town of Stettler can define the appearance and quality of the physical environment. This will ensure that the spaces are suitable for people's needs and activities, create a special and attractive 'sense of place' that reflects community identity, support and strengthen the local economy, provide opportunities for meaningful interactions, and improve accessibility.

Criteria:

Establish Character & Identity

Essence and theme development form the foundation for future community engagement and plan development. The relationship between essence and theme is not strictly linear but rather an integrated network of relationships that create a multitude of meanings, impressions, forms, continuity, and consistency in how each district within the community is developed and enhanced.

Create Visual Aesthetics

Community and park systems are to be designed and arranged to protect and enhance the scenic natural and built-form qualities of the Town, ensuring compatibility between these qualities and future new development and enhancements is important.

Promote Safety

The community should be a safe and secure place. Incorporating Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles into the parks and community should be considered for future development and enhancements.



3. Community Framework

3.1 Community Essence & Theme

Establishing a shared vision and direction for a Parks and Open Space Master Plan requires a clear understanding of both the current community's values and aspirations for the future. This includes identifying key themes and desires that will shape the community's perception and future direction. The Town strives to provide recreational opportunities, they are committed to preserving their history and creating a safe and inclusive environment for all. The following essences and themes have been established through a physical review of the community and background document and plan reviews.

ESSENCE

Etymology: Middle English, from Middle French & Latin;

Middle French, from Latin *essentia*, from *esse* to be.

1 a : the permanent as contrasted with the accidental element of being b : the individual, real, or ultimate nature of a thing especially as opposed to its existence c : the properties or attributes by means of which something can be placed in its proper class or identified as being what it is 2 : something that exists : ENTITY 3 a (1) : a volatile substance or constituent (as of perfume) (2) : a constituent or derivative possessing the special qualities (as of a plant or drug) in concentrated form; also : a preparation of such an essence or a synthetic substitute b : ODOR, PERFUME 4 : one that possesses or exhibits a quality in abundance as if in concentrated form <she was the essence of punctuality> - in essence : in or by its very nature : ESSENTIALLY, BASICALLY <was in essence an honest person> - of the essence : of the utmost importance <time is of the essence>

Definition Retrieved from Merriam Webster Dictionary



Creating a distinct and positive 'sense of place' - or Placemaking - involves not only understanding the needs, lifestyle, and aspirations of the community, it also includes determining the base elements of 'essences' of our sensory experience of the place - the predominant colours, textures, patterns, materials, forms, sounds and smells, that occur in the surrounding natural and built environment. If these essences are distilled and drawn upon during the design process, they can be used to inform the design, creating a better 'fit' with place. Good urban design should be acknowledge and celebrate a broad range of essences and contextual elements.

The concept of 'essences' can also include the psychological 'state of mind/body' of a place - for those living in the area and visitors alike. Consideration must be given to how place-making initiatives could enhance existing perceptions of the community and address the negative perceptions to create more balance and direction within the community.

Colours

- Agricultural fields (yellow, orange, and green hues)
- Heritage (brick reds, browns)
- Black (Iron, railway ties)

Textures / Patterns:

- Agricultural fields
- Hay Bales (round)
- Brick & Board (heritage building components)
- Ranch Style Architecture (wood)



Materials:

- Metals (industrial influence - steel and iron)
- Brick and Earthy Toned Stone Veneering (mimic existing facade treatments)
- Heritage Materials (downtown buildings, railway, ranches and farms).
- Use of Lighting and Colours (create distinct ambiance)

Forms:

- Railway (train/ steam engine, stagecoach, train tracks)
- Grain Elevator
- Heart of Alberta
- Ranch Fence
- Pump Jack

THEME

Pronunciation: 'theME

Function: noun

Etymology: Middle English teme, theme, from Middle French & Latin; Middle French teme, from Latin thema, from Greek, literally, something laid down, from tithenai to place. 1 a : a subject or topic of discourse or of artistic representation b : a specific and distinctive quality, characteristic, or concern <the campaign has lacked a theme> 2 : STEM 4 3 : a written exercise : COMPOSITION <a research theme> 4 : a melodic subject of a musical composition or movement

Definition Retrieved from Merriam Webster Dictionary



The base elements or 'essences' of a sense of place coalesce into coherent themes, which when combined, define a 'sense of place.' These themes provide inspiration and direction to the urban design process and, more importantly, relevance, meaning, originality, and vitality to the finalized urban design elements that make up each community place-making initiative. The utilization of 'themes' in good design is not a direct literal translation of forms or ideas, but an indirect reference which may not be immediately - or ever - apparent to the onlooker, but which subtly informs and crystallizes the design.

The design process and the relationship between the 'essences' and themes are not strictly, linear, rather, they are a web of relationships that create a multitude of meanings, impressions, forms, and possibilities for effective urban design.

The proposed design themes for defining 'sense of place' in Stettler are:

- Heart of Alberta
- Agriculture
- Oil and Gas
- Pioneers of building
- Rail Transportation (CPR and CN)
- Alberta Prairie Steam Train
- Live/work/play
- Health and Wellness (Recreation)
- Christmas Destination

In addition, themes can also build upon the perceived inadequacies or missing qualities of the community that fulfill and/or generate community interest, pride, participation and continued growth and quality of life within Stettler.

3.2 Community Framework Plan

To enhance Stettler's sense of place, we must identify and leverage the interconnectedness of its districts, landmarks, nodes, edges, and pathways. These elements, when integrated, create a cohesive and actionable plan.

- **Districts:** Built areas (e.g., downtown, commercial, residential) that blend with natural features (e.g., parks, wetlands) and social patterns (e.g., learning, working) to form distinctive geographic and visual anchors.
- **Landmarks:** Recognizable features (natural, built, or cultural) that provide geographic reference and support community interpretation.
- **Nodes:** Key vehicular and pedestrian intersections and activity centers.
- **Edges:** Natural or built boundaries that define the character of areas.
- **Corridors:** Key routes that connect elements and contribute to the overall spatial quality and wayfinding.

By understanding these components and their relationships, we can create a plan that strengthens Stettler's identity and appeal.

The following section assesses the existing qualities of districts, landmarks, nodes, edges, and corridors within the community, and identifies specific development and enhancement considerations for future implementation. The recommended improvements outlined for each district includes the community and park design guidelines and should Refer to **Design Guidelines Section 4.1** for recommended Complete Streets, Green Street, Low Impact Development, Winter Community Design, Site Landscape, Site Furniture and Feature, Green Space/ Trail design application.

Please note that the following sections and conceptual mapping and illustrations identify Districts, Landmarks, Nodes, Edges, and Corridors within the Town Boundary. It is recommended that the extension of these framework components be integrated with existing and future land development networks; inter-municipal and regional planning; and infrastructure development and redevelopment projects within the Town and surrounding region.

3.2.1 Districts

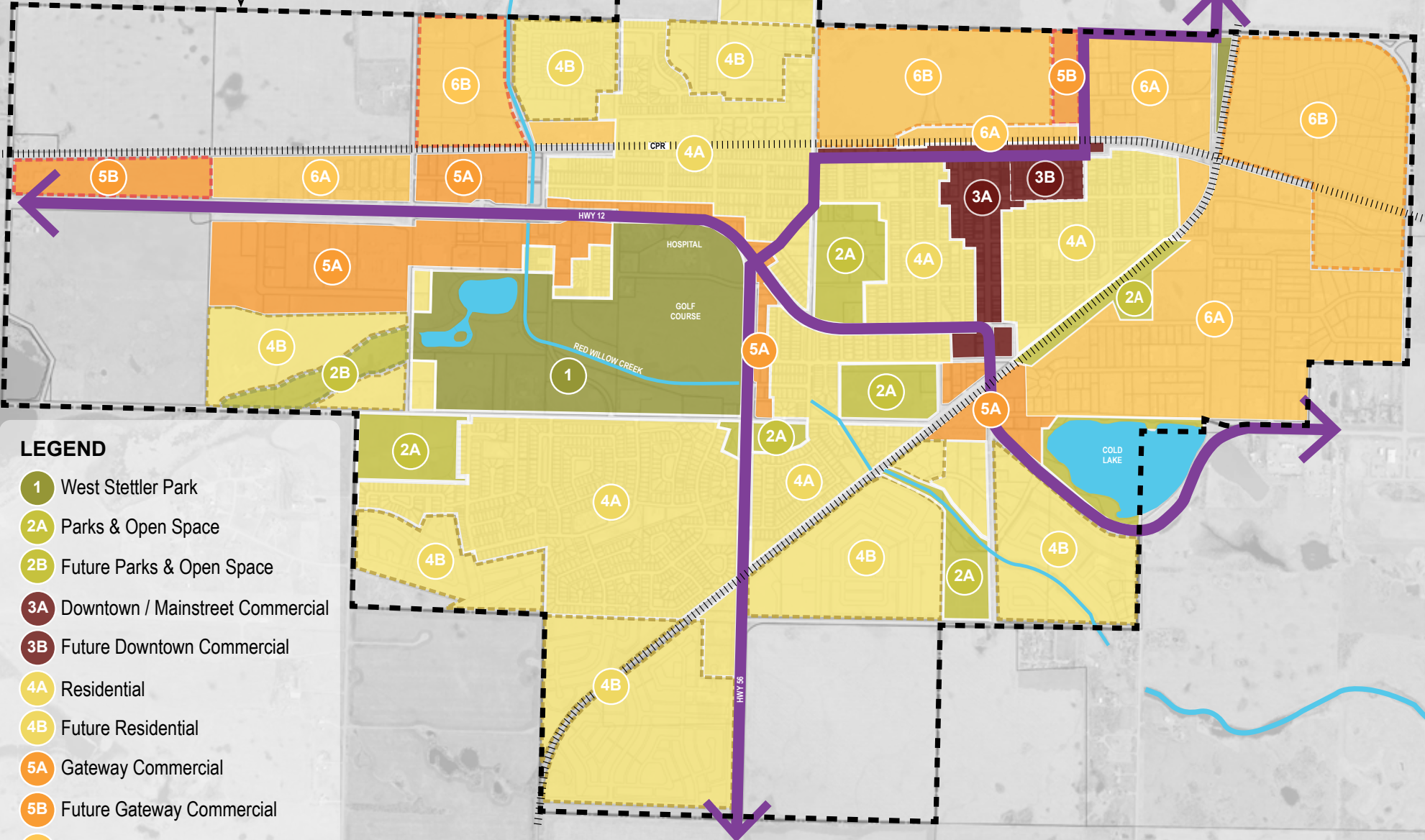
The following Districts and proposed development enhancements have been defined for the Town of Stettler (refer to **Figure 1 - Districts Map**). Note: these Districts include future Land Use Development areas as defined in the Town of Stettler Bylaw 2060-15.

1A	Downtown / Mainstreet Commercial
1B	Future Downtown Commercial
2	West Stettler Park
3A	Green Space / Parks
3B	Future Green Space / Parks
4A	Residential
4B	Future Residential
5A	Gateway Commercial
5B	Future Gateway Commercial
6A	Industrial
6B	Future Industrial

Figure 1: Districts



TOWN BOUNDARY



LEGEND

- 1 West Stettler Park
- 2A Parks & Open Space
- 2B Future Parks & Open Space
- 3A Downtown / Mainstreet Commercial
- 3B Future Downtown Commercial
- 4A Residential
- 4B Future Residential
- 5A Gateway Commercial
- 5B Future Gateway Commercial
- 6A Industrial
- 6B Future Industrial

West Stettler Park

The West Stettler Park is a main destination and district within the Town. The park has 8 main amenities and attractions which include the Recreation Centre, Campground, a Skate Park, a Spray Park, a Playground, Gazebo and Stage, Baseball Diamonds, and Soccer Fields. The recommended park improvements will have specific design recommendations to make West Stettler Park unique. The following are recommended improvements to be included for each component of West Stettler Park:

- Develop and install Signage for Park destinations that is distinctive to West Stettler Park.
- Add signs/entrances, directories, additional interpretive signage, and wayfinding.
- Enhance existing trails and include rest areas every 500m.
- Develop new trails to the north to connect the neighbourhood to West Stettler Park amenities.

A further assessment of West Stettler Park has been completed with key considerations noted for future redevelopment and/or enhancement. Refer to **Section 4.0** for identified Park Classifications and Design Guidelines. Refer to **Figure 2** for identified West Stettler Park features.

Parks and Open Space

In addition to the West Stettler Park Amenities, the Plan has identified fourteen (14) existing distinct park and/or open spaces: Stettler Sports Park, Memorial Park, Parkdale Park, Pioneer Park, Railway Kinsmen Tot Lot, Meadowlands Park, Grandview Park, Cold Lake, East End Viking Park, Dog Park, Emerson Park, Rosedale Park, Homestead Park, and the Community Orchard.

The assessments included an overview of each park and featured amenities. Asset management criteria was used as a reference to grade each park and recommended improvements. See the table below for the grading system used for the parks and open spaces.

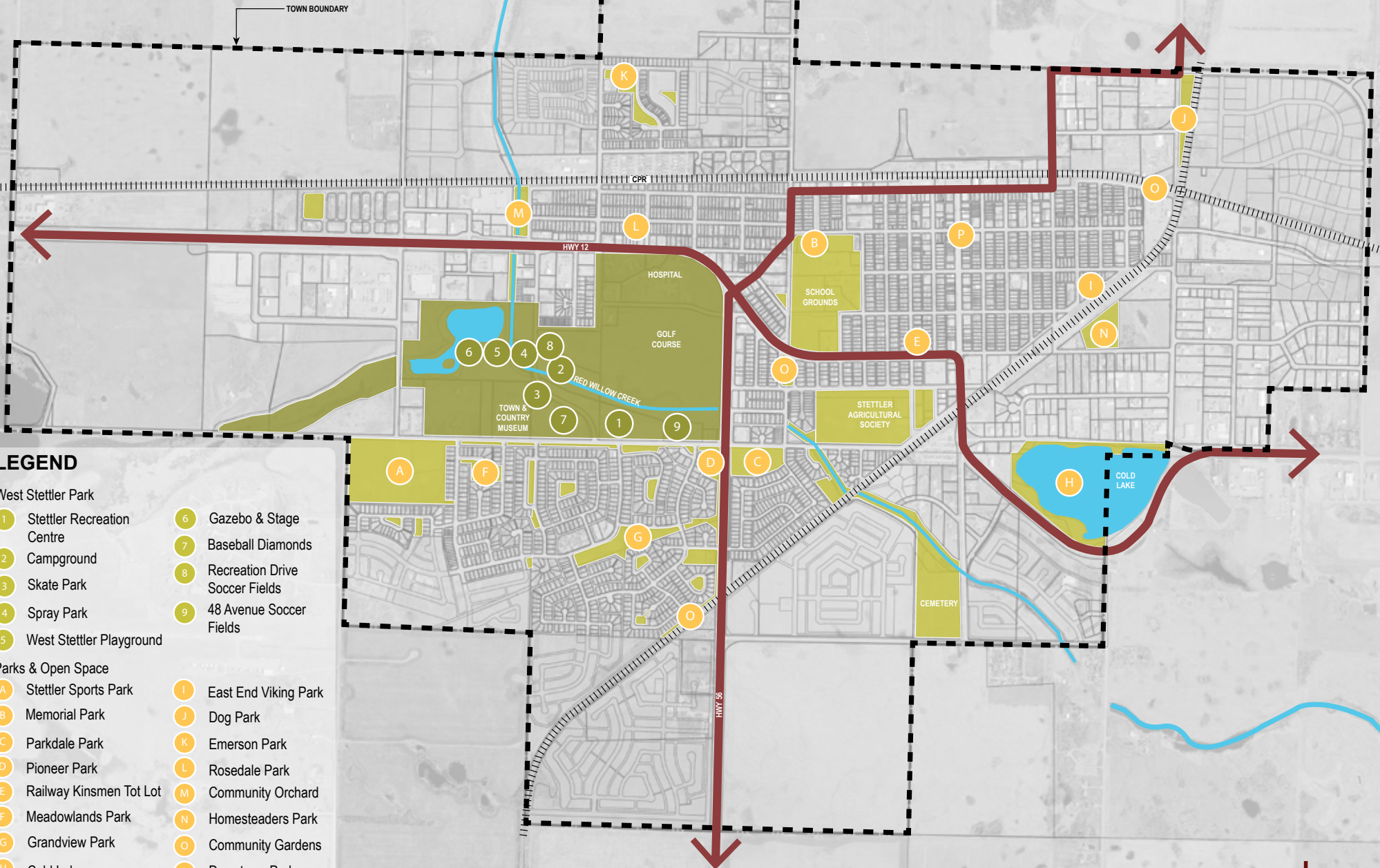
Additional considerations were factored into the overall assessment and included an inventory of the following:

- ✓ Site furniture/features (type & condition)
- ✓ Existing landscape (orientation & type - eg. shade, ornamental, etc.)
- ✓ Existing trails and connectivity (type, location, & condition)
- ✓ Universal Accessibility
- ✓ Crime prevention through environmental design (CEPTD) considerations

See Appendix A for a full assessment of the existing parks with key considerations noted for future redevelopment and/or enhancement. Refer to **Section 4.0** for identified Park Classifications and Design Guidelines. Refer to **Figure 2** for identified park spaces, natural areas, open / park space, school grounds, cemeteries, and trails.

CONDITION		
5	NEW	New or like new condition; no issues to report; no expected failures; replacement 20+ years.
4	GOOD	Good condition; no reported issues; replacement 10-20 years.
3	FAIR	Average wear for building age; not new but no issues to report; replacement 4-10 years.
2	POOR	Worn from use; end of life cycle; replacement 1-4 years.
1	CRITICAL	Extremely worn / damaged; replacement within 1 year.

Figure 2: Existing Parks & Open Space



LEGEND

West Stettler Park

- 1 Stettler Recreation Centre
- 2 Campground
- 3 Skate Park
- 4 Spray Park
- 5 West Stettler Playground
- 6 Gazebo & Stage
- 7 Baseball Diamonds
- 8 Recreation Drive Soccer Fields
- 9 48 Avenue Soccer Fields

Parks & Open Space

- A Stettler Sports Park
- B Memorial Park
- C Parkdale Park
- D Pioneer Park
- E Railway Kinsmen Tot Lot
- F Meadowlands Park
- G Grandview Park
- H Cold Lake
- I East End Viking Park
- J Dog Park
- K Emerson Park
- L Rosedale Park
- M Community Orchard
- N Homesteaders Park
- O Community Gardens
- P Downtown Park

Downtown / Mainstreet

Located along 50th street, the Downtown / Mainstreet offers a unique destination for the community and visitors alike. It features historical buildings and adjacent to the Mainstreet is the Alberta Prairie Steam Train Engine. Improvements considered for the Downtown / Mainstreet are as follows:

- Establish architectural guidelines for Downtown/Mainstreet businesses and preserve existing historic buildings.
- Improve wayfinding in the Downtown/Mainstreet District.
- Continue streetscape design elements featured on 50 St and 50 Ave for the rest of the downtown/mainstreet. Develop a design solution to current sidewalk material issues.
- Include widened sidewalks and pedestrian bulb outs to enhance pedestrian movement throughout the Downtown.
- Consider establishing a Downtown Plaza location to provide an area for Downtown events, creating a Downtown destination, improving winter destination desires and adjoining Alberta Prairie Steam events with additional Downtown events (eg. Polar Express).
- Incorporate Downtown Gateway features at intersections along 50 Street at Highway 12 and Highway 56.
- Establish plaques or monuments to add to the self guided walking tour.
- Extend Downtown access to Alberta Prairie Steam and establish a Park/Plaza within the green space to the southeast.
- Create symbiotic relationships with industrial and commercial uses - This may be achieved by having industrial facilities supply local stores downtown with their goods (e.g. breweries, coffee shops, dairy, equestrian equipment, beef producers, bakeries, seasonal produce, etc.).

Downtown Commercial

Located along 50 Avenue between 49 Street and 46 Street street, the Downtown Commercial District is separate from the Downtown/Mainstreet as it is relatively new and does not provide the same historical context as Downtown/Mainstreet and therefore has separate design guidelines. Improvements considered for the Downtown / Mainstreet are as follows:

- Improve accessibility by establishing continuous sidewalks on a minimum of one side of the street. Refer to **Figure 6 Corridor Map**.
- Widen sidewalks for an enhanced pedestrian experience.
- Widen existing boulevards to a minimum of 1.0m wide or widening sidewalks.
- Incorporate enhanced edge conditions.



Existing Residential

Defining specific neighbourhoods within Stettler can enhance wayfinding, build community pride and ownership, and provide the opportunity to celebrate and interpret local and regional history, culture, and landscape. Future development should encourage private developers to establish neighbourhood context and housing types that reflect the Plan essences and themes. Neighbourhood features and components that support and define the community include, yet not limited to:

- Boulevard (Public right-of-way) Enhancements: Landscape (sustainable/LID treatments), materials, features (lighting), and furnishings (hard and soft site landscape).
- Neighbourhood Entry Signs/Public Art.
- Neighbourhood branding and wayfinding – markers, sign blades, banners.
- Maintain and create neighbourhood connections through parks, open space, and greenways to enhance safety/security, and accessibility.
- Retain existing landscape/ecological features where possible.
- Natural site features should be retained where possible to strengthen native ecological presence.
- For enhanced pedestrian connectivity and safe pedestrian movement, develop 1.5m sidewalks to a minimum of one side of the street.

Future Residential

This district is like Existing Residential. Design Guidelines for this district include, yet are not limited to:

- Encourage private developers to establish a neighbourhood context and housing types that reflect the Plan essences and themes, through Architectural Guidelines.
- Ensure new gateways are clearly defined and reflect the Town's character.
- Boulevard (Public right-of-way) Enhancements: Landscape (sustainable/LID treatments), materials, features (lighting), and furnishings (hard and soft site landscape).

- Neighbourhood Entry Signs/Public Art.
- Neighbourhood branding and wayfinding – markers, sign blades, banners.
- Maintain and create neighbourhood connections through parks, open space, and greenways to enhance safety/security, and accessibility.
- Future Stormwater Management (SWM) facilities should be integrated with the linked open space system and be complementary and accessible to surrounding development. SWM facilities should be contiguous with natural areas, especially stream corridors.
 - » Natural drainage networks should be maintained to support stormwater management infrastructure such as stormwater management ponds.
 - » Where feasible, provide sitting areas with pathway connections at stormwater management facility edges to encourage public safety through frequent use and casual surveillance opportunities.
 - » Impervious areas directly connected to the storm drain system are the greatest contributor to stormwater pollution. Breaks in such areas, by means of landscaping or other permeable surfaces, must be provided to allow absorption into the soil and avoidance or minimization of discharge into the storm drain system.
 - » Include connecting trails and pathways throughout residential neighbourhood that connect to major trails and paths outside of the neighbourhood.
- Retain existing landscape/ecological features where possible.
- Natural site features should be retained where possible to strengthen native ecological presence.
- Ensure all new development includes 1.m sidewalks for pedestrian connectivity and safe movement through the neighbourhoods.

Gateway Commercial

The Gateway Commercial District is located along Highway 12 between 70 Street and is considered the welcome mat for visitors entering Stettler from the west. Special consideration should be given to built form, transitions, and sequences of movement. Design Guidelines are as follows:

- Improve accessibility by establishing continuous sidewalks on a minimum of one side of the street. Refer to **Figure 6 Corridor Map**.
- Establish edge conditions that define entry into Stettler and integrate residential and commercial land use along Highway 12, applying components such as landform, landscape, and other essence and theme components.
- Provide Active Transportation and Greenways along Gateway Commercial Corridors.

Future Gateway Commercial

This district is part of the future extension of the Gateway Commercial district and should include the recommended improvements noted above.



Industrial

Defining industry and business areas in Stettler is an important community placemaking component to define, support and grow industry and business within Stettler. Design Guidelines include, yet are not limited to:

- Provide future Active Transportation routes and links to surrounding commercial, residential, and other destinations within Town.
- Design highly visible entrances using landscaping, gateway features/way-finding and other design amenities.
- Ensure there is adequate natural buffering/soft edges where possible (can be used to block overly 'industrial' views from roadway).

Future Industrial

This district is part of the future extension of the Industrial district and should include the recommended improvements noted above.





3.2.2 Landmarks

Landmarks include significant buildings, special geographic features, and important historical/cultural sites which aid in providing orientation and create a 'sense of place' for the Town of Stettler. Future Landmark Development should be incorporated in conjunction with primary nodes, corridors, and edges to provide enhanced visual reference, wayfinding, and destination. In addition to these Landmarks, there are other significant destinations within the community. These destinations should be identified on all future Town directory and wayfinding signage and community/visitor information to maintain consistency and clarity.

Key Landmarks and Destinations are shown on **Figure 3 Landmarks**.

Figure 3: Landmarks



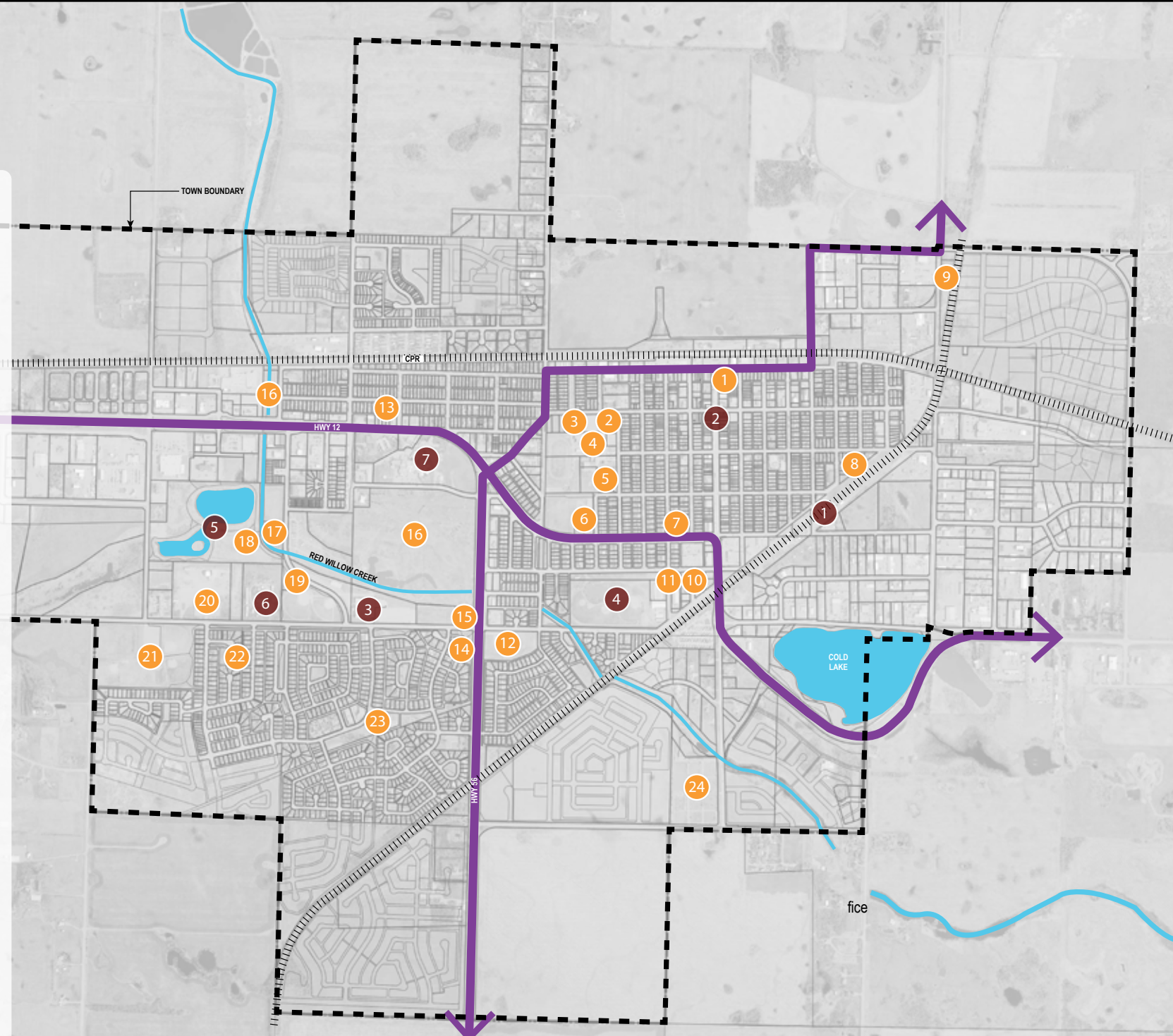
LEGEND

LANDMARKS

- 1 Prairie Alberta Steam
- 2 Stettler Main Street (Heritage Buildings)
- 3 Stettler Recreation Centre
- 4 Stettler Agriculture Society
- 5 West Stettler Park
- 6 Stettler Museum
- 7 Stettler Hospital

DESTINATIONS

- 1 Town Hall
- 2 The Performing Arts Centre
- 3 Memorial Park
- 4 William E. Hay Secondary Campus
- 5 Elementary School
- 6 Christ King Catholic School
- 7 Trained Themed Playground
- 8 East End Viking Playground
- 9 Dog Park
- 10 Community Hall
- 11 Curling Rink
- 12 Parkdale Playground
- 13 Rosedale Playground
- 14 Pioneer Park
- 15 Stettler Golf & Country Club
- 16 Community Orchard
- 17 Splash Park
- 18 West Stettler Playground
- 19 Skate Park
- 20 Stettler County Office
- 21 Stettler Sports Park
- 22 Meadowlands Playground
- 23 Grandview Playground
- 24 Cemetery





3.2.3 Nodes

Nodes include vehicular and pedestrian intersections, destinations, and other gathering spaces that have a higher concentration of activity within the community. As illustrated (refer to **Figure 4**), nodes directly relate to the districts, corridors, and landmarks/destinations.

Key Plan design guidelines include:

Primary Gateway Nodes are located at Key Gateways into the community and intersections. As illustrated, five primary nodes have been identified within the Town of Stettler. Four nodes are situated at the Town Boundaries on either side of Highway 12 and Highway 56. A central node is located where Highway 12 and 56 intersect.

- It is recommended that the existing Entry Signs at each main entrance into Stettler be enhanced in conjunction with edge development initiatives, to create gateways into the community.
- Each Primary Node should incorporate Town directory and wayfinding signage, and node features (seating, lighting, public art and interpretive features, etc.).

Secondary Nodes are featured at key secondary connector intersections to support community vehicular and pedestrian wayfinding. All secondary nodes should incorporate selected essence, theme, and design guideline components.

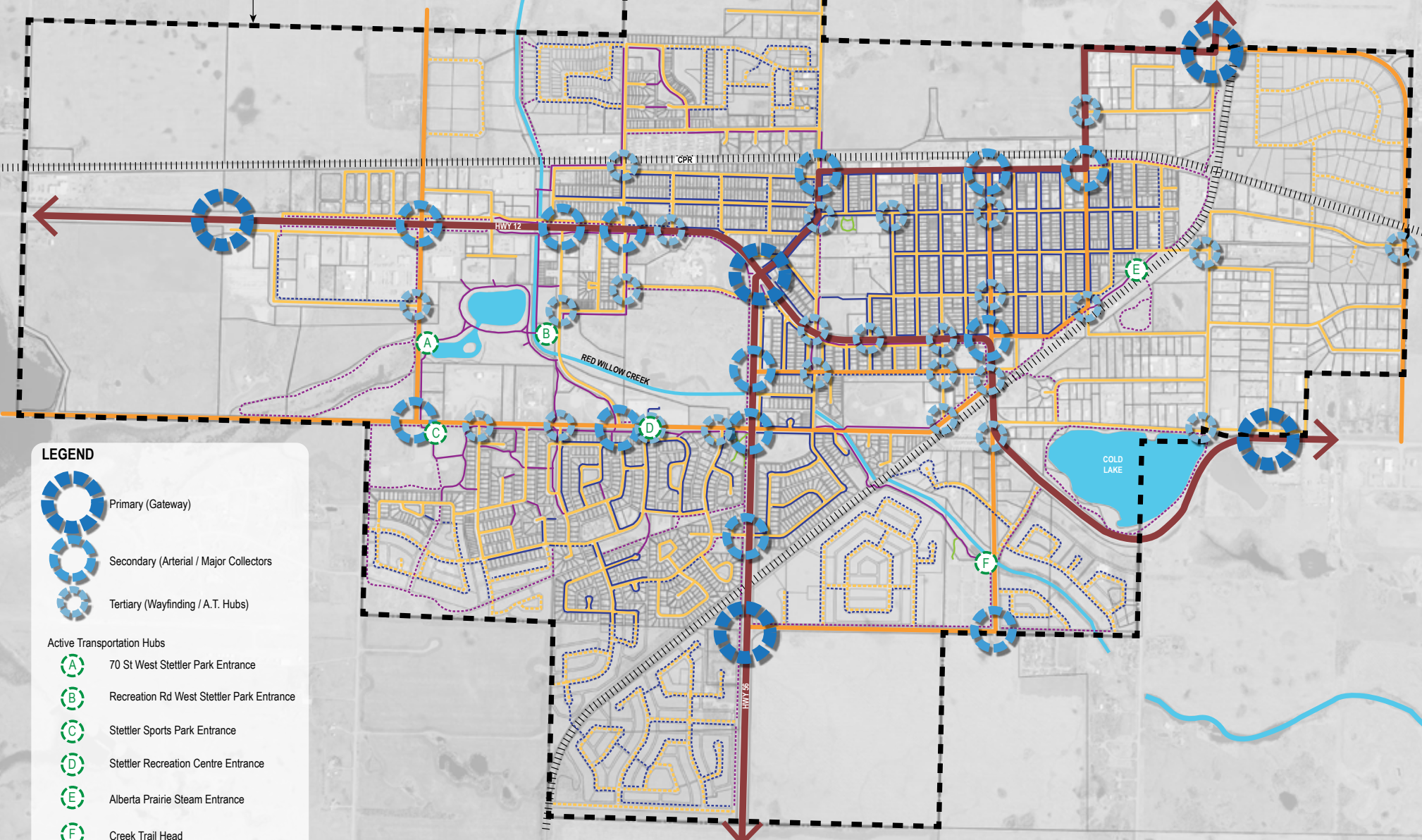
Tertiary Nodes are defined intersections or respites along corridors. Tertiary intersections would include trail heads (at specific locations), park / open space / natural area entrances, trail intersections, etc. These intersections would incorporate features such as trail head directories, wayfinding / interpretive signage, and site furniture and features. Tertiary respites include seating nodes, picnic areas, areas of interest / interpretation, along trail / active transportation corridors within park / open space and natural areas. To enhance accessibility and inclusivity, it is recommended that tertiary nodes be applied every 500m (min.) intervals along all trail routes.

Active Transportation Hubs are to serve as trail heads for the community. These hubs would feature, parking amenities/service and directory wayfinding systems.




Figure 4: Nodes









TOWN BOUNDARY



LEGEND

-  Primary (Gateway)
-  Secondary (Arterial / Major Collectors)
-  Tertiary (Wayfinding / A.T. Hubs)

- Active Transportation Hubs
-  70 St West Stettler Park Entrance
-  Recreation Rd West Stettler Park Entrance
-  Stettler Sports Park Entrance
-  Stettler Recreation Centre Entrance
-  Alberta Prairie Steam Entrance
-  Creek Trail Head



3.2.4 Edges

Edges are the visually/physically prominent boundaries between different areas of a community. In the Town of Stettler, edge conditions have been defined by the boundaries along Highway 12 and Highway 56, recreation destinations, natural areas, and along the Downtown/Mainstreet section of Town. Refer to **Figure 5** for Edges.

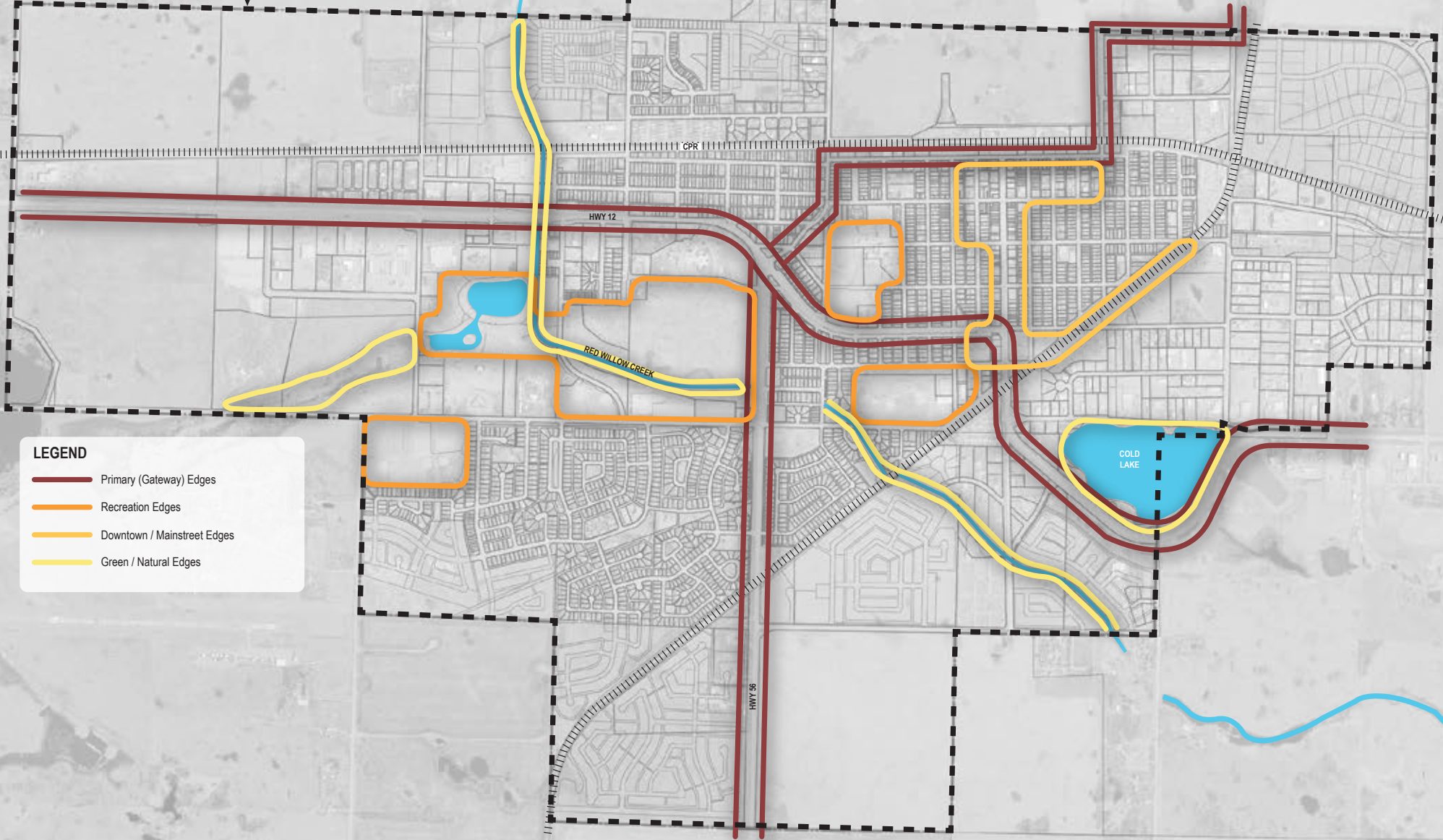
Key Plan design guidelines include:

- Incorporate edge enhancement provided in the District and Nodes sections of the Plan to establish affordable, formalized, and integrated edge conditions that are consistent with essence and theme development, to create visual continuity along Highway 12 and Highway 56.
- Encourage transitions that define boundaries, but also encourage openness and connectivity.
- Preserve, conserve, and enhance the Red Willow Creek through the addition of edge related design guideline components in Section 4.1.
- Include additional landscape improvements to enhance edges, promote naturalization including native vegetation, and create a buffer from surrounding developments.
- Include perimeter trails and boulevard trees along recreation edges.
- Ensure edges defining railway and surrounding residential are clearly marked by adding decorative fencing and partially buffered by landscape wherever possible.

Figure 5: Edges



TOWN BOUNDARY



LEGEND

- Primary (Gateway) Edges
- Recreation Edges
- Downtown / Mainstreet Edges
- Green / Natural Edges



3.2.5 Corridors

There are three main types of Corridors (Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary) identified within the Town of Stettler (refer to **Figure 6**), which are supported by a network of trail systems. Primary Corridors are the main arteries into and through the community and define the main linear Gateways into Stettler. Secondary Corridors are the key collector roadways within the community, providing vehicular/pedestrian access and wayfinding to various districts. Tertiary corridors include residential roads / sidewalks, alleyways, and trails / active transportation routes.

Key Plan Design Guidelines include:

Primary Corridors: Highway 12 and Highway 56 are the primary arteries into the Town and provide opportunities for linear gateway development. Define these corridors and establish an enhanced sense of arrival utilizing essence, theme, and design guideline components.

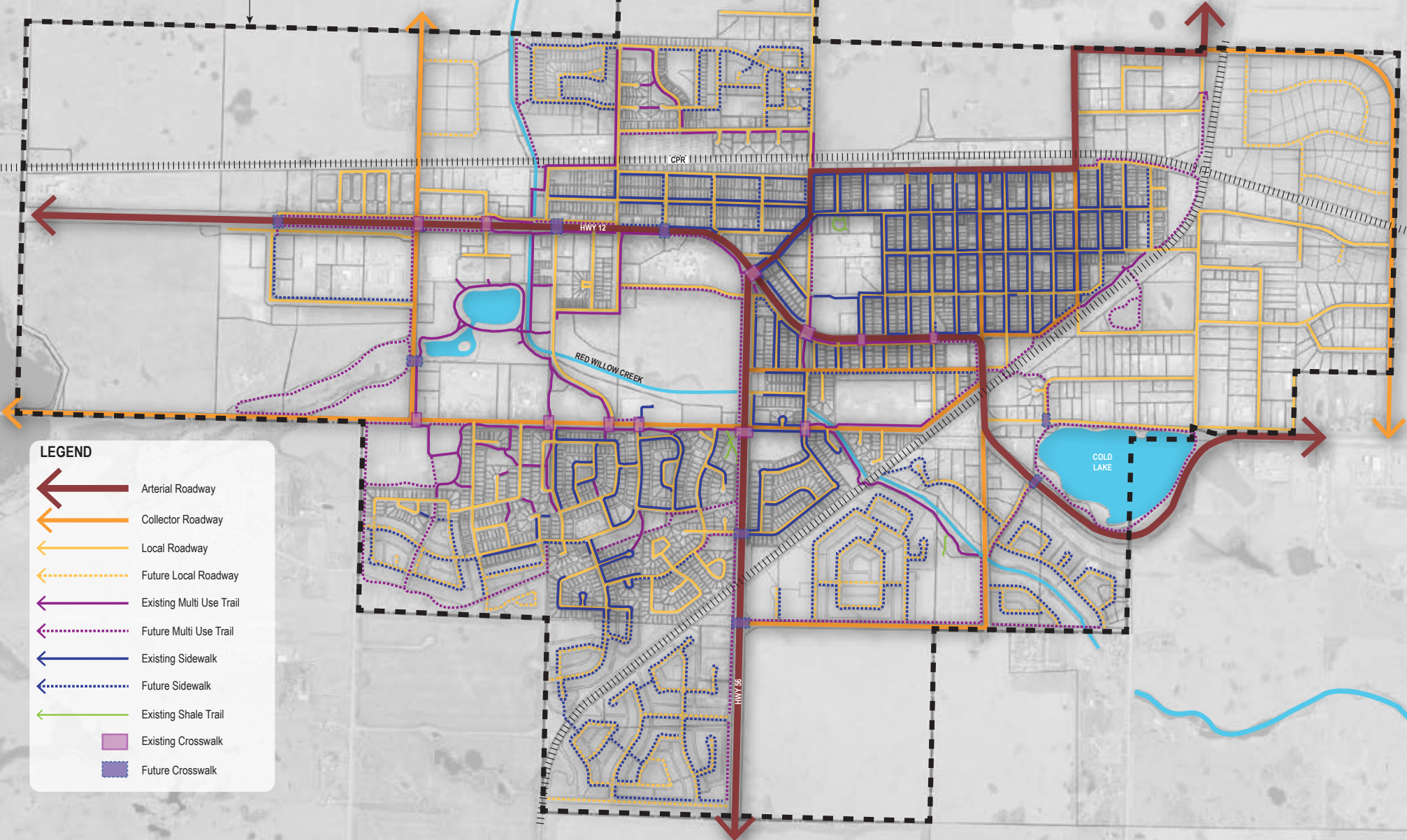
Secondary Corridors: East to West: 47 Avenue, 46 Avenue, 45 Avenue, and 44 Avenue. North to South: 46 Street, 50 Street, and 70 Street are Secondary Corridors. These corridors provide access to key districts/neighbourhood areas. Secondary corridors should define the districts/neighbourhood they transect, integrating opportunities to apply design guidelines (**refer to Section 4.1**) and supporting community connectivity and movement.

Tertiary Corridors: Apply design guidelines to improve downtown, residential, parks/ open space and natural area walkability, accessibility, and inclusivity (**Refer to Section 4.1**).

Figure 6: Corridors



TOWN BOUNDARY



LEGEND

-  Arterial Roadway
-  Collector Roadway
-  Local Roadway
-  Future Local Roadway
-  Existing Multi Use Trail
-  Future Multi Use Trail
-  Existing Sidewalk
-  Future Sidewalk
-  Existing Shale Trail
-  Existing Crosswalk
-  Future Crosswalk

3.2.6 Active Transportation

Trails and active transportation corridors are an important component of community living and promoting an active and healthy lifestyle for residents. Trails and active transportation development should integrate and link all areas of the community with inclusive, safe, secure, and accessible routes for pedestrian and non-motorized use.

In addition to the Corridors assessment, main routes that would connect users to key destinations throughout the town were highlighted and assessed for any gaps. Key intersections that could cause safety issues or would require further consultation and approvals are also noted. Currently there are two unconnected active transportation routes and hubs within the community. Refer to **Figure 7 Active Transportation Gap Analysis**.

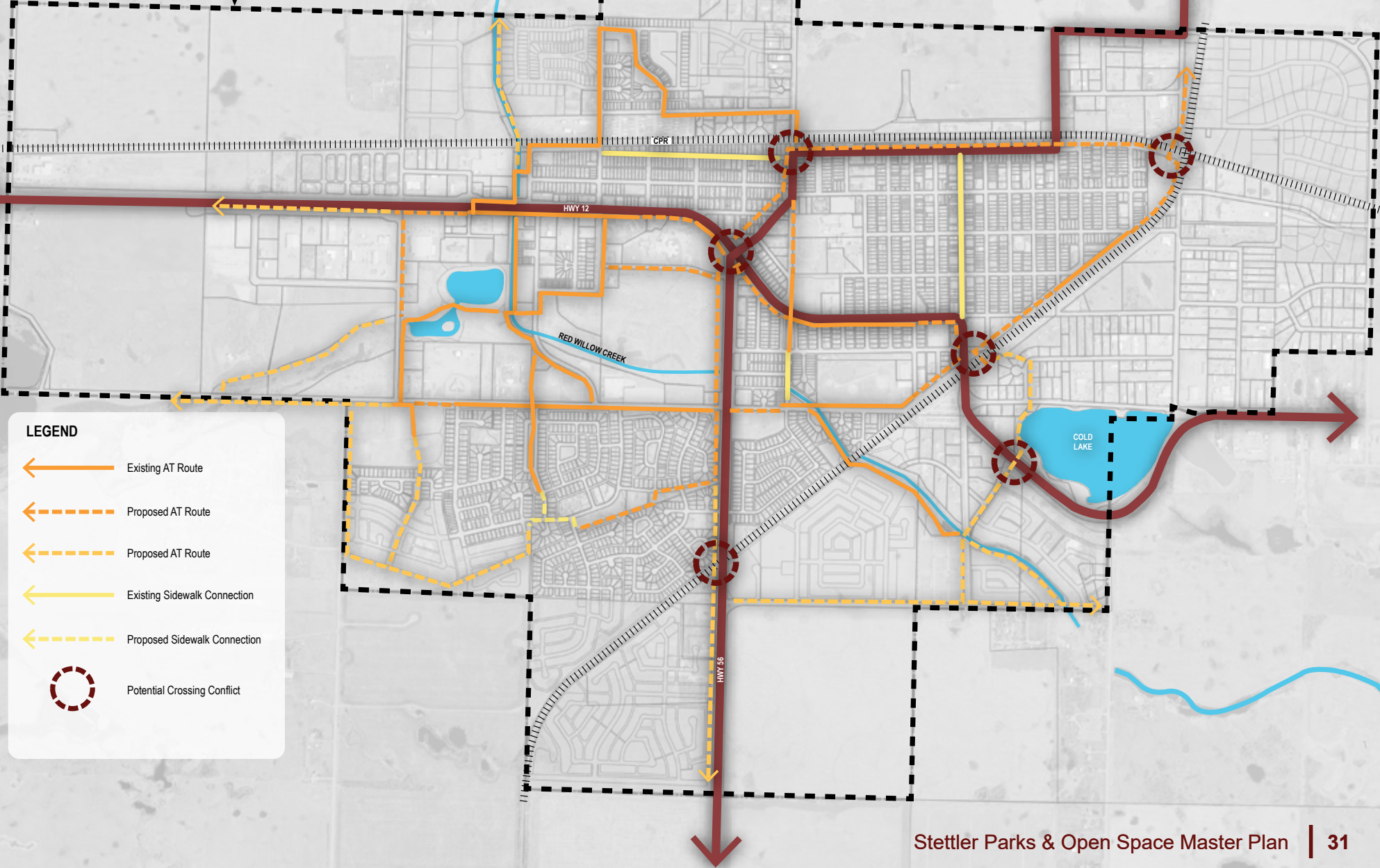
The design considerations for these trails can be founded in **Section 4.1**.



Figure 7: Active Transportation Gaps



TOWN BOUNDARY



LEGEND

- ← Existing AT Route
- ← Proposed AT Route
- ← Proposed AT Route
- ← Existing Sidewalk Connection
- ← Proposed Sidewalk Connection
- ⊙ Potential Crossing Conflict

4. Design Guidelines & Park Classifications

4.1 Design Guidelines

In moving forward with each Plan initiative, a comprehensive set of design elements specifically suited for Stettler needs to be established to draw upon the essences and themes. These elements are intended to be referenced in future and existing community and park development. Some of these elements will be wholly unique to the community, whereas others may be created from generic components through 'add-ons', adaptations, and retrofitting. For example, a bench may be selected from a commercially available generic model modified with colour, Town logo(s), etc., whereas others - (e.g. planters) - may be designed 'from the ground up.' Several design elements have already been established for the Town of Stettler, specifically with respect to vehicular and pedestrian wayfinding. The design elements will be suitable for general application throughout the Town. Modifications or adaptations may be necessary to address site specific circumstances.

The following are the recommended community and park design guidelines for specific planning and design components identified within the Plan. Further development of these guidelines should be completed with community input to define a level of application and refinement that fits the Town of Stettler. All components should be assessed and selected to promote the following key community goals:

- Safety and inclusivity
- Accessibility and Connectivity
- Red Willow Creek Tributary Preservation and Enhancement
- Vibrancy and Livability
- Sense of Place and Community
- Green and Sustainability
- Pride and Celebration
- Legibility and Cohesiveness

Complete Streets¹

Complete Streets are designed for all ages, abilities, and modes of travel. On Complete Streets, safe and comfortable access for pedestrians, bicycles, transit users and people with disabilities is not an afterthought, but an integral planning feature. A Complete Streets policy ensures that transportation planners and engineers consistently design and operate the entire street network for all road users, not only motorists. Complete Streets offer wide ranging benefits. They are cost effective, sustainable, and safe. The link between Complete Streets and public health is well documented. Jurisdictions across North America already include Complete Streets policies in their suite of preventative health strategies. Complete Streets also promote livability. Human-scale design treatments such as surface treatments, street furniture, trees and wide pedestrian rights-of-way animate our public realm and encourage people to linger. Complete Streets can exist in communities of all shapes and sizes. There is no singular approach to Complete Streets. However, Complete Street policies ensure that transportation planners and engineers design and manage infrastructure for all ages, abilities, and modes of travel across the entire transportation network.

¹Complete Streets for Canada





Low Impact Development²

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) defines low impact development (LID) as “an approach to land development (or re-development) that works with nature to manage stormwater as close to its source as possible” (US EPA, 2010). This approach focuses on maintaining or restoring the natural hydrological processes of a site, providing opportunities for natural processes to take place. Key principles in LID include preserving natural site features; small scale, integrated stormwater management controls dispersed throughout the site; minimizing and disconnecting impervious areas; controlling stormwater as close to its source as possible; prolonging stormwater runoff flow paths and times; and creating multi-functional landscapes.

²U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)

Green Streets³

Urban transportation rights-of-way integrated with green techniques are often called “green streets”. Green Streets achieve multiple benefits, such as improved water quality and more livable communities, through the integration of stormwater treatment techniques which use natural processes and landscaping. Green Streets can incorporate a wide variety of design elements. Although the design and appearance of green streets will vary, the functional goals are the same: provide source control of stormwater, limit its transport and pollutant conveyance to the collection system, and provide environmentally enhanced roads.

³LID Center - Green Streets

Key LID applications for consideration in Stettler include:

- Reduce imperviousness by using permeable paving or landscaping to break up expanses of impervious surfaces.
- Direct runoff into or across vegetated areas to help filter runoff and encourage groundwater recharge.
- Preserve, or design into the infrastructure, naturally vegetated areas that are near parking areas, buildings, and other impervious expanses to slow runoff, filter out pollutants, and facilitate infiltration.
- Use devices such as bioretention cells, vegetated swales, infiltration trenches, and dry wells to increase storage volume and facilitate infiltration.
- Disconnect roof downspouts and direct stormwater into vegetated areas or into water collection devices.
- Use native plants (or adaptable species) to establish an adaptable and low maintenance landscape that requires less irrigation and is appropriate for the climatic conditions.

4.1.1 Green Spaces

Green spaces include parks, open space, and natural areas. Key design guidelines include:

- Introduce Park signs/entrances, directories, community notice boards and identification, additional interpretive signage, and wayfinding.
- Key natural heritage features should be preserved to protect natural vegetation, ecological functions, and the cultural landscape.
- Natural drainage networks should be maintained to support stormwater management infrastructure such as stormwater management ponds.
- Extend Stettler's Parks and Open Space network into surrounding regions.
- Enhance community gathering opportunities by incorporating seating nodes, unique activity areas (games, music, adventure and nature play, community gardens), park shelters and/or facilities (prefabricated/modular architecture).
- Establish identified natural areas and associated greenway corridors as unique features within the Town of Stettler, incorporating natural conservation approaches to grassland, woodlands, river/tributary systems, and creating a recreational (e.g., trails, boardwalks, trail head/node areas, etc.) and educational resource (e.g., watchable wildlife, interpretive features, School/program sites, etc.) for the community and visitors. All greenway corridors should be developed with specific construction standards and a components kit-of-parts (e.g., site furnishings, signing, and features), utilizing the noted essences and themes in their design.
- Introduce opportunities for public art.
- Assess the requirement for parking lot development in park areas, in conjunction with trail head locations.
- Enhance Park sustainability, public perception, and education, and reduce operations/maintenance through a park naturalization program, that addresses geology, topology, hydrology (LID), soils plants, animals, the land, and human use.
- Naturalized and indigenous plantings should be used wherever possible, reducing maintained turf areas/maintenance.
- Town and Community Park entrance design should provide amenities including visitor drop-off, pedestrian scale lighting, and signage to assist in orientation and use of park amenities.
- Where possible, playground surfaces and park equipment should consider the use of recycled materials.
- Playground facilities should feature equipment that incorporates the principles of universal design.
- Signs to assist orientation, heritage interpretation elements, public art and park maps should be coordinated at park entrances to avoid unnecessary clutter.
- Highly visible connections should link the major park amenities and facilities through walkways and bicycle paths.
- Vehicular connections through parkland should be limited to emergency vehicle routes and access to major park facilities and parking areas.
- Future park development should consider additional neighbourhood parks to support existing and future neighbourhood (localized, safe, secure, inclusive) access and use.
- Preserve and enhance natural areas with improved trails, accessibility and inclusivity, and educational/interpretive opportunities should be a priority as the community continues to expand and develop.
- Existing park spaces should be augmented with a well-connected network of trails, active transportation routes (e.g., multi-use paths, cycling lanes, etc.) and pedestrian-oriented walkways/sidewalks (based on Complete Street applications).

4.1.2 Trail / Active Transportation

The Town's existing trail currently aligns with the suggested design guidelines with the exception of type 3 - Nature Trails. The photographs (below) provide examples of existing trails within the Town and illustrate how materials vary depending on location/ intended use of the corridor.

The following provides design guidelines for trail/active transportation enhancement and development in the Town of Stettler.

Type 1. Multi-Use Trail

Material: Asphalt

Width: 2.0-3.0m



Type 2. Sidewalks

Material: Concrete / Unit Pavers

Width: 1.5-1.8m



Type 3. Nature Trails

Material: Gravel / Mulch

Width: 1.5m-3.5m



Type 4. Park Trails

Material: Asphalt/Concrete/Unit Pavers/Gravel

Width: 1.8-3.0m



Typical Design Guidelines and Amenities:

Type 1. Multi Use Trail

- Maintain appropriate sight-lines where possible.
- Establish trail head locations, complete with trails/park directory (route markers/ trail maps) and wayfinding, interpretive signage, parking, washrooms, seating/ picnic areas, lighting, etc.
- Add bollards or barriers at trail heads to indicate it is the beginning of a trail.
- Major walkways near roadways should have buffer planting to block pedestrians from traffic and to buffer vehicular sound and improve the aesthetics and 'feel' of the area by providing a more natural appearance.
- Fencing around high traffic areas should be included to aid in separating pedestrian and vehicular zones and to increase general safety.
- Incorporate appropriate pedestrian scaled lighting, wayfinding signage, and seating areas (every 500m). Ensure consistency with essence and theme components.
- New trails should provide continuous walking/biking paths that connect community hubs and existing greenspaces throughout Stettler.
- Ensure there is either trail narrowing, serpentine layout, choke/pinch points or other features that reduce the speeds as users approach rest or gathering areas.
- Provide trailhead information at trailhead/interpretive panels, route markers/trail maps.
- Use signage and/or painted centerlines to identify separate lanes for opposing directions of travel.
- Incorporate barrier-free accessibility.

Type 2. Sidewalks

- Maintain appropriate sightlines where possible.
- Fencing around high traffic areas should be included to aid in separating pedestrian and vehicular zones and to increase general safety.
- Application of sod/native seed or planted beds to separate hardscape uses.
- Incorporate pedestrian scale lighting to increase safety at night, in the winter and to enhance character and theming.
- Ensure there are rest nodes every 500m (including seating and a waste receptacle).
- Provide node seating areas.
- Provide improved lighting in high use areas.
- Incorporate barrier-free accessibility. Maximum slopes of 5%.

Type 3. Nature Trails

- Maintain appropriate sight-lines where possible.
- Establish trail head locations, complete with trails/park directory (route markers/ trail maps) and wayfinding, interpretive signing, parking, washrooms, seating/ picnic areas, lighting, etc.
- Add bollards or barriers at trail heads to indicate it is the beginning of a trail.
- Offer places where people can experience the natural landscape (e.g., seating [sheltered] nodes, look-outs, and boardwalks, complete with interpretive signage).
- Provide seating/rest nodes, complete with benches, animal resistant waste receptacles, and picnic sites (picnic tables).
- Incorporate barrier-free accessibility (where feasible).

Type 4. Park Trails

- Maintain appropriate sightlines where possible.
- Incorporate pedestrian scale lighting to increase safety for use at night, in the winter and to enhance character and theming.
- Incorporate areas for interpretation/art.
- Ensure park paths act as connector points to adjacent gathering areas/other trails wherever possible.



4.1.3 Winter Community Design

Applying winter community design into northern communities supports year-round sustainability (environmental, social, economic, cultural) and quality, turning winter into an advantage. The following are components that can be applied to support winter community design in Stettler:

- Landform – create berms or bowls to define edges, enhance microclimate and use.
- Building Design – incorporating essence/theme (e.g., materials, colour, lighting, etc.); enhancing microclimate through building orientation, massing, and edge development; and outdoor spill-out opportunities (e.g., outdoor cafes with heating unit or outdoor fire pits)
- Streetscape Design - streetscape enhancements (e.g., wider/maintained sidewalks, snow storage space, boulevard trees, site furnishing that supports year-round use and comfort, lighting, wayfinding, etc.); and street crossings (lit/reflective signs, lights, audible systems, line painting, etc.).
- Nodes – establishing climate sensitive gathering spaces by using shelters, wind breaks, and fire pits.
- Activity Spaces – establishing district specific winter activity spaces and connectivity (e.g., skating opportunities in central spaces).
- Landscape – use hardy plant materials that provide winter interest and support microclimate control.
- Interactive art displays and festivals and programmed events.
- Winter maintenance – select certain trails, neighbourhood/downtown sidewalks, and nodes to be maintained for winter use.



4.1.4 Site Landscape

A site landscape palette for each district should be established to support the definition of identified nodes, edges, and connector initiatives.

- Native/ornamental trees, shrubs, perennials, and grasses should be selected to provide year-round form, texture and colour.
- Promote continuity, accent and rhythm.
- Maintain hardiness and seasonal variety.
- Create a manageable environment related to operations and maintenance efficiency (e.g., reduce the amount of turf maintenance).
- Establish a safe and secure environment for pedestrians and motorists – following the guidelines of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).
- Consider Low Impact Development based applications.

4.1.5 Site Furniture & Features

Site furniture and features should be consistent and reflect selected essence and theme components. Site furniture selection should consider manufacture/supplier locality, aesthetics, form and function, material/properties and year-round use and durability, assembly and installation requirements, maintenance requirements, and hardware replacement availability/ease. The following is a list of suggested site furniture and features that support a heritage approach that aligns with the Town themes identified in Section 3.1. (Supplier – Wishbone).

Benches & Picnic Tables: heritage style benches should be included at all nodes, key community destinations and along pedestrian corridors in combination with bicycle racks and waste receptacles. (Supplier – Wishbone).

Waste Receptacles: heritage style receptacles should be included at all nodes, key community destinations and along pedestrian corridors in combination with bicycle racks and benches. (Supplier – Wishbone). Along Nature Trails, animal-proof waste receptacles should be considered. (Example Supplier: Haul-All).

Bicycle Racks & Bollards: heritage style/standard bicycle racks should be included at all nodes, key community destinations, and along pedestrian corridors in combination with benches and waste receptacles. Bollards (Supplier – Wishbone) should be included in all areas where vehicle mitigation is required in high pedestrian use areas to buffer and delineate space and to increase overall aesthetic of the area. (Supplier – Wishbone).



Planters: consistent essence/theme designed planters (in a variety of sizes) should be included at primary nodes and key community destinations in combination with site landscape (district, node, edge, connector based) development/enhancements.

Hanging Baskets: application in downtown/mainstreet areas. Planters should include self-watering units to reduce maintenance requirements.

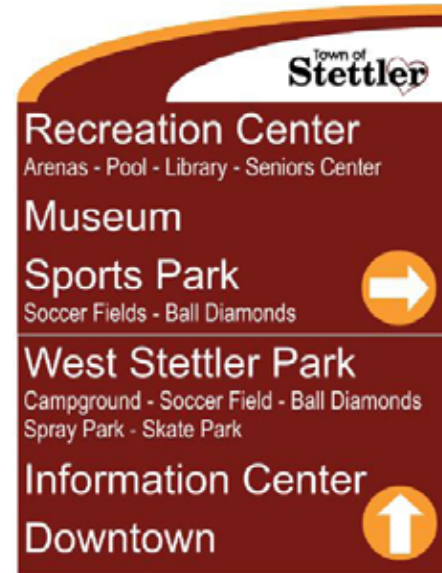
Fences & Screens: essence/theme (e.g., ranch/agricultural or picket) designed fencing should be applied to support the development and enhancement of districts, landmark/key community destinations, nodes, edges, and corridors and conditions (e.g., sound attenuation) in a safe and secure (e.g., CPTED) manner.

Branding & Signage: Building upon the wayfinding system established by the Town of Stettler, other considerations for consistent branding and signing within identified districts include banners (theme/program/event based); destination/facility/park signing; site furniture/feature branding; ; streetlight/component branding; interpretive signage; gateway/entry features; neighbourhood demarcation/entry features; local business/industry advertisement signs; district-based sign blades; and incorporation into the current annual self-guided walking tours of the Downtown/Mainstreet District.

Street Lighting: Establish district-based street lighting based on essence/theme development and selected based on function (vehicular, pedestrian, building façade, spot/highlighting, etc.), type (streetlight, bollard, wall mounted, etc.) and potential sustainability initiatives (e.g., Dark Sky, LED, solar powered, etc.).

Public Art: Incorporate an essence/theme based public art program to enhance districts. Key public art considerations include static and interactive sculpture; integrated/applied art (e.g., building facades, pavement, site furniture, and/or wall murals - especially in the Downtown/Mainstreet district); art gardens, complete with display boxes/panels; banners; sensory art (sound, sight, smell); natural/environmental art (landform, planting, water, etc.); ephemeral (non-permanent) performance/installations, etc.

Other Site Furniture/Features: A toolbox approach incorporating essence/theme should be established for the following additional components: flagpoles, tree grates/guards, utility boxes/cabinets/cubicles, ash receptacles, etc.



4.2 Park Classifications

The Town's existing parks system is diverse and serves multiple functions. Some provide active recreation opportunities that elevate individual health or serve as places to gather and celebrate. Others protect environmentally significant areas and allow natural processes such as flooding and pollination to occur. While other parks and open spaces provide quiet contemplative places that improve residents' mental well-being and provide opportunities to appreciate the Town's natural and cultural heritage. Collectively, the system of parks and open space sites combine to deliver the outcomes that have been set for the Town's parks and open space system. Deliberate planning can create a great parks and open space system. Clear design direction is required to ensure that each individual site plays a purposeful role in the Town-wide system. Planning and design direction begins with a clear parks classification system. A classification system is a useful tool to clearly articulate the desires and requirements the Town has regarding the provision of parks and open spaces for its residents.

The purpose of the park classifications is to:

- Clearly define the intended purpose(s) and uses of each park.
- Ensure the parks system is consistently and effectively supplied and configured to provide a deliberate spectrum of opportunities across the Town.
- Ensure the parks system is functional and accessible; and
- Provide general design guidance and requirements for each class of park.

4.2.1 Classifications

Five classes of parks will be applied throughout the Town:

Town Park - a destination parks that support the community and surrounding region. Town Parks provide a variety of functions, facilities and uses. The size and location of each park may vary, as determined by the park's particular function, facilities, and use. Town Parks may have an active/recreational focus that supports team/tournament sporting events and activities.

Community Park - a park that supports a specific neighbourhood or group of neighbourhoods. Community Parks provide each neighbourhood a range of active/passive park and recreational uses. Community Parks should support connectivity between neighbourhoods and districts through trails and greenways. The size and types of park/recreational uses may vary to reflect and serve specific neighbourhood needs.

Neighbourhood Park – a park that serves a specific neighbourhood to provide active and passive park/recreation opportunities and offer a local gathering space within walking distance of residents. Neighbourhood Parks would be small in scale.

Linear Park - serve as park/open space extension, connecting to various areas of the community. It is crucial these are distinct and well defined, as they are also used to separate different spaces.

Natural Park - serve as the protection of an environmentally significant resource. Any park feature development would serve as a way to reduce environmental impact of using these spaces and serve as educational opportunities to preserve natural resources.

As presented in **Section 3.1 Plan Framework**, the Plan has identified and assessed Nineteen (19) distinct park spaces (existing and future), along with natural areas, open/park spaces, and trails. Refer to **Figure 9 Park Classifications**.

4.2.2 Recommended Park Classifications

The following tables presents the purpose of each park class as well as clear siting and design direction that is to be applied during park system planning as well as the planning and design of individual park sites. See **Appendix B** for proposed Park Classifications Amenities and **Appendix C** for suggested park improvement projects.

Park Classification	Purpose	Objectives	Location	Access & Connectivity	Existing Parks
Town Park	A major multi-purpose destination for structured and unstructured recreation, social gathering and community events that attracts residents from across Town and motivates people from the Capital Region to visit the Town. Town Parks are focused on providing unique recreation opportunities and contain features that are not found in Community or Neighbourhood Parks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major city-wide/regional special events & city gatherings. • Active structured and unstructured recreation. Competition quality outdoor sports. • Passive structured & unstructured recreation. • Recreational quality outdoor sports. • Community/Multi-neighbourhood special events & gatherings. • Conservation. Natural and cultural heritage appreciation and education. 	Located to serve multiple communities and, where possible, situated along an arterial street with a major transit route. Should be linked to the greenspace network and may be in association with other open space areas.	Parking lot design and capacity must account for the park attraction from more than one neighbourhood. Minimum two trail/pathway access/egress points.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Stettler Park & amenities
Community Park	Provide structured recreation amenities not available in Town Parks or Neighbourhood Parks such as ball diamonds, outdoor rinks, sport fields, tennis courts, etc., either in association with a designated school site, or on its own. Additional unstructured spaces may be considered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active structured recreation. Active unstructured recreation. • Passive structured & unstructured recreation. Recreational quality outdoor sports. • Community/Multi-neighbourhood special events & gatherings. Conservation. • Natural and cultural heritage appreciation and education. 	Located to serve multiple communities and, where possible, situated along an arterial street with a major transit route. Should be linked to the greenspace network and may be in association with other open space areas.	Parking lot design and capacity must account for the park attraction from more than one neighbourhood. Minimum two trail/pathway access/egress points.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stettler Sports Park • Pioneer Park • Dog Park • Community Orchard. • Memorial Park • Downtown Park • Community Gardens

Park Classification	Purpose	Objectives	Location	Access & Connectivity	Existing Parks
Neighbourhood Park	The outdoor recreation focal point of a neighbourhood, Neighbourhood Parks provide unstructured active and passive recreation opportunities for a variety of ages that are tailored to the interests of residents in the neighbourhood.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides structured recreation opportunities such as playgrounds tailored to the neighbourhood's needs. • Passive unstructured recreation. Active unstructured recreation. 	Minimum of one trail/pathway access/egress points, on street parking preferred.	Minimum of one trail/pathway access/egress points, on street parking preferred.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parkdale Park, • Railway Kinsmen Tot Lot • Meadowlands Park • Grandview Park • East End Viking Park • Emerson Park • Rosedale Park
Natural Park	Natural parks are consisting of environmental reserves within the Town of Stettler and are developed to reduce environmental impact and provide educational opportunities with interpretive signage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide physical connection and access. • Passive unstructured recreation. Active unstructured recreation. • Natural and cultural heritage appreciation and education. 	Varies.	Access to the park may or may not be restricted in accordance with stated hours of operation. Parking lot design and capacity must account for the park's attraction of residents from across the Town and region. Connectivity will vary. However, efforts should be made to ensure the park is connected to the Town pathway and trail system, located close to Town.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cold Lake • Red Willow Creek Trail
Linear Park	Corridors provide physical connections and access to and between neighbourhoods, parks, shopping areas, roads, and other destinations in the Town. Corridors are primarily pathways, trails, or greenways with some associated open space and park amenities such as small seating areas or landscaping. Refer to trail design guidelines/classifications.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide physical connection and access. • Passive unstructured recreation. Active unstructured recreation. • Natural and cultural heritage appreciation and education. 	Varies.	Varies Pathways and trails within corridors will be designed in accordance with the Town Standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerson Park

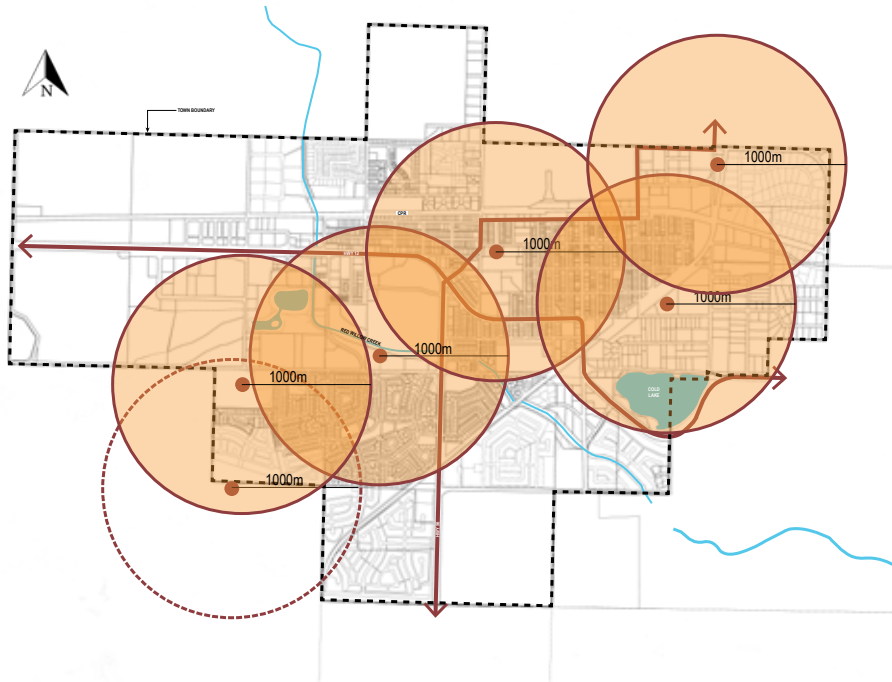
4.2.3 Park Distribution

Park amenities facilitate quality park-based recreation experiences and enhance the comfort and convenience for park users. The Town is working to ensure residents have access to a diversity of park-based experiences. Providing diversity is achieved, in part, but ensuring a diversity of park amenities are available to residents. Not all amenities are required, or even desired, in each park classification. See **Appendix B** for a list of amenities that are standard, discretionary, or incompatible with each park classification.

Aligned with the management intent of each park classification, the amenity list is to assist developers with choosing and describing what park amenities are envisioned to be included in each proposed park. It helps to clearly communicate the Town's vision,

needs and desired level of service for each park class. The list of amenities is not exhaustive. Though the list includes the most common amenities, the Town recognizes that some amenities may not have been included and that as technology and activities evolve, new amenities/trends will emerge.

As for the placement for these parks, walkability standards for accessibility must be considered. A community park is recommended to have a minimum of 1000m walking distance and a neighbourhood park to have a minimum of 500m walking distance. See the diagrams below to be used as reference for future planning gaps to be serviced.

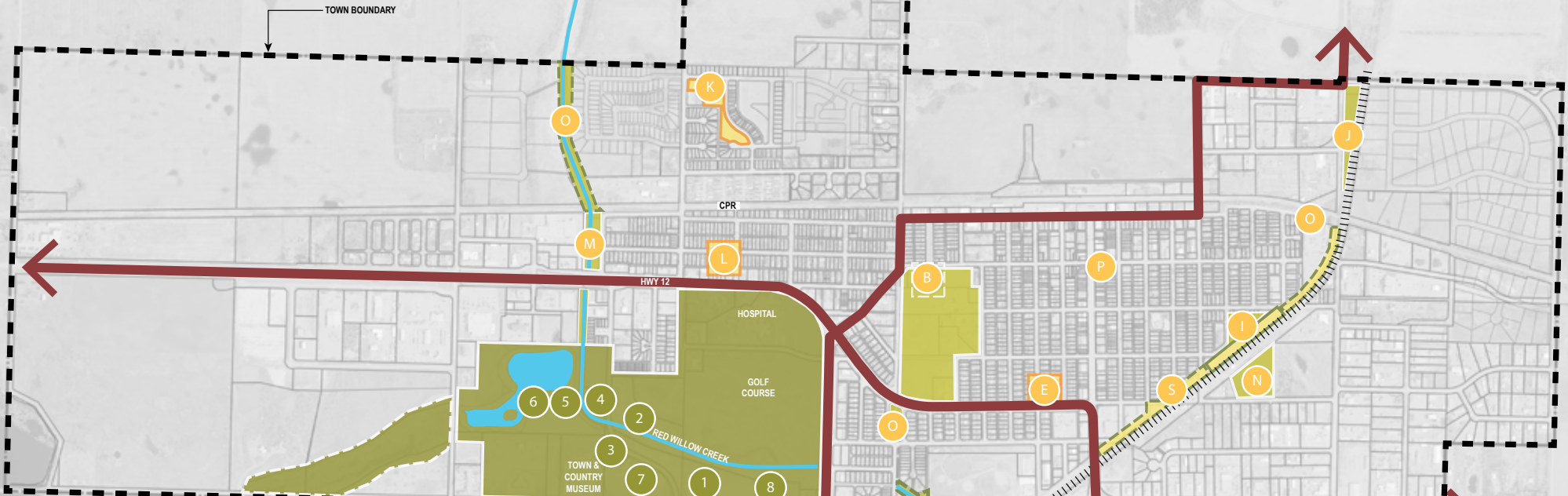


Community Park Distribution



Neighbourhood Park Distribution

Figure 9: Park Classifications



LEGEND

West Stettler Park

- 1 Stettler Recreation Centre
- 2 Campground
- 3 Skate Park
- 4 Spray Park
- 5 West Stettler Playground
- 6 Gazebo & Stage
- 7 Baseball Diamonds
- 8 West Stettler Soccer Fields

Parks & Open Space

- A Stettler Sports Park
- B Memorial Park
- C Parkdale Park
- D Pioneer Park
- E Railway Kinsmen Tot Lot
- F Meadowlands Park
- G Grandview Park
- H Cold Lake
- I East End Viking Park
- J Dog Park
- K Emerson Park
- L Rosedale Park
- M Community Orchard
- N Homesteaders Park
- O Community Gardens
- P Downtown Park
- Q Future Dog Park
- R Red Willow Creek Linear Park
- S Future Alberta Prairie Linear Park

- Existing Town Park
- Future Town Park
- Existing Community Park
- Future Community Park
- Existing Natural Park
- Future Natural Park
- Existing Neighbourhood Park
- Future Neighbourhood Park

- Existing Linear Park
- Future Linear Park

5. Implementation Plan

This section outlines selected key Plan enhancements and tasks, prioritizing them by implementation urgency. It also suggests roles, responsibilities, implementation strategies, and phasing timelines.

The financial implications of each enhancement and task will be assessed, considering priority-based budgeting, potential funding sources, joint project development, and implementation. It will also determine how to effectively manage and measure progress and outcomes.

To foster community engagement and ownership, all Plan components will need to be presented to the community-at-large for input and approval. These investments are strategic, aiming to create a unified, diverse, and strong sense of place for the Town of Stettler that reflects and promotes its people, landscape, climate, culture, history, and sustainable, ecologically-based characteristics.

Priority-driven budgeting should guide the Plan's implementation. As outlined in Schedule 1.0, key Plan enhancements and tasks have been prioritized from high to low.

All Plan priorities should share value, transparency, and adaptability throughout the proposed phases. As the Town progresses through each priority, it is essential to further define:

- **Scope and Resource Requirements:** The specific scope and support resources (e.g., internal assessments, external consulting, design development) needed to determine the budget allocation for each key enhancement and task.
- **Roles and Responsibilities:** Clear assignments of roles and responsibilities for each item, considering potential partnerships and joint funding opportunities.
- **Resource Prerequisites:** A thorough analysis of available resources (e.g., capital/operational funding, partnerships/grants, O&M considerations, joint project upgrades) before annual budgeting.
- **Decision-Making Framework:** The specific criteria, processes, and scoring mechanisms for setting Plan priorities and outcomes.
- **Public Engagement:** The level of public engagement and involvement required during the Plan process, including needs and demand assessments.

- **Leadership and Involvement:** The individuals or task force responsible for leading and participating in the Plan process.
- **Performance Measurement:** Key performance indicators and metrics to evaluate the Plan's success.

A priority-driven approach will provide a clear strategic, financial, and service-based framework for the Plan, fostering collaboration, communication, and ongoing community engagement and buy-in.

5.1 Funding the Plan

Capital and operating expenditures will be required, along with funding for more detailed planning and design work. Outside funding sources and programs need to be explored including government grant programs and private sector contributions. These types of programs work best if there is an established capital and operating program amount committed each year for an initial five (5) year period and additional money leveraged from other government programs, private and non-profit sectors.

Developing project partnerships is another key element in reducing capital and operating expenditures associated with the Plan. Through the development of project partnerships, contributions can be established through matching funds and/or 'gifts'-in-kind such as labour, materials, and equipment. Potential project partners include, yet are not unlimited to the following:

- Federal Government
- Provincial Government
- Surrounding Counties
- First Nations
- Local Businesses & Industry
- Local Service & Community Groups
- Local & Regional Utility Agencies
- RCMP

- Local & Regional Public & Catholic Schools
- Canadian Pacific Railway
- Clubs & Church Groups
- Municipal Boards
- Guides/Scouts/Junior Forest Rangers
- Volunteers/Youth Groups

Most Plan initiatives can be funded and completed through public/private development partnerships or municipal capital/operation budgeting for new or restoration development within the public right-of-way or on public lands.

5.2 Furthering the Plan

In conjunction to the Plan, there are several implementation strategies that will require further planning work to establish a well defined scope and approach for future funding and implementation.

These further planning requirements include, yet are not limited to:

- Statutory, Non-Statutory and land-use bylaw updates - for consistency purposes, any future municipal and regional planning and private development submissions should reference this document and include future Framework and Park Classification development and enhancement.
- Downtown/Main street Program - Complete an update to the Downtown Improvements Plan to include recommended design guidelines.
- Vehicular and Pedestrian Wayfinding Program - Complete an update to the wayfinding plan to include established essence and themes, and districts outlined within this Plan.
- Trail Master Plan and Standards - An assessment of trail conditions to be completed and trail standards and implementation plan to be completed for future trail and existing trail redevelopment.
- Site Furnishings, Feature and Landscape Guidelines - establish a specific kit-of-parts for the various districts, landmarks, edges, nodes, and corridors within the Town of Stettler that utilize the essence and theme character elements.

5.3 Phasing the Plan

Subject to available budget, these initiatives need to be phased over the next ten (10) years, consistent with the order of priorities and timing identified within the table below. The strategy schedule should be assessed each year and adjusted accordingly to reflect changing priorities and opportunities for joint partnerships and grant funding.

5.4 Measuring Success

The Plan should be a 'living' document that is outcome-orientated and responsive to changing needs and circumstances. Specific benchmarks should be established to measure how the Plan is achieving it's goals and objectives overtime.

5.5 Monitoring, Evaluating, & Updating

It is recommended that a brief annual 'report card' be provided each year by the Town's task force to provide a summary of benchmarks that have been achieved. A systematic review and update of the Plan should be undertaken every five (5) years. This would include a review, assessment and the integration of other Town initiatives and community review and validation.

Table 1: Phasing Timelines

Project / Initiative	Short Term (0-3 Years)	Medium Term (3-7 Years)	Long Term (7+ Years)	Potential Resource Requirements (Time and/or Capital)	Other Resource Requirement
Use the Park Classification System as a basis for park design, enhancement, and maintenance.				Staff Time and parks maintenance resources	
Spray Park Redevelopment				\$0.5M to \$1M	\$25,000 to \$50,000 (Feasibility study and concept design)
Park and Playground Enhancement and Renewal Projects <i>*Target 2 in each term; list of potential projects provided in Appendix A based on scoring value</i>				TBD	TBD
Trails Master Plan and Standards				\$5,000 to \$7,000	
Downtown Main Street Program Update				\$15,000 to \$25,000 (Feasibility study and concept design)	
Site Furnishings, Feature and Landscape Guidelines				\$5,000 to \$7,000	
Improvements to Stettler Sports Field				TBD	TBD
New Dog Park				TBD	TBD
Future Neighbourhood Parks				TBD	TBD

*TBD - Requires investigation on a project by project basis

* High level estimates (2025 dollars) based on recently completed projects. Further analysis and validation required during project planning.

Appendix A - Park Assessments

West Stettler Park

Stettler Recreation Centre



5 NEW

General Description:

The Recreation Centre includes the Town Library, Arenas, Pool, Fitness Centre, Senior Social Centre, and meeting rooms.

Existing Conditions:

- No parking lot vegetation
- No safe pedestrian access to the main doors
- Existing benches and picnic tables right outside main doors.
- No formal seating areas exist
- No trail access to the rest of the park exists.

Town of Stettler Lions Campground



3 FAIR

General Description:

Includes 66 units (22 power, water, sewer & 40 power, water and 4 non-serviced) for trailer and tent camping.

Existing Conditions:

- No existing fire pits or BBQs
- No trail access to Recreation Centre
- Limited shade trees

Skate Park



4 GOOD

General Description:

The Stettler Skate Park features rails, boxes, hips and a number of ramps for skater boarders, bikers, scooters, in-line skaters and a recently added 174' bowl.

Existing Conditions:

- Limited shade trees
- Erosion occurring on the edge of the ramps
- Limited seating

Spray Park



1 CRITICAL

General Description:

The spray park has currently reached it's lifespan and is noted for replacement.

Existing Conditions:

- Amenities include two benches, one waste receptacle, washrooms/change rooms
- Surrounding landscape beds provide adequate shade and privacy.
- Current site amenities are not barrier free.

West Stettler Playground



5 NEW

General Description:

The West Stettler Playground has been recently built and has a variety of play features suitable for 5 to 10 year olds.

Existing Conditions:

- Includes slides, climbing tower, balance features, and teeter totter.
- Adjacent site features include three differing picnic tables (one accessible), one small shelter, one bench, 3 differing waste receptacles and a large hill for winter use.
- The playground has poured in place rubber without edging.

Gazebo & Stage



2 POOR

General Description:

The Gazebo and Stage in West Stettler Park is the main event area for Town wide events. It is a simply designed post and roof structure on a concrete platform.

Existing Conditions:

- The concrete is in relatively good condition.
- The cedar shake roof is in poor condition.
- Shade screens have been added to the north side of the structure to reduce weather elements.
- Main park trail positioned directly in front of the stage.
- Eroded sod in the front of the stage.

Baseball Diamonds



4 GOOD

General Description:

Existing features include a peewee division baseball diamond (48' pitches and 70' bases) and a Bantam division baseball diamond (54' pitches and 80' bases).

Existing Conditions:

- Existing amenities include covered players benches, two bleacher stands behind the backstops, chain link fencing, two outhouses and waste receptacle between the fields and a champion sign with adjacent flag and posts.
- Maintenance trucks causing ruts in sod.
- No trail linkage exists from 65 street access.

Soccer Fields



3 FAIR

General Description:

There are two Recreation soccer fields in West Stettler. One located adjacent to the RCMP and Stettler's Recreation Centre and one beside the campground.

Existing Conditions:

- Existing site amenities include bleachers facing southeast, waste receptacles, open field area, chain link fencing.
- No trail / pathway connects field to Recreation Centre or adjacent trails across the street.

Town Parks & Open Spaces

Stettler Sports Park



4 GOOD

General Description:

The Stettler Sports Park, completed in 2010 includes 4 baseball/softball diamonds, two soccer pitches where one can be converted to two mini pitches, a large gravel parking lot with a hundred car capacity.

Existing Conditions:

- Existing amenities include a central public washroom and drink fountains, and a large open field to accommodate camping during events and other programming.
- Trail connection exists only on the east side of the park.
- No existing lighting.

Memorial Park



2 POOR

General Description:

Memorial Park is centrally located just east of 57 St (Highway 56) and south of 50 Avenue and pays tribute to our veterans.

Existing Conditions:

- Existing site amenities include red ornamental fencing with brick posts.
- Over grown vegetation blocks views into the park creating safety issues.
- Existing asphalt pathway is deteriorating.
- Access to high school parking lot doesn't connect and is not barrier free.

Parkdale Park



3 FAIR

General Description:

Parkdale Playground is located near the south side of Stettler and features a playground, a baseball / softball field and a ground skating rink.

Existing Conditions:

- Existing depression and swale for ice rink creates drainage issues in off season and inhibits proper sod growth.
- Existing playground surfacing is rubber pieces which creates nuisances for users.
- Lack of seating and picnic areas exist.

Pioneer Park



2 POOR

General Description:

Pioneer Park highlights Stettler's history and recognizes the Town's many settlers. The park features a custom entry sign, a vintage combine harvester, and a central monument with plaque that has the names of persons that made a significant contribution to Stettler's history

Existing Conditions:

- Red shale pathway
- Monument is a tiered octagonal shape with 4 plaques on each side, and a large stone on the top.
- Perennial bed on the east side of the monument and red shale path runs along the west side but do not meet, creating small slivers of sod in between.
- No current amenities such as benches or waste receptacles exist.

Railway Kinsmen Tot Lot



1 CRITICAL

General Description:

The Kinsmen Tot Lot, a railway-themed park, is located on 47th Avenue (Highway 12), before you enter downtown.

Existing Conditions:

- The park is enclosed by chain-link fencing and has only one entrance, located in the middle of 52nd Street and a hole for access along the alley at the back.
- No sidewalk leading into the park.
- The play equipment is designed for children aged 1 to 4 and is mismatched, divided into three separate play areas.
- The ground surface consists of pea gravel with a concrete border.
- The park features three picnic tables, a bench, a garbage can, and a community library.

Community Gardens



3 FAIR

General Description:

There are three community gardens spaced out within the Town of Stettler.

Existing Conditions:

- No barrier free accessibility to any of the gardens exist.

Meadowlands Park



3 FAIR

General Description:

The Meadowlands Park features a playground for children aged 2 to 5, a basketball court, and a berm separating a passive green space.

Existing Conditions:

- The playground is in relatively good condition and includes slides, swings, and balance features.
- The playground surface is pea gravel with a concrete border.
- The basketball court has two hoops and an asphalt surface.
- The park also features two picnic tables near each feature, as well as a bench and a garbage can near the playground.
- A continuous asphalt trail connects the park to the surrounding neighborhood.

Grandview Park



3 FAIR

General Description:

Grandview Park features a playground for children aged 5 to 7 and a basketball court.

Existing Conditions:

- The playground has a variety of equipment, including two connected towers with slides, horizontal ladders, vertical climbing areas, and swings.
- Amenities include two picnic tables and a waste receptacle with an animal deterrent feature.
- The park has a large open green space and is surrounded by a chain-link fence with three access points along 60th Street and 41st Avenue.
- There are currently no pathways leading into the park.

Cold Lake



2 POOR

General Description:

Cold lake is a large body of water located between 44 Avenue, south of the Industrial District and north of Highway 12 as you enter or leave Stettler.

Existing Conditions:

- Currently there is a pull out area along the highway to let you access the lake.
- Around the perimeter of the lake there is a degraded shale pathway.

East End Viking Park



4 GOOD

General Description:

East End Viking Park is one of Stettler's newer playgrounds. It features a nautical theme and includes a ship climbing feature, tower with slides, balance features, and a spinning climbing tower.

Existing Conditions:

- The playground surfacing consists of pea gravel with a concrete edge.
- There is a good landscape buffer along the south edge providing shade.
- At the other edge of the park there is a depression to create an ice rink in the winter.
- There is a newly installed multi use pathway that connects to 48 Avenue and 49 Avenue.
- There is a perimeter chain link fence with two entry points to the east and west sides of the park.

Dog Park



2 POOR

General Description:

The Stettler Dog Park is located on the northeast of Town and is approximately two acres in size.

Existing Conditions:

- It is heavily vegetated and has a small semi-open lawn area.
- There is a perimeter post- and wire fencing with re-purposed animal gates for maintenance access.
- Large concrete blocks line the gravel parking lot to prevent vehicular damage to the fencing.
- There is a short mulched pathway that leads to the center of the open space.
- The site features include a community bulletin board, a bench, and animal deterrent waste receptacle.
- The park is enclosed by railway tracks and Highway 56, limiting the pedestrian access to the park.

Emerson Park



3 FAIR

General Description:

Emerson park features a 2 to 7 year old playground, a skating rink, a multi use trail, a storm pond / creek with accent planting.

Existing Conditions:

- The playground is in relatively good condition and features a climbing tower, slides, and swings.
- The surface is pea gravel with a concrete edge.

Community Orchard



3 FAIR

General Description:

The community orchard runs along Red Willow Creek tributary and features a garden with fruit trees and shrubs.

Existing Conditions:

- It includes educational signage regarding the pollinators and types of existing plantings within the Orchard.
- A shared-use pathway runs alongside the orchard and connects to the pathway along 51 Avenue and the commercial roadway along 50 Avenue.

Rosedale Park



5 NEW

General Description:

Rosedale Park feature a brand new fully accessible playground built in the Fall of 2024.

Existing Conditions:

- Existing chain link fencing encloses the park.
- Park amenities include benches, picnic tables and waste receptacles.
- Current amenities are not accessible.

Downtown Park



4 GOOD

General Description:

A small parkette located downtown and provides a variety of seating options.

Existing Conditions:

- Park amenities includes picnic tables, a monument, bollards, planters, trees in grates, benches, and waste receptacles.
- The pavement features a railroad theme. Material used is smooth and creates a slipping hazard.
- Chain linked bollards are located at the crosswalk and create a tripping hazard.

Appendix B - Park Classifications Amenities

Legend

- A Incompatible with Park Class/Not Applicable
- B Discretionary for Park Class Dependent on site programming
- C Typical/Standard for Park

Park Amenities:

AMENITY	TOWN PARK	COMMUNITY PARK	NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LINEAR PARK	NATURAL PARK
RECREATION ACTIVITY AMENITIES					
Pathways					
Multi-Use Pathway	C	B	B	B	A
Sidewalk	B	C	C	C	A
Park Pathway	B	B	B	B	A
Nature Pathway	B	B	B	B	A
Outdoor Sport					
Multi-purpose Rectangular Field / Sport Field	C	B	A	A	A
Baseball / Softball Diamond	B	B	A	A	A
Basketball Court	B	B	B	A	A
Tennis Court	B	B	A	A	A
Volleyball / Beach Volleyball Court	B	B	A	A	A
Picketball Court	B	B	A	A	A
Track & Field	B	B	A	A	A
Small Unstructured Courts (e.g. bocce ball, horse shoe pit, frisbee, etc.)	B	B	A	B	A
Outdoor Rink	B	B	B	A	A
Liesure Ice / Social Skating Surface	B	B	A	B	A
Emerging Sports	B	B	A	A	A

	TOWN PARK	COMMUNITY PARK	NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LINEAR PARK	NATURAL PARK
Adventure					
Skate / Bike (BMX, Mountain) Parks	C	B	A	A	A
Water Activity Adventure (water access / facilities for canoeing, kayak, fishing, etc).	A	A	A	A	A
Winter Activity Adventure (e.g. cross-country skiing, tobogganing/ sliding, ice climbing/scultures)	B	B	B	B	A
Outdoor Adventure (e.g. climbing, parkour, zipline parks, nature/interpretive)	B	B	B	B	A
Fitness					
Outdoor Fitness Stations	B	B	B	A	B
Play					
Play Space	B	B	B	B	B
Natural Playground	B	B	B	B	B
Water/Spray Park	C	B	A	A	A
Outdoor Pool	C	A	A	A	A
Passive / Unprogrammed Space	B	B	B	C	B
Community, Special Events & Education					
Performance Stage / Bandstand	C	A	A	B	A
Community Gardens / Urban Food Forest	B	B	B	B	B
Off-Leash Dog Area, Non-Fenced	B	B	B	B	B
Dog-Designated, Fenced	B	B	B	B	B
Support Amenity Buildings	B	B	A	C	A
Historic / Interpretive Features & Public Art	B	B	B	C	B

AMENITIES	TOWN PARK	COMMUNITY PARK	NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LINEAR PARK	NATURAL PARK
COMFORT & CONVENIENCE AMENITIES					
Gathering Amenities					
Benches	C	C	C	C	C
Public Event Seating	C	B	A	B	A
Picnic Table	C	B	B	B	B
BBQ Pit / Fire Pit	C	B	A	B	B
Bookable Day Use Shelter	B	B	A	B	B
Comfort Amenities					
Full-Service Washroom	C	B	A	A	A
Portable Washrooms	B	B	A	B	B
Portable Water Sources	C	B	B	B	A
Shade Structures	C	C	C	B	B
Convenience Amenities					
Non-motorized Vehicle Parking	C	C	B	C	B
Waste Receptacles	C	C	C	C	C
Recycling Receptacles	C	C	C	C	B
Access, Movement & Accessibility					
Parking Lot	C	B	A	B	A
Non-motorized Water Access / Boat Dock	A	B	A	A	B
Wayfinding and Regulatory Signage	C	C	C	C	C
Level of Accessibility - Facilities, Infrastructure, Amenities, and Services	C	C	C	C	C

AMENITIES	TOWN PARK	COMMUNITY PARK	NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LINEAR PARK	NATURAL PARK
SITE SERVICING & DEVELOPMENT					
Electrical - Lighting, Outlet, Event Support	C	B	A	B	B
Lighting (Fixtures)	C	B	A	B	B
Sewer	C	B	A	B	A
Potable Water	C	B	A	B	A
Wireless / Internet Access, Services, and Facilities	C	B	A	A	A
LID / Sustainable Landscape Development	C	B	B	B	B

Appendix c - Suggested Park Improvement Projects

PARK CLASSIFICATION	PARK SITE	POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
Town Park	Stettler Recreation Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade as part of the West Stettler Park District recommendations • Create a hierarchy of seating nodes and formal accessible walkways and enhanced park landscape to better define the park and provide outdoor amenity spaces that support the Recreation Centre Programming (e.g. outdoor classrooms, picnic areas, etc.) • Consider future pathways / trail connections from the Recreation Centre to adjoining amenities such as the Stettler Ball Diamonds, the RCMP soccer fields, the skating rink, and campground. • Consider future pedestrian connectivity improvements along the north side of 44 Avenue. • Reduce the visual and heat island impact of the parking lot by at a minimum planting shade trees along the border and / or including landscaped islands. • Promote naturalization and the inclusion of native species, to reduce maintained turf areas, and to enhance site micro-climate.
	Town of Stettler Lions Campground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade as part of the West Stettler Park District recommendations. • Consider adding additional planting to provide shade and privacy screening. • Consider adding fire pit and grills to each unit. • Consider adding a trail connection with pedestrian bridge along the north side of the Red Willow Creek to provide connectivity to the Recreation Centre for visitors.
	Skate Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider adding additional Trees and Landscape to the South to provide shade for users and spectators. • Consider including amenity areas, such as bench seating and picnic areas with shade structures. • Consider adding rip rap to the edges of the ramps to mitigate erosion and reduce maintenance requirements along the site features. • Consider adding a viewing platform for spectators to watch without obstructing the park.
	Spray Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade as part of the West Stettler Park District recommendations • Consider upgrading the amenities such as benches, picnic tables, waste receptacles, and shade structures. Ensure access to these features are barrier free. • Upgrade the spray park surfacing to include no-slip, impact resistant surfacing such as poured in place rubber. • Offer a variety of water features such as jets, geysers, water curtains, and water cannons. • Future Spray Park development should consider essence/theme development and incorporate types of play for all ages. • Consider relocation of the spray park to be adjacent to the Playground to provide proper caregiver oversight for children. • Consider re-purpose of the spray park location as a day use area with shelters available to rent.

PARK CLASSIFICATION	PARK SITE	POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
Town Park	West Stettler Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade as part of the West Stettler Park District recommendations • Include perimeter walkway for site accessibility and reduce obstruction • Promote naturalization and the inclusion of native species, to reduce maintained turf areas, and to enhance site micro-climate. • Consider adding sensory garden to extend play into nature. • Consider replacing existing shelters to match essence and theme development. • Consider adding concrete curbing to playground surface.
	Gazebo & Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade as part of the West Stettler Park District recommendations • Consider relocating the Gazebo and Stage area so that users of the main park trail isn't obstructing during events and views of the stage are not obstructed by trail users. Or consider adding a perimeter trail to maintain park accessibility during use of the stage. • Promote naturalization and the inclusion of native species, to reduce maintained turf areas, and to enhance site micro-climate. • Future Gazebo and Stage development should consider essence/theme development referenced in Section 3.1.
	West Stettler Baseball Fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper maintenance access to prevent ruts. • Consider adding lighting for evening games. • Consider adding a trail linkage from the 65 St access trail.
	West Stettler Soccer Fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a hierarchy of gathering / seating / spectator nodes, accessible/inclusive trail/pathway corridors, and support site furnishings and features. • Consider adding player benches to both sides of the field. • Consider adding a landscaped edge to the south side of the field between the roadway and fence line. • Consider future trail connectivity to the Recreation Centre.
Community Park	Stettler Sports Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider adding a landscape buffer along the parking lot edge to the soccer fields. • Consider adding a large shelter for hosting community events and ball tournaments. • Consider adding a perimeter trail and central trail to the west for accessibility. • Consider adding a landscape buffer along the residential edge to the east. • Consider adding lighting.

PARK CLASSIFICATION	PARK SITE	POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
Community Park	Pioneer Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a shared used pathway along highway 56 to link to the neighbourhoods to the south. Establish a hierarchy of gathering and seating nodes, formal/accessible walkways, and enhanced park landscape to better define the park and its features. Introduce opportunities for public art and/or interpretive signage and displays that support the community culture and heritage. Refer to Design Guidelines Section 3.4 for recommended Complete Streets, Green Street, Low Impact Development, Safe Journey Routes, Winter Community Design, Site Landscape, Site Furniture and Feature, Green Space/ Trail design application
	Dog Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider arranging a pedestrian railway crossing with CPR to provide pedestrian access from 51 Avenue. Consider establishing a main walking path throughout the existing dog park. Consider creating an additional dog park at the southeast of Stettler to better serve the community. The new park should be 2 to 5 acres in size.
	Community Orchard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider continuing the shared-use pathway to the east on 50 Avenue. Install paths for easy access through the orchard. Create a hierarchy of pathways, gathering and seating nodes and integrate additional park furnishings - refer to essence and theme components.
	Memorial Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider replacing pathways with a formal concrete walkway and develop well-defined, safe, and accessible access points into the park. Develop enhanced formal garden plantings that integrate the existing veterans memorial. Introduce opportunities for public art and/or interpretive signing and displays that support the community heritage and culture. Create a hierarchy of pathways, gathering and seating nodes and integrate additional park furnishings - refer to essence and theme components with respect to future redevelopment. Follow Crime Prevention through Environmental Design principles and modify existing landscape to provide clear sight lines into the site. Consider adding pedestrian scale lighting to the park to inhibit unwanted use of the site.
	Community Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider adding accessible pathways and accessible planters.
	Downtown Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider removing chain links from the bollards as they create tripping hazards for the visually impaired. Review the spacing between bollards to ensure it is 2m or less. Consider reorienting site furniture to allow for variable site programming. Reinstall concrete to match future 50 Street segments that correct the existing surface slipping hazards.

PARK CLASSIFICATION	PARK SITE	POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
Neighbourhood Park	Parkdale Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider replacing the existing sidewalk along 44 Avenue with a shared use pathway to create a continuous Active Transportation Route. • Future playground redevelopment should consider essence/theme development, nature/adventure play and incorporate types of play/activity for all ages. • Create a hierarchy of pathways, gathering and seating nodes and integrate additional park furnishings - refer to essence and theme components with respect to future redevelopment.
	Railway Kinsmen Tot Lot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future playground redevelopment should consider essence/theme development, nature/adventure play and incorporate types of play/activity for all ages. • Remove chain link fencing and utilize more visually aesthetic edge treatments. • Consider poured in place rubber playground surfacing for playground redevelopment. • Develop well defined, safe and accessible access/entry points into the park. • Develop sidewalks along 47 Avenue and 52 Street. • Create a hierarchy of pathways, gathering and seating nodes and integrate additional park furnishings - refer to essence and theme components with respect to future redevelopment.
	Meadowlands Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future playground redevelopment should consider essence/theme development, nature/adventure play and incorporate types of play/activity for all ages. • Consider poured in place rubber playground surfacing for playground redevelopment. • Create a hierarchy of pathways, gathering and seating nodes and integrate additional park furnishings - refer to essence and theme components with respect to future redevelopment.
	Grandview Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider poured in place rubber playground surfacing for playground redevelopment. • Remove chain link fencing and utilize more visually aesthetic edge treatments. • Develop well defined, safe and accessible access/entry points into the park. • Develop sidewalks along 41 Avenue and 60 Street. • Create a hierarchy of pathways, gathering and seating nodes and integrate additional park furnishings - refer to essence and theme components with respect to future redevelopment.
	East End Viking Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove chain link fencing and utilize more visually aesthetic edge treatments. • Consider poured in place rubber playground surfacing for playground redevelopment. • Develop well defined, safe and accessible access/entry points into the park. • Develop future sidewalks along 45 Street. • Create a hierarchy of pathways, gathering and seating nodes and integrate additional park furnishings - refer to essence and theme components with respect to future redevelopment.

PARK CLASSIFICATION	PARK SITE	POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
Neighbourhood Park	Emerson Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider poured in place rubber playground surfacing for playground redevelopment. • Include perimeter walkway around the playground for site accessibility and reduce obstruction • Promote naturalization and the inclusion of native species, to reduce maintained turf areas, and to enhance site micro-climate. • Consider adding sensory garden to extend play into nature.
	Rosedale Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include perimeter walkway for site accessibility and reduce obstruction • Promote naturalization and the inclusion of native species, to reduce maintained turf areas, and to enhance site micro-climate. • Consider adding sensory garden to extend play into nature. • Consider adding concrete curbing to playground surface. • Create a hierarchy of pathways, gathering and seating nodes and integrate additional park furnishings - refer to essence and theme components with respect to future redevelopment. • Remove chain link fencing and utilize more visually aesthetic edge treatments.
Natural Park	Cold Lake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop nature trail improvements along the perimeter of the lake. • Develop future safe pedestrian mid-block crossings to Downtown at 41 Avenue and to Red Willow Creek Tributary at Highway 12. • Consider future winter use and incorporate cross country ski trails. • Create gathering and seating nodes and integrate additional park furnishings - refer to essence and theme components with respect to future redevelopment.
Linear Park	Emerson Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No remarks