

Parks and recreation

Calgary has great parks, recreation and civic spaces. The Calgary Plan supports improved access to them and addresses gaps where these spaces are missing.

What did we hear from Calgarians?

Parks are a priority and access is important as the city grows.

Public recreation is important and gaps should be addressed.

There is a need for more affordable recreation options.

What does the Calgary Plan say?

- Connected, inclusive, safe and multi-purpose parks close to homes.
- Accessible, affordable and welcoming public recreation facilities, amenities and services that meet community needs.
- Municipal civic facilities, including libraries and community association facilities, that serve as gathering places and are planned as flexible, multi-purpose spaces that fit in with communities.

What is consistent with the current MDP?

- An integrated network of parks, natural areas and open spaces across the city.
- All residents have nearby, reliable access to parks and recreation.
- A mix of parks, recreation, cultural and community uses meet diverse needs and activities.
- Streets and other public spaces function together as extensions of the park system, supporting broader public life.
- The park system is protected and expanded.

What has changed?

Parks close to homes

Ensure people have access to multi-functional parks within 400 metres of where they live, providing spaces to play, relax and gather. Support CONNECT: Calgary's Parks Plan to expand and improve the park system by enhancing existing parks, improving connections and creating new park spaces where needed.

Why?

Protecting the things people love about Calgary

Infrastructure keeping pace with growth

Plan reference

4.1 Park system

Better access to recreation

Support GamePLAN to invest in and improve the public recreation system, ensuring people have easy access to facilities, programs, amenities and services for exercise, creativity and enjoyment. Locate recreation facilities near other services and connect them with transit, paths and community amenities.

Infrastructure keeping pace with growth

4.2 Public recreation system

More affordable recreation

Keep recreation facilities affordable and accessible with low-cost spaces and programs that match community needs. Where gaps exist, add new facilities, improve existing ones or enhance amenities.

Protecting the things people love about Calgary

4.2 Public recreation system



Multi-functional parks

A park is considered multi-functional when it supports at least two of three uses: nature (e.g. trees, waterbodies), recreation (e.g. picnic areas, playgrounds) and sport (e.g. fields, courts, skate parks).



CONNECT: Calgary's Parks Plan

focuses on having the right parks in the right places by improving existing parks, adding amenities, strengthening connections or creatively using land, especially in established communities.

GamePLAN is The City's 25-year vision and strategy for public recreation in Calgary. It guides investment in recreation facilities, programs and services, and establishes a recreation service level standard that responds to population and aging infrastructure.

Related Council priorities:

Community livability and well-being



Check out the draft Calgary Plan | calgary.ca/citybuilding