

MD of Foothills - NW

Parks & Recreation Concept Plan

Priddis, Millarville, Red Deer Lake and DeWinton

April 2010



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Purpose

To prepare a concept plan that allows MD Council to effectively plan and implement facilities to meet the long term needs of Division 3, 4 and 5 residents.

Objectives

1. Identify and analyze current and emergent needs and opportunities.
2. Determine all financial implications including capital costs, operational costs and revenue source options/alternatives.
3. Provide a conceptual design of recommended facility components.
4. Provide options, recommendations and strategies for retaining the best case facility scenario for each service area.
5. Provide options which are achievable and appropriate to the organization's needs and resources.

2010 Municipal Development Plan

Recreation Highlights:

Recreational Centres and Facilities

The MD has many arenas, rodeo facilities, riding clubs and community halls managed by user groups and agricultural societies.

The MD partners with the following municipalities within its borders to provide recreation services and facilities:

- High River
- Okotoks
- Turner Valley
- Black Diamond
- Long View

Goal:

Support and provide opportunities for recreation and education facilities for all MD of Foothills residents that will promote a healthy lifestyle while protecting the rural integrity, landscape, and environment.

2010 Municipal Development Plan

Objectives

The MD of Foothills will:

1. Develop a framework that will plan long term strategies for recreational and educational needs.
2. Ensure that the Municipal reserves and/or school sites are planned in the best interests of the community.
3. Support recreation development on lands where there is a minimal impact on the environment, agriculture, water and municipal infrastructure.
4. Minimize conflicts between recreational developments and existing land uses.
5. Partner with urban centres to facilitate, construct and expand public recreation and education facilities.
6. Support partnerships that provide recreational and educational opportunities for Municipal District of Foothills residents.
7. Provide recreational services and opportunities that enhance the quality of life of MD residents.
8. Protect sites of archaeological and historical significance within the Municipality.

2004 Needs Assessment (CDC)

Relevant Findings

- The public engagement process revealed a growing demand for indoor facilities. The north part of the MD is particularly lacking in these types of facilities; there is an indicated desire to have these located at the (old) Red Deer Lake School site.
- Millarville, Black Diamond and Turner Valley were identified as potential locations for ice or aquatics facilities.
- Division 4 and 5 residents were identified as the heaviest users of Calgary facilities, while residents of divisions 3, 4 and 5 used MD facilities least among other MD residents.

In terms of MD facilities, the heaviest use was reported as follows:

Division 3 residents: Millarville and Turner Valley

Division 4 residents: Millarville

Division 5 residents: Okotoks

2004 Needs Assessment (CDC)

Recommendations

Policy Direction

- Develop a program/service delivery policy that supports funding partnerships for community initiatives
- Create one new recreation board

Facility Development

- Provide financial support for redevelopment of the Okotoks Rec. Centre and High River Rec. Complex
- Provide development support to local/community organizations for facility upgrades and maintenance
- Support the investigation of a regional facility in the mid to long term
- Develop new community facilities (on demand basis) guided by Community Recreation Facility Standards

Service Delivery

- Devise policy & governance model for program and service delivery
- Ensure that needs identification and planning continue annually with a community driven approach in strategic planning for 3 year periods

Source: MD of Foothills #31 Recreation Facility Needs Assessment (2004).
Page 4.

MD Foothills - NW Recreation Committee

The Priddis/NW Recreational Committee is in the very early stages of planning. This committee will focus on the recreational needs of Division 3, 4 and 5 residents (excluding the eastern portion, which is included with Heritage Pointe). The committee mandate and objectives are listed below.

Mandate:

To identify and build recreational facilities in Divisions 3, 4 & 5 and to do so using funding from sponsorship, lotto funds, casino funds and provincial grants, thus not creating a hardship on any MD taxpayers.

Roles & Responsibilities:

- To determine facility development priorities from surveys and public consultation
- To develop short term facilities plan to be carried out to completion within a 3 to 5 year time frame
- To develop a long term (20 year) action plan

Vision 2014

Divisions 3, 4 and 5 in the MD of Foothills now have an excellent level of parks and recreation amenities to meet resident needs. In addition to local users, residents from other parts of the MD also enjoy using the facilities.

Priddis
Millarville
Red Deer Lake
DeWinton

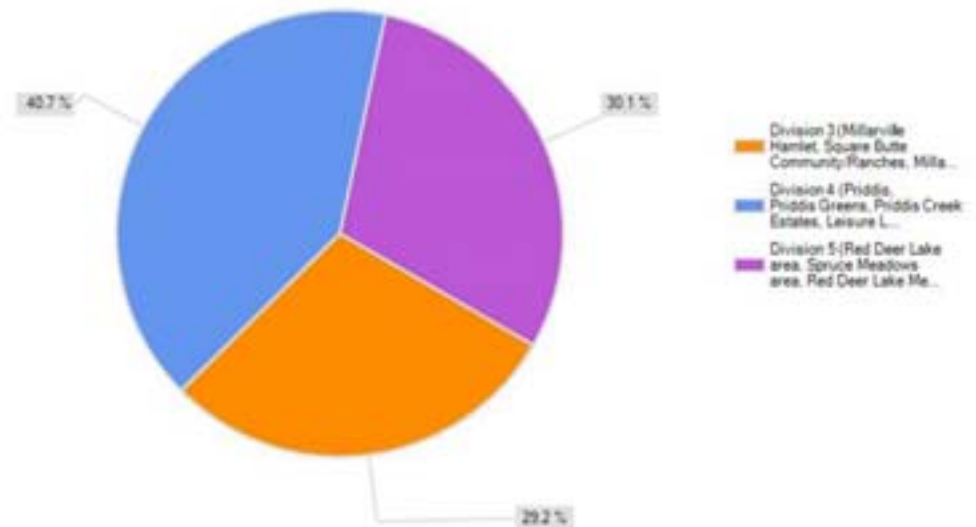
Public Survey

Public input was gathered through a Facility Needs Assessment Survey that was distributed to Division 3, 4 and 5 residents and posted on the Municipal District's website. A total of 376 responses were collected, providing a good indication of local needs and desires.

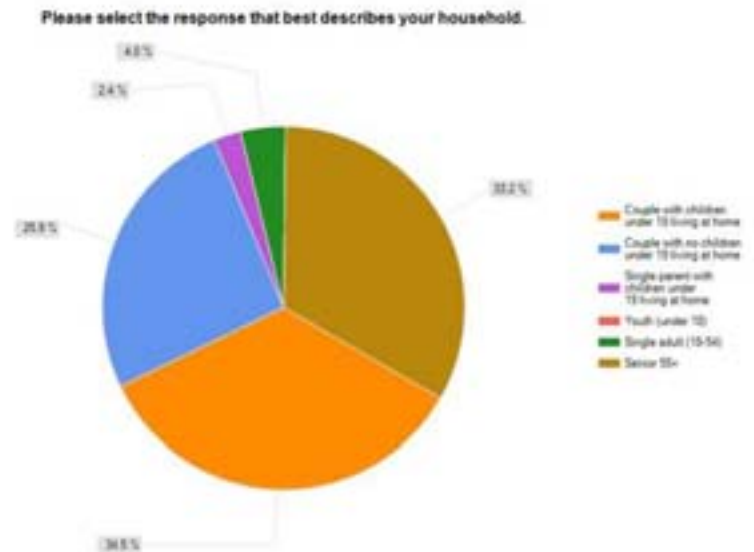
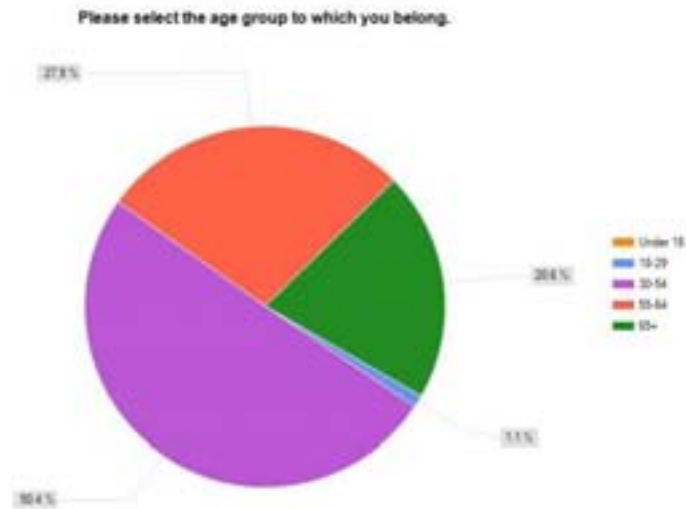
The survey received a fairly equal number of responses from male and female residents, though the number of female residents was slightly higher.

The greatest number of responses came from Division 4, with close to equal numbers responding from the other two divisions.

In which of the following divisions do you reside?



Public Survey



By far, the greatest number of respondents (approximately 50%) identified themselves as within the 30-54 age category. In terms of household composition, just over one third of respondents described themselves as part of a couple with children under age 19 living at home. This was followed very closely by seniors (55+) and by couples with no children under age 19 living at home. It is significant that there were no responses from people under the age of 18 and few from the 18-29 age group. While the lack of representation of this younger demographic might be seen as a limitation of the survey, it may simply reflect age distributions within the area.

Public Survey

Participation in Various Recreational Activities	
Walking	82.5%
Cycling	44.6%
Horseback riding	39.2%
Swimming	37.9%
Skating	36.6%
Running/Jogging	31.5%
Cross-country skiing	29%
Outdoor field sports	20.7%
Tennis	12.4%
Baseball	11%
Basketball	9.1%
Curling	6.5%
Lacrosse	1.9%
Other	25%

Residents of Divisions 3, 4 and 5 participate in a variety of recreational activities. The most commonly cited activities in the survey were **walking, cycling, horseback riding, swimming and skating.**

Twenty five percent of those who answered the question about participation claimed to participate in recreation activities not listed. The most commonly cited activities in the “other” category included the following:

- Golf
- Hiking
- Snowshoeing
- Fitness/Gym
- Racquet sports
- Yoga

Public Survey

Facility Use and Satisfaction

Respondents were also asked to identify the facilities that they make use of. The most widely used facilities, as indicated by the survey results are listed in the table to the right.

Approximately twenty seven percent of respondents claimed to make use of facilities not listed in the survey. Facilities listed as "other" included:

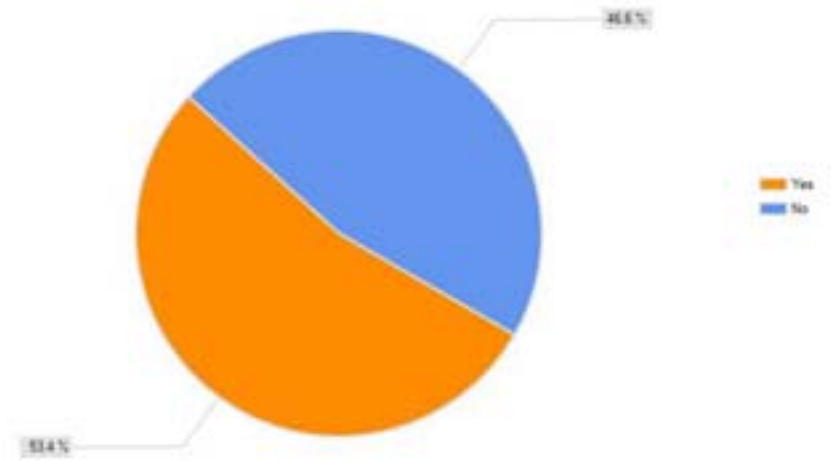
- Shawnessy YMCA
- Okotoks Recreation Centre
- Kananaskis
- Bragg Creek facilities (tennis courts, community centre, playgrounds, trails)
- Black Diamond arena and rink
- Leisure Lake Estates trails
- Southland Leisure Centre
- Turner Valley pool and rink
- Brown Lowry Provincial Park
- Square Butte Community Hall
- Millarville Library

Use of Facilities	
Trails and Pathways	44.4%
Priddis Community Hall	30.9%
Horse Trails	26.6%
Ann and Sandy Cross Conservation Area	23.2%
Playgrounds	20.3%
Millarville Race Track/Indoor Arena	18.8%
School Gymnasiums	16.8%
Priddis Community Hall Skating Rink	15.9%
Millarville Outdoor Rink	13.5%
Other	27.1%

Public Survey

- While the overall results showed that just over half of area residents are satisfied with the current quality and quantity of local facilities, only 46% of Division 5 residents shared this view.
- Division 3 residents indicated the highest level of satisfaction at 64%.

Do you think the facilities in your area are satisfactory in terms of quality and quantity?



Public Survey

Facilities Identified as Needing Improvement	
Facility	Concerns/Needs
Priddis Community Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facility is becoming too small Floor has ant problem and needs replacing Kitchen needs repairs and renovations; stove is old and dangerous Heating problems in cold weather Flooding issues; no weeping tile Room separators are broken More quality gravel is needed in the parking lot Sidewalks to rear doors are needed
Priddis Skating Rink	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs heating Needs change rooms and washrooms Boards are becoming dangerous Need more reliable water source for flooding Need rink maintenance equipment (zamboni, new hose etc.)
Red Deer Lake/Lloyd Lake Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community centre requires upgrading and renovations (specifically, the hall ceiling) Shingles are missing from the hall roof Road to hall gets messy in spring School field needs to be finished Soccer field drainage is an issue
Millarville Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floor and kitchen repairs/maintenance at Millarville Hall Race track entry frequently washes out Suggestion to pave outdoor rink for off-season use Suggestion to expand library to create meeting space Ball diamond at race track needs to be repaired or relocated due to flood damage Upgrade washrooms, concession and change rooms
Square Butte Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floor needs to be refinished Ceiling upgrades Kitchen improvements; more space needed More accessible "beverage area".
Old Burby Firehall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roof leaks Create conservation area behind hall to attract wildlife

Respondents were asked to identify any facilities which they felt were in need of upgrades, repairs or other improvements. Consistently cited facilities and concerns are presented in the table to the left.

Though not pertaining to a formal recreation facility, many of those surveyed commented on the need to improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians on and along roads and highways. Many said that current road/shoulder allowances are dangerous and indicated the need for increased allowances, better signage and/or the creation of designated trails and pathways alongside roads and highways. Lack of information about local trails and pathways (and facilities in general) was also mentioned, along with the suggestion of a map to increase awareness of these amenities.

Public Survey

Outdoor Facility Preferences

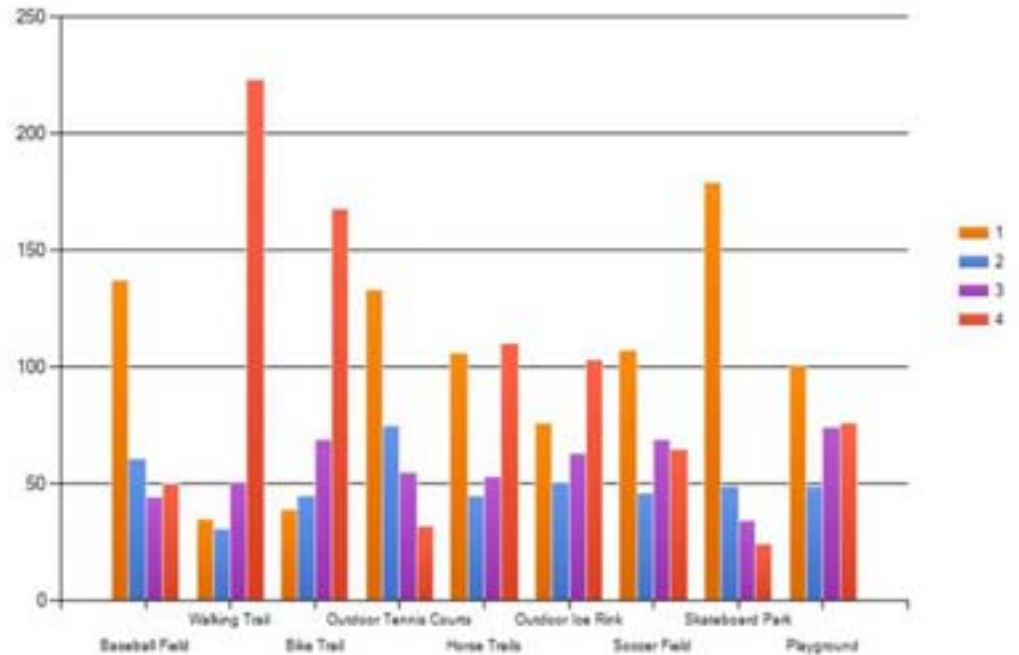
Respondents were given a list of outdoor recreation facilities and asked to assign each a rating from 1 to 4, according to need and preference. A rating of 1 indicated a low preference, while 4 represented the highest preference. The results are illustrated on the right and scores are listed below.

Walking trail clearly emerged as the most desired facility, followed by bike trail and outdoor ice rink. Horse trails also received strong support, though the high ratings received for this option were balanced by an almost equal number of low ratings. This fairly even split may be explained by the fact that horse trails serve a limited demographic (i.e. those with access to horses). Skateboard Park, baseball field and tennis courts were the least popular options, with a large number of ratings distributed among the lower range of the scale.

Average ratings for each outdoor facility option were as follows:

1.	Walking Trail	3.36
2.	Bike Trail	3.14
3.	Outdoor Ice Rink	2.66
4.	Horse Trails	2.53
5.	Playground	2.42
6.	Soccer field	2.32
7.	Baseball field	2.02
8.	Tennis courts	1.95
9.	Skateboard Park	1.66

The NW Committee would like your assistance in determining what parks and recreational facilities are needed most in our community. Please select a number from 1 to 4 for each facility to indicate how important different recreational facilities are to you. 1 is LEAST important; 4 is MOST important.



Public Survey

Indoor Facility Preferences

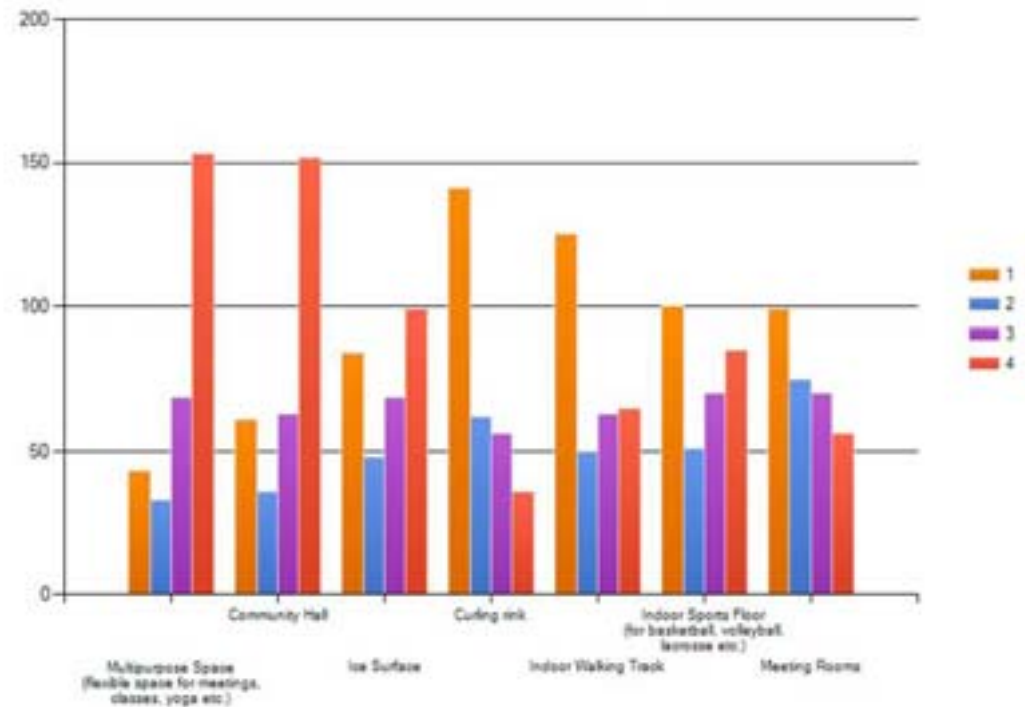
Indoor facilities were rated on the same scale of desirability and the results are displayed on the right.

Multipurpose space and community hall were the highest rated indoor facilities by a significant margin, while curling rink was clearly the least favoured facility.

Average ratings for each indoor facility option were as follows:

1. **Multipurpose Space** 3.11
2. **Community Hall** 2.98
3. **Indoor Ice Surface** 2.61
4. **Indoor Sports Floor** 2.46
5. **Meeting Rooms** 2.28
6. **Indoor Walking Track** 2.22
7. **Curling Rink** 1.96

Please use the same rating system to indicate your preference for indoor facilities (1 is LEAST important; 4 is MOST important).



Public Survey

Indoor and outdoor facility preferences were very similar among each of the three divisions. In every case, Walking Trail and Bike Trail were the first and second ranked outdoor options. Outdoor Ice Rink and Horse Trails emerged as the third and fourth most popular options in Divisions 3 and 4. In Division 5, Playground and soccer field ranked equally as the third most preferred facilities, followed by Outdoor Ice Rink.

Indoor facility preferences were again very similarly ranked among all divisions. Multipurpose Space, Community Hall and Indoor Ice Surface appeared in the top four each time, though the order of their rankings varied. Division 3 recorded a strong preference for Meeting Rooms, while an Indoor Sports Floor was favoured by respondents from Divisions 4 and 5.

Besides indicating their preference for the facilities listed, respondents were also given the opportunity to name any other facilities they would like to see developed. A large number of responses reiterated things already listed, such as trails, sport fields and community halls. In addition to these, swimming pool was frequently mentioned. Off-leash dog park was cited a few times, along with racquet sport facilities.

It should be noted that a number of respondents indicated their desire for no new development.

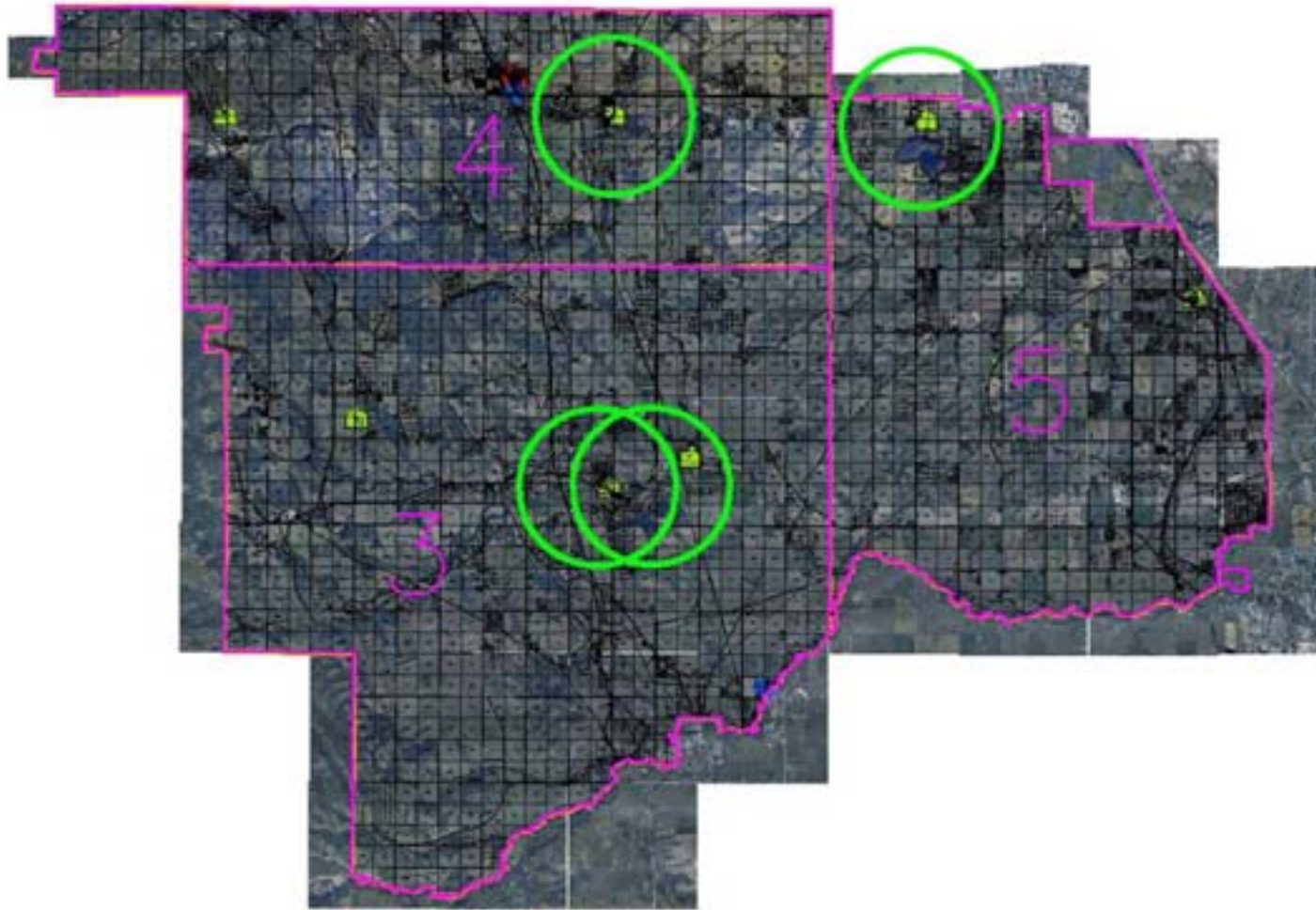
Public Survey

Summary

The results of the survey illustrated some discrepancy between divisions in terms of satisfaction with the current level of recreation facility provision. While none of the three divisions seem overly satisfied, residents of Division 3 indicated a significantly higher level of satisfaction than other residents. It is especially notable that over half of Division 5 respondents claimed to be dissatisfied with current facility offerings.

In terms of outdoor facility development, divisions were largely unified in their support for walking trails, bike trails and outdoor rink facilities. This coincides with the indicated high levels of participation in walking, cycling and skating activities. Indoor options garnering significant support across all three divisions included multipurpose space, community hall and ice surface. These results seem to indicate that flexible spaces able to serve a broad range of people and needs would be well-embraced.

MD Foothills – NW - Existing Development Plan

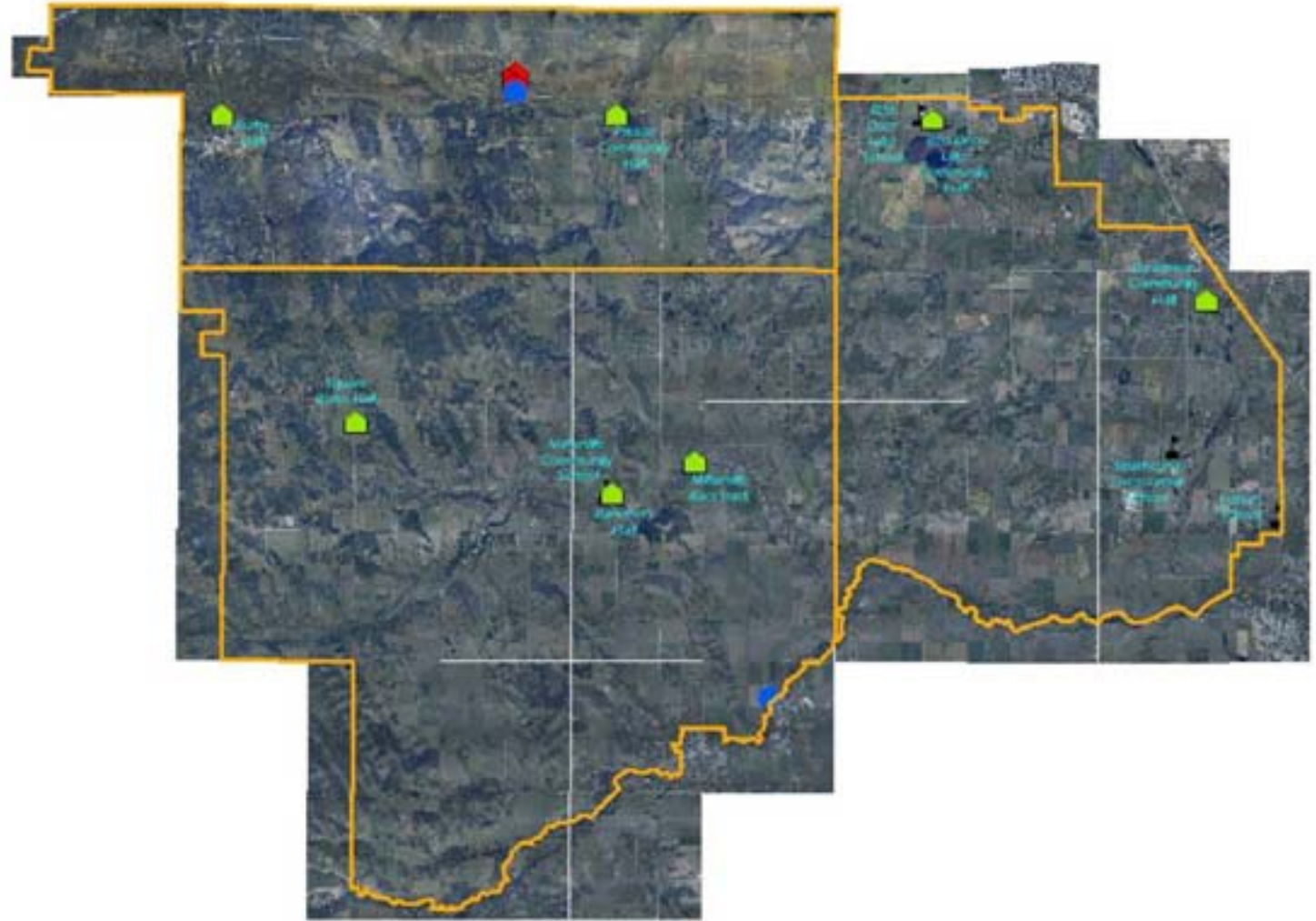


226 hectares of
municipal reserve

Circles on the map
represent community
service areas.

Major Facility Locations

A number of community halls exist throughout divisions 3, 4 and 5. Most of these include other amenities, such as sport fields, rinks and playgrounds. Together with schools, these constitute the primary recreational hubs.



Existing Facilities

Priddis

Priddis Community Hall

- Outdoor Rink
- 2 Tennis Courts
- Playground

Millarville

Millarville Community School

- Outdoor Rink
- Soccer Field
- 2 Ball Diamonds

Millarville Race Track

- Ball Diamond
- Outdoor Rink
- Soccer field

Red Deer Lake

Red Deer Lake Community Hall

- Lloyd Park – 1-2 km natural trails
- 2 Full Soccer Fields
- 1 Mini Soccer Field

Red Deer Lake School

- 400m Finished Track
- Gymnasium
- Playground
- Roughed in Soccer Fields (1 full, 1 mini)

Third Academy (former Red Deer Lake School site)

- Outdoor Track
- Gymnasium
- Playground
- Soccer fields (check #)

Other

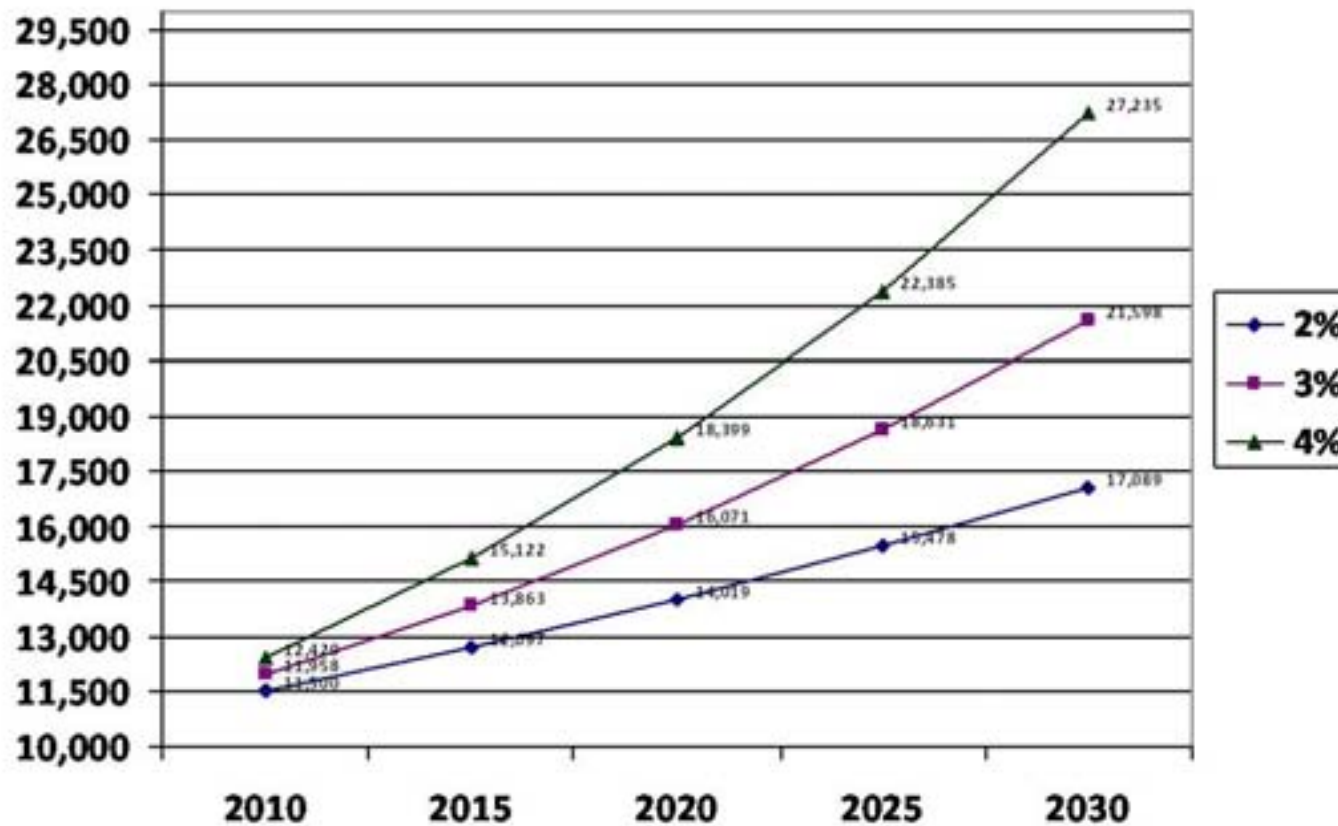
DeWinton Community Hall

Square Butte Hall

Burby Hall

- Recreational grounds with cook shelter
- Riding Arena
- Ball Diamond
- Playground (to be removed due to non-compliance)

Population Projections



These projections are based on the growth rates contained in the 2004 Recreation Facility Needs Assessment and refer collectively to Divisions 3, 4 and 5.

As a whole, the MD of Foothills saw 8.39% growth from 2001 to 2006. Were this trend to continue, the MD could see a total population of approximately 40,000 by 2040.

Facility Standards and Needs

Facility Standards - 2004

Need based on Standards

	Standard	Division 3/4/5	Inventory	2010 Pop. 11,500*	2015 12,697	2020 14,019
Community Hall	1/3,000	1/3	6	0	0	0
Ball Diamond	1/2,000	1/2	4	1	1	1
Soccer Field	1/2,000	1/2	3 full 2 mini	2	0	2
Outdoor Rink	1/3,000	1/3	3	0	1	
Playground	1/2,000	1/2	3 + 1 to be removed			

* Population figures have been calculated using a 2% growth rate. As more current information was not available, a base population of 10,625 was derived from the 2006 Statistics Canada Census.

Priddis

Design Program

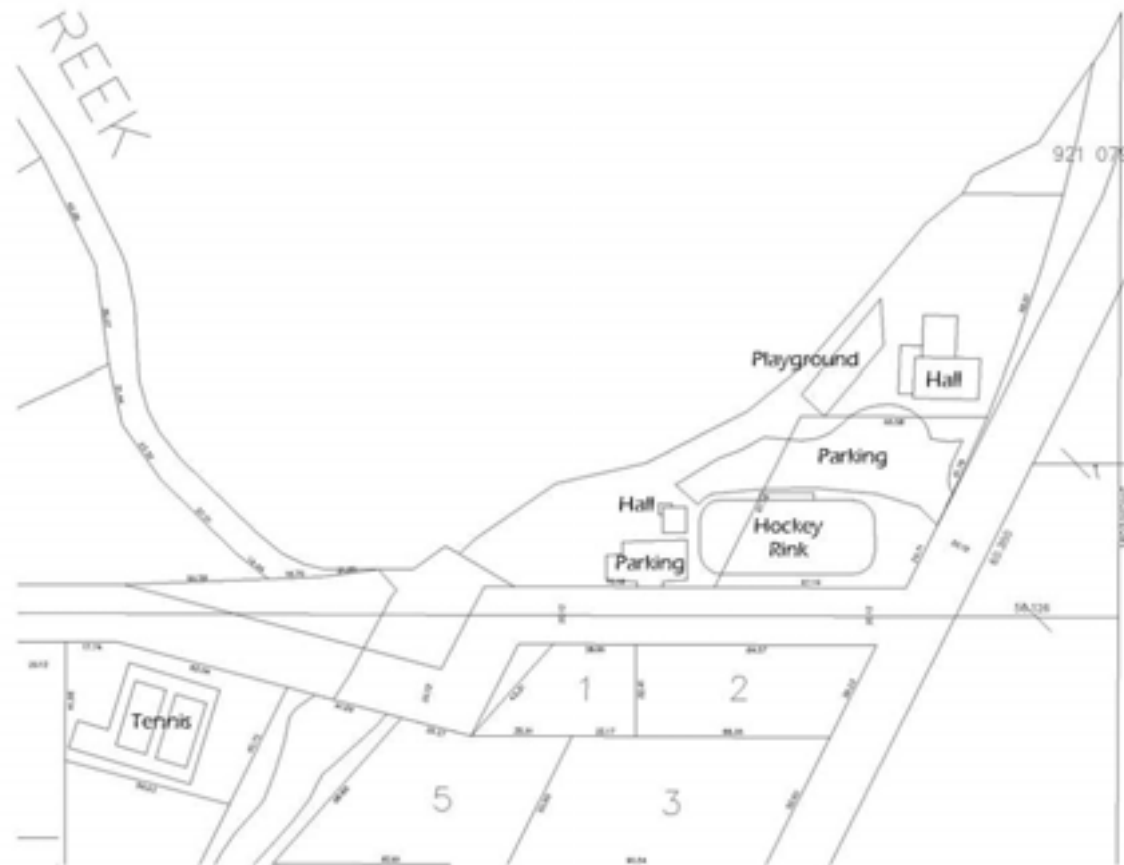
- Indoor multiuse arena
- Upgrade community hall

Servicing Requirements

Existing site is not the best choice for development due to drainage concerns.
Other alternatives to be investigated.

Priddis Community Hall – Existing Site





Priddis – 10 Year Design Program - 2020

Indoor Multiuse Arena

- 30,000 square feet
- 80 x 180 ice surface
- 4 dressing rooms with showers, toilet & sink
- Girls dressing room
- Referee room
- Spectators (250)
- Ice resurface
- Lobby and concession
- Family lounge

Community Hall

- Upgrade existing
- Multiuse room
- Old hall link
- Meeting rooms and board room

Outdoor Riding Arena

- resurfacing

Priddis – Concept Plan (Existing Site)



Priddis – 5 Year Site Plan – 2014 (Phase 1)



Priddis – Estimate of Potential Cost

	Estimated Cost
Multiuse arena	4,000,000
Site redevelopment	
Community hall renovations	
Community hall link	
Sub Total	4,000,000
Contingency – 15%	600,000
Consulting and Project Management – 10%	400,000
Total	5,000,000

Millarville

Design Program

- Repair existing playfields (industrial mower; ground work/topsoil; backstop repair)
- Relocation of ball diamond at race track to a location further from the river bank
- Community hall renovations (kitchen remodel/replacement; sewer and bathroom upgrades; stucco upgrades; roof replacement; new flooring and paint; foundation repairs)
- Ground work/topsoil at race track facilities

Millarville – Overview



Millarville – Overview



Millarville School/Rancher's Hall–Existing Site



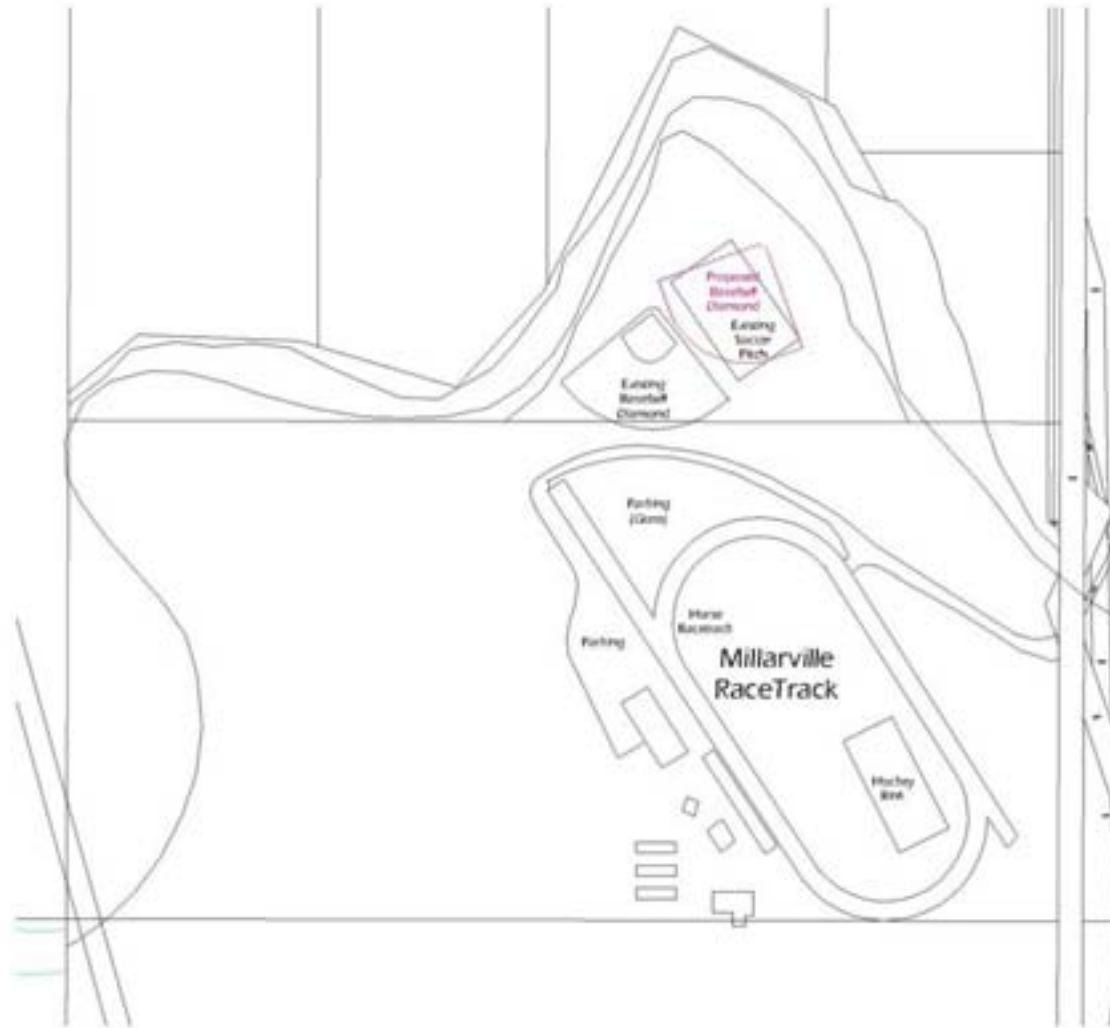
Millarville Racetrack – Existing Site



Millarville Racetrack – Existing Site



Millarville Racetrack – Revised Site Plan



Millarville – Concept Plan



Millarville – Estimate of Potential Cost

	Estimated Cost
Upgrade existing soccer fields	50,000
Repair existing playfields	75,000
Relocate ball diamonds	75,000
Community Hall renovations	
Ground work/topsoil at race track facilities	25,000
Sub Total	225,000
Contingency – 15%	33,750
Consulting and Project Management	22,500
Total	281,250

Red Deer Lake

Design Program

- Upgrade play fields at community hall site
- Replace playground at community hall
- Roof repairs at community hall; furniture (i.e. tables and chairs)

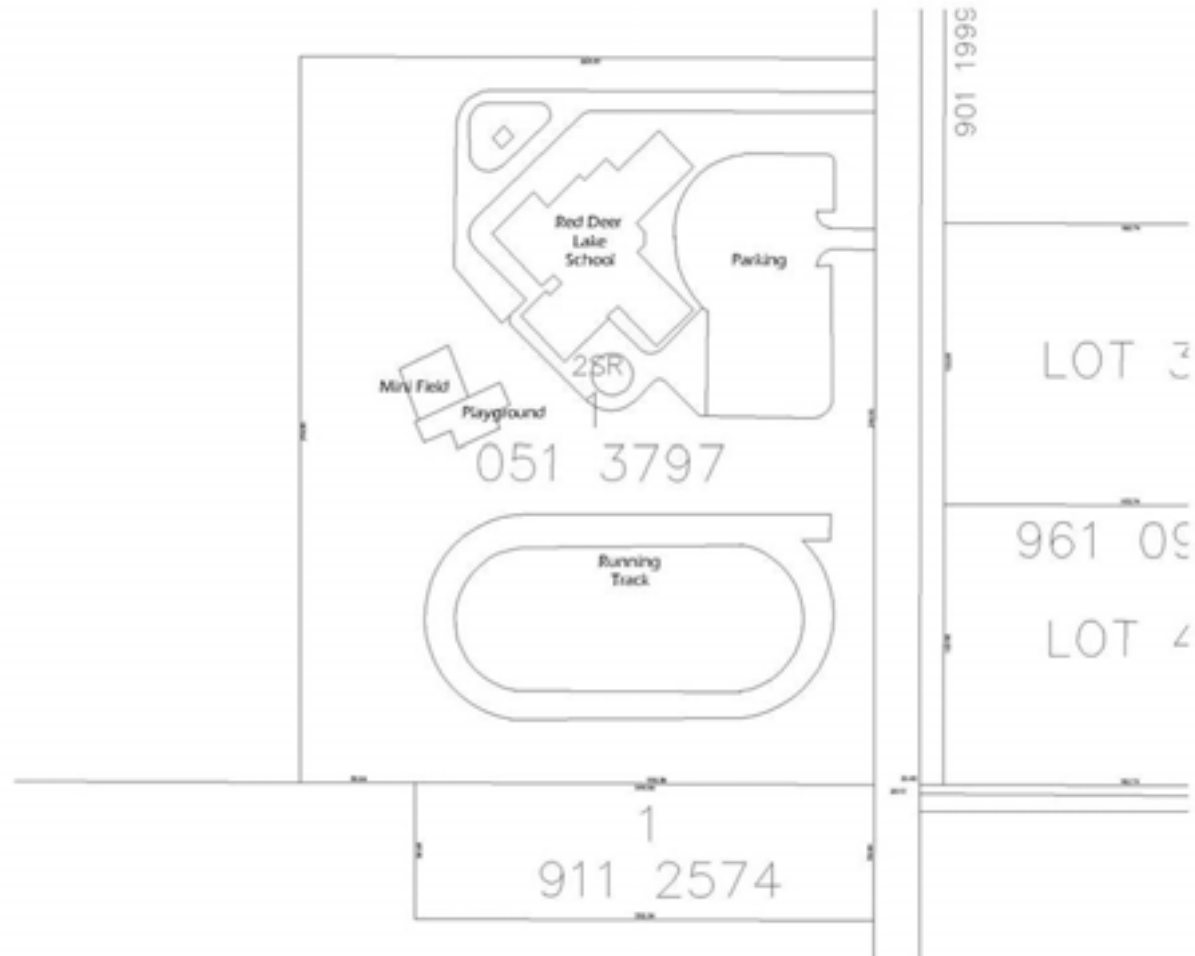
Red Deer Lake – Overview



Red Deer Lake School – Existing Site



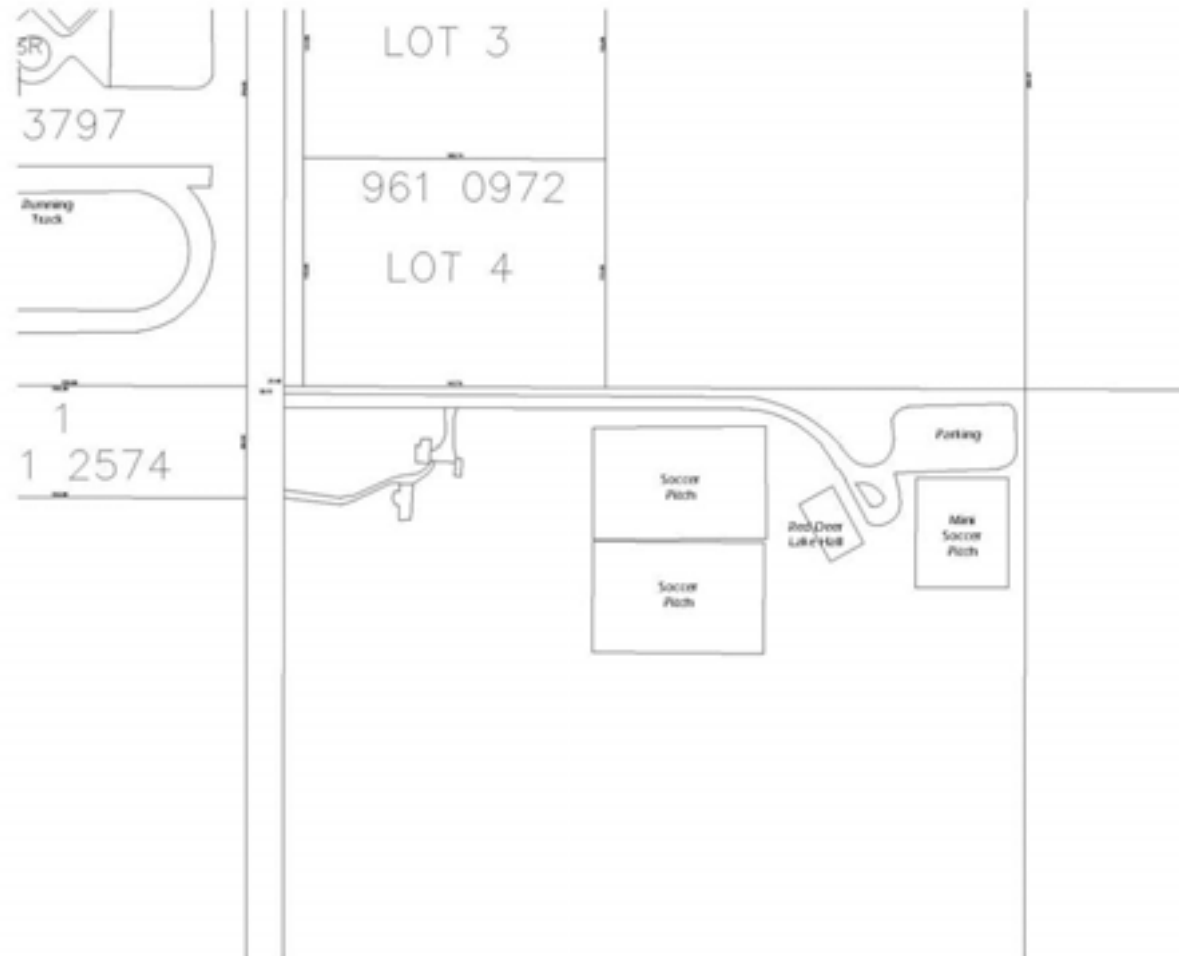
Red Deer Lake School – Existing Site



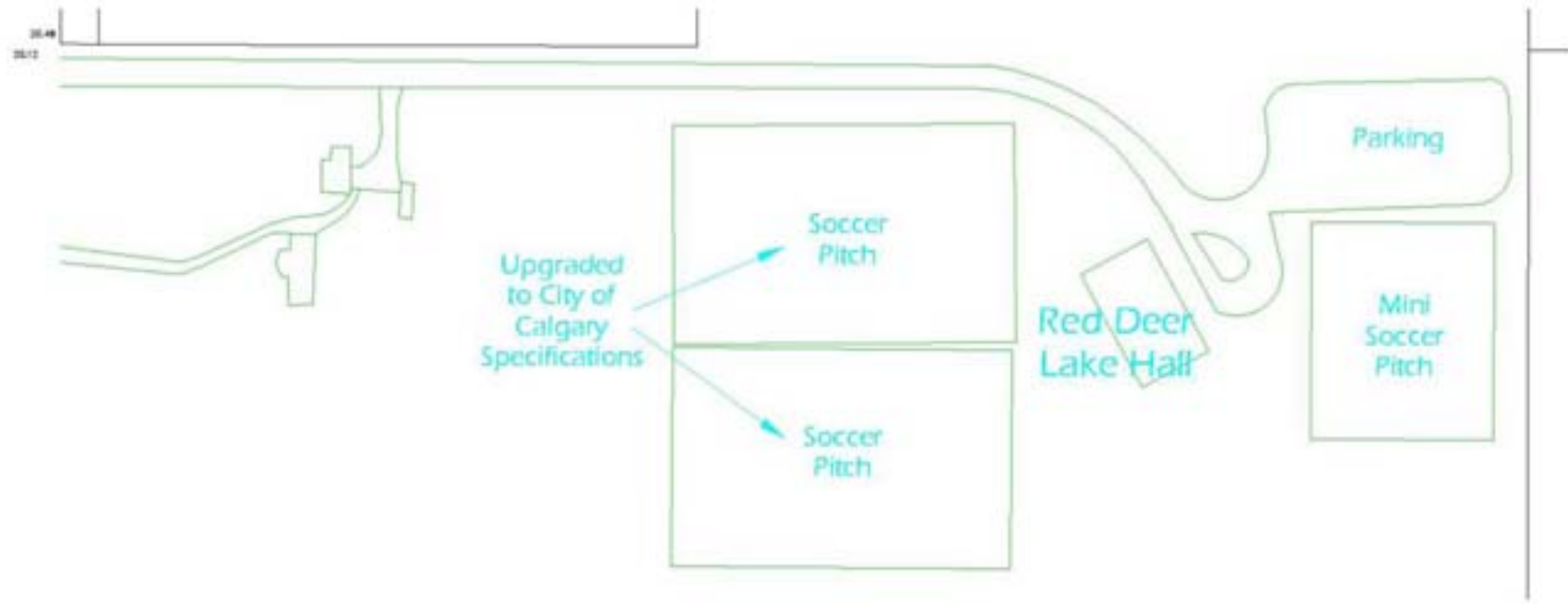
Red Deer Lake Community Hall – Existing Site



Red Deer Lake Community Hall – Existing Site



Red Deer Lake – Site Plan



Red Deer Lake – Concept Plan



Red Deer Lake - Estimate of Potential Cost

	Estimated Cost
Grade, level & seed	50,000
Sub Total	50,000
Contingency – 15%	7,500
Consulting and Project Management – 10%	5,000
Total	62,500

Trails & Pathways

The Dunbow Recreation Board initiated planning for a trails master plan for the Municipal District. The Division 6 path component is detailed below.

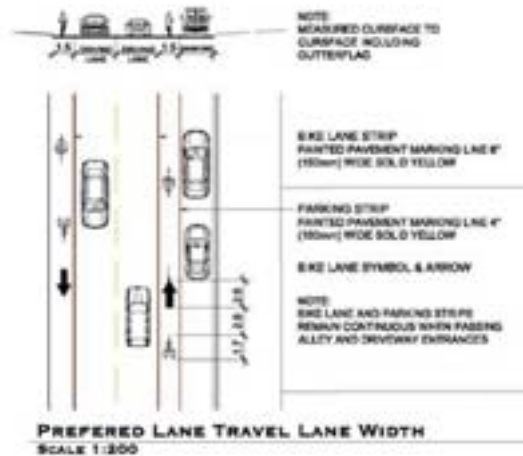
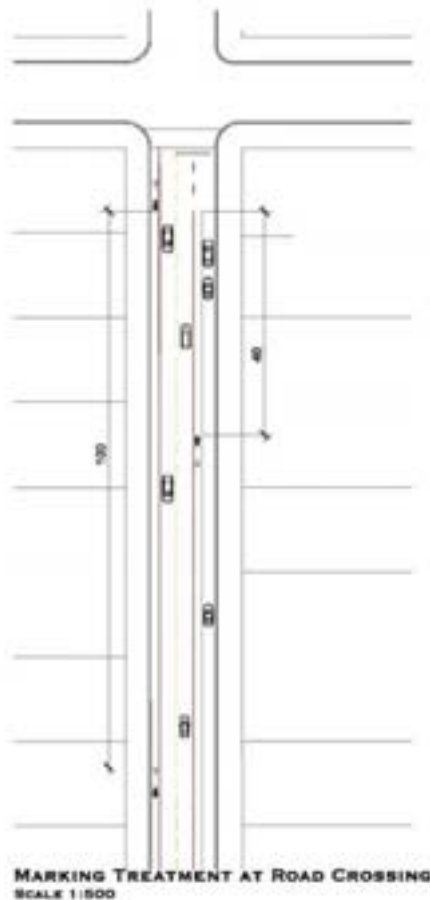


Trails and Pathways

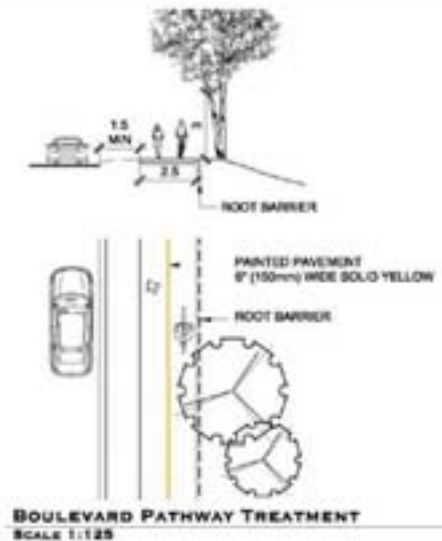
The design of a comprehensive pathway system should include the following elements:

- a) **Connections:**
 - between important destinations and major residential enclaves, by means of a non-motorized transportation system, i.e. pathway which can accommodate walking, wheelchairs, cycling, in-line skating and strollers;
 - which are as direct as possible, while taking into account that the journey can be as satisfying as the destination.
- b) **Accessibility:**
 - Modes of non-motorized transportation can be accommodated while reducing the possibility of conflict/accidents.
- c) **Users' experience - design based on an hierarchy of experiences, starting with the best:**
 - traveling through an unspoiled natural environment;
 - through a natural area where there is a sense of surrounding human presence;
 - through a manicured park;
 - on a boulevard of a low-volume road;
 - on a boulevard of a heavily-traveled road;
 - on a low-volume road;
 - on a high-volume road (should be avoided).
- d) **Reduce dependence on motor vehicles and in doing so:**
 - improve users' health through exercise;
 - reduce pollution.

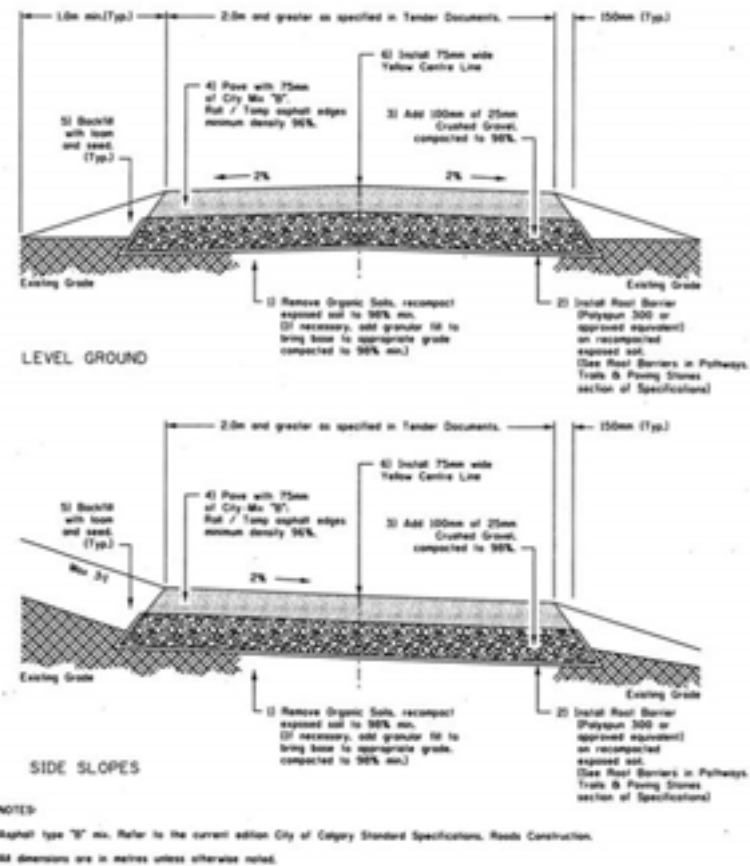
Typical Pathway Details



Natural trail 1.2 m
Horse trail 3.0 m
Regional path 2.5 m
Connector path 1.8 m



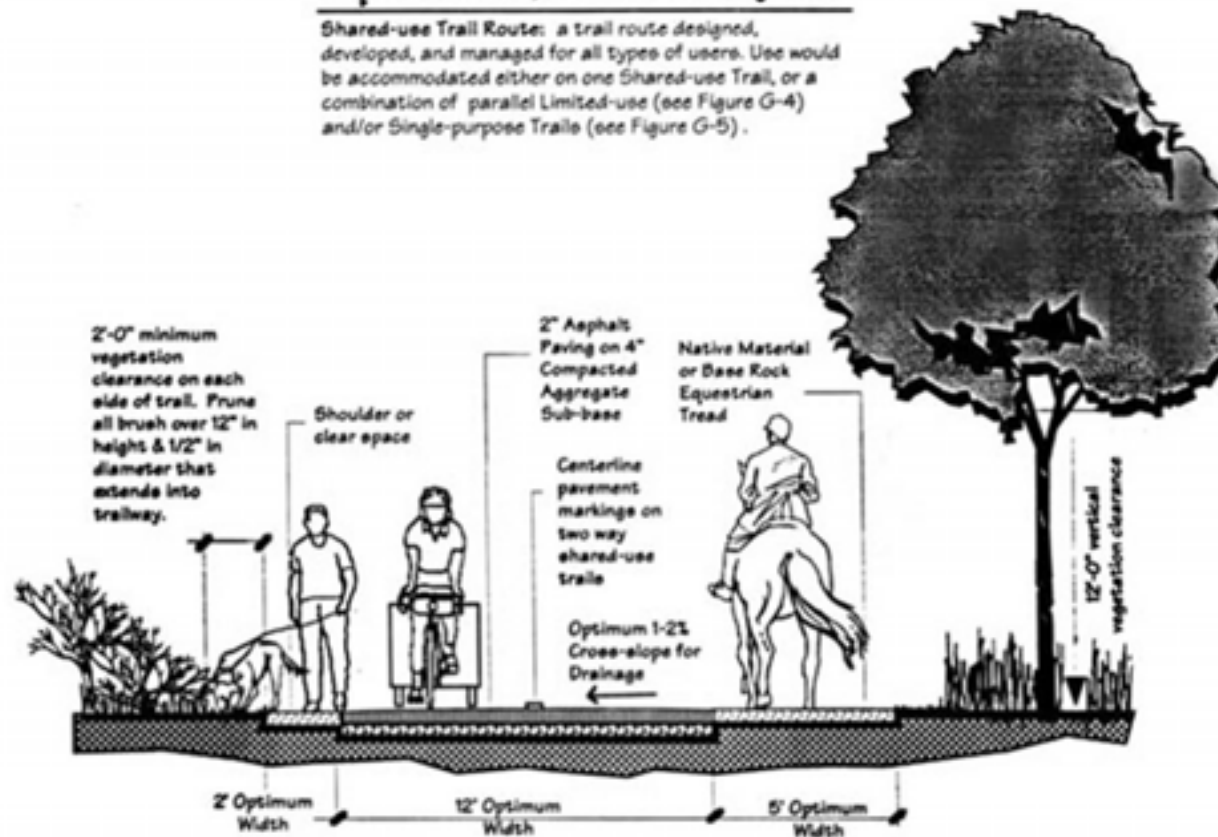
Trail and Pathway Details



Trail and Pathway Details

Paved Tread - Double Track Trail Equestrians, Hikers & Bicycles

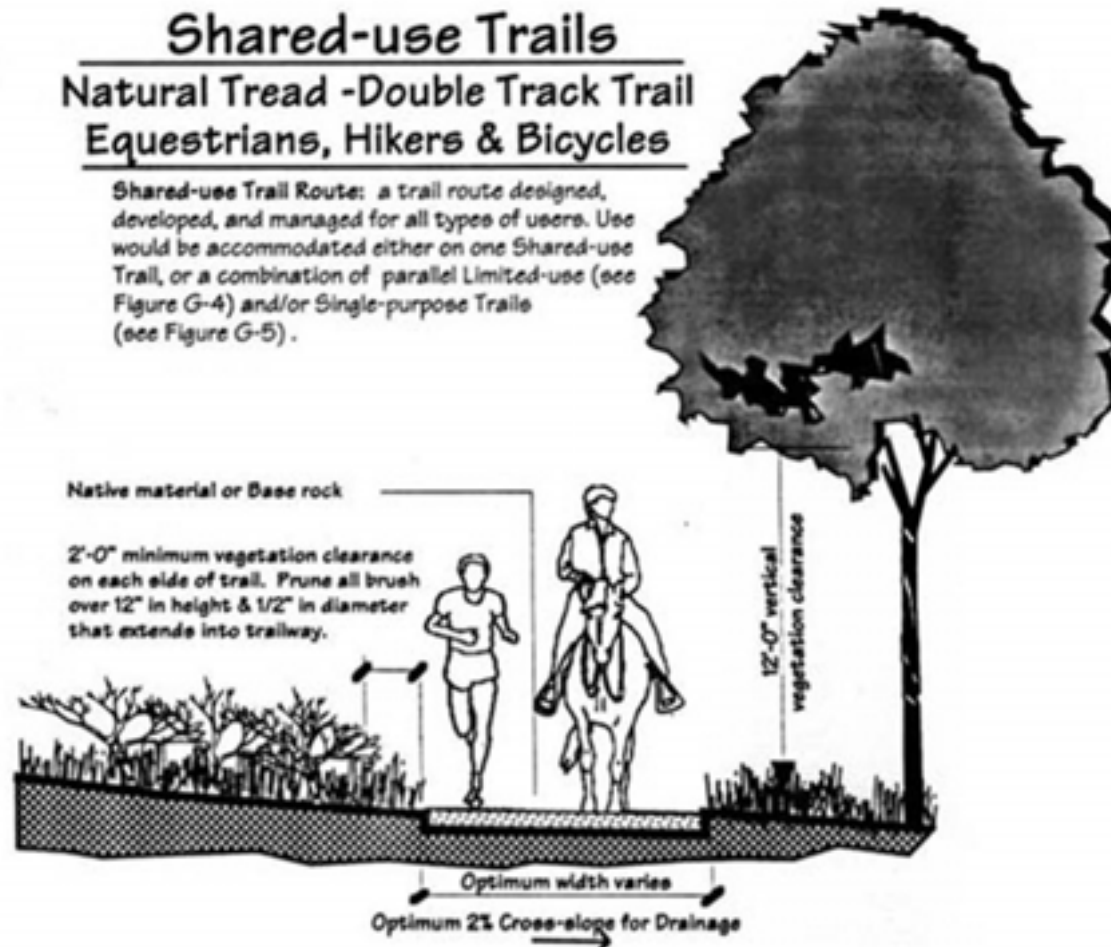
Shared-use Trail Route: a trail route designed, developed, and managed for all types of users. Use would be accommodated either on one Shared-use Trail, or a combination of parallel Limited-use (see Figure G-4) and/or Single-purpose Trails (see Figure G-5).



Trail and Pathway Details

Shared-use Trails Natural Tread -Double Track Trail Equestrians, Hikers & Bicycles

Shared-use Trail Route: a trail route designed, developed, and managed for all types of users. Use would be accommodated either on one Shared-use Trail, or a combination of parallel Limited-use (see Figure G-4) and/or Single-purpose Trails (see Figure G-5).



Trail and Pathway Details

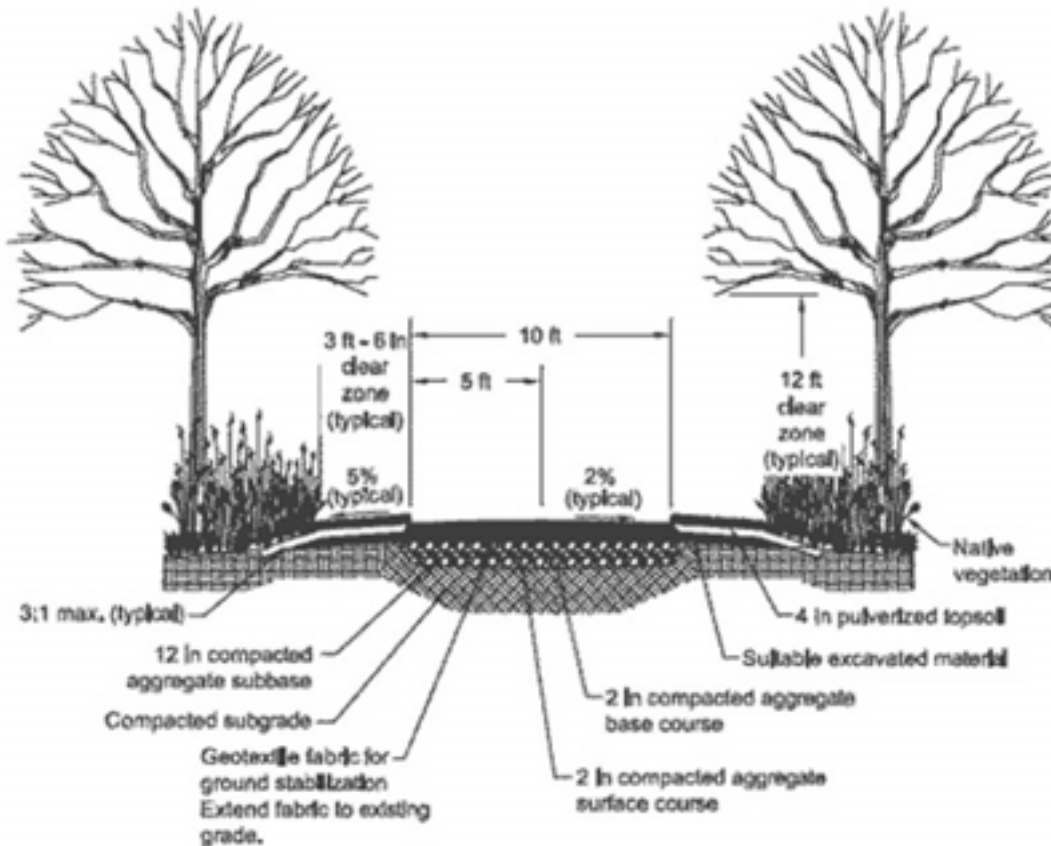
Limited-use Trails

Limited-use Trail Route: a trail route designed, developed, and managed for more than one, but not all types of users. See also: Shared-use Trail, (Figures G-2 and G-3) and/or Single-purpose Trails (Figure G-5).

Natural Tread - Single Track Trail



Trail and Pathway Details



Trails and Pathways - Costs

Capital Costs

Regional	12500m ²	@ \$55/m ²	\$687,500
Connector	9000m ²	@ \$52.50/m ²	\$472,500
Natural	3600m ²	@ \$70/m ²	\$252,000
Horse	15000m	@ \$25/m	\$375,000
Total			\$1,787,000

Operating Costs

Summer only for garbage removal and maintenance
500 km @ \$350/km per year

Capital Cost Summary – 5 Year Plan (2014)

- Priddis 5,000,000
- Millarville 225,000
- Red Deer Lake 50,000

7,075,000

Implementation

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Priddis		250,000	4,750,000		
Millarville	75,000	150,000			
Red Deer Lake	50,000				
Total	125,000	400,000	4,750,000		



cdcconsultants.com

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