



## 2024 to 2027 Business Plan

### Service: Parks and Natural Areas Planning and Design

**\$0.02**

Cost per day for the  
average rate payer  
(2024 to 2027)

**0.16%**

Of the 2024 to 2027  
City of London Net  
Property Tax  
Supported Budget

#### Who we are:

- This service provides professional and technical services for the planning, design and construction of new and existing parks, pathway systems and public spaces.
- This service supports development approval processes, neighborhood improvement programs, growth and life cycle renewal capital projects.

#### What we do:

- This service supports neighbourhoods by providing attractive recreation opportunities, making places more livable and inclusive, and by helping them to be better linked with other neighbourhoods.

- This enhances quality of life and makes the community a more attractive place to live, move to and locate businesses. It also ensures the dedication of parklands and natural areas for the protection of spaces and their habitats and provides opportunities for all Londoners to access and benefit from experiences in nature – proven to increase appreciation.

**Why we do it:**

- **Mandatory** – Planning and design of parks and open space is a component of the City’s planning responsibilities under the Planning Act and a “Parks Plan” is required. Providing access to parks, natural areas and waterfronts is also a goal of the Provincial Policy Statement 1.5.1.








The following table provides an overview of the budget for this service:

Budget Summary (\$000’s)	2024	2025	2026	2027	2024 to 2027 TOTAL
Gross Operating Expenditures	\$1,240	\$1,284	\$1,324	\$1,366	<b>\$5,214</b>
Other Revenues	-\$0	-\$0	-\$0	-\$0	<b>-\$0</b>
<b>Net Tax Levy Supported Operating Budget</b>	<b>\$1,240</b>	<b>\$1,284</b>	<b>\$1,324</b>	<b>\$1,366</b>	<b>\$5,214</b>
Total Capital Expenditures	\$8,882	\$15,520	\$11,620	\$10,246	<b>\$39,838</b>
Full-Time Equivalentents (FTE’s)	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3	N/A

Reflects Draft 2024 to 2027 Multi-Year Budget – December 12, 2023.

## Linkage to the 2023 to 2027 Strategic Plan

This service supports the following Strategic Areas of Focus in the 2023 to 2027 Strategic Plan:

- ✓  **Reconciliation, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion**
- ✓  **Housing and Homelessness**
- ✓  **Wellbeing and Safety**
- ✓  **Safe London for Women, Girls, and Gender-Diverse and Trans People**
- ✓  **Economic Growth, Culture, and Prosperity**
- ✓  **Mobility and Transportation**
- ✓  **Climate Action and Sustainable Growth**
- ✓  **Well-Run City**

## Environmental, Socio-economic Equity and Governance (ESG) Considerations

Environmental, Socio-economic Equity and Governance Profile for this service:



### Environmental:

- Ensures the dedication of parkland and natural areas for the protection of spaces and their habitats and provides opportunities for all Londoners to access and benefit from experiences in nature which is proven to increase appreciation and stewardship.
- Constructing and maintaining multiuse pathways provides Londoners with a choice to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by riding bikes, walking and other mean of transportation that does emit greenhouse gases.

### Socio-economic Equity:

- Provides accessible and equitably distributed parkland with attractive recreation opportunities, making places more livable and inclusive, and by helping to link neighbourhoods together.

### Governance:

- The planning and design of parks and open space is a component of the City's planning responsibilities under the Ontario Planning Act. Providing access to parks, natural areas and waterfronts is also a goal of the Provincial Policy Statement 1.5.1.

The following section provides an overview of the key activities the service plans to undertake from 2024 to 2027 to implement the Corporation's 2023 to 2027 Strategic Plan, as well as an overview of the risks and challenges the service is anticipated to experience during this period:

### Service Highlights 2024 to 2027

- We will continue to expand and enhance the Thames Valley Parkway (TVP) to link all areas of the City.
- We continue to enhance neighbourhoods by improving parks, adding community gardens and making parks and natural areas more accessible.
- We will build and improve sport and recreation amenities throughout the community, guided by the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

### Risks and Challenges Anticipated in 2024 to 2027

- Bill 108 is changing the Planning Act which will have significant impacts to the way the City can acquire parkland through development processes.
- Bill 108 is changing the Development Charges Act which may have a significant impact on the City's ability to pay for the development of new parks.
- With the dam being removed, the high-level former river shoreline is eroding, and infrastructure is at risk. The river banks are full of invasive species.

### Other reference information and links:

- 2024 Parks and Recreation Master Plan – Available by request at [recreation@london.ca](mailto:recreation@london.ca) or 519-661-5575.
- One River Environmental Assessment – Available by request at [recreation@london.ca](mailto:recreation@london.ca) or 519-661-5575.
- Cycling Master Plan - Available by request at [recreation@london.ca](mailto:recreation@london.ca) or 519-661-5575.

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