



Oakville
Public
Library

Parks, Recreation and Library Master Plan

Council Workshop – May 13, 2024



Monteith • Brown
planning consultants

Agenda

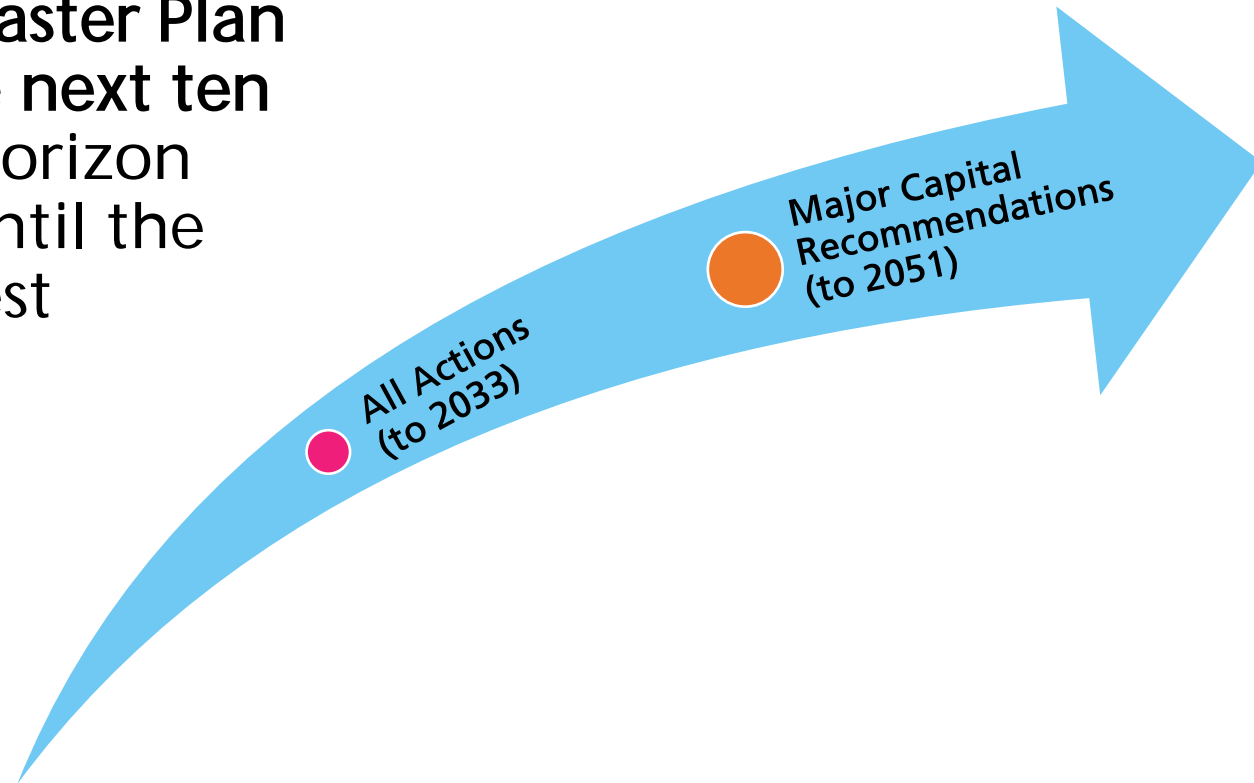
1. Project Overview
2. Public Engagement
3. Needs Assessment Approach
4. Strategic Framework
5. Objectives
6. Key Themes and Selected Actions
7. Summary of Facility Recommendations
8. Next Steps



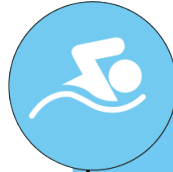
About the Plan

The **Parks, Recreation and Library Master Plan** strategically guides the town for the **next ten years (2024-2033)**, with a planning horizon that considers major capital needs until the year **2051** in alignment with the latest provincial growth policies.

The master plan was last updated in 2017. A new strategy is necessary to guide our future investment in new and existing facilities and services.



Project Scope



Recreation Facilities and related services

Community centres, pools, arenas, seniors' spaces, programming, and more.



Public Libraries and related services

Library branches, alternative spaces, collections, and more.



Park Facilities and Parkland

Sports fields, sport courts, splash pads, community gardens, parkland, and more.

Parks, Recreation, and Libraries are Fundamental Services

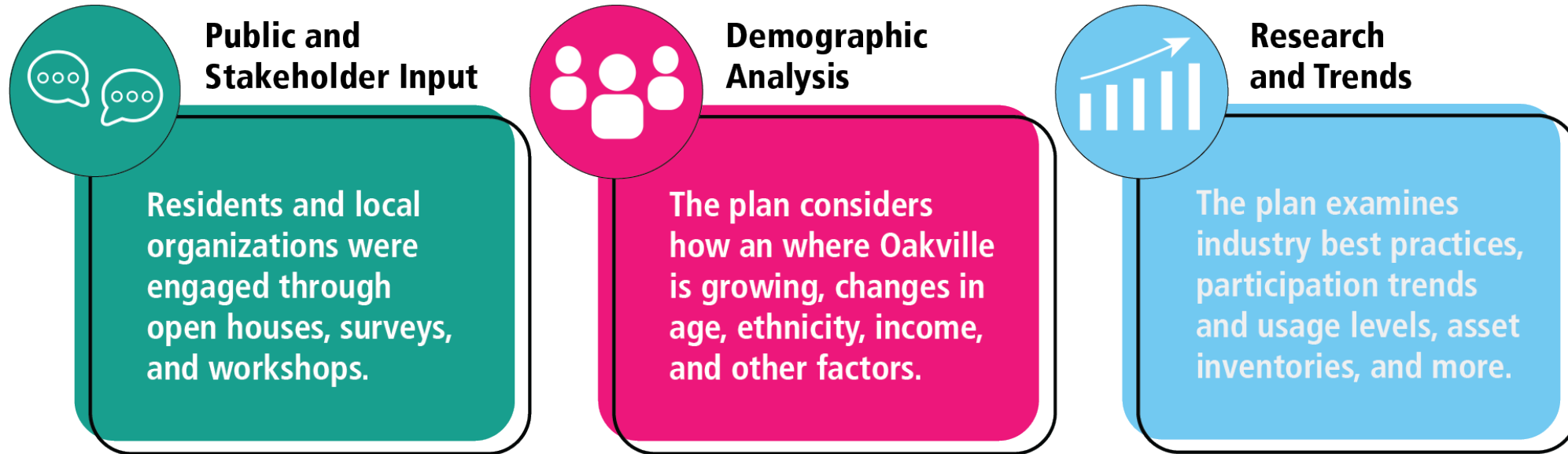
They:

- contribute to Oakville's vibrancy and livability – surveys regularly identify them as defining aspects of the town's high quality of life
- provide critical supports to maintain personal health by addressing inactivity levels, social isolation, stress and anxiety, and drowning and fall prevention
- foster lifelong learning, creative expression, and community development and pride
- support connections with nature and physical literacy
- contribute toward urban improvement, positive social outcomes, and employment and volunteering
- enable people to reach their full potential across all ages and life stages



Building Blocks

The plan is a comprehensive, evidence-based exercise grounded in the following:



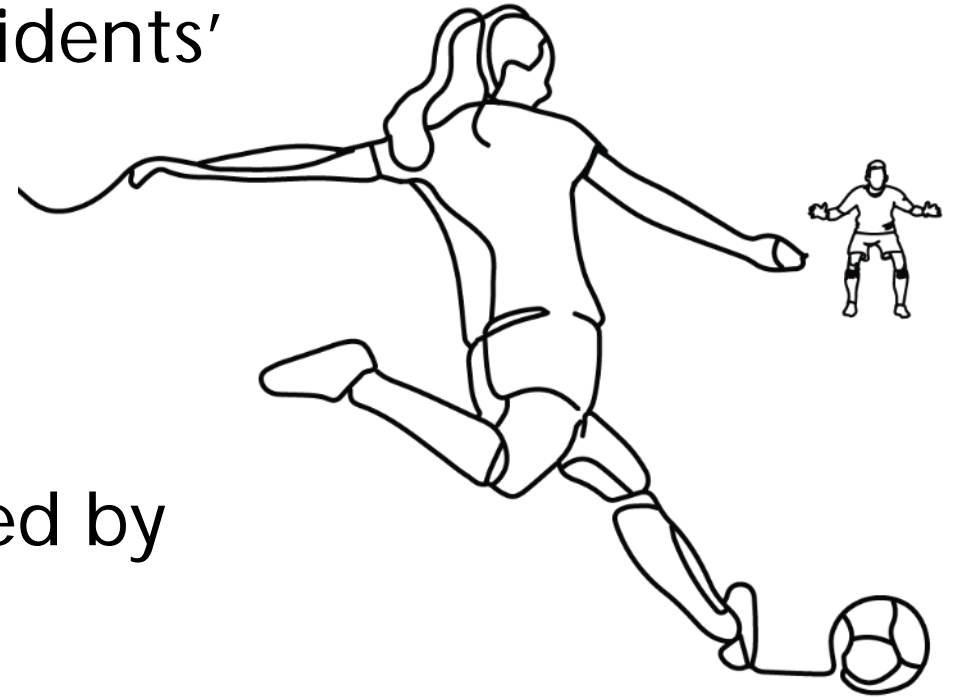
Public Engagement



Plus, the plan leveraged public input from the Council Strategic Plan (2023), Citizen Survey (2022), and Oakville Public Library Survey (2021).

What we have heard so far

1. Parks, recreation, and libraries are viewed as **essential services** to residents' physical and mental wellbeing
2. Oakville is an **active community**
3. **Satisfaction** with existing parks, facilities, and services is strong
4. **Passive park spaces** are appreciated by residents of all ages and abilities
5. **Outdoor recreation demands** are growing



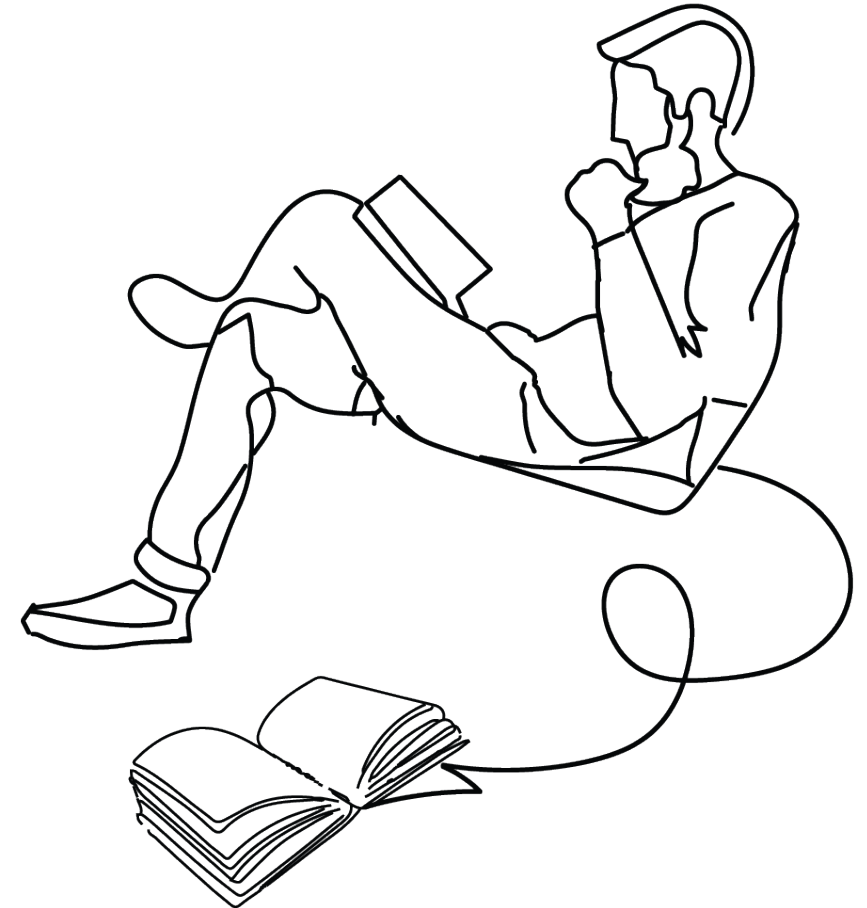
What we have heard so far

6. Residents value opportunities for **casual play and self-scheduled activities**
7. Oakville residents **support investment** in spaces and amenities that can be used by children, youth, and people of all ages
8. Residents are seeking greater **access to programs**
9. People still love books, but **library use** is changing



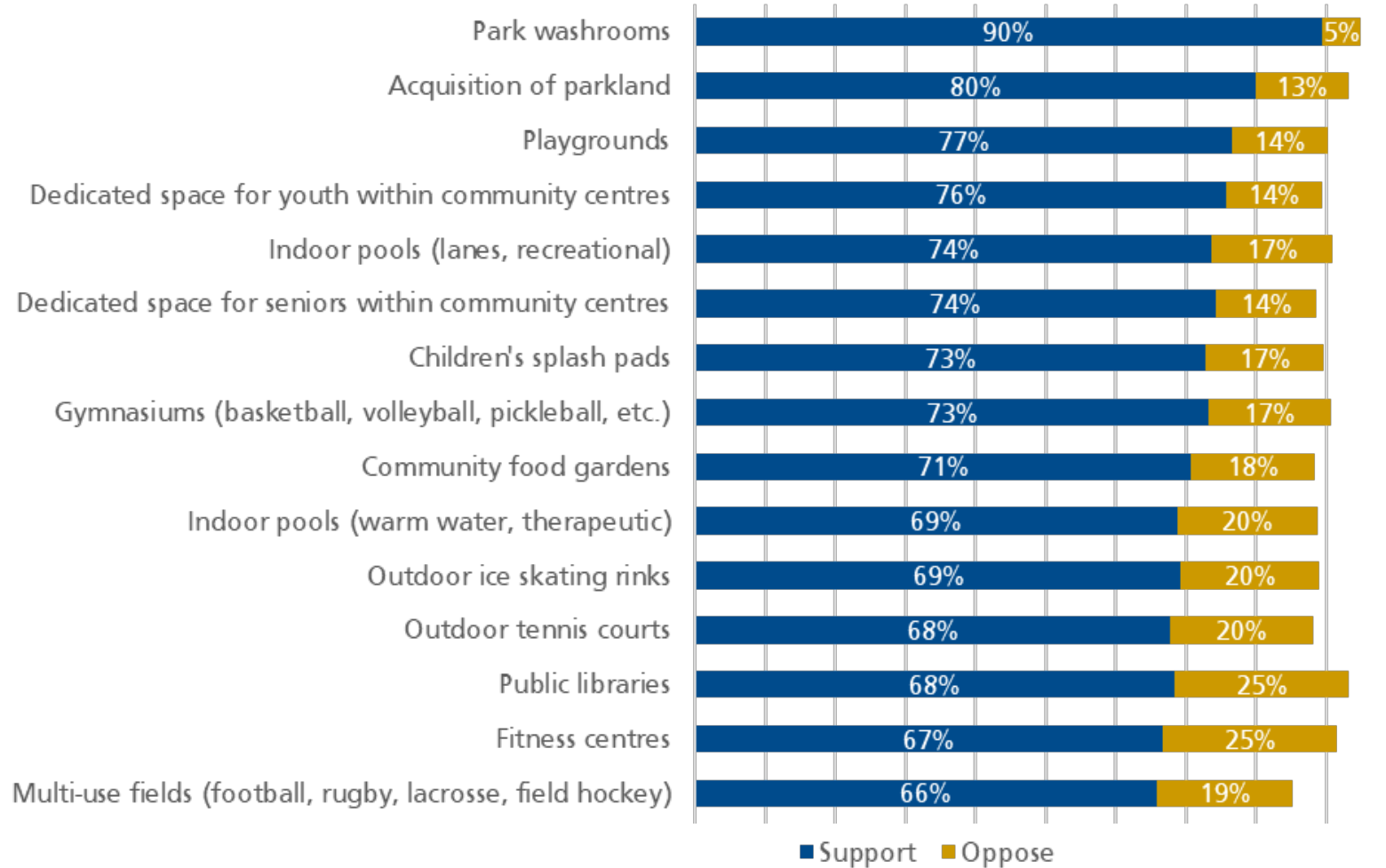
What we have heard so far

10. As we emerge from the **COVID-19 pandemic**, some challenges remain
11. The future of Oakville's **older arenas and public libraries** requires special attention
12. A framework is needed to address **special requests**
13. **Partnerships and collaborations** will be important to moving forward



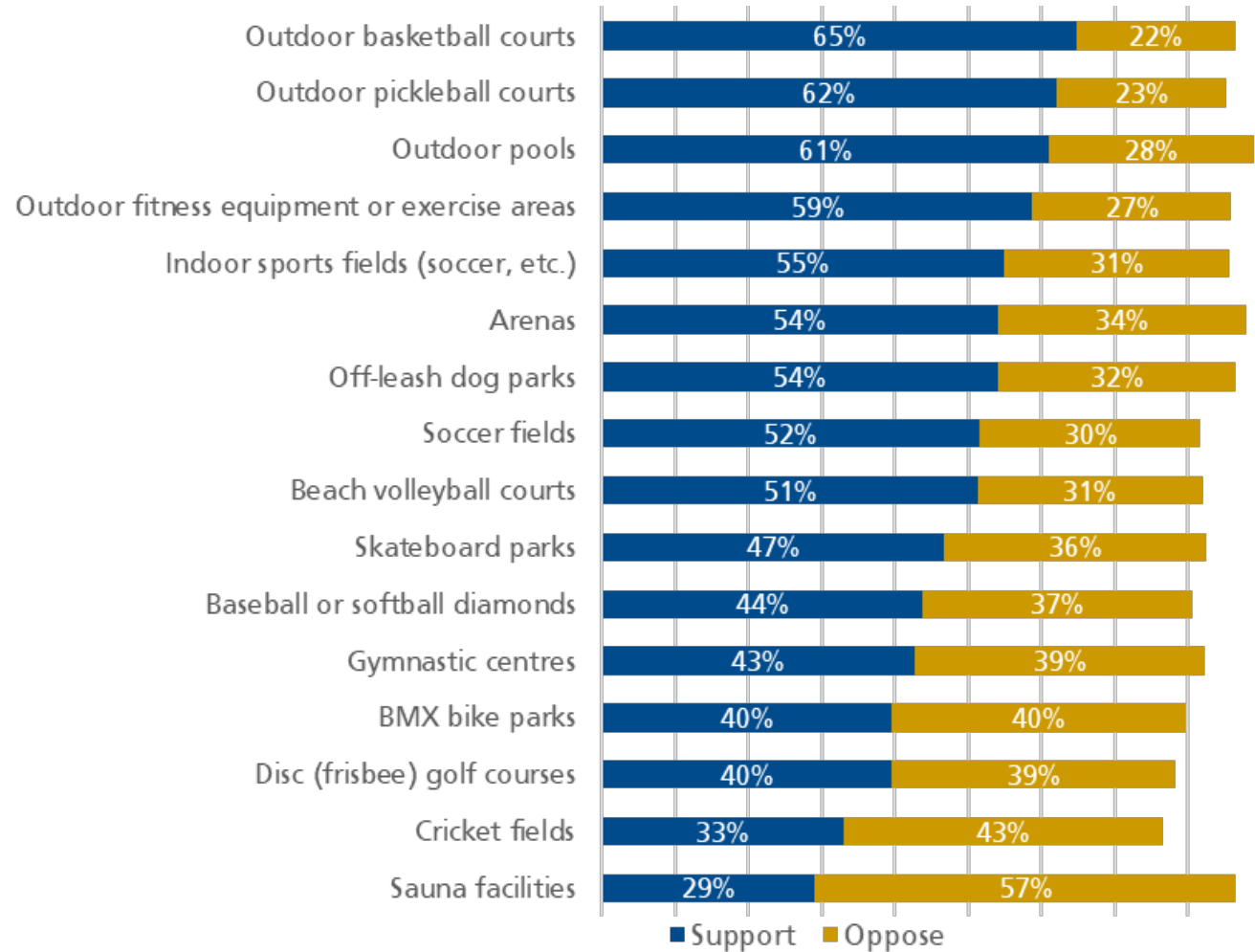
Survey – Facility Priorities

The survey found **high levels of support** for additional investment in many facility types, most notably items that benefit residents of all ages (e.g., park washrooms, parkland acquisition, pools, gymnasiums, etc.) and that support children and youth (e.g., playgrounds, youth facilities, splash pads, libraries, etc.)



Survey – Facility Priorities

Lesser demand was expressed for facilities with lower participation profiles (e.g., saunas, cricket fields, disc golf courses, etc.) and for facilities serving traditional team sports (e.g., soccer fields, ball diamonds, arenas, etc.).



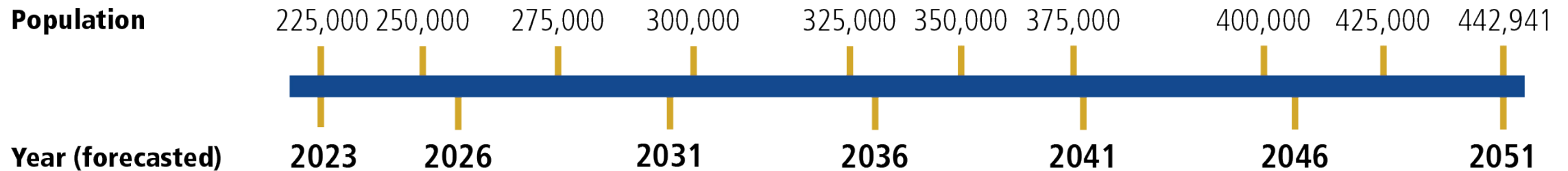
Our Approach to Assessing Needs

- The plan identifies capital needs using the creation of “**provision targets**” expressed through growth, equity (gaps), and participation metrics
- Creation of these targets considers public input, trends, geographic accessibility, industry best practices, Council policy, and more – they are meant to be flexibly applied
- Financial sustainability, co-locations and partnerships, and land availability are also key considerations throughout



Timing & Priority Growth-related Actions

For **growth-related capital items**, the plan identifies facility needs through the application of provision targets and gap analyses. A general population threshold is identified for all growth-related actions, which serves as a trigger for development (subject to funding and readiness).



Timing & Priority

Non-Growth-related Actions

Non-growth-related actions (capital or operational) are supported by consideration of the stated objectives, facility condition/functionality, and alignment with community needs.

Projects are assigned a priority level and timeline for implementation:

Timing

- Short-term: 2024 to 2033 (10-yr forecast)
- Medium-term: 2034 to 2041
- Longer-term: 2042 to 2051
- Ongoing (best practice): 2024 and onward

Priority

- High Priority
- Medium Priority
- Lower Priority

Our Approach to Addressing Needs

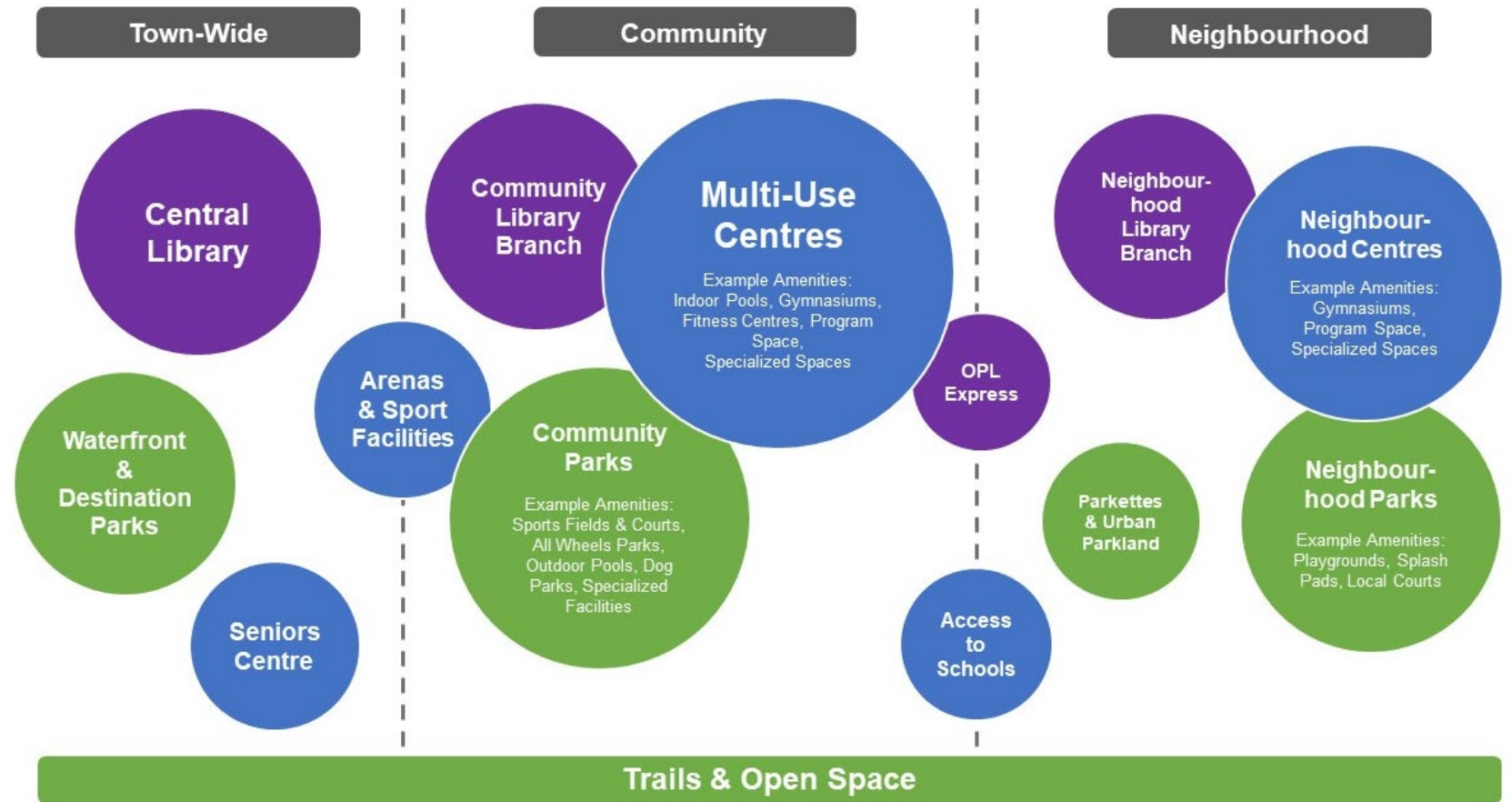
The plan applies the following **decision-making framework** when evaluating options for meeting emerging needs:

1. First, evaluate ability to meet needs through **programming or optimization initiatives**
2. Then, consider **partnerships** with other providers to leverage outside resources
3. Then, consider the potential to **expand an existing asset** to enhance capacity
4. Finally, if none of the above options are suitable, examine the viability of **new facility construction** to address demonstrated needs



“Campus of Facilities” Model

Facilities can serve different needs and functions based on their scale and design and are tailored to specific markets ranging from neighbourhood-level to town-wide and sometimes beyond.



Oakville's Population is Changing

Oakville is:

- **Growing**
Many areas of the town are growing, but 59% of future growth will be in North Oakville
- **Aging**
Older adults remain the fastest growing age group, but Oakville is still an attractive destination for families
- **Diversifying**
Two out of five Oakville residents are immigrants; 27% of immigrants to Canada in 2022 were from India

Figure 20: Historical and Forecasted Population, Town of Oakville (1991 to 2051)

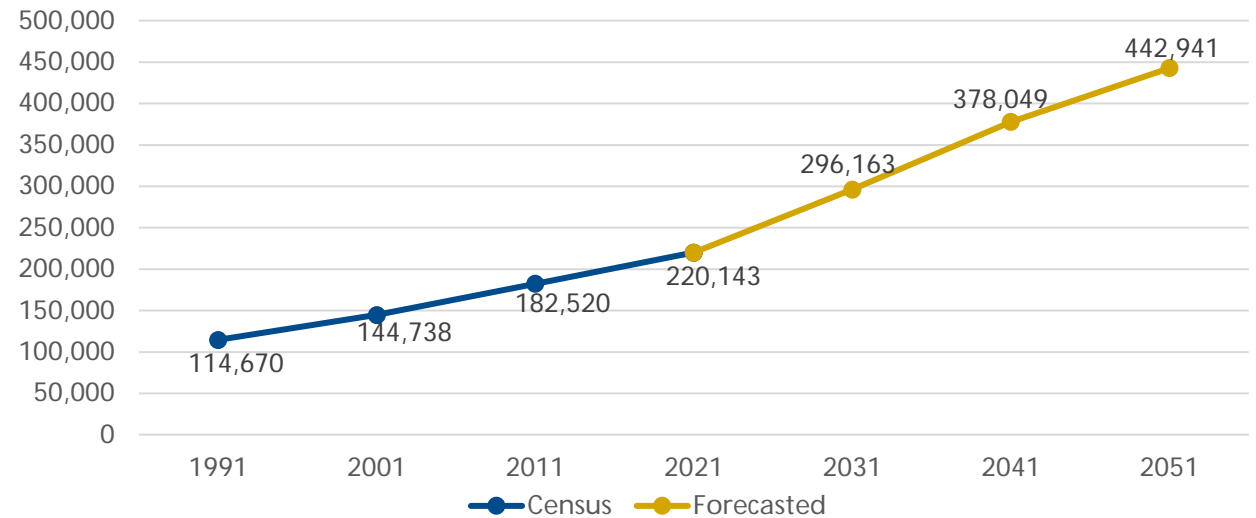
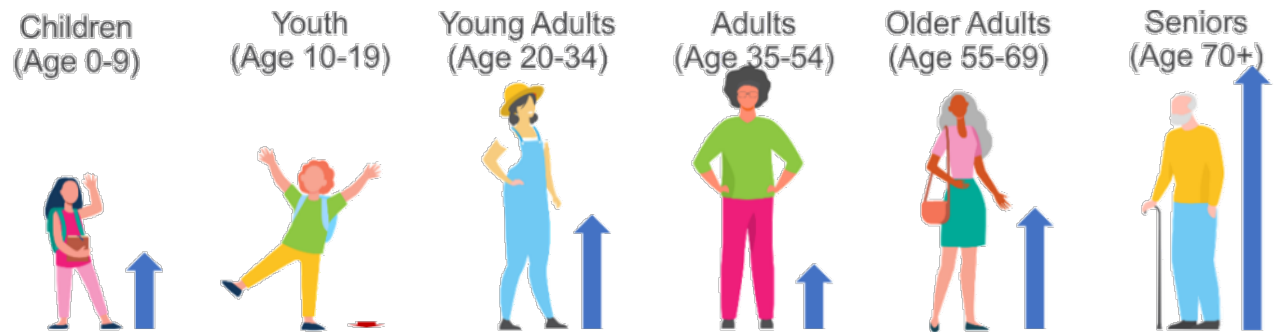


Figure 13: Population Change by Age Group, 2022 to 2032, Town of Oakville

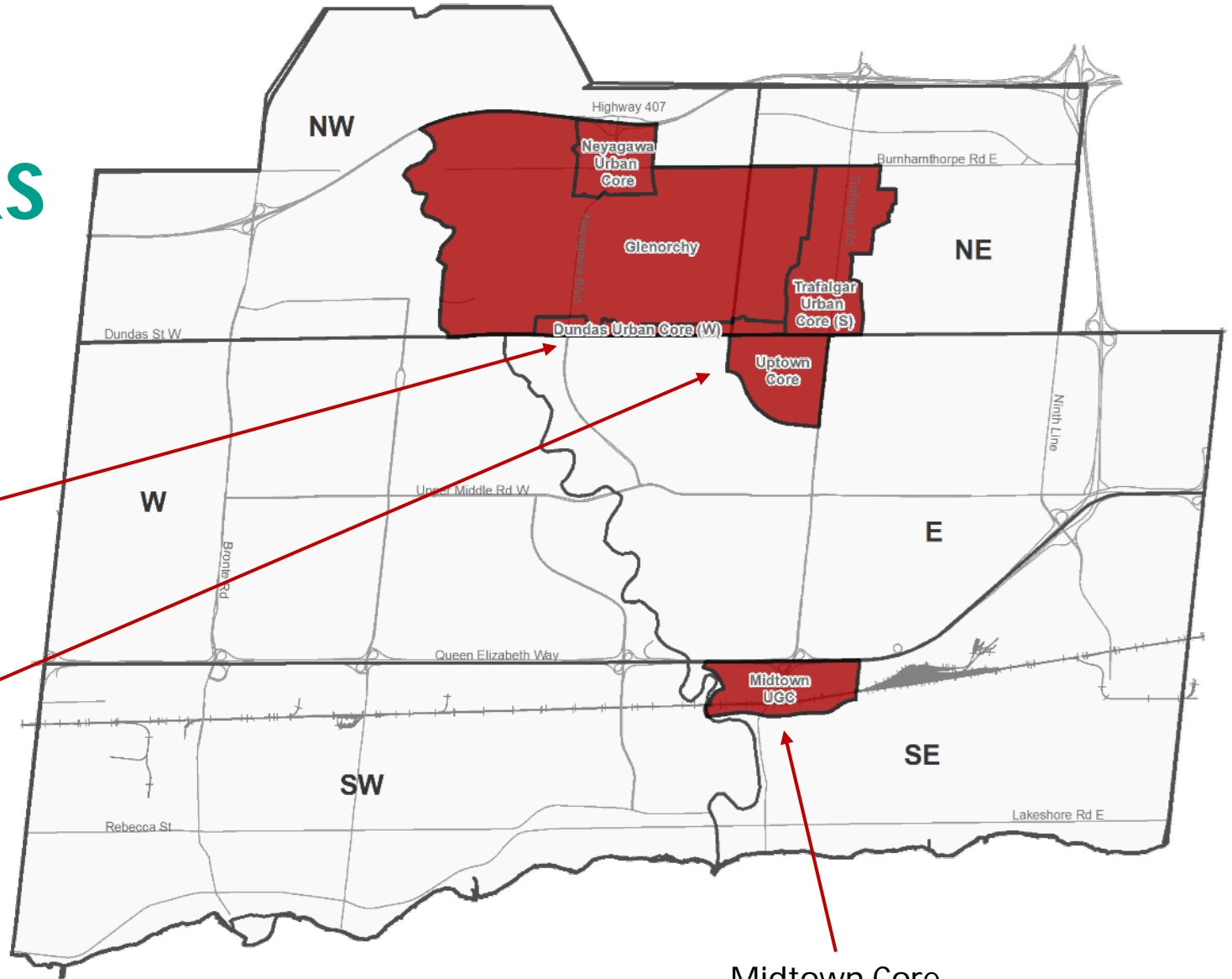


Source: Environics Analytics (2023)

High Growth Areas (2021-51)

Glenorchy / Neyagawa /
Dundas Urban Core W
38,637

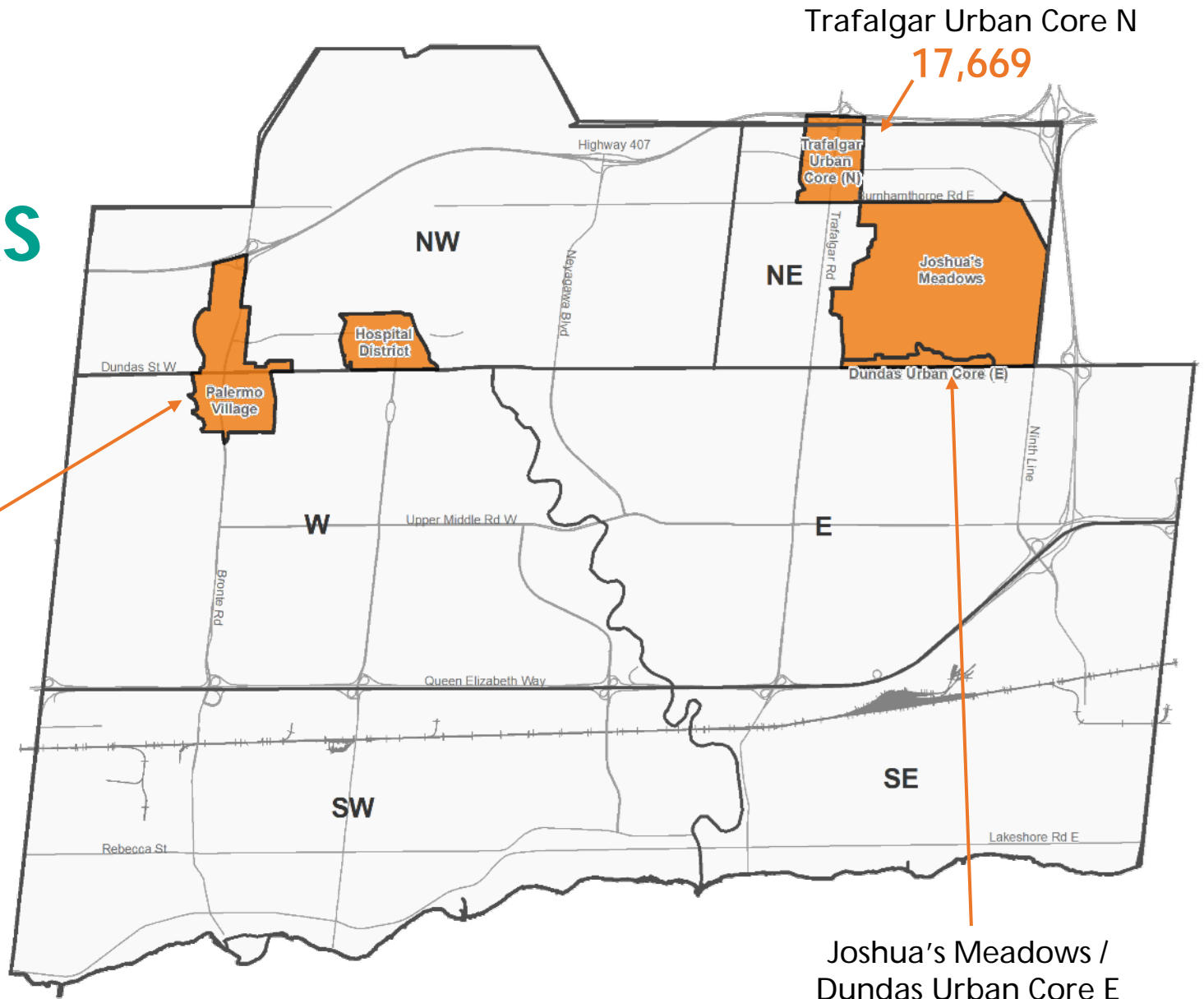
Trafalgar Urban Core S
/ Uptown Core
49,284



Midtown Core
31,829

Medium Growth Areas (2021-51)

Palermo Village / Hospital District
19,011

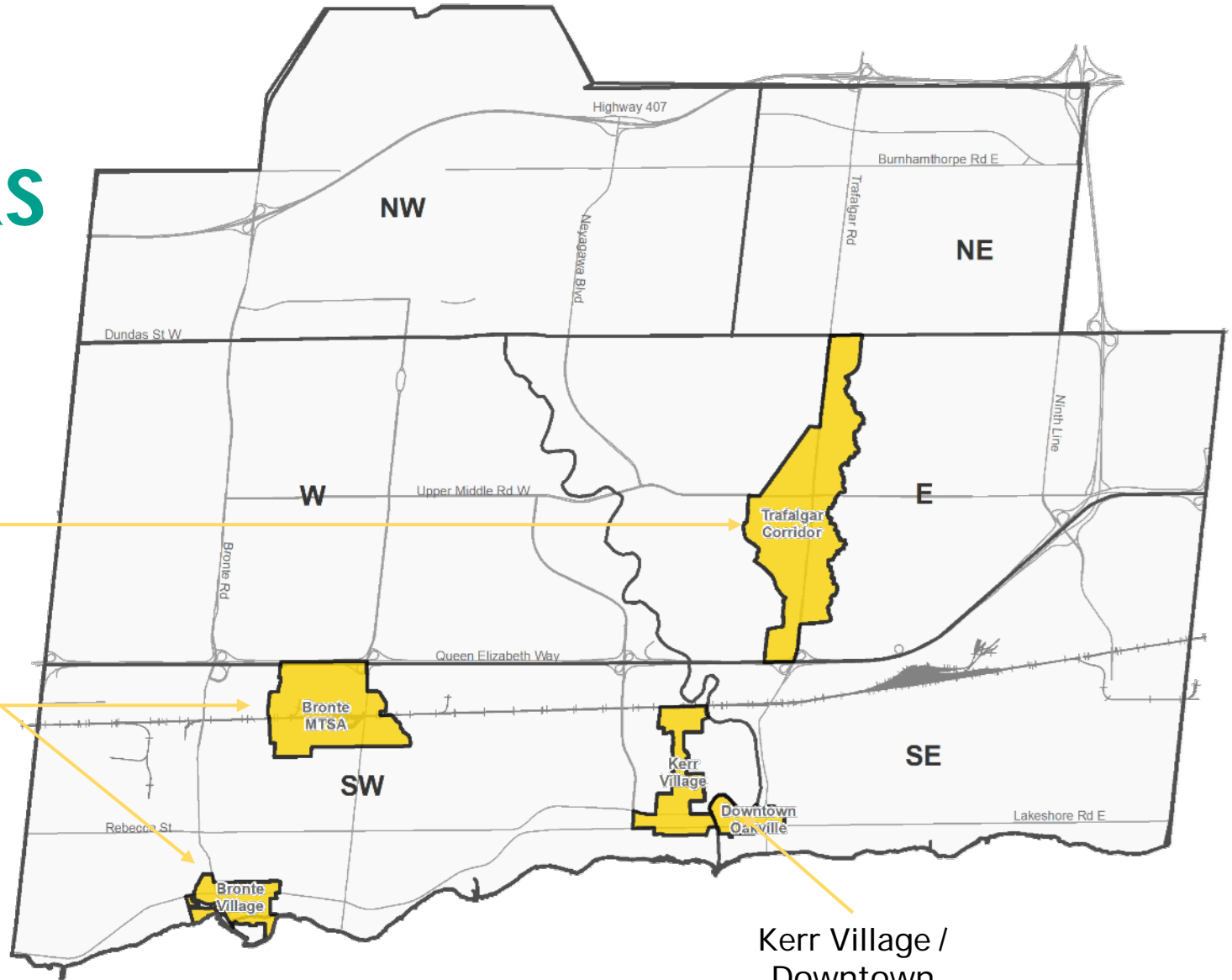


Lower Growth Areas (2021-51)

Trafalgar Corridor
8,856

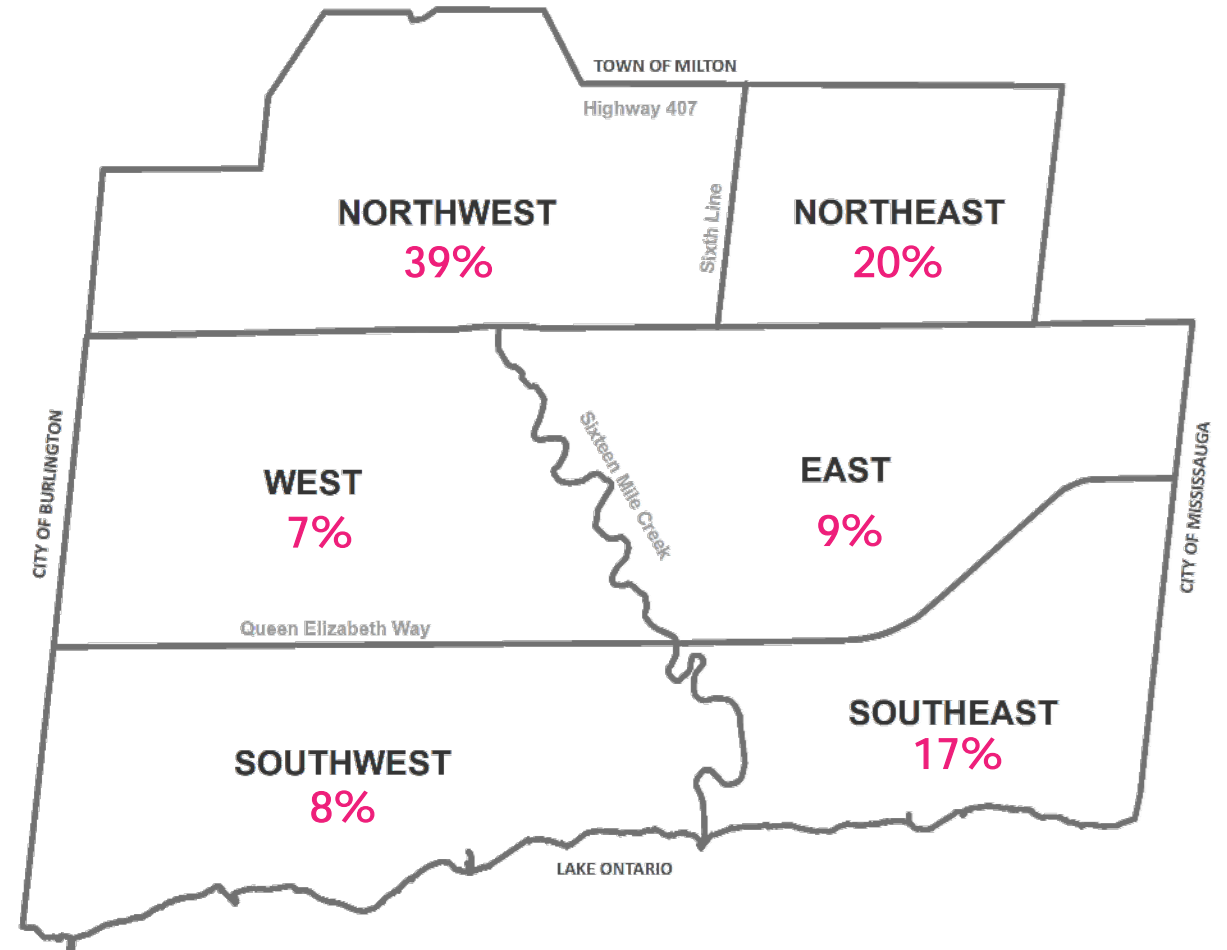
Bronte Village /
Bronte GO
7,444

Kerr Village /
Downtown
8,126

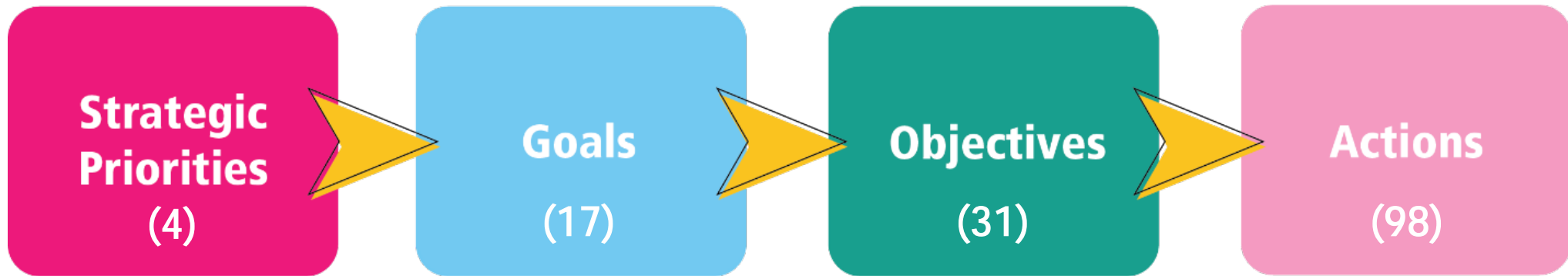


Population by Plan Area

Plan Area	Growth (2021-51)	Town-wide Totals
Northeast	86,612	39%
Northwest	44,941	20%
East	20,546	9%
West	15,025	7%
Southeast	38,230	17%
Southwest	17,244	8%
Total	222,798	100%



Master Plan Strategic Framework



Growth
Management

Community
Belonging

Environmental
Sustainability

Accountable
Government

Recreation Services

Objectives

- A. Refine our Program and Service Focus
- B. Partner with Libraries
- C. Partner with Others for Service Delivery
- D. Partner with Schools for Access to Space
- E. Engage Youth and Older Adults
- F. Enhance Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
- G. Expand Arts and Cultural Services
- H. Maintain Fair and Transparent User Fees



Recreation Facilities

Objectives

- A. Prioritize Facility Expansion and Revitalization
- B. Consider New Models for Community Space
- C. Re-imagine Single Pad Arenas
- D. Modernize Outdoor Pools
- E. Support Sport Tourism and Sport-Friendly Facilities



Libraries Services

Objectives

- A. Embrace Evolving Roles
- B. Enhance and Revitalize Existing Branches
- C. Provide New Branches in Strategic Locations
- D. Evaluate Alternative Service Models
- E. Maintain High Quality Services
- F. Consider Extended Hours
- G. Support for At-Risk Populations
- H. Partner with the Town



Park Facilities & Parkland

Objectives

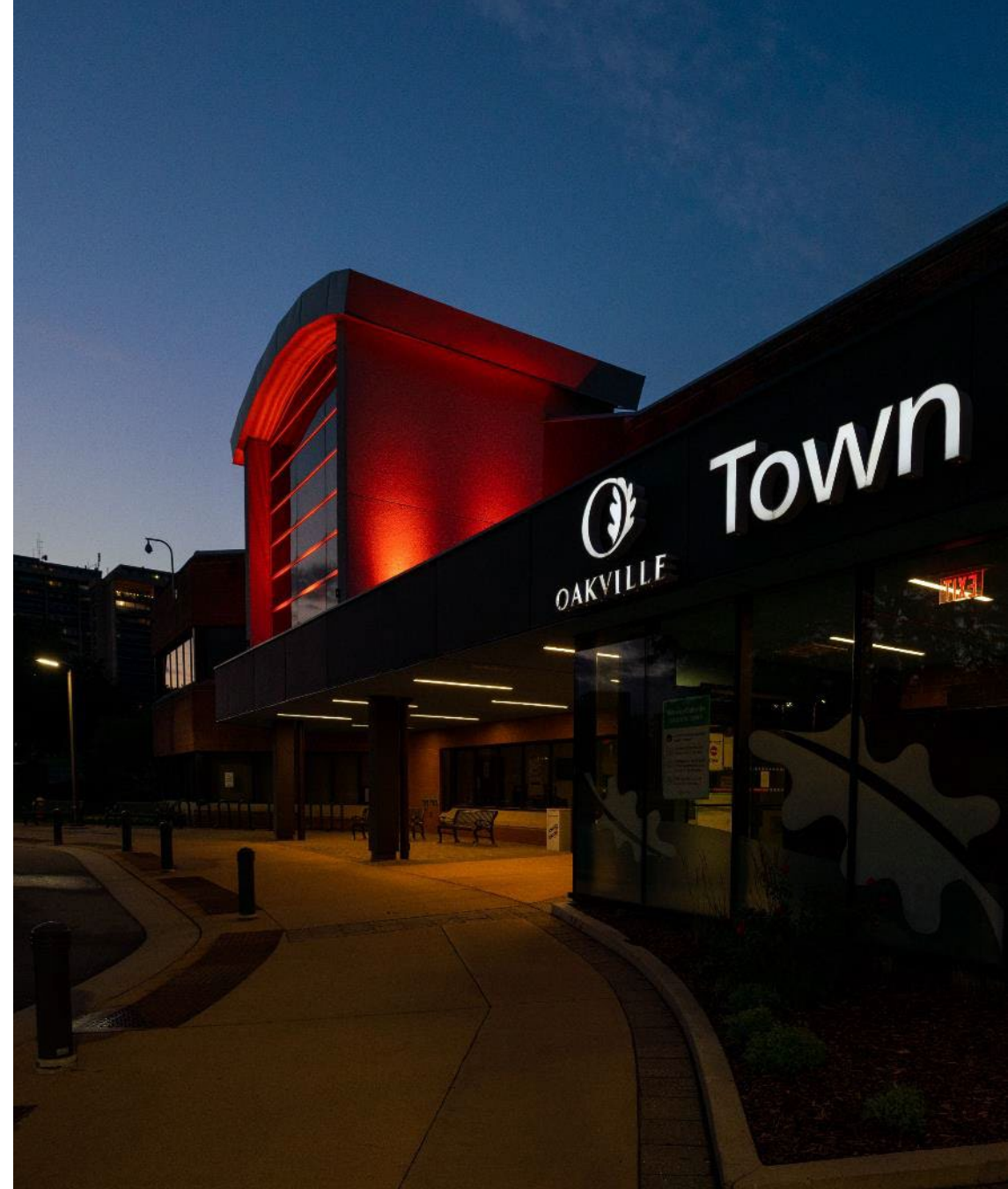
- A. Optimize our Sports Fields
- B. Support Emerging Sports and Park Amenities
- C. Animate Parks and Supporting Events
- D. Mitigate Impacts of Reduced Parkland Dedication
- E. Activate the Waterfront
- F. Reinvest in Older Parks
- G. Maximize the Impact of Smaller Parks
- H. Enhance Trails and Outdoor Activities



Implementation

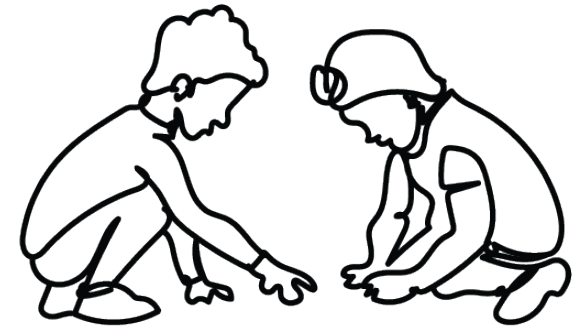
Objectives

- A. Ensure Financial Sustainability
- B. Define Priorities



Key Themes within the Plan

1. Preparing for Growth and Securing our Future
2. Supporting Equity, Wellbeing, and Emerging Needs
3. Optimizing our Assets and Providing Spaces to Thrive
4. Fostering Belonging, Accessibility, and Inclusion for All
5. Enhancing Outdoor Opportunities and Connectivity
6. Reducing our Environmental Impact
7. Leveraging Progressive Tools and Technologies
8. Working with Others and Building in Flexibility



1. Preparing for Growth and Securing our Future

Selected Actions (2024-2051)

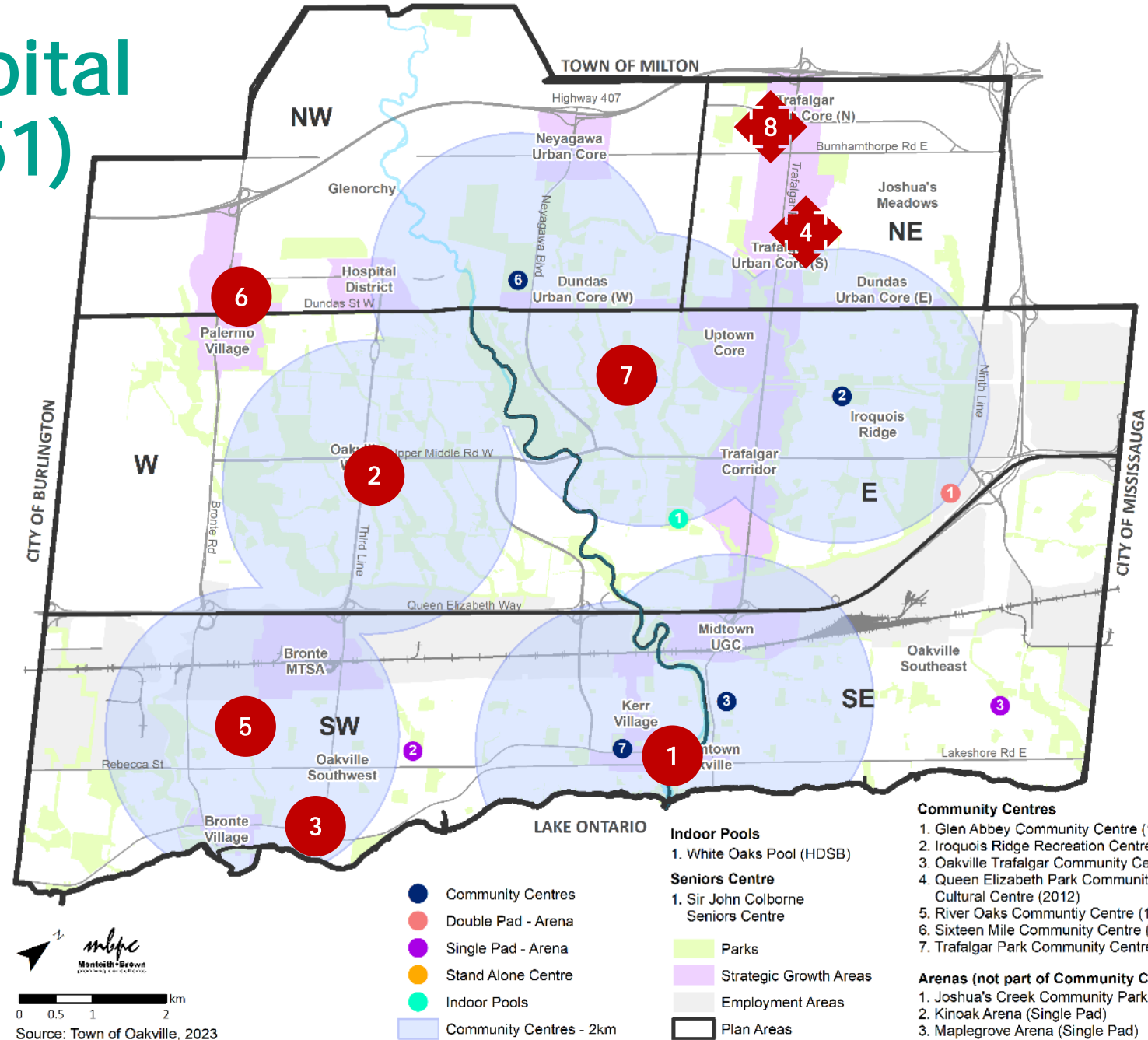
- **Glen Abbey CC:** expand and revitalize – replace pool; new change rooms and sauna; enlarge gymnasium; add 2 squash courts (begin planning in 2027)
- **Sir John Colborne Recreation Centre:** expand and renovate (275,000 pop. target)
- **Trafalgar Urban Core South:** new library (275,000 pop. target) and multi-use CC with 6-10 lane 25m indoor pool, gymnasium, fitness centre, auditorium (375,000 pop. target)
- **QEPCCC:** new library branch (300,000 pop. target)
- **Palermo:** new library (tech-focused) and neighbourhood CC with gymnasium, meeting and activity rooms (325,000 pop. target)
- **River Oaks CC:** expand and revitalize – gymnasium expansion; new fitness centre and studio spaces; removal of squash/racquetball courts; add library branch (2034-2041)
- **Trafalgar Urban Core North:** new library and neighbourhood CC with gymnasium, meeting and activity rooms (425,000 pop. target)

Recommended Capital Program (2024-2051)

Presented in order of implementation

1. Replace Central Library Branch
2. Begin planning to expand and revitalize GACC (seek to expand library through future phase)
3. Expand Sir John Colborne Recreation Centre for Seniors
4. *New multi-use centre in Trafalgar Urban Core South (library phase 1, CC phase 2)
5. Examine potential to establish library branch at QEPCCC
6. New neighbourhood CC & library in Palermo
7. Expand and revitalize ROCC and add library
8. *New neighbourhood CC & library in Trafalgar Urban Core North

* site/land required



1. Preparing for Growth and Securing our Future

Selected Actions (2024-2051)

- Develop **twin pad arenas** in: (a) North Oakville (325,000 pop. target); then (b) South Oakville (400,000 pop. target)
- Explore options for increasing year-round programming and community access to **indoor turf fields**
- Work with the **Oakville Crusaders Rugby Club** to address long-term field needs
- Prepare a **Racquet Sports Strategy** to guide outdoor tennis and pickleball court investment and assess the potential for a year-round community-based court complex
- Develop a **covered and refrigerated outdoor rink** in Northeast Oakville and consider a **refrigerated skating trail** for the Fogolar's property
- **Growth-related development** of cricket fields, sport courts, playgrounds, splash pads, all wheels parks, leash-free dog areas, community gardens, etc. – various projects



2. Supporting Equity, Wellbeing, and Emerging Needs

Selected Actions (2024-2033)

- Pilot the Recreation Program and Service Development Framework identified in the plan
- Update the Youth and Older Adult Strategies
- Engage with **diverse and under-served groups** to enhance inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessible supports and programming
- Continue to expand library **outreach and alternative delivery models** (e.g., express libraries, etc.) to emerging communities and gap areas (OPL)
- Enhance **multi-lingual collections** and ESL programming (OPL)



3. Optimizing our Assets and Providing Spaces to Thrive

Selected Actions (2024-2051)

- Complete a **capital renovation and replacement strategy** to assess the cost/benefit of investing in under-performing recreation facilities
- Consider converting **Kinoak Arena** (first) and **Maple Grove Arena** (second) to other uses (e.g., non-ice sport facility, park uses, general community use, etc.), supported by community input
- Develop a **Sports Field Strategy** to enhance existing sites, including revisiting lighting restrictions south of Dundas Street in the medium-term (2034-2041)
- Prepare a **park revitalization strategy** to establish a decision-making framework and priorities, with a focus on waterfront parks and barrier-free accessibility



3. Optimizing our Assets and Providing Spaces to Thrive

Selected Actions (2024-2051)

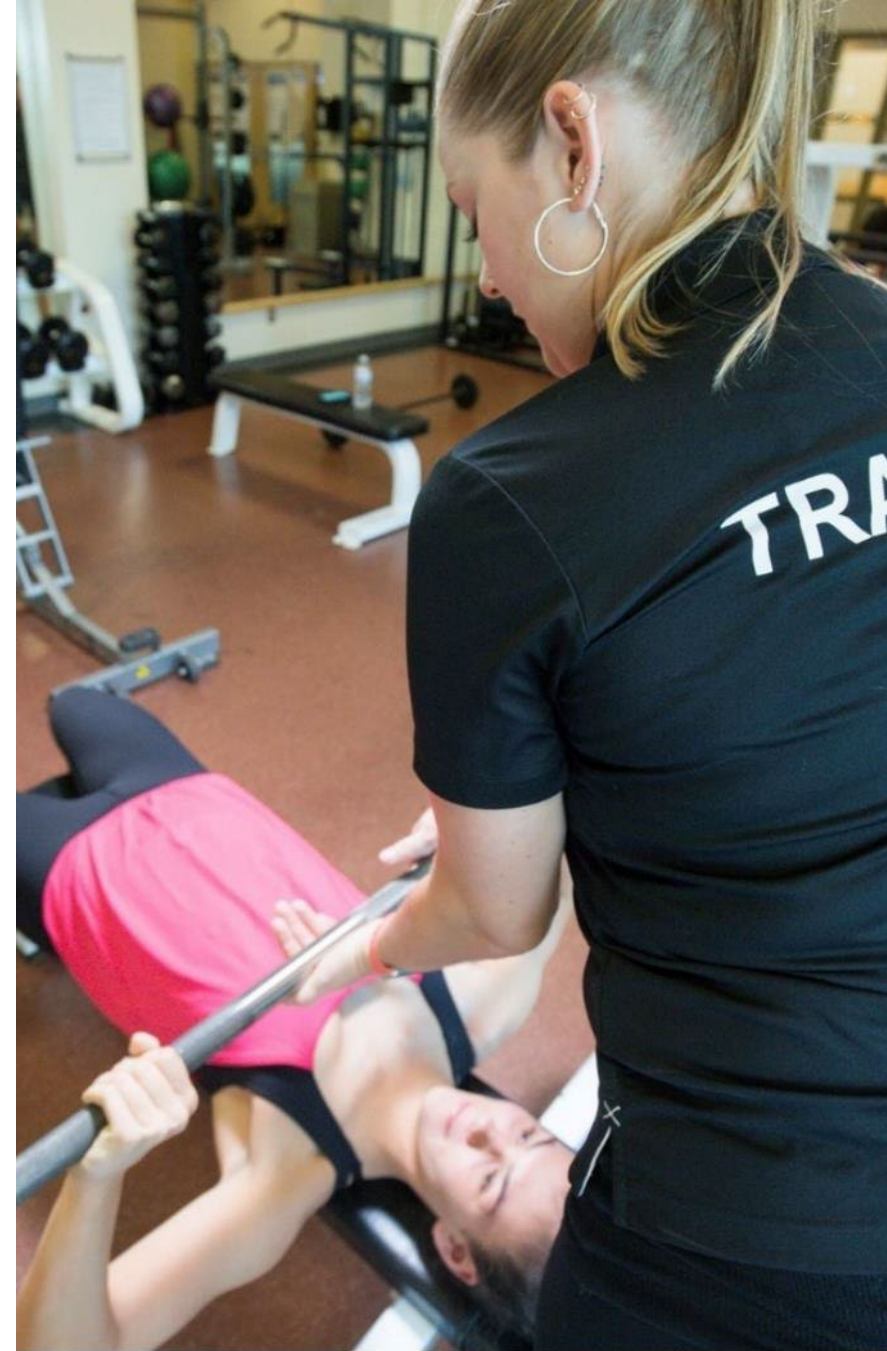
- Undertake a strategy to modernize our **outdoor pools**. Consider the following:
 - replacing Bronte, Brookdale, and Wedgewood Pools with one new “destination” pool complex in South Oakville (site tbd)
 - developing an outdoor pool in North Oakville (longer-term)
 - keeping Lions and Falgarwood Pools operational as long as possible; consider long-term redevelopment of Falgarwood Pool
 - all pools that are closed should be replaced with other park amenities, in consultation with residents
- Undertake a study to confirm the function, capacity, and long-term viability of **White Oaks Pool**



4. Fostering Belonging, Accessibility, & Inclusion for All

Selected Actions (2024-2033)

- Regularly review **Recreation Connection** fee allowances and work with aligned agencies to promote the program
- Refine the recreation **pricing policy** to reflect appropriate cost recovery levels, age and ability to pay
- Develop a future **operating hours plan (OPL)**
- Explore the feasibility of embedding additional **social services** within libraries in partnership with others (OPL)
- Maintain a commitment to **universal accessibility and safety** within the town's parks and trails system



5. Enhancing Outdoor Opportunities and Connectivity

Selected Actions (2024-2033)

- Review and update the **2.2 ha/1000 active parkland target** with the goal of establishing an achievable and realistic framework for future parkland acquisition; consider expanding the definition of “active parkland”
- Prioritize implementation of the **Harbours Master Plan** and strategic investments in waterfront parks and trails
- Explore opportunities to enhance community access to **Bronte Provincial Park** and other lands managed by public sector agencies
- Complete an infrastructure condition assessment at **Deerfield Golf Course** and review the operating model
- Prepare a condition audit and opportunities plan for the **Fogolar’s property**



6. Reducing our Environmental Impact

Selected Actions (2024-2033)

- Advance strategies to enhance **environmental sustainability** in parks
- Develop a policy to support expansion of **community gardens** and seek partnerships to extend the reach of this program
- Expand **program offerings and education** focused on climate change (OPL)



7. Leveraging Progressive Tools and Technologies

Selected Actions (2024-2033)

- Expand **digital infrastructure** and investments that leverage data-driven decision-making and facility technologies
- Establish service levels for **new technologies** to help bridge the digital divide (OPL)
- Complete an **expanded technology strategy** to foster experimentation and innovation at new and renovated library locations (OPL)
- Implement a system for the **regular monitoring** of the master plan, including the use of **evidence-based assessment tools and guidelines**









8. Working Together and Building in Flexibility

Selected Actions (2024-2033)

- Prepare a **Sport Tourism Strategy** in collaboration with economic development and sport tourism partners
- Consider **alternative funding and cost-sharing approaches** to achieve capital and operating cost recovery targets
- Ensure that **planning for major capital projects** includes community engagement, feasibility studies, and partnership options
- Develop an **annual update** (report card) to the community on the progress of the master plan
- **Update the plan** in five to ten-years









Summary of Facility Recommendations (to 2051)

						
Facility Type	Community Centres	Indoor Pools	Outdoor Pools	Gymnasiums	Fitness Centres	Seniors' Spaces
Current Supply	7*	6 * (total of 9 tanks)	5	7 * (plus schools)	7*	5 (including 1 stand-alone)
Planning Target	1 per 45,000 pop.	1 per 55,000 pop. (multi-tank)	1 per 150,000 pop.	1 per community centre	1 per multi-use community centre	target not applicable
Needs (to 2051)	3 new (1 multi-use and 2 local) and 2 revitalized	1 new (multi-use CRC) and 1 revitalized	2 new (to replace 3) and 1 revitalized (to replace 2)	5+ new (3 through new CCs, 2 through expanded CCs)	1 new and 2 revitalized	1 expanded, plus programming at new centres

* Including Sixteen Mile CC


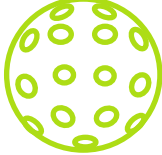




Summary of Facility Recommendations (to 2051)

						
Facility Type	Arenas (Ice Pads)	Public Libraries	Soccer & Multi-use Fields	Ball Diamonds	Cricket Fields	Splash Pads
Current Supply	13 ice pads	121,607* sf at 7 locations	99 ULE** (86 total fields)	69 ULE** (54 total fields)	2	24*
Planning Target	1 per 20,000 to 30,000 pop. (1 per 525 youth participants)	0.5 square feet per capita	1 per 3,500 pop. (1 per 100 youth participants)	1 per 5,000 pop. (1 per 60 youth participants)	1 per 100,000 pop.	1km service radius
Needs (to 2051)	2 more pads (repurpose 2 singles, build 2 new twins)	5 new and 1 expanded (99,864 sf)	33 new (ULE) and improvements to existing	22.5 new and improvements to existing	2 new	10 new

* Including Sixteen Mile CC/Park ** Including permitted school facilities

ULE = unlit equivalents

Summary of Facility Recommendations (to 2051)

						
Facility Type	Tennis Courts	Pickleball Courts	Basketball Courts	Skate/Bike Parks ("All Wheels")	Playgrounds	Leash Free Areas
Current Supply	90** (60 dedicated, 30 shared)	33 (13 dedicated, 30 shared)	20.5 7 half courts, 17 full courts)	7 skate parks* 1 bike park*	143 locations	7
Planning Target	1 per 5,000 pop. (North Oakville)	1 per 5,000 to 10,000 pop.	1 per 12,000 pop. and 1km service radius	1km service radius	500m service radius	2km service radius
Needs (to 2051)	Up to 25 new and improvements to existing	Up to 45 new and improvements to existing	17 new	4-5 new skate parks and 2 new bike parks	Needs assessed based on target	Up to 5 new

* Including Sixteen Mile CC/Park

** Including permitted school facilities

Next Steps

1. Seek public input on draft plan (online survey)
2. Finalize report and present to Council (September)
3. Begin implementation, including topic-specific studies



Wrap-up

Thank you for your input!
Any questions?



