

Re: Item No. 15.3.1

**HALIFAX**

# Halifax Common Master Plan Presentation

Regional Council

February 8, 2022

# Halifax Common Master Plan

A guiding document for the planning, development, and management of open space within the Halifax Common.



# Master Planning Process

- Began in the Fall of 2017
- Wide range of perspectives including recreation, cultural heritage, integrated mobility, the environment and urban planning
- Consultation with institutional stakeholders
- Technical team of staff from other business units
- Fundamental aspects retained from the 1994 Halifax Common Plan
- Affirm the guiding principles reflect present day conditions
- Align with Municipality's strategic initiatives and values
- Identify reinvestment priorities and long-term objectives for parkland



# Community Engagement





Involved over 3,000 people throughout the process:

- Four public meetings
- Pop-up session
- Two on-line surveys
- Youth focus group
- Stakeholder and community organization focus groups



[www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/halifax-common-master-plan](http://www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/halifax-common-master-plan)

# Master Plan Contents and Approach

<b>Policy Directions</b>		Guiding Statements to be considered in evaluating or undertaking projects
<b>Actions</b>		Outline how policies may be implemented. Direct programs or projects to improve open space
<b>Design &amp; Program Guidance</b>		Recommendations for future capital improvements and considerations for further investigations
<b>Illustrative Plans</b>		Aids to visualize prospective improvements to Municipal open space



# Master Plan Highlights

**Halifax Common District**

**Need for Joint Planning**

**Mobility Planning**

**Less Structured Recreation**

**Wanderers Block**

**Heritage Planning**



# Municipal Land Strategies



## North Common

- The “*Common Green*” great lawn for more unstructured greenspace
- Revitalize the Centennial Fountain area
- More trees, naturalization and communal gardens



# Central Common

- Outdoor Aquatic Facility replacement
- Playground replacement
- Skatepark redesign
- Convert ball diamond for slo-pitch
- Improve sport field, add drop-in programming



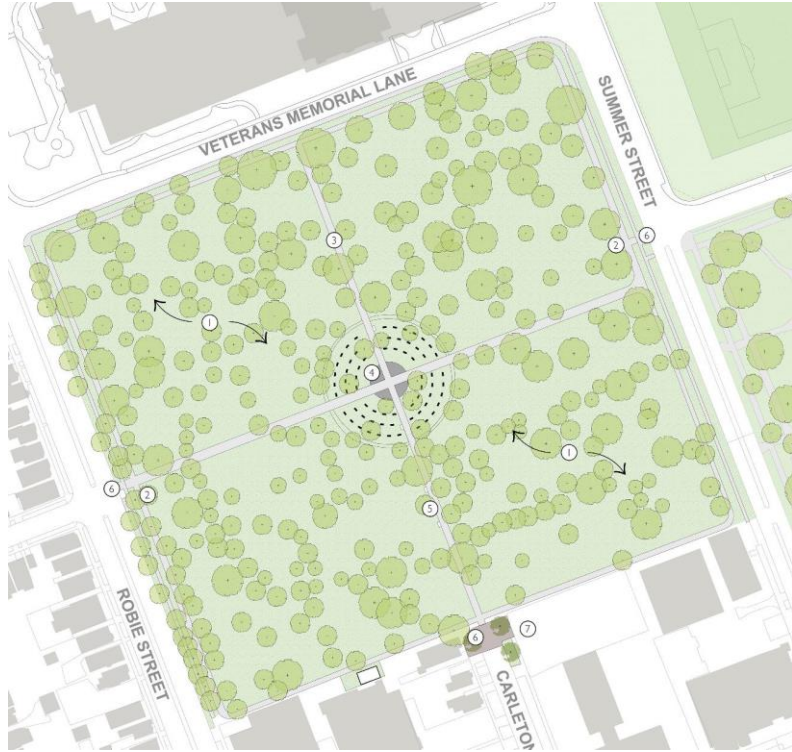




## Wanderers Grounds

- Further collaborative planning required
- Place an emphasis on public access and use
- Modernize greenhouses and consolidate parks depot yard and offices
- Update recreation club facilities
- Consolidate parking and circulation

# Camp Hill Cemetery



# Halifax Public Gardens





## Victoria Park

- Circulation and accessibility improvements
- Revitalize fountain area
- Tree lawn and planting bed improvements
- Festive winter lighting
- Entrance plaza treatments

# Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee Recommendation

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:

1. Repeal the 1994 Halifax Common Plan and adopt the Halifax Common Master Plan (Master Plan) in principle as a guiding document as contained in Attachment A of the November 4, 2021 report, as a guiding document for open space planning, management, and development within the Halifax Common; and
2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to undertake periodic reviews at least every five years of the Master Plan for any updates.
3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a supplementary report to include:
  - (a) Opportunities for further public engagement
  - (b) Timelines on further development and consultation on Wanderer's Block
4. Approve the plan in principle and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a final consolidated plan for adoption by Council.