

August 21, 2025

HALIFAX

Lighting Strategy in Existing Parks

Parks & Recreation
Policy & Planning

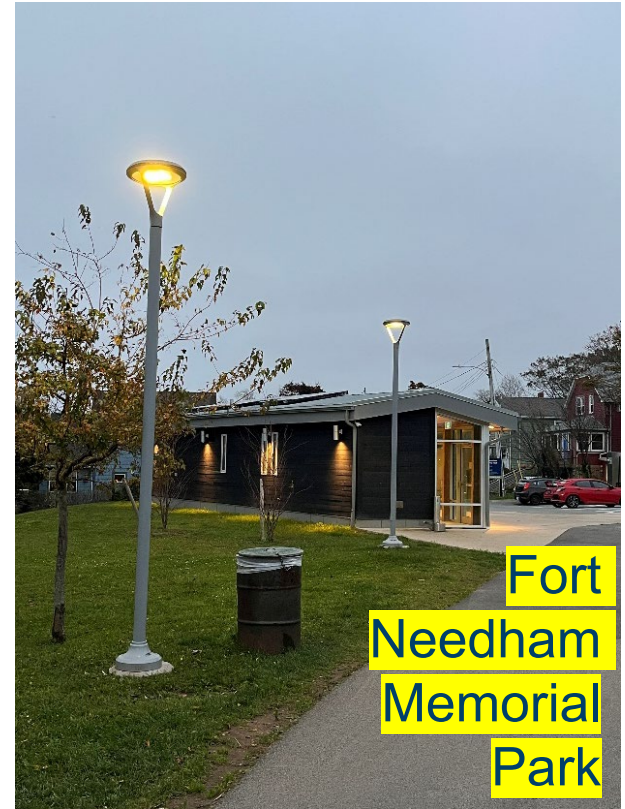


Origin

- June 8, 2021 Halifax Regional Council motion (Item Number 11.7.1). Staff report request for developing a park lighting strategy.
- August 23, 2022 Halifax Regional Council motion (Item No. 15.1.7). Scoping report to develop a strategy that guides the design and implementation of park lighting.
- January 14, 2025 Halifax Regional Council motion (Item No. 15.3.1). Strategy adopted as a document for the planning of pathway, facility, and placemaking lighting. A supplemental report was requested on implementation criteria for prioritization and budgeting.

Background

- Prior to 2025, no formal process for lighting.
- Lighting is an expected component of public life.
- Enhances safety, security, overall enjoyment.
- Focus on park pathways, facilities, and placemaking installations



Strategy Approach

- Lighting is a standard consideration for **new** pathway, facility, & placemaking projects.
- Regional Council direction to better highlight the process for existing parks.



Strategy Approach

Lighting projects in **existing parks** are brought forward under four primary conditions:

1. as part of new and recapitalized facilities;
2. when integrated with overlapping initiatives across municipal business units;
3. when external partnerships or funding can be leveraged to support cost-sharing and delivery efficiency; and
4. when safety data highlights a pressing need.



Lighting Suitability Criteria

- Park use
- Accessibility
- Equity
- Location
- Layout
- Feasibility
- Wayfinding
- Maintenance
- Security
- Plan Alignment
- Neighbouring Use
- Special Events
- Environment

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Priority List

Park Pathways:

- Dartmouth Common;
- Captain William Spry Centre Park;
- George Dixon Community Centre Park;
- North Preston Community Centre Park.

Sport Courts:

- Grand Desert Park basketball court;
- Northbrook Park tennis court;
- Harry R. Hamilton Elementary School Park basketball court; and
- J. Smeltzer Junior High School Park basketball.

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Costing & Delivery

- Lighting infrastructure involves significant costs.
- \$2.9 million for park pathways, \$900,000 for sport courts.
- 5-year implementation timeline.
- Projects to be prioritized within the four-year capital plan.

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