



Georgetown Action Sports Needs Assessment

This report sets the vision and strategy required to develop new outdoor action sport (skateboard, scooter, BMX) and multi-purpose court (basketball) opportunities within Georgetown

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Executive Summary

With the history of Action Sports in Halton Hills and current demand for existing facilities, there was a significant need identified within Georgetown for improved Action Sports opportunities. The Georgetown Action Sports Needs Assessment was carried out to confirm the demand and obtain the information required to validate the type of facilities required, desired location, financial requirements and build on previous studies. Local youth and their families were specifically targeted through advertising and an online survey to get feedback.

The results of the needs assessment show that there is a large number of action sports users in the community which primarily are scooter, skateboard and some BMX users. These users are best satisfied on an inground concrete skatepark facility. This profile of users and facility type will be the focus of this report, while also adding a few notes regarding other uses and findings.

With the supporting information from the needs assessment and service standard provisions, this report recommends:

- Service Standard for Skateparks of 1 skatepark for every 5,000 people aged 5-19;
- A hierarchy of park types ranging from small skate spots to regional skate parks

Short Term Recommendations (next 5 years):

- Construction of a new poured in place concrete 'community' skatepark at the Gellert Community Centre with two multi-purpose courts. Proceed with detailed design and consultation for this skatepark in 2017 so it can be constructed in 2018.
- Public consultation and review of current youth requirements to determine strategy for an additional skatepark which could be the replacement of Moldmasters Skatepark with a new larger poured in place concrete 'community' skatepark OR construction of a 'community' skatepark at Dominion Gardens Park
- Local 'skate spots' should be created at McNally Street Park and Miller Drive Park.

Medium Term Recommendations (5-10 years):

- Review soft surface biking and monitor community need
- Skate spots and half multi-purpose courts should be considered and implemented where appropriate within Vision Georgetown Development

Long Term Recommendations (10+ years):

- Review and confirm demand for soft surface bike park and construct if merited.
- Continue to implement skate spots and multi-courts within new Vision Georgetown parks
- Review and implement new community skatepark within Georgetown

Background

The Town of Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Strategic Action Plan (2007) identifies action sports facilities (skateboard, BMX parks and multi-courts) as an important facility and service that the Town provides to the community as well as service standards (quantities of specific facilities per population). In the case of skateparks the service standard recommended is 1 major skatepark per 5000 youth ages 10-19. The Town of Halton Hills Youth Needs Study (2012) also identifies the need to provide dedicated outdoor spaces geared to recreation and social activities for youth including skateparks, multi-courts and unstructured open spaces. The Towns Active Living Strategy (2016) advocates for more low cost or free opportunities for youth to be active, and adequate youth centric amenities, such as bike paths and skateboard parks, as well as making active choices easy.

History of Action Sports in Halton Hills

The history of action sports in Halton Hills dates back well over twenty years and the timeline below notes some of the milestones during that time.



Service Standards

The Recreation & Parks Strategic Action plan uses ages 10-19 years old for the action sports service standard. Through the survey, and observation of the Jubilee Park Skateable Features and 3 Musketeers Skatepark it was found that the response was from a much wider age range with users from ages 5-30+ which encompasses children, youth and adults. Action sports, especially scooter, skateboard and hard surface BMX use have become more of an entire family activity. It is recommended to change the service standard to include users aged 5-19 for skateparks. For this study the service standard will be considered for users ages 5-19 for skateparks. Based on this level of

service it has been identified that a total of 1.5 skateparks are required by 2021 and 3.0 parks are required by 2031. 3.6 full size multi-courts are required by 2021 and 4.7 by 2031 to achieve the minimum service standard.

Recommendation 1: It is recommended that the Town adopt the new service standard for skateparks as outlined above.

Current action sports inventory

Within Georgetown there are currently only two permanent skate, scooter, BMX facilities; a 'neighbourhood' skatepark at Moldmasters Sportsplex and 'skate spot' at Jubilee Park. The Town also has a mobile steel temporary skatepark that has been at Moldmasters parking lot for the past season. There is also the 3 Musketears Park in Acton which is a regional sized skatepark facility. Refer to Appendix 1 – Consultation boards, for more information and photos of existing skate parks.

The inventory of multi-courts in Georgetown is comprised of 6 basketball half courts (Meadowglen Blvd Park, Barber Mill Park, Ainley Trail Parkette, Barber Drive Park, Danby Road Park and Hidden Lake Trail Parkette (coming spring 2017)). There are also double tennis courts at Joseph Gibbons Park and Emerson Park which can have multi-purpose function. Some school sites also contain multi-purpose courts which are available to the public during certain hours. The school sites were not considered in the inventory because of their inconsistent availability and potential for portables at the school which result in the removal of courts. There is no full size outdoor basketball court in Georgetown and only two within Halton Hills which are located at the 3 Musketears Park and Prospect Park in Acton.

The Town of Halton Hills currently does not have any formalized soft surface BMX or mountain biking specific facilities. This type of facility would include single track directional trails and/or technical skills development features. Staff are aware that informal facilities exist in rural or vacant parcels of land, however these facilities are not maintained or monitored by the Town. These informal facilities may be meeting current demands for this type of activity. Based on survey results, staff observation, and consultation with the Milton Track2000 club, the demand for this type of action sport appears to be already met by nearby facilities within the Halton Region including formalized facilities at Hilton Falls Conservation Area, Kelso Conservation Area, Track2000 in Milton and informal use within some future development areas.

Community Research

In order to determine where the highest populations of people ages five to nineteen live in Georgetown now and into the future, the Town has utilized demographic data and created mapping that is overlaid with existing and proposed skatepark and multi-purpose locations. Refer to Appendix 2 – Demographic Maps. These maps guide the locating of action sports parks to meaningful population areas and direct community consultation to consider specific parks within these areas.

A specific website for the study was established (www.haltonhills.ca/actionsports) and community consultation was conducted August - November 2016 through two online surveys and promoted through site posters, youth directed messaging, social media and local action sports retailers. A high number of responses were received, with 132 responses to the short (snapshot) survey and 138 responses to the long (in-depth) survey. The long survey allowed respondents to complete the survey for additional family members and many respondents represented their families capturing a total of 364 residents for the long survey. Summary of the main findings of the survey are below and full survey responses will be available on the study website www.haltonhills.ca/actionsports. Note that personal information has been removed to maintain respondent anonymity.

User Profile (Survey Results)

Respondents were primarily scooter or skateboard users of an intermediate level that participate in the sport daily and have been doing it for 1-5 years. The location of the time spent is 50% at a Town facility (3 Musketears, Moldmasters, Jubilee Park) and 50% at non-designated areas (parking lots, sidewalks, streets). Typically when they go to a Town action sports facility they spend a few hours there.

Of the respondents, 30% of them also participate in BMX/Mountain Bike Trail riding (soft surface), so there is a need, but it was not nearly as high or pronounced as other uses (ie. Hard surface park and multi-court users).

72 % of Respondents said that it was important that they can get to the action sports park without needing a car and the location and size of the facility were rated most important criteria for site selection.

Quality of Existing Facilities (Survey Results)

Based on user experience of existing facilities, Moldmasters inground concrete skatepark was rated as very bad and the portable skateboard equipment (at Moldmasters) was rated as okay. The portable skatepark equipment is less desirable because of the setting and quality of user experience.

The Jubilee Park skatespot was rated by the users as good, small and not suitable for users living outside of the neighbourhood.

Types of New Facilities (Survey Results)

When asked about the size and type of a new hard surface facility in Georgetown, 66% wanted a 'community wide' action sports park and 34% neighbourhood features. No respondents wanted a Regional sized skatepark which demonstrates that the 3 Musketeers Park in Acton, and neighbouring municipalities that have 'regional' skateparks fill that need.

With respect to multi-purpose courts, 55% of respondents would like basketball and 68% would like outdoor ice for hockey or skating. 82% think the multi court should have the ability to be converted to an ice rink in winter. There were a small number of multi-purpose users seeking pickleball opportunities and that will be addressed through other Town initiatives.

65% of respondents thought that a multi-court should be combined with a major action sports park similar to the way the 3 Musketeers Park was designed.

The top 5 most important amenities to consider including as part of an Action Sports Park were lighting, shade structure, washrooms, drinking water and convenient parking.

Skatepark Facility Types

There are a variety of action sports facility sizes and accepted guidelines. These venue sizes and naming have been tailored to reflect Halton Hills and follows a hierarchy similar to our parks system (parkette, neighbourhood park, community park, destination park).

Type	Skate Spot	Neighbourhood Skatepark	Community Skatepark	Regional Skatepark
Size	Up to 300m ²	300-900m ²	900-2000m ²	2000m ² and greater
Features	-small scale features -1 terrain style -within Neighbourhood Park -serves immediate neighbourhood	-serves surrounding neighbourhood -variety of terrain style -highly visible location	-broad range of terrain styles	-all terrain styles
Skill Level	-beginner & intermediate	-something for all skill levels but primarily beginner & intermediate	-all skill levels	-all skill levels
Amenities	-along paved path -whatever is in existing park	-good visibility -on-street parking at minimum	-good visibility -parking -washrooms -shade -water/food -may include multi-purpose court	-off street parking -washrooms -spectator seating -shade -water/food -lighting -includes multi-purpose court
Town Example	Jubilee Park 194 Niagara Trail, Georgetown (200m ²)	Moldmasters (existing) 221 Guelph St., Georgetown (400m ²)	Former 3 Musketears Skatepark (1100 m ²)	3 Musketears Park 415 Queen St. East, Acton (2400m ² incl. multi court)

Refer to Appendix 1 – Consultation Boards for illustrations of the facility hierarchy.

Recommendation 2: It is recommended that the Town formalize this hierarchy of facilities as the standard for hard surface action sports parks.

Candidate Locations

A variety of locations within Georgetown were considered during this study and the main locations are outlined below. Sites were reviewed based on demographic data, site selection criteria and community consultation. Their suitability for a hard surface action sports facility is reviewed in the matrix below as well as discussed for each individual site.

CANDIDATE LOCATIONS		SIZE	SITE SELECTION CRITERIA										Recommendation	
			C - Community Skatepark N - neighbourhood skatepark S - Skate Spot	Walkable	Near Youth Population	Parking	No environmental concerns	Park harmony	Surrounding Area Harmony	Survey supported	Washrooms	Complementary Infrastructure		Water Fountain/Vending
Gellert Community Park	C	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Yes
Moldmasters Sportsplex	C	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Yes
Dominion Gardens Park	C	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	■	●	●	●	●	Yes
McNally Street Park	S	●	●	✓	●	●	?			●		●	●	Yes
Miller Drive Park	S	●	●	✓	●	●	?			●		●	●	Yes
Trafalgar Sports Park	C			●	●	●			■					No
Cedarvale Park	C	●		●					■					No
Maple Creek Park	S	●	●		●	●	?			●		●	●	Maybe

- Daytime youth population
- ✓ On street parking
- ? Consultation req'd to determine neighbourhood compatibility
- Seasonal washrooms

Refer to Appendix 3 which contains a location map of each recommended location with areas highlighted for Action Sports use.

Site Selection Criteria

The site selection criteria was established based on best practices, previous findings from the Needs Assessment Survey. Each of these items are summarized below:

- **Walkable** – location can be safely accessed by pedestrians and has supporting infrastructure (sidewalks/walkways)
- **Near Youth Population** – based on demographics location is near high densities of population that are the target user for the facility and at a distance that is walkable
- **Parking** – location has appropriate parking based on the size of facility proposed

- **No environmental concerns** – location does not conflict with areas of the natural environment that are regulated by a Conservation Authority.
- **Park Harmony** – use is compatible with existing park uses
- **Surrounding Area Harmony** – use is compatible with neighbouring properties with opportunity for adequate buffers and setbacks
- **Survey Supported** – positive feedback for location was provided through Needs Assessment online survey
- **Washrooms** – public accessible bathrooms available within close proximity
- **Complementary Infrastructure** – park has existing infrastructure to support action sports use (ex. Beside a Town building, hard surface pathways for access, shade structure)
- **Water fountain/vending** – Water and food is available on site
- **Crime Prevention Design** – location is supported by Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principals. (visibility, public traffic, lighting)

Gellert Community Park (10241 8th Line)

Gellert Community Park is geographically situated within walking/riding distance to the greatest population of youth in the community currently and forecast into the future. It has a diverse range of existing park uses and support of the Gellert Community Centre to provide washrooms, water/vending and shelter. With the recently purchased additional parkland to the south, there is opportunity for a large community sized skatepark plus two multi-purpose courts and ability for lighting. A new skatepark within the Gellert Community Park received the highest rank in the survey results. The area proposed for the skatepark would be within the newly acquired area south of the tennis courts and the state of readiness of that area could potentially impact timing for the construction of a new skatepark.

Moldmasters Sportsplex (221 Guelph St)

Moldmasters Sportsplex has an existing skatepark that was built in 1998 and is at the end of its lifecycle and has been identified as requiring replacement. These sentiments were repeated through the Needs Assessment consultation and the skatepark has also been assessed by a skateboarding consultant.

Despite its current condition, the geographic location of the Moldmasters skatepark is quite good, with excellent visibility from Guelph Street, compatibility with the municipal facility use and ability to use the building for washrooms, snack bar, shelter, access and parking. There is also minimal impact to other neighbouring uses and good companion retail uses for food, shopping or hanging out.

Moldmasters is a greater distance to walk/ride from where the greatest densities of youth in the community live but is closer to a large 'daytime' youth population with its proximity to the mall and

high schools. The available space at this location is limited but does allow for a small community sized skatepark.

Dominion Gardens Park (125 Maple Ave)

Dominion Gardens Park is geographically situated in a good location, has great visibility and has some supportive companion uses (washrooms, shelter, water, parking). The location has many established park uses that may present conflict with action sports uses. Dominion Gardens is situated in between both high schools so there is a major daytime youth population, and is within proximity to some residential areas with youth, although away from the highest youth density area. Dominion Gardens would serve a similar geographic area to Moldmasters Skate Park and has space for a community skatepark.

McNally Street Park (12 McNally Street)

McNally Street Park is a neighbourhood park situated within one of the densest populations of youth in the community. It has existing asphalt pathways, good visibility, buffers to residential and adequate space to allow for the development of a linear skate spot consisting of a few features directed to serve the immediate neighbourhood.

Miller Drive Park (87 Miller Drive)

Miller Drive Park is a neighbourhood park situated in Georgetown South within walking/riding distance of a large youth population. The park has existing asphalt pathways, good visibility, buffers to residential, St. Brigid Catholic Elementary School and adequate space to allow for the development of a skate spot. It is in close proximity to Gellert, but as a skate spot, would serve beginner users and the goal for it would be to cater to the immediate neighbourhood.

Trafalgar Sports Park (11494 Trafalgar Road)

Trafalgar Sports Park is situated away from the youth population and is not reasonably accessible without a car. There is a lack of permanent amenities (washrooms, water) so this location is less desirable for an action sports park. Trafalgar Sports Park could be a good location for a soft surface bike park because of terrain, space and availability of material and should be further considered in the future.

Cedarvale Park (181-185 Main Street South)

Cedarvale Park is situated in a good geographic area for riding/walking, but has many constraints for the development of a new action sports use. There are environmental regulations including proximity to endangered species which places great restrictions on the type of development that can take place. There is also very limited space within the park because of the existing soccer, playground and picnic uses. Because of Halton Region's Water Treatment Plant and Well field, there are also significant constraints due to easements and infrastructure that limit the size and constructability of a skatepark. The maximum size would be a neighbourhood skatepark. Visibility of the park from major roads and outside the park would not be possible and as such is not a suitable location from a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design perspective.

Maple Creek Park (14 Watson Road)

Maple Creek Park is a neighbourhood park within Georgetown South that is within a zone with medium density of youth and likely to increase in the future especially with the expansion of the new subdivision to the south. It has existing asphalt pathways and could be suitable for locating a skate spot. Based on its proximity to Jubilee Park and being near the edge of the Georgetown Urban Boundary, this park is not recommended for action sports development at this time.

Other Neighbourhood Parks

Additional neighbourhood parks within Georgetown (Emmerson Park, Berton Blvd. Park, Meadowglen Park, Barber Dr. Park) were reviewed but not considered further because of geographic area, lack of supporting park infrastructure and/or available space within the park.

Future Development Sites

With the anticipated development of the Vision Georgetown lands, it is expected that the demographic of residents in that area will be similar to that of the existing Georgetown South area. Action Sports Facilities should be strongly considered and implemented where reasonable within new park sites in that development.

The draft land use plan for Vision Georgetown includes a community park, which would be appropriate for a larger Neighbourhood or Community skatepark. There are also a network of neighbourhood parks and parkettes that could accommodate skate spots and multi-courts.

Implementation Recommendations

Through the findings of this study and community consultation, the following strategy is proposed:

Focus on hard surface parks due to the demonstrated shortage, condition of existing Moldmasters skatepark and user demand. Soft surface biking facilities are a lower priority and would be a new service that should be considered in the future.

Staff are recommending to meet service standards and public demand by implementation of the following action sports facilities within Georgetown:

Short Term Recommendations (next 5 years)

Recommendation	Priority	Scope	Cost <small>(in 2017 dollars)</small>
Construct Gellert skatepark	1	community skatepark (1600m ²) and 2 full size multi courts (1260m ²) design 2017, construct 2018	\$800,000
Determine Strategy to construct additional skatepark Replace Moldmasters skatepark or construct new Dominion Gardens	2	community skatepark (900-1000 m ²) consultation 2018, design & construction 2019	\$550,000- \$600,000
McNally St. Park skate spot	3	skate spot (200m ²) design in 2018, construct 2020	\$75,000
Miller Dr. Park skate spot	4	skate spot (200m ²) design in 2018, construct 2021	\$75,000

This build out strategy provides a short term oversupply, but makes best financial sense. It is not recommended to try and build a half skatepark or phase based on the economy of scale for skatepark construction, demonstrated need and survey results that point to community sized skate parks being adequately distributed throughout the Town. It is recommended to proceed with the highest priority recommendation, construct a skatepark and multi-purpose courts at Gellert Community Park as soon as the design and consultation process allows. Once constructed, ideally by 2018, further review can be completed to determine a suitable location for a second skate park. The existing Moldmasters skatepark and temporary park can bridge the gap in service for another year or two but cannot be counted on for any longer term filling of demand.

Medium Term Recommendations (5-10 years)

In the 2022-2027 timeframe, further review of soft surface biking trails and facilities within Georgetown should take place, including reviewing the feasibility at candidate sites. Skate spots and half basketball courts should be implemented where appropriate within new parks in Vision Georgetown. It is anticipated that there will be a significant youth population living within that area once the subdivisions are developed. The budget forecast for these longer term items will be incorporated into the Capital Budget forecast once plans around Vision Georgetown are finalized.

Recommendation	Scope	Cost <small>(in 2017 dollars)</small>
Review Soft Surface Biking trails/facilities	Staff review of candidate sites and monitoring of community need	Nil (staff time)
Implement Skate Spots in Vision Georgetown parks	Consider skate spots within Vision Georgetown Parks and implement where appropriate.	\$75,000 per skate spot
Implement half courts in Vision Georgetown parks	Consider basketball half courts within Vision Georgetown Parks and implement where appropriate.	\$20,000 per half court

Long Term Recommendations (10+ years)

Review and confirm demand for creation of a soft surface bike park (potentially at Trafalgar Sports Park) to ensure that service standards are being met. Plan for the design and construction of any new facilities required. Implement a third skatepark prior to 2031 either within the Vision Georgetown Community Park, or at another site to be determined at a later date.

Recommendation	Scope	Cost <small>(in 2017 dollars)</small>
Soft Surface Bike Park at Trafalgar Sports Park	Review and confirm demand for creation of a soft surface bike park at Trafalgar Sports Park (or other site TBD)	\$500,000
Continue to Implement Skate Spots at new Vision Georgetown parks	Consider skate spots within Vision Georgetown Parks and implement where appropriate.	\$75,000 per skate spot
Continue to Implement half courts at Vision Georgetown parks	Consider basketball half courts within Vision Georgetown Parks and implement where appropriate.	\$20,000 per half court
Implement new Community Skatepark	Review and implement new Community Skatepark within new community park in Vision Georgetown or other suitable area within Halton Hills	\$750,000

The following charts demonstrate the level of service achieved as compared to the Service Level Standards, based on the short, medium and long term recommendations.

Service Provision Summary (Skateparks)

Year	Service Standard Required	Service Standard Provided	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Facilities (Neighbourhood and Community Skateparks only)
2017	1.6	0.5	(1.1)	Moldmasters Skatepark
2021	1.5	2	0.5	NEW Gellert Skatepark NEW Community Skatepark (Moldmasters or Dominion Gardens)
2031	3.0	3	0	NEW Gellert Skatepark NEW Community Skatepark (Moldmasters or Dominion Gardens) NEW Skatepark (Vision Georgetown or TBD)

Service Provision Summary (Multi Purpose Courts)

Year	Service Standard Required	Service Standard Provided	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Facilities
2017	3.6	3* (6 half courts)	(0.6)	Halfcourts at: Barber Drive Park Danby Road Park Meadowglen Blvd Park Barber Mill Park Ainley Trail Parkette Hidden Lake Parkette
2021	3.6	5 (6 half courts + 2 full courts)	1.4	Above halfcourts plus: 2 Full Courts at Gellert
2031	6.7	7 (8 half courts + 3 full courts)	0.3	Above facilities plus: 1 Full Court at Vision Georgetown Community Park Min. 2 half courts at Vision Georgetown Parks/Parkettes

*Note that the service standard does not distinguish between half courts and full courts. Currently there are no full sized outdoor basketball courts in Georgetown.

Programming

Based on constructing more quality skateparks within Georgetown of substantial size, there will be increased opportunities for existing Town programming (Epic Sports Summer Camp) and potential for expanded and additional programming offerings. Through the findings of the study we have also seen that there is a high demand for programming and events to be planned at Action Sports Facilities.

Funding

Funding is required by the Town to implement these new parks and has already been identified within the capital budget forecast.

Now that a tangible site has been identified (Gellert Community Park) for action sports park construction, there may be opportunities to work in partnership with community groups to fundraise to assist in offsetting the Towns capital cost or to provide additional value added features.

Staff will also work to identify grant opportunities to reduce the requirement for Town funds.

Operating Costs

Operating costs have to be factored into the overall ongoing costs of providing the service. The current yearly cost to operate a skatepark is \$2000 each (based on costs from existing practices at 3 Musketears Park and Moldmasters). The Towns existing skateparks have also benefitted from being in close proximity to a Town facility in order to provide general surveillance and the ability to provide daily inspection for garbage and vandalism.

Temporary Skatepark Equipment

The Town has been able to utilize the portable skatepark equipment to partially fill the gap in demand for a few years now. The equipment was set-up at 3 Musketears Skatepark in Acton for 2014 & 2015 and for 2016 at Moldmasters. When in its optimal arrangement, the equipment provides a skatepark with a size of approximately 500 square metres. This equipment should be considered temporary and does have a finite lifespan. While it has provided a minimum level of service to meet temporary needs, the equipment is not recommended for permanent installation. It requires higher maintenance (assembled metal pieces with bolts, etc.), inspection, and is not a preferred material type for permanent skateboard park installations. It is recommended that this equipment continue to be installed seasonally at Moldmasters until the construction of another skatepark (in addition to Gellert) is complete. Once complete, the condition of the temporary skatepark should be evaluated to determine what to do with it next. Possible options could include installation at a different Georgetown Site with suitable hard surface (either existing or new required) or considering the equipment surplus.

Next Steps

In anticipation of the recommendations of this study, capital funding and staff time has been allocated in 2017 to retain a consultant to assist with detailed design and public consultation for design of the Gellert Skatepark (highest ranked priority) in order that it can be on schedule for construction in 2018. Detailed design of the park will also inform the required 2018 budget request for capital construction and operating funds. Town staff will continue to monitor and implement other recommendations, and incorporate any future construction projects into the Town's annual Capital Budget and Forecast.

Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

Project Background

June 2016



Purpose of Study:

The purpose of this study is to confirm needs for new action sports opportunities in Georgetown, and develop prioritized implementation strategy. A focus of this project will be to specifically review hard-surface action sports parks (i.e. Skate Parks).

Objectives:

- To identify the best opportunities to improve action sports in Georgetown to continue serve youth, young adults and children, and active families by providing non-structured opportunities for active recreation.
- To confirm the need for additional action sports facilities in Georgetown while integrating with the other Recreational Facilities and Recreational Programs in Georgetown.
- To advance and confirm the objectives of the Strategic Action Plan and Youth Needs Assessment regarding Skateparks/Action Sports
- To identify the highest priorities for implementation in the short, mid and long-term.
- To provide a framework to engage local community groups or residents to raise funds through a Joint Capital Initiative

Desired Outcome:

To provide clarity in the desired next steps to improve action sports in Georgetown, and define a priority and implementation strategy.

What do Other Town Documents say about Action Sports:

Recreation and Parks Strategic Action Plan:

- The Town should expand Mold-Master's Skatepark
- The Town should add smaller scale skate elements (skate zones) into new parks or those undergoing renewal

Youth Needs Study:

- The Town should expand Mold-Master's Skatepark
- The Town should consider constructing a new skatepark at Gellert Community Centre

Trafalgar Sports Park Master Plan Update

- Provides a "Youth Focused" Area for Action Sports

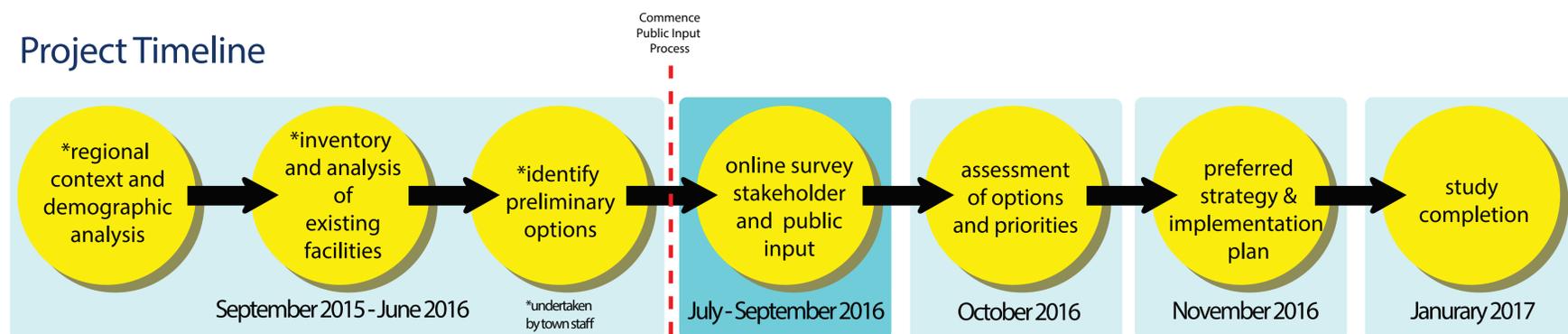
Hungry Hollow Management Plan

- Prohibits off trail BMX/Mountain Bike trails/activities in Hungry Hollow Ravine
- Cycling on the constructed manicured trails is allowed

Parks By-Law 2013-0062

- Skateboarding, BMX/Biking, Rollerblading are allowed in parks, unless specifically prohibited in a specific area by regulatory signage

Project Timeline



Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

Action Sports

June 2016



What Action Sports are we looking at in this study?



BMX/Mountain Bike Track (soft surface)



Hard Surface BMX



Inline Skating



BMX/Mountain Bike Trails



Skateboarding & Longboarding



Multi-Sport Courts



Scootering



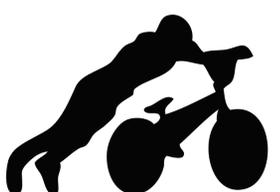
Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

An (incomplete) History of Action Sports in Halton Hills

June 2016



Please help us fill in anything we have missed.



Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

Regional Context

June 2016



3 Musketeers Park
Halton Hills (Acton)



Milton Skatepark
& BMX Park



Track 2000
BMX Course
(Milton)



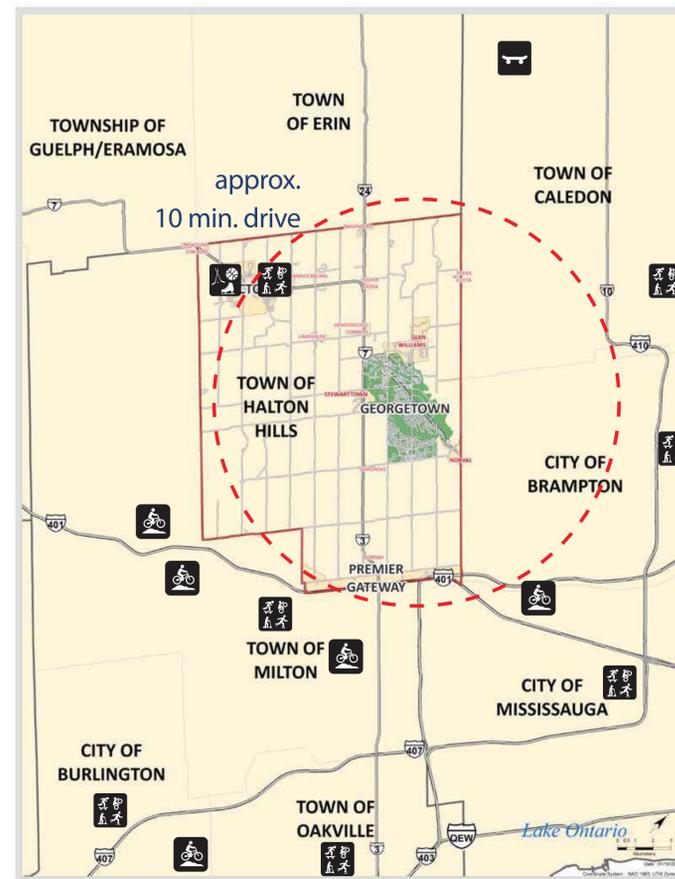
Norton Skatepark
Burlington



Shell Skatepark
Oakville



Hilton Falls & Kelso Conservation Areas
Mountain Biking trails and skills building course



Legend

- BMX/Mountain Bike Park/Trails (soft)
- Full Multi-Purpose Court
- Action Sports Park (Destination)
- Action Park (Local)



Erin Skatepark



Town of Caledon Skatepark (Bolton)



Chingacousy Park Skatepark
Brampton



Iceland Skatepark (and sports courts)
Mississauga



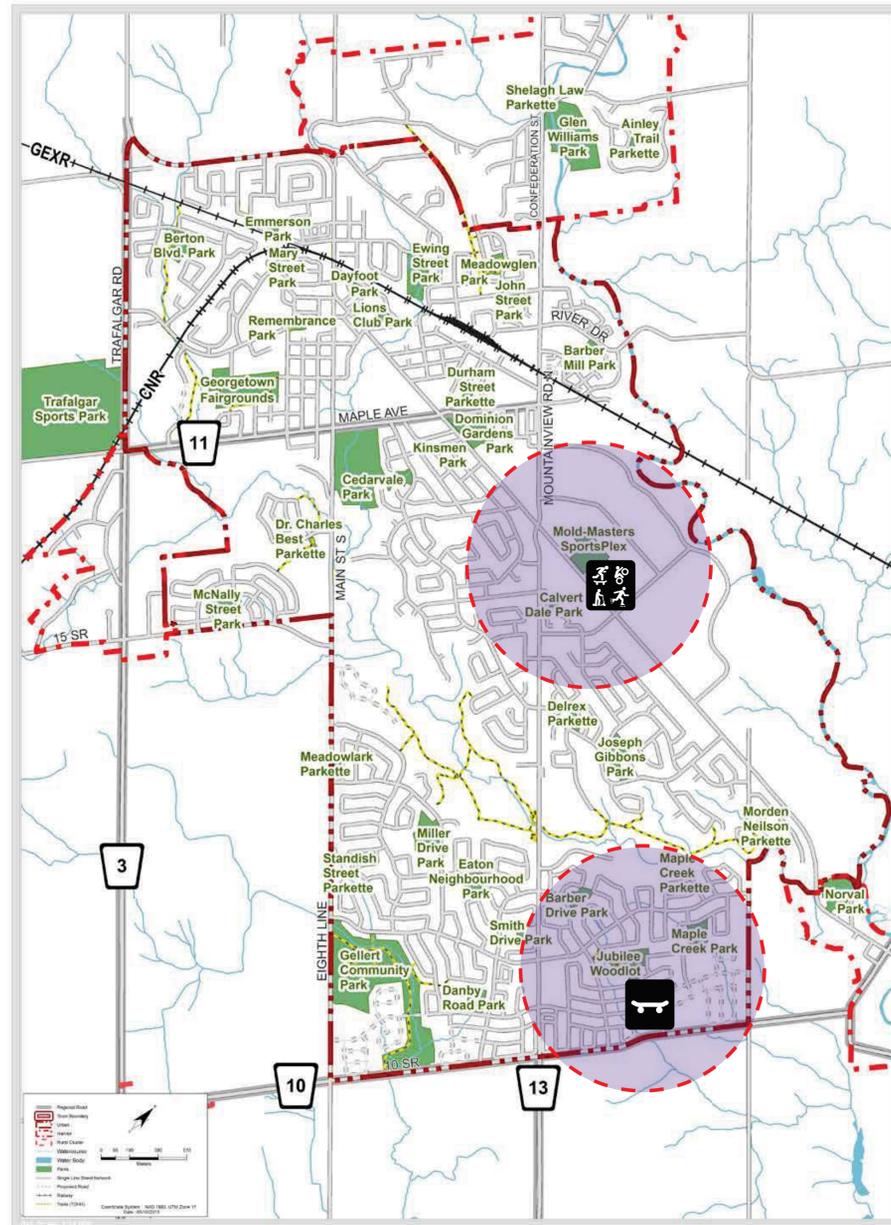
Shell Skatepark
Oakville



Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

Existing Action Sports Facilities

June 2016



Legend

-  BMX/Mountain Bike Park/Trail (soft)
-  Action Sports Park
-  Full Multi-Purpose Court
-  Neighbourhood Skateable Features
-  800m (approx. 5 min. "wheeling" distance) (from a hard surface action sports park/features)



Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

Existing Action Sports Facilities

June 2016



Mold-Master's Skatepark



Jubilee Park Skateable Elements



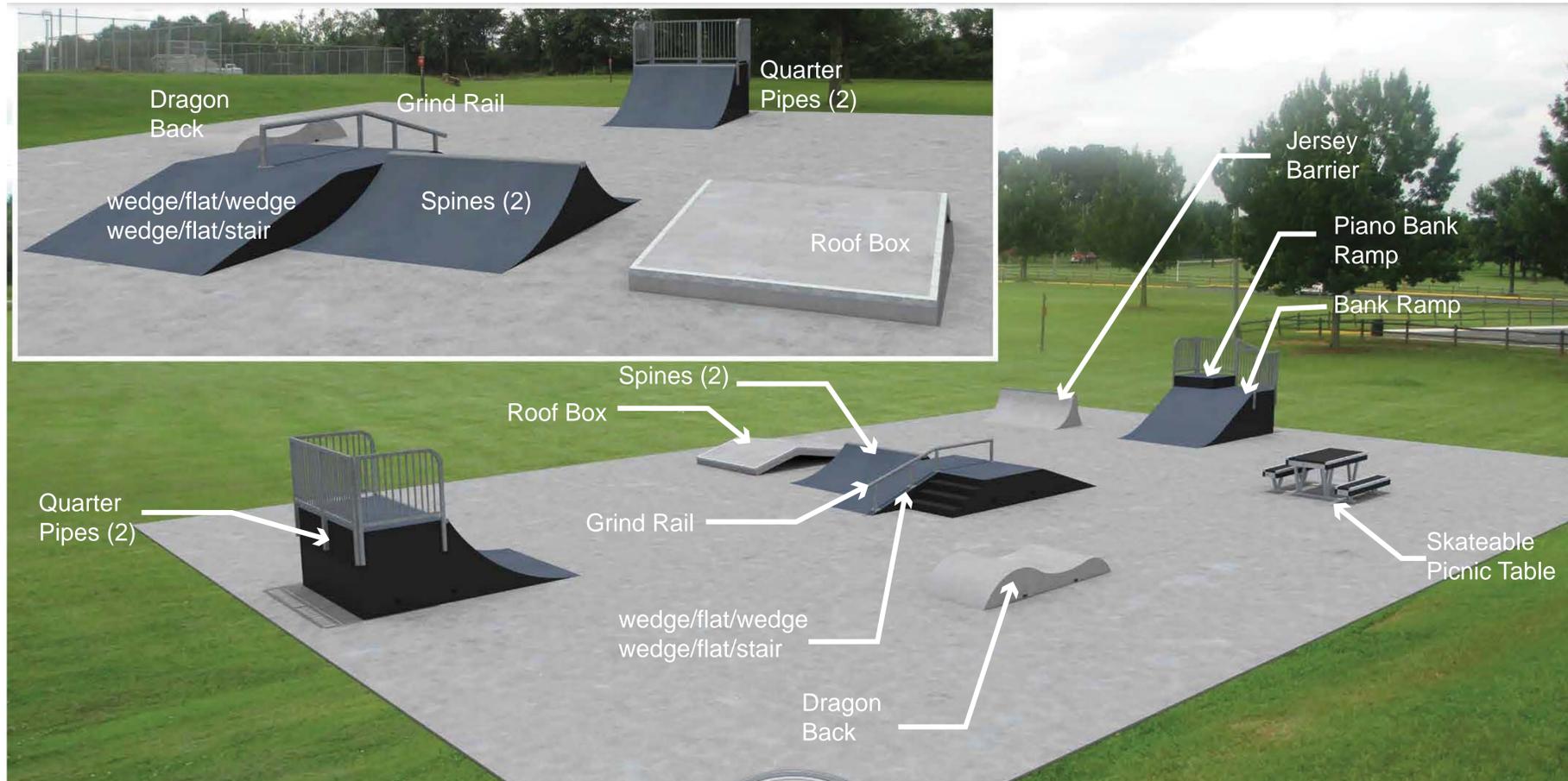
FOR REVIEW
Recreation
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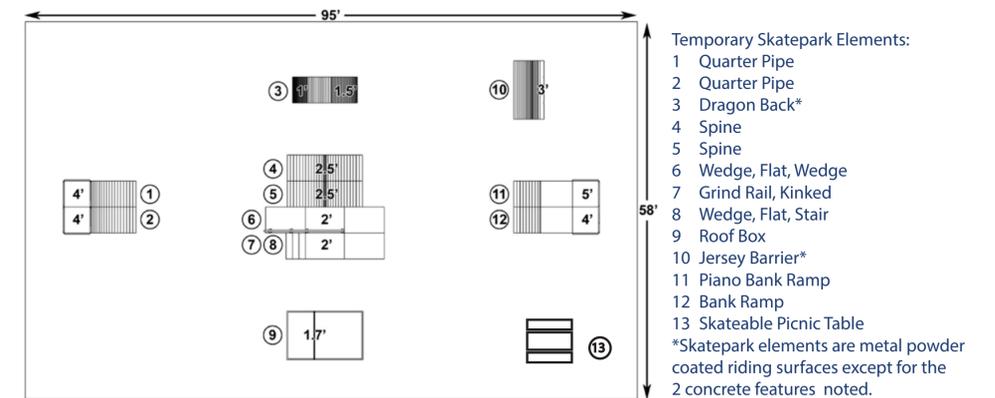
Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

Portable Skatepark Equipment

June 2016



Rendering of Portable Skate Park



Portable Skate Park Installed at Mohr-Master's



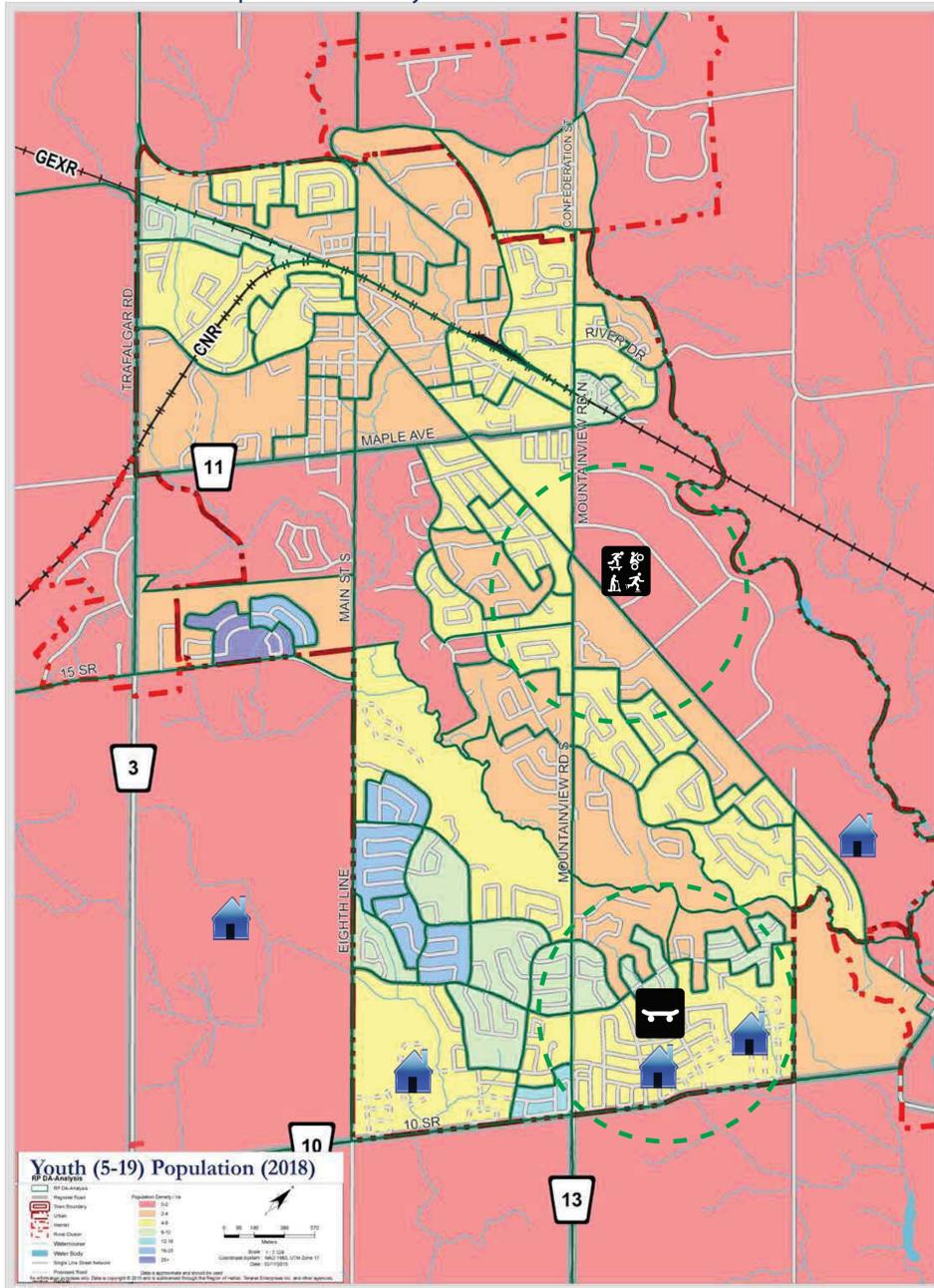
Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

Demographic Information and Facility Provision Standards

June 2016



2018 Youth 5-19 Population Density



Current Population

Town of Halton Hills

	2014 Forecasted Population	2021 Forecasted Population	2031 Forecasted Population
5-9	3993	3530	5713
10-14	3917	3603	4961
15-19	4211	4442	5578

Georgetown (Estimated at 2/3 total population)

	2014 Forecasted Population	2021 Forecasted Population	2031 Forecasted Population
5-9	2662	2353	3808
10-14	2611	2402	3307
15-19	2807	2961	3719

Source: Region of Halton Best Planning Estimates

Existing Skatepark/Multi Courts Supply	
Moldmasters Skatepark	400 s.m. skatepark
Jubilee Park Skateable Elements	190 s.m.
Full Court Equivalents	2.5*

*Current supply is 5 half courts at various parks in Georgetown

Legend

- BMX/Mountain Bike Park (soft)
- Action Sports Park
- Full Multi-Purpose Court
- Neighbourhood Skateable Features
- 800m (approx. 5 min "wheeling" distance)
- New / Future Residential Development (not included in demographic information)

Skatepark Adoption Model: 1,000 s.m. of skatepark per 25,000 total population

	2014	2021	2031
Georgetown Total Population	40,588	44,115	61,257
Skatepark Area Required	1,600	1,760	2,450

Population Estimates Source: Region of Halton Best Planning Estimates at 2/3 overall Halton Hills Population 1,000 s.m. is approximately the size of a major skatepark (i.e. 3 Musketeers Skatepark)

Recommended* Provision Standard:

1 Major Skatepark per 5,000 youth age 5-19

	2014	2021	2031
Youth 5-19 Population	8,080	7,716	10,834
Skateparks Required	1.6	1.5	2.2

*Current Provision Standard of 1 skatepark per 5,000 youth age 10-19 is recommended to be changed due to review of Park Users from Jubilee Park, which showed many younger kids also using skateboards, scooters and bikes on skateable features. This is consistent with other recent skatepark studies done.
Population Estimates Source: Region of Halton Best Planning Estimates

Provision Standard: 1 Full Court per 1,500 youth age 10-19

	2014	2021	2031
Youth 10-19 Population	5,418	5,363	7,026
Full Courts Required	3.6	3.6	4.7

Population Estimates Source: Region of Halton Best Planning Estimates

Vision Georgetown Requirements	
Skatepark Adoption Model	800 s.m. skateparks
Recommended Provision Standard	0.8 skateparks
Full-Court Equivalents	2

Source: Vision Georgetown Recreational Facility Needs Assessment

NOTE:
1 large skatepark = +/-1,000 s.m.

NOTE:
THERE ARE NO SPECIFIC TOWN PROVISION STANDARDS FOR BMX/MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS OR PARKS.



Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

Action Sport Facility Types: Hard Surface Facilities

June 2016



Neighbourhood Action Sports Spot:

Size: up to 200 s.m.

Service Area: 800m

Description:

- a small zone in a local park or along a paved pathway that includes 3-5 smaller features
- primarily intended for the local neighbourhood
- only standard park amenities
- no designated off-street parking
- skill level: beginner to intermediate



Neighbourhood Action Sports Park:

Size: 200-900 s.m.

Service Area: 1.5-2.5km

Description:

- larger park serving a number of neighbourhoods
- size varies depending on distribution throughout Town
- may include upgraded amenities (i.e. shade)
- may include designated off-street parking (depending on size)
- skill level: beginner to advanced



Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

Action Sports Types: Hard Surface Facilities

June 2016



Community Wide Action Sports Park:
Size: 900-2,000 s.m.
Service Area: 5km
Description:
- large facility to attract users from the whole service area
- includes upgraded amenities such as shade, washrooms, etc.
- includes designated off-street parking
- skill level: beginner to advanced
- may include multi-purpose feature and court

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Regional Action Sports Park:
Size: 2000+ s.m.
Service Area: beyond 10km
Description:
- large facility expected to attract users from beyond the service area, including out of Town
- includes upgraded amenities such as shade, washrooms, etc.
- includes designated off-street parking
- skill level: beginner to advanced
- includes multi-purpose features and court



Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

Action Sports Facility Types: BMX / Mountain Bike

June 2016



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Constructed Bike Stunt/Skills Parks



Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

Action Sports Facility Types: BMX / Mountain Bike

June 2016



Full Dirt Bike Racing Track



Dirt/Artificial Pump Tracks



Designated Off-Road Bike Trails



Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

Action Sport Facility Types: Multi-Sport Courts

June 2016



Mixed Full and Half Courts



Full Sized Court (floodable for winter ice skating)



Multiple Full Size Courts with Half Courts



Back to Back Half Courts



Georgetown Skate Park & Action Sports Needs Assessment

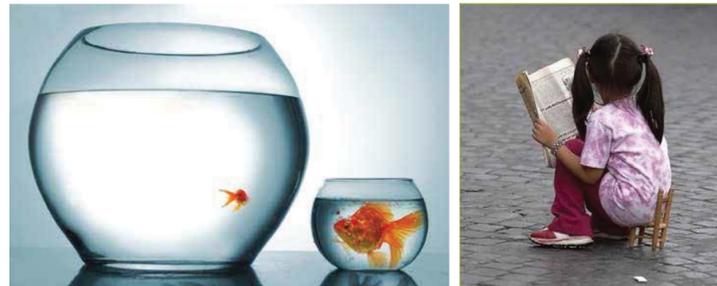
Draft Site Selection Criteria

June 2016



Scale of Facility:

The scale of the facility proposed is appropriate for the location.



Community and Stakeholder Support:

There is support both with the surrounding community and from the specific users of the proposed facility. Community projects supported with financial donations or in-kind support may give a project priority.



Geographic and Demographic Location:

The location offers the appropriate geography and topography for the proposed use. The demographic makeup of the area will be supportive of an action sports facility.



Supporting Infrastructure:

The site is in proximity to other amenities including pathways, shade, shelters, seating, washrooms and parking.



Community and Park Harmony:

The action sport will be compatible with the surrounding community, neighbourhood, and other park uses and overall character. Any impacts can be mitigated (i.e. setbacks, buffers).



Access and Security:

The site is highly visible from the street. The principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) will be considered to assess each site, and address any site specific risks. Facilities should be designed to be highly visible providing connections to/from existing streets, and to public spaces/pathways in the surrounding park.

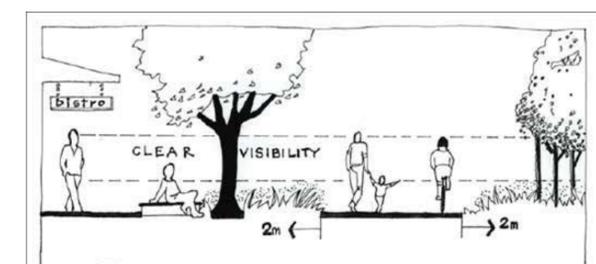
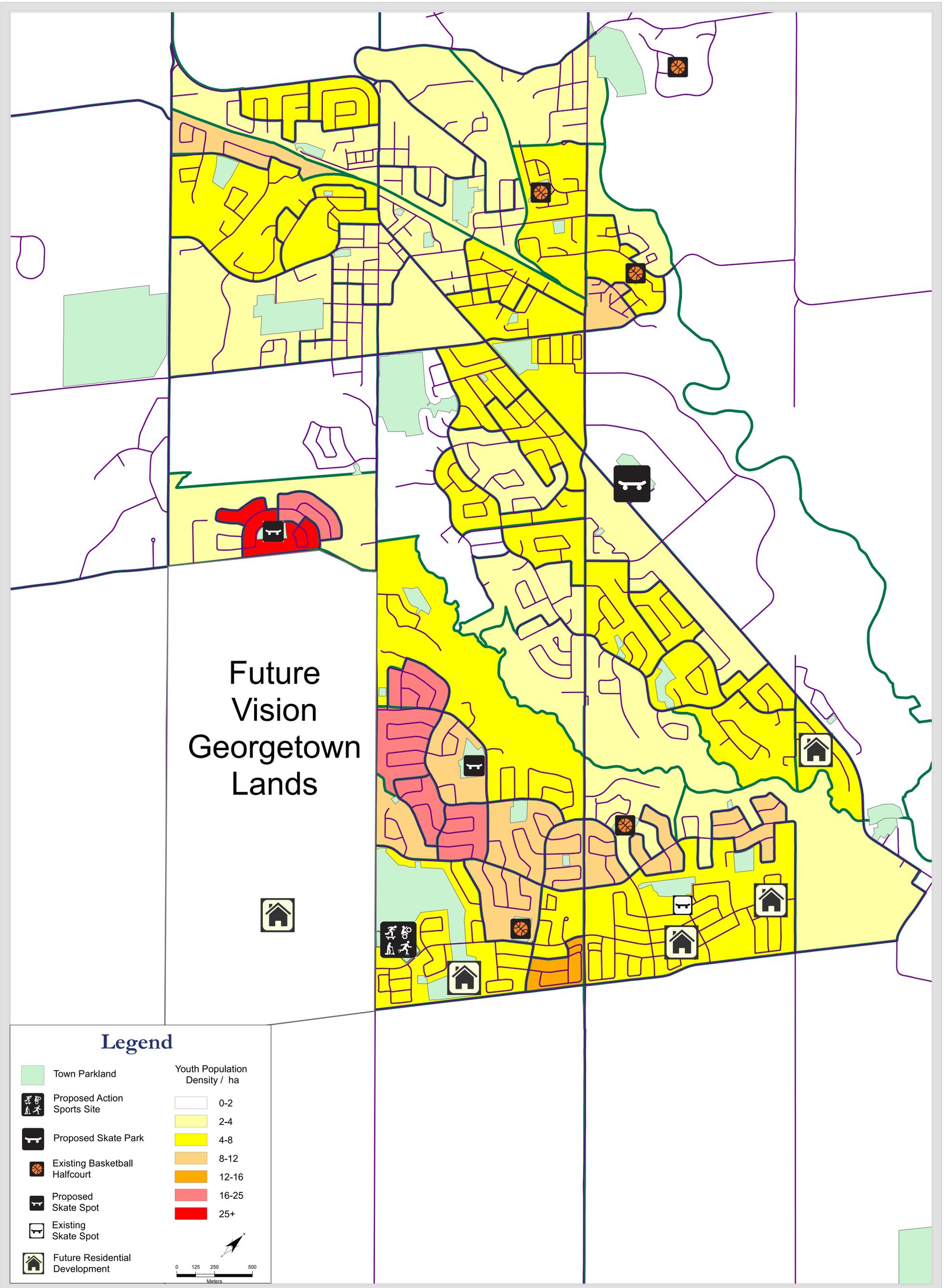


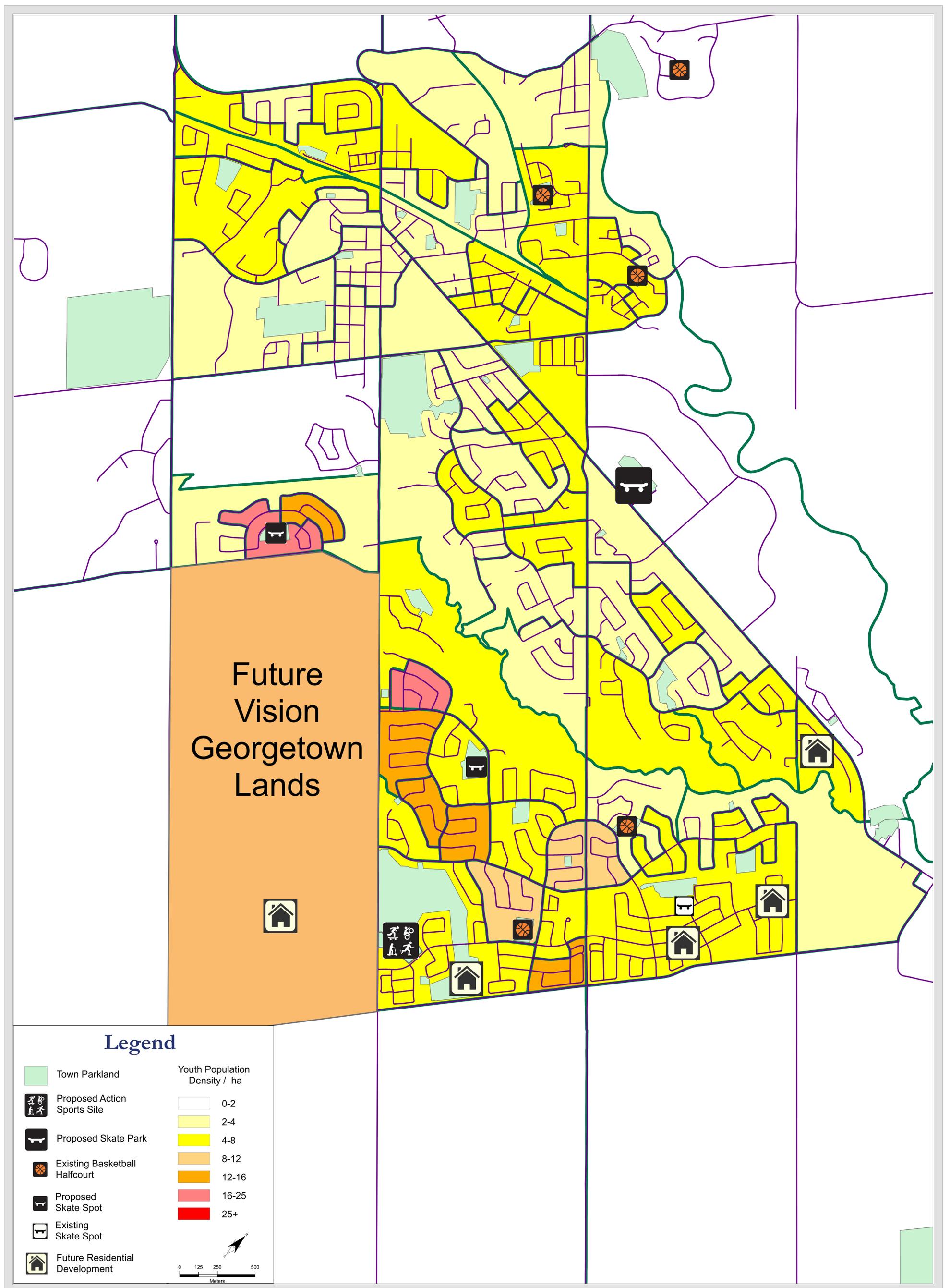
Figure 3. Vegetation should not obscure sight lines and movement



POPULATION DENSITY IN GEORGETOWN AGES 5-19 (2018)



POPULATION DENSITY IN GEORGETOWN AGES 5-19 (2025)

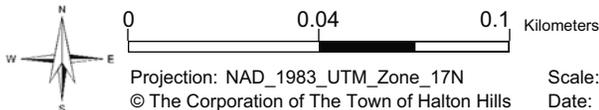


Gellert Community Park



- Legend**
- + Railway
 - Street
 - Parcel, Ownership

- Notes**
- Community Skatepark
 - 2 Full sized Multi-purpose courts



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Moldmasters Sportsplex

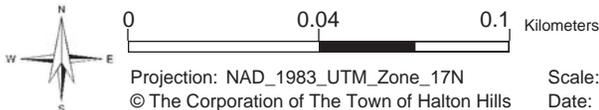


Legend

- + Railway
- Street
- Parcel, Ownership

Notes

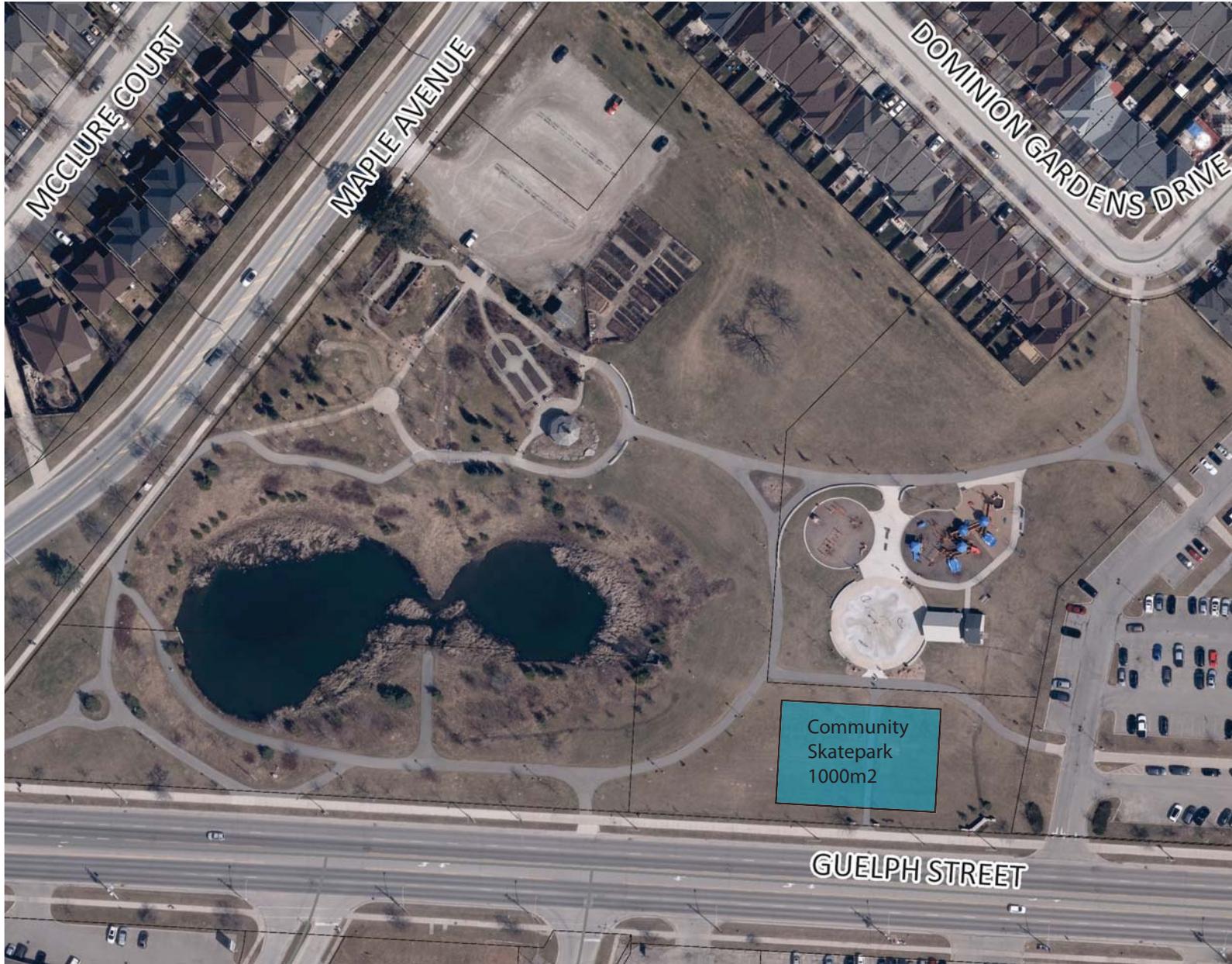
Community Skatepark



Scale: 1: 1,500
Date: 1/30/2017

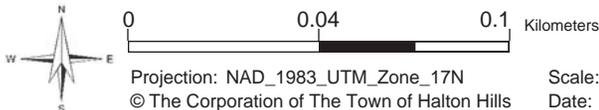
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Dominion Gardens Park



- Legend**
- + Railway
 - Street
 - Parcel, Ownership

Notes
Community Skatepark



Scale: 1: 1,500
 Date: 1/30/2017

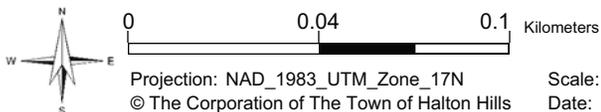
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McNally Street Park



- Legend**
- + Railway
 - Street
 - Parcel, Ownership

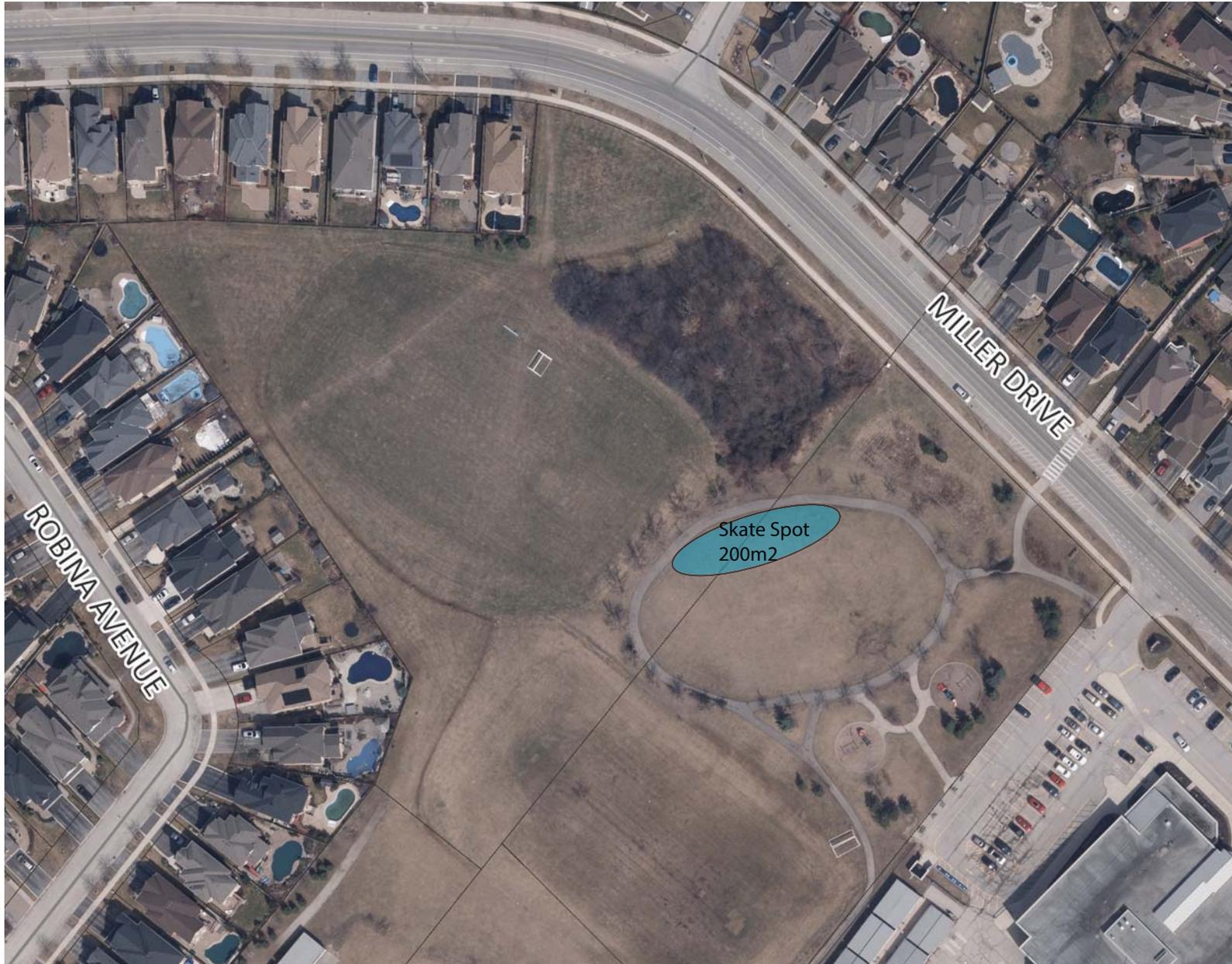
Notes
Skate spot



Scale: 1: 1,500
 Date: 1/30/2017

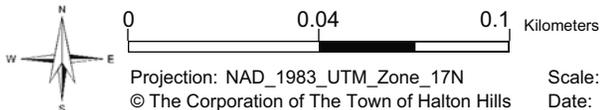
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Miller Drive Park



- Legend**
- + Railway
 - Street
 - Parcel, Ownership

Notes
Skate spot



Scale: 1: 1,500
 Date: 1/30/2017

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