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urban  
Metrics

# WHITE CHURCH URBAN BOUNDARY EXPANSION AREA

## Recreation Needs Assessment

City of Hamilton, Ontario

Prepared for Whitechurch Landowners Group

February 3, 2025



This document is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting:  
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February 3, 2025

Whitechurch Landowners Group Inc.  
7501 Keel Street, Suite 200  
Vaughan, Ontario L4K 1Y2

Dear Whitechurch Landowners:

**RE: White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area – Recreation Needs Assessment (City of Hamilton, Ontario)**

urbanMetrics inc. is pleased to submit this Recreation Needs Analysis in support of the proposed expansion of the City of Hamilton Urban Boundary which will include a 364 hectare parcel of land (the “subject lands”). These lands are bounded by Upper James Street, Miles Road, Airport Road East and White Church Road East. These lands are being planned as a new low density and medium density residential built forms, along with parks, schools, green space, and commercial space.

As part of the submission requirements, the City of Hamilton requires a recreation needs assessment to evaluate the need for recreation facilities as the area’s population grows.

Our study has concluded that there is sufficient capacity for a suitable range of recreational facilities to meet the needs of the area’s residents during and up to 2051.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. R. Annand".

Mr. Douglas R. Annand, PLE  
Partner,  
urbanMetrics Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Bailey".

Mr. Daniel Bailey  
Project Manager,  
urbanMetrics Inc.

# Contents

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>1</b>
1.1	Purpose .....	2
1.2	Concept Plan .....	2
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Policy Context</b> .....	<b>4</b>
2.1	Urban Hamilton Official Plan (UHOP).....	5
2.2	City of Hamilton Recreation Master Plan (2022) .....	5
<b>3.0</b>	<b>White Church Urban Expansion Area Demographic Analysis</b> .....	<b>7</b>
3.1	Population .....	8
3.2	Age Structure.....	9
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Recreation Facility Demand</b> .....	<b>10</b>
4.1	Recreation Service Standards .....	11
4.2	White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area Facilities Needed.....	12
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Gap Analysis</b> .....	<b>13</b>
5.1	Per-Capita Service Standard Facilities.....	17
	Community Recreation Centres (CRC).....	17
	Indoor Pools .....	18
	Outdoor Pools.....	19
	Gymnasiums .....	20
	Ice Pads.....	21
	Neighbourhood Parks .....	22
	Community Parks .....	24
	City-Wide Parks .....	25
	Soccer and Multi-Use Fields .....	26
	Baseball Diamonds.....	27
	Cricket Fields.....	28
	Outdoor Fitness Stations .....	29
	Tennis Courts .....	30

Basketball and Multi-Use Courts .....	31
Skateboard Parks.....	32
Leash Free Dog Areas.....	33
<b>5.2 Service Radius Only Service Standard Facilities .....</b>	<b>33</b>
Outdoor Ice Rinks and Skating Trails .....	33
Seniors Recreation Spaces.....	33
Playgrounds.....	34
Pickleball Courts .....	36
Spray Pads .....	37
<b>6.0 Conclusions .....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Appendix A Recreation Master Plan Summary Tables .....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Appendix B Recreation Needs Assessment Table .....</b>	<b>44</b>

# Figures

Figure 1-1: White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area Concept Plan.....	3
Figure 2-1: Urban Hamilton Official Plan Table 3.5.3.1 - Parkland Standards.....	5
Figure 3-1: Study Area Population Estimate .....	8
Figure 3-2: Study Area and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area Projected Age Structures (2031, 2036, 2042) .....	9
Figure 4-1: City of Hamilton Parks and Recreation Facilities Service Standards .....	11
Figure 4-2: Population Related Service Standard.....	12
Figure 5-1: Study Area Parks and Current and Suggested Recreation Facilities .....	15
Figure 5-2: Recreation Facility Location Summary .....	16
Figure 5-3: Existing and Potential Community Recreation Centres (CRC) Locations and Service Radii .....	18
Figure 5-4: Potential Indoor Pool Location and Service Radius.....	19
Figure 5-5: Current Outdoor Pool Service Radii.....	20
Figure 5-6: Potential Gymnasium Locations.....	21
Figure 5-7: Current Arena Locations and Service Radius .....	22
Figure 5-8: Current and Planned Neighbourhood Park Locations and Service Radius .....	23
Figure 5-9: Current and Planned Community Park Locations and Service Radius..	24
Figure 5-10: Current and Planned City-Wide Park Locations .....	25
Figure 5-11: Current and Suggested Soccer and Multi-use Field Locations.....	27
Figure 5-12: Current and Suggested Baseball Diamond Locations.....	28
Figure 5-13: Current and Suggested Outdoor Fitness Station Locations.....	29
Figure 5-14: Current and Suggested Tennis Court Locations and Service Area Radii .....	30
Figure 5-15: Current and Suggested Basketball and Multi-use Court Locations and Service Area Radii .....	31
Figure 5-16: Current Skateboard Park Locations and Service Area Radii.....	32
Figure 5-17: Suggested Seniors Recreation Spaces Location and Service Area Radius .....	34
Figure 5-18: Existing and Suggested Playground Locations 500 Metre Service Radii .....	35
Figure 5-19: Existing and Suggested Playground Locations 800 Metre Service Radii .....	36
Figure 5-20: Suggested Pickleball Court Location and Service Radius.....	37
Figure 5-21: Current and Suggested Spray Pad Locations and Service Radii.....	38

# 1.0 Introduction

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## 1.1 Purpose

urbanMetrics inc. (“urbanMetrics”) has been retained by the Whitechurch Landowners Group Inc. (the “Landowners Group”) to prepare a Recreational Needs Assessment for the White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area (“the “subject lands”) area in the City of Hamilton, Ontario (the “City”). This assessment is intended to evaluate the existing recreational facilities, identify gaps in services, and recommend the location of facilities needed to meet the demands of future population growth (up to 2051) within the Study Area.

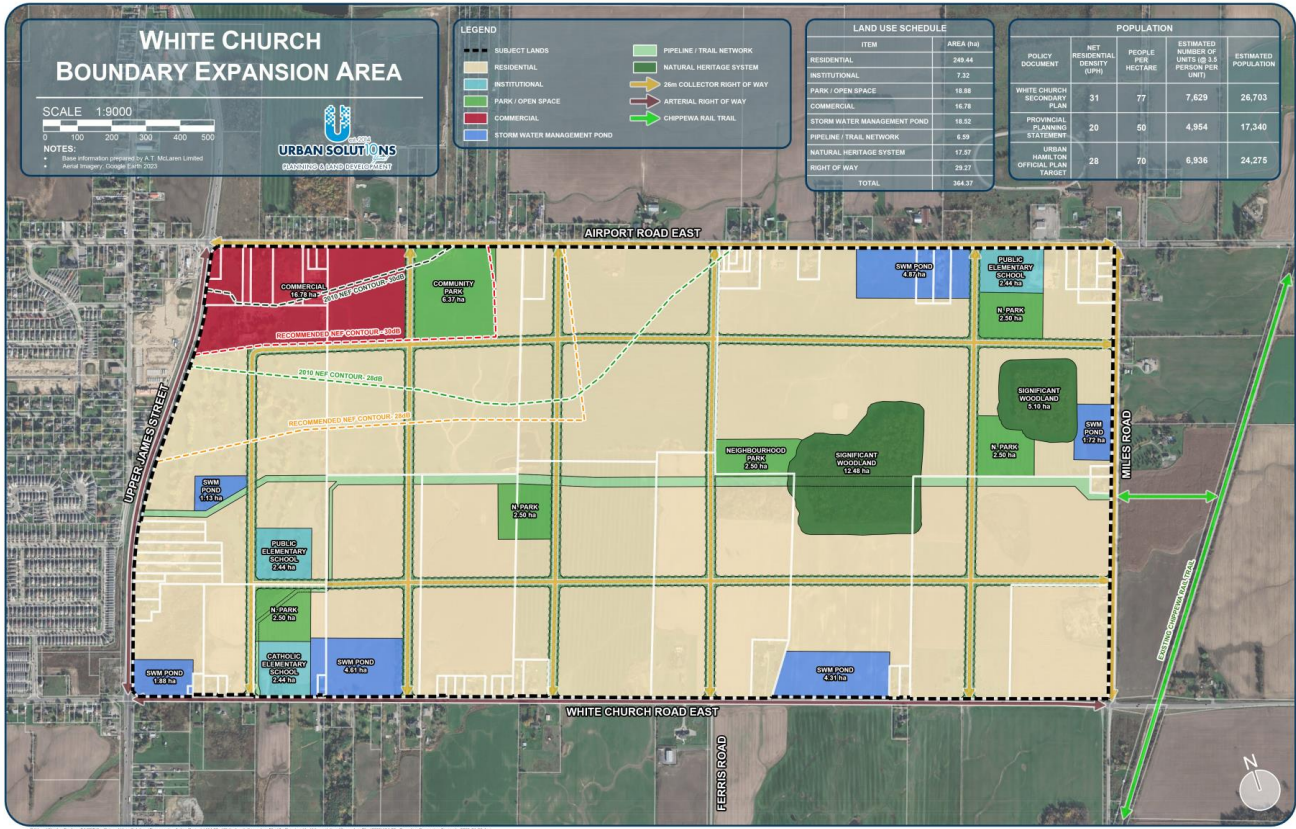
## 1.2 Concept Plan

Based on a preliminary draft land use plan provided by UrbanSolutions Planning & Land Development Consultants Inc. (“UrbanSolutions”) in October 2024 (see Figure 1-1), the White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area will be comprised of approximately 364.37 hectares of land. This plan includes 249.44 hectares of primarily low density (detached and semi-detached) and medium density (townhouse) residential development and designates 16.78 hectares of land for Commercial uses.

The estimated population of the White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area, will be approximately 26,700 persons, and with a blended persons per unit (PPU) factor of 3.5, will have approximately 7,629 dwelling units. This yields a density of approximately 77 people per hectare, excluding natural areas.



Figure 1-1: White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area Concept Plan



SOURCE: UrbanSolutions, dated January 8, 2025.

## 2.0 Policy Context

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## 2.1 Urban Hamilton Official Plan (UHOP)

The Urban Hamilton Official Plan identifies provision rates and minimum service radii for all three levels of parks in Hamilton (Neighbourhood, Community, and City-Wide Parks). As shown in Figure 2-1 there are three levels of parks that have a provision rate of 0.7 hectares per 1,000 residents, with neighbourhood parks having a service radius of 500 metres, community parks a service radius of 2 kilometres, and City Wide parks having no service radius. These standards are reflected in the role of each park as described in the 2023 Hamilton Parks Master Plan.

Figure 2-1: Urban Hamilton Official Plan Table 3.5.3.1 - Parkland Standards

Park Classification	Per 1,000 Population (Ratios)	Minimum Service Radius/ Walking Distance
Neighbourhood Parks	0.7 ha/1000	500 m (OPA 210)
Community Parks	0.7 ha/1000	2 km
City-Wide Parks	0.7 ha/1000	n.a.

SOURCE: City of Hamilton, Table 3.5.3.1 of the *Urban Hamilton Official Plan*.

## 2.2 City of Hamilton Recreation Master Plan (2022)

The City of Hamilton's *2022 Recreation Master Plan* establishes a framework for future recreational facility planning based on population growth projections, demographic trends, and evidence-based provision rates. These provision rates, tailored to facility types, are informed by factors such as age-specific benchmarks, geographic accessibility, facility usage data, and community input.

The Master Plan emphasizes equitable access to high-quality recreational services while addressing emerging trends and community needs. It prioritizes the renewal of aging infrastructure, expansion to accommodate growth, and the development of multi-functional, inclusive facilities. By aligning facility planning with the City's growth projections to 2051, the plan provides a clear path to meet the evolving demands of Hamilton's diverse and growing population.

Our assessment will apply these Master Plan’s provision rates to guide the recreational facility needs of the Study Area, ensuring consistency with city-wide priorities. For further detail, the tables from the Master Plan that outline these provision rates and standards are included in Appendix B.

# **3.0 White Church Urban Expansion Area Demographic Analysis**

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### 3.1 Population

The population within the Study Area is expected to grow significantly as a result of both the completion of development within the Mount Hope population centre, and the White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area. As shown in Figure 3-1 the buildout population is expected to total approximately 32,800 residents, with the majority of the population anticipated to reside within the White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area. As detailed phasing plans for the subject site are not yet available, we have assumed a high-level general estimate with site preparation work beginning in 2026 and a phase of 1,000 units being completed every two years until buildout in 2042. The buildout of the existing residential portions of Mount hope is expected by 2031.

The population of the White Church Burban Boundary Expansion Area is based on the concept plans provided by Urban Solutions. The population of the rest of the Study Area is based on 2021 census data, with additional population growth estimated based on unit counts and Persons Per Unit (PPU) from the City of Hamilton *Development Charges Background Study*. Unit counts were based on development application data, building permit data, address point data, in-person observations, and aerial imagery. Of note, this population estimate does not include the future redevelopment of existing dwellings to ultimately include Additional Dwelling Units, as these are anticipated to be primarily locate in older dwellings within the already built-up portions of the City.

Figure 3-1: Study Area Population Estimate

Year	Study Area	White Church Boundary Expansion Area	Rest of Study Area
2021	3,400	200	3,200
2023	5,100	200	4,900
2024	5,400	200	5,200
2031	13,100	7,000	6,100
2036	23,600	17,500	6,100
2042	32,800	26,700	6,100

SOURCE: urbanMetrics Inc., based in site plans provided by Urban Solutions, Statistics Canada 2021 census data, new build Persons Per Unit from the Hamilton Development Charges Background Study, development application data, and aerial imagery. All numbers rounded to the nearest hundred. Study Area total may not equal sub-areas due to rounding.

## 3.2 Age Structure

The City of Hamilton’s Recreation Master Plan (2022) identifies specific age ranges associated with future provision rates for the development and demand for specific recreational facilities. Using the Ministry of Finance (MOF) projections applied to the Study Area estimates, we analyzed the areas expected age structure to align with facilities that have age-specific requirements. As shown in Figure 3-2, the chart outlines the anticipated change in the areas age structure for the years 2031, 2036, and 2042.

Figure 3-2: Study Area and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area Projected Age Structures (2031, 2036, 2042)

Year	Age Range	Study Area	Study Area Percent	White Church Boundary Expansion Area	White Church Boundary Expansion Area Percent
2031	Age 0-9	1,229	9.4%	657	9.4%
	Age 7-18	1,561	11.9%	834	11.9%
	Age 10-19	1,334	10.2%	713	10.2%
	Age 5-19	1,959	15.0%	1,047	15.0%
2036	Age 0-9	2,178	9.2%	1,615	9.2%
	Age 7-18	2,685	11.4%	1,991	11.4%
	Age 10-19	2,291	9.7%	1,699	9.7%
	Age 5-19	3,389	14.4%	2,513	14.4%
2042	Age 0-9	3,006	9.2%	2,447	9.2%
	Age 7-18	3,621	11.0%	2,948	11.0%
	Age 10-19	3,055	9.3%	2,487	9.3%
	Age 5-19	4,574	13.9%	3,723	13.9%

SOURCE: urbanMetrics, Inc., Based on Ministry of Finance Projections (2024) applied to the Study Area estimates. Note that the

## 4.0 Recreation Facility Demand

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# 4.1 Recreation Service Standards

The City of Hamilton’s July 21, 2022, *Recreation Master Plan* identifies service standards for the range of recreation facilities that will be provided by the city, while the September 2023 *Hamilton Parks Master Plan* identifies the service standards for parks. Some recreation facilities do not have service standards linked to population growth or service radius, with no new facilities planned, and as a result no new facilities of these types are contemplated in the Study Area.

Figure 4-1: City of Hamilton Parks and Recreation Facilities Service Standards

Category	Facility	Existing Facilities	Future Provision Rate	Service Radius (km)
<b>Population Related Service Standard</b>				
Recreation Facilities	Community Recreation Centres (CRC)	23	27,500 residents per CRC	2.5
Recreation Facilities	Indoor Pools	23	30,000 residents per pool	2.5
Recreation Facilities	Outdoor Pools	10	10,000 residents ages 5-19 per pool	2
Recreation Facilities	Gymnasiums	16	1 gymnasium per new CRC	n.a.
Recreation Facilities	Ice Pads	25	4,500 youth per ice pad	2.5
Park Facilities	Community Parks	71	1,000 residents per 0.7 ha	2
Park Facilities	Neighbourhood Parks	173	1,000 residents per 0.7 ha	0.5
Park Facilities	City-Wide Parks	24	1,000 residents per 0.7 ha	n.a.
Park Facilities	Soccer and Multi-use Fields	190	3,500 residents per field	n.a.
Park Facilities	Baseball Diamonds	195	3,200 residents per diamond	n.a.
Park Facilities	Cricket Fields	2	150,000 residents per field	n.a.
Park Facilities	Outdoor Fitness Locations	9	60,000 residents per location	2
Park Facilities	Tennis Courts	79	8,000 residents per court	2
Park Facilities	Basketball and Multi-use Courts	106.5	650 residents ages 10-19 per court	1
Park Facilities	Skateboard Parks	8	7,500 residents ages 10-19 per skate park	1.0-5.0
Park Facilities	Leash Free Dog Areas	12	1 areas per ward	n.a.
<b>Service Radius Standard Only</b>				
Park Facilities	Outdoor Ice Rinks and Skating Trails	71	Service Radius Only	5
Recreation Facilities	Seniors Recreation Spaces	12	Service Radius Only	2
Park Facilities	Playgrounds	256	Service Radius Only	0.5-0.8
Park Facilities	Pickleball Courts	36	Service Radius Only	2
Park Facilities	Spray Pads	69	Service Radius Only	1-1.5
<b>No Related Service Standard</b>				
Recreation Facilities	Community Halls	27	Case-Specific	n.a.
Park Facilities	Football Fields	18	None	n.a.
Park Facilities	Beach Volleyball Courts	2	None	n.a.
Park Facilities	Bocce Courts	39	None	n.a.
Park Facilities	Lawn Bowling Greens	4	None	n.a.
Park Facilities	Wading Pools	8	None	n.a.
Park Facilities	Pump Track	1	None	n.a.
Park Facilities	Community Gardens	14	None	n.a.
Park Facilities	Golf Courses	2	None	n.a.
Park Facilities	Outdoor Tracks	5	None	n.a.

SOURCE: urbanMetrics Inc., based on information from the City of Hamilton’s July 21, 2022, *Recreation Master Plan* and September 2023 *Hamilton Parks Master Plan*.

## 4.2 White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area Facilities Needed

As shown in Table 4-2, the recreational facility requirements for the urban expansion area are determined using the future provision rates from the City of Hamilton’s 2022 Recreation Master Plan and population projections for full build-out in 2042. These provision rates are based on residents per facility or age-specific benchmarks and then are applied to the projected population.

In this study, any facility with a rate exceeding 0.5 is identified as a potential community need. Appendix B provides a detailed breakdown of these rates and outlines the future recreational needs for the projected populations in 2031, 2041, and 2042.

Figure 4-2: Population Related Service Standard

Category	Facility	Existing Facilities	Future Provision Rate	Residents (Full buildout 2042)	2042
<b>Population Related Service Standard</b>					
Recreation Facilities	Community Recreation Centres (CRC)	23	27,500 residents per CRC	32,800	1.19
Recreation Facilities	Indoor Pools	23	30,000 residents per pool	32,800	1.09
Recreation Facilities	Outdoor Pools	10	10,000 residents ages 5-19 per pool	4,574	0.46
Recreation Facilities	Gymnasiums	16	1 gymnasium per new CRC	32,800	1.19
Recreation Facilities	Ice Pads	25	4,500 youth per ice pad	3,621	0.80
Park Facilities	Community Parks	71	1,000 residents per 0.7 ha	32,800	22.96
Park Facilities	Neighbourhood Parks	173	1,000 residents per 0.7 ha	32,800	22.96
Park Facilities	City-Wide Parks	24	1,000 residents per 0.7 ha	32,800	22.96
Park Facilities	Soccer and Multi-use Fields	190	3,500 residents per field	32,800	9.37
Park Facilities	Baseball Diamonds	195	3,200 residents per diamond	32,800	10.25
Park Facilities	Cricket Fields	2	150,000 residents per field	32,800	0.22
Park Facilities	Outdoor Fitness Locations	9	60,000 residents per location	32,800	0.55
Park Facilities	Tennis Courts	79	8,000 residents per court	32,800	4.10
Park Facilities	Basketball and Multi-use Courts	106.5	650 residents ages 10-19 per court	3,055	4.70
Park Facilities	Skateboard Parks	8	7,500 residents ages 10-19 per skate park	1,778	0.24
Park Facilities	Leash Free Dog Areas	12	1 areas per ward	1,778	1

SOURCE: urbanMetrics Inc., based on information from the City of Hamilton’s July 21, 2022, *Recreation Master Plan* and September 2023 *Hamilton Parks Master Plan*.

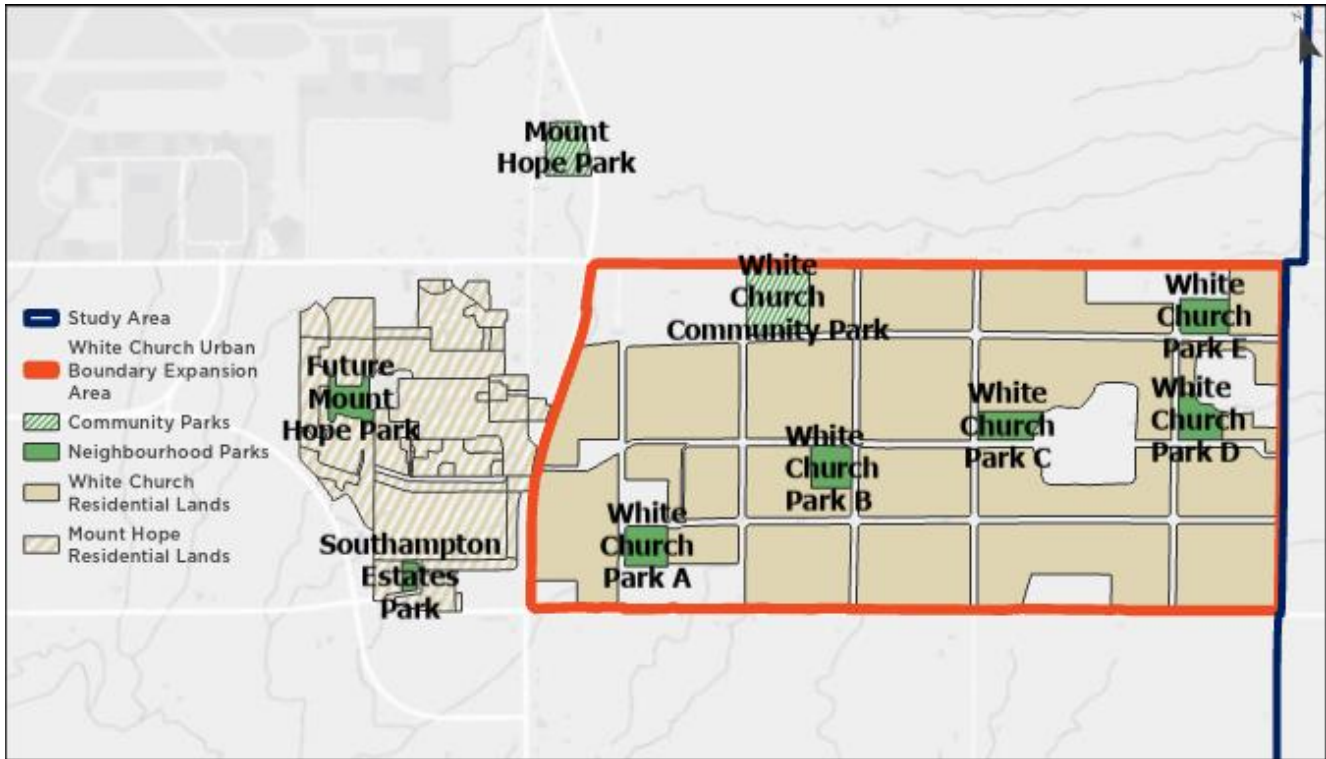
## 5.0 Gap Analysis

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As shown in Figure 5-1 there are nine current and proposed parks in the Study Area, of which two are community Parks and seven are neighbourhood parks. As shown in Figure 5-2 and the following sections, the recreational facilities with sufficient demand have been distributed amongst the various parks to ensure adequate coverage and ensure that each of these identified parks can accommodate the suggested facilities. We should note that the location of facilities should not be viewed as the only possible location, and as further planning of the area takes place it is likely that site-specific characteristics such as park shape, grading, soil characteristics, or efficiencies from grouping uses may make different locations more suitable.

It should also be noted that facility construction should be delayed until sufficient population growth has occurred to support each facility. For example, the Community Recreation Centre and associated facilities will not be required until approximately 2036 based on the current preliminary assumptions surrounding phasing. This will ensure that recreation facilities are not overbuilt before sufficient demand has been generated through population growth.

Figure 5-1: Study Area Parks and Current and Suggested Recreation Facilities



Park Label	Park Type	Status
Mount Hope Park	Community	Current
Future Mount Hope Park	Neighbourhood	Under Construction
Southampton Estates Park	Neighbourhood	Current
White Church Community Park	Community	Proposed
White Church Park A	Neighbourhood	Proposed
White Church Park B	Neighbourhood	Proposed
White Church Park C	Neighbourhood	Proposed
White Church Park D	Neighbourhood	Proposed
White Church Park E	Neighbourhood	Proposed

SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* shapefile, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

Figure 5-2: Recreation Facility Location Summary

Facilities	Mount Hope Park	Future Mount Hope Park	Southampton Estates Park	White Church Community	White Church Park A	White Church Park B	White Church Park C	White Church Park D	White Church Park E
Community Recreation Centres (CRC)	1			1					
Indoor Pools				1					
Outdoor Pools									
Gymnasiums				1					
Ice Pads									
Community Parks	3.19 ha			6.37 ha					
Neighbourhood Parks		2.21 ha	0.65 ha		2.5 ha	2.5 ha	2.5 ha	2.5 ha	2.5 ha
City-Wide Parks									
Soccer and Multi-use Fields					1		1		1
Baseball Diamonds	1				1	1		1	
Cricket Fields									
Outdoor Fitness Locations						1			
Tennis Courts	1			3					
Basketball and Multi-use Courts			1	2					2
Skateboard Parks									
Leash Free Dog Areas									
Outdoor Ice Rinks and Skating Trails									
Seniors Recreation Spaces				1					
Playgrounds	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	
Pickleball Courts				1					
Spray Pads	1			1					

SOURCE: urbanMetrics

NOTE: Orange text indicated a new facility, black text indicates an existing facility

## 5.1 Per-Capita Service Standard Facilities

### Community Recreation Centres (CRC)

The City of Hamilton's 2022 *Recreation Master Plan* provides a framework for defining and planning Community Recreation Centres (CRCs) to meet the diverse needs of its growing population. CRCs often include features such as gymnasiums, multi-purpose rooms, and spaces for drop-in and structured activities, catering to residents of all ages and abilities. The *Master Plan* establishes a provision rate of one CRC for every 27,500 residents and a 2.5-kilometer service radius. Based on a Study Area buildout population of 32,800 residents, there is a need for 1.19 Community Recreation Centres (CRCs) by 2042, as shown in Figure 5-3. Currently, the Study Area has one existing facility, the Mount Hope Community Hall, which functions as both a library and a community hall. However, this facility does not meet the criteria of a full CRC as defined by the Master Plan. While the Mount Hope Community Hall has recently initiated renovations to its library space, the absence of critical components like a gymnasium and site constraints on further expansion suggests there is still a need for a full CRC to address the recreational needs of the growing population. Given the identified need and the central location of the White Church Community Park within the Study Area, urbanMetrics has suggested that a full CRC be located in the White Church Community Park, as CRCs are not permitted in Neighbourhood Parks as per the Zoning By-law. By 2036 there will be demand for 0.86 CRCs, which is sufficient to support a new CRC.

Figure 5-3: Existing and Potential Community Recreation Centres (CRC) Locations and Service Radii



SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Recreation and Community Centres* shapefile, and White Church Urban Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Indoor Pools

The City of Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan* establishes a provision rate of one indoor pool per 30,000 residents with a 2.5-kilometer service radius. Based on a Study Area buildout population of 32,800 residents there is a need for 1.09 indoor pools by 2042. As shown in Figure 5-4, there are no indoor pools within 2.5 kilometers of the Study Area, and there is sufficient need to support a new indoor pool. By 2036 there will be demand for 0.79 indoor pools, which is sufficient to support a new pool. As with other major recreational facilities, pools are prohibited by the Hamilton Zoning By-law from being located in the Neighbourhood Park (P1) zone. The suggested location for the pool is therefore best located in the new CRC in the White Church Community Park, which will cover the entire urban population of the Study Area within its service area. This site provides an opportunity to address the service gap while aligning with the Master Plan’s long-term goals for accessible recreational amenities.



Figure 5-4: Potential Indoor Pool Location and Service Radius



SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* shapefile, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Outdoor Pools

The City of Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan* establishes a provision rate of one outdoor pool per 10,000 residents aged 5 to 19 years with a 2.0 kilometre service radius. Based on the projected buildout population of 4,574 residents within this age range in the Study Area, the calculated provision rate is 0.46 outdoor pools by 2042, which falls below the 0.5 threshold for consideration of a new facility. As shown in Figure 5-5, there are currently no outdoor pools within the Study Area, and given the provision rate and population projections, an outdoor pool is not a needed facility for this area.

Figure 5-5: Current Outdoor Pool Service Radii

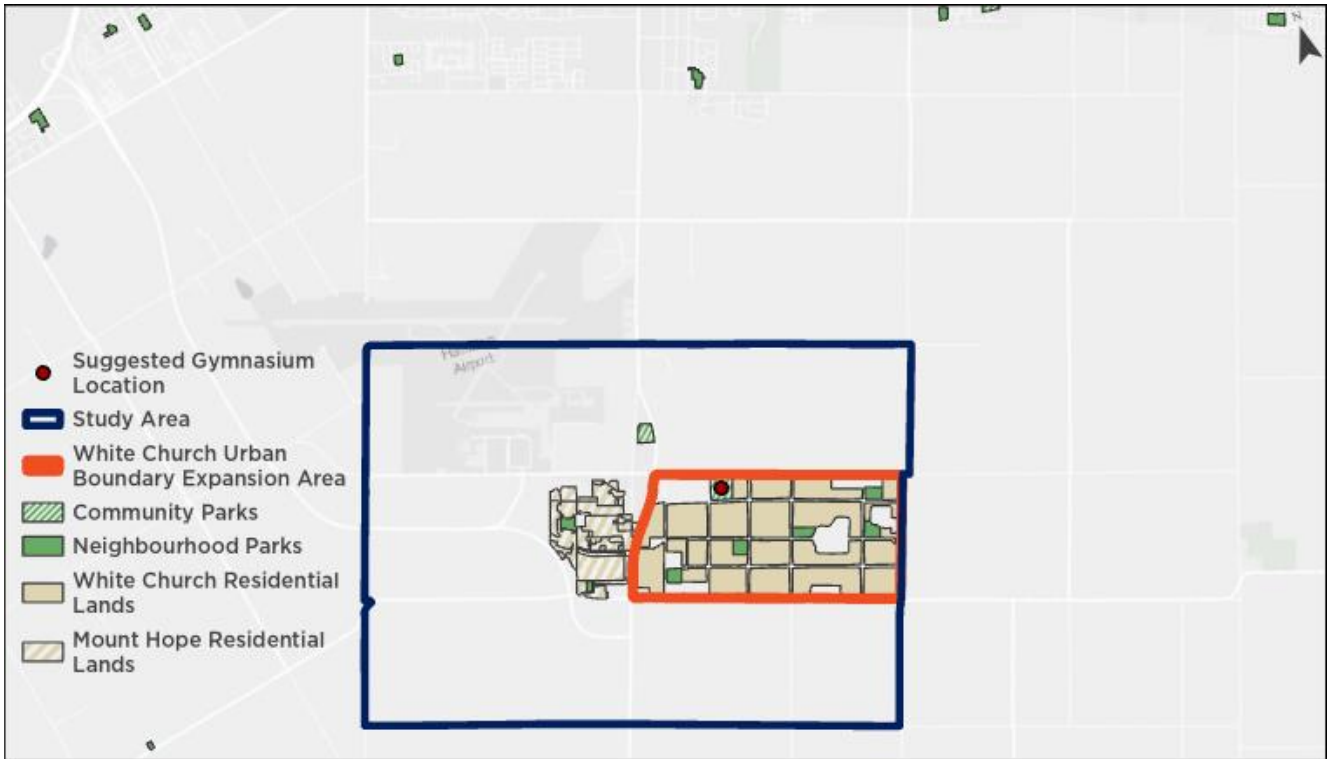


SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* shapefile, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Gymnasiums

Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan* identifies gymnasiums as essential components of Community Recreation Centres (CRCs), providing versatile spaces for sports, registered programs, drop-in activities, community events, and meetings. The *Master Plan* emphasizes the inclusion of full-size gymnasiums in new and expanded CRCs to accommodate growing demand and to ensure flexibility in programming. The future provision rate for gymnasiums is aligned with the standard for CRCs, at one gymnasium per CRC. Based on the Study Area’s full build-out population of 32,800 residents in 2042, there is a need for 1.19 gymnasiums. As shown in Figure 5-6 there are currently no gymnasiums in the Study Area. To address this gap, a gymnasium should be included in the suggested new CRC in the White Church Community Park. This site is centrally located and provides coverage for the entire Study Area population, ensuring accessibility and alignment with the *Master Plan*’s goal of delivering high-quality recreational facilities. By 2036 there will be demand for 0.86 gymnasium, which is sufficient to support a new gymnasium.

Figure 5-6: Potential Gymnasium Locations



SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* shapefile, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Ice Pads

The 2022 *Recreation Master Plan* establishes a provision rate of one ice pad per 4,500 youth residents within a 2.5-kilometer service radius. Based on the projected buildout youth population of 3,621 residents in the Study Area by 2042, the calculated provision rate is 0.80 ice pads. Due to the high cost of arenas, most arenas contain two or four ice pads, and the cost of building an arena with less than one ice pad cannot be justified. As shown in Figure 5-7, there are currently no ice pads within the Study Area or the 2.5-kilometer service radius. However, with the demand equating to less than one ice pad and a large presence of existing arenas across Hamilton, including a facility located just 4 kilometers away, there is no identified need for additional ice pads in the Study Area. Moreover, the *Master Plan* indicates that future demand for ice sports is plateauing due to shifting preferences, immigration patterns, and the high cost of participation. The general trend supports larger multi-pad arena facilities, which are better suited to efficiently meet city-wide demand. Given the Study Area’s minimal need and

proximity to existing facilities, additional ice pads are not recommended for inclusion in the Study Area’s recreational planning.

Figure 5-7: Current Arena Locations and Service Radius



SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* and *Arenas* shapefiles, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

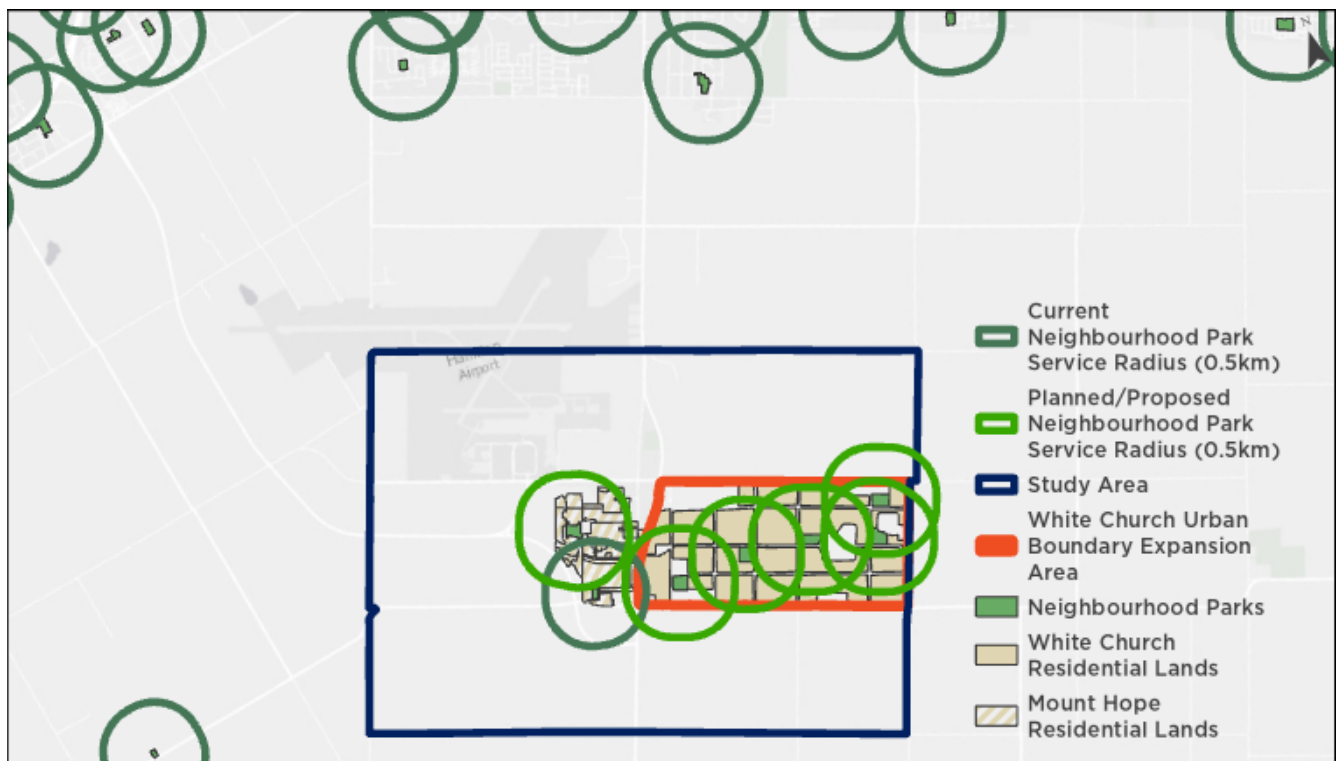
## Neighbourhood Parks

The Urban Hamilton Official Plan establishes a provision rate of 0.7 hectares of Neighbourhood parks per 1,000 residents, and a 500 metre service radius. Based on the projected buildout population in the Study Area of 32,800, there is a need for 22.96 hectares of neighbourhood parkland. As shown in Figure 5-8 there is one current (0.65 ha) and six proposed (15.36 ha) neighbourhood parks, with a total area of 15.36 hectares. This results in a shortfall of 7.6 hectares of neighbourhood parkland.

However, the 2023 *Hamilton Parks Master Plan* describes the role of Neighbourhood Parks as to “provide smaller, well-distributed park space throughout the city, ensuring that all residents have access to the park system

within walking distance of their home. These parks are intended to serve the local neighbourhood, or approximately 5,000 people. The typical size of a Neighbourhood Park is two hectares and each park will provide a wide array of local park functions, including passive space for gathering and relaxation, playgrounds, sport courts, and pathway systems” (p. 17). The plan also identifies that the Neighbourhood Park (P1) zone prohibits larger facilities such as arenas, indoor pools, and tennis courts. The neighbourhood parks in the Study Area generally meet this description, as the vast majority of residents will be within 500 metres of a neighbourhood park and these parks will meet the implied provision rate of 2 hectares per 5,000 residents. It should also be noted that there is a significant trail network and woodland component within the White Church Urban Expansion Area, which complements the neighbourhood parks system. Neighbourhood parks should be developed based on the timing of the need for the suggested facilities in each park.

Figure 5-8: Current and Planned Neighbourhood Park Locations and Service Radius



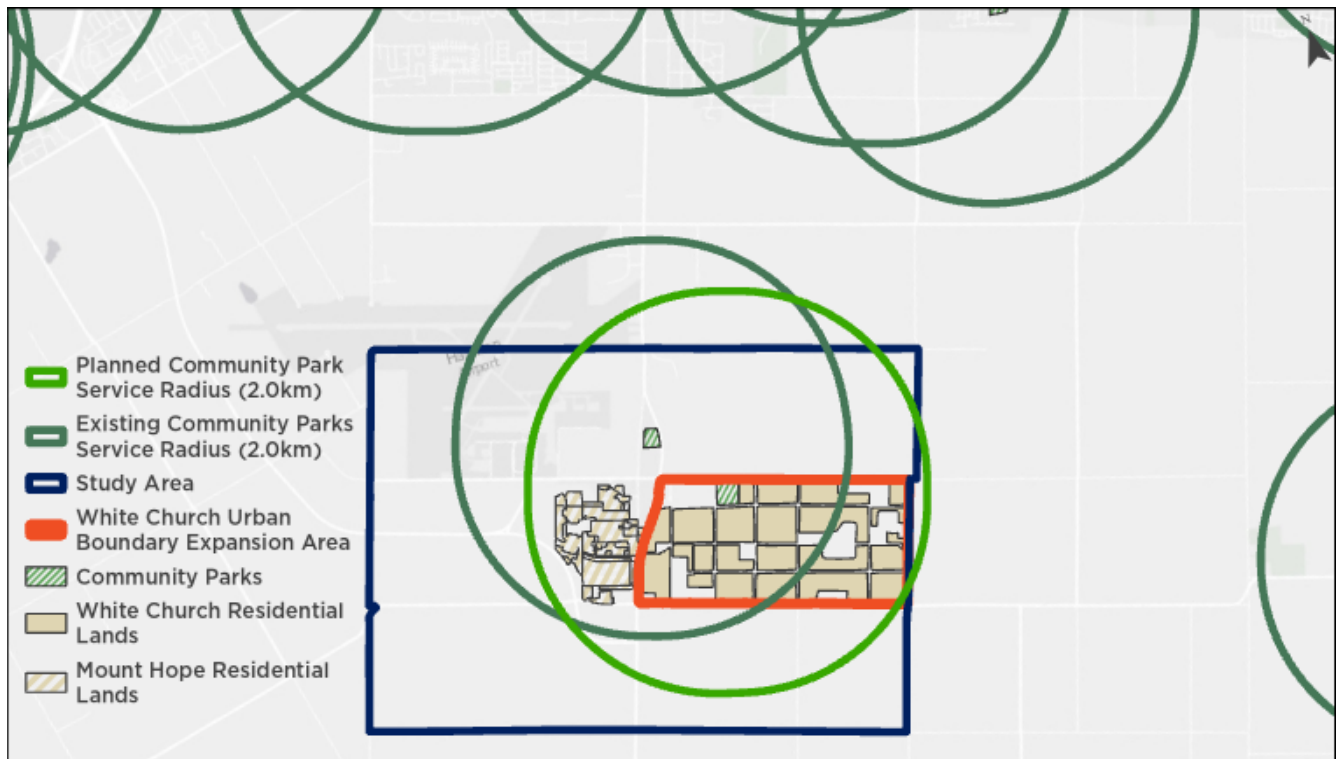
SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* shapefile, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Community Parks

The Urban Hamilton Official Plan establishes a provision rate of 0.7 hectares of Community parks per 1,000 residents, and a 2.0 kilometre service radius. Based on the projected buildout population in the Study Area of 32,800, there is a need for 22.96 hectares of community parkland. As shown in Figure 5-9, there is one current (3.19 ha) and one proposed (6.37 ha) community park, with a total area of 9.56 hectares. This results in a shortfall of 13.40 hectares of community parkland.

However, the 2023 *Hamilton Parks Master Plan* describes Community Parks as “typically four to seven hectares in size and located near higher-order streets and roadways. They are intended to serve multiple neighbourhoods or approximately 20,000 residents but may also serve as Neighbourhood Park space to nearby residents and workers” (p. 17). The Community Parks in the Study Area generally meet this description and the implied provision rate of 7 hectares of Community parkland per 20,000 residents.

Figure 5-9: Current and Planned Community Park Locations and Service Radius

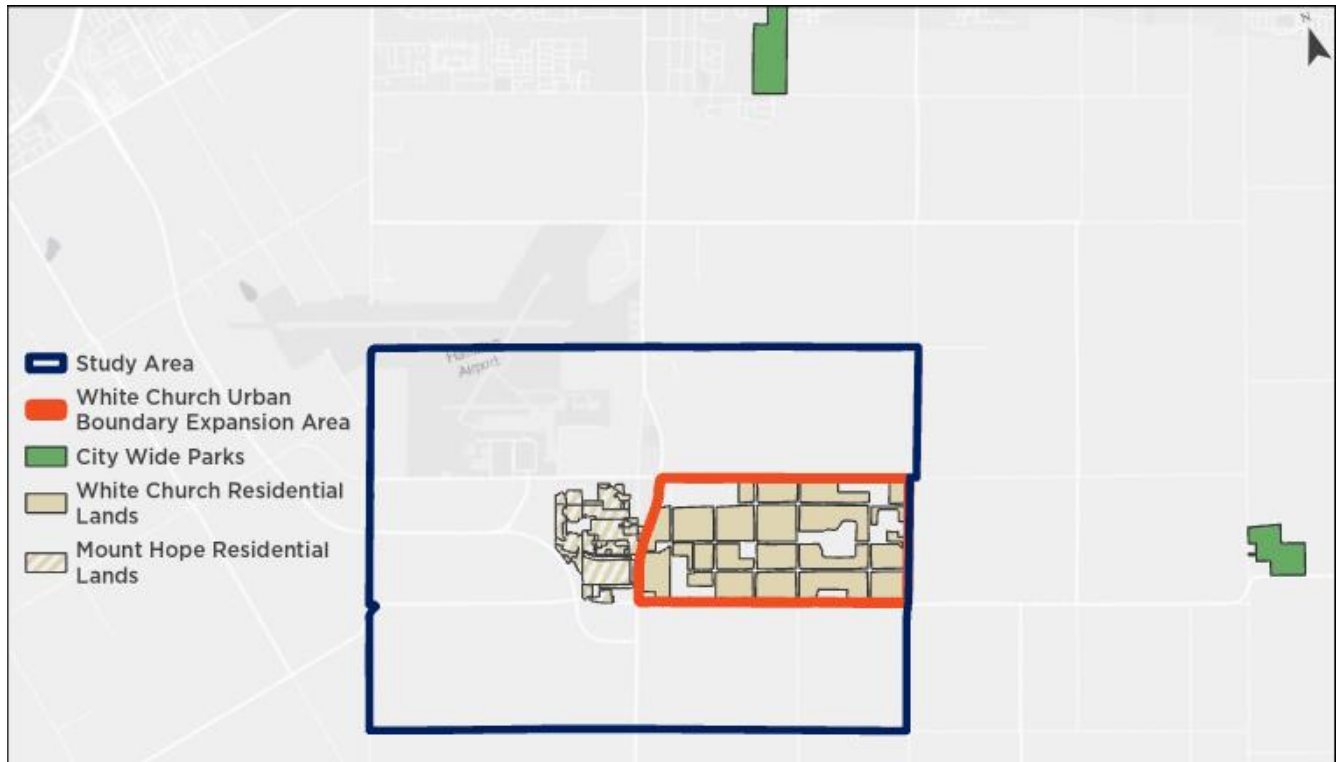


SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* shapefile, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## City-Wide Parks

The Urban Hamilton Official Plan establishes a provision rate of 0.7 hectares of City-Wide parks per 1,000 residents, and no service radius. Based on the projected buildout population in the Study Area of 32,800, there is a need for 22.96 hectares of City-Wide parkland. As shown in Figure 5-10, while there are no current or proposed City-Wide parks in the Study Area, there are two City Wide Parks approximately 4 kilometres to the north and east. As City Wide parks are intended to serve the entire City, and draw visitors from a large area, there is no specific need to locate this type of park in the Study Area. Instead, the location of City-Wide parks should be determined based on their unique locational characteristics and features, that meet City Parks Staff requirements.

Figure 5-10: Current and Planned City-Wide Park Locations



SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* shapefile, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Soccer and Multi-Use Fields

These fields are used for a range of sports such as soccer, football, rugby, lacrosse, ultimate frisbee, and other uses. Soccer and multi-use fields have a target service standard of 3,500 residents per unlit field equivalent, with no services radius. As identified in the City of Hamilton 2022 *Recreation Master Plan* each lit field is equivalent to 1.5 unlit field hours, and each lit artificial field is equivalent to 3 unlit fields. Based on a Study area buildout population of 32,800 residents, there will be a need for approximately 9.37 unlit field equivalents, which translates to 6.2 lit fields and 3.1 lit artificial fields. As shown in Figure 5-11, there are currently no soccer or multi-use fields within the Study Area and urbanMetrics has identified 3 suggested locations for lit artificial turf soccer or multi-use fields. Note that the location of these fields could be swapped with the recreation facilities in other neighbourhood parks depending on any facility-specific requirements identified by City Staff. Given the need for other land-intensive recreation facilities such as baseball diamonds, using unlit fields or fields without artificial turf may result in space conflicts between different recreation facilities. These locations are spaced so as to provide excellent access to the majority of residents, while avoiding competing for space with other uses that can only locate in community parks. By 2031 there will be demand for 3.7 soccer and multi-use fields, which is sufficient to support one new lit and artificial turf soccer and multi-use field.



Figure 5-11: Current and Suggested Soccer and Multi-use Field Locations



SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* and *Parks Sports Fields* shapefiles, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Baseball Diamonds

Baseball diamonds have a target service standard of 3,200 residents per unlit field equivalent, with no services radius. As identified in the City of Hamilton 2022 *Recreation Master Plan* each lit field is equivalent to 1.5 unlit field, and each lit artificial field is equivalent to 3 unlit fields. Of note, artificial turf is only mentioned in the footnotes of section 6.24, while lighting is mentioned in that section as well as in section 6.3 of that report, and as a result it is unclear if the equivalency is the same. Based on a Study Area buildout population of 32,800 residents, there will be a need for approximately 10.25 unlit field equivalents, which translates to 6.8 lit fields and 3.4 lit artificial fields. As shown in Figure 5-12, there is currently one baseball diamond (lit) within the Study Area and urbanMetrics has identified 3 suggested locations for lit artificial turf baseball diamonds, which would result in a total of 1 lit and 3 lit and artificial turf diamonds. Note that the location of these fields could be swapped with recreation facilities in other neighbourhood parks depending on any facility-specific requirements identified by City Staff. Given the need for other land-intensive recreation facilities such as multi-use fields, using

unlit diamonds or new diamonds without artificial turf may create space conflicts between different recreation activities. If there is not an artificial turf equivalency as discussed above, there will be a need for three additional fields beyond those suggested, which could be located in the White Church Park C and the White Church Community Park. These locations are spaced so as to provide excellent access to the majority of residents, while avoiding competing for space with other uses that can only locate in community parks. By 2031 there will be demand for 4.09 baseball diamond, which is sufficient to support one new lit and artificial turf baseball diamond.

Figure 5-12: Current and Suggested Baseball Diamond Locations



SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* and *Parks Sports Fields* shapefiles, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Cricket Fields

As per the City of Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan* cricket fields have a target service standard of 150,000 residents per unlit field, and no service radius. Based on a Study Area buildout population of 32,800 residents, there will be a need for approximately 0.22 cricket fields. There are no current cricket fields in the

Study Area, but there is insufficient demand to warrant a new cricket field in the Study Area.

## Outdoor Fitness Stations

As per the City of Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan* Outdoor Fitness Stations have a target service standard of 60,000 residents per location, and a service radius of 2 kilometres. Based on a Study Area buildout population of 32,800 residents, there will be a need for approximately 0.55 outdoor fitness locations. As shown in Figure 5-13 there are no current locations in the Study Area. Given the borderline potential demand, we suggest the provision of one Outdoor Fitness Station in White Church Park B, which connects to the trail network and has adjacent residential uses on all four sides, and would ensure all residential areas of the Study Area are within the service radius.

Figure 5-13: Current and Suggested Outdoor Fitness Station Locations

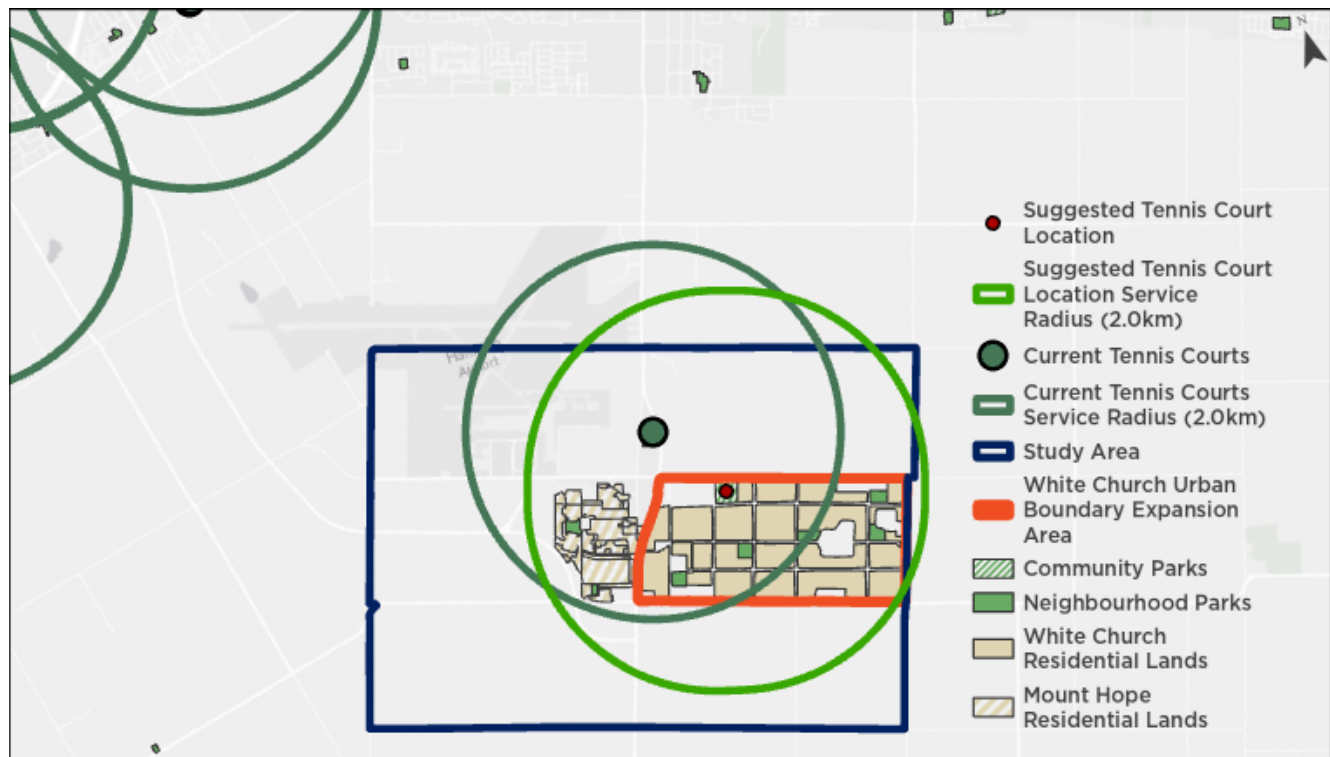


SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Tennis Courts

As per the City of Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan* tennis courts have a target service standard of 8,000 residents per location, and a service radius of 2 kilometres. Based on a Study Area buildout population of 32,800 residents, there will be a need for approximately 4.10 tennis courts. As shown in Figure 5-14 there is one current tennis court in Mount Hope Park, and there will be a need for three additional tennis courts on buildout. By 2031 there will be demand for 1.64 tennis courts, which is sufficient to support one new tennis court. As tennis courts are not permitted in neighbourhood parks, and Mount Hope Park has limited space, we suggest that three tennis courts be located in the proposed White Church Community Park. This would provide access for the vast majority of Study Area residents within this service radius.

Figure 5-14: Current and Suggested Tennis Court Locations and Service Area Radii

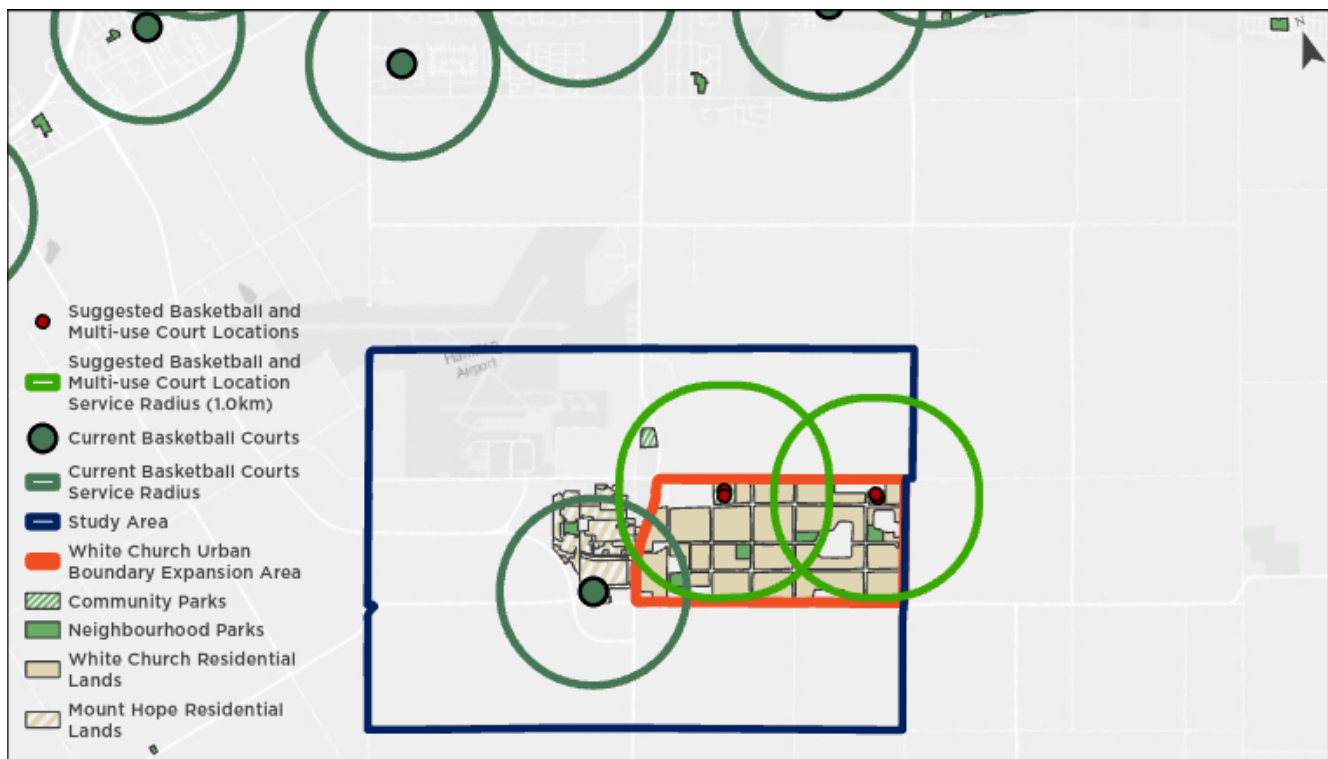


SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* and *Parks Sports Fields* shapefiles, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Basketball and Multi-Use Courts

As per the City of Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan* basketball and multi-use courts have a target service standard of 650 residents ages 10-19 per court, and a service radius of 1 kilometre. Based on a Study Area buildout population of 3,055 residents ages 10-19, there will be a need for approximately 4.7 basketball and multi-use courts. As shown in Figure 5-15 there is currently one basketball court in Southampton Estates Park, and a need on buildout for four additional basketball and multi-use courts. We suggest that two basketball and multi-use courts be located in the proposed White Church Community Park, and two in White Church Park E. This would cover the vast majority of Study Area residents within the service radius, while ensuring individual parks can accommodate all the suggested facilities. By 2031 there will be demand for 2.05 basketball and multi-use courts, which is sufficient to support one new basketball and multi-use court.

Figure 5-15: Current and Suggested Basketball and Multi-use Court Locations and Service Area Radii

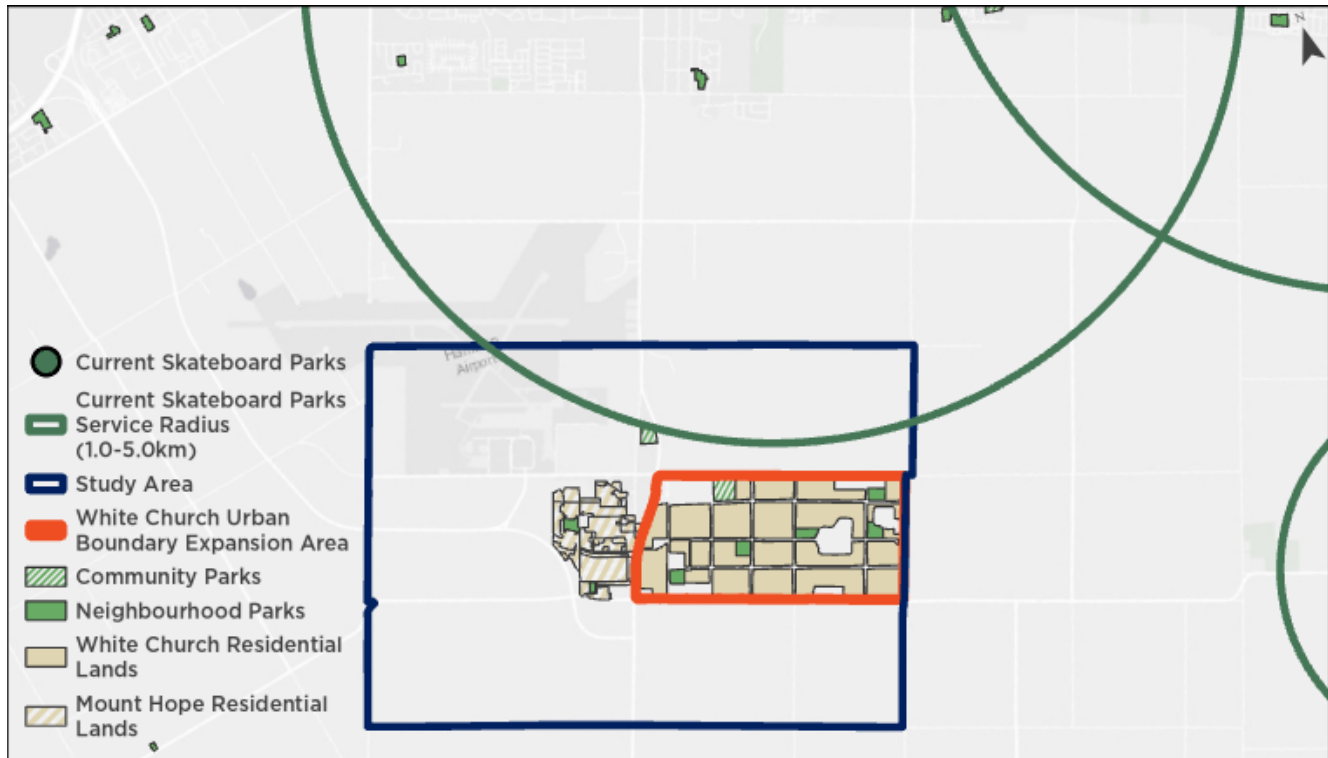


SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* and *Parks Sports Fields* shapefiles, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Skateboard Parks

As per the City of Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan*, skateboard parks have a target service standard of 7,500 residents aged 10-19 per skateboard park, with a service radius of 1.0 to 5.0 kilometres depending on the type of facility. Based on a Study area buildout population of 32,800 residents, of which 3,055 are expected to be 10-19, there will be a need for approximately 0.41 skateboard parks. As shown in Figure 5-12, only the Turner Skatepark service radius overlaps with the Study Area, though its service radius ends just to the north of the urban residential lands. As a result, there will be insufficient demand to justify a full skateboard park in the Study Area, though consideration should be given to adding small-scale skate dots to individual parks as required.

Figure 5-16: Current Skateboard Park Locations and Service Area Radii



SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* and *Parks Sports Fields* shapefiles, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Leash Free Dog Areas

As per the City of Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan*, leash free dog areas have a target service standard of one per ward. There is currently no leash free dog area in Ward 11 where the Study Area is located. The White Church-Mount Hope community and the Binbrook community are the two major population centres in Ward 11, and locating a leash free dog area within one of these communities would provide the greatest access to the most residents. Given the length of development timelines in large-scale developments such as the White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area, providing a leash free dog area in an existing park outside the Study Area will result in quicker service provision to many residents. However, in the event that site-specific challenges in other areas pose a barrier, White Church park A or one of the other eight parks in the Study Area can accommodate this need.

## 5.2 Service Radius Only Service Standard Facilities

### Outdoor Ice Rinks and Skating Trails

As per the City of Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan*, outdoor ice rinks and skating trails have a no population-related service standard but have a service radius of five kilometres. There are no outdoor ice rinks and skating trails within five kilometres of the Study Area. As identified in the City of Hamilton 2022 *Recreation Master Plan* the city will require two additional artificial rinks or trails by 2051. Given the location of the subject site and its expected share of the 2042 Hamilton population, locating one of the two artificial outdoor ice rinks or skating trail in the Study Area cannot be justified based on population alone.

### Seniors Recreation Spaces

As per the City of Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan*, seniors recreation spaces have no population-related service standard, but have a service radius of two kilometres. These facilities are located in both stand-alone seniors facilities and club-based facilities within CRCs, leased space, etc. There are no seniors recreation spaces within two kilometres of the Study Area. As shown in Figure 5-17, providing multipurpose space within the suggested Community Recreation Centre that could be used as be used for seniors recreation spaces would put the vast majority of the

Study Area urban residential lands within its service radius. This would also allow flexible programming that is able to adapt to fluctuating interests and trends.

Figure 5-17: Suggested Seniors Recreation Spaces Location and Service Area Radius



SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* shapefile, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

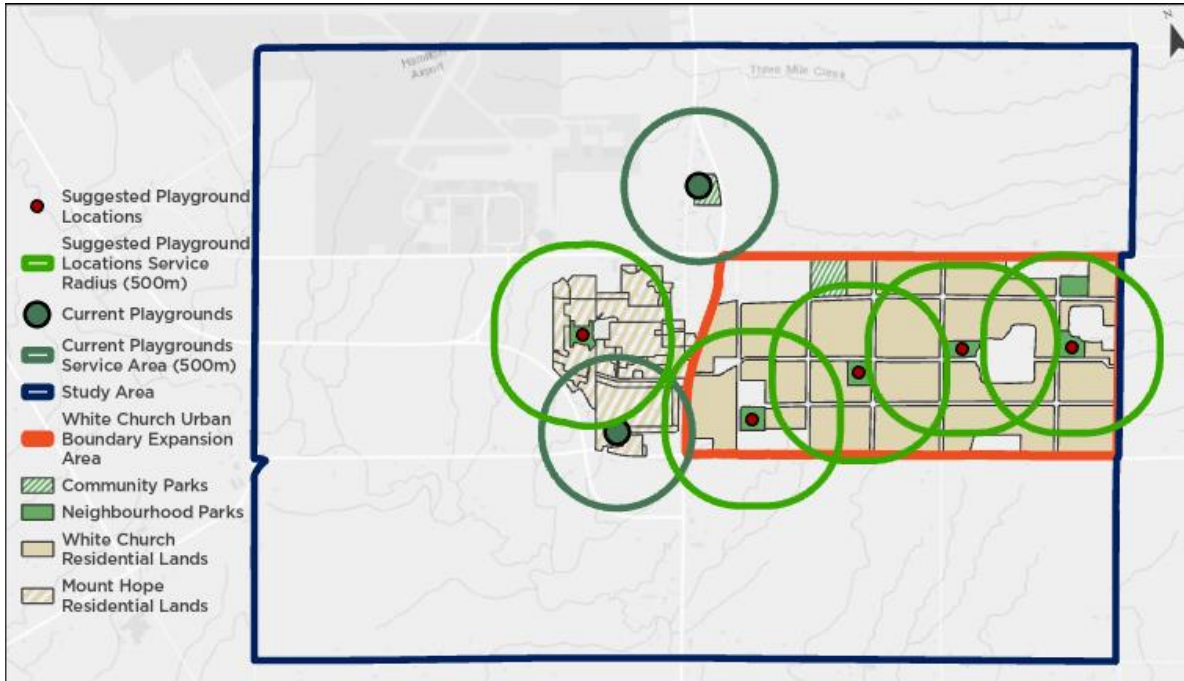
## Playgrounds

As per the City of Hamilton's 2022 *Recreation Master Plan*, playgrounds have no population-related service standard but have a service radius of between 500 metres and 800 metres. There are only two current playgrounds within the Study Area. As shown in Figure 5-18 and Figure 5-19, most of the urban residential lands in the Study Area are not within a 500 metre or 800 metre service radius of a playground. In order to service the vast majority of urban residential lands within a 500 metre service area, five additional playgrounds located in neighbourhood parks are required. If an 800 metre service area is used, all urban residential lands in the Study Area are covered by the service area of a playground. Under an 800



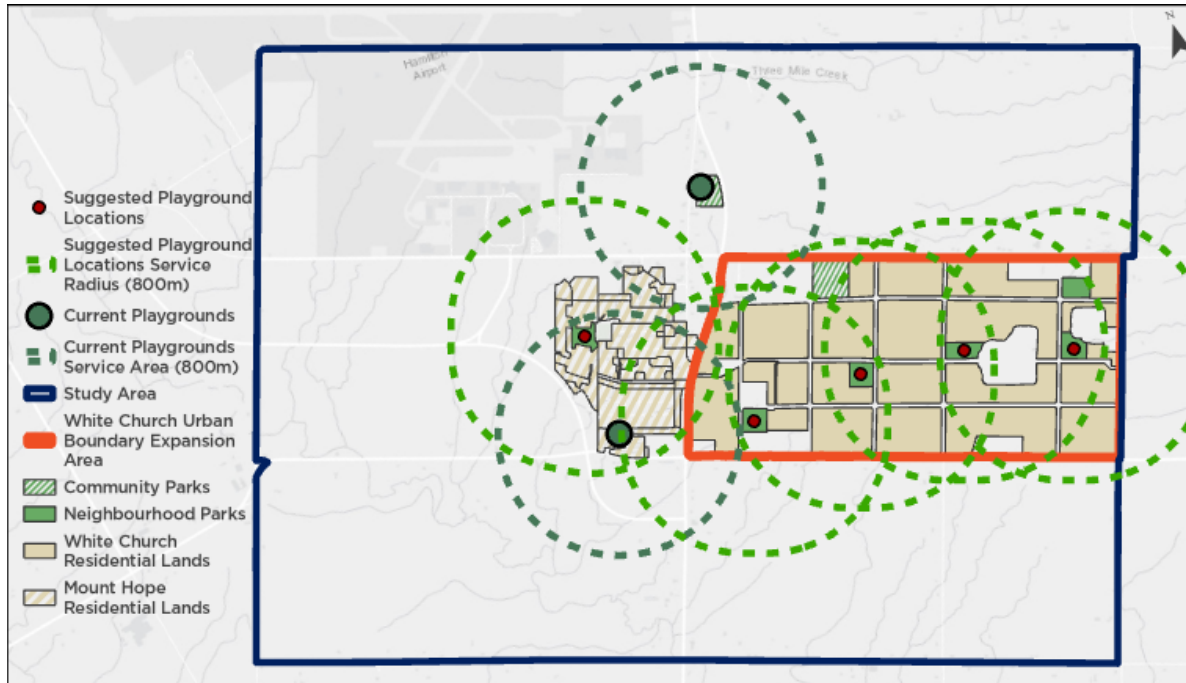
metre service radius the suggested playground in Mount Hope adds only a minimal amount of service coverage.

Figure 5-18: Existing and Suggested Playground Locations 500 Metre Service Radii



SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* shapefile, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

Figure 5-19: Existing and Suggested Playground Locations 800 Metre Service Radii

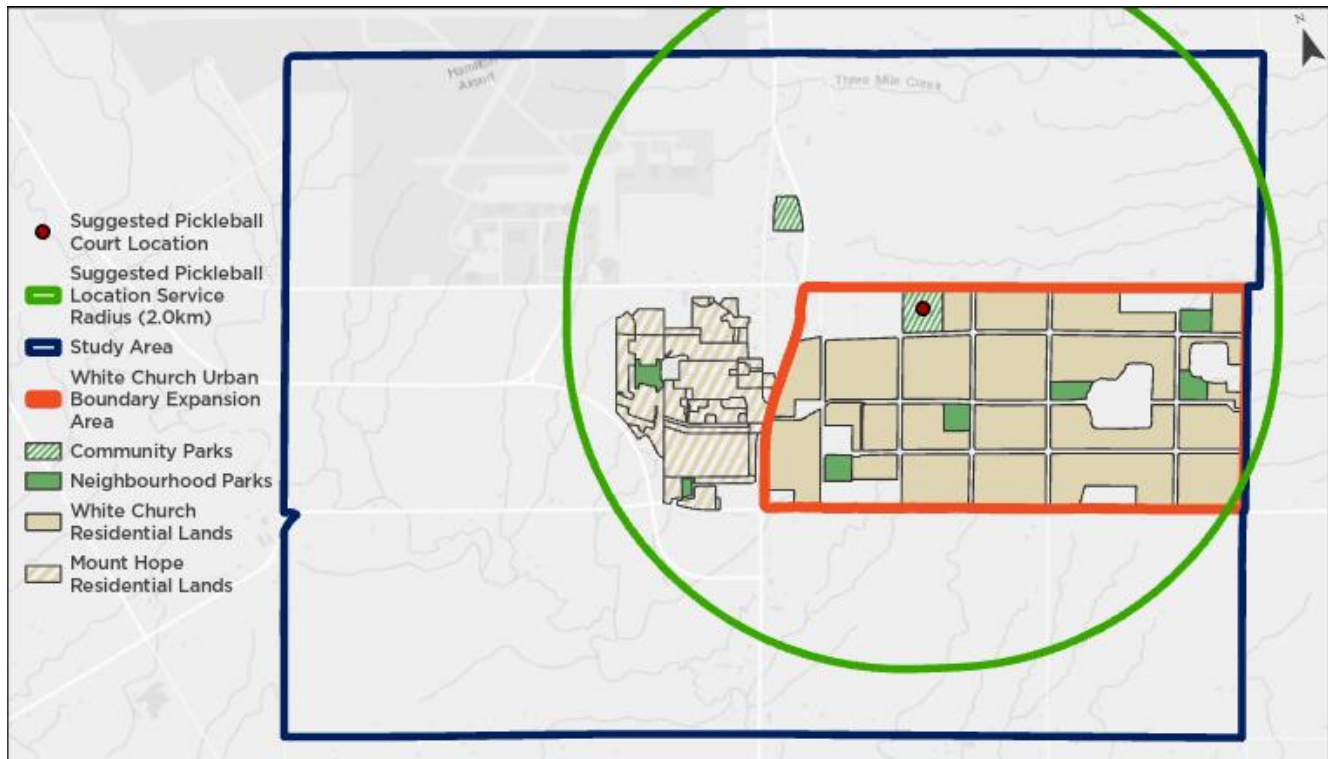


SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* shapefile, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Pickleball Courts

As per the City of Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan*, pickleball courts have no population-related service standard, but “consideration may be given” to a service radius of 2.0 kilometres. As shown in Figure 5-20, the suggested pickleball court location would cover almost the entirety of the urban residential lands in the Study Area. However, given the rapidly changing popularity and needs of this sport this decision should be made closer to the development of this park, to adapt to any changes in the demand for the facility

Figure 5-20: Suggested Pickleball Court Location and Service Radius

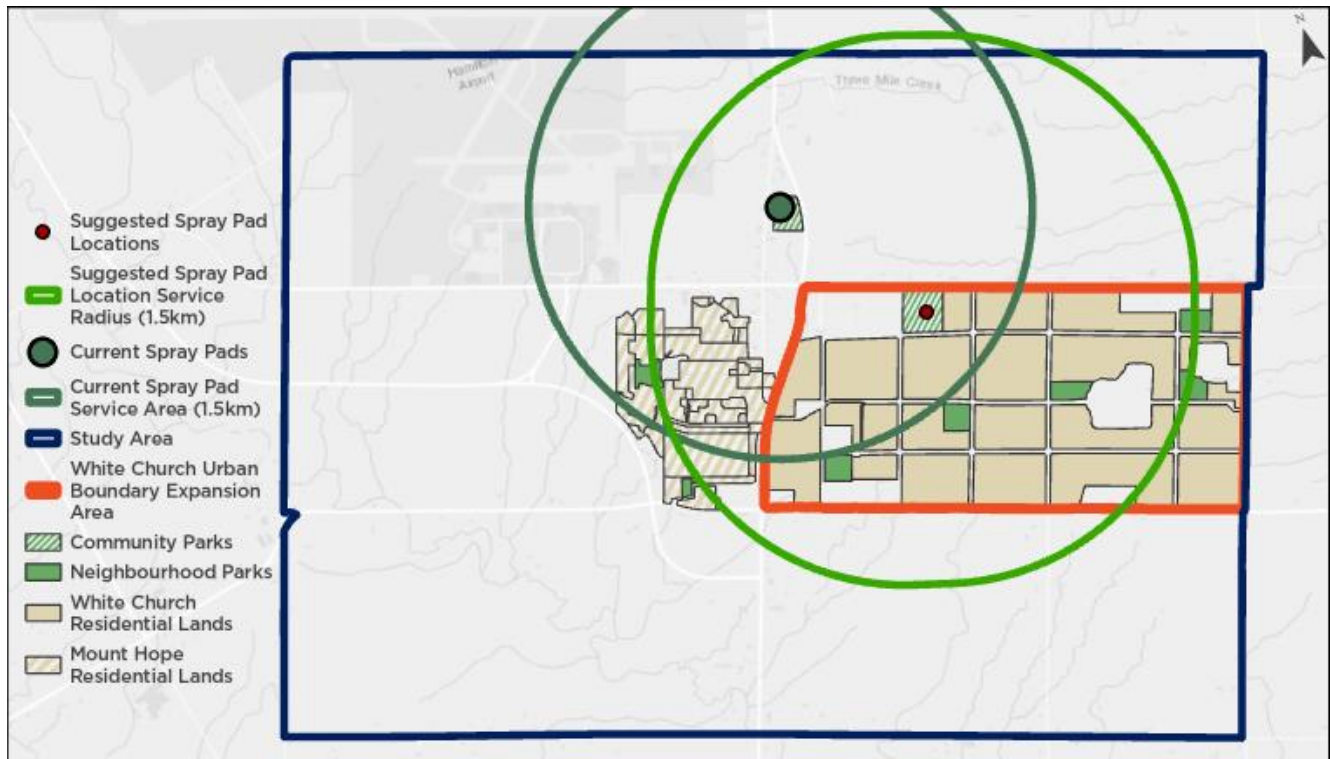


SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* shapefile, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## Spray Pads

As per the City of Hamilton’s 2022 *Recreation Master Plan*, spray pads have no population-related service standard but have a service radius of 1.0 or 1.5 kilometres depending on the type of facility. As shown in Figure 5-21 there is one current spray pad in Mount Hope Park, and a suggested Spray Pad location in the White Church Community Park. This would cover the need from the vast majority of Study Area residents within the service radio, while recognizing the *Recreation Master Plan* direction that spray pads should be available in higher order parks to improve the service delivery.

Figure 5-21: Current and Suggested Spray Pad Locations and Service Radii



SOURCE: urbanMetrics inc. with City of Hamilton Open data *Parks* shapefile, and White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area drawings from Urban Solutions.

## 6.0 Conclusions

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Based on our above analysis, we have identified the following key conclusions:

- The Study Area will contain approximately 32,800 residents by 2042.
- There will be a need for the following additional facilities by 2042:
  - Community recreation centre;
  - Indoor pool;
  - Gymnasium;
  - Soccer fields;
  - Baseball diamonds;
  - Outdoor fitness location;
  - Tennis courts;
  - Basketball and multi-use courts;
  - Seniors recreation spaces;
  - Playgrounds;
  - Pickleball courts; and
  - Spray pads.
- There is likely sufficient park space to accommodate the above needed facilities in appropriate locations, to serve the majority of the Study Area population on buildout.
- Facilities should be timed to align with population growth, as the development of the White Church Urban Boundary Expansion Area will take a significant amount of time.

# Appendix A Recreation Master Plan Summary Tables

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## A 1: Indoor Facilities - Recommended Park Facility Development Program Summary (2023-2051) – Excludes Facility Revitalization and Renewal

*Recommended Recreation Facility Development Program Summary (2023-2051) – excludes facility revitalization and renewal*

Facility Type	Current Municipal Supply	Provision Target	Recommended New Facilities (2023-2051)	Short-term (2023-2031)	Medium-term (2032-2041)	Longer-term (2042-2051)
Community/ Recreation Centres	23	1:27,500 and up to 2.5km radius	7	3	3	1
Indoor Pools (locations)	23	1:30,000 and up to 2.5km radius	4 (within new CRCs)	1	2 (plus 1 replacement)	1
Outdoor Pools	10	1:10,000 youth ages 5-19 and up to 2km radius	2	0	1	1
Gymnasiums	16	1 gymnasium within each new CRC	7 (within new CRCs)	3	3	1
Seniors Recreation Spaces	12	2km radius for Class B centres (shared use)	5 (most within new CRCs)	2	2	1
Arenas (ice pads)	25	1:4,500 youth ages 5-19 and up to 2.5km radius	3	0	1-2	1-2
Community Halls	27	none (case-specific assessment)	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd

tbd = To be determined.

SOURCE: City of Hamilton, July 21, 2022, *Recreation Master Plan*.



## A 2: Outdoor Facilities - Recommended Park Facility Development Program Summary (2023-2051) – Excludes Facility Revitalization and Renewal

*Recommended Park Facility Development Program Summary (2023-2051) – excludes facility revitalization and renewal*

Facility Type	Current Municipal Supply	Provision Target	Recommended New Facilities (2023-2051)	Short-term (2023-2031)	Medium-term (2032-2041)	Longer-term (2042-2051)
Soccer and Multi-use Fields	190 (204 ULE)	1 ULE:100 registered participants	31	6	13	12
Football Fields	18 (21.5 ULE)	none (case-specific assessment)	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
Baseball Diamonds	195 (223 ULE)	1 ULE:80 registered participants	35	16	9	10
Cricket Fields	2	1:150,000	3	2	1	0
Playgrounds (locations)	256 sites	500m to 800m radius within residential areas	tbd (requires site-specific analysis)	tbd	tbd	tbd

Facility Type	Current Municipal Supply	Provision Target	Recommended New Facilities (2023-2051)	Short-term (2023-2031)	Medium-term (2032-2041)	Longer-term (2042-2051)
Outdoor Fitness Stations	9	1:60,000 and up to 2km radius	5	2	2	1
Tennis Courts (public and club)	79	1:8,000 and 2km to 2.5km radius	23	7	8	8
Pickleball Courts	36	up to 2km radius	tbd (monitoring required)	tbd	tbd	tbd
Basketball and Multi-use Courts	106.5 FCE	1:650 youth ages 10-19 and up to 1km radius	24.5	5	9	10.5
Beach Volleyball Courts	0	pilot projects recommended	2-4 (assess pilot projects)	2-4	tbd	tbd
Bocce Courts	39	n/a (no new facilities)	0	0	0	0
Lawn Bowling Greens	4	n/a (no new facilities)	0	0	0	0
Spray Pads	69	1 to 1.5km radius within residential areas	tbd (maintain current supply)	5 (offset by removals)	2+ (offset by removals)	tbd
Wading Pools	8	n/a (no new facilities)	0	0	0	0
Skateboard Parks	8	1:7,500 youth ages 10-19 and 1km to 5km radius	3-4 (plus skate dots)	1	1-2	1
Bike Parks and Pump Tracks	1	up to 5km radius	2-3	1	1	0-1
Leash Free Dog Zones	12	minimum of 1 leash free dog zone per City ward	4+	2+	2+	tbd
Outdoor Ice Rinks and Trails	71	1 to 5km radius within residential areas	2 artificial (plus natural rinks)	1	1	0
Community Gardens	14	site-specific analysis	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
Golf Courses	2 (54 holes)	n/a (no new facilities)	0	0	0	0
Outdoor Running Tracks	5	n/a (no new facilities)	0	0	0	0
Support Buildings In Parks	not itemized	site-specific analysis	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd
Washroom Buildings In Parks	not itemized	site-specific analysis	tbd	tbd	tbd	tbd

ULE = Unlit Equivalents - Each lit field is equivalent to 1.5 unlit fields hours. Each lit artificial field is equivalent to 3 unlit fields.

FCE = Full Court Equivalents - Each half basketball court is equivalent to 0.5 full courts.

tbd = To be determined.

SOURCE: City of Hamilton, July 21, 2022, *Recreation Master Plan*.

# Appendix B Recreation Needs Assessment Table

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B 1: Study Area Recreation Facility Demand by Year

Category	Facility	Future Provision Rate	Service Radius (km)	Residents (2031)	Residents (2041)	Residents (Full buildout 2051)	2031	2041	2051
<b>Population Related Service Standard</b>									
Recreation Facilities	Community Recreation Centres (CRC)	27,500 residents per CRC	2.5	11,313	24,437	25,270	0.41	0.89	0.92
Recreation Facilities	Indoor Pools	30,000 residents per pool	2.5	11,313	24,437	25,270	0.38	0.81	0.84
Recreation Facilities	Outdoor Pools	10,000 residents ages 5-19 per pool	2	1,692	3,419	3,507	0.17	0.34	0.35
Recreation Facilities	Gymnasiums	1 gymnasium per new CRC	n.a.	11,313	24,437	25,270	0.41	0.89	0.92
Recreation Facilities	Ice Pads	4,500 youth per ice pad	2.5	1,348	2,705	2,779	0.30	0.60	0.62
Park Facilities	Community Parks	1,000 residents per 0.7 ha	2	11,313	24,437	25,270	7.92	17.11	17.69
Park Facilities	Neighbourhood Parks	1,000 residents per 0.7 ha	0.5	11,313	24,437	25,270	7.92	17.11	17.69
Park Facilities	City-Wide Parks	1,000 residents per 0.7 ha	n.a.	11,313	24,437	25,270	7.92	17.11	17.69
Park Facilities	Soccer and Multi-use Fields	3,500 residents per field	n.a.	11,313	24,437	25,270	3.23	6.98	7.22
Park Facilities	Baseball Diamonds	3,200 residents per diamond	n.a.	11,313	24,437	25,270	3.54	7.64	7.90
Park Facilities	Cricket Fields	150,000 residents per field	n.a.	11,313	24,437	25,270	0.08	0.16	0.17
Park Facilities	Outdoor Fitness Locations	60,000 residents per location	2	11,313	24,437	25,270	0.19	0.41	0.42
Park Facilities	Tennis Courts	8,000 residents per court	2	11,313	24,437	25,270	1.41	3.05	3.16
Park Facilities	Basketball and Multi-use Courts	650 residents ages 10-19 per court	1	1,156	2,286	2,339	1.78	3.52	3.60
Park Facilities	Skateboard Parks	7,500 residents ages 10-19 per skate park	1.0-5.0	535	1,719	1,778	0.07	0.23	0.24
Park Facilities	Leash Free Dog Areas	1 areas per ward	n.a.	535	1,719	1,778	1	1	1
<b>Service Radius Standard Only</b>									
Park Facilities	Outdoor Ice Rinks and Skating Trails	Service Radius Only	5	11,313	24,437	25,270			
Recreation Facilities	Seniors Recreation Spaces	Service Radius Only	2	11,313	24,437	25,270			
Park Facilities	Playgrounds	Service Radius Only	0.5-0.8	11,313	24,437	25,270			
Park Facilities	Pickleball Courts	Service Radius Only	2	11,313	24,437	25,270			
Park Facilities	Spray Pads	Service Radius Only	1-1.5	11,313	24,437	25,270			
<b>No Related Service Standard</b>									
Recreation Facilities	Community Halls	Case-Specific	n.a.						
Park Facilities	Football Fields	None	n.a.						
Park Facilities	Beach Volleyball Courts	None	n.a.						
Park Facilities	Bocce Courts	None	n.a.						
Park Facilities	Lawn Bowling Greens	None	n.a.						
Park Facilities	Wading Pools	None	n.a.						
Park Facilities	Pump Track	None	n.a.						
Park Facilities	Community Gardens	None	n.a.						
Park Facilities	Golf Courses	None	n.a.						
Park Facilities	Outdoor Tracks	None	n.a.						

SOURCE: urbanMetrics Inc.

