

Q. 15 - Comments with regards to CURRENT outdoor recreation facilities / spaces in Strathcona County

* All comments are verbatim, with the exception of any personal / identifying information. Comments regarding multiple themes are repeated in under each relevant heading.

Playgrounds

- Would love to have a non-sand option in the playgrounds
- would like to see cottonwood park playground up graded
- Have some playgrounds that don't have sand! Sand is fun, however, if you want a quick, clean play time, sand is not the place to go.
- I would love to have picnic benches and swings brought to the Yellow slide Park by the Synergy Center
- Need playgrounds that don't have sand.
- Wish there were more picnic tables at playground areas
- I LOVE all the walking trails and the off leash (wish there were more!) and the kid's playgrounds (as at Broadmoor Lake Park) are fabulous!
- Davidson Creek playground spaces really need updating
- Would like to see an urban dog off leash, more spray decks, different trend in playgrounds like natural or climbing.
- Consider changing out sand parks to bark...Sand can be dangerous... Garbage hidden in it. Also extremely dirty. Dog ON leash areas should be checked or there should be fines for off dogs in these areas. Makes it completely unsafe and unfair to those who do not want random dogs charging them or scaring their children. I think this happens far more than realized. We don't go to the park as often because of loose dogs running around.
- shredded rubber tires for ground surface instead of sand or wood chips
- A kudo a thank you for the kids playground at the schools.

Trails – Quantity

- more trails needed, make bicycle commuting a priority
- I LOVE all the walking trails and the off leash (wish there were more!) and the kids playgrounds (as at Broadmoor Lake Park) are fabulous!
- Bike paths also walking paths. Take grandchildren to parks and playgrounds and biking. We are rural residents and use the Blackfoot often. Need for more horse trails in the County linking natural areas and subdivisions.
- It would be nice to have some bike trails in some of the rural subdivisions that are so close to each other or playgrounds
- Appreciate the number of walking trails/green spaces year round.

- continue to expand trails within residential neighborhoods
- More out door running and hiking trails are needed
- There is more required for walking and running trails in subdivisions that don't have them.
- More cross country skiing, bike trails
- would like more walking trails
- what we really feel is nice is the trails/expanding into new areas would be good/would like to have trails cleared of snow and debris

Trails – Maintenance

- Better access to trails in the winter would be great. I'm sure it's a challenge to clear them but it does help support staying active through the winter.
- The upgrades to bike paths are always appreciated.
- County has been doing (what seems to be) annual reconstruction in the Ridge bike path east of the open space. This is frustrating and seems to be a huge waste of tax dollars since it obviously wasn't completed properly the first time.
- Some trails at the dog park are very wet and muddy, a boardwalk should be built over those areas.
- Awesome job with the upkeep of the bike paths in the county!
- I love how Strathcona County has a wonderful trail system throughout Sherwood Park. My only suggestion would be to change all of the bike gates into ones which would allow bike trailers to get through. I have damaged my bike on the ones that you need to "s" your way through. (I hope that make sense)
- Enjoy what is available. Appreciate that during the winter the trails and outdoor rinks are cleaned off quickly.
- Trails and the availability of trails are excellent.
- Bathrooms along trails or at least open the ones at SAL so they can be used. Outdoor water sources would be nice. Trail clearing from snow (all trails) should be top priority.
- Bike paths are not consistently maintained. Same with soccer fields which were often uneven, with holes and ruts and in need of more frequent mowing and line painting
- well done on the bmx park/more mountain bike trails
- we're living in village on the lake the spray deck needs repairing, theres pathways around the commity building in village on the lake that are heaving, some walkways that are uneven
- some trails need to be trimmed
- just keep working on the walking trails and educate bikers and boarders on road manners
- trail that is used is lovely
- we have great bicycle and walking paths in the county

- what we really feel is nice is the trails/expanding into new areas would be good/would like to have trails cleared of snow and debris

Trails – Connectivity

- Keep up the good work. Work on the river valley alliance trails and the trans-canada trails!
- Love the trails. Can't wait for the petroleum way trail to be done. I, and many others have noticed that there is increased train traffic on petroleum way and 17th street. It is to the point that we cannot run from the science park in the evenings anymore due to train waits close to an hour on several occasions. This is also a safety concern. If there were to be an emergency the only way for emergency vehicles to get in would be through Rundle Park if there were a train blocking the way. Chances of needing emergency vehicles are quite high as the trails are used by many bikers and during the winter the skiers could have an emergency.
- More connected bike paths would be helpful.
- Spaces are generally very well kept; pathways for running and biking are great, and make Sherwood Park accessible without the use of a vehicle.
- I would like to see them coordinated in the rural areas- e.g. a riding/running trail which goes from one Range Rd to another
- Lovely well-kept outdoor spaces, nice to see the walking pathways extended opposite Sal High School, much safer for kids in the winter/spring
- It would be nice to have a bike path on Wye rd running east of Brentwood Blvd to join up with existing path
- We wish there were designated cycling routes in the county for road bikes.
- The pathway in Centennial Park could loop all around from the north ball diamond...past the picnic area...by the soccer fields...by the ponds/south ball diamonds and back to the north ball diamonds.
- Bike paths that connect (nice but difficult to go on a long bike ride or run)
- not enough bike trails-have to go to main road for bike paths-could have put a bike trail in behind Wye road
- like a bike trail from sherwood park to arrossan

Open Green Space – Maintenance

- Outdoor spaces are always well manicured - looks great

Open Green Space – Quantity

- Lots of wasted space in open areas. For example, The Ridge green space by Silver Oaks condos. Green space needs to have a purpose, like a playground, soccer, basketball court, spray deck. Don't plant a huge field that serves no sports purpose but requires maintenance and becomes weed-infested. The Ridge park isn't flat enough for kids to play soccer/football and has bike

paths cut thru it. Why wouldn't you break up these huge fields into 2 mini fields so more homes back onto green space and the space is utilized. Green space is at a premium in Sherwood Park! Utilize it better!

- I would like to see more green spaces with woods and trails within them that are larger. A park similar to Hawrelak Park in the city would be a welcome addition to our County. Our green spaces are too small and too few.

General Outdoor Maintenance

- Great maintenance of green spaces
- Tree trimming along bike paths would be nice. I'm ducking as I'm riding to not get poked
- You need more trash cans on the trails and on bike paths. There is not enough of them. Heck they should be at every bus stop. Also these need to be cleaned out on a regular basis. They don't get emptied quite enough. Hire the local community to do it! Whatever it takes, it needs to be done to keep this county clean.
- It would be nice to have clean public washrooms more readily available. And the spray park I went to on clover bar was littered with garbage.
- I'm hoping with the u grade and addition of spray deck to the broadmoor lake park that the sand volley ball courts will still be available
- Would like to see the northern Heritage Hills parks given names, with a sign
- More garbage pickup or covered containers, bins are overloaded when there are school sports at the fields
- Need better maintenance to trees, paths (snow clearing) and garbage pick up
- Appreciate how quickly paths are cleared of snow in winter
- The bike and running trails in Sherwood Park are fantastic - our family really enjoys the access. The practice fields for soccer have long grass and no lines - tough for practice and coaching.
- I love the flower beds and especially the beautiful rose bushes and ornamental grass along Brentwood Blvd.
- we need to update some of the older park, and more splash park.
- some of the places have trees that are too tall
- more picnic areas and fire pits
- would like them to maintain as much of the green spaces as they can

Sports fields

- The outdoor soccer fields are not mowed regularly during the season which makes play difficult when the grass is long.
- The bike and running trails in Sherwood Park are fantastic - our family really enjoys the access. The practice fields for soccer have long grass and no lines - tough for practice and coaching.

- More football spaces with lights
- A spray park for Sherwood Park like the one in Ft Sask would be great. Also we could use a twin turf facility like the one in Spruce Grove. We have always had great athletes and teams in the County and great facilities would continue to help success amongst all of our kids.
- We are needing an outdoor turf field for soccer/football. I realize we are in the process of building one or will be. But unfortunately with Strathcona County being an active place the new turf will not be able to accommodate it's growing interests and teams and clubs will be forced to head into Edmonton to use their facilities.
- Portable bathrooms at the Millennium Place outdoor soccer fields are needed as well as at outdoor soccer fields such as Heritage Hills, Cloverbar, etc. where games are played.
- Inadequate Baseball fields and Inadequate Soccer Fields compared to other communities
- The outdoor soccer fields at are nice. During events, port-a-potties would be useful. I would like the grass to be mowed regularly, especially those fields where soccer is played at.
- More soccer fields/ turf. Would be nice if phoenix teams could use MP outdoor soccer fields for practices.
- Some of the fields are a bit worn and could use more sod but otherwise they are very well kept
- The millennium soccer fields were in very rough shape this year.
- Bike paths are not consistently maintained. Same with soccer fields which were often uneven, with holes and ruts and in need of more frequent mowing and line painting
- Grass needs to be cut more often during the outdoor soccer season!! You couldn't even see the players feet or the ball this past spring!
- More turf fields.
- Repair holes in sport fields, to prevent injury.

BMX Bike Park

- really pleased with BMX park
- well done on the bmx park/more mountain bike trails
- I like the new BMX bike park. The boy especially likes it.

Ball Diamonds

- The time to do improvements at Centennial Park 9 has had, and will have a huge effect on the baseball season
- I think the ball diamonds are poorly cared for. Centennial Park has been closed and no work is happening there despite it was supposed to be originally reopened the middle of August. Now it won't be ready until after ball season starts. It seems like we are the only community ripping up diamonds regularly. As a taxpayer I am wondering why? The old diamonds at Sherwood Heights were better--these look nice but the dugouts won't keep out the sunshine and the wind. And with the cloverleaf design spectators are at risk of getting hit in the head by

foul balls--we have seen this happen in St. Albert at their Slow Pitch Diamonds. Also too much money is being charged for midget diamond use. It was cheaper for the Junior Team to leave our community and go play in the city!

- Baseball diamonds seem to be in a continual state of rotating closures. There does not appear to be any priority to meet the schedule completion dates once a diamond is closed
- The County continues to allow SPMBA to rip up baseball diamonds at the tax payers expense. This might seem normal but it IS NOT normal to redo diamonds every year or even every 10 or 20 years. Other cities do not do this. I believe the reason SPMBA does it is for them to recoup costs of their hired maintenance people (make work project). Also it is apparent they do not know what they are doing and thus wasted money and time not spent by kids on those diamonds. The county needs to take control of OUR tax payer money and stop allowing SPMBA to get away with this. CP9 torn up again? Really?
- Our baseball facilities are extremely disappointing. Below standard for competitive teams below Midget. Whoever schedules maintenance must be replaced with significant work being done at crucial times of the season! Often work is slow and disorganized. Outdoor rinks are fantastic!
- Appreciate improvements to Centennial ball diamonds park
- The pathway in Centennial Park could loop all around from the north ball diamond...past the picnic area...by the soccer fields...by the ponds/south ball diamonds and back to the north ball diamonds.
- Inadequate Baseball fields and Inadequate Soccer Fields compared to other communities
- It would be nice to have upgraded facilities at Centennial Park.
- baseball diamonds are an embarrassment compared to others he has visited, both in upkeep and actual physical structure

Artificial Turf

- We need artificial turf on SAP football/soccer field.
- Ensure access for all users groups at the artificial turf not just football

Outdoor Aquatics

- Can't wait for a proper spray park to open.
- Not enough spray parks!
- Very disappointed in Village on the Lake spray deck STILL being broken...what an eyesore and disappointing for a young mom with 2 children who just moved to the area (thinking the spray deck was a perk to buying)
- can't wait for the new splash park really missed it this past summer
- please ensure washrooms are available at spray park locations as public urination is a huge problem
- Can't wait for the new spray deck to open at Broadmoor! Looks fantastic!

- larger outdoor spray deck
- why was the current spray park closed all summer?
- Spray park requires bathroom facilities
- Better bathroom facilities are needed at the Jim Common spray park.
- Would like to see an urban dog off leash, more spray decks, different trend in playgrounds like natural or climbing.
- I think the spray decks could be improved for the older kids and most of the time one of them that's near me isn't even running or a way to get them to start running
- A spray park for Sherwood Park like the one in Ft Sask would be great. Also we could use a twin turf facility like the one in Spruce Grove. We have always had great athletes and teams in the County and great facilities would continue to help success amongst all of our kids.
- Need more spray parks
- A bigger and better spray park is really needed in Sherwood Park. We always travel out of the community where there are larger scale facilities.
- Strathcona spray parks are not worth the money paid for them. It would be nice if outdoor basketball nets were consistently replaced. For around \$15 a net, its ridiculous that the nets rarely get replaced throughout the season.
- The size of the current spray deck is shameful. Thought needs to be given to separating the big kids from the little ones. The current spray deck is usually full of older kids spraying everywhere and doesn't give the little ones a chance to get used to the water. Shameful for Sherwood Park.
- Our spray park is nothing compared to surrounding communities.
- The spray park at Brentwood school need improvement
- more spray decks
- we need to update some of the older park, and more splash park.
- having a spray park will be very beneficial.
- a bigger splash would be great
- we're living in village on the lake the spray deck needs repairing, theres pathways around the commity building in village on the lake that are heaving, some walkways that are uneven

Dog Off-Leash

- the Deermound off-leash dog facility is *wonderful*
- We absolutely need more off leash friendly areas. Especially something at the north end of sherwood park. Even to designate some small existing green spaces to off leash spaces
- Provide more dog friendly activities as not everyone's family includes children.
- Deermound off-leash park is a wonderful place - some wood chips on low lying parts of trails that accumulate water would allow every day access to trails in woods

- We absolutely love going to Deermound Off Leash Park. We are very lucky to have this in our community.
- could use another dog park at other end of the park.
- dog park dangerous...some vicious dogs...no go anymore
- I LOVE all the walking trails and the off leash (wish there were more!) and the kids playgrounds (as at Broadmoor Lake Park) are fabulous!
- Would like to see an urban dog off leash, more spray decks, different trend in playgrounds like natural or climbing.
- Some trails at the dog park are very wet and muddy, a boardwalk should be built over those areas.
- Another off-leash area near or North of Highway 16 would be appreciated.
- We need more off-leash areas
- Love our off leash park!
- Consider changing out sand parks to bark...Sand can be dangerous... Garbage hidden in it. Also extremely dirty. Dog ON leash areas should be checked or there should be fines for off dogs in these areas. Makes it completely unsafe and unfair to those who do not want random dogs charging them or scaring their children. I think this happens far more than realized. We don't go to the park as often because of loose dogs running around.
- The BMX/ bikes skills park is great for all levels of riders! Really enjoyed it this summer. The off-leash dog park gets a lot of use and always a family favorite.
- Would like to see a public launch area for canoes/kayak. Would like to see a rural off leash area.
- we use the dog off leash area, its looked after very well
- No dogs allowed in Wilderness park even on leash
- Another dog park.
- we need another off leash park
- we need another dog park
- There's not enough off-leash parks, other side of town

Outdoor Fitness Equipment

- The current outdoor fitness equipment @ Ball Island is lacking in functionality and variety.

Strathcona Wilderness Centre

- Staff running the summer camps at the Strathcona Wilderness Center were fantastic.
- Held a birthday party at the wilderness centre and it was great
- we need night lighting at SWC

- Strathcona Wilderness Center should have its gates open later in the summer.
- Strathcona Wilderness Center needs to have extended hours. 4:30 is too early to close.
- The wilderness Centre and the Olympiette Centre are wonderful facilities that are not well known by residents in Sherwood Park.
- No dogs allowed in Wilderness park even on leash
- provide strathcona cross country ski trails wilderness center-keep up the good work
- Strathcona Wilderness Centre is a great space
- we like the wilderness center

Basketball Courts

- Outdoor basketball courts should be advertised better. Many are with schools and are in rough shape.
- Old school Outdoor Basketball courts
- The basketball courts on Jim Common need to be resurfaced.
- Strathcona spray parks are not worth the money paid for them. It would be nice if outdoor basketball nets were consistently replaced. For around \$15 a net, it's ridiculous that the nets rarely get replaced throughout the season.

Tennis / Pickleball Courts

- IN DIRE NEED OF LARGE PICKLEBALL COURTS IN ONE LOCATION WITH BATHROOM FACILITIES
- I would like to see tennis/pickleball courts in Centennial Park area.
- The County needs to provide a dedicated pickleball facility where only pickleball is played. It is not fun to show up with 20 players at a facility that accommodates only 8 at a time and then have to stop playing when 2 tennis players show up.
- There is need for designated pickleball courts

Outdoor Skating

- Need to flood outdoor rinks more often. Leave outdoor lights on at outdoor rinks.
- Have the outdoor rink ready to go earlier in the season.
- Our baseball facilities are extremely disappointing. Below standard for competitive teams below Midget. Whoever schedules maintenance must be replaced with significant work being done at crucial times of the season! Often work is slow and disorganized. Outdoor rinks are fantastic!
- There should be more outdoor skating opportunities. The outdoor arena at the Strathcona Athletic Park should have more/better hours open to the public.
- I plan to take my kids to the outdoor rink more this year.

- The outdoor rink at Mills Haven needs an upgrade. A change building would be a good start!!
- Enjoy what is available. Appreciate that during the winter the trails and outdoor rinks are cleaned off quickly.
- I'm glad to see more out door hockey rinks
- lights for the outdoor rinks and boards
- storm water lakes should be cleared off more often for skating
- its too bad the overflow ponds can't be used for skating anymore

Community Gardens

- Would love more info on the community gardens and such
- Community Gardens???? clueless!

Marketing

- We need to know more about that is available
- More advertising on what's out there and how to find it. For example bike course on Bethel Drive
- It could be publicized more
- there needs to be more adds so people know what there is to do
- nice if they were advertised more/for awareness of residents
- need more adds

Washroom Facilities

- It would be nice to have clean public washrooms more readily available. And the spray park I went to on clover bar was littered with garbage.
- please ensure washrooms are available at spray park locations as public urination is a huge problem
- Spray park requires bathroom facilities
- Better bathroom facilities are needed at the Jim Common spray park.
- Restroom facilities
- Portable bathrooms at the Millennium place outdoor soccer fields are needed as well as at outdoor soccer fields such as Heritage Hills, Cloverbar, etc. where games are played.
- The outdoor soccer fields at are nice. During events, port-a-potties would be useful. I would like the grass to be mowed regularly, especially those fields where soccer is played at.
- Bathrooms along trails or at least open the ones at SAL so they can be used. Outdoor water sources would be nice. Trail clearing from snow (all trails) should be top priority.

- there should be bathrooms in the outdoor park area, no place for rvs

Other

- more golf program for teens
- Again not enough of them for the amount of people using them. Over crowded
- No
- I'm hoping with the upgrade and addition of spray deck to the broadmoor lake park that the sand volley ball courts will still be available
- What are gymkhana grounds and where are they?
- no
- more accurate maps should be available showing crown land access for hunting and fishing online
- no thanks
- None
- Only wish our summers lasted a bit longer with fewer Mosquitos so we could enjoy the outdoors more, but we make the best of it and also ensure that we spend time outdoors in the winter.
- Running track at Salisbury high school should be improved to match Bev Facey high school. Millennium field is not handicap equipped which causes a concern. Handicap Parking required on east side of Millennium field.
- Why are there no snowmobile trails/corridors?
- no
- N/A
- Let's have more.
- We have what we have - we aren't a 'river or lake' city. I think that it would be nice if there was a 'central' park instead of decentralizing all parks and activities.
- The wilderness Centre and the Olympiette Centre are wonder facilities that are not well known by residents in Sherwood Park.
- Outdoor recreation should be funded on a similar scale to indoor recreation
- We need indoor large team sports facilities
- It is important for the County to consider an indoor sports arena for soccer. It's becoming a more well known sport and we do not have the facilities for it. We go to Commonwealth which is a considerable amount of driving time as well as price.
- GARC men's dressing room is in need of a renovation which I think is already in the planning
- Bathrooms along trails or at least open the ones at SAL so they can be used. Outdoor water sources would be nice. Trail clearing from snow (all trails) should be top priority.

- The bike trails often lead to shopping centers who have very poor bike racks. So what is the point of having bike trails if when you arrive at your destination, there is no place to leave the bikes.
- No
- THE BMX/ bikes skills park is great for all levels of riders! Really enjoyed it this summer. The off-leash dog park gets a lot of use and always a family favorite.
- would like to see a public launch area for canoes/kayak would like to see a rural off leash area
- A disc golf course within Sherwood Park would be a great activity as the current one is a bit of a drive. Could be easily added to an existing park or green space. Most people we know of who play go to Rundle Park rather than the one we have.
- We need a disc golf course within sherwood park. This could be added to existing parks or as part of a new development.
- I Think the nature walk is excellent and they should not change it
- It would be nice to rent boats at Broadmoor Lake more. Broadmoor lake is dirty
- I still think the facilities have to coordinate different programs to keep them filled.
- more user friendly water ways-Cooking lake, snowmobile trails
- there should be bathrooms in the outdoor park area, no place for rv's
- was not aware that we had that many outdoor recreation facilities
- they do nothing with the outdoor lakes we could make use of this space
- I feel like I'm not using them enough. We live pretty far from Sherwood Park. We get most of our physical activity in our back yard.
- was not aware that we had all those activities
- disappointed when new facility built in Ardrossan without an indoor swimming pool
- we want more
- we use what is appropriate for each of us
- we are gone to lake 4 days of week
- overcrowding
- continue to maintain what is there
- not much info what are good place to go to, membership not for all gyms, reduced cost for areas without swimming area.. Special promos wd help
- A kudo a thank you for the kids playground at the schools.
- there are enough
- enough already
- absence of stocked trout ponds/fishing opportunities

- more accurate maps should be available showing crown land access for hunting and fishing online
- Only wish our summers lasted a bit longer with fewer Mosquitos so we could enjoy the outdoors more, but we make the best of it and also ensure that we spend time outdoors in the winter.
- A new park in Maple Wood Community adjacent to Rosewood Drive./
- we need more police protection at night.
- That one park, Strathcona science center, why was it shut down?
- group paddling down the river in more than one canoe on sask river

Broadmoor Golf Course

- more golf program for teens
- I think that the county is doing a good job with the upkeep for the golf course.
- can't afford some of the stuff like golf
- They are good but i would like to see trail on bordmore golf on winter
- want to snowshoe at Broadmoor

Great Job!

- Love them all keep up the great work
- VERY GOOD CONDITION, KEEP UP THE WORK
- They are very well maintained
- Love love love the outdoor facilities. They are amazing!!!
- Overall, the parks in Strathcona County are very well maintained, beautiful, and enjoyable.
- The outdoor areas are great and well kept. Good job!
- Well maintained
- Spaces are generally very well kept; pathways for running and biking are great, and make Sherwood Park accessible without the use of a vehicle.
- they are appreciated
- Love that there is provisions for open areas for spontaneous use and non-organized sport and rec opportunities
- Well maintained
- Great facilities in the county
- I LOVE all the walking trails and the off leash (wish there were more!) and the kids playgrounds (as at Broadmoor Lake Park) are fabulous!

- Lovely well kept outdoor spaces, nice to see the walking pathways extended opposite Sal High School, much safer for kids in the winter/spring
- We are fortunate to have so many great facilities in our community
- I loved seeing the beautiful flowers (red, yellow and blue) planted by the library and other areas in Sherwood Park.
- Our outdoor facilities are top notch.
- The county has done a great job creating spray parks, walking trails, picnic areas, green spaces, playgrounds and toboggan hills all over Sherwood Park
- All good
- Love them!
- kept very well!
- They are awesome, ones of the reason we moved here
- Outdoor facilities are well maintained
- Enjoy what is available. Appreciate that during the winter the trails and outdoor rinks are cleaned off quickly.
- Love them!
- very nice, keep up the maintenance and additions are always welcomed. It's all about fitness and trying something new! Plus it's not a huge time commitment like dedicated sports
- Keep up the green space options, especially in the newer, more crowded areas in Sherwood Park.
- We have excellent outdoor facilities.
- Excellent facilities
- Well kept