

Proposed Content of Section D – Quality of Life

The Quality of Life section provides direction on how the City of Saskatoon (City) may address the cultural and social identity and development of the community. This includes how:

1. Art, culture and health and safety may be supported or built into the community;
2. Heritage should be conserved and a sense of place be instilled; and
3. Community facilities and the city's open spaces such as parks and natural areas may be developed and offer community assets for people.

This section is proposed to include the following subsections:

1. Health and safety;
2. Social development;
3. Arts and culture;
4. Heritage conservation;
5. Parks and recreation open space;
6. Community facilities; and
7. Placemaking.

Details on each subsection and the source of its content is included below.

D1 – Health and Safety

This section includes policies relating to health and safety, includes sub-headings for:

- Health and wellbeing;
- Safe growth and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design;
- Safety in the built environment; and
- Emergency services and preparedness.

Healthy, safe communities are a key component of quality of life. The design and condition of neighbourhoods can impact the health of residents. As such, the City of Saskatoon prioritizes public safety in the built environment, monitors construction through permitting and inspections, and ensures emergency services are well equipped to provide protection for residents.

To address these topics, the policies included in Section 3.1 – Safe Growth of the [current OCP](#) are maintained. They outline the City's commitment to and use of the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and outline when and how these principles are used.

In addition this section includes new policy informed by the following documents:

- [Strategic Plan 2018-2021](#)
- [Building Bylaw No. 9455](#)
- [Emergency Planning Bylaw No. 7269](#)
- [Fire and Protective Services Bylaw No. 7990](#)

The topics addressed by the new policies are listed below under the sub-heading where they are proposed to be included:

- Health and Well-Being
The City's role in positively influencing social and environmental determinants of health and in supporting efforts to achieve wellbeing in all dimensions of health.
- Safe Growth and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
Policies located in Section 3.1 – Safe Growth of the [current OCP](#) are maintained. These policies outline the City's commitment to and use of the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and outline when and how these principles are used.
- Safety in the Built Environment
 - The oversight of the construction of buildings and structures; and
 - Delivery of neighbourhood safety, property maintenance, and bylaw compliance programs.
- Emergency Services and Preparedness
 - The provision of police, fire, and emergency management services;
 - Coordinated emergency response and recovery planning; and
 - Coordinated preparedness, planning, and recovery for critical municipal infrastructure.

D2 – Social Development

This section includes policies relating social development, includes sub-headings for:

- Inclusive community
- Accessibility – physical, financial, and cultural
- Attainable housing
- Partnerships and programs
- Food systems

Social development addresses issues of income, age, gender, ability, culture, attainable housing and food security at the community level to help ensure all residents have equitable access to a greater quality of life. Investing in social issues means investing in people, along with the removal of barriers to participation. The City is committed to supporting the social needs of residents through appropriate public engagement,

equitable distribution of community services and ongoing consideration of social issues in land use policy and land use decisions.

To address these topics, policies included in Section 17.0 – Social Development of the [current OCP](#) are included in this section. These policies outline the City's commitment to an equitable distribution of community facilities, partnering with other public, private and voluntary sector organizations in addressing the social aspects of land use planning, monitoring housing needs, and ensuring the accessibility of public facilities.

In addition new policy informed by the following documents is included:

- [Saskatoon Speaks;](#)
- [Strategic Plan 2018-2021;](#)
- [Recreation & Parks Master Plan ;](#)
- [Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Policy C10-023;](#)
- [Age-friendly Saskatoon Initiative Recommendations;](#)
- [Culture Plan Implementation Refresh;](#)
- [Park Development Guidelines Policy A10-017;](#)
- [Innovative Housing Incentives Policy C09-002;](#)
- [Housing Business Plan 2013-2022;](#)
- [Towards a Food Strategy for Saskatoon \(March 2014 Council Agenda\); and](#)
- [Saskatoon Food Charter 2002.](#)

The topics addressed by new policies are listed below under the sub-heading where they are proposed to be included:

- Inclusive Community
 - Recreation and parks programs and opportunities that facilitate social inclusion;
 - Respect, understanding, and appreciation of cultural diversity;
 - Opportunities and accessibility for older adults to civic programs and services; and
 - The social and recreational needs within Indigenous and newcomer communities.
- Accessibility – Physical, Financial and Cultural
 - Affordability of recreation facilities and programs;
 - Accessibility of recreation and services; and

- Policies included in Section 17.2 of the [current OCP](#) regarding the equitable distribution of community facilities are included in this sub-section.
- Attainable Housing
 - The accommodation of diverse housing needs; and
 - The coordination of strategies and programs addressing homelessness in Saskatoon.
- Partnerships and Programs
 - Partnerships on the design and implementation of programs;
 - Relationships and partnerships with First Nations and Métis communities and Indigenous organizations; and
 - Support for community associations.
- Food Systems
 - Accessibility of food and nutrition education;
 - Environmental impacts of food production, processing, storage, transport, preparation, and disposal; and
 - Urban agriculture and the production of food locally.

D3 – Arts and Culture

This section includes policies relating to arts and culture. Saskatoon is a cultural city with diverse traditions, languages, stories, and ideas. Our communities work collaboratively to create dynamic, sustainable urban environments that reinforce the freedom to express, feel, innovate, share and take creative risks. The City encourages diverse forms of cultural expression and takes immense pride in supporting the inclusivity and accessibility of arts and culture in every neighbourhood, so everyone has the opportunity to participate.

This section is an entirely new addition to the OCP. The proposed new policies informed by the following documents have been developed:

- [Culture Plan](#)
- [Culture Plan Implementation Refresh](#)
- [Saskatoon Speaks](#)
- [Public Art Policy C10-025](#)

The topics addressed by new policies are listed below under the sub-heading where they are proposed to be included:

- Culture
 - Cultural development;
 - The City Centre and Downtown as cultural destinations;
 - The cultural economy and tourism;

- Programming, festivals, and events in civic spaces; and
- Cross-cultural initiatives.
- Public Art
 - Public art in spaces throughout the city;
 - Public art into civic capital projects;
 - Diversity of public art and artists; and
 - Awareness and understanding of public art.

D4 – Heritage Conservation

This section includes policies relating to heritage conservation. Heritage helps define a community's identity. Saskatoon has a rich history dating back thousands of years, from Indigenous peoples, primarily of Cree, Dakota and Saulteaux descent, to the establishment of the Métis Nation, and the arrival of the Temperance Colonization Society and other newcomers.

Saskatoon's natural, built, cultural, and documented heritage resources are indicative of our beginnings, our roots and our growth and evolution through time. They mark our achievements and challenges and serve to remind us of our resilience, diversity and resolve to thrive as a community.

To address these topics, the policies included in Section 15.0 – Heritage of the [current OCP](#) have been maintained or updated with new policy informed by the following documents:

- [Civic Heritage Policy](#);
- [Culture Plan](#);
- [Saskatoon Heritage Plan](#); and
- [ayisiyiniwak A Communications Guide 2nd Edition](#)

The proposed new policies address:

- Consideration of heritage resources and heritage conservation in the planning and review of development plans;
- The maintenance and use of the municipal Heritage Plan;
- Maintenance of a listing of significant heritage resources;
- Support for property owners for the conservation of heritage resources;
- Conserving, revitalizing, and honouring Indigenous culture and heritage;
- Promotion of heritage awareness, appreciation, and education in Saskatoon; and
- Identification and protection of important ecosystems and other forms of natural heritage.

D5 – Parks and Recreation Open Space

This section includes policies relating to parks and any other open space areas used for recreation. Parks and recreation open space are an essential public amenity. The livability of a city is fundamentally tied to their being part of the urban environment. The City of Saskatoon's goal is to ensure that all residents can engage in meaningful and accessible recreation experiences that foster individual and community well-being as well as the well-being of our natural and built environments.

To address this topic, the policies included in Section 10.0 – Parks and Recreation Open Space are incorporated, including policy on the general allocation of parks, park development, park deficiencies, park linkages and joint-use parks.

In addition it includes new policy informed by the following documents:

- [Recreation & Parks Master Plan](#);
- [Saskatoon North Partnership for Growth Regional Plan](#);
- [Service Level for Park Maintenance & Design 2017](#); and
- [Recreational Use of Storm Water Ponds Policy C10-024](#).

The proposed new policies address:

- Coordinating with regional partners and other levels of government regarding development of parks and open spaces;
- Budgeting for parks lifecycle replacement and amenity refreshment;
- Park and recreation open space design considerations;
- The management of naturalized areas;
- The design and use of storm water retention ponds; and
- Policies included in Section 10.2 of the [current OCP](#) regarding park development, the general allocation of parks, park deficiencies, park linkages, and joint-use parks are maintained and included in this section.

D6 – Community Facilities

This section includes policies relating to community facilities. Community facilities help build healthy communities. Providing amenities for year-round recreation, physical activity and social interaction contributes to overall quality of life in Saskatoon. The City is a major delivery agent of public recreation and has a significant investment in community infrastructure, including many multi-use program spaces throughout the city. School buildings and sites are focal points for many residential neighbourhoods. They are a community resource that may have more than one role in its lifespan. The provision of educational uses is a priority and the City ensures that the location of these facilities accommodates community needs and is compatible with surrounding land uses.

To address this topic, the policies included in Section 11.0 – Community Services and Facilities are incorporated with policy regarding:

- Planning for community centres;
- Community centre site locations;
- Scale of facilities;
- Balance between the development of civic infrastructure in new areas and the maintenance and renewal of infrastructure in existing areas;
- School sites;
- Public open space;
- Shared facilities;
- Site suitability; and
- Design principles.

In addition the policies include new policy informed by the following documents:

- [Recreation & Parks Master Plan](#)
- [Active Transportation Plan](#)
- [Recreation & Parks Master Plan](#)
- [Winter City Strategy Development Framework:](#)
- [Recreation & Parks Master Plan](#)
- [Strategic Plan 2018-2021](#)
- [The Planning and Development Act, 2007 – Section 32](#)

The proposed new policies address:

- The location of school sites;
- Integration of facilities in the development of new or enhanced recreation and parks infrastructure;
- The use of the Recreation & Parks Master Plan in guiding recreational facility development;
- Budgeting for recreational facilities;
- Accessibility of community facilities; and
- The design of community facilities.

D7 – Placemaking

This section includes policies relating to placemaking. Placemaking is the creation of a sense of place within the public realm. The City uses community-inspired design to build and preserve creative, welcoming public spaces that promote community interaction.

To address this topic, the policies included in Section 14.0 – Urban Design and Design Review are incorporated, identifying urban design principles to be considered in the preparation and review of all plans for development, including – Design with Nature; Human Scale; Building Design; Open Space; Streetscapes; Views and Vistas; Barrier Free Access; Safety; Art in Public Places; and Landscape Design.

In addition it includes new policy informed by the following documents:

- [City of Saskatoon – Public Spaces, Activity and Urban Form Strategic Framework- City Centre Plan Phase 1;](#)
- [Saskatoon Speaks;](#)
- [Strategic Plan 2018-2021;](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Culture Plan Implementation Refresh 2018-2022;](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - City Centre Plan;](#) and
- [Winter City Strategy Development.](#)

The proposed new policies address:

- The overall network of public spaces;
- Improvements to the public realm; and
- Saskatoon as a four-season city.