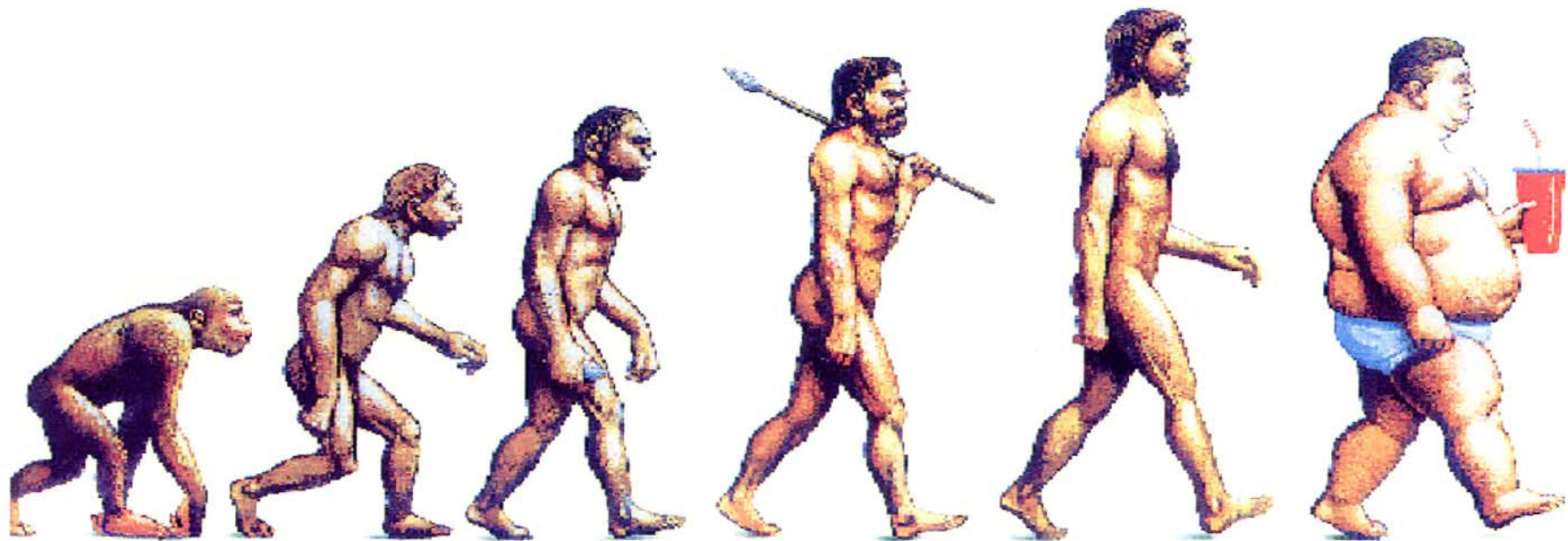


# Parks, Recreation, Culture & Library Master Plan General Overview – Parks/Outdoor Facilities Section

Presentation #1  
General Committee  
February 2007



# The shape of things to come



# Purpose

- ◆ An update on the Parks, Recreation, Culture & Library Master Plan (PRCL-MP) will be presented to Committee in a series of three presentations.
- ◆ Ensures new Council members are brought up-to-date and provides refresh for all Council members.
- ◆ Today's presentation includes a general overview of the plan and highlights the Parks & Outdoor Facilities section.

# Background

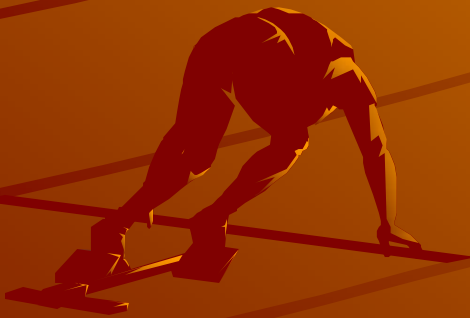
- ✦ PRCL-MP establishes priorities / policies guiding delivery of facilities / services to 2021.
- ✦ PRCL-MP builds on 1999 plan; expands to include Parks & Outdoor facilities.
- ✦ Plan built on three key elements; public consultation, data analysis & technical expertise.

# Background Cont'd

- ◆ Data collection, analysis, public & Council presentations completed in 2005.
- ◆ Town staff / Council using document to guide current / future planning decision making.
- ◆ Priorities established in the plan have been the focus; much has been accomplished; significant opportunities have presented themselves; challenges and opportunities are ahead.

# Background Cont'd

- ✦ Plan requires major updating every five years and ongoing review from staff in the various areas as circumstances change.





# Key Elements of Plan

- ✦ Extensive consultation, research & analysis undertaken.
- ✦ Public consultation was key element including:
  - Community Groups Surveys
  - Household Telephone Survey
  - Youth Task Force & Older Adults feedback opportunities
  - Council & Staff interviews

# Key Elements of Plan cont'd

- Internet website for feedback
- Public information meetings
- Presentations to Council & Standing Committees
- ◆ Result 75 recommendations related to service delivery, Parks & Outdoor Facilities, Indoor Recreation Facilities, Culture Facilities, Libraries, Partnerships, Pricing & Financing Strategy



# Key Elements of Plan cont'd

- ◆ Plan articulates & ranks 11 strategic priorities
  - Trail Master Plan
  - Parks Maintenance
  - Land Acquisition
  - Target Community Benefits & Core Markets
  - Multi-Purpose, Multi-Generational Facilities



# Key Elements of Plan cont'd

- Capital Building Funds
- Milne Park Master Plan
- Feasibility Large Recreation Facility – Regional Draw
- Environmental Practices
- Town's Role
- Opportunities – School Boards



# Key Elements of Plan cont'd

- ✦ Capital costs to implement the recommendations in the plan over 17 years will require ongoing analysis, updating and reconciliation.



# Key Statistics

- ✦ Population projections / demographic analysis cornerstone to forecast facility & service needs.
- ✦ By 2021 Markham's population projected at 302,200 with growth in real numbers to 2016 in all population segments (policy changes can alter this number).

# Key Statistics cont'd

- ◆ Greatest demand in older adult segment.
- ◆ By 2021 32% of population will be 55 or older.
- ◆ Provision standards are used to forecast demand (i.e. 1 arena per 24,000 residents; 1 pool per 50,000 residents).

# Public Consultation Highlights

- ✦ Input from public consultation shaped the priorities & recommendations.
- ✦ The general themes that emerged are:
  - Need more & better linked trails
  - Enhanced, technological libraries
  - Sportfield development with lights & amenities



# Public Consultation Highlights

- Larger & more indoor multi-purpose facilities
- Improvement / promotion of arts programs, arts & cultural facilities
- Upgrade existing facilities
- World-class sports facility
- Indoor soccer & tennis facilities
- More teen facilities; more diverse programs

# Public Consultation Highlights

- ◆ Community groups gave facilities overall adequacy rating of 77%.
- ◆ 74% of respondents rated Markham's parks & recreation facilities as good to excellent; 78% for arts & culture; 67% for library.

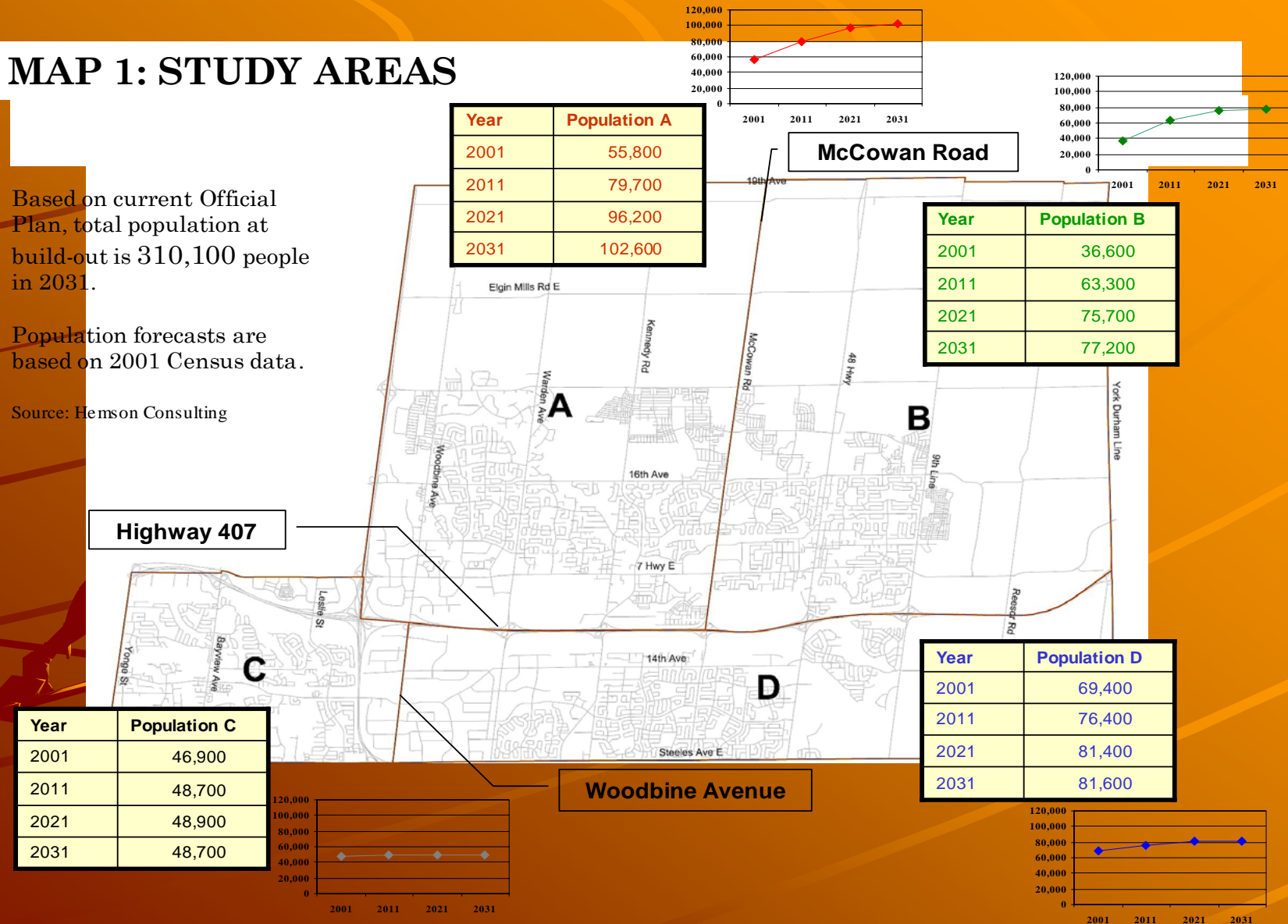


# MAP 1: STUDY AREAS

Based on current Official Plan, total population at build-out is 310,100 people in 2031.

Population forecasts are based on 2001 Census data.

Source: Hemson Consulting



# Parks & Outdoor Facilities

- ◆ 82 ball diamonds – 25 at schools – 20 with lights
- ◆ 130 programmed sportsfields – 39 at schools – 8 with lights
- ◆ 53 tennis courts – 31 at community clubs – 49 with lights
- ◆ 10 outdoor basketball courts
- ◆ 1 skate park

# Parks & Outdoor Facilities

- ◆ 2 cricket pitches
- ◆ 4 outdoor bocce courts
- ◆ 89 playground locations
- ◆ 7 splash pads
- ◆ 177 parks & trails – 80km in length
- ◆ 2 outdoor swimming pools

# Parks & Outdoor Facilities

- ✦ No additional baseball diamonds projected, monitor permits – may need to transform if under utilized to higher demand uses.
- ✦ Basketball courts popular – unstructured, pickup game appeal.
  - Standard – 1:1,500 youth
  - Recommend 13 more outdoor basketball locations – 6 short term & 7 medium term in all planning areas



# Parks & Outdoor Facilities

- ◆ Cricket recommend 1 additional pitch.
- ◆ Outdoor artificial ice surface to be reviewed for feasibility.
- ◆ No new municipal outdoor pools recommended. Convert existing to splash pads at end of life cycle.

# Parks & Outdoor Facilities

- ✦ Skateboarding growing & appeals to older teens – a market challenging to serve. Recommend 3 more in planning areas B, C & D.
- ✦ Outdoor soccer fields – tremendous growth in sport – PRCL-MP projects 27 more fields needed; however, given higher than expected sport growth in recent years, additional fields are needed in the short term.

# Parks & Outdoor Facilities

- ◆ Additional outdoor tennis courts needed given population growth and ethnicity of Markham community. Recommend 14 new courts over the term of the plan in areas A & D. Increased public access needed.



# Parks & Outdoor Facilities

- ✦ Playground standard is 1 per 750 children & within 400 metres of residential areas, which is being met. As new residential areas develop, parks development includes playgrounds in design.
- ✦ Splash pads are preferred summertime aquatic facility. Standard is 1 pad per 3,000 children age 0 – 9. Recommend 3 new pads in area A & B.

# Parks & Outdoor Facilities

- Official plan standard for parkland is 3 acres per 1,000 residents.
- All growth areas (OPA's) meet or exceed this standard.

