

**Meeting Date:** April 7, 2025  
**Department:** Community Services  
**Report No.:** CS-2025-16  
**Submitted by:** Robert Lilbourne, Director of Community Services  
**Approved by:** Rob Browning, Chief Administrative Officer  
**SUBJECT:** **Parks and Recreational Area Condition Assessment**

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**RECOMMENDATION: THAT: Report CS-2025-16 titled “Parks and Recreational Area Condition Assessment” be received for information.**

## **BACKGROUND:**

As part of the Municipality’s commitment to providing high-quality parks and facilities for residents and user groups, Council prioritized a series of Park Condition Assessments in the 2023 Capital Budget. The contract for these assessments was awarded in 2024.

This initiative was initially identified in the 2015 Parks and Recreation Master Plan and reaffirmed in the 2021 Master Plan, which recommended regular evaluations of park amenities. The findings from this assessment will support the Municipality’s Asset Management Plan and guide long-term capital planning.

## **COMMENTS:**

Largo Group commenced the Parks and Recreational Area Condition Assessment in early summer 2024 and successfully completed the project in late fall (November). As specialized consultants in infrastructure assessment, their objective was to observe and evaluate the existing condition of individual assets within each park. This assessment provides senior staff and Council with critical insights to support informed decision-making for long-term capital planning.

To ensure a standardized and comprehensive evaluation, the Canadian Infrastructure Report Card – O.Reg 588/17 Condition Grading System was utilized, which is detailed below:

## **Infrastructure Condition Grading System**

### Grade 1: Excellent (Fit for the Future)

- **Condition:** Well-maintained, in great condition, either new or recently rehabilitated.
- **Action Required:** No immediate action needed; continue routine maintenance.
- **Remaining Service Life: 80-100%**

### Grade 2: Good (Adequate for Now)

- **Condition:** Acceptable with minimal wear, typically in the mid-stage of its expected service life.
- **Action Required:** Continue routine maintenance.
- **Remaining Service Life: 60-79.9%**

### Grade 3: Fair (Requires Attention)

- **Condition:** Noticeable signs of wear, some components may have minor deficiencies.
- **Action Required:** Routine maintenance should continue, but no urgent inspections required.
- **Remaining Service Life: 40-59.9%**

### Grade 4: Poor (At Risk of Service Disruption)

- **Condition:** Approaching the end of service life, with deterioration affecting functionality.
- **Action Required:** More detailed inspections required to assess necessary repairs or replacements.
- **Remaining Service Life: 20-39%**

### Grade 5: Critical (Unfit for Service)

- **Condition:** Near or beyond expected service life, with extensive deterioration; some assets may be unusable.
- **Action Required:** Immediate action required to address safety and operational concerns.
- **Remaining Service Life: <20%**

This structured approach enables a clear understanding of the current state of park assets, facilitating strategic investment planning to maintain and enhance community recreational spaces.

#### **CONSULTATION:**

Supervisor of Parks and Recreational Facilities

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

None

#### **ALTERNATIVE(S) TO THE RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Council to provide alternate direction.

#### **STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

This matter is in accord with the following strategic priorities:

**Local Infrastructure and Capital Investment:** Households and businesses in Strathroy-Caradoc will be supported by reliable, financially responsible, and well-maintained infrastructure networks.

**Community Well-being and Quality of Life:** Residents of all ages in Strathroy-Caradoc will have access to community amenities and activities that are accessible and support active lifestyles and wellbeing.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Parks and Recreational Area Condition Assessment