

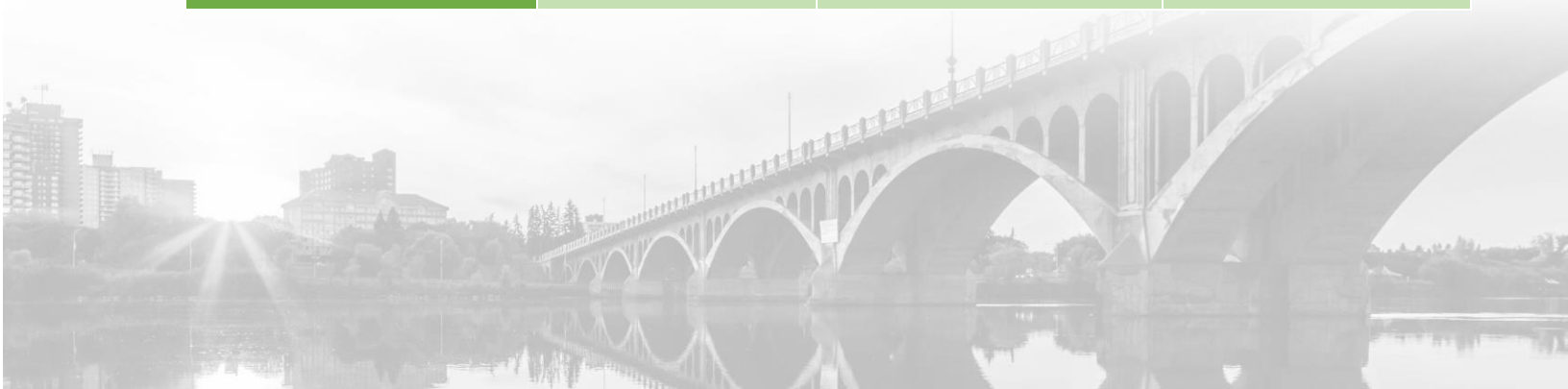
City of Saskatoon Green Infrastructure Strategy: Program Implementation

Background

The following tables provide a summary of the programs, goals, actions, and timelines that are being proposed for the Green Infrastructure Implementation Plan. The specific actions were developed during previous engagement with the community. The City is now asking the community for feedback on the programs, goals, and proposed timelines to implement the actions.

| Natural Area Management Program <i>Purpose: to protect, restore, and manage natural areas in the Green Network.</i> | | | |
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| Steps and Goals | Near Term Actions (1-2 years) | Medium Term Actions (3-9 years) | Long Term Actions (10+ years) |
| Natural Area Management Plans Goal: create and carry out management plans for all important natural areas and restore them if needed. | 11.4: Develop and implement site-specific management plans, including restoration of natural areas when required. | 1.2: In partnership with the community, complete a Traditional Land Use and Traditional Knowledge assessment to identify cultural elements in the Green Network, and establish ways to conserve, honour, and revitalize these elements. 6.2: Collaborate with Meewasin on conservation, naturalization, and the development of trails, interpretive infrastructure, and amenities in areas of interest. | |
| Natural Area Process and Policy Goal: improve the City's natural area protection processes and policies. | 11.2: Protect significant natural areas using a variety of available protection tools. 13.4: Establish ongoing biodiversity monitoring and | 11.1: Identify natural areas and make management decisions for these sites regarding avoidance, minimization, or compensation. 13.3: Reduce point and non-point source | 11.3: Integrate natural assets into the urban fabric while conserving ecosystem function. |

| | <i>reporting with partners.</i> | <i>pollution to natural assets.</i> | |
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| <p>Natural Asset Framework</p> <p>Goal: include natural assets in the City's asset management framework so that they are equal with grey assets like buildings and roads.</p> | | | <p>4.4: Define an appropriate service level and associated funding for the Green Network to prioritize future investments.</p> <p>4.5: Evaluate the ecosystem services of the Green Network through the Natural Capital Asset Valuation process.</p> |
| <p>Natural Storm Water Management</p> <p>Goal: incorporate wetlands into the City's storm water management systems while also conserving them.</p> | | | <p>14.1 As the city expands, incorporate wetlands and natural drainage paths into the storm water network in greenfield development areas.</p> <p>14.3 Evaluate opportunities to increase naturalization of existing storm ponds to improve water quality and habitat, while balancing community recreation and other considerations.</p> <p>14.4 Consult with affected organizations when designing storm water infrastructure to mitigate impacts to natural areas and cultural elements within the watershed.</p> |



Grey to Green Program

Purpose: to increase adoption of green infrastructure in urban areas

| Steps and Goals | Near Term Actions (1-2 years) | Medium Term Actions (3-9 years) | Long Term Actions (10+ years) |
|---|--|---|---|
| Green infrastructure policies Goal: include green infrastructure in all applicable City policy, standards, and work procedures so that it is supported and encouraged. | 13.2 Develop and integrate wildlife friendly standards into development, including bird friendly standards in highly built-up areas. | 13.1 Develop dark sky and low noise zones, prioritizing sites to reduce ecological stress. 13.5 Improve management of the City's soil assets. 15.3 Update bylaws and regulations to allow more permeable surfaces. | 04.1 Improve Green Network planning by updating City work plans, policies, and initiatives to increase green infrastructure across Saskatoon. |
| Green infrastructure projects Goal: include green infrastructure or nature-friendly design into City buildings and redevelopment projects. | | 15.1 Incorporate Low Impact Development pilots into City projects to show leadership, prioritizing high-pedestrian areas such as BRT corridors and Downtown. 14.2 Identify how green infrastructure can increase the storm system's capacity to respond to intense rain events. 15.2 Continue partnering with research institutions and conservation agencies to determine best practices for Low Impact Development. 15.5 Pilot raw water use projects. | |

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| <p>Community and Commercial support</p> <p>Goal: support community and commercial use of green infrastructure through development standards, incentives, education, and other types of support.</p> | | <p>15.4 Encourage commercial, institutional, and residential installation of Low Impact Development and onsite storm water management through education and incentives.</p> | |
| <p>Protect and plant city trees</p> <p>Goal: Implement the Urban Forest Management Plan.</p> | <p>10.1 Ensure existing trees are protected, including through policy and bylaw updates.</p> <p>10.2 Review and improve existing programs related to tree watering, maintenance, inventory, and planting techniques.</p> | <p>10.4 Design sustainable tree planting sites to ensure adequate soil volume, quality, and space for trees.</p> | <p>10.3 Continue to trial new tree species and increase biodiversity.</p> |
| <p>Active Transportation</p> <p>Goal: Improve active transportation options in the Green Network.</p> | | <p>09.1 Identify and address accessibility and connectivity barriers to and within the Green Network.</p> <p>09.2 Increase access to and within the Green Network, with an emphasis on walkability and multi-modal transportation.</p> | |



Growing Community Program

Purpose: to increase citizen engagement with the Green Network

| Steps and Goals | Near Term Actions (1-2 years) | Medium Term Actions (3-9 years) | Long Term Actions (10+ years) |
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| Education, Awareness, and Partnerships Goal: increase community awareness about the Green Network through education and partnerships. | 02.1 Develop and provide education materials about the Green Network to citizens to increase community awareness and ownership. 10.5 Develop community education and outreach programs to increase public awareness, stewardship, and partnerships for the urban forest. | 01.4 Work with the community to tell the story of Saskatoon's Green Network from many voices through public art, interpretive features, and other mediums. | |
| Grants and Incentives Goal: encourage community use of green infrastructure through grants and incentives. | 02.2 Seek opportunities to incentivize green infrastructure in private and commercial areas. | | |
| Community Stewardship Goal: encourage community support of the Green Network through programs and projects. | 02.3 Develop a program and funding model to support community-led green infrastructure projects, citizen science, and bio-cultural management. | 01.1 Complete an Intangible Cultural Heritage Assessment to better understand community uses of the Green Network. | |
| Natural Areas Education Goal: increase awareness about Saskatoon's natural areas through education and volunteer opportunities. | 06.3 Leverage and support Meewasin's educational and public outreach programming and volunteer base to increase conservation, ecology, and natural and cultural resource awareness. | | |

Sustainable Food Program

Purpose: to support local, sustainable, and equitable food in Saskatoon.

| Steps and Goals | Near Term Actions (1-2 years) | Medium Term Actions (3-9 years) | Long Term Actions (10+ years) |
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| Sustainable Food Projects Goal: complete early food security projects in partnership with the community that demonstrate a sustainable food system and lay the groundwork for future stages of this program. | 03.4 Identify potential sites and partners to develop a food forest pilot project. | 03.3 Work with and support partners to incorporate food and fruit production or traditional food systems into high priority urban areas. | |
| Sustainable Food Action Plan Goal: create a sustainable food system that is equitable, through a Sustainable Food Action Plan and community support. | | 03.2 Work with partners to develop a comprehensive food strategy, including implementation of the Saskatoon Regional Food System Assessment and Action Plan. | 03.1 Update policies to improve urban agriculture outcomes and community or regional partnerships. |



Connected Green Network Program

Purpose: to connect the Green Network from natural to urban areas.

| Steps and Goals | Near Term Actions (1-2 years) | Medium Term Actions (3-9 years) | Long Term Actions (10+ years) |
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| <p>Connect gaps and create partnerships</p> <p>Goal: Work with partners to identify gaps in the current Green Network and opportunities to address gaps.</p> | <p>05.3 Work with Wanuskewin to conserve their viewshed and support management of Opimihaw Creek.</p> | <p>07.1 Identify high priority formal and informal green spaces to upgrade or redevelop.</p> <p>07.2 Increase coordination within the City, and with the community, to encourage informal green space renewal.</p> | <p>05.2 Work with regional partners to coordinate Green Network development and management in urban areas that intersect with the region.</p> <p>05.4 Partner with Indigenous communities and organizations to explore traditional land management and governance models for the Green Network.</p> <p>08.1 Identify green infrastructure opportunities outside the existing Green Network.</p> <p>12.4 Coordinate with regional partners to connect the City's Green Network to the Regional Green Network whenever possible.</p> |
| <p>Secure land</p> <p>Goal: Purchase and protect sites to connect Green Network gaps.</p> | | | <p>08.2 Secure key sites through purchase, donation, or partnership with other landowners, stakeholders, or citizen groups.</p> |

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| | | <p>11.5 In partnership with landowners, direct development in a way that helps retain and protect high quality arable land connecting to the regional agricultural network.</p> <p>12.2 Purchase or acquire land in strategic areas to enhance biodiversity outcomes and increase connectivity.</p> |
| <p>Restore green space</p> <p>Goal: Clean, restore, or upgrade new and existing green infrastructure to better connect the Green Network.</p> | | <p>07.3 Implement park upgrade plans starting in high priority areas.</p> <p>08.3 Design and implement green infrastructure expansion in areas of interest.</p> <p>12.3 Increase the City's use of native species in restoration and naturalization work.</p> <p>12.1 Naturalize parks, storm water infrastructure, and other open space where appropriate.</p> |

