TOWN OF AURORA

NATURAL CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

Committee of the Whole

June 17, 2024

O.Reg. 588/17 for Asset Management Planning

July 2019
Strategic AM Policy

Required to articulate specific principles and commitments that will guide decisions around when, why and how money is spent on assets.

July 2022
AM Plan
Current LOS
Core Assets

Required to document current LOS and costs to sustain current LOS provided by **the water, wastewater, stormwater, road and bridge assets**

July 2024
AM Plan
Current LOS
All Assets

Required to document **current LOS** and costs to sustain current LOS for **non-core** assets, including **natural** assets and infrastructure.

July 2025
AM Plan
Proposed LOS
All Assets

Required to document **proposed LOS** and costs to achieve proposed LOS, and the financial strategy to fund these expenditures

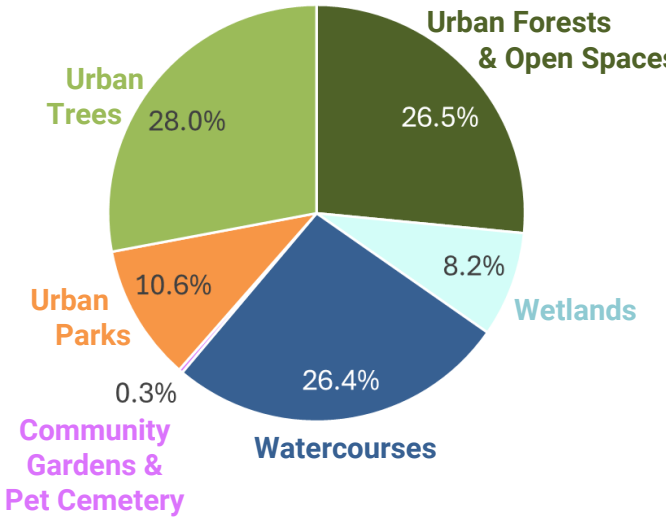
Progress implementing AM Plans to be reported annually.

AM Plans to be updated at least every 5 years.

NCAMP Asset Categories

Natural Area Assets	Natural Enhanced Assets
• Forests & Open spaces • Wetlands • Watercourses • Waterbodies	• Urban Trees • Urban Parks • Community Gardens • Pet Cemetery

$ 237.5 million



State of Infrastructure

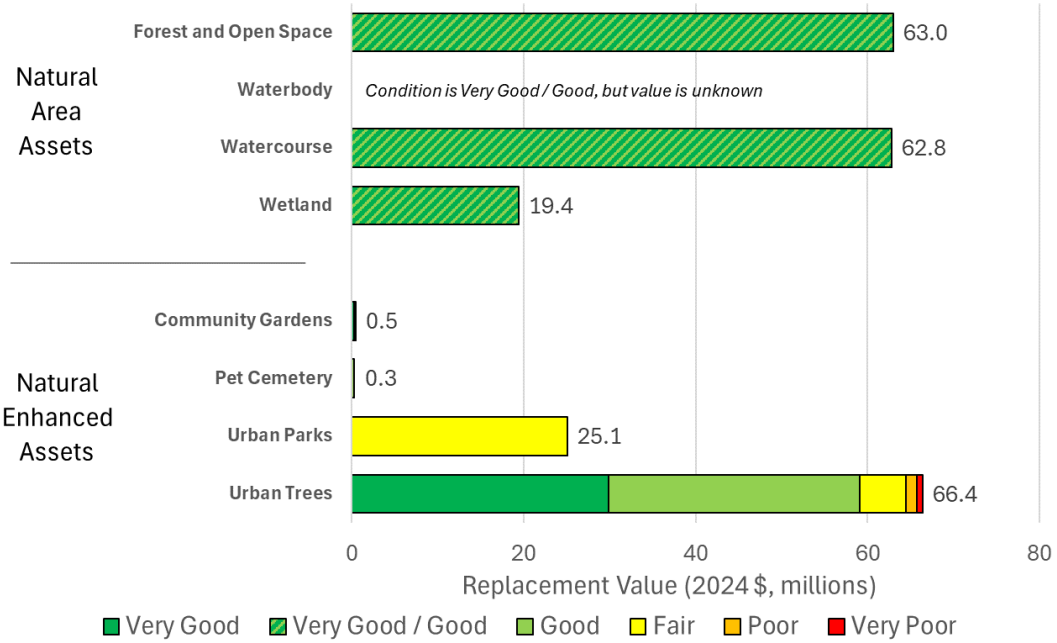
86% **Very Good or Good**

13% Fair

1% Poor

0.3% Very Poor

Condition of Natural Assets



Asset Management Strategies

Scenario A

Status Quo

Current state activities and costs

Scenario B

Status Quo with
Moderate
Rehab, Maintenance and Monitoring

Scenario C

Status Quo with
High
Rehab, Maintenance and Monitoring

Scenario Comparison –
AM Activities Completed Over 25 Years

Asset Management Activity	Scenario A	Scenario B	Scenario C
Construct & Secure			
New urban trees	1500 trees	2000 trees	4000 trees
New trees in forests and open spaces	11,125 trees (through partnerships)		
Monitor & Maintain			
5-year stream inspections	0	2	2
Natural area condition assessment*	0	All areas completed in first 6 years, then 10-year cycle	All areas completed in first 5 years, then 10-year cycle
Urban tree maintenance	In accordance with current standards		
Urban park maintenance	In accordance with current standards		
Rehab & Restore			
Urban trees replaced	6,000 (82% of forecast need)	7,000 (95% of forecast need)	7,375 (100% of forecast need)
Invasive species control	2% of natural areas	13% of natural areas	45% of natural areas
Targeted seeding and planting	1% of natural areas	2.4% of natural areas	4.8% of natural areas
Stream rehab projects completed	In accordance with Stream Management Master Plan		
Plan & Design			
Stream Management Master Plan updates (including 10-year inspections)	In accordance with 10-year update frequency		
Urban Forest Study updates	In accordance with 10-year update frequency		
Tree inventory updates	In accordance with 10-year update frequency		

** Forests, open spaces and wetlands*

Scenario Comparison –
Cost and Gap

	Scenario A Status Quo*	Scenario B Moderate*	Scenario C High*
Total Cost	$ 37.9 M	$ 45.7 M	$ 57.9 M
Average Annual Cost	$ 1.5 M	$ 1.8 M	$ 2.3 M
Anticipated Annual Funding	$ 1.5 M	$ 1.5 M	$ 1.5 M
Anticipated Annual Gap	--	**$ 0.3 M**	**$ 0.8 M**
% Above Current Spending	--	**+20%**	**+53%**

* Amounts over 25 years, in 2024 $, millions

Scenario B recommended - Allows Town to:

- Begin condition assessment program for natural assets
- Increase invasive species control and targeted planting (to increase resilience to environmental and climate hazards)
- Increase urban tree replacements (address backlog of 666 trees)
- Increase planting of new urban trees toward
  - Achieving tree canopy target
  - Maintaining ratio of trees / 1000 people

Recommended Strategy – Funding

Scenario B

	Over 10 Years (in 2024$, millions)	Over 25 Years
Total Cost	$ 23.1	$ 45.7
Average Annual Cost	$ 2.3	$ 1.8
Anticipated Annual Funding	$ 2.0	$ 1.5
Anticipated Gap	**$ 0.3**	**$ 0.3**

To close funding gap:

- Seek additional revenues through taxation or grants
- Re-allocate funds from other programs
  (may result in reduced levels of service in other programs).

Also, continue partnerships with external organizations for

- Access to natural lands (with maintenance agreements)
- Tree planting programs
- Invasive species control (volunteers)

AM Plan Improvement Recommendations

Levels of Service

1. Monitor LOS performance and costs to inform future adjustments.
2. Establish LOS targets for Town-owned trees, to support Town-wide tree targets (e.g. tree canopy and diversity targets).
3. Incorporating natural assets in Town's GHG emissions plans (Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan, Community Energy Plan).

AM Process, Technology and Data

4. Establish land type naming standards for use in Corporate AMP, NCAMP and Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
5. Continue implementing maintenance management system.
6. Continue building on the initial risk assessment for natural assets.

Questions?

advisory services