

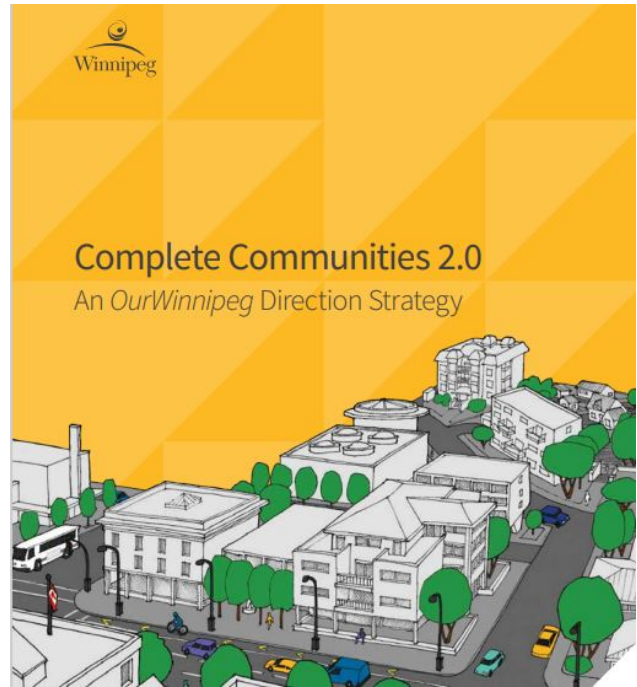
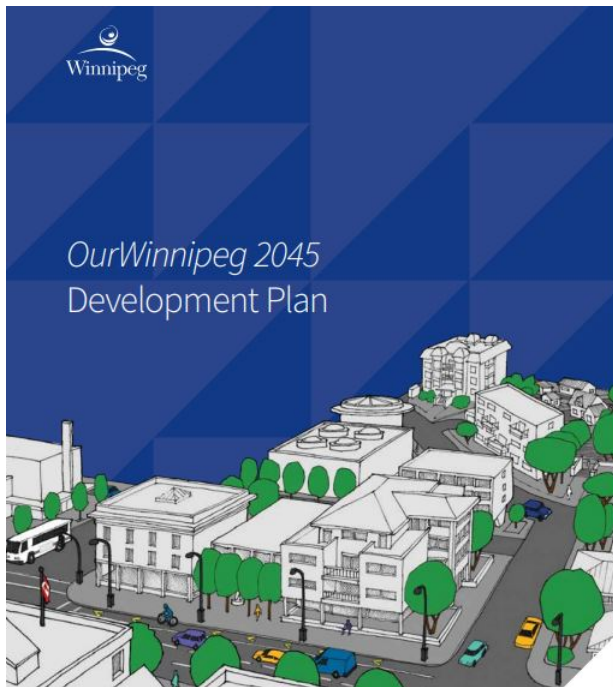
# Policy Context Memo

This section provides an overview of the current relevant policy context within the City related to natural areas and biodiversity, as well as applicable International, Federal, Provincial, and regional policies and acts.

A formal policy gap analysis is not included in the Phase 1 work for this project, as this goes beyond the intent of providing common foundational information for subsequent phases. However, notable gaps or opportunities to act on recommendations from other Council approved documents through the Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan and Biodiversity Policy are highlighted, where applicable, in the sections below.

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The Winnipeg Master Greenspace & Natural Corridors Plan will work in alignment with and complement several inter-related City-wide policy documents that provide direction, strategies and actions on social and health equity, economic prosperity, environmental resilience, good health and well-being and support the OurWinnipeg vision for *'a thriving, sustainable, and resilient city, grounded in a strong commitment for human rights, that is welcoming and contributes to an equitable, and high quality of life for all.'*



# Regulatory Context

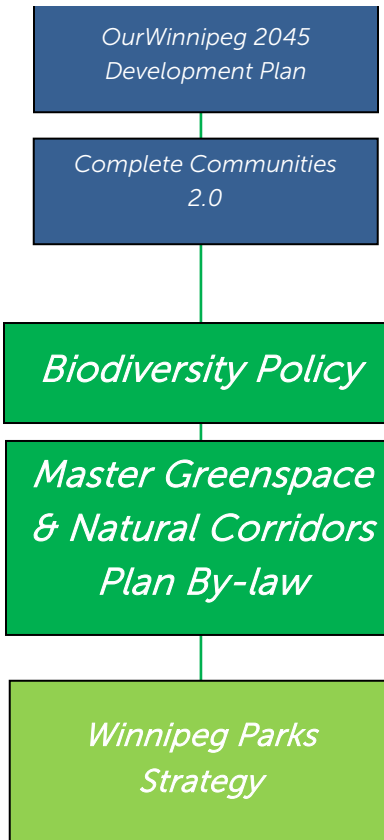
## Key Federal & Provincial

- Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate
- Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action
- The Endangered Species and Ecosystems Act
- The City of Winnipeg Charter Act
- Winnipeg Metropolitan Region Plan 20-50
- The Expropriation Act
- Forest Health Protection Act and Regulation
- Conservation Agreements Act

## Key Global Commitments | Targets | Goals

- The Paris Agreement: UN Convention on Climate
- UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)
- UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP)
- The Durban Commitment
- UN Sustainable Development Goals
- UN Conventions on Biological Diversity (COP-15)
- The Montreal Pledge: Cities United in Action for Biodiversity

## City of Winnipeg Policy Hierarchy



### Key Municipal policies & By-laws:

- Age Friendly Winnipeg Action Plan
- Asset Management Policy
- Winnipeg's Climate Action Plan
- Go to the Waterfront
- Green Building Policy
- LiveSAFE
- Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak, Winnipeg's Aboriginal Youth Strategy
- Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy
- Winnipeg Recreation Strategy
- Winnipeg Transportation Master Plan
- Winnipeg Transit Master Plan
- Universal Design Policy
- Welcoming Winnipeg
- Winnipeg Pedestrian & Cycling Strategies

- Development Agreement Parameters
- Secondary Plan By-laws
- Subdivision By-law
- Zoning By-law

MG&NCP  
Replaces or companion to:



# Global Commitments, Targets & Goals

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## United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations has declared the years 2021-2030 the “Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.” The aim of the Decade on Ecosystem Restoration is to halt the degradation of ecosystems and restore them to a natural state to achieve global goals. The year 2030 is the date scientists have stated is the last chance to prevent catastrophic climate change, as well as the deadline for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include 17 goals related to internationally recognized standards for development. Goals directly related to greenspace, natural corridors, and biodiversity include: zero hunger (goal 2), good health and well-being (goal 3), reduced inequalities (goal 10), sustainable cities and communities (goal 11), climate action (goal 13), life below water (goal 14), and life on land (goal 15). The City of Winnipeg has adapted the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals into 6 key goals that guide the City’s development plan, *OurWinnipeg 2045* (see below for commentary on alignment between the Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan and *OurWinnipeg 2045*).

The Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan and Biodiversity Policy should be consistent with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and goals related to the Decade of Ecosystem Restoration by seeking to place biodiversity, greenspace and natural corridor preservation, enhancement, restoration, and management at the heart of urban planning for the City of Winnipeg.

## The Durban Commitment

The Durban Commitment: Local Governments for Biodiversity, is a commitment created and signed after the 2008 International Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB) Workshop. 21 local governments from around the world signed the commitment at that time, including the City of Edmonton from Canada. Signing the document commits local governments to “promoting, increasing and enhancing biodiversity within [their] administrative area and recognize that [a local government’s] ecological footprint extends beyond [their] administrative area; [the signatories] will there integrate biodiversity considerations into all aspects of [their] governance and development planning” (3).

On June 16, 2021, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted to Council that *OurWinnipeg 2045* (in draft at that point) be amended to include reference to a Master Greenspace Plan that includes (among other items), “Tracking the status of greenspace and regular reporting to the public and Council. As part of the biodiversity policy, a requirement of an annual report to Council structured in line with the Durban Commitments: Local Governments for Biodiversity” (1.A.i.c). This recommendation was incorporated into Complete Communities Direction Strategy 2.0 (Section G3 Parks and Recreation, 4.8.b), see more below).

The Durban Commitment does not specify the format of reporting but does commit local governments to “regularly publish biodiversity reports on the state of biodiversity within our administrative area and our progress in protecting biodiversity, which will stand as a public record” (4). The Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan should specify the process that will be established for annual reporting on biodiversity in Winnipeg.

## The Montreal Pledge

At the COP-15 conference on biodiversity in December, 2022, cities were invited to commit to 15 concrete actions that will demonstrate leadership and ambition of cities around the world to act swiftly and influence their partners to reverse the trend of biodiversity loss and protect our biodiversity. On March 23, 2023 a motion was made at City Council initiating consideration of Winnipeg becoming a signatory to the Montreal Pledge. This issue will be debated and considered at the applicable policy committees and Council over the coming months. If endorsed, signing onto the Montreal Pledge by the City of Winnipeg will provide further direction and support to development and implementation of the Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan.

# Provincial & Regional Legislation

## The Planning Act & Provincial Planning Regulation

The Planning Act is a piece of provincial legislation that outlines the legal framework for all land use planning in Manitoba. Although the City of Winnipeg is excluded from most of the legislation in the Planning Act (because it has its own special legislation in the City of Winnipeg Charter Act), there are two components of the Planning Act that still apply in Winnipeg:

- 1. The Provincial Land Use Policies (PLUPs)** (see S. 4(2)). There are nine policy areas in the PLUPs, several of which could relate to the City of Winnipeg’s Master Greenspace & Natural Corridor’s Plan (see below).
- 2. The Formation of the Capital Planning Region** under Section 8(1) of the Act, which includes the City of Winnipeg and the other municipalities in the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. Under the Act, this planning region must adopt a regional plan (called Plan20-50), which contains plans and policies respecting “the protection, management and enhancement of the environment within the region, including its water sources, water quality and quantity, sensitive and natural lands, renewable resources,” etc. and other “physical, social, environmental, economic and fiscal objectives for the region for at least a 30-year time span” (S. 10.3(2)).



Figure 1: The Provincial Land Use Policies’ nine policy areas (*The Planning Act Handbook*, p. 17).

### The Provincial Land Use Policies

The Provincial Land Use Policies (PLUPs) are part of the Provincial Planning Regulation and apply in the City of Winnipeg, under Section 4(2) of the Planning Act. Plans in the City of Winnipeg must be generally consistent with the PLUPs. One of the key goals for the protection of biodiversity in the PLUPs is “to permanently protect a representative sample of each of the Province’s natural regions and subregions and conserve the biodiversity of Manitoba” (4.1).

The PLUPs encourage the identification and protection of natural areas and state, “The fragmentation of critical and significant wildlife habitats should be avoided whenever possible, and the establishment and protection of wildlife

corridors is to be supported” (4.1.4). The PLUPs also call for rehabilitation of damaged or degraded habitats (4.1.3, 4.2.5).

There are specific policies that municipalities in Manitoba’s capital region should coordinate and cooperate to provide “interconnecting parks, open spaces, wildlife areas, heritage resources and waterfronts by pathways or trails suitable for bicycle and pedestrian use” within the capital region (9.1.4(e)).

Winnipeg’s Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan should set out policies to prevent the fragmentation of critical and significant wildlife habitats and be coordinated with the work being done by the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region.

### **Winnipeg Metropolitan Region Plan20-50**

Plan20-50 is the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region’s long-term regional growth and servicing plan. As legislated through recent amendments to *The Planning Act*, Plan20-50 is a regional plan that guides the development plans of all member municipalities, including the City of Winnipeg. The City of Winnipeg’s city-wide strategies and plans, including the Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan, should also align with Plan20-50.

As part of Plan20-50, the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region is working with Indigenous Nations to prepare a Natural Assets Network Plan for the region; this Natural Assets Network Plan will:

- a. “Identify, map and assess the natural assets, systems and corridors, critical and significant habitats, species- and ecosystems-at-risk, and water resource systems to support biodiversity and the protection, restoration, and enhancement of connectivity between natural areas and limit fragmentation;
- b. Incorporate recognition of traditional Indigenous knowledge; and
- c. Support passive recreation and active transportation trail connections, with a focus on Regional Recreation Assets, Regional Active Transportation Trails, and regional natural assets” (3.2.1).

Plan 20-50 encourages municipalities to “reflect regional priorities” by designating lands for ecological protection, promoting programs that incentivize environmental stewardship on private and public lands, restrict development in wetland and riparian zones, and develop and maintain a land acquisition program to protect and support natural assets (3.2.2).

Note that Plan20-50 is currently in draft form, so policies are still subject to change.

### **The City of Winnipeg Charter Act**

The City of Winnipeg Charter Act is provincial legislation that sets out the structure and authority of municipal government in the City of Winnipeg. The Act enables the City of Winnipeg to pass by-laws including those related to the protection of lands for purposes such as the protection of biodiversity.

The Charter Act also enables the City of Winnipeg to pass by-laws related to planning and development, including the City’s development plan (*OurWinnipeg 2045*) and secondary plans. The policies in these planning documents must also be consistent with the Provincial Land Use Policies (PLUPs) in the Provincial Planning Regulation of *The Planning Act* (under S. 4(2)).

## **City of Winnipeg Development Plan & Direction Strategy**

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### **OurWinnipeg 2045**

*OurWinnipeg 2045* is the City of Winnipeg’s development plan by-law. The document sets out the city’s long-term vision, plans and policies related to sustainable land use and development. *OurWinnipeg 2045*’s objectives and policy directions inform all secondary plans (including city-wide plans such as the Master Greenspace & Natural Corridors Plan) and decisions on development within city boundaries.

*OurWinnipeg 2045* has several relevant policies related to the preparation of Winnipeg's Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan and Biodiversity Policy. The plan calls for integrated regional planning (1.12, 2.17) to "partner with Indigenous governments, community leaders and the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region and municipalities and planning districts of the Capital Region" in land resource and watershed management and natural area and urban forest canopy conservation.

The plan also has several policies related to leveraging green infrastructure. Policy 2.20 sets out the scope for the master green space and natural corridor plan by-law; it says the City will "create a master green space and natural corridor plan by-law that enables conservation, management, restoration, and enhancement of the inherent value and ecological functioning of parks, waterways, natural areas and systems year-round, to support the environment, advance climate change adaptation and mitigation, and increase quantity of such lands by 1,000 acres that can be accessed for recreation, social interaction, active living and connection of people and nature with nature, as population growth occurs."

## **Complete Communities Direction Strategy 2.0**

*Complete Communities Direction Strategy 2.0 (CCDS 2.0)* is a direction strategy that advances the sustainable development goals in *OurWinnipeg 2045*. It is a city-wide secondary plan that guides growth, development, and land use in Winnipeg. Its primary focus is to set up a spatial urban structure for the city's future physical growth and development of complete communities.

CCDS 2.0 includes goals and policies on how to protect important natural areas and provide outdoor greenspace in various parts of the City, including downtown (Section C1), major redevelopment areas (C5), new communities (C6), established communities (D1), and both public and private major open spaces (G4). CCDS 2.0 also includes goals and related policies to leverage growth to promote climate change resiliency (B1 Goal 7.0), to manage subdivisions and development along riverbanks and in areas that are known to be at risk of flooding by recognizing the value of protecting these lands and the natural limitations and risks associated with building in these areas (G2 Goal 9.0), and protect, preserve and enhance natural areas and historical features to increase opportunities for human interaction with nature and facilitate reflection on our city's cultural past (G3 Parks and Recreation, 4.0).

The policies in the Parks and Recreation chapter of CCDS 2.0 specifically call for Winnipeg to "maintain our 'ribbons of green' (riverbanks, urban street trees, greenways and green corridors) and provide a well-managed urban forest that contributes to air quality, water quality, and high environmental and aesthetic standards" (4.4.1), "establish requirements for minimum natural area provision (4.4.2)", "establish stronger policy statements within secondary plans to ensure the protection of natural areas" (4.6) and "collaborate with community stakeholders, including environmental and stewardship organization, on shared best practices and implementation strategies" (4.7). This section also features a policy that directs the City of Winnipeg to "develop a green space and natural corridor plan by-law that includes:

- a. Consideration of municipal golf courses as major nature preserves and green space;
- b. A biodiversity policy for Winnipeg that will detail, among other things, an ecological network that is interdependent, reciprocal, healthy, connected, and integrated with the built environment and life on the land; one rooted in Indigenous traditional knowledge of land, community, and ecology. This should include a requirement for an annual report to Council structured in line with *The Durban Commitment: Local Governments for Biodiversity*;
- c. A Corridor Plan to protect and enhance Winnipeg's forests, green spaces, natural environment, and natural area corridors including Winnipeg's connecting riverbank corridors; and
- d. Tracking the status of green space and regular reporting to the public and Council." (G3 Parks and Recreation, 4.8).

The Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan will need to carefully consider how it can maintain consistency with CCDS 2.0 while avoiding redundancy with its many related goals and policies.

## Related City-Wide Policies and Strategies

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The Winnipeg Master Greenspace & Natural Corridors Plan and Biodiversity Policy should be aligned with several related City-wide policies and strategies, including Winnipeg's Climate Action Plan, Winnipeg's Parks Strategy, Comprehensive Urban Forest Strategy, and Ecologically Significant Natural Lands Strategy.

### Winnipeg's Climate Action Plan

*Winnipeg's Climate Action Plan: Planning for Climate Change. Acting for People* is a city-wide plan that sets out the City's and broader community's commitment to work together to address climate change<sup>1</sup>. One of the identified side-benefits of working together to address climate change is to "enhance connectivity of green spaces and parks throughout Winnipeg to support biodiversity and natural systems" (Climate Action Plan Summary, p. 5).

To further this goal, the plan says the City will, "explore regional opportunities to better connect the ecological network to add resiliency to Winnipeg and surrounding communities" (7.1.c), such as through collaboration with the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. The plan also includes a policy that the City of Winnipeg will "develop a methodology to quantify the value of ecological goods and services and natural assets" (7.3.a).

The Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan must develop a methodology to value ecological services and explore regional opportunities to connect the ecological network in order to fulfill these actions identified in Winnipeg's Climate Action Plan.

### Winnipeg Parks Strategy

The Winnipeg Parks Strategy includes a vision for the City's parks system, an analysis of the current condition of the parks system, and policies, implementation strategies and actions for future park service delivery. The scope of the Parks Strategy only includes publicly accessible property owned, maintained, or managed by the City of Winnipeg; it does not include privately-owned publicly accessible open space (POPS), such as the Forks and Fort Whyte Alive or joint-use sites such as schoolyards.

Overall, the focus of the strategy is on the human use of sites for public recreation, sport, and leisure. However, there are several policies that are directly applicable to the preservation of biodiversity and ecological protection. The Strategy states that the City will, "Prioritize protection of natural areas designated as ecologically significant lands within parks over recreational uses where those uses may negatively impact the long-term health of the area being protected" (4.2.1.8) and "Preserve natural vegetation and habitats and promote wildlife passage corridors through parks and natural areas, where possible." (4.2.1.10).

Like other recent City strategies, the Parks Strategy calls for the development of a Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan and By-Law. In this case it says the Plan should "replace, or [be] a companion to the Ecologically Significant Natural Lands Strategy and Policy. The plan and by-law should:

- i. Ensure conservation, management, restoration, and enhancement of the inherent value and ecological functioning of parks, waterways, natural areas and systems;
- ii. Advance climate change adaptation and mitigation;
- iii. Increase the quantity of open space for recreation, social interaction, active living, and connection of people with nature as population growth occurs;
- iv. Provide a biodiversity framework or policy;

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<sup>1</sup> Note that the Climate Action Plan focuses on climate change mitigation by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. It does not significantly address climate change adaptation, which will be covered in a forthcoming Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Plan.

- v. Provide a methodology to quantify the value of ecological goods and services and natural assets”  
**(Action 38)**

The Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan and By-Law is likely the appropriate plan to address some of the actions in the Parks Strategy related to greenspace and natural corridors. For example, the Master Greenspace plan should provide direction on the target size of natural areas necessary in order to retain ecological function (see 4.2.1.19), identify which low-functioning parks should be naturalized (4.2.1.20), and indicate a location of sites that the City should proactively acquire for protection (4.2.1.21).

### **Comprehensive Urban Forest Strategy**

Winnipeg’s Comprehensive Urban Forest Strategy provides a 20-year vision for the City’s urban forest. This document also contains goals, policies, and actions related to the City’s management of its urban forest assets. The most recent public version of the document is a draft prepared in May 2022. The Urban Forest Strategy guides:

- How the urban forest will be planned to achieve an equitable distribution of benefits that will improve the health of our people and communities.
- Where and how trees will be planted to grow a robust and sustainable urban forest that delivers urban forest services where they are most needed.
- How trees will be managed to adapt to challenges, improve tree health and safety, and achieve planned levels of service.
- Where and how the urban forest should be protected to sustain urban forest canopy and community benefits.
- How to partner to increase capacity to grow and manage the urban forest raise awareness of its importance.

There are obvious areas of mutual interest between the policies in the Comprehensive Urban Forest Strategy and the proposed Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan and Biodiversity Strategy. The Strategy calls for the City to “Create a connected and protected green infrastructure network of public trees, parks and natural area forests” (Policy 21) and to “Develop a natural areas management plan that includes a restoration planting strategy to guide the planting of native trees and enhancement of forest structure in urban parks, boulevards and riverbanks” (Action 12A), to “Restore degraded riverbanks or other restoration areas in accordance with the natural areas management plan (12E), and to “Develop a natural areas management plan that identifies high risk canopy areas as well as appropriate treatment options, and also includes recommendations for restoration post-disturbance, if applicable” (18C). The Master Greenspace Plan may be the appropriate document that includes such a natural areas management plan.

The Comprehensive Urban Forest Strategy also calls on the City to “Update the Ecologically Significant Natural Lands Strategy (ESNL) and provide policy direction identifying how and when natural areas are to be preserved to:

- i. Explore the possibility of identifying forest patches in ecologically significant natural lands for protection and integration into the design of new communities at the secondary planning stage, prior to dedication of parkland, and
- ii. Enable the evaluation and designation of ESNL on all City lands prior to disposition or destruction of natural features (Action 21B).

As mentioned in the previous section, the Winnipeg Parks Strategy recommends that Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan should replace or act as a companion to the Ecologically Significant Natural Lands Strategy; it would therefore need to address these actions identified in the Comprehensive Urban Forest Strategy.

### **Ecologically Significant Natural Lands Strategy**

The City of Winnipeg’s Ecologically Significant Natural Lands (ESNL) Strategy provides a vision, goals, and strategies for the protection of ecologically significant natural lands in Winnipeg. ESNL are natural lands that the City of Winnipeg has



protected. The strategy's vision is for the City of Winnipeg to be a "city which has protected important pockets of natural flora and fauna representative of the original natural ecosystems and lands susceptible to damage from flooding or erosion for the enrichment of the quality of life of the citizens of Winnipeg" (2.1).

The ESNL Strategy defines criteria for designating natural areas for protection through development agreements, easements, or acquisition by the City. The Strategy speaks to private land as well as public land and states, "Where possible, the City should encourage and provide incentives for private landowners to act as stewards of the natural lands on their property. Private landowners should be seen as partners in stewardship and preservation of these lands for the future" (4.3.1).

The foundation of the ESNL Strategy is the inventory process, which identifies areas needing assessment to develop appropriate protection and management actions. The inventory process, directed by the City of Winnipeg Naturalist Services Branch, applies a consistent methodology to determine the relative value of a natural area. Assessed sites are rated for their habitat characteristics and classified into one of four grades. A risk determination is made in consideration of habitat quality and scarcity to guide designation. Distinct natural habitat types within the City include riverbottom forests, grasslands/prairie, oak forests and wetlands (all considered at risk according to federal and international authorities such as the Canadian Wildlife Service and World Wildlife Fund), as well as aspen forests, ponds, rivers and streams.

The Strategy also provides a framework for assessing natural lands that are not yet part of the City's ESNL. The grade of the site refers to its natural heritage value. Sites receiving grades of B or higher are considered to be good quality sites and worthy of consideration for preservation based on that assessment alone. An A or B quality site is considered to have a plant community reflecting the natural heritage of the area around Winnipeg (See City of Winnipeg Habitat Assessment and Grading).

Note that the Winnipeg Parks Strategy says a Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan should "replace, or [be] a companion to the Ecologically Significant Natural Lands Strategy and Policy" (Action 38).

## Other Applicable Strategies and By-Laws

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### **Winnipeg Recreation Strategy**

The Winnipeg Recreation Strategy is a companion document to the Winnipeg Park Strategy. It provides a 25-year framework to guide the City's programs, services, and recreation facilities. One of the goals of the Strategy is connecting people with nature, so that "People can connect with nature in their communities and have opportunities to learn and value ecological systems and their functions" (Goal 2.4).

The Strategy doesn't speak directly to ecological principles, but does include policies to "promote and support outdoor—and, when possible, nature-based—play and recreation opportunities" (4.3.1) and to "seek opportunities to educate and instill environmental and cultural values within recreation programs and facilities" (4.3.3). The Master Greenspace and Natural Corridor Plan should consider linkages to recreation in line with these policies, where appropriate.

### **Poverty Reduction Strategy**

The City of Winnipeg Council has directed that every City report must include narrative on how the recommendations do or do not align with the City's Poverty Reduction Strategy. Although the focus of Winnipeg's Poverty Reduction Strategy is not on greenspace or biodiversity, it includes several actions that are related to these topics.

Goal 6, Action 15 of the strategy says to "ensure parks and open spaces are designed, managed, and operated using equity-based principles, ensuring that all are made to feel welcome and that these public spaces serve the diverse needs of community members." Other relevant actions include developing a pilot program for Indigenous land-based education programs in parks and public open space (Goal 7, Action 1) and actions to develop a Community Gardens

Strategy to look at “the use of City land for community gardens and other local food programs” (Goal 7, Action 2).

The Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan will align its goals, policies, and actions with these aspects of the Poverty Reduction Strategy.

### **Winnipeg Transportation Master Plan, Transit Master Plan, and Pedestrian and Cycling Strategies**

Winnipeg is currently in the process of updating its Transportation Master Plan. The new document will be called Transportation Master Plan: 2050 (TMP2050) and will provide Winnipeg’s long-term vision for all modes of transportation, including active transportation paths, bike paths, rivers and waterways (which may relate to aspects of the Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan).

Currently, only the key directions and strategies in the plan are available to the public; policies are still being developed. The key strategy related to the Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan is Strategy 6.1, Improve connectivity in the active transportation networks. The strategy states, “Expanding and enhancing the sidewalk and cycling network is an integral part of making active transportation a more attractive, comfortable and safe travel option in Winnipeg. This includes connecting existing pathways with new linkages, providing accessibility features, and upgrading crossings at physical barriers such as rivers, rail lines, and major roadways” (6.1). This section of the Plan is intended to provide guidance in updating Winnipeg’s Pedestrian and Cycling Strategies, published as a companion to the Transportation Master Plan.

The current version of the Pedestrian and Cycling Strategies does not directly address greenspace and natural corridors, but does call for the expansion of the bicycle network so that it can access locations such as parks (1B.xi).

The Transit Master Plan is also a supplementary plan to the Transportation Master Plan. However, it does not contain any strategies or policies related to greenspace and natural corridors.

### **Assiniboia Community Committee - Council motion**

On May 27, 2022, the Assiniboia Community Committee recommended to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks that the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to:

1. Report back in 90 days with a draft tree protection by-law for Major Open Spaces that identifies categories of trees to be designated for protection, specific protections to be provided to these trees, and penalties for non-compliance; and
2. Report back within 270 days with a tree protection by-law for areas which are not considered Major Open Spaces, similar to the City of Vancouver’s Tree Protection Bylaw 9958 and Street Tree Bylaw 5985.

The Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan may be the appropriate plan to include policies on tree protection, although the Winnipeg’s Comprehensive Urban Forest Strategy may be a more suitable location.

### **Asset Management Policy**

The purpose of the City of Winnipeg’s Asset Management Policy is to align the actions of the Public Service in meeting the City’s Asset Management Program (AMP) objectives:

- Link Infrastructure investment decisions to service outcomes.
- Make Stakeholders aware of the true cost of managing the City’s assets necessary to meet agreed Levels of Service (LOS).
- Strive to deliver services at approved LOS while minimizing life cycle costs.
- Allocate limited resources based on lifecycle modeling, multi-criteria prioritization (triple bottom line concept) and risk management.

One notable gap in the City’s asset management and investment planning prioritization criteria is the lack of alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals represented through *Our Winnipeg 2045* and *Complete Communities 2.0*. The Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan should develop recommendations to ensure social equity, good health and well-being and environmental resilience are represented in the City capital prioritization criteria.

### **Land Dedication Reserve Policy**

Winnipeg’s Land Dedication Reserve Policy outlines the requirements and criteria for developers to provide park space and/or cash in lieu associated with developments requiring rezoning and subdivision, all in accordance with the City of Winnipeg Charter Act. Under the Policy, funds may be utilized for:

- a. Acquisition of land for parks or recreation facilities
- b. Development of properties for parks and recreational purposes including such ancillary equipment and structures as may be necessary to that development
- c. Construction or renovation of recreation facilities on parks and recreation properties

4.2.2.C of the Winnipeg Parks Strategy includes an implementation strategy providing direction to ‘Explore the opportunity to establish a separate and distinct land dedication requirement specific to the preservation of ecologically significant natural lands’. The Master Greenspace and Natural Corridors Plan is likely the appropriate plan to enable this exploration.

