

Enmax Legacy Parks Program – Criteria

Existing Criteria for Funding Through the Enmax Legacy Parks Program:

Current criteria for the Enmax Legacy Parks Program funding are limited to regional park land acquisition and/or development as per the first two criteria. Administration is recommending three additional criteria that would include the ability to address select local open space conditions to align with the direction of the MDP and aspire to deliver all Calgary communities with sufficient nature and vibrant open spaces as opportunity and feasibility permit.

1. On an opportunity basis; acquire land for new regional parks in strategic growth corridors or underserved regional park areas. On an opportunity basis, acquire parcels within the river valleys that benefit the continuity and integrity of the river valley park system.
2. Develop new regional parks and/or fund the refurbishment of existing regional parks as per the project lists as recommended by Parks but as per direction of the Enmax Legacy Parks Steering Committee, and further approved through City Council.

Proposed Additional Criteria addressing select local open space conditions:

3. **Communities in Transition:** Through Transit Oriented Development projects or like, a number of existing communities will experience substantive increases to community population. Investment in these communities can include purchase of additional local parkland, leasing of private space for parks or the uplift of existing parks to meet higher demand levels. Park improvements should increase the social and environmental carrying capacity of existing sites through good design and public process.
4. **Communities that are underserved in local open space:** Communities constructed prior to the mid 1960s were not accorded 10% open space through Provincial planning legislation. These older communities are often underserved (<10%) in local open space. Adjacent regional parks or river valley can mitigate this lack of local open space but not all communities are so located. The ability to purchase, lease or improve local park sites in underserved communities is desirable.
5. **Community Focused Initiatives:** There is a need for opportunity based investment at the local community neighbourhood level. Often these can include improvements to local open space. The ability to request timely funds to leverage grants and action top priorities will support and reinforce this framework of positive community initiative.

