

MAY 2025

VERSION 2.0

# Greenspace and Forest Services Asset Management Plan



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# Introduction

## 1.1 BACKGROUND

Ontario Regulation 588/17: Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure (Sections 5 and 6) requires all municipalities to prepare asset management plans for all their assets. The purpose of this legislation is to have municipalities demonstrate they can maintain their assets, balancing affordability, risk, and service levels over the next ten years.

To meet the provincial requirements, the City has created this latest version of its Greenspace and Forest Services Asset Management Plan. It reports the current state of the assets, target and expected levels of service, strategies and activities applied by the City, historical and forecasted financial details, risks and non-financial strategies, and potential improvement actions. It is a strategic document that provides a snapshot of current conditions and establishes a basis for future asset management planning and decision making.



## 1.2 SUPPORT FOR CITY GOALS

This Asset Management Plan supports the City’s 2023-2026 City Strategic Plan and the strategic priority of *a city that is green and resilient*. Specifically, it aligns with the strategic objectives to:

- Plant, grow and preserve the urban tree canopy in parks and along roadways, with a focus on neighbourhoods with low tree canopy cover.
- Reduce emissions associated with the City’s operations and facilities.
- Increase resiliency to extreme weather and changing climate conditions.
- Improve key infrastructure through asset management.

## 1.3 ASSET CLASSES AND TYPES

The regulation requires that for each asset category a summary of the assets is provided. The Greenspace and Forest Services Asset Management Plan includes assets that support the natural environmental features and systems that provide recreation and leisure opportunities for the public, as well as other benefits such as water quality protection, rainwater management, flood protection, habitat, and pollination.

### Greenspace and Forest Services Asset Classes and Types

Forestry Fleet	
• Fleet	
Greenspace	
• Enhanced Urban Greenspace <sup>1</sup>	• Rural Greenspace
• Urban Natural Greenspace	
Trees and Forest	
• Forests	• Trees

<sup>1</sup>: Enhanced urban greenspace includes parklands. However, recreation assets located within parklands, as well as the assets, activities, and financial implications related to parkland maintenance, are captured in the Recreation and Cultural Services Asset Management Plan.





# State of Local Infrastructure

The regulation requires that for each asset category a summary of the replacement costs, average age of the assets, information available on the condition and a description of the municipality's approach to assessing condition is provided. The values in this section are based on asset data from January 2023.

## 2.1 ASSET INVENTORY AND VALUATION

This Asset Management Plan represents an initial step in better incorporating natural assets into the City's asset management program by capturing assets that support Greenspace and Forest Services.

The City has not yet established estimated replacement costs for natural assets, except for trees, which are estimated to have a replacement value of approximately \$168 million. In addition, the fleet assets covered by this Asset Management Plan have a replacement cost of approximately \$6 million. Although there are various methods available for estimating replacement costs for other Greenspace and Forest assets, further review is required before the City includes such estimates in the Asset Management Plan.

### Greenspace and Forest Services Asset Inventory and Replacement Cost

Asset Type	Inventory	Replacement Cost (Millions; 2023\$)
Rural Greenspace	12,559 ha	Not available
Enhanced Urban Greenspace	1,904 ha	Not available
Urban Natural Greenspace	1,694 ha	Not available
Forestry Fleet	51	\$6.1
Trees	187,757 <sup>2</sup>	\$168.1 <sup>3</sup>
Forests	26,004 ha	Not available

2: The asset information shown reflects data compiled for trees growing in municipal rights-of-way, and does not include trees growing in municipal parks and other municipal properties, for which data collection is not yet complete.

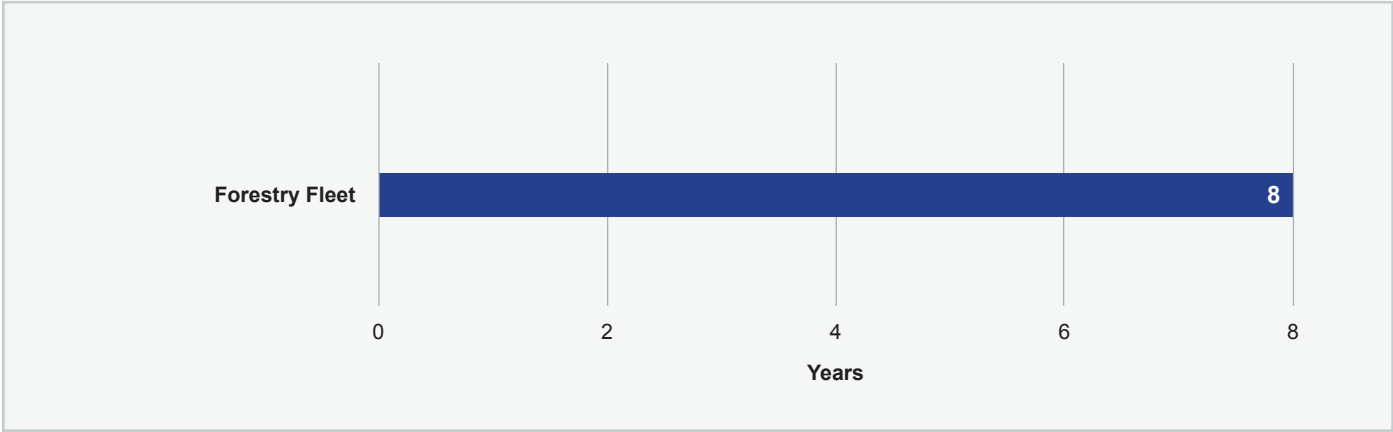
3: The value shown in the table for Trees is the estimated replacement value (not replacement cost). The replacement value assigns a financial value based on key characteristics of each tree, whereas replacement cost would simply reflect the cost of planting a new tree.



## 2.2 ASSET AGE AND CONDITION

The age of an asset gives a sense of how close it is to the end of its service life and what renewal interventions may be appropriate. However, for greenspace, trees and forest assets, age information does not necessarily provide the same insights. Therefore, the Asset Management Plan reports the average age of Forestry Fleet assets only, as shown in the figure below.

### Average Age of Greenspace and Forest Services Assets



The City uses a range of techniques and solutions to collect and assess condition data, and at various frequencies, which is summarized in the following table.

### Condition Data Collection Methods for Greenspace and Forest Services Assets

Asset Class	Condition Data Collection Technique	Frequency
Enhanced Urban Greenspace	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Rural Greenspace	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Urban Natural Greenspace	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Fleet	Inspection and maintenance	6 months and original equipment manufacturer maintenance schedule
Trees	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Forests	Not Applicable	Not Applicable



Based on condition data, supplemented by subject matter expert knowledge and professional judgment, the condition of assets is rated on a scale from “Very Good” to “Very Poor” as shown in the table below.

### Five-point Scale for Greenspace and Forest Services Asset Condition

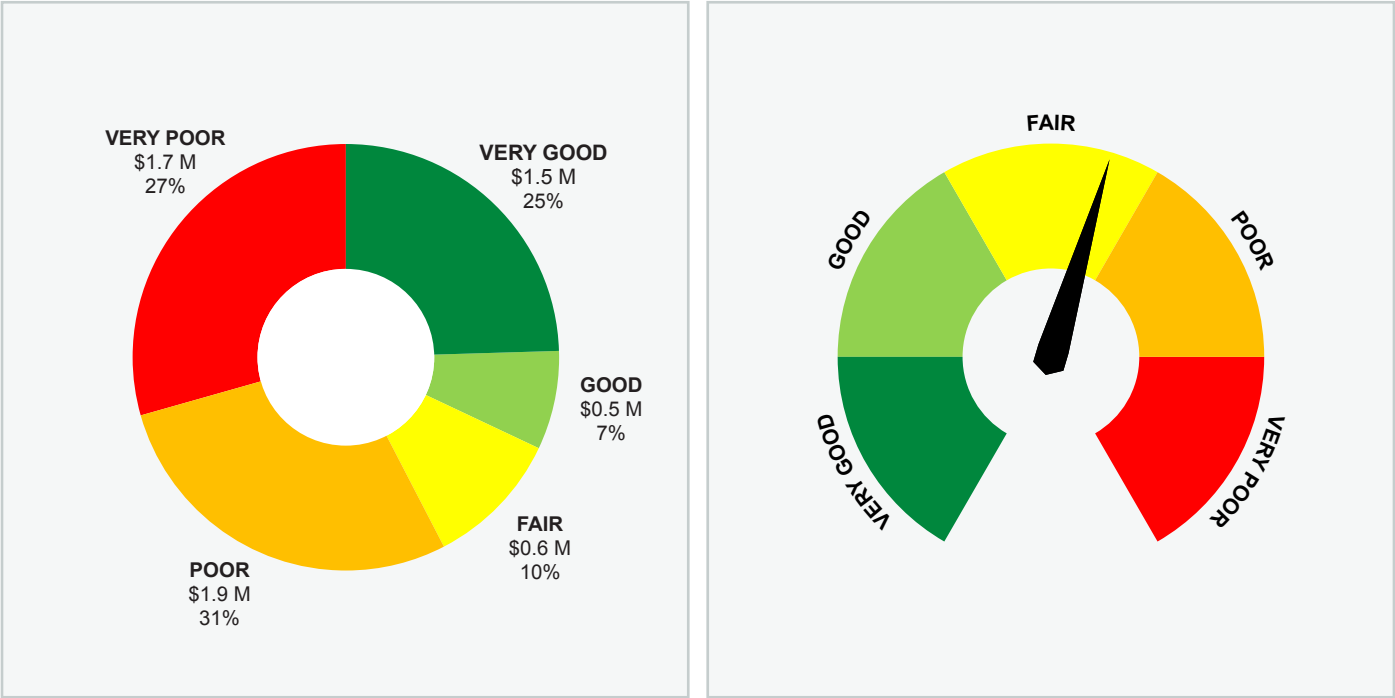
Rating	Rating Description	Life Remaining
		(Forestry Fleet)
<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Sound Physical Condition</b> No short-term failure risk and no work required	> 75%
<b>Good</b>	<b>Adequate for Now</b> Acceptable, generally in mid stage of expected service life	51% – 75%
<b>Fair</b>	<b>Requires Attention</b> Signs of deterioration, requires attention, some elements exhibit deficiencies	26% – 50%
<b>Poor</b>	<b>Increasing Potential of Affecting Service</b> Approaching end of service life, condition below standard, large portion of system exhibits significant deterioration	0% – 25%
<b>Very Poor</b>	<b>Unfit for Sustained Service (built infrastructure) / Nearing End of Life (fleet)</b> Near or beyond expected service life, widespread signs of advanced deterioration, some built assets may be unusable	<0% (outside of lifecycle)



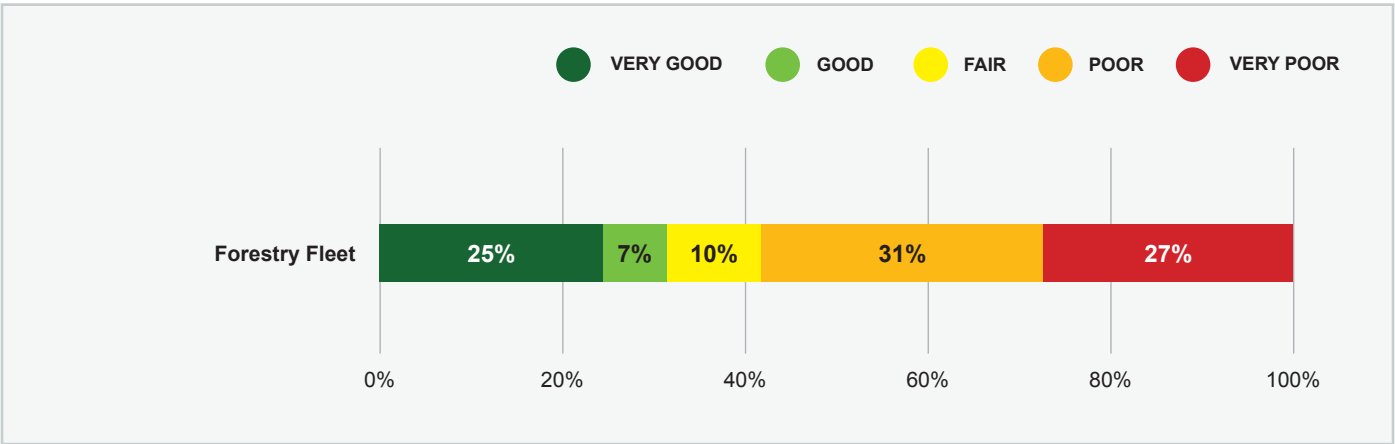


The overall condition rating for Greenspace and Forest services assets is Fair and a breakdown for the various asset classes is shown in the figures below. Condition distribution percentages are weighted based on replacement cost.

Overall Condition Profile of Greenspace and Forest Services Assets



Condition Profile of Greenspace and Forest Services Assets



# Levels of Service

## 3.1 LEVEL OF SERVICE CONTEXT

The City's assets exist to deliver service to customers. Levels of service measure the actual service delivered so that decisions can be made about the assets based on the service that they provide rather than simply on their condition. The regulation requires that the Asset Management Plan includes for each asset category the levels of service that the municipality proposes to provide for each of the 10 years following the year in which the plan is published.

The Greenspace and Forest Services Asset Management Plan establishes level of service measures and reports the current levels of service being provided. The measures align with City goals and recognize that Greenspace and Forest Services assets should be managed in a way that:

- Achieves the urban tree canopy targets in the Official Plan
- Ensures an adequate supply of green spaces to meet growing community need while maintaining natural systems
- Fosters a resilient, diverse and functional urban forest
- Reduces emissions associated with the City's operations and facilities
- Maintains all publicly owned trees to maximize current and future benefits
- Maintains assets in a state of good repair
- Provides sustainable and affordable services over the long-term

## 3.2 HISTORICAL AND CURRENT LEVELS OF SERVICE

The levels of service measures for Greenspace and Forest Services are shown in the table below. The performance reported includes:

- Historical performance, showing the service levels reported in the previous version of the Asset Management Plan.
- Current performance, showing the service levels being provided by the City based on the latest available information.



Levels of Service for Greenspace and Forest Services

Service Attribute	Community Level of Service	Technical Level of Service	Historical Performance (2022)		Current Performance (2023)
Capacity and use	Achieve the urban tree canopy targets in the Official Plan	Urban tree canopy coverage (percentage)	31% (2017)		
		Number of hectares of urban active parkland per 1,000 people	1.96 (2021)		
	Ensure an adequate supply of green spaces to meet growing community need while maintaining natural systems	Number of hectares of rural active parkland per 1,000 people	6.29 (2021)		
Function	Foster a resilient, diverse and functional urban forest	Percent of single species / percent of genus / percent of family of total tree population	<10% any single species; <20% any single genus; <30% any single family (2017)		
	Reduce emissions associated with the City’s operations and facilities	Annual GHG emissions from Forestry fleet (tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e)	441 t	442 t	
Reliability	All publicly owned trees are maintained to maximize current and future benefits. Tree health and condition ensure maximum longevity and minimizes risk potential	Meet the City's maintenance quality standard for tree inspection and pruning cycles	No	No	
	Maintain assets in a state of good repair <sup>4</sup>	Percent of fleet assets in fair or better condition	42%	42%	
Affordability	Provide sustainable and affordable services over the long-term	10 year average annual Asset renewal funding ratio (renewal funding as a share of replacement cost)	Not reported	5.7%	

4: This version of the Asset Management Plan reports condition only for Fleet assets, so this level of service measure applies only to Fleet assets.

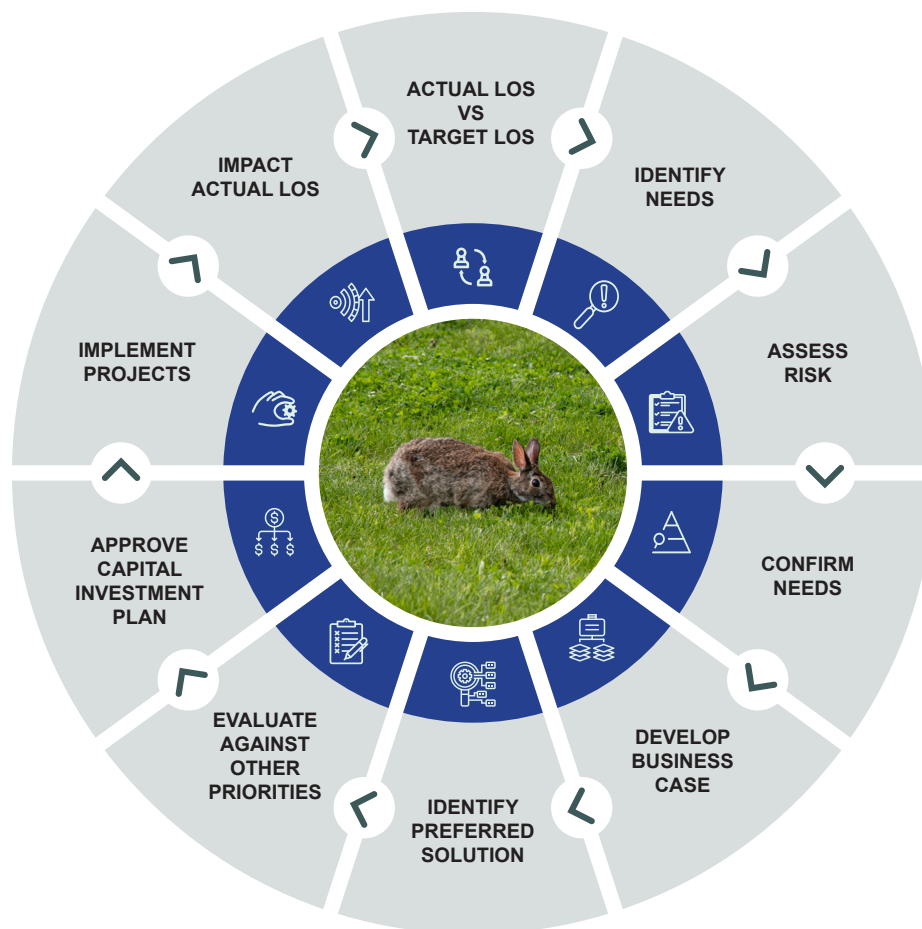




# Asset Management Strategy

## 4.1 PRACTICES, PROCEDURES AND TOOLS

The regulation requires that the Asset Management Plan defines a lifecycle management strategy with respect to the assets in each asset category for the 10-year period. One of the key objectives of asset management is to recognize the objectives of the City and align them with the City's long term financial plans. This will allow Council to make informed decisions and provide clear direction on how the City will balance service levels, risks, and costs.



The City has well-established practices to assess the risk of not meeting community and technical level of service standards and to determine the lowest lifecycle cost activities to reduce the risks to acceptable levels and the associated costs of undertaking them. The Asset Management Plan provides the needs forecast associated with achieving target levels of service and compares it to the planned budget to determine service area gaps or surpluses.

The various lifecycle activities are delivered by different parts of the organization. The asset management process is an opportunity to take a holistic view of the asset lifecycle and identify any assets that would benefit from coordinated implementation of lifecycle strategies. It is important that each type of asset has an appropriate blend of activities across its lifecycle and that staff interacting with the asset understand the interrelations between the various activities and their impact on cost, risk and service level.

## 4.2 GROWTH, ENHANCEMENT AND RENEWAL

In developing the Greenspace and Forest Services Asset Management Plan, a preliminary estimate was prepared of the cost of achieving the target levels of service. The estimate is based on 2024 data and includes forecasts of:

- Growth needs<sup>5</sup> based on:
  - The estimate that growth needs for Rural Greenspace are approximately equal to the planned budget; and
  - The 2024 Development Charge Background Study Amendment Report and By-laws (October 2024) for parks development projects for Enhanced Urban Greenspace.
- Enhancement and Renewal needs are not identified at this time.
- Fleet Services' forecast of lifecycle renewal needs for Fleet assets based on asset age and expected useful life.

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*5: The growth needs estimate does not encompass all of the needs required for the City to meet the aspirational 40% canopy target or the target of number of hectares of active parkland per 1,000 residents.*



Ottawa's population is expected to increase to 1.4 million people by 2046, a significant increase of 40% since 2018, as summarized in the table below. This growth will put pressure on existing assets and services, and may require new or expanded assets to meet growing needs.

### City of Ottawa Population Projections for 2046

	2046 Projection	Growth since 2018
Population	1,409,650	402,150
Private Households	590,600	194,800
Jobs	827,000	189,500

Source: New Official Plan report to Council (ACS2021-PIE-EDP-0036), October 2021

The table below summarizes the future growth, enhancement and renewal needs forecast for Greenspace and Forest Services assets.

### Growth, Enhancement and Renewal Needs Forecast for Greenspace and Forest Services

	10 Year Needs (millions; 2024\$)			
Asset Class	Growth	Enhancement	Renewal	Total
Rural Greenspace	\$19.7 <sup>6</sup>	None identified at this time	None identified at this time	\$19.7
Enhanced Urban Greenspace	\$155.7	None identified at this time	None identified at this time	\$155.7
Urban Natural Greenspace	Not applicable <sup>7</sup>	None identified at this time	None identified at this time	-
Forestry Fleet	None identified at this time	Not applicable	\$5.4	\$5.4
Trees and Forest	None identified at this time	None identified at this time	None identified at this time	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$175.3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$5.4</b>	<b>\$180.8</b>

Totals may not sum exactly due to rounding.

6: Growth needs for Rural Greenspace are estimated to be approximately equal to the planned budget.

7: Growth needs are not applicable to Urban Natural Greenspace because growth is received through dedication from developers.





As per the regulation, asset management planning also needs to consider the City’s Climate Change Master Plan goals for both mitigation strategies to slow climate change impacts, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and adaptation strategies to reduce negative impacts associated with existing and future climate change. The Asset Management Plan estimates the additional future costs due to climate change shown in the table below. These are preliminary estimates based on the latest information available, which will be refined over time.

**Estimated Additional Future Costs Due to Climate Change for Greenspace and Forest Services**

Additional Costs Due to Climate Change	Estimated 10 year Total Additional Cost (millions; 2024\$)
Increased operations and maintenance costs due to gradual, long-term impacts of climate change	Not available
Increased capital renewal costs due to gradual, long-term impacts of climate change	Not available
Increased operations and maintenance costs due to extreme weather events <sup>8</sup>	\$5.5
Increased capital costs to implement climate change mitigation actions including municipal fleet electrification and building retrofits <sup>9</sup>	\$0.8
Total	\$6.3

The estimates do not capture damage to natural infrastructure due to catastrophic/extreme weather events (e.g., tornadoes, floods, wildfire), , increased growth costs to meet climate change requirements, or increased capital renewal and/or operation and maintenance costs for trees and forests due to rising temperatures, changing seasons, drought, or extreme weather.

8: Estimated operations and maintenance costs due to extreme weather events are based on historical City financial data and Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) reporting for recent significant weather events.  
9: Estimated capital costs to implement climate change mitigation actions are based on the Energy Evolution study (2020) and subsequent detailed studies such as the Green Fleet Strategy.



### 4.3 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Operations strategies are developed to deliver the services and involve consumption of resources such as human resources, energy, chemicals and materials. Maintenance strategies are the regular ongoing activities necessary to keep assets operating, including instances where portions of the asset fail and need immediate repair to make the asset operational again.

New assets acquired or constructed by the City due to growth will incur additional future operations and maintenance costs beyond current expenditures. It is crucial for the City to evaluate these prospective costs and their affordability when making decisions regarding new asset acquisition or construction.





# Financing Strategy

The regulation requires that the Asset Management Plan defines a financial strategy with respect to the assets in each asset category for the 10-year period. The City continues to invest responsibly in maintaining infrastructure and has been increasing its capital investments to align with long-range financial plans. Funding targets recommended in the 2017 Comprehensive Asset Management Program were focused on maintaining critical infrastructure in a state of good repair. There will be a need to update the long range financial plans once new service levels are defined to ensure financial sustainability.

## 5.1 EXPENDITURE HISTORY

For information on historical operating and capital expenditures, refer to the City's historical annual budget documents. Note that historical budget values function as estimates for expenditures, and actual spending may differ from the budgeted amounts shown.

## 5.2 EXPENDITURE FORECAST

Over the next 10 years, the City will continue investing in infrastructure to support operational expenses, respond to renewal needs, serve growth, and provide enhancements. The planned operating budget is based on Financial Service's 2024 operating budget forecast for Forestry Services and the planned capital budget is based on the City's 2024 10-year capital budget forecast.





# Budget Forecast for Greenspace and Forest Services

Component	Budget Forecast (millions; 2024\$)										
	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
Operating Budget <sup>10</sup>	\$25.6	\$26.4	\$27.3	\$28.1	\$29.1	\$30.0	\$31.1	\$32.1	\$33.2	\$34.4	\$297.3
Capital Budget – Enhancement	\$17.2	\$20.6	\$17.2	\$10.9	\$8.0	\$6.5	\$10.1	\$3.4	\$3.4	\$3.4	\$100.7
Capital Budget – Renewal	\$0.9	\$0.7	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.1	\$0.0	\$0.3	\$0.4	0.1	\$0.5	\$3.5

Totals may not sum exactly due to rounding.

10: Values shown are net operating budget requirement after expenditure recoveries and revenues. This analysis does not include operating expenditures from:

- The City's parks maintenance budget, which are fully accounted for in the Recreation and Cultural Services AMP, but which support greenspace services as well as other areas such as Recreation (e.g., ball diamond maintenance) and Transportation (boulevard grass cutting).
- The Natural Systems Unit within the Strategic Initiatives Department (for which a specific operating expenditures forecast was not available).





# Funding Analysis

The regulation requires that an identification of the annual funding projected to be available to undertake lifecycle activities is summarized in the Asset Management Plan. If, based on the funding projected to be available, the municipality identifies a service area shortfall for the lifecycle activities identified, the regulation requires an explanation of how the municipality will manage the risks associated with not undertaking any of the lifecycle activities needed.

The future capital funding needs are compared to planned budgets in order to identify potential service area shortfalls (or “gaps”), the risks to service that could result, and possible strategies to mitigate them.



## 6.1 SERVICE AREA GAP

An Asset Management Plan provides a forecast of where the City will be in 10 years with respect to some service level targets based on historic decisions on how the City invests in and manages assets. The service area gap is the difference between the forecasted capital investment needs and the investment that the City has budgeted. As a result, service area gaps can and will change as a result of future changes to policy, masterplans, population, service delivery, asset inventory, or investment by the City and other orders of government. Over the next 10 years, the total needs for Greenspace and Forest Services assets exceeds the planned budget, leading to a service area gap. The forecasted investment needs, planned budgets and service area gaps are summarized in the table and figure below.

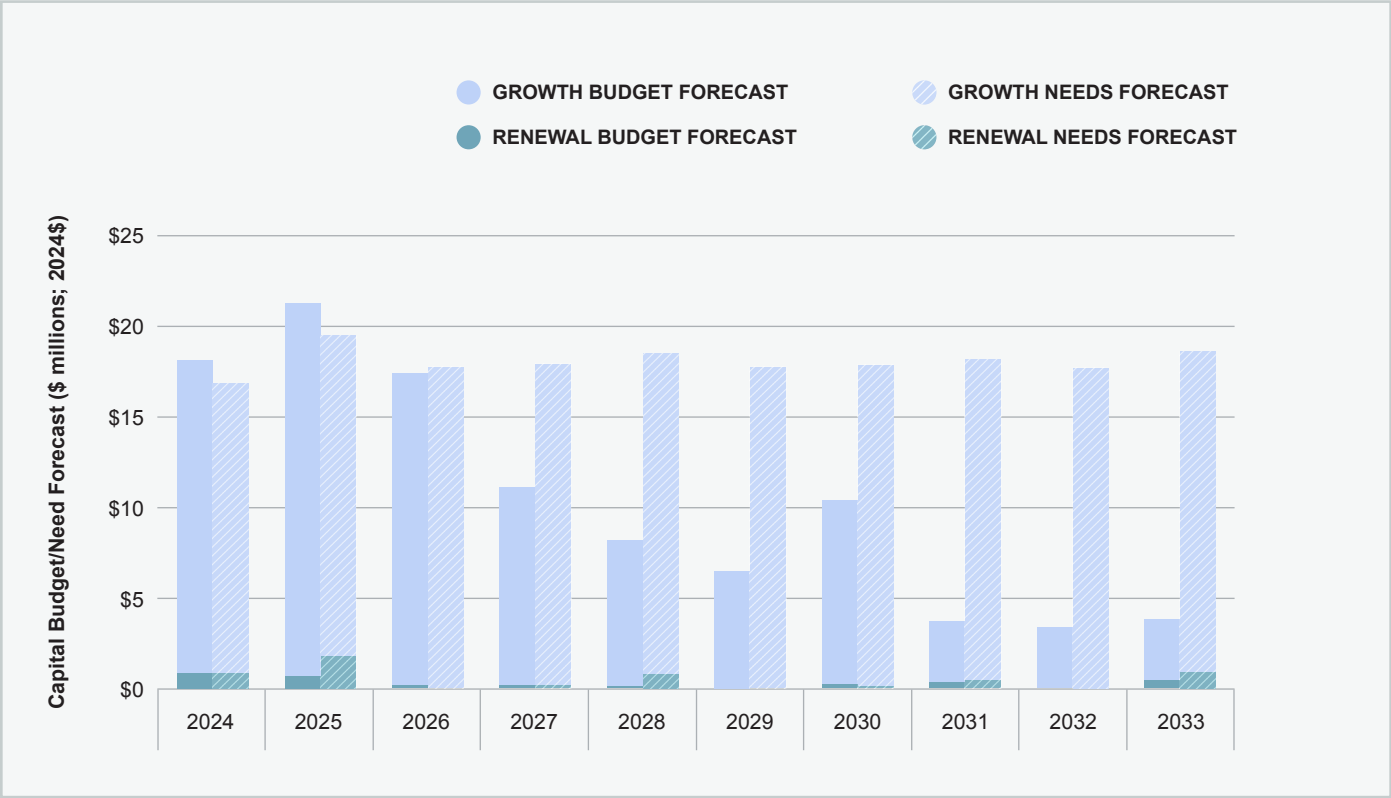
### Capital Service Area Gap for Greenspace and Forest Services

Asset Class	10 Year Need (millions; 2024\$)	10 Year Funding (millions; 2024\$)	10 Year Gap (millions; 2024\$)
Growth			
Rural Greenspace	\$19.7	\$19.7	\$0.0
Enhanced Urban Greenspace	\$155.7	\$81.0	(\$74.7)
Urban Natural Greenspace	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Forestry Fleet	None identified at this time	None identified at this time	-
Trees & Forest	None identified at this time	Not available – included in operating budget	Not available
<b>Growth Total</b>	<b>\$175.3</b>	<b>\$100.7</b>	<b>(\$74.7)</b>
Renewal			
Rural Greenspace	None identified at this time	None identified at this time	-
Enhanced Urban Greenspace	None identified at this time	None identified at this time	-
Urban Natural Greenspace	None identified at this time or not applicable	None identified at this time	-
Forestry Fleet	\$5.4	\$3.5	(\$1.9)
Trees & Forest	None identified at this time	None identified at this time	None identified at this time
<b>Renewal Total</b>	<b>\$5.4</b>	<b>\$3.5</b>	<b>(\$1.9)</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$180.8</b>	<b>\$104.1</b>	<b>(\$76.6)</b>

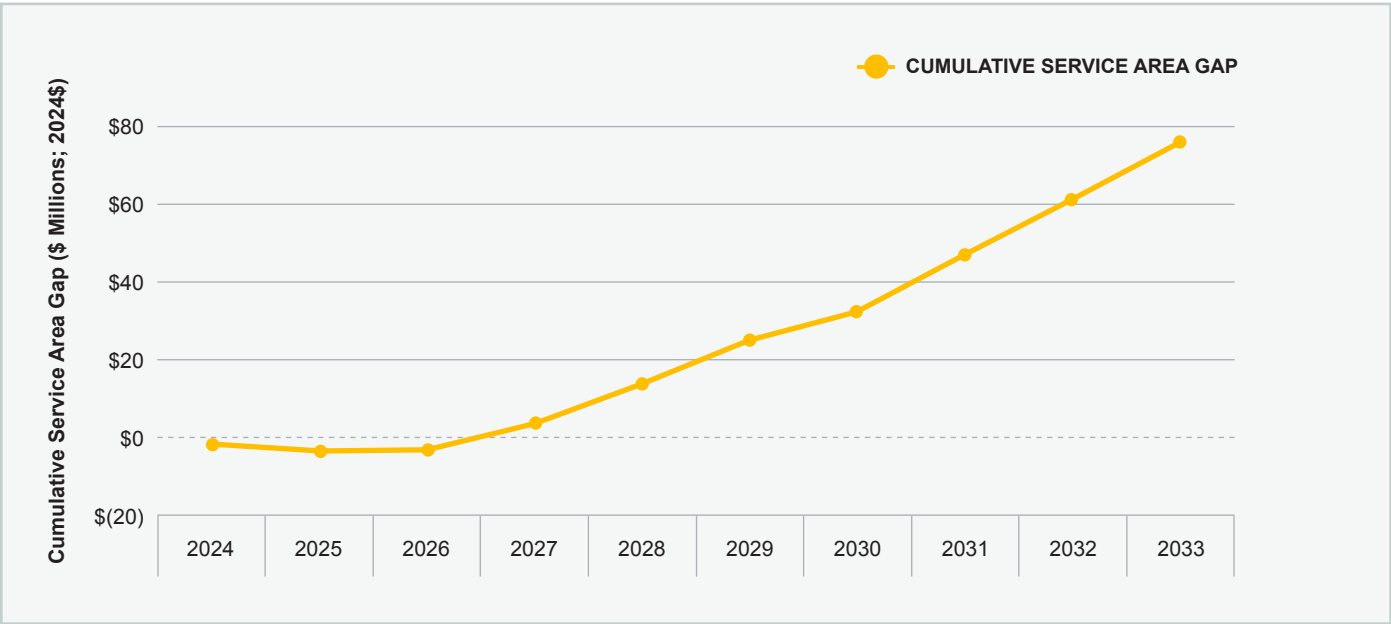
Totals may not sum exactly due to rounding.



Capital Budget and Capital Needs Forecast for Greenspace and Forest Services



Cumulative Capital Service Area Gap for Greenspace and Forest Services





The above capital service area gap does not include the estimated additional future costs due to climate change outlined in Section 4.2. The City has planned dedicated funding over the next 10 years to support climate change needs through the Climate Change Master Plan and annual GHG and Emissions program. The funding supports not only greenspace and forest services, but all other services provided by the City. The climate change capital funding needs identified for the various City services and the total planned capital funding for climate change initiatives are summarized in the table below. These are preliminary estimates that are being refined and prioritized through various initiatives, but they give a sense of the order-of-magnitude of future planned budget and potential needs. These estimates do not include infrastructure repair or replacement costs for extreme weather events such as tornadoes, riverine flooding or ice storms. The analysis does not capture funding from external sources such as other levels of government. Capital funding will need to be integrated across departmental budgets.

The analysis is based on the City’s 2024 ten-year capital budget forecast. It is important to note that the 2024 funding forecast shown is \$155 million higher than the final approved 2025 budget forecast, which allocates \$91.2 million over 10 years (versus \$246.4 million as shown in the table).

**Estimated Future Climate Change Capital Budgets and Capital Needs for All City Services<sup>11</sup>**

	10 Year Need (millions; 2024\$)	10 Year Funding (millions; 2024\$)	10 Year Gap (millions; 2024\$)
Climate Change	\$1,700	\$246.4	(\$1,453.6)

**6.2 EXPECTED AND TARGET LEVELS OF SERVICE**

For levels of service, the City has established performance targets as well as anticipated performance. These metrics can be compared to assess the alignment between expected and target performance. The table below includes:

- Current performance, showing the service levels being provided by the City based on the latest available information.
- Arrows to show whether the measure is expected to trend upward, downward, or remain relatively stable, with colours to show whether that trend is positive (green) or negative (red) relative to the target level of service.
- Expected performance, showing the service levels expected to be achieved based on the City’s planned budget.
- Target performance, showing the City’s target level of service based on Council direction, City policy, strategy or master plan, or other reference.

*11: The estimates exclude Solid Waste and Transit services because all financial analysis for these services is captured in the respective Long Range Financial Plan.*



Expected and Target Levels of Service for Greenspace and Forest Services

Service Attribute	Community Level of Service	Technical Level of Service	Current Performance (2023)	Trend (2024 2033)	Expected Performance (2033)	Target Performance (2033)	Source for Target
Capacity and use	Achieve the urban tree canopy targets in the Official Plan and Greenspace Master Plan	Urban tree canopy coverage (percentage)	31% (2017)	Expected performance not available		40%, equitably distributed across the City	Official Plan
		Number of hectares of urban active parkland per 1,000 people	1.96 (2021)	⬇️	1.89 ha per 1,000 residents (2031)	≥2.0 ha per 1,000 residents (2031)	Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan
	Ensure an adequate supply of green spaces to meet growing community need while maintaining natural systems	Number of hectares of rural active parkland per 1,000 people	6.29 (2021)	⬇️	5.48 ha per 1,000 residents (2031)	≥2.0 ha per 1,000 residents (2031)	Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan
Function	Foster a resilient, diverse and functional urban forest	Percent of single species / percent of genus / percent of family of total tree population	<10% any single species; <20% any single genus; <30% any single family (2017)	Expected performance not available		Municipality-wide: No single species represents more than 10% of total tree population; no genus more than 20%; and no family more than 30% Neighbourhood level: No single species represents more than 5% of total tree population, no genus more than 10%; and no family more than 15%	Urban Forest Management Plan
	Reduce emissions associated with the City's operations and facilities	Annual GHG emissions from Forestry fleet (tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e)	442 t	Refer to Green Fleet Strategy		Refer to Green Fleet Strategy	
Reliability	All publicly owned trees are maintained to maximize current and future benefits. Tree health and condition ensure maximum longevity and minimizes risk potential	Meet the City's maintenance quality standard for tree inspection and pruning cycles	No	Expected performance not available		Yes (meet 7-year pruning cycle)	Maintenance Quality Standards for Trees and Forests
	Maintain assets in a state of good repair	Percent of fleet assets in fair or better condition	42%	⬇️	41%	71%	Lifecycle modelling
Affordability	Provide sustainable and affordable services over the long-term	10 year average annual Asset renewal funding ratio (renewal funding as a share of replacement cost)	5.7%	Not applicable		8.8%	Lifecycle modelling

⬆️ Positive upward trend	⬆️ Negative upward trend	⬇️ Positive downward trend	⬇️ Negative downward trend	➡️ Positive stable trend	➡️ Negative stable trend
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## 6.3 RISK MANAGEMENT

The City applies a risk-based approach to prioritizing asset renewals. The risk assessment frameworks and methods vary across the different types of assets but are generally based on the importance of each asset in terms of service delivery/continuity and the number of users who could be impacted.

Ontario Regulation 588/17 requires an analysis of the risks associated with the proposed levels of service and implementation of the Asset Management Plan. These key risks and how the City mitigates the most critical risks are summarized in the tables below.

### Key Risks and Risk Mitigation for Levels of Service

Key Area <sup>12</sup>	Potential Impacts	City Response
<b>Funding for Growth</b>	Underfunding may reduce ability to build new infrastructure to support growth in a timely fashion. This could put increased demand on existing infrastructure, reduced redundancy, higher reactive repair costs, and delayed development.	The City regularly updates the master plans and Development Charges By-law that address growth funding needs. Increased growth needs can be incorporated into these updates, and into future updates of the Asset Management Plan.
<b>Lifecycle Renewal Funding</b>	Delays in renewal activities could impact service reliability and increase long-term costs (including operations and maintenance costs).	The City prioritizes capital projects by assessing the condition of infrastructure assets, using a risk-based approach to evaluate the potential impact on service levels, and coordinating with other projects to minimize disruptions. This structured approach prioritizes critical assets and within affordability constraints.

12: As per section 6 of Ontario Regulation 588/17: the Asset Management Plan shall identify the risks associated with the options for which lifecycle activities could potentially be undertaken to achieve the proposed levels of service as well as the risks associated with those options to the long term sustainability of the municipality.



Key Area	Potential Impacts	City Response
<b>Operations &amp; Maintenance Funding</b>	Underfunding may reduce service reliability and increase emergency repairs.	Operating budget allocations are optimized such that funds are directed towards essential operations, emphasize preventive measures to maintain service levels, and consider public feedback to align with community needs and within affordability constraints.
<b>Climate Change Mitigation &amp; Resilience</b>	Deferral of climate-related initiatives may hinder adaptation, result in service disruptions increase long-term costs, and put pressure on existing budgets, and risk missing emission reduction targets.	The Climate Change Master Plan (CCMP) and its supporting strategies provide direction for prioritizing climate investments in both mitigation and adaptation. The CCMP also identifies the need to apply a climate lens to asset management and capital projects, including through departmental capital planning and prioritization processes. Implementation of the CCMP and its supporting plans is a shared responsibility across all departments. The response to the 2024 CCMP audit will provide further direction on priorities.
<b>Rising Asset Replacement Costs</b>	Higher costs may lead to project delays and increased financial pressure. Less projects could be completed with the same amount of money.	The City uses comprehensive asset management, emphasizing preventive maintenance, and prioritizes investments based on risk and within affordability constraints. It also conducts long-term financial planning and explores innovative solutions to reduce costs and enhance service delivery.





Key Area	Potential Impacts	City Response
<b>Fleet Maintenance &amp; Electrification</b>	Higher maintenance costs or insufficient electrical infrastructure could affect fleet reliability and emergency response.	The Green Fleet Strategy recommends an approach that ensures the City has adequate infrastructure in place as it moves forward with vehicle electrification. The strategy recommends proactively developing energy supply and refueling infrastructure ahead of electrification as well as initiating building-level upgrades and civil infrastructure upgrades prior to the purchase of electric vehicles.
<b>Extreme Weather Impacts</b>	More frequent events may damage assets, disrupt services, and increase maintenance needs.	Climate Ready Ottawa – the City’s draft climate resiliency strategy – is a long-term strategy and implementation plan that will guide City-wide action and investment to prepare for a much warmer, wetter and unpredictable climate. It includes conducting climate risk assessments for critical infrastructure to prioritize investments and actions.  Insurance and City reserves are also available for unplanned costs due to extreme weather.
<b>Operational Pressures from Climate Change</b>	Increased demands on staff and resources may affect other service delivery or increase costs.	Climate Ready Ottawa considers future increased operating budget needs due to climate change by guiding long-term action and investment to ensure the city’s resilience by 2050. Implementation of priority Energy Evolution projects may result in increases or decreases to operating budgets. Changes to operating budget pressures are considered annually as part of the budget process for specific projects and programs.



Key Area	Potential Impacts	City Response
<b>Non-Urgent Regulatory &amp; Equity Needs</b>	<p>Delays may impact inclusivity, accessibility, and workplace suitability.</p> <p>Workforce pressures may impact staff retention and morale, which can affect continuity and capacity for emergency response.</p>	<p>The City strives to ensure that critical needs are met and within affordability constraints by prioritizing essential needs and services, seeking grants and partnerships, improving efficiency, engaging with the community, and conducting long-term financial planning.</p> <p>Accessibility and equity upgrades will be prioritized based on identified needs and risks.</p>

## Key Risks and Risk Mitigation for Asset Management Plan Implementation

Key Risks to Asset Management Plan Implementation	Response
Population forecasts may change.	Changes to population forecasts will impact the growth needs forecasts, which will be reviewed and updated at least every 5 years as part of the Asset Management Plan update. Key issues can be identified as part of the annual review of the City's progress in implementing the asset management plan and in the "Asset Management Implications" section of individual reports to Council.
Future approved budgets may vary from the planned budgets assumed in the Asset Management Plan financial analysis.	<p>The Asset Management Plan will be updated at least every 5 years, including an updated budget analysis. This will allow for a reassessment of future needs, expected levels of service, and risk.</p> <p>Key impacts due to budget changes can be addressed in the annual review of the City's progress in implementing the asset management plan and in the "Asset Management Implications" section of individual reports to Council.</p>



Key Risks to Asset Management Plan Implementation	Response
Council may take on more assets than planned in the Asset Management Plan.	Additional assets will most impact the operations and renewal forecast. Key impacts can be addressed annually as part of the review of the City's progress in implementing the Asset Management Plan and in the "Asset Management Implications" section of individual reports to Council.
Council or changes in legislation/regulation may mandate higher/different target service levels.	Higher or different proposed service levels will impact spending needs which could result in a need to consider alternative approaches to service delivery, increases in revenue to support increased service levels, or a shifting of funding that re-prioritizes service levels and possibly increases risk in other areas. This will be reviewed and updated at least every 5 years as part of the Asset Management Plan update. As indicated above, key impacts can be addressed annually as part of the review of the City's progress in implementing the Asset Management Plan and in the "Asset Management Implications" section of individual reports to Council.
Changes in asset or financial data, which may affect the findings presented in the Asset Management Plan.	Changes in the data used to produce the Asset Management Plan will be reflected in the Asset Management Plan update at least every 5 years. As indicated above, key impacts can be addressed annually as part of the review of the City's progress in implementing the asset management plan and in the "Asset Management Implications" section of individual reports to Council.





## 6.4 NON-FINANCIAL STRATEGIES

Given that planned budgets are not expected to be sufficient to fully fund all forecasted asset lifecycle needs, alternative methods must be employed to mitigate the risks associated with underfunding. A variety of non-financial strategies exist or can be implemented to address this issue, including:

- Regular proactive tree maintenance to ensure tree health and longevity.
- Outreach and community engagement programs to educate and involve residents and landowners in tree maintenance and stewardship.
- Forested Areas Maintenance Strategy (FAMS) to guide maintenance activities in City-owned forested areas.
- Direct funding incentives and grants to support tree planting on public lands and grow the urban canopy.
- Developing tree nursery stock growing contracts to ensure high-quality, locally grown native species.
- Low Impact Development (LID) for stormwater management that incorporates green infrastructure and supports the urban tree canopy.
- Initiatives from the Fleet Service Review.

Any new strategies may have impacts on residents and services and should be subject to further study prior to being pursued.

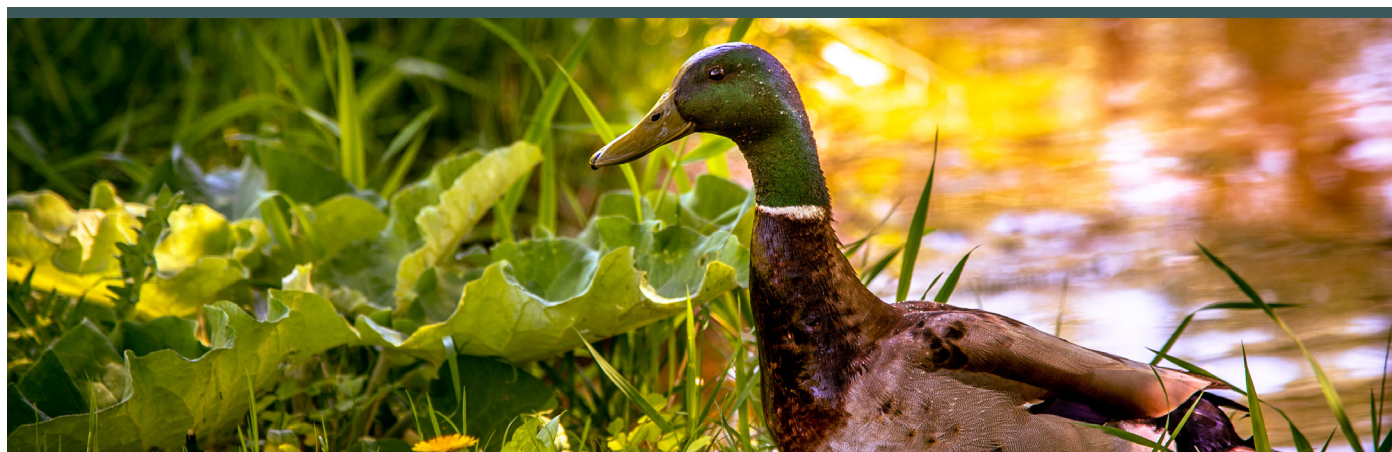


# Improvement Plan

The regulation requires that the Asset Management Plan demonstrate the municipality's approach to continuous improvement and adoption of appropriate practices regarding asset management planning. Based on the snapshot of current conditions and existing plans presented in this Asset Management Plan, areas of potential improvement include:

- Continue to address data gaps, data management, and record keeping
- Update cost estimates
- Review, track and report levels of service
- Improve and expand needs forecasts, financial forecasts and funding analysis
- Continue populating expected level of service projections
- Further integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Expand the application of an equity and inclusion lens

The Asset Management Plan will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis and over time these improvements will be reflected in future versions of the Plan.



## MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the Asset Management Plan, and the background information and reports upon which it is based, please visit [Ottawa.ca](https://ottawa.ca) or contact the City of Ottawa Asset Management Service.

