

# South Shaganappi Communities Local Area Plan – Initial Draft Chapter 3

This Draft local area plan (LAP) Chapter 3 has been created for discussion purposes.

Draft – May 2024

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***During your review, please note:***

*This document is an initial draft of Chapter 3. It includes specific objectives and Implementation Options to support growth in the South Shaganappi Communities. The content of this chapter will be updated, refined and expanded upon as Phase 3 of the Plan progresses.*

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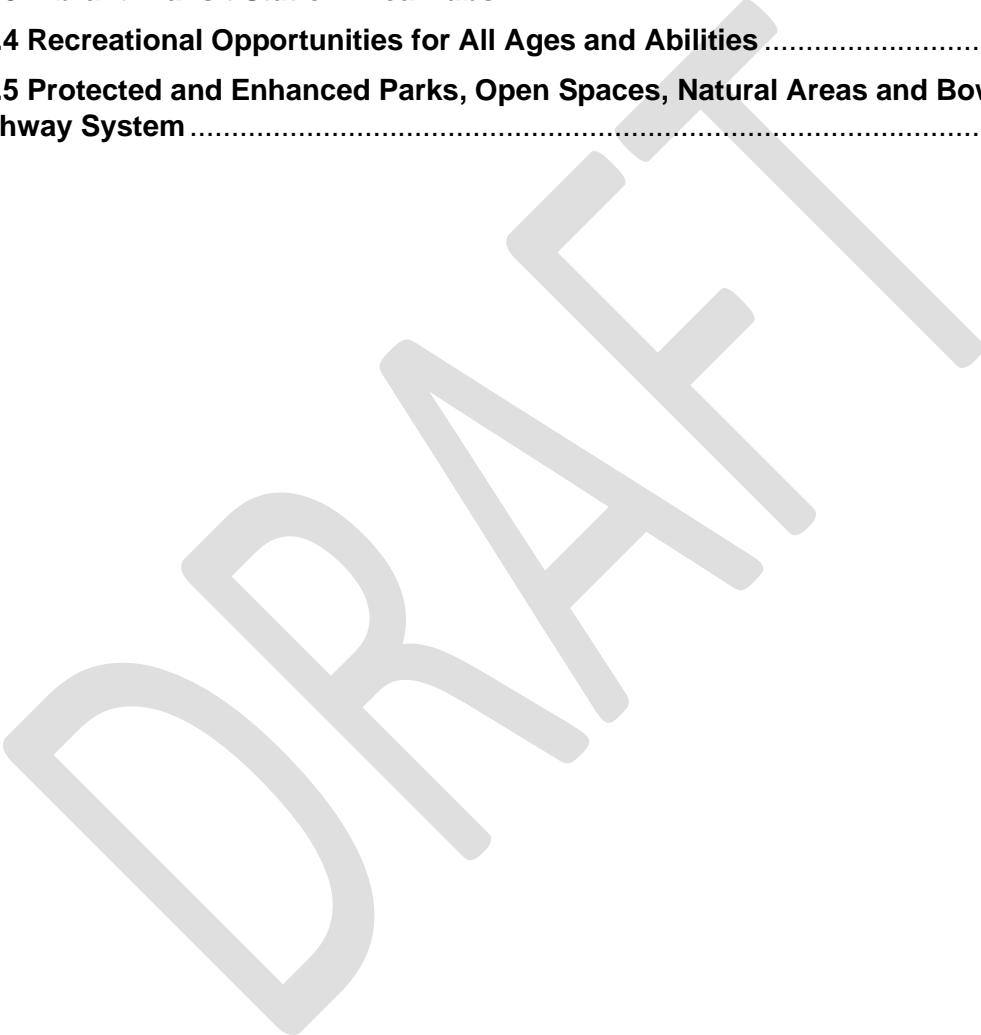
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### 3.1 Overview

The individual communities that make up the South Shaganappi Communities share common amenities, services, parks and open spaces, natural areas and public and recreation facilities; however, no single community has the amenities and services to provide for all the daily needs of residents.

The South Shaganappi Communities depend on interconnectedness for their commercial services, amenities and recreation facilities. These include the 16 Avenue NW Urban **Main Street**, the Major **Activity Centres** at the University of Calgary and Foothills Medical Centre, and the recreational opportunities and facilities throughout the Plan Area such as Shouldice Athletic Park, Foothills Athletic Park and along the Bow River pathway system. This chapter sets out the goals and objectives for current and future amenities and **infrastructure** related to the vision identified in Chapter 1: Visualizing Growth.

This chapter identifies local area plan specific objectives and implementation options for supporting growth. Section 3.2 of this Plan identifies high-level goals that align with key planning direction provided within the **Municipal Development Plan** and includes locally specific objectives that support the Plan's vision. The goals and objectives are long-term, connected to the Plan's time horizon and represent the future of the area. They apply community-wide, as they are not site-specific, provide benefits to more than one resident and are intended to be actionable.

This chapter identifies implementation options related to the goals and objectives that recognize the unique opportunities for placemaking, **public space** improvement, enhanced mobility choices and climate resilience. This chapter also provides high-level strategic direction to inform investment decisions. Further detailed analysis and study for each option may be required and may include engagement with area residents, community associations, business improvement areas, landowners, and industry as appropriate. The options in this chapter are statutory, while the ones identified in Appendix A are non-statutory.

Appendix A includes a list of additional implementation options that participants identified through the development of the Plan. These implementation options are examples of actions that could be taken by The City of Calgary, developers, business improvement associations, and residents to further the individual goals and objectives in this chapter.

To support the South Shaganappi Communities through growth and change, the suggested options identified in this chapter and Appendix A can help inform future City business plans and budget decisions. As growth occurs in local areas, these suggested options should be regularly reviewed and updated to determine if they help manage growth related pressure that a community may experience, ensuring growth can benefit current and future residents and businesses. There are several considerations for determining if an action merits inclusion in future business plans and budgets, including:

- the current status of **infrastructure** and amenities in the local area;
- the desired services and activity levels in the area;
- the roles of different city builders in supporting the delivery of **infrastructure** and amenities;
- how the growth in this local area compares with city-wide growth and investment needs;
- alignment with City goals for creating carbon **net-zero** and climate resilient communities;

- the City’s corporate investment priorities and budget availability; and,
- the availability and use of appropriate planning and financial tools to support implementation.

### 3.2 Goals, Objectives and Implementation Options

This Plan identifies five goals aligned with the Plan’s core values that are intended to frame and provide guidance for investment to support the Plan’s vision. Within each goal, objectives are provided to guide decisions supporting the goal. Specific implementation options are identified to support the related objectives.

#### 3.2.1 Diverse, Accessible and Inclusive Housing Choices

Providing a variety of housing choices that are diverse, accessible, and inclusive is key for fostering greater inclusivity in the South Shaganappi Communities. By expanding housing choices, residents of all income levels can live in homes that best suit their needs while supporting the local employment centres and major institutions in the area.

##### Objectives

The following objectives are intended to guide decisions for supporting diverse housing choices in the South Shaganappi Communities:

- Provide diverse, accessible, and **non-market housing** choices to support inclusive and equitable communities.
- Encourage provision of affordable student housing in and around the University of Calgary campus area and Foothills Hospital Centre area.
- Encourage provision of **non-market housing** and **mixed-market housing** that meets the diverse and changing needs, life stages and financial abilities of individuals.

##### Implementation Options

The following actions have been identified to achieve the supporting growth objective:

##### Non-market Housing and Mixed-market Housing

Access to safe and stable housing helps create inclusive communities and adds to the overall health, prosperity and safety of our city. **Non-market housing** and **mixed-market housing** add diversity by attracting young adults and families into the neighbourhood and enabling residents to age in place. People in **non-market housing** and **mixed-market housing** have greater chances to find and keep jobs, learn and build skills and be active participants in their communities. Housing vulnerable residents improves individual outcomes related to the social determinants of health, promotes self-sufficiency and builds equity in communities.

In the South Shaganappi Communities, housing for students is crucial to supporting the large student population attending institutions like the University of Calgary. Providing housing that is affordable for students is necessary for enhancing students’ financial stability and encouraging greater access to education.

*Home is Here, The City of Calgary’s Housing Strategy*, identifies the role and actions The City can take to improving access to **non-market housing** and **mixed-market housing**. Refer to this strategy for city wide actions as well as the most recent definition of **non-market housing**, **mixed-market housing** and **affordable housing**.

- a. To improve access to **non-market housing** and **mixed-market housing** in the South Shaganappi Communities, the following should be considered:
  - i. enable inclusion of **non-market housing** units in new residential and mixed-use developments, including **mixed-market housing** projects;
  - ii. consider including **non-market housing** and **mixed-market housing** in the redevelopment of vacant lands;
  - iii. support the intensification, rehabilitation and retention of existing **non-market housing** developments, ensuring no net loss of units;
  - iv. encourage strategic partnerships with private and public organizations to address unmet housing need;
  - v. leverage municipal land, where available, to contribute to **non-market housing** or **mixed-market housing** development;
  - vi. encourage co-location of affordable housing units within civic development;
  - vii. support and encourage the development of **non-market housing, mixed-market housing** and student housing in areas that are well served by **transit station areas, Activity Centres**, the Primary Transit Network and appropriate services and amenities, including access to grocery stores and schools; and,
  - viii. support the inclusion of energy efficiency and renewable energy measures for affordable units to reduce high and volatile energy costs.

### Different Housing Forms

Providing a variety of housing forms is crucial to supporting a wide range of residents' needs and lifestyles. Multi-generational homes and communities can provide safe, accessible, and inclusive places for people of all ages and stages to live.

- b. To support future development of different housing forms in the South Shaganappi Communities, the following should be considered:
  - i. where municipal land is available, the coordination of land sales for multi-generational and cohousing development should be explored; and,
  - ii. support and encourage the development of multi-generational homes and communities and cohousing in areas that are well served by existing **infrastructure** and amenities.

### 3.2.2 Safe and Well-Connected Mobility Options

Improving connectivity of mobility options in the South Shaganappi Communities means providing safe, accessible, and well-connected transit, walking, and cycling networks for all seasons, ages and abilities. The Red Line LRT, MAX Orange BRT and Primary Transit Network along with **pedestrian** pathways and cycling **infrastructure** provides a range of mobility options within the Plan Area. Connecting and enhancing these networks will allow for greater ease of travel between destinations such as institutions, businesses, parks, recreation and amenities within and outside the Plan Area.

### Objectives

The following objectives are intended to guide decisions for supporting well-connected mobility options and networks to and through the South Shaganappi Communities:

- Improve safety, connectivity, and accessibility of all modes of transportation.
- Prioritize missing links in **pedestrian**, cycling, and transit **infrastructure** especially between major destinations such as **transit station areas, Activity Centres, Main**

**Streets**, institutions, community associations, schools, parks, recreation facilities and natural areas.

- Improve and expand upon the **pedestrian** and cycling **infrastructure** network, including the **5A Mobility Network**, to support active modes of travel.

### Implementation Options

The following actions have been identified to achieve the supporting growth objectives:

#### Improved Pedestrian and Cycling Connections

- a. To improve overall **pedestrian** and cycling connections and networks, the following should be considered:
  - i. improved walking and cycling connections linking **transit station areas, Activity Centres**, the Primary Transit Network and **Main Streets** as well as recreation facilities and parks and open spaces such as Shouldice Athletic Park, Dale Hodges Park, Foothills Athletic Park and the Bow River pathway system;
  - ii. continuous and widened walking and cycling connections and **infrastructure** to LRT stations and BRT stations and along the Primary Transit Network, while taking operational transit requirements into consideration;
  - iii. traffic calming measures that focus on slowing vehicle speeds through school and playground zones, along residential/neighbourhood streets, and along collector streets to minimize conflicts between different modes of mobility;
  - iv. clear, defined active mode routes and wayfinding to schools and post-secondary institutions including the University of Calgary;
  - v. completing missing **pedestrian** links by constructing sidewalks where they currently do not exist;
  - vi. completing missing cycling links by constructing cycle tracks, multi-use pathways, or equivalent facilities; and,
  - vii. providing shade and cooling **infrastructure** along **pedestrian** and cycling corridors.

#### 16 Avenue NW Neighbourhood Main Street

The 16 Avenue NW Neighbourhood **Main Street** area, located between 49 Street NW and 43 Street NW, acts as a gateway for the west side of the Plan Area and Calgary. High vehicular speeds are reduced on 16 Avenue NW around Shouldice Athletic Park, providing a transition into Montgomery. The street is a heavily used east-west connection for vehicles travelling in and out of the city and is also designated as a main goods movement corridor. However, this portion of 16 Avenue NW is identified as a Neighbourhood **Main Street**, intended for a mixture of uses in a pedestrian-oriented environment.

- b. To improve overall function and **pedestrian** and cycling connectivity, comfort and safety, design for this mobility corridor should:
  - i. explore opportunities for **public space** enhancement;
  - ii. evaluate the opportunity to consolidate the connections of Bowness Road NW, Shaganappi Trail NW and 16 Avenue NW;
  - iii. provide additional **pedestrian** and cycling connections across 16 Avenue NW to Shouldice Athletic Park and the Bow River pathway system, specifically west of Home Road NW;
  - iv. improve walking and cycling connectivity to/from 16 Avenue NW and the **5A Mobility Network**; and,

- v. improve existing **pedestrian** and cycling connections at key intersections including Home Road NW, 46 Street NW and 43 Street NW.

### 32 Avenue NW

32 Avenue NW provides an east-west connection across the Plan Area, from Crowchild Trail NW to Home Road NW. With a mixture of institutional, commercial, civic and residential uses along 32 Avenue NW, the street links major destinations in the area including the University of Calgary, University Innovation Quarter, University District and Market Mall.

- c. To improve overall function and **pedestrian** and cycling connectivity, comfort and safety, design for this mobility corridor should:
  - i. provide safe, comfortable and continuous **pedestrian** and cycling **infrastructure**;
  - ii. enhance 32 Avenue NW with a focus to widen and improve the streetscape and **public space** for active modes;
  - iii. determine the modal priority along the corridor;
  - iv. recommend the appropriate street classification and cross-section(s);
  - v. consider road classification, vehicles speeds and volumes, and incorporate design measures to mitigate mobility conflicts;
  - vi. implement traffic calming features appropriate to the function and design of the corridor; and,
  - vii. explore the opportunity to bury all overhead utilities.

### 24 Avenue NW

24 Avenue NW is an Arterial Street between Crowchild Trail NW and West Campus Boulevard NW. Located along the south edge of the University of Calgary and Alberta Children's Hospital, 24 Avenue NW provides connection to major institutions and residential communities in the Plan Area.

- a. To improve overall function and **pedestrian** and cycling connectivity, comfort and safety, design for this mobility corridor should:
  - i. provide safe, comfortable and continuous **pedestrian** and cycling **infrastructure**;
  - ii. determine the modal priority along the corridor;
  - iii. recommend the appropriate street classification and cross-section(s);
  - iv. consider road classification, vehicles speeds and volumes, and incorporate design measures to mitigate mobility conflicts;
  - v. improve, enhance and prioritize active mode crossings of 24 Avenue NW;
  - vi. implement traffic calming features appropriate to the function and design of the corridor; and,
  - vii. explore the feasibility of converting existing intersections to roundabouts.

### Home Road NW

Home Road NW serves as an important north-south connection between 16 Avenue NW in Montgomery and 32 Avenue NW in Varsity. Additionally, the road connects the 16 Avenue NW Neighbourhood **Main Street** area with the Market Mall Community **Activity Centre** area. Due to vehicular traffic through the area, improvements to **pedestrian infrastructure** are required to provide a safe and comfortable **pedestrian** environment.

- d. To improve overall function and **pedestrian** and cycling connectivity, comfort and safety, design for this mobility corridor should:
  - i. improve east-west **pedestrian** and cycling connections across Home Road NW through crossing enhancements;



- ii. consider road classification, vehicles speeds and volumes, and incorporate design measures to mitigate mobility conflicts;
- iii. explore the opportunity to bury all overhead utilities;
- iv. identify opportunities for traffic calming measures at intersections of Home Road NW and 16 Avenue NW, 21 Avenue NW, and 32 Avenue NW; and,
- v. explore converting existing on-street bike lanes into protected or raised cycle tracks for additional safety and protection.

### Shaganappi Trail NW

Shaganappi Trail NW is an Arterial Street that runs north-south through the Plan Area, connecting Crowchild Trail NW to 16 Avenue NW. The street serves as an important corridor for vehicular traffic moving to and through the South Shaganappi Communities, providing access and connections to **transit station areas**, **Activity Centres** and institutions.

- e. To improve overall function and **pedestrian** and cycling connectivity, comfort and safety, design for this mobility corridor should:
  - i. evaluate the opportunity to consolidate the connections of Bowness Road, Shaganappi Trail and 16 Avenue NW;
  - ii. recommend the appropriate street classification and cross-section(s);
  - iii. consider road classification, vehicles speeds and volumes, and incorporate design measures to mitigate mobility conflicts;
  - iv. improve **pedestrian** and cyclist connectivity across Shaganappi Trail NW including upgraded at-grade **pedestrian** crossings and potential new **pedestrian** bridge crossings;
  - v. explore opportunities to improve the intersections of Shaganappi Trail NW at 32 Avenue NW, 40 Avenue NW and Varsity Drive NW to promote greater **pedestrian** and cyclist connectivity;
  - vi. evaluate the potential for High Occupancy Vehicle lanes along Shaganappi Trail NW between Crowchild Trail NW and 16 Avenue NW;
  - vii. consider the potential for bus rapid transit along the Shaganappi Trail NW;
  - viii. provide a regional pathway along Shaganappi Trail NW between 32 Avenue NW and Crowchild Trail NW as per the **5A Mobility Network**; and,
  - ix. explore opportunities to provide wildlife crossings to enhance the ecological network connectivity, provide safer passage for wildlife and reduce collisions with vehicles.

### Crowchild Trail NW

Crowchild Trail NW is a component of the Skeletal Roadway system that provides an integral link to corridors within the South Shaganappi Communities including 16 Avenue NW, 24 Avenue, 32 Avenue NW, 40 Avenue NW and Shaganappi Trail NW. Improvements to **pedestrian** connections across Crowchild Trail NW have been identified to allow for increased connectivity and safety of **pedestrians** and cyclists travelling to and from the Plan Area.

- f. The future medium- and long-term improvements to Crowchild Trail NW should:
  - i. provide convenient and attractive transportation options that will reduce the number of trips that rely on the use of personal vehicles;
  - ii. ensure any new grade-separated crossings of Crowchild Trail NW provide dedicated **pedestrian** and cycling **infrastructure** that minimizes interactions with vehicle traffic, are simple to navigate and prioritize **pedestrian** safety and accessibility;
  - iii. enhance **pedestrians'** travelling experience by sheltering them from traffic noise and wind, as well as providing pathway lighting;

- iv. create accessible well-defined connections to the larger **pedestrian** network and Regional Pathway system;
- v. provide interchanges at 16 Avenue NW and 24 Avenue NW to alleviate traffic congestion points on Crowchild Trail NW;
- vi. retrofit the existing **pedestrian** bridges at 14 Avenue NW and 23 Avenue NW;
- vii. improve the 32 Avenue NW interchange by way of a functional study that would identify land requirements; and,
- viii. explore opportunities to provide wildlife crossings to enhance the ecological network connectivity, provide safer passage for wildlife and reduce collisions with vehicles.

### **Parkdale Boulevard NW / 3 Avenue NW / Bowness Road NW**

South of 16 Avenue NW, the Parkdale Boulevard NW / 3 Avenue NW / Bowness Road NW corridor is a Parkway and provides a significant connection for traffic entering the city and connecting to downtown.

- a. To improve overall function and **pedestrian** and cycling connectivity, comfort and safety, design for this mobility corridor should:
  - i. evaluate the opportunity to consolidate the connections of Bowness Road NW, Shaganappi Trail NW and 16 Avenue NW;
  - ii. provide and enhance safe, comfortable and continuous **pedestrian** and cycling **infrastructure**;
  - iii. determine the modal priority along the corridor and an optimized design for uniformity and efficient movement of traffic;
  - iv. identify if this is an appropriate corridor for a segment of the future West Bow BRT line;
  - v. recommend the appropriate street classification and cross-section(s);
  - vi. consider road classification, vehicles speeds and volumes, and incorporate design measures to mitigate mobility conflicts; and,
  - vii. identify active mode crossing locations to access the Bow River pathway system.

### **3.2.3 Vibrant Transit Station Area Hubs**

The South Shaganappi Communities has four Red Line LRT station areas including Banff Trail Station, University Station, Brentwood Station, and Dalhousie Station and four MAX Orange BRT station areas at Alberta Children’s Hospital, Foothills Medical Centre, 31 Street NW and Brentwood Station. Concentrating a mixture of pedestrian-oriented residential and commercial development around these **transit station areas** will increase safety and comfort of transit users, provide a destination and gathering space for residents and provide greater accessibility to public transit.

#### **Objectives**

The following objectives are intended to guide decisions for supporting vibrant **transit station areas** and encouraging **transit-oriented development** in the South Shaganappi Communities:

- Provide enhanced walking and cycling connections and complete missing mobility links between **transit station areas** and surrounding communities.
- Improve transit safety, connectivity and accessibility within **transit station areas**.
- Improve the **public space** within and around **transit station areas**.

**Implementation Options**

The following actions have been identified to achieve the supporting growth objectives:

**Transit Station Area Improvements**

- a. To support and foster vibrant **transit station areas**, the following should be considered:
  - i. prioritize access to transit stations through safe, accessible and convenient transit, walking and cycling connections;
  - ii. support provision of bike parking and other active mode amenities at and around transit stations;
  - iii. explore opportunities for enhanced **public space** to improve safety and accessibility of transit users;
  - iv. enable **transit-oriented development** on City-owned lands to support Calgary’s economic, social, and climate objectives;
  - v. locate compatible civic services and amenities in proximity to **transit station areas**;
  - vi. ensure efficient local and regional transit operations around transit stations;
  - vii. support interim uses within **transit station areas** that promote activity around LRT stations; and,
  - viii. incorporate transit priority measures to improve travel time and reliability.

**Banff Trail LRT Station Area**

The Banff Trail LRT Station is located east of 24 Avenue NW and Banff Trail NW and west of Capitol Hill Crescent NW. The location of the station is critical in linking the University of Calgary, Foothills Athletic Park, McMahon Stadium and surrounding communities together.

- b. To support future investments in the Banff Trail LRT Station area, the following should be considered:
  - i. enhanced **pedestrian** lighting in and around the station to increase transit user’s safety and accessibility;
  - ii. incorporation of murals and other forms of public art at the station;
  - iii. designated cycling **infrastructure** along 23 Avenue NW, connecting to the Crowchild Trail NW **pedestrian** bridge;
  - iv. **public space** enhancements at the intersection of 23 Avenue NW and Banff Trail NW including street furniture, lighting, and landscaping; and,
  - v. providing mid-block **pedestrian** crossings to the LRT station along Banff Trail NW.

**3.2.4 Recreational Opportunities for All Ages and Abilities**

The South Shaganappi Communities has a variety of recreational opportunities and facilities including Foothills Athletic Park, Shouldice Athletic Park, McMahon Stadium and numerous community parks and associations. Through investing in these recreational assets, residents of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds will be able to participate in various types of recreation.

**Objectives**

The following objectives are intended to guide decisions on providing affordable and accessible recreational opportunities within the South Shaganappi Communities:

- Enhance existing civic and recreation facilities and spaces such as aquatic centres, athletic parks and community centers.
- Provide residents with a wide variety of public facilities and spaces that have equitable access and serve active and passive recreational needs for all ages and abilities through all seasons.
- Improve passive and active recreation opportunities in parks, open spaces and natural areas along the Bow River pathway system and across the South Shaganappi Communities.

**Implementation Options**

The following actions have been identified to achieve the supporting growth objectives:

**Community Facilities and Spaces**

The South Shaganappi Communities has many community facilities and spaces including community associations, schools and recreation facilities including Foothills Athletic Park, Norma Bush and Father David Bauer Arenas and Shouldice Athletic Park. These facilities and spaces are major regional draws for visitors across the city and are important for the social interaction and gathering of residents. Continuing to improve and invest in these spaces will ensure current and future residents have places to play, learn and gather with each other.

- a. To support future investment in community facilities and spaces, the following should be considered:
  - i. support the continued role and enjoyment of community facilities and spaces for all community members by supporting equitable access to programs and facilities;
  - ii. integrate civic uses into existing and new facilities and spaces to create multi-purpose and multi-use amenities;
  - iii. optimize the network of facilities that serve community needs;
  - iv. collaborate with residents, partners, school boards and other levels of government to deliver functional and sustainable facilities, spaces, and programming that addresses community needs;
  - v. promote integration of public facilities into the social fabric of the community through pathways, parks and active transportation corridors;
  - vi. explore uses that promote year-round outdoor site activation;
  - vii. explore opportunities for community gardens to support community connections and food security;
  - viii. integrate cooling site and water access to help users cope with extreme heat events;
  - ix. enhance the functionality of community facilities and the activation of outdoor spaces through the inclusion of **infrastructure**; and,
  - x. upgrade underutilized parks across the South Shaganappi Communities to better meet community needs through new programming or design.

**Foothills Athletic Park / Foothills Multisport Fieldhouse**

The Foothills Athletic Park / Foothills Multisport Fieldhouse is located adjacent to the University of Calgary campus and McMahon Stadium, providing year-round recreational opportunities for Calgarians. These facilities support a broad range of community uses, field sports, court sports and athletics for a variety of ages and abilities.

- b. To guide the redevelopment of the Foothills Athletic Park:

- i. A Master Plan should be completed to provide direction on the development of the Foothills Multisport Fieldhouse and guide public investment and programming for the area.

*Note: Work on the Foothills Multisport Fieldhouse project is currently underway. Updates to this section will be provided as further information is available.*

**Shouldice Athletic Park**

Shouldice Athletic Park is located in Montgomery, adjacent to the Bow River and 16 Avenue NW. The park supports a wide range of recreational activities with artificial and natural turf fields, ball diamonds, a seasonal air-supported dome, arena and amenities like change rooms, washrooms and a concession.

- c. To support future improvements and investments to Shouldice Athletic Park, the following should be considered:
  - i. explore the opportunity to complete a Master Plan to guide future redevelopment and programming of Shouldice Athletic Park;
  - ii. review existing facilities and uses within the park and the adjacent aquatic facility to identify opportunities to address community and recreational needs;
  - iii. explore adding all-season and diverse recreational uses within the park;
  - iv. improve walking and cycling connectivity to/from the park to the Bow River pathway system and **5A Mobility Network**;
  - v. improve the interface between the park and 16 Avenue NW by providing convenient and safe active mode access;
  - vi. explore opportunities to enhance public understanding of cultural landscapes and Indigenous worldviews along the Bow River pathway system through undertaking engagement with appropriate Indigenous Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers within the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta as part of future park upgrades;
  - vii. investigate opportunities for uses that support recreational activities;
  - viii. investigate opportunities for temporary and seasonal uses that promote year-round activation; and,
  - ix. investigate providing **infrastructure** opportunities to mitigate the risk of health impacts from extreme heat.

**3.2.5 Protected and Enhanced Parks, Open Spaces, Natural Areas and Bow River Pathway System**

Parks, open spaces, natural areas and public and private green **infrastructure** contribute to the ecological health of the South Shaganappi Communities by providing cooling and shading, wildlife habitat, **public space** and stormwater management. The Bow River corridor runs along the west and south boundary of the Plan Area, neighbouring Dale Hodges Park and Shouldice Park along with several other parks and open spaces. The Bow River riparian corridor and escarpment are both environmentally significant areas and major components of the ecological network, providing important connections through the urban environment for wildlife movement and to support ecological processes. Investing in the protection and enhancement of parks, open spaces and natural areas is essential to the South Shaganappi Communities’ wildlife, ecosystem and biodiversity. Additionally, these spaces provide active and passive recreation and contribute to mental and physical health and wellness for residents and visitors in the Plan Area.

**Objectives**

The following objectives are intended to guide decisions to enhance parks, open spaces, natural areas and the Bow River pathway system within the South Shaganappi Communities:

- Support accessible, inclusive and year-round programming for parks and open spaces.
- Improve the user experience in existing parks and open spaces through programming and activation that supports a broader range of complementary uses that cater to diverse groups of users during all seasons.
- Protect, maintain and enhance riparian areas along the Bow River to facilitate wildlife movement and support biodiversity and overall ecological health while improving resilience to erosion, flooding and impacts to water quality.
- Improve the ecological functionality of existing parks and open spaces within the ecological network.
- Protect, maintain, enhance and expand the existing tree canopy on public and private land.

**Implementation Options**

The following actions have been identified to achieve the supporting growth objectives:

**Community Parks and Open Spaces**

- a. To support future investment in community parks and open spaces within the South Shaganappi Communities, the following should be considered:
  - i. identify opportunities to improve functionality of parks and open spaces including multi-purpose fields, street furniture, and **infrastructure**;
  - ii. explore options to enhance safety and accessibility of parks and open spaces;
  - iii. explore opportunities for year-round use and enjoyment of parks and open spaces including incorporating winter-friendly designs; and,
  - iv. collaborate with residents, partners, school boards and other levels of government to deliver functional and sustainable parks, open spaces and programming that addresses community needs.

**Natural Areas**

- b. To support future investment in natural areas within the South Shaganappi Communities, the following should be considered:
  - i. explore opportunities to invest in the preservation, restoration and enhancement of natural areas;
  - ii. promote passive recreation and discourage uses that are not compatible with preservation of natural areas; and,
  - iii. identify opportunities to enhance natural area connectivity through naturalization within the ecological network.

**Bow River Pathway System**

Within the South Shaganappi Communities, the Bow River pathway system and ecological corridor are located in Parkdale and Montgomery. The pathway system provides a safe and

accessible connection for **pedestrians**, cyclists and many other forms of wheeling while enjoying the natural areas along the Bow River.

- c. To support future investment in the Bow River pathway system and surrounding park spaces, the following should be considered:
  - i. widen and repair sections of the pathway system that are heavily congested with **pedestrians** and cyclists;
  - ii. provide separate facilities for **pedestrians** and cyclists, where feasible;
  - iii. provide publicly accessible **infrastructure** including washrooms and drinking fountains;
  - iv. explore opportunities for temporary activation along or near the pathway system;
  - v. identify options to connect missing links on the Bow River pathway system including along 13 Avenue NW in Shouldice Athletic Park;
  - vi. preserve, restore and enhance natural areas;
  - vii. mitigate the negative impacts of recreation uses on ecologically sensitive areas and riparian areas; and,
  - viii. explore opportunities to enhance public understanding of cultural landscapes and Indigenous worldviews along the Bow River pathway system through undertaking engagement with appropriate Indigenous Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers within the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta as part of future parks and pathway upgrades.

**Urban Forest**

The urban forest provides green **infrastructure** and ecosystem functions including improving air quality, reducing stormwater runoff, providing shade and cooling, wildlife habitat and creating stress-reducing environments for residents. The South Shaganappi Communities currently have 16.6% tree canopy coverage, which is above the city average. The goal for this area is to increase the canopy to 17.5% by 2030, 18.5% by 2040 and 19.5% by 2050, through retention of the existing canopy and planting new trees. To ensure the canopy continues to thrive and grow, it is critical that The City, developers and residents contribute to consistent and continuing urban forest management.

- d. To support and expand the urban forest in the South Shaganappi Communities, the following should be considered:
  - i. protect trees on public and private lands wherever possible from development activities that may impact roots during construction and unnecessary canopy pruning. Trees that cannot be retained during redevelopment should be replaced to avoid net loss in the tree canopy;
  - ii. provide additional tree plantings in public boulevards ensuring sustainable planting **infrastructure**, sufficient soil volume, adequate moisture and appropriate locations with sufficient setbacks to protect from salt sprays and underground utilities, particularly on arterial and commercial roads for large canopy growth in the long-term;
  - iii. encourage the planting of tree species that support **urban agriculture** and food security;
  - iv. support tree planting programs for private lands;
  - v. protect, maintain and enhance public trees in boulevards and on residential streets;
  - vi. invest in ongoing maintenance and lifecycle of public trees;

- vii. encourage planting of diverse plant species on public and private land, especially species friendly to pollinators;
- viii. encourage drought-resistant vegetation, appropriate soil and sufficient soil volume for trees on public and private property; and,
- ix. use of soil cells for stormwater detention and enhanced landscaping that collects and retains or infiltrates rainwater.

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# Appendix A: Investment Opportunities

In addition to the Implementation Options provided in Chapter 3, the following implementation actions have been identified by participants through a series of public engagement conducted during the drafting of this Plan. As noted in Chapter 3, these actions represent steps community members identified to achieve the supporting growth objectives of the Plan. This Appendix is non-statutory and is intended to be revised over time as local growth occurs, actions are evaluated or completed and/or new options are identified through subsequent engagement and City department prioritization. As a non-statutory part of the Plan, updates to this Appendix do not require a Public Hearing of Council.

## Summary of Investment Opportunities

Supporting Growth Goals	Investment Opportunities (What We Heard)	Location(s)
<b>Diverse, Accessible and Inclusive Housing Choices</b>	Identify remnant City-owned parcels that can be utilized for <b>non-market housing</b> and <b>mixed-market housing</b> development.	Varies
	Where new civic services are being proposed on City-owned lands, develop sites as integrated civic facilities that can provide housing, prioritizing the delivery of <b>non-market housing</b> and <b>mixed-market housing</b> .	Varies
	Explore incentives for the inclusion of <b>non-market housing</b> and <b>mixed-market housing</b> in new developments.	Varies
	Explore opportunities for more <b>non-market housing</b> and <b>mixed-market housing</b> for seniors by encourage aging-in-place options (i.e., fully accessible housing styles).	Varies
	Explore opportunities for partnerships with not-for-profits to develop co-housing projects.	Varies
	Explore partnerships with the University of Calgary, Foothills Medical Centre and Alberta Children’s Hospital to identify opportunities for student and young professional housing.	Varies
<b>Safe and Well-Connected Mobility Options</b>	Improve the intersection of Home Road NW and 16 Avenue NW to enhance <b>pedestrian</b> and cyclist safety.	Montgomery
	Explore the feasibility of an additional <b>pedestrian</b> and cyclist crossing across 16 Avenue NW to Shouldice Athletic Park, specifically west of Home Road NW.	Montgomery
	Improve the intersection of Home Road NW and 32 Avenue NW to enhance <b>pedestrian</b> and cyclist safety	Montgomery, Varsity

	and facilitate safe vehicular movement on the public road and from private sites.	
	Explore the feasibility of mobility and transportation corridor upgrades to 32 Avenue NW.	Varsity, University District
	Provide missing sidewalks on north and south side of 32 Avenue NW.	Varsity, University District
	Investigate opportunities to improve <b>pedestrian</b> and cyclist connections at the intersection of 32 Avenue NW and Shaganappi Trail NW, specifically connecting University District and Market Mall.	Varsity, University District
	Explore opportunities to provide transit service along Shaganappi Trail NW, south of Crowchild Trail NW.	Varies
	Implement the <b>5A Mobility Network</b> on University Drive NW, Uxbridge Drive NW, McKay Road NW and 40 Avenue NW.	Varies
	Upgrade the existing cycling facilities on 37 Street NW, 29 Street NW and 53 Street NW to be protected and/or separated.	Varies
<b>Vibrant Transit Station Area Hubs</b>	Explore opportunities for enhanced <b>public space</b> along 24 Avenue NW and Banff Trail NW leading into the Banff Trail LRT Station.	Banff Trail LRT Station
	Identify improvements to create a <b>pedestrian</b> priority area at the intersection of 24 Avenue NW and Banff Trail NW.	Banff Trail LRT Station
	Identify options to improve accessibility and safety of the west ramp and stairways at the University LRT Station.	University LRT Station
	Explore partnerships with the University of Calgary to improve <b>pedestrian</b> and cyclist access to the University LRT Station, through the University of Calgary campus.	University LRT Station
	Support community-led art projects such as murals and art installations at LRT and BRT stations.	Varies
	Explore opportunities for redeveloping large surface parking areas including Park and Ride facilities and accommodating parking in above-grade parking structures or underground.	Brentwood LRT Station
<b>Recreational Opportunities for All Ages and Abilities</b>	Identify opportunities and locations for providing both active and passive recreation for all ages and abilities.	Varies
	Explore opportunities to provide affordable recreational opportunities for all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds including additional programming at City facilities.	Varies
	Explore the provision of additional winter programming at Shouldice Athletic Park.	Shouldice Athletic Park

	Explore opportunities for temporary uses to activate Shouldice Athletic Park year-round.	Shouldice Athletic Park
	Explore the feasibility of providing a public library within the South Shaganappi Communities.	Varies
	Investigate opportunities and locations for additional fenced dog parks and off leash areas.	Varies
<b>Protected and Enhanced Parks, Open Spaces, Natural Areas and Bow River Pathway System</b>	Identify locations for improving functionality of parks and open spaces across all communities through implementation of active and passive recreation opportunities.	Varies
	Provide activation in parks and open spaces year-round by incorporating winter-city design elements.	Varies
	Support community-led art projects such as murals and art installations at City parks and facilities.	Varies
	Identify opportunities for improving the functionality and increasing usership of the pocket park north west of the intersection of 53 Street NW and 40 Avenue NW.	Varsity
	Explore opportunities to improve the multi-functionality of the parks at 4811 Vegas Way NW and 3225 MacKay Road NW through naturalization and/or programming.	Varsity, Montgomery
	Identify improvements to increase functionality and safety of Montgomery Town Square, located on the SW corner of the Bowness Road NW and Home Road NW intersection.	Montgomery
	Investigate congested locations for pathway widening along the Bow River pathway system.	Bow River Pathway System
	Investigate publicly available <b>infrastructure</b> improvements along the Bow River pathway system.	Bow River Pathway System
	Work with experts and organizations in supporting conservation and protection of natural areas, local wildlife and biodiversity along the Bow River pathway system.	Bow River Pathway System
	Work with Indigenous Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers within the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta to identify opportunities for enhancing the cultural landscape and Indigenous worldviews within parks, open spaces and natural areas along the Bow River pathway system.	Bow River Pathway System