

ASSET TARGETS

LOCAL FOOD

There is a need for more access to food and a wider variety of affordable food options at or near parks and community centres. Shared gardens and kitchens are “third spaces” for the community to socialise and relax.

Improving food opportunities will include strategies such as accommodating food trucks, improving existing concession stands in parks, and increasing affordable food options at community centres. Access to opportunities to grow food is also important. Parks will continue to be potential locations for community gardens alongside street rights-of-ways and other City-owned land. The Urban Agriculture Policy sets the criteria for people wanting to apply to start a community garden.

Asset Needs

- Consider adding appropriate food nodes (i.e., gardens, local markets, mobile food vendors or concessions, community kitchens) along the Citywide Parks and Recreation Network (*Strategic Bold Move Tool*) and in locations with community centres, multiple playing fields, destination playgrounds, beaches and other key destinations where people stay for a few hours and engage in food learning and programming.
- Increase inclusive local food projects and access to healthy, culturally diverse, local, and sustainable food in parks and at community centres.
- Improve infrastructure to support farmers markets.

Service Needs

- Implement recommendations from the Park Board Concession Strategy: A Fresh Approach (2018).
- Update Park Board’s Local Food Action Plan (2013).
- Enhance resiliency by incorporating post-disaster food planning at community centres.

2040 Asset Targets

- All new community gardens on Park Board managed land have at least 50% of total area dedicated to collective food growing.
- Complete at least one project per year that supports sharing and gathering to cook or eat food in parks.

