

**STRATHCONA COUNTY
SPORTSFIELD STRATEGY: 2010 - 2025**



FINAL

June 2010



#25867



Strathcona County

STRATHCONA COUNTY SPORTSFIELD STRATEGY: 2010 - 2025

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

Strathcona County is an active community attracting new residents every year with its urban and rural appeal and healthy living attitude. In June 2008, Strathcona County created their Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy (OSRFS) which is the guiding document and plan for future open space and indoor facility redevelopment and new construction. The OSRFS has led to the initiation of the Sportsfield Strategy 2010 – 2025. The Sportsfield Strategy is intended to create a 15 year plan that will anticipate future field requirements and provide a process to quantify current and future sportsfield surpluses or shortfalls, identify amenity requirements and determine recommended future capital expenditures over the 15 year period.

Vision

A vision for the future is an essential element in creating a future strategy for sportsfields in Strathcona County. The purpose of the Vision is to create an image of the ideal environment and then to develop and implement policies and actions which bring the vision to fruition over time. The vision for the Sportsfield Strategy is this:

“Strathcona County is a community with the right number of sportsfields in the right places for a broad range of users that fosters community and sustainability around sport, play and participation.”

Inventory

The field inventory for Strathcona County was established through analysis of existing County data and by conducting sites visits. Strathcona County currently maintains a total of 201 sportsfields and diamonds. Of this total, 99 fields are diamonds which accommodate baseball, softball, slow pitch and t-ball. The remaining 102 fields are sportsfields which accommodate soccer, football, rugby and athletics. The County’s 201 fields are situated on 66 sites and of these sites, 27 are located at school grounds and 39 are within parks.

Classification System

Strathcona County’s Recreation, Parks and Culture Department categorize fields into three different classes or levels: ‘A’, ‘B’, and ‘C’. ‘A’ fields are further divided into Premier and Standard fields. The field levels are generally determined in consideration of the field’s size, surface, amenities, and degree of maintenance. The booking fees are set by the County based on the level of the field. The distribution of all fields (diamonds and sportsfields) by class and number include:

- ‘A’ Premier fields – 7 (3%);
- ‘A’ Standard – 12 (6%);
- ‘B’ – 71 (35%); and
- ‘C’ – 111 (55%).

Less than 10% of all fields in Strathcona County are of an ‘A’ Premier or ‘A’ Standard class.

Distribution

Within the urban area (Sherwood Park), there are 132 fields or 66% of the total fields available within the urban and rural areas through Strathcona County. The Sherwood Park fields are equally distributed amongst school sites (66 fields) and parks (66 fields). Within the rural area there are 69 fields with 47 fields located on school sites and 22 within parks. There are no 'A' Premier or 'A' Standard fields within the rural area.

Field Play

The County's fields are used by a variety of users who participate in baseball, softball, t-ball, slow pitch, soccer, football, rugby and athletics. Specifically, 41 different organizations and 33 different individuals scheduled play on fields in 2009. A total participation rate in sports across all age groups in Alberta was 23% in 2005 according to Statistics Canada report, *Sport Participation in Canada, 2005*. This figure suggests that there are as many as 19,400 total sports participants in Strathcona County for its total population of 88,000 in 2009.

The County has established a booking system that tracks the usage of fields. Outside of this booking system, the County has also granted certain organizations the responsibility to manage the scheduling of specific fields. Specifically, Centennial Park Association manages Fields 1 – 8 at Centennial Park, Josephburg Softball manages two fields at Josephburg Community, Sherwood Park Rams Football manages Field A at Kinsmen/Westboro Park, and both Sherwood Park Minor Baseball and Strathcona County Baseball Association manage Field 9 at Centennial Park and Fields 1 – 5 at Sherwood Heights. The fields scheduled and booked for play account for 133 of the 201 fields. The total hours of use for diamonds and sportsfields for the 2009 season was 49,022 hours or an average of nearly 245 hours per field per year. For the remaining 68 fields, 44 fields only have school use while there is no record of usage for 24 fields.

Capacity

The current capacity or hypothetical availability for play of fields in Strathcona County was calculated using a model of ideal surface play time per field by level of field. These standards maximize play time while protecting the integrity of the field surface. That is, 'A' Premier fields ideally average 6 hours of play per week; 'A' Standard fields have 12 hours; 'B' level fields have 24 hours; and finally, 'C' level fields can accommodate 36 hours. Ideal surface play time for each level was based on current Strathcona County policies and those of other municipalities and organizations. A season was defined as 20 weeks for diamonds and 28 weeks for sportsfields. Using the above field capacity benchmarks, the total hourly capacity for the season was 48,120 hours for diamonds and 71,064 for sportsfields.

Public Participation

Public participation for the Sportsfield Strategy was initiated in the summer of 2009. Undertaken over several months, the public participation strategy involved a three-pronged approach. The methods implemented to promote public comment included an online public survey, a stakeholder survey, and two public open houses. The findings from the public consultation processes were considered in developing the strategic directions and future actions for Strathcona County. The overall finding from the public consultation process was that most field users are very or somewhat satisfied. Nevertheless, from the public survey findings, 57% of respondents were in favour of improving the existing inventory. Desirable improvements included improved field surface maintenance, addition of artificial turf, building more washrooms, improved parking and the addition of lighting. These findings were reflected in the results of the two public open houses.

Current Field Utilization

The current utilization of fields was a calculation of *actual hours booked* for each field level compared to *total hours of capacity*. For diamonds the average 2009 field utilization was 124% for 'A' Premier diamonds, 83% for 'A' Standard diamonds, 70% for 'B' diamonds, and 25% for 'C' diamonds. For sportsfields the corresponding figures are 151% utilization for 'A' Premier sportsfields, 135% for 'A' Standard sportsfields, 50% for 'B' sportsfields, and 41% for 'C' sportsfields. These results indicate significant demand for and strain on the two types of 'A' level diamonds and sportsfields.

Trends

A Statistics Canada report, *Sport Participation in Canada, 2005*, identified several key trends that have historically affected sports participation, and which, in turn, will likely affect future participation rates amongst residents of Strathcona County. Surveys conducted by Statistics Canada in 1992, 1998 and 2005 demonstrate that sport participation has been declining steadily in Canada and in most provinces. The observed rate of decline in Alberta is slightly greater than the national average; the observed annual rate of decline in sport participation was 2.8% from 1992 to 2005. Alberta's rate of sports participation is declining faster than the rate of population growth. This finding suggests that demand for fields may decline over time despite increasing numbers of Strathcona County residents. However, strong promotion and a general trend toward adopting healthier lifestyle habits may act to offset this decline in the future.

Projections

A range of demand projections was calculated for diamonds and sportsfields in Strathcona County. The projections are founded upon current patterns of utilization, and driven by projected population growth, projected population aging, and projected population sport participation rates. Two series of projections were produced. The "high demand projection" series was driven solely by the population projections. The "low demand projection" series includes consideration of population growth, population aging, and sport participation rates. The optimized field inventory was projected in 5 year planning increments to the years 2015, 2020, and 2025 under high demand and low demand growth assumptions. From the "high" demand series it was projected that by 2025, the County will require an additional:

- 1, 'A' Premier Diamond
- 1, 'A' Standard Diamond
- 5, 'A' Premier Sportsfields
- 6, 'A' Standard Sportsfields

Preliminary Strategic Direction

A set of strategic goals were identified through input from members of the field sport community, County staff, and the public. These strategic goals have been developed to align with the Strathcona County's Strategic Plan capstone policies and the strategic goals of the Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy:

1. Maintain an inventory of sportsfields that appeal to a broad range of users, cultivates community interaction, improves health, and nurtures personal growth.
2. Sustainably manage and develop sportsfields in order that they are "green" focal points for the community.
3. Retain the appropriate number and improve the quality of sportsfields in the most ideal locations through reinvestment and revitalization.
4. Adapt, update, and promote sportsfield programs and services to reflect new trends and the changing needs of the community.

5. Regularly consult existing and emerging sportsfield user groups along with the broader community on their sportsfield needs, priorities and experiences.
6. Periodically review the sportsfield inventory relative to demand and develop a funding strategy where the costs to maintain and develop sportsfields is shared equitably within the community.
7. For the County to enhance their leadership role, define clear processes and responsibilities and create partnerships with regional municipalities and user groups to ensure the effective delivery of sportsfield programs and services.

Capital Requirements

The projections generated as part of this report identified the number of fields the County requires to meet demand for up to the year 2025. Using the high projections, the capital requirements for each five year increment were determined. To produce these figures, the construction cost per field was calculated for both 'A' Premier and 'A' Standard diamonds and sportsfields. The total capital requirements to meet demand is an estimated \$4,955,000 by 2025.

Implementation Strategies

In order to implement the goals and actions outlined in this document, the County should upgrade existing fields and build new fields in order to meet demand by 2025. The following table identifies the number of new fields that County should be providing from 2010 to 2025.

Recommended Implementation Schedule for New Sportsfields 2010 - 2025

TIMEFRAME	2010 - 2015		2015 - 2020		2020 - 2025	
	A' Premier	A' Standard	A' Premier	A Standard	A' Premier	A' Standard
Urban Diamonds						
Rural - Diamonds	1	1				
Total	1	1	0	0	0	0
Urban Sportsfields	1	1	1	1	1	1
Rural Sportsfields	1	1	1	1		1
Total	2	2	2	2	1	2

The principles that the County should hold in providing these new fields are also follows:

- Cost effectiveness
- Avoid conflicts
- Maintain field condition
- Proximity to users
- Equitable geographic distribution
- Meet demand

Potential Funding Sources

The primary potential funding sources for the expansion and improvement to the sportsfields in Strathcona County will be the municipality itself. This will include capital for new construction, upgrades to existing fields and surfaces and maintenance funding for all sportsfields. Other funding sources include grants from the Government of Alberta, the Federal Government, and funds from the private sector through sponsorship, naming rights and donations.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Strathcona County is an active community attracting new residents every year with its urban and rural appeal and healthy living attitude. In June 2008, Strathcona County created their Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy (OSRFS) which is the guiding document and plan for future open space and indoor facility redevelopment and development. The OSRFS has led to the initiation of the Sportsfield Strategy 2010 – 2025. The Sportsfield Strategy is intended to create a 15 year plan that will anticipate future field requirements and provide a process to quantify current and future sportsfield surpluses or shortfalls, identify amenity requirements and determine recommended future capital expenditures over the 15 year period.

1.2 Approach

The overall study objectives were to provide Strathcona County with the most socially, economically and sustainable appropriate approach to sportsfield management for the next fifteen years. The key objectives for this study were:

- To conduct a thorough review of existing County and regional policies and plans relevant to this project;
- To develop an inventory binder, cataloguing existing sportsfields in Strathcona County;
- To assess user needs based on a comprehensive consultation process, including a workshop;
- To project future demand for sportsfield use and type of sportsfield use in Strathcona County, established by existing user group demands, future demographics and upcoming trends in recreation for the short term (0-5 yrs.), mid term (6-10 yrs), and long term (11-15 yrs.);
- To prepare a comprehensive financial analysis, including capital development costs, and potential grant and other revenue sources based on future demand for sportsfield use by type;
- To actively involve the community in the preparation of the Sportsfield Strategy through a series of open houses, questionnaires and opportunities for public feedback;
- To develop a Sportsfield Strategy that supports the County's policies within the Strategic Plan, the Municipal Development Plan, and the Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy; and
- To build consensus and agreement for the overall Sportsfield Strategy with Council and Administration through continuous consultation and opportunities for feedback during each phase.

The approach used to attain many of the technical objectives was conceptualized as a Supply/Demand Analysis. That is, the “supply” side was envisioned as the elements concerning the existing inventory of sportsfields in Strathcona County. Any deficiencies and opportunities related to the fields themselves was part of the “supply” available for use by the residents. The “demand” component of the study approach included analysis of demographic factors such as population

growth, trends in sportsfield use, changes in public expectations regarding sportsfields, and how these factors influence the demand projections (i.e., projected field utilization) over the next 15 years in Strathcona County. The proposed strategies were then developed which best satisfied demand in light of the available supply of fields over time.

The study objectives described above were accomplished through completion of the following five study phases.

Task 1: Data Gathering – information assembled from other key County documents such as the Strathcona County Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy (OSRFS) and the Municipal Development Plan was reviewed. Information assembled from the bookings database, Statistics Canada and the County's staff regarding the inventory of sportsfields was also reviewed for understanding trends, field utilization and current and future capacity of sportsfields in the County. A detailed understanding of the current fields used in the County was also obtained. Demand projections based on demographic information, utilization and trends were also calculated.

Task 2: Public Consultation – the residents of Strathcona County were consulted numerous times for their insights into sportsfield use and their future expectations for sportsfield use. The consultation was an important input into determining overall satisfaction with the fields and priorities for upgrades in the future to meet evolving expectations amongst users. A resident internet-base survey was undertaken, public open houses advertised and attended, and individuals with sport teams in the County were contacted for personal interviews. Additional information about the Strategy was available on the County's website for review by residents.

Task 3: Preparation of the Draft Sportsfield Strategy – a draft strategy was prepared that included the overall goals and objectives of the Strategy and the direction for future action by the County. A preliminary list of priority fields for upgrade in the future, the timing of the upgrades and their respective capital costs to implement.

Task 4: Review of the Draft Sportsfield Strategy – the insights and opinions of the public were essential components of the Strategy. Consequently, an opportunity for the public to review and comment on the Draft Strategy was undertaken in a series of Open Houses, advertisements and information available on the County's website. A workshop with key stakeholders was also held in order to discuss strategic direction, field priorities for future development and capital cost requirements. The public's input into the Strategy was then incorporated into the final Strategy.

Task 5: Final Sportsfield Strategy – the input from the public and other key stakeholders including County staff and sports teams was integrated into the final Sportsfield Strategy document.

A strong focus on sustainability, public consultation and promotion of a united community supported through available sportsfields was the primary focus throughout the Strategy process.

2. VISION

A vision for the future is an essential element in creating a future strategy for sportsfields in Strathcona County. The purpose of the Vision is to create an image of the ideal environment and then to develop and implement policies and actions which bring the vision to fruition over time. One of the guiding documents used in developing the Sportsfield Strategy Vision was Strathcona County's Strategic Plan. In 2002, Strathcona County created their Strategic Plan which detailed their long-term vision of "a safe, caring and autonomous community that treasures its unique blend of urban and rural lifestyles while balancing the natural environment with economic prosperity and through strong effective leadership as a vibrant community of choice". The other guiding document was the County's Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy or OSRFS. Consequently, the Vision of the Sportsfield Strategy is noted below.

Our Vision for the Sportsfield Strategy:

"Strathcona County is a community with the right number of sportsfields in the right places for a broad range of users that fosters community and sustainability around sport, play and participation."

To accomplish this Vision of the future, several key goals must be supported through future actions. The following sportsfield strategy goals are aligned with the Capstone Policies of the County's Strategic Plan and the goals of the OSRFS in order to support and complement these two documents. These goals are:

1. **Capstone Policy - Community Well-Being:** fostering a sense of neighbourhood and promoting a broad range of opportunities for healthy lifestyle choices.
OSRFS Goal: Investment in our community's health and wellness.
Sportsfield Strategy Goal: Maintain an inventory of sportsfields that appeal to a broad range of users, cultivates community interaction, improves health, and nurtures personal growth.
2. **Capstone Policy - Community Sustainability:** directing and managing growth through strong stewardship by maintaining the unique urban/rural community and natural environment of the County.
OSRFS Goal: Reduce the ecological footprint of development.
Sportsfield Strategy Goal: Sustainably manage and develop sportsfields in order that they are "green" focal points for the community.
3. **Capstone Policy - Economic Viability:** to support and contribute to a healthy economy.
OSRFS Goal: Growing in place through reinvestment and revitalization.
Sportsfield Strategy Goal: Retain the appropriate number and improve the quality of sportsfields in the most ideal locations through reinvestment and revitalization.
4. **Capstone Policy - Service Delivery:** to demonstrate excellence in customer service through planning and service delivery in ways that reflect community priorities and that are based on principles of effectiveness, efficiency, economy and fairness.
OSRFS Goal: Effective planning for the needs of the future.
Sportsfield Strategy Goal: Adapt, update, and promote sportsfield programs and services to reflect new trends and the changing needs of the community.

5. **Capstone Policy - Stakeholder Communications:** create means to facilitate two-way communications with stakeholders thereby promoting confidence in governance, awareness and understanding of respective service delivery roles.
OSRFS Goal: Public engagement and strengthening of community.
Sportsfield Strategy Goal: Regularly consult existing and emerging sportsfield user groups along with the broader community on their sportsfield needs, priorities and experiences.
6. **Capstone Policy - Resource Management:** to effectively and efficiently manage the human, physical and financial resources of the County in a way that best meets community needs and priorities.
OSRFS Goal: Create a funding strategy and mechanism to provide on-going support to achieve plan outcomes.
Sportsfield Strategy Goal: Periodically review the sportsfield inventory relative to demand and develop a funding strategy where the costs to maintain and develop sportsfields is shared equitably within the community.
7. **Capstone Policy - Governance:** to promote effective governance that secures an autonomous Strathcona County with clearly defined roles, policies and long-term plans and further encourages effective communication with all stakeholders.
Sportsfield Strategy Goal: For the County to enhance their leadership role, define clear processes and responsibilities and create partnerships with regional municipalities and user groups to ensure the effective delivery of sportsfield programs and services.

3. INVENTORY ANALYSIS

3.1 Description of Sites and Fields

Strathcona County currently maintains a total of 201 sportsfields. Of this total, 99 fields are diamonds which accommodate baseball, softball, slow pitch, and t-ball. The remaining 102 fields are sportsfields which accommodate soccer, football, rugby, and athletics. Fields may include a combination of such features as bleachers, irrigation, scoreboards, lighting, benches, dug outs, sideline shelters, backstops, pitcher mounds, goal posts, and outfield fences.

The County’s 201 fields are situated on 66 sites. Sites are defined as parcels of land that include one or more fields. 27 of these sites are located on school grounds whereas 39 are within parks. Some sportsfield sites include shared amenities such as parking, batting cages, washrooms, concession, change rooms, clubhouses, and storage. Exhibit 3.1.1 defines the urban area (Sherwood Park) and the rural area (rural portion of Strathcona County) that are encompassed in this study with specific urban site locations identified in Exhibit 3.1.2 and rural sites identified in 3.1.3. Appendix A – Inventory Sheets provides a list of the fields and sites in the County along with their location and attributes.

Number of Sites

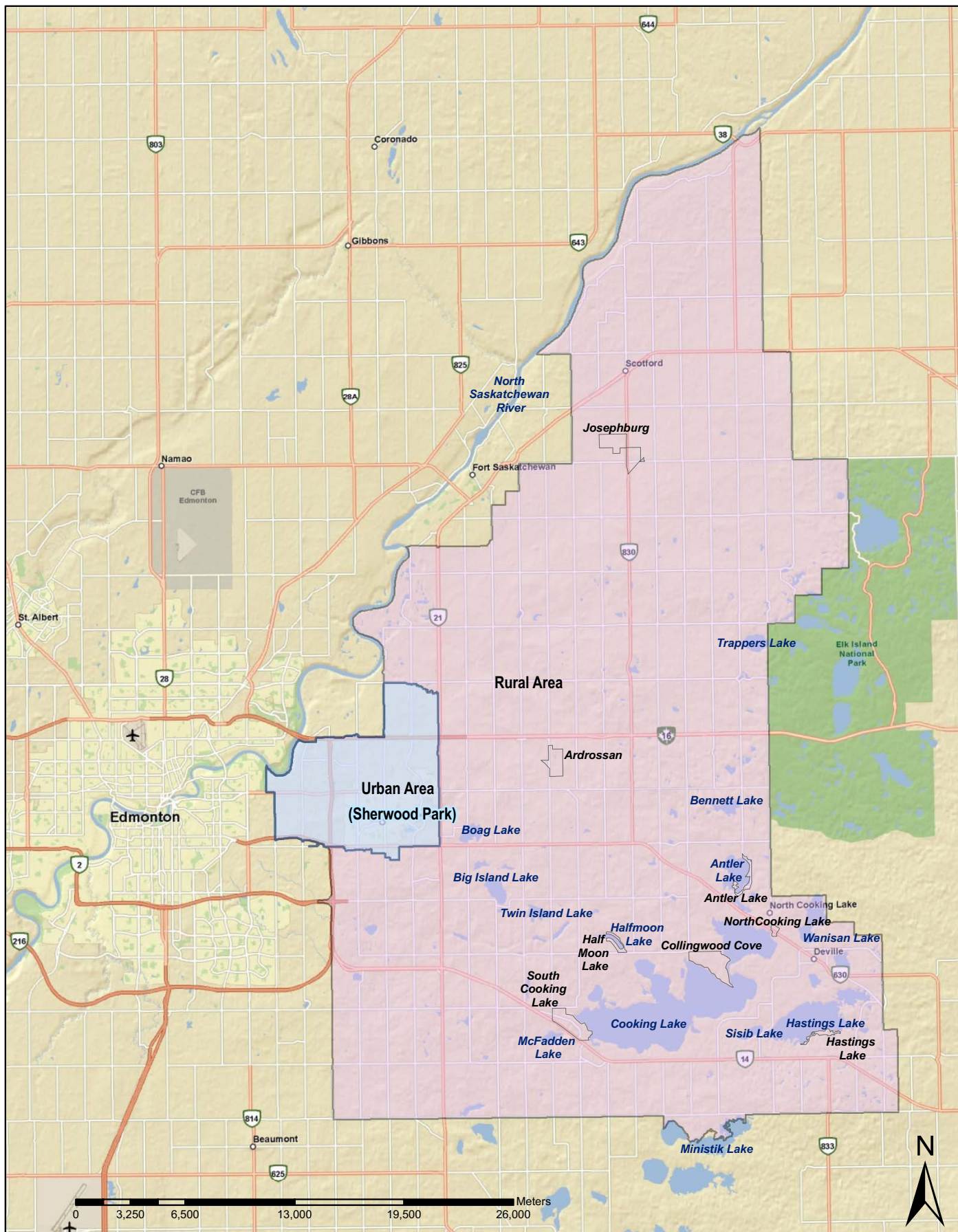
LOCATION	Park vs School Sites	TOTAL All Sites
Urban	Park	25
	School	20
Subtotal		45
Rural	Park	14
	School	7
Subtotal		21
Grand Total		66

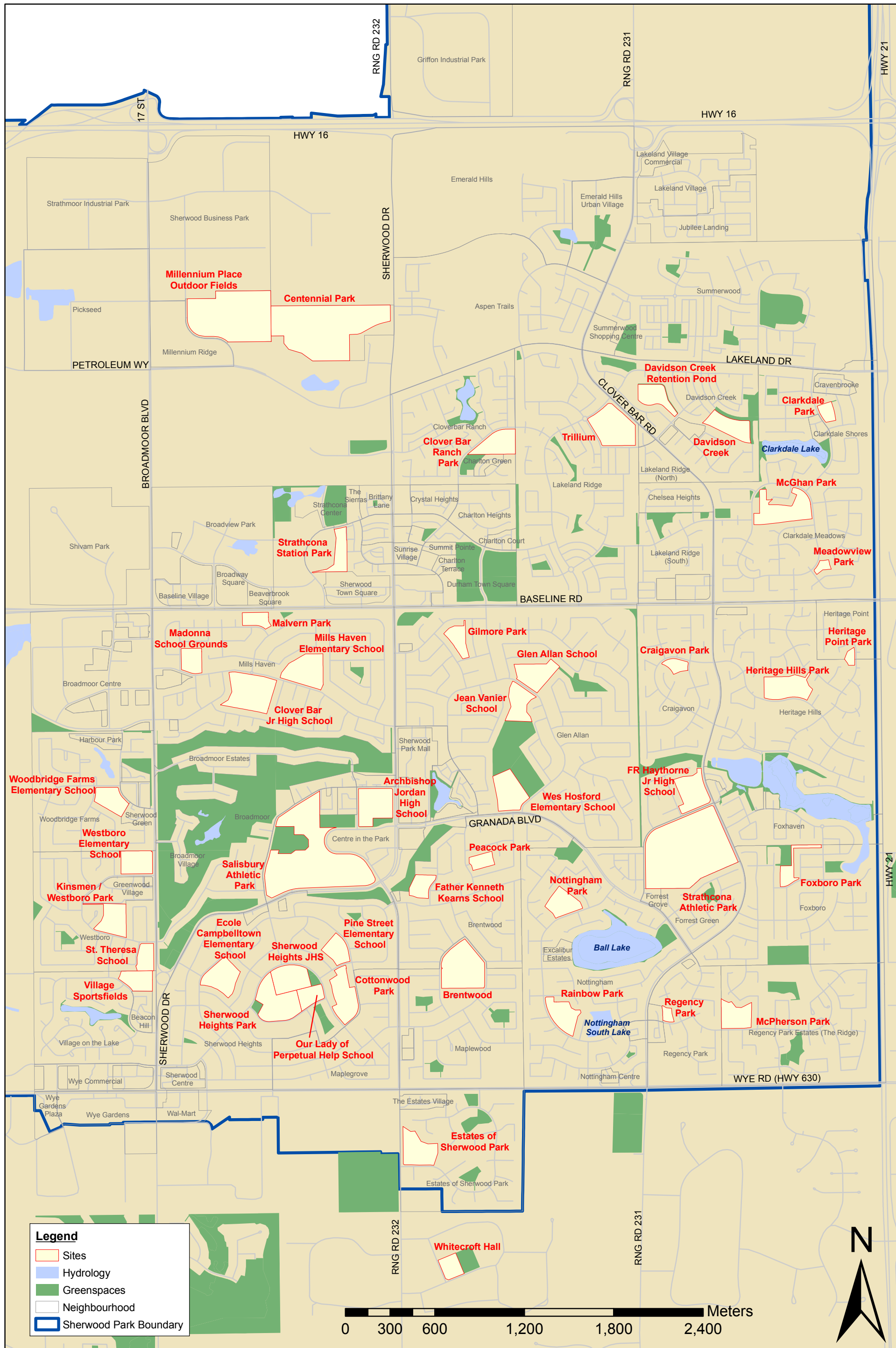
3.2 Field Classification System

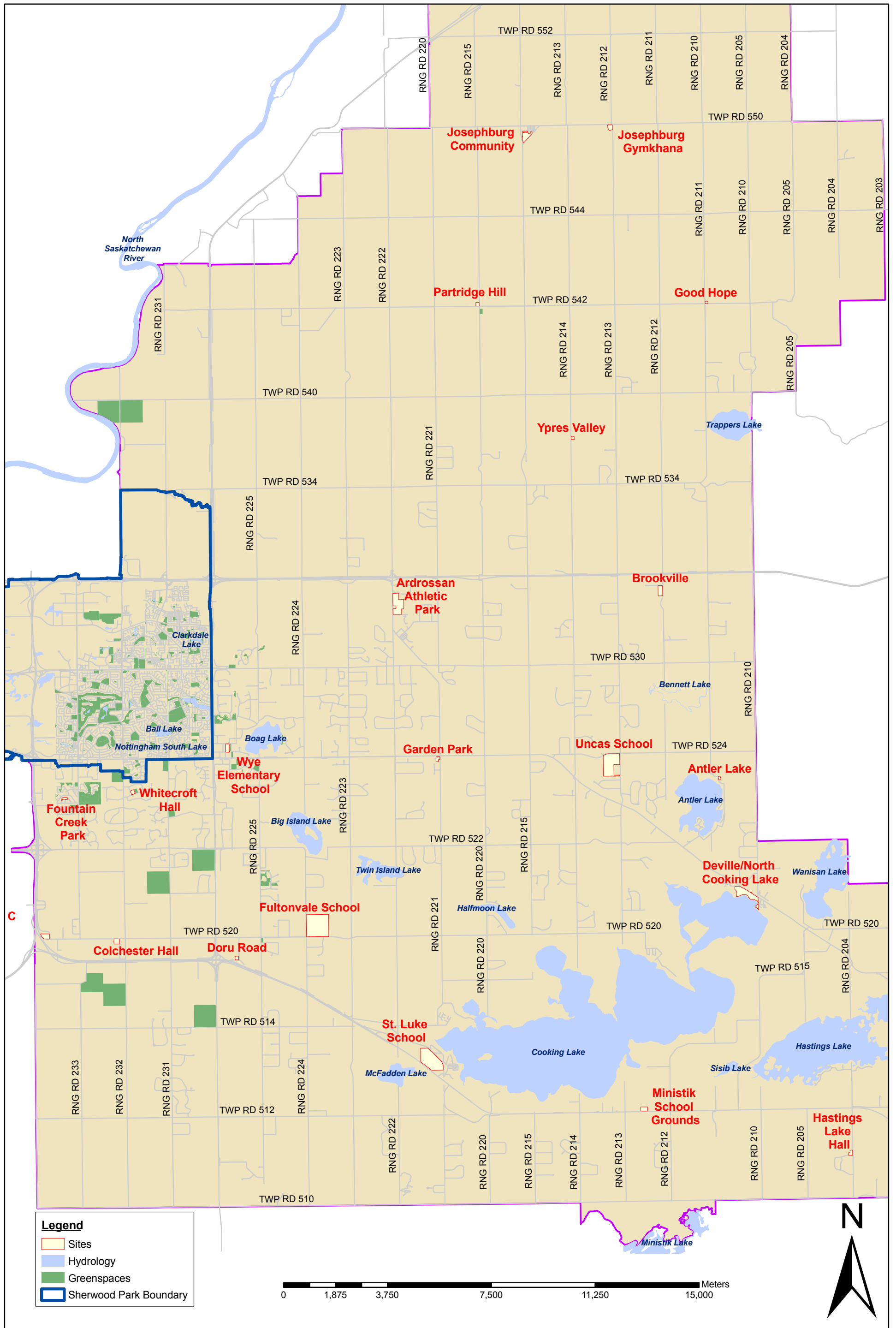
Strathcona County’s Recreation, Parks and Culture Department categorize fields into three different levels: ‘A’, ‘B’, and ‘C’. ‘A’ fields are further divided into Premier and Standard fields. The field levels are generally determined in consideration of the field’s size, surface, amenities, and degree of maintenance. The booking fees are set by the County based on the level of the field. The following outlines the general parameters for each field level:

Premier ‘A’ Fields:

- **Diamonds:** All attributes of Standard ‘A’ diamonds along with 90’ base paths and fencing to control access. Some Premier diamonds have lights and/or a scoreboard.
- **Sportsfields:** All attributes of Standard ‘A’ fields along with fencing to control access. Some Premier fields have lights and/or a scoreboard.







Standard ‘A’ Fields

- Diamonds: Include a shale surface, irrigation, bleachers, a higher degree of maintenance and controlled frequency of use.
- Sportsfields: Full sized fields (110 yards x 65 yards) and include bleachers, irrigation, a higher degree of maintenance, and controlled frequency of use.

‘B’ Fields

- Diamonds: Include a medium level of maintenance and a shale surface but are not irrigated.
- Sportsfields: Full sized fields (110 yards x 65 yards) with a medium level of maintenance and are not irrigated.

‘C’ Fields

- Diamonds: Lower level of maintenance and do not include a shale surface or irrigation.
- Sportsfields: Not a full sized field and do not include irrigation.

The following table identifies the number of fields per field level and field type.

Number of Fields per Field Level

Field Type	Field Level	TOTAL
Diamond	'A' Premier	2
	'A' Standard	5
	B	40
	C	52
Diamond TOTAL		99
Sportsfield	'A' Premier	5
	'A' Standard	7
	B	31
	C	59
Sportsfield TOTAL		102
Grand Total		201

3.3 Overlapping Fields

The County maintains 201 fields. A number of these fields overlap each other. For example, there can be two practice sportsfields overlapping a larger sportsfield. Another situation is where the outfield of a diamond overlaps with a sportsfield. The overlapping fields only involve ‘B’ and ‘C’ level fields. In total, there are 30 diamonds and 27 sportsfields, (counted as secondary fields), that are identified as overlapping fields.

Number of Fields per Field Level - Overlapping

Field Type	Field Level	TOTAL
Diamond	'A' Premier	2
	'A' Standard	5
	B	33
	C	29
	'B' Secondary	7
	'C' Secondary	23
Diamond TOTAL		99
Sportsfield	'A' Premier	5
	'A' Standard	7
	B	24
	C	39
	'B' Secondary	7
	'C' Secondary	20
Sportsfield TOTAL		102
Grand Total		201

3.4 Geographic Distribution of Sportsfields

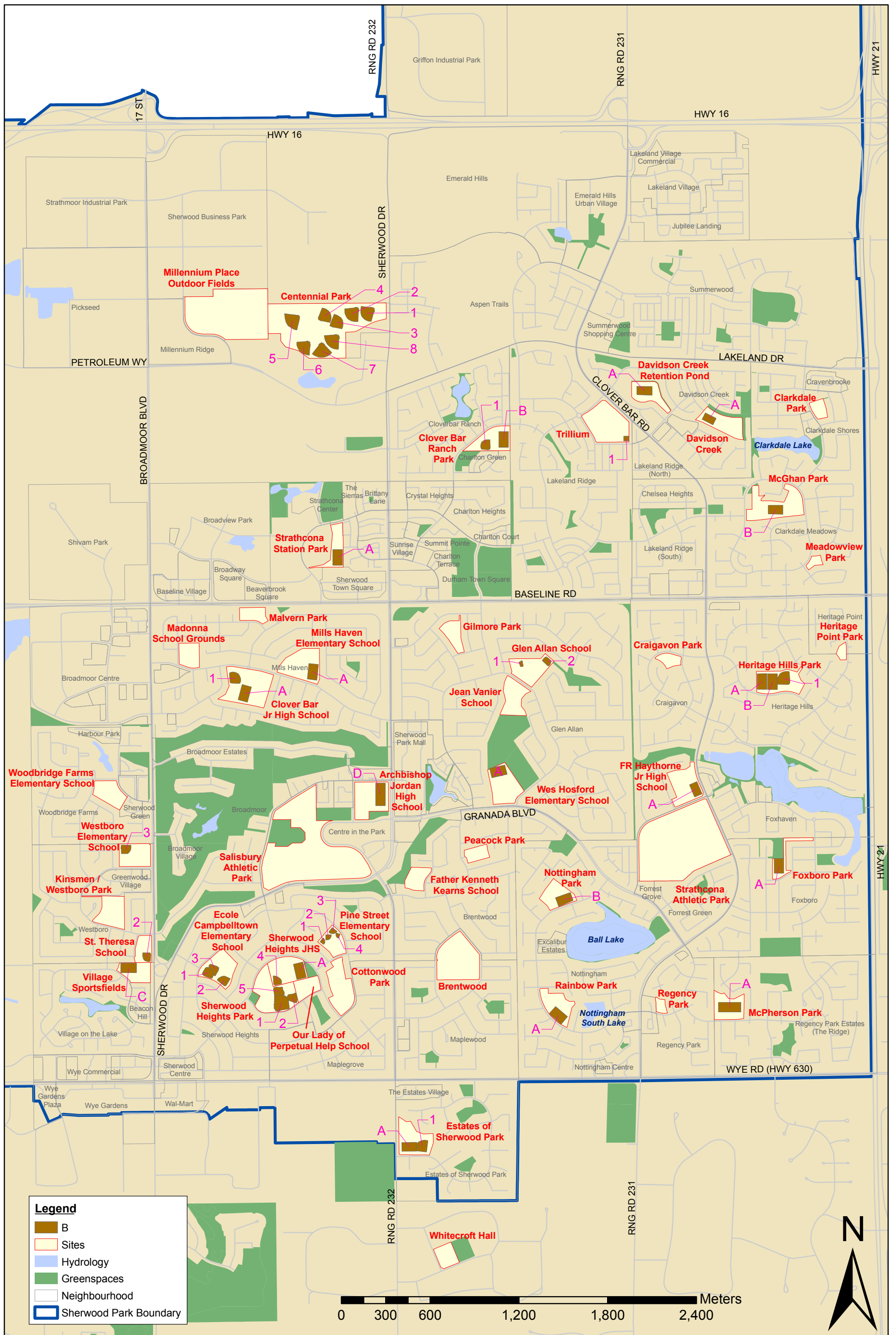
The distribution of fields was considered for the urban area (Sherwood Park) and for the rural area of Strathcona County. Within the urban area, there are 132 fields or 66% of the total fields available. The fields are equally distributed amongst school sites (66 fields) and parks (66 fields). 'B' and 'C' level fields are relatively evenly distributed throughout Sherwood Park with the exception of 'B' diamonds where there is a concentration in the areas of Ecole Campbelltown, Sherwood Heights, Pine Street Elementary School, and Centennial Park. 'A' Premier and 'A' Standard fields are clustered mainly on five sites which include:

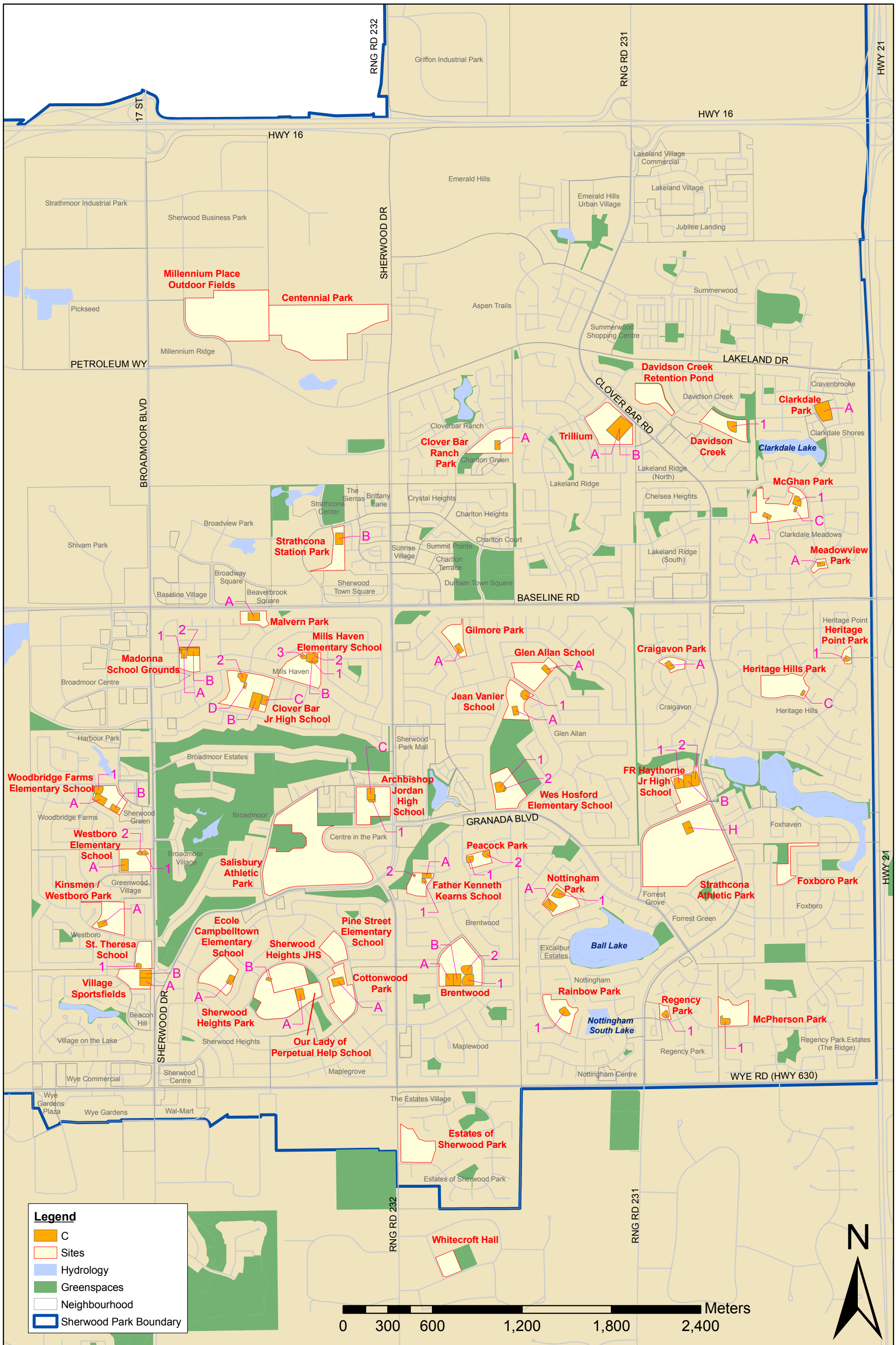
- Millennium Place
- Centennial Park
- Strathcona Athletic Park
- Salisbury Athletic Park
- Sherwood Heights Park

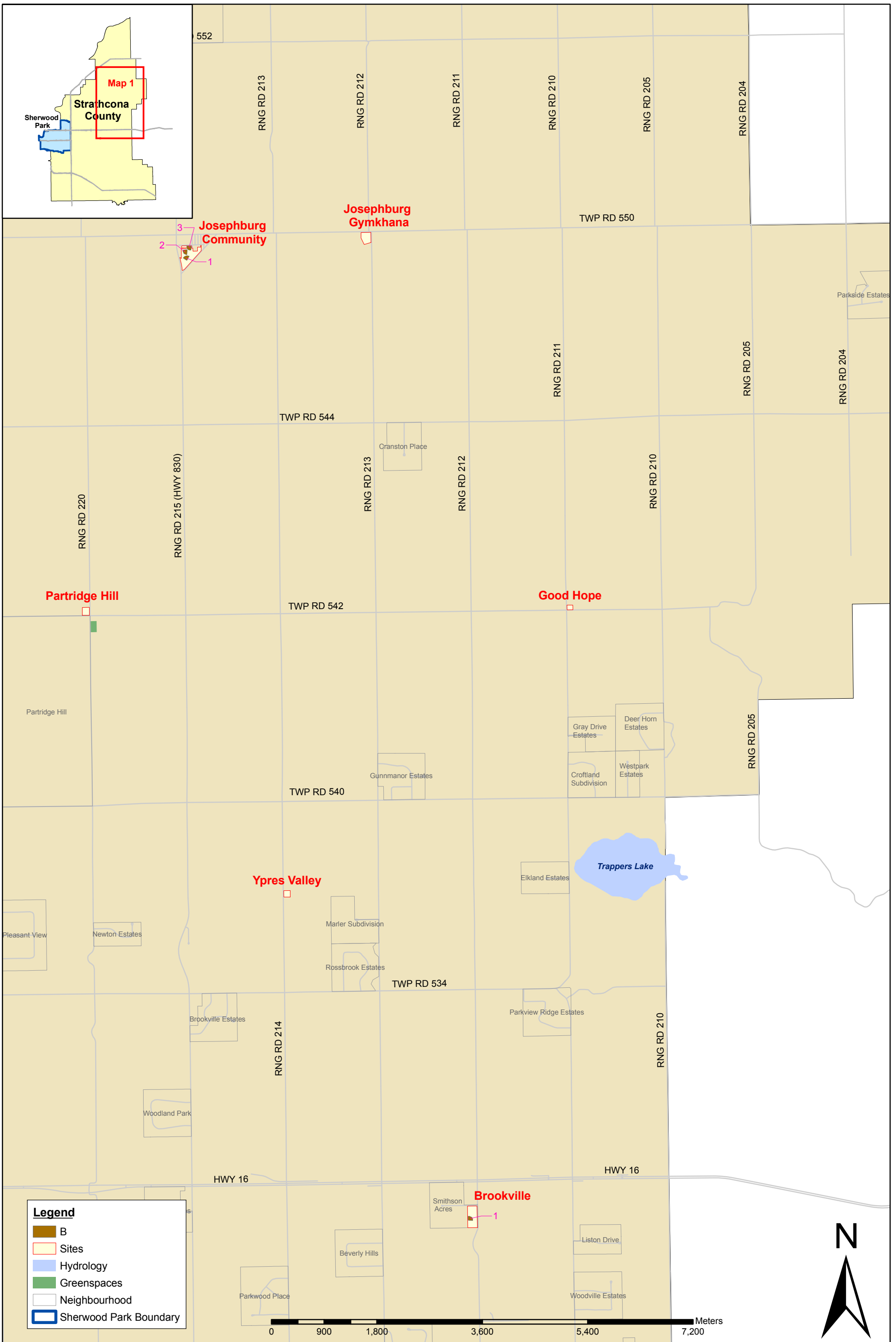
Detailed mapping of site locations and their geographic distribution in the urban and rural areas is included in Exhibit 3.4.1 through Exhibit 3.4.11 with each exhibit devoted to the locations of the various level of diamonds and sportsfields.

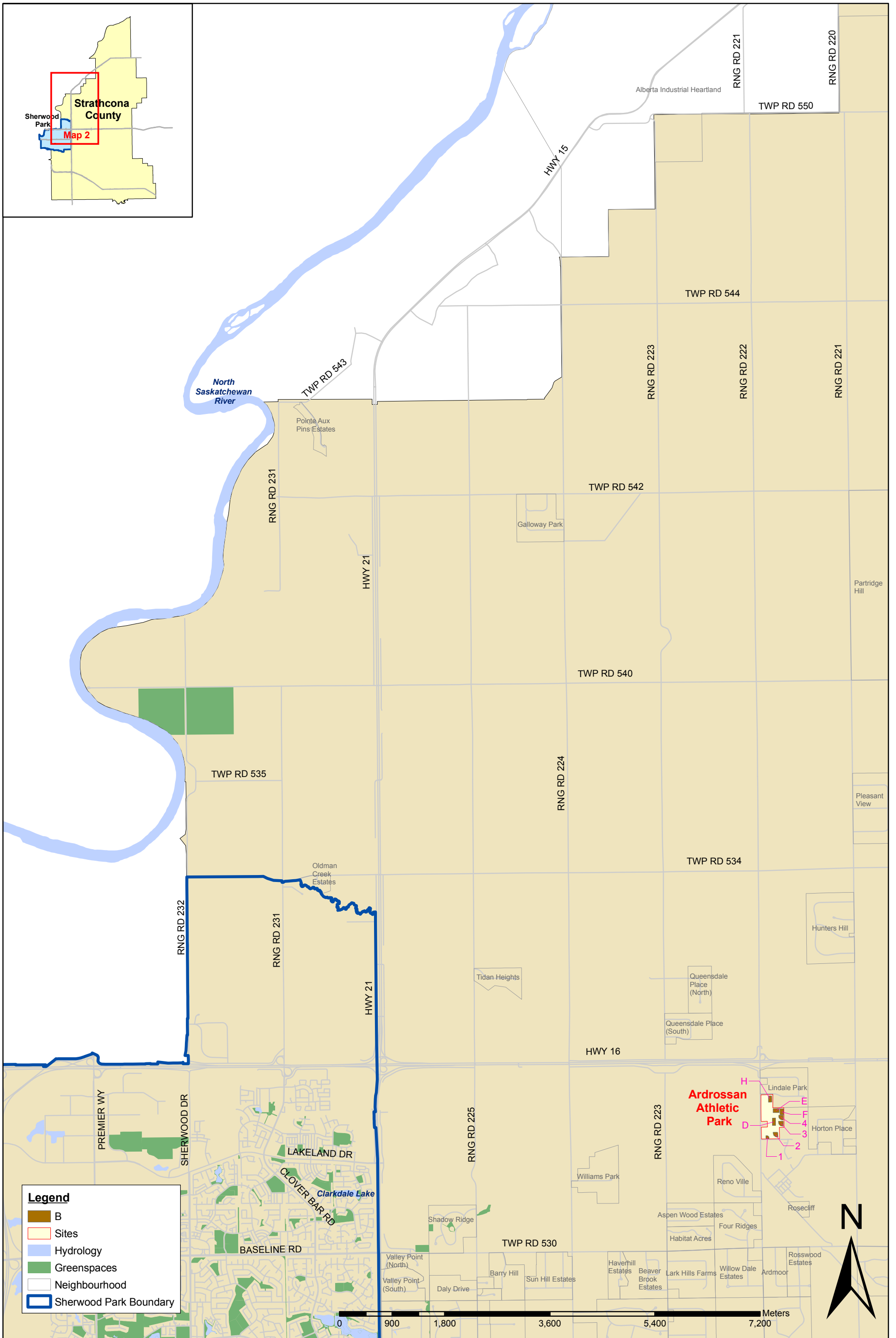
Within the rural area there are 69 fields with 47 fields located on school sites and 22 within parks. There are no 'A' Premier or 'A' Standard fields within the rural area. The rural school sites include:

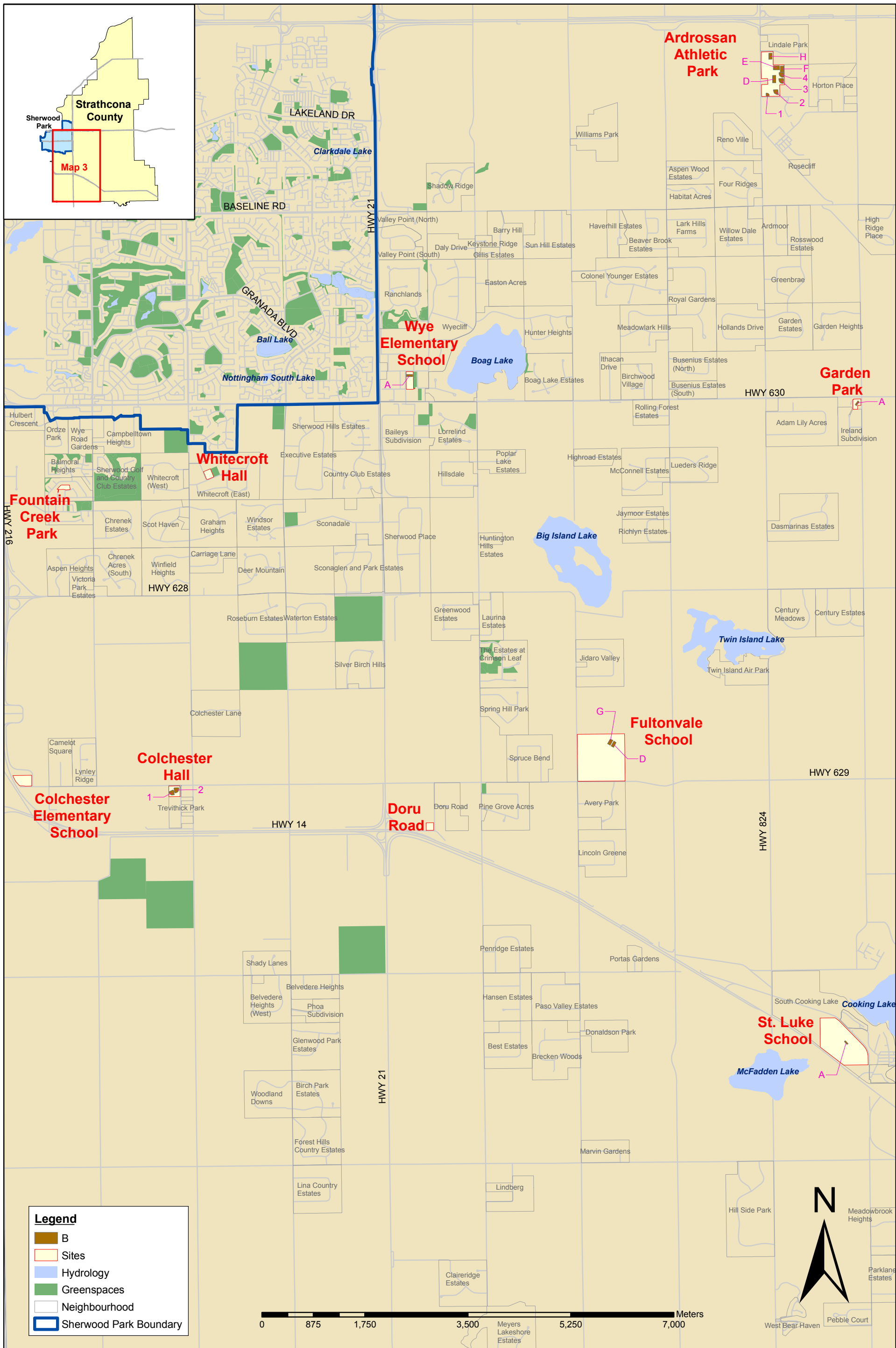
- Ardrossan Athletic Park
- Colchester Elementary School
- Fultonvale School
- Ministik School Grounds
- St. Luke School
- Uncas School
- Wye Elementary School

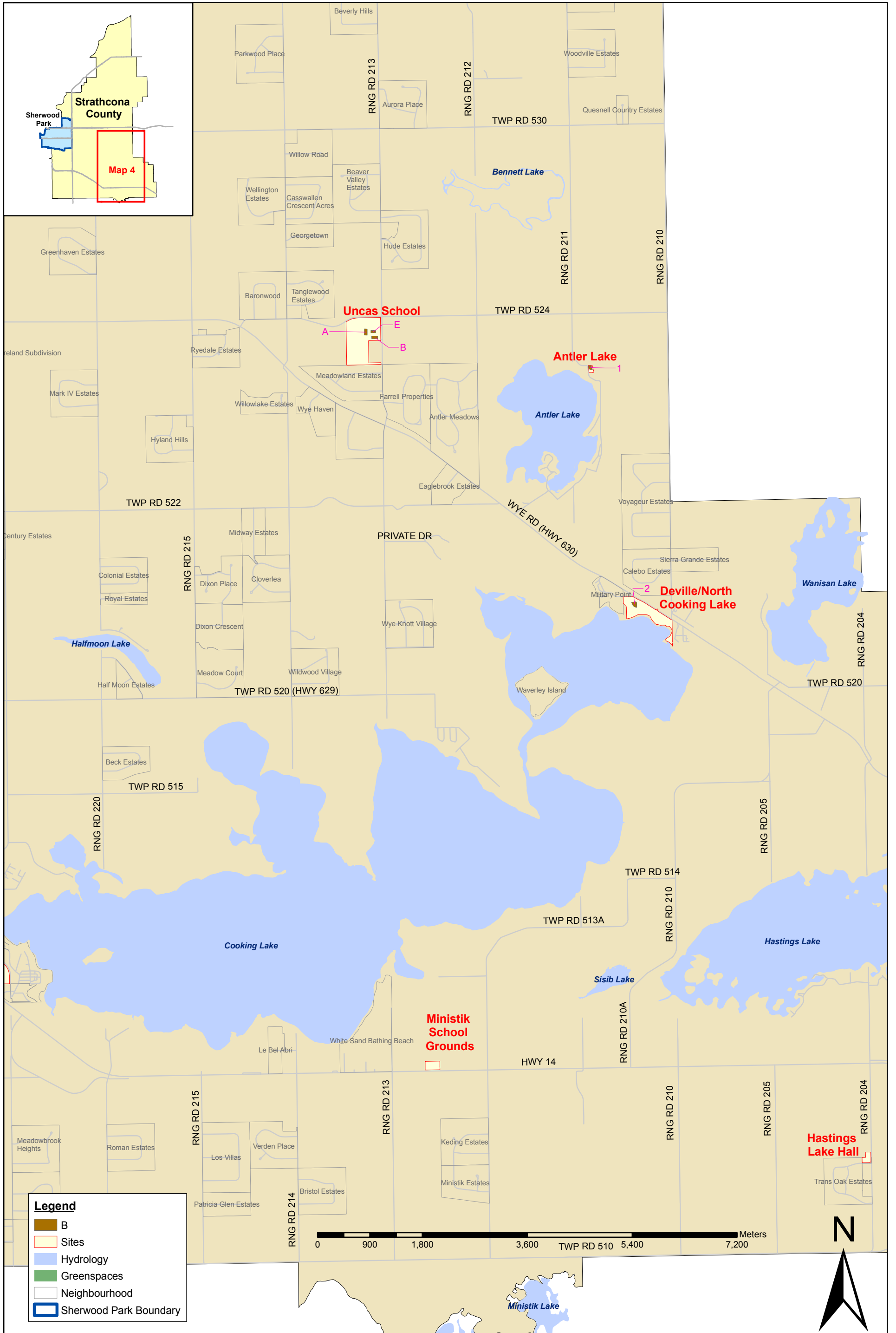


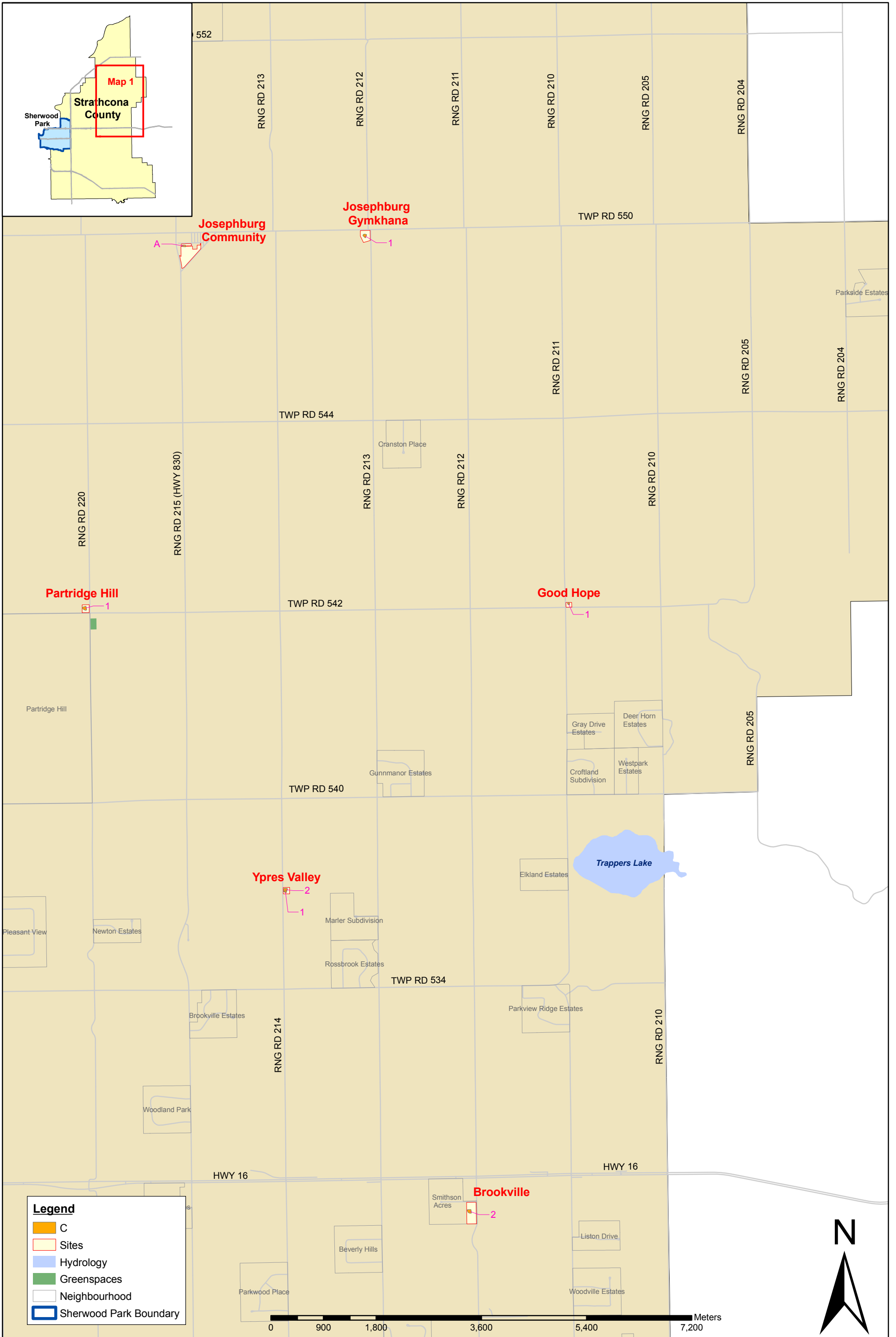


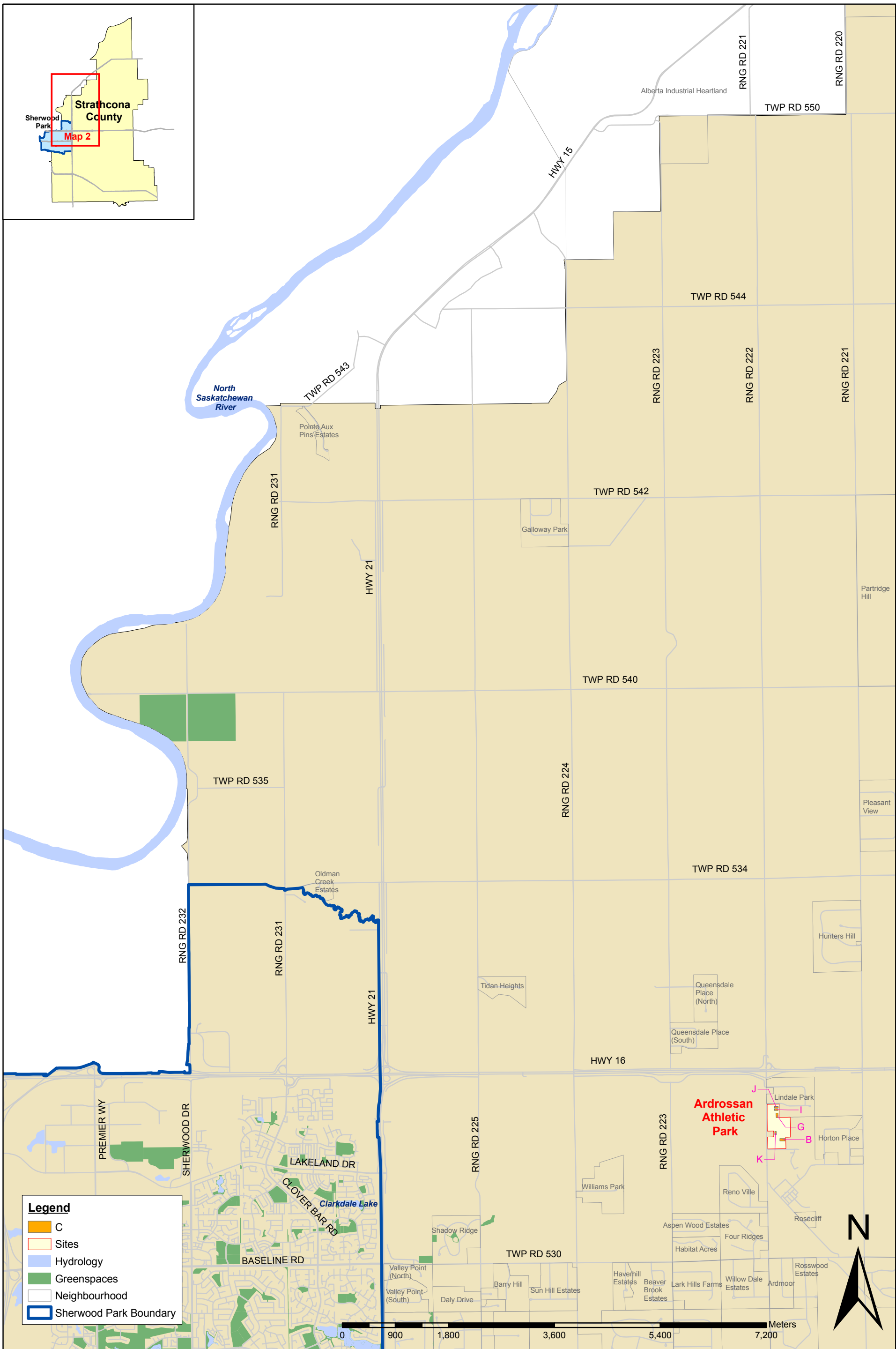


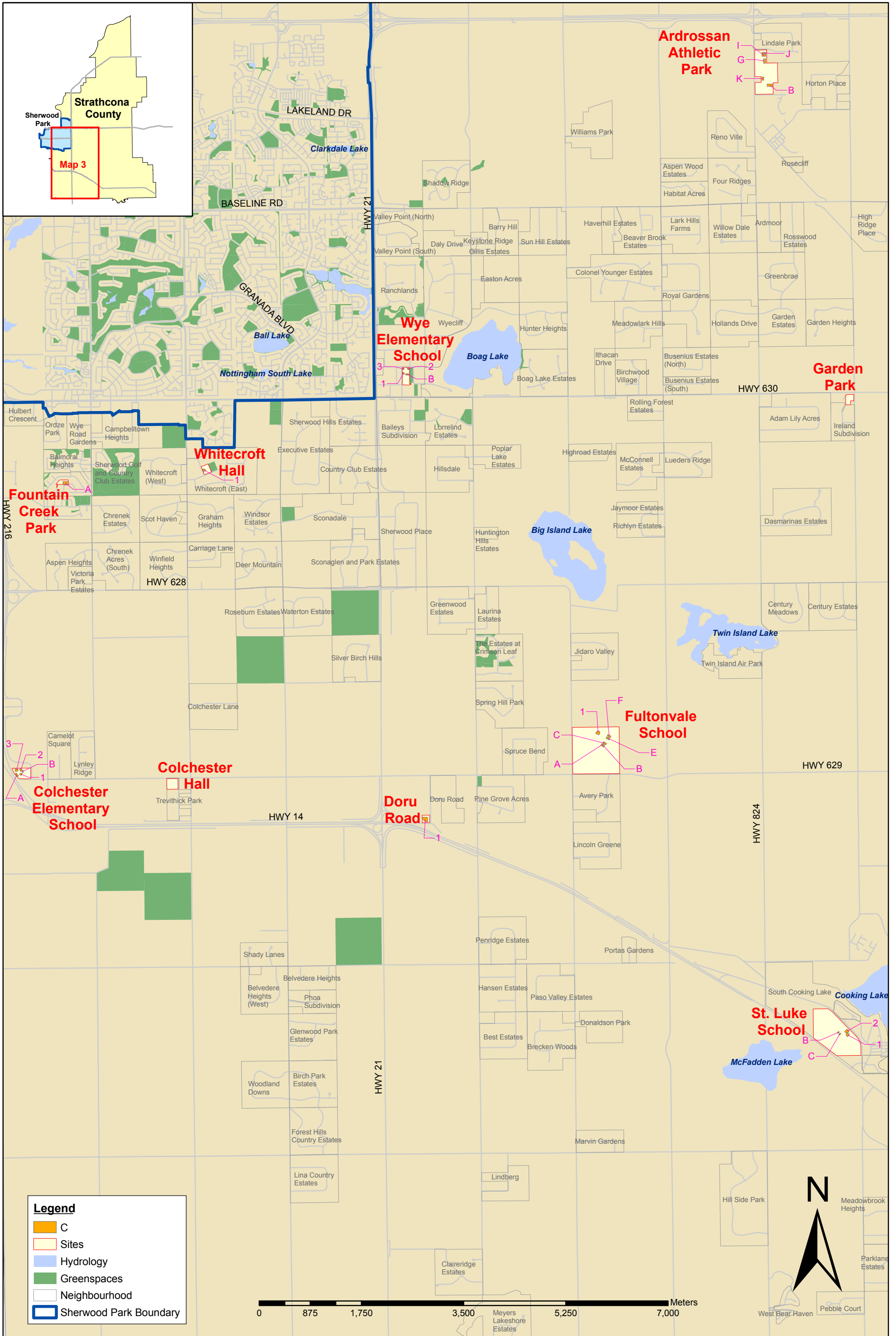


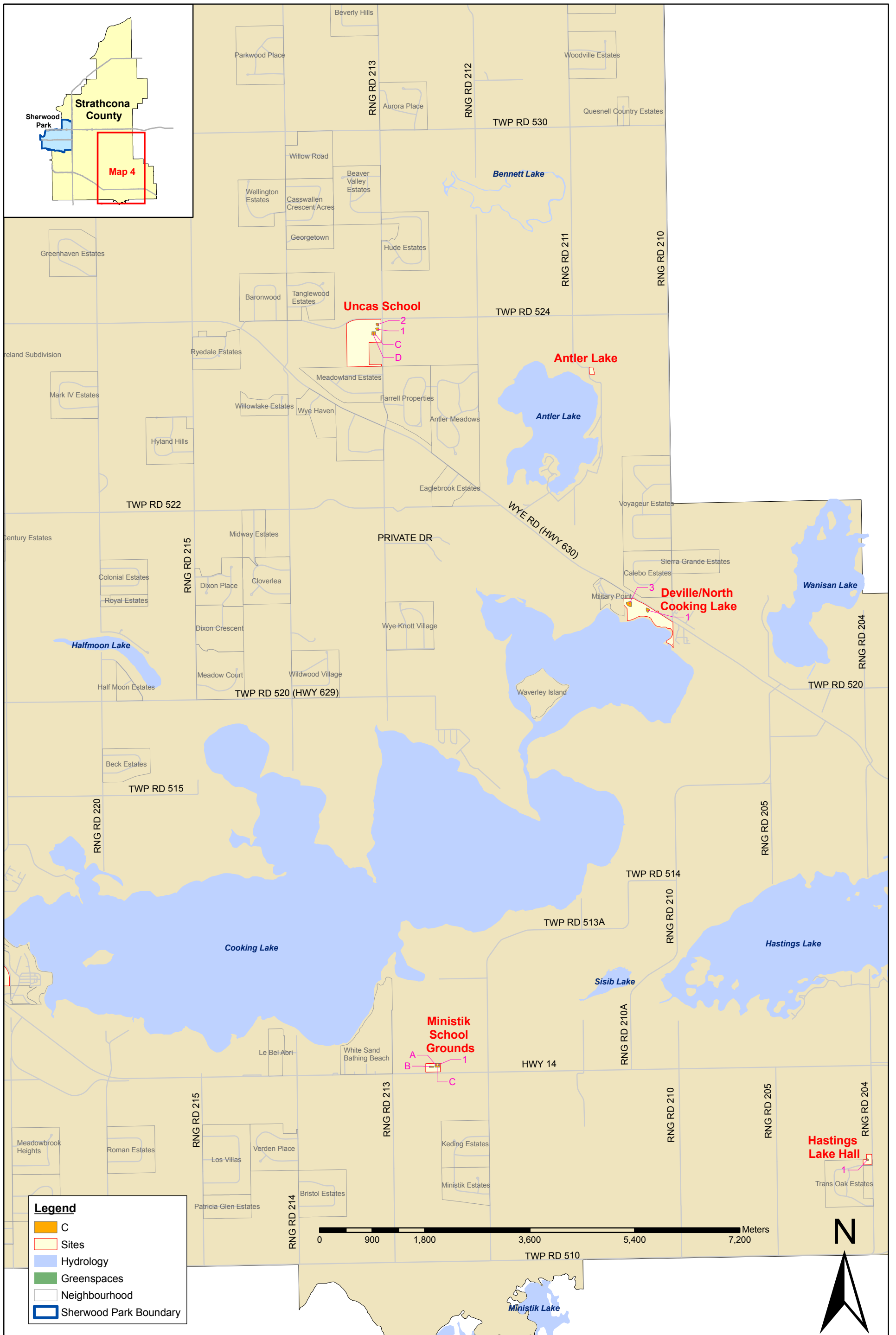












Fields within rural parks include:

- Antler Lake
- Brookville
- Colchester Hall
- Deville/North Cooking Lake
- Doru Road
- Fountain Creek Park
- Garden Park
- Good Hope
- Hastings Lake Hall
- Josephburg Community
- Josephburg Rec Centre
- Partridge Hill
- Whitecroft Hall
- Ypres Valley

The following table illustrates the distribution of fields within urban and rural areas.

Distribution of Fields Between Rural and Urban Areas

Field Type	Field Level	Urban		Urban TOTAL	Rural		Rural TOTAL	Grand TOTAL
		Park	School		Park	School		
Diamond	'A' Premier	2		2			0	2
	'A' Standard	4	1	5			0	5
	B	13	15	28	8	4	12	40
	C	9	20	29	11	12	23	52
Diamond TOTAL		28	36	64	19	16	35	99
Sportsfield	'A' Premier	5		5			0	5
	'A' Standard	5	2	7			0	7
	B	12	7	19	1	11	12	31
	C	16	21	37	2	20	22	59
Sportsfield TOTAL		38	30	68	3	31	34	102
Grand Total		66	66	132	22	47	69	201

3.5 Field Play

The County's fields are used by a variety of users who participate in baseball, softball, t-ball, slow pitch, soccer, football, rugby, and athletics. The County has established a booking system that tracks the usage of fields. The system tracks only those fields that have been assigned an ID number of which there are 146. 55 fields do not have an ID number. In 2009, 35 organizations and 33 individuals used the booking system to reserve field time (see Appendix B – Organizations that Scheduled Play in 2009).

Outside of the booking system, the County has also granted certain organizations the responsibility to manage the use of specific fields. The use of the fields by these six organizations is not tracked by the County. Specifically, Centennial Park Association manages Fields 1 – 8 at Centennial Park, Josephburg Softball manages two fields at Josephburg Community, Sherwood Park Rams Football manages Field A at Kinsmen/Westboro Park, and both Sherwood Park Minor Baseball and Strathcona County Baseball Association manage Field 9 at Centennial Park and Fields 1 – 5 at Sherwood Heights. These organizations were contacted for their schedule and the organizations' names are found in Appendix B – Organizations that Scheduled Play in 2009.

113 fields are located on school sites. These fields may be used beyond the hours of scheduled play by school children during their lunch break, recess, or physical education class. In consideration, 10 hours per week of usage has been added to each school field. The addition of these hours has been confined to the 20 week season for diamonds and the 28 week season for sportsfields.

The usage of fields has been divided into four categories as shown in the tables below. "Not Used" are fields where no usage has been identified. "Booked Use" are fields that have been booked through the booking system. "Scheduled Use" are fields that usage is managed by organizations outside the booking database. "Only School Use" includes school fields that do not have booked or scheduled use. While there is no record of usage on the 24 "Not Used" fields, these fields may be used for casual play. The total hours of usage for the 2009 season was 49,022.

Use of Fields – Diamonds

LOCATION	TYPE OF USE	TOTAL FIELDS
All	Not Used	18
	Booked Use	42
	Scheduled Use	16
	Only School Use	23
TOTAL		99

Use of Fields – Sportsfields

LOCATION	TYPE OF USE	TOTAL FIELDS
All	Not Used	6
	Booked Use	74
	Scheduled Use	1
	Only School Use	21
TOTAL		102

The following tables identify usage per location, site and field level for the 2009 season. It should be noted that the tables include usage from fields that are to be decommissioned in 2010.

Usage of Fields – Diamonds

LOCATION	Park vs School Sites	'A' Premier	'A' Standard	B	C	TOTAL Fields Usage Hrs
Urban	Park	297.50	720.00	6,032.00	970.00	8,019.50
	School		275.50	3,704.00	2,911.00	6,890.50
Subtotal		297.50	995.50	9,736.00	3,881.00	14,910.00
Rural	Park			122.00		122.00
	School			605.00	1,633.00	2,238.00
Subtotal		0.00	0.00	727.00	1,633.00	2,360.00
Urban & Rural	Park Total	297.50	720.00	6,154.00	970.00	8,141.50
	School Total	0.00	275.50	4,309.00	4,544.00	9,128.50
DIAMOND TOTAL		297.50	995.50	10,463.00	5,514.00	17,270.00

Usage of Fields – Sportsfields

LOCATION	Park vs School Sites	'A' Premier	'A' Standard	B	C	TOTAL Fields Usage Hrs
Urban	Park	1,270.00	2,062.25	2,987.75	4,604.50	10,924.50
	School		1,117.00	3,068.50	9,690.50	13,876.00
Subtotal		1,270.00	3,179.25	6,056.25	14,295.00	24,800.50
Rural	Park					0.00
	School			2,474.00	4,477.50	6,951.50
Subtotal		0.00	0.00	2,474.00	4,477.50	6,951.50
Urban & Rural	Park Total	1,270.00	2,062.25	2,987.75	4,604.50	10,924.50
	School Total	0.00	1,117.00	5,542.50	14,168.00	20,827.50
SPORTSFIELDS TOTAL		1,270.00	3,179.25	8,530.25	18,772.50	31,752.00

3.6 Capacity

Field capacity is defined as the maximum usage that a field can withstand before it falls below its intended condition. Typically this is measured in hours per week or hours per season. Strathcona County has established a field capacity benchmark of 150 hours per year (approximately 6 hours per week) for fields at Millennium Place and 340 hours per year (approximately 12 hours per week) for all other 'A' level fields. Field capacity benchmarks have not been established for 'B' and 'C' level fields.

As part of this Strategy, the total hourly capacity of the County's fields was determined. This was undertaken by first defining a capacity for each field level. The basis for defining capacity for Premier 'A' and Standard 'A' fields was the County's current field capacity benchmarks for 'A' level fields. For 'B' and 'C' fields, the field capacity was defined by comparing the intended condition for 'B' and 'C' level fields to the field capacities established by other municipalities and organizations for similar fields (see Appendix C - Benchmarks of Other Municipalities and Organizations). The following are the hourly capacities defined for each level of field:

- 'A' Premier Fields: 6 hours per week
- 'A' Standard Fields: 12 hours per week
- 'B' Fields: 24 hours per week
- 'C' Fields: 36 hours per week

A season was defined to be 20 weeks for diamonds and 28 weeks for sportsfields. The difference is an acknowledgement that the season of play is shorter for diamonds than it is for sportsfields. This was determined by reviewing County booking data.

As mentioned, the inventory includes a number of fields that overlap each other (defined as secondary fields). In determining overall capacity, the capacity hours of each of the overlapping fields was reduced to 50%. This assumption was made as play cannot occur simultaneously on overlapping fields. The resulting capacity hours are then shared between the fields that overlap each other.

Using the above field capacities benchmarks and defined season, a total hourly capacity for the season was determined for each field. A sum of all the field capacities was then calculated to provide a grand total. The following tables identify the total field capacity per field level, field type, location (Sherwood Park being urban), school site, and park site.

Total Hourly Capacity of All Diamonds for 2009 Season

LOCATION	Park vs School Sites	'A' Premier	'A' Standard	B	C	TOTAL All Fields (Hours)
Urban	Park	240.00	960.00	6,000.00	6,120.00	13,320.00
	School		240.00	6,000.00	10,080.00	16,320.00
Subtotal		240.00	1,200.00	12,000.00	16,200.00	29,640.00
Rural	Park			3,600.00	6,840.00	10,440.00
	School			1,920.00	6,120.00	8,040.00
Subtotal		0.00	0.00	5,520.00	12,960.00	18,480.00
Urban & Rural	Park Total	240.00	960.00	9,600.00	12,960.00	23,760.00
	School Total	0.00	240.00	7,920.00	16,200.00	24,360.00
DIAMOND TOTAL		240.00	1,200.00	17,520.00	29,160.00	48,120.00

Total Hourly Capacity of All Sportsfields for 2009 Season

LOCATION	Park vs School Sites	'A' Premier	'A' Standard	B	C	TOTAL All Fields (Hours)
Urban	Park	840.00	1,680.00	7,392.00	16,128.00	26,040.00
	School		672.00	4,704.00	16,632.00	22,008.00
Subtotal		840.00	2,352.00	12,096.00	32,760.00	48,048.00
Rural Subtotal	Park			672.00	2,016.00	2,688.00
	School			5,712.00	14,616.00	20,328.00
Subtotal		0.00	0.00	6,384.00	16,632.00	23,016.00
Urban & Rural	Park Total	840.00	1,680.00	8,064.00	18,144.00	28,728.00
	School Total	0.00	672.00	10,416.00	31,248.00	42,336.00
DIAMOND TOTAL		840.00	2,352.00	18,480.00	49,392.00	71,064.00

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION FINDINGS

A common measure of public expectations and desires is the findings from a consultation process. Ideally, the process of consultation involves several different mediums and extended opportunities for the public to express their concerns, hopes, fears, opinions and desires.

Public participation for the Sportsfield Strategy was initiated in the summer of 2009. Undertaken over several months, the public participation strategy involved a three-pronged approach. The methods implemented to promote public comment on issues affecting the Sportsfield Strategy include:

- Public Survey – an online-based self-selected survey of residents of Strathcona County which sought information on field usage, priorities for development and consumer satisfaction with fields provided by the County;
- Stakeholder Survey – a personal telephone interview of 25 sports clubs who regularly use the sportsfields in the County;
- Public Open Houses – three well-advertised open houses were staged (one in the rural area [Ardrossan] and two in Sherwood Park at Millennium Place) with a comment sheet provided to attendees.

The expectations and desires of the public learned from each of these three sources of public input into the Strathcona County Sportsfield Strategy are summarized as follows.

4.1 Public Survey

A total of 223 persons responded to the online survey. The survey was well-advertised, easily accessed and conducted during a peak field usage time of year (August - September). The primary purpose of the survey was to identify issues for consideration in formulating the Strategy. The results of the survey showed significant agreement on several issues. A brief summary of the survey findings are:

- Despite extensive advertising and ease of participation, the survey had lower than expected participation. This in turn suggests that residents of Strathcona County are generally satisfied with the fields since survey participation increases when there are major “top-of-mind” concerns to be expressed.
- 2/3 of respondents are very or somewhat satisfied with sportsfields in the County.
- Soccer, baseball, football, and athletics are the top four sportsfield uses.
- Users are happiest with soccer and athletic fields.
- Overall, the survey showed high general satisfaction and few major complaints.
- Only 8% of respondents were very dissatisfied with the sportsfields in the County.
- Dissatisfaction is not with the fields themselves, but rather with the lack of amenities at some sites such as washrooms, user fee rates and difficulty using some fields for unscheduled use.
- Most respondents don’t want sportsfields used after 9 pm.

4.2 Stakeholder Survey

A total of 25 sports clubs and organizations active in the Strathcona County were identified by the County and contacted by IBI Group. The groups include recreational, competitive, youth, adult, women and school leagues and involve sports such as baseball, football, soccer and track and field. Beginning in July 2009, these organizations were phoned and several attempts were made to arrange a time for a telephone interview. All groups were forwarded the survey questions for the telephone discussion and were given the option of responding by email rather than by phone. Despite repeated attempts to engage participants, 13 of the groups participated between July and October 2009. Although participation was lower than expected, the findings include the following:

- Female participation in sports using the fields is increasing.
- Enrolment in soccer decreases as age increases. To illustrate, soccer players under six years of age were the largest age group.
- Fields are used an average of 90 – 120 minutes per event.
- Growing preference for artificial turf to preserve playing field surface. Football is particularly hard on playfields and would benefit from artificial turf fields.
- Baseball groups were the most dissatisfied of all groups contacted. Dissatisfaction with demand exceeding supply of diamonds, conflicts with baseball diamonds in residential areas, and the lack of maintenance on school field diamonds.
- Increased lighting on some playfields would increase play later in the day in the spring and fall.
- Improvements to Strathcona Athletic Park were recommended to allow for the hosting of larger events.

4.3 Public Open Houses

Two Public Open Houses were held in mid-September to determine public opinions, concerns or desires related to sportsfield use in the County by the general public. Strathcona County advertised the Open Houses in the local newspaper, the County's website, and with on-street signage. A rural (Ardrossan) and a Sherwood Park location were selected. A walk-through format with display boards was used with a member of IBI accompanying attendees and encouraging their input or any questions. The objective of the Open Houses was to provide an overview of the importance of the Sportsfield Strategy, the results of the inventory, the public survey and next steps in the study. Comment sheets were then provided to attendees. In total, only 9 persons attended the Open Houses despite extensive advertising. The findings from the nine comment sheets submitted include:

- 4 attendees were with sports groups and 5 were from the general public.
- 3 of the 4 sports groups were for football.
- the most requested items were for artificial turf, improved or more amenities (washrooms and lighting) and more "free time" available on fields.
- the request for more skate parks (both indoor and outdoor) was also made.

At the end of February 2010, a third open house was held at Millennium Place. It followed a similar format as to the previous two open houses. This open house presented background on the Strategy along with the projected future demand for sportsfields and diamonds, the proposed strategic direction, and future actions and goals. The participants were also asked which existing sportsfields and diamonds should be upgraded and why. In total, only 9 people attended the Open House held at the end of February. The findings from the nine participants included:

- 3 of the attendees were part of a baseball organization and 6 were from the general public.
- The baseball organization made the following comments:
 - One of the 80' baseball diamonds should be upgraded for tournament use.
 - Sherwood Heights should be reconfigured to accommodate two 60' and two 70' baseball diamonds.
 - A 5-6 diamond site be provided for older baseball players consisting of two 70', two 80' and two 90' diamonds.
 - Centennial Park would be a good combined site for baseball, fastball, and softball.
 - Slo-pitch would be more suitable in a rural area such as Josephburg.
 - There are increasing issues with flyballs at Salisbury and Strathcona Athletic Park.
- In terms of sportsfields, Strathcona Athletic Park, Salisbury Athletic Park, and Millennium Place were identified as a favourite by one individual. The same individual identified fields at Heritage Hills, Strathcona Athletic Park and Mills Haven Elementary School for upgrading. This individual also suggested that use of 'A' level fields should be scheduled for premier league teams only in order to reduce over capacity.

Similar to the results of the Public On-line Survey, the lack of response to the Open Houses is an indication that sportsfields are not a 'hot topic' or a concern amongst the general public in Strathcona County.

4.4 Summary of Findings

The findings from the public consultation processes were considered in developing the strategic directions and future actions for Strathcona County. These findings are summarized as follows:

- Of those who do use sportsfields, the survey found most (68%) are very or somewhat satisfied. Consequently, it is reasonable to assume that the actual number of persons seeking improvements to sportsfields is very small.
- There is nothing from the consultation process, particularly the surveys, that indicates there are any sportsfield-related urgent concerns or issues that require immediate action from the County.
- If the County were to address dissatisfaction amongst users of sportsfields, the priority fields for future action would be baseball diamonds, football fields, soccer fields, and athletic fields in that order.

- Given the reported availability of fields amongst survey respondents, there does not appear to be a significant supply constraint to sportsfield use. However, of those who reported dissatisfaction with sportsfields in the County, it was not possible to know if it was related to the condition of the fields or inadequate supply.
- Of the public survey findings, 57% of respondents were in favour of improving the existing inventory. This finding suggests that future sportsfield efforts may limit expansion of the inventory in favour or improving the quality of some of the fields currently available.
- The public consultation findings also suggest that priorities for future field development and amenity improvement should concentrate on upgrading baseball diamonds, football fields, soccer fields, and athletic fields in that order.
- Conflicts between field users and adjacent neighbourhood residents occur predominantly with later evening play. Disputes tend to involve noise and inadequate parking. Relocating some adult recreation sports play to fields not adjacent to residential uses, that can support later evening play and parking, should be considered.
- Of the amenities desired by respondents to the public consultation opportunities, the preferred amenities include: improved field surface maintenance, addition of artificial turf, developing more washrooms and improved parking.
- Importantly, the stakeholders (those who represent organized sport teams) interviewed do not anticipate a dramatic increase in sports participation amongst County residents in the future.

5. DEMAND ANALYSIS

5.1 Current Field Utilization

The current utilization of sportsfields in Strathcona County was calculated using a model of ideal surface play time per field by level of field. That is, 'A' Premier fields ideally average 6 hours per week of play; 'A' Standard fields have 12 hours; 'B' level fields have 24 hours of play; and finally, 'C' level fields can accommodate 36 hours of play on average over the week. These preferred utilization numbers were used to calculate total capacity. The current utilization of fields was a calculation of *actual hours booked* for each field class compared to *total hours of capacity* (as discussed in Section 3.6). For instance, for 'A' Premier Sportsfields the total capacity of play is 840 hours. However, booking data suggests that these elite fields are actually utilized at 151% of capacity.

A summary of the current utilization of diamonds and sportsfields is detailed below:

Diamonds – 2009 Utilization

Field Class	Total Capacity	% Utilization
'A' Premier	240 hrs	124%
'A' Standard	1,200 hrs	83%
'B'	17,520 hrs	70%
'C'	29,160 hrs	25%
All Diamonds	48,120 hrs	45%

Sportsfields – 2009 Utilization

Field Class	Total Capacity	% Utilization
'A' Premier	840 hrs	151%
'A' Standard	2,352 hrs	135%
'B'	18,480 hrs	50%
'C'	49,392 hrs	41%
All Sportsfields	71,064 hrs	48%

As shown above, the 'A' Premier diamonds and sportsfields are over-utilized along with the 'A' Standard sportsfields. The 'A' standard diamonds and the 'B' and 'C' level diamonds and sportsfields have substantial capacity for additional play.

Current utilization and projected future demand for fields is also summarized in Exhibit 5.1 (High Demand Projection for Diamonds); Exhibit 5.2 (Low Demand Projection for Diamonds); Exhibit 5.3 (High Demand Projection for Sportsfields); and Exhibit 5.4 (Low Demand Projection for Sportsfields).

DIAMONDS HIGH DEMAND PROJECTION	A Premier	A	B	C	TOTAL
2009 Field Inventory					
Urban	2	5	28	29	64
Rural	0	0	12	23	35
Total	2	5	40	52	99
2009 Field Capacity in Hours	240	1,200	17,520	29,160	48,120
2009 Estimated Field Utilization	124%	83%	70%	25%	45%
2009 Utilization Adjusted Required Inventory	3	5	29	14	51
2009 Optimized Inventory					
Urban	2	4	20	10	36
Rural	1	1	9	4	15
Total	3	5	29	14	51
Estimated Average Utilization	83%	83%	97%	93%	95%
2015 Optimized Inventory					
Urban	2	4	22	11	39
Δ from 2009 Actuals	0	-1	-6	-18	-25
Rural	1	1	10	4	16
Δ from 2009 Actuals	1	1	-2	-19	-19
Total	3	5	32	15	55
Δ from 2009 Actuals	1	0	-8	-37	-44
Estimated Average Utilization	90%	91%	96%	95%	96%
2020 Optimized Inventory					
Urban	2	4	23	12	41
Δ from 2015 Optimized	0	0	1	1	2
Rural	1	1	11	4	17
Δ from 2015 Optimized	0	0	1	0	1
Total	3	5	34	16	58
Δ from 2015 Optimized	0	0	2	1	3
Estimated Average Utilization	96%	96%	96%	95%	96%
2025 Optimized Inventory					
Urban	2	5	26	14	47
Δ from 2020 Optimized	0	1	3	2	6
Rural	1	1	12	4	18
Δ from 2020 Optimized	0	0	1	0	1
Total	3	6	38	18	65
Δ from 2020 Optimized	0	1	4	2	7
Estimated Average Utilization	108%	90%	97%	95%	96%

DIAMONDS LOW DEMAND PROJECTION		A Premier	A	B	C	TOTAL
2009 Field Inventory						
	Urban	2	5	28	29	64
	Rural	0	0	12	23	35
	Total	2	5	40	52	99
2009 Field Capacity in Hours		240	1,200	17,520	29,160	48,120
2009 Estimated Field Utilization		124%	83%	70%	25%	45%
2009 Utilization Adjusted Required Inventory		3	5	29	14	51
2009 Optimized Inventory						
	Urban	2	4	20	10	36
	Rural	1	1	9	4	15
	Total	3	5	29	14	51
	Estimated Average Utilization	83%	83%	97%	93%	95%
2015 Optimized Inventory						
	Urban	2	4	20	10	36
	Δ from 2009 Actuals	0	-1	-8	-19	-28
	Rural	1	1	9	4	15
	Δ from 2009 Actuals	1	1	-3	-19	-20
	Total	3	5	29	14	51
	Δ from 2009 Actuals	1	0	-11	-38	-48
	Estimated Average Utilization	82%	82%	96%	92%	94%
2020 Optimized Inventory						
	Urban	2	4	19	10	35
	Δ from 2015 Optimized	0	0	-1	0	-1
	Rural	1	1	9	4	15
	Δ from 2015 Optimized	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	3	5	28	14	50
	Δ from 2015 Optimized	0	0	-1	0	-1
	Estimated Average Utilization	79%	80%	96%	89%	93%
2025 Optimized Inventory						
	Urban	2	4	20	11	37
	Δ from 2020 Optimized	0	0	1	1	2
	Rural	1	1	9	4	15
	Δ from 2020 Optimized	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	3	5	29	15	52
	Δ from 2020 Optimized	0	0	1	1	2
	Estimated Average Utilization	83%	83%	97%	87%	93%

SPORTSFIELDS HIGH DEMAND PROJECTION	A Premier	A	B	C	TOTAL
2009 Field Inventory					
Urban	5	7	19	37	68
Rural	0	0	12	22	34
Total	5	7	31	59	102
2009 Field Capacity in Hours	840	2,352	18,480	49,392	71,064
2009 Estimated Field Utilization	151%	135%	50%	41%	48%
2009 Utilization Adjusted Required Inventory	8	10	16	25	59
2009 Optimized Inventory					
Urban	6	7	11	18	42
Rural	2	3	5	7	17
Total	8	10	16	25	59
Estimated Average Utilization	94%	95%	96%	98%	97%
2015 Optimized Inventory					
Urban	7	8	12	20	47
Δ from 2009 Actuals	2	1	-7	-17	-21
Rural	2	3	5	8	18
Δ from 2009 Actuals	2	3	-7	-14	-16
Total	9	11	17	28	65
Δ from 2009 Actuals	4	4	-14	-31	-37
Estimated Average Utilization	92%	94%	99%	95%	96%
2020 Optimized Inventory					
Urban	7	9	13	21	50
Δ from 2015 Optimized	0	1	1	1	3
Rural	2	3	5	9	19
Δ from 2015 Optimized	0	0	0	1	1
Total	9	12	18	30	69
Δ from 2015 Optimized	0	1	1	2	4
Estimated Average Utilization	98%	92%	100%	95%	96%
2025 Optimized Inventory					
Urban	8	10	15	24	57
Δ from 2020 Optimized	1	1	2	3	7
Rural	2	3	5	10	20
Δ from 2020 Optimized	0	0	0	1	1
Total	10	13	20	34	77
Δ from 2020 Optimized	1	1	2	4	8
Estimated Average Utilization	99%	95%	101%	94%	96%

SPORTSFIELDS LOW DEMAND PROJECTION	A Premier	A	B	C	TOTAL
2009 Field Inventory					
Urban	5	7	19	37	68
Rural	0	0	12	22	34
Total	5	7	31	59	102
2009 Field Capacity in Hours	840	2,352	18,480	49,392	71,064
2009 Estimated Field Utilization	151%	135%	50%	41%	48%
2009 Utilization Adjusted Required Inventory	8	9	15	24	57
2009 Optimized Inventory					
Urban	5	7	11	17	40
Rural	2	3	5	7	17
Total	7	10	16	24	57
Estimated Average Utilization	108%	95%	96%	102%	100%
2015 Optimized Inventory					
Urban	5	7	11	17	40
Δ from 2009 Actuals	0	0	-8	-20	-28
Rural	2	3	5	7	17
Δ from 2009 Actuals	2	3	-7	-15	-17
Total	7	10	16	24	57
Δ from 2009 Actuals	2	3	-15	-35	-45
Estimated Average Utilization	107%	94%	95%	101%	99%
2020 Optimized Inventory					
Urban	5	7	11	17	40
Δ from 2015 Optimized	0	0	0	0	0
Rural	2	3	5	7	17
Δ from 2015 Optimized	0	0	0	0	0
Total	7	10	16	24	57
Δ from 2015 Optimized	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Average Utilization	104%	91%	93%	98%	96%
2025 Optimized Inventory					
Urban	5	7	12	18	42
Δ from 2020 Optimized	0	0	1	1	2
Rural	2	3	5	7	17
Δ from 2020 Optimized	0	0	0	0	0
Total	7	10	17	25	59
Δ from 2020 Optimized	0	0	1	1	2
Estimated Average Utilization	108%	95%	91%	98%	96%

5.2 Trend Analysis

Several factors will influence future demand for sportsfields in Strathcona County. These factors are related to common trends in sports participation that have been prevalent throughout Canada. Other factors that will influence future demand also include demographic changes – particularly, population growth in Strathcona County. These factors are discussed in the subsections below.

The participation in sports throughout Canada has been changing dramatically since 1992. Statistics Canada report, *Sport Participation in Canada, 2005*, (Catalogue #81-595-MIE-No.060 February 2008) identified several key trends that have historically affected sports participation, and which, in turn, will likely affect future participation rates amongst residents of Strathcona County. A summary of the most relevant trends in sport participation since 1992 to 2005 and the potential implications for Strathcona County are described as follows.

- Nationally, sport participation rates continued to decline between 1992 and 1998, and again from 1998 to 2005. In fact, the rate of decline accelerated between 1998 and 2005. In 1992, nearly half of all persons age 15 and older participated in sports; by 2005, the rate was only 30%. Actively encouraging sports participation will be an essential component to maintain even current levels of sportsfield use within Strathcona County.
- Alberta's rate of sports participation is declining faster than the rate of population growth. In Alberta, the rate of participation in sports declined by 6.8% between 1998 and 2005 (versus 6.2% for all of Canada). This finding suggests that demand for sportsfields may decline over time despite increasing numbers of Alberta residents.
- Although participation rates declined, involvement in amateur sport as a spectator nearly doubled from 1992 to 2005. This trend may suggest an expectation for enhanced spectator-related amenities.
- A total participation rate in sports across all age groups in Alberta was 23% in 2005. This figure suggests that there are as many as 19,400 total sports participants in Strathcona County for its total population of 88,000 in 2009.
- Sports participation rates remain higher in urban rather than in rural areas. This suggests that priority for any new field development (provided the current distribution is equitable) in Strathcona County should be in Sherwood Park.
- A survey conducted by The Alberta Centre of Active Living (2009), found that rates of physical activity amongst Albertans overall is declining from levels found in 2005 and even 2008. In 2009, 56% of Albertans were active compared to 60% in 2005. With the notable exception of Calgary which showed increasing activity levels, this trend was common in nearly all Alberta communities. Not surprisingly, participation in physical activity also declines with age. It is evident that declining activity, which would include both formal and informal sports is a dominant trend across Alberta and likely within Strathcona County as well. Consequently, both scheduled and casual sportsfield use in the County, may also decline over time as residents age and generally become less active.
- Again, holding stable, or even counteracting prevalent trends toward declining participation in sports and even casual activity levels, will require considerable effort from Strathcona County. Without this effort it is not unreasonable to assume that over time, the demand for additional sportsfields in Strathcona County will decline.

5.3 Demographic Situation

The population size, geographic distribution, and age composition are key factors driving rates of participation in sports, and hence demand for sportsfield play time. Strathcona County conducts regular municipal censuses which measure the County’s population on numerous dimensions, including age, gender, dwelling statistics, household size and composition, location within the County, etc.

Census data indicate that Strathcona County has been experiencing rapid population growth, with an average compound annual growth rate of approximately 4.2% since 1961. Since 1991, the County’s population has increased in size by more than 50%. The 2009 municipal census identified a total population of approximately 88,000 persons, representing an increase of 2.9% over the 2008 population. Approximately 70% of the County’s population is located in Sherwood Park, with the 30% residual residing in the rural areas of Strathcona.

In addition to the annual municipal census, Strathcona County Corporate Planning also maintains population projections for the County. The current projection is summarized in the following table.

Population Projection for Strathcona County – 2010 - 2025

Year	2010	2015	2020	2025
Urban Area	63,016	67,629	72,198	81,955
Rural Area	26,921	28,683	30,146	33,010
County Total	89,937	96,312	102,345	114,965
Average Annual Growth Rate	---	1.4%	1.2%	2.3%

The projected average annual growth rate for the total Strathcona County population is approximately 1.7% to 2025. The population of Sherwood Park is projected to increase at a slightly higher average rate (1.8% per annum) and the rural area at a slightly lower average rate (1.5% per annum). As shown, the population in the County is projected to increase by approximately 25,000 residents over the next 15 years. These population projections are used – together with other factors – to project potential future demand for sportsfields in Strathcona County.

5.4 Demand Projection

A range of demand projections was calculated for diamonds and sportsfields in Strathcona County. The projections are founded upon current patterns of utilization as identified in the booking database, and driven by projected population growth, projected population aging, and projected population sport participation rates. It is emphasized that these are projections which reflect the underlying assumptions; it is possible that the County will experience substantial variations from these projections, particularly in the later years, depending upon variations from the assumptions employed in the projections, and changes in other factors. For this reason it will be advisable to monitor demand for fields over time, and adjust the projections and resulting field development and operational strategies from time to time.

As detailed in Section 5.1, the 2009 utilization levels of County fields measured by analysis of the booking database is relatively low on average across the season, at 45% for diamonds, and 48% for sportsfields. However, there are substantially higher levels of utilization of the higher amenity and quality fields: for diamonds the average 2009 field utilization was 124% for 'A' Premier diamonds, 83% for 'A' Standard diamonds, 70% for 'B' diamonds, and 25% for 'C' diamonds; for sportsfields the corresponding figures are 151% utilization for 'A' Premier fields, 135% for 'A' Standard fields, 50% for 'B' fields, and 41% for 'C' fields.

For the purpose of projecting future demand, the observed 2009 utilization of used fields is assumed to be representative of the utilization of the non-used fields as well. As detailed in Section 3.5, there are 24 fields not being used. By definition, utilization data are not available for the non-used fields. However, anecdotal evidence, observation, and the findings of the public consultation components suggest that used fields are more heavily utilized than non-used fields. For this reason, the assumption of equivalent utilization of not used fields is likely to tend to overstate future demand for diamonds and sportsfields.

The first step in projecting future demand is to identify the current requirement for diamonds and sportsfields. The current requirement is defined as operating the inventory of fields of each particular level (e.g., 'A' Premier sportsfields) at 100% of their calculated capacity on average across the season. With a target capacity of 6.0 hours per week, and a 28 week season, the five existing 'A' Premier sportsfields have an annual field capacity of 840 hours. Since the field utilization determined from the booking database is 151%, there is an insufficient number of 'A' Premier sportsfields in the County at present; the required number of sportsfields to accommodate 2009 utilization at 100% of the 6.0 hour per week target is 8 fields. Conversely, with only 41% utilization of 'C' sportsfields, a reduction in the current inventory at 59 units to 25 'C' level sportsfields would yield a 100% utilization in 2009. The optimal inventory of fields for the 2009 season can be found in the row titled "2009 Utilization Adjusted Required Inventory" of the tables found in Exhibits 5.1 through 5.4.

The next step in projecting future demand is to optimize the geographical distribution of diamonds and sportsfields to Sherwood Park or to the rural areas of the County, on the basis of their proportionate population shares. For example, there are currently two 'A' Premier diamonds in the County, both located in Sherwood Park; with the utilization adjustment discussed above, and a population-proportionate distribution, the "2009 Optimized Inventory" would include 1.8 of these diamonds in Sherwood Park, and 1 in the rural area of the County; these values are rounded to 2 and 1 diamonds respectively.

The 2009 Optimized Inventory estimates are also summarized in Exhibits 5.1 through 5.4.

Finally, the 2009 Optimized Inventory is projected in 5 year planning increments to the years 2015, 2020, and 2025 under high demand and low demand growth assumptions. The "high demand projection" series is driven solely by the population projections outlined in the preceding section.

The "low demand projection" series includes consideration of population growth, population aging, and sport participation rates. As discussed in the trends section (Section 5.2), sport participation as measured by the General Social Surveys of 1992, 1998 and 2005 has been declining steadily in Canada and in most provinces. The observed rate of decline in Alberta is slightly greater than the national average. The observed annual rate of decline in sport participation was 2.8% from 1992 to 2005. This is a rapid rate of change for a broadly prevalent activity such as sport participation; while the trend appears to be well established, it is unlikely that it will continue at this high rate of decline through the projection period to 2025. For this reason, the reduced participation rate has been arbitrarily reduced by 50% to an annual decline of 1.4% for calculation of future demand under the low demand growth scenario.

A second factor included in the low demand projection is the declining rate of sports participation associated with aging. The average sport participation rates measured from the most recent General Social Survey are 59% for the 15 to 19 year cohort; 42% for the 20 to 24 year age cohort; 31% for the 25 to 34 year age cohort; 25% for the 35 to 54 year age cohort; and 18% for the 55 to 74 year age cohort. To estimate the potential impact of aging related reduction in sport participation, the observed 2005 age-specific participation rates were applied to the estimated future Strathcona County population age distributions to determine the effect of population aging. (The future age distributions were estimated through application of the Alberta Health Services projected population age distribution for the Capital Health Region.) The total effect of the decline in the sport participation rate is a 3% reduction in 2015 from the unadjusted population growth estimate; a 5% reduction in 2020; and a 5% reduction in 2025.

The general participation rate reduction projection and age-specific participation rate reductions were combined with the previously-employed population projections for the County to produce the low demand projection series for County diamonds and sportsfields.

The findings of the demand projections are summarized in the following table.

Projected Field and Diamond Requirements to 2025

Field Type	Projection Series	2009 Field Inventory	2009 Optimized Inventory	2025 Optimized Inventory
Diamonds	Low	99	51	52
	High		51	65
Sportsfields	Low	102	57	59
	High		59	77

It should be noted that the projected field and diamond requirements assume that the secondary or overlapping fields and diamonds will continue to be available in their current proportions, at their current reduced levels of capacity.

5.5 Demand Projection Implications

The key findings and implications arising from the projection of demand include:

- Currently available data on sportsfield utilization in the County is incomplete and may not be fully reliable. In the absence of utilization data, it is assumed that the non-used fields are used at the same intensity as the fields included in the booking and scheduled play database.
- The demand projections are driven by projected population growth, geographic distribution of the growth, and (for the low demand series) population aging and potential future changes in sport participation rates. Future outcomes on these dimensions may differ from those assumed in the projections, and for this reason it will be advisable to update the projections as new and more reliable data become available from time to time.

- It is apparent that the higher quality ('A' Premier diamonds and sportsfields and 'A' Standard sportsfields) fields are strongly preferred over the 'A' Standard diamonds and the 'B' level and 'C' level diamonds and sportsfields by users booking field time. In fact, the first category of fields are over-used relative to the utilization targets of hours per week. The indicated preference for 'A' Premier and 'A' Standard level fields and projected growth and demand for those fields implies that more of these fields are required immediately, and continued growth in demand for these fields is likely to be experienced over the projection horizon.
- 'A' Standard diamonds, and 'B' level and 'C' level diamonds and sportsfields are under-utilized compared to their target availability of hours per week. This finding includes both booked and non-booked fields. This finding implies that there is an excess number of these types of fields, meaning that some of them could be converted to higher quality fields, some should be maintained over time, and some can be repurposed or "recycled" for other community recreational uses.
- Although the current total distribution of fields between County and Sherwood Park locations slightly favours the rural areas of the County, those areas are clearly underserved with 'A' Premier and 'A' Standard level diamonds and sportsfields at present. While it may be advisable to concentrate the higher order fields to some extent, there may be opportunities in the longer term to provide some of these higher order fields at an appropriate location in the rural area.
- Finally, the high level of unsatisfied demand and potential future growth in demand for the 'A' Premier and 'A' Standard level fields suggests it may be advisable to develop synthetic play surface diamonds and sportsfields at one or more locations in the County in future. These play surfaces offer the opportunity for significantly higher levels of play per week (50 hours/week) and could therefore reduce the need for upgrading other fields to higher levels, with their lower target levels of play per week. This question will require consideration of capital and operating cost differentials, and locational considerations as well.

6. STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

6.1 Alignment to Strathcona County's Strategic Plan

The foundation of the Strathcona County Sportsfield Strategy is based upon several core goals for action. These goals are grounded in the capstone policies that define Strathcona County's *Strategic Plan (2002)* and which in turn will see the Sportsfield Strategy come to fruition.

The six capstone Strategic Plan policies (abridged) which have guided the Sportsfield Strategy are summarized below.

1. **Community Well-Being:** fostering a sense of neighbourhood and promoting a broad range of opportunities for healthy lifestyle choices.
2. **Community Sustainability:** directing and managing growth through strong stewardship by maintaining the unique urban/rural community and natural environment of the County.
3. **Economic Viability:** to support and contribute to a healthy economy.
4. **Service Delivery:** to demonstrate excellence in customer service through planning and service delivery in ways that reflect community priorities and that are based on principles of effectiveness, efficiency, economy and fairness.
5. **Stakeholder Communications:** create means to facilitate two-way communications with stakeholders thereby promoting confidence in governance, awareness and understanding of respective service delivery roles.
6. **Resource Management:** to effectively and efficiently manage the human, physical and financial resources of the County in a way that best meets community needs and priorities.
7. **Governance:** to promote effective governance that secures an autonomous Strathcona County with clearly defined roles, policies and long-term plans and further encourages effective communication with all stakeholders.

Compliance of the Sportsfield Strategy goals and objectives with these capstone policies is described in the following table.

6.2 Recommended Sportsfield Strategies & Actions

Strategic Plan and OSRFS* Goals and Objectives	Sportsfield Strategy Goal	Recommended Actions
<p>1. <i>Community Well-Being</i> Investment in our community's health and wellness; promotion of healthy lifestyle choices</p>	<p>Maintain an inventory of sportsfields that appeal to a broad range of users, cultivates community interaction, improves health, and nurtures personal growth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase promotional activity on County's website to encourage informal play on fields. • Inform youth groups or other organizations of available fields for play. • Increase sponsorship of tournaments to enhance community pride. • Coordinate informal play during summer months and school holidays on sportsfields to increase awareness and promote physical activity. • Investigate other community efforts to enhance increased activity, sports participation and improved, healthier lifestyle choices.
<p>2. <i>Community Sustainability</i> Reduce the ecological footprint; manage growth and maintain unique urban/rural community.</p>	<p>Sustainably manage and develop sportsfields in order that they are "green" focal points for the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not increase overall sportsfield inventory (i.e., no net increase). • "Repurpose" fields that are underutilized but are in desirable geographic locations. • Explore ecological affects of installation's of artificial turf. • Ensure recycling opportunities at sportsfields. • Use landscape design features to improve sportsfield durability (grass selections) and spectator comfort (e.g., berms, shade trees, etc.). • Develop amenity features by utilizing recycled materials.
<p>3. <i>Economic Viability</i> Increase economic viability through reinvestment and revitalization of existing resources.</p>	<p>Retain the appropriate number and improve the quality of sportsfields in the most ideal locations through reinvestment and revitalization.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not increase overall sportsfield inventory (i.e., no net increase). • 'Repurpose' fields that are under-utilized but are in desirable geographic locations. • Use fields in the existing inventory rather than construct new fields to meet demand. For instance, upgrade (revitalize) 'B' level fields – which are oversupplied – to 'A' fields which are presently at overcapacity.

Strategic Plan and OSRFS* Goals and Objectives	Sportsfield Strategy Goal	Recommended Actions
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore and pursue alternative funding sources (government, private sector, teams) as future sources for amenity development and field upgrades.
<p>4. <i>Service Delivery</i> Reflects community priorities. Reflects principles of effectiveness, efficiency, economy and fairness. Seeks effective planning to meet future needs.</p>	<p>Adapt, update and promote sportsfield programs and services to reflect new trends and the changing needs of the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a data collection strategy to determine demographic profile of sportsfield users. Track this information to update or modify planned actions relative to demand. • Enhance the data available through the booking system to include increased awareness of peak periods and utilization of currently unbooked sportsfields. • Ensure that sportsfields are fairly geographically distributed throughout the County. Distribution should include a range of field classes. • Increase the number of 'A+' (Premier) and 'A' fields available in Sherwood Park. • Promote sportsfield use for use amongst older users and for informal play. • Repurpose selected fields to meet changing participation trends and the evolving needs of Strathcona County residents.
<p>5. <i>Stakeholder Communications</i> Facilitate two-way communications with stakeholders. Use public engagement strategies to strengthen community.</p>	<p>Regularly consult existing and emerging sportsfield user groups along with the broader community on their sportsfield needs, priorities and experiences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage feedback from County residents, sports teams and organizations by implementing an annual online satisfaction survey. • Regularly discuss with school boards and other youth-oriented organizations ways the County can assist in increasing participation in sportsfield activities. • Implement a personal interview survey of sportsfield participants and spectators at sportsfields sites located throughout the County. • Conduct workshops with affected teams and organizations when planning upgrades or repurposing of selected fields. Use their insights to assist in getting optimal use of capital funds.

<p>6. <i>Resource Management</i> Effectively manage County resources to best meet community needs. Includes creating a funding strategy and mechanism to provide on-going support to achieve plan outcomes.</p>	<p>Periodically review the sportsfield inventory relative to demand and develop a funding strategy where the costs to maintain and develop sportsfields is shared equitably within the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate the findings from the enhanced data collection strategies to determine shifts in field usage or sports participation over time. Use this information particularly in year four of five year plans to make necessary adjustments to field selections for ‘repurposing’ or upgrades. • Investigate alternative funding sources (government, private sector, teams) as future sources for amenity development and field upgrades. For instance, cash in lieu paid for industrial developments could be directed toward field repurposing or new construction. Similarly, investigate cash payments in exchange for naming rights for some fields or amenity complexes. • Evaluate changes in field utilization following capital investment (e.g., upgrading a ‘B’ field to an ‘A’ class field) to verify prudent and effective use of funds.
<p>7. <i>Governance</i> To promote effective governance that secures an autonomous Strathcona County with clearly defined roles, policies and long-term plans and further encourages effective communication with all stakeholders.</p>	<p>For the County to enhance their leadership role, define clear processes and responsibilities and create partnerships with regional municipalities and user groups to ensure the effective delivery of sportsfield programs and services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish stronger partnerships with sportsfield users and sports organizations. The partnerships can include determining field use ‘rules’ that contribute to improved surface maintenance, litter control and noise and parking guidelines. • Develop a stronger partnership role with the school boards to increase field utilization, resident participation in sports (parent/child play) and sustainable maintenance of school fields.

* OSRFS- Strathcona County Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy, 2008.

7. CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS

The projections generated as part of this report identified the number of fields the County requires to meet demand for up to the year 2025. Using the high projections, the capital requirements for each five year increment were determined as shown in the table below. To produce these figures, the construction cost per play field was calculated for both 'A' Premier and 'A' Standard diamonds and sportsfields. A breakdown of these costs can be found in Appendix D – Play Field Construction Costs.

It should be noted that to determine the capital requirements, the sodded option was used instead of the seeding option. In addition, the capital requirements listed are confined to the construction of fields themselves and does not include the purchase of land and the construction of non-field amenities such as washrooms, change rooms, parking, concession, or storage and maintenance buildings. Nevertheless, these costs are listed in Appendix D.

Capital Requirements – Demand Option

TIMEFRAME	2010 - 2015		2015 - 2020		2020 - 2025	
FIELD LEVEL	A' Premier	A' Standard	A' Premier	A Standard	A' Premier	A' Standard
Urban Diamonds						
Rural - Diamonds	1	1				
Total	1	1				
Cost per Field	\$323,000	\$236,000	\$323,000	\$236,000	\$323,000	\$236,000
Sub-Total Cost	\$323,000	\$236,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Urban Sportsfields	2	1		1	1	1
Rural Sportsfields	2	3				
Total	4	4		1	1	1
Cost per Field	\$464,000	\$346,000	\$464,000	\$346,000	\$464,000	\$346,000
Sub-Total Cost	\$1,856,000	\$1,384,000	\$0	\$346,000	\$464,000	\$346,000
Total Cost	\$3,799,000		\$346,000		\$810,000	

As demonstrated above, the County will be required to invest a considerable amount in the years 2010-2015 to meet demand as compared to later years. To limit the initial financial impact, an alternative funding strategy is identified in the table below. This option will allow investment to be spread relatively evenly over the 15 year period with the intention of meeting demand by 2025.

Capital Requirements – Alternative Option

TIMEFRAME	2010 - 2015		2015 - 2020		2020 - 2025	
FIELD LEVEL	A' Premier	A' Standard	A' Premier	A Standard	A' Premier	A' Standard
Urban Diamonds						
Rural - Diamonds	1	1				
Total	1	1				
Cost per Field	\$323,000	\$236,000	\$323,000	\$236,000	\$323,000	\$236,000
Sub-Total Cost	\$323,000	\$236,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Urban Sportsfields	1	1	1	1	1	1
Rural Sportsfields	1	1	1	1		1
Total	2	2	2	2	1	2
Cost per Field	\$464,000	\$346,000	\$464,000	\$346,000	\$464,000	\$346,000
Sub-Total Cost	\$928,000	\$692,000	\$928,000	\$692,000	\$464,000	\$692,000
Total Cost	\$2,179,000		\$1,620,000		\$1,156,000	

8. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

In order to implement the goals and actions outlined in this document, the County should upgrade existing fields and build new fields in order to meet demand by 2025. The following table identifies the number of new fields that County should be providing from 2010 to 2025.

Implementation Schedule

TIMEFRAME	2010 - 2015		2015 - 2020		2020 - 2025	
	A' Premier	A' Standard	A' Premier	A Standard	A' Premier	A' Standard
Urban Diamonds						
Rural - Diamonds	1	1				
Total	1	1	0	0	0	0
Urban Sportsfields	1	1	1	1	1	1
Rural Sportsfields	1	1	1	1		1
Total	2	2	2	2	1	2

The principles that the County should hold in providing these new fields are also follows:

- Cost effectiveness
- Avoid conflicts
- Maintain field condition
- Proximity to users
- Equitable geographic distribution
- Meet demand

In turn, the priorities when selecting fields to upgrade or construct are:

- Upgrade fields versus build new sites
- Fields requiring minimal investment to upgrade (i.e. B level fields)
- Fields in proximity to water services for irrigation
- Fields with parking or on street parking
- Sites with multiple fields (avoids overuse by directing casual play to other fields)
- High School and non-school sites (avoids overuse from casual play)
- Sites in proximity to Sherwood Park
- Neighbourhoods with no 'A' level fields and have a minimum of existing conflicts
- Where possible, fields that meet program, function, and competitive level
- Locations that avoid conflicts with adjacent properties

8.1 Potential Funding Sources

The primary funding sources for expansion and improvement to the sportsfields in Strathcona County will be the municipality itself. This will include capital for new construction, upgrades to existing fields and surfaces and maintenance funding for all sportsfields. Other funding sources include:

- Government of Alberta – research programs annually; as an example, investigate the following sources:
 - Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation: Sport Participation Initiative Program
 - Provincial Municipal Sustainability Initiative
- Federal Government – research programs annually; as an example, investigate the Building Canada Fund and potentially any future economic stimulus funding such as the recent Recreation Infrastructure Canada (RINC) program:
- Private sector funders include:
 - non-profit and environmental agencies
 - energy sector corporations and local commercial enterprises
 - sale of naming rights of sportsfields themselves and some amenities (e.g., dugouts).

APPENDIX A

INVENTORY SHEETS

APPENDIX B

ORGANIZATIONS THAT SCHEDULED PLAY IN 2009

APPENDIX B – ORGANIZATIONS THAT SCHEDULED PLAY IN 2009

Booked - Contact Name
Alberta Soccer Association
Archbishop Jordan High School
Ardrossan Outdoor Soccer Association
Ardrossan Amature Football Association
Ardrossan Junior Senior High School
Bev Facey Community High School
Breakaway Babes
Capital District Football
Clover Bar Junior High School
Elk Island Continuing Education
FR Haythorne Junior High School
Ironwill Training
Karpaty Soccer Club
Lakeland Ridge School
Metro High Athletic Association
Recreation Parks and Culture Strathcona County
Red Hots
Robin Hood Learning Centre
Salisbury Composite High School
Saturday Senior Soccer (Mens)
Sherwood Park Belles Rep Fastball
Sherwood Park Minor Baseball
Sherwood Park Minor Softball
Sherwood Park North Stars
Sherwood Park Track Classic
Sherwood Park Wolverines
Sherwood Park District Soccer
Sportball
Strathcona Christian Academy
Strathcona County RCMP
Strathcona County Minor Football
Strathcona Ladies Fastball League
Strathcona Minor Baseball Association
Wye Not Slow Pitch
Wye Elementary School

Scheduled - Contact Name
Centennial Park Association
ERRBL-Bantam
ERRBL-Midget
Josephburg Agricultural Society
Strathcona Minor Baseball Association
Sherwood Park RAMs Football

APPENDIX C

BENCHMARKS OF OTHER MUNICIPALITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

APPENDIX C – BENCHMARKS OF OTHER MUNICIPALITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Various organizations and studies have used field capacity to either determine if their fields are being overused or to restrict play on fields to minimize “wear and tear”. The following are some examples:

- The City of Calgary applies a limit of 20 hours per week to their ‘A’, ‘B’, and ‘C’ level fields and restricts their ‘D’ and ‘E’ level fields to 39 hours per week.
- The City of Vancouver restricts their ‘A’ level fields to 24 hours per week.
- The City of Regina restricts all their fields to 18 hours per week.
- *The Richmond Field Sport Strategy, 2006-2011: Everyone Can Play* used a benchmark of 10 hours per week to measure the quality of fields in the municipality.
- The Calgary Rugby Union keeps field play to between 25 and 30 hours per week.

APPENDIX D

PLAY FIELD CONSTRUCTION COSTS

Strathcona County
 Play Fields Construction/ Rehab Cost Estimate
 Base Ball Diamonds

03-May-10

Premier 'A' Field - Seeding/Sodding Option

CO - 25867



Item	Quantity	Unit	Price	IBI Estimate
Soft Landscape				
1.0 Removal of Existing Play Surface				
Cut existing turf to 150 mm depth and disposal fees (haul to Landfill). With a 3M buffer.	7406	s.m	\$1.50	\$11,109.00
1.1 Site Grading				
Minor modification to improve slope and drainage.	7406	s.m	\$0.50	\$3,703.00
2.0 Loaming and Fine Grading				
150mm depth (imported) for all seed/sodded areas. Outfield and buffer zones.	5848	s.m	\$2.00	\$11,696.00
3.0 Seeding Outfield and Buffer Area				
Athletic Park Seed Mix for high use. (Kentucky Bluegrass)	5848	s.m	\$1.50	\$8,772.00
3.1 Sodding outfield and buffer area				
Sod bed preparation, supply and install nursery sod	5848	s.m	\$5.00	\$29,240.00
4.0 Red Shale for Infield				
Crushed - Ball Diamond Standard placed at 150mm depth.	1558	s.m	\$20.00	\$31,160.00
Fencing				
5.0 1.2M Black Chain Link Fence				
Built from back stop to outfield (both sides)	148	l.m.	\$50.00	\$7,400.00
6.0 6.1M Backstop (Chain Link)				
Standard Backstop (metal posts)	1	l.s.	\$10,725.00	\$10,725.00
7.0 1.8M Outfield Chain Link Fencing				
Outfield Boundry	144	l.m.	\$100.00	\$14,400.00
Site Furnishings				
8.0 Benches				
Standard players bench (flat) supply and install	4	each	\$1,365.00	\$5,460.00
9.0 Bleachers				
Collapsible and moveable (supply and install) see attached specs 5M x 2.7M	2	each	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00

10.0 Multisport Scoreboard

Supply and install with Engineered Structure to hold Scoreboard. Does not include any electrical work.

1 l.s. \$20,000.00 \$20,000.00

11.0 Light Standard

10M steel pole with 4 Metal Halide Fixtures. Please note: Electrical work is not included in this price.

6 each \$5,000.00 \$30,000.00

11.1 Electrical Work

Provide Power to both the Scoreboard and all Light Standards

1 ls \$15,000.00 \$15,000.00

Irrigation

** Please note: Irrigation prices are based on a 100mm accesible water line*

12.0 Parks Water Service

Supply bib off of 100mm main with BFPD.

1 each \$6,000.00 \$6,000.00

13.0 Standard Irrigation System

Automatic Controller, control valves and wires, plastic boxes, irrigation heads and piping, sleeves and all incidental labour and materials.

5848 s.m. \$20.00 \$116,960.00

Total Cost Summary (seeding and shale infields) \$302,385.00

TOTAL BUDGET COST \$302,385.00

Total Cost Summary (sodding and shale infields) \$322,853.00

TOTAL BUDGET COST \$322,853.00

Strathcona County
 Play Fields Construction/ Rehab Cost Estimate
 Base Ball Diamonds

03-May-10

Standard 'A' Field - Seeding/Sodding Option

CO - 25867



Item	Quantity	Unit	Price	IBI Estimate
Soft Landscape				
1.0 Removal of Existing Play Surface				
Cut existing turf to 150 mm depth and disposal fees (haul to Landfill). With a 3M buffer.	7406	s.m	\$1.50	\$11,109.00
1.1 Site Grading				
Minor modification to improve slope and drainage.	7406	s.m	\$0.50	\$3,703.00
2.0 Loaming and Fine Grading				
150mm depth (imported) for all seed/ sodded areas. Outfield and buffer zones.	5848	s.m	\$2.00	\$11,696.00
3.0 Seeding Outfield and Buffer Area				
Athletic Park Seed Mix for high use. (Kentucky Bluegrass)	5848	s.m	\$1.50	\$8,772.00
3.1 Sodding outfield and buffer area				
Sod bed preparation, supply and install nursery sod	5848	s.m	\$5.00	\$29,240.00
4.0 Red Shale for Infield				
Crushed - Ball Diamond Standard placed at 150mm depth.	1558	s.m	\$20.00	\$31,160.00
Fencing				
5.0 6.1M Backstop (Chain Link)				
Standard Backstop (metal posts)	1	l.s.	\$10,725.00	\$10,725.00

Site Furnishings

6.0 Benches

Standard players bench (flat) supply and install	4	each	\$1,365.00	\$5,460.00
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7.0 Bleachers

Collapsible and moveable (supply and install) see attached specs 5M x 2.7M	2	each	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---	------	------------	-------------

Irrigation

** Please note: Irrigation prices are based on a 100mm accesible water line*

8.0 Parks Water Service

Supply bib off of 100mm main with BFPD.	1	each	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
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9.0 Standard Irrigation System

Automatic Controller, control valves and wires, plastic boxes, irrigation heads and piping, sleeves and all incidental labour and materials.	5848	s.m.	\$20.00	\$116,960.00
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Total Cost Summary (seeding and shale infields)	\$215,585.00
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TOTAL BUDGET COST	\$215,585.00
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Total Cost Summary (sodding and shale infields)	\$236,053.00
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TOTAL BUDGET COST	\$236,053.00
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Strathcona County
 Play Fields Construction/ Rehab Cost Estimate
 Base Ball Diamonds

03-May-10

Premier 'A' Field Synthetic Turf

CO - 25867



Item	Quantity	Unit	Price	IBI Estimate
Soft Landscape				
1.0 Removal of Existing Play Surface				
Cut existing turf to 150 mm depth and disposal fees (haul to Landfill). With a 3M buffer.	7406	s.m	\$1.50	\$11,109.00
1.1 Site Grading				
Minor modification to improve slope and drainage.	7406	s.m	\$0.50	\$3,703.00
2.0 Base Preparation				
imported gravel and engineered drainage system	5848	s.m	\$75.00	\$438,600.00
3.0 Polytan Artificial Turf				
Supply and install artificial turf inclusive of base prep. Accommodate drainage	5848	s.m.	\$25.00	\$146,200.00
4.0 Red Shale for Infield				
Crushed - Ball Diamond Standard placed at 150mm depth.	1558	s.m	\$20.00	\$31,160.00
Fencing				
5.0 1.2M Black Chain Link Fence				
Built from back stop to outfield (both sides)	148	l.m.	\$50.00	\$7,400.00
6.0 6.1M Backstop (Chain Link)				
Standard Backstop (metal posts)	1	l.s.	\$10,725.00	\$10,725.00
7.0 1.8M Outfield Chain Link Fencing				
Outfield Boundry	144	l.m.	\$100.00	\$14,400.00

Site Furnishings

8.0 Benches

Standard players bench (flat) supply and install 4 each \$1,365.00 \$5,460.00

9.0 Bleachers

Collapsible and moveable (supply and install) see attached specs 5M x 2.7M 2 each \$5,000.00 \$10,000.00

10.0 Multisport Scoreboard

Supply and install with Engineered Structure to hold Scoreboard. Does not include any electrical work. 1 l.s. \$20,000.00 \$20,000.00

11.0 Light Standard

10M steel pole with 4 Metal Halide Fixtures. Please note: Electrical work is not included in this price. 1 each \$5,000.00 \$5,000.00

11.1 Electrical Work

Provide Power to both the Scoreboard and all Light Standards 1 ls \$15,000.00 \$15,000.00

Total Cost Summary (synthetic turf and shale infield) \$718,757.00

TOTAL BUDGET COST \$718,757.00

*** Please Note: Synthetic Turf will last up to 25 years**

Strathcona County
 Play Fields Construction/ Rehab Cost Estimate
 Sportsfield - Soccer Pitch

03-May-10

Premier 'A' Sportsfield

CO - 25867



Item	Quantity	Unit	Price	IBI Estimate
Soft Landscape				
1.0 Removal of Existing Play Surface Cut existing turf to 150 mm depth and disposal fees (haul to Landfill).	11050	s.m	\$1.50	\$16,575.00
1.1 Site Grading Minor modification to improve slope and drainage.	11050	s.m	\$0.50	\$5,525.00
2.0 Loaming and Fine Grading 150mm depth (imported) for all seed/sodded areas. Including Buffer Zones	11050	s.m	\$2.00	\$22,100.00
3.0 Seeding field and buffer zones Athletic Park Seed Mix for high use. (Kentucky Bluegrass)	11050	s.m	\$1.50	\$16,575.00
3.1 Sodding field and buffer zones Sod bed preparation, supply and install nursery sod	11050	s.m	\$5.00	\$55,250.00
Fencing				
4.0 1.8M Boundry Fencing Chain link fence on perimeter of buffer zone	430	l.m.	\$100.00	\$43,000.00
Site Furnishings				
5.0 Soccer Goals Permanent (Major) soccer nets - supply and install.	1	set	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
6.0 Benches Standard players bench (flat) supply and install	4	each	\$1,365.00	\$5,460.00
7.0 Bleachers Collapsible and moveable (supply and install) see attached specs 5M x 2.7M	2	each	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00

8.0 Multisport Scoreboard

Supply and install with Engineered Structure to hold Scoreboard. Does not include any electrical work.

1	l.s.	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
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9.0 Light Standard

10M steel pole with 4 Metal Halide Fixtures.
Please note: Electrical work is not included in this price.

8	each	\$5,000.00	\$40,000.00
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10.0 Electrical Work

Provide Power to both the Scoreboard and all Light Standards

1	ls	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
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Irrigation

** Please note: Irrigation prices are based on a 100mm accesible water line*

11.0 Parks Water Service

Supply bib off of 100mm main with BFPD.

1	each	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
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12.0 Standard Irrigation System

Automatic Controller, control valves and wires, plastic boxes, irrigation heads and piping, sleeves and all incidental labour and materials.

11050	s.m.	\$20.00	\$221,000.00
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Total Cost Summary (seeding)	\$425,235.00
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TOTAL BUDGET COST	\$425,235.00
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Total Cost Summary (sodding)	\$463,910.00
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TOTAL BUDGET COST	\$463,910.00
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Strathcona County
 Play Fields Construction/ Rehab Cost Estimate
 Sportsfield - Soccer Pitch

03-May-10

Standard 'A' Sportsfield

CO - 25867



Item	Quantity	Unit	Price	IBI Estimate
Soft Landscape				
1.0 Removal of Existing Play Surface				
Cut existing turf to 150 mm depth and disposal fees (haul to Landfill).	11050	s.m	\$1.50	\$16,575.00
1.1 Site Grading				
Minor modification to improve slope and drainage.	11050	s.m	\$0.50	\$5,525.00
2.0 Loaming and Fine Grading				
150mm depth (imported) for all seed/sodded areas. Including Buffer Zones	11050	s.m	\$2.00	\$22,100.00
3.0 Seeding field and buffer zones				
Athletic Park Seed Mix for high use. (Kentucky Bluegrass)	11050	s.m	\$1.50	\$16,575.00
3.1 Sodding field and buffer zones				
Sod bed preperation, supply and install nursery sod	11050	s.m	\$5.00	\$55,250.00
Site Furnishings				
5.0 Soccer Goals				
Permanent (Major) soccer nets - supply and install.	1	set	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
6.0 Benches				
Standard players bench (flat) supply and install	4	each	\$1,365.00	\$5,460.00
7.0 Bleachers				
Collapsible and moveable (supply and install) see attached specs 5M x 2.7M	2	each	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00

Irrigation

* Please note: Irrigation prices are based on a 100mm accessible water line

11.0 Parks Water Service

Supply bib off of 100mm main with BFPD.	1	each	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
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12.0 Standard Irrigation System

Automatic Controller, control valves and wires, plastic boxes, irrigation heads and piping, sleeves and all incidental labour and materials.	11050	s.m.	\$20.00	\$221,000.00
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Total Cost Summary (seeding)	\$307,235.00
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TOTAL BUDGET COST	\$307,235.00
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Total Cost Summary (sodding)	\$345,910.00
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TOTAL BUDGET COST	\$345,910.00
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Strathcona County
 Play Fields Construction/ Rehab Cost Estimate
 Sportsfield Soccer Pitch

03-May-10

Premier 'A' Field Synthetic Turf

CO - 25867



Item	Quantity	Unit	Price	IBI Estimate
Soft Landscape				
1.0 <u>Removal of Existing Play Surface</u>				
Cut existing turf to 150 mm depth and disposal fees (haul to Landfill). With a 3M buffer.	11050	s.m	\$1.50	\$16,575.00
1.1 <u>Site Grading</u>				
Minor modification to improve slope and drainage.	11050	s.m	\$0.50	\$5,525.00
2.0 <u>Base Preperation</u>				
imported gravel and engineered drainage system	11050	s.m	\$75.00	\$828,750.00
3.0 <u>Polytan Artificial Turf</u>				
Supply and install artificial turf inclusive of base prep. Accommodate drainage	11050	s.m.	\$25.00	\$276,250.00
Fencing				
4.0 <u>1.8M Boundry Fencing</u>				
Chain link Fence on perimeter of buffer zone	430	l.m.	\$100.00	\$43,000.00

Site Furnishings

5.0 Soccer Goals

Permanent (Major) Soccer Nets - Supply and install. 1 set \$4,000.00 \$4,000.00

6.0 Benches

Standard players bench (flat) supply and install 4 each \$1,365.00 \$5,460.00

7.0 Bleachers

Collapsible and moveable (supply and install) see attached specs 5M x 2.7M 2 each \$5,000.00 \$10,000.00

8.0 Multisport Scoreboard

Supply and install with Engineered Structure to hold Scoreboard. Does not include any electrical work. 1 l.s. \$20,000.00 \$20,000.00

9.0 Light Standard

10M steel pole with 4 Metal Halide Fixtures. Please note: Electrical work is not included in this price. 1 each \$5,000.00 \$5,000.00

10.0 Electrical Work

Provide Power to both the Scoreboard and all Light Standards 1 ls \$15,000.00 \$15,000.00

Total Cost Summary \$1,229,560.00

TOTAL BUDGET COST \$1,229,560.00

* Please Note: Synthetic Turf will last up to 25 years

Strathcona County
 Play Fields Construction/ Rehab Cost Estimate
 Ball Diamonds/ Sports Field

03-May-10

Site Parking and Building Amenities

CO - 25867



Item	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	IBI Estimate
Parking Lots				
<i>A minimum of 20 stalls is required per ball diamond or sports field.</i>				
1.0 New Parking Lot Construction				
Cut existing grade, compacted sub base and supply and install asphalt. Inclusive of all line painting.	20	stalls	\$750.00	\$15,000.00
1.1 Rehabilitate Existing Parking Lot				
Top coat existing parking with new asphalt. Inclusive of line painting.	20	stalls	\$375.00	\$7,500.00
<i>Please note: Parking lot prices do not include curb and gutter</i>				
Buildings				
2.0 Washrooms/ Change rooms				
Service taps are provided at base of building and no heat is included. Building is drained and locked through winter months.	150	s.m	\$2,690.00	\$403,500.00
<i>Area includes 2 stalls in each and 1 handicap stall. Single sink basin in each.</i>				
3.0 Concession				
Servicing provided at base of building with minimal kitchen requirements. Building is drained and locked through winter months.	30	s.m	\$2,690.00	\$80,700.00
4.0 Storage Sheds				
No servicing required, stand alone structures to store various materials.	10	s.m	\$1,076.00	\$10,760.00
5.0 Maintenance/ Garage				
Minimal servicing required. Buildings may be heated to work through the winter months.(single bay)	40	s.m	\$2,690.00	\$107,600.00
Servicing				
6.0 Utility Servicing				
Shallow Utilities connected from main line to desired building. Inclusive of all trenching, connections, curb box and backfilling.	50	l.m.	\$1,000.00	\$50,000.00
<i>Please note: Service pricing does not include a blow out system or any major utility concerns. i.e. Asphalt/ Concrete rehab, Traffic detours. Minimal landscape rehabilitation only</i>				
Total Cost Summary (New Parking lot)				\$667,560.00
TOTAL BUDGET COST				\$667,560.00
Total Cost Summary (Rehabilitated Parking lot)				\$660,060.00
TOTAL BUDGET COST				\$660,060.00