

## Appendix A: Glossary

**Accessible:** A site, building, and its facilities that can be approached, entered, and used by people, including those with physical, sensory, or cognitive disabilities (CSA B651).

**Active transportation:** Modes of transportation, such as walking and cycling that: provide the personal benefits of fitness and recreation; are environmentally friendly; contribute to the personal and social health of neighbourhoods; and are readily available to a wide range of age groups within the community.

**Basic parkland development:** The work required to ensure lands are suitable for development for park and other public recreational purposes, to the satisfaction of the City in accordance with applicable policies, and includes but is not limited to the following:

- d) Servicing – hydro, sanitary, electrical, and water (minimum 50mm) stubbed one (1) metre inside the property line, in a location approved by the Park Planner;
- e) Stormwater – catch basins, culverts, manholes and other drainage structures as required for each catchment area;
- f) Clearing and grubbing;
- g) Only where impediments that would inhibit the suitability of **parkland** exist, any other associated infrastructure (minor bridges and abutments, guard and handrails, retaining walls) as required to bring the land to a suitable level for development as a park;
- h) Topsoil stripping, rough grading, supply and placement of topsoil and engineered fill to required depths and fine grading;
- i) Sodding;
- j) Only where **parkland** is divided between more than one separate development application or is part of more than one phased application within the same development parcel, temporary perimeter fencing where there is no permanent fence;
- k) Temporary park sign(s) advising future residents that the site is a future park;
- l) Permanent perimeter fencing to City standard to all adjacent land uses (residential and non-residential) as required by the City or other approval authority.

**Clear zone:** A minimum horizontal area on either side of the edge of a trail that is clear of obstructions (e.g., signposts, utility poles, trees, gates, fences, and steep slopes), is reasonably flat, and is maintained by periodic mowing or removal of vegetation.

**Composite playstructure:** Consists of two or more play components attached or functionally linked to create one integral unit that provides more than one play activity (CSA Z614).

**Developer:** The owner of land and agents or contractors or subcontractors and carrying out the works on behalf of the owner or owners engaged in development and responsible for submitting development application(s).

**Development:** The creation of a new lot, a change in land use, or the construction of buildings and structures requiring approval under the Planning Act; Site alteration activities such as fill, grading and excavation that would change the landform and natural vegetative characteristics of a site; and various forms of intensification, infill development and redevelopment (refer to the City of Guelph Official Plan).

**Dry pond:** An extended pond that is dry during periods without rainfall or snow melt. During periods of rainfall or snowmelt, the pond will be flooded to temporarily store the surface runoff.

**Environmental impact study:** An analysis completed in accordance with the Official Plan by a qualified expert in ecology, forestry, hydrology and/or other specialties based on specific circumstances. The study evaluates the policy rationale for a project or **development**, and potential impacts on natural heritage features and functions, and provides mitigation and management recommendations. Applicable legislation and policies may include, the City of Guelph Official Plan, Provincial Policy Statement, Endangered Species Act, City of Guelph's Guidelines for the preparation of Environmental Impact Studies, GRCA's Environmental Impact Study Guidelines and Submission Standards for **wetlands**, and the City of Guelph Tree Technical Manual.

**Head injury criterion (HIC):** A measure of impact severity that takes into consideration the duration over which the most critical section of the deceleration pulse persists, as well as the peak level of that deceleration (CSA Z614).

**Invasive species:** Species of plants, animals and microorganisms introduced by human action outside their natural past or present distribution whose introduction or spread threatens the environment. An invasive plant is one that has been moved from its indigenous habitat to a new area (possibly for garden/domestic use) and reproduces so aggressively that it displaces species within indigenous plant communities.

**Low impact development (LID):** Measures intended to minimize stormwater run-off and recharge groundwater systems at the source, rather than sending all flows to one central facility.

**Naturalization:** The process of allowing vegetation to become established through a combination of natural regeneration and deliberate plantings of native species to emulate a natural succession.

**Natural heritage system (NHS):** An area of land defined in the Guelph Official Plan to be maintained, restored and, where possible, improved and recognizes the linkages between natural heritage features, surface water, and groundwater features. Development is prohibited within defined features in accordance with the provisions of the Provincial Policy Statement and the Growth Plan.

**Parkland:** Municipal land set aside or acquired specifically to meet current or future park and recreation needs.

**Park planner:** City of Guelph staff who is responsible for the review of development applications on behalf of the Parks department, and for the planning, design, development, and redevelopment of **parkland**.

**Protective surfacing:** Surfacing material(s) used within the protective surfacing zone of any playground equipment, chosen to yield a Gmax of 200g or less and a HIC of 1000 or less (CSA Z614).

**Plan of subdivision:** The plan of subdivision clearly outlines all details that are required to develop a parcel of land into a subdivision with individual properties. These lots or blocks can be used for residential, industrial, commercial, institutional (e.g. school) or open space/park depending on the designation of the land within the Official Plan and Zoning By-law. A registered plan of subdivision is required for the lots and blocks to be sold or conveyed separately. Once the subdivision plan is registered, it becomes a legal document that outlines all the details and conditions required to develop a parcel of land.

**Setback:** The horizontal distance between two objects or legal boundaries.

**Subdivision agreement:** A legally binding contract that sets out all the subdivision requirements for the various stages of the proposed draft plan of subdivision. It outlines all documents, conditions, and monetary contributions to be paid by an owner for the implementation of the works to be carried out by the **developer**.

**Sun and shadow study:** Sun and shadow studies illustrate the impact of proposed development on public and private spaces. They include a 3-D visual model and written description of sun and shadows in relation to built form and neighbourhood including parks, adjacent residential uses, public open space, private amenity space and retail streets. These studies evaluate sun and shadow at various times of day, throughout the year (including at a minimum April 21<sup>st</sup>, June 21<sup>st</sup>, and September 21<sup>st</sup>).

**Swale:** A long, channelled depression that conveys water, and can be either artificial or naturally occurring. Often appears as a shallow ditch that connects more than one drainage feature such as catch basins, culverts, or ponds.

**Transfer supports:** A system for accessing a **composite playstructure** by children who use wheelchairs or other mobility devices generally consisting of a transfer platform and a series of transfer steps.

**Recreational trail:** A trail intended for recreational purposes that provides opportunities for safe, off-street movement throughout the City of Guelph. They are designed to accommodate the needs of a wide range of users and provide links to the City's wider trailway system as well as the on-street sidewalk system. Recreational Paths address the needs of walkers, joggers, hikers, cyclists, strollers, and wheelchairs.

**Utilities:** An essential commodity or service such as water, sewer, electricity, gas, oil, television, or communications/telecommunications that is provided to the public by a regulated company or government agency.

**Wet ponds:** The most common end-of-pipe stormwater management facility employed in the province of Ontario. Wet ponds can be designed to efficiently provide for water quality, erosion and quantity control, reducing the need for multiple end-of-pipe facilities. Wet ponds can be designed with extensive landscaping and associated recreational amenities, contributing to the character of the community and enhancing its marketability.

**Wetland:** An area of land whose soil is saturated with water either permanently or seasonally. A vegetated area such as a bog, fen, marsh, or swamp, where the soil or root zone is saturated for part of the year. They can be man-made or natural.