



File #: PM-26-003, **Version:** 1

TAMRMS#: B05

8.1

Park and Trail Wayfinding

Notice given by: Councillor Killick

BUDGET POSTPONED MOTION:

That Park and trail wayfinding be deleted from the 10 Year Growth Plan.

Administration's Understanding of the Intent of the Motion:

That the Park and Trail Wayfinding project charter not be added to the 10 Year Growth Plan.

SUMMARY

- St. Albert has over 120km of recreational trails.
- As the City grows so does the length and complexity of the trail network.
- St. Albert has never developed a City wide approach to trail wayfinding system in place to support safe, effective and enjoyable navigation of its trail system, by residents and visitors.
- Developing a trail wayfinding strategy will provide a coordinated and effective way to help residents and visitors safely and effectively navigate both the existing and future trail network.

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL DIRECTION OR MANDATORY STATUTORY PROVISION

N/A

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Wayfinding is an important consideration of any facility or system serving to provide consistent information on location, amenities, travel distances, routes, and access points. Optimally, wayfinding is provided through different media such as signage, print material, or digital. This helps people to plan their movements, find supportive amenities, and it enhances accessibility, safety and security.

Our trail system provides residents and visitors with an opportunity to travel through St. Albert, connecting them to parks, cultural spaces, commercial opportunities, services and each other. There are approximately 120km of trails within our mobility network, and as the city grows, so does the trail system. However, we have not developed guidelines or standards that can be used to provide

effective wayfinding across our trail system.

Our current trail system map was developed in 2015 to support running throughout the city (see Attachment: 2015 Running Map). Between 2017 and 2022, Administration updated park signage standards and replaced existing park signage. In 2022, preparing for future trail related work, Administration conducted an audit of existing trail signage. The audit identified a variety of education, commemorative, regulatory and etiquette signage. Few examples of limited wayfinding were identified along sections of the Red Willow Trail and within Erin Ridge.

Trails are an effective way of ensuring the Community Well-being of St. Albertans and visitors. To this end, residents consistently identify parks and trails as primary contributor to their high quality of life. With the final sections of the Red Willow Trail loop (Ray Gibbon Drive to Kingswood Park) scheduled for completion in 2026, investing in a systematic approach trail wayfinding will help to ensure residents and visitors stay safe and connected as they navigate our trail system to meet their recreational and mobility needs.

STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS OR ENGAGEMENT

Internal and external actors will be consulted in the development of the wayfinding strategy.

IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION(S)

Financial:

None at this time.

Compliance & Legal:

None at this time.

Program or Service:

None at this time.

Organizational:

None at this time.

Risks

Not advancing this work negatively impacts residents' ability to use and enjoy the parks and trail system. It may also further support ad hoc wayfinding efforts which may frustrate system users, enable continued ad hoc, and ultimately less effective, effort to address wayfinding, and negatively impact safety and security of trail users.

ALIGNMENT TO PRIORITIES IN COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PLAN

None at this time.

ALIGNMENT TO LEVELS OF SERVICE DELIVERY

None at this time.

Attachment 1: City of St. Albert Running Map (2015)

Report Date: May 6, 2025

Author(s): Craig Cameron, Manager, Parks & Community Partnerships

Department: Recreation & Parks

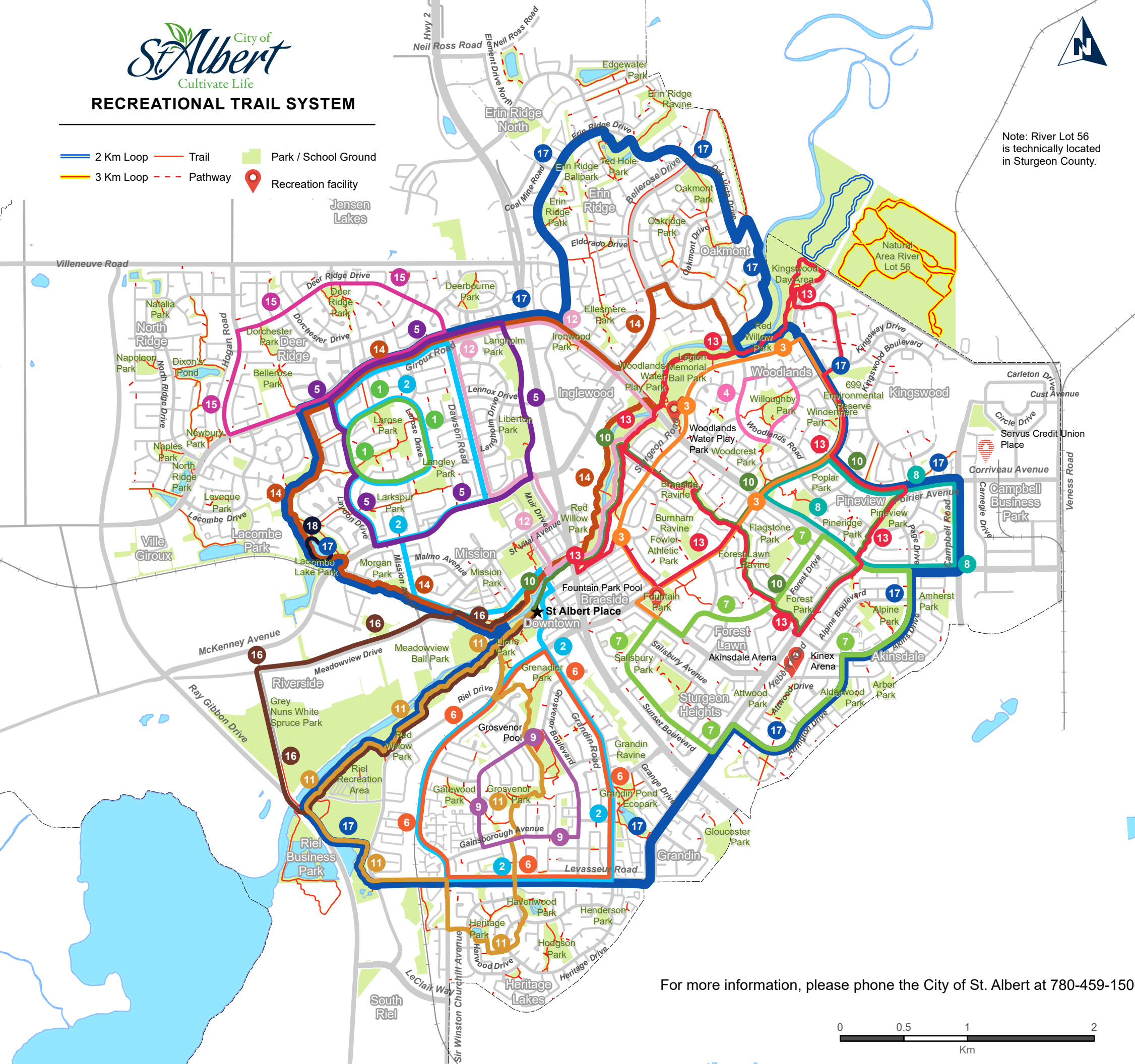
Department Director: Daniele Podlubny

Managing Director: Dinu Alex

Chief Administrative Officer: William Fletcher

RECREATIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM

- 2 Km Loop
- Trail
- Park / School Ground
- 3 Km Loop
- Pathway
- 📍 Recreation facility



Note: River Lot 56 is technically located in Sturgeon County.

SELECTED ROUTE DISTANCES

ROUTE	DISTANCE	ROUTE DESCRIPTION
1	2.1 km	Larose Drive
2	16.0 km	10 Mile Road Race
3	6.3 km	Fountain Park - Woodlands - Sturgeon
4	1.6 km	Woodlands - Willoughby
5	5.5 km	Giroux - Liberton - McKenney - Laydon
6	5.6 km	Sir Winston - Levasseur - Grandin
7	6.6 km	Sunset - Arlington - Akins - Boudreau - Forest
8	4.2 km	Poirier - Campbell - Boudreau - Sir Winston
9	2.9 km	Grenfell - Grosvenor - Gainsborough
10	9.7 km	St. Albert Place - Braeside Ravine - Pineview
11	8.6 km	St. Albert Place - Grandin - Heritage Lakes - Trails
12	6.8 km	St. Albert Place - Trails - Boudreau - Giroux - Dawson - McKenney - Return to St. Albert Place
13	11.7 km	St. Albert Place - Trails to Kingswood - Sir Winston - Poirier - Ravine - Return to St. Albert Place
14	11.0 km	St. Albert Place - Trails to Oakmont Footbridge - Oakridge - Boudreau - Giroux - Lacombe Lake - Return to SAP
15	4.7 km	Deer Ridge - Giroux - Hogan - Return to Deer Ridge
16	5.9 km	St. Albert Place - Trails to Ray Gibbon Drive - Hogan - Meadowview - Return to St. Albert Place
17	23.3 km	Around St. Albert
18	0.6 km	Around Lacombe Park Lake

TRAIL ETIQUETTE & SAFETY

- Share the Trail**
The trails in St. Albert are for the enjoyment of all who use them. However, respect for other users and a recognition of their needs as well as your own will lead to a greater enjoyment of the facilities we have.
- Warn Others When Passing**
Stay to the right. If you're on a bike, ring your bell well in advance of reaching people you plan to pass. If you're on in-line skates, slow down and consider carrying a whistle to warn of your presence.
- Leash Your Dog**
In designated On Leash Areas, all dogs must be kept on a leash and under complete control of their handlers. These areas include all Red Willow Park trails (including one metre on either side of the paved surface), school grounds and tot lots, and all other spaces marked as On Leash Areas.
- Respect the Needs of Others**
Red Willow Park trails provide opportunities for all. Lead by example; help teach other trail users the proper etiquette.
- Wear a Helmet**
Cyclists and in-line skaters, wear a helmet. Whether you're out for a leisurely walk, skiing in midwinter or training for a marathon, please be safe.
- Hydrate**
Plan to carry water with you or stop at locations that have drinking water.
- In Case of an Emergency**
Call 911 to get assistance from the RCMP/EMS, or call 780-460-6200 to reach someone at the Sturgeon Community Hospital.

For more information, please phone the City of St. Albert at 780-459-1500

