Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – October 21, 2025

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – October 6, 2025

Item No. 4 Proposed Relocation of the Future Spray Pad from Bruce Park to Bord-Aire Community Centre (St. James Ward)

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 6, 2025, the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services did not concur in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the following to Council:

1. That the Spray Pad Investment Program, as contained on Page 117 of the Supplement to the 2025 Preliminary Budget, as approved by Council on January 29, 2025, be amended by relocating the future Spray Pad located at Bruce Park to Bord-Aire Community Centre.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to fulfill the intent of the foregoing.

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – October 6, 2025

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 6, 2025, the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services did not concur in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the following to the Executive Policy Committee and Council:

1. That the Spray Pad Investment Program, as contained on Page 117 of the Supplement to the 2025 Preliminary Budget, as approved by Council on January 29, 2025, be amended by relocating the future Spray Pad located at Bruce Park to Bord-Aire Community Centre.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to fulfill the intent of the foregoing.

On June 13, 2025, the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services passed the following motion:

WHEREAS a community club is frequented by many children;

AND WHEREAS Bord-Aire Community Club is adjacent to Stevenson-Britannia Elementary School;

AND WHEREAS there are two other splash pads located off of Portage Avenue, one at Sturgeon Heights Community Centre and another at the St. James Assiniboia Centennial Pool;

AND WHEREAS there are many daycares within walking distance of Bord-Aire Community Club;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services direct the Winnipeg Public Service to report back in 90 days on the relocation of the future splash pad at Bruce Park to Bord-Aire Community Club.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Proposed Relocation of the Future Spray Pad from Bruce Park to Bord-Aire Community Centre

Critical Path: Standing Policy Committee on Community Services

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
S. Sawatzky	C. Fernandes	T. Graham	J. Dunford

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2024 Capital Budget was adopted by Council on March 20, 2024. It included a new $18.6 million five-year Spray Pad Investment Program. As part of this plan, the wading pool at Bruce Park will be turned into a spray pad. Two nearby wading pools will close once the new spray pad opens. The 2025 adopted Capital Budget provides the same direction.

On June 13, 2025, the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services asked the Winnipeg Public Service to look into moving the planned spray pad from Bruce Park to Bord-Aire Community Centre and report back in 90 days.

Building a spray pad at either location aligns with the Winnipeg Recreation Strategy. Each site has its own pros and cons.

While there are some differences between the sites, the total cost to build the spray pad is expected to be about the same at either location.

No matter which location is chosen, the wading pools at Bruce Park, Marjorie Park, and King Edward & Ness will still need to be closed to maintain alignment with the City's 2025–2028 adopted Operating Budget.

Council approval is required to amend Council's approved Spray Pad Investment Program to relocate the planned spray pad from Bruce Park to Bord-Aire Community Centre.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That this report be received as information.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

On June 13, 2025, the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services directed the Winnipeg Public Service to report back in 90 days on the relocation of the future splash pad at Bruce Park to Bord-Aire Community Club.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no implications to receiving this report as information.

Council approval would be required to amend Council's approved Spray Pad Investment Program to relocate the planned spray pad from Bruce Park to Bord-Aire Community Centre.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

The 2024 Capital Budget, adopted by Council on March 20, 2024, included a new $18.6 million five-year Spray Pad Investment Program. The Spray Pad Investment Program supports the ongoing shift from end-of-life wading pools to new spray pads which provide a higher level of service at a reduced operating cost. This capital investment will result in the construction of nine new spray pads and will replace or decommission 16 existing wading pools.

Both the 2024 and 2025 capital detail sheet for the Spray Pad Investment Program include a table identifying the locations where new spray pads will be constructed and which existing wading pools will be decommissioned. Council approval is required to amend or revise the list of spray pad or wading pool locations noted in the Spray Pad Investment Program. The table included the following direction related to the construction of a new spray pad at Bruce Park and the decommissioning of three existing wading pools:

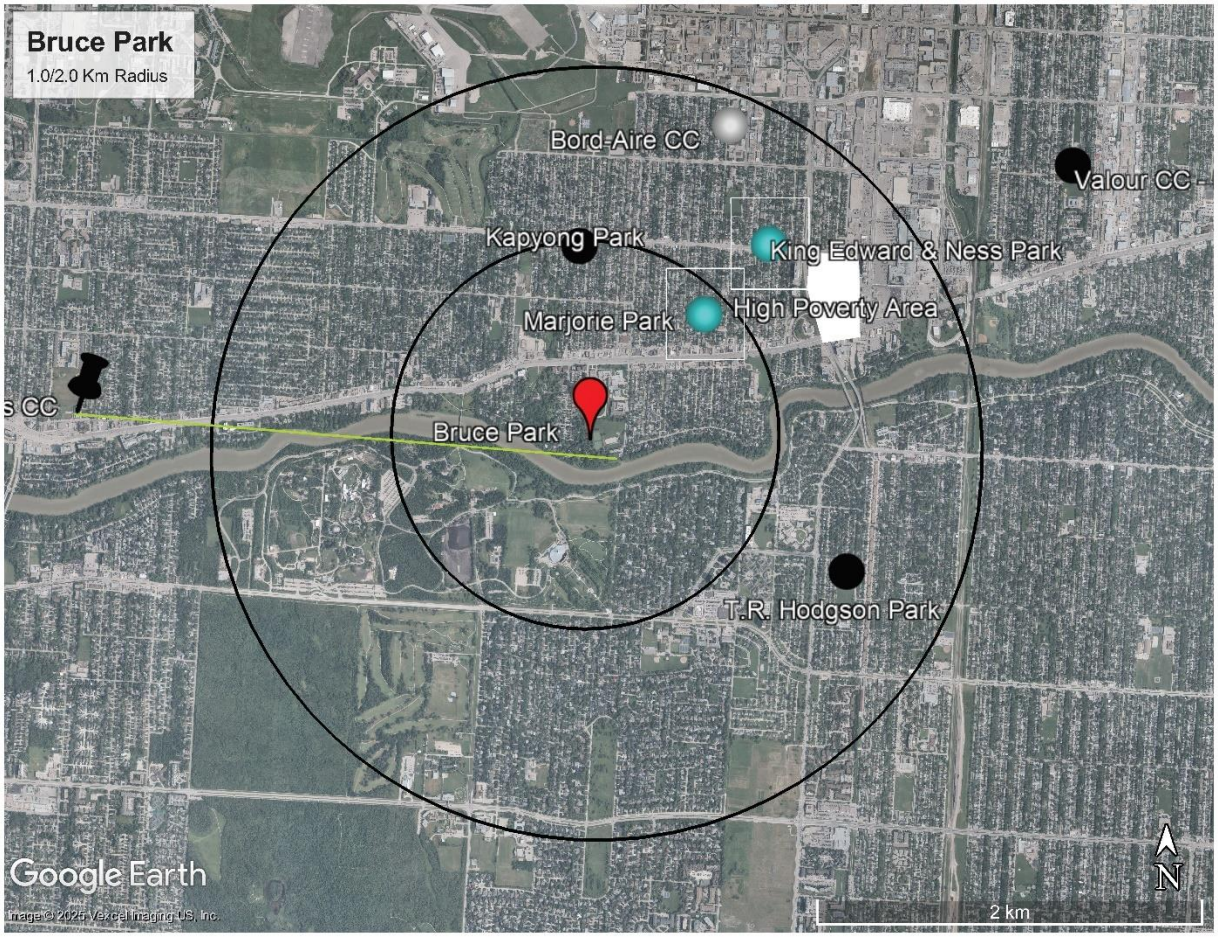
Spray Pad Investment	Design Started	Spray Pad in Service	Wading Pools to be Decommissioned	Year
Bruce Park Spray Pad	2026	2028	Bruce Park Wading Pool Marjorie Park Wading Pool King Edward & Ness Wading Pool	2027 2028 2028

On June 13, 2025, the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services directed the Winnipeg Public Service to report back in 90 days on the relocation of the future spray pad at Bruce Park to Bord-Aire Community Centre. Pursuant to this directive, the Public Service undertook a detailed evaluation of the project scope, capital costs, operating budget, policy context, and service level considerations associated with each proposed location.

Project Scope and Capital Cost Considerations:

The total project cost for design and construction of a new spray pad at Bruce Park or Bord-Aire Community Centre is forecasted to be comparable. A new spray pad, at either location, will be approximately 3,000 square feet and include associated landscape elements, shade structures and seating. Within the total project cost, as is typical of all spray pad projects, each location also has site-specific requirements that are distinct.

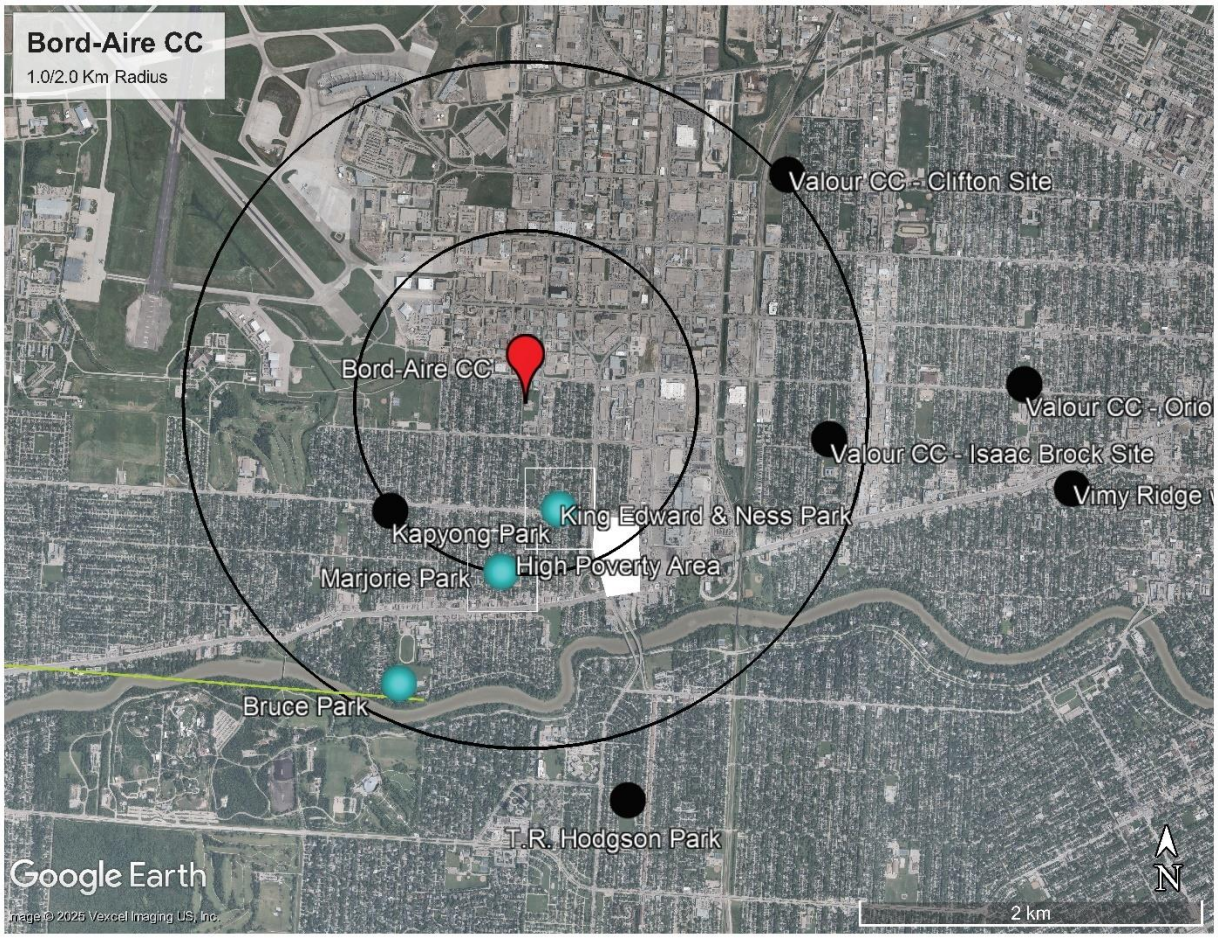
Bruce Park, located at 1966 Portage Avenue, is a community park with an existing wading pool. The wading pool and associated washroom building would be demolished to allow for conversion to a spray pad. Site specific aspects of the project would include some geo-technical work, accessibility upgrades to the existing parking lot, pathway upgrades, and site signage to improve wayfinding from Portage Avenue and the connected active transportation pathways. If the spray pad is relocated to the Bord-Aire Community Centre location then the Bruce Park wading pool and associated washroom building will be removed and the area will be regraded and sodded. The existing parking lot and pathways in Bruce Park will remain as-is with no changes or upgrades.



Map 1: Location of Bruce Park and surrounding wading pools and spray pads. Wading pools with blue dots will be decommissioned in 2027 or 2028. Locations with black dots will remain.

Bord-Aire Community Centre is located at 471 Hampton Street, which is also a community park. However, constructing a spray pad at this location would be a net new amenity rather than a conversion of an existing wading pool. Site specific aspects of the project would include removal of one existing outdoor hockey pen and a tie-in to the combined sewer network. Including the removal of the outdoor hockey pen within the scope of work is beneficial as it would offset the requirement for additional land drainage requirements on site. The board of Bord-Aire

Community Centre has previously noted a willingness to remove the asphalt hockey pen south of the building as it is in disrepair.



Map 2: Location of Bord-Aire Community Centre and surrounding wading pools and spray pads. Wading pools with blue dots will be decommissioned in 2027 or 2028. Locations with black dots will remain.

Operating Budget Considerations:
Regardless of which location is selected for the new spray pad, decommissioning the three existing wading pools (Bruce Park, Marjorie Park, and King Edward & Ness), as originally noted on the Spray Pad Investment Program capital detail sheet, is required to maintain alignment to the 2025-2028 adopted operating budget. Bruce Park wading pool would be decommissioned in 2027 and the other two wading pools would be decommissioned in 2028.

Policy and Level of Service Considerations:
As detailed in the Council-adopted Winnipeg Recreation Strategy, spray pads will be located to provide a more consistent and equitable distribution across all areas of the city. Spray pads are intended to serve a two-kilometre catchment area unless they are located in an area of higher poverty which would reduce the catchment area to one kilometre.

The Winnipeg Recreation Strategy also outlines the following factors to consider when determining the location of future spray pad investments:

- opportunities to improve service and address an existing service gap;

- co-location at multi-use sites to have supportive amenities such as washrooms and parking;
- supports a geographic area of higher poverty;
- provides an opportunity to consolidate older wading pools within the target level of service catchment and;
- supports existing community plans or initiatives.

Locating a spray pad at either Bruce Park or the Bord-Aire Community Centre location is supported by the policy and level of service considerations established in the Winnipeg Recreation Strategy. The following table further details some of the access and proximity considerations related to both sites:

	Bruce Park 1966 Portage Avenue	**Bord-Aire Community Centre** 471 Hampton Street
Existing Wading Pools	1.3 km to Kapyong Park, 340 Amherst St. 1.4 km to Marjorie Park*, 245 Marjorie St. 0.9 km to King Edward & Ness*, 334 King Edward St. 2.9 km to T.R. Hodgson, 303 Carpathia Rd. *wading pool sites to be decommissioned in 2027/2028	0.9 km to King Edward & Ness*, 334 King Edward St. 1.4 km to Marjorie Park*, 245 Marjorie St. 1.3 km to Kapyong Park, 340 Amherst St. 2.2 km to Isaac Brock, 715 Telfer St. N. *wading pool sites to be decommissioned in 2027/2028
Existing Spray Pads	3.2 km to Sturgeon Heights, 210 Rita St. 4.7 km to Clifton, 1315 Strathcona St. 4.8 km to Vimy Ridge Memorial, 821 Preston Ave. 5.9 km to St. James Centennial, 644 Parkdale St.	2.8 km to Clifton, 1315 Strathcona St. 3.9 km to Vimy Ridge Memorial, 821 Preston Ave 4.6 km to Sturgeon Heights, 210 Rita St. 7.1 km to St. James Centennial, 644 Parkdale St.
Geographic Area of Higher Poverty	Site is not located within a geographic area of higher poverty.	Site is not located within a geographic area of higher poverty.

	There is an area of higher poverty that is within the 2km catchment area.	There is an area of higher poverty that is within the 2km catchment area.
Parking	Existing granular parking lot off public lane west of park space. Capacity: Roughly 12 vehicles. <u>Street Parking</u> Deer Lodge Pl. Time restricted Mon-Fri: 0900-1600 Douglas Park Rd. Residential	Existing asphalt parking lot with access off Hampton Street. Capacity: Roughly 30 vehicles <u>Street Parking</u> Berry St. Time restricted Mon-Sat: 0900-1530 Hampton St. Residential
Winnipeg Transit Access	Transit (BLUE) to Portage Ave. and Overdale St. Distance: 750m (9 min walk) Frequency 5 mins Transit (22) to Portage Ave. and Deer Lodge Pl. Distance: 300m (5 min walk) Frequency 30 mins	Transit (224) to Hampton St. and Silver Ave. Distance: 260m (3 min walk) Frequency 30 mins Transit (D15) to Ness Ave. and Berry St. Distance: 750m (11 min walk) Frequency 22 mins
Active Transportation Access	Access from Assiniboine Park multi-use pathway to 250m portion of Deer Lodge Place (P3). Access from Bourkevale Park multi-use pathway to 50m portion of Douglas Park Rd (P3).	Adjacent to Berry Street Multi-Use Pathway.

Surrounding Uses	The spray pad would be located in an approximately five-acre park on the south side of Portage Avenue. Bruce Park is bounded by the Assiniboine River on the south side and residential areas to the east and west. Truro Creek runs through the park which has both treed and open grassy areas along with a play structure, flower beds, monument and pathways throughout.	The spray pad would be located on parkland at the Bord-Aire Community Centre location in an open grassy area. The spray pad would have good proximity to the community centre building which could allow for access to washrooms at this location. The site is adjacent to Stevenson-Britannia Elementary School on the south with residential development primarily to the west and south of the site. Commercial/industrial (airport) uses are located to the north and east of the site.
School Proximity	Assiniboine Elementary School Distance: 1.0 km (approx. 13 min walk) Linwood School Distance: 1.2km (approx. 17 min walk)	Stevenson-Britannia Elementary School Distance: 150m (approx. 2 min. walk)

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** August 12, 2025

Project Name:
Proposed Relocation of the Future Spray Pad from Bruce Park to Bord-Aire Community Centre

COMMENTS:

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations of this report. The is to be received as information.

Ozzy Garrett, CPA, CGA - Aug 12/25

Ozzy Garrett, CPA, CGA
Manager of Finance
Community Services Department

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:

- Parks and Open Space Division, Public Works Department
- Urban Design Division, Planning, Property and Development Department
- Municipal Accommodations Division, Assets & Project Management Department

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

Goal: Leadership and Good Governance
Objective: Achieve community-responsive service delivery through an aligned, integrated, collaborative and results-oriented organizational culture.

Policy **1.4 Integrated Knowledge and Resources**
Coordinate inter-departmental systems, project and resources, making the best use of internal and external expertise to better understand service needs, find the most appropriate solutions, optimize resources, and maximize community outcomes.

Goal: Economic Prosperity
Objective: Make strategic use of community and regional assets to optimize local economic competitiveness.

Policy **3.16 Optimize Facility Access**
Maximize the use of existing municipal assets to promote recreation, community development, and social interaction, while optimizing equitable access, infrastructure reinvestments, service delivery methods and resource management.

Goal: Good Health and Well Being
Objective: Support positive health outcomes through the built and natural environments.

Policy **4.9 Inclusive Public Places**
Provide and promote the amenities, and the design and maintenance standards, necessary to ensure accessible, safe and sanitary conditions in gathering spaces frequented by the public.

Policy **4.11 Equitable Service Access**
Prioritize equitable access to recreation and parks systems, services, and infrastructure, in order to: enable active living; connect people and nature; create supportive environments; build community capacity; and achieve desired health outcomes, with a focus on children and youth.

Goal: Social Equity
Objective: Uphold human rights so that no one is left behind.

Policy **5.1 Equitable Service Access**
Provide municipal services through an age-friendly lens that promotes equitable access for all, with a focus on the youngest, oldest, and systemically disadvantaged members of the community.

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

Strategic Opportunity #4
Facilitate Compact, Complete Development and Increase Density

Strategic Opportunity #7
Community Climate Resiliency

WINNIPEG POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

Section 5. Poverty Reduction Goals and Objectives
Goal 6: All City Services are Equitable, Inclusive and Accessible

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Community Services
Division: Asset Management Office
Prepared by: Shayne Maclean
Date: August 12, 2025
File No: CMS-2025-16

Attachments:

Appendix 1: 2025 Adopted Capital Detail Sheet for the Spray Pad Investment Program