

Parks & Trees – Service Level Standards – Trail Service Levels

Livable Community Committee – January 22, 2026

Mike Walker, P.Eng. – Assistant Director, Engineering & Operations



Why do Service Level Standards Matter and Why Now?

- Corporate Strategy
- Consistency
- Transparency
- Community Satisfaction
- Resource Planning
- Risk Management
- Sustainability
- Asset Management



What are Parks & Trees Service Level Standards?

- A formal guideline that defines the expected quality, frequency, and scope of maintenance and management activities for Parks, Trails, Green Spaces and the Urban Forest
 - Construction Standards
 - Maintenance Frequency (ex. Mowing frequency, playground safety inspections)
 - Quality Expectations (ex. Condition of ball fields)
 - Performance Metrics (response times for hazard removals)
 - Safety & Compliance (Environmental regulations, risk management)



What are the benefits?

- **Community Impact:** Improved user experience, safety, and inclusivity
- **Operational Impact:** Better planning, cost control, and accountability
- **Strategic Impact:** Supports long-term asset management and climate resilience



P&T Main Service Categories

- Arboriculture & Natural Environment
- Horticulture
- Parks & Playgrounds
- Sports Courts and Fields
- **Trails**



Trails

The City of Fredericton offers an impressive network of public trails spanning over 120 routes spread across both sides of the scenic Saint John River. The trails accommodate various activities, such as walking, cycling, and, in some areas, skiing. There are 10 major trails that vary in length, with at least 41 kilometers paved, making them accessible to wheelchairs and strollers.

- This extensive trail system, enhanced by features like the Bill Thorpe Walking Bridge, connects business districts, parks, nature preserves, and city neighborhoods, inviting residents and visitors to explore Fredericton's outdoor beauty.*



Service Level Standards - Trail

Priority 1 Trails

- serve many purposes; access to employment, school, social and recreational needs to name a few, these would be considered primary trip types and are an important part of the active transportation system. The trails are generally centered around or lead to hub activity centres (Downtown, Main Street, Sports Facilities Etc.)

Priority 2 Trails

- serve primarily social and recreational purposes and serve as a collector system for the active transportation system (priority 1 trails)

Priority 3 Trails

- serve primarily social and recreational purposes.



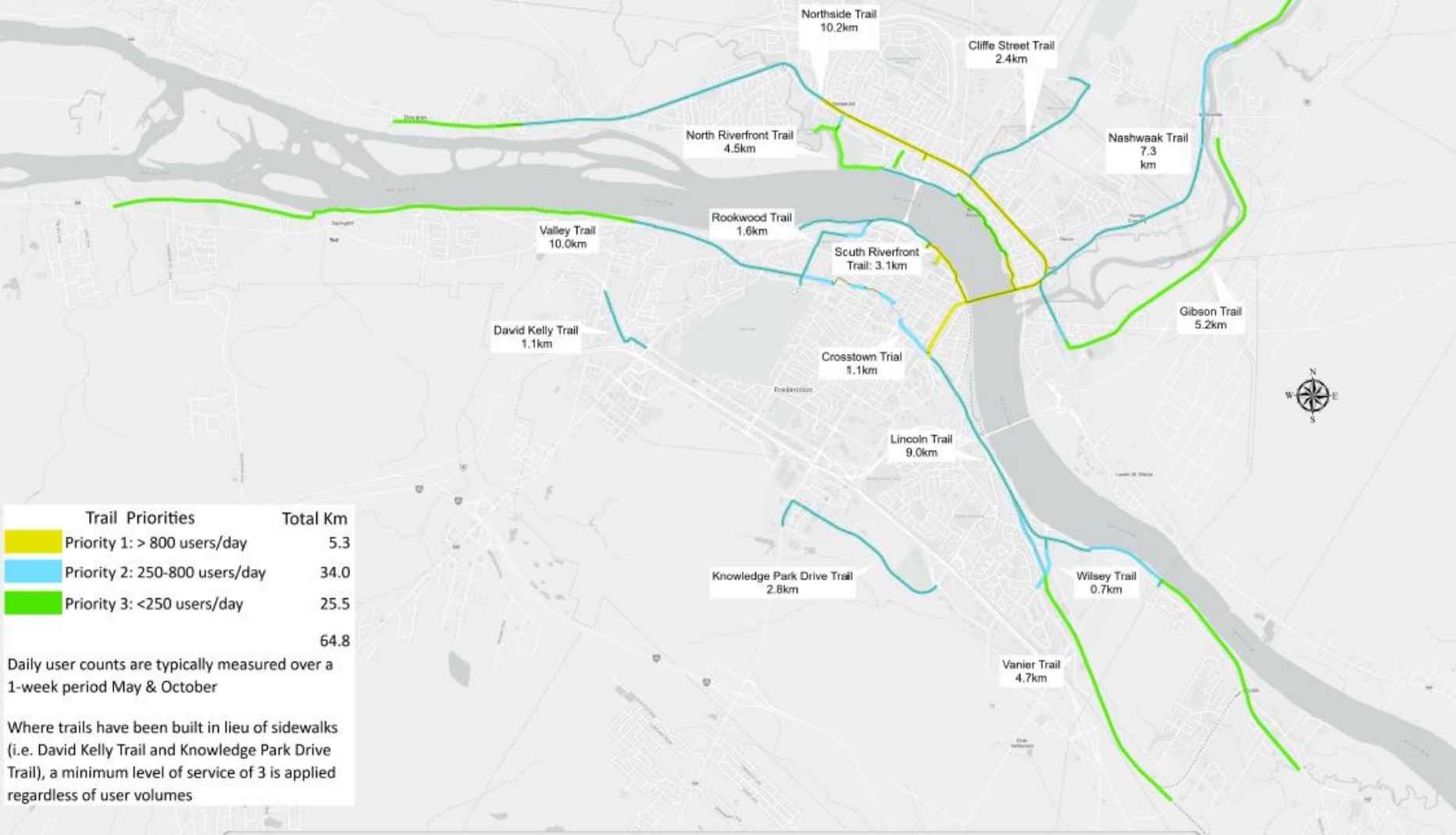
Service Level Standards - Trails

- A Neighbourhood Connector Trail is a designated active transportation route that links residential areas to key destinations such as schools, workplaces, commercial centres, recreational hubs, or from sidewalk to sidewalk. These connectors are designed to support everyday travel needs and encourage non-motorized modes of transportation
- A Parkland Footpath (Sanctioned) – found within Park Service Levels



FREDERICTON MULTI-USE TRAIL PRIORITIES

Version: June 2025



Trail Priorities	Total Km
Priority 1: > 800 users/day	5.3
Priority 2: 250-800 users/day	34.0
Priority 3: <250 users/day	25.5
	64.8

Daily user counts are typically measured over a 1-week period May & October

Where trails have been built in lieu of sidewalks (i.e. David Kelly Trail and Knowledge Park Drive Trail), a minimum level of service of 3 is applied regardless of user volumes

Construction Standards

Construction standards define the minimum acceptable design, materials, and built-form specifications required to ensure that trails are safe, consistent, durable, and aligned with their assigned Priority Level within the City of Fredericton's trail network.

Example: Trail Width – minimum 3.5 metres



Amenity Standards

Amenity Standards establish the required type, quantity, spacing, placement, accessibility, and maintenance expectations for built features that support user comfort, safety, and experience on Fredericton's trail network. These standards ensure that trails are equipped with predictable, consistent, and accessible amenities appropriate to their Priority Level (1, 2, or 3), and that amenities are installed using durable infrastructure to improve longevity, maintenance efficiency, and public usability.

Example: Garbage cans – Priority 1 Trails - located at all street/trail and trail/trail intersections. Min. every 250 metres



Maintenance Standards

Maintenance Standards establish the required frequency, methods, seasonal expectations, and performance criteria for keeping Fredericton's trail network safe, clean, accessible, and fully functional year-round. These standards define what maintenance activities must occur, how often they must occur, and to what quality level, scaled by the trail's assigned Priority Level (1, 2, or 3).

Example: Winter Maintenance – Plowing – Priority 1:
Plowed within 48 hours after the completion of a storm



Parks & Trees Service Level Standards – Trails

RESOLUTION FOR CONSIDERATION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the City of Fredericton hereby adpots the updated Fredericton Parks & Trees Service Level Standards – Trails for the purpose of providing a guideline that will be used to plan, construct, maintain, monitor, adjust and evaluate Trail Service Standards; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff use these Service Level Standards to provide measured service changes and bring forward concepts for future discussion and consideration by Council



Questions



Fredericton