

The Rideau River - Let's get on it, Ottawa!



A proposal to operate a seasonal paddlecraft rental and lesson service at an existing water access park in the City of Ottawa, providing access onto the water to over 28,000 people of Old Ottawa East, Old Ottawa South, and The Glebe, with most under a 1/2 hour walk.

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Rideau River - Let's Get On It, Ottawa



The Proposal - Executive Summary

Who is Ottawa SUP?

Ottawa SUP, and family owned associated businesses, have operated successful kayak and standup paddleboard rental and lesson locations in Ontario for over a decade. From 2014 to 2023, Ottawa SUP operated a seasonal stand up paddleboard and kayak rental and lessons business, in conjunction with the City of Ottawa and CA Paradis, at the Linda Thom Park at Billings Bridge on the Rideau River.

However, because of a change of ownership of the property, for the past summer of 2024 Ottawa SUP has offered rental and lessons only on a rotating basis at various parks in Ottawa, with all commerce conducted online. The rotating nature of the 2024 model did not meet needs for a fixed location expressed by participants and is not sustainable. To operate a fixed location, under Parks and Facilities (By-law No. 2004-276), requires a permit by the General Manager. Therefore, the next step in making this proposal a reality is to request this permit.

What is Ottawa SUP proposing?

Ottawa SUP is proposing that:

The City of Ottawa provide Ottawa SUP with a permit by the General Manager under Parks and Facilities (By-law No. 2004-276) to operate a seasonal paddlecraft rental and lesson service at an existing water access park in the City of Ottawa, providing access onto the water to over 28,000 people of Old Ottawa East, Old Ottawa South, and The Glebe, with most under a 1/2 hour walk.

Where would this service be?

Ottawa SUP found that there was most need and demand for service in the Old Ottawa East or South area and there are several very suitable locations. Ottawa SUP is suggesting either

Brantwood, Springhurst or Windsor parks as potential locations, giving walkable access of under ½ hour to most of a population of over 28,000.

What would this service look like?

Ottawa SUP would provide a seasonal rental and lesson paddlecraft operation at the selected park, with experienced staff to provide instruction, safety, and oversight and a small storage container, small kayak rack, a 10 x 10 tent on a small footprint and all equipment.

What would this cost taxpayers?

There is no cost to the City. Ottawa SUP proposes to fund the full cost of the operation and staffing, both initially and during operations. This would include storage and other physical requirements, as well as initially 20 - 30 stand up paddleboards for rent and 10 kayaks. There would be a fee for service to participants of \$25 for the first hour of paddling for example.

The proposal fills Community Needs including:

- Access to get onto the water where they live - under ½ walk to the service for people in the Old Ottawa East, Old Ottawa South and The Glebe.
- Availability of a healthy, safe, low cost activity to benefit physical, mental, social wellbeing.
- Low environmental impact on the park or waterway and would fit unobtrusively and quietly into the park and neighbourhood. While the service would be accessible to up to 28,000 residents from Old Ottawa East, Old Ottawa South and The Glebe, participants are on the water for 95% of the time and the number paddling at any one time is limited, thus the increase in park usage would not be noticeable to local residents. This has proven true in past service locations for Ottawa SUP, including Linda Thom Park and Brantwood Park.
- Preferred fixed location (close to water, easy access, calm, safe, scenic, parking, support for emergencies)
- Experienced Staff on site at all times for paddling instruction, safety instruction, knowledge of waterway, oversight of paddlers activities, availability in emergency, and to ensure the service is a good neighbour at all times.

The proposal fills City of Ottawa Needs and Priorities:

- Is virtually risk free for the City of Ottawa due to Ottawa SUP's decade-long history of providing paddling services in an Ottawa park with no incidence of complaints, accidents, insurance requests, lawsuits, garbage or damage issues.
- Assumption of all risk, insurance and liability by service provider, with City as additional insured. Insurance for paddling business requires specialized certification.
- Minimal city resources required because of the small scope of the project and work already undertaken by Ottawa SUP.

- Addresses the Big Policy Moves of the New Official Plan, including
 - Supporting the evolution towards **15-minute neighbourhoods** by providing on to the water access to up to 28,000 people within walking distance.
 - **Active Transportation** via Ottawa's Rideau River.
 - **Improved Livability** and Quality of Life through increased walkable access to a healthy natural environment to over 28,000 people
 - Increased **social cohesion** through planned social paddles and other events.
 - **Attracting workers** - paddling is one of the fastest growing sports in the world.
 - Enhancing **Economic Development** by enhancing Quality of Life and through added commercial services suitable for a 15 minute neighbourhood.
 - Addressing **Climate Change** by improving access to cooling amenities
 - Promote a **Healthy Active Community**. Paddling is identified as good for physical and mental health by Ontario Parks.
- Supports the City to follow the directive of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) to promote Healthy Active Communities to foster social interaction and facilitate active transportation and community connectivity, AND to provide a full range and equitable distribution of publicly accessible built and natural setting recreation, including facilities, parklands, public spaces, open space areas, trails and linkages, and, where practical, water-based resources; AND providing opportunities for public access to shorelines.

Together let's overcome the barriers to accessible paddling

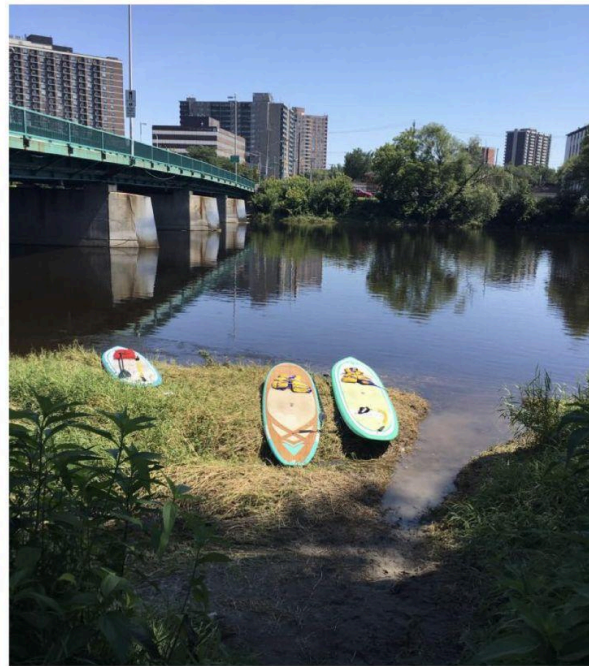
Paddling is a great way to meet community and City needs, but there are barriers to accessing paddling as an activity in the City of Ottawa.

- Unless a resident owns a car suitable for carrying a paddlecraft, availability is very limited.
- There are only four fixed location waterfront paddlecraft rental services in all of the city of Ottawa. City bylaws have thus far prevented the addition of further rental services at existing parks.
- While there are canoe clubs, they seldom have rentals available and membership is expensive. There are no canoe clubs or rental locations anywhere on the Rideau River above the Hog's Back.
- **The current citywide provision level is one on-the-water rental service per 266,700 residents AND is forecast to drop to 1 service per 306,300 residents by 2031.**

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Rideau River - Let's Get On It, Ottawa



Contents

Who is Ottawa SUP?	1
What is Ottawa SUP proposing?	1
Where would this service be?	2
What would this service look like?	2
What would this cost taxpayers?	2
The proposal fills Community Needs including:	2
The proposal fills City of Ottawa Needs and Priorities:	2
Together let's overcome the barriers to accessible paddling	3
Contents	4
Introduction	6
Who We Are	6
Goal: Get people out onto the water where they live through partnership	6
Meeting Ottawa's Strategic Directions:	6
Why paddling?	7
Barriers to accessible paddling in Ottawa	7
Our Proposal - Introduction	8
Services	8
Requirements	9
From City	9
From Ottawa SUP	9
Proposal Details	9
Equipment & Safety	9
Proposed Scope of Service	10
Location	10
Red dotted line showing Old Ottawa East. Suggested possible locations marked with stars.	11
Demographics of primary neighbourhoods within ½ hour walk of proposed locations	12
Location Features	13
Walking Distances from central Glebe to three proposed locations. (All under ½ hr walk)	14
Walking distance from central Glebe to Springhurst Park (Under ½ hour)	15
Walking distance from Old Ottawa South to Brantwood Park (Under ½ hour)	15
Environmental Impact	16
Target Groups	16
Hours of operation of the proposal	16
Staffing	17
Communication	18
Benefits to the City - Summary	19
Benefits to Participants - Summary	19

Needs Assessment	19
Health Benefits	20
Meeting City Needs & Priorities	21
Ottawa's provision level of water access for residents.	21
Provision level of beaches falling to 1 per 306,300 by 2031	21
Provision level of docks & launches falling to 1 per 76,600 by 2031	21
Provision level of paddlecraft rental at water 1 per 306,300 by 2031	22
Strategic Directions - New Official Plan	23
1. Sustainable active transportation	23
2. Improved Livability of our city	24
3. Attracting Workers	24
4. Cross Cutting Issues	25
5. Intensification and Diversifying Housing Options	25
6. Economic Development	26
7. Energy and Climate Change	27
8. Healthy and Inclusive Communities	28
Other City Priorities in Official Plan	31
Protect water features with appropriate exemptions	31
Equitable Access to inclusive high-quality greenspace	31
Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) Appendix B	32
15 Minute neighbourhoods Appendix C	33
Community Needs Assessment (Prior to Oct 6, 2024)	35
Methodology	35
Feedback to date has revealed themes of what participants want and need from a community based paddlecraft rental and lesson service in the following categories.	35
Results	35
Preferred Location of Park/Waterway for Paddlecraft Rental	35
Preferred Services (in order of preference)	36
Preference for Experienced Staff - Safety and Instruction	36
Preferences Re Equipment: Safety Regulations and Paddler Needs	36
Communication Preferences	37
Availability Preferences	37
Community Survey (Oct 6 - Oct 16, 2024)	37
Methodology	37
Summary Table of Quantitative Results	38
Old Ottawa East Survey "Additional Comment" Responses	38
Old Ottawa East Facebook Responses	41
Old Ottawa South (OOS) Survey "Additional Comment" Responses	42
Quantitative Results from Old Ottawa South (See Appendix J for further analysis of Quantitative Results)	44
Quantitative Results from Old Ottawa East	46

Questions and Concerns Arising from Needs Assessment	48
Below are photos from Ottawa SUP at Linda Thom Park	49
Conclusion and Next Steps	50
Summary of Proposal:	50
Next Steps	50
Community Consultation and Media	50
Submit Application for Permit	51
A Partnership	51
After our Proposal is accepted...	52
Contact Us	52
Appendices	53
Appendix A	53
Appendix B	55
Appendix C	56
Appendix D, E, F	57
Appendix G	58
Appendix H	58
Appendix I	58
Appendix J	59
Quantitative Results from Old Ottawa South	59
Quantitative Results from Old Ottawa East	61

The Proposal

Introduction

Who We Are

Ottawa SUP and family owned associated businesses have operated successful paddling rental and lesson locations in Ontario.

From 2014 to 2023, Ottawa SUP operated a seasonal stand up paddleboard and kayak rental and lessons business, in conjunction with the City of Ottawa and Le Paradis at the Linda Thom Park at Billings Bridge on the Rideau River. Ottawa SUP has helped approximately 3000 participants a year to get on the water.

In the spring of 2024, Le Paradis changed hands and found they required the small space Ottawa SUP rented to increase their parking. Ottawa SUP contacted the City of Ottawa to inquire about moving the trailer onto the adjoining park property. Ongoing conversations with the Recreation, Culture and Facilities Services assured Ottawa SUP that an arrangement could be made, if not at Linda Thom Park, at one of the other Park locations. However, just before the season opened we were informed that no location would be offered. For the past summer of 2024 Ottawa SUP has offered rental and lessons only on a rotating basis at various parks in Ottawa, with all commerce conducted online. The rotating nature of the 2024 model did not meet needs for a fixed location expressed by participants and is not sustainable. To operate a fixed location, under Parks and Facilities (By-law No. 2004-276), requires a permit by the General Manager. Therefore, the next step in making this proposal a reality is to request this permit.

Goal: Get people out onto the water where they live through partnership

Meeting Ottawa's Strategic Directions:

The City of Ottawa's Official Plan and Strategic Directions, Parks and Recreation Master Plans, and the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), which informs such plans, all support the following priorities:

15 minute healthy neighbourhoods (New Official Plan)

- To achieve healthier, more inclusive communities.
- To create locally focused neighbourhoods with more options closer to home to save on transportation costs, enjoy their neighbourhood more, and improve their daily activity
- To promote health and wellbeing

- To fosters social interaction
- To facilitate active transportation and community connectivity
- To provide publicly accessible places such as parks, public spaces, recreational facilities, and places for people to connect that contribute to quality of life and well-being

To support a full range and equitable distribution of publicly accessible built and natural settings for recreation, including water-based resources and to increase opportunities for public access to shorelines. (PPS)

Why paddling?

Paddling is...

A healthy form of Active Transportation and Recreation that supports City Strategic Priorities and Community Needs

Paddling is...

- An environmentally friendly means of accessing City water resources.
- A sustainable, accessible mode of Active Transportation (As referenced as a mode of active transportation in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Appendix ?)
- A way to promote social interaction and community connectivity

And...

Paddling has health benefits...

*“Spending time in nature is good for you. We feel this every time we step outside to hike, camp, **paddle**, or just be in natural spaces. A wide body of research supports the physical and mental benefits of nature.”*

Ontario Parks, <https://www.ontarioparks.ca/hphp>

*“Research shows that spending time in nature is good for our physical and mental health, and **paddling** is just one of the ways to include more nature in our lives. This is why Ontario Parks has embraced the worldwide Healthy Parks, Healthy People movement which encourages everyone to spend more time in nature.”*

Ontario Parks, <https://www.ontarioparks.ca/parksblog/8-ways-paddling-can-improve-your-health/>

Barriers to accessible paddling in Ottawa

Unfortunately, it is difficult for most Ottawa residents to access getting on the water where they live for the following reasons:

- There are only four fixed location waterfront paddlecraft rental services in all of the city of Ottawa. City bylaws have thus far prevented the addition of further rental services at existing parks.

- Paddling was not included specifically by the Parks and Recreation Master Plan as it was considered to be above citywide provision levels. (Pg. 179 Appendix C.) likely because of the existence of canoe clubs. However:
 - Canoe clubs are not open to the public.
 - Canoe clubs may not be affordable for individuals or families who want to walk to and get on the water where they live or who want to paddle occasionally. (Membership for the Rideau CAnoe Club is \$440.70 annually.)
 - There are no canoe clubs anywhere on the Rideau River above the Hogs’s Back.
 - Canoe clubs offer limited rental services
- While there are a number of takeaway outfitters in Ottawa, unless one has a vehicle suitable to put a kayak or canoe on top of or in, they cannot get on the water where they live.
- Of course, residents have the option of owning their own paddlecraft. Unfortunately, this is also not an accessible option in that unless they live right on the river, it requires driving the craft to the water. It also requires purchase and storage of the paddlecraft.

Our Proposal - Introduction

While it would seem obvious that if we are truly committed to the benefits of 15-minute neighbourhoods and to meeting PPS guidelines, that we must also encourage affordable ways to bring accessible paddling to more of our citizens.

Ottawa SUP believes that one way of accomplishing this is through partnerships between the City and the public. There are many precedents in the City for recreational partnerships.(REF)

Ottawa SUP is proposing that:

- The City of Ottawa provide Ottawa SUP with a permit by the General Manager under Parks and Facilities (By-law No. 2004-276) to operate a seasonal paddlecraft rental and lesson service at an existing water access park in the City of Ottawa, providing access onto the water to over 28,000 people of Old Ottawa East, Old Ottawa South, and The Glebe, with most under a 1/2 hour walk.

Services

In keeping with the services provided between 2014 and 2023 at the Linda Thom Park, Billings Bridge, Rideau River, Ottawa, Ottawa SUP would provide the following services:

- Rental at the water of stand up paddleboards
- Rental at the water of kayaks
- Private, semi-private and group lessons
- Guided social events

- Takeaway rentals of stand up paddleboards and kayaks
- Support from qualified, experienced personnel.
- Free introductory instruction as required and guidance on safety on the water
- High quality paddlecraft and all required and advisable safety equipment provided.

Requirements

From City

1. Permission for Ottawa SUP to seasonally locate a small storage container, small kayak rack, and a 10 x 10 tent on a small footprint of a waterfront park in Old Ottawa East.
2. Permission for Ottawa SUP to run a daily rental and lesson operation at the park seasonally.
3. Cost to city: none

From Ottawa SUP

1. To provide opportunities to residents, workers, visitors and students in and around the Old Ottawa East and Glebe neighbourhoods and beyond to rent stand up paddleboards and kayaks on the water, learn to paddle, and have paddlecraft to take away to other locations.
2. Cost: Ottawa SUP:proposes to undertake the full cost of setup, equipment, staffing, maintenance, insurance and other costs.

Proposal Details

Equipment & Safety

1. Initially, Ottawa SUP proposes to offer 20 - 30 stand up paddleboards for rent and 10 kayaks. The stand up paddleboards would likely be Rideau Paddleboards, a local family brand.
2. Ongoing due diligence would be provided by experienced staff for safety and paddling conditions oversight, instruction in and knowledge of safety regulations and best practices.
3. Rules would be posted or shared online that meet or exceed regulations.
4. Selection of equipment would meet or exceed safety standards and be appropriate for the size, age, experience and fitness of the participant. This requires a variety of equipment for different needs be made available.

5. Monitoring of equipment for condition and repairs would be undertaken regularly.
6. Fibreglass paddles for safety, lighter weight, and better performance.

Proposed Scope of Service

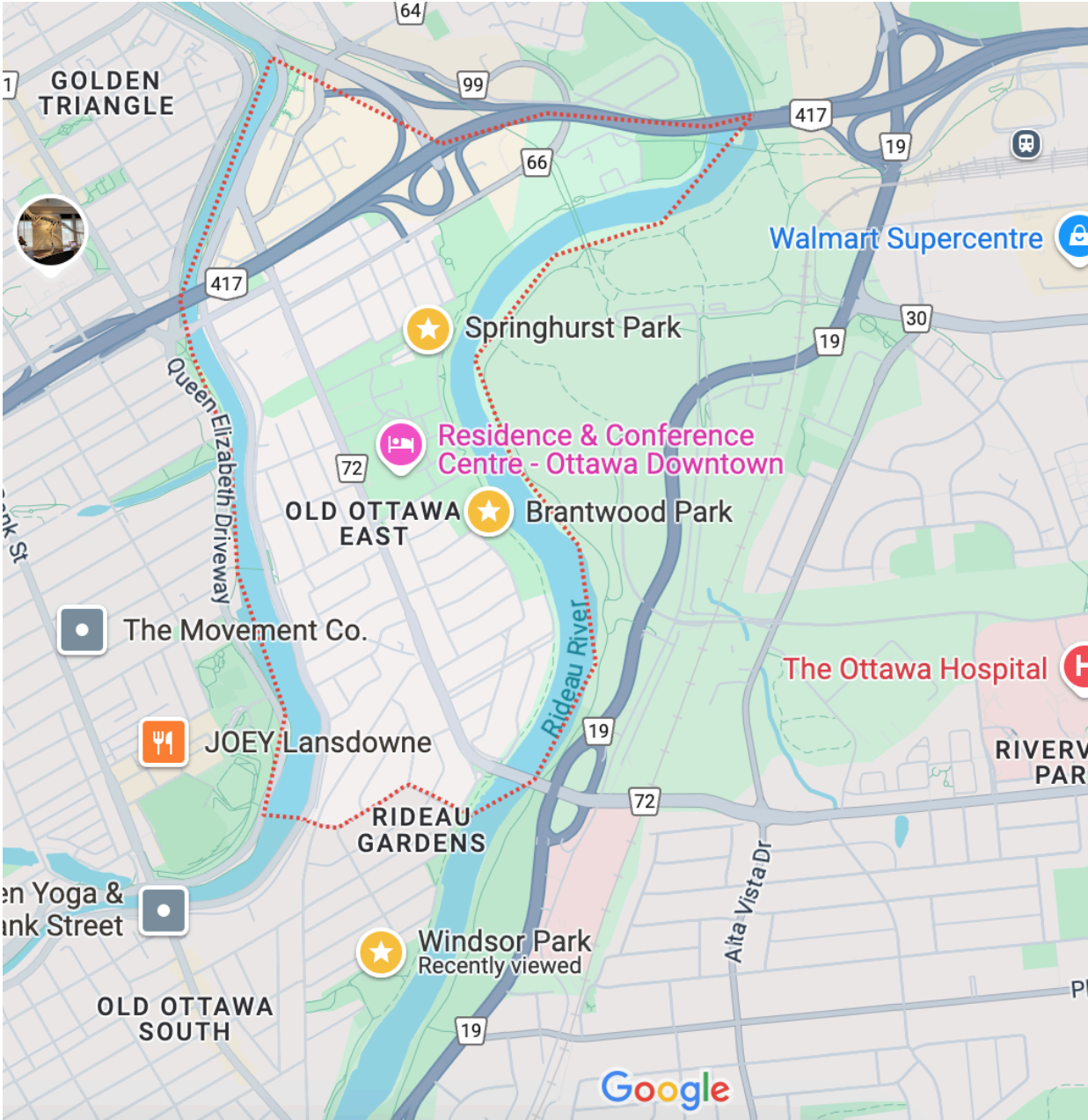
The options proposed for enhanced access to recreational paddling on the City of Ottawa's waterways will serve all Ottawa demographics and will include both residents of the City of Ottawa and tourists. However, based on the proposed locations, our primary target groups will be within a short driving distance of Old Ottawa East and the Glebe.

Location

Ottawa SUP is proposing an initial location in Old Ottawa East, which is located south of Nicholas Street and between the Rideau Canal and the Rideau River, with Avenue Road marking the southern border. To the south is the neighbourhood of Old Ottawa South and to the northeast is Sandy Hill. Old Ottawa East includes the Lees Avenue area. The Flora Footbridge, which opened to pedestrians in 2019, connects the community to The Glebe. (*Wikipedia*)

There are four Rideau River accesses in existing parks in Old Ottawa East that could be potential locations for a rental and lesson service: Windsor Park, Brantwood Park, Springhurst Park. Each has features to recommend it and all four would be suitable. Brantwood Park and Springhurst Park have the advantage of being most central within Old Ottawa East and would best serve the City's commitment to 15-minute healthy neighbourhoods.

Red dotted line showing Old Ottawa East. Suggested possible locations marked with stars.



Demographics of primary neighbourhoods within ½ hour walk of proposed locations

Statistic	Old Ottawa East	Ottawa	Ontario
Population	8,663	1,058,126	14,804,681
Population density (sq km)	4,319	365	15
Median age	33.2	39.2	40.9
Male/Female ratio	1.0:1	1.0:1	1.0:1
Married couples	67%	70%	71%
Families w/ kids at home	38%	45%	46%
Speak English only	55.5%	59.3%	86.1%
Speak French only	0.6%	1.4%	0.3%

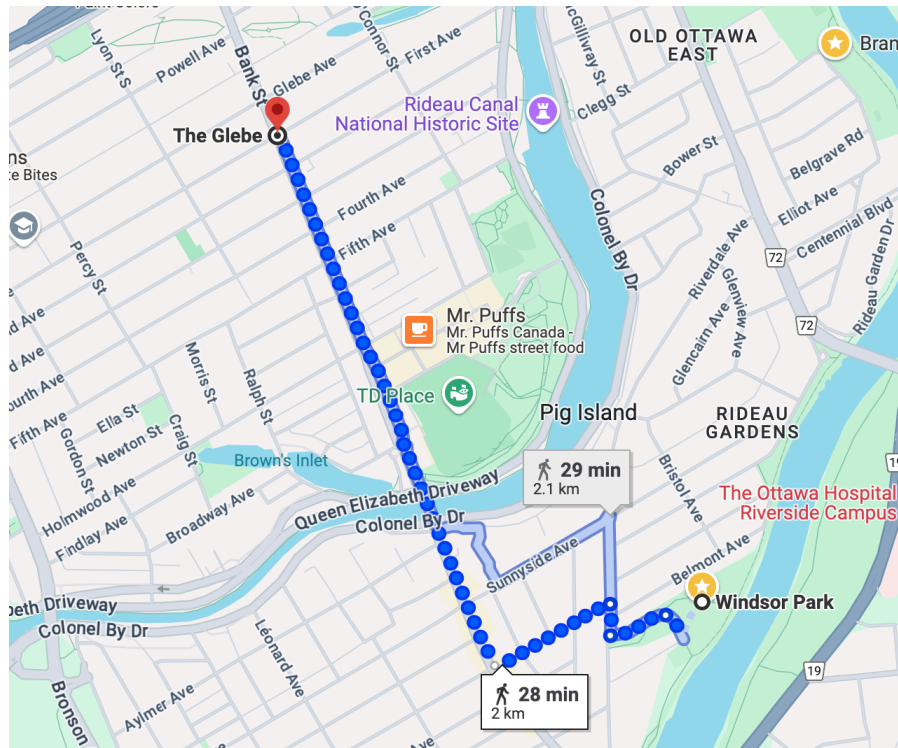
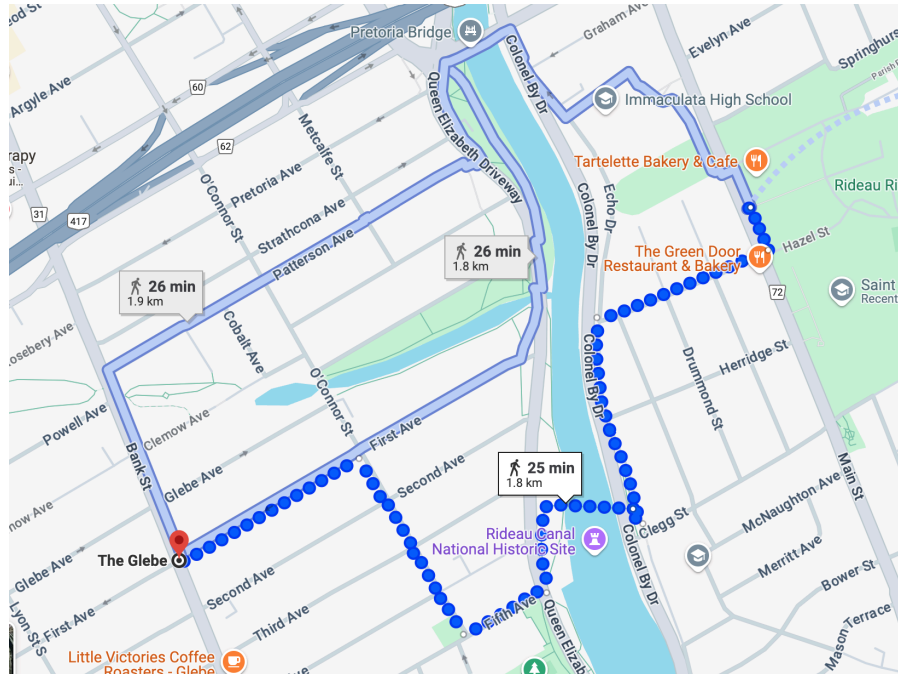
Statistic	The Glebe	Ottawa	Ontario
Population	12,954	1,058,126	14,804,681
Population density (sq km)	4,913	365	15
Median age	41.6	39.2	40.9
Male/Female ratio	1.1:1	1.0:1	1.0:1
Married couples	70%	70%	71%
Families w/ kids at home	42%	45%	46%
Speak English only	50.7%	59.3%	86.1%
Speak French only	0.3%	1.4%	0.3%

Statistic	Old Ottawa South	Ottawa	Ontario
Population	6,743	1,058,126	14,804,681
Population density (sq km)	4,181	365	15
Median age	41.5	39.2	40.9
Male/Female ratio	1.1:1	1.0:1	1.0:1
Married couples	71%	70%	71%
Families w/ kids at home	51%	45%	46%
Speak English only	48.8%	59.3%	86.1%
Speak French only	0.3%	1.4%	0.3%

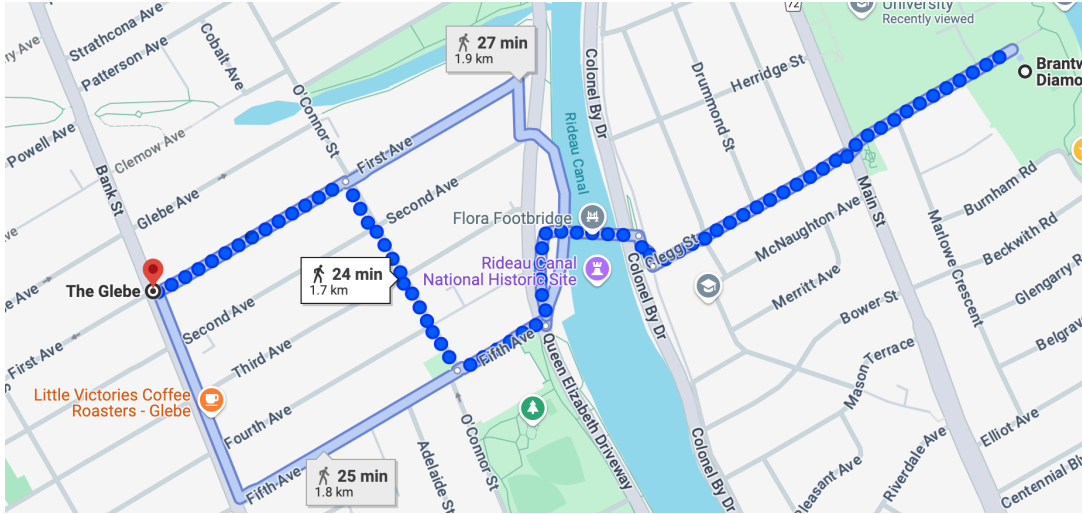
(Locations: 1 = Windsor Park, 2 = Brantwood Park, 3 = Springhurst Park)

Location Features	1	2	3
Under ½ hour walk to Old East Ottawa, Old South Ottawa, and central The Glebe, supporting healthy 15-minute neighbourhood priorities.	✓	✓	✓
Connects neighbourhoods, parks and water accesses in the central Upper Urban Transect of Ottawa, via the Rideau River, supporting sustainable, healthy Active Transportation .	✓	✓	✓
Under ½ hour walk to 100s of small businesses in The Glebe, Old Ottawa East & Old Ottawa South.	✓	✓	✓
Under ½ hour walk to Saint Paul University with 1,200 students and under 1 hr walk to Ottawa Hospital	✓	✓	✓
Close to water to minimise distance to carry paddlecraft	✓	✓	✓
Easy access into the water with minimal environmental impact	✓	✓	✓
Existing dock (new dock recently added at Springhurst)	✓	✓	✓
Calm, safe, scenic waterway of appropriate depth - ie not too shallow and not too deep	✓	✓	✓
Close parking in parking lot and on street parking	✓	✓	✓
Dogs allowed in park, so that they can paddle with their owners	✓	✓	✓
Variable distance available for different levels of paddling fitness, time restrictions, experience, etc.	✓	✓	✓
Support by phone by Ottawa SUP near water in emergencies.	✓	✓	✓
Fixed location (as opposed to roaming rental, which due to City regulations requires pre-booking and paying, which is a deterrent because of weather, concerns about refunds, and requires accommodating different distances to use service.)	✓	✓	✓
Multiple possible kiosk site locations available with low possibility of disruption to park environment or neighbours' quiet enjoyment of area.	✓	✓	✓
Expressed acceptance of service in area by neighbours	✓	✓	✓

Walking Distances from central Glebe to three proposed locations. (All under ½ hr walk)



Walking distance from central Glebe to Springhurst Park (Under ½ hour)



Walking distance from Old Ottawa South to Brantwood Park (Under ½ hour)



Environmental Impact

After almost a decade of providing this service to residents along the Rideau River, Ottawa SUP can assure the community that any environmental impact on either the river or the park that is chosen will be minimal.

Although Ottawa SUP was often told that its presence at the Linda Thom Park at Billing's Bridge on the Rideau River was responsible for a significant increase in the number of people generally using the river for both recreational paddling and active transportation, by providing a safer way for the public to access the water, it actually protected the waterfront. Further, for example, Ottawa SUP added a portable washroom to the Linda Thom Park, which had not been there before, and solely maintained it, for the benefit not only of its customers, but for other paddlers, walkers, and cyclists.

The additional comments on the recent survey (later in this proposal) and on Facebook, and in hundreds of reviews of Ottawa SUP in the past, support that it was seen as an asset to the park and neighbourhood, and that the environmental impact was very small.

Target Groups

We will particularly focus on the following target groups:

1. First time or inexperienced paddlers or
2. Paddlers of any level of experience who do not have their own paddlecraft or
3. Paddlers who own paddlecraft but who find it difficult to access local waterway because of transportation or
4. Paddlers who own paddlecraft but who wish to introduce their family members or friends to paddling or who wish to have the safety and added fun of company while they paddle and
5. Tourists, newcomers, and business visitors who want to enjoy one of Ottawa's prime attractions - its beautiful waterways and the unique views from the water.
6. Students of the local university located in the target area (Saint ??? University) to encourage them to remain in the City during the summer months.
7. Employees of City services and businesses to encourage working on location in the City rather than from home.
8. Patrons of the more than 60 small businesses in the area.

Hours of operation of the proposal

Ottawa SUP believes that based on conversations with clients and other residents, the more days and hours that paddling can be offered, the more accessible it will be to all residents and

tourists. However, since Safety First is our motto, this has to be based on water conditions and temperature, as well as weather.

1. Ottawa SUP proposes being open from the long weekend in May through September, subject to weather and water temperature and levels.
2. We propose being open Tuesdays through Sundays, subject to weather and water conditions. Safety first.
3. Hours of operation may vary depending on time of season and on weather and water conditions. Safety first.

Staffing

Ottawa SUP believes that based on client conversations, industry standards and on many years of experience, that staff is critical both to safety of our clients but also to success of the business.

We believe it is incumbent on us to provide qualified staff to supervise all operations to include:

1. Access to formal lessons from a qualified instructor
2. Free introduction on how to paddle before going on the water. (For inexperienced paddlers or those who wish to improve their knowledge.)
3. Advice on safety equipment and paddling regulations
4. Assistance with use of safety equipment
5. Guidance on the specific characteristics of a particular waterway including how to safely enter the waterway, current, prevailing winds and waves, sandbanks and obstacles, rapids, shallow areas, changes in levels such as waterfalls.
6. Matching type of paddlecraft to be use, including size, volume, safe openings, stability, etc. with the body weight, level of experience, and mobility of the client.(For example, too small a volume may result in tipping).
7. Staff awareness of when the paddler has embarked and when they are expected to return in the event of an unexpected problem on the water, so that help can be provided.
8. Staff awareness of weather forecasts but also rapid or unexpected changes in water conditions to contact the paddler to advise returning immediately.
9. Be available by phone to respond to a need for rescue or retrieval. (Ottawa SUP will also provide a floating waterproof phone pouch.)

Communication

1. Responsive communications - prompt answering of emails, messages, phone calls 7 days a week.
2. A strong social media presence, kept up to date and informative, on Facebook, Instagram, X, Google.
3. A good, well established website <https://www.ottawasup.ca/> that has up to date information and provides guidance on safety.

Benefits to the City - Summary

1. No cost to City
2. Minimal city resources to undertake the planning, design, procurement or monitoring processes under P3 arrangement because of small scope of the project and work already undertaken by Ottawa SUP.
3. Assumption of all risk, insurance and liability by service provider, with City as additional insured. Insurance for paddling business requires specialized certification.
4. Addresses City Strategic Directions and compliance with the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), by:
 - Supporting 15-minute neighbourhoods by offering residents more options closer to home to save on transportation costs, enjoy their neighbourhood more, and improve their daily activity.
 - Making paddling truly accessible within a community of over 28,000 Ottawa residents, most within less than a ½ hour walk.
 - Promote a healthy community. Paddling is identified as good for physical and mental health by Ontario Parks (Appendix I)
 - Fostering social interaction and improving social cohesion through planned social paddles and other group events, lessons, yoga, etc.
 - Facilitating active transportation and community connectivity. (Paddling is referenced as a mode of active transportation in the Master Plan Appendix ?) To connect neighbourhoods, parks, and water accesses in the central Upper Urban Transect of Ottawa, via the Rideau River.
 - Promoting use of existing neighbourhood public parks and thus contributing to quality of life and well-being.
 - Supporting equitable distribution of publicly accessible natural settings for recreation, including water-based resources and increasing opportunities for public access to shorelines.

Benefits to Participants - Summary

Needs Assessment

Addresses stated community needs as per Ottawa SUP community needs assessment including (highlights):

- Preferred fixed location (close to water, easy access, calm, safe, scenic, parking, support for emergencies)
- Preferred Services
- Experienced Staff on site at all times for paddling instruction, safety instruction, knowledge of waterway, oversight of paddlers activities, availability in emergency
- Safe, high quality,
- Communication and Availability

Health Benefits

After 15 years professional involvement in paddling, the Ottawa SUP family can testify to the health benefits of paddling. For example, two of our World Paddle Associated certified instructors are in their 70s and still going strong.

But don't take our word for the health benefits, physically, mentally, emotionally and socially... read what Ontario Parks has to say:

Healthy Parks, Healthy People

*"Spending time in nature is good for you. We feel this every time we step outside to hike, camp, **paddle**, or just be in natural spaces. A wide body of research supports the physical and mental benefits of nature."*

Ontario Parks, <https://www.ontarioparks.ca/hphp>

*"Research shows that spending time in nature is good for our physical and mental health, and **paddling** is just one of the ways to include more nature in our lives. This is why Ontario Parks has embraced the worldwide Healthy Parks, Healthy People movement which encourages everyone to spend more time in nature."*

Ontario Parks,
<https://www.ontarioparks.ca/parksblog/8-ways-paddling-can-improve-your-health/>

Benefits for your brain

- Lowers stress levels: Being out on the water has a calming effect on the brain and can help lower stress levels.
- Boosts your mood: Regular paddling can help lower levels of depression and anxiety.
- Builds confidence: Set paddling goals! Overcoming challenges builds confidence, whether you are a beginner tuning up your j-stroke, or a paddling pro on a backcountry dream trip.

Benefits for your body

- Works the upper body: Increase muscle strength, particularly in the back, arms, shoulders and chest, from moving the paddle against the natural resistance of the water.
- Increases core strength: With each paddle stroke forward you rotate your torso, which really engages the core muscles. These muscles also help to balance your canoe/kayak.
- Increases leg strength: Kayakers receive the additional benefit of increased leg strength through isometric contractions. You apply pressure with your legs as you

turn and balance your kayak which causes these muscles to tighten and, over time, builds strength.

- Protects your joints: Paddling is a low-impact activity, which reduces the risk of wear and tear on joints compared to many other activities.
- Improves cardiovascular health: Paddling is a great exercise to elevate the heart rate and improve cardiovascular health.

<https://www.ontarioparks.ca/parksblog/8-ways-paddling-can-improve-your-health/>

Meeting City Needs & Priorities

Ottawa's provision level of water access for residents.

Provision level of beaches falling to 1 per 306,300 by 2031

There is obvious demand for waterfront access in the City of Ottawa, (Swimming use for example at Mooney's Bay is 211,000 people annually, Westboro: 48,000, Britannia: 100,500, Petrie: 79,000 in 2019)

Compare Ottawa's four beaches to other Municipal Benchmark Cities. Kingston 10 beaches, Halifax 19 beaches, Vancouver 11 beaches, Hamilton 8 beaches, Montreal 8 beaches, Toronto 11 beaches.

The City of Ottawa has no plans to increase the number of beaches and expects population and demand to increase.

Citywide current provision level of supervised beaches of 1:266,700 residents is forecast by the city to **drop to 1 beach per 306,300** residents by 2031. If levels are maintained in the other cities listed, this will be the worst level of provision of beach to resident among the Municipal Benchmark Cities.

*(Pg 89 City of Ottawa Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Final Draft: October 2021
<https://pub-ottawa.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?documentid=80278>)*

Provision level of docks & launches falling to 1 per 76,600 by 2031

Likewise, municipal recreational boat launches and docks in Ottawa citywide provision level of 1:71,100 residents is estimated to **drop to 1:76,600** residents by 2031. However the Master Plan also states: *Facilities may also be considered if they are identified as a community and transect priority and can fall within existing operating budgets.*

*(Pg 40 and Pg 139 City of Ottawa Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Final Draft: October 2021
<https://pub-ottawa.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?documentid=80278>)*

Provision level of paddlecraft rental at water 1 per 306,300 by 2031

Although there are currently 28 docks or boat launches listed in Ottawa, with only one planned to be added by 2031, (this may be one recently added in Springhurst Park, one of Ottawa SUP's suggested locations for a rental partnership) there is very limited and falling availability of waterfront rental of paddlecraft in the City of Ottawa. In the past there were outlets on the water in addition to the ones below to rent paddlecraft, but these have been removed by the City. No explanation has been provided except "policy".

- Dow's Lake Pavillion at Dow's Lake
- Constance Bay Paddle, Constance Bay Beach, Dunrobin (founded by Ottawa SUP and family operated).
- Escape Tours and Rentals (Sir-George-Étienne-Cartier Pkwy, Ottawa)
- Ottawa Stand Up Paddle (previously located at Linda Thom Park, Ottawa, now only operating on a rotating basis because of city policies.)

Paddling was not included specifically by the City of Ottawa Official Plan - Parks and Recreation Master Plan **as it was considered to be above Recreation Culture and Facility Services' base citywide provision levels.** (Pg. 179 Appendix C.)

Undoubtedly, paddling was judged to be above Recreation Culture and Facility Services' base citywide provision levels because of the existence of canoe clubs.

- However, the canoe clubs are not open to the public.
- Membership for the Rideau CAnoe Club is **\$440.70 annually**. This is not affordable for individuals or families who want to walk to and **get on the water where they live** or who want to paddle occasionally.
- There are no canoe clubs anywhere on the Rideau River above the Hogs's Back.
- Canoe clubs offer limited rental services

While there are a number of takeaway outfitters in Ottawa, unless one has a vehicle suitable to put a kayak or canoe on top of or in, they cannot **get on the water where they live.**

Of course, residents have the option of owning their own paddlecraft. Unfortunately, this is also not an accessible option in that unless they live right on the river, it requires driving the craft to the water. It also requires purchase and storage of the paddlecraft.

Currently there are only four at the water paddlecraft rental services in Ottawa. (There were five, including Ottawa SUP, however as of summer of 2023 their service became remote due to City of Ottawa Parks and Recreation policies prohibiting them from operating on a fixed basis.)

This means that the current citywide provision level of "accessible paddling" is one on-the-water rental service per 266,700 residents AND is forecast to drop to 1 service per 306,300 residents by 2031, based on estimated population increase.

(Based on a comparable City forecast for four beaches per total population.)

This level is definitely not above Recreation Culture and Facility Services' base citywide provision levels.

Further, the lack of accessible paddling is not in keeping with the City's Strategic Priorities concerning 15-minute neighbourhoods. For example, there is nowhere within central Lower Urban transect to rent any kind of paddlecraft.

Solution: Provide accessible paddling through partnership

“The City remains open and flexible to address new sports and new recreation trends that emerge, as well as to consider opportunities for sport specific partnerships as they present themselves.”

(Pg 39 City of Ottawa Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan

Ottawa SUP is offering a no-cost opportunity to the City of Ottawa to provide paddling rental services to make paddling accessible by under a ½ hour walk to most of a population of over 28,000 in The Glebe, Old Ottawa East & Old Ottawa South alone.

Strategic Directions - New Official Plan

1. Sustainable active transportation

Big Policy Move 2: By 2046, the majority of trips in the city will be made by sustainable transportation.

“Increasing the share of trips by sustainable modes of transportation is urgently needed to meet the City's climate change goals...”

“Supporting **active transportation** and transit is also crucial to creating a healthier and more **equitable and inclusive city**, where anyone can get to work, to school and to daily activities without needing a car. As a result, safe and convenient sustainable transportation options are fundamental to 15-minute neighbourhoods and vibrant communities that **support economic activity and social interaction** throughout the day and evening.”

Solution: Connectivity By Water

- On Pg 121 of City of Ottawa Official Plan, paragraph d) **The City includes canoe/kayak rental facilities as “Active Transportation”**. Quote: Activities and uses along permanent waterbodies (rivers and lakes) that support active transportation (including canoe/kayak rental facilities, docks for non-motorized watercraft, pathways) and are approved by the City and the conservation authority.
- The rental services proposed by Ottawa SUP will connect by walking distance neighbourhoods, parks and water accesses in the central Upper Urban Transect of Ottawa, via the Rideau River, supporting sustainable, healthy Active Transportation.
- Under ½ hour walk to most of a population of over 28,000 in The Glebe, Old Ottawa East & Old Ottawa South alone.
- Paddling is identified as good for physical and mental health by Ontario Parks (Appendix I) and is a sustainable, accessible mode of active transportation.

2. Improved Livability of our city

Big Policy Move 4: Embed environmental, climate and health resiliency and energy into the framework of our planning policies.

The future liveability of Ottawa—its economic vitality, its social cohesion and the health and well-being of its residents—depends upon a healthy natural and built environment.

Solution: Walking distance access to getting on the water

- Support access to a healthy environment in 15 minute neighbourhoods by providing walking distance availability of a paddlecraft rental service. improve access to healthy natural environment
 - Ottawa SUP’s proposal will provide this to a population of over 28,000 in The Glebe, Old Ottawa East & Old Ottawa South alone.
- Improve social cohesion through planned social paddles and other group events, lessons, yoga, etc.

3. Attracting Workers

Big Policy Move 5: Embed economic development into the framework of our planning Policies.

Ottawa’s economic success continues to be based on maintaining a liveable city and having affordable market-based housing options in relation to larger cities. We need to attract skilled workers to support growing and new enterprises in Ottawa and be a choice destination for new Canadians. Becoming more liveable and affordable relative to other cities is a key to Ottawa’s success.

Solution: Offer a popular activity to encourage living in Ottawa

- Paddling, particularly Stand Up Paddleboarding is one of the fastest growing sports in world. Besides the great workout, it is also perfect to enjoy the nature and the calmness the water can give you.
- Access in under ½ hour walk to be able to get on the water is an attraction to employees.
- It can increase the available employee market,
- It encourages employees to want to live and work in Ottawa rather than remotely from home from an outlying area, which helps stimulate City business and reduces unsustainable transportation methods.

4. Cross Cutting Issues

Creating healthy and inclusive communities requires policy direction related to areas such as mobility, housing, urban design, parks and growth management.

Solution: Healthy, inclusive communities through paddling

- Paddling is both healthy and inclusive. There are no cultural or age barriers to paddling... it is a sport enjoyed from childhood to senior years.
- Offering paddlecraft rental at a local park supports City priorities to manage parks with a goal of creating healthy and inclusive communities.

5. Intensification and Diversifying Housing Options

“Intensification is about guiding the evolution of neighbourhoods into complete 15-minute neighbourhoods, which includes ensuring that the services, parks, recreational facilities, public spaces, infrastructure and other elements of a complete neighbourhood, are keeping up with the increases in population.”

“What We Want To Achieve:

- Direct residential growth within the built-up urban area to support an evolution towards 15-minute neighbourhoods
- Improve public amenities and services”

“(3) Improve public amenities and services

The supportive policies for growth management, housing, transportation, urban design and parks and greenspace throughout this Plan will provide some of the necessary elements to facilitate achieving a 60 per cent intensification target.

- ... Provide equitable access to greenspace that will provide shade and opportunities to promote mental and physical health and well-being;

- Ensure that the development and redevelopment of transit, road and active transportation infrastructure supports the City’s intensification targets;”

Solution: Offer paddlecraft rental at a local park to support 15-minute neighbourhoods

- Improve public amenities and services
- Support equitable access to greenspace to promote mental and physical health and well-being
- Connect people along the Rideau River, supporting sustainable, healthy Active Transportation.
- Provide under ½ hour walk to on the water access to a population of over 28,000 in The Glebe, Old Ottawa East & Old Ottawa South alone. It is a 15 minute walk from Brantwood Park to the Glebe.
- Paddling is identified as good for physical and mental health by Ontario Parks (Appendix I) and is a sustainable, accessible mode of active transportation.

6. Economic Development

Policy Intent:

- 1) Enhance Ottawa’s high quality of life to attract a skilled workforce and businesses

Ottawa’s ability to compete in the knowledge economy relies on its ability to develop local businesses and talent, attract and retain highly skilled labour and new businesses,

The work force is looking for liveable cities ... with access to greenspace and cultural life and social harmony

WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

- 1) Enhance Ottawa’s high **quality of life** to attract a skilled workforce and businesses

- 4) Integrate economic activities with residential and other land uses

- Today’s knowledge-based employers typically do not prefer segregated locations, but seek vibrant, mixed-use environments where their workforce can enjoy a range of services, activities, amenities and residential opportunities in the context of a 15-minute neighbourhood.
- Commercial and community uses within Neighbourhoods are generally service oriented and are limited in size or area. These uses tend to be schools, community centres, recreational facilities, libraries and smaller scale commercial uses including limited retail, restaurants and personal service businesses. These uses are part of achieving 15-minute neighbourhoods.

5) Create conditions for small-business growth

Small and start-up businesses in a range of sectors, from retail to small-scale manufacturing, creative and cultural industries, consulting and **people services**, where they do not create incompatibilities or nuisances, need to be nurtured and supported through regulations that provide **opportunities to use a variety of spaces** in a way that minimizes initial start-up costs and ongoing overhead. Through this Official Plan and the implementing Zoning By-law, the City will be simplifying the rules that apply to small businesses so that more are permitted as of right.

Commercial services are an important element for 15-minute neighbourhoods that provide residents, workers and tourists with their daily and weekly needs. These areas are ideal for small-businesses and **this Plan intends to promote their growth through land use permissions, increasing viable transportation options and enhancing and animating the public realm to improve overall user experiences.**

Solution: Offer paddlecraft rental at a local park to

- Support 15-minute neighbourhoods
- Promote commercial people service within a Neighbourhood that provides **opportunity to use a variety of spaces** in a way that minimizes initial start-up costs and ongoing overhead.
- Supports simplifying the rules that apply to small businesses so that more are permitted as of right now.

7. Energy and Climate Change

Ottawa will be much warmer year-round and could have four times (~43 days) as many very hot days (over 30o C) by the 2050s as during the 2010s.

1) Plan a compact and connected city

2) Apply sustainable and resilient site and building design as part of development

Site design also influences healthy communities and sustainable transportation choices.

- Protect health by reducing the urban heat island effect and improving access to shade and other **cooling amenities**;
- **Enable active transportation, transit use and outdoor recreation** in all weather conditions.

7) Protect, and enhance tree canopy and protect wetlands and other natural areas and use nature-based solutions

Nature builds resilience to the impacts of climate change through flood protection, **heat mitigation**, stormwater management, biodiversity and **improved mental, social and physical health**. Natural resilience to climate change can be enhanced by:

- Protecting, enhancing and managing trees, **shorelines**, wetlands and other natural areas **for the climate services they provide**;

Solution: Offer paddlecraft rental to support a compact & connected city

And...

- Protect health by reducing the urban heat island effect and improving access to shade and other **cooling amenities**;
- **Enable active transportation, transit use and outdoor recreation** in summer
- **Build resilience to the impacts of climate change** through **heat mitigation**, and **improved mental, social and physical health and access to nature**.

8. Healthy and Inclusive Communities

“Liveable communities shall foster health, inclusivity and sustainability to meet the challenges of the 21st century. The City’s physical layout and design play an important role in shaping health and well-being by enabling Ottawa’s diverse population to thrive and live their lives to the fullest.” pg 27.

Ottawa, like the rest of Canada, is facing growing health challenges with accompanying rising health-related and societal costs that cannot be addressed by the health care sector alone. ...

The built and natural environment can influence all these conditions, with significant effects on quality of life and well-being. The Official Plan requires the development of healthy and resilient communities through establishing the built and natural environment conditions that are needed to sustain long-term health. The Official Plan is one tool to promote positive health outcomes, while other City strategies and initiatives can help advance population health in matters beyond land use.

...Where the conditions for, and components of, 15-minute neighbourhoods exist, the intent of this Plan is to maintain and strengthen them. Where conditions for, and components of, 15-minute neighbourhoods are not all present, the intent of this Plan is to seed them and permit them so that they can materialize over time.

1) Encourage development of healthy, walkable, 15-minute neighbourhoods that feature a range of housing options, supporting services and amenities

Components:

- Public service facilities such as parks and public spaces ... recreational facilities... . Publicly accessible places for people to connect that contribute to quality of life and well-being are especially important as neighbourhoods continue to intensify;
- Neighbourhood retail and commercial services in order to reduce travel time for daily needs and provide jobs and other economic opportunities for residents;

4) Advance human health through decision-making on the built environment

Land-use practices should be conducive to good health. Policies, plans, guidelines and decision-making that flow from this Official Plan shall recognize the interdependencies between health and the built environment. They enable positive health outcomes and are sensitive to the trade-offs needed to achieve healthy and inclusive communities overall. This includes considering the health and equity implications associated with housing, transportation, parks and public spaces, urban design and the natural environment.

Policies are embedded throughout this Official Plan to advance healthy and inclusive communities' goals through development, the preparation of local plans, other City master plans and design guidelines.

Mental health can be promoted through exposure to trees, parks and greenspace and natural environments. Mental health is also supported through creating spaces that enable social connections, fostering community involvement, supporting access to community resources and encouraging a sense of belonging. Regular physical activity, with all the positive health co-benefits, can be encouraged through designing safe, all-season and convenient active transportation infrastructure for walking, cycling and transit, as well as trail systems in all communities. Health hazards can be mitigated through protective practices. Sustainable environments have wide-ranging positive health impacts. The basic conditions needed to sustain health, such as housing and access to daily amenities such as food, are fostered through a supportive surrounding built environment. Overall, community resiliency and a healthy population can be supported through all-season active transportation networks, access to local amenities and healthy and green urban design.

The City of Ottawa's New Official Plan provides us with a blueprint for building healthier and more inclusive neighbourhoods. This includes :

- a. A healthy built environment can:

- i. Make the healthy choice the easy choice
 - ii. Encourage being physically active through active transportation and improve mobility options for those not driving
 - iii. Foster social interactions and connections
 - iv. Provide access to natural and green spaces and reduce urban heat islands
 - v. Support equitable opportunities for all people to thrive and be healthy
- b. Foster green and sustainable design
 - c. Prioritize a shift to energy efficient transportation modes
 - d. ... use nature-based solutions for resilience
 - e. Ensure planning decisions promote health and well-being:
 - f. All land-use and transportation planning decisions need to support health and well-being, leading to more resilient communities
 - g. City master plans, zoning bylaws, local plans such as secondary plans and community design plans, guidelines, must integrate health and equity considerations
 - h. Design parks that contribute to quality of life and respond to climate change
 - i. Provide residents with equitable access to an inclusive urban greenspace network

Solution: Support 15-Minute Neighbourhoods & Healthy Communities

The rental services proposed by Ottawa SUP will

- Help providing for a full range and equitable distribution of publicly accessible built and natural settings for recreation, including water-based resources
- Provide the central Upper Urban transect of Ottawa with increased public access to shoreline by encouraging increased usage of an existing access at no cost to the city.
- Increase community connectivity via the Rideau River in the central Upper Urban Transect of Ottawa,, supporting sustainable, healthy Active Transportation.
- Increase community connectivity and foster social interaction by offering Guided Social Paddles, SUP Yoga classes, Group SUP lessons. Under ½ hour walk to most of a population of over 28,000 in The Glebe, Old Ottawa East & Old Ottawa South alone. 15 minute walk from Brantwood Park to the Glebe.
- Promote a Healthy Active Community. Paddling is identified as good for physical and mental health by Ontario Parks.
- Provide a sustainable, accessible mode of active transportation.

Other City Priorities in Official Plan

Protect water features with appropriate exemptions

The City of Ottawa's Official Plan calls for the protection of surface water features.

Appendix A

It also recognizes the value of recreational amenities in nature and **provides for rental of kayaks, etc.** as an exception to minimum setback policies on waterfront as follows:

- "i) **Water-based recreation** (including yacht clubs, marinas and beaches);
- ii) Active transportation (including **canoe/kayak rental facilities** and pathways);
- iii) Water-based transportation services (including ferry and water taxi services, boat launch facilities or tourist-related activities such as scenic cruises); and
- iv) Small-scale commercial services that contribute to or are ancillary to a use permitted in i), ii) or iii) above (including concession stands and restaurants); and

Solution: Protect water while offering active transportation such as paddlecraft rental

- Healthy watersheds provide numerous human, ecological and health benefits from safe drinking water for residents, to **recreational amenities in nature**.
- Ottawa SUP has a long history of leaving a low footprint. Historically, paddling was a primary source of water access and transportation, which left

Equitable Access to inclusive high-quality greenspace

4.8.3 Provide residents with equitable access to an inclusive urban greenspace network

1) The City shall protect all of its various types of greenspaces as described in Section 7 for their ecosystem services and their contributions to healthy, active communities.

2) In general, and to support health, climate resiliency, accessibility and gender and social equity, the City shall seek to provide all urban residents with the following minimum access to high-quality greenspace:

- a) Within a 5-minute safe walking distance (400 metres), a public greenspace providing space for passive or active recreation;
- b) Within a 10-minute safe walking distance (800 metres), two green public spaces; and
- c) Within a 15-minute trip by transit, a publicly-owned natural area.

Official Plan Pg 118 Appendix F

Solution: Support 15-Minute Neighbourhoods & Healthy Communities

The rental services proposed by Ottawa SUP will

- Bring Equitable Access to inclusive high-quality greenspace and to getting on the water within a ½ walking distance to neighbourhoods along the Rideau River, which currently does not exist.

Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) *Appendix B*

The PPP provides policy direction on matters of provincial interest related to land use planning and development in Ontario...The PPS 2020 applies to all municipal planning matter decisions made or after May 1, 2020.

Subsection 1.5 of the PPS contains policies for public spaces, recreation, parks, trails and open space as described below:

1.5.1 Healthy, active communities should be promoted by:

a) planning public streets, spaces and facilities to be safe, meet the needs of pedestrians, foster social interaction and facilitate active transportation and community connectivity;

b) planning and providing for a full range and equitable distribution of publicly accessible built and natural settings for recreation, including facilities, parklands, public spaces, open space areas, trails and linkages, and, where practical, water-based resources;

c) providing opportunities for public access to shorelines...

Solution:

The rental services proposed by Ottawa SUP will

- Help providing for a full range and equitable distribution of publicly accessible built and natural settings for recreation, including water-based resources
- Provide the central Upper Urban transect of Ottawa with increased public access to shoreline by encouraging increased usage of an existing access at no cost to the city.
- Increase community connectivity via the Rideau River in the central Upper Urban Transect of Ottawa,, supporting sustainable, healthy Active Transportation.
- Increase community connectivity and foster social interaction by offering Guided Social Paddles, SUP Yoga classes, Group SUP lessons. Under ½ hour walk to most of a population of over 28,000 in The Glebe, Old Ottawa East & Old Ottawa South alone.
- Promote a Healthy Active Community. Paddling is identified as good for physical and mental health by Ontario Parks (Appendix I)
- Provide a sustainable, accessible mode of active transportation.

15 Minute neighbourhoods *Appendix C*

27 Sep 2021

“The 15-minute neighbourhood concept provides options for residents to meet their daily or weekly needs within walking distance by bringing destinations closer together. These neighbourhoods are designed to enable easy, safe, and enjoyable connections between destinations. The approach focuses on walking as a viable option for accessing regular needs, as it is the most universally accessible mode of transportation. In 15-minute neighbourhoods, residents ideally spend less time travelling to fulfill their regular needs, by creating locally focused neighbourhoods with more options closer to home. Residents have opportunities to save on transportation costs, enjoy their neighbourhood more, and improve their daily activity.

“Introduced in the ‘Five Big Moves’, the principles of 15-minute neighbourhoods are integral to the strategic directions contained in Ottawa’s Draft New Official Plan. The concept of 15-minute neighbourhoods supports a variety of objectives relating to intensification, economic development, energy and climate change, gender equity, and culture. Additionally, planning for 15-minute neighbourhoods represents a critical means of embedding health resiliency in planning in order to achieve healthier, more inclusive communities.

“15-minute neighbourhoods are compact, well-connected places with a clustering of a diverse mix of land-uses; this includes a range of housing types, shops, services, local

access to food, schools and day care facilities, employment, greenspaces, parks and pathways. They are complete communities that support active transportation and transit, reduce car dependency, and enable people to live car-light or car free, if they so choose.”

<https://engage.ottawa.ca/the-new-official-plan>

15-Minute Neighbourhoods can

1. Make the healthy choice the easy choice
2. Encourage being physically active through active transportation and improve mobility options for those not driving
3. Foster social interactions and connections
4. Provide access to natural and green spaces and reduce urban heat islands
5. Support equitable opportunities for all people to thrive and be healthy
6. Prioritize a shift to energy efficient transportation modes
7. Use nature-based solutions for resilience

The City’s Official Plan states that the City must

8. Ensure planning decisions promote health and well-being and
9. Land-use and transportation planning decisions need to support health and well-being, leading to more resilient communities and
10. City master plans, zoning bylaws, local plans such as secondary plans and community design plans, guidelines, integrate health and equity considerations.
11. Design parks that contribute to quality of life and respond to climate change
12. Provide residents with equitable access to an inclusive urban greenspace network

Solution:

The rental services proposed by Ottawa SUP will

- Help providing for a full range and equitable distribution of publicly accessible built and natural settings for recreation, including water-based resources
- Provide the central Upper Urban transect of Ottawa with increased public access to shoreline by encouraging increased usage of an existing access at no cost to the city.
- Increase community connectivity via the Rideau River in the central Upper Urban Transect of Ottawa,, supporting sustainable, healthy Active Transportation.

- Foster social interaction by offering Guided Social Paddles, SUP Yoga classes, Group SUP lessons. Under ½ hour walk to most of a population of over 28,000 in The Glebe, Old Ottawa East & Old Ottawa South alone. 15 minute walk from Brantwood Park to the Glebe. *Appendix J*
- Promote a Healthy Active Community. Paddling is identified as good for physical and mental health by Ontario Parks. *Appendix I*
- Provide a sustainable, accessible mode of active transportation.

Community Needs Assessment (Prior to Oct 6, 2024)

Methodology

Over the many years Ottawa SUP and family have sought and collected feedback from customers, staff, and community. Further details of some of our surveys, polls, etc. are attached as Appendixes.

Feedback to date has revealed themes of what participants want and need from a community based paddlecraft rental and lesson service in the following categories.

Results

Preferred Location of Park/Waterway for Paddlecraft Rental

1. Rental kiosk close to water to minimise distance to carry paddlecraft.
2. Easy access into the water with a minimum of environmental impact. A dock is an added feature, though not essential.
3. Calm, safe waterway of appropriate depth - ie not too shallow such that SUP fins snag on obstacles or rocks risking falls and not too deep (which was a common concern of many participants.)
4. Close parking (parking lot and/or on street)
5. Close to home (walking distance, biking distance, short drive)
6. Dogs allowed in park, so that they can paddle with their owners
7. Scenic waterway
8. Variable distance available for different levels of paddling fitness, time restrictions, experience, etc.

9. Support by phone near water in emergencies.
10. Fixed location (as opposed to roaming rental, which due to City regulations requires pre-booking and paying, which is a deterrent because of weather, concerns about refunds, and requires accommodating different distances to use service.)

Preferred Services (in order of preference)

1. Rental at the water of stand up paddleboards
2. Rental at the water of kayaks
3. Private, semi-private and group lessons
4. Guided social events
5. Takeaway rentals of stand up paddleboards and kayaks

Preference for Experienced Staff - Safety and Instruction

1. Paddling instruction available before going on the water. (For inexperienced paddlers or those who wish to improve their knowledge.)
2. Guidance on safety equipment and paddling regulations
3. Guidance on the specific characteristics of a particular waterway including how to safely enter the waterway, current, prevailing winds and waves, sandbanks and obstacles, rapids, shallow areas, changes in levels such as waterfalls.
4. Assistance to match body weight, level of experience, and mobility to the type of watercraft to be rented. (For example, too small a volume may result in tipping).
5. Awareness of when the paddler has embarked and when they are expected to return in the event of an unexpected problem on the water, so that help can be provided.
6. Awareness of rapid changes in water conditions to contact the paddler to advise returning immediately.
7. Availability by phone to respond to a need for rescue or retrieval. (Ottawa SUP will also provide a floating waterproof phone pouch.)

Preferences Re Equipment: Safety Regulations and Paddler Needs

1. Ongoing due diligence by experienced staff in providing safety and paddling conditions oversight, instruction in and knowledge of safety regulations and best practices.
2. Rules in place and shared online or by signage that meet or exceed regulations.

3. Selection of equipment that meets and exceeds safety standards and is appropriate for the size, age, experience and fitness of the participant. This requires a variety of equipment for different needs be made available.
4. Monitoring of equipment for condition and repairs
5. Selection of equipment appropriate for the size, age, experience and fitness of the participant. This requires a variety of equipment for different needs be made available.
6. Fibreglass paddles for safety, lighter weight, and better performance.

Communication Preferences

1. Responsive communications - prompt answering of emails, messages, phone calls 7 days a week.
2. A strong social media presence, kept up to date and informative, on at least Facebook, Instagram and Google.
3. A good website that has up to date information and provides guidance on safety

Availability Preferences

1. Weekend hours available plus at least four days a week (weather permitting)
2. Some evening hours available

Community Survey (Oct 6 - Oct 16, 2024)

Methodology

Every effort has been made to ensure the support of the neighbourhoods in which Ottawa SUP proposes to operate and to ensure that Ottawa SUP maximizes meeting community needs and addresses any community concerns.

Ottawa SUP engaged the services of a Ph.D. Candidate in Experimental Psychology, University of Ottawa to conduct community surveys. Surveys were posted on Facebook in several local neighbourhood forums including:

Results have been tabulated and full results are in Appendix ?

Summary Table of Quantitative Results

		Old Ottawa East (n=55)		Old Ottawa South (n=28)	
Questions	Options	Percentage (%)	Count	%	Count
How much do you think a small-scale SUP and kayak rental business would benefit your community?	A lot	87%	48	96%	27
	Somewhat	13%	7	4%	1
	Not at all	0%	0	0%	0
How interested would you be in a SUP and kayak rental service in your neighbourhood?	Very interested	76%	42	82%	23
	Somewhat interested	22%	12	14%	4
	Not at all interested	2%	1	4%	1
If there was a SUP and kayak rental business near you, how likely would you, a family member, or a friend use it?	Very likely	66%	38	82%	23
	Somewhat likely	24%	13	11%	3
	Not likely	7%	4	7%	2
How concerned would you be about a SUP and kayak rental business being located at a local park near your home?	Very concerned	2%	1	0%	0
	Somewhat concerned	5%	3	4%	1
	Not at all concerned	93%	51	96%	27

Old Ottawa East Survey “Additional Comment” Responses

- ★ This would be a fantastic, permanent addition to OOE! Affording families the opportunity to try a new sport, excessive and get outside! I am fully supportive
- ★ SUP Ottawa is a fabulous business, having introduced me to SUP years ago when you were located near CA Paradis. I regularly rented boards from you, using it as a gathering space for friends and getting them to rent boards as well. It was a great, easy and affordable way to get on our waterways (that is, the Rideau River), which is so beautiful. I would love for you guys to find another permanent home in the neighbourhood. It would be such a great asset to have you a part of the neighbourhood. We now have 3 docks between OOE and OOS, and it would be nice for you to have a permanent location near us so that not only those who can afford to buy their own board (and have the privilege of space to store it) can use the waterway.

- ★ This is a great addition to the community, I do not own a sup but always wanted to try one.
- ★ I like the idea of SUP rentals, but I also think there is a lot of benefit to the events you put on as community builders. I own a board so i'm not looking for rentals, but having the river used more with SUP events would be great!
- ★ I love Ottawa SUP. Such a great family that provides amazing opportunities for my neighbours and I to stay active and get out on the water. I have referred numerous local friends who have all benefitted from Ottawa SUP being in Brantwood park.
- ★ We would love you in OOE! The more activity on the river, the healthier and more normalizing for us all! Renting from you got us in to SUP originally. Now we have friends who want to give it a try. A rental at OOE would be a great opportunity for more folks to enjoy
- ★ I would encourage this for Brantwood Park! I would further encourage you to partner with a food truck business to see if the river end of Clegg could become a lot more interesting. Long term residents are very much in favour of the city building a pedestrian bridge across the Rideau at the end of Clegg to connect with the park lands on the far side. Increased community interest in that end of the park helps everyone
- ★ As long as the customers treat the park with respect and clean up after themselves, I see no issue having SUP rentals available.
- ★ OOE families and individuals love to get outside and enjoy outdoor activities. With several accessible docks along the river, such an addition would be a wonderful benefit to our community.. I fully support this initiative.
- ★ Our parks are underutilised! add a coffee shop to it as well!
- ★ I think the business is a great idea.
- ★ I vote for Brantwood Park
- ★ I would prefer the Brantwood park location
- ★ I'm in a building where parking isn't a concern. Others may be concerned about parking. But, I'm not...
- ★ I would LOVE ago have you in my neighborhood. To be able to access sup and kayaks without needing a car would be GREAT!!!
- ★ I have really enjoyed renting from Ottawa SUP and would love to be about to do so again. I really hope the city of Ottawa will agree to this partnership.
- ★ I think this is a great idea!!
- ★ Great initiative, you have our full support!

- ★ I think sprighurst park would be best as parking is plentiful and it's an easy walk to the new dock, also it's a very underutilized park.
- ★ Very supportive of this being located in Brantwood or Windsor Park -- let's do more to animate our parks and take advantage of this beautiful river!
- ★ We are a family who, unlike many families in this neighbourhood, cannot afford to be part of a club. My partner loves to kayak and this would be a great opportunity for him to have more reg access.
- ★ Think wonderful initiative. Would benefit our community
- ★ Springhurst park location would be great, lots of young people in the lees apts, students and families.
- ★ You stated that this service would be at no charge to the The City of Ottawa but want the permit to be at no charge as well. You should pay rent as you will be taking up valuable space, and likely inconveniencing people who want to use the docks for personal use.. also you keep mentioning 28,000 residents like everyone is going to benefit from this. Some of your support statements are a massive stretch - massive. The docks at Springhurst and Brantwood are too small to support a business.
- ★ We have a new dock in the Springhurst park. Your business could be located in that park.
- ★ It is a great tourist attraction to have such a venture in a downtown neighbourhood - great way for visiting families to enjoy the unique attraction of aquatic activity so close to the center of town. Perhaps have a canoe rental program as well?? Also, BTW OOE and OOS are in fact on an island between the Rideau river and the Canal!!!
- ★ Hi, I love seeing all the people powered watercraft out on the water when I'm out canoeing. I said I would not use the service only because I have my own equipment. I know several people that were disappointed when you left the Billings Bridge area.
- ★ It would be great to see more people using the Rideau for recreation, and it would also be really nice to see more use of the park spaces in the neighbourhood - this seems like a great fit. Walking/biking accessibility is a big plus!
- ★ Good initiative!
- ★ My concern is parking. Although many people can walk, many are joined by family members living outside the area and they will come by car. The parking lot is very small and may not accommodate peak times.
- ★ The existing dock and parking lot at Brantwood park along the accessible bike path is a great spot for this operation.

Old Ottawa East Facebook Responses

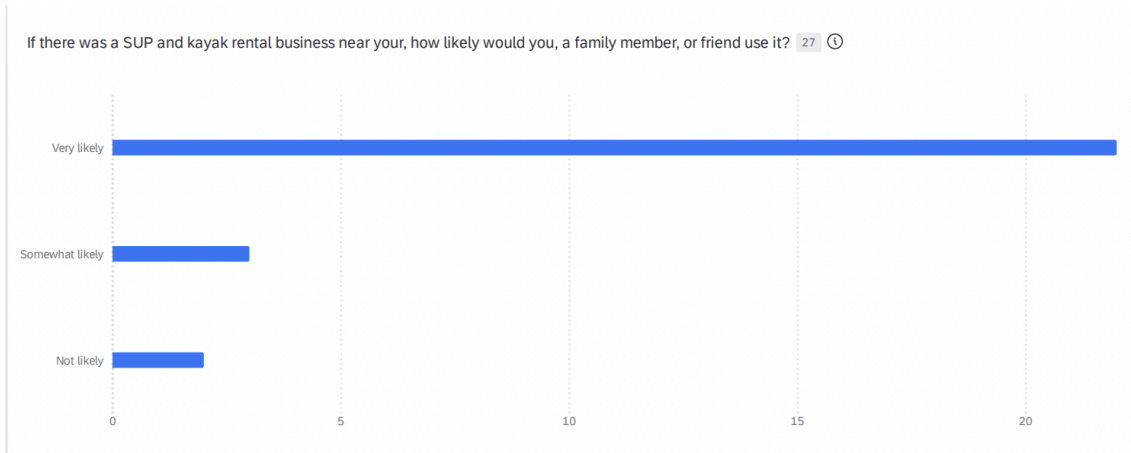
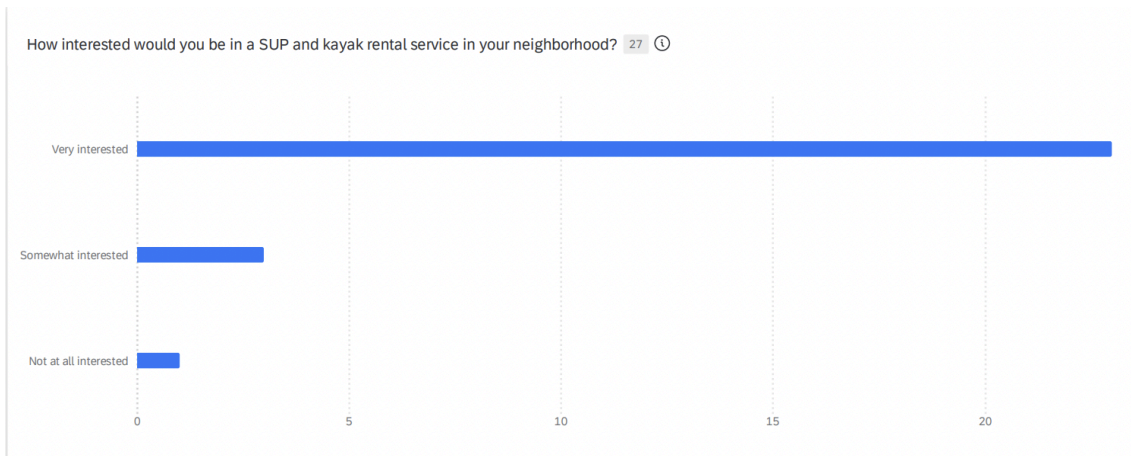
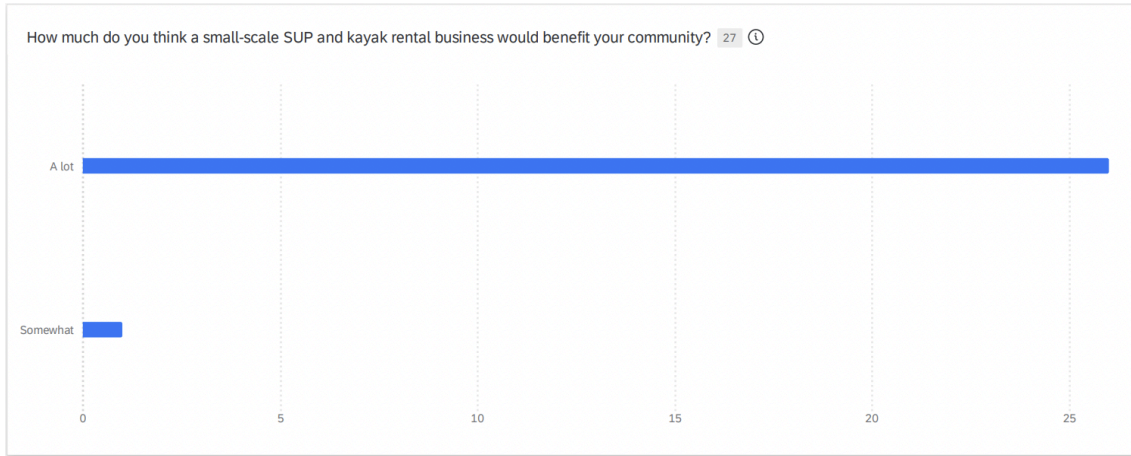
- ★ Your business is what got me into SUP many years ago. I would be happy to fill out the survey. Best of luck
- ★ Brantwood dock and parking area is a great spot. All the Best
- ★ I'd love to see this in our hood!
- ★ In full support of this initiative!
- ★ Great idea!
- ★ Good luck to your business! Survey completed!
- ★ This is fantastic! Well done. Full support as a regular user of Brantwood
- ★ Fully supportive. Hope it can happen. I missed seeing more use of the Rideau River this year since you were not full time at Linda Thom park. Well done establishing the business and best of luck getting a permit for a permanent spot.
- ★ This is excellent news and I'm sure your business will thrive in OOE. We have a brand new dock at Springhurst - the area is always buzzing with people coming and going.... Happy to support your survey...
- ★ I hope you get approved. This is a great idea!
- ★ Would love to have you in our neighbourhood. The more people and activity on the water, the better and healthier for us all.
- ★ We are seeing increasingly more turtles and more people in and around the river vs when we moved to OOE 12 years ago. Still get some funny looks when we swim or wade in the water in the warm summer days.
- ★ Would be wonderful to have your SUP business at Brantwood

Old Ottawa South (OOS) Survey “Additional Comment” Responses

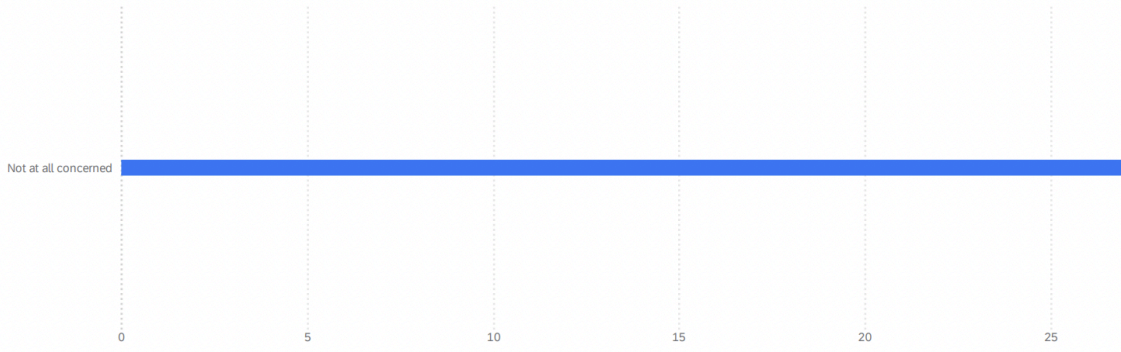
- ★ I support the establishment of Ottawa SUP on the Rideau River at any of the potential park locations. The business provides a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the recreational use of the river while at the same appreciating the nature and wildlife of the water.
- ★ Rather than being concerned, I think it's a really positive addition to local parks even aside from opportunities for personal use. When Ottawa SUP was located in Linda Thom park, it was nice to see people enjoying the water. I thought it was a super addition to the neighbourhood, and I strongly agree that making rentals more available to the public along the Rideau River would be really valuable.

- ★ Good luck finding a spot!
- ★ Any of the parks along the Rideau River would be excellent, well used locations (assuming the City is onboard)
- ★ I don't see any issues and fully support the proposal. Hoping for a positive outcome. I live seeing the river busy with paddlers
- ★ We miss you in oos! Hoping you are able to set up at Windsor park.
- ★ At the end of Avenue Road, at the entrance to Windsor Park, Brantwood Park entrance all would be fantastic locations.
- ★ We are lucky enough to live in a city surrounded by nature. Proposals like this one enhance that and also encourage more people to get out in nature and enjoy all it has to offer. This seems like an obvious improvement to me. It costs the city nothing, its already had years of success and i live practically next door to where it for years and can say that everyone was respectful, there was no excessive noise or garbage and it brought joy to many. It is a great initiative amd running it from Linda Thom Park or Windsor Park, is a brilliant idea.
- ★ I think the SUP and kayak rental business would continue to be a great addition to the neighbourhood! Allowing for easier access to the Rideau River using the existing boat launches would be an easy way to encourage residents to get outside and utilize the great nature that these neighbourhoods have to offer. I know that it would encourage me to use the resources here a lot more often if I knew that there was an easy way to do so.
- ★ Your business is a lovely boost to our communities. We hope you will return to OOS!!
- ★ I have a board myself but learned from you guys and love to know there's a place nearby that folks can rent and take lessons so that I end up with more friends to paddle with! Good luck with this initiative. If you need verbal support have the City call me, Maureen - 6137306702.
- ★ I think more people being active & in our parks keeps everyone safer; especially when there is a business reminding patrons to respect nature& neighbours.
- ★ It was great when this service was offered near the bridge at bank st. Very popular and drew young people to the neighbourhood.
- ★ My only worry would be blocking off access to existing park areas or access points to the water for people with their own equipment
- ★ We have our own gear so shouldn't rent but would be happy to see it in the neighbourhood.

Quantitative Results from Old Ottawa South (See Appendix J for further analysis of Quantitative Results)



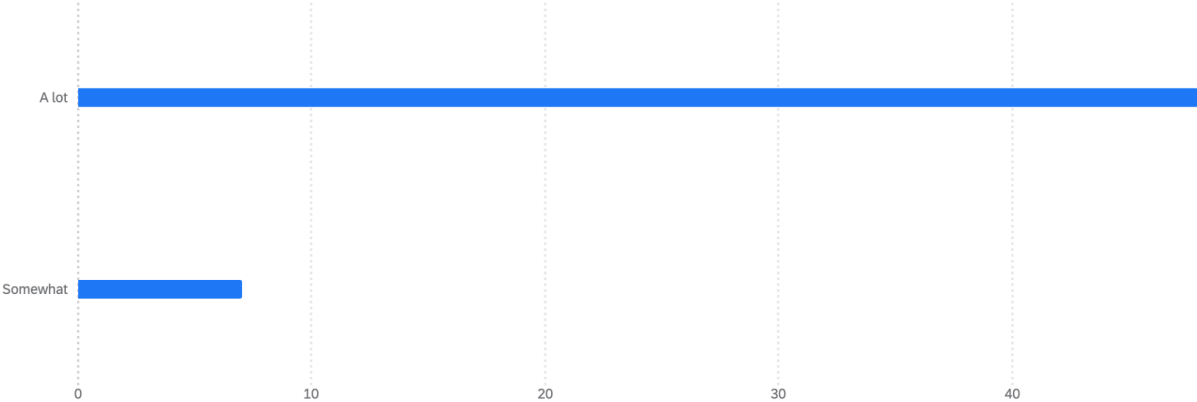
How concerned would you be about a SUP and kayak rental business being located at a local park near your home? 27 ⓘ



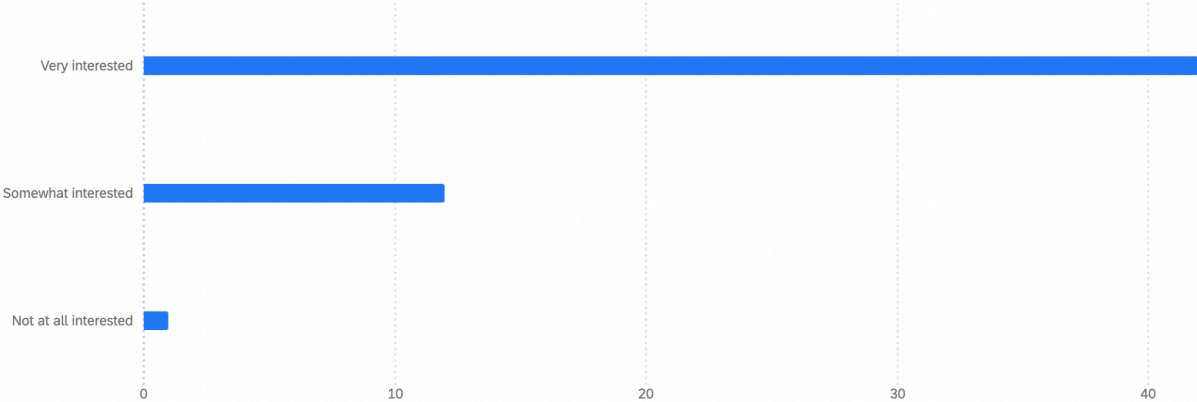
Quantitative Results from Old Ottawa East

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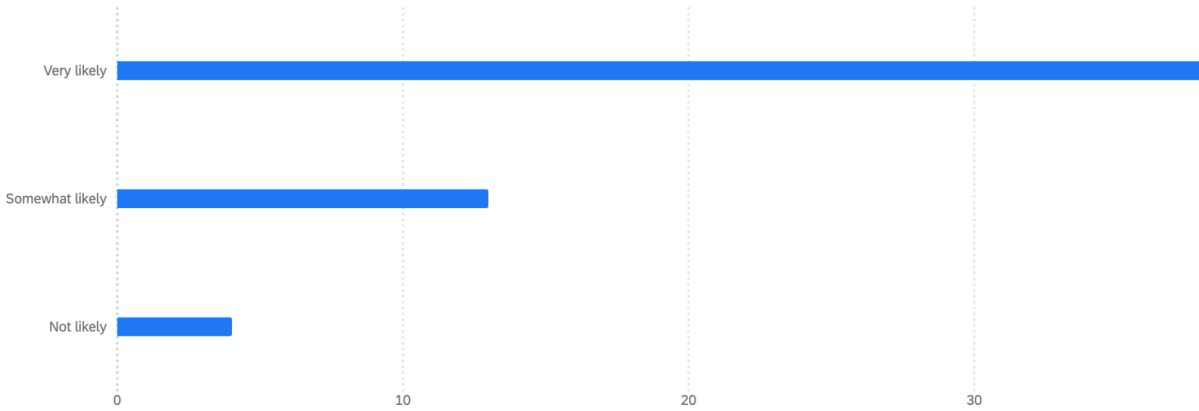
How much do you think a small-scale SUP and kayak rental business would benefit your community? 55 ⓘ



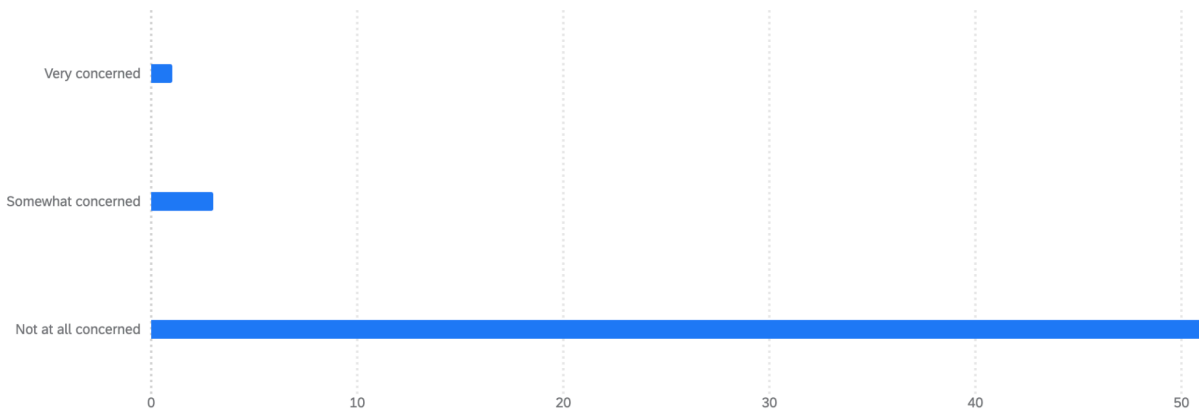
How interested would you be in a SUP and kayak rental service in your neighborhood? 55 ⓘ



If there was a SUP and kayak rental business near your, how likely would you, a family member, or friend use it? 55 ⓘ



How concerned would you be about a SUP and kayak rental business being located at a local park near your home? 55 ⓘ



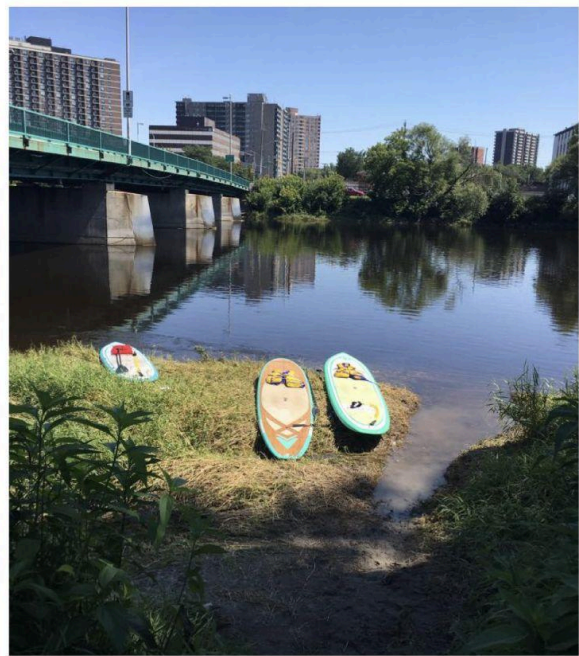
Questions and Concerns Arising from Needs Assessment

Ottawa SUP was pleased to discover from the Survey that there was strong general support and there were very few concerns about the service being located in a park in a community neighbourhood.

We did have one question about what sort of impact it may have on the river or on the park itself. As we have addressed elsewhere, Ottawa SUP believes that its history of providing rental and lesson service on the Rideau River over the past decade speak for itself.

Ottawa SUP does not anticipate marked differences in the layout or footprint of the Proposed Service in either Brandwood, Springbank or Windsor Parks from the arrangement that was at Linda Thom Park, Billings Bridge, on the Rideau River for almost a decade. We are proposing one storage container, a kayak rack, and a canopy. Human foot traffic at the business and to and from the river would be only marginally greater than exists currently. Over the past summer, Ottawa SUP has rotated its service to several Ottawa parks with virtually no environmental impact and with a strong positive response from the local neighbourhood.

Below are photos from Ottawa SUP at Linda Thom Park



Conclusion and Next Steps

Summary of Proposal:

1. Ottawa SUP is proposing that:
 - a. The City of Ottawa provide Ottawa SUP with a permit by the General Manager under Parks and Facilities (By-law No. 2004-276) to operate a seasonal paddlecraft rental and lesson service at an existing water access park in the City of Ottawa, providing access onto the water to over 28,000 people of Old Ottawa East, Old Ottawa South, and The Glebe, with most under a 1/2 hour walk.
2. Ottawa SUP would provide a seasonal rental and lesson paddlecraft operation at the selected park, with experienced staff to provide instruction, safety, and oversight and a storage container (approximately 20'), a small kayak rack, a 10 x 10 tent on a small footprint and all equipment.
3. There is no cost to the City. Ottawa SUP proposes to fund the full cost of the operation and staffing, both initially and during operations. This would include storage and other physical requirements, as well as initially 20 - 30 stand up paddleboards for rent and 10 kayaks. There would be a fee for service to participants of \$25 for the first hour of paddling for example.
4. The proposal fills Community Needs including:
 - a. Access to get onto the water where they live - under ½ walk to the service for up to 28,000 people in the Old Ottawa East, Old Ottawa South and The Glebe.
 - b. Availability of a healthy, safe, low cost activity to benefit physical, mental, social wellbeing.
 - c. Low environmental impact on the park or waterway and would fit unobtrusively and quietly into the park and neighbourhood.
 - d. Preferred fixed location (close to water, easy access, calm, safe, scenic, parking, support for emergencies)
 - e. Experienced Staff on site at all times for paddling instruction, safety instruction, knowledge of waterway, oversight of paddlers activities, availability in emergency, and to ensure the service is a good neighbour at all times
5. The proposal fills City of Ottawa Needs and Priorities:
 - a. Addresses the Big Policy Moves of the New Official Plan
 - b. Supports the City to follow the directive of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS)

Next Steps

Community Consultation and Media

Ottawa SUP has been reaching out to the local neighbourhoods and influencers over the past few weeks and are hoping to present to community associations in December. We have also been gathering Letters of Support, which will be attached to this Proposal. We have also had

interest from local media, but are planning on deferring news coverage until we have submitted our Proposal to the City of Ottawa.

Submit Application for Permit

In the coming weeks, Ottawa SUP will be consulting with the Recreation, Culture and Facilities Services Department for The City of Ottawa and will submit this Proposal in application for a permit to the General Manager of the Recreation, Culture and Facilities Services.

A Partnership

Ottawa SUP believes that the many advantages to the Neighbourhoods and to The City of Ottawa itself will result in the General Manager of the Recreation, Culture and Facilities Services for The City of Ottawa being highly supportive of this proposal and will result in a permit to operate being granted.

In the event that this does not happen, Ottawa SUP's next step would be to approach the City to enter a partnership with Ottawa SUP to provide this service.

Precedents for Recreational Partnerships

Current precedents exist in both policy and practice of community partnerships to meet City recreational strategic objectives including:

- City of Ottawa Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan, Final Draft: October 2021, Page 23

“ 2.11 Partners in the Provision of Sport and Recreation

Through numerous partnerships, the City is able to broaden the amount and variety of sport and recreation programs available to residents.

The City has several collaborative partnerships with both private and public recreational facility operators.

These partnerships open a tremendous number of opportunities to offer additional space for programs, as well as a direct option for residents to book these private sports and recreation facilities.

These partnerships bring innovative solutions by providing several additional facilities for recreational sport and community programs.

For example... (See link)

The programs and facilities offered by this large range of partners, greatly expands and supplements what the City has on offer. The City remains open to new and additional partnerships with communities, registered charities, public,

not-for-profit and private organizations to augment all residents' additional access to recreation.

<https://pub-ottawa.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?documentid=80278>

- In the City of Ottawa New Official Plan Pg 100 it states:

4.6.3 Ensure capital investments enhance the City's streets, sidewalks, and other **public spaces supporting a healthy lifestyle** ...

4) **The City will explore partnerships** with development proponents, and other groups (such as Business Improvement Associations, other levels of government and community groups) **to enhance the public realm** through means such as the coordination and development of capital improvements in conjunction with development on adjacent properties as well as the maintenance, management and stewardship of existing or future public spaces.

P3s

According to the City of Ottawa, Public-Private Partnerships (P3s) are contracts between government and private-sector partners that use creative approaches to enable the design, building, financing, operation and/or maintenance of facilities that serve the public.

P3 approaches enable the City to offer residents new or better facilities that it could not afford to undertake on its own, or that it does not have the specialized skills to undertake.

There are many types of Public-Private Partnerships. The “right” Public-Private Partnership is the one that best meets the needs of the partners in the local context. One size does not fit all.

After our Proposal is accepted...

As always, Ottawa SUP will be actively gathering feedback from the neighbourhoods it services and from participants in its programs. We will be conducting ongoing Needs Assessments, analyzing results, and implementing suggestions.

Contact Us

Questions or concerns about this proposal?

Would you like the opportunity to support a proposal to bring paddling within walking distance to your neighbourhood?

Contact us here:

Email: info@ottawasup.ca

Phone or Text: 613 263 2069

Website: ottawasup.ca

Appendices

Appendix A

Official Plan Pg. 119

4.9 Water Resources

https://documents.ottawa.ca/sites/documents/files/section4_op_en.pdf

Water is an essential resource that shall be protected. Surface water features, groundwater features and their associated functions make up the water resources system. Healthy watersheds provide numerous human, ecological and health benefits including: safe drinking water for residents, fish and wildlife habitat, climate change resilience, flood and erosion mitigation, **recreational amenities in nature** and support for agriculture, industry and other resource uses.

The City of Ottawa's Official Plan provides for exceptions to minimum setback policies for the purpose of water oriented facilities.

1. Section 4 - City Wide Policies, City of Ottawa Official Plan

1. 4.9.3 Restrict or limit development and site alteration near surface water features

1) The minimum setback from surface water features shall be the development limits as established by a Council-approved watershed, subwatershed or environmental management plan.

6) No site alteration or development is permitted within the minimum setback, except as otherwise provided for in this section. **Exceptions** to this policy are:

e) Water-oriented facilities along the Ottawa and Rideau Rivers and the Rideau Canal that are compatible with the designations shown in B-series of schedules, are developed in an environmentally sensitive manner, preserve a waterfront shoreline aesthetic and are approved by the City, the conservation authority and Parks Canada, as applicable, **to support the following:**

i) **Water-based recreation** (including yacht clubs, marinas and beaches);

ii) Active transportation (including **canoe/kayak rental facilities** and pathways);

iii) Water-based transportation services (including ferry and water taxi services, boat launch facilities or tourist-related activities such as scenic cruises); and

iv) Small-scale commercial services that contribute to or are ancillary to a use permitted in i), ii) or iii) above (including concession stands and restaurants); and

Appendix B

2.3 Provincial Policy Statement (PPS)

<https://www.ontario.ca/files/2024-08/mmah-provincial-planning-statement-en-2024-08-19.pdf>

(Pg 14 - 16 City of Ottawa Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Final Draft: October 2021 <https://pub-ottawa.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?documentid=80278>)

The PPP provides policy direction on matters of provincial interest related to land use planning and development in Ontario...The PPS 2020 applies to all municipal planning matter decisions made or after May 1, 2020.

Section 3 of the Planning Act requires that decisions affecting planning matters “shall be consistent with” policy statements issued under the Act.

Accordingly, the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan is a supporting document to the City’s Official Plan which must be consistent with the PPS and other applicable policy statements.

Subsection 1.5 of the PPS contains policies for public spaces, recreation, parks, trails and open space as described below:

1.5.1 **Healthy, active communities should be promoted by:**

- a) planning public streets, spaces and facilities to be safe, meet the needs of pedestrians, foster social interaction and facilitate active transportation and community connectivity;
- b) **planning and providing for a full range and equitable distribution of publicly accessible built and natural settings for recreation**, including facilities, parklands, public spaces, open space areas, trails and linkages, **and, where practical, water-based resources**;
- c) **providing opportunities for public access to shorelines**; and
- d) recognizing provincial parks, conservation reserves, and other

Appendix C

Healthy and Inclusive Communities through the New Official Plan

https://ehq-production-canada.s3.ca-central-1.amazonaws.com/8257067310e90383bdddad5fee43beba2cd0793/original/1649769344/a28a0377246d13e16e768b2a0d475516_Healthy_and_Inclusive_Cmtys_Infographic_01_2022_final_EN-AODA.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIA4KKNQAKIOR7VAOP4%2F20240917%2Fca-central-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20240917T113133Z&X-Amz-Expires=300&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=d10bc4524c54a0de1562f1d1feed39d07b5d86827b6ae65537b0741a7aaf4f1

15 Minute Healthy Communities

The City of Ottawa's New Official Plan provides us with a blueprint for building healthier and more inclusive neighbourhoods. This includes :

13. A healthy built environment can:
 - a. • Make the healthy choice the easy choice
 - b. Encourage being physically active through active transportation and improve mobility options for those not driving
 - c. Foster social interactions and connections
 - d. Provide access to natural and green spaces and reduce urban heat islands
 - e. Support equitable opportunities for all people to thrive and be healthy
14. Foster green and sustainable design
15. Prioritize a shift to energy efficient transportation modes
16. ... use nature-based solutions for resilience
17. Ensure planning decisions promote health and well-being:
18. All land-use and transportation planning decisions need to support health and well-being, leading to more resilient communities
19. City master plans, zoning bylaws, local plans such as secondary plans and community design plans, guidelines, must integrate health and equity considerations
20. Design parks that contribute to quality of life and respond to climate change
 - Provide residents with equitable access to an inclusive urban greenspace network

Appendix D, E, F

Official Plan Pg.96 Appendix D

Urban design plays an important role in supporting the City's objectives such as building healthy 15-minute neighbourhoods, growing the urban tree canopy and developing resilience to climate change. **New development should be designed to make healthier, more environmentally sustainable living accessible for people of all ages, genders and social statuses.**

Pg 99 Appendix E

4.6.3 Ensure capital investments enhance the City's streets, sidewalks, and **other public spaces supporting a healthy lifestyle**

Pg 118 Appendix F

4.8.3 Provide residents with equitable access to an inclusive urban greenspace network

1) The City shall protect all of its various types of greenspaces as described in Section 7 for their ecosystem services and their contributions to healthy, active communities.

2) In general, and to support health, climate resiliency, accessibility and gender and social equity, the City shall seek to provide all urban residents with the following minimum access to high-quality greenspace:

- a) Within a 5-minute safe walking distance (400 metres), a public greenspace providing space for passive or active recreation;
- b) Within a 10-minute safe walking distance (800 metres), two green public spaces; and
- c) Within a 15-minute trip by transit, a publicly-owned natural area.

Appendix G

Pg 140

City of Ottawa Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Final Draft: October 2021 Part of the City of Ottawa New Official Plan

18.5 Target Provision Levels and Additional Recommendations

Strategy Statements:

b. Additional seasonal docks for non-motorized watercraft and that are funded through partnerships or other programs can be considered.

Appendix H

Provision Levels beach, docks Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Pg 89

The citywide provision level of supervised beaches is 1:266,700 residents. No new supervised beaches are planned to be built between 2021 and 2031. As such, the citywide provision level **will drop to 1:306,300 residents.**

Pg 139

There are 15 municipal recreational boat launches and docks in Ottawa. This results in a citywide provision level of 1:71,100 residents. One new recreational boat dock in Riverain Park is currently planned within the next ten years. Given population growth, the citywide provision level will become **1:76,600 residents by 2031.**

Appendix I

Healthy Parks, Healthy People

*“Spending time in nature is good for you. We feel this every time we step outside to hike, camp, **paddle**, or just be in natural spaces. A wide body of research supports the physical and mental benefits of nature.”*

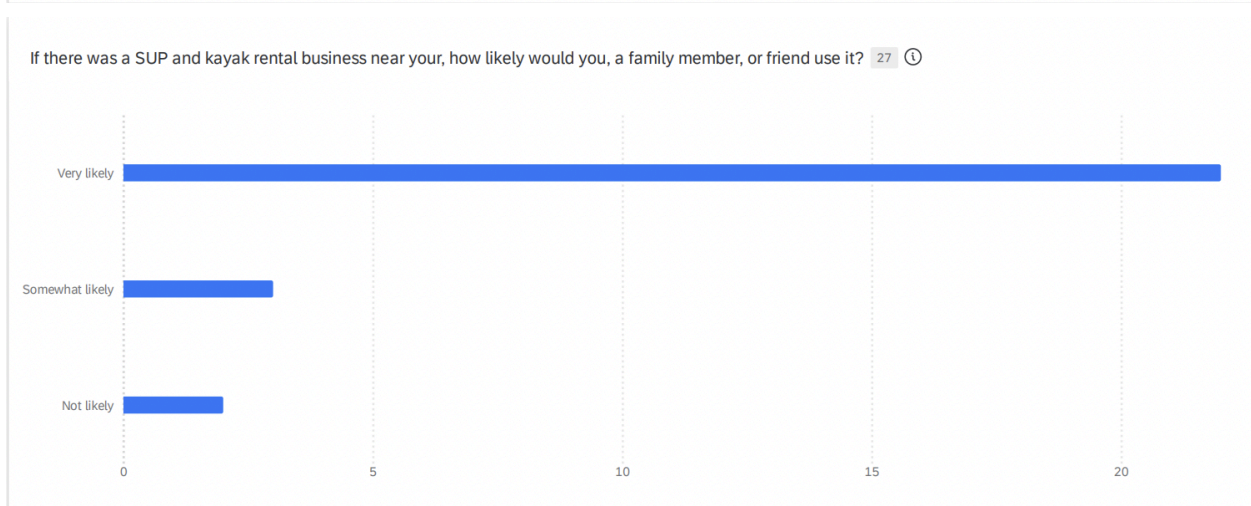
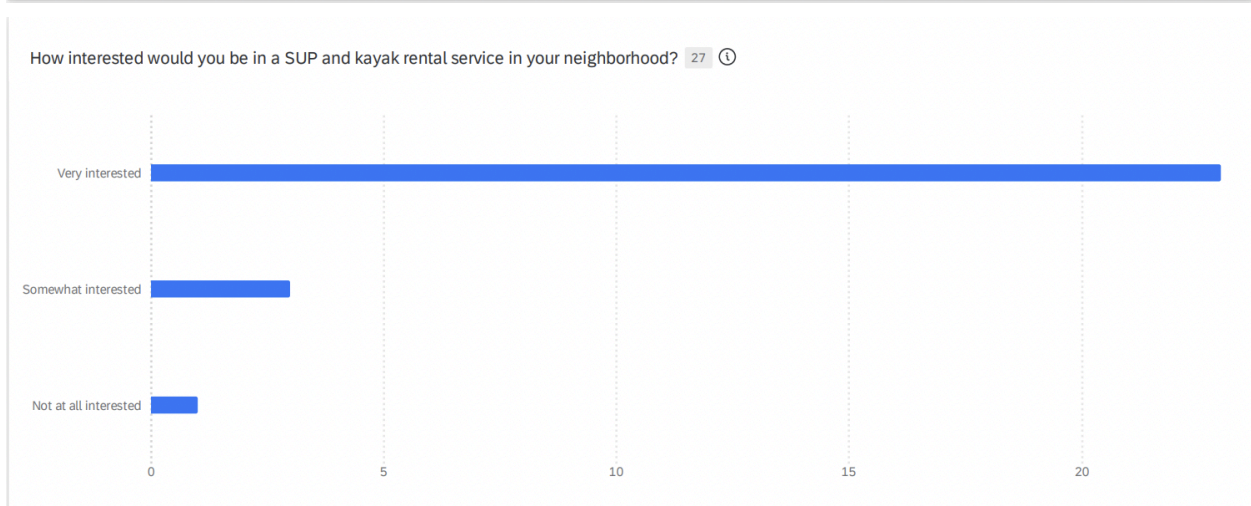
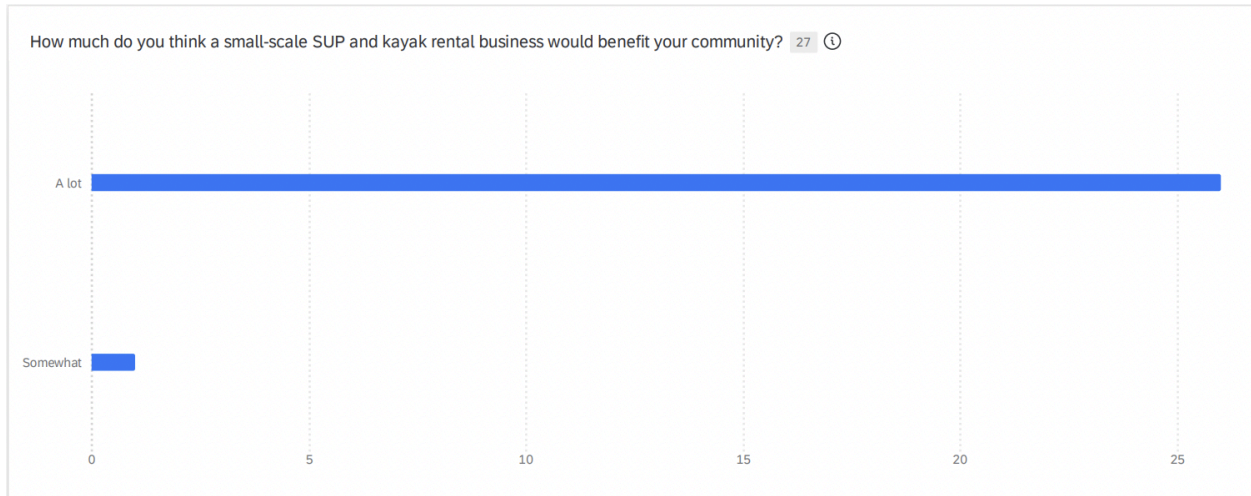
Ontario Parks, <https://www.ontarioparks.ca/hphp>

*“Research shows that spending time in nature is good for our physical and mental health, and **paddling** is just one of the ways to include more nature in our lives. This is why Ontario Parks has embraced the worldwide Healthy Parks, Healthy People movement which encourages everyone to spend more time in nature.”*

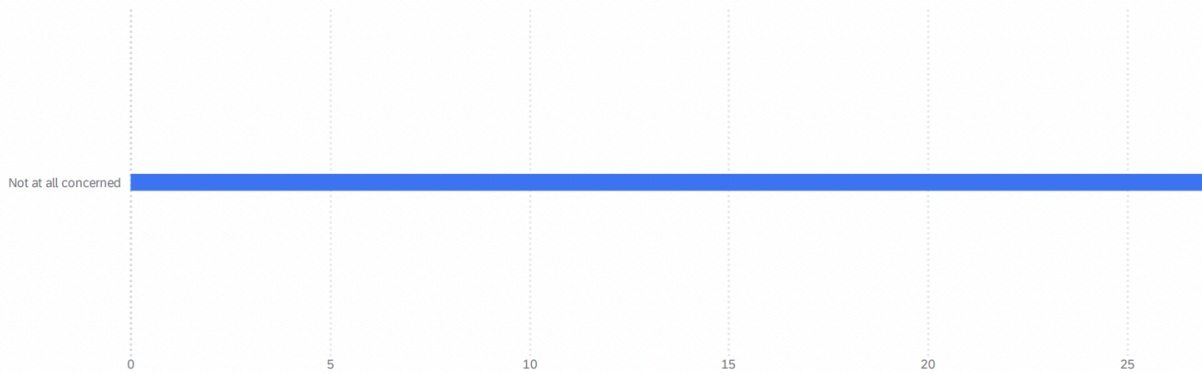
Ontario Parks, <https://www.ontarioparks.ca/parksblog/8-ways-paddling-can-improve-your-health/>

Appendix J

Quantitative Results from Old Ottawa South



How concerned would you be about a SUP and kayak rental business being located at a local park near your home? 27 ⓘ



How much do you think a small-scale SUP and kayak rental business would benefit your community? 27 ⓘ

Q2 - How much do you think a small-scale SUP and kayak rental business would benefit your community?	Percentage	Count
A lot	96%	26
Somewhat	4%	1

How interested would you be in a SUP and kayak rental service in your neighborhood? 27 ⓘ

Q3 - How interested would you be in a SUP and kayak rental service in your neighborhood?	Percentage	Count
Very interested	85%	23
Somewhat interested	11%	3
Not at all interested	4%	1

If there was a SUP and kayak rental business near your, how likely would you, a family member, or friend use it? 27 ⓘ

Q5 - If there was a SUP and kayak rental business near your, how likely would you, a family member, or friend use it?	Percentage	Count
Very likely	81%	22
Somewhat likely	11%	3
Not likely	7%	2

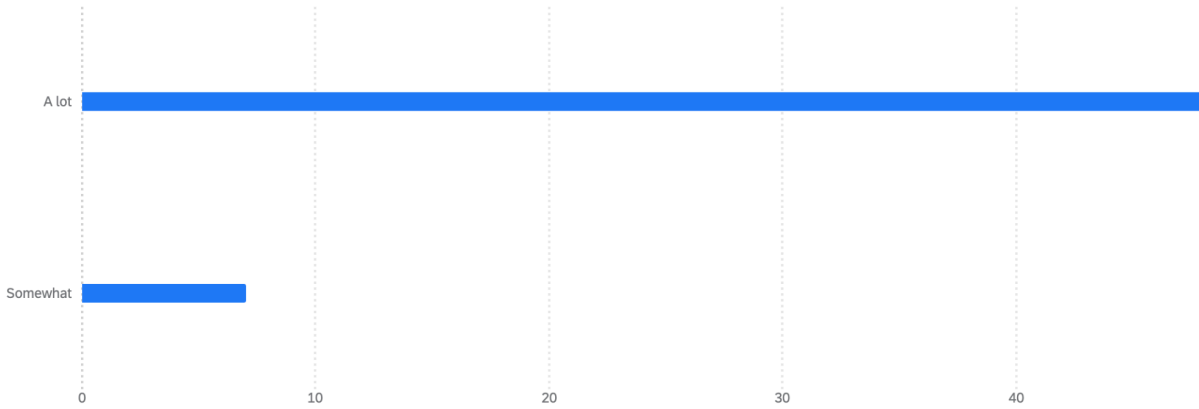
How concerned would you be about a SUP and kayak rental business being located at a local park near your home? 27 ⓘ

Q4 - How concerned would you be about a SUP and kayak rental business being located at a local park near your home?	Percentage	Count
Not at all concerned	100%	27

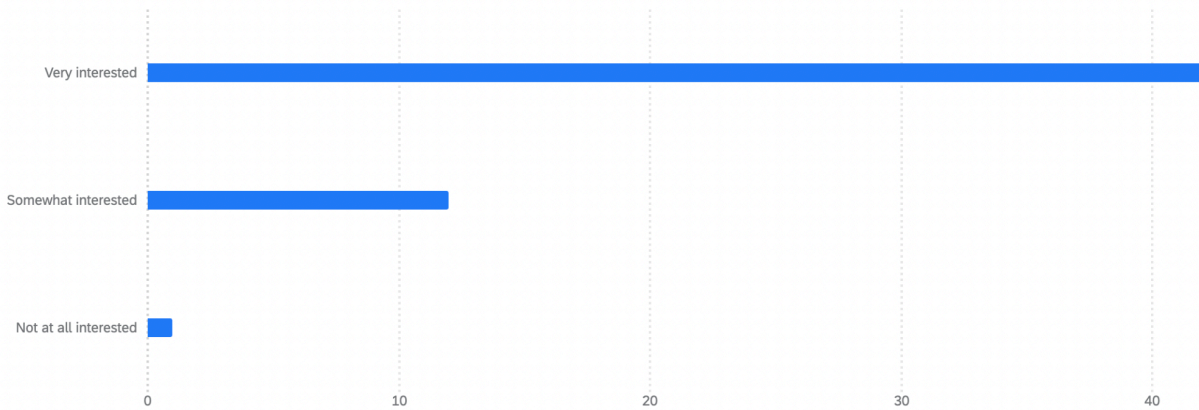
Quantitative Results from Old Ottawa East

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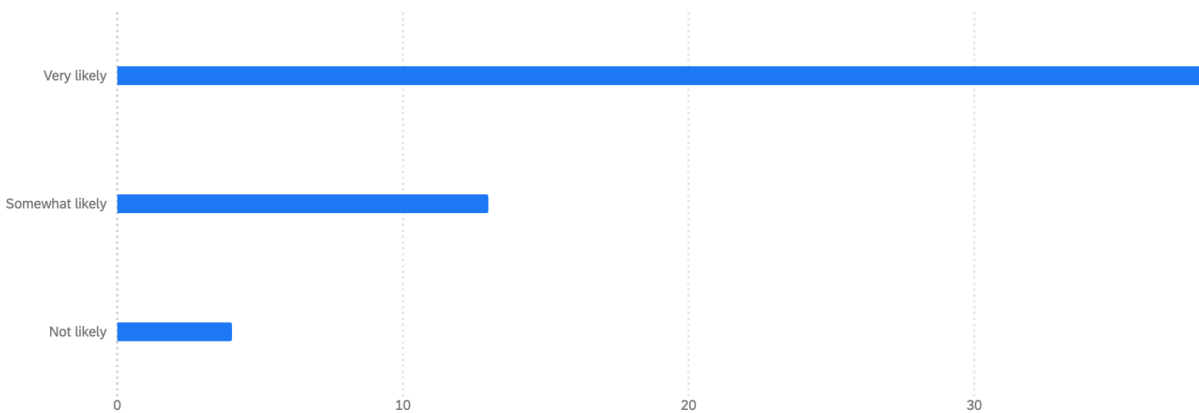
How much do you think a small-scale SUP and kayak rental business would benefit your community? 55 ⓘ



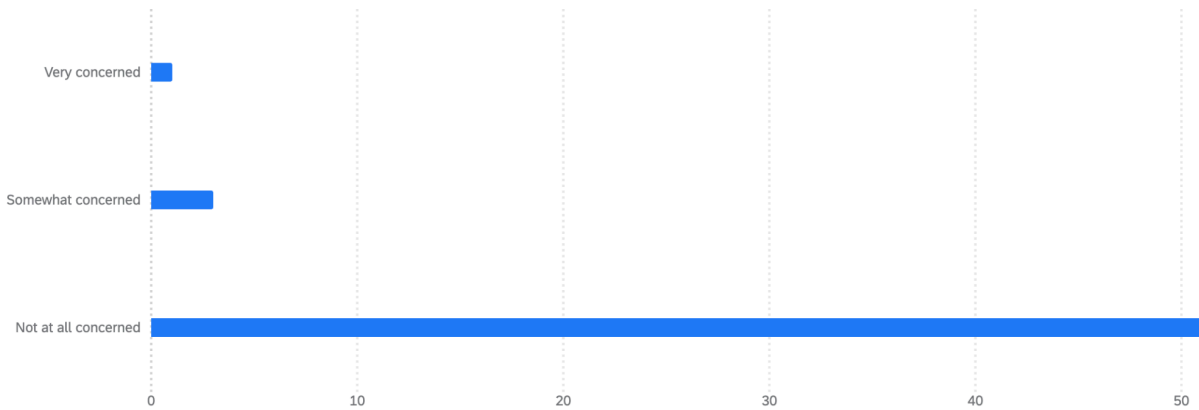
How interested would you be in a SUP and kayak rental service in your neighborhood? 55 ⓘ



If there was a SUP and kayak rental business near you, how likely would you, a family member, or friend use it? 55 ⓘ



How concerned would you be about a SUP and kayak rental business being located at a local park near your home? 55 ⓘ



If there was a SUP and kayak rental business near your, how likely would you, a family member, or friend use it? 55 ⓘ

Q5 - If there was a SUP and kayak rental business near your, how likely would you, a family member, or friend use it?	Percentage	Count
Very likely	69%	38
Somewhat likely	24%	13
Not likely	7%	4

How concerned would you be about a SUP and kayak rental business being located at a local park near your home? 55 ⓘ

Q4 - How concerned would you be about a SUP and kayak rental business being located at a local park near your home?	Percentage	Count
Very concerned	2%	1
Somewhat concerned	5%	3
Not at all concerned	93%	51

How interested would you be in a SUP and kayak rental service in your neighborhood? 55 ⓘ

Q3 - How interested would you be in a SUP and kayak rental service in your neighborhood?	Percentage	Count
Very interested	76%	42
Somewhat interested	22%	12
Not at all interested	2%	1

How much do you think a small-scale SUP and kayak rental business would benefit your community? 55 ⓘ

How much do you think a small-scale SUP and kayak rental business would ben...	Average	Minimum	Maximum	Count
A lot	1.00	1.00	1.00	48
Somewhat	2.00	2.00	2.00	7