

Key themes captured through Stage 3 Engagement Activities

Overall strategy support: Engagement feedback demonstrated strong support for the proposed Aquatic Services & Facilities Strategy and its decentralized service delivery model, which was widely viewed as improving access, equity, and participation. Limited support was expressed for a centralized approach, primarily due to perceived efficiency and cost benefits.

Facility types and locations: There was broad support for redeveloping MRC and ARC and for constructing a new aquatic facility at the MSA site. Participants expressed interest in enhancing the MSA 50-metre training pool to better support competitions, fitness, and leisure uses, and to function as a destination-style facility.

Timelines: Many participants expressed a desire to accelerate project timelines, while also recognizing the complexity of planning, funding, and constructing large-scale aquatic facilities and the importance of maintaining service continuity.

Programming distribution: The proposed consolidation of swim club and fitness programming at the MSA 50-metre training pool was generally supported as a means of relieving capacity pressures at ARC and MRC. Some concerns were raised about reduced access and programming flexibility at the existing facilities under the proposed consolidation model.

Aquatic service levels: A strong majority of respondents supported increasing aquatic service levels to 5.0 swims per capita due to growth and capacity constraints. Support for maintaining current service levels was limited and largely driven by cost considerations.

Based on community feedback, including concerns and differing expectations about aquatic service levels and project timelines, further review has been undertaken.

The following sections examine increasing aquatic service levels and project timelines (including the steps associated with developing recreation facilities of this scale).

Increasing Aquatic Service Levels

A key finding of the community engagement process was support for increasing aquatic service levels to above what they are today. To achieve this, the proposed Abbotsford Recreation Centre site redevelopment was updated to include a larger pool with greater capacity and additional amenities to accommodate more users and a wider range of activities. The table below summarizes the changes to the Strategy.

AQUATIC SERVICES & FACILITIES STRATEGY SURVEY OUTCOMES

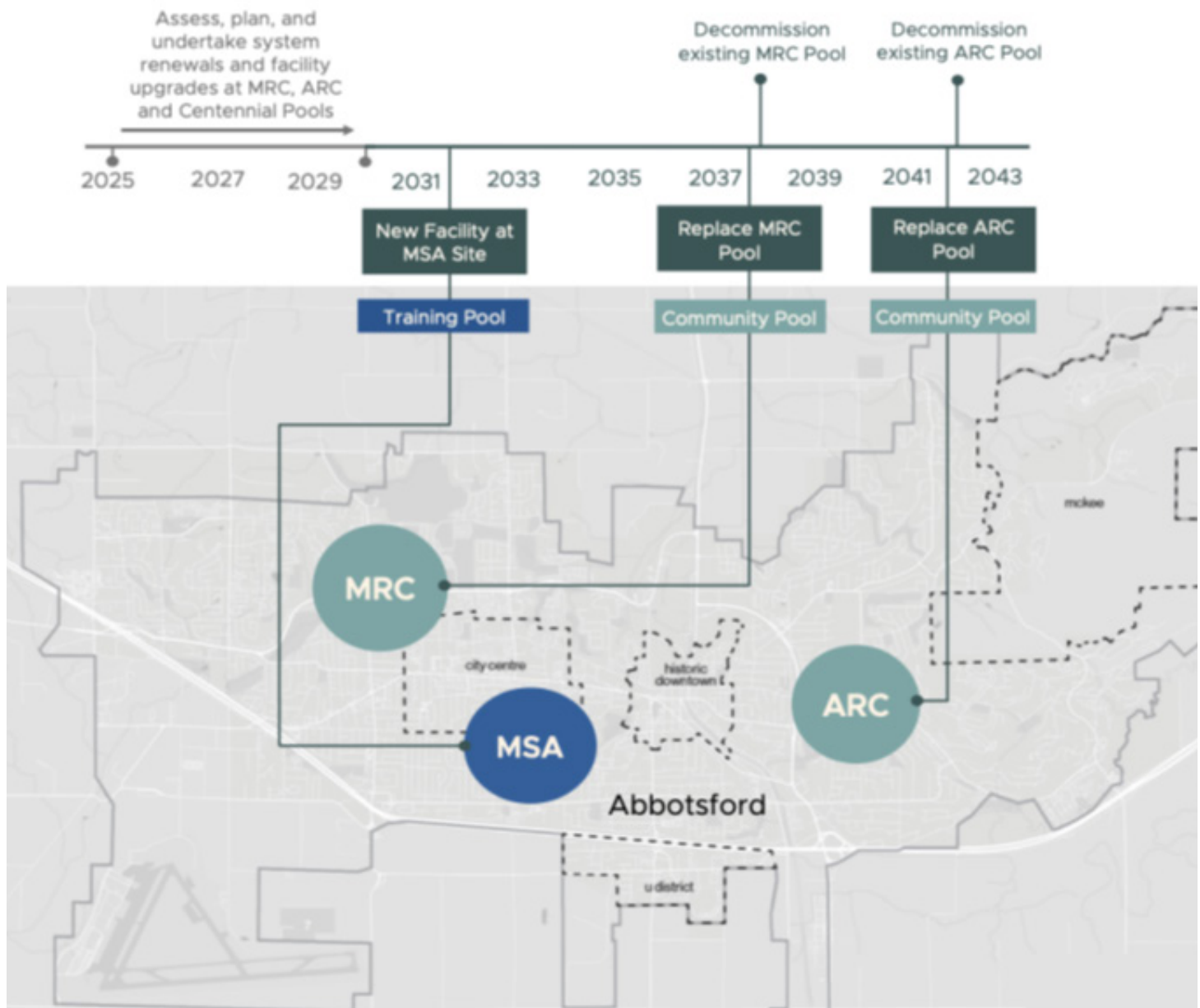
Site	Originally Proposed	Strategy Update
Abbotsford Recreation Centre	Neighbourhood Pool OR Community Pool	Community Pool
Matsqui Recreation Centre	Community Pool	Community Pool
MSA Site	50-metre Training Pool	50-metre Training Pool
Total Pool System Capacity	825,000 - 975,000 annual swims	1,075,000 annual swims

- **Neighbourhood Pool:** This facility type typically features a 25-metre six-lane tank providing basic aquatic services for a local area.
- **Community Pool:** This typology is likely to include multiple pool tanks to support concurrent aquatic activities including a 25-metre lap pool and a secondary leisure pool, allowing for flexible programming and varied user needs. Additional aquatic amenities such as a hot pool, sauna, steam room, or a lazy river, enhancing the overall user experience. This facility type accommodates a wide range of aquatic activities, including swim lessons, leisure swimming, public swims, fitness classes, and lap swimming.
- **Training Pool:** This facility type typically has a 50-metre tank with cooler water temperatures, which specifically targets endurance and competitive training, athlete development, and sport hosting.

Proposed Project Timelines

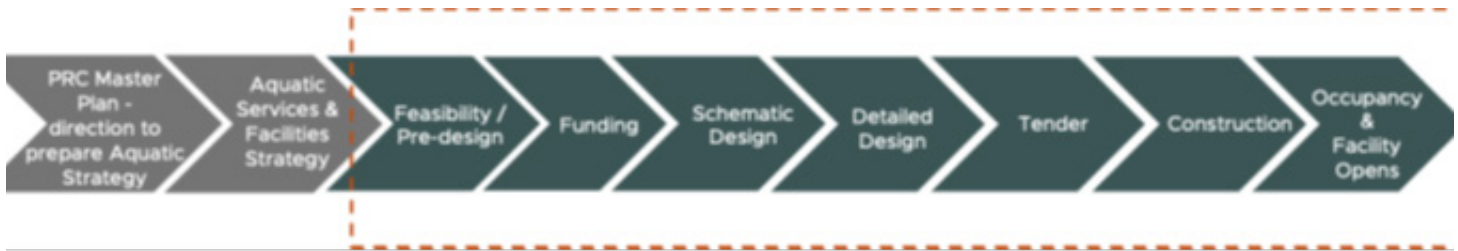
The draft Strategy proposed the development and redevelopment of three aquatic facilities within the community. Each project and their associated timelines are shown below.

AQUATIC SERVICES & FACILITIES STRATEGY SURVEY OUTCOMES



After further review, the City believes the proposed project timelines are realistic and appropriate given the scale and complexity of the development process. While we understand the community's interest in moving projects forward as quickly as possible, large civic infrastructure projects require careful planning, coordination, and regulatory approvals. Capital projects of this magnitude typically go through many phases of study before the construction commences, including all feasibility and pre-design assessments, funding strategies, and schematic and detailed design processes which often involve community engagement to ensure the proposed design meets the needs of the community. The following diagram presents a typical civic capital project through to occupancy.

AQUATIC SERVICES & FACILITIES STRATEGY SURVEY OUTCOMES



In a municipal context, projects of this scale typically take between 4-8 years, and sometimes longer, from the time community needs are identified. With this in mind, and recognizing current limitations in municipal staffing and resources, the proposed phased approach and associated timelines remain reasonable and appropriate.