



## CityLAB Project Agreement 2020-2021

The role of the project agreement is to document the expectations for the project, define objectives, clarify constraints or limitations, and outline responsibilities to ensure clarity for the project. CityLAB can help you and your partner complete this document, feel free to reach out for help! Email us at [Patrick.Byrne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Patrick.Byrne@hamilton.ca)

### \*COVID-19 Update\*

Due to the constantly changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a strong possibility that in-person gatherings will be restricted and/or facilities will be closed during the Fall 2020 semester. As you plan for your project, please consider how it can be adapted to adhere to physical distancing regulations if needed. Taking some time to think through contingency plans with your partner will help ensure a successful and meaningful project, no matter the circumstances.

### Project Title:

Is this project continuing from a previous CityLAB project?

- Yes  
 No

If yes, what was the project title: COVID-19 Effects on Parkland

### City staff details

City staff name: Cynthia Graham  
 City staff email:  
 City staff phone number:

### Instructor and student details

Instructor name: Allison Williams  
 Instructor email:  
 Instructor phone number:  
 Course name: GEO4HC3 Geographies of Public Health  
 Number of students: Unknown currently; likely 25  
 Student names (if known): Unknown

**Project Description** (what is the problem you are trying to solve and what is the context?)

If applicable, use the original challenge description found on [www.citylabhamilton.com/challenges](http://www.citylabhamilton.com/challenges).

Impact of COVID on use of and experience of green space, operationalized as public parks.

<p>Please make any changes as needed or simply leave as is.</p>	
<p><b>Challenge summary</b> (summarize the challenge in plain language)</p> <p>If applicable, use the original challenge summary found on <a href="http://www.citylabhamilton.com/challenges">www.citylabhamilton.com/challenges</a>. Please make any changes as needed or simply leave as is.</p>	<p><b>The investigation of how the use of open spaces and parkland have been affected by COVID-19 and the emergency orders in Ontario. If there are changes to authorized use per the emergency order as this research is being conducted, how did this change the observations by the students and what conclusions can be drawn from those observations?</b></p>
<p><b>In Scope</b> (from original project description)</p> <p>Clarify the particular elements that you will be taking on in this project. The more particular the better!</p>	<p><b>Interested students will use observation to determine extend (time) and frequency of public park use. These parks will be near where students live, given that the fall term will be conducted on-line. Other than observational data, no data will be collected from the users. Students will be asked to observe up to 5 hours each week, choosing different days and different times of day, over 12 weeks. Observations should include the activities undertaken by users, group size and composition, direction of travel to help indicate where the user came from, method of travel (did they drive or walk here?), and if possible, are there repeat visitors observed? Were the users observing physical distancing from other groups, and were users abiding by the current rules applicable in the area of study (some jurisdictions have closed playgrounds, etc.)</b></p>
<p><b>Out of Scope</b> (from original project description)</p> <p>Clarify the particular elements that this project won't take on. Be explicit, even if it might seem obvious!</p>	<p><b>Design recommendations or analysis of the parks or open space.</b>  <b>Commentary on the apparent health of the observed people?</b></p>

<p><b>Background Research</b> (what research will be required to pursue the challenge?)</p>	<p>Overview of parkland policies (Planning Act, PPS, other relevant by-laws and Official Plans for the area of study) to provide context for the analysis. Population demographics for the area in question – statistics Canada as a source. Literature about the use and importance of parkland – texts, edited journals, websites from associations such as OALA and Parks People to help provide context for the analysis. Analysis of the Provincial order to understand current and changing rules related to COVID-19.</p>
<p><b>Goals</b> (what are the objectives you aim to achieve within the timeframe?)</p>	<p>To better understand the use of green public space, as impacted by COVID.</p>
<p><b>Timelines</b> (Planning, Implementation, Installation, Report, Presentation, Reflection)</p>	<p>Students’ will be given two research options at the beginning of the course. One of them will be this project. Students’ final reports will be shared with Landscape Architectural Services (LAS) at the end of the term (December 2020). LAS will be invited to attend student’s in-class presentation of their reports.</p>
<p><b>Learning Objectives</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand the importance of green space, operationalized as public parks.</li> <li>2. Learn how to conduct observational research.</li> <li>3. Learn how to write a report and present findings.</li> </ol>
<p><b>How we will work together</b></p>	<p>Meeting Frequency: 3 in-class, on-line meetings throughout term, in addition to the final student presentations.</p> <p>Communication: Via e-mail, WebEx, phone.</p> <p>Conflict Resolution: If no students are interested in participating, this will be communicated to LAS ASAP.</p>
<p><b>Roles</b></p>	<p>Students: Conduct observational research, write up and present findings.</p>

	City Staff: Participate in in-class, on-line meetings.
	Instructors: Introduce project, troubleshoot, grade report and presentation.
	Stakeholders: n/a
<b>Project Deliverable for the City of Hamilton</b>	<p>Alignment with City of Hamilton Strategic Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Community Engagement and Participation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Economic Prosperity and Growth</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Healthy and Safe Communities</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean and Green</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Built Environment and Infrastructure</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Culture and Diversity</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Our People and Performance</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Deliverable(s) (e.g. size and type):</b></p> <p>Student's final reports.</p>
	<p><b>Where will the work go and what will it be used for:</b></p> <p>City staff will use this to assist with conversations about parkland supply, use and management as well as part of background study to inform future city-wide park masterplan.</p>

Please submit your project agreement to CityLAB by emailing to [Patrick.Byrne@hamilton.ca](mailto:Patrick.Byrne@hamilton.ca) before September 1, 2020 for Fall semester projects.