

Alternative Landscape Options - Cost Comparison

The table below presents costs for each alternative landscape treatment. **Traditional turf grass is included for comparison.**

Table 1: Alternative landscape options - costs comparison

	Alternatives						Traditional Turf
	Naturalized Grass - No Active Tree and Shrub Planting	Naturalized Grass - With Tree and Shrub Planting	Low Growing Alternatives to Grass	Urban Farming	Artificial Turf Grass	Permaculture	
Capital Costs (Initial Installation)	\$4,285/ha	\$40,000 - \$236,000/ha plus \$8400/ha (3 years of watering and weed control)	\$170,000 - \$220,000/ha	TBD Initial costs may be required.	\$539,000-\$1,345,000/ha	\$240,000-\$330,000/ha	\$250,000 (seed) - \$400,000(sod) /ha
Annual Operational Costs	\$778/ha (weed control)	\$778/ha (weed control)	\$1,060/ha (mowing and trimming)	TBD	**From \$11,500/ha to \$45,000/ha	\$24,000-\$33,000/ha	\$2,120/ha (Mowing, trimming, and weed control)
Annual Turf Operational Savings* (trimming, mowing and weed control)	\$1,342/ha - \$2,120/ha	\$1,342/ha - \$2,120/ha	\$1,060/ha	\$2,120/ha	\$2,120/ha	\$2,120/ha	N/A
Ongoing Savings Summary	Immediate Savings	Long Term Savings	Long Term Savings	TBD	No Savings; Potential increased costs.	No Savings or Potential Long Term Savings	Affordable compared to most alternatives

*Long term ongoing savings in turf mowing, trimming and turf herbiciding after site is established. Note that this value does not represent overall savings to the City.

**Range for annual operational costs of artificial turf are from a premier sports field with artificial turf (\$11,500/ha) to an example of a fenced dog park with artificial turf (\$45,500/ha). Note that the fenced dog park used for this example is actually 0.064 ha in size, with an operational cost for caring for the artificial turf of approximately \$3,000 for the spring/summer months.