



Municipal Surface Hygiene Initiative

Five Pilot Evidence Report and 2027 Program Opportunity

A decision report for municipal leaders evaluating a measurable, recurring hygiene program for parks, splash pads, recreation areas and other shared public spaces.

5

participating municipalities

20

high touch surfaces tested

91.1%

combined immediate
reduction

54.6%

below baseline at 72 hours

Main conclusion A recurring municipal program can combine professional treatment, consistent documentation and ATP verification to make surface hygiene measurable and manageable across the active season.

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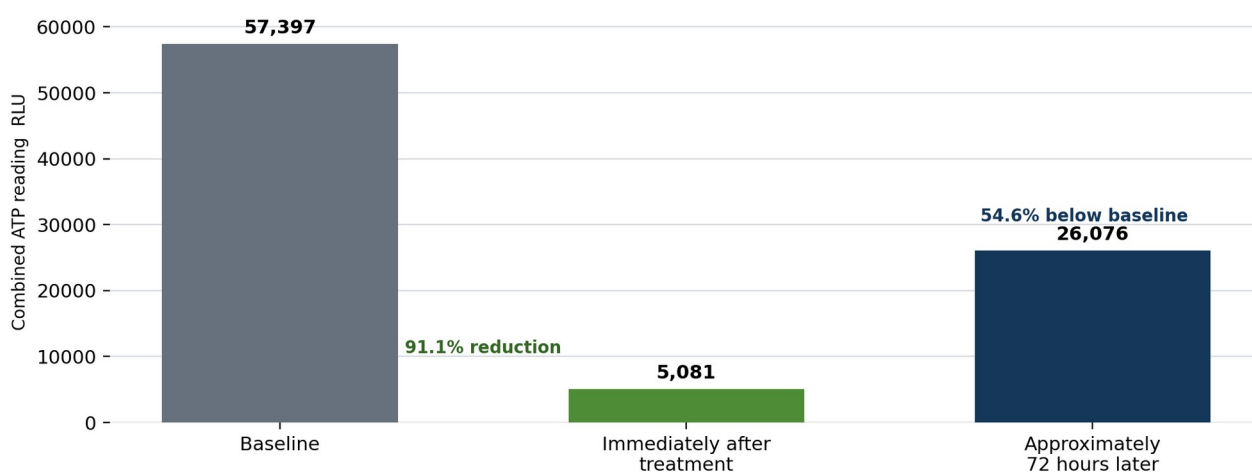
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Executive decision summary

Five Québec municipalities — Rivière-Beaudette, Delson, Sainte-Isidore, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue and Sainte-Télesphore — chose to participate in this pilot at an early stage. Their willingness to examine an emerging municipal service, open their public spaces to structured testing and review the results demonstrates proactive leadership, a commitment to prevention and genuine care for the residents and families who use these spaces.

Their participation made this evidence possible. By acting before a formal municipal standard exists for routine verification of high-touch outdoor surfaces, these communities helped establish a practical foundation that other municipalities can now evaluate for the 2027 season.

Across 20 primary surfaces, combined ATP readings decreased from 57,397 RLU at baseline to 5,081 RLU immediately after treatment, a 91.1% reduction. At the 72-hour follow-up, the combined reading was 26,076 RLU, still 54.6% below baseline. Every tested surface recorded a lower immediate post-treatment reading.



Combined ATP readings across the five pilots. Lower RLU readings indicate less biological residue on the sampled area.

What municipal leaders can conclude

- Professional treatment produced a clear and consistent immediate reduction across all 20 tested surfaces.
- The 72-hour data show meaningful residual improvement at the portfolio level, while also confirming that public use and environmental exposure cause surfaces to rebound at different rates.
- The most defensible operating model is recurring treatment supported by periodic ATP verification, not a one-time application or a promise of sterility.
- Municipalities can use the results to prioritize high-contact assets, define a seasonal route and budget for a documented service before the 2027 season.

Recognition of the pilot municipalities

Hygienex recognizes the five participating municipalities for taking the initiative to test a new approach rather than waiting for a concern to force a response. Their involvement reflects responsible stewardship of public assets and a serious commitment to prevention, operational learning and citizen confidence.

Why public surface hygiene deserves a plan

Parks and recreation spaces concentrate repeated hand contact on play structures, railings, picnic tables, splash-pad controls, benches, bleachers and other shared surfaces. These assets are exposed to weather, debris and continuous use. A surface can appear acceptable while still carrying substantial organic residue that cannot be judged reliably by sight alone.

The pilot findings matter because municipalities are responsible for large, distributed inventories and must make choices about where limited staff time has the greatest value. ATP verification gives operations teams a practical indicator for identifying higher-residue touchpoints, confirming that treatment was effective and observing how quickly different assets return toward baseline.

Public value A documented program makes the municipality's effort visible and accountable. Residents receive a clear sign that shared spaces are being maintained thoughtfully, while municipal teams gain evidence they can use to refine service rather than relying only on appearance or a fixed checklist.

What ATP testing measures

ATP testing measures adenosine triphosphate associated with organic residue and reports the result in relative light units, or RLU. It is useful as a rapid surface-hygiene verification tool when the same sampling method and location are used consistently.

What it does not prove

ATP testing does not identify a specific organism, diagnose a public-health condition, directly measure infection risk or prove that a surface is sterile. The results in this report support operational hygiene decisions; they should not be presented as a guarantee that illness will be prevented.

A practical municipal objective

The objective is not to keep outdoor assets sterile. It is to reduce accumulated residue on priority touchpoints, maintain a consistent service standard and verify performance often enough to adapt the program intelligently.

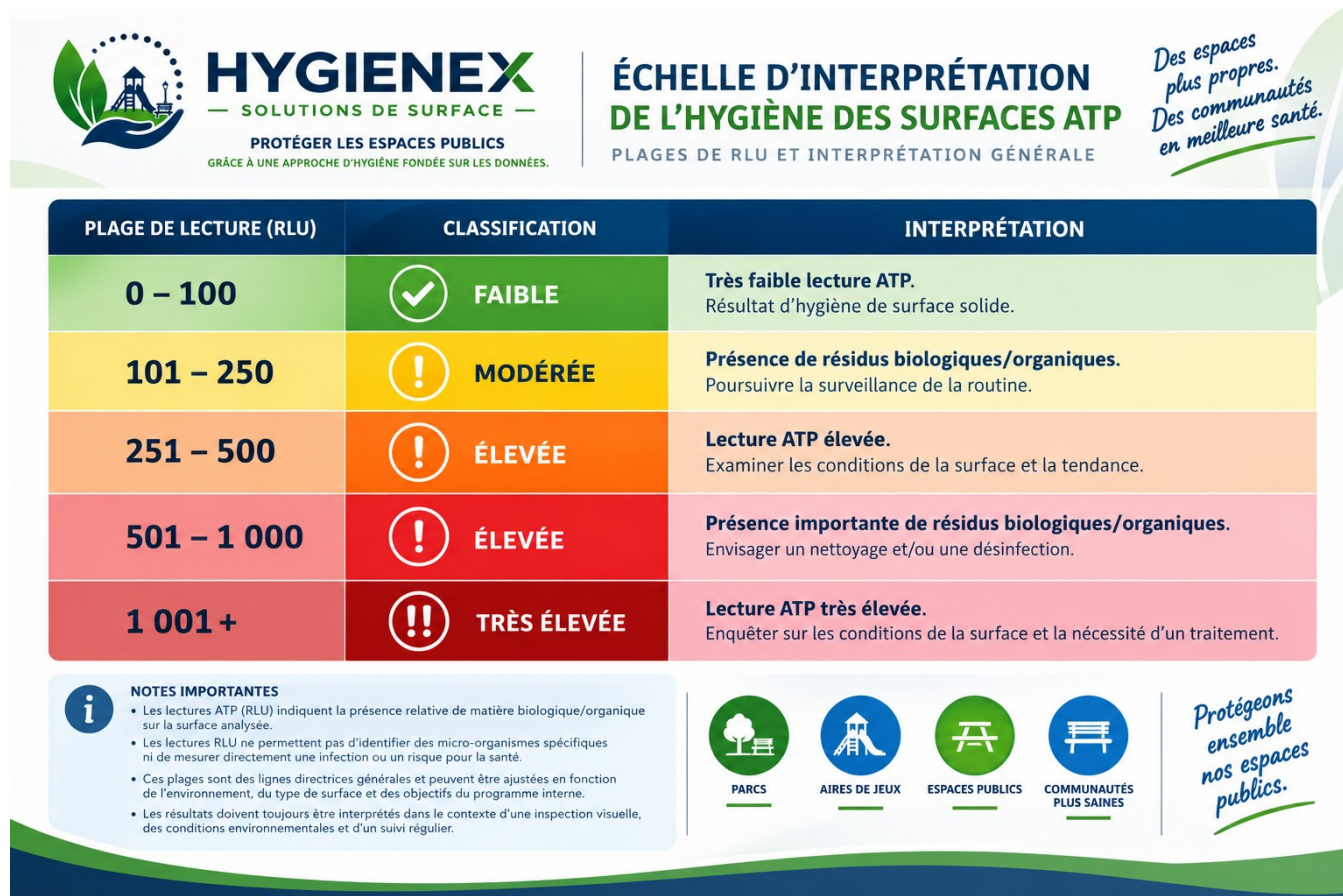
The risk of waiting

Choosing not to assess these surfaces does not confirm that they are acceptable; it simply leaves the municipality without evidence. High-contact assets continue to be used, residue can accumulate between conventional maintenance visits and important touchpoints may receive inconsistent attention when responsibility is spread across already busy teams.

The practical risks include avoidable service gaps, limited documentation when residents raise questions, difficulty demonstrating that a treatment was effective and a reactive response after public concern has already developed. A measured program gives the municipality a defensible process: identify, treat, verify, document and adjust.

ATP interpretation reference

The reference chart below provides general RLU ranges for interpreting ATP readings. It gives municipal decision-makers a common frame of reference for the pilot results and shows why several baseline readings warranted serious attention. These ranges are operational guidelines and should always be interpreted with the surface type, environment, visual condition and repeated trend data.



General ATP surface-hygiene interpretation scale. The attached reference is presented in French for use with Québec municipal teams.

The scale makes the significance of the field results easier to see. A reading above 1,001 RLU falls within the very-high reference category, while 0 to 100 RLU represents a low reading. The pilots included multiple high and very-high baseline readings, including 9,386 RLU on a picnic table. The chart does not identify pathogens or prove infection risk, but it provides a clear operational signal that conditions should be investigated and that treatment and follow-up should be considered.

Pilot method and evidence standard

Each pilot followed the same basic sequence so the before-and-after comparison would be meaningful. Results were documented at the surface level and then consolidated across the five municipalities.

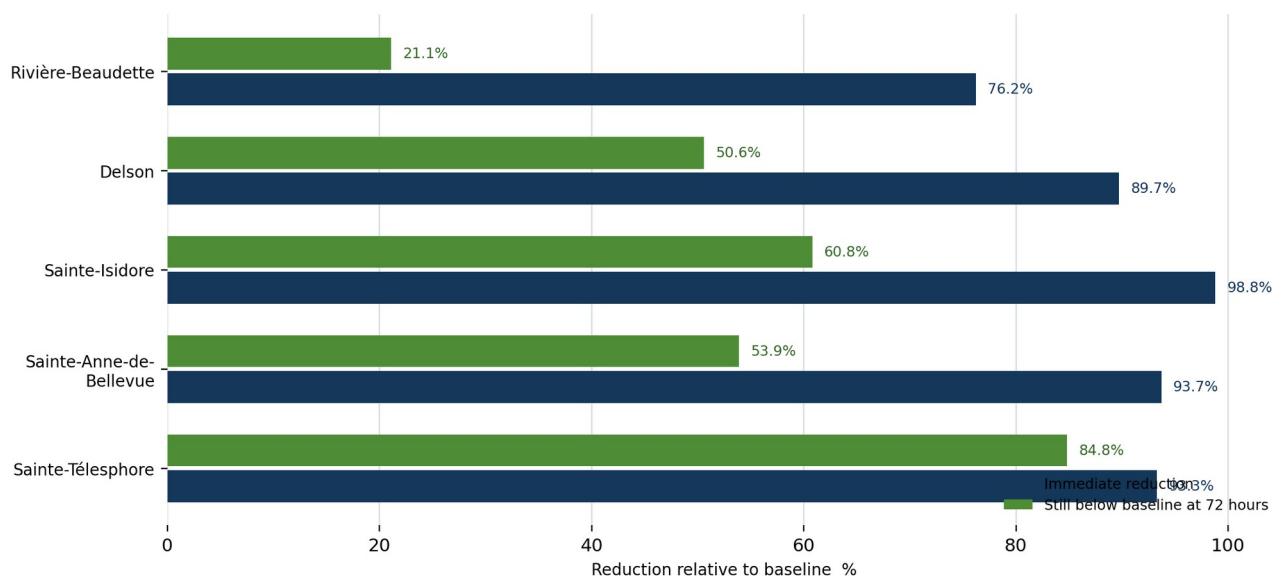
1	Establish the baseline	Collect an ATP reading on a defined, frequently touched surface before treatment.
2	Treat the surface	Apply the selected professional disinfecting process in accordance with the product label and required contact time.
3	Verify the immediate result	Sample the same defined location after treatment and compare the new RLU reading with baseline.
4	Return at approximately 72 hours	Re-sample the identified location to observe rebound under normal public and environmental exposure.

Interpretation principles

- Compare the same surface and sampling location whenever possible.
- Treat immediate results as process verification and follow-up results as evidence of rebound, not permanent protection.
- Use trends across repeated visits to set frequency and priority rather than relying on a single reading.
- Record weather, use patterns and operational changes that may help explain unusual results.

Results across five municipalities

The strongest result is consistency. Immediate reduction was recorded in every municipality and on every one of the 20 primary surfaces. The 72-hour readings remained below baseline in the combined data and in each municipality, although the size of the retained improvement varied.



Municipality	Surfaces	Immediate reduction	Below baseline at 72 h
Rivière-Beaudette	4	76.2%	21.1%
Delson	5	89.7%	50.6%
Sainte-Isidore	3	98.8%	60.8%
Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue	5	93.7%	53.9%
Sainte-Télesphore	3	93.3%	84.8%

What the variation tells us

Rebound is expected in active public environments. Differences among municipalities and surfaces can reflect contact frequency, weather exposure, surface material and site conditions. This is precisely why a measured program is more useful than a uniform assumption: service can be concentrated where the data and observed use indicate the greatest need.

Field evidence from the pilot sites

The examples below show the tested surface and ATP meter reading before and after professional treatment. They are representative field records, not staged laboratory conditions.

Rivière-Beaudette Carousel handle 76.2% immediate reduction



BASELINE 3,783 RLU



AFTER TREATMENT 971 RLU

Delson Splash pad starter 89.7% immediate reduction



BASELINE 2,710 RLU



AFTER TREATMENT 819 RLU

Field evidence from the pilot sites

Sainte-Isidore Railing 98.8% immediate reduction

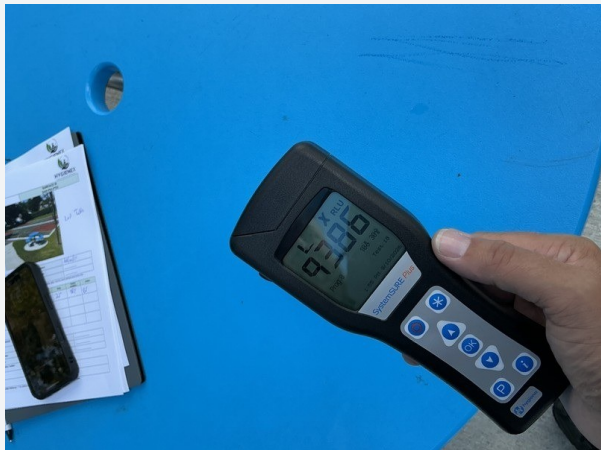


BASELINE 733 RLU



AFTER TREATMENT 25 RLU

Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue Picnic table 93.7% immediate reduction



BASELINE 9,386 RLU



AFTER TREATMENT 90 RLU

Field evidence from the pilot sites

Sainte-Télesphore Interactive play panel 93.3% immediate reduction



BASELINE 631 RLU



AFTER TREATMENT 98 RLU

Notable observation The highest individual baseline reading in the five-pilot set was 9,386 RLU on a picnic table in Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue. The immediate post-treatment reading at the same touchpoint was 90 RLU. This illustrates why apparently ordinary assets should be included in a priority-based assessment.

Evidence based operating lesson

The photos and readings reinforce the same operational message: visible condition alone is not enough to rank surface-hygiene needs. A combination of site knowledge, contact frequency and periodic measurement provides a stronger basis for allocating service.

Benefits for residents and municipal leadership

A professional surface-hygiene program creates value beyond the treatment itself. It gives municipal teams a defined standard, gives elected officials a concrete initiative they can explain and gives residents a visible sign of care in the places families use most.

Community confidence	A scheduled program demonstrates proactive stewardship of shared spaces without making unsupported health guarantees.
Transparent communication	Municipalities can report where service occurred, what was included and how performance was verified.
Better prioritization	ATP trends and observed use help focus effort on the touchpoints that warrant more attention.
Consistent public experience	A defined route reduces the likelihood that high-contact assets are missed because responsibility is dispersed.
Operational learning	Seasonal results create a local evidence base for future scope, frequency and budget decisions.
Early leadership	Participating municipalities can be among the early adopters of a documented, data-informed approach to outdoor public-space hygiene.

This positioning is strongest when communications remain specific: describe the service, the assets included and the measured reduction in organic residue. Avoid describing the program as permanent protection or as proof that disease transmission has been eliminated.

Why municipalities may prefer a specialized service

Some municipalities can perform parts of this work internally. The decision is not simply whether staff can apply a product; it is whether the municipality wants to build and sustain the complete operating system around treatment, verification, records, equipment and seasonal capacity.

Decision factor	Specialized service	Fully internal program
Equipment and supplies	Provider maintains application and ATP verification equipment, consumables and service readiness.	Municipality procures, stores, maintains and replaces its own equipment and supplies.
Training and protocol	Trained personnel follow a defined treatment, contact-time and sampling protocol.	Municipality develops training, refreshers, supervision and quality controls.
Seasonal capacity	Routes can be added without creating a new municipal position or diverting recreation staff.	Work competes with inspections, repairs, events, grounds care and other peak-season duties.
Documentation	Treatment and verification records are produced as part of the service.	Municipality builds and administers its own records and reporting workflow.
Consistency	A dedicated route supports repeatability across multiple parks and touchpoints.	Consistency depends on internal scheduling, absences and changing priorities.
Budget structure	A defined external scope can be quoted and budgeted by site, route and season.	Total cost includes labour, management time, equipment, consumables, storage and administration.
Independent verification	The same provider can document performance against baseline and trend results over time.	Municipality must establish its own verification practice or procure it separately.

A specialized service is not automatically less expensive in every case. Its principal advantage is that it packages the required capability, seasonal capacity and evidence into a defined program, reducing the burden of building and managing a new internal function.

Recommended 2027 municipal program

Hygienex is accepting new municipal clients for the 2027 active season. The recommended program begins with an on-site assessment so the scope and price reflect the municipality's actual asset inventory, usage patterns and priorities.

Core seasonal service

- On-site assessment and mapping of approved priority surfaces before final scope confirmation.
- Weekly disinfection of approved high-touch surfaces during the active service season, with frequency adjusted where evidence supports a different approach.
- ATP verification three times per season at the beginning, midpoint and end of the program on up to five consistent, high-contact control points.
- Service documentation and a concise municipal summary that supports operations review and public communication.

Assets that can be included

Parks and playgrounds

Play structures, interactive panels, swings, railings, benches, picnic tables, fountains and other approved touchpoints.

Splash pads

Activation controls, rails, seating and other frequently handled surfaces within the approved operating area.

Sports and recreation

Bleachers, stands, player areas, locker rooms and other agreed high-contact surfaces.

Other municipal spaces

Community centres, municipal buildings and special-event assets can be assessed and quoted as optional scope.

Scope control The municipality retains control over which assets are included. The assessment translates that choice into a practical route, service frequency and transparent quote.

A low burden path to implementation

Municipal budgeting works best when the asset list, frequency and operating window are known in advance. An assessment completed before the 2027 budget is finalized gives staff a defensible scope and avoids relying on a rough allowance.

1	Introductory discussion	Confirm objectives, candidate sites, active-season dates and procurement timing.
2	On-site assessment	Review the asset inventory, identify high-contact surfaces and note access or scheduling requirements.
3	Tailored scope and quote	Define included locations, visit frequency, ATP control points and reporting deliverables.
4	Budget and approval support	Provide a clear service description and pricing basis for internal review.
5	Season launch	Complete baseline verification, begin the approved route and report throughout the season.

Why timing matters

Completing the assessment before budget decisions are locked allows the municipality to compare a complete, defined program against internal alternatives. It also gives both parties time to confirm site access, product compatibility, seasonal dates and communications before parks reach peak use.

2027 opportunity Municipalities that move now can position themselves among the early adopters of a measurable public-space hygiene initiative and enter the 2027 season with the route, budget and evidence plan already established.

Recommendation and next step

The five pilots provide a strong operational basis for municipalities to consider a recurring 2027 program. The evidence shows large immediate reductions across all tested surfaces and measurable improvement remaining at approximately 72 hours, while also showing why ongoing exposure requires a recurring, prioritized approach.

We recommend a no-obligation assessment before the municipality finalizes its 2027 operating budget. The assessment will identify the most relevant assets, define a practical service route and produce a tailored quote that can be evaluated against the full cost and administrative burden of creating an internal program.

57,397

combined baseline RLU

5,081

immediate post treatment RLU

26,076

combined RLU at 72 hours

Proposed discussion

- Which parks, splash pads, sports facilities or municipal spaces should be assessed?
- What seasonal dates and visit frequency fit the municipality's operating plan?
- Which surfaces should serve as consistent ATP control points?
- What information is required for the 2027 budget and procurement process?

Invitation Contact Hygienex Surface Solutions to schedule a site assessment and receive a municipality-specific 2027 scope and quote.

Hygienex Surface Solutions

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