

AGENDA
PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL
TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2021 at 4:30PM
ANDY MCNEILL ROOM
CIVIC CENTRE, 93 TODD STREET LICE SPRINGS

ATTENDANCE:

1. WELCOME and APOLOGIES
 - 1.1. Election of Chairperson
2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST
3. CORRESPONDENCE
 - 3.1. [Bar Brothers and Sisters, Alice Springs - Proposal](#)
4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
 - 4.1. [Unconfirmed Minutes of the previous meeting held 17 November 2020](#)
 - 4.2. Business Arising from the Previous Meeting
5. FINANCE REPORT
 - 5.1. [Financial Report for the period ending 5 February 2021](#)
6. GENERAL BUSINESS
 - 6.1. [Lyndavale Park](#)
 - 6.2. [Madigan Park](#)
 - Feasibility Study
 - 6.3. Tucker park
 - 6.4. Oleander Park
 - 6.5. Rotoract Park
 - 6.6. Walmulla Park
 - Installation of a Water Bubbler
 - 6.7. Potential Public Art Project
 - 6.8. [Alice Springs - Open Spaces Master Plan 2013](#)
7. OTHER BUSINESS
8. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 20 April 2021, 4:30pm.

Details to be distributed closer to the meeting date.

Alice Springs Street Workout

Project Proposal by Bar Brothers & Sisters Alice Springs



Who we are

Bar Brothers & Sisters Alice Springs is a vibrant, free to join, social exercise group made up of local residents who activate publicly available sports infrastructure in the name of public health.

We do this to encourage a healthy lifestyle in Alice Springs through physical movement, which in turn has been found to result in a number of positive community outcomes, particularly in health, but also social and economic.

We love to get outside and exercise. Join us at one of our workouts!
Get fit, and make new friends around common health/fitness goals!

Our proposal

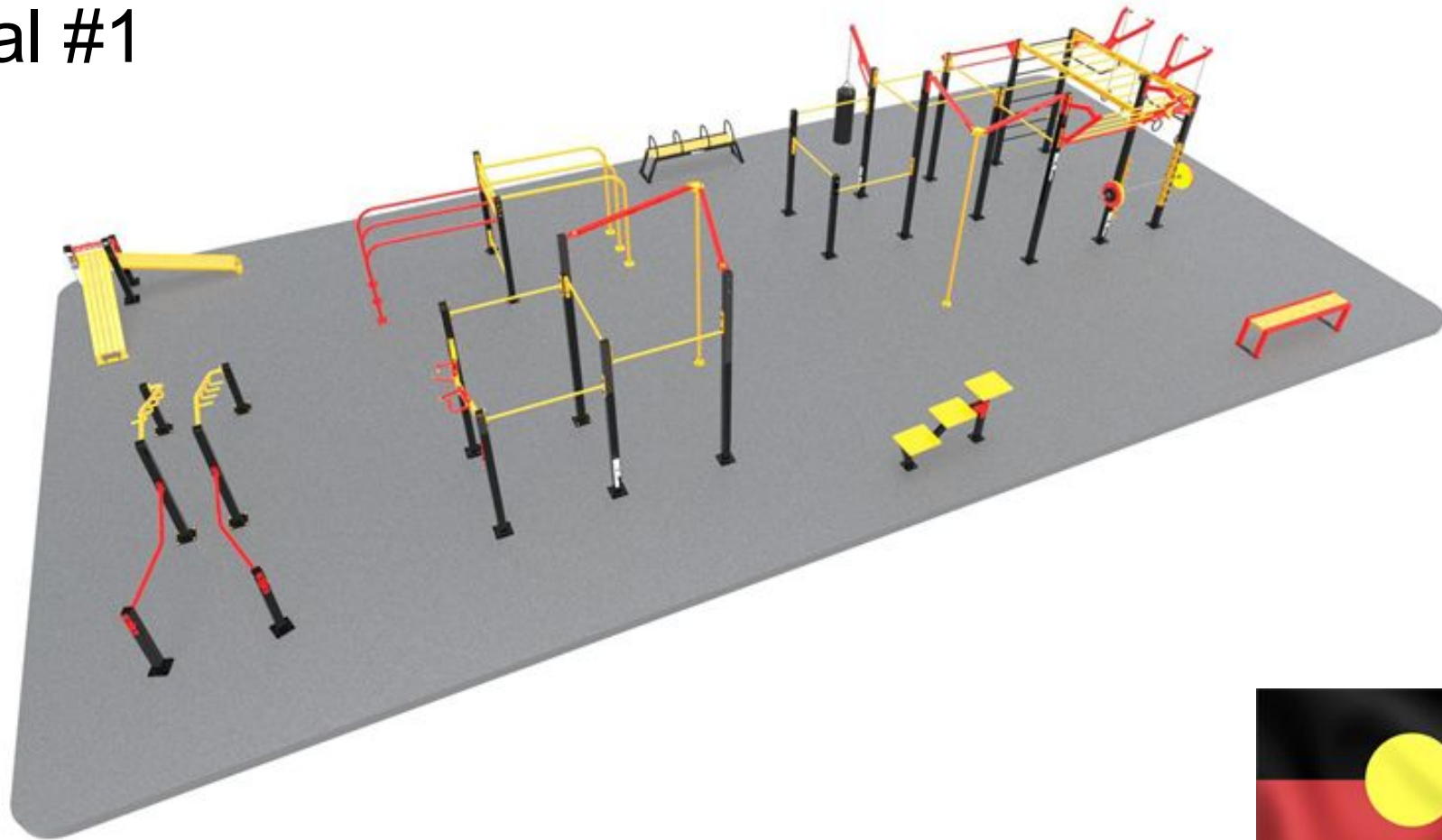
Bar Brothers & Sisters Alice Springs is proposing to build a publicly-available outdoor exercise station, more commonly known nowadays as “a street workout” in Alice Springs for the benefit of local residents, and youths.

We are not looking to reinvent the wheel. Bar Brothers & Sisters of Darwin have proven that a large community outdoor exercise station is capable of delivering fantastic health, social and economic outcomes as evidenced by the following Heart Foundation of Australia case study on the East Point Street Workout:

<https://www.healthyactivebydesign.com.au/case-studies/east-point-street-workout>



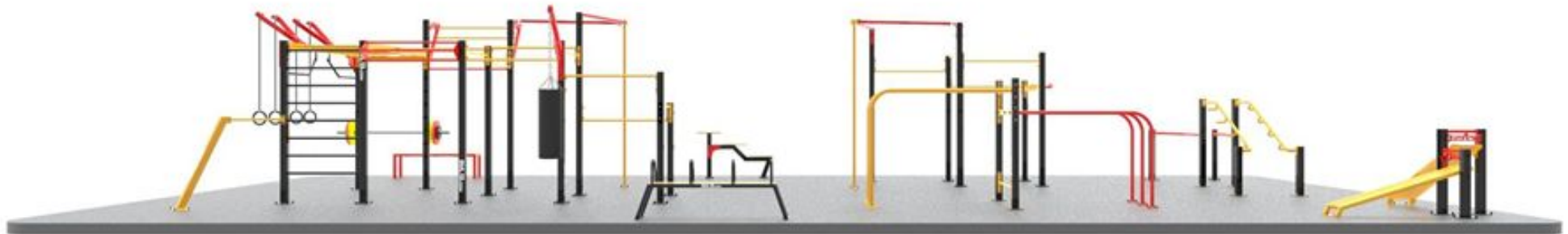
Visual #1



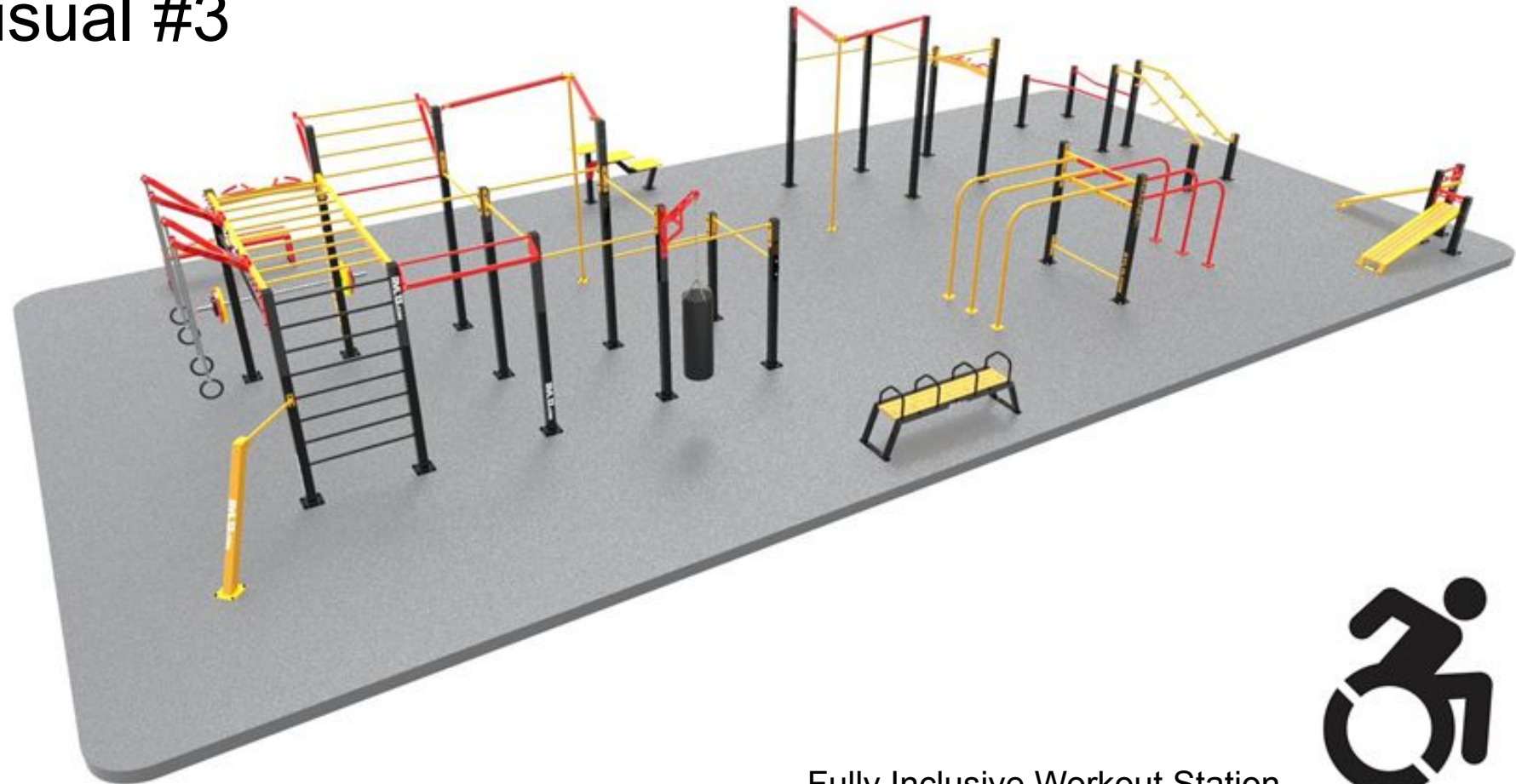
Equipment in Aboriginal Colours



Visual #2



Visual #3



Fully Inclusive Workout Station







Community outcomes

An Alice springs Street Workout Park would be an exceptional exercise hub accessible to people with all abilities with no cost in an outdoor setting. It will...

- Provide options for the youth to explore their health as an individual or with their groups, and be an additional activity for local organisations to take the youth to
- Increase people attending local fitness organisations such as gyms by introducing fitness with an accessible and inclusive place
- Boost the surrounding areas with increased foot traffic, spending and healthy living
- Become a fundamental community place driving health to the City of Alice

What we need from you!

We need your written support.

As a group, we are applying for a Community Benefit Fund (Major Grants) to have our street workout built in Alice Springs for community use. To accompany our application, we are looking to compile support letters in support of our idea.

So far, we have the support of;

Public Health Association of Australia (NT Branch), The Gap Youth Centre, **and more...**

Be part of our story. Support us with your own letter of support!

How you will be acknowledged if we succeed

We will make sure to acknowledge your written support with a placement of your organisations' or company's brand/logo on a large sign/billboard which will be installed next to the station, much like the one at East Point Reserve in Darwin (see next slide).

Should you wish to make a financial contribution towards our project, we will make sure to give you a large logo placement in the Sponsors section.

Acknowledgement Billboard

How we will acknowledge your written support







Site Selection

There are two sites which we have identified with Council's assistance as being potentially suitable for the construction of the street workout. These are:

- (1) Hospital Lawns - Gap Rd side of Stuart Tce (adjacent to car park & toilets)
- (2) Riverside - north of Rivers of Life Church by Todd River

See in-photo visuals on the next page(s)

Hospital Lawns

In Photo Visuals





Riverside

In Photo Visuals





Contact us!

Do you want more information about our project, or simply want to find out where we workout, and how you could be part of Bar Brothers & Sisters Alice Springs?

Would love to hear from you.

Matt Grant, Coordinator / Project Lead

M: 0456 138 460

E: mattgrantart@outlook.com

Follow Us: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)

MINUTES OF THE PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2020

PRESENT

Deputy Mayor Price (Acting Chair)
Councillor Patterson
Councillor Banks
Mr Domenico Pecorari
Mr Jonathan Pilbrow
Mr Mathew Digby
Mr Ken Johnson

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Scott Allen - Director Technical Services
Mr Takudzwa Charlie - Manager Technical Services
Mr Stephen Baloban - Manager Infrastructure
Mr Ben Fitzgerald - Manager Depot
Ms Kaitlyn Weekes - Project Administration Officer (Minutes)

13 th Alice Springs Town Council Parks Advisory Committee Attendance List 2020/2021					
	17 Nov 20	16 Feb 21	20 Apr 21	29 Jun 21	TBC
Mayor Damien Ryan	A				
Deputy Mayor Price	✓				
Councillor Matt Patterson	✓				
Councillor Marli Banks	✓				
Matthew Digby	✓				
Jonathan Pilbrow	✓				
Domenico Pecorari	✓				
Ken Johnson	✓				

✓ Attended
✓ phone Attended via phone
A Apology received
-- No attendance and no apology recorded

Deputy Mayor Price assumed the role of Acting Chairperson for this meeting.

The meeting opened at 4:31 pm.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Mayor Damien Ryan

1.1 Election of Chairperson

The election of chair person was deferred to the next Parks Advisory meeting due to the absence of some of the elected members.

PARKS 17.11.2020

4.1

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

NIL

3. CORRESPONDENCE

NIL

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 Minutes of the Parks Advisory Committee meeting held 25th August 2020.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Parks Advisory Committee meeting held 25 August 2020 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Ken Johnson

Seconded: Mathew Digby

CARRIED

Councillor Banks entered the room 4:35 pm

5. FINANCE REPORT

The Committee received and noted the *Income and Expenditure Report* for the Period Ending 5 November 2020. Parks funds available assuming all commitments are realised are \$94,324.60

Moved: Councillor Patterson

Seconded: Ken Johnson

CARRIED

Jonathan Pilbrow entered the room 4:39 pm

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 6.1. Lyndavale Park
- 6.2. Madigan Park
- 6.3. Tucker Park
- 6.4. Oleander Park
- 6.5. Rotorac Park

The committee received and noted the information for agenda items 6.1. *Lyndavale Park potential staged plan* and 6.2. *Madigan Park feasibility study* and *Local Government Investment Guidelines*. No further discussion occurred.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1. Terms of Reference

The current Charter for the Parks Advisory Committee was included for all members reference. No comments were made.

Note: All Committee Charters are currently under review.

7.2. Open Space Network Masterplan - Precinct Parks

Two parks were tabled for discussion under the Open Space Master Plan, Rotorac Park and Kurrajong park. The Director of Technical Services spoke to Rotorac Park, disclosing that a portion of the unused Park has native title.

The Manager of Infrastructure noted that both parks were not owned by Council.

PARKS 17.11.2020

7.3. Sturt Park

Discussion ensued in regard to cars parking on the Sturt Park reserve.

Action:

Council Rangers to increase their patrols in regard to vehicles parking on the Sturt Park reserve.

Action:

Council Officers to provide a better understanding of the land tenure of Sturt Park and investigate options for the long-term management of parking.

8

NEXT MEETING:

4:30pm on 16 February 2021 - in the Andy McNeill Room.

The meeting closed at 4:58 pm.

4.1

**ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL
PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 5 FEBRUARY 2021
FOR PARK DEVELOPMENT**

\$

Opening Balance		569,176.85
<i>Parks & Playgrounds Reserve</i>	563,496.67	
<i>Interest on Reserve Funds</i>	<u>5,680.18</u>	569,176.85
Revenue		
Other Income		
<i>Comprised of:</i>		
2020/2021 Budgeted Park Development		-
Interest received - 30/06/20		15,367.06
Total Revenue		15,367.06
Total Sources of Funds		584,543.91
Actual Expenditure		
Capital (Refer to Attachment 1)		110,464.14
Operational (Refer to Attachment 1)		54,841.93
Total Actual Expenditure		165,306.07
<i>Parks Reserve Balance 05/02/2021</i>		419,237.84
Commitments (Purchase Orders)		
Capital (Refer to Attachment 1)		51,913.43
Operational (Refer to Attachment 1)		11,053.89
Potential Future Commitments (Refer Attachment 1)		262,305.92
Total Commitments		325,273.24
<i>Funds available assuming all Commitments are realised</i>		93,964.60

Parks Expenditure and Commitments 2020/2021
FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 5 FEBRUARY 2021

Actual Capital Expenditure

20/08/2020	Ross Engineering - Spencer Park - Supply and install 12x8m shade structure	46,600.00	
17/09/2020	Bluedust NT - Todd River Fitness Stations - Concrete Footpaths	3,052.50	
21/09/2020	AA Signs - Brailling Dog Park - Signs	258.00	
1/10/2020	Terrain Group - Oleander & Rotaract Park - Bench & Bubblers	14,155.00	
4/12/2020	SG Plumbing - Oleander Park - Supply & Install Bubbler	5,142.50	
4/12/2020	SG Plumbing - Oleander Park - Increase Offset from 6m to 20m	1,522.50	
7/01/2021	SG Plumbing - Rotaract Park - Supply & Install Bubblers	14,087.52	
7/01/2021	Centre Plumbing - Tucker Park - Supply & Install Bubbler	7,122.00	
12/01/2021	Complete Fencing - Rotaract Park - Supply & Install Fencing	18,524.12	

Total Actual Capital Expenditure**110,464.14****Actual Operational Expenditure**

23/06/2020	Memory cards	27.27	
26/06/2020	McCoy & Spicer Park - 1 Bench Seat, Picnic x 2	2,817.00	
8/07/2020	AA Signs - Skate Park - Safety signs	220.00	
16/07/2020	Concrete delivered to McCoy Park	1,660.00	
8/09/2020	The NT News - Ad Tuesday 4 & 11 August & Friday 7 August	270.00	
17/09/2020	Bluedust NT - Todd River Fitness Stations - Temporary fencing & Tecon re-inspection	1,701.82	
5/10/2020	Bunnings - Skate Park - Paint	183.63	
28/10/2020	Terrain Group - Tucker Park - Bubbler	3,210.00	
23/11/2020	APJ - Concrete delivered to Oleander Park	18,265.00	
19/11/2020	Urban Play - Todd River Fitness Stations - Replace exercise equipment	4,539.00	
25/11/2020	Kennards Hire - Tucker Park - Double Drum Roller Smooth Hire	258.84	
4/12/2020	SG Plumbing - Concrete Pad for Rotorac Park	1,600.00	
4/12/2020	SG Plumbing - Concrete Pad for Oleander Park	800.00	
9/12/2020	The NT News - Ad 13/11 & 17/11 - EOJ for PAC	360.00	
13/01/2021	HY-TEC Industries - Oleander Park - 5mm sealing aggregate	963.30	
2/02/2021	SG Plumbing - Oleander Park - Repairs to Bubbler	1,015.18	
	Depot materials to date	272.52	
	Depot wages to date	16,678.37	

Total Actual Operational Expenditure**54,841.93****Total Actual Expenditure****165,306.07****Capital Commitments (for which Purchase Orders have been raised)**

10/09/2020	Complete Fencing - Tucker Park - Supply & Shade Structure	13,421.82	
10/09/2020	Complete Fencing - Rotaract Park - Supply & Shade Structure x 2	25,078.61	
23/09/2020	Urban Play - Oleander Park - Supply Playground Equipment	13,413.00	

Total Capital Commitments**51,913.43****Operational Commitments (for which Purchase Orders have been raised)**

3/03/2020	PlazArt - Todd River Fitness Stations x 4 signs	391.89	
23/09/2020	Urban Play - Tucker Park - Supply birds nest swing	3,842.00	
6/11/2020	Fulton Hogan - Tucker Park IBC Emulsion	6,820.00	

Total Operational Commitments**11,053.89****Total Commitments****62,967.32****Other Anticipated Future Commitments not yet in the Financial System****Estimate****Shanahan Park**

Shade over playground equipment (\$35,000 less \$30,070 actual)	4,930.00	
Soft fall	4,500.00	
Irrigation	25,000.00	34,430.00

McCoy Park

Slab under Basketball Court (\$25,000 less actual \$4,060.06)	6,389.11	
Bench seating (\$3,000 less \$1,186 actual)	1,814.00	
Smart bin (\$5,000 less \$8,802 actual)	(3,802.00)	4,401.11

Spicer Park

New playground equipment (\$30,000 less \$24,952.80 actual)	5,047.20	
Bench seating (\$3,000 less \$445 actual)	2,555.00	
Picnic table (\$3,000 less \$1,186 actual)	1,814.00	9,416.20

Rotaract Park

Estimated Cost	144,150.00	
Less Actual	(41,289.14)	
Less Committed	(25,078.61)	77,782.25

Oleander Park

Estimated Cost	100,070.00	
Less Actual	(34,785.98)	
Less Committed	(13,413.00)	51,871.02

Tucker Park

Estimated Cost	119,080.00	
Less Actual	(10,590.84)	
Less Committed	(24,083.82)	84,405.34

Total Other Anticipated Future Commitments**262,305.92**

Parks Advisory Committee - February 2021 - General Business

Task Name	Required Quantity	Quantity in kind	Quantity to be purcha	Cost	Total Cost	Done	Assigned To	Status	Comments
Stage 1									
Mark out site					\$600.00				
Irrigation + water bubbler supply					\$7,000.00				
Temporary fencing					\$5,000.00				
Paving excavation	560m2			@\$20/m2	\$11,200.00				
Mound	200m2			@\$20/m2	\$4,000.00				
Concrete excavation	360m2			@\$30/m2	\$10,800.00				
Dirt removed from site	720m2			@\$20/m2	\$14,400.00				
Sub total					\$53,000.00				
Stage 2									
Pavers	560m2			@\$40/m2	\$22,400.00				
Paving	560m2			@\$50/m2	\$28,000.00				
Sand	300m2			@\$1.60/m2	\$480.00				
Concrete	360m2			@220/m2	\$79,200.00				
Rocks		55		@\$100ea	\$5,500.00				
Sub total					\$135,580.00				
Stage 3									
Rocks and boulders					\$10,000.00				
Logs					\$5,000.00				
Steel edging	144 Lm				\$1,000.00				
2 additional gates		2			\$3,000.00				
water bubbler		2			\$2,000.00				
Labour					\$1,500.00				
Machinery					\$1,500.00				
Sub total					\$24,000.00				
Stage 4									
Plants and Trees					\$5,000.00				
Irrigation					\$2,000.00				
Park benches					\$2,000.00				
Mulch	655m2			@\$20/m2	\$13,300.00				
Bins					\$2,000.00				
Turf	470m2				\$5,000.00				
Play sand					\$2,000.00				
dune sand					\$2,000.00				
Signage					\$1,000.00				
Misc					\$5,000.00				
Sub total					\$39,300.00				
Grand total					\$251,880.00				
Optional									
Optimal Security pole \$20k					\$20,000.00				
Larapinta CFC to Fund									
Deck 75m2									
Shipping container + shade									
3x Slides									
7x Bench seats									
Bush plants									
Artworks/Mural									
Stencilling to concrete									

6.1

\$32/m3 = 50mm thick = \$1.60/m2
125mm thick coloured concrete + base material including labour

open space network
master plan



Alice
Springs
Town Council





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Version control

Version	Date	Document	Author	Reviewer	Recipient
OSMP1	22/07/2013	Open Space Network Master Plan (draft)	Kate Heissenbuttel Senior Consultant	Dion Collins Managing Director Cass Gaisford, Landscape Architect	Greg Buxton, Director Technical Services
OSMP2	18/10/2013	Draft v2	Kate Heissenbuttel Senior Consultant	Cass Gaisford, Landscape Architect	Cindy Savage, Project Officer
OSMP3	08/11/2013	Final	Kate Heissenbuttel Senior Consultant	Cass Gaisford, Landscape Architect	Cindy Savage, Project Officer



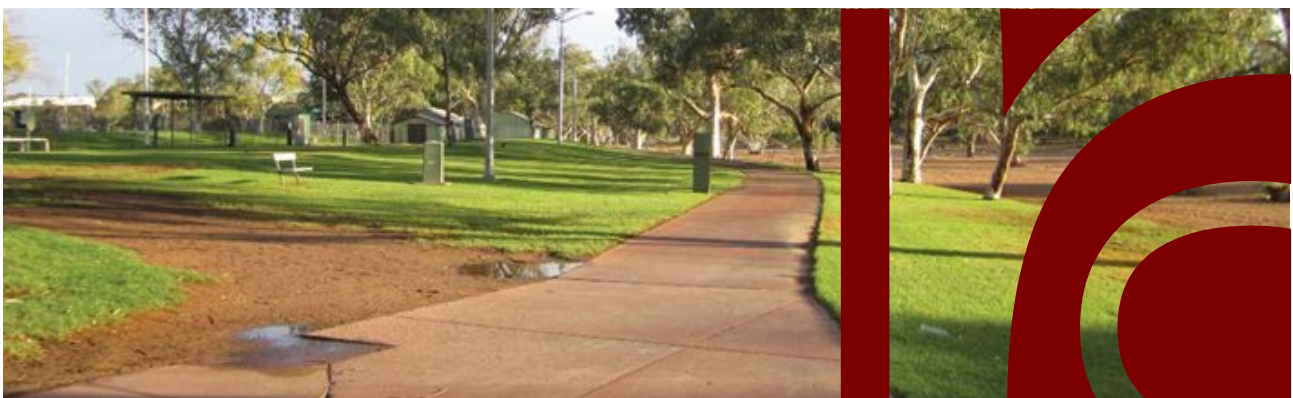
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Background

Project information

Alice Springs Town Council engaged ROSS Planning to undertake a master plan of its park network.

Good parks don't just happen. They are the result of considerable planning. Applying the same planning regime for one area to another also does not make a good parks network. Understanding the local influences (climate, geography, social culture and political capacity) is vital. Therefore, this plan must be based on foundations that consider and embrace these matters. This plan has been developed giving thought to what we know about the town's parks, our understanding of local people's preferences to different park types and functions, council's (and the community's) capacity to deliver the infrastructure and the Territory Government's preferences and guidelines for planning for public parks.

Project outcomes

The desired outcomes of this project are:

- ☐ determine the supply of open space in terms of quantity and location
- ☐ classify the open space
- ☐ assess the need, or demand for various open space types
- ☐ assess the area's recreation needs, both current and likely future
- ☐ assess the open space to determine its role in the network (current and expected)
- ☐ consider open space connectivity and make recommendations for its improvement
- ☐ make recommendations concerning the open space network including any enhancements, potential new open space parcels and possibly disposals
- ☐ consider the impact of disposals on residents and visitors and consider opportunities to ameliorate these
- ☐ improve current use
- ☐ create a well distributed park network
- ☐ provide council with a basis for determining an equitable provision of open space in Alice Springs.

Project approach

The methodology to develop the plan is broken down into stages, showing the sequential development of a developing the master plan and detailed analysis of parks across Alice Springs. The stages are:

- ☐ stage one: background research
 - literature review
 - demographic trends
 - best practice tools
 - benchmarking exercise
 - preliminary consultation
- ☐ stage two: open space audit
 - open space framework
 - decision matrix
 - open space inspections
 - needs assessment
 - supply and demand assessment
- ☐ stage three: options report
 - development of options report
 - presentation of options to council
 - confirmation of project direction
- ☐ stage four: network master plan
 - draft master plan
 - consultation on draft master plan
 - master plan finalisation.

Project limitations

The master plan focuses on the provision and distribution of recreation activities across the urban area of Alice Springs.

The core outcome of this work was to develop an action plan for council to follow in relation to upgrading parkland that it either owns, manages or maintains. Privately-owned facilities have been included where the facility offers significant community benefits for its open space attributes. Social infrastructure, namely community facilities, are also outside the scope, however, it is noted that these facilities have been mapped as part of the project for council's future use/consideration.

Park audit information contained within this document was accurate as at March 2013 when the site inspections occurred. Any park developments or data updates since the time of inspection will not have been taken into account in this plan.

Land identified as, or potentially for, open space was dependant on existing Council mapping, database information and officer

knowledge. Whilst all care has been taken to ensure information was correct, it is not possible to guarantee that all information has been captured accurately.

Site inspections of each open space asset recorded for this plan have occurred. Whilst this allowed for a much greater and more detailed understanding of the function of the land, it is a snapshot in time only.

Park classifications and hierarchy of open space have been based on the definitions provided in the plan.

Background analysis

Understanding the makeup of the local community, projected population change, trends in open space planning and the local legislative context are all important aspects in park planning and design.

Existing literature

A comprehensive list of known literature relevant to park planning for Alice Springs has been reviewed is summarised at appendix one. Council documents reviewed as part of the project include:

- ☐ Alice Springs Town Council Strategic Plan 2010 - 2015
- ☐ Alice Springs Town Council - Municipal Plan 2012/13 - 2015/16
- ☐ Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities¹
- ☐ Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities - Demand Analysis Report¹
- ☐ Alice Springs Town Council Subdivision and Development Guidelines 2012
- ☐ Revitalising Public Open Space Project: Eastside Precinct²
- ☐ a variety of Council reports relating to parks provision, management and maintenance dating between June 2009 and November 2012
- ☐ master plans for:
 - Rotaract Park
 - Alice Springs Aquatic Centre.

Northern Territory (NT) Government's documents reviewed:

- 1 SGL, 2010
- 2 The Eastside Precinct Work Group, 2004

- Territory 2030 Strategic Plan (2010)
- Northern Territory of Australia Planning Act 2009 (NT)
- Northern Territory of Australia Planning Scheme³
- NT Sport Policy One⁴.

The literature review noted the following:

- council and the territory government are dedicated in supplying quality sport and recreation opportunities for residents (Territory 2030 Strategic Plan 2010, Sport Policy One 2011, ASTC Strategic Plan 2010-15 and the ASTC Subdivision and Development Guidelines 2012)
- the Northern Territory Planning Scheme regulates the provision of land for public parks in new subdivisions based on a 10% land dedication rule (note: other specifics are given in relation to accessibility standards and its function for storm water management)
- council is committed to maintaining and improving all council-owned sport and recreation facilities and ensuring there is equity of access to the facilities (ASTC Strategic Plan 2010-15)
- council has some guidelines in regard to what they expect new parks to offer in terms of park type function and park assets (ASTC Subdivision and Development Guidelines 2012).

Benchmarking

A summary of the council park supply standards and the park supply delivery for each benchmarked council can be found at appendix three. A discussion of elements noted per local government authority are listed below. Overall, the following points were noted:

- most councils do not meet their own standards for land provision for public parks
- planning for public parks seems to focus on land planning principles rather than community expectations/need/demand - this is likely to be attributed to strict planning controls or guidelines set at a State/Territory level
- most Councils consider standards for quantity of land, distribution of parkland and level of embellishment (park assets) for different park land types
- most Councils only complete detailed planning for public recreation and sport land, even though specialised sport and informal recreation (walkways/cyclepaths) are often considered very important to these communities.

Demographics

The population of the Alice Springs local government area in 2011 (based on the Census) was approximately 25,000. It is noted that this figure excludes the regional catchment and external communities which the town services. The breakdown of population between the suburbs can be found at figure 1.

Key social profile characteristics of the 2011 population can be found at table 1. Of note from this information:

- generally, Alice Springs has a younger population than that of the Australian averages
- a high proportion of people identify as being Indigenous Australian
- a high proportion of people were born outside Australia
- there is, generally, a high cost of living (based on mortgage repayments and weekly rental figures).

Small population growth is expected in the future. Further information on key demographic characteristics and population projections can be found at appendix two.

Legend

- CBD (349)
- Eastside (5,015)
- Gap (2,140)
- Gillen (5,436)
- Golfcourse (1,699)
- Larapinta (4,391)
- Northside (3,694)
- Rural area (2,489)
- Suburbs

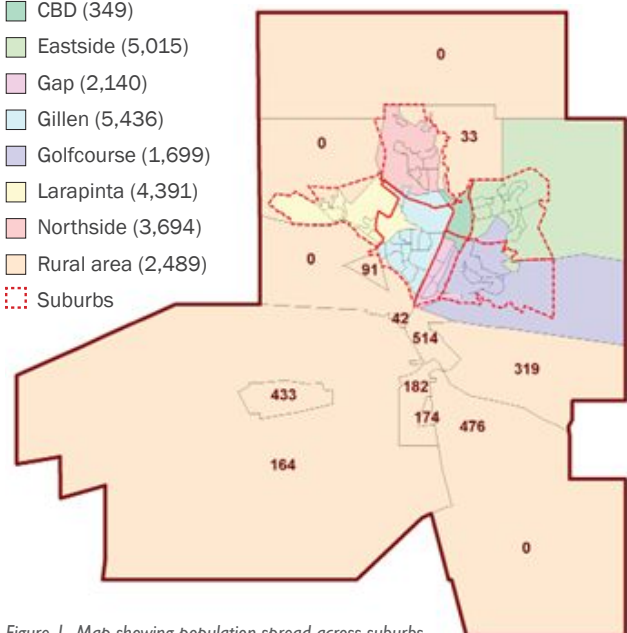


Figure 1. Map showing population spread across suburbs

³ NT Government, 2013 (amendment number 256)

⁴ Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport, 2011

Park trends

A successful park is one which is well used by the community. Park planning trends, with design examples are found at appendix four. Key qualities in creating successful quality parks include:

- ☐ creating a sense of safety and security
 - parks that are located so that they can be seen from nearby houses, stores or activity areas
 - parks and their facilities and embellishments that are open and visible
- ☐ creating an accessible and connected destination
 - parks that are accessible to and from other parks, and within the parks themselves, giving maximised opportunities for walking and cycling
 - footpaths that provide linkages to other open spaces and facilities
 - footpath treatments that are safe (for example at road crossings) and are accessible for prams and wheelchairs
- ☐ creating an attractive destination
 - parks that are well designed with landscaped open spaces
 - parks that have well shaded areas (naturally and artificially), especially over nodes and activity areas (playgrounds, benches etc.)
 - parks that are well maintained
- ☐ providing adequate facilities and range of activities
 - parks that provide good basic embellishments for comfort and recreation
 - parks that have a range of activities for park users
 - parks that have a range of infrastructure that allows participation for all ages and considers the needs of different groups (including the aged and those physically or mentally challenged)
- ☐ developing a sense of community
 - parks that provide spaces for events, gatherings and meetings
 - parks that have a sense of identity that create community awareness
 - parks that the community feel is theirs and that they can be proud of.

Options report

Four options were developed for council to consider, these are shown at appendix five. The options, in summary, are:

- ☐ Option 1 looked at the benefits and impacts of continuing to supply a similar standard of provision for park land to council's current endeavours. It also considered the impacts of delivering the standards stated in council's subdivision guidelines
- ☐ Option 2 modified council's service delivery standards to fit the available monetary resources - it assumes that there will not be any increases to the existing parks budget (remaining approximately \$2.5 million for the next five years)
- ☐ Option 3 placed emphasis on changing the existing network, in terms of embellishments in parks, number of parks per classification/hierarchy and the distribution of parks across the town. It did not recommended selling any park land. The number of parks per rate of population in this option will be similar to that of like local government areas across Australia, however, Council will still be responsible for the maintenance of the same quantity of land albeit to different levels to what is currently provided
- ☐ Option 4 focused on providing high quality public parks - parks that are beautiful, well-maintained, well-used that foster a strong sense of inclusion, community and social interaction. The cost of achieving this result is significant, as such, it is proposed to consolidate parks, to 're-purpose' these spaces and to seek a range of funding solutions to pay for the option. This option brings the number of functioning recreation parks in Alice Springs to a similar supply rate to that of like local government areas (per benchmarking).

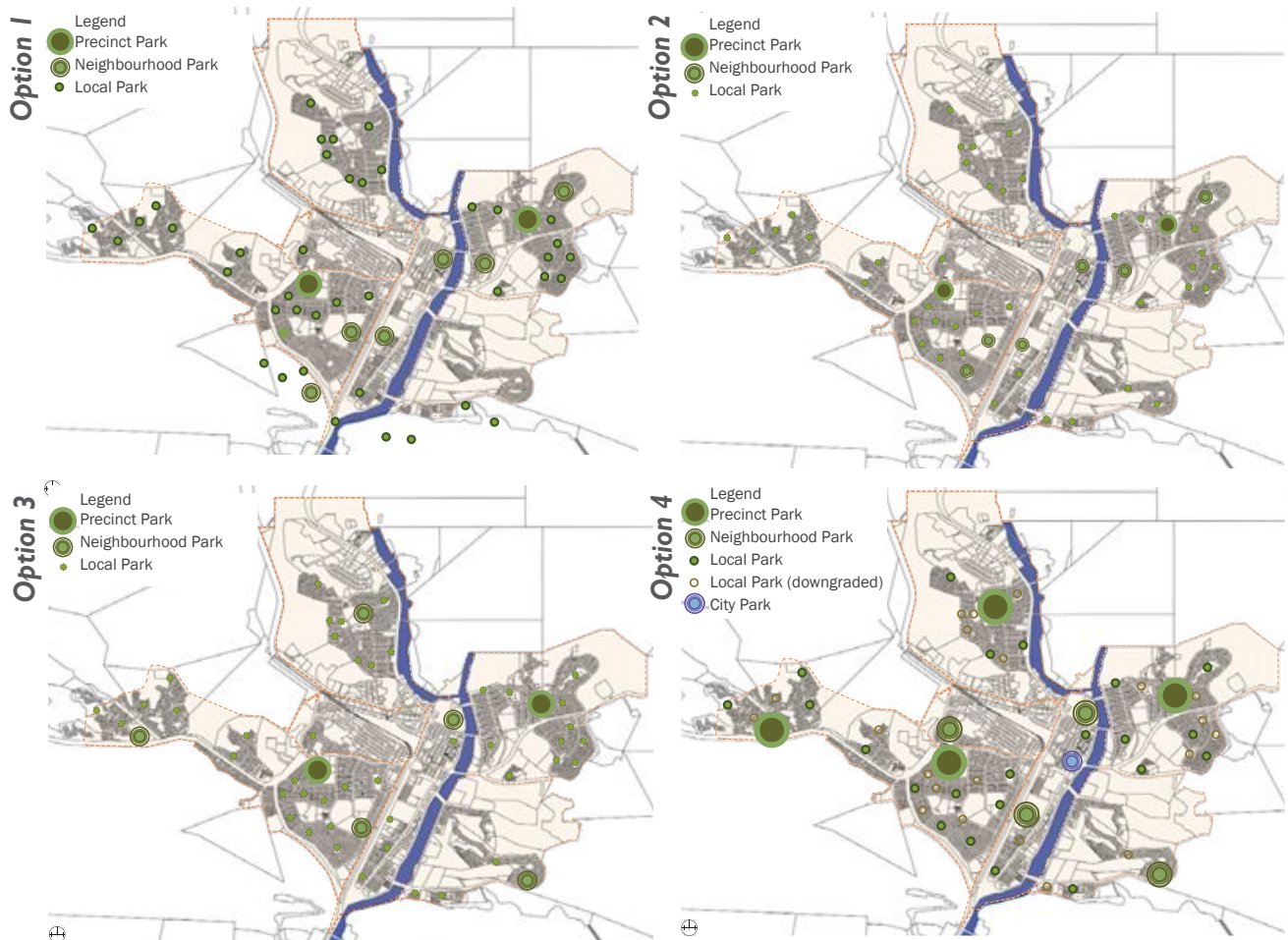


Figure 2. Maps showing concept options

Current supply

Over 1,500 hectares of open space has been inspected for this project, of which 1,300 hectares is privately owned and managed. This leaves almost 200 hectares of open space that Council either owns, manages or maintains. This project focuses on public recreation and open space land. A classification and hierarchy system has been developed (see table 1). The purpose of this system is to allow the open space network to be classified based on its primary function and to offer a system to council that can be used for a variety of purposes based on information in table 2. The map at figure 4 diagrammatically shows the hierarchy and distribution parks in Alice Springs.

Table 1. Classification framework

Park type	Description
Recreation parks	
Local	Parks providing a limited range of recreational opportunities for local residents. These parks contain infrastructure for recreational use, but generally cater for short visits only (usually an hour or so). These parks are usually smaller in size and are located on local streets in residential areas. Examples of local recreation parks are: Beefwood Park, Dixon Park, Walmulla Park and Battarbee Park.
Neighbourhood	Larger sized parks providing a range of facilities and activity spaces for recreation. These parks have facilities to cater for large groups and are appealing to a range of users. They can service several suburbs depending on population density and are fairly well known destinations for those people living within their catchment. Examples of neighbourhood recreation parks are: Bougainvillea Park, Newland Park and Snow Kenna Park.
Precinct	Major recreation parks that offer a wide variety of opportunities to a broad cross-section of the area’s population and visitors. These parks are generally large in size, heavily embellished for recreation and/or sport, well known amongst residents and are major destinations. Precinct recreation parks in Alice Springs are Frank McEllister Park and Frances Smith Memorial Park.
Sport parks	
Public	Sports parks primarily cater for a variety of formal sporting activities through provision of a range of training and competition infrastructure. These parks include: specific facilities for undertaking competitive, organised activities; ancillary facilities for clubs or organisations to support sporting activities (such as canteens, clubhouses, storage facilities); and /or free, unrestricted access to the public at times when formal sport is not being undertaken.
Specialised	Specialised sport parks provide for sporting activities where the nature of the activity precludes free, unrestricted access to members of the public. Specialised sports include motocross/motorcycling, equestrian, golf, shooting, car racing and field archery/bow hunting. All specialised sports in Alice Springs are privately owned/managed with the exception of the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre.
Private and specialised**	
Other open space	
Amenity park	Amenity parks are either landscaped areas such as town entrance statements or offer some amenity in terms of function such as monument/memorial parks and lookouts. They provide little, to no, recreation opportunities.
Undeveloped	Land for which a specific open space classification has yet to be determined and/or no built infrastructure is located in the park.
Utility	Land that is often owned or maintained by council, however, should not be considered as functioning open space for sport or recreation. Purpose of these lands could be: easements that enable or could enable pedestrian access between the road network and other land uses; utility infrastructure (e.g. electricity transmissions, telecommunications, water and sewerage); or water bodies, waterways or drainage corridors. These facilities have been recorded for the purpose of providing Council with an updated map layer, however, are not the focus of this project
Private	There are private significant non-council managed/owned or maintained open spaces; Telegraph Station and the Olive Pink Floral Reserve. Private recreation (including sport) facilities have been recorded to understand the whole open space network in Alice Springs, however, no recommendations are made regarding the future of these facilities.
Community facilities*	
Childcare	Community facilities that have specialised building and land footprint requirements to meet community needs. Community facilities include council owned or managed cemeteries, child care centres, senior citizens centres. Community facilities fall outside the scope of the Open Space Network Master Plan, however, these facilities are recorded for the purpose of providing council an updated GIS layer with all facilities.
Cemetery	
Senior citizens	

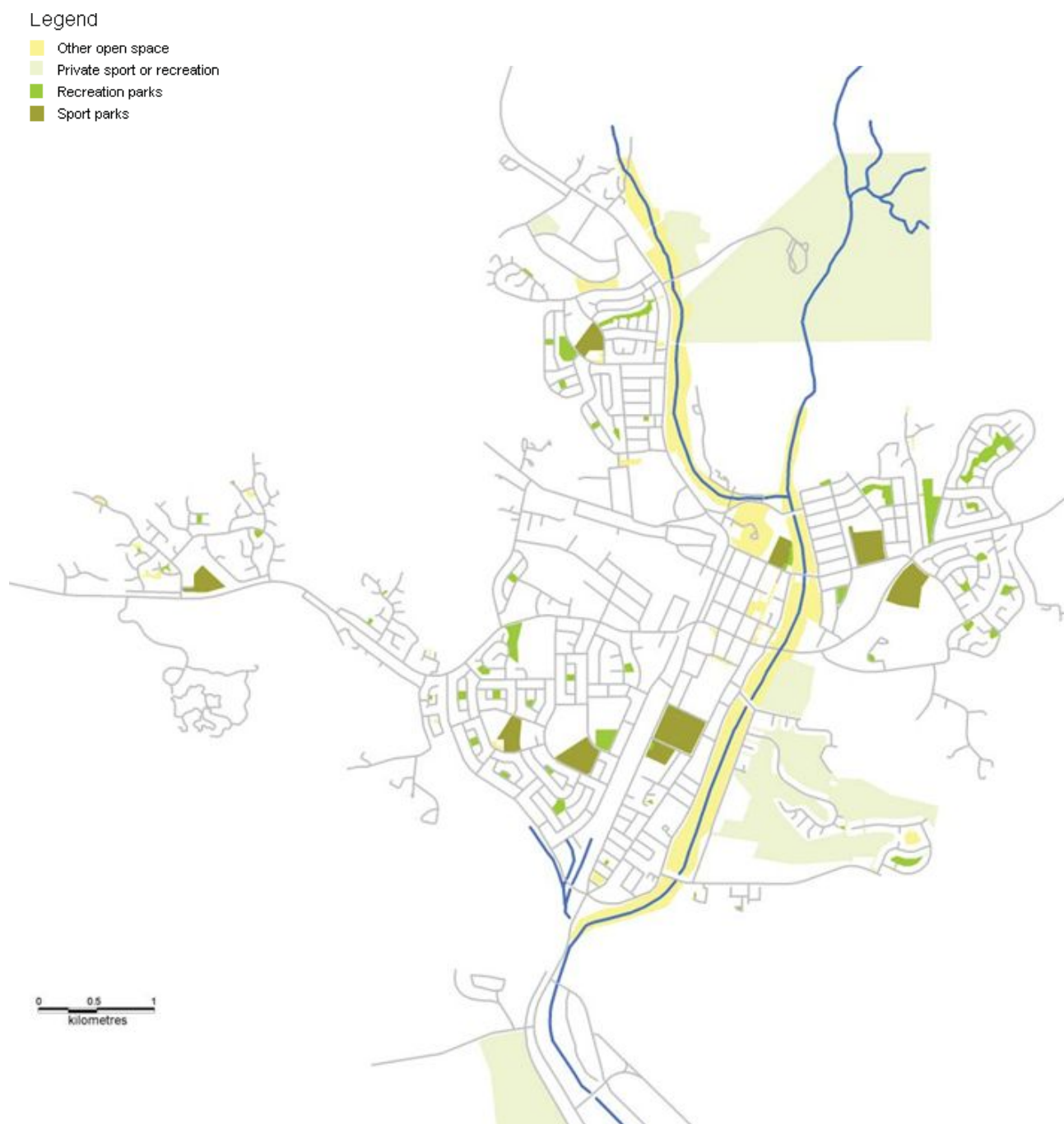


Figure 3. Current supply map

Table 2. Summary of park supply by park typology

Classification	Hierarchy	Number of parks	Size (ha)	Size of core activity areas (ha)	Number of play activities	Average number of play activities per park	Total operational cost	Average operation cost per park
Recreation parks	Local	42	19.2	1.4	244	6	\$516,650	\$12,301
	Neighbourhood	6	9.6	0.1	59	10	\$137,550	\$22,925
	Precinct	2	7.3	0.4	48	24	\$94,000	\$47,000
Sport parks	Public	8	48.9	n/a	17 fields/ovals and 9 courts	3.25	\$1,289,686	\$161,210
	Specialised	1	2.9	n/a	pool	n/a	\$38,250	\$38,250
	Private and specialised**	8	1032.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other open space	Amenity park	24	25.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$337,375	\$18,743
	Undeveloped	9	6.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$31,550	\$3,505

Council spends over \$2.5 million each year to maintain its sport and recreation parks. Almost half of this is on the high-quality sports parks. Due to the topography, geographic isolation and social influences of Alice Springs, it is difficult to compare service delivery standards to most local governments. Detailed operational cost data was not available from the Council benchmarked earlier in this report (see pages 7-8). A number of over-arching observations were noted from the supply assessment, these have been organised by park classification below.

Decision matrix

Each park in Alice Springs was inspected (this included privately-owned park land). Significant data (where applicable) was collected, including:

- ☐ park classification and hierarchy
- ☐ play equipment by age/ability:
 - toddler
 - child
 - youth
 - DDA compliant (indicator of all-ability access to play)
- ☐ seating (benches)
- ☐ picnic tables
- ☐ bins
- ☐ taps (water bubblers)
- ☐ toilet
- ☐ bike racks
- ☐ shade structures
- ☐ park pathways, including
 - whether there was a path
 - path surface type
- ☐ park lighting
- ☐ park irrigation, including whether the irrigation system is connected to council's control centre
- ☐ general condition of assets
- ☐ park landscaping (shade)
- ☐ overall park size (ha)
- ☐ size of activity areas (ha)
- ☐ shape of park land
- ☐ road frontage
- ☐ any known cultural significance
- ☐ park visibility
- ☐ observations regarding park usage

- ☐ observation regarding design constraints
- ☐ number of sports fields/ovals/courts
- ☐ sport buildings
- ☐ operational cost considerations, broken down under:
 - mowing
 - irrigation
 - other park maintenance
 - total operation maintenance cost.
 - Arunga Park Speedway
 - Golf Course
 - Blatherskite - showgrounds and BMX
 - Alice Springs Racecourse (Turf Club)
 - Alice Springs Velodrome
 - Alice Springs Shooting Complex
 - Motor Cycle Club
 - Clay Target Shooting Club
- ☐ these facilities require large tracts of land, and generally, offer popular sport options for adults in regional areas.

This data will be provided to council as a mapping (GIS) layer.

Supply assessment

Alice Springs has many parks across the urban footprint of the town. Generally, the recreation park are in poor condition, especially when compared to the high quality sports parks.

It appears that council, in the past, have concentrated on purchasing and installing play equipment targeting small children. Additionally, it appears that council's preference has been to distribute the play equipment across as many parks as possible. This has resulted in many parks boasting the same (or similar) range of opportunities for a very small demographic catchment.



Master plan overview

Alice Springs has a strong sport and recreation culture. Its sports parks, in particular, are well-used and celebrated by the local community. There are a significant amount of play and picnic parks (recreation parks) offering differing levels of recreation opportunities for nearby residents, as such, there are differing usage rates across these type of parks.

The vision, supporting guiding principles and the park typologies overview (park classification/hierarchy) - together they make the park framework for Alice Springs. All changes to the existing network align with the framework, and ultimately the vision to establish a strong, appealing parks network.

Vision

The vision sets the desired scene for park development. It reflects the community's aspirations (reflection of the information in the strategic plan) and council's corporate vision. The vision for the parks network for Alice Springs is to ensure that:

“Our parks are fun, accessible safe places to people to enjoy, celebrate and be active in. Our parks offer a wide range of sport, play and picnicking opportunities for our residents and visitors that reflect our culture, our climate and our people.”

Guiding principles

Following on from the vision for the parks network, the following principles are seen as the fundamental guiding components for the whole open space network at a strategic level, many of these reflect the themes stated from council's strategic plan:

- ☐ our parks are well-known know and well-used and celebrated by the community
- ☐ our parks are safe, clean places for people to use appropriately
- ☐ our parks are desirable places for people to go to, regardless of age, culture and ability. The network will provide choice and diversity of options that recognises different economic, cultural and social values of residents and visitors
- ☐ our parks provide fun, safe and well-located facilities
- ☐ our parks celebrate our communities identity and culture
- ☐ our parks encourage human interactions. Parks build social capital and inclusion and lead to developing a strong sense of community and belonging.
- ☐ our parks are designed to celebrate (and sometimes mitigate against) our geography, topography and climate
- ☐ our parks are designed and effectively maintained to a high quality, commensurate with the nature and use of the facilities and spaces
- ☐ our parks have multiple functions including being community meeting places, places to sit and reflect, places to be active, places that are destinations. The multiple use of parks is encouraged to provide cost effective options for council to maintain while providing community health and well-being benefits
- ☐ our parks are designed and built to reflect best-practice design principles
- ☐ our parks promote equitable access across the town and consider the differing community values, expectations based on social and demographic profiles. Consideration is also given to the location, design and implementation of parks, now and in the future in light of these social attributes
- ☐ our parks consider community, environmental, economic and governance costs and benefits to ensure an affordable and quality park network is provided
- ☐ our parks considers the history and character of local places and spaces and incorporates these themes into park designs

Note: design principles for each park type can be found in the upcoming park typology pages.

Park typologies overview Activities

The master plan uses the same park typologies (classification/hierarchy system) previously explained (page 7), however, some key amendments are proposed - namely in relation to the design of the different park types and the level of infrastructure associated with them.

A suite of guiding principles and design and construction notes for each park type are found in the appendices:

- ☐ precinct parks - appendix six
- ☐ neighbourhood parks - appendix seven
- ☐ local recreation parks - appendix eight.

The focus of this master plan are the above recreation parks. As such the master plan network and action plan focus primarily on the above listed park types. It is noted that the master planning for sports parks has been completed as part of the Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities (SGL, 2010). Major recommendations, in term of design changes, for sports parks from the sports master plan have been incorporated where relevant. However, the action plan and capital and operational cost review (pages 55 - 64) have been developed for the recreation park network only. Consideration was also given to all publicly accessible outdoor sport and recreation facilities in developing the master plan, due to some park types not being the focus of this master plan nor the sport master plan, overarching park have also been developed and supplied in the appendices, these being for:

- ☐ utility open space - appendix nine
- ☐ amenity parks - appendix ten.

The purpose of providing this information (along with the park design trends at appendix four) is to offer council options in terms of park design and development for the future. It is recommended that this information be used to review and update the Alice Springs Town Council Subdivision and Development Guidelines (ASTC, November 2012).

The preferred concept for recreation parks in Alice Springs is to have a number of very high-quality precinct parks that are fairly distributed. These parks are attractive spaces that offer a number of park-related drawcards for residents. More, high-quality, highly embellished and maintained precinct parks will alleviate the demand for smaller local and pocket parks. Neighbourhood parks are mid-level parks and are only proposed in special circumstances, usually when geographic barriers exist in the precinct parks or the local catchment population indicates demand for a mid-level park. Local, small recreation parks supplement the precinct parks. Currently there are a large number of these parks across the town. In the future it is proposed that fewer of these parks will be required, and it is also proposed that the design and embellishment of these parks be scaled back to what is currently offered.

It is hoped that each precinct contains a range of activities, these include:

- ☐ play opportunities and differing play experiences for people of all ages, including:
 - toddlers
 - small children
 - older children
 - youth
 - adults
- ☐ nature-based play
- ☐ adventure play
- ☐ sports facilities - formal and informal
- ☐ active and passive recreation areas
- ☐ picnicking facilities for small, medium and large groups
- ☐ footpaths - connections
- ☐ public toilets
- ☐ shaded areas
- ☐ relatively flat, open areas suitable for kick-about spaces
- ☐ car parking (maybe adjacent to park or shared with neighbouring land uses)
- ☐ bins, seats and water bubblers
- ☐ signage
- ☐ landscaping
- ☐ community garden
- ☐ dog off-leash areas (fenced and unfenced)
- ☐ community meetings areas (these may not be located in the park network)
- ☐ walking tracks and circuits (using parkland where appropriate)
- ☐ areas suitable to host community events
- ☐ areas suitable to host private events (weddings, birthday parties)
- ☐ indoor spaces for physical activity programs and community meetings
- ☐ programs and activities in parks (commercial and community based, these should consider:
 - tai chi
 - yoga
 - boot camps
 - running
 - school holiday activities
- ☐ commercial elements (food stalls, coffee vans etc).

Age appropriate play elements

Below is a list a different play park assets that could be considered when trying to diversify the range of opportunities available.

- ☐ toddlers (2-5 year olds)
 - climbing play structures
 - panels or themed elements e.g. kitchen, boat, train, firetruck, shop counter
 - swings
 - slides
 - spring rockers/animal riders
 - stepping stones
- ☐ small children (5-8 year olds)
 - climbing play structures
 - swings
 - slide
 - natural climbers (e.g. rocks)
 - sensory equipment
 - climbing net
 - spinner
 - undulating small bike loop zone
 - balancing elements
 - spinner
 - panels or themed elements e.g kitchen, boat, train, firetruck, shop counter
 - spring rockers/animal riders
 - tunnels
- ☐ older children (8-12 year olds)
 - flying fox
 - rockclimbing wall/ natural climbers (e.g. rocks)
 - climbing nets
 - spinners
 - basket ball hoop
 - skate ramps
 - balancing elements
 - tunnels
- ☐ youth (12-17 year olds)
 - skate ramp
 - BMX
 - hangout spaces
 - rockclimbing wall
 - power lift bar and other stationary exercise equipment
 - basket ball hoop
 - rage cages
- ☐ adults (18+ year old)
 - seating
 - shade
 - picnic and barbecue areas
 - outdoor exercise equipment (stationary and moving parts)
 - interactive play elements- raised sandpit

Key parks

The desired end result is to provide high quality public parks - parks that are beautiful, well-maintained, well-used and foster a strong sense of inclusion, community and social interaction in Alice Springs.

Additionally, The counter-balance of providing the high-quality city and precinct parks is that the embellishment and maintenance of local recreation parks will decrease. It is proposed that some of these parks will be downgraded to undeveloped park land (areas that are still accessible to the community) and others will be investigated for potential non-park related functions.

This section introduces key recreation parks that form the master plan, further information can be found in the park catchment precincts in following chapters.

City recreation park

A new city park is proposed that will become the town's feature park. It will be located in the CBD and be used for a variety of purposes including:

- ☐ a space for local residents and workers to meet
- ☐ an area for public recreation
- ☐ an amenable place suitable to host large civic and community-based functions
- ☐ an attractive venue for larger-scale tourism and events activities.

Precinct recreation park

Key precinct parks will be well-distributed across the town. Precinct parks are high-quality/embellished recreation parks - whilst they are labelled 'precinct parks', they are of a much higher standard to any recreation park currently built and maintained in Alice Springs. It is proposed that there will be four precinct parks in Alice Springs, these being:

- ☐ Frank McEllister Park, Araluen
- ☐ Frances Smith Memorial Park, Eastside
- ☐ Albrecht Oval, Larapinta
- ☐ Rhonda Diano Oval/Rotaract Park, Northside.

These spaces are chosen for a number of factors, including their:

- ☐ size
- ☐ location and distribution
- ☐ proximity to residents
- ☐ proximity to schools and other community infrastructure
- ☐ capacity to be developed into special parkland areas, building on the design concept of 'power of 10' discussed on page 16
- ☐ current status as being well-known, well-used parks.

Neighbourhood recreation park

The precinct parks will be supported by four high level neighbourhood parks. These parks have been selected either because residents in that area are disconnected to the chosen precinct parks, or because significant infrastructure already exists at these parks. The parks that will be developed to a neighbourhood park status are:

- ☐ Snow Kenna Park, CBD
- ☐ Skatepark, CBD
- ☐ Lewis Gilbert Park, Golfcourse
- ☐ Spicer Crescent Park/Irvine Park, Gillen
- ☐ Newland Park/Jim McConville Oval.

Local recreation park

The key recreation parks across the city will be complemented by a number of smaller, well-distributed local level recreation parks. Currently, there is an excess of these parks types that have been embellished to varying degrees.

Precinct planning

The park network master plan for Alice Springs is organised by precincts. The precincts, generally, reflect the individual local neighbourhoods in the town. There is significant literature available on park planning for strong neighbourhoods. The park network master plan for Alice Springs capitalises on the Project for Public Spaces Power of 10' concept (see break-out box adjacent) and the nine points that have compiled on extensive research (over 30 years and thousands of case studies internationally) into good park planning.

Applying these concepts for Alice Springs using existing suburb boundaries is relatively simple. The master plan ensures:

- ☐ the 'power of 10' concept for each precinct's parks network is attained
- ☐ the existing and likely future demographic indicators are considered and incorporated in the master plan outcomes
- ☐ the existing park supply, its strengths and weaknesses and considered
- ☐ that park operations, management and maintenance schedules are reviewed
- ☐ a cost-benefit analysis, including consideration of environmental and social costs and benefits, is undertaken
- ☐ where possible and reasonable, the design trends (see appendix four) and park typology standards (see appendices six to ten) are incorporated
- ☐ funding the plan is possible and explores a variety of funding mechanisms (see pages 64 - 68)
- ☐ a flexible design approach is embraced, one that enables change to reflect changing demands in the future
- ☐ that consideration has been given to the different land uses in the precincts
- ☐ parks provide amenities to residents that are desirable
- ☐ parks are sympathetic to the climate, geography and culture of the area

There are seven park planning catchments which are based on the suburbs of Alice Springs. The purpose of the catchments is to present the master plan outcomes in a logical way. Figure 4 shows the parks planning catchments.

Power of 10 and making excellent parks

The Project for Public Spaces (PPS) uses the concept of 'Power of 10' to plan and build great towns. It is a simple concept that states that the more for people to do in a place, the better the place is.

"If your goal is to build a great city, it's not enough to have a single use dominate a particular place — you need an array of activities for people. It's not enough to have just one great place in a neighbourhood — you need a number of them to create a truly lively community. It's not enough to have one great neighbourhood in a city — you need to provide people all over town with close-to-home opportunities to take pleasure in public life... At the core of the Power of 10 is the idea that any great place itself needs to offer at least 10 things to do or 10 reasons to be there. These could include a place to sit, playgrounds to enjoy, art to touch, music to hear, food to eat, history to experience, and people to meet. Ideally, some of these activities are unique to that particular spot and are interesting enough to keep people coming back. The local folks who use the space most regularly are the best source of ideas for what uses will work best." (Project for Public Spaces, 2013).

The park network master plan for Alice Springs utilises these principles in conjunction with local information.

In relation to how this concept can be applied to parks planning, PPS suggest the following strategies:

- ☐ "use transit as a catalyst for attracting visitors
- ☐ make management of the park a central concern
- ☐ develop strategies to attract people during different seasons
- ☐ acquire diverse funding sources
- ☐ design the park layout for flexibility
- ☐ consider both the "inner park" and "outer park"
- ☐ provide amenities for the different groups of people using the park
- ☐ create attractions and destinations throughout the park
- ☐ create an identity and image for the park" (Project for Public Places, 2013).

Legend

-  CBD
-  Eastside
-  Gap
-  Gillen
-  Golfcourse
-  Larapinta
-  Northside
-  ASTC area
-  Roads

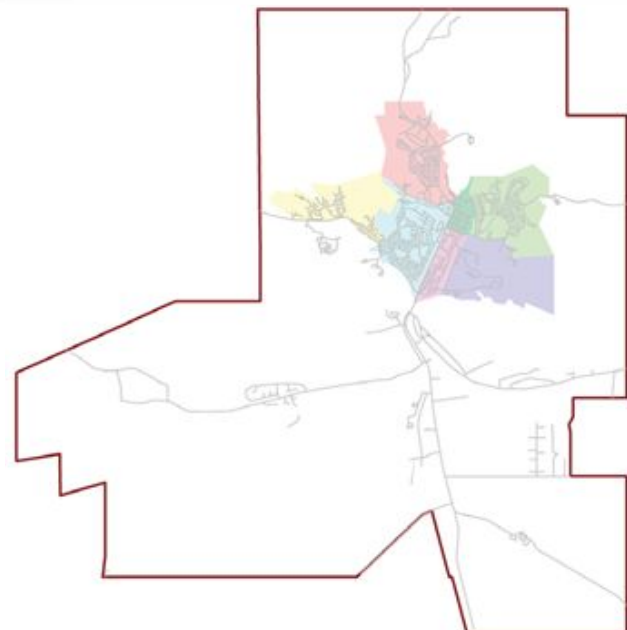


Figure 4. Map showing park planning catchments

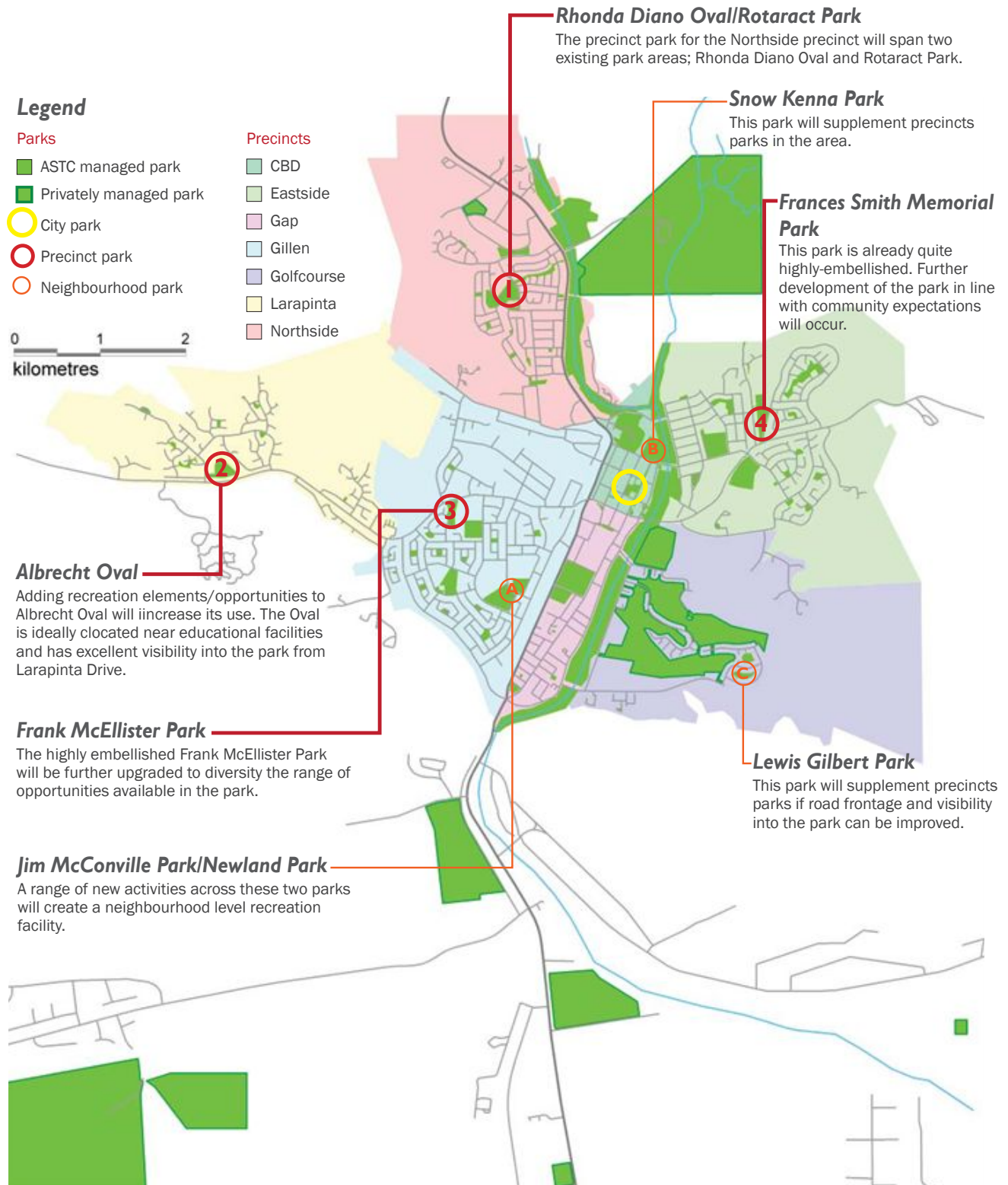


Figure 5. Future key precinct and neighbourhood parks



Catchment analysis

CBD catchment

There is approximately 50ha of parkland/public open space in the CBD catchment, much of which is the Todd River corridor (28ha). The key recreation park is Snow Kenna Park, positioned between the river and Anzac Oval (sports park). This area, due to its co-location and being adjacent to the town centre, creates a nice park hub.

The parks in the precinct are labelled on the adjacent map, the numbers coincide with the following list:

1. Snow Kenna Park - recreation park
2. Anzac Oval - sport park
3. Anzac Hill
4. Civic Centre Lawns
5. Flynn Church Lawns
6. Gathering Garden
7. Leichhardt Terrace Rest Area
8. Library Lawns
9. Nishan-E-Afghan Park
10. Post Office Laneway/Hartley Street school car park
11. Sturt Park*
12. Todd Mall
13. Trevor Reid Park
14. Wills Terrace*
15. Todd River parkland area.

* adjacent to the Todd River parkland.



Figure 6. Diagrammatic representation of proposed city park

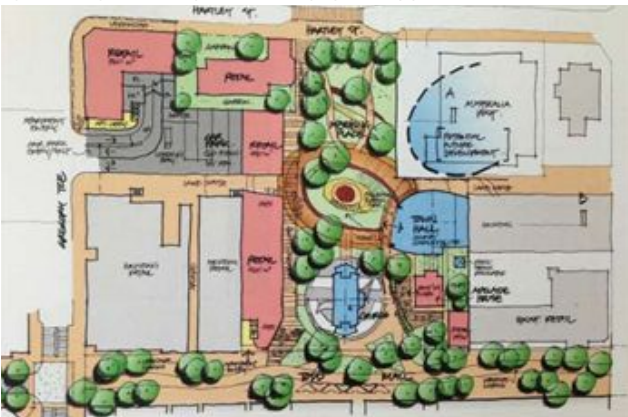


Figure 7. Spatial representation of proposed city park

Park analysis/ recommendations

New city park

As mentioned, the new city park will become the town's feature park. This park will be centrally located and would be designed to boast:

- ☐ water play elements precinct
- ☐ shady, grassed area (a green oasis in the CBD)
- ☐ significant picnic facilities, including facilities to accommodate large groups
- ☐ civic gathering space suitable to hosting small to medium community events - this will alleviate the burden on sporting facilities (Anzac Oval) and minimise the conflict between users
- ☐ infrastructure to support town events, such as amphitheatre, toilets and electricity
- ☐ a recreation node for city workers and visitors.

It is proposed that a city park be developed in conjunction with the Flynn Church. Council is currently in discussions regarding the park, its design, purpose and potential future functionality.

Recommendations

In relation to delivering this new park, the following actions are required:

1. negotiate the land and tenure arrangements
2. prepare a park master plan (design) in consultation with key stakeholders and the general public (it should be noted that considerable community consultation is considered important for this new park)
3. prepare a quantity surveyor report for the master plan (cost estimate)
4. stage the rollout of the design and develop an action plan
5. investigate funding options and seek external funding. It is recommended that council aim to receive at a minimum of 50% external funding for the park's capital development
6. build the park in line with the staging and action plan as funds are secured.

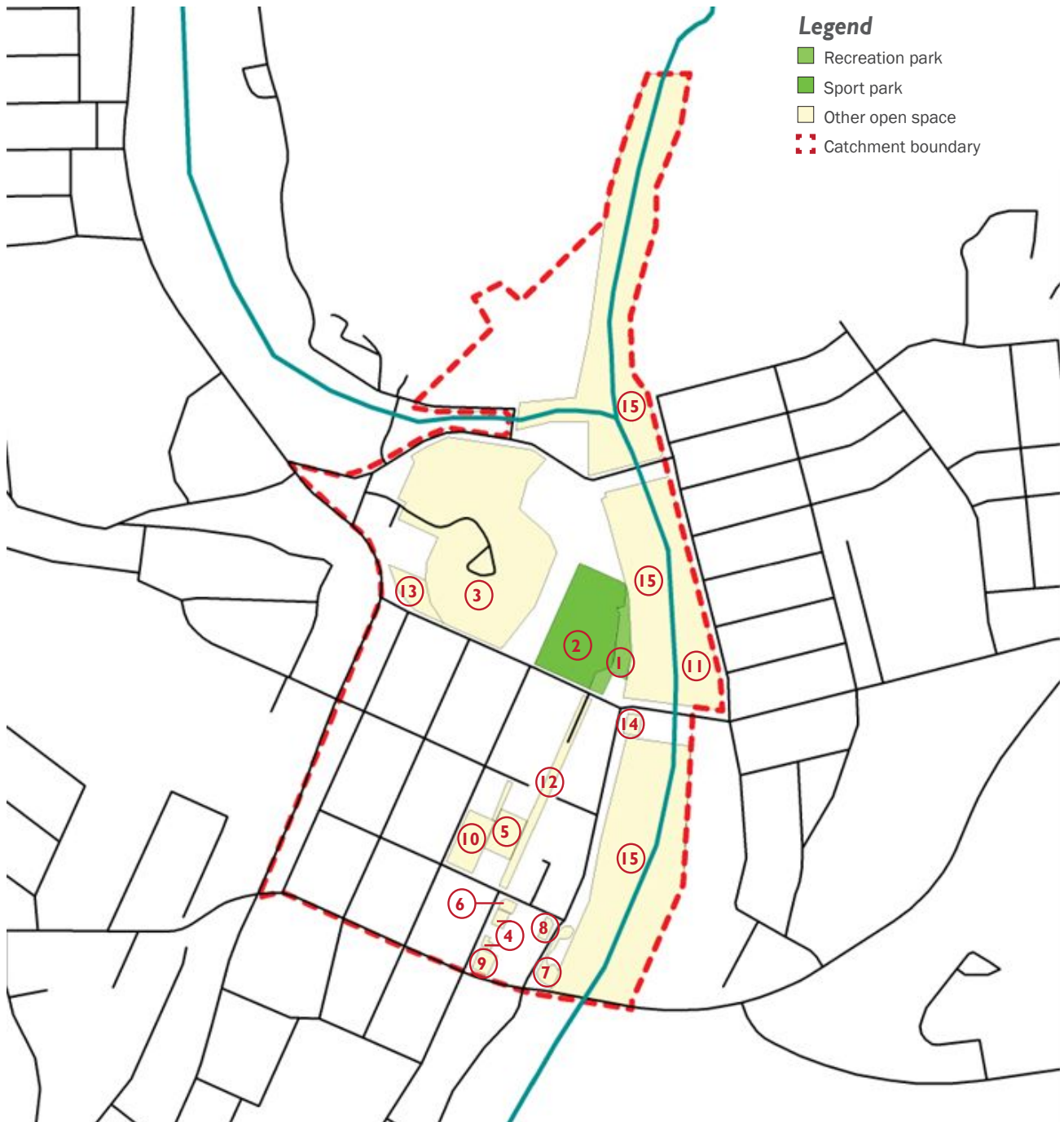


Figure 8. CBD parks catchment parks

Neighbourhood park(s)

The precinct park for the CBD pivots around Snow Kenna Park, Anzac Oval, Anzac Hill and Trevor Reid Park.

Snow Kenna Park

Snow Kenna Park boasts a small play area to front of park. There are large shady trees and turf throughout park, however, the play area is exposed and sandy with no green or landscaping. Snow Kenna Park (and Anzac Oval) are used to hold civic events, celebrations and markets. There is power installed for events, however, it is reported that often it is insufficient to meet the event demands. Feedback from council officers indicates that the space is small and limits the number and function of events to around 600 - 700 people). Event organisers have suggested a stage and associated fittings would assist in the preparation and coordination of the events.

Recommendations

Snow Kenna Park will continue to offer recreation value to residents and visitors. It is well-located and used currently and this is expected to continue in the future.

The following recommendations are made:

1. shade the play area with trees/ landscaping (and artificial shade if need be to supplement the natural shade)
2. install exercise equipment (stations) along the river but not too spread out
3. install bench seats to overlook the play area
4. install a water bubbler (tap) near the playground and picnic facilities
5. add play elements suitable for toddlers, youth and adults.



Figure 9. Snow Kenna Park

Anzac Oval

Anzac Oval is a sports park. It boasts one field/oval and is used primarily for rugby league and rugby union. The sportfield is floodlit. A pavilion (clubhouse) is located to the western side of the sportsground. There is a mega-fitness track to eastern portion of the oval.

Sports parks have been planned in more detail in the Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities (SGL, May 2010).

Recommendations

Recommendations for Anzac Oval based on the outputs from the Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities (SGL, May 2010) are:

1. upgrade amenities and clubhouse
2. connect electricity to the electronic scoreboard
3. provide public toilets
4. increase amount of shade around the field
5. upgrade storage facilities
6. place amenity and clubhouse (low priority)
7. improve security of scoreboard (low priority)
8. fence the pitch (low priority)
9. build a 300 seat grandstand (low priority)
10. improve amount of spectator seating (low priority).

Note: low priority recommendations are considered to be outside the timeframes of this plan.



Figure 10. View of Anzac Oval from Anzac Hill

Anzac Hill/Trevor Reid Park

Anzac Hill is a popular lookout for the town. It includes a car park, flag poles, cenotaph and remembrance wall, survey markers, signage, lights, and landscaping.

Trevor Reid Park is primarily a patchy, irrigated section of land at the base of Anzac Hill (corner of Wills Terrace and Stuart Highway). It could be seen as a green entrance to the town, however, offers little recreation value to residents and visitors and unlikely to be used for public recreation - other than a shortcut route to and from the CBD (this is evident from the strong desire line in the park). There is one seating area with a cage structure and bench seats and what appears to be a caged well.

Recommendations

1. develop Anzac Hill in line with tourism expectations, advice is required from tourism officials in this regard. From a park planning perspective it is thought that additional seats, picnic tables and water bubblers would be beneficial
2. landscape in and around Trevor Reid Park to create visual link to Anzac Hill, Anzac Oval, Snow Kenna Park and the CBD and to create a sense of arrival (entrance statement) to the CBD
3. develop a formal pathway through Trevor Reid Park to strengthen the link to the CBD.



Figure 11. View from Anzac Hill

Other open spaces

Small civic spaces/lawns

There are a number of small, irrigated, manicured lawns around the CBD that council maintains, these being:

- ☐ Civic Centre Lawns
- ☐ Flynn Church Lawns
- ☐ Gathering Garden
- ☐ Library Lawns
- ☐ Nishan-E-Afghan Park
- ☐ Leichhardt Terrace Rest Area.

These areas contribute to the amenity and look of the CBD, They also offer nice places to stop, sit and reflect. However, are not thought to be key recreation places for the town. Council should continue to maintain these in line with community expectations. These spaces should be budgeted separately to the sport and recreation parks to help delineate between the different functions of parkland.

Hardscape urban public spaces

Council also maintain hard-landscape public spaces, including:

- ☐ Todd Mall
- ☐ Post Office Laneway
- ☐ Hartley Street school car park.

As with the small civic spaces/lawns, these spaces are not considered to be functioning recreation parklands. It is recommended that council budgets these spaces as a separate item to assess them differently to parks operational costs.

Todd River parkland area

The Todd River (also known as Lhere Mparntwe by the indigenous Arrrente people) significantly adds to the open space network of Alice Springs. It is a dry river for the vast majority of the year (estimated that water flows for less than 5% of the year). However, in flood events the flow can be fast and turbulent. In the CBD park catchment, the Todd River park areas include:

- ☐ Sturt Park
- ☐ Wills Terrace
- ☐ Todd River 1, 2 and 3 (in council's GIS layer)

The river parkland area could be used as a linear, recreation corridor circuit, however, there seems to be uncertainty to its potential for further development for this function. Council has recently investigated whether to instal park exercise infrastructure along the river walk. Feedback is split to whether this is the preferred location as it is thought that more people use the sportsfields around town for exercise over the river parkland. It is recommended that it would be better to concentrate the exercise equipment along the river at Snow Kenna Park - this site offers the benefit of having car parking, access to sportsfield, lighting and toilets nearby. Also the increased use of one area is likely to increase the safety (perceived or real) of the park.



Catchment analysis

Eastside catchment

There is approximately 31ha of parkland/public open space in the Eastside catchment.

The key recreation park is (and will be further developed to a precinct park standard) is Frances Smith Memorial Park. Unlike most other catchments, there are few opportunities to co-locate the precinct park near other key community infrastructure. However, developing Frances Smith Memorial Park is believed to be the preferred option considering its location (most central to residents of the area), size (largest recreation park in the catchment) and existing park infrastructure. Additionally, Frances Smith Memorial Park has the best road frontage (for visibility into the park) and opportunities to be further developed.

The parks in the precinct are labelled on the adjacent map, the numbers coincide with the following list:

Precinct recreation park:

1. Frances Smith Memorial Park (Undoolya Park)

Local recreation parks:

2. Bougainvillea Park (Kurrajong Park)
3. Gillen Park (Goyder)
4. Beefwood Park
5. Davidson Park
6. Gosse Park
7. Kilgariff Park
8. Mercorella Park
9. Noonie Park
10. Oleander Park
11. Plumbago - VCL
12. Spearwood Park

Sport parks:

13. Ross Park
14. Sadadeen Oval

Other parkland areas:

15. Prickle Park (Botanic Gardens)
16. Reus Park (undeveloped)
17. Burke Park

Park analysis/ recommendations

Precinct park

Frances Smith Memorial Park

Frances Smith Memorial Park is a well-developed and used park. However, with the park equipment/assets strewn throughout the park it makes it difficult for groups and families with different aged-children to be together. The pathway through the park encourages connections between the spaces, however, due to the lack of visibility between the park nodes, does not encourage people to use the nodes on the same visit. The play areas, BMX track and community garden seem to be the popular park areas.

The path network does not connect to play areas. The park seems very dusty and hot for a precinct park. Fencing only to one play area, and only 2 bench seats and 2 picnic tables. The result is a spread out park lacking central, obvious meeting space and park nodes.

Recommendations

1. build a toilet block, between car park and recreation nodes
2. plant shade trees near the main activity areas (play nodes as shown in figure 12) and throughout the park (especially along the pathway)
3. extend the main play/recreation area ensuring a diversity of play opportunities across age groups and people of differing abilities, creating visual connection to the youth/BMX space and the irrigated kick-about area
4. install clustered picnic facilities near the play area
5. remove fencing, mounding and unstructured, unsafe and old play equipment no longer used
6. ensure pathway connects to the car parking area, the play and picnic nodes
7. develop a fenced dog off-leash area in the southern part of the park.



Figure 12. Diagrammatic master plan for Frances Smith Memorial Park





Figure 13. Eastside parks catchment parks

Local recreation parks

Bougainvillea Park (Kurrajong Park)

Bougainvillea Park is a long, linear park in the north-eastern part of Alice Springs. Most of the park is bordered by houses, limiting the visibility into the park. The park appears to be well-used as a pedestrian link - a footpath meanders through the length of the park.

The park lacks picnic facilities, however there are a number playgrounds scattered throughout the park. The play equipment is similar across park, with most under shade. There is no seating near the play equipment. Park fencing includes bollards to roads. Unfortunately, the majority of play assets focus on providing opportunities for young children, with the exception of the BMX jumps located in the north-eastern corner of the park.

Recommendations

1. remove irrigation from the centre of the park
2. over time relocate play equipment to one or two areas of the park, it is suggested this should be to the north-eastern end of the park
3. shade and seating is required near the BMX jumps and play/picnic area
4. install shade, picnic table and bench seats near play facilities.
5. plant more shade trees along the pathway
6. install irrigation near the new play/picnic area.



Figure 14. Bougainvillea Park

Gillen Park (Goyder Green)

Gillen Park is triangular block bordered by Lindsay Avenue, Goyder Street and Mueller Street. One of the few parks that is completely bordered by roads (most others share at least one side with private residents). It is quite a nicely sited park, however, it is difficult to ascertain park usage (there is little visual evidence of use from the site inspections alone).

The play equipment located in the park is old and designed primarily for toddlers and small children. The area around the play equipment is green and well-irrigated. However, the playground is in full sun and separated with limited cross-age group activities (focus on child & toddler play). There is little shade, no bench seats, picnic facilities or access to water in the park.

Recommendations

This park will remain a local recreation park. Little amendments to the current level of park assets is recommended, however, much of the play equipment is old and weathered and will required replacing.

1. over time replace the play equipment focussing on collocating them in one hub of the park rather than scattered around the site (suggest around the existing shade structure)
2. install a bin and bench seats near the playground
3. plant shade trees near the playground.



Figure 15. Gillen Park

Beefwood Park

Beefwood Park is located at 52 Plumbago Crescent with its most street frontage on this street, it also connects to Saltbush Court and Beefwood Court.

The park is close to nearby parklands, including Plumbago VCL Park, Spearwood Park and Noonie Park.

It is irregularly shaped with housing along three of its sides. There is a strong pedestrian desire line through the park indicating some use but this is mostly limited to people choosing to use the park as a shortcut. There are very limited signs of recreation and/or play use of the parks assets.

The playground is located away from the street (near to the Beefwood Court entrance). There is no shade near the play equipment. There is a toddler combo play set and child swing available but the park lacks a range of activities for all age groups. There is an irrigated, kick-about area located away from the play equipment.

Park is in a good location but there are wasted spaces. It is, generally, dusty and exposed. Due to the number of nearby parks in this area, it is unlikely that many of them attract sufficient use for the cost to council (and the community) to maintain them.

Recommendations

1. relocate (and cluster) and extend the range of play equipment to provide more opportunities (for more age groups) nearer the irrigated kick-about space
2. provide shade, picnic and basic embellishments.



Figure 16. Beefwood Park

Davidson Park

Davidson Park is an L-shaped park that is accessible from Davidson Street, Winnecke Avenue and McKay Street. The park size is relatively large, however due to the rocky outcrop (and sacred site) in the middle of the park the usable space for active recreation is limited.

The park is located near residential houses and community infrastructure, namely Rona Glynn Preschool and Ross Park Primary School. Many of the houses that abut the park (Giles Street residences) also gain vehicular access into the park to the rear of their properties. This has resulted in a very clear vehicular desire lines being formed.

There is a strong pedestrian desire line across site indicating people use the park to walk through, potentially as a short cut - this is primarily evident between McKay Street and Davidson Street.

The playground is not under shade, and whilst there are some trees in the park, generally, the park is brown and dusty.

Recommendations

Davidson Park will remain an public open space area. improvements to the park include:

1. a pathway connecting McKay and Davidson Streets in the same location as the existing pedestrian desire line
2. tree planting for shade along the pathway
3. a small play/picnic node to be built near the corner of McKay and Davidson Streets. Ideally, the recreation node will have a bush theme as per the suggestion in the Eastside Revitalising Public Open Space report (Eastside Precinct Work Group, 2004)
4. in the longer term, consider the demand/use of a walking path from Winnecke Avenue to Davidson Street.

Additionally, council needs to review its stance on people being able to have access to the rear of their properties via council parkland. Davidson Park is just one example of this situation occurring, and there seems to be differing opinions to whether this is an acceptable practice.

Gosse Park

Gosse Street Park is a small recreation area on the edge of town with a backdrop to Spencer Hill and Valley. The park is linear in shape.

Whilst small in size, it is a heavily embellished local park that appears to be well-used. There are well-located areas of green (irrigated) spaces under trees.

The activity areas are clustered together with a variety of play options, however, most of the play equipment is designed for small children. The amphitheatre allows for a range of activities. Whilst there is considerable natural shade at the park, it is not located over the play equipment.

It is noted that the local community have had a strong say in the development of the park to date, and continue to use the park for civic and community events. This should be encouraged

Recommendations

1. plant trees near the play equipment
2. provide additional bench seats and picnic facilities near play
3. plant trees to rear of amphitheatre
4. bring the turf and landscaping to and around play.



Figure 17. Davidson Park

Kilgariff Park

Kilgariff Park borders two streets (Kilgariff Road and Laver Court). It has quite good road frontage, with just three houses bordering the back part of the park, there is also a walkway connecting the park to Partridge Court. There are five local-level recreation parks in close proximity in this area (the two closest to Kilgariff Park are Noonie and Spearwood Parks).

The play equipment and seating are located away from each other and in full sun. This is near, but not under, the hard shade structure. There is no landscaping or greenery to play area. There is an irrigated kick-about space (oval) with AFL goal posts towards the middle of the site.

Recommendations

Kilgariff Park will remain functioning as a local recreation park. Recommendations specific to the park are:

1. provide shade and landscaping to the play area/seats
2. consider installing more play opportunities for older children
3. in the long-term, install a pathway that connects to Spearwood Park via Partridge Courts and using the two walkway easements that create a shortcuts into both parks.



Figure 18. Gosse Park

Mercorella Park

Mercorella Park is a small, local recreation park located in the small-division to the souther of the precinct. It is the only park services nearby residents.

The lack of shade and limited range of play and picnic opportunities are considered hindrances to being an attractive park for local residents.

There is no shade to the activity areas and only two bench seats (again in full sun). The play equipment focuses on activities for toddlers/young children. However, the park is a good location for a high quality local recreation park.

Recommendations

1. extend the playground, ensuring a more diverse range is offered
2. plant shade trees near the playground.



Figure 19. Noonie Park

Noonie Park

Noonie Park is an irregular (triangular) shaped park in Rieff Court, located behind a senior's village. It is well-maintained park but difficult to ascertain usage from the site inspections alone. The park is extremely close to other park areas, namely Plumago VCL Park, Kilgariff Park and Spearwood Park.

The playground/activity areas are exposed. There is dirt BMX jumps. There is no path to, from or in park. There is a large irrigated kick-about space with AFL goal posts, however, a park light is located in the middle of this space (limiting it use). A number of mature trees are in the park, however, these are located on the periphery.

Recommendations

1. install park equipment to attract older people and young children - the focus of this park could be attracting grandparents and grandchildren
2. the irrigated area could be reduced to save costs, but to concentrate the green, grassy areas to the key play/picnic node
3. relocate the park light to near the play/picnic area.



Figure 20. Oleander Park

Oleander Park

Oleander Park is an irregular-shaped park with its most road frontage being on Oleander Crescent, the park also connects to Banksia Street.

Much of the park is irrigated but the irrigated sections do not appear to be where people may gather (they are against fences).

There are very few signs of the park being used. This may be attributed to the lack of park facilities and its proximity to other more embellished parks locally. The parks poor visibility and access may attribute to people favouring other parks in the area. Additionally, there are two other parks nearby which offer much more attractive setting and park embellishments - Frances Smith Memorial Park and Bougainvillea Park (Kurrajong Park).

The park is most likely to be used only by residents in the adjacent properties - where parents can see their children play from their kitchen windows. If this is the case, the cost-benefit analysis of continuing to invest and maintain this park is questionable.

The range of park equipment is limited and scattered across the site (not clustered). There are a few bench seats and there is a sandy area in corner.

Recommendations

1. assess the feasibility (considering its likely life-cycle) of clustering the existing park assets to one hub (near to the centre of the park but where they can also be seen from Oleander Crescent)
2. assess the possibility/feasibility of relocating the irrigation system closer the play/picnic area
3. if the relocation of the play and irrigation system is not considered viable, keep the play equipment in its current location until it reaches it useful life. The Irrigation should only be switched on for the areas nearest the play/picnic equipment.

Plumbago - VCL

This park is essentially undeveloped (without play and picnic equipment). There is a strong pedestrian desire line through the park connecting Plumabo Crescent and Peuce Place.

The park is located near other functioning recreation parks, including Noonie Park, Beefwood Park and Frances Smith Memorial Park

Recommendations

It is not recommended that this park be embellished. Council should look to transfer the management of the open space back to the territory government, alternatively, seek to use for an alternate purpose (not parkland). If possible, it would be beneficial to retain a pathway corridor between Plumabo Crescent and Peuce Place on the southern portion of the park (where the desire line exists).



Figure 21. Plumbago VCL

Spearwood Park

Located on Spearwood Road opposite the intersection of Grevillea Drive - the park also has pedestrian links to Glass Court and Laver Court.

The parks boasts a sacred site (rocky outcrop) on the western side of the park.

Whilst a suitable size with satisfactory road frontage, the park is not attractive to embellish for recreation purposes. It is likely to only be used as a pedestrian short-cut to the nearby shops.

Recommendations

1. remove irrigation and playground equipment
2. install a pathway to Laver Crescent along the eastern side of the park
3. install a pathway to Glass Court along the western side of the park (around the sacred site)
4. subdivide the western part of the park into two residential allotments.



Figure 22. Spearwood Park

Sport parks

Ross Park

Ross Park is a sporting facility. It boasts:

- ☐ four football (soccer) fields (one lit full-sized, two 3/4 sized and one 1/2 sized)
- ☐ one cricket oval
- ☐ eight netball courts
- ☐ significant off-road car parking (with approximately 180 formal car parking spaces)
- ☐ club facilities.

Recommendations

Recommendations for Ross Park based on the outputs from the Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities (SGL, May 2010) are:

1. build additional car parking (netball)
2. provide additional shade (netball)
3. increase the size of the changerooms and toilets (netball)
4. install fencing to the perimeter (netball) (low priority)
5. build additional netball courts (low priority)
6. repair the fence and ball catcher at the football (soccer) facilities (low priority).

Note: low priority recommendations are considered to be outside the timeframes of this plan.

Sadadeen Oval (CDU Oval)

Sadadeen Oval is co-located at Charles Darwin University. Access to the grounds is via the university facilities. It is difficult to navigate to the site if you are unfamiliar with the area.

Sporting infrastructure is an oval field shared between cricket and AFL.

Recommendations

Recommendations for Sadadeen Oval based on the outputs from the Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities (SGL, May 2010) are:

1. replace the surface of the hard wicket
2. improve shade around the oval
3. improve the access to toilets/changerooms.

Additionally, it is recommended that bench seating to the perimeter of the fields (near the clubhouse) be considered.



Figure 23. Ross Park



Figure 24. Sadadeen Oval

Other parks

Undeveloped parkland

Three primarily undeveloped parkland areas are located in the Eastside park catchment, these being:

1. Prinkle Park
2. Reus Park (undeveloped)
3. Burke Park

Prickle Park

Located on Sturt Terrace, and is effectively part of the Todd River bank. It is essentially an undeveloped open space area with a concrete pathway.

Whilst originally designated to be the town's botanic garden, it does not function in this capacity (the non-council owned/managed Olive Pink Botanic Garden does act in this function (located in the Golfcourse park catchment)).

Reus Park

Reus Park has a stormwater function in the Greeneaves Estate. It is a small, undeveloped area with no recreation park assets/infrastructure, however, it does have some large trees.

Burke Park

Like Rues Park, Burke Street Park is effectively a stormwater drain (easement) in the Greeneaves Estate.

Recommendations

It is not recommended that these areas be considered as a recreation parks. The network master plan does not support developing these parks beyond their current level. Additionally, only basic maintenance of these sites is recommended.

These spaces should be budgeted separately to the sport and recreation parks to help delineate between the different functions of parkland.

Due to their flooding or stormwater management function, it is unlikely these open spaces would be suitable for non-open space purposes.



Catchment analysis

Gap catchment

6.8

The Gap park catchment is small in size (205ha) with a small population base (2,140 people) when compared to other catchments.

Due to the proximity to the new city-wide recreation park located in the CBD catchment and the fact that this catchment boasts the towns premier sporting infrastructure (Traeger Park), a precinct-level recreation park is not proposed. However, it is proposed to continue to develop the skate park into a youth recreation hub and the local recreation parks (Clara Court Park and Walmulla Park).

The parks in the precinct are labelled on the adjacent map, the numbers coincide with the following list:

Recreation parks:

1. Clara Court Park
2. Walmulla Park

Sport parks:

3. Traeger Park
4. Alice Springs Swimming Centre
5. Skate Park (specialised sport)

Other parks:

6. Acacia Park
7. Billy Goat Hill
8. RFDS Park/Hospital Lawns
9. Todd River



Figure 25. Gap parks catchment parks

Park analysis/ recommendations

Local recreation parks

Clara Court Park

This park is hidden behind houses. Access is only achieved by narrow pedestrian pathways. This leads to a number of park design concerns, the most important of which is safety (primarily due to lack of visibility into the park).

It is highly unlikely that many people access this park. Users are likely only to be residents that directly about the park.

The park, however, is quite highly embellished considering its flaws. The park has a strange layout with three circles (two irrigated, turf area and one with sand flooring with play equipment). Spaces are unusable due to high sun exposure. There is limited play opportunities and no picnic facilities. There is no shade.

Overall, there are several CPTED issues regarding the design and function of this park.

Recommendations

There are few other recreation parks that are easily accessible (walking) for the residents of this direct area. It is also unlikely that the park would attract any alternative use due to being surrounded by residential allotments, unless it could be sold as a battle axe-shaped residential property (however, it is anticipated that there would be considerable objection to this recommendation due to the potential inference on existing neighbours into their private open spaces). There are also no vacant allotments to improve the visibility and road frontage of the park. As such the following recommendations are made:

1. deactivate the automated irrigation to the park
2. plant shade tree beside play equipment
3. minimise capital improvements and operational maintenance to this park over the next ten years.



Figure 26. entrance to Clara Court Park



Figure 27. Clara Court Park



Figure 28. Walmulla Park

Walmulla Park

Located on Walmulla Street, Walmulla Park is a rectangular-shaped local recreation park.

It is likely to be used in local area due to having good shade cover, grassy areas, simple but well-maintained play equipment and good visibility into park.

The location of the park equipment (close to road) is good, however, the play structures are located away from trees so sun may be an issue. There are no picnic facilities and only one bench seat.

Recommendations

1. install shade over play equipment
2. turf a small area to the rear of the playground suitable as a kick-about space
3. install a picnic table beside the playground under the existing trees.

Sport parks

Traeger Park

Traeger Park is Alice Springs's premier sporting complex. It includes:

- ☐ a shared lit AFL/cricket (turf pitch) field
- ☐ a lit synthetic hockey field
- ☐ a lit baseball diamond
- ☐ ten lit synthetic tennis courts
- ☐ cricket practice nets
- ☐ indoor sport complex (basketball)
- ☐ grandstand
- ☐ car parking
- ☐ associated club facilities

Recommendations

Recommendations for Traeger Park are based on the outputs from the Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities (SGL, May 2010):

1. replace hockey clubhouse
2. install water connection for hockey
3. install shade and seating around the synthetic hockey pitch
4. upgrade power supply (tennis)
5. resurface the tennis court
6. improve security light around buildings
7. construct a storage shed/training room (hockey) (low priority)
8. improve flood lighting throughout park (low priority)
9. realign the fence between tennis courts and oval (low priority)
10. improve water run-off around the tennis courts (low priority)
11. establish turf practice wickets (low priority)
12. extend office facilities (low priority)

Note: low priority recommendations are considered to be outside the timeframes of this plan.

Alice Springs Swimming Centre

The Swimming Centre is the only public aquatic facility in Alice Springs. Council has invested considerable money into the capital improvements at the pool. Aquatic centres are very specialised by nature and are outside the scope of this project. However, it must be noted that the pool and its surrounds are extremely important community assets to Alice Springs.

Skate Park

The skate park is a popular location. It is primarily used by youth. It is nicely located adjacent to the Alice Springs Aquatic Centre, however, there is limited opportunities to extend the facility. The skate park is considered to be a specialised sports park due to its need for specialised infrastructure.

There are no seats or supporting infrastructure (water, natural shade, picnic tables etc.) for such a well-used facility. However, there is a mix of natural and artificial shade over part of the facility.

Recommendations

1. consider installing lights to the facility (that are timed to discourage use past 8pm)
2. extend the skate facility, preferably towards the car parking/road reserve to encourage passive surveillance into the park
3. investigate options to make public toilet facilities available to skate park users, whether they are part of the swimming complex or a stand-alone facility..

Other parks

Acacia Park

Acacia Park is the first public park that visitors see as that arrive in Alice Springs from the south. The park is generally used as stopping area for visitors to Alice Springs. The park is largely undeveloped with a few large trees. There are limited facilities to encourage use.

Recommendations

1. develop the park as an amenity park and resting place for visitors. This should include signage and information for visitors to the area and nicely landscaped areas.

Billy Goat Hill

Billy Goat Hill is a sacred, rocky outcrop near the city centre. Council maintains a small section to the north of the hill. There is a small patch of irrigated lawn is located to the norther-western part of the council-managed area and a sheltered area is in the dusty north-eastern part of the park (surrounded by trees).

There is little evidence to support that the park is used for recreation purposes.

Recommendations

It is not recommended that council prioritise capital and operations funding to maintain or embellish this park, as such it is recommended council:

1. remove irrigation to the site
2. remove picnic shelter.

Stuart Park/RFDS Park/Hospital Lawns

This park is built in a road reserve (Stuart Terrace). It is considered an amenity park as there are no park embellishments to encourage active recreation in the park. The site is irrigated for the most part, it boasts a memorial and contains a number of mature, shady trees.

Recommendations

1. continue to maintain the public space in line with existing operational arrangements

Todd River

As previously discussed (see Todd River analysis in the CBD parks catchment section (page 20)), the Todd River significantly adds to the open space network of Alice Springs.

The river parkland area could be used as a linear, recreation corridor circuit, however, there seems to be uncertainty to its potential for further development for this function.



Catchment analysis

Gillen catchment

6.8

The Gillen park catchment is the largest in terms of population base (5,436 residents). It also has the most number of parks out of all of the park planning catchments.

The after-effects from having a land-standard rule for sub-divisions is most obvious in this catchment (10% of land to be dedicated for parks under the Northern Territory Planning Scheme (see appendix one for more information). This has led to the distribution of numerous small recreation parks across the suburb, most of which are less than 400 metres walking distance to another recreation park - this means that most residents in this area have at least one park that is within 200 metres from their home.

Another observation from the distribution and design of parks in this catchment is the similarness of the design and park assets located in the parks. Namely the concentration of playgrounds directed at a specific age-group (young children) and scattered around the park.

The parks in the precinct are labelled on the adjacent map, the numbers coincide with the following list:

Precinct recreation parks:

1. Frank McEllister Park (Araluen Park) - precinct park

Other recreation parks

2. Newland Park
3. Finlayson Park
4. Ashwin Park
5. Bowman Park
6. Chalmers Park
7. Day Park
8. Forrest Park
9. Plowman Park
10. Poeppel Gardens
11. Roberts Park
12. Spencer Park
13. Spicer Crescent Park/Irvine Park
14. Westland Park

Sport parks:

15. Flynn Park
16. Jim McConville/Larapinta Park

Amenity parks:

17. Flynn Drive Shops
18. Kempeana Park



Figure 29. Gillen parks catchment parks

Park analysis/ recommendations

Precinct recreation parks

Frank McEllister Park (Araluen Park)

Frank McEllister Park is the most well-known and used recreation park in Alice Springs. It has a high-level of play and picnic assets and a variety of park settings to attract a wide-range of users, including:

- ☐ formal play areas
- ☐ arbor and gardens
- ☐ green areas with mature shade trees (away from the noisier play area).

There is a lack of greenery, trees or landscaping in and around play equipment to break up space and keep the play area cool. The picnic settings do not match, there are too few seats near play (seating mainly in arbor area).

The path network (including the exercise equipment located along it) connect to nearby residential areas and appears to be well-used. The path networks nicely connect the key nodes of the park to surrounding residential areas.

Recommendations

Further improvements to Frank McEllister Park are required to meet the desired standards for a precinct-level recreation park. However, these will be required to be spread across many years. Recommendations specific to Frank McEllister Park are:

1. install shade over the playground
2. install barbeques and picnic tables in a cluster arrangements to the west and south of the playground area
3. relocate the toilets closer to the main activity area, near the car park
4. extend the formal car parking area to the north and improve vehicular access from Larapinta Drive
5. extend pathway network to wrap around sacred site and link to footpath on Larapinta Drive to the west
6. invest in the formal arbor/gardens area to create a quiet/reflective destination area in the park. It is essential that CPTED design principles are reflected in the design of this area
7. extend irrigation to new kick-about space.

off-road car parking area

youth precinct

older children play hub

sacred site

childrens pay hub

toddlers play hub

kick-about area

natural setting along
water drain

formal gardens and quiet
picnic area

pathway circuit connecting
to surrounding streets

picnic nodes

toilet block

Figure 30. Frank McEllister Park master plan



Figure 31. Frank McEllister Park

Neighbourhood recreation parks

Newland Park and Jim McConville Park

Whilst two separate parks, together they have the potential to become a good neighbourhood level park. Newland Park is a large-sized recreation park on the corner of Newland Street and Milner Road. On the adjacent corner is Jim McConville Park (sports park). Additionally, the parks are clustered with the Gillen Club, Gillen Primary Schools and Centralian Middle School. The main feature of Newland Park is the bike training facility. Apart of the bike training facility, the park is generally a flat open space with limited embellishments and no seating or shade. Off road parking is available.

Recommendations

These parks will be developed into a well-embellished neighbourhood-level recreation park that complements adjacent uses. There is an opportunity to seek a partnership in the detailed design and upkeep of the park by adjacent schools, club and other community-based organisations.

Key recommendations/improvements to the park include:

1. build a fenced dog off-leash area in Newland Park near the corner of Newland Street and Milner Road
2. develop family play nodes in Newland Park to the south of the bike training facility, it should contain a minimum of 20 different play opportunities that range across age cohorts (toddler play to older child play)
3. develop youth-appropriate activities near the northern corner of Jim McConville Park. These should include a basketball court, rebound wall and BMX track located relatively close together
4. add picnic nodes to both Jim McConville Park and Newland Park near the key activity areas
5. in line with the Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities (SGL, May 2010) :
 - upgrade softball infrastructure (side line fences)
 - undertake maintenance to Crackadust (level)
 - upgrade security lighting and floodlight at least one softball diamond
 - upgrade toilets, changeroom and club facilities
 - plant additional shade trees to key spectator areas around sport facilities at Jim McConville Park.



Figure 32. Newland Park/Jim McConville Park master plan

Other recreation parks

Ashwin Park

Ashwin Park is roughly rectangular shaped park with a few trees, sun-exposed play equipment and a walkway around the circumference of the park.

From the site inspections, it does not appear to be a well-used park. This may be due to lack of park embellishments/interesting play features or because of the numerous other parks in the catchment.

Recommendations

1. downgrade the park by remove the irrigation and playground equipment and reducing maintenance to the park
2. investigate opportunities to repurpose the park for an alternative function, including residential development.

Bowman Park

Bowman Park has adequate road frontage and visibility into park, however, it is difficult to ascertain park usage. There are many parks in this area.

The play equipment is nested among trees, which is good for shade, but is placed away from road which limits the passive surveillance. There are a few bench seats but no picnic facilities.

Recommendations

1. diversify the range of play opportunities available in the park
2. install additional seating/picnic opportunities
3. remove the shrubs along the road frontage and place to rear to screen fences.



Figure 33. Ashwin Park

Chalmers Park

Chalmers Park is a rectangular, local-level recreation park with two street frontages, Chalmers Street and Cora Crescent.

Whilst it has good road frontage and visibility into park, it is difficult to ascertain park usage especially since there are many parks in this area.

The park has relatively new play equipment in good condition, however the range of play opportunities across age cohorts is limited. There is not much shade to and around the play equipment. Seating and shade structures are present but they may not be useful in their current locations.

Recommendations

Whilst this is a nicely sited and embellished park, there are too many in the area to sustain. Council is to maintain the park until such time as the park assets reach the end of their useful life. At this time, it is proposed that council investigate whether an alternate community use is appropriate for the park in the long-term.



Figure 34. Chalmers Park

Day Park

Day Park has good road frontage (street frontage on three sides; Nichols and Day Street) and visibility into park. It is, however, difficult to ascertain park usage especially since there are many parks in this area.

The park lacks shade. The play areas are separated, without suitable seating nearby. The bench seats are situated far away from the play area, in the middle of the park.

Recommendations

Whilst this is a nicely sited, there are too many in the area to sustain. It is proposed that council investigate whether an alternate community use is appropriate for the park in the long-term.

Finlayson Park

Finlayson Park is one of the few unembellished parks in the Gillen catchment. It is unlikely that the park is patronised due to a lack of shade and park embellishments. Bushes and scrub limits the visibility into some areas of the park.

Recommendations

It is proposed that council investigate whether an alternate community use is appropriate for the park in the long-term.



Figure 35. Finlayson Park

Forrest Park

Forrest Park has 100% road frontage, making it a traffic island in a suburban setting.

The park is nearly completely irrigated with a kick-about space (with goal posts) and some basic play equipment. The play equipment is exposed (without shade) and without seating nearby.

Recommendations

Council to continue maintaining Forrest Park as a local recreation park.

Plowman Park

Plowman Park has good road frontage and visibility into park. It is square in shape with road frontage along two streets, Plowman and Bruce Streets.

The park has a large amount of open green space with small range of play equipment in the corner. It is difficult to ascertain park usage especially since there are many parks in this area.

Recommendations

Council to continue maintaining Plowman Park as a local recreation park.

Poeppel Gardens

Good road frontage and visibility into park, however, it is difficult to ascertain park usage especially since there are many parks in this area.

The play activity area is in full sun, there are no picnic facilities and no seats near the playground.

Recommendations

Whilst Poeppel Gardens is not required to offer additional recreation activities in Alice Springs, it is unlikely that it will be attractive to be used for alternate purposes, as such, it is recommended that council continue maintaining the park to a local recreation park standard, however, without building/installing additional park assets in the site.

Roberts Park

Like many parks in the Gillen catchment, Roberts Park is rectangular with two street frontages, Hablett Crescent and Roberts Street.

It is difficult to assume usage based on site inspections.

The park has limited play opportunities, however, they are separated and strewn across the site. There is no shade to the play and activity areas. The activities areas are separated with a path in the middle.

Recommendations

Council to continue maintaining Roberts Park as a local recreation park.



Figure 36. Forrest Park



Figure 37. Plowman Park



Figure 38. Poeppel Gardens



Figure 39. Roberts Park

Spencer Park

Spencer Park is squared-shaped with road frontage on two sides (Spencer Street and Bacon Street).

There is a small range of play opportunities in the park (small children's combination play street, swings and kick-about space with goal posts). However, these active areas lack suitable shade. The play areas are separated. There are no benches near play area, but rather are situated near the middle of the park. It seems to be sandy and hot at activity areas.

Recommendations

Council to decrease the level of maintenance to this park and remove play equipment when it reaches its end of useful life. In the long-term, council should investigate whether an alternate use is appropriate for the park.

Spicer Crescent Park/Irvine Park

Spicer Crescent Park is the only recreation park in the residential area in the northern area of Gillen (north of Larapinta Drive).

The park has a good play combination mix, however, the play assets are separate from each other and located in centre of park and away from shaded areas of the park. There is no seating or picnic facilities.

Recommendations

1. increase the number and range of play opportunities that attract a wider range of age cohorts to the park
2. cluster the play elements closer to the street, under shade of existing trees
3. add seats and picnic facility near play area.

Westland Park

Westland Park primarily consists of a culturally significant site. A small area to the west and rear portion of the park is irrigated and has a couple of bench seats. Unfortunately, the location of the recreation area (behind the rocky outcrop) limits visibility into the site and passive surveillance opportunities.

Recommendations

It is recommended that council retain this parkland, however, not for formal recreation opportunities but for its general open space values. Recommendations specific to Westland park include:

1. remove park embellishments and irrigation
2. only undertake basic maintenance.



Figure 40. Spencer Park



Figure 41. Spicer Crescent/Irvine Park



Figure 42. Westland Park

Sport parks

Flynn Park

Flynn Park is a sports park with a cricket oval overlapping with five touch fields.

Recommendations

Recommendations for Flynn Park based on the outputs from the Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities (SGL, May 2010) are:

1. improve security lighting around the clubhouse (high priority)
2. increase maintenance to cater for an increased use (high priority).

Jim McConville/Larapinta Park

Jim McConville Park is considered to be a precinct park for Alice Springs and it's recreational values are discussed on page 36. Jim McConville Park (sport) boasts:

- ☐ one cricket oval with 3 turf wickets
- ☐ three cricket practice nets
- ☐ four softball diamonds
- ☐ ancillary sports infrastructure.

Other parks

Flynn Drive Shops

Council maintains the irrigated area in front of the Flynn Drive Shop. There is one seat and five bins in the space. Technically, the area is part of the road reserve, as such, it not considered functioning recreational parkland, but rather is important for its amenity and utility function.

Recommendations

Nil.

Kempeana Park

There are no play/recreation activities in this park, however, there is a shade structure with two seats. There is a sun dial, minimal scrub planting, rocks. The park is quite unattractive, hot and exposed to the elements. Additionally, it is small in size. A narrow pathway links the park to western side of Kempeana Crescent (the main park is situated on the eastern side of the crescent).

Recommendations

This park does not offer significant community recreation value to the parkland of Alice Springs. It is proposed that council investigate whether an alternate use is appropriate for the park in the long-term.



Figure 43. Flynn Park



Figure 44. Jim McConville Park



Catchment analysis

Golfcourse catchment

The Golfcourse parks catchment is small in population - approximately 1,700 residents in approximately 500 residences. The privately-owned golfcourse make up a large proportion of the open space value of the area (100ha of the 118ha of parkland in the catchment).

The parks in the precinct are labelled on the adjacent map, the numbers coincide with the following list:

Recreation parks:

1. Lewis Gilbert Park
2. Shanahan Park
3. McDonnell Park
4. Moore Park

Sport parks:

5. Golfcourse (private)

Amenity parks:

6. Eagle Park
7. Olive Pink Floral Reserve (private)

Park analysis/ recommendations

Neighbourhood recreation parks

Lewis Gilbert Park

Lewis Gilbert Park is a large, oddly-shaped park with two narrow access point from Hillside Gardens. The poor road frontage and topography of the prohibits any passive surveillance of the play uses. As such, it is doubtful that anyone, beside people living in the houses directly adjacent to the park, use the park. Additionally, the park is difficult to locate, primarily due to the lack of visibility, access and signage.

There is a range of play equipment that is sun-exposed and located a distance from the shade structure in a dusty and non-irrigated area. The park light is also located away from the activity areas. There are no picnic facilities.

There are two irrigated areas, one a kick-about space with goal posts, however, the second does not seem to add value to the park.

Recommendations

Regardless of the negative elements in relation to the design of this park, it offers the most potential of all open spaces in this area to be the precinct park - however, it is not recommended that this park be embellished to the level of other precinct parks in Alice Springs, but rather be designed as a place for families and residents in the direct catchment to come and use. Recommendations in relation of Lewis Gilbert Park are:

1. improve the road frontage and visibility into the park. This is a difficult action to achieve, however, until visibility into the park is improved, it is unlikely the park will service more people than what it is currently. It is unfortunate that houses completely surround the park (that is, there is no vacant allotments that could be purchased without demolishing a house). If road frontage can not be improved, or is deemed financially inviable it is not recommended that Lewis Gilbert Park be promoted as a place for public recreation
2. in the longer term, cluster the activity area in one place, where it is visible to adjacent road. Provide shade seating and basic park embellishments. Also, a formal dog off-leash area and path should be considered.
3. consider a range of new activities to the area, in particular: half basketball court, rebound wall (with handball markings on the hard surface).



Figure 45. Lewis Gilbert Park

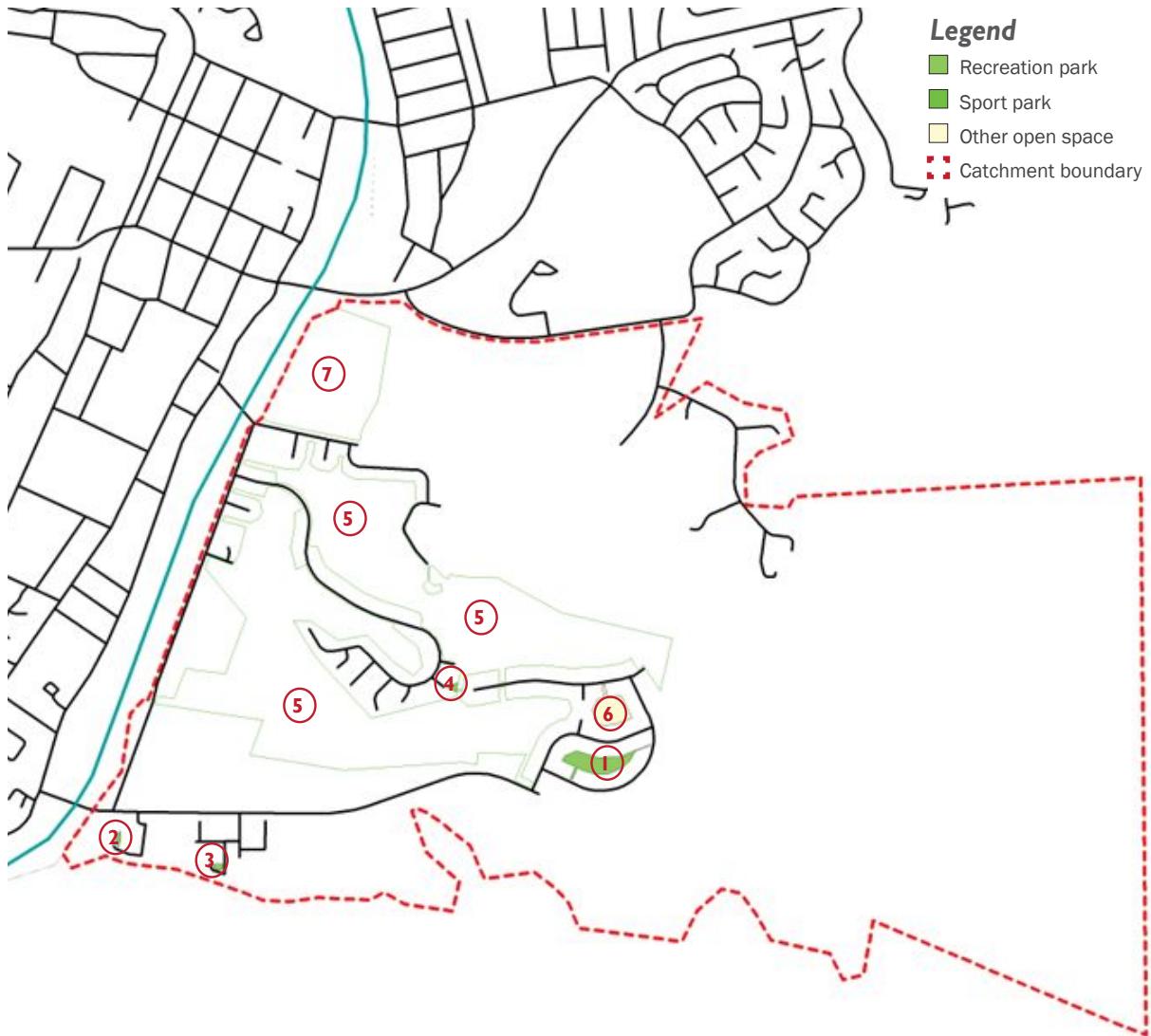


Figure 46. Golfcourse parks catchment parks

Other recreation parks

Shanahan Park

Shanahan Park is a small, local recreation park at the end of Shanahan Close. There is a half-basketball court and a play combination set. The court is close to the street, however, the play equipment is located toward the rear of the park and is mostly hidden from public view.

Hard court may be used, but play is hidden with no shade and seating. It is unlikely that many people use this park often.

Additionally, the park has an unattractive entrance with electrical box situated in the middle of the park on the road frontage side.

Recommendations

1. remove the playground when due for replacing (and don't replace) and create kick-about and shaded area in this space.

McDonnell Park

McDonnell Park is a semi-circular shaped park with road frontage to approximately 75% percent of its perimeter.

The park has a pathway along its rear fence. There is a small amount of play equipment to the eastern side of the park and the western side is irrigated. It is possible to see all elements of the park from one location. It is quite an attractive park due to its size, location and the clustering of activities (although sprawl is not possible due to the parks size). The main negative comment in relation to this park is the positioning of the unattractive electrical box to the front of the park.

Recommendations

1. additional shading (tree planting) and turf near play area is recommended.

Moore Park

Moore Park is a small (800m²), triangular-shaped park in the golf estate. There is a pathway travelling through the park that connects between Moore Court and Eagle Court.

The park has an irrigated area close to Moore Court and a playground in the northern corner (slightly hidden from the street's view). There are a few mature trees that offer some shade to the park, however, these are away from the play area.

Recommendations

Nil.



Figure 47. Shanahan Park



Figure 48. McDonnell Park



Figure 49. Moore Park

Sport parks

Alice Springs Golf Course

An 18-hole course meanders throughout the golfcourse parks catchment. It is a privately owned/managed facility.

Recommendations

Nil.

Other parks

Eagle Park

Eagle Park is a large, undeveloped open space almost completely surrounded by residents (there is one narrow (10m wide) pedestrian entrance from Eagle Court.

Recommendations

It is not recommended that this space be encouraged to be use for recreation purposes.

Olive Pink Floral Reserve

Olive Pink Floral Reserve is not owned and/or managed by the Alice Springs Town Council, however, the reserve is considered public open space. The reserve

Recommendations

Nil.



Catchment analysis

Larapinta catchment

Much of the Larapinta park catchment is undeveloped, with the residential areas located to the far eastern part of the catchment and the west. The catchment boasts a population of approximately 4,400 people.

The parks in the precinct are labelled on the adjacent map, the numbers coincide with the following list:

Recreation parks:

1. Battarbee Park
2. Willoby Park
3. Grant Park
4. Heidenreich Park (part a)
5. Lyndavale Drive Park
6. Nelson Park
7. Carmichael Park
8. Warber Park (part a)

Sport parks:

9. Albrecht Oval

Amenity parks:

10. Diarama Park
11. Heidenreich Park (part a)
12. William Edward Thompson Park
13. Patterson Park
14. Warber Park (part b)

Park analysis/ recommendations

Precinct recreation and sport park

Albrecht Oval

Albrecht Oval is the main sporting hub for the catchment, it is also the most attractive and centrally located parkland area. Albrecht Oval is also near education facilities, community service providers and some retail. For these reasons it is the preferred location for a precinct recreation park (co-locating with the sports facility).

Recommendations

1. extend vehicular access and develop overflow car parking area to the north of the oval
2. develop a multi-age play area between existing car parking area and the oval (south of the club house)
3. extend pedestrian connections into the park
4. undertake high and medium recommendations from the sports facilities master plan (SGL, 2010):
 - improve shade to sports area (high)
 - install flood lighting suitable for training (medium)
 - build a new storage shed (medium)..



Figure 50. master plan for Albrecht Oval precinct park



Figure 51. Larapinta parks catchment parks

Other recreation parks

Battarbee Park

Battarbee Park is a rectangular park with residents on three sides. A narrow pedestrian link extends to Griffiths Place from the park.

There is a variety of play equipment in the park, however, it is mostly designed for small children (and potentially toddlers). There are a few trees near the play equipment overhanging shade to the activity area. There are seats facing toward the playground.

Recommendations

1. extend the landscaping around play area and plant trees for additional shade.

Willoby Park

Willoby Park has road frontages on two side (Gilbert Place and Willoby Court), the other two sides back onto houses.

All park embellishments are located on the Gilbert Place side of the park, including a play ground and irrigated kick-about space. There is a clear pedestrian desire lines exists through the site to Willoby Court. A park light is located toward the centre of the park

Park usage is not obvious. There is a distinct lack of shade to the play facilities and a lack of picnic facilities.

Recommendations

1. plant shade trees near the playground
2. subdivide the southern part of the park into two residential allotments keeping a pedestrian link to Willoby Court to the south (and western side of the park).

Grant Park

Grant Park is a very small local recreation park. It is a highly embellished and landscaped area with play equipment that focuses on activities for small children. There is little shade to play equipment. There is a netball post without a hoop or net.

It is nice park with potential for use by local residents. Visibility into the park is good due to it's size and location.

Recommendations

1. reinstate a netball hoop to the pole
2. add hardstand area and rebound wall around netball hoop to create a range of options for use of this space.

Heidenreich Park (part A)

Heidenreich Park is in two parts, part A is the active recreation area and part B is an undeveloped corridor (more information on part B can be found on page 48).

Heidenreich Park (part A) is an irregular shape with three small areas of road frontage to Albrecht Drive and two on Heidenreich Drive. The centre and bulk area of the park is surrounded by houses and can not be seen by the adjacent streets.

Park usage is unlikely due to limited visibility and play equipment available. The play is limited and targeted toward small children, there is a small irrigated area near the playground. Two bench seats are located away from the play area.

Recommendations

It is not recommended that this park be encouraged for active recreation, but rather only provide pedestrian (short cut) links to nearby streets, schools and community facilities.

It is unlikely the park will be a suitable fit for an alternate purpose due to its shape, poor road frontage and being surrounded by residential development.



Figure 52. Battarbee Park



Figure 53. Willoby Park



Figure 54. Grant Park



Figure 55. Heidenreich Park

Lyndavale Park

A triangular shaped park on Lyndavale Drive, the park offers a local-level recreation park experience.

Whilst the park has reasonable road frontage, the playground area is located far away from road and is not as clearly visible from the adjacent road. The play equipment is located in full sun (no shade). Most of the park is irrigated.

Recommendations

1. relocate play equipment closer to the road with a kick-about space to the rear of the park
2. plant shade trees near play area.

Nelson Park

Nelson Park is a very small, triangular park on Nelson Drive, south of Larapinta Drive.

It primarily consists of a small playground that is situated in full sun, There is limited shade at the park.

Recommendations

1. plant shade trees
2. when life of play equipment has expired, remove play equipment and lower the maintenance schedule of the park.

Carmichael Park

Carmichael Park is a small park (house lot size) that has been embellished to a local recreation park standard.

There is a small playground near the street frontage and an irrigated, kick-about space to the rear.

Recommendations

1. decrease the level of park embellishments, including play equipment over time
2. look to find alternate purpose for the parkland.

Warber Park (part A)

Like Heidenreich Park, Warber Park is in two parts, part A is the active recreation area and part B is an undeveloped area and sacred site to the rear of part A.

Warber Park (part A) has a variety of play equipment located close to the road on a raised area with a retaining wall on two sides. Whilst there are a few mature trees in the play, the playground is fully exposed to the weather conditions.

Recommendations

1. decrease the level of park embellishments, including play equipment over time
2. look to find alternate purpose for the parkland

Other parks

Diarama Park

Diarama Park is a long rectangular park that boasts a series of pathways and mulched garden beds containing primarily low native shrubs and grasses. There is no green lawn or trees in the park. The park lacks shade and has a few bench seats.

Recommendations

1. seek alternate purpose for this parkland, it is not required for active recreation.

Heidenreich Park (part b)

This part (B) of Heidenreich Park is an undeveloped recreation corridor.

There are a number of immature trees that may provide good coverage as well as clear sightlines into the park in future.

Recommendations

It is not recommended that this park be encouraged for active recreation, but rather only provide pedestrian (short cut) links to nearby streets, schools and community facilities.

Council to approach Living Waters Lutheran School to seek advice to whether the land is suitable for their use, and, if so, repurpose the land for education purposes.

William Edward Thompson Park

William Edward Thompson Park has 100% road frontage by Teague Crescent and Albrecht Drive. A subdivision exists in the area, however, houses are yet to be built.

Recommendations

Due to the oversupply of parks in Alice Springs, it is not recommended that this park be developed.

Patterson Park

Patterson Park is undeveloped area consisting primarily of a sacred site.

Recommendations

Nil.

Warber Park (part B)

Part B of Warber Park wraps around part A. It is partly a sacred site.

Recommendations

The site is unlikely to be used for recreation purposes and it is not required for the function in the foreseeable future.



Catchment analysis

Northside catchment

The Northside park catchment, like most other suburbs of Alice Springs, contains many small local-level recreation parks with a limited amount of play and picnicking diversity.

The parks in the precinct are labelled on the adjacent map, the numbers coincide with the following list:

Recreation parks:

1. Campbell Park
2. Dixon Park
3. Grey Park
4. Kunoth Park
5. Maynard Park
6. McCoy Park
7. Rotaract Park (A) (precinct park)
8. Tucker Park

Sport parks:

9. Rhonda Diano Oval (precinct park)
10. Alice Springs Velodrome (private)
11. Arunga Park Speedway (private)

Amenity parks:

12. Head Street Shops
13. Community Park (Dixon)
14. Madigan Park
15. Priest Street Park
16. Rotaract Park - East
17. Charles Creek - 1



Figure 56. Northside parks catchment parks

Park analysis/ recommendations

Precinct recreation and sport park

Rhonda Diano Oval and Rotaract Park

Whilst two separate parks, together Rhonda Diano Oval and the western side of Rotaract Park form the precinct park for this catchment.

Rhonda Diano Oval is a well-used sports facility catering to athletics and cricket. Additional spectator seating and shade would improve the facility.

Rotaract Park is a linear recreation park Angguna Avenue to Madigan Street - a small second section exists between Medigan Street and the Stuart Highway. A variety of play equipment is strewn along the park, varying in conditions (although most looks old, weathered and in poor condition) and opportunities. Much of the play equipment is poorly sited away from passive surveillance opportunities. Most of the park boundary is bordered by residences with high fences (again limiting the passive surveillance prospects into the park). There are a few irrigated sections in Rotaract Park, however, these are not well-located and do not improve the aspect of the parkland. Cycle tracks through the park suggest it used as a through-route (links to nearby school and sportground). There is no shade to the playground areas. Safety may be an issue due to little surveillance.

Recommendations

These parks are centrally located in the catchment and offer the opportunity to be nicely upgraded to a precinct recreation park standard. The purpose of including both parks is to take advantage of their location but also offer a different range of opportunities in a hub. The parks are also positioned near community facilities, schools, residential areas and shops. Additionally, there is excellent road frontage and visibility into the combined parkland area (where development is suggested).

1. remove the existing play equipment in Rotaract Park
2. build a fenced dog off-leash area with dog agility equipment at the western end of Rotaract Park
3. build a large recreation hub in the northern part of Rhonda Diano Oval ensuring a variety of play and picnic opportunities for people of all ages and abilities, play elements should include:
 - an outdoor multi-purpose tennis/basketball court with lighting (lighting to be switched off at 9pm)
 - climbing structures for small children and young people (two varying sizes)
4. extend pedestrian pathways to create a circuit around the oval
5. install park fence around Rhonda Diano Oval
6. install exercise equipment and plant shade trees along the pathway circuit (Rhonda Diano Oval and Rotaract Park)
7. undertake recommendations from the Master plan for sporting facilities (SGL, 2010), including:
 - create mounds for spectator seating at key locations around the oval
 - upgrade toilets and change rooms at Rhonda Diano Oval (the toilets will be co-used by recreation uses of the park until another set is built)
 - install flood lighting to field (medium)
 - upgrade jumping pits and throwing circles (low priority)
8. build a second toilet block near recreation hub.



Figure 57. master plan for Rhonda Diano/Rotaract Park precinct park

Recreation parks

Campbell Park

Campbell Park is a rectangular local-level recreation park that has two street frontages, Lackman Terrace and Campbell Street. A pathway extends through the park connecting these streets, the pathway continues to the east connecting to Maynard Park, then Rhonda Diano Oval, and to Rotaract Park.

Play equipment is scattered around the park, mainly along the Campbell Street border and the fenceline to the south. It is unlikely the play equipment is used much throughout the year due its exposed nature. There are a few trees and seating opportunities in the park. There is a large irrigated grass area in the centre of the park.

Recommendations

1. plant shade trees along the pathway to the north of the park
2. subdivide the southern part of the park into two residential allotments keeping a pedestrian link to the north.



Figure 58. Campbell Park

Dixon Park

The park assets in Dixon Park are exposed, strewn out across the park and generally unappealing. Dixon Park is unlikely to have much use due to lack of shade.

Recommendations

1. relocate play to near irrigated kick-about area
2. add shade and picnic and basic park embellishments to the main (new) activity area.



Figure 59. Dixon Park

Grey Park

Grey Park is located beside a stormwater drain and at the end of a cul-de-sac (Grey Court).

The main play area is under shade, however, the swing and pirate ship are not, and are exposed to the elements. There are a few trees around activity nod. There is little road surveillance. The park lacks picnic and seating opportunities.

Recommendations

1. short-term maintain the park in line with current operations and monitor park usage
1. in the long-term assess the parks ability to be repurposed for an alternate function, including housing.



Figure 60. Grey Park

Kunoth Park

Kunoth Park is a rectangular local-level recreation park that has two street frontages, Kunoth Street and Woods Terrace.

There are a few large trees on site that provide some shade to the playground area. The playground features a combination unit aimed at young children. Much of the general park area is irrigated, there are also goal posts in the park. There is a sheltered picnic table near the play area.

Recommendations

1. plant shade trees near the combination play unit to provide shade to this area
2. limit irrigation to just the centre of the park (behind playground area).

Maynard Park

Maynard Park is mostly an undeveloped parkland area with a unkept BMX track (this appears to be constructed by local youth not council).

Most of parkland is rocky outcrop with cultural significance.

Recommendations

1. destroy BMX jumps (these will be provided at the precinct park (Rhonda Diano Oval)).

McCoy Park

McCoy Park is a small rectangular park on Tietkins Avenue.

There are a number of mature trees in the park, however, the play equipment is placed away from shade. The play equipment is spread out and there is only one bench seat.

Recommendations

1. cluster play activities together to allow for larger kick-about area and unstructured play
2. co-locate picnic facilities with play area under shade
3. plant more trees, especially to the playground area.

Tucker Park

Tucker Park is a rectangular local-level recreation park that has two street frontages, Tucker and Cheong Streets.

It is potentially well-used because it is one of the few larger recreation parks in this local area.

The play equipment is located in the centre of the park allowing little opportunity for a general kick-about area.

Recommendations

1. relocate play closer to the road (Tucker Road)
2. install picnic facilities under shade near the relocated play area
3. the recreation footprint of the park could be reduced. Council to investigate opportunities for finding an alternate purpose for the western half of the park.



Figure 61. Kunoth Park



Figure 62. Maynard Park



Figure 63. McCoy Park



Figure 64. Tucker Park

Sports parks

Rhonda Diano Oval

See precinct park analysis.

Alice Springs Velodrome (private)

The Alice Springs Velodrome is privately owned/managed.

Recommendations

Nil.

Arunga Park Speedway (private)

The Arunga Park Speedway is privately owned/managed.

Recommendations

Nil.

Other recreation parks

Head Street shops

Council maintains the green, irrigated lawns in front of the Head Street shops.

Community Park (Dixon)

The parkland area acts as a buffer between the residential area of Northside and the industrial area to the north of it.

The park is undeveloped with a number of trees on it. There are no recommendations in relation to the future use of this park.

Madigan Park

Madigan Park is a rectangular park that has two street frontages, Madigan Street and Stuart Highway.

This park does not have any embellishments (undeveloped site).

Recommendations

1. subdivide the park into four residential allotments.

Priest Street Park

Undeveloped park, likely used as car park for mechanic next door.

Recommendations

1. investigate opportunities for repurposing the land - potential as part residential and part industrial development allotments.

Rotaract Park - East

An undeveloped parcel of land that has potential to extend the recreation (pedestrian link) from Rhonda Diano Oval to the Stuart Highway.

Recommendations

1. install pedestrian path through park.

Charles Creek

Charles Creek runs to the east of the Stuart Highway. The creek adds to the open space network of Alice Springs even though it has a dry creek-bed for the vast majority of the year.

Like the Todd River, the Charles Creek open space area provides a linear, recreation corridor circuit linking the Northside residential area to the CBD.

10 Action and implementation plan

Action plan

The timing and proposals in the network master plan will depend in when funds become available. The overarching timing, however, has been strewn out so that council is able to execute the plan in stages. Options to fund the plan is discussed in pages 64 - 68. This section firstly looks at the delivery timeframes of the precinct parks (table 3), then supplies a detailed timing schedule for all the park capital recommendations (table 4).

Table 3. Summary of costs and timing schedule of the key precinct and neighbourhood parks

Park	Timing*	Capital investment	Management, design and contingency cost	Total cost
New city park	2020	\$4,000,000	\$484,000	\$4,484,000
Precinct parks				
Frank McEllister Park	2018	\$269,500	\$26,950	\$296,450
Frances Smith Memorial Park	2016	\$618,000	\$66,800	\$684,800
Albrecht Oval	2022	\$144,000	\$14,400	\$158,400
Rhonda Diano Oval/Rotaract Park	2020	\$585,240	\$60,024	\$645,264
Neighbourhood parks				
Snow Kenna Park	2021	\$218,000	\$21,800	\$239,800
Lewis Gilbert Park	2032	\$1,590,000	\$159,000	\$1,749,000
Spicer Crescent Park/Irvine Park	2019	\$41,500	\$4,150	\$45,650
Newland Park/Jim McConville Oval	2018	\$170,000	\$17,000	\$187,000
TOTAL	-	\$7,636,240	\$854,124	\$8,490,364

* Timing schedule dates are based on when most of the completion of work is due to occur.

Table 4. Actions by year

Year	Precinct	Park	Works/recommendation	Approximate capital cost	Approximate m'tment, design and contingency cost	Total cost
2013	Eastside	Frances Smith Memorial Park	build a toilet block, between car park and recreation nodes	\$200,000	\$20,000	\$220,000
2013	Eastside	Plumago - VCL	park not required for recreation purposes, seek transfer of park management to territory government	-	\$2,000	\$2,000
2013	Eastside	Spearwood Park	remove irrigation and playground equipment	-	\$2,000	\$2,000
2013	Gillen	Ashwin Park	downgrade the park by remove irrigation and playground equipment and reducing maintenance to the park	-	\$2,000	\$2,000
2013	Gillen	Ashwin Park	investigate opportunities to repurpose the park for an alternative function, including residential development	-	-	-
2013	Larapinta	Diarama Park	investigate whether an alternate use is appropriate for the park in the long-term	-	-	-

Year	Precinct	Park	Works/recommendation	Approximate capital cost	Approximate m'tment, design and contingency cost	Total cost
2013	Larapinta	Grant Park	reinstate a netball hoop to the pole	\$1,000	\$100	\$1,100
2013	Northside	Grey Park	short-term maintain the park in line with current operations and monitor park usage	-	-	-
2013	Northside	Rhonda Diano Oval/Rotaract Park	remove the existing play equipment in Rotaract Park	-	\$1,500	\$1,500
2013	Northside	Rhonda Diano Oval/Rotaract Park	build a fenced dog off-leash area with dog agility equipment at the western end of Rotaract Park	\$10,000	\$1,000	\$11,000
2014	CBD	New city park	negotiate the land and tenure arrangements	-	\$6,000	\$6,000
2014	CBD	New city park	prepare a park master plan (design) in consultation with key stakeholders and the general public (it should be noted that considerable community consultation is considered important for this new park)	-	\$50,000	\$50,000
2014	CBD	New city park	prepare a quantity surveyor report for the master plan (cost estimate)	-	\$7,000	\$7,000
2014	CBD	New city park	stage the rollout of the design and develop an action plan	-	\$1,000	\$1,000
2014	Eastside	Bougainvillea Park (Kurrajong Park)	shade and seating is required near the BMX jumps and play/picnic area	\$15,000	\$1,500	\$16,500
2014	Eastside	Gosse Park	plant trees near the play equipment	\$5,000	\$500	\$5,500
2014	Eastside	Oleander Park	assess the feasibility (considering its likely life-cycle) of clustering the existing park assets to one hub (near to the centre of the park but where they can also be seen from Oleander Crescent)	-	\$1,000	\$1,000
2014	Eastside	Oleander Park	assess the possibility/feasibility of relocating the irrigation system closer the play/picnic area	-	\$1,000	\$1,000
2014	Eastside	Oleander Park	if the relocation of the play and irrigation system is not considered viable, keep the play equipment in its current location until it reaches its useful life. The irrigation should only be switched on for the areas nearest the play/picnic equipment	-	-	-
2014	Gap	Billy Goat Park	remove irrigation and picnic shelter	-	\$2,000	\$2,000
2014	Gap	Clara Court Park	deactivate the automated irrigation to the park	-	\$1,000	\$1,000

Year	Precinct	Park	Works/recommendation	Approximate capital cost	Approximate m'tment, design and contingency cost	Total cost
2014	Gillen	Day Park	investigate whether an alternate community use is appropriate for the park in the long-term	-	-	-
2014	Gillen	Finlayson Park	investigate whether an alternate use is appropriate for the park in the long-term	-	-	-
2014	Gillen	Frank McEllister Park	install shade over the playground	\$3,000	\$300	\$3,300
2014	Gillen	Frank McEllister Park	install barbeques and picnic tables in a cluster arrangements to the west and south of the playground area	\$20,000	\$2,000	\$22,000
2014	Gillen	Kempeana Park	investigate whether an alternate use is appropriate for the park in the long-term	-	-	-
2014	Larapinta	Grant Park	add hardstand area and rebound wall around netball hoop to create a range of options for use of this space	\$5,000	\$500	\$5,500
2014	Larapinta	Heidenreich Park (part B)	approach Living Waters Lutheran School to see if useful for extending function of school	-	-	-
2015	CBD	Snow Kenna Park	shade the play area with trees/landscaping (and artificial shade if need be to supplement the natural shade)	\$7,500	\$750	\$8,250
2015	CBD	Snow Kenna Park	install bench seats to overlook the play area	\$3,500	\$350	\$3,850
2015	Eastside	Frances Smith Memorial Park	plant shade trees near the main activity areas (play nodes) and throughout the park (especially along the pathway)	\$80,000	\$8,000	\$88,000
2015	Eastside	Gosse Park	provide additional bench seats and picnic facilities near play	\$4,500	\$450	\$4,950
2015	Gap	Walmulla Park	install shade over play equipment	\$2,500	\$250	\$2,750
2015	Larapinta	Carmichael Park	decrease the level of park embellishments, including play equipment over time	-	-	-
2015	Larapinta	Warber Park	decrease the level of park embellishments, including play equipment over time	-	-	-
2015-17	CBD	New city park	prepare funding applications	-	\$20,000	\$20,000
2016	CBD	Snow Kenna Park	install exercise equipment (stations) along the river but not too spread out	\$80,000	\$8,000	\$88,000

Year	Precinct	Park	Works/recommendation	Approximate capital cost	Approximate m'tment, design and contingency cost	Total cost
2016	Eastside	Bougainvillea Park (Kurrajong Park)	remove irrigation from the centre of the park	\$2,000	\$200	\$2,200
2016	Eastside	Frances Smith Memorial Park	extend the main play/recreation area ensuring a diversity of play opportunities across age groups and people of differing abilities, creating visual connection to the youth/BMX space and the irrigated kick-about area	\$250,000	\$25,000	\$275,000
2016	Eastside	Frances Smith Memorial Park	install clustered picnic facilities near the play area	\$50,000	\$5,000	\$55,000
2016	Eastside	Frances Smith Memorial Park	remove fencing, mounding and unstructured, unsafe and old play equipment no longer used	-	\$5,000	\$5,000
2016	Eastside	Frances Smith Memorial Park	develop a fenced dog off-leash area in the southern part of the park	\$15,000	\$1,500	\$16,500
2016	Eastside	Kilgariff Park	provide shade and landscaping to the play area/seats	\$5,000	\$500	\$5,500
2016	Eastside	Kilgariff Park	consider installing more play opportunities for older children	\$25,000	\$2,500	\$27,500
2016	Eastside	Kilgariff Park	install a pathway that connects to Spearwood Park via Partridge Courts and using the two walkway easements that create a shortcuts into both parks	\$6,240	\$624	\$6,864
2016	Gap	Clara Court Park	plant shade tree beside play equipment	\$5,000	\$500	\$5,500
2016	Gap	Skate Park	install lights to the facility (that are timed to discourage use past 8pm)	\$24,000	\$2,400	\$26,400
2016	Gillen	Newland Park/ Jim McConville Park	build a fenced dog off-leash area in Newland Park near the corner of Newland Street and Milner Road	\$10,000	\$1,000	\$11,000
2016	Gillen	Westland Park	remove park embellishments and irrigation	-	\$3,000	\$3,000
2016	Larapinta	Battarbee Park	extend the landscaping around play area and plant trees for additional shade	\$7,500	\$750	\$8,250
2016	Northside	Kunoth Park	plant shade trees near the combination play unit to provide shade to this area	\$3,500	\$350	\$3,850
2016	Northside	Madigan Park	subdivide the park into four residential allotments	-	-	-

Year	Precinct	Park	Works/recommendation	Approximate capital cost	Approximate m'tment, design and contingency cost	Total cost
2016	Northside	McCoy Park	cluster play activities together to allow for larger kick-about area and unstructured play	\$15,000	\$1,500	\$16,500
2016	Northside	McCoy Park	co-locate picnic facilities with play area under shade	\$4,500	\$450	\$4,950
2016	Northside	McCoy Park	plant more trees	\$3,000	\$300	\$3,300
2016-2020	CBD	New city park	build the park in line with the staging and action plan as funds are secured.	\$4,000,000	\$400,000	\$4,400,000
2017	Eastside	Spearwood Park	install a pathway to Laver Crescent along the eastern side of the park	\$7,200	\$720	\$7,920
2017	Eastside	Spearwood Park	install a pathway to Glass Crescent along the western side of the park (around the sacred site)	\$4,800	\$480	\$5,280
2017	Eastside	Spearwood Park	subdivide the western part of the park into two residential allotments	-	-	-
2017	Gap	Walmulla Park	turf a small area to the rear of the playground suitable as a kick-about space	\$7,000	\$700	\$7,700
2017	Gap	Walmulla Park	install a picnic table beside the playground under the existing trees	\$2,200	\$220	\$2,420
2017	Gillen	Bowman Park	diversify the range of play opportunities available in the park	\$25,000	\$2,500	\$27,500
2017	Gillen	Bowman Park	install additional seating/picnic opportunities	\$3,000	\$300	\$3,300
2017	Gillen	Bowman Park	remove the shrubs along the road frontage and place to rear to screen fences	\$2,500	\$250	\$2,750
2017	Gillen	Frank McEllister Park	invest in the formal arbor/gardens area to create a quiet/reflective destination area in the park. It is essential that CPTED design principles are reflected in the design of this area	\$15,000	\$1,500	\$16,500
2017	Gillen	Frank McEllister Park	extend irrigation to new kick-about space	\$3,500	\$350	\$3,850
2017	Larapinta	Willoby Park	plant shade trees near the playground	\$4,000	\$400	\$4,400
2017	Larapinta	Heidenreich Park	install pedestrian link through park	\$7,500	\$750	\$8,250
2017	Larapinta	Carmichael Park	look to find alternate purpose for the parkland	-	-	-
2017	Larapinta	Warber Park	look to find alternate purpose for the parkland	-	-	-

Year	Precinct	Park	Works/recommendation	Approximate capital cost	Approximate m'tment, design and contingency cost	Total cost
2018	CBD	Snow Kenna Park	install a water bubbler (tap) near the playground and picnic facilities.	\$2,000	\$200	\$2,200
2018	Eastside	Gillen Park (Goyder Green)	install a bin and bench seats near the playground	\$4,500	\$450	\$4,950
2018	Eastside	Gillen Park (Goyder Green)	plant shade trees near the playground	\$7,000	\$700	\$7,700
2018	Gillen	Frank McEllister Park	extend the formal car parking area to the north and improve vehicular access from Larapinta Drive	\$20,000	\$2,000	\$22,000
2018	Gillen	Frank McEllister Park	extend pathway network to wrap around sacred site and link to footpath on Larapinta Drive to the west	\$8,000	\$800	\$8,800
2018	Northside	Rhonda Diano Oval	install fence around oval to stop vehicles accessing oval	\$42,800	\$4,280	\$47,080
2018	Northside	Rhonda Diano Oval/Rotaract Park	build a large recreation hub in the northern part of Rhonda Diano Oval ensuring a variety of play and picnic opportunities for people of all ages and abilities	\$250,000	\$25,000	\$275,000
2019	CBD	Anzac Hill/ Trevor Reid Park	develop a formal pathway through Trevor Reid Park to strengthen the link to the CBD	\$8,000	\$800	\$8,800
2019	Eastside	Noonie Park	install park equipment to attract older people and young children - the focus of this park could be attracting grandparents and grandchildren	\$35,000	\$3,500	\$38,500
2019	Eastside	Noonie Park	the irrigated area could be reduced to save costs, but to concentrate the green, grassy areas to the key play/ picnic node	-	\$5,000	\$5,000
2019	Eastside	Noonie Park	relocate the park light to near the play/ picnic area	\$30,000	\$3,000	\$33,000
2019	Gillen	Newland Park/ Jim McConville Park	develop family play nodes in Newland Park to the south of the bike training facility, it should contain a minimum of 20 different play opportunities that range across age cohorts (toddler play to older child play)	\$95,000	\$9,500	\$104,500
2019	Gillen	Newland Park/ Jim McConville Park	develop youth-appropriate activities near the northern corner of Jim McConville Park. These should include a basketball court and rebound wall and BMX track located relatively close together	\$35,000	\$3,500	\$38,500

Year	Precinct	Park	Works/recommendation	Approximate capital cost	Approximate m'tment, design and contingency cost	Total cost
2019	Gillen	Newland Park/ Jim McConville Park	add picnic nodes to both Jim McConville Park and Newland Park near the key activity areas	\$30,000	\$3,000	\$33,000
2019	Gillen	Spicer Crescent Park	increase the number and range of play opportunities that attract a wider range of age cohorts to the park	\$35,000	\$3,500	\$38,500
2019	Gillen	Spicer Crescent Park	cluster the play elements closer to the street, under shade of existing trees	\$3,000	\$300	\$3,300
2019	Gillen	Spicer Crescent Park	add seats and picnic facility near play area	\$3,500	\$350	\$3,850
2019	Larapinta	Willoby Park	subdivide the southern part of the park into two residential allotments keeping a pedestrian link to Willoby Court to the south (and western side of the park)	-	-	-
2019	Northside	Priest Street Park	investigate opportunities for repurposing the land - potential as part residential and part industrial development allotments	-	-	-
2019	Northside	Tucker Park	relocate play closer to the road (Tucker Road)	\$15,000	\$1,500	\$16,500
2019	Northside	Tucker Park	install picnic facilities under shade near the relocated play area	\$4,500	\$450	\$4,950
2019	Northside	Tucker Park	the recreation footprint of the park could be reduced. Council to investigate opportunities for finding an alternate purpose for the western half of the park	-	-	-
2020	CBD	Anzac Hill/ Trevor Reid Park	install additional seats, picnic tables and water bubblers at Anzac Hill lookout	\$21,600	\$2,160	\$23,760
2020	Eastside	Frances Smith Memorial Park	ensure pathway connects to the car parking area, the play and picnic nodes	\$23,000	\$2,300	\$25,300
2020	Eastside	Gosse Park	plant trees to rear of amphitheatre	\$5,000	\$500	\$5,500
2020	Eastside	Gosse Park	bring the turf and landscaping to and around play	\$7,500	\$750	\$8,250
2020	Eastside	Mercorella Park	plant shade trees near the playground	\$5,000	\$500	\$5,500
2020	Gap	Skate Park	extend the skate facility, preferably towards the car parking/road reserve to encourage passive surveillance into the park	\$250,000	\$25,000	\$275,000

Year	Precinct	Park	Works/recommendation	Approximate capital cost	Approximate m'tment, design and contingency cost	Total cost
2020	Gillen	Chalmers Park	investigate whether an alternate community use is appropriate for the park in the long-term	-	-	-
2020	Gillen	Spencer Park	investigate whether an alternate use is appropriate for the park in the long-term	-	-	-
2020	Larapinta	Albrecht Oval (precinct)	extend vehicular access and develop overflow car parking area to the north of the oval	\$25,000	\$2,500	\$27,500
2020	Larapinta	Albrecht Oval (precinct)	develop a multi-age play area between existing car parking area and the oval (south of the club house)	\$95,000	\$9,500	\$104,500
2020	Northside	Grey Park	in the long-term assess the parks ability to be repurposed for an alternate function, including housing	-	-	-
2020	Northside	Kunoth Park	limit irrigation to just the centre of the park (behind playground area)	-	\$1,500	\$1,500
2020	Northside	Rhonda Diano Oval/Rotaract Park	extend pedestrian pathways to create a circuit around Rhonda Diano Oval	\$37,440	\$3,744	\$41,184
2020	Northside	Rhonda Diano Oval/Rotaract Park	install exercise equipment and plant shade trees along the pathway circuit (Rhona Diano Oval and Rotaract Park)	\$35,000	\$3,500	\$38,500
2020	Northside	Rhonda Diano Oval/Rotaract Park	create mounds for spectator seating at key locations around the oval	\$10,000	\$1,000	\$11,000
2021	CBD	Snow Kenna Park	add play elements suitable for toddlers, youth and adults	\$125,000	\$12,500	\$137,500
2021	Eastside	Gillen Park (Goyder Green)	replace the play equipment focussing on co-locating them in one hub of the park rather than scattered around the site (suggest around the existing shade structure)	\$20,000	\$2,000	\$22,000
2021	Golfcourse	McDonnell Park	additional shading (tree planting) and turf near play area is recommended	\$7,000	\$700	\$7,700
2021	Larapinta	Lyndavale Park	relocate play equipment nearer road with a kick-about space to the rear of the park	\$15,000	\$1,500	\$16,500
2021	Larapinta	Lyndavale Park	plant shade trees near play area	\$3,500	\$350	\$3,850
2022	Eastside	Beefwood Park	relocate (and cluster) and extend the range of play equipment to provide more opportunities (for more age groups) nearer the irrigated kick-about space	\$20,000	\$2,000	\$22,000

Year	Precinct	Park	Works/recommendation	Approximate capital cost	Approximate m'tment, design and contingency cost	Total cost
2022	Eastside	Beefwood Park	provide shade, picnic and basic embellishments	\$12,500	\$1,250	\$13,750
2022	Larapinta	Albrecht Oval (precinct)	extend pedestrian connections into the park	\$24,000	\$2,400	\$26,400
2023	CBD	Anzac Hill/ Trevor Reid Park	landscape in and around Trevor Reid Park to create visual link to Anzac Hill, Anzac Oval, Snow Kenna Park and the CBD and to create a sense of arrival (entrance statement) to the CBD	\$12,500	\$1,250	\$13,750
2023	Eastside	Bougainvillea Park (Kurrajong Park)	over time relocate play equipment to one or two areas of the park, it is suggested this should be to the north-eastern end of the park	\$50,000	\$5,000	\$55,000
2023	Eastside	Bougainvillea Park (Kurrajong Park)	install shade, picnic table and bench seats near play facilities.	\$6,000	\$600	\$6,600
2023	Eastside	Bougainvillea Park (Kurrajong Park)	plant more shade trees along the pathway	\$30,000	\$3,000	\$33,000
2023	Gap	Acacia Park	develop the park as an amenity park and resting place for visitors	\$300,000	\$30,000	\$330,000
2023	Gap	Clara Court Park	minimise capital improvements and operational maintenance to this park over the next ten years	-	-	-
2023	Larapinta	Nelson Park	plant shade trees	\$3,500	\$350	\$3,850
2025	Eastside	Bougainvillea Park (Kurrajong Park)	install irrigation near the new play/ picnic area	\$7,500	\$750	\$8,250
2025	Northside	Campbell Park	plant shade trees along the pathway to the north of the park	\$3,000	\$300	\$3,300
2025	Northside	Campbell Park	subdivide the southern part of the park into two residential allotments keeping a pedestrian link to the north	-	-	-
2026	Eastside	Davidson Park	build a pathway connecting McKay and Davidson Streets in the same location as the existing pedestrian desire line	\$9,600	\$960	\$10,560
2026	Gillen	Frank McEllister Park	relocate the toilets closer to the main activity area, near the car park	\$200,000	\$20,000	\$220,000
2026	Northside	Dixon Park	relocate play to near irrigated kick-about area	\$15,000	\$1,500	\$16,500
2026	Northside	Dixon Park	add shade and picnic and basic park embellishments to the main (new) activity area	\$4,500	\$450	\$4,950

Year	Precinct	Park	Works/recommendation	Approximate capital cost	Approximate m'tment, design and contingency cost	Total cost
2027	Eastside	Davidson Park	tree planting for shade along the pathway	\$2,000	\$200	\$2,200
2027	Eastside	Davidson Park	build a small play/picnic node near the corner of McKay and Davidson Streets	\$15,000	\$1,500	\$16,500
2027	Eastside	Mercorella Park	extend the playground, ensuring a more diverse range is offered	\$32,000	\$3,200	\$35,200
2030	Eastside	Davidson Park	in the long term, consider the demand/ use of a walking path from Winnecke Avenue to Davidson Street	\$24,000	\$2,400	\$26,400
2030	Golfcourse	Lewis Gilbert Park	improve the road frontage and visibility into the park	\$1,500,000	\$150,000	\$1,650,000
2030	Northside	Rhonda Diano Oval/Rotaract Park	build a second toilet block near recreation hub	\$200,000	\$20,000	\$220,000
2032	Golfcourse	Lewis Gilbert Park	cluster the activity area in one place, where it is visible to adjacent road. Provide shade seating and basic park embellishments	\$25,000	\$2,500	\$27,500
2033	Golfcourse	Lewis Gilbert Park	consider a range of new activities to the area, in particular: half basketball court, rebound wall (with handball markings on the hard surface)	\$65,000	\$6,500	\$71,500
2034	Northside	Rotaract Park (east)	install a pedestrian path through park	\$60,480	\$6,048	\$66,528
2035	Golfcourse	Shanahan Park	create kick-about and shaded area where playground is currently sited	\$7,000	\$700	\$7,700



Funding the network master plan

Funding the park network master plan will be challenging in many respects. It will require a coordinated approach across a variety of funding mechanisms - some of which council may have limited to no experience with in the past. This section provides supplementary information on these options and how they could achieve the outcomes from the park network master plan.

General rates

Council currently budgets around \$2.5m per annum for park capital works and maintenance, including the maintenance of sports parks. This equates to approximately \$270 per rateable property.

To fund the park network master plan solely from general rates would result in a significant increase to the general rates. This should be considered as a last resort action to fund the master plan.

Special levies

Local governments have the ability to apply special levies. Special levies are generally used to achieve a certain outcome of importance to a whole community or a portion of the community. Two of the more common examples of when special rate levies are applied are:

- to a specific geographic area of a community to offer services over and above what is considered normal for the remainder of the local government area - that is, if one suburb demanded a much higher level of service then council may levy them accordingly
- to achieve specific outcomes for a specific purpose. For example, a council may decide to impose a special levy of \$20 per annum for three years per rateable property that will be used solely for a specific purpose. This type of special levy is commonly used by rural councils to undertake disaster management operations or fund such operations (such as fire break development/management).

Grants

A range of external grant funding sources are available for local governments, most of which are coordinated by the territory and commonwealth governments.

External grants should be sought whenever possible to fund the network plan. Grant programs come and go, and change over time. It is often important to have 'shovel ready' projects ready for when grant programs become available. The park network master plan offers this opportunity.

Council should use grant programs to leverage available internal funding. It will not be possible to recoup 100% of the costs of the network master plan.

It is recommended that council seek to leverage the larger projects (the city park and the precinct parks) through external grants. Council should aim for a 30% cost recovery for the capital development of these park types through external grants.

Partnerships

Park-related partnerships can come through a variety of forms. They often have different results and require differing levels of managements depending on their format and who the partnership is with. This section talks to partnership opportunities with:

- ☐ private industry
- ☐ schools/education providers
- ☐ community-based organisations
- ☐ general public.

Partnerships can lead to positive outcomes as they embrace shared-ownership of a park or a project.

Partnerships can be in form of activation of parks and/or capital improvements and/or park maintenance.

However, park-related partnerships often take a long-time to establish and require significant time and resources to maintain the relationship(s). The best partnerships either have quite formalised arrangements in place or have been developed quite organically between decision-makers.

It is noted in both instances the role and responsibility sharing between council officers and the main officer representing the partnership is vital to its success. Clear, open form of communication is also vital to the success of the project.

Before initiating or commencing a partnership agreement of any type, council needs to consider:

- ☐ the purpose of the partnership
- ☐ the scope (including duration) of the partnership
- ☐ the roles and responsibilities of each party
- ☐ cost implications and cost-sharing arrangements
- ☐ time and human resource implications (both in the setup/establishment of the partnership and the ongoing support required)
- ☐ reporting and structural partnership arrangements (the level of formality deemed appropriate)
- ☐ any legal implications of the partnership
- ☐ risks associated with the relationship
- ☐ perceived or real compatibility issues surrounding the partnership
- ☐ opt-out clauses for both parties
- ☐ are there conflict management/mediation processes to follow
- ☐ are there workplace health and safety matters to be considered
- ☐ what insurance cover is required and who is responsible for the insurance.

School partnerships

Partnerships with schools often occurs when there is an under-supply of sporting infrastructure (when community groups are encouraged to use school facilities or when the school need to use council managed sporting facilities). However, they can also be formed in relation to the supply and upkeep of recreation parks. Examples include:

- ☐ coordination of agricultural pursuits such as setting up, maintaining and managing community gardens
- ☐ vegetation strategies and planting scheme that are rolled out as an educational program with students
- ☐ school adopt-a-park like program where the school will clean and maintain the park grounds throughout the school teaching period.

Industry partnerships

Industry partnerships and park sponsorships usually result in larger-scale investments in park upgrades and new parkland developments. Many large private organisations have philanthropic avenues in place to sponsor community projects. Many of these are not advertised and may require further investigation by council to seek them. In Mount Isa, for example, Xstrata (Mount Isa Mines) have contributed considerable financial support for the development of much of the town's community infrastructure including recreation parks.

Community partnerships

The most obvious and easiest partnership to start is that with Alice Springs community-based organisations and local residents. These type of partnerships can be the most difficult and resource-heavy to maintain (often because of the emotion attachment to the parks). Community partnerships, however, can lead to improved social and health outcomes by:

- ☐ increasing use of the parks (health and well-being outcomes)
- ☐ increasing community pride in the towns assets
- ☐ decreasing vandalism as the parks are often better used
- ☐ increasing social interactions and community pride.

The most common form of community-based partnerships is through "adopt-a-park" type schemes. These can be established with community organisations or directly with local residents. Adopt-a-park schemes have many benefits, however, they can often take a long-time to establish and to have run smoothly. Often only a small hiccup can result in the partnership to be absolved.

Community-based organisations

Partnerships with community-based organisations (such as service clubs (such as the Lions Club, Rotary and Scouts), church and religious organisations) can be used to not only maintain a park area but also be involved in the design and potential capital works development. It is best to commence discussions with community organisations early and involve them in all high-level decision-making to do with the project.

General public

Often local residents offer and genuinely wish to help with the operational costs of maintaining parks. Additionally, residents would like to be involved in the design and implementation of park upgrades (although they are not often in a position to assist with the capital expenses). Unfortunately, it is difficult to bring together and manage these desires. It is also difficult to curb enthusiasm that residents have and can lead to council receiving pressure from some areas due to a higher level of local community involvement - this can lead to an inequity of provision across the town.

Cost efficiencies

There are considerable savings to be made to the current operational/maintenance costs of the existing park network. Many of the recommendations in the park network master plan aim to improve maintenance efficiencies (whilst not jeopardising the range of opportunities available, these include:

- ☐ clustering park assets together. This allows general park areas to be mowed and maintained more efficiently
- ☐ locate the playground assets in areas where there is passive surveillance and under natural shade, this assists in reducing the temptation of vandals plus the use of natural shade decreases the need to buy and install artificial shade (which is more costly to maintain and replace and can be subject to vandalism)
- ☐ locate the bins and toilets closer to the road and near the activity areas, this encourages people to use the bins plus also decreases the maintenance time to empty/clean these facilities
- ☐ downgrading parks that offer no recreational value or where there is duplication of the opportunities nearby. As part of this park downgrading, the levels of service that have applied to the park type should also be reduced.

Other items that should be considered by council are:

- ☐ irrigation costs are significant in Alice Springs due to the climate and condition of grass. However, council ought to review the irrigation plans and schedules as cost-savings can be made by looking for greater efficiencies to what is being irrigated, when and how much. Not all irrigated areas need to be of the same standard
- ☐ technological advancements in surface times and park facility should be explored when deciding what park assets are chosen
- ☐ council should also consider the whole of life-cycle costs of parks and park assets, however, this needs to be balanced with the design of the park to encourage community use and the range/attractiveness of the park asset.
- ☐ in the past council has taken advantage of promotions by buying a number of the same play opportunity (asset) and installing these across many parks - the network master plan does not support this approach, but rather supports a number of activities in one place that are attractive for a broad demographic
- ☐ to complete asset management plans for all park assets, this will help council be aware of what assets are no longer functional.

Whilst the above list does not help fund the capital improvements recommended in the master plan, the cost-savings from these elements can be used to do so.

Rationalisations and other options

The park network master plan has identified many parks that are over-embellished and duplicate existing recreation opportunities. It also identifies land that is does not or no longer is required for the purpose of a public recreation park.

There is opportunity for council to consider what is the best long-term use of these sites. The sites listed are ones that council could consider for alternate uses. The list is not intended to be definitive; additional consideration and community input is required. Sites that hold little recreation value are considered to be:

- ☐ Ashwin Park
- ☐ Finlayson Park
- ☐ Madigan Park
- ☐ Priest Street Park
- ☐ Tucker Park (part only)
- ☐ Campbell Park (part only)
- ☐ Grey Park
- ☐ Warber Park
- ☐ Diarama Park
- ☐ Carmichael Park
- ☐ Willoby Park (part only)
- ☐ Spencer Park
- ☐ Kempeana Park
- ☐ Chalmers Park
- ☐ Day Park
- ☐ Spearwood Park (part only).

A preliminary investigation of the above park land being rezoned for residential living and developed accordingly is likely to result in the development of 31 residential house lots and 4 (six pack model) units.

It is recommended that council prepares the land for development, that being vacant, serviced land only (ready-to-build stage). If council were to facilitate the negotiations and prepare the land ready for sub-division it is likely to generate income in the vicinity of \$9.4m. This is based on estimated revenue of \$230,00 per 600-800m² residential block and \$95,000 per unit. This also considers an estimated \$50,000 per lot of expenses to get the lots ready for sale. There may be further revenue that could be relevant if council enters into a joint partnership with property developers.

Council, in recent years, has considered developing two park sites in particular for residential purposes. It is recommended that these two sites, Ashwin Park and Finlayson Park, be pilot projects used to evaluate the effectiveness of this funding option. These two sites are likely to yield eleven house blocks. The anticipated revenue is expected to be sufficient to supplement council's existing parks capital works budget to deliver the recommendations of this report for the next three years. In that time, it is expected that significant improvements will be made to strengthen the open space network. During, and after, these pilot projects council should record the obstacles encountered, and at the end of the pilots evaluate the effectiveness of the initiatives. This is highly recommended before embarking on further park rationalisations, and should incorporate community input and feedback. If successful, the following order of parks should be considered as part of the park rationalisation programme over the coming 10 years or so to repurpose the land for residential functions. The timing started is when investigations should begin, not when the land becomes available on the market.

Table 5. Potential sites and timing program to be considered after further research

Park	Timing (start investigations)	Likely house lot yield	Likely unit lot yield
Kempeana Park	2014	1	-
Madigan Park	2016	4	-
Spearwood Park	2017	2	-
part Carmichael Park	2017	1	-
part Warber park	2017	-	6
Gilbert Park/Willoby Park	2019	2	-
Priest Street Park	2019	2 (plus industrial)	-
Tucker Park	2019	2	-
Grey Park	2020	-	6
Campbell Park	2025	2	-

The anticipated revenue is sufficient to fund the master plan, however, will require further research and a dedication by council to go ahead with the development of the parks. Community resistance may be presented and council must be sure of its decision to fund the master plan by this option. It should not be considered as the only option to be explored - and council is heavily encouraged to find a balance, one that is right for Alice Springs, across all funding alternatives discussed in this section.



Summary and recommendations

The park network master plan proposes many changes to the existing supply. At a strategic level it favours the development of highly-embellished, attractive parks that offer a diverse range of recreation activities. These parks will be well-distributed across the town. Due to the development of the high quality precinct parks, the level of embellishment for local recreation parks has been scaled back considerably. Furthermore, recommendations have been made to seek alternate purposes for parkland that is not required for recreation values. These elements coupled together have resulted in a park network that offers more opportunities for residents but has lowered the operational costs to council to maintain as fewer parks (in terms of numbers) are required.

There are four precinct level parks and five neighbourhood parks proposed. No resident in the urban footprint of Alice Springs is more than 1,250 meters (or a 15 minute walk) from a precinct park, and in most instances this distance is reduced to 800 metres (or a 10 minute walk). Additionally, multiple local recreation parks are still located within 400 metres (less than 5 minute walk) for the vast majority of residents in the urban area - these parks will continue to offer amenity and recreation value to local residents, however it is thought that most people will gravitate to the precinct parks.

The capital improvements (including a 10% allowance for design, management and contingency) of the master plan for the recommendations related to the recreation parks is \$9.8m. A breakdown of estimated capital costs per financial year can be found at table 5. A range of funding options have been explored, including:

- ☐ general rates
- ☐ special levies
- ☐ partnerships with external organisations
- ☐ grant funding
- ☐ operational cost efficiencies
- ☐ selling parkland.

Council should aim to seek 30% funding of the capital costs to develop the precinct recreation parks. However, the savings to the operational budget and the potential to develop land that is no longer required for recreation purposes is considered to offer the best funding options and is considered to be sufficient to cover the cost of the execution of the network master plan.

Table 6. Estimate capital expenses across time

Year	Estimated capital cost
2013	\$239,600
2014	\$121,800
2015	\$107,800
2016	\$564,314
2017	\$109,870
2018	\$320,650
2019	\$328,400
2020	\$4,967,494
2021	\$187,550
2022	\$62,150
2023	\$442,200
post 2023 (2023 to 2035)	\$2,387,088

Recommendations

The park network master plan is an opportunity for Council to maintain and build upon the town's diversity of open space. There are a number of recommendations throughout this plan that relate to specific parks within the town and these are not listed in this section. Further detail relating to recommendations for individual catchments can be found across pages 18 to 65.

Some of the recommendations will be more challenging than others. Implementation of the recommendations outlined in this plan will require strong leadership, appropriate resources from council and a commitment to making some difficult decisions.

However, there are a number of overarching recommendations that should also be considered, these being:

1. review of the recommendations of the report and adopt the plan
2. incorporate actions into council's capital and operational works plans
3. undertake community testing of the recommendations of this plan, the outcomes should be used to update the action and implementation plan as well as the levels of operation service (frequency of mowing, assets replacement etc.)
4. encourage community involvement in the detailed design of the precinct and neighbourhood level recreation parks
5. review council's position on people being able to have access to the rear of their properties via council parkland and police the decision accordingly
6. actively seek external grants to fund the capital works, especially for the precinct and neighbourhood recreation parks
7. seek private-public partnership arrangements to sponsor specific recommendations from the master plan
8. review the outcomes of the plan every five years to ensure its application
9. when undertaking detailed park design ensure officers reflect on the park planning trends (appendix four) and park typology design principles (appendices six to ten) prior to building or installing additional park infrastructure. This will help ensure the park assets are located in the most suitable locations within parks
10. shade provision in most parks is poor, particularly around and near the key playground/activity areas. Council should develop a shade strategy
11. undertake detailed asset condition audits of existing park infrastructure. In particular the toilets, picnicking facilities, seats and play equipment. This will help council identify any major safety risks, record the likely remaining useful life of assets and plan maintenance of facilities. Additionally, the detailed audit will be able to be used as baseline data in future reviews of the park network master plan.



Appendix one - literature review

Council documents reviewed as part of the project include:

- ☐ Alice Springs Town Council Strategic Plan 2010 - 2015
- ☐ Alice Springs Town Council - Municipal Plan 2012/13 - 2015/16
- ☐ Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities¹
- ☐ Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities - Demand Analysis Report¹
- ☐ Alice Springs Town Council Subdivision and Development Guidelines 2012
- ☐ Revitalising Public Open Space Project: Eastside Precinct²
- ☐ a variety of council reports relating to parks provision, management and maintenance dating between June 2009 and November 2012
- ☐ master plans for:
 - Rotaract Park
 - Alice Springs Aquatic Centre.

Additionally, the following Northern Territory (NT) Government's documents were reviewed:

- ☐ Territory 2030 Strategic Plan (2010)
- ☐ Northern Territory of Australia Planning Act 2009 (NT)
- ☐ Northern Territory of Australia Planning Scheme³
- ☐ NT Sport Policy One⁴.

NT Government

Northern Territory Planning Act 2009

The *Planning Act 2009* gives statutory powers to the Territory Government to develop planning control, amongst other things. The objectives of the Act are:

- ☐ "strategic planning of land use and development and for the sustainable use of resources;
- ☐ strategic planning of transport corridors and other public infrastructure;
- ☐ effective controls and guidelines for the appropriate use of land, having regard to its capabilities and limitations;
- ☐ control of development to provide protection of the natural environment, including by sustainable use of land and water resources;
- ☐ minimising adverse impacts of development on existing amenity and, wherever possible, ensuring that amenity is enhanced as a result of development;
- ☐ ensuring, as far as possible, that planning reflects the wishes and needs of the community through appropriate public consultation and input in both the formulation and implementation of planning schemes; and
- ☐ fair and open decision making and appeals processes."

In relation to the provision of public open space, the Act states that development applications must include "a statement specifying the public facilities or public open space available in the area in which the land is situated, whether land for public facilities or public open space is to be provided by the developer and whether it is proposed that facilities or open space be developed by the developer" (p. 28) and the assessment management process must consider these and decide whether the proposal is suitable. The Planning Scheme, however provides more information relating to the land determinants.

Northern Territory Planning Scheme

The NT Government's Planning Scheme is the overarching statutory planning policy for Alice Springs. The following elements are stated in relation to the provision of public open space in residential areas:

- ☐ "provide a minimum of 10% of the subdivision area as public open space which:
 - ensures the majority of dwellings are within 400 metre walking distance of a neighbourhood park
 - incorporates recreational open space in large units available for active leisure pursuits
 - is unencumbered by drains and has sufficient flat area for informal recreation
 - is designed to provide a safe environment for users by allowing clear views of the open space from surrounding dwellings or passing vehicles" (Part 5-5).

Part 8, section 14.4 of the NT Government's Planning Scheme ensures that the Scheme is interpreted and the determinations of the Consent Authority are consistent with Alice Springs' Area Plan. These maps appear to be consistent in relations to the public open space and organised recreation land uses in Alice Springs.

The Alice Springs Town Council's Subdivision and Development Guidelines provide additional desired outcomes for public open space provision for the town.

Territory 2030 Strategic Plan 2010

The Territory 2030 Strategic Plan provides the framework for the Territory Government's strategic plans and policy initiatives through until 2030. The two priorities most relevant to this project fall under the 'society' and 'environment' themes. Specific desired outcomes from these themes are:

- ☐ Territorians have access to a wide range of facilities and activities that enhance the Territory lifestyle
- ☐ Territorians exceed the nation participation rate in sport and physical activity
- ☐ increase the number of Territorians cycling or walking to work
- ☐ increase the number of bicycle paths built in the Territory.

¹ SGL, 2010

² The Eastside Precinct Work Group, 2004

³ NT Government, 2013 (amendment number 256)

⁴ Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport, 2011



Sport Policy One 2011

Sport Policy One addresses the Northern Territory Government's to encourage *"lifelong involvement in sport and recreation."* The key focus areas for Sport Policy One (SP1) are:

- ☐ people - Territorians involved in sport in any way
- ☐ partnerships - unifying sport stakeholders
- ☐ participation pathways - the standard that sport is engaged in, ranging from social to elite
- ☐ places - environments where structured sport is played.

Of most interest to this project is that the SP1 recognises local government's key role as front line deliverers of many sports programs and services. Further, it outlines a desire to add sport as a core council function under the Local Government Act.

Council

ASTC Strategic Plan 2010 - 2015

The Strategic Framework provides direction for council business and goals for the duration of the Plan. Below is a list of specific strategies that relate to the provision of open space in Alice Springs:

- ☐ "develop and maintain cycle and walking tracks"
- ☐ "ongoing consultation with the community to identify sport, recreation and leisure needs and provision gaps"
- ☐ "maintain and improve all council owned sport and recreational facilities"
- ☐ "ensure equity of access to all sporting, recreational and leisure facilities"
- ☐ "develop a Linear Park that beautifies and helps maintain the Todd and Charles Rivers"
- ☐ "implementation of an open space and green space strategy for Alice Springs"
- ☐ "continue support for the revitalisation of parks and reserves"
- ☐ "develop policy and arid zone management practices for public open space in consultation with the community"
- ☐ "improve the provision of shade"
- ☐ "protect and conserve remnant bushland"
- ☐ "examine council's overall standard of equipment, and supporting infrastructure with a view to maximising its impact on the appearance of the town"
- ☐ "review and improve council's tree maintenance and planting program utilising species consistent with the natural environment"
- ☐ "maintain graffiti removal and recreation strategies"
- ☐ "provide adequate lighting for streets, footpaths and public places"
- ☐ "ensure that there are sufficient public ablution facilities and that they are maintained at acceptable standards"
- ☐ "develop and implement long term financial and asset management plans, linked to the strategic plan".

ASTC Municipal Plan 2012/13 - 2015/16

The Municipal Plan articulates council's priorities over a four-year period. In relation to sport, recreation and open space, the Municipal Plan articulates council's dedication to build an all-abilities playground (\$600,000), build a new grandstand at Anzac Oval (\$5.1 million), redevelop the entrance at Traeger Park (\$4 million) and develop a multipurpose indoor sports centre next to the pool (\$10 million).

ASTC Subdivision and Development Guidelines 2012

The Guidelines provide technical information regarding infrastructure provision for new subdivisions. Key elements in relation to public parks are:

- ☐ park are classified under the following typologies:
 - pocket parks (no new ones are proposed to be built)
 - local parks
 - neighbourhood parks
 - precinct parks
 - pedestrian linkages/corridors
 - organised recreation (p. 55)
- ☐ for each park type list above a list of embellishments is provided, these include consideration and number of:
 - bins
 - water fountain
 - seating
 - picnic tables
 - swings
 - playground features
 - fencing
 - park signage
 - pathways
 - barbecues
 - car parking (p. 55)
- ☐ preferred parks names are local flora, fauna and selected residents/pioneers of the area (p. 56)
- ☐ general vehicular access guidelines indicating a minimum of one service access point per park and a maximum 300 metre distance to the road frontage (p56)
- ☐ park lighting is the responsibility of council and will be determined on a case-by-case basis and lighting "generally designed to meet the minimum security lighting levels" (pp. 44-51).

Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities and the Master Plan for Alice Springs Sporting Facilities - Demand Analysis Report⁵

The Demand Report and Final Report are investigative plans and vision for the council owned/managed sporting facilities. The reports are limited to assessing and making recommendations for eight sports reserves. The reports investigate the:

- ☐ quality of facilities
- ☐ use (current and likely future) of facilities
- ☐ tenure arrangements
- ☐ capital and operational costs (and revenues (participation levy))
- ☐ vision for future sports facilities
- ☐ feasibility options for major projects including:
 - a major upgrade to Traeger Park
 - an indoor multipurpose sports venue (with the following potential user groups: Muay Thai, gymnastics, netball, table tennis, volleyball, badminton and futsal)
 - an eight 8 lane synthetic athletics track (and associated field facilities) potentially at Rhonda Diano Oval
 - an outdoor, multi-purpose, floodlit, synthetic field potentially at Jim McConville Oval
- ☐ minor project recommendations including:
 - upgrades to the basketball stadium at Traeger Park
 - new toilets, turf practice wickets and extension of the office space at Traeger Park
 - upgrades to tennis facilities at Traeger Park (lights, surface treatments, fencing and court drainage)
 - upgrades to hockey facilities at Traeger Park (clubhouse, water supply, shade and drainage)
 - upgrades to baseball facilities at Traeger Park (fencing, club facilities, lighting and storage)
 - upgrade to netball facilities at Ross Park (car parking, shade, amenities, fencing and new courts)
 - upgrades to soccer facilities at Ross Park (repairs)
 - upgrade to cricket facilities at Sadadeen Oval (CDU Oval) (wicket surface, shade and access to amenities)
 - upgrades to Albrecht Oval (shade, lighting, storage, car parking and playing facilities)
 - upgrades to Flynn Park (lighting)
 - upgrades to Anzac Oval (amenities, electricity, toilets, shade, storage, fencing, seating and playing facilities)
 - upgrades to Rhonda Diano Oval (toilets, change rooms, jumping pits, throwing circles and lighting)
 - upgrades to Jim McConville Oval (fencing, toilets and change rooms, shade, water supply, lighting, storage and playing facilities)
 - upgrades to Flynn Drive Oval (security).

Revitalising Public Open Space Project: Eastside Precinct

This report was prepared by local community members that came together to assess and make recommendations regarding parks in the suburb of Eastside. Whilst it is nine years old (with a ten year vision), many of the recommendations may still be considered relevant. The report lists seven guiding principles which it uses to make a number of recommendations, the principles are:

1. community involvement
2. planning for the future
3. design for sustainability
4. diversity (different parks for different people)
5. improving access to parks
6. appropriate design for an arid environment
7. consolidation (combining resources to increase usefulness) (pp. 9-10).

The report investigates safety, maintenance, access, amenity, shade and community involvement/use of the 16 parks in the suburb. Major amendments to the Eastside parks network that the authors suggest include:

- ☐ changes to the classification of parks
- ☐ promoting different levels of service within parks to decrease burden on resources
- ☐ embellishment upgrades to reflect community use and demand
- ☐ investigation of different options to fund parks.

⁵ SGL, 2010



Appendix two - demographic analysis

Demographic profile

Understanding population size, growth and demographic characteristics is fundamental to responding to community needs and providing sport and recreation facilities and programs. Spatial and demographic variations in the population, such as concentrations of older residents or youths, may impact on sport and recreation facility provision or management arrangements. Estimated population projections also assist in quantifying likely future demand and in prioritising land/facility developments.

The population of the Alice Springs local government area in 2011 (based on the Census) was approximately 25,000. It is noted that this figure excludes the regional catchment and external communities which the town services. Key social profile characteristics of the 2011 population can be found at table 5.

Table 7. Demographic profile (ABS, 2011)

Characteristic	Alice Springs	NT	Australia
Number of people	25,173	n/a	n/a
Male population	49.9%	51.8%	49.4%
Female population	50.1%	48.2%	50.6%
Age Profile			
Aged 0 to 4	7.9%	8.6%	6.6%
Aged 5 to 14	14.2%	16.8%	12.7%
Aged 15 to 19	6.7%	7.5%	6.5%
Aged 20 to 24	6.9%	8.0%	6.8%
Aged 25 to 34	16.5%	16.1%	13.8%
Aged 35 to 44	15.6%	15.3%	14.2%
Aged 45 to 54	15.4%	13.4%	13.7%
Aged 55 to 64	10.7%	9.3%	11.6%
Aged 65 to 74	4.1%	3.6%	7.6%
Aged 75 to 84	1.6%	1.1%	4.6%
Aged 85 and over	0.5%	0.3%	1.9%
Median Age*	31	29	37
Ethnicity and cultural diversity			
Identifies as Indigenous Australian	18.6%	43.4%	2.5%
Born in Australia	71.0%	82.7%	69.8%
Born Elsewhere	20.0%	10.1%	24.6%
Speaks only English at home	74.7%	54.4%	76.8%
Household composition and income			
Average Household Size *	2.0	3.0	2.0
Median mortgage repayments (mth)	\$1,501	\$840	\$1,763
Median rent (wk)	\$258	\$134	\$283

Characteristic	Alice Springs	NT	Australia
Median personal income (wk)	\$760	\$575	\$595
Median family income (wk)	\$1,706	\$1,268	\$1,512
Median household income (wk)	\$1,526	\$1,317	\$1,313
Family composition			
Couples with children under 15	34.9%	39.4%	30.7%
One parent families with children under 15	11.9%	14.0%	8.3%
Highest level of schooling completed			
Year 12 or equivalent	43.3%	30.7%	47.6%
Year 8 or below	5.6%	11.5%	5.9%
Did not go to school	1.0%	2.2%	0.8%
Other characteristics			
People needing assistance with core activities	3.9%	4.4%	6.3%
People undertaking volunteer work	25.2%	18.9%	19.4%
Dwellings without an internet connection	18.7%	31.8%	20.4%
Dwellings with no motor vehicle	8.8%	17.8%	8.8%
People who walked or cycled all or a component of travel to work	13.6%	25.8%	7.1%
Dwellings			
Number of personal dwellings	9,674	n/a	n/a
Occupied personal dwellings - separate house	64.1%	75.9%	75.6%
Occupied personal dwellings - semi-detached	14.4%	7.7%	9.9%
Occupied personal dwellings - attached	16.1%	9.3%	13.6%
Occupied personal dwellings - other	5.1%	6.5%	0.9%
Occupied personal dwellings - unoccupied	0.3%	0.6%	0.1%
Unoccupied personal dwellings	13.2%	15.7%	10.7%

Population projections

Unfortunately, population projections completed by the Northern Territory Government were not available for the Alice Springs local government area. However, projections are available for the greater Alice Springs region (the geographic distribution aligns, generally, with what it thought that town services) as detailed in table 6.

Table 8. Population projections for the Alice Springs region (Department of Treasury and Finance, 2011)

Characteristic	2015	2020	2025
Alice Springs region Indigenous population	18,146	19,566	20,945
Alice Springs region non- Indigenous population	26,089	27,637	29,214
Alice Springs region	44,235	47,203	50,159



Appendix three - benchmarking

A review of the park planning provisions of a number of like local government authorities was undertaken to benchmark against Alice Springs's supply and distribution. The following local government areas were chosen due to either their isolation, demographic profile, climate and topography - or a mix of them:

- ☐ Mount Isa, Queensland
- ☐ Emerald, Central Highlands, Queensland
- ☐ Broken Hill, New South Wales
- ☐ Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Western Australia.

Mount Isa City Council

Mount Isa City Council recently reviewed their park provision and distribution as part of the development of a Sport and Recreation Plan (ROSS Planning, 2008). Council furthered the park planning work for council owned/managed trunk infrastructure parks when it developed its new Planning Scheme and Priority Infrastructure Plan (PIP) in 2012. Trunk infrastructure parks are recreation parks and sport parks, they exclude specialised sport and any privately owned sport/recreation facilities.

Council does not meet its park planning standards in terms of land provision. However, due to the high proportion of privately-owned/managed sports facilities that are protected through planning controls, Council believes it has adequate provision. Council has adopted detailed standards in relation to:

- ☐ quantity of land (ha/1,000 people)
- ☐ park distribution
- ☐ quality of land, including:
 - road frontage
 - flood immunity
 - land gradients
- ☐ embellishment standards (including consideration of play equipment, seats and picnic infrastructure, fencing and signage).

Mount Isa, like Alice Springs, has a high transient population. It also is greatly influenced by the mining activities in the town. It's hot and dry climate and settlement topography also greatly influence how, when and why people interact and use the local parks.

Broken Hill City Council

Broken Hill is experiencing population decline. As such, when Council prepared its Plan of Management for Open Space (ROSS Planning, 2009) the focus of the report was to meet the community's expectations when funding opportunities were limited and expected to decline. Not surprisingly, the land supply for open space when measured as a land rate per 1,000 residents, is above their desired standards.

Council adopted the Plan and have commenced downgrading some parks, placing a greater importance on safety and maintenance of higher-valued (from council and community perspectives) parks.

The Broken Hill Local Environmental Plan 1996 does not stipulate any desired park contributions. The Section 94A Levy Contributions Plan stipulates what council requires as part of developer

contributions - this is \$50,000 towards "Broken Hill urban area parks and gardens" which is designated as being a medium priority (Schedule 1). As such, council plans to invest very little into its parks network.

City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder is currently developing an Open Space and Recreation Planning Strategy. Details from the study are not available at time of writing.

The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder's planning scheme includes 10% of the developing land area to be designated for open space/public park land. However, developers are able to negotiate alternate options in lieu of land - this could be a monetary contribution to upgrade existing open space, or supply a mix of land and monetary contribution. Feedback from the planning department has indicated that most development agreements are a mix of land and capital contribution towards to the parks network.

Central Highlands Regional Council

The Central Highland Regional Council is currently finalising an Open Space and Recreation Plan (ROSS Planning, 2013). The Plan is being developed to review open space provision across the recently amalgamated area (four local governments amalgamated in 2008). The Plan will inform the new Central Highlands Planning Scheme and PIP.

The focus of this benchmarking exercise is the community of Emerald which had the most like characteristics to Alice Springs. From the open space assessments it was noted that many of the parks were run-down. The town has a long history of ad hoc development and decision-making both in terms of supply and installation of park embellishments without considering need and good design practices (as an example poorly connected activity areas with lots of CPTED issues). Many of the existing parks had the exact same play and picnic attributes and there was a complete lack of variety of experiences within the town.

The focus of the draft plan is to create a more connected, integrated open space network. There were challenges for council to provide facilities of a high standard for such a small and isolated population base. However, it was noted that opportunities exist to create stronger partnership with the local mining industry.

Whilst waiting for new planning scheme to be developed and adopted, council is using the interim Parks Planning Scheme Policy that was developed by the former Emerald Shire Council. This policy states that 10% land dedication for open space is required from developers.

Table 9. Comparison of public park land provision across benchmarked local government areas

Local government	Population	Park type	2011 land (ha)	Land DSS (ha/1,000 people)	2011 land standards (ha/1,000 people)	Total (ha/1,000 people)	Land DSS
Mount Isa City Council – Mount Isa urban area only	20,570	Recreation - local	13.57	0.8	0.65	1.35	2.0
		Recreation - district	9.26	0.8	0.45		
		Recreation - citywide	5.24	0.4	0.25		
		Sports - public	68.43	2.5	3.32	3.32	2.5
Broken Hill City Council	18,517	Recreation - local	14.12	0.77	0.7	1.82	1.6
		Recreation - district	8.2	0.44	0.4		
		Recreation - citywide	11.4	0.61	0.5		
		Sport parks	45.8	2.0	2.27	2.27	2.0
Central Highlands Regional Council - Emerald urban area only	13,222	Recreation - local	4.5	0.5	0.34	3.73	1.5
		Recreation - district	0.5	0.4	0.03		
		Recreation - regional	44.5	0.6	3.36		
		Sport - district	19.2	0.7	1.45	1.71	1.7
		Sport - regional	3.5	1.0	0.26		
City of Kalgoorlie - Boulder	30,841	Not available. City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder currently undertaking park planning study.					
Alice Springs Town Council	25,186	Recreation - local	19.2	-	0.76	1.43	-
		Recreation - neighbourhood	9.6	-	0.38		
		Recreation - precinct	7.3	-	0.29		
		Sports - public	48.9	-	1.94	1.94	-

Sources:

Kalgoorlie population projections - Western Australian Planning Commission, Western Australia Tomorrow Population Report No. 7, 2006 to 2026, Forecast Profile: Kalgoorlie-Boulder (C) Local Government Area, page 11 (band C projections). Available from: http://www.planning.wa.gov.au/dop_pub_pdf/KalgoorlieBoulder%28C%29.pdf

Mount Isa City Council - ROSS Planning, Mount Isa Sport and Recreation Plan 2008 - 2013, May 2009

Broken Hill City Council - ROSS Planning, Plan of Management for Open Space, May 2009.

City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder - verbal communication.

Central Highlands Regional Council - ROSS Planning, DRAFT Open Space and Recreation Plan, February 2013.

Central Highlands population data - Queensland Treasury and Trade (Office of Economic and Statistical Research), Population and Dwelling Profile: Central Highlands Regional Council, April 2012. Available from: <http://www.oesr.qld.gov.au/products/profiles/pop-housing-profiles-iga/pop-housing-profile-central-highlands.pdf>

Comparison

The below table summarises the difference in the number and hectares of parks (per 1,000 population) between the benchmarked communities and Alice Springs. This shows that Alice Springs has a much higher number of local parks in particular to the other communities.

Benchmarked area	Number of parks per 1,000 population				Hectare of parkland per 1,000 population			
	Local	N'hood	Precinct	Total Average (number/1,000)	Local	N'hood	Precinct	Total Average (hectare/1,000)
Mount Isa	0.9	0.3	0.1	1.3	0.65	0.45	0.25	1.35
Broken Hill	0.4	0.3	0.3	1.0	0.77	0.44	0.61	1.82
Emerald	0.6	-	0.7	1.3	0.34	0.03	3.36*	3.73
Alice Springs	1.7	0.2	0.1	2.0	0.76	0.38	0.29	1.43

* There is only one precinct park in Emerald but the size is large and mostly undeveloped, this affects the land supply rate for Emerald.



Appendix four - open space trends

A play experience versus a playground

Play areas provide excellent spaces for social interaction for people of all ages. The play experience does not innately require the installation of play equipment. The common characteristic is that the infrastructure suggests (but never dictates) how it is to be used. Unstructured play needs to complement and be integrated with other recreational facilities to encourage active and interactive recreation. Examples include:

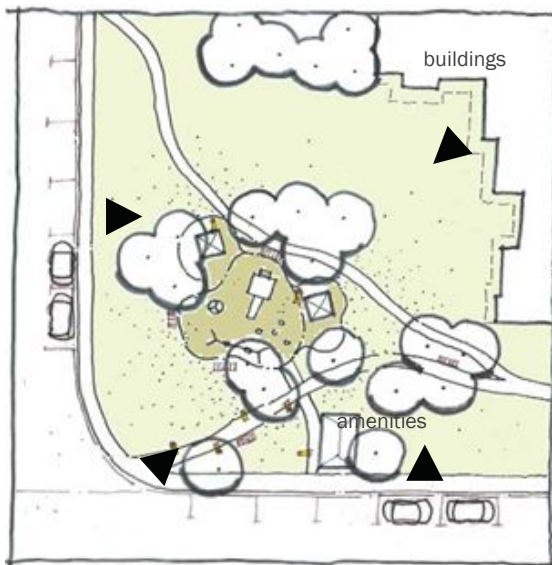
- ☐ basketball courts/hoops
- ☐ cycling/pedestrian networks and skill development trails/circuits
- ☐ attractive open space areas for ball games etc.
- ☐ surfaces and markings for games e.g. hopscotch and handball
- ☐ flying foxes, exercise and/or balancing elements
- ☐ grassy mounds and stepping stones
- ☐ feature gardens (e.g. sensory), water elements and climbing structures
- ☐ themed areas.

Successful park design

A successful park is one which is well used by the community.

Creating the 'right' park setting as well as ensuring that key qualities are put in place during the design is essential to the community's use of it for both active and passive recreation. Key qualities in creating successful quality parks include:

- ☐ creating a sense of safety and security
 - parks that are located so that they can be seen from nearby houses, stores or activity areas
 - parks and their facilities and embellishments that are open and visible
- ☐ creating an accessible and connected destination
 - parks that are accessible to and from other parks, and within the parks themselves, giving maximised opportunities for walking and cycling
 - footpaths that provide linkages to other open spaces and facilities
 - footpath treatments that are safe (for example at road crossings) and are accessible for prams and wheelchairs
- ☐ creating an attractive destination
 - parks that are well designed with landscaped open spaces
 - parks that have well shaded areas (naturally and artificially), especially over nodes and activity areas (playgrounds, benches etc.)
 - parks that are well maintained
- ☐ providing adequate facilities and range of activities
 - parks that provide good basic embellishments for comfort and recreation
 - parks that have a range of activities for park users
 - parks that have a range of infrastructure that allows participation for all ages and considers the needs of different groups (including the aged and those physically or mentally challenged)
- ☐ developing a sense of community
 - parks that provide spaces for events, gatherings and meetings
 - parks that have a sense of identity that create community awareness
 - parks that the community feel is theirs and that they can be proud of.



Sense of safety and security

A safe, comfortable and attractive park is a successful park. Members of the community don't generally frequent places where they feel unsafe and uncomfortable. Recent research has shown that residents who perceived their neighbourhoods and spaces as safe were more likely to be regularly physically active, than those who perceived their neighbourhood as unsafe.

Safe parks are those that can be seen from other areas and are visible from the street. Facilities such as amenities and play areas are also open and visible. Good parks have trees that provide shade, yet have clear trunks to allow for visibility through the park. Shrubs and other visual obstructions are located in places that do not block sightlines in, out and around the park.

Facilities that are clustered together, for example picnic facilities and benches that are located close to playgrounds are also safer parks.

Lighting in certain areas within a park (pathways, amenities and shelters) also creates a sense of safety.



Accessible, connected destinations

People will frequent places that are easy to see and easy to get to and from. Walking has become the preferred physical activity for people and, therefore, path systems that provide safe and convenient connectivity between places are crucial.

Parks that have road frontage with clear entries (planting, features and signage) give people a clear understanding of how to get into (or out of) the park.

A successful public space has good connections, both visual and physical, to its surroundings. The path system should be easy to understand for a first time user.

These spaces should be easy to get to and are well connected to adjacent areas, through safe and well designed pathways. Nodes (clustered activity areas) should also be well connected within the actual park itself. Internal paths should cater for all people, including those with limited abilities. Main (pedestrian/shared) routes should have clear direction and a clear destination. Routes should be visually clear and connected for ease of wayfinding and direction. Well designed signs and maps in appropriate locations provide information and direction for users.

This path network can be developed to provide a choice of routes, for example along the perimeter as well as through the park itself, giving people options as to how to move through the space and to avoid any possibilities of entrapment.

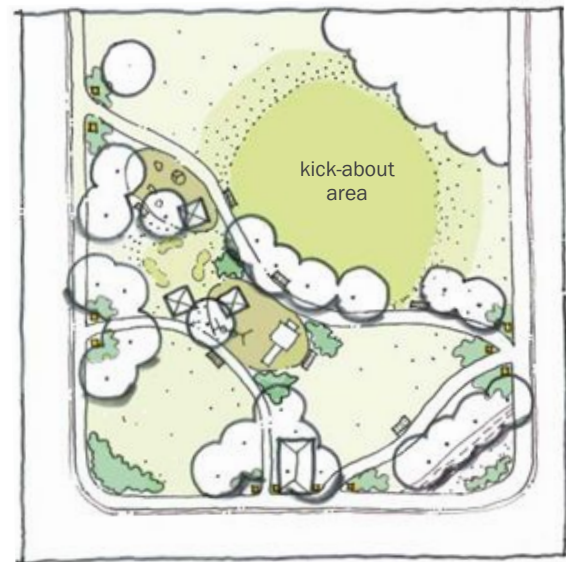


Attractive destinations

Successful parks provide for both comfort and interaction. They have adequate provision and a good range of park embellishments (including adequate seating in convenient locations) and have a good image.

These parks are safe places that are clean, well maintained, tidy and free of litter and graffiti.

People are drawn in by what they can see from the street, such as activity nodes, shade and greenery. Some of these “drawcards” should be highly visible and within close proximity to the street.



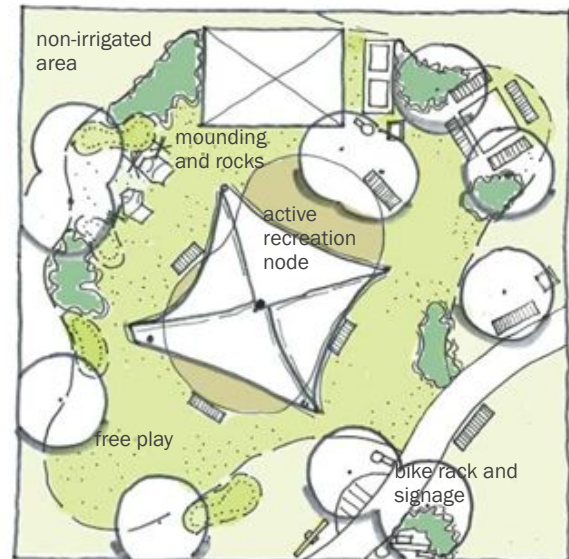
Range of facilities and activities

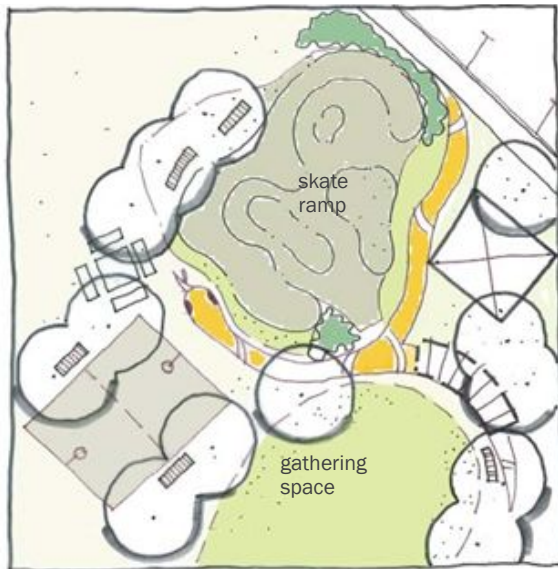
Providing activities within parks gives people of various ages and abilities, a reason to come to the park and use the space. These activities should provide for a range of demographics, including young, elderly, physically or mentally challenged, as well as for those that wish to relax, watch, meet people, gather or be active. The parks design should be flexible enough to allow for a wide range of activities.

Parks should also provide basic elements such as shade, pathways, adequately spaced benches, recreation node/s, water bubblers, bike racks and signage. Ramps, accessible amenities, and safe pedestrian crossings are also basic elements that attract a wider demographic of users.

Good parks have a range of park precincts as well as recreation nodes that comprise clustered activities, such as picnic and play areas. Recreation nodes are surrounded by green (grass, trees and shrubs) to create an oasis, while sandy areas are kept to a minimum, to reduce heat. Benches are placed under shade and are located to overlook activities and points of interest.

Good parks allow for potential new play experiences in the Park. This can include both structured and unstructured play elements.





Sense of community

Places that people connect with often evoke a sense of pride and place among a community. If a community or group feels that they have ownership and belong to a place, they will invariably look after and utilise it.

When people see friends, meet and greet their neighbours, and feel comfortable interacting with strangers, they tend to feel a stronger sense of place or attachment to their community. Parks should provide facilities that encourage social interaction with friends, family or even providing an opportunity to interact with new people. The facilities should allow for potentially high usage and accommodate for group gatherings.

Activities such as skate parks, dog parks and gathering areas are examples of spaces that provide good places for communities.

Parks should be programmed to encourage community engagement and events. Many councils today are programming public parks to encourage people into them. This can include exercise or activity programs (e.g. bootcamps) to increase community physical activity. Apart from physical activity programs, open spaces can also be programmed for events (e.g. community festivals) and more regular activities such as markets. Good parks therefore provide defined spaces for gathering or potential community activities.

Parks that have an identity and image (for example through amenity, environmental values or heritage) can enhance a sense of community and awareness using appropriate interpretation.

Involving people can also develop a sense of community. This can be conducted through community events such as tree planting days or "adopt a spot" schemes.





Appendix five - options overview

Four options were developed. They consider economic, social and environmental impacts to Council, community and the broader Alice Springs region. Each option is considered plausible, however, each have differing strengths and weaknesses.

Option 1

This option looks at the benefits and impacts of continuing to supply a similar standard of provision for park land to Council's current endeavours. It also is loosely based on the park determinants Subdivision Guidelines. The map (Figure 68) diagrammatically shows the location and hierarchy of recreation parks in Alice Springs (based on the parks classification framework).

Figure 65. Diagrammatic representation of recreation park network for Option 1



Summary	Characteristic	Local	N'hood	Precinct	Overall
	Cost - operational	↑	↑	↑	↑
	Cost - capital	—	—	—	—
	Number of parks	—	—	—	—
	Network improvement	—	—	—	—

6.8

With no changes to the park network, it is expected that the operational costs to maintain the network will increase by \$375,938 in the 2013/14 financial year. This is based on the following assumptions (provided by council); escalation being 5.5% per annum, 40% increase in water costs (30% in 2012/13, 35% by 2013/14 and 40% by 2014/15), 30% increase in power costs (20% in 2012/13, 25% by 2013/14 and 30% by 2014/15) and 25% increase in sewerage costs (15% in 2012/13, 20% by 2013/14 and 25% by 2014/15).

A summary of the calculations can be found at Table 9.

Table 10. Estimated costs of option 1

Park type	2012/13 budget				2013/14 totals	2014/15 totals	2015/16 totals	2016/17 total	2017/18 totals
	Mowing	Irrigation	General park upkeep	Total					
Local recreation	\$154,950	\$153,350	\$215,450	\$523,750	\$598,561	\$641,872	\$688,655	\$726,531	\$766,490
Neighbourhood recreation	\$41,050	\$61,500	\$35,000	\$137,550	\$163,565	\$176,728	\$191,052	\$201,560	\$212,646
Precinct recreation	\$19,700	\$44,000	\$30,300	\$94,000	\$112,370	\$121,531	\$131,510	\$138,743	\$146,373
Sport	\$404,835	\$405,300	\$479,551	\$1,289,686	\$1,482,209	\$1,591,189	\$1,709,047	\$1,803,045	\$1,902,212
Other - amenity	\$71,100	\$144,925	\$121,350	\$337,375	\$399,408	\$431,194	\$465,760	\$491,376	\$518,402
Other - undeveloped	\$14,650	\$1,500	\$15,400	\$31,550	\$33,735	\$35,692	\$37,768	\$39,845	\$42,036
Operation budget total				\$2,413,911	\$2,789,849	\$2,998,207	\$3,223,791	\$3,401,099	\$3,588,160
Capital improvements				\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
TOTAL				\$2,563,911	\$2,939,849	\$3,148,207	\$3,373,791	\$3,551,099	\$3,738,160
Increase from previous year				-	\$375,938	\$208,358	\$225,584	\$177,308	\$187,060
Cost per rateable property				\$279.72	\$320.73	\$343.47	\$368.08	\$387.42	\$407.83
Rate increase per rateable property from previous year				-	\$41.01	\$22.73	\$24.21	\$19.34	\$20.41

This option does not reflect any changes to the park network at all. The level of maintenance and embellishment (picnic and play facilities) remains static. It also does not foresee any other price increases including capital investments in parks.

Option extra - meeting the planning requirements

For the considerable increase (48%) in operation costs over a five-year period in this option (\$2.5 million in 2012 to \$3.7 million in 2017), there is no improvement to park network (therefore limited improvement from a community benefit perspective).

This option should also consider Council's Subdivision Guideline standards. In summary, if Council wants to comply with its own standards, an estimated additional investment of \$2.2 million towards park assets (bins, bubblers, picnic facilities, seats etc.) would be required. If this option is chosen, it will be recommended that Council focus on buying more seating and picnic facilities with the capital parks budget rather than play equipment.

Option 2

Another option is to modify the service of delivery of the existing park network to fit the same budget being invested in park currently (that is, it presumes that Council's park budget will remain around \$2.5 million for the next five years). It assumes that water, sewerage and electricity costs will increase per the assumptions listed in option one. Overarching diagrammatic representation of option 2 can be found at figure 69.

To achieve this, a number of changes to the capital expenditure and operational budget will be required. The primary strategies to control operational costs are to:

- ☐ reduce the mowing schedule, particularly for local and neighbourhood recreation parks
- ☐ reduce the extent of recreation park irrigation and the watering

schedule

- ☐ limit the purchase of new park equipment.

If chosen, there will need to be major amendments to park service delivery to accommodate for increased expense of water, electricity and sewerage for the upcoming financial year. For each following year, minor reductions will be required to fight the cost of inflation. Whilst this option controls spending on the park network, there are some disadvantages, these being:

- ☐ there is no opportunity to improve the quality of the parks
- ☐ potential backlash from the community regarding service delivery
- ☐ over time, a very poorly maintained, run-down and potentially unused park network.

Figure 66. Diagrammatic representation of recreation park network for Option 2



Summary	Characteristic	Local	N'hood	Precinct	Overall
	Cost - operational	—	—	—	—
	Cost - capital	↓	↓	↓	↓
	Number of parks	—	—	—	—
	Network improvement	↓	↓	↓	↓

6.8

A summary of the calculations can be found at table 10.

Assumptions used for 2013/14 financial year are:

- cost increases expected for water, electricity and sewerage
- irrigation service delivery for sport, precinct and amenity parks have been retained. The focus has been to reduce these costs for local, neighbourhood and precinct recreation parks and other Council open space by reducing the irrigation by 20%.
- mowing service delivery for recreation parks and other (undeveloped) open space has reduced by 20% (25% for local parks). In the case of local and neighbourhood recreation parks which are mowed (on average) every four weeks, this will change to approximately every five weeks.
- a 20-25% decrease in the costs of general maintenance (cleaning, litter removal, repairing vandalised elements etc.) for all park types, with the exception of sports parks.

For each following year, park service delivery will need to be commensurate with TCPI. This will result significant changes (in comparison to what is providing currently). Generally, each year will see a further (escalating) decrease in mowing, irrigation and general maintenance of local and neighbourhood parks, amenity parks and other Council maintained open space. By 2017/18 (5 years) it will mean:

- that recreation parks will see a minimum of a 50% decrease in service delivery to what Council currently provides. This means that bins will be emptied irregularly, mowing to occur on average once every two months, and irrigation less than half the time to what is currently provided
- mowing and irrigation to sports parks will be less impacted with greater efficiencies (particularly irrigation) being sought

- investment in park equipment (play and picnic facilities) will decrease to one-third of the current budget per annum, this is unlikely to cover the cost of replacing old, worn and vandalised park equipment.

Table 11 summarises the decrease in operational and capital costs across the time series. This is based on decreases from the previous year (not the starting year).

Table 12. Summary of decreases in operational maintenance between financial years

Year/Cost		Local	N'hood	Precinct	Sport	Amen.	Undev.
2013/14	Mow	25%	20%	20%	5%	5%	20%
	Irrig.	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%
	General	25%	20%	20%	5%	20%	20%
2014/15	Mow	20%	20%	10%	5%	-	15%
	Irrig.	15%	15%	15%	-	15%	15%
	General	20%	20%	-	5%	10%	20%
2015/16	Mow	20%	20%	20%	5%	10%	10%
	Irrig.	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
	General	10%	10%	10%	-	10%	10%
2016/17	Mow	10%	10%	5%	5%	5%	5%
	Irrig.	10%	10%	5%	5%	5%	5%
	General	10%	10%	5%	5%	5%	5%
2017/18	Mow	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
	Irrig.	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
	General	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%

Mow= mowing / Irrig. = irrigation / General = general maintenance

Table 11. Option two summary of costs amendments to the parks budget

Park type	2012/13 budget				2013/14 budget with service amendments				Comparison to 2013/14 budget used in Option 1
	Mowing	Irrigation	General park upkeep	Total	Mowing	Irrigation	General park upkeep	Total	
Local recreation	\$154,950	\$153,350	\$215,450	\$523,750	\$122,604	\$161,784	\$170,475	\$454,863	\$598,561
Neighbourhood recreation	\$41,050	\$61,500	\$35,000	\$137,550	\$34,646	\$64,883	\$29,540	\$129,069	\$163,565
Precinct recreation	\$19,700	\$44,000	\$30,300	\$94,000	\$16,627	\$46,420	\$25,573	\$88,620	\$112,370
Sport	\$404,835	\$405,300	\$479,551	\$1,289,686	\$405,746	\$534,489	\$480,630	\$1,420,865	\$1,482,209
Other - amenity	\$71,100	\$144,925	\$121,350	\$337,375	\$71,260	\$191,120	\$102,419	\$364,799	\$399,408
Other - undeveloped	\$14,650	\$1,500	\$15,400	\$31,550	\$12,365	\$1,583	\$12,998	\$26,945	\$33,735
Operation budget total				\$2,413,911	\$2,485,161				\$2,789,849
Capital improvements				\$150,000	\$100,000				\$150,000
TOTAL				\$2,563,911	\$2,585,161				\$2,939,849
Increase from previous year				-	\$21,250				\$375,938
Cost per rateable property				\$279.72	\$282.04				\$320.73

Option 3

Option 3 is the first option that puts more emphasis on changes to the existing network, in terms of embellishments in parks, number of parks per classification/hierarchy and the distribution of parks across the town. It is not recommended to sell any park land in this option, but rather make recommendations regarding the mix of park opportunities so that residents have a range of options. The result is the downgrading of some parks and upgrading of others.

Option 3 gives greater consideration to the whole park network, spaces people use and like, and will make recommendations that consider the good park planning design principles summarised in appendix 4. The vision for this option is to offer a better quality park network without losing any public open space. The downside of this option is Council's ability to fund it, as such, the outcome will be a parks network of a slightly above average quality.

Figure 67. Diagrammatic representation of recreation park network for Option 3



Summary	Characteristic	Local	N'hood	Precinct	Overall
	Cost - operational	↓	↑	↑	↑
	Cost - capital	↓	↑	—	↑
	Number of parks	—	—	—	—
	Network improvement	↓	↑	↑	↑

6.8

Guiding principles that will shape the detailed planning of this option are to provide:

- ☐ fun, clean, safe places for people to meet and play
- ☐ public places that people know and that are well-used
- ☐ a range of facilities and park opportunities for people of all ages and abilities
- ☐ activities and different opportunities that are equally distributed (but not necessarily replicated) across the local government area
- ☐ fair distribution of 'destination parks' that are clustered with sporting, retail, community (education/health) and residential land uses where possible
- ☐ design solutions that consider topographic, geographic, environmental, climatic and demographic influences of Alice Springs.

Due to the upgrade of several existing parks to destination level parks (we are classifying these as neighbourhood recreation parks, however, it is proposed that they will offer greater opportunities and level of capital embellishment to that of existing parks currently in this park typology). An example of an existing destination park in Alice Springs is Frances Smith Memorial Park which is known to the community and shows signs of use by the public. Destination parks are equivalent to a merge of Council's precinct and neighbourhood parks in relation to embellishment and service delivery. It is proposed that future destination/precinct parks be provided (of a similar standard to Frances Smith Memorial Park), these will be scattered across the town ensuring fairness of distribution.

It is proposed that there will be seven destination parks in Alice Springs, indicatively these are earmarked (further investigation/confirmation required) as being:

- ☐ Frank McEllister Park, Araluen*
- ☐ Frances Smith Memorial Park, Eastside*
- ☐ Albrecht Oval, Larapinta
- ☐ Rhonda Diano Oval/Rotaract Park, Northside
- ☐ Pool/skatepark precinct, CBD
- ☐ Lewis Gilbert Park, Golfcourse
- ☐ Larapinta Park (Jim McConville Oval)/Newland Park, Gillen

* it is noted these parks are already considered destination parks.

A benefit of this option is the development of bigger, better community precincts in Alice Springs. The destination parks chosen, generally, are located near existing community infrastructure and uses - these being sporting complexes, schools, health hubs and retail hubs. As mentioned in the trends section, people are generally drawn to areas where there are a range of options and opportunities. If people have more things to do in one area they will visit that area more often and for longer periods of time. Additionally, if more people are using these parks and for longer periods of time it is likely they will value the space, take more ownership and responsibility for them - this, in turn, results in driving away undesirable and inappropriate use of these places.

In this option it is recommended that Council focus its parks capital expenditure budget on improving the above listed parks. This will come at the expense of upgrading infrastructure in local recreation parks.

Some changes will also be recommended to the operational maintenance of local parks to ensure that the destination parks are adequately maintained so that the community feel safe and comfortable going to them. The end result should be quality parks, with a range of assets, that are well-maintained that people will want to use and will stay for longer periods of time.

Local recreation parks will be retained in this option, however, will have less park assets in them. Local recreation parks will offer green amenity value to the local area, connections between residential area and general open space. Local recreation parks will continue to offer some recreation elements - however, the focus (in many instances, but not all) will change from formal play activities (swings, slides etc.) to more informal recreation opportunities like pathway connections, shady resting areas and seats.

Due to the limitations of Council's resources, the level of embellishment is not likely to reflect the ideal park network, however, this option improves the overall quality of the network from a community perspective.

Operational costs are expected to be similar to option 1. However, a number of cost-saving efficiencies will be sought, particularly in relation to water-sensitive design, designing parks to decrease the impacts (and therefore costs) of vandalism and general wear and tear. Council currently spends a significant amount of money (approximately 10% of the total parks budget) irrigating small areas of park land that are unlikely to be used for recreation by residents.

Capital costs across the park typologies will even out, however, Council is unlikely to see the cost-benefit of this in the short- and medium-term. In the long-term, it will mean better cost efficiency for Council while developing a stronger, better quality parks network.

Option 4

This is the most radical option, however, has the greatest potential for creating a strong, well-used public parks network. It draws on some of the qualities of Option 3 and further develops them.

Option 4 focuses on providing high quality public parks - parks that are beautiful, well-maintained, well-used and foster a strong sense of inclusion, community and social interaction. The cost of achieving this result is significant. It proposes to consolidate parks and to re-purpose these spaces. This option will need to further explore a number of revenue options to fund this option (that is invest the money into the open space network).

Figure 68. Diagrammatic representation of recreation park network for Option 4



Summary	Characteristic	Local	N'hood	Precinct	Overall
	Cost - operational	↓	↓	↑	↑
	Cost - capital	—	↑	↑	↑
	Number of parks	↓	↓	↑	↓
	Network improvement	—	↑	↑	↑

Guiding principles that will shape the detailed planning of this option are to provide:

- ☐ an open space network that will be designed and effectively maintained to a high quality, commensurate with the nature and use of the facilities and spaces
- ☐ recreation and open space opportunities that reflect community needs. It is important to ensure that planning decisions made today do not negatively impact the decision making of the future
- ☐ comfortable, fun and diverse places for people to meet and play, these spaces will attract a range of people of all ages and abilities. The network will provide choice and diversity of options that recognises different economic, cultural and social values of residents and visitors
- ☐ public places that people know, that are well-used and celebrated by the community
- ☐ places that celebrate significant cultural and environmental considerations
- ☐ recreation and open space facilities that are safe for public use
- ☐ connected and accessible park destinations
- ☐ well-designed parks that encourage human interactions. These parks build social capital and inclusion and lead to developing a strong sense of community and belonging.

This option looks at developing high-quality/embellished recreation parks - much higher than what is available now and much higher than what have been used in any other option. Whilst they are labelled precinct parks, they are of a much higher standard to any recreation park currently built and maintained in Alice Springs. It is proposed that there will be four precinct parks in Alice Springs. Indicatively there are earmarked (further investigation/confirmation required) as being:

- ☐ Frank McEllister Park, Araluen
- ☐ Frances Smith Memorial Park, Eastside
- ☐ Albrecht Oval, Larapinta
- ☐ Rhonda Diano Oval/Rotact Park, Northside.

Similar to option 3, option 4 looks at creating community precincts in Alice Springs.

The precinct parks will be supported by four high level neighbourhood parks:

- ☐ Snow Kenna Park, CBD
- ☐ Skatepark, CBD
- ☐ Lewis Gilbert Park, Golfcourse
- ☐ Spicer Crescent Park/Irvine Park, Gillen

These parks have been selected either because residents in that area are disconnected to the chosen precinct parks, or because significant infrastructure already exists at these parks.

Additionally, a new city park is proposed that will become the town's feature park. The city park is a cross between a high level recreation park and an amenity park. This park is centrally located and would be designed to boast:

- ☐ a free water play precinct
- ☐ shady, grassed area - a green oasis in the CBD
- ☐ significant picnic facilities, including facilities to accommodate large groups
- ☐ civic gathering space, suitable to hosting small to medium community events - this will alleviate the burden on sporting facilities (Anzac Oval) and minimise the conflict between users
- ☐ a recreation node for city workers and visitors.

The counter-balance of providing the high-quality city and precinct parks is that the embellishment and maintenance of local recreation parks will decrease. It is proposed that some of these parks will be downgraded to undeveloped park land (areas that are still accessible to the community) and others will be investigated for the purpose of selling. If a park is sold to be developed for residential (or any other) purposes the money will be invested back into the parks network to fund the high-quality precinct parks.

The overall number of parks could be reduced. Many will revert back to undeveloped open space and therefore will lead to cost-savings to the existing operational budget. It could mean that approximately 50% of the existing local parks will be affected. In this option, further consideration will be given to the future use of these spaces.

Operational costs in this option will decrease compared to what Council is currently providing as the sheer volume of park land

to be mowed/irrigated will be reduced. Operational maintenance costs of the precinct parks is likely to be similar to that of Frank McEllister Park.

If this option is chosen, more detailed assessment and planning will be required in relation to testing which parks are most palatable to be sold. This assessment will require consideration of its:

- ☐ capacity for redevelopment
- ☐ accessibility, visibility and safety of the park
- ☐ proximity to other parks in the local area, particularly those duplicating park opportunities
- ☐ diversity and range of infrastructure in the park
- ☐ cultural heritage
- ☐ environmental attributes
- ☐ topography
- ☐ access to services
- ☐ flood immunity
- ☐ size and shape of land
- ☐ community use
- ☐ potential future population growth (demand).

Detailed investigations into potential funding sources must be explored if this option is chosen. This will include investigations into revenue-making capacities of the land, external grants and incentives and rate increases.

Comparison

This option will more closely provide a similar number of parks (per population) to the benchmarked local government areas discussed on pages 7-8. These are summarised in the table below.

LGA	Local	N'hood	Precinct	Total
Mount Isa	0.9	0.3	0.1	1.3
Broken Hill	0.4	0.3	0.3	1.0
Emerald	0.6	-	0.7	1.3
Alice Springs*	0.9	0.2	0.2	1.3

*Based on option 4



Appendix six - Precinct parks

Park description and intent

Precinct parks are major recreation parks that offer a wide variety of opportunities to a broad cross-section of the town's population and visitors. These parks are generally large in size, embellished for recreation and/or sport, well known amongst residents and are major destinations/drawcards.

Precinct parks offer sport and recreation opportunities for all age groups. People are usually content spending several (4+) hours in these parks. Precinct recreation parks also offer unique experiences, they are places used to host large community events such as carols in the park, Australia Day celebrations and other festivals. Precinct recreation parks offer exciting and no cost activities for residents and visitors.

Ideally, precinct parks are co-located with other valued community infrastructure and community-based land uses to support the 'power of 10' concept (see page 16). This includes co-location with or near:

- ☐ sports parks and sports facilities
- ☐ schools and education providers
- ☐ retail activities (shops)
- ☐ community service providers such as child care centres, scout dens/girl guide huts, health and well-being providers and so on
- ☐ natural areas that offer scenic amenity value.

These parks should be well-connected to the local residents by footpaths but should also have car parking facilities and internal paths so people of all-abilities are able to access much of the parkland area.

There have been seven parks planning precincts identified in Alice Springs. Each precinct is to have at least one stand-out park - a precinct level recreation park. Each precinct park must be designed to:

- ☐ reflect the recreation demands of the local catchment
- ☐ provide a range of opportunities across different age cohorts
- ☐ offer different opportunities to that of other precinct recreation parks so that they are also considered to be destinations for all Alice Springs residents and visitors.



Design and build

Below is a list of elements that should be considered when designing/developing a precinct recreation park.

- ☐ precinct parks should have master plans prepared. This is likely to include a long-term vision that can take many years to activate (potentially 10-15 years). The master plan should be staged so that it can be rolled out as demand is generated (and as resources allow)
- ☐ community input into the design of the park should occur (at master plan stage and as changes occur), this is important as the community will have specific thoughts and concerns regarding this level of park
- ☐ design must consider all age groups, people of all abilities and ethnicities
- ☐ detailed design is often required for specific elements
- ☐ multiple activity nodes may exist, however, these nodes will be unique and not replicated within the park and will add to the overall quality and attractiveness of the park (complementary areas that also contrast other park opportunities)
- ☐ potential to have some low key commercial activity such as kiosks, cafes, museums
- ☐ potential to have an array of buildings that offer some community service such as a nursery offering free street trees, environmental education centres, community training rooms, libraries etc.
- ☐ park to be located where people can access easily
- ☐ park should preferably have a variety of settings within the park, from natural areas to a highly-embellishment activity area
- ☐ incorporate a high-level of landscape design, this could extend to including botanic gardens
- ☐ consider including a special drawcard element such as a zoo or nature centre
- ☐ have some undeveloped areas
- ☐ include interpretive signage, not only about the park but also of the local area (for residents and tourists)
- ☐ embellishments could be themed, for example a park with an aviation theme if it is ideally located to see the arrival and departing flights
- ☐ as it is proposed that multiple precinct recreation parks exist in Alice Springs, each should have a range of recreation opportunities but aim not to duplicate each others park design
- ☐ parks to be close to public transport, where possible
- ☐ amenities to be near road and active area for surveillance
- ☐ pathways link areas within the park and externally
- ☐ off-road car parking is required, however, could be located near the road (or nose-in parking at the road) to minimise its visual impact (and cost of development) on the recreation function of the park
- ☐ significant activity areas could include such facilities (in addition to those listed in the local and district recreation park typologies) as:
 - free water-play
 - large skate facilities
 - large climbing structures
 - rock climbing equipment
 - variety of pathways and circuits, potentially with different treatments to help the user to navigate throughout the site
 - all abilities play is essential
 - liberty swing (this should be sensitively integrated into the playground as not to become an “elephant in the room” but rather a part of the play theme and design)
 - amphitheatre
 - lookouts
 - specialised equipment
- ☐ non-standard embellishments to consider are:
 - gazebos for larger groups (20+ people)
 - areas for weddings or private park celebrations
 - toilets located near the key activity area (depending on the size of the park and the topography of the land there may be need for multiple toilet blocks). Additionally, the siting of toilet blocks should maximise their visibility from highly-used areas (play areas where active surveillance can occur) and from the road (where passive surveillance can occur)
 - clusters of picnic facilities.

The estimated capital cost of a precinct recreation park is in the vicinity of \$1m.



activity nodes are located near picnic areas

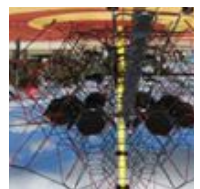
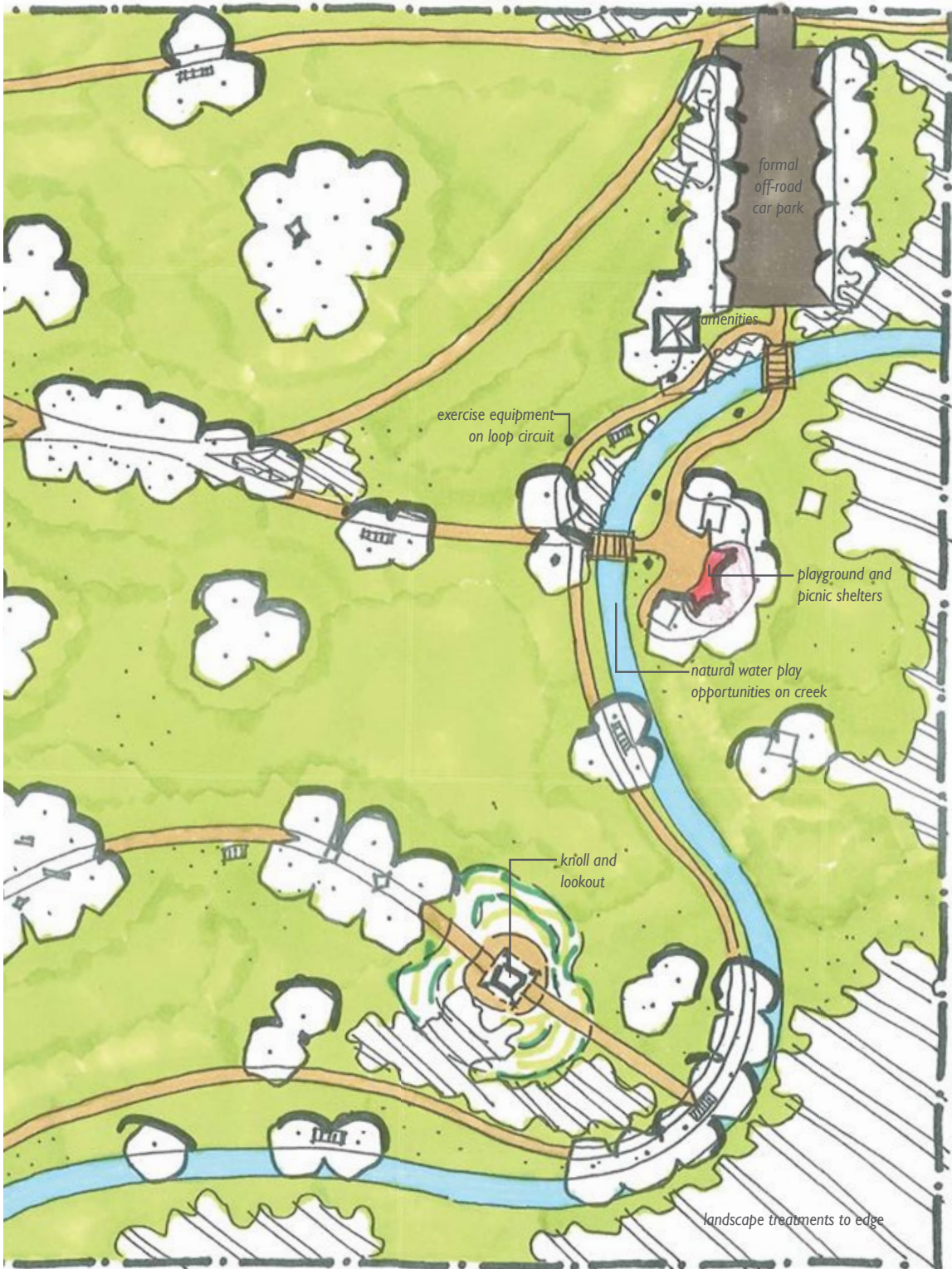
large picnic structures under shade trees

pedestrian links are important, both internally and externally to the park

formal car parking areas allow for people to choose a range of ways of getting to the park

footpath road







Appendix seven - Neighbourhood parks

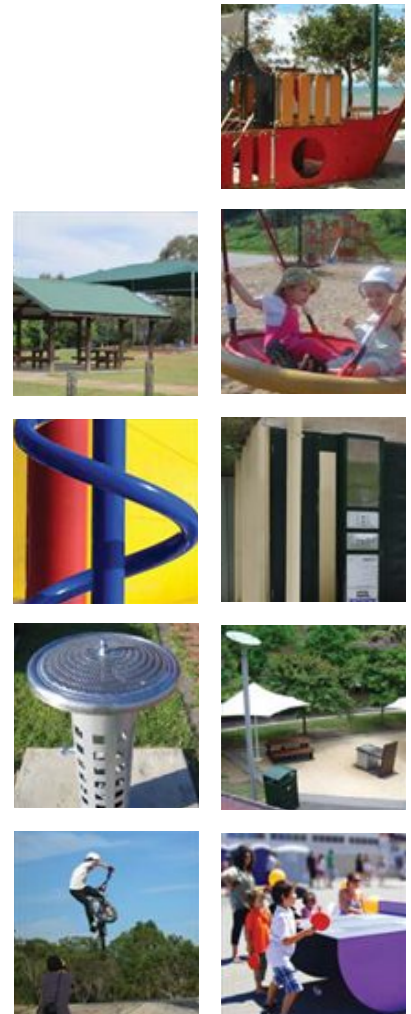
Description and park intent

Larger sized parks that provide a range of facilities and activity spaces for recreation. These parks have facilities to cater for large groups and are appealing to a wide range of users. They are similar to precinct parks, however, are a scaled-down version as the park catchment may not have the population to support the higher level precinct recreation park.

Design considerations

Below is a list of elements that should be considered when designing/developing a district recreation park:

- ☐ design and embellishments of parks should reflect a broad demographics group (i.e there should be something for all ages and all abilities in these parks)
- ☐ ideally one main activity node exists which has clusters of activities for different age groups (i.e park equipment designed for teenagers to be together, and near to the activity node for 8-12 years old age group). This helps separate the age cohorts but keeps all activities in one larger area so carers are able to monitor the activities
- ☐ activity area could include facilities (in addition to those listed in the local recreation park typology) including:
 - skate park
 - climbing structure
 - outdoor table tennis
 - bike activity track (learn-to-cycle facility)
 - moveable outdoor exercise stations (such as exercise bikes, rowing machines, elliptical trainers)
 - all-abilities play (design and layout should be cognisant of integrating all of the play facilities (abled and physically challenged) together to provide social inclusion and integration of all abilities)
- ☐ non-standard embellishments to consider are:
 - gazebos for larger groups (10+ people)
 - unisex toilets
 - grouped picnicking facilities (cluster of 2 barbecues and 4 picnic tables)
- ☐ activity area to be ideally located under natural shade (may be supplemented by artificial shade)
- ☐ there should be clear sight-lines into the park from nearby road and other land uses, especially the main activity area
- ☐ picnic areas located where they oversee activity area.





Appendix eight - Local parks

Description and park Intent

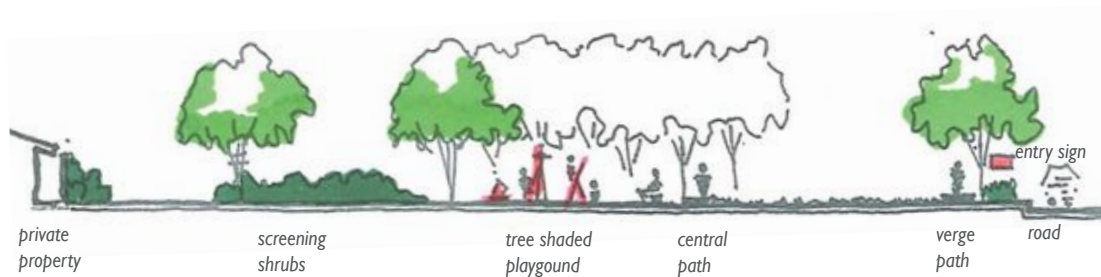
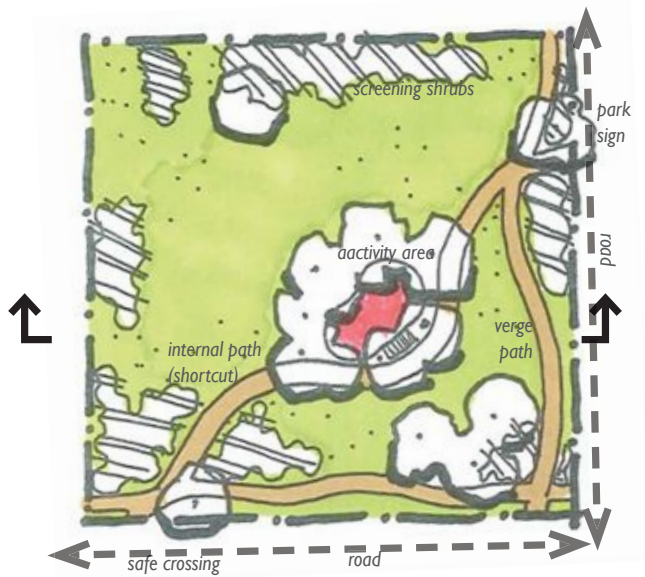
Local recreation parks provide a limited range of recreational opportunities for local residents. These parks contain minimal infrastructure for recreational use, however, if well-positioned can offer community benefits.

Local recreation parks are intended to be small parks that offer residents a supplementary open space to complement their backyards. They are likely to attract users from a small catchment area and generally cater for short visits by very small groups.

Design considerations

Below is a list of elements that should be considered when designing/developing a local recreation park:

- ☐ park is to be located in residential area
- ☐ park is to be easy for residents to walk to
- ☐ recreation facilities to be clustered in one activity area, ideally located under natural shade (where possible)
- ☐ activity area could include facilities such as:
 - basic toddler play (spring toy, slide and swing)
 - rebound wall
 - dog off-leash area with basic dog agility equipment (such as ramps and totem poles)
 - multi-functional gazebos (may encourage small group to play cards in the park regularly)
 - small path circuit with basic, static, exercise equipment
 - flat kick-a-bout area
 - link to surrounding footpath (if relevant)
- ☐ picnic and seats to be located where they can oversee the activity area (under a shade tree where possible), along the internal path
- ☐ it should be easy to see the majority of the park from adjacent properties or from the road
- ☐ internal paths to connect to on-road verge pathway system and connect to the key activity area in the park. If the park can act as a short cut for pedestrians it may also encourage them to stop and utilise these local park facilities
- ☐ embellishments in the parks complement those in nearby parks (increasing the range of facilities available to nearby residents)
- ☐ design and embellishments of parks reflect the demographic desires of the local catchment (it is common for local parks to have the same infrastructure, often pitched at toddlers and young children. The needs of an older community is different to that of young families)
- ☐ landscape edge treatments in the form of screening shrubs will improve the aesthetics of the park, soften the edges and provide some buffering to nearby residents.





Appendix nine - Sports parks

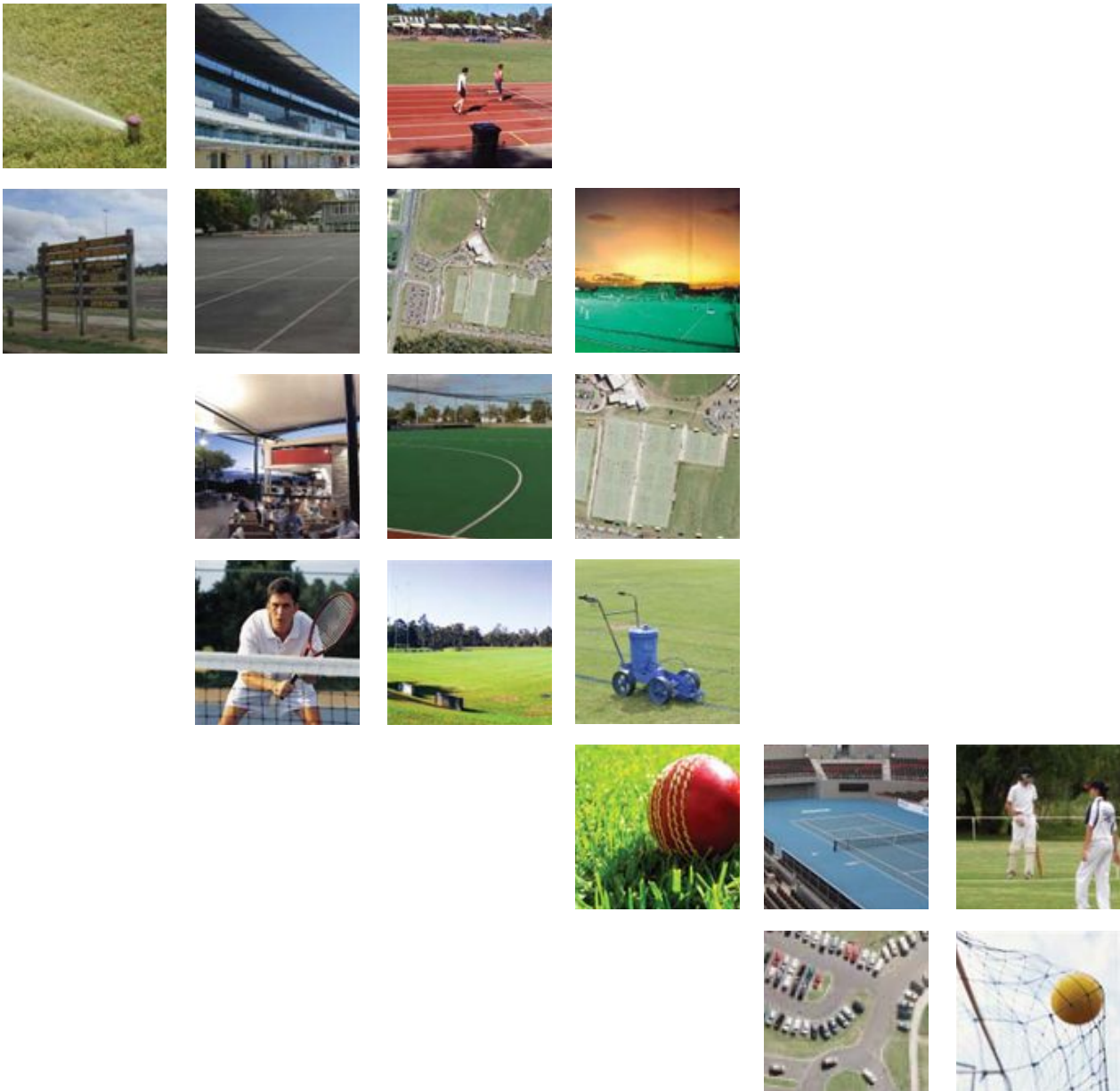
Description and park intent

Sports parks should comfortably host regional (or potentially state) competitions. Factors such as quality of playing surface, amenities and canteen availability and lighting standards (where lights are provided) need to be considered.

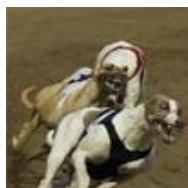
Design considerations

Below is a list of elements that should be considered when designing/developing regional sports parks:

- ☐ internal path network to allow for connections within and to land adjacent to the park (i.e. pathway system should tie into the street path system). Paths to allow for all-access commuting
- ☐ maximise trees and natural shade around fields
- ☐ long benches and spectator areas should be placed under shady trees where possible. Shaded spectator grass mounds can also provide good viewing areas in addition to built grandstands
- ☐ hard surfaces should be minimised by developing the minimum number of sealed parking bays, and providing turf/ unsealed shady overflow parking (for bigger games)
- ☐ internal road and parking layout to accommodate bus parking, drop off and turn around
- ☐ orientation and location of sports lighting (seek advice from sports bodies for regulations). Consideration to be made regarding noise and light spillage with regards to its impact on surrounding land use
- ☐ field and court orientation to be north/south (or as close to as possible)
- ☐ provision of ample storage. This should be located near the clubhouse and should form one single large shed or preferably be combined into clubhouse design to reduce built structures within open space
- ☐ clubhouse to be of significant size and offer flexibility in design to cater for a range of uses (consider beyond those sports anticipated to use the site). Clubhouse to be located on western side, on halfway line, of main field where possible. Internal spaces to include:
 - storage
 - canteen
 - multiple change rooms
 - canteen
 - offices
 - versatile function/activity space
 - gym
 - medical rooms
- ☐ recreation/activity area to consider the users of sports when designing node typology (eg play for spectators/children or activities that could be used for training (exercise circuit)). These should ideally be clustered together and located under natural shade (where possible)
- ☐ potential complementary commercial opportunities could be considered at park (e.g. physiotherapy, personal trainers, sports house etc.)
- ☐ provision of adequate signage especially within large, multiple use regional sports parks (e.g. directional and information signs)
- ☐ create additional landscape amenities such as entry planting, feature landscaping, or earth mounds to increase visual amenity.



Appendix ten - Specialised sports



Description and park intent

Parks provided for sporting activities where the nature of the sport precludes the easy transfer of use to an alternative sport, or the nature of the activity precludes free, unrestricted access to members of the public, or where the land and facility requirements result in provision of high level provision of sport.

Specialised sports include:

- ☐ motocross/motorcycling
- ☐ equestrian
- ☐ golf
- ☐ shooting
- ☐ car racing
- ☐ model aeroplanes
- ☐ lawn bowls
- ☐ croquet
- ☐ field archery/bow hunting.

Specialised sports offer a great diversity of options available to locals.

Standards and design considerations

It is not possible to provide standards for this open space typology as each activity has many different influencing factors. However, the following list has been developed as a starting point of matters that should be considered:

- ☐ potential longevity of the sport at the site - will urban encroachment push the sport out in 20-30 years? If so, can a protection mechanism be put in place (for example through the planning scheme)
- ☐ consider community demand but also check information with regional, state, and potentially, national sporting associations
- ☐ sporting bodies also may have specific standards in terms of land, siting, and embellishments required. These bodies may also be able to assist in funding the initiatives
- ☐ often require a feasibility study in the first instance, and most likely a detailed master plan (these two requirements are often the key to external funding but also provide sufficient background information to ensure appropriate research is undertaken)
- ☐ consider the needs (and likely impacts) of hosting regional, state and national events. These often have considerable tourism and economic benefits to the region but also require suitable facilities and ancillary support infrastructure
- ☐ is there room for expansion
- ☐ potential negative impact on the environment
- ☐ can have impact on town water supply (depending on the sport).



Appendix eleven - Aquatic facilities

Description and park intent

Aquatic facilities are publicly owned and managed swimming pools. These can either be outdoor (uncovered) facilities, indoor aquatic facilities or a mix of both. Aquatic facilities are very important community assets as they are often social meeting places as well as venues for sport and (swimming) education.

Aquatic facilities could be considered the same as specialised sport where it is difficult to apply a standards approach as consideration must be given to:

- ☐ urban form
- ☐ access to natural water facilities
- ☐ nearest like facility
- ☐ private pool ownership, including those located at education institutions
- ☐ community demand
- ☐ social profile and demographics
- ☐ topography and geographic influences.

Additionally, council should also consider its ability to fund the ongoing operations and maintenance of the aquatic facility. It may be possible to develop standards for highly urban areas, but these normally do not translate well for regional communities.

Design considerations

Some elements that should be considered when designing/developing new public aquatic facilities include:

- ☐ proximity to local schools is seen as very important. Schools are often the most regular user group of community pools, and connect the children with water sports. To save costs, it is ideal that as many schools (especially primary schools) are within walking distance to community pools (and safe access can be provided)
- ☐ the quality of the land is important, it is not ideal for pools to be built on unstable land (e.g. black soil, land fill sites or on land with underground mining) that can lead to unnecessary ongoing (and often major) costs
- ☐ consider the flood immunity of the land, as this too can lead to significant and unnecessary ongoing costs
- ☐ potential to collocate with other sport, community infrastructure or retail hubs can provide cross-benefits in terms of patronage but also with shared ancillary infrastructure such as car parking, bike racks and so on
- ☐ connections to public transport networks (if available)
- ☐ commercially viable elements including: swim shop; gymnasium; beach volleyball; mini putt-putt; child-minding and cafes
- ☐ consider demographics of area (now

and projected) to help decide pool configuration and key elements, these may include:

- hydrotherapy pool
- versatility of pool areas for a variety of water activities (water polo, aqua aerobics, triathlon squads etc.)
- splash and wave pools
- learn-to-swim and toddler pool
- hydrotherapy pools (with ramps and lifting equipment)
- competition swimming pools (50m/25m) with diving blocks
- spectator facilities including grandstands
- facilities for less-abled people including ramps into water areas
- sun safe facilities including shade structures and treed areas
- water play area
- dry play areas
- ☐ building design should include
 - first aid rooms
 - change facilities including showers and lockers
 - significant storage areas and plant room
 - fenced outdoor areas.





Appendix twelve - Utility land

Description and intent

Land that is often owned or maintained by Council's parks department, however, should not be incorporated into Council's open space system. These parcels could be classified for the following purposes: water bodies, utility infrastructure (e.g. electricity transmissions, telecommunications, water and sewerage); waterway or drainage corridors; and, easements that enable or could enable pedestrian access between the road network and other land uses.

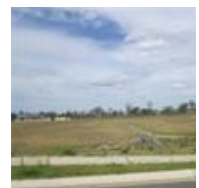
Standards

The standards employed for utility land (that may offer some open space function or purpose) will be set by other networks and will require the input of engineers and transport planners. For the purpose of this Strategy, it will be most beneficial for Council to undertake a walk/cycle strategy that develops a suite of standards for recreation pathways and incorporate them in other Council plans (particularly those concerned with storm water management).

Design considerations

Design elements that should be considered for utility land so that it encourages recreation use include:

- ☐ encourage acquisition of additional land to ensure the utility land offers dual-functionality as recreation corridors
- ☐ siting of land - is it possible to link utility land to create a network of circuits?
- ☐ consider natural environment and potential to create wildlife habitats (evidence exists that detention basins can be attractive to many bird species, additionally linear corridors can offer faunal connections as well as human connections)
- ☐ undertake a long-term planning philosophy as it is difficult to fix (retrofit) in future if poorly planned
- ☐ consider the impacts of flooding.





Appendix thirteen - Amenity parkland

Description and park intent

Amenity parks are either landscaped areas such as town entrance statements or offer some amenity in terms of function such as monument/memorial parks and lookouts. They provide little recreation opportunities.

Standards

No standards are suitable for amenity park. It must, however, be noted, that it is not Council's intention to develop, or encourage, landscaped entrance statements for new developments due to their high maintenance costs with little to no social value.

Design considerations

The following summarises some of the design aspects for amenity parks:

- ☐ maximise the views and vista of the site
- ☐ consider navigational signage to the site (often amenity parks are located in out of the way areas and additional directional signage is required)
- ☐ consider cross-promotion - amenity parks are often attractive spots for tourists and there may be opportunity to promote the Region to this audience
- ☐ include appropriate lettering and themes that are appropriate to the location
- ☐ artwork or sculptures can be informative of history and the local culture and should have meaning when utilised.





Appendix thirteen - Park development costs

A number of park embellishment cost assumptions have been used to develop the recommendations in this report. These were developed using industry-based and local (Alice Springs) information supplied by council. The information is based on 2013 capital costs and are used as estimates only. More detailed cost estimates should be prepared prior to undertaking the scheduled recommendations.

Table 13. Estimate park capital costs

Item	Rate (\$)	Measure
Recreation activity areas		
☐ basic play (per item) such as swing, spring toy, slide, dog off-leash area	5,500	item
☐ advanced play (modular kit-style play of moderate size (10 activities)	50,400	item
☐ medium climbing structure	25,000	item
☐ large climbing structure	30,000	item
☐ multi-purpose court with either backboard and hoop or rebound wall	10,000	item
☐ skate park (medium)	140,000	item
☐ skate park (large)	250,000	item
☐ exercise stations (per item)	5,500	item
☐ liberty swing	68,000	item
☐ water play	130,000	item
☐ amphitheatre	110,000	item
☐ softfall	120	m2
Fencing		
☐ play fencing (pool style)	107	lin. m
☐ post and rail	300	lin. m
☐ bollard	120	item
Landscaping		
☐ irrigation (landscaped areas)	5	m2
☐ garden beds and plants	50	m2
☐ park trees	250	item
Park lighting	8,000	item
Pathways	80	m2
Toilet block	70,000	item
Vehicular movement		
☐ off road car parking	3,750	park
☐ internal road (includes kerb and channel)	180	m2
Park furniture		
☐ bike racks	1,200	item
☐ large park sign	8,000	item
☐ small park sign	1,800	item
☐ shade structures (soft)	150	m2
☐ water bubbler (including connection)	2,750	item
☐ bench seating (over concrete slab)	1,500	item
☐ park table and seats (over concrete slab)	2,200	item

Item	Rate (\$)	Measure
☐ barbeque(s)	9,100	item
☐ picnic shelters, including table and seats (over concrete slab)	10,800	item
☐ picnic node includes 2 barbeques, picnic tables, seats and hard structure (over concrete slab)	45,000	item
☐ bins	1,500	item
Site Establishment	2	m2

