



# Social Impact Assessment – Leichardt Skate Plaza

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Proposed Leichardt Skate Plaza, 70  
Mary Street, Lilyfield NSW 2040

February 2022



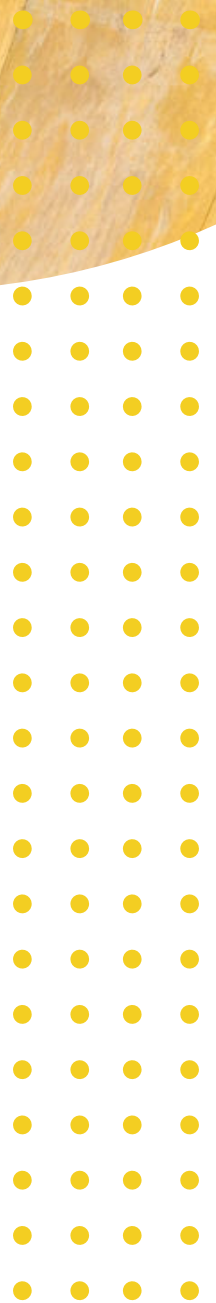
**Report title: Leichardt Skate Plaza SIA**

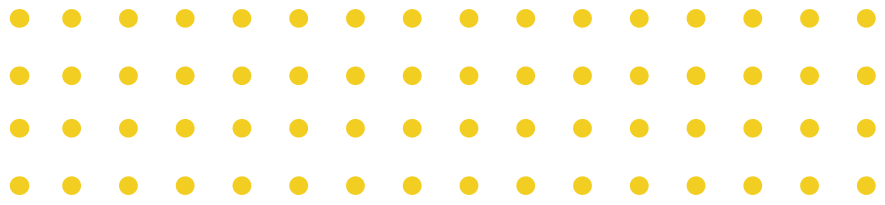
**Client: SJB Planning**

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# Executive summary

## About the proposal

Cred Consulting was engaged by SJB Planning to prepare a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) related to a proposed skate plaza at Leichardt Park (Maliyawul St) in the Lilyfield suburb in the Inner West Council local government area (LGA). This SIA will support the development of a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for Inner West Council (Council).

## Site context

The subject site of the proposal is an approximately 2,600m<sup>2</sup> (0.26ha) section of Leichardt Park. Leichardt Park is approximately 14.2ha in total and includes sports fields, community facilities, playgrounds, fitness equipment, walkways, a rowing club and an aquatic centre. The current use of the subject site is passive green space.

The subject site is located adjacent to the Parramatta River foreshore, with neighbouring uses including the popular Bay Run recreation route to the west, Leichardt Oval Number 3 to the north, Montage by Navarra Function Centre to the south, and Leichardt Park Car Park to the east.

The site is located within six minutes walking distance to Leichardt Park Light Rail Station (600m) and a bus stop at Mary St (600m), providing access to the CBD.

## The benefits of skate plazas

According to the Clearinghouse Institute for Sport, the popularity of skating in Australia is on the rise, with child and youth participation in activities such as skating, rollerblading and scootering now outnumbering participation in more traditional sport. Ausplay survey results indicate that approximately one in eight children aged under 15 participate in skating (including skateboarding, rollerblading and roller skating). Research indicates that skate parks/ plazas have significant social, health and wellbeing benefits for individuals and communities including:

- Provides for an affordable activity and caters to multiple sports including skateboard, scooter, bmx and rollerblading
- Supports healthy and active lifestyles for children and young people, helping to address declining physical activity levels and increasing obesity in Australian children, and
- Increases patronage to local businesses and activates spaces, which can make surrounding areas safer and reduce criminal behaviour.

## Strategic context

Across levels of government, strategic documents point to the need for increased public spaces for recreation to support the ongoing health and wellbeing of communities, including young people.

At the local government level, the need for an additional skate park to service the Inner West LGA has been identified by Council, including in the Inner West Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West (2018), which applies industry benchmarks from Parks and Leisure Australia to establish the need for one (1) additional skate park to service forecast population growth to 2026.

## Population context

The Lilyfield suburb is characterised by a very high proportion of children and young people, with nearly one in four residents aged under 18 years old (24.7%), compared to the average across the Inner West LGA (17.6%) and Greater Sydney (22.1%). This relatively young demographic profile indicates a need for access to child and youth recreation spaces that could be catered to through the proposed skate plaza.

With significant population growth forecast for Lilyfield and surrounding suburbs, the number of children and young people aged under 18 years is set to increase slightly (+8 people by 2031 and +166 by 2041).

## Findings from community engagement

Inner West Council has delivered a number of community engagement events relating to the Plan of Management for Leichardt Park with specific consultation around the proposed skate plaza at this site. Overall, findings from previous consultations indicate strong support for increased child and youth recreation spaces across the Inner West. While there is general consensus that there is a need for a skate park in the Leichardt Ward, there are varying levels of support for one at Leichardt Park, with concerns raised about potential impacts on traffic congestion, amenity, loss of trees and green space, noise and safety. In particular, concerns were raised by La Montage (venue neighbouring the site) regarding potential impacts on its operations as a function centre.



## Skate parks in the Inner West

There is currently a total of four (4) skate parks located within the Inner West LGA. Only the Whites Creek Valley Park is located within a 2km radius of the subject site, and none are located within 800m.

Radial mapping shows that there are pockets of the LGA that do not have easy access to existing skate parks including suburbs close to Lilyfield such as Rozelle, Balmain, Balmain East and Birchgrove. Although these suburbs are characterised by an older age profile with relatively fewer children and young people, there is a need to ensure that the future skate plaza at Lilyfield is well-connected with active transport links with these under-serviced areas.

## Social impact assessment

Overall, our assessment finds that the proposed skate plaza will have significant positive social impacts for the Lilyfield community that outweigh any potential negative impacts.

A full Social Impact Assessment is provided in the table overpage.

Potential positive impacts of the proposed skate plaza include:

- Provides increased active recreational space to support the health and wellbeing of Lilyfield's high proportion of children and young people
- Responds to a forecast undersupply of one skate park across the Inner West LGA to 2026, as identified in the Inner West Recreation Needs Study and based on Parks and Leisure Australia industry benchmarks
- Responds to previous and ongoing engagement with local young people who have sought a skate park in this part of the Inner West LGA for almost ten years, and
- Expands the recreational offer and amenity at Leichhardt Park and along the popular Bay Run, further activating the site and providing opportunities for increased sense of place through potential public artworks.

While the development of the skate plaza will result in the loss of approximately 0.26ha passive green space and net twenty trees, this assessment finds that the potential benefits of an additional active recreation space to support the recreation needs of Lilyfield's high proportion of children and young people outweigh this loss, with a significant amount of passive green space available to the community in Leichhardt Park and nearby Callan Park.

Table 1 - Social Impact Assessment Analysis

| Potential social impact   | Type     | Proposed mitigation or enhancement measure  |
|---|----------|---|
| The proposed skate plaza will service the recreation needs of the Lilyfield suburb population which is characterised by a very high proportion of children and young people aged under 18 compared to the Inner West LGA (24.7% vs. 17.6%).   | Positive | There are opportunities to involve young people in the design and delivery of the new skate plaza, as well as possible upgrades in the future, which will provide a sense of ownership and care for the facility including community drives to paint the plaza etc.   |
| The proposed skate plaza will support positive health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people by providing an affordable recreation space that can support healthy active lifestyles and socialising.  | Positive | There are opportunities to provide inclusive recreation opportunities through the design of the proposed skate plaza, including the provision of accessible skate infrastructure to support participation by children and young people with disability.   |
| The proposed skate plaza provides opportunities for an increased sense of place within this section of Leichhardt Park, including opportunities for public art reflecting local character.  | Positive | None required, this is being delivered through the proposal.  |
| The proposed skate plaza aligns with the identified need for an additional skate park to service the Inner West LGA, as per the 2018 Inner West Recreation Needs Study.   | Positive | None required.  |
| The proposed skate plaza is located within Leichhardt Park, which provides for a variety of recreation uses, and is adjacent to the popular Bay Run recreation route.<br><br>As per the recent NSW Public Spaces Charter - "Can I get there, Can I play; Can I Stay" it is best practice to locate new recreation facilities in close proximity to other recreation uses.   | Positive | Ensure visual and physical connections are maintained with the future Leichhardt Oval Number and the Bay Run.   |
| The proposal activates the park increasing passive and active surveillance in the area and lower levels of reported crime in the area.  | Positive | None required.  |
| The Proposal includes new lighting (4m high pedestrian lighting and 12m high lighting pole with 3nos LED floodlights ) which will result in improved recreational and safety outcomes for night use of the park.  | Positive | None required.  |
| The skate plaza would result in the loss of approximately 0.26 ha passive green space. However, this assessment finds that the potential benefits of an additional active recreation space to support the recreation needs of Lilyfield's high proportion of children and young people outweigh this loss, with a significant amount of passive green space available to the community in Leichhardt Park and nearby Callan Park. | Neutral  | None required.  |
| Construction of the skate plaza would result in the removal of at least twenty trees. However, the proposal includes the replanting of 10 new trees along with landscaped shrubbery in the area.  | Negative | Even though the skate plaza proposes the replanting of 10 new trees, it will result in the net loss of 20+ trees in the area. As part of post approval management plan, ensure that additional trees are re-planted within the LGA to preserve green cover in the area.<br><br>Some of the proposed trees are recommended to be planted to act as a visual and noise buffer separating it from function centre nearby. It should be noted that this is being delivered by the proposal. |
| The subject site is located approximately 600-700m (6 minutes) to the Leichhardt Rail Station and the bus stop at Mary Street, providing connections to the CBD.  | Neutral  | It will be important to ensure clear and safe wayfinding routes and signage from public transport nodes to the skate plaza.   |
| The proposed skate plaza is located adjacent to the Leichhardt Oval Number 3 which is used for sporting games. It is important to plan for a clear separation of uses and to mitigate safety concerns by ensuring that balls cannot fly into the skate plaza area.  | Neutral  | Ensure clear separation of skate plaza and sportsfield.   |



# 1. Introduction

SJB Planning is preparing a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for Inner West Council on the construction of the Lilyfield Skate Plaza that forms part of the Leichardt Oval.

To inform the REF, Cred Consulting was engaged by SJB Planning to prepare a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) of the proposed skate plaza at Leichardt Park.

This report provides an assessment of the likely social impacts and makes recommendations on how the development can achieve social sustainability, create its own sense of place, and respect the existing character of the site and surrounding community, and deliver public benefits for the broader LGA.

## 1.1. What is Social Impact Assessment?

SIA is a research methodology for predicting and assessing the social consequences of a proposed action or initiative, on affected groups of people and on their way of life chances, health, and culture. This includes those people living in a community already, and the new incoming population.

This SIA has been completed in accordance with requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Sec 79C(1), the Planning Institute of Australia's Social Impact Position Statement.

This SIA assesses the positive and negative impacts of the proposal, and how any positive impacts can be enhanced and negative impacts mitigated.

## 1.2. Methodology

This study has been undertaken using the following methodology:

- Review of the strategic context, including Council strategies and plans such as the Inner West Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West, and NSW Strategies and Plans such as Better Places, and the Public Space Charter
- Desktop analysis of current community profile, (based on 2016 ABS data and population forecast data as detailed in profile/forecast.id) and implications for the demand for a skate plaza in this location
- Review of previous consultation completed by Inner West Council to inform the Leichhardt Park Plan of Management and Master Plan, and to inform the Inner West Recreation Needs Study.
- Audit of skate parks in proximity to the site, and relevant social infrastructure and open space.
- Analysis of social impacts in accordance with PIA Policy Statement, and
- Recommendation of enhancement and mitigation measure to address identified impacts.

### 1.3. About the subject site

#### About the subject site and current use

The subject site is located within Leichhardt Park, 70 Mary Street, Lilyfield NSW 2040 and approximately 2,600m<sup>2</sup> (0.26ha) in size. Leichhardt Park which is approximately 14.2ha in total includes sports fields, community facilities, playgrounds, fitness equipment, walkways, a rowing club and an aquatic centre. The subject site is currently occupied by passive green space.

#### Neighbouring and nearby uses

The subject site is located adjacent to the Parramatta River foreshore, with neighbouring uses including the popular Bay Run recreation route to the west, Leichhardt Oval Number 3 to the north, Montage by Navarra Function Centre to the south (21m and separated by a car park), and Leichhardt Park Car Park and Leichhardt Park Children's Centre to the east.

Other notable recreation activities in close proximity include the Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre (400m north-east) and Leichhardt Oval sporting grounds (200m north-east).

#### Access to transport

The site is located approximately 600m from the Leichhardt North Light Rail Station. Sydney Buses provide services from Perry St and Mary St stops which are approximately 600m from the subject site. Routes that depart from this stop include Five Dock to City QVB via City West Link, Bondi Junction to Rozelle, Campsie to Balmain via Leichardt, Canterbury Station to Sydney Secondary College, Balmain Campus and Fort Street High to Balmain Gladstone Pk1. The area is also accessible by on road cycle routes.

#### Safety

Crime and safety data from NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research indicates that there is currently a very low rate of incidences of assault and robbery in the area surrounding the subject site (2019-2020).

Figure 1 - Dotted outline shows indicative location of the proposed Leichardt Skate Plaza (source:six maps)





Figure 2 - Looking towards the South boundary of the subject site (Google Maps, 2021)



Figure 3 - Looking towards the Eastern boundary of the subject site (Google Maps, 2021)



Figure 4 - Looking towards the subject site, (Google Maps, 2021)



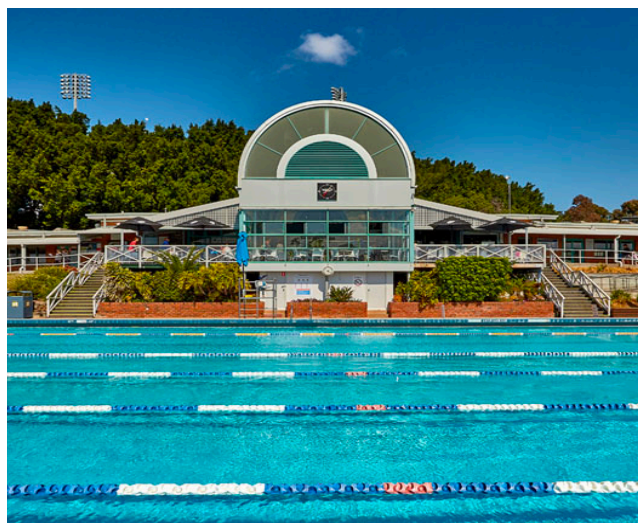
Figure 5 - Looking towards La Montage which is 20m from the subject site (EventConnect, 2021)



Figure 6 - Leichardt Park Playground australia247.info, 2021) Park Playground



Figure 7 - Leichardt Park Aquatic Centre which is located North East from the subject site (Inner West Council, 2021)



## 1.4. About the proposed skate plaza

The proposed skate plaza (designed by Enlocus) is to include:

- A quarter pipe (deep dish)
- Seating areas
- Lighting (4m high pedestrian lighting and 12m high lighting pole with 3nos LED floodlights).
- A bespoke shelter
- Car parking spaces (x10)
- Rubbish bins
- 3 garden beds (containing 10 native trees), and
- Drinking fountain.

The overall plan is shown in Figure 8.

Figure 8 - Overall Skate Plaza Plan (Enlocus, 2022)







## 2. Skate plazas: participation trends and benefits

### 2.2. Participation trends

Research from the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) indicates that participation in recreation (both sport and non-sport physical activities) is changing as our lifestyles, communities and urban environments change. The most significant trend in recreation participation in Australia in recent years is a move to informal, unstructured recreation activities rather than traditional organised sport (i.e. mid-week training session and weekend match games with a formal club). This trend aligns with the increasing popularity of individualised and informal ‘lifestyle sports’ such as skating, skateboarding, bmx and scootering.

The Clearinghouse for Sport has identified the rise of ‘alternative sport culture’ (including skateboarding) as a megatrend in recreation participation in Australia that will continue to shape planning for the future. Their report “The Future of Australian Sport” states that skateboarding is a lifestyle sport experiencing a rapid surge in popularity and that on average, two skate parks per week have been built in Australia since 2005 indicating a growing demand.

Findings from the ASC AusPlay survey (2020-2021) indicate that approximately one in eight children (12.5%) aged under 15 years participate in skating (which includes skateboarding, roller blading and roller skating), with a higher proportion of boys participating (8.2%) compared to girls (4.3%).

### 2.1. The social, health and wellbeing benefits of skate plazas

Skateparks provide a vital space for people to stay active and be a part of a community. In cities around the world, well designed skateparks have proven to be valuable community assets with tremendous benefits<sup>1</sup>.

#### Benefits for healthy and active lifestyles

Providing our youth with a wide range of physical activities to choose from is essential because it allows them to find a form of exercise they can excel at and continue doing.

The ABS reports that youth participation in activities such as skateboarding and scootering now outnumbers participation in more traditional sport, with up to 21 per cent of Australian young people estimated to engage in skating<sup>2</sup>.

Similarly, a report to the Australian Sports Commission noted the rising popularity of skateboarding and a shift towards less formally organised recreational activity.

Growing concerns about the alarming rates of obesity, physical inactivity and screen use among young people, would suggest that skateboarding should be encouraged – not sanctioned.

It should be noted that skateboarding ticks many boxes in delivering quality recreational and social outcomes. There is no fee, uniform or coach required, and it can be paced to your own ability or level of coordination.

#### Skate plazas activate public spaces

A professionally-designed and well maintained skate plaza can bring new life into the community. Facilitating the community to engage in outdoor activities not only adds to a community's social vibrancy but also contributes to safety by having more “eyes on the street”.

Conversely, deserted streets and public places erode perceptions of safety and are more likely to engender undesirable activity. Skateboarding can thus help “activate” public places.

<sup>1</sup> [ckecommunity.com](https://ckecommunity.com)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Products/62EF29AC7C6F95DDCA257AD9000E260D?opendocument>

## Benefits for mental health

Global research shows that skateboarding is a unique activity because it combines extreme physical exertion with precise muscle coordination and balance. The complexity of performing tricks on a skateboard improves brain function at a fundamental level and stimulates new cell growth in the brain<sup>3</sup>.

In the book 'The Revolutionary Science of Exercise and the Brain', John J. Ratey, a professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, states that children who regularly exercise perform better in school and are able to learn more effectively than their peers who do not consistently exercise. He also says that the combination of challenging the brain and the body that skateboarding offers has a greater positive impact than aerobic exercise alone.

Although the development of skate parks are often opposed by nearby residents and businesses because of fears of antisocial behaviour, researchers from the University of WA's Centre for Built Environment and Health found that skate parks encouraged positive behaviour in teenagers. A survey on young skaters who frequented a central skate park in Perth drew almost 400 responses (including non-skaters), almost all reporting positive behaviours.<sup>3</sup>

*"Skate parks are a powerful setting in which young people can learn the arts of co-operation, negotiation and compromise informally, in contrast to via the structured rules of organised sports," Associate Professor Lisa Wood said.*

By building public skateparks, a city has the opportunity to ensure the health and well-being of the community's children and teenagers, both physically and mentally.

## Public gathering places build social skills

Engaging outdoor environments such as a skateparks are great places for children to interact with one another and build vital social and interpersonal skills.

Social skills are important building block for resilience. They include skills for making and keeping friends, sorting out conflict, and working well in teams or groups. When children develop good relationships doing activities together, they have more chances to develop connections and a sense of belonging.

## Skate parks make our young people feel welcome and valued

For younger children, playgrounds are visual signals of their inclusion in community, but teens and youth often feel they are viewed warily in the public realm. Adults might associate young people "hanging out" with loitering or time wasting, but for adolescents particularly, it's a vital part of their social development.

Building skate parks signals to the young people in the local community that they are a valued part of the community, and it aids in their social development, confidence and building overall resilience.

A well-designed city has something to offer for everyone. Converse to popular belief that skate parks are only for teens, skate parks are also used highly by young children, their moms and dads. This indicates that skate parks are places of gathering for a significant population of our communities.

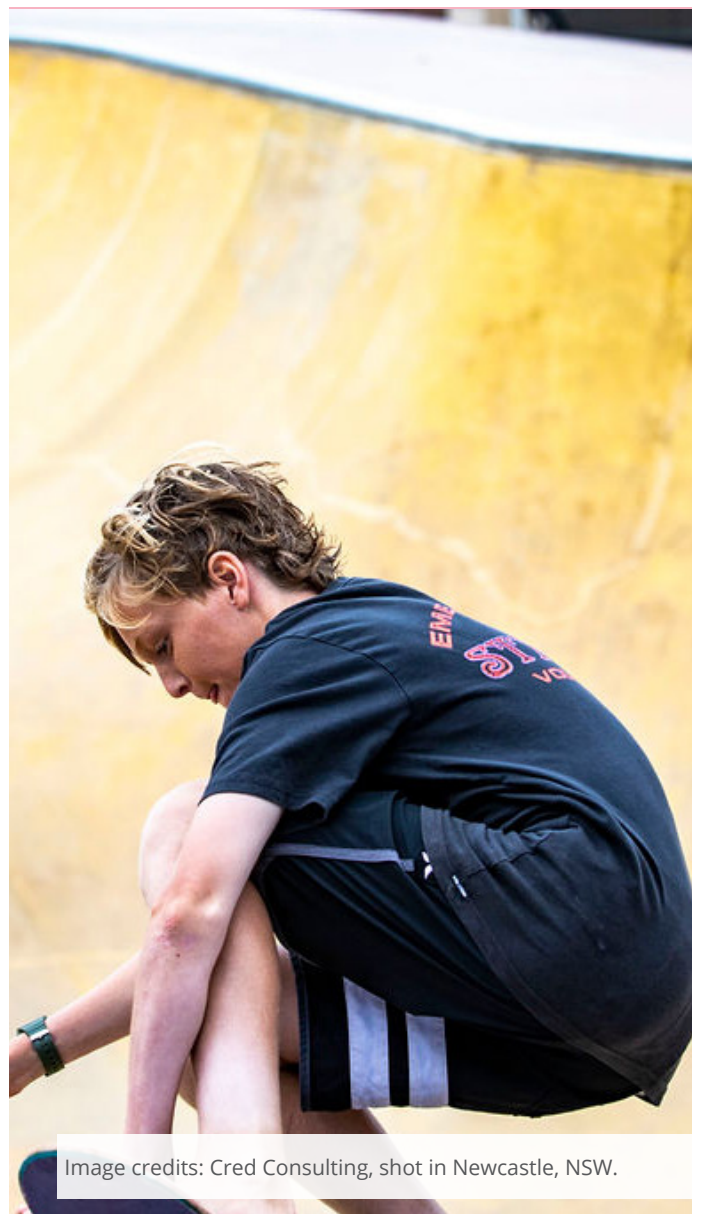


Image credits: Cred Consulting, shot in Newcastle, NSW.

<sup>3</sup> <https://thewest.com.au/news/australia/skate-parks-good-influence-on-teens-ng-ya-369256>





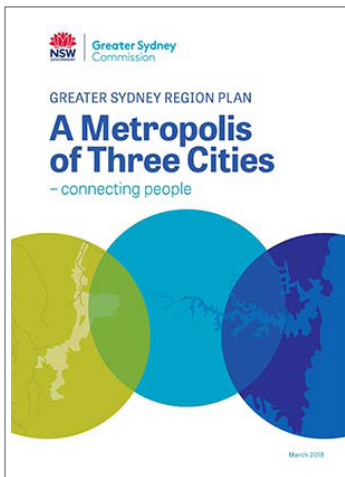
Image credits: Cred Consulting, shot in Newcastle, NSW.

## 3. Strategic context

This section provides a summary of the strategic plans and policies that relate to the proposed stake park.

### 3.1. State & regional

#### Greater Sydney Commission District Plan - A metropolis of three cities, GSC, 2017

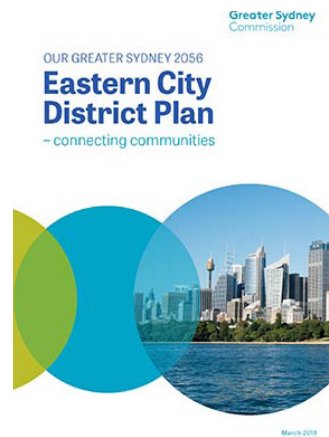


The Greater Sydney Region Plan: A Metropolis of Three Cities is built on a vision where people live within 30 minutes of their jobs, education and health facilities, services and great places. The Plan seeks to transform Greater Sydney into a metropolis of three cities – the Western Parkland City; Central River City and the Eastern Harbour City, guided by ten strategic directions. Relevant directions include:

- A city for people. Celebrating diversity and putting people at the heart of planning
- A city of great places. Designing places for people
- A city supported by infrastructure and supporting new developments

Specifically the plan talks about creating communities that are 'healthy resilient and socially, connected' (objective 7). The plan emphasises that infrastructure and services are required for socially connected communities and these include "playgrounds, libraries" and infrastructure recognises that infrastructure (such as skate plazas) can "allow spontaneous social interaction and community cultural life" (pp.55).

#### Greater Sydney commission district plan - Eastern city district plan, GSC, 2017



This Eastern City District Plan is a 20-year plan to manage growth in the context of economic, social and environmental matters to achieve the 40-year vision of Greater Sydney. It is a guide for implementing the Greater Sydney Region Plan, A Metropolis of Three Cities, at a district level. The Planning priorities relevant to this report include:

- Planning Priority E3: Providing services and social infrastructure to meet people's changing needs
- Planning Priority E4: Fostering healthy, creative, culturally rich and socially connected communities
- Planning Priority E6: Creating and renewing great places and local centres and respecting the District's heritage.

## Better Placed, Government Architect

'Better Placed' is a design led NSW Government policy intent upon guiding the delivery of world-class planning and design outcomes. The policy establishes 7 principles for the built environment:

1. Contextual, local and of its place.
2. Sustainable, efficient and durable.
3. Equitable, inclusive and diverse.
4. Enjoyable, safe and comfortable.
5. Functional, responsive and fit for purpose.
6. Value-creating and cost effective, and
7. Distinctive, visually interesting and appealing.

## Everyone Can Play

'Everyone Can Play' is a set of design principles and best practice recommendations for play spaces in NSW, focusing on inclusive play spaces. An inclusive play space invites people of all ages, abilities and cultures to come together to socialise and thrive. The principles focus on addressing three questions:

- Can I get there?
- Can I play?
- Can I stay?

## Greener Places, Government Architect NSW

'Greener Places' is a NSW Government policy that acknowledges the fundamental role that green infrastructure will play in ensuring community sustainability moving into the future. Adopting a strategic approach to greening, the policy outlines 4 guiding principles,

1. Integration: green infrastructure, urban development and Grey infrastructure.
2. Connectivity: creating a network of open spaces.
3. Multi-functionality: establishing multiple ecosystems.
4. Participation: involve stakeholders.

## Public Spaces Charter, DPIE, 2020

The Draft NSW Public Spaces Charter has been developed by the NSW Department of Planning Industry and Environment (DPIE) to support the planning, design, management and activation of public spaces in NSW. The Charter defines public spaces as all places publicly owned or of public use, accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without a profit motive.

The Charter identifies ten principles for quality public space, including Principle 6, which emphasises the importance of supporting healthy and active environments that refresh our spirits through public spaces that: are accessible; are well connected to support walking and cycling; include spaces and facilities for physical activities such as sports and recreation as well as tranquil places for sitting and relaxing; integrate elements of play for people of all ages; and are flexible and multi functional to support different activities.

*Public spaces like our parks, museums, libraries and high streets connect us to our communities, bring us closer to nature, make us healthier and happier, provide places for celebration and help businesses to prosper.*

- Draft NSW Public Spaces Charter, NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, November, 2020





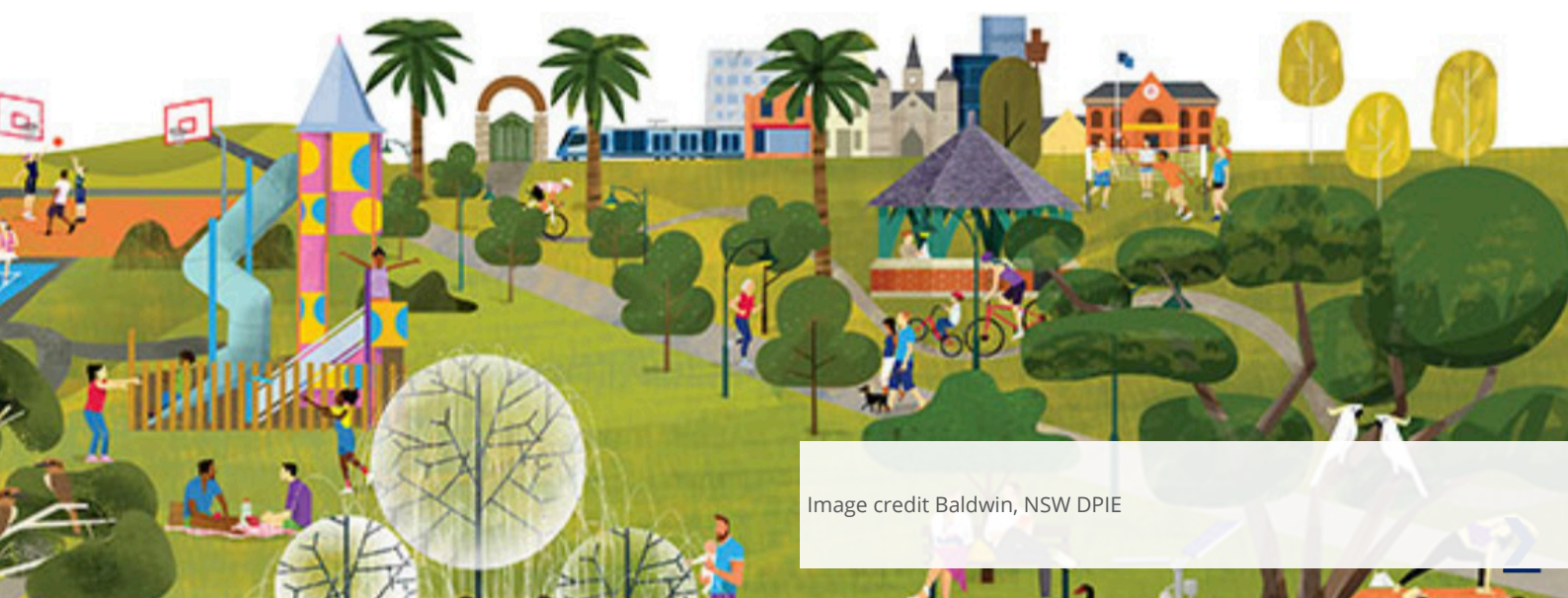


Image credit Baldwin, NSW DPIE

### Great Public Spaces Guide & Evaluation Tool for Public Space and Public Life, DPIE

The Great Public Spaces Guide provides guidance on the definitions and values relating to great public spaces. It identifies that there are four indicators of a great public space including , locale, purpose, and place attachment.

The four questions that follow can help us evaluate the quality of public space and public life. They can also help identify whether a place is doing well and areas for improvement.

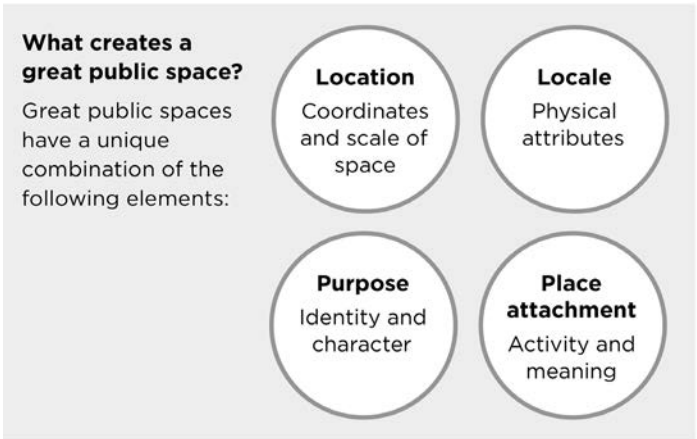


Figure 12 - Commitments to connecting with Country (source: Draft Connecting with Country, Government Architect NSW)

### Great public Spaces Evaluation Tool for Public Space and Public Life

This tool can assist in evaluating what is working well and what could be improved in your public space. The tool draws on research and globally renowned methodologies by Gehl and Project for Public Spaces amongst others.

The tool emphasises that the quality of a public space is just as important as access to public space, as quality makes people feel safe, welcome and included. Quality is not only reflected in a public space’s physical form— how it’s designed, maintained and integrated with its environment— but also through the activities it supports and the meaning it holds.



Figure 13 - Great Public Spaces Evaluation Questions (source: NSW Government Great Public Spaces Guide, 2021)



## Great public facilities

Public facilities contribute to community identity, inclusion and cohesion. Access to high-quality and free services has a direct impact on the social and economic wellbeing of citizens.

**Ideas and opportunities to help create great public facilities include:**

| Am I able to get there?  | Am I able to play and participate?   | Am I able to stay?  | Am I able to connect?   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- People of all abilities have access to facilities</li> <li>- Connected and accessible by walking, cycling and public transport</li> <li>- Clear signage and centrally located wayfinding</li> <li>- Located in the heart of neighbourhoods</li> <li>- Extended opening hours</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Magnets for information and ideas exchange</li> <li>- Vibrant artistic and cultural activities</li> <li>- Facilities for diverse education programs</li> <li>- Opportunities for events, exhibitions and sporting activities</li> <li>- Open, playful, creative or peaceful spaces</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcoming, inclusive, safe, like community 'living rooms'</li> <li>- Wi-fi and computer access</li> <li>- Equitable access to educational services and materials</li> <li>- A place to gather and interact or for individual pursuits</li> <li>- Collaborate, work or study</li> <li>- Access to community spaces</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community participation online and in-person</li> <li>- A positive and joyful environment</li> <li>- Discover local, historic and contemporary cultural stories</li> <li>- Participate in activities and networks</li> <li>- Share knowledge and skills</li> </ul> |

## Great open spaces

Quality open spaces make for liveable, sustainable and healthy neighbourhoods. They provide us with places to exercise, play, rest, participate in social activities, and contribute to healthy, happy and resilient communities.

**Ideas and opportunities to help create great open spaces include:**

| Am I able to get there?  | Am I able to play and participate?  | Am I able to stay?   | Am I able to connect?   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- People can easily access and move through the place</li> <li>- A short walk from homes and places of work</li> <li>- Multiple entry points</li> <li>- Near public transport</li> <li>- People can access it by walking or riding a bike</li> <li>- Equitable and accessible footpath network</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Diversity of affordable activities</li> <li>- Inclusive play spaces for all ages, abilities and backgrounds</li> <li>- Spaces for respite or relaxation</li> <li>- Event spaces and facilities</li> <li>- Places for community groups and clubs</li> <li>- Sport and recreational facilities for health and wellbeing</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enjoyable places to sit in the sun or shade</li> <li>- Trees and plants for shade and comfort</li> <li>- Feels safe day and night</li> <li>- Sustainably maintained, clean and healthy environments</li> <li>- Places protected from the weather</li> <li>- Public and accessibility toilets and changing facilities</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promotes positive social interactions</li> <li>- Inspires community stewardship and connection to Country</li> <li>- Places for social gathering, with opportunities for fun and celebrating</li> <li>- Vibrant and welcoming</li> <li>- Public art, heritage and local character</li> </ul> |

## Great streets

Great streets, avenues, boulevards, squares and plazas, pavements, passages, lanes and bicycle paths are our towns' and cities' connectors. In our urban areas, they provide places where people can walk, ride a bike, socialise and add vitality to neighbourhoods, creating better places to live. Vibrant streets generate positive social, economic, cultural, and environmental outcomes.

**Ideas and opportunities to help create great streets include:**

| Am I able to get there?   | Am I able to play and participate?   | Am I able to stay?   | Am I able to connect?  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Appropriate traffic levels and speeds</li> <li>- Transport options</li> <li>- Wide footpaths and equitable access</li> <li>- Safe crossing points with tactile indicators</li> <li>- Reduced obstructions and clutter</li> <li>- Clear wayfinding and signage</li> <li>- People are protected from vehicles</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Diverse public spaces along the street</li> <li>- Play streets and shared zones</li> <li>- Interactive activities and place infrastructure</li> <li>- Places to relax and rest</li> <li>- Regular programming, events and things to do</li> <li>- Contribute to the night-time economy</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Space for business customers to wait or dine outdoors</li> <li>- Trees and plants for shade</li> <li>- Safe, clean and well-lit</li> <li>- Wide footpaths for local street character</li> <li>- Quality materials</li> <li>- Variety of businesses and services nearby</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vibrant public art, music and performance</li> <li>- Colourful flowers and plants</li> <li>- Loveable and authentic local character</li> <li>- Places of meaning and diverse public life</li> <li>- 10+ things to see, do and connect with</li> <li>- Evidence of community volunteerism</li> </ul> |



Photo of Sydney Park showing that high quality and diverse programming of parks facilitate and support active and healthy communities. (Photo source: City of Sydney)

## Draft Open Space for Recreation Design Guide, GANSW

The Draft Open Space for Recreation Design Guide provides information on how to design, plan, and implement green infrastructure in urban areas throughout NSW. The draft guide provides a consistent methodology to help State and local government, and industry create a network of green infrastructure.

The Guide responds to the Premier's Priorities: Greening our City, seeking to increase the tree canopy and green cover across Greater Sydney by one million trees by 2022; and Greener Public Spaces aiming to increase the proportion of homes in urban areas with 10 minutes' walk of quality green, open and public spaces by 10 per cent by 2023.

Strategies recommended for providing open space and recreation include:

1. Improve the provision and diversity of open space for recreation
2. Understand the demands on existing open space, and plan for open space in new and growing communities
3. Improve the quality of open space for better parks and facilities
4. Use open space to connect people to nature
5. Link to the network of green infrastructure
6. Encourage physical activity by providing better parks and better amenity.
7. Provide open space that is multifunctional and fit for purpose
8. Design versatile, flexible spaces
9. Consider life cycle costs, management and maintenance.

### *The Design Guide advocates for quality of open space over quantum of open space*

The Government Architect has noted in its Draft Open Space for Recreation Design Guide that **planning that relies on a spatial standard such as 2.8 ha /1000 people is not effective without high levels of quality control** and often works against opportunities for multiple use and innovative solutions, particularly in high density urban areas (such as the subject site) in small sites. A large amount of poor quality open space may not meet a community's needs as well as a smaller, high quality open spaces.

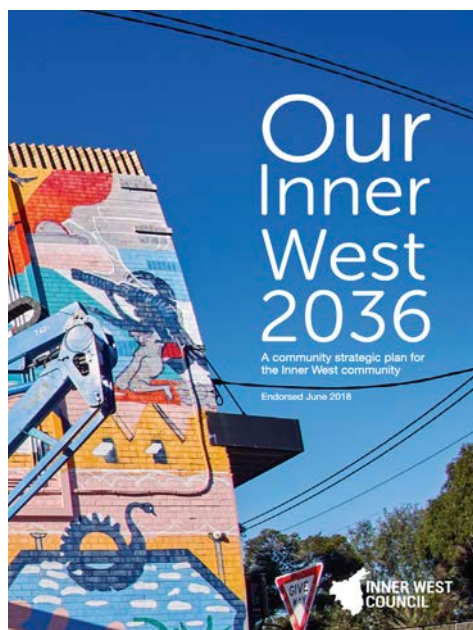
Evidence from around the world indicates a focus on quality and accessibility to open space including active recreation areas, green streets, walking and cycling infrastructure will deliver improved health, social cohesion, vibrant local economies, productivity, and environmental benefits.

The Guidelines further note that the quality of open space is key to its usability and attractiveness. Quality indicators can include for example:

- Amenity (e.g. maintenance, noise, facilities and equipment, aesthetics)
- Access (visual and physical access, disability access)
- Safety
- Size, shape and topography, and
- Vegetation and setting.



### Community Strategic Plan, Inner West Council, Inner West Council, 2018



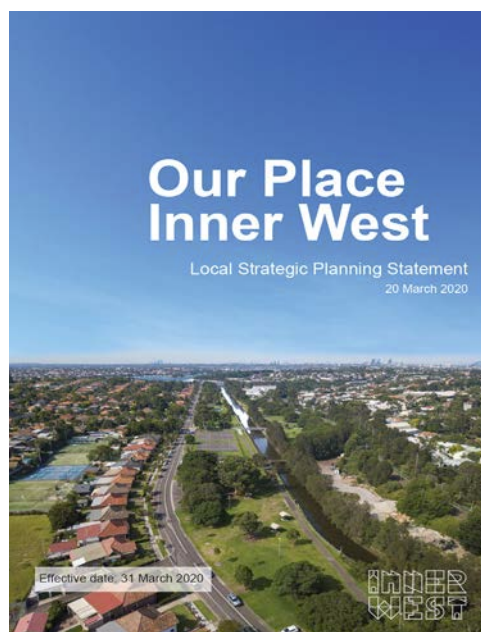
The Our Inner West - A community strategic plan for the Inner West community (2019) the (CSP) is the highest level strategic document that establishes the strategic direction for the Inner West for the next 10 years.

The vision is “We are Inner West, land of the Gadigal and Wangal peoples, whose rich cultures, heritage and history we acknowledge and respect. We are defined by our diversity of people, places and ideas. We are an inclusive, vibrant, caring and progressive community where everyone is welcome, people and nature live in harmony, and creativity is a way of life”.

The guiding principle of the strategic plan is “To work together in a way that is creative, caring and just”. Relevant directions, outcomes, strategies and indicators that relate to the SIA include:

- Strategic direction 2: Unique, liveable, networked neighbourhoods - 2.3 Public spaces are high-quality, welcoming and enjoyable places, seamlessly connected with their surroundings:
  - Plan and deliver public spaces that fulfill and support diverse community needs and life
- Strategic direction 4: Caring, happy, healthy communities: 4. The community is healthy and people have a sense of wellbeing
  - 1. Provide the facilities, spaces and programs that support wellbeing and active and healthy communities
  - 2. Provide opportunities for people to participate in recreational activities they enjoy

### Our Inner West - Local Strategic Planning Statement, Inner West Council, 2020



The Our Place Inner West – Local Strategic Planning Statement (2020) (the LSPS) is a document to guide land use planning and development for the Inner West LGA to 2036 and is informed by community values and priorities, by state government plans and by evidence based studies and strategies.

The vision is for “a place of creative, connected, sustainable and productive neighbourhoods – a vibrant, innovative and diverse as our community.”

The LSPS consists of Council’s vision and a set of planning priorities, objectives and actions under six themes, relevant planning priorities and objectives that relate to the SIA include:

- Planning Priority 11: Provide accessible facilities and spaces that support active, healthy communities
  - The community has access to a wide range of accessible high quality open spaces, community facilities, recreational and cultural spaces

## Inner West Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West, Cred Consulting, 2018



The Inner West Recreation Needs Study by Cred Consulting outlined the current and future recreation needs of the Inner West Council area.

The study found that recreation in the Inner West was characterised by an increase demand for unstructured and informal participation in a more flexible setting, declining access for children to unsupervised play, less access to sporting opportunities and concerns about safety restricting womens and girls participation.

The study found that if there was no new open space provided as the population increases, the amount of open space per person will decline from 13.3m<sup>2</sup> to 11.3m<sup>2</sup> per person in 2026, and 10.6 per person in 2036.

**The study identified that, based on industry benchmarks, by 2026 there will be a below benchmark provision of one skate park facility in the LGA.**

The six themes identified in the study include:

- Theme 1: address existing gaps in open space and recreation facilities
- Theme 2: plan for future demand for open space and recreation facilities
- Theme 3: increase capacity of existing recreation facilities
- Theme 4: streets and lane ways for walking, running, cycling and play
- Theme 5: inclusion and sharing, and
- Theme 6: connections with nature.

## Inner West Inclusion Action Plan, 2017 - 2021 , Inner West Council, 2017



### Inclusion Action Plan for People with a Disability

The Inner West Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2021 outlines an aspiration for the Inner West to be inclusive and an inclusive place where everybody can take part. It recognises that inclusive communities benefit everyone, not just those people with disability, but that it is important to provide better opportunities for people with disability to take part in all aspects of community life.

The Inclusion Action Plan defines inclusion as being heard and valued; feeling connected and belonging, taking part in a meaningful way, having choice and control in your own life and being able to find the use the support you need.





### 3.7. What does this mean for the proposal?

#### **Planning for recreation and environmental outcomes together**

- Recreation planning intersects with planning for a sustainable environment, including protecting natural spaces and biodiversity, and managing stormwater.
- The future skate plaza should incorporate additional trees and shading to mitigate urban heat island effect, and providing shade. Trees also support improved mental health and relaxation, and contribute to local character.

#### **Connected and walkable recreation facilities**

- Walkable neighbourhoods are important for people with disability, young people who are likely to walk to other areas and older people's recreation. There is a need to connect the future skate plaza to existing and planned pedestrian and cycle ways along with the provision of adequate street lighting.

#### **Recreation opportunities that are welcoming and meet the needs of a diverse community**

- Improving park safety, amenity and quality to encourage use by young people. Increase provision of multi-purpose, unstructured and social recreational facilities for young people in parks and public spaces.
- Affordable recreation opportunities such as skate plazas including mechanisms to enable people on low incomes to participate in recreational activities.
- Council parks, venues and facilities could be more friendly and inviting to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including interpretive signage, naming, and public art. The future skate plaza has the opportunity to incorporate aboriginal and first nations public art and stories.

#### **Targeted information and promotion of recreation.**

- Appropriate information and promotional material on recreational opportunities in people from culturally diverse backgrounds, and young people.

## 4. Community profile

This section provides an overview of the community profile of the existing population within the Inner West LGA and Lilyfield suburb and provides a forecast of the estimated future population resulting from the proposal and their likely characteristics, utilising data from the 2016 ABS Census obtained from profile.id and atlas.id, and forecast.id.

### 4.1. Population characteristics (2016)

#### Inner West LGA characteristics

At the time of the 2016 census, the estimated total population of the Inner West LGA, was 192,030. Compared to Greater Sydney, the Inner West LGA has a relatively much lower proportion of children and young people, including:

- A much lower proportion of children and young people aged under 18 years (17.5% compared to 22.2%)
- A lower proportion of households with children (33.3% compared to 45.8%).

#### Lilyfield suburb characteristics

At the time of the 2016 census, the estimated population of the Lilyfield suburb was 7,900.

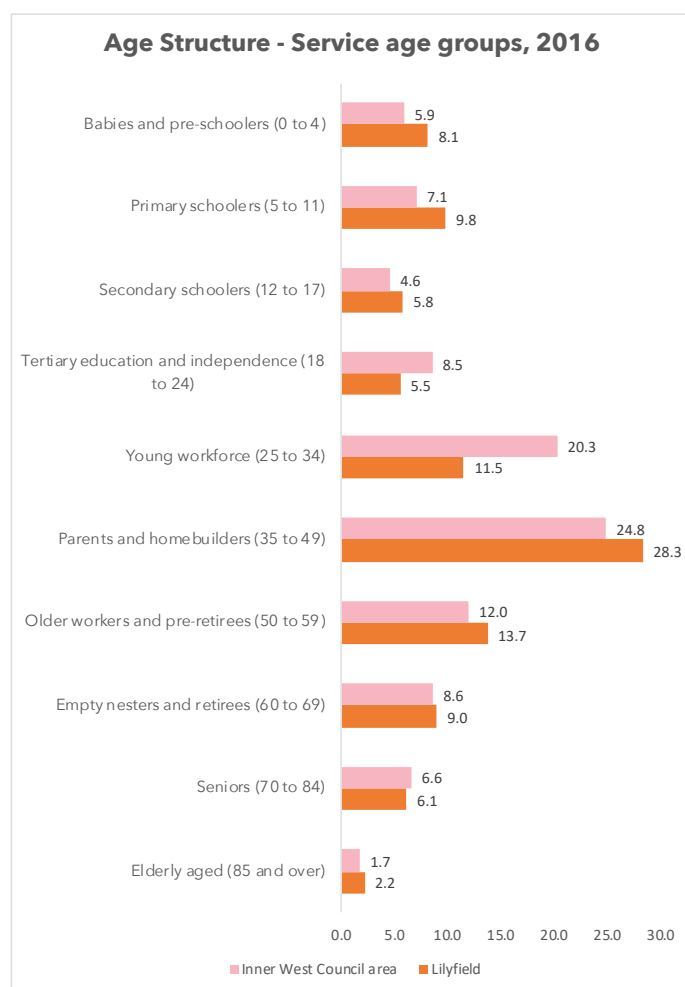
Compared to the Inner West, while Lilyfield has a higher median age (40 years), the suburb also has a relatively much higher proportion of children and young people including:

- A much higher proportion of children and young people aged under 18 years (23.7% compared to 17.5%), including:
  - 614 babies and pre-schoolers (aged 0 to 4 years)
  - 738 primary schoolers (aged 5 to 11 years), and
  - 435 secondary schoolers (aged 12 to 17 years).
- A much higher proportion of households with children (41.1% compared to 33.3%).

Between 2011 and 2016, the proportion of children and young people (aged under 18 years) in the Lilyfield suburb increased by 220 people (+14 percent), including:

- decline of 81 babies and pre-schoolers (aged 0 to 4 years)
- increase of 144 primary schoolers (aged 5 to 11 years), and
- increase of 157 secondary schoolers (aged 12 to 17 years).

This relatively young age profile indicates a need for and safe and affordable recreation spaces to support healthy active lifestyles, which will be provided through the proposed skate plaza.



## 5. Previous community engagement findings

Council exhibited the Draft Plan of Management from the 12th August 2020 to 19 October 2020. The Community feedback that related to the Lilyfield Skate Plaza included:

- Overall, there were a variety of opinions regarding the proposed Lilyfield Skate Plaza. There was consensus around the need for a skate park facility in the Leichhardt Ward
- Half the respondents felt that the skate park should be located in the Leichhardt Park, while the other half supported the skate park being moved to another location
- Respondents were concerned about increased congestion due to the proposed skate park development
- Requests were made around the addition of a skate bowl to ensure that the skate park provided an inclusive variety of skate types
- Respondents were concerned about potential user conflicts between a potential dog-off leash area located at Peace Park and the proposed skate park.
- One respondent questioned the need for a skate park and suggested that a new skate park could be located in Five Dock.

Community feedback was also sourced for the 'Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West'. The community engagement was completed for the study between 27 October 2017 and 6 March 2018. The community feedback identified ten key needs for recreation in the Inner West. The relevant needs for the skate plaza proposal include:

- Places to play for all ages and ability
- Addressing heat and providing shade
- New facilities
- Providing for and managing recreation with dog
- Safety, and
- Improving park amenities for social and passive uses, and connection to nature.

Community members and key stakeholders also reported to council concerns about the lack of consultation on the skate park project and the plan of management for Leichhardt Park. Council staff said that particular businesses, including Le Montage, were invited early on to the engagement process and contacted directly. In addition, Council also reached more than one thousand residents located around the proposed development site.



Image credits Cred Consulting



## 5.1. Media

The proposed Lilyfield Skate Plaza has attracted media attention over the years. The following section provides a summary of online newspaper articles.

An article published in 2018 called 'Skate park insanity' outlined the timeline for the Inner West Council's proposed Skate Park in the Lilyfield area. The article outlined that Council had proposed a Skate Park in (2011) and had conducted community consultation, approved design, and was lodging a development application for a skate park that was to be located in Callan Park, near Balmain Road Sporting Ground. The proposal for the skate park was met with opposition from the Heritage Council, who raised concerns about the proposed skate park negatively impacting the heritage significance of Callan Park and its heritage buildings. This was proceeded by the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), who also agreed with the Heritage Council. For the proposed skate park to be approved, the article noted that it was necessary for better communication and compromise between the OEH and Council<sup>1</sup>.

An article published in 2020 called 'Mayor's stinging comeback about Salim Mehajer's infamous wedding after a millionaire businessman launched a bid to block construction of a skate park' outlines Navarro's opposition towards the approved Lilyfield Skate Plaza. Navarro believes that the proposed skate park will

1. Hitch, M, 2018, 'Skate park insanity', <https://cityhubsydney.com.au/2018/10/skate-park-insanity/>.

negatively impact his business as it will be located 10 metres from his venue:

*"There are no public toilets, it's near residents, it's near a function centre. [But] the biggest thing for me is you're tearing down 35 trees, you're ripping up all the grass".*

The Mayor of the Inner West Dary Byrne communicated that a children's skate park would not impact and stated that:

*"Le Montage has made millions of dollars with a vista of middle-aged blokes in lycra on the Bay Run, so the idea that a children's play facility will damage the business is laughable."*

Another article released in 2020 outlined that local leaders, including the coalition of Greens, Liberal and independent and an independent Councillor were against the proposal and that the Council should find a more 'suitable location'. Negative comments about the proposed skate park's impact on the availability of green space were made<sup>3</sup>.

2. McPhee, E, 2020, 'Mayor's stinging comeback about Salim Mahajer's infamous wedding after a millionaire businessman launched a bid to block construction of a skatepark', <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9020747/Mayor-hits-function-centre-hosted-Salim-Mehajers-wedding-amid-skatepark-dispute.html>

3. Koziol, 2020, 'Millionaire who hosted Mehajer wedding fights 'unsuitable' kids' skate park', <https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/millionaire-who-hosted-mehajer-wedding-fights-unsuitable-kids-skate-park-20201204-p56kku.html>.

# Millionaire who hosted Mehajer wedding fights 'unsuitable' kids' skate park



By Michael Koziol

December 5, 2020 — 4:51pm

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A millionaire business owner who hosted Salim Mehajer's infamous wedding is attempting to block the construction of an "unsuitable" children's skate park next to his Lilyfield function centre.

Sal Navarra, the owner of Le Montage on the Iron Cove waterfront, has formed an unlikely alliance with Inner West Greens councillors who will try to overturn the skate park's approval - which was granted just last month.



## 6. Skate parks in the Inner West

This section provides an audit and mapping of existing skate parks and provides benchmarking around demand for skate parks using best practice industry standards.

### 6.1. Audit

There are four skate parks within the Inner West LGA. They are:

#### 1- Darrell Jackson Gardens

Darrell Jackson Gardens is a local area park in Summer Hill with open space and some sporting facilities as well as a skate park.

Skating facilities include 1/4 pipes w/ bowled corner, flat banks, ledges, flat bar and blocks



#### 2 - Jack Shanahan Reserve

Jack Shanahan Reserve is a large park in Dulwich Hill with various recreation facilities and open parkland.

Skating facilities include 1/4 pipes (ranging 4ft to 8ft), bowls w/ hips, ledges, bank ramps, flat bar, volcano, hubbas, fun box and a snake run with donut bowl.



#### 3 - Sydenham Green

Sydenham Green is a large public park created by Council after the Federal Government bought and demolished houses for the airport. This park boasts a state of the art skate park that hosts regular events.

Skate park facilities include 1/4 pipes, spine, wedge ramps, manual pads, handrails, flat bar, rainbow rail, benches, ledges, hubbas and a kidney pool w/ pool coping.



#### 4 - Whites Creek Valley Park

Whites Creek is a natural park with a range of facilities including a wetlands and community garden.

Skate park facilities include 1/4 pipes, box w/ ledge, flatbank, flatbar and ledge.

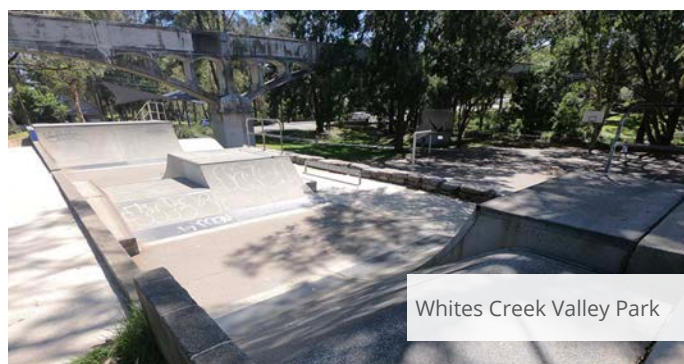
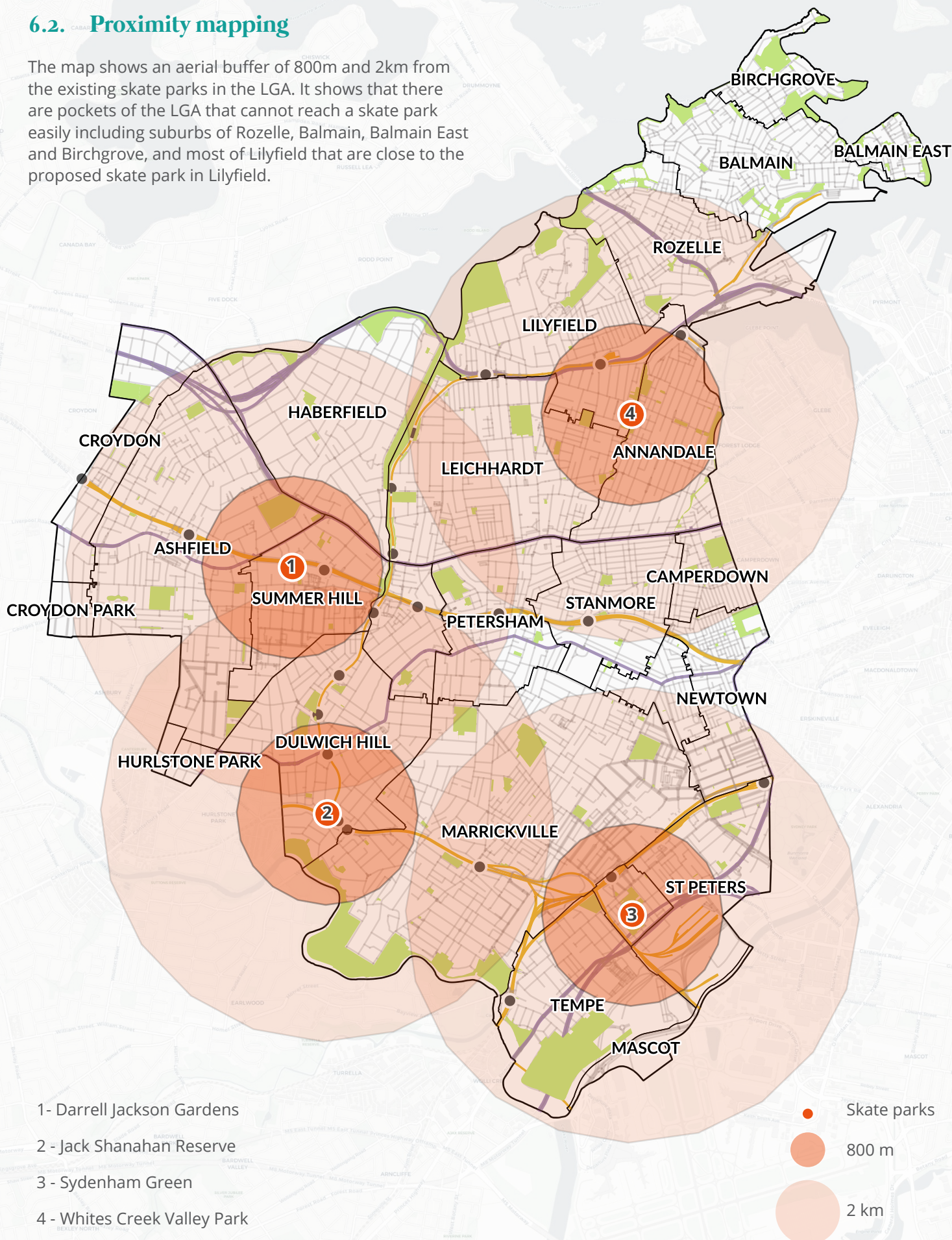




Figure 14 - Audit and proximity mapping of skate parks in Inner West LGA

## 6.2. Proximity mapping

The map shows an aerial buffer of 800m and 2km from the existing skate parks in the LGA. It shows that there are pockets of the LGA that cannot reach a skate park easily including suburbs of Rozelle, Balmain, Balmain East and Birchgrove, and most of Lilyfield that are close to the proposed skate park in Lilyfield.



## 6.4. Benchmarking

The SSROC Liveability Benchmark study recommends that local governments should plan for the supply of future recreation facilities based on maintaining the current provision of recreation facilities per person. However, in the Inner West, the current provision of some types of recreation facilities including skate parks do not meet demand, and industry benchmarks are more appropriate.

The table below shows the proposed benchmarks for skate parks, based on industry benchmarks from Parks and Leisure Australia, and on the current provision of recreation facilities per person in the Inner West LGA. The table shows that there is a current gap 1 skate park/facility in the LGA.

This need has also been identified and endorsed by Council in the Inner West Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West, 2018.

## 6.3. What does this mean for the proposal?

- Given that the Inner West population is growing, means that there are increasing and competing demands for limited recreation facilities including the 4 existing skate parks within the LGA.
- There will be a below benchmark provision of one skate park facility within the LGA by 2041.
- There are pockets of the LGA that do not have easy access to existing skating facilities including suburbs close to Lilyfield such as Rozelle, Balmain, Balmain East and Birchgrove. This indicates that the future skate plaza at Lilyfield should be well-connected with active transport links with these under serviced areas.
- The proposed skate plaza at Lilyfield will connect into the foreshore trails of Inner West including the Bay Run which expand the recreation offer in the area.

Table 2 - Recreation facility Benchmarks (Current provision) and Future Need (Source: Based on Data provided by Inner West Council)

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Benchmark: Provision per person / Parks and Leisure Australia | 1:48,000 |
| Current provision   | 4        |
| Demand based on 2016 population (192,030)                     | 4        |
| Demand based on 2036 population (226,837)                     | 5        |
| Below benchmark provision gap by 2041                         | 1        |



## 7. Social impact assessment

This section provides a summary of identified social impacts, both negative and positive, and proposes mitigation measures to address negative impacts, and opportunities to enhance positive impacts.

### 7.1. What are social impacts?

Impact assessment is a method for predicting and assessing the consequences of a proposed action or initiative before a decision is made.

Social impact Assessment (SIA) refers to the assessment of the potential social consequences (positive, negative or neutral) of a proposed decision or action .

The International Association for Impact Assessment identifies social consequences or impacts as occurring in one or more of the following areas:

- People's way of life - how they live, work, play and interact with each other
- Their culture – their shared beliefs or customs
- Their community – its cohesion, stability, character, services and facilities
- The population – including increases or decreases in population numbers and population change
- Their political systems – the extent to which people are able to participate in decisions affecting them
- Their natural and built environment
- Their health and well-being
- Social equity and quality of life
- Access and mobility
- Their personal and property rights, and
- Their fears and aspirations and safety.

### 7.2. Social impact analysis and mitigation measures

Table 2 below provides a summary of social impacts including their likelihood and their impact type. The analysis found that:

- The skate plaza will provide opportunities for community identity, character and recreational facilities for an area that has a high proportion of children and families
- The proposal will meet the needs of the Inner West as outlined in the Inner West Recreation Needs Study which sets a target of one skate park to 2036
- A loss of passive green space and trees will be caused by the proposal but this should be mitigated by planting the net loss of trees (x20 trees)
- The site has good connectivity to public transport including buses and the light rail network
- The site has good connectivity to active transport routes including bicycle routes. Wayfinding signing should be integrated into the design to ensure that active transport routes are utilised
- Skate plazas support positive health outcomes. Health and wellbeing outcomes could be further supported by providing an accessible skating bowl, and
- The proposal will further activate the site and the provision of new lighting will create more passive surveillance.

Table 3 - Social Impact Assessment Analysis

| Potential social impact   | Type     | Proposed mitigation or enhancement measure  |
|---|----------|---|
| The proposed skate plaza will service the recreation needs of the Lilyfield suburb population which is characterised by a very high proportion of children and young people aged under 18 compared to the Inner West LGA (24.7% vs. 17.6%).   | Positive | There are opportunities to involve young people in the design and delivery of the new skate plaza, as well as possible upgrades in the future, which will provide a sense of ownership and care for the facility including community drives to paint the plaza etc.   |
| The proposed skate plaza will support positive health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people by providing an affordable recreation space that can support healthy active lifestyles and socialising.  | Positive | There are opportunities to provide inclusive recreation opportunities through the design of the proposed skate plaza, including the provision of accessible skate infrastructure to support participation by children and young people with disability.   |
| The proposed skate plaza provides opportunities for an increased sense of place within this section of Leichhardt Park, including opportunities for public art reflecting local character.  | Positive | None required, this is being delivered through the proposal.  |
| The proposed skate plaza aligns with the identified need for an additional skate park to service the Inner West LGA, as per the 2018 Inner West Recreation Needs Study.   | Positive | None required.  |
| The proposed skate plaza is located within Leichhardt Park, which provides for a variety of recreation uses, and is adjacent to the popular Bay Run recreation route.<br><br>As per the recent NSW Public Spaces Charter - "Can I get there, Can I play; Can I Stay" it is best practice to locate new recreation facilities in close proximity to other recreation uses.   | Positive | Ensure visual and physical connections are maintained with the future Leichhardt Oval Number and the Bay Run.   |
| The proposal activates the park increasing passive and active surveillance in the area and lower levels of reported crime in the area.  | Positive | None required.  |
| The Proposal includes new lighting (4m high pedestrian lighting and 12m high lighting pole with 3nos LED floodlights ) which will result in improved recreational and safety outcomes for night use of the park.  | Positive | None required.  |
| The skate plaza would result in the loss of approximately 0.26 ha passive green space. However, this assessment finds that the potential benefits of an additional active recreation space to support the recreation needs of Lilyfield's high proportion of children and young people outweigh this loss, with a significant amount of passive green space available to the community in Leichhardt Park and nearby Callan Park. | Neutral  | None required.  |
| Construction of the skate plaza would result in the removal of at least twenty trees. However, the proposal includes the replanting of 10 new trees along with landscaped shrubbery in the area.  | Negative | Even though the skate plaza proposes the replanting of 10 new trees, it will result in the net loss of 20+ trees in the area. As part of post approval management plan, ensure that additional trees are re-planted within the LGA to preserve green cover in the area.<br><br>Some of the proposed trees are recommended to be planted to act as a visual and noise buffer separating it from function centre nearby. It should be noted that this is being delivered by the proposal. |
| The subject site is located approximately 600-700m (6 minutes) to the Leichhardt Rail Station and the bus stop at Mary Street, providing connections to the CBD.  | Neutral  | It will be important to ensure clear and safe wayfinding routes and signage from public transport nodes to the skate plaza.   |
| The proposed skate plaza is located adjacent to the Leichhardt Oval Number 3 which is used for sporting games. It is important to plan for a clear separation of uses and to mitigate safety concerns by ensuring that balls cannot fly into the skate plaza area.  | Neutral  | Ensure clear separation of skate plaza and sportsfield.   |

