

# Plan of Management and Master Plan

**for Mackey Park**

Revision E  
August 2023









We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which Mackey Park and the Inner West Council Area is located, the Gadigal and Wangal Peoples.



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Front cover image: looking south across the Cooks River  
Photography by Welsh + Major.

# Document Control

Date:	Revision No:	Revision details:	Approved:
02/12/2022	-	Draft issue for client review	XX
10/02/2023	A	Minor text corrections	DW
27/03/2023	B	Sections 2 and 4 combined; Leases and Licences included	DW
30/04/2023	C	Minor Amendments	DW
31/07/2023	D	Part 3: Amendments to Lease and Licencing details; Part 4: Assessment Criteria added to Objectives, Strategies and Performance Targets; other minor amendments	DW
11/08/2023	E	Part 4 renamed; Crown Land boundaries added, other minor amendments	DW

# Introduction + Executive Summary

Inner West Council have produced a Plan of Management priority list identifying which open spaces within the Inner West LGA are in greatest need of review.

In 2022, Welsh + Major were engaged by Inner West Council to develop Plans of Management and accompanying Master Plans for the seven top priority parks.

This document contains a Plan of Management and Master Plan for Mackey Park. Mackey Park is located in Marrickville and bound by Carrington Rd and Richardsons Cres. to the north, and the Cooks River to the south. The park consists of approximately 15.2 acres (6.15 hectares).

## Plan of Management

The Plan of Management [POM] is a guiding framework which directs the future vision, planning, management and use of the park. It will be used to inform the development of the park over the next ten years.

## Master Plan

The Master Plan is a design report outlining the actions required for improvement, intended to guide the physical upgrade of the site over the next ten years. It does this by suggesting how the strategies set out in the Plan of Management can be translated into site specific gestures for application to the park.

## How to use this document

Development of the POM and Master Plan involved some overlap of research and analysis. As such the POM and Master Plan were undertaken simultaneously, and are presented together within the same document.

The site has been considered and designed as a whole, but for ease and clarity within this document it has been presented as four zones.

Developing the Plan of Management and Master Plan involved the following processes:

- Policy review identifying the opportunities and constraints presented by national and local government initiatives.
- Demographic review identifying the local community profile.
- Review of site ownership and legal categorisation.
- Identification of applicable statutory conditions and legislation.
- Undertaking a detailed site analysis.
- Undertaking Community Engagement through drop in sessions and an online survey.
- Analysis of the outcomes of the Context Review, Site Analysis and Community Engagement Outcomes to develop Key Objectives and Strategies for management and action.
- Application of the physical strategies within the Draft Master Plan



## Key features of the Master Plan:

### 01 New amenities block + plaza

Replace existing amenities with new facility oriented to invite entry to the park from Carrington Road; include planted screen to Richardsons Crescent for aesthetic and acoustic benefits and create plaza in front of amenities.

02 Amenities serviced via dropped kerb on Carrington Road.

### 03 Pocket parkland

Native planting and benches tucked around existing trees

04 Remove shipping container, relocate storage to new amenities block

05 Replace untidy fence around Sydney Water plot with a neater and more permanent barrier

### 06 Expanded playground

Increase the footprint of the playground, add shade structures, benches, extend footpath through playground, relocate the fence locally around the play area

07 Additional barbecue and table, new trees for shading

08 Existing water tanks and service shed retained in place

### 09 Enhanced storm water solution

Reassess the storm water solution in this area; consider whether a naturalised Bio-retention basin would provide a more successful outcome;

### 10 Wetland platform

Cantilevered deck over the wetland with bench seats and picnic benches

11 Remove fixed fencing (shown red) around existing planted storm water zone, replace with continuous ball fence to edge of sports ground

12 Introduce low level consistent path lighting along footpaths across Mackey Park

### 13 Cooks River naturalisation

Naturalise the riparian zone of Cooks River, as and when the banks are in need of repair

14 Consult with Sydney Water to assess whether adjacent storm water drain can be naturalised

### 15 Concordia Club building upgraded or replaced

Upgrade or replace existing Concordia Club building to consolidate all services, new amenities and sports club office spaces within building footprint and create connections between sports ground and Cooks River

16 Service access retained to gas service enclosure.

17 Remove fence which separates Concordia Club from Cooks River path and sports ground

### 18 Pedestrian plaza

Accessible public plaza with benches, landscaped pockets, shared hard surface provides service access.

19 Increase width of Cooks River Path in front of plaza

20 Add benches and public picnic spots in front of plaza

### 21 Rationalised car parking

Resurface and remark car park area. Include turning circle, provide vehicle access connecting to new loading area at east side of the River Canoe Club. Alleviate potential conflicts at the node from pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicle accessing club house.

### 22 Redirected cycle path

At park entry point, separate cycle path from pedestrian path to alleviate pressure on existing 'blind' corner

23 Introduce native understorey planting

24 New cricket practice nets

25 Existing sports grounds monitored + maintained, upgraded as required

26 Existing floodlights maintained and upgraded if and when required

27 Permanent synthetic cricket pitch

28 Consolidated signage point at key park entry points, to include park map, instructional and statutory signage

29 Improved accessibility to Cooks River with a new launching facility for non- motorised watercraft

# Plan of Management Stakeholder Targets and Activities

The Plan of Management Process has a number of engagement targets both internally and externally. These Include:

## **Community and External Stakeholders:**

- The Local Inner West community
- Neighbouring properties
- Sports clubs
- User groups

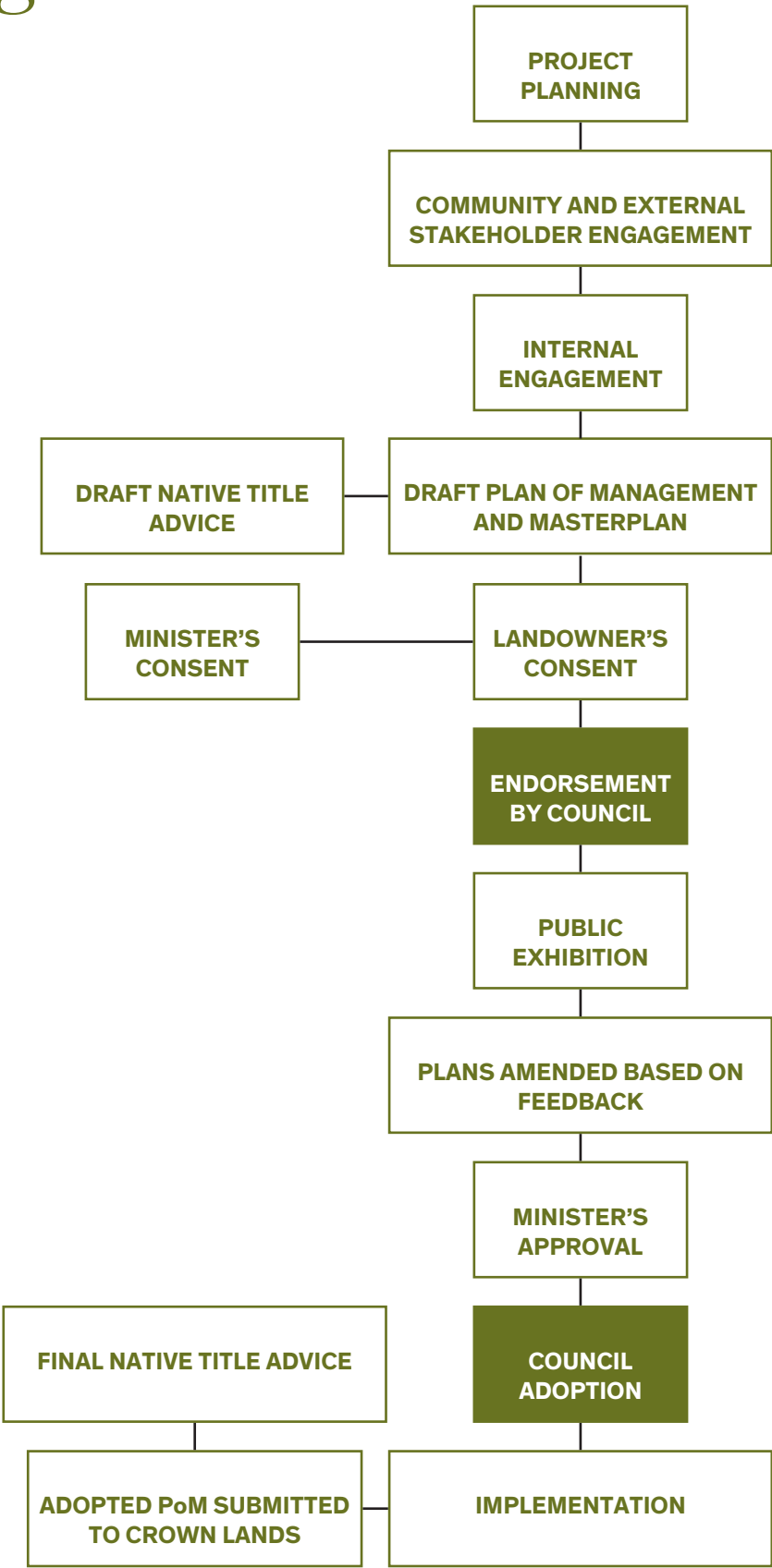
## **Activities Include:**

- Onsite drop-in sessions
- Online survey, comment, and/ or discussion

## **Internal (Council) Activities Include:**

- Internal workshops
- Online survey, comment, and/ or discussion
- Meetings, phone calls, and written submissions

# The Plan of Management Process: Stages



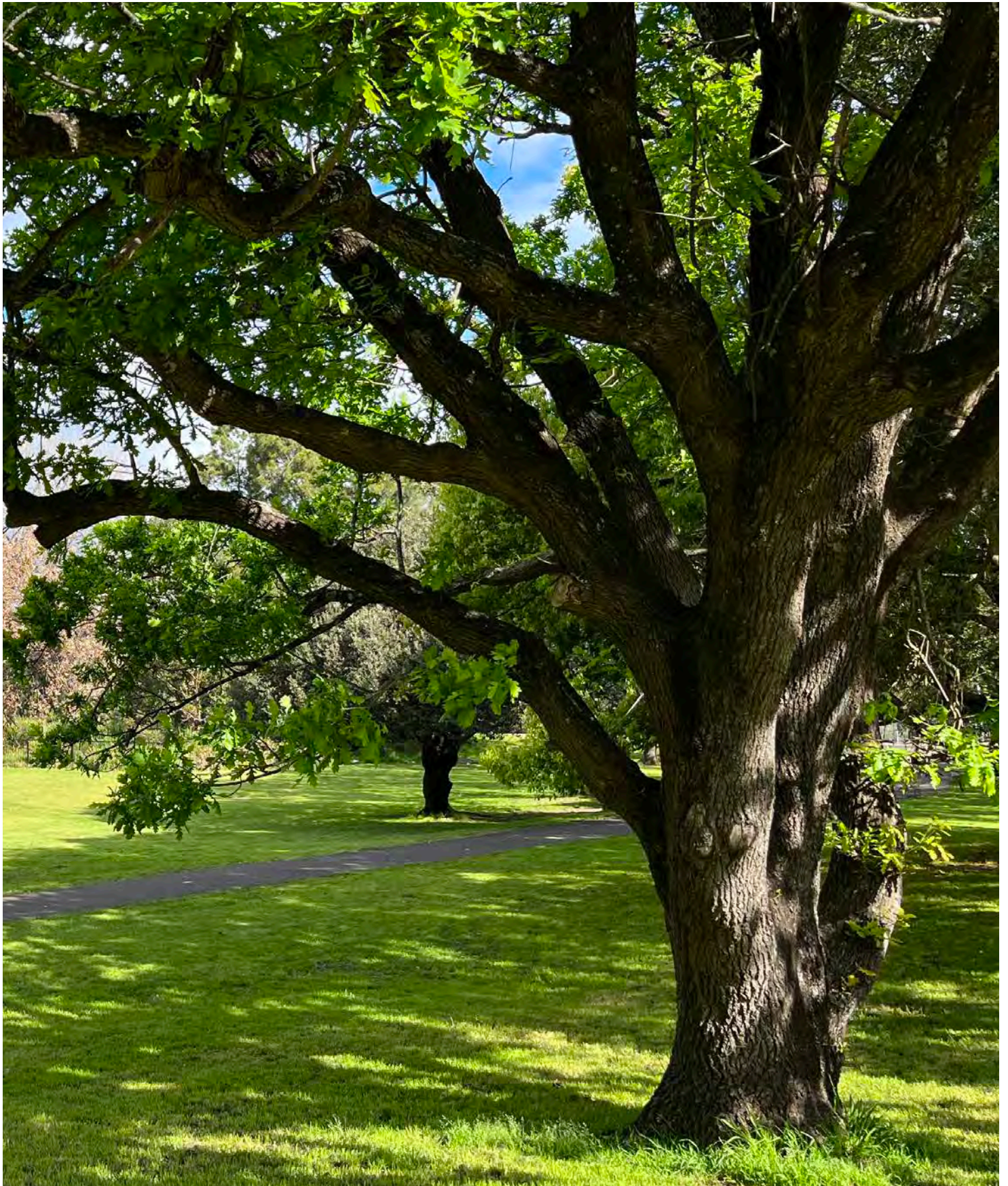


# 1.0 Context Overview



Looking east over the sports field. Photography by Welsh + Major.











# Regional Context

## Inner West Council

The Inner West Council area is located five kilometres west of the Sydney Central Business District (CBD). It was established when the former councils of Ashfield, Leichhardt and Marrickville merged in May 2016. Five wards make up the council: Ashfield, Balmain, Leichhardt, Marrickville, and Stanmore.

The Inner West Council has a resident population of 192,000 people, and spans 36km<sup>2</sup> from the banks of Parramatta River at Birchgrove in the north east, to the Cooks River at Dulwich Hill in the south west.

In total (including non-Council owned land), there is 321.6 hectares of open space within the Inner West, making up 9.1% of the total land area. Based on the 2016 population, this equates to 16.4m<sup>2</sup> of open space provision per person.

There are 278 Council-owned or controlled parks and sporting grounds, totalling 256 hectares. This makes up 7.3% of the total land area of the Inner West.

## Existing Recreational Needs and Future Projections

Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West, published in 2018 and then updated in October 2021, is a study commissioned by Inner West Council in 2018 providing an analysis of the existing parkland's within the LGA, including their current and predicted usage. The document breaks down the Inner West into 4 catchment areas to provide accurate information regarding the future needs of each catchment.

Hammond Park lies within Catchment 2 - West.

The Inner West community is expected to grow with an additional 34,815 residents projected by the year 2036. If new open space is not provided the amount of open space per person will decline from 16.4m<sup>2</sup> to 14.3m<sup>2</sup> per person within this timeframe.

Population growth will also result in additional pressure on current sporting and recreational facilities, and it is anticipated that additional facilities will be needed, and that current facilities will be required to intensify their usage to meet demand.

Based on industry benchmarks, by 2026 there will be a total gap of:

- 3 summer sporting grounds
- 5 winter sporting grounds
- 6 indoor (multipurpose) courts
- 9 outdoor (multipurpose) courts
- 0.9 indoor leisure centre (dry)
- 0.6 indoor leisure centre (aquatic)
- 0.5 skate park/facility.

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Community engagement completed for this Study investigated recreation participation in the Inner West. Local participation in recreation broadly corresponds to national and state participation trends - walking is the most popular activity at a local, state and national level.

Across the spectrum of recreation activities, people participated most often in "active recreation" activities, with 80% of survey respondents participating at least weekly.

This was followed by personal fitness, with 66% of people participating at least weekly.

In total, 4.5% of people engaged did not participate regularly (at least weekly) in recreation (of any kind), and an additional 1.4% participated regularly in "passive recreation" but not any other kind of recreation.

Figure 18 shows the most popular recreation activities across all community engagement types.



Figure 18 - Most popular recreation activities identified through community engagement completed for the Inner West Recreation Needs Study (Source: Cred Consulting, 2018)

## POPULAR INNER WEST PLACES FOR RECREATION

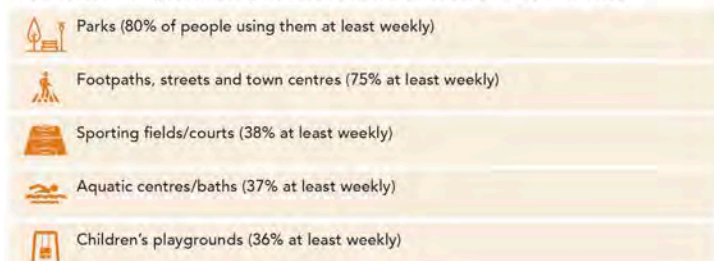
The most popular recreation spaces in the Inner West identified through a range of consultation activities:

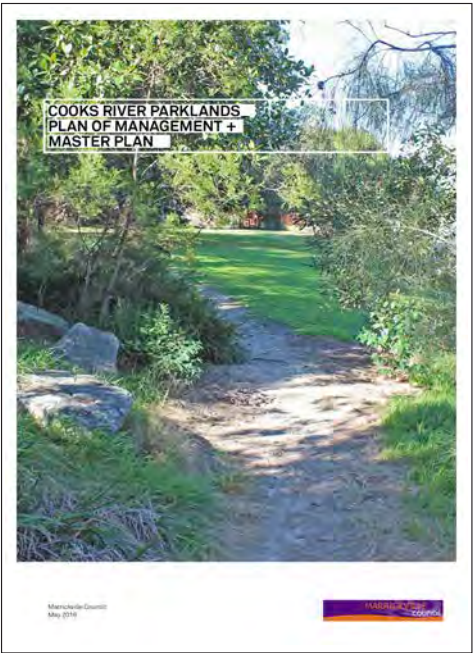
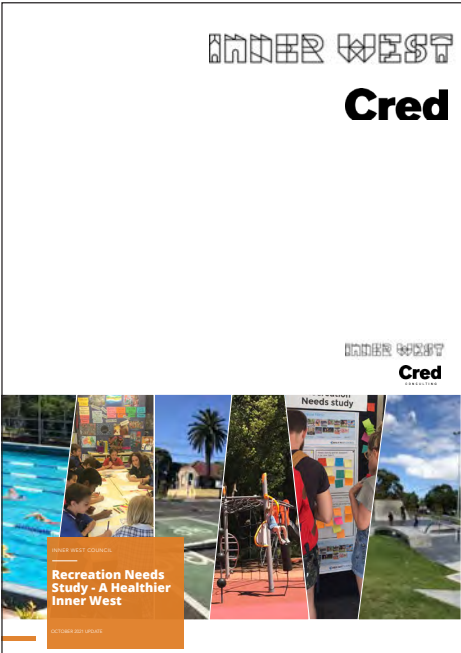
- Footpaths, streets and town centres
- Cycle paths
- Bay Run
- Cooks River foreshore path
- Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre
- Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre
- The GreenWay
- Steel Park
- Private gyms
- Hawthorne Canal/Richard Murden Reserve
- Enmore Park
- Ashfield Park

Key differences between different groups:

- Females used children's playgrounds, aquatic centres and footpaths more often, while males used cycle paths, sporting fields and courts, and the Greenway more often than females.
- People who speak a language other than English at home used all facilities less regularly than the general community.

The most common types of facility that people visited for recreation in the Inner West:





# Reviewed Documents

## **Our Inner West 2036; The Inner West Community Strategic Plan** (endorsed by council 06/2022)

This plan identifies the community's vision for the future, outlines long term goals, strategies to get there and how to measure progress towards that vision. It guides all of Council's plans, policies and budgets.

The strategic directions set out are:

- 1 - An ecologically Sustainable Inner West
- 2 - Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport
- 3 - Creative communities and a strong economy
- 4 - Healthy, resilient and caring communities
- 5 - Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

Among the stated aims, those which apply directly to the regeneration of public parkland are to increase community satisfaction with: connected natural areas + increased biodiversity, improved health of waterways, public infrastructure which fulfils the needs of diverse communities, safe networks of transport.

## **Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West**

Cred Consulting for Inner West Council, published 10/2018, (Updated Oct 2021)

Analysis of the current and projected recreation needs of the Inner West community, with a view to both maintaining and improving social and mental health as the population of the Inner West Council (IWC) area continues on its projected path of growth and change.

The study identified that the IWC area lacked sufficient public open space for the growing population. It outlines a strategic 'action' framework and explores how this framework could be applied.

The study undertook extensive engagement with the community to determine both recreational participation within the inner west as well as comments and suggestions about the quality of public open space within the LGA. These findings form a body of information about community needs and desires for public open space which have informed this Plan of Management and Master Plan.

## **Other Documents Reviewed:**

- Inner West Local Environment Plan 2022
- Cooks River Parklands Plan of Management + Master Plan, Marrickville Council 2016
- Going Places - An Integrated Transport Strategy for Inner West, adopted March 2020
- Inner West Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan, August 2021
- Inner West Council Public Toilet Strategy, May 2020



# Our Inner West 2036



## SD1 – An ecologically sustainable Inner West

**1. The Inner West community is recognised for its leadership in sustainability and tackling climate change**

- Provide the community the information, knowledge, and tools for a sustainable Inner West
- Share successes and publicise community and Council achievements in sustainability

**2. An increasing and resilient network of green corridors provide habitat for plants and animals**

- Maintain and increase Inner West's urban tree canopy
- Manage and improve Inner West's mid and understorey vegetation
- Protect, connect and enhance natural areas, biodiversity corridors and sensitive habitat

**3. Waterways are healthy and the community is water-sensitive, treating water as a precious resource**

- Implement water-sensitive policies and projects to improve the health of our waterways
- Capture and use water from Inner West catchments
- Identify and plan for river swimming sites

**4. Air quality is good and air pollution is managed effectively**

- Improve air quality through effective regulation and education
- Facilitate alternatives to private motor vehicle use to reduce exhaust emissions
- Minimise air pollution through policy and regulation

**5. Inner West is zero emissions, climate adapted and resilient to the changing climate**

- Respond to the Climate Emergency and implement the Inner West Climate and Renewables Strategy to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions
- Develop and implement a whole of Council climate adaptation strategy to build resilience to the changing climate

**6. Inner West is a zero waste community with an active share economy**

- Move towards a circular economy to avoid waste, reuse, share and recycle through education, information, projects and initiatives
- Publicise and broaden access to local reuse and recycling infrastructure
- Increase recovery of organic material and provide a food organics recycling service to all households



## SD2 – Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport

**1. Development is designed for sustainability, net zero and improves health and wellbeing of the community**

- Pursue integrated planning and urban design across public and private spaces to benefit community and local environment needs
- Monitor local development and ensure it meets legislative requirements for safety and amenity

**2. The unique character and heritage of neighbourhoods is retained and enhanced**

- Provide clear and consistent planning and management that respects heritage, accessibility and the distinct characters of urban centres

**3. Public spaces are welcoming, accessible, clean and safe**

- Plan, deliver and maintain public spaces and infrastructure that fulfil and support diverse community needs and life
- Ensure private spaces and developments contribute positively to their surrounding public spaces
- Advocate for and develop planning controls that retain and protect existing public and open spaces and provision of additional public and open spaces

**4. People have a roof over their head and a safe, secure place to call home**

- Increase social, community and affordable, livable housing with good amenity, across the Inner West

- Encourage diversity of housing type, tenure and price in new developments
- Assist people who are homeless or sleeping rough

**5. Public transport is reliable, accessible and interconnected**

- Improve public transport services
- Provide transport infrastructure that aligns to population growth

**6. People walk, cycle and move around the Inner West with ease**

- Deliver safe, connected and well-maintained networks of transport infrastructure
- Manage the road network to increase safety and prioritise active and public transport over private motor vehicles
- Collaborate on innovative, accessible transport options



## SD3 – Creative communities and a strong economy

### 1. Creativity and culture are valued and celebrated

- Create opportunities for all members of the community to participate in arts and culture and pursue creative lives
- Celebrate and promote awareness of the community's history and heritage

### 2. Inner West remains the engine room of creative industries and services

- Promote the Inner West as a leading destination for creativity including street art, live music and performance
- Enable creative and cultural industries to thrive through targeted investment and support
- Build new content, audiences and professional opportunities through local programs, including for young and emerging creatives

### 3. The local economy is thriving

- Assist businesses growth, innovation and improvement
- Encourage new enterprises in Inner West

### 4. Employment is diverse and accessible

- Manage the strategic future of industrial and employment lands
- Collaborate with business and industry on social and environmental initiatives



## SD4 – Healthy, resilient and caring communities

### 1. The Inner West community is welcoming and connected

- Celebrate, value and respect the diversity of the Inner West community
- Foster inclusive communities where everyone can participate in community life
- Address social inequity, obstacles to participation and social exclusion

### 2. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and culture flourish and enrich the Inner West

- Centre Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander needs and voices at the heart of initiatives, policies and strategies

- Celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and history

### 3. People have opportunities to participate, and develop their health and wellbeing

- Provide facilities, spaces and programs that support community health and wellbeing
- Build connected communities and provide opportunities for social participation

### 4. People have access to the services and facilities they need at all stages of life and all abilities

- Plan and deliver infrastructure and services for the changing population and those with disabilities
- Provide quality children's education and care services to ensure a strong foundation for lifelong learning
- Provide facilities, resources and activities for lifelong learning
- Improve the quality and use of existing community assets



## SD5 – Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

### 1. Council is responsive and service-focused

- Deliver responsive and innovative customer service
- Monitor performance and implement continuous improvement to meet the changing needs of the community

### 2. Council makes responsible decisions to manage finite resources in the best interest of current and future communities

- Undertake visionary, integrated, long term planning and decision

making, reflective of community needs and aspirations

- Ensure probity and responsible, sustainable, ethical and open local government
- Manage public resources to achieve financial sustainability

### 3. People are well informed and actively engaged in local decision making and problem solving

- Inform communities through multi-channel communications
- Support local democracy through inclusive participatory community engagement

- Support evidence-based Council decision-making

### 4. Partnerships and collaboration are valued and enhance community leadership creating positive change

- Advocate for emerging community issues
- Build resilience and capacity of local leaders, groups and communities
- Work with suppliers to deliver positive outcomes for the community, economy and environment

# Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West

**Key Findings:**

A number of findings about recreation within the Inner West are highlighted by the report. These include its benefits and its changing perception and role within society generally. These have assisted in providing a foundation for the strategies and objectives of this Plan of Management and Master Plan. A summary of the key findings includes:

- Participation in recreation brings significant health and social benefits to individuals, including mental health benefits and improved development outcomes for children and young people.
- Recreation provides benefits at the community level, supporting community cohesion and community development, and public health benefits.
- A majority of Australians participate in sport or other physical activities at least 3 times a week.
- Nationally, the most popular recreation activities include walking, fitness, swimming, cycling and running, and this is reflected by local participation trends in the Inner West.
- The major change in participation in recreation is a trend to more flexible and non-organised participation.
- Children have declining access to unsupervised participation in recreation activities, with Planet Ark estimating that only 35% of Australian children play outside every day, compared to 72% a generation ago.
- People with disability have lower levels of participation in recreation and are less likely to take part as a spectator.

**Open Spaces:**

The study divides the Inner West into four catchment areas, with Marrickville in Catchment 4 - South. Catchment 4 has an average, but declining, provision of open space per person at 16.4m2 in 2016, and an estimated 14.3m2 by 2036. The benchmark for the combined LGA in 2036 is stated as 14.3m2 per person.

**Sporting Capacity:**

The study set a maximum capacity of use for the Mackey Park sports ground at 30 hours per week, but suggests that it's actual use exceeds this amount by 6 hours per week.

By 2036, Catchment 4 will have a gap of:

- 5.9 outdoor multi-purpose courts
- 0.53 indoor leisure centres
- 2 indoor multi-purpose courts

**Community Engagement:**

The study undertook extensive engagement with the community to determine both recreational participation within the Inner West as well as comments and suggestions about the quality of public open space within the LGA. These findings form a body of information about the community's needs and desires for public open space which have informed this Plan of Management and Master Plan.

**Objectives:**

The report found a number of opportunities for improving recreational spaces within the LGA through a needs and gaps analysis. These opportunities were grouped into broad themes. Key opportunities which relate to the scope of this Plan of Management have been summarised below.

NEED
Increased quality of open space to optimise use, address demand and meet higher and more diverse needs
Well maintained public toilets, water bubblers and bins in parks.
Picnic and BBQ facilities, seating and shade for informal social gatherings, as well as informal grassed passive recreation areas.

OPPORTUNITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multi-use, flexible open space that is designed to support sharing and reduce conflict between users</li><li>• Extend the Inner West Council Public Toilet Strategy, May 2020 recommendation that all residents and visitors be within 400m of a public toilet that is open during daylight hours throughout the LGA.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide space for social gatherings outside of the home.</li></ul>

New facilities in parks including: table tennis tables; outdoor gyms including for seniors, and hard surfaces with shelter for tai chi.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide equipment and designated areas for a diverse range of outdoor activities.</li> </ul>
Lighting and design of parks to increase (feelings of) safety. Lighting should be fauna-friendly and use sustainable technologies to support environmental outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Street lighting around perimeter to connect park with surrounding streets and to Marrickville CBD.</li> <li>• Lighting in specific areas of park for informal night time use, e.g. dog walking, running paths and areas for informal sport.</li> </ul>
Improved lighting to support evening and night time recreation opportunities after work hours.	
Improved walkable connections to open space and recreation opportunities .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved connections to Mackey Park from the Marrickville town centre</li> </ul>
Improving sporting building infrastructure, amenities blocks to increase usability and support safety, and support the participation of women and people with disability in sport.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved access paths.</li> </ul>
Signage and wayfinding on cycle routes. Safer shared paths, and/or separate bike/pedestrian paths.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review throughout the LGA.</li> </ul>
Cycling infrastructure including end of trip facilities and bike parking.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycling infrastructure at connections to public transport and recreation facilities.</li> </ul>
Play spaces for older children / young people; Play opportunities for other age groups and abilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play for older children such as basket swings, trampolines, climbing walls, monkey bars, flying foxes</li> <li>• Innovative play spaces such as nature play, and adventure/ junk play.</li> <li>• Include inclusive play equipment in all playgrounds, rather than only in some dedicated inclusive playgrounds.</li> </ul>
Increased access to recreation opportunities for older people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footpath improvements, specifically to consider steepness of paths into the park.</li> <li>• More recreation opportunities for older people.</li> </ul>
Informal, flexible and social recreation opportunities that cater to a time-poor population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved lighting on streets and in parks to enable night time use including for informal activities.</li> </ul>
Inclusive recreation opportunities for people with a disability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritise accessibility in the upgrades of recreation facilities in parks, for example in new amenities buildings.</li> <li>• Audit of Council's recreation facilities and parks and whether they are accessible.</li> </ul>
Inclusive recreation opportunities for people from the LGBTQI+ community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcoming bathroom amenities for gender diverse people.</li> </ul>
Inclusive recreation opportunities for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recreation opportunities located close to public transport and promoted in community languages</li> <li>• Recreation programs targeting people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds</li> <li>• Recreation opportunities that reflect popular activities</li> </ul>
New off leash dog parks, including dog swimming and water play; Ongoing provision and maintenance of existing dog off leash areas; Managing and preventing conflicts between users of parks, particularly children and dogs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarity in signage to enable regulation and enforcement.</li> <li>• Design of parks and playgrounds to minimise conflict e.g. planting borders 10m from playgrounds to identify dog free areas.</li> </ul>

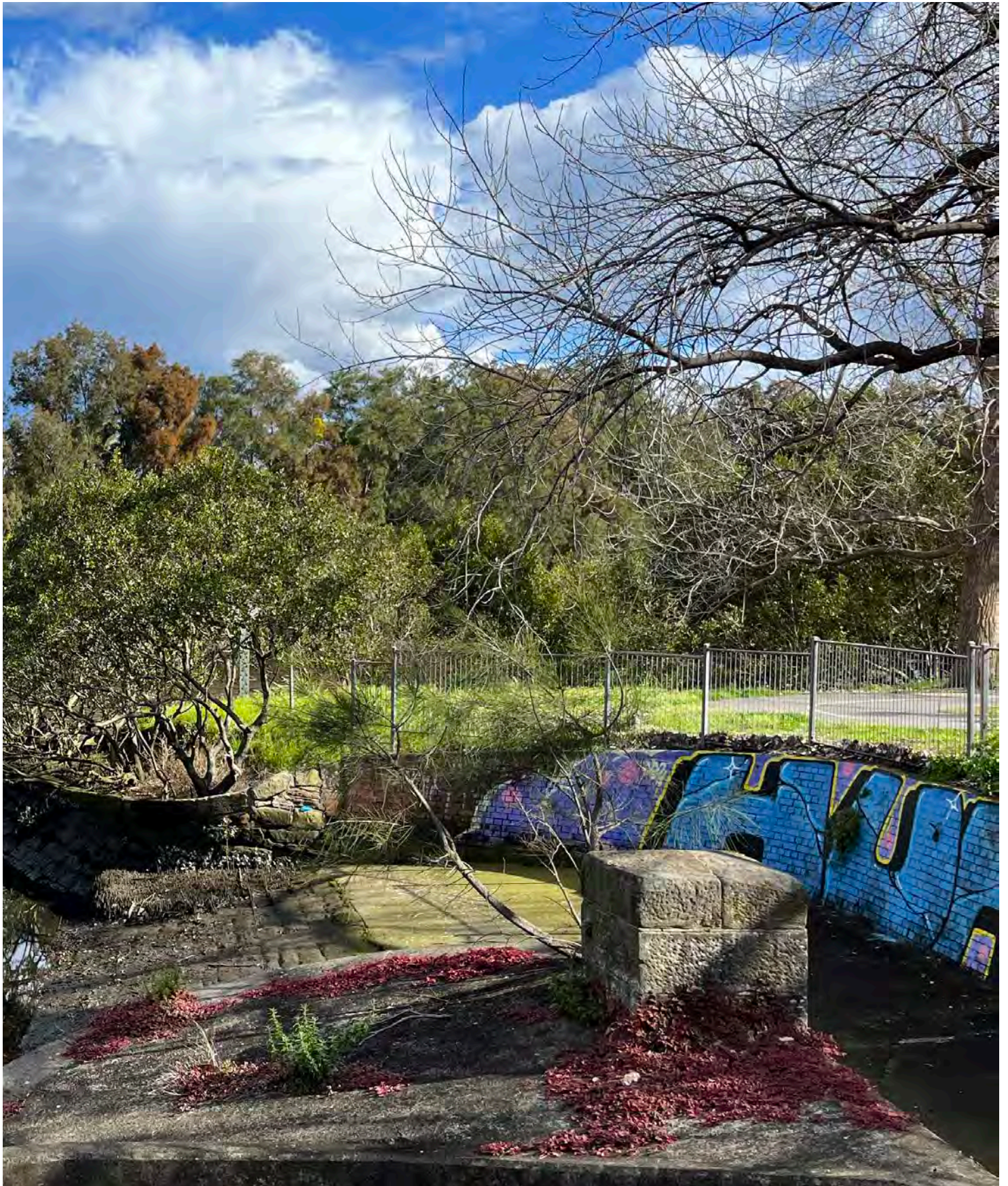


## 2.0 Categorisation / Ownership, Statutory Conditions and Legislation



Sydney Water stormwater channel meets the Cooks River. Photography by Welsh + Major.







# Lots and Zoning



## Community land - Local Government Act Requirements

Public land as defined under the Local Government Act 1993, must be classified as either community or operational land.

‘Operational’ land comprises land that serves a commercial or operational function (e.g. offices, works depot, car park, sewage pump station, etc.), or land that is being retained for commercial or strategic reasons. The range of controls that apply to Community land do not apply to the use and management of Operational land.

‘Community’ land is generally public park land set aside for community use. Development and use of this land is subject to strict controls set out in the Act such as Community land cannot be sold, or leased or licensed for more than 30 years. In addition to these controls, the Act requires Councils to have plans of management for all Community lands.

A plan of management places each piece of Community Land into one or more of five categories which impact on how they can be used. These are: Natural area; Sports ground; Park; Area of cultural significance; or General community use. Community Land is still subject to zoning controls and a plan of management operates as an additional control over that piece of land.

## Crown Land Management Act 2016

Following a comprehensive review of legislative provisions and the management of Crown land the Crown Land Management Act 2016 (CLM Act) commenced on 1 July 2018 and the Crown Lands Act 1989 was repealed. The objectives of the CLM Act are:

- To provide for the ownership, use and management of the Crown land of New South Wales, and
- To provide clarity concerning the law applicable to Crown land, and
- To require environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations to be taken into account in decision-making about Crown land, and
- To provide for the consistent, efficient, fair and transparent management of Crown land for the benefit of the people of New South Wales, and
- To facilitate the use of Crown land by the Aboriginal people of New South Wales because of the spiritual, social, cultural and economic importance of land to Aboriginal people and, where appropriate, to enable the co-management of dedicated or reserved Crown land, and
- To provide for the management of Crown land having regard to the principles of Crown land management.

The CLM act gives council the authority to manage Crown Land in the same way that it manages Public land, as defined under the Local Government Act 1993. The legislation requires council to firstly classify Crown land managed by Council as Community Land or Operational Land, and to then to nominate a single category for the land. The Plan of Management then provides the mechanism to place the Crown Land into multiple categories which are better suited to the current and future use of the land.

Lot/DP	Name & Location	Current Management & Agreement Recommendations	Ownership & Classification	Area	Notes
Lot 70 DP 1066013	Mackey Park, Richardsons Cres, Marrickville	Inner West Council	Crown Land	5.25ha	
Lot 71 DP 1066013	Mackey Park (croquet lawns), 1 Richardsons Cres, Marrickville	Inner West Council	Crown Land	7590m <sup>2</sup>	
Lot 72 DP 1066013	Concordia Club, 1 Richardsons Cres, Marrickville	Separate licence between The Crown and Concordia Club	Crown Land	3530m <sup>2</sup>	
Lot 7307 DP 1145332	Mackey Park, Richardsons Cres, Marrickville	Inner West Council	Crown Land	225m <sup>2</sup>	
Lot 1 DP 908763	Cooks River Canoe Club, Richardsons Cres, Marrickville	Inner West Council	Inner West Council	700m <sup>2</sup>	
Lot 1 DP 114889	Mackey Park, Richardsons Cres, Marrickville	Currently no agreement between Inner West Council and landowner. Recommend to set up a lease/ agreement with Sydney Water	Sydney Water	2200m <sup>2</sup>	

Note: Lot 7009 DP 93581 is part of Crown Land reserve R80566 but is not included in this Plan of Management



# Existing Park Conditions



	Use of land or structure (on adoption of the PoM)	Condition of the land or structure (on adoption of the PoM)	Future Condition (targeted following adoption of the PoM)
01	Sports club canteen + clubhouse	Poor	Good - replace
02	Public amenities	Poor	Good - replace
03	Sydney Water site fencing	Poor	Good - upgrade
04	BBQ area + furniture	Fair	Good - upgrade
05	Playground + shade structure	Fair	Good - upgrade
06	Stormwater crossing bridge	Good	Good - maintain
07	Foreshore path	Good	Good - maintain
08	Rainwater garden	Poor	Good - upgrade
09	Sandstone Foreshore	Fair	Fair - maintain
10	Concordia Club	Poor	Good - upgrade or replace
11	Croquet Lawns	Good	Good - upgrade + maintain
12	Canoe Club	Good	Good - maintain
13	Car Parking	Poor	Good - upgrade
14	Sports Fields	Poor	Good - upgrade
15	Planted Embankment	Good	Good - maintain
16	Lighting	Poor	Good - upgrade

## Zoning + Classification

Inner West LEP : RE1 'Public recreation'

## Other Relevant Legislation

- Foreshore Building Line LEP 2013
- Native title Act 1993 (cwlth)
- Companion Animals Act 1998.
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992.
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
- National Construction Code 2019.
- National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- State Environmental Planning Policy (infrastructure) 2007
- Work, Health and Safety Act 2011.
- Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
- Vegetation SEPP

## Crown Land Reserves

Crown Land Reserves are owned by the State of New South Wales (NSW) and managed by councils or boards appointed as land managers on behalf of the NSW Government for the benefit of the general public.

Crown Land Reserves managed by council have been set aside for a particular public purpose. Where local councils are the land manager of Crown Reserves they are to be managed as if they are 'public land' under the Local Government Act 1993. Crown reserves which are classified public land require a Plan of Management.

The Crown Land within Elkington Park and Fitzroy Ave Reserve is divided into the categories listed within the table below. The land which each category specifically applies to is demonstrated by the map opposite.

## Management Principles

The principles of Crown land management are:

- (a) that environmental protection principles be observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown land, and
- (b) that the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) be conserved wherever possible, and
- (c) that public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged, and
- (d) that, where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land be encouraged, and
- (e) that, where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, and
- (f) that Crown land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles.

## Native Title on Crown Land

On Crown land native title rights and interests must be considered unless:

- native title has been extinguished; or
- native title has been surrendered; or
- determined by a court to no longer exist.

Some examples of acts which may affect native title on Crown land or Crown reserves managed by Council include:

- the construction of new buildings and other facilities such as toilet blocks, walking tracks, tennis courts, grandstands and barbecues,
- the construction of extensions to existing buildings,
- the construction of new roads or tracks,
- installation of infrastructure such as power lines, sewerage pipes, etc,
- the creation of an easement
- the issue of a lease or licence,
- the undertaking of major earthworks.

When proposing any act that may affect native title on Crown land or Crown reserves the act must be authorised through Part 2 Division 3 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cwlth) Where it is proposed to construct or establish a public work on reserved or dedicated Crown land, where native title is not extinguished, prior to approval Council will notify and give an opportunity to comment any representative Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander bodies, registered native title bodies corporate and registered native title claimants in relation to the land or waters covered by the reservation or lease as required under the Native Title Act 1993.

Category (Crown land)	Core objectives (as defined by the Local Government Act 1993)
SPORTS GROUND	The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a sportsground are— (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and (b) to ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.
PARK	The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park are— (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities, and (b) to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and (c) to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.
GENERAL COMMUNITY USE	The core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use are to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public— (a) in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and (b) in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).



# Land Categorisation Map



0 10 20 30 50m  
SCALE 1:2000 @ A4

- Site Boundary
- General Community Use
- Crown Reserve Boundary
- Land category - Park
- Land category - Sports Ground





Sports clubhouse + canteen. Photography by Welsh + Major.





### An Overview

The Local Government Act allows council to grant leases, licences or undertake works over all or part of Community Land.

Where exclusive control of all or part of an area or facility is proposed or desirable, a lease is appropriate. There are also other factors which may influence the granting of a lease. These include the level or scale of investment, the necessity for security measures and the relationship between the activity on the land and the activity of the controller of the land.

The activities undertaken by a leaseholder should be compatible with any zoning or Council requirements and provide benefits and services or facilities for the users of the land. Terms and conditions of a lease should reflect the interest of the Council, protect the public and ensure proper management and maintenance.

Where short term, intermittent or non-exclusive occupation or control of all or part of an area or facility is proposed, a licence may be used. Providing there are no conflicts of interest, several licences may apply concurrently.

In considering whether to grant any lease or licence, Council should take into account the consistency of the proposal with the values and management strategies of this Plan of Management, particularly with regard to the following:

The Lessee/Licensee is responsible for ensuring the area is maintained to a standard which is acceptable to Council.

There is a need to define the times the land or facility will be available for use by the Lessee/Licensee, the impact of the lease/licence on the public/private space use of the Park, the impact on maintaining the Park as one cohesive open space.

The Plan of Management for Mackey Park allows for the provision of leases and licences in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Crown Lands Management Act 2016, Crown Lands Management Regulations 2018 and any subsequent legislation. Future leases and licences will be authorised consistent with this Plan of Management, the Inner West Council Local Environment Plan (2022) and any other applicable legislation. Any licences for biodiversity works are permitted.

Any leases or licences (a use agreement) on Crown Land may impact native title rights and interests. Any use agreement issued on Crown land must be issued in accordance with the future act provisions of the Native Title Act 1993 and in accordance with Part 8 of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 unless native title is extinguished. For Crown land which is not excluded land this will require written advice of one of Council's native title managers that it complies with any applicable provisions of the native title legislation.

### What are Leases and Licences?

A lease is a contract between the land owner, and another entity granting to that entity an exclusive right to occupy, use or control an area for a specified time.

A licence allows multiple non – exclusive use of an area. Short term licences and bookings may be used to allow the best overall use of an area.

Council's leasing and licensing is governed by its Land and Property Policy.

### Authorisation of Leases and Licences

The Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act) requires a lease or licence of community land be authorised by a Plan of Management (PoM). The lease or licence must be for a purpose consistent with core objectives of its categorisation and zoning of both the land and the reserve purpose.

The maximum period for a lease or licence is 21 years if granted by Council or 30 years if granted by Council with the consent of the Minister for Local Government.

This PoM expressly authorises Inner West Council as land manager of Mackey Park to grant leases and licences for the purposes and uses which are identified or consistent with those in Table 1.01 and Table 1.02. The leases and licences authorised on this land align with original gazetted purpose of "Public Recreation".

Leases and licences for the use of an area of land need to be permissible under this PoM, the LG Act, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Crown Lands Management Act 2016 (CLMA), Crown Lands Management Regulations 2018 and Inner West Council LEP 2022, and pursuant to a development consent if required.

Any proposed lease or licence for more than 5 years must be by tender unless it is to a non-profit organisation.

Any proposed lease, licence other than short term or casual public notice must be given and be in accordance with section 47 of the Act.

### Current Leases and Licences

- Lease: River Canoe Club of NSW Inc. Purpose: Clubhouse for River Canoe Club of NSW Inc.
- Licence: Croquet NSW. Purpose: Croquet Court - for the playing of Croquet.
- Seasonal Allocation: Marrickville Football Club. Purpose: Amenity Facilities - for storage and activities associated with football club
- Lot 72, DP 1066013 is subject to a Crown lease to the Concordia Club

### Future Leases and Licences

This Plan of Management expressly authorises Inner West Council to grant leases and licences of Mackey Park for the purposes and uses which are identified or consistent with those in the following tables:

Long Term Use for Up to 30 Years. The maximum period for a lease or licence is 21 years if granted by Council or 30 years if granted by Council with the consent of the Minister for Local Government.

Type of arrangement/ categorisation and facilities	Purpose for which licencing/leasing will be granted
Licence: Sports Grounds	Organised sport including but not limited to soccer, rugby, cricket, oz tag
Licence: Sports Grounds	School and community group recreation and education use
Lease: General Community Use Building	Sporting and social club and associated uses including but not limited to filming, training, storage, fitness classes and management of an indoor gym.
Lease: General Community Use Building	General Community Use Cafe/ kiosk including outdoor seating and tables
Licence/ Lease/ Easement	Address encroachment by verandah from Lot 72 DP 1066013 to Lot 71 DP 1066013
Licence: Park	School and community group recreation and education use

Table T.01

Type of arrangement/ categorisation and facilities	Purpose for which up to 12 month licence will be granted
Licence: Sports Ground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seasonal licences</li> <li>Sporting fixtures and events</li> <li>Uses reasonably associated with the promotion or enhancement of sporting groups, fixtures and events</li> <li>Use as per the sporting ground allocations policy; Training from Tuesday - Friday; Games Saturday + Sunday</li> </ul>
Licence: Sports Ground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School and community group recreation and education use</li> </ul>
Licence: Sports Ground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commercial fitness trainers</li> </ul>
Licence: Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School and community group recreation and education use</li> </ul>
Licence: Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivering a public address</li> <li>Public performances</li> <li>Picnics and private celebrations such as weddings and family gatherings</li> <li>Conducting a commercial photography session</li> <li>Filming including film / television</li> <li>Community events and festivals</li> <li>Playing a musical instrument or singing for fee or reward</li> <li>Advertising</li> <li>Catering</li> <li>Community, training or education</li> <li>Environmental protection, conservation or restoration or environmental studies</li> <li>Exhibitions</li> <li>Functions</li> <li>Hiring of equipment</li> <li>Meetings</li> <li>Outdoor cinema</li> <li>Site investigations</li> <li>Sporting and organised recreational activities</li> <li>Storage</li> <li>Emergency purposes including training</li> </ul>

Table T.02



## 4.0 Objectives and Performance Targets



Shared cycle and pedestrian path. Photography by Welsh + Major Architects.







# Overview

The key objectives and performance targets outline a broad vision for the future of Mackey Park. They have been derived from the opportunities and constraints outlined in the Site Analysis and Community Engagement Outcomes. They have also been informed through a precedent study of successful local, national and international parkland projects.

Key strategies offer practical measures for how these objectives can be implemented within Mackey Park.



## ACCESS+INCLUSIVENESS

Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Ensure that the park and its assets are accessible for all visitors.*
2. *Provide facilities which cater for a range of ages, abilities and interests.*
3. *Provide high quality amenities which are inclusive and accessible.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Resurface existing car park with disabled access and retain connection to facilities + Promote the use of graphic as opposed to text-based signage.
- Provide additional recreational areas near playground to increase the scope of play activities
- Ensure new and upgraded facilities are inclusive and accessible.



## SENSE OF PLACE+COMMUNITY

Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Highlight the unique aspects of the park and build upon them to establish a clear identity for the park and its assets.*
2. *Support existing community facilities and their role within the wider community*
3. *Provide high quality furniture and facilities.*
4. *Continue maintenance of existing park assets.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Rejuvenate and transform existing assets to enable the Park to better address the Cooks River frontage
- Upgrade the existing Concordia Club and Croquet Club to consolidate services and provide new amenities
- Establish additional shady seating areas.



## SUSTAINABILITY

Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Support local ecologies through landscaping and maintenance strategies, providing opportunities for visitors to engage with nature.*
2. *Protect existing vegetation within the park.*
3. *Integrate sustainable measures into new and existing facilities and landscaping elements through a holistic design approach.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Naturalise the banks of the Cooks River and review stormwater strategy.
- Utilise understorey planting to protect significant trees. Remove dead trees and plant new trees.
- Design new facilities from sustainable principles and upgrade existing facilities with sustainable measures.





## SAFETY

### Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Ensure park users feel safe entering and leaving the park*
2. *Support safer interactions between vehicles, people and cyclists*

### Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Provide consistent after dark lighting around primary routes
- Redirect cycle path and rationalise car parking



## SPORTS+RECREATION

### Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Address the demand for play areas to cater for wider age range.*
2. *Continue a balance of sports and general community use of the park and maintain sports and recreation facilities*

### Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Provide additional recreational facilities near playground
- Maintain the sporting ground for both sports use and general community use.
- Review stormwater strategy on the southern edge of the park to limit flooding into the existing sports grounds
- Add new cricket practice nets and cricket pitch

## PROPOSED METHODS OF PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

The proposed methods of performance assessment for each of the strategies listed may be one, some or all of the following practical measures:

- Assessment of success through observation by Council staff generally
- The monitoring of use of implemented aspects of the masterplan by Council staff
- Implementation of visitor surveys
- Assessment of success through observation and feedback of maintenance staff
- Monitoring use of particular areas by park wardens and/ or CCTV
- For new lighting and buildings: Assessment of energy consumption rates and projected life cycle energy consumption
- Assessment through observation by Council ecologists
- Assessment through consultation with key sporting groups, licence and lease holders.



# Access + Inclusiveness

**Key Objectives and Performance Targets:**

1. *Ensure that the park and its assets are accessible for all visitors.*
2. *Provide facilities which cater for a range of ages, abilities and interests.*
3. *Provide high quality amenities which are inclusive and accessible.*

**Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:**

- Resurface existing car park with disabled access and retain connection to facilities + promote the use of graphic as opposed to text-based signage.
- Provide additional recreational areas near playground to increase the scope of play activities.
- Ensure new and upgraded facilities are inclusive and accessible.

**Vehicular Access**

All the vehicles enter the park from Richardsons Crescent and park perpendicular to the existing asphalt driveway, including services vehicles. This high traffic has resulted in a poor surface condition. It is proposed to resurface the whole extent of the parking lot for better access.

The Master Plan proposes formalising the car park for Mackey Park from unmarked to marked spaces, to increase safety, and maximise parking. It also proposes a turning area close to the Concordia Club entrance for vehicles to be able to exist the car park without encroaching on to pedestrian path. A private access for loading and service vehicles is also proposed with fold down bollards. Disabled parking spots should be retained with pedestrian access to the park and the Concordia club.

A shared zone should be indicated at the entrance of the park through the use of alternative paving to communicate that the area is to be shared with pedestrians.

The Master Plan suggests a configuration, however the plan of management recommends that a final design should seek advice from a Traffic Manangement Consultant to ensure that the configuration is viable.

**Physical accessibility**

The park and its facilities should be accessible to all members of the community. The master plan recommends a number of measures to improve access to the park for all visitors, including upgrades along the Cooks River and new amenities.

**Amenities**

The existing amenities block is not equipped to meet the needs of park users and is in poor condition. Its access is restrained to a narrow alley near the Sydney Water plot.

The Master Plan proposes to add a new amenities block to include fully accessible male, female, non binary toilets and changing rooms, a storage area for sports teams and a community run

kiosk. It should also include water bubblers and a bin store. It is proposed to create a plaza in front of the amenities block to signify the entry to the park.

**Playground Upgrades**

The playground is in good condition and well used but offers a limited range of play experiences. The master plan recommends upgrading the playground to cater for a greater range of ages, abilities and interests with imaginative, inclusive and wild play elements. Additional specific community engagement on the expansion of the playground is to be undertaken. The expansion will be sympathetic to the parkland and consist of more nature play rather than hard surface, traditional play elements.

**Signage**

One of the signage strategies currently used by the park is graphic signage painted onto the ground. These signs are arguably the most effective in the park, due to their direct easily understood graphic messages in highly visible locations. The Master Plan recommends replacing the existing regulatory and way-finding text based signs with graphic printed signage where viable.



Unobtrusive way-finding system incorporated into paving. Stratford, London, UK. Thomas Matthews Design. Photography by Dashti Jahfar / Peter Clarkson.



# Sense of Place + Community

## Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Highlight the unique aspects of the park and build upon them to establish a clear identity for the park and its assets.*
2. *Support existing community facilities and their role within the wider community*
3. *Provide high quality furniture and facilities.*
4. *Continue maintenance of existing park assets.*

## Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Rejuvenate and transform existing assets to turn the park towards the Cooks river
- Upgrade the existing Clubs to consolidate services and provide new amenities
- Establish additional shady seating areas.

## Identity

The identity of the park is in a large part derived from its active usage as a hub for games and exercise. It is proposed to maintain and monitor the existing sports grounds and floodlights.

The other key aspect to Mackey Park's identity is its location on the waterfront of the Cooks River. The waterfront is fairly protected and faces Gough Whitlam Park. This is a peaceful stretch of the park where visitors are able to pause in the shade of trees to rest and appreciate the outlook.

As such, the Master Plan proposes to naturalise the banks of the Cooks River (refer to *Master Plan Strategies - Sustainability*) to revitalise this area. The addition of a pedestrian plaza at the current rear of the Concordia Club which will open up on to the river will create a large pedestrian and community hub. Picnic tables and benches should be added in front of the plaza as well as an accessible path along the river. Connection between the carpark and the River Canoe Club should be improved.

## Club Upgrades

The Master Plan makes a number of recommendations to support the clubs' ongoing use. They will improve the overall operability and amenity of the Park as a cohesive public asset.

Improving the connectivity of the Clubs to the park and to the public space would allow their operation to better serve park users.

Alterations and additions include the consolidation of the services within the building footprint; the refurbishment of the Concordia Club kitchen, restaurant, bar and loading areas; new office space and amenities for the Cooks River Croquet Club, Croquet NSW, Marrickville Cricket Club and the Marrickville Football Club; new public amenities, sports equipment storage and changing rooms.

The Master Plan proposes also the creation of an accessible pedestrian plaza in front of the building including landscape pockets, public benches and tables as describe above. This

would be an opportunity for the Concordia Club restaurant to spill out into the public space and attract additional patrons.



Example of pedestrian plaza with fixed furniture - South Park Commons, Los Angeles USA  
RIOS

## Park furniture and facilities

New furniture and facilities are recommended to support passive enjoyment of the park. These are indicated to a number of areas including:

- Benches and picnic tables in the new Club plaza as mentioned above
- New amenities block and plaza at the north-western entry of the park (refer to *Access + Inclusiveness* of this section)
- New shaded bbq tables and seating around the Park, including a new wetland cantelivered deck in the south-western area of the park.
- Bins and water fountains near entrances and along key routes. These should be designed for convenience and to enhance the visitors' enjoyment of the park.

# Sustainability

## Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Support local ecologies through landscaping and maintenance strategies, providing opportunities for visitors to engage with nature.*
2. *Protect existing vegetation within the park.*
3. *Integrate sustainable measures into new and existing facilities and landscaping elements through a holistic design approach.*

## Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Naturalise the banks of the Cooks River and review stormwater strategy.
- Utilise understorey planting to protect significant trees. Remove dead trees and plant new trees.
- Design new facilities from sustainable principles and upgrade existing facilities with sustainable measures.

## Water Management

Both the Site Analysis and the Community Engagement revealed that many of the turfed areas on the south west border of Mackey Park suffer from regular flooding.

The Master Plan proposes to enhance the existing naturalised stormwater garden on the site to cope with additional load. This is achieved through the development of a naturalised bio-detention basin, with storm water tolerant species, to simulate a natural wetland. The water could collect and drain gradually into the Cooks River through a drainage system underneath the shared path.

A cantelivered deck is proposed over the retention basin to allow the pedestrian route to continue safely. Bench seats and picnic tables could be added on this deck to give an opportunity to people to sit and appreciate the new landscape formed by the basin.

Review of the existing and proposed storm water drainage strategies should be undertaken by a specialist consultant prior to implementation.

## Cooks River Naturalisation

The park is currently not taking advantage of its proximity to the river, but rather turns its back to it. It is proposed to naturalise the riparian zone of the Cooks River where the banks are in need of repair.

The Master Plan proposes to enlarge the existing sandstone banks, add native planting and create a boardwalk with new seatings along the edge of the river.

It is recognised that naturalising the banks of the river can help increasing the number and the diversity of native plants and vegetation as well as creating new habitats and feeding areas for native invertebrate, bird and fish species.

The creation of the boardwalk would provide a large opportunity for visitors to engage with nature. Strategies to integrate the

Cooks River banks as a part of the park are detailed in 'Sense of Place + Community' section.

## Vegetation Management

Multiple species of large trees flank the edges of the park along the boundary roads and the river. A great majority of these trees are in good condition and their location offers an informal shaded path around the full perimeter of the park.

It is proposed to undertake a condition assessment of the existing trees and monitor them for potential renewal. This will ensure consistent continuous canopy cover along pedestrian paths and the river banks.

## Approach to buildings + facilities

Upgrades should consider the environmental impact of design, construction and future maintenance of park facilities. The Plan of Management promotes progression towards sustainable practices in construction, building maintenance and overall life cycle. There is opportunity for the park to showcase sustainable approaches to visitors.

- Building upgrades should maximise adaptive reuse, water harvesting and reuse, and sustainable energy sources and materials;
- Sporting ground and park maintenance should consider watering requirements, replacement cycles, and eliminating the use of harmful products and practices;
- Lighting upgrades should consider sustainable energy sources and energy efficient fittings;
- Waste disposal facilities should incorporate recycling. Single use plastics should be banned from food and beverage outlets.





Pedestrian route over stormwater retention basin, RMIT Bundoora Campus, Melbourne  
Taylor Cullity Lethlean Landscape Architects



Naturalised foreshore element as an interpretation of the original harbour edge -  
Barangaroo Reserve by PWP Landscape Architects



Naturalised foreshore element as an interpretation of the original harbour edge -  
Barangaroo Reserve by PWP Landscape Architects



Naturalised foreshore element allowing a connection with water - Detail of the Water Front,  
Park Somerlust. Photo © Felixx.



A representation of Johnstons Creeknaturalisation



# Safety

## Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Ensure park users feel safe entering and leaving the park*
2. *Support safer interactions between vehicles, people and cyclists*

## Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Provide consistent after dark lighting around primary routes
- Redirect cycle path and rationalise car parking

## Lighting

There was support for lighting upgrades to improve safety and to extend the hours that the park can be used. The Master Plan proposes an new low level consistent lighting along the perimeter path for increased safety of visitors after dark.

Consideration should be given that this area is a biodiverse environment and lighting should be directed to limit the effect of light pollution on sensitive nocturnal habitats.

## Safer Interactions

The interaction between vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians within the park could be improved to increase safety for all users. The master plan looks to address this through a number of strategies, some of which are discussed in Access including:

- Re-direct the cycle path between Richardsons Crescent and the southern path of the park with a softer edge at the intersection between the paths and separate areas for pedestrians and cyclists. This would alleviate pressure on the existing blind corner, especially during high-traffic periods.
- Improved car park conditions with clearly de-marked parking areas, separated from surrounding areas with low impact vehicle barriers (such as low fencing, landscaping, boulders or bollards).



Example of low bollard path lighting. Lighting to be directional to target paths without light pollution into wildlife habitat.



Large shared path with different floor finishing in Barangaroo Reserve, PWP Landscape Architecture



Examples of low level path lighting



# Sports + Recreation

**Key Objectives and Performance Targets:**

- 1. *Address the demand for play areas to cater for wider age range.*
- 2. *Continue a balance of sports and general community use of the park and maintain sports and recreation facilities*

**Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:**

- Provide additional recreational facilities near playground
- Maintain the sporting ground for both sports use and general community use.
- Review stormwater strategy on the southern edge of the park to limit flooding into the existing sports grounds
- Add new cricket practice nets and cricket pitch

**Recreational use**

As mentioned in the 'Access + Inclusiveness' section, the playground area is in good condition but it has been mentioned that it could be more inclusive of all ages.

The Master Plan proposes an increased range of activity and playspaces, catering for children and teenagers, with better access to public amenities.

**Organised Sports**

Mackey Park has a long association with organised sporting activities. Arrangements with various sporting clubs should be developed, and their continued use of the grounds and facilities supported. The following measures are proposed:

- Upgrades and continued maintenance of sports grounds and lighting;
- Review of the stormwater strategy of the park to avoid floodings and for better utilisation of the sports grounds;
- Addition of cricket nets near the croquet club and installation of a permanent cricket pitch;
- New accessible public amenities, changing rooms, equipment store and kiosk.



Cohen Park Amenities on Gadigal Land, Annandale Sydney  
Welsh + Major Architects



A playful and gentler alternative to a typical ball fence  
Welsh + Major



Example of unobtrusive netting