

DULWICH HILL PARKLANDS

[J.F. Laxton Reserve, Arlington Recreation Reserve, Johnson Park, Hoskins Park]

PART 1 - PLAN OF MANAGEMENT (draft)

PART 2 - MASTER PLANS (draft)

Inner West Council

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All photography by Inner West Council

DULWICH HILL PARKLANDS

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PART 1 - PLAN OF MANAGEMENT (draft)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statement

Inner West Council acknowledges the Gadigal and Wangal peoples of the Eora Nation, who are the traditional custodians of the lands in which the Inner West local government area is situated.

We celebrate the survival of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, heritage, beliefs and their relationship with the land and water. We acknowledge the continuing importance of this relationship to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living today, despite the devastating impacts of European invasion. We express our sorrow for past injustices and support the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to self determination.

Inner West Council understands our responsibilities and role in working with the Aboriginal community to promote cultural heritage and history, address areas of disadvantage, and protect and preserve the environment as well as sites of significance to Aboriginal peoples. In doing so, we acknowledge that Aboriginal cultures continue to strengthen and enrich our community.

Today, diverse groups of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples live and work across Inner West. We admire the resilience displayed in their significant achievements and in making immense contributions to both Council and the broader community.

Inner West Council is committed to embedding the values and perspectives of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to ensure we learn from the mistakes of our past and forge a positive future of long-lasting value built on mutual respect, equality and opportunity.

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

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28.08.2019	01	Draft Issue 01 - Internal comment	AGC
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Acknowledgement of Country

The traditional Aboriginal groups of the Inner West Council area are the Gadigal and Wangal peoples of the Eora Nation

Inner West Council acknowledges the traditional Aboriginal custodian of this land. We acknowledge this is a country of which the members and Elders of the local Aboriginal communities have been custodians for many centuries, and on which these people have performed age-old ceremonies.

We acknowledge their living culture and unique role in the life of this region.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Extensive research in 2018 resulted in the 'Inner West Council Recreation Needs Study a Healthier Inner West' which identified that the Inner West Council lacked sufficient public open space for a growing population.

As a result of major renewal projects, over the next ten to twenty years the Inner West will undergo significant population growth and change, and increasing population density. This growth presents challenges and opportunities for Council to provide for the recreation needs of its community.

The Dulwich Hill Parklands consists of the following areas of open space:

- J.F. Laxton Reserve (0.59 ha)
- Arlington Recreation Reserve (1.57 ha)
- Johnson Park (1.63 ha)
- Hoskins Park (0.56 ha)

Combined they make up an area of 4.35 hectares of open space providing for a diverse range of recreation experiences including:

- Active sports
- Passive recreation
- Dog walking
- Picnicing and children's parties
- Cultural events
- Education biodiversity

This report outlines the legislative requirements for a Plan of Management. The report is divided into two main sections:

- Part 1 - The Plan of Management
- Part 2 - The Master Plans

These two sections are supported by two appendices:

- Appendix 1 - The Master Plan Reports
- Appendix 2 - Cost Plan of proposed works

The Plan of Management outlines the legislative requirements for the site, along with key objectives and recommendations which will guide the strategic management of the Dulwich Hill Parklands over the next 10 years.

The Master Plan is a design report guiding the physical upgrade of the site over the next 10 years. The Master Plan sets out guiding principles for future detailed design and infrastructure upgrades throughout the site.

The implementation plan articulates the estimated costs for each project. Performance measure targets and a time frame for implementation is also provided. Each of the proposed upgrades are prioritised according to community feedback and asset renewal.

The reports balance interests of passive and organised recreation, biodiversity, stormwater treatment, heritage and pedestrian and cyclist circulation. It aims to deliver balanced outcomes that facilitate multi-purpose infrastructure and use outcomes that provide for a range of recreation experiences and environmental improvements. The design outcomes are a direct representation of requests from the community engagement process.



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VISION FOR THE DULWICH HILL PARKLANDS

The Inner West Council area enjoys an established and well distributed open space network of parks. Council recognises that **quality open space** is a critical component of **attractive** and **liveable** high density urban areas. The ability of Council to significantly expand the urban network of publicly accessible open space is constrained due to land supply and budget constraints. Therefore, Councils investment in open space in the existing urban area prioritises **improving the existing network of open spaces**.

This **Plan of Management** sets out key principles and priorities to deliver high quality parks and open spaces across the Inner West Local Government Area. Plans of Management are principally concerned with the provision of **high quality open spaces** which are **welcoming, accessible and enjoyable** spaces for community use and interaction. Parks are valued by the community and will continue to add to the **vibrancy** and to the **character** of the Inner West.

Community involvement in the development of this plan has been essential. Parks are provided for community use and enjoyment and in this respect they need to be well designed, inclusive and take account of community needs by responding to the local context.

01 INTRODUCTION

What is a Plan of Management?

A Plan of Management is an overarching strategic document informing the planning and management framework of community land. This document outlines the current and future use, development and maintenance of community land in line with the *Local Government Act 1993* and is a requirement for all community land owned by Council. Community land can be classified into five categories:

1. Natural area
2. Sportsground
3. Park
4. Area of cultural significance
5. General community use

Purpose of this Plan of Management

The purpose of this Plan of Management is to:

- Provide an integrated approach specific to the management of the Dulwich Hill Parklands [J.F. Laxton Reserve, Arlington Recreation Reserve, Johnson Park and Hoskins Park].
- Outline the current and future use, development and maintenance of the Dulwich Hill Parklands.
- Ensure compliance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Crown Land Management Act, 2016*.
- Ensure alignment with relevant council adopted strategies and documents.

This Plan of Management outlines how the Dulwich Hill Parklands should be appropriately managed and improved to meet the current and future demands over the next 10 years.

This Plan of Management should be read in conjunction with the Master Plans and Design Reports produced for each parkland.

How to use this document

This report is a holistic reference guide for the proposed use and upgrade works in the Dulwich Hill Parklands:

- J.F. Laxton Reserve
- Arlington Recreation Reserve
- Johnson Park
- Hoskins Park

The report has two sections:

- Part 1 - The Plan of Management
- Part 2 - The Master Plans

The Plan of Management outlines the legislative requirements of the site, alongside key objectives and recommendations to guide the strategic management of the Dulwich Hill Parklands over the next 10 years .

The Master Plans guide the physical upgrade of the site over the next 10 years. The Master Plans set out guiding principles for future detailed design and infrastructure upgrades.

Key Abbreviations

STIF	Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest
DBYD	Dial Before You Dig
SSROC	Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils
LGA	Local Government Area
CBD	Central Business District

01 INTRODUCTION

Scope of this Plan of Management

This Plan of Management is divided into seven sections that are outlined below. Where required, this document is divided into sections which describe each of the Dulwich Hill Parklands separately.

Section	What does it include?
01 Introduction	What is a Plan of Management and what is its purpose?
02 Legislative Framework	What is the planning context and legislative framework informing this Plan of Management?
03 Site Description	Provides a description of the land covered by this Plan of Management.
04 Community Engagement Overview	Identifies the key community values and issues for land included within this Plan of Management.
05 Basis of Management	Outlines design principles and design guidelines that inform master planning proposals to meet identified community needs (present and future)
06 Action Plan	Provides recommendations for future park upgrades and management.
07 Implementation and Review	Outlines how the Plan of Management will be carried out, monitored and reviewed.
07 Appendices	Supporting documents.

Process to Prepare this Plan of Management

The diagram below illustrates the processes which were undertaken to prepare this Plan of Management. These include site analysis, stakeholder and community engagement, draft document reviews and public exhibition.



02 PLANNING CONTEXT

Local Government Act 1993

The *Local Government Act 1993* introduced a requirement that Council land be classified as either 'operational' or 'community'. 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. Community land generally consists of public park land. There are more requirements imposed on Council in relation to their dealings with this land. One of these is that Council must prepare and adopt a Plan of Management for all community land. The Plan of Management must include the following:

- The categorisation of the land.
- Objectives and performance targets of the plan with respect to the land.
- The means by which Council proposes to achieve its performance targets with respect to the plan's objectives and performance targets.
- The condition of the land and of any buildings or improvements on the land.
- The use of the land and of any buildings or improvements as at the date of adoption.
- Specify the purposes for which any further development of the land will be permitted, whether under lease or licence or otherwise.

Community land is classified into five categories:

1. Natural area
2. Sporting ground
3. Park
4. Area of cultural significance
5. General community use

The Dulwich Hill Parklands are classified as the following:

J.F. Laxton Reserve - Park
 Arlington Recreation Reserve - Sporting ground
 Johnson Park - Park
 Hoskins Park - Park

Crown Land Management Act, 2016

Following a comprehensive review of legislative provisions and the management of crown land, the Crown Land Management Act 2016 commenced on 1 July 2018 and the Crown Lands Act 1989 was repealed.

The objectives of the Crown Land Management Act, 2016 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.

Where Council is the land manager of Crown reserves those Crown reserves are to be managed as if they are "public land" under Local Government Act 1993. Crown reserves classified community land require a Plan of Management.

A full outline of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* can be accessed at:

www.legislation.nsw.gov.au

Council Adopted Strategies and Documents



Community Strategic Plan, 2018

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

The Community Strategic Plan is structured around a guiding principle:

To work together in a way that is creative, caring and just

This reflects the values of the Inner West community, underpins community expectations of how Council will interact with its residents and is the foundation for all decision-making, actions taken and management of resources.

Five Strategic directions inform the future planning and are as follows:

1. An ecologically sustainable Inner West
2. Unique, liveable, networked neighbourhoods
3. Creative communities and a strong economy
4. Caring, healthy, happy communities
5. Progressive local leadership



Recreational Needs Study, 2018

The Recreation Needs Study provides an analysis of the current and projected recreation needs of the Inner West community. The study provides the evidence base to inform the development of Council policy and strategy in relation to recreation.

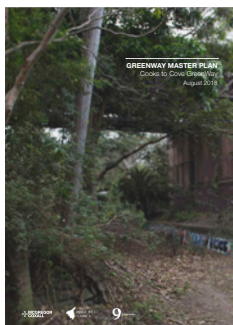
Participation in, and access to, recreation opportunities brings significant physical and mental health and social benefits to individuals, improved development outcomes for children and young people, and social benefits to the community.

The study identified six themes to guide future recreational planning:

- Theme 1 - Address existing gaps in open space and recreation facilities
- Theme 2 - Plan for future demand for new open space and recreation facilities
- Theme 3 - Increase capacity of existing recreation facilities
- Theme 4 - Streets and laneways for walking, running, cycling and play
- Theme 5 - Inclusion and sharing
- Theme 6 - Connections with nature

02 PLANNING CONTEXT

Council Adopted Strategies and Documents



The Greenway Project

The Greenway is a 5.8km environmental and active travel corridor linking the Cooks River at Earlwood with the Parramatta River at Iron Cove. The GreenWay predominantly follows the route of the Inner West Light Rail and Hawthorne Canal and features bike paths and foreshore walks, cultural and historical sites, cafes, bushcare sites and a range of parks, playgrounds and sporting facilities.

The community and Inner West Councils vision for the GreenWay, as articulated in the 2009 Master Plan (Marrickville Council 2009) is for:

A recognisable environmental, cultural and non-motorised transport corridor linking the subcatchments of two of Sydney's most important waterways

The Master Plan Objectives for the GreenWay are categorised into four categories:

1. Ecology
2. Active Transport
3. Recreation
4. Culture

The Greenway has key strategic linkages to the Dulwich Hill Parklands.



Inclusion Action Plan (2017-2021)

The Inner West Council Inclusion Action Plan for People with a Disability (2017-2021) outlines Councils commitment to respecting the rights and improving opportunities for people with a disability of all ages, to participate fully in community life. The Inclusion Action Plan meets Councils obligations under the Disability Inclusion Act, 2014 (NSW) and other similar instruments that identify its role in reducing discrimination and improving participation opportunities for people with a disability.

This document outlines the steps Council will take over the next four years to support and improve the inclusion of people with a disability as part of its core business, and to remove barriers to access and participation, including any discrimination based on disability. The Action Plan also gives expression to Councils commitment to uphold and promote the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability.

This document outlines principles specific to Plans of Management for improving accessibility and inclusion. These include:

- Accessible entry to the park and continuous pathways
- Accessible parking
- Accessible play equipment
- Seating (including covered seating and tables)
- Lighting
- Accessible toilets
- Inclusive barbecues and picnic tables, bubblers (varying accessibility)
- Appropriate playground fencing

Local Context

LEGEND

..... Site Boundary



03 SITE APPRAISAL

Regional Context

The Dulwich Hill Parklands (J.F. Laxton Reserve, Arlington Recreation Reserve, Johnson Park and Hoskins Park) are located within the Inner West Council LGA. The Inner West Council area is located five kilometres west of the Sydney CBD and includes the former Marrickville, Ashfield and Leichhardt LGA's. The Inner West LGA has a resident population of 185,000 people and

extends from near Sydney Airport and the Cooks River to the south, borders Erskineville and Redfern to the east, Sydney Harbour to the north and adjoins Five Dock, Burwood and Campsie to the west. The Dulwich Hill Parklands are located in Dulwich Hill which falls within the Ashfield (Djarrawunang) Ward of the Inner West LGA.

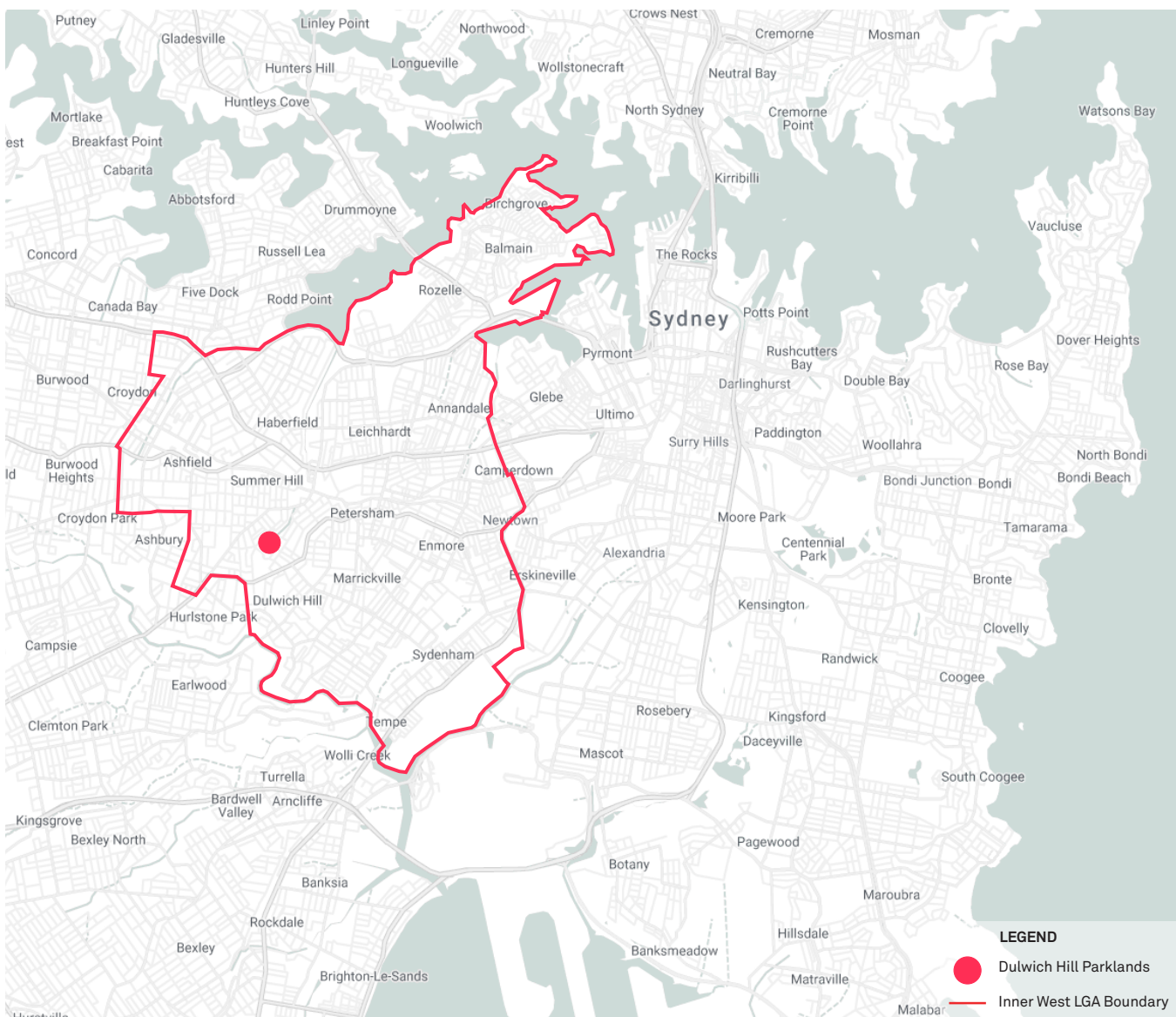


Figure 1 - Plan of the Inner West Council LGA within the context of greater Sydney.

Local Context

The Dulwich Hill Parklands are located within a significant urban renewal area of the Inner West LGA. This area and its surrounds have been identified as a significant growth corridor which will face changes in demographics in future years. These parks form part of The Greenway, a 5.8km environmental and active travel corridor linking the Cooks River at Earlwood with the Parramatta River at Iron Cove.

The Dulwich Hill Parklands have an opportunity to play a significant role in addressing future recreation demands and trends. The Parklands provide high quality opportunities for

active and passive recreation. Such activities include organised sport, walking, dog walking, running, cycling, picnicing and education (Magic Yellow Bus).

The Parklands also include a range of ecology improvements which promote and provide for biodiversity and are also key landscape features within the Parklands.



Figure 2 - Local context map of the Dulwich Hill Parklands

03 SITE APPRAISAL

J.F. Laxton Reserve - Site Context

J.F. Laxton Reserve is the southern most Dulwich Hill Park and contains a small playground, BBQ facilities and passive recreation space. The following section analyses the park's existing condition. Additional site information for J.F. Laxton Reserve can be found within J.F. Laxton Reserve Master Plan Design Report.



Figure 3 - Site Plan of J.F. Laxton Reserve

J.F. Laxton Reserve - Site Analysis



THE SITE



J.F. Laxton Reserve is a small local park located in Dulwich Hill with a total site area of 0.59Ha. It is used by local residents within walking distance of the site and includes the following features:

- A small local playground suitable for younger children.
- Informal passive recreation area.
- Barbecue and picnic tables.
- Shade sails.

J.F. Laxton Reserve is an important local open space for local residents that have small children. It is used for social gatherings, birthdays and other passive recreation activities.

LAND OWNERSHIP AND HERITAGE



Prior to the arrival of Europeans, the Gadigal and Wangal people successfully moved and lived in the area along the Cooks River and surrounds for thousands of years. The land was heavily wooded at the time with tall eucalyptus covering the higher ground and a variety of swampy trees along Hawthorne Canal. An enormous amount of knowledge and skills were developed and key food sources included native plant life, animals and fish.

The park is zoned as RE1 public recreation. It is surrounded by a mixture of low residential (R2), high density residential (R4) and public recreation (RE1). There are no heritage items within J.F. Laxton Reserve. The adjacent Arlington Recreation Reserve has conservation value and J.F. Laxton Reserve contributes to this.

J.F. Laxton Reserve is in close proximity to the Abergeldie Estate, a conservation area in Dulwich Hill.

SITE ACCESS



J.F. Laxton Reserve accessed predominantly by local residents within walking or cycling distance via:

- Union Street to the west (accessible entry).
- Williams Parade to the east (accessible entry).
- Arlington Recreation Reserve to the north.

There is a main accessible pathway running east-west through J.F. Laxton Reserve along its northern boundary. This path links Union Street and Williams Parade. A smaller path links to Union Street on the southern side of the park and curves around via the playground to join the main path.

03 SITE APPRAISAL

J.F. Laxton Reserve - Site Analysis



SERVICE AND INFRASTRUCTURE



A DBYD survey conducted in 2018 revealed the presence of underground services from several utilities in the vicinity of J.F. Laxton Reserve. The majority of services exist in the streets around J.F. Laxton Reserve, not within the park itself.

Services significant within the park include:

- Sydney Water sewer main transecting the western edge of the park.
- Jemena gas line running along the southern boundary of the site.
- Telstra conduits along the northern edge of the site.

EXISTING NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



The original vegetation community in the parks would have been STIF which was cleared for agricultural and urban development after European settlement.

The Dulwich Hill Parklands are located within the Biodiversity Wildlife Corridor and Biodiversity Bandicoot Protection area for Eastern Long Nosed Bandicoots. The parks provide habitat for bandicoots as well as other threatened native species including; grey headed flying foxes, eastern bentwing bats and regent honeyeaters. J.F. Laxton Reserve also forms part of The GreenWay Priority Biodiversity Area and provides Priority and Supporting Habitats as part of the SSROC Biodiversity Corridors 2016.

J.F. Laxton Reserve also includes the following vegetation features:

- A kickabout area is bordered by two rows of trees.
- A line of palms through the picnic area.
- A shrub border along Union Street and a hedge border along Williams Parade.

SITE OPPORTUNITIES



Key site opportunities include:

- Upgrade and diversify the existing playground.
- Resurface ageing softfall.
- Additional shade elements [trees, shade sails].
- Upgrade lighting.
- Introduce art and interpretation.
- Upgrade signage.

The opportunities and site recommendations for are expanded upon in Section 05 of this report.

J.F. Laxton Reserve - Site Inventory



SITE CHARACTER

Small local park used with childrens playground.

ART AND INTERPRETATION

Mural on the northern edge of the park painted on an adjoining properties wall.

PATHWAYS

- Accessible throughsite link [pedestrian and cyclist] connects Union Street and Williams Parade. A half side boom gate exists at the Union Street path entrance.
- Diagonal path from Union Street to the Arlington Recreation Reserve entrance.

FENCING AND GATES

North [residential and Arlington Recreation Reserve]

- Timber fence to adjacent property.
- Palisade gate and fence between site and Arlington Recreation Reserve.

South [residential]

- Palisade fence and hedge with access to adjacent residential properties.

East [Williams Parade]

- Palisade fence and hedge.

CARPARKING

On-street parking available along Union Street and Williams Parade.

SIGNAGE

Signage from the previous Marrickville Council present at park entrances and along pathways.

TREES

- Formal palm trees planted on pathway adjacent to playground
- Formal trees planted to lawn perimeter.
- Formal trees planted along Union Street interface.

PARK FURNITURE

- Picnic table, shelter and BBQ.
- Park benches to formal lawn.
- Playground
- Water bubbler
- Bins

LIGHTING

Lightpoles present along pathways.

PLANTING

Well maintained shrub and ground cover throughout park. Mix of exotic and native species.

PLAYGROUND

Small playground area with a range of equipment suitable to younger children. Softfall surfacing shows signs of ageing.

AMENITIES AND BUILDINGS

- Entry pergola at Union Street
- Shade sails over BBQ and picnic table

03 SITE APPRAISAL

J.F. Laxton Reserve - Site Photos



Mural



Diagonal path from Union Street with mature palm planting



Childrens playground



Shade sails



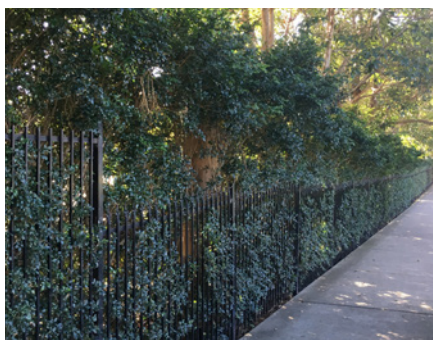
Signage



Williams Parade Interface



Water bubbler



Fence between J.F. Laxton Reserve and Arlington Recreation Reserve



Fence along southern boundary

J.F. Laxton Reserve - Site Photos



Planting character



Formal lawn and edge tree planting



Bench seating



Pergola and BBQ facility



BBQ facility



Half boom gate at Union Street entrance



Union Street Interface



Signage



Signage

03 SITE APPRAISAL

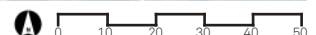
Arlington Recreation Reserve - Site Context

Arlington Recreation Reserve is an open space used predominantly for active recreation. The following section analyses the park's existing condition. Additional site information for Arlington Recreation Reserve can be found within the Arlington Recreation Reserve Master Plan Design Report.

This Plan of Management should be read in conjunction with the Arlington Recreation Reserve Operational Management Plan (2019). The management plan outlines regulations and restrictions of use by all regular/ seasonal hirers and all casual hirers with more than 100 participants per hour (including spectators).



Figure 4 - Site Plan of Arlington Recreation Reserve



Arlington Recreation Reserve - Site Analysis



THE SITE



Arlington Recreation Reserve is a sporting ground located in Dulwich Hill with a total site area of 1.57Ha. It is used predominantly for active recreation, particularly organised soccer. Site features include:

- Soccer field (artificial turf)
- Grandstand with seating
- Change rooms
- Grass banks
- Concrete path
- Entry pavilion
- Perimeter fencing
- Lighting

Arlington Recreation Reserve is currently used by several sporting teams on weekends for competitive games and during evenings for trainings. Outside of organised sport, it is used for casual recreation. The present arrangement is that the sporting clubs have a seasonal lease agreement to use the sporting ground for 6 months at a time. This entitles the clubs to use the clubhouse and kiosk.

LAND OWNERSHIP AND HERITAGE



Prior to the arrival of Europeans, the Gadigal and Wangal people successfully moved and lived in the area along the Cooks River and surrounds for thousands of years. The land was heavily wooded at the time with tall eucalyptus covering the higher ground and a variety of swampy trees along Hawthorne Canal. An enormous amount of knowledge and skills were developed and key food sources included native plant life, animals and fish.

Arlington Recreation Reserve is zoned as RE1 public recreation. It is surrounded by a mixture of low density residential (R1), high density residential (R2) and public recreation (RE1). The majority of the site is owned by Inner West Council. A small parcel of land running east-west through the site is owned by RailCorp and Inner West Council has a lease agreement with Rail Corp in regards to the land.

Arlington Recreation Reserve, once several deep disused brick pits, was filled in and converted to recreational use in 1932. During the 1938 British Empire Games, women athletes competed at Arlington Recreation Reserve. The grandstand was also used in scenes in the Australian movie, *The First Kangaroos* (1988). In 2014 after a 10 year campaign with Marrickville Council the sporting ground was upgraded with a synthetic surface and is now a premium ground in the FNSW competition.

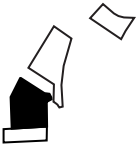
SITE ACCESS



Arlington Recreation Reserve is accessible on foot and bicycle from J.F. Laxton Reserve in the south-west and Constitutional Road in the north-east. Service vehicle access is available on Union Lane and Williams Parade. A through site pedestrian path connects these two entrances, however it is not an equal access route with stairs present at the grandstand entrance.

03 SITE APPRAISAL

Arlington Recreation Reserve - Site Analysis



SERVICE AND INFRASTRUCTURE



A DBYD survey conducted in 2018 revealed the presence of underground services from several utilities in the vicinity of Arlington Recreation Reserve. The majority of services exist in the streets around J.F. Laxton Reserve, not within the park itself.

Services significant within the park include:

- Sydney Water water main transecting the lower third of the site in an east-west direction.
- Telstra conduits entering the site from the north-west.

EXISTING NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



The original vegetation community in the parks would have been STIF which was cleared for agricultural and urban development after European settlement.

The Dulwich Hill Parklands are located within a Biodiversity Wildlife Corridor and Biodiversity Bandicoot Protection area for Eastern Long Nosed Bandicoots. The parks provide habitat for bandicoots as well as other threatened native species including; grey headed flying foxes, eastern bentwing bats and regent honeyeaters. Arlington Recreation Reserve also forms part of The GreenWay Priority Biodiversity Area and provides priority and supporting habitats as part of the SSROC Biodiversity Corridors 2016.

Arlington Recreation Reserve contains a row of significant trees which wrap around the park's south-western corner. There is a uniquely vegetated area in the park's north-western corner.

SITE OPPORTUNITIES



Key site opportunities include:

- Provide pedestrian access along the southern and eastern site edges.
- Provide equitable access to the park and its facilities.
- Diversify the parks uses outside of organised sport.
- Improve park seating.
- Improve existing landscape treatments.
- Improve signage to support the sporting ground use and include bookings.
- Traffic management improvements

The opportunities and site recommendations for are expanded upon in Section 05 of this report.

Arlington Recreation Reserve - Site Inventory



SITE CHARACTER

Recreational park used predominantly for organised sports by local teams, in particular soccer.

PATHWAYS

Throughsite link [pedestrian and cyclist] along the Northern and Western edge connecting J.F. Laxton Reserve and Constitution Road.

FENCING AND GATES

North [Constitution Lane]

- Blockwork retaining wall.

South [J.F. Laxton Reserve]

- Palisade fence with gated access from J.F. Laxton Reserve.

East [Williams Parade]

- Palisade fence with gated access at the Southern (vehicles) and Northern (pedestrian and vehicles) ends.

West [Union Lane]

- Blockwork retaining wall.

CARPARKING

On-street parking available on Williams Parade.

PARK FURNITURE

- Terraced seating
- Grandstand seating
- Notice board
- Bins

TREES

- Row of significant trees which wrap around the park's south-western corner.
- Street trees (*Platanus x acerifolia*) along Williams Parade.
- Mix of smaller trees along north and western edge.

PLANTING

The planting palette is a mixture of native and exotic species with feature planting adjacent the grandstand.

SIGNAGE

Existing signage in the park reflects the style of the former Marrickville Council. It indicates what activities are permitted and not permitted within the park.

LIGHTING

Flood lights to sporting ground. Roof lighting to grandstand.

AMENITIES AND BUILDINGS

- Grandstand with toilets (not accessible)
- Club building
- Kiosk building

03 SITE APPRAISAL

Arlington Recreation Reserve - Site Photos



Arlington Recreation Reserve



Terraced Seating



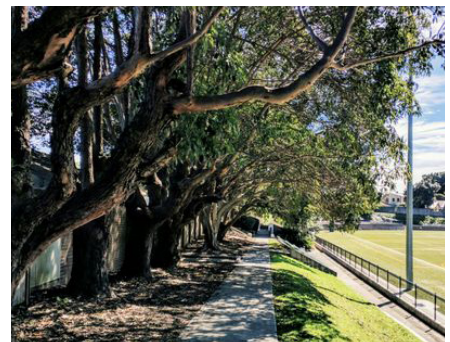
Kiosk



Club building



Fence surrounding sportsground



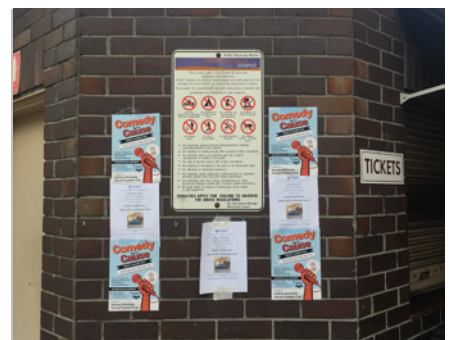
Mature tree planting (western boundary)



Grandstand and toilets



Signage



Signage

Arlington Recreation Reserve - Site Photos



Retaining wall and planting



Mature tree planting facing J.F. Laxton Reserve



Vehicular access gate



Public Toilets



Notice Board



Bins



Informal pathway



Steep embankment with retaining wall



Pedestrian entry

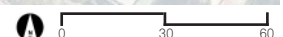
03 SITE APPRAISAL

Johnson Park - Site Context

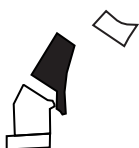
Johnson Park is an open space with a variety of amenities that accommodates a variety of user groups. The following section analyses the park's existing condition. Additional site information for Johnson Park can be found within the Johnson Park Master Plan Design Report.



Figure 5 - Site Plan of Johnson Park



Johnson Park - Site Analysis



THE SITE



Johnson Park is a Neighbourhood Park located in Dulwich Hill with a total site area of 1.63Ha. It is used for a range of active and passive activities with site features including:

- Playground
- Cricket nets
- Basketball court
- Outdoor gym
- BBQ and shelter
- Open lawn
- Toilet
- Bush regeneration area

Johnson Park is used by the local community, predominantly those within walking distance. The site is also used as a thoroughfare by pedestrians and cyclists accessing the Arlington Light Rail Station adjacent to the park.

LAND OWNERSHIP AND HERITAGE



Prior to the arrival of Europeans, the Gadigal and Wangal people successfully moved and lived in the area along the Cooks River and surrounds for thousands of years. The land was heavily wooded at the time with tall eucalyptus covering the higher ground and a variety of swampy trees along Hawthorne Canal. An enormous amount of knowledge and skills were developed and key food sources included native plant life, animals and fish.

The park is registered as crown reserve and zoned as RE1 public recreation. It is surrounded by a mixture of general residential (R1), low density residential (R2) and rail infrastructure (SP2).

SITE ACCESS



Johnson Park is highly accessible on foot and bicycle via the following:

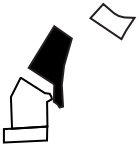
- A 2m wide laneway to the north (accessible).
- Footpath off Constitution Road along the south (3x accessible entrances, 1x non-accessible entrances).
- Arlington Light Rail Station to the east.

Within the park itself, a main path (3.5m wide) runs from the southern corner to the north-western corner. A smaller path runs along the park's western side and smaller networks of paths connect the playground, fitness, barbecue and picnic facilities.

An equal access entrance is present on Constitution road however an existing full size boom gate obstructs the path of travel.

03 SITE APPRAISAL

Johnson Park - Site Analysis



SERVICE AND INFRASTRUCTURE



A DBYD survey conducted in 2018 identified underground services from several utilities in the vicinity of Johnson Park. The majority of services exist in the streets around Johnson Park. Services significant within the park include:

- Ausgrid electricity conduits within the park.
- Sydney Water sewer main along the north-western edge of the park.
- Sydney Water water main transecting through the middle of the site in an east-west direction.

EXISTING NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



The original vegetation community in the parks would have been STIF which was cleared for agricultural and urban development after European settlement.

The Dulwich Hill Parklands are located within a Biodiversity Wildlife Corridor and Biodiversity Bandicoot Protection area for Eastern Long Nosed Bandicoots. The parks, provide habitat for bandicoots as well as other threatened native species including; grey headed flying foxes, eastern bentwing bats and Regent honeyeaters. Johnson Park also forms part of The GreenWay Priority Biodiversity Area and provides priority and supporting habitats as part of the SSROC Biodiversity Corridors 2016

Johnson Park contains a bush care area in the north-eastern corner which was established as a offset for the lightrail project. This site is connected to an established bushcare site along the rail corridor and has been revegetated with flora from the STIF community. A line of mature figs and brushbox trees runs along the southern edge of the site. Large trees including brush boxes exist along the western and northern edges. A line of palms line the pathway on the eastern edge of the park.

SITE OPPORTUNITIES



Key site opportunities include:

- Introduce park signage.
- Extend bushcare site and allow access into site.
- Introduce stormwater management.
- Upgrade and improve toilet facility.
- Change basketball court to multipurpose court (including fencing)
- Replace cricket nets.
- Review accessibility of site and its facilities.
- Provide additional bubblers and bicycle parking.

The opportunities and site recommendations for are expanded upon in Section 05 of this report.

Johnson Park - Site Inventory



SITE CHARACTER

Johnson Park is a neighbourhood park that is used for a variety of active and passive recreation.

PATHWAYS

A throughsite link runs from the southern corner to the north connecting Constitution Road to the laneway through to Windsor Road. A smaller path runs along the park's western side and a network of paths connect the playground, fitness, barbecue and picnic facilities. The site is also accessible via the Arlington Light Rail Stop.

FENCING AND GATES

North [Residential]

- Residential fences

East [Arlington Light Rail]

- Palisade fence with access to light rail stop

West [Residential]

- Residential fences

CARPARKING

On-street parking available on Constitution Road.

PARK FURNITURE

- BBQ and pergola facilities
- Bench seating
- Water bubbler
- Boom gate
- Playground
- Entry pergolas
- Bins
- Bicycle parking

TREES

- Mature fig and brush box trees along Constitution Road
- Large trees including brush boxes along the western and northern park edges
- Palms along the eastern edge of the park

PLANTING

Shrub and groundcover planting is a mix of native and exotic species. The bush care site contains native and endemic species and provides habitat to local wildlife.

SIGNAGE

Existing signage in the park reflects the style of the former Marrickville Council. It indicates what activities are permitted and not permitted within the park.

LIGHTING

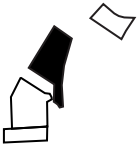
Lighting along pathways, light rail entry and pergolas.

AMENITIES AND BUILDINGS

- Toilet
- BBQ and shelter
- Book share structure
- Bicycle parking

03 SITE APPRAISAL

Johnson Park - Site Photos



Overall site image



Repurposed play equipment



Arlington Light Rail stop with bike racks and weatherproof structure



Bookshare structure



Existing signage



Water bubbler



Bins



Fitness equipment and toilet block



Bush care regeneration area and fencing

Johnson Park - Site Photos



Cricket nets and basketball court



Boomgate entry along Constitution Road



Basketball court and temporary fencing



Greenway Signage



BBQ Facility



BBQ shelter and tree grove



Laneway access from Windsor Road



Pavilion with toilet below



Bushcare site, bin and bubbler

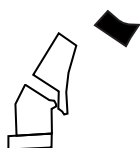
03 SITE APPRAISAL

Hoskins Park - Site Context

Hoskins park is a well-loved local park used for active and passive recreation by local residents. The site feature mature tree planting, playground and picnic facilities. The following section analyses the park's existing condition. Additional site information for Hoskins Park can be found in the Hoskins Park Master Plan Design Report.



Hoskins Park - Site Analysis



THE SITE



Hoskins Park is a Neighbourhood Park located in Dulwich Hill with a total site area of 0.56Ha. The park is used for a range of activities and site features include:

- Playground
- Mature trees
- Open lawns
- Tree adventure play
- Entry pergolas
- Toilet block (currently disused)
- Sandstone edging and rockery garden

Hoskins Park is used by adjacent properties and the local community within walking or cycling distance. The site is also a thoroughfare for commuters accessing the Waratah Mills Light Rail service. The park furniture is well utilised and group yoga has been observed within the playground area.

LAND OWNERSHIP AND HERITAGE



Prior to the arrival of Europeans, the Gadigal and Wangal people successfully moved and lived in the area along the Cooks River and surrounds for thousands of years. The land was heavily wooded at the time with tall eucalyptus covering the higher ground and a variety of swampy trees along Hawthorne Canal. An enormous amount of knowledge and skills were developed and key food sources included native plant life, animals and fish.

The park is registered as crown land and zoned as RE1 public recreation. The stormwater channel (Hawthorne Canal) is owned by Sydney Water and is a heritage item. It is expected that the reserve area around the Channel is also owned by Sydney Water up to the rail corridor, however this is to be confirmed.

The park surrounds are zoned as R2 low density residential and SP2 rail infrastructure. The former Waratah Mills site to the north-west is zoned as R4 high density residential.

SITE ACCESS



Hoskins Park is a destination for passive recreation and parents with children that use playground facilities. It is accessible by foot, bicycle and vehicle in the following ways:

- Vehicle access from Piggot Street (south) and Davis Street (north), which both have on-street parking.
- Pedestrian and cyclist access via three pedestrian pathways located within the park connecting Davis Street to Pigott Street (accessible)
- Stair access to the park located on Davis Street connecting to the playground (no handrails or tactiles)
- A major 3m wide path running from the south-eastern corner on Pigott Street in a north-westerly direction towards Davis Street. This provides a throughsite link to the Waratah Mills Lightrail Line (accessible).

03 SITE APPRAISAL

Hoskins Park - Site Analysis



SERVICE AND INFRASTRUCTURE



A DBYD survey conducted in 2017 revealed the presence of underground services from several utilities in the vicinity of Hoskins Park and potential locations for stormwater diversions. Services significant within the park include:

- Ausgrid electricity conduit within the park.
- Sydney Water sewer main in the south-east corner of the park and parallel with Hawthorne Canal immediately west of the park.
- Ausgrid and Telstra conduits in the vicinity of a potential stormwater diversion point at the north-east corner of the park (Davis St)
- Conduits from numerous service providers (Jemena, Ausgrid, Sydney Water, Telstra) exist on Denison St between Dulwich St and Pigott St which are potential locations for stormwater diversions.

EXISTING NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



Vegetation at Hoskins Park consists of mown grass and mature trees. The majority of trees are located on the avenues adjacent to the surrounding streets with scattered trees in the lawn areas of the park. All established trees at Hoskins Park should be considered significant and be retained where possible. To the north-west, outside the site is one of the Inner West Environment Groups (IWEG) bush care sites maintaining STIF vegetation community. Hoskins Park forms part of a Biodiversity Wildlife Corridor and Biodiversity Bandicoot Protection Area.

The Office of Environmental Heritage (OEH) NSW Threatened Fauna dataset has also indicated possible diggings of Long-nosed Bandicoot in the middle of the site. Grey Headed Flying Foxes have been sighted near the Hawthorne Canal, along with Long-nosed Bandicoot carcasses.

SITE OPPORTUNITIES

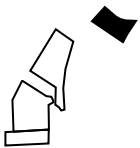


Key site opportunities include:

- Opportunity to enhance the existing pedestrian through site links which form part of the site heritage significance
- Opportunity to build on existing play space with potential for a stormwater treatment system that incorporates play as well as formalising and extending existing adventure tree play.
- Opportunity to re-open or repurpose the disused toilet block.
- Opportunity to improve accessibility and compliance (in particular to pathways and stairs)
- Opportunity to upgrade lighting, signage and introduce site interpretation
- Opportunity to improve waterway health in partnership with Sydney Water

The opportunities and site recommendations for are expanded upon in Section 05 of this report.

Hoskins Park - Site Inventory



SITE CHARACTER

Neighbourhood park used for active and passive recreation.

PATHWAYS

Three pedestrian pathways within the park connect Davis Street to Pigott Street. Stair access to the park connects Davis Street to the playground. A major 3m wide path running from the south-eastern corner on Pigott Street in a north-westerly direction towards Davis Street.

FENCING AND GATES

East [Residential]

- Residential fences

West [Hawthorne Canal]

- Wire mesh fence to Hawthorne Canal and bush-care site

CARPARKING

On-street parking available on Piggot Street and Davis Street.

PARK FURNITURE

- Park benches
- Picnic tables
- Drinking fountain
- Playground
- Entry pergolas
- Bins
- Bubbler

TREES

Mature trees to park perimeter and scattered throughout. Mature *Camphor laurels* to be considered for removal along Western edge of site.

PLANTING

A mix of exotic and native groundcover, shrubs and feature species exists. Native plants are particularly evident surrounding the playground and bush care site interface.

SIGNAGE

Existing signage in the park reflects the style of the former Marrickville Council. It indicates what activities are permitted and not permitted within the park.

LIGHTING

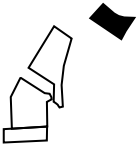
Lightpoles along pathways.

AMENITIES AND BUILDINGS

- Toilet building (currently disused)

03 SITE APPRAISAL

Hoskins Park - Site Photos



Rockery garden and staircase



Entry pergola (Davis Street)



Signage



Playground



Lightpole



Playground



Greenway signage

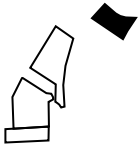


Mature tree planting on Piggot Street



Water bubbler

Hoskins Park - Site Photos



Slide and play mound



Fence to slide and playground



Picnic table



Signage



Park bench seating



Bin



Playground bench seat



Park light pole



Entry Pergola (Piggot Street)

04 ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Community Engagement Outcomes

Extensive community engagement was undertaken in November and December 2016 to ascertain community feedback on the current and future condition and use of Dulwich Hills Parks. The community engagement involved a series of interactive sessions, field surveys and an online survey on the 'Your Say Inner West' website. Listed below are what the community most wanted improved in the parks.

J.F. LAXTON RESERVE



Improve and diversify the children's play equipment .



Improve the shade and shelter facilities.



Improve the park furniture and picnic / BBQ.

ARLINGTON RECREATION RESERVE



Improve park seating.



Provide additional shade / tree planting.



Improve the toilet facility.



Review the existing and develop a new Operational Management Plan for the park (refer page 54)

JOHNSON PARK



Upgrade the children's playground, include diversity of ages including adult play.



Improve the picnic and BBQ facilities.



Retain and improve the open space opportunities.

HOSKINS PARK



Improve the children's playground with shade tree provided.



Upgrade picnic facilities and provide barbecue facilities within the park.



Provide WSUD with recreation functions within the park, while retaining the existing character.

Community Engagement Outcomes

Extensive community engagement was undertaken in November and December 2016 to ascertain community feedback on the current and future condition and use of Dulwich Hills Parks. Listed below are what common themes the community raised in relation to J.F. Laxton Reserve and Arlington Recreation Reserve.

	J.F. LAXTON RESERVE	ARLINGTON RECREATION RESERVE
CHARACTER	Retain existing	Retain existing
PATHWAYS	In good condition - retain	Some requests for path upgrades
TREES	Increase number of canopy shade trees	Increase number of canopy shade trees
VEHICLE ACCESS AND CAR PARKING	Not raised as a significant issue	Not raised as a significant issue
PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING	Improve lighting for night time use of park	Lack of street lighting and canopy trees obstructing lighting on Williams parade
SPORTS LIGHTING	Not present	Community satisfied with existing lighting
FENCING	Not raised as a significant issue	Request for existing walls along Constitution road to be retained
DOG OFF LEASH AREA	Strong number of requests to reinstate dog off leash area	Not present
SIGNAGE AND WAYFINDING	Requested by some respondents	Requested by some respondents
OPEN SPACE	Highly valued by community	-
FURNITURE	Additional seating and upgraded BBQ facilities requested	Upgrades to existing seating specifically bench seating adjacent to sporting ground.
BICYCLE FACILITIES	Some requests for bike racks to be installed	Some requests for improved bike facilities
ENTRIES AND EDGES	Not raised as a significant issue	Not raised as a significant issue
PLAY EQUIPMENT	Upgrade existing playground to include diversity of play experiences for a range of age groups	-
WATER SENSITIVE URBAN DESIGN (WSUD)	Moderate number of requests for water improvements and WSUD initiatives to be included in design of the park	-
SITE BUILDINGS	-	Toilets: provide all abilities access
SPORTING GROUND	-	Requests for opening the sporting ground for general community use outside of organised sport and training

04 ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Community Engagement Outcomes

Extensive community engagement was undertaken in November and December 2016 to ascertain community feedback on the current and future condition and use of Dulwich Hills Parks. Listed below are what common themes the community raised in relation to Johnson Park and Hoskins Park.

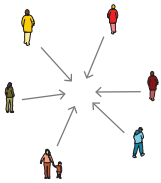
	JOHNSON PARK	HOSKINS PARK
CHARACTER	Retain existing. Wear and over-use to be improved	Community appreciate the unique heritage and local character of the park
PATHWAYS	Some requests for path upgrades	Pathway improvements and new pathway connections raised as medium-low priority items
TREES	Increase number of canopy shade trees	Increase number of canopy shade trees, particularly near picnic facilities and playground
VEHICLE ACCESS AND CAR PARKING	Not raised as a significant issue	Not raised as a significant issue
PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING	Improve lighting along laneway access	Raised by some as an improvement to the park however concerns raised over lighting increasing night use of park
FENCING	Some requests for fencing to allow unsupervised play of children or pets	Not raised as a significant issue
DOG OFF LEASH AREA	The dog off leash trial was raised as a contentious issue with widespread views on regarding the matter - refer community engagement report for different views	-
SIGNAGE AND WAYFINDING	Some requests for interpretive signage	Rated as a medium-low priority within park
OPEN SPACE	Well used and appreciated. Conflicts noted arising from the parks many uses	Requests for improvements to turf quality
FURNITURE	<u>Seating</u> : provide new and updated facilities <u>Drinking fountain</u> : Requests for relocation or redesign as it causes muddy conditions to adjacent surfaces	Overwhelming support for additional seating, BBQ facilities and shaded picnic tables
BICYCLE FACILITIES	-	Moderate number of requests for additional bicycle facilities
ENTRIES AND EDGES	-	Some requests for additional vegetation along northern boundary
PLAY EQUIPMENT	Upgrade existing facilities and provide diversity of play equipment	Upgrade existing facilities and provide diversity of play equipment. Provide additional shade

	JOHNSON PARK	HOSKINS PARK
WATER SENSITIVE URBAN DESIGN (WSUD)	-	WSUD initiatives well received by the community
SITE BUILDINGS	<u>Toilets</u> : quality and cleanliness to be improved <u>Shade Shelter</u> : need a face-lift <u>BBQ facilities</u> : upgrade existing facilities and provide additional facilities	<u>Toilets</u> : strong support to refurbish and reopen existing toilet facility
BASKETBALL COURTS	Some requests for court upgrades	-
CRICKET NETS	Some requests for net upgrades	-
BUSHCARE	Some respondents noted the importance of revegetation as habitat for native wildlife	Some requests for the removal of weed species (Camphor laurel) and improvements to revegetation areas
EXERCISE EQUIPMENT	A few requests for an increase in number of exercise items	-

05 BASIS OF MANAGEMENT

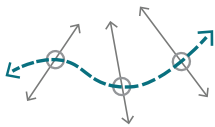
Design Principles

The following design principles outline the lens through which all park decisions should be made. The design principles outlined below align with the Master Plan Design Reports for each of the Dulwich Hill Parklands. They are common to each site and consider all factors influencing and impacting the parks. This ensures a consistent design approach and outcome.



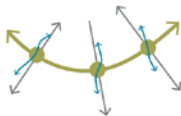
AN INTEGRATED AND COLLECTIVE APPROACH

Create holistic and integrated design solutions generated by collaboration with stakeholders, the community and government bodies.



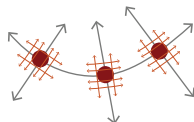
A WATER ELEMENT INTEGRATED WITHIN ITS CONTEXT

Understand the local catchment and landscape and respond in a respectful manner that seeks to enhance and contribute to the sites context.



AN ENVIRONMENTAL VISION

Create a sustainable and enduring design response which enhances ecological values of the site and connects with the wider green grid.



CROSS SCALE CONNECTIONS OF SPACES

Prioritise both local and regionally significant connections that respond to the broader issues, aims and initiatives of the local neighbourhood and the city.



PLACE SENSITIVE DESIGN

Celebrate and work with the character of the site, responding to unique histories, materiality, built fabric, cultural context, landform and ecologies.

Design Objectives

The design objectives align with the design principles and are site specific responses which are used to inform, guide and assess the Master Plan and Plan of Management as they develop. The design objectives outlined below align with the Master Plan Design Reports for each of the Dulwich Hill Parklands.

- Work with stakeholders to achieve maximum enthusiasm for the project
- Hold regular stakeholder workshops to contribute to design options
- Acknowledge the cultural diversity & backgrounds of park users
- Engage the local community and foster a sense of custodianship of the park

- Create opportunities for ecological restoration and connect with existing ecological assets
- Minimise impervious surface areas on site and store and reuse rainwater where possible

- Enhance existing bush pocket planting and extend its footprint where feasible
- Utilise durable, sustainable and long lasting materials and timeless design
- Reuse materials on site wherever possible to minimise project footprint
- Explore environmental education opportunities
- Use endemic plant species to build on existing site planting

- Improve connections with surrounding public transport modes, including light rail
- Enhance connectivity, including better all abilities access

- Respect and respond to the local cultural context, in particular the diverse cultural backgrounds of the community
- Increase the legibility of the site and create spaces for the community to meet and interact
- Upgrade existing amenities

06 ACTION PLAN

Introduction

The following section outlines the recommendations for the Dulwich Hill Parklands. The design principles and design objectives described in the previous chapter form the structure of these recommendations.

The objectives and outcomes are prioritised between high, medium and low. The table below outlines the management actions required to implement the recommendations.

The **Action Plan** should be read in conjunction with the **Appendix 1 - Master Plan Reports** and **Appendix 2 - Cost Plan**.

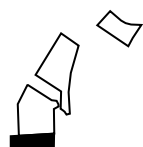
Definitions	
Objective	Overarching aim and goal consistent with Inner West Councils Community Strategic Plan and community engagement outcomes
Recommendation	Specific tasks and outcomes to be implemented or further investigated
Priority Rating	High - Short term (1-3 years) Medium - Medium term (4-6 years) Low - Long term (7-10 years)
Means of assessment	How the recommendation can be assessed for success

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06 ACTION PLAN

J.F. Laxton Reserve

(Refer to Master Plan)



> Objective: Acknowledge the cultural diversity & backgrounds of park users

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Introduce interpretation elements which acknowledge the sites history.	Low	Survey the level of the community understanding of, and satisfaction with, the installed interpretation elements

> Objective: Enhance connectivity, including better all abilities access

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Diversify childrens playground equipment with integrated all abilities play equipment.	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with the additional playground equipment once installed
Ensure all pathways are accessible for people with disabilities.	Medium	Survey community feedback on the ability of people of all ages and physical ability to access the park
Introduce an additional connection to Arlington Recreation Reserve at the north-eastern corner of the park	Medium	Assess and survey community satisfaction and use of the additional connection

> Objective: Minimise impervious surface areas on site and store and reuse rainwater where possible

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Introduce a 'dry' rain garden which can double as an exploratory nature play area	Medium	Assess the effectiveness of raingarden in reducing stormwater run off Survey community satisfaction and useage of nature play area

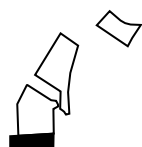
> Objective: Enhance existing bush pocket planting and extend its footprint where feasible

> Objective: Use endemic plant species to build on existing site planting

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Introduce a planter bed with climbers for the shade structure at BBQ and picnic area	Medium	Survey community feedback on the climbers in providing amenity and shade to the BBQ and picnic area
Increase the number of canopy shade trees	Medium	Survey community feedback on the additional canopy shade trees
Provide additional planting (native).	Medium	Survey community feedback on the additional planting

J.F. Laxton Reserve

(Refer to Master Plan)



> **Objective: Utilise durable, sustainable and long lasting materials and timeless design**

> **Objective: Upgrade existing amenities**

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Resurface softfall within playground.	High	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with the new surfacing
Improve childrens playground facilities.	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with playground facilities
Improve the BBQ shelter facility.	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with new facility
Improve park furniture.	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with improved furniture
Improve BBQ facilities.	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with improved BBQ facility
Trial reinstating dog off-leash area in lawn area (based off community engagement outcome)	Medium	Survey community feedback on trial dog off-leash area
Provide additional seating opportunities within park	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with additional seating

> **Objective: Increase the legibility of the site and create spaces for the community to meet and interact**

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Update signage and wayfinding across the site	High	Survey community understanding of, and satisfaction with updated signage and wayfinding
Upgrade existing lighting to energy efficient lighting. Additional lighting will only be provided where there are dedicated pedestrian routes through the park	High	Survey achieved level of visibility of all areas of the park at night and energy savings.

06 ACTION PLAN

Arlington Recreation Reserve

(Refer to Master Plan)



- > **Objective: Acknowledge the cultural diversity & backgrounds of park users**
- > **Objective: Work with stakeholders to achieve maximum enthusiasm for the project**
- > **Objective: Engage the local community and foster a sense of custodianship of the park**

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
<p>In response to engagement outcomes associated with the preparation of the Draft Plan of Management:</p> <p>Subject to the adoption of a Plan of Management Council will undertake in Year 1 community engagement on the development of a new operational management plan for Arlington Recreation Reserve which focusses on :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active sporting and recreation use and access Passive recreational use of the sporting ground (when not used for formal sports) Residential and Neighbourhood Amenity <p>In consultation with the community and key stakeholders, a new operational management plan will address issues such as noise (during sporting games), current and future car parking arrangements (on Constitution Road and Williams Parade), litter and waste management and operational hours of use including public holidays.</p> <p>A future operational management plan will be subject to formal Council consideration and adoption. Subject to adoption, sporting users of the oval will be subject to conditions of use as prescribed in the operational management plan.</p>	High	Survey community feedback and satisfaction with the new Operational Plan. Once finalised and adopted by Council the Operational Plan will be published on the Council website.
Diversify the uses of Arlington Recreation Reserve outside of organised sport to promote inclusiveness within the community	Medium	Survey community feedback and satisfaction with the diversification of Arlington Recreation Reserve
Upgrade noticeboard and consider relocating it to a more prominent location which will be viewed by a wider range of the community	Medium	Assess effectiveness of notice board relocation and survey community feedback and satisfaction with relocation

Arlington Recreation Reserve

(Refer to Master Plan)



> **Objective: Create opportunities for ecological restoration and connect with existing ecological assets**

> **Objective: Use endemic plant species to build on existing site planting**

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Provide additional understory planting to mature fig trees	Medium	Survey community feedback on additional planting
Provide additional shrub and understory planting	Medium	Survey community feedback on additional planting
Provide additional vegetation and one shade tree to the 'Secret Garden'	Medium	Survey community feedback on additional planting

> **Objective: Increase the legibility of the site and create spaces for the community to meet and interact**

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Upgrade and/or provide additional electronic signage which includes sporting ground booking information	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with electronic signage
Update signage and wayfinding across the site	High	Survey community understanding of, and satisfaction with updated signage and wayfinding
Upgrade existing lighting to energy efficient lighting. Additional lighting will only be provided where there are dedicated pedestrian routes through the park	Medium	Survey achieved level of visibility of all areas of the park at night and energy savings.

> **Objective: Enhance connectivity, including better all abilities access**

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Review parking arrangements on Williams Parade to minimise congestion during pick-up/drop-off times for sporting events and training. Consult with Inner West Council Traffic Engineers, community and sporting clubs.	High	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with the parking changes.
Provide accessible ramp access to both north and south sides of grandstand	High	Survey effectiveness of ramp in providing accessible access to grandstand
Provide accessible ramp access to toilet facilities	High	Survey effectiveness of ramp in providing accessible access to toilet facilities
Additional site entry from J.F. Laxton Reserve in the south-eastern corner of the site	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with and use of additional entry
Upgrade existing path where required	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded pathways

06 ACTION PLAN

Arlington Recreation Reserve

(Refer to Master Plan)



- > **Objective: Reuse materials on site wherever possible to minimise project footprint**
- > **Objective: Utilise durable, sustainable and long lasting materials and timeless design**
- > **Objective: Upgrade existing amenities**

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Upgrade grandstand seating	High	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded seating
Upgrade terraced seating	High	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded seating
Upgrade grandstand access to provide equal access	High	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded grandstand
Upgrade toilet facilities and provide equal access into the facilities	High	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded toilet facilities
Upgrade and expand club storage facilities	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded storage facilities
Upgrade club changerooms	Medium-Low	Survey community feedback on upgraded changerooms
Upgrade informal pathway to the 'Secret Garden'	Low	Survey community feedback on upgraded pathway
Provide seating within the 'Secret Garden'	Low	Survey community feedback on additional seating

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06 ACTION PLAN

Johnson Park

(Refer to Master Plan)



- > **Objective: Acknowledge the cultural diversity & backgrounds of park users**
- > **Objective: Hold regular stakeholder workshops to contribute to the design options**
- > **Objective: Engage the local community and foster a sense of custodianship of the park**

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Introduce interpretation elements which acknowledge the sites history	Medium-Low	Survey the level of the community's understanding of, and satisfaction with the installed interpretation elements
Engage with bush care group to gain their input regarding the bushcare site expansion, fence upgrade and pathway	Medium	Survey community and bush care group feedback with site expansion and upgrades
Retain and improve open space opportunities within the park	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with open space opportunities
Engage with local community and park user groups to resolve conflicts arising regarding park usage	Medium	Assess effectiveness of engagement in resolving user group conflicts within the park

- > **Objective: Create opportunities for ecological restoration and connect with existing ecological assets**
- > **Objective: Minimise impervious surface areas on site and store and reuse rainwater where possible**
- > **Objective: Enhance existing bush pocket planting and extend its footprint where feasible**
- > **Objective: Use endemic plant species to build on existing site planting**

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Introduce wetland/bioretenction system	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with wetland/bioretenction system
Provide additional native planting to existing areas, in particular treatments that provide habitat for native wildlife	Medium	Survey effectiveness of new planting in providing wildlife habitat Survey community feedback on additional planting
Extend existing bush care site area as per Master Plan	Medium	Survey community and bush care group feedback with site expansion
Protect and enhance existing bushcare site within the park	Medium-High	Survey community and bush care group feedback with protection and enhancement of area
Provide additional tree planting for shade within park	Medium-High	Survey community feedback on additional tree planting

Johnson Park

(Refer to Master Plan)



> **Objective: Utilise durable, sustainable and long lasting materials and timeless design**

> **Objective: Increase the legibility of the site and create spaces for the community to meet and interact**

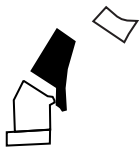
> **Objective: Upgrade existing amenities**

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Relocate bins closer to Constitution Road (near the boom gate entry) so that they are more easily accessed by maintenance	High	Survey effectiveness of bin relocation in providing improved accessibility for maintenance staff
Replace cricket fence and nets	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with replacement cricket fence and nets
Convert basketball court to multipurpose court (including fencing)	High	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with conversion of court into multipurpose facility
Upgrade childrens' playground facilities in particular to include diversity of ages and abilities (including adult play)	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded playground facilities
Upgrade existing BBQ and picnic bench/table facility	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded facilities
Provide additional BBQ facilities within park	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with additional facilities
Provide additional seating as per Master Plan	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with additional seating
Upgrade kickabout area and trial as an 'off-leash' dog area at certain hours	Medium	Survey community feedback on trial 'off-leash' dog area during specified hours
Repurpose rocket structure into useable play element within the childrens playground	Medium-Long	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with repurposed rocket structure
Provide low height permanent fence to bush care site boundary with gated entry	Medium-Long	Survey community and bush care group feedback on addition of permanent fence to bush care site
Provide informal pathway (decomposed granite) within bushcare site to allow users to experience and learn within site without disruption to the site	Medium	Survey community and bush care group feedback on informal pathway
Update signage and wayfinding across the site	High	Survey the level of community understanding of, and satisfaction with the installed interpretation elements
Provide new bicycle racks	Medium	Survey level of use of new bicycle racks
Relocate exercise station as per Masterplan	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with relocation of exercise station

06 ACTION PLAN

Johnson Park

(Refer to Master Plan)



> **Objective: Utilise durable, sustainable and long lasting materials and timeless design**

> **Objective: Increase the legibility of the site and create spaces for the community to meet and interact**

> **Objective: Upgrade existing amenities**

Upgrade existing lighting to energy efficient lighting. Additional lighting will only be provided where there are dedicated pedestrian routes through the park	High	Survey achieved level of visibility of all areas of the park at night and energy savings.
Allow dog off leash within open lawn on certain days at during certain hours	Medium	Survey community feedback on trial dog-off leash during specified hours
Upgrade existing pathways where required	High	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded pathways
Upgrade existing toilet facility with particular focus on cleanliness and quality of facility	Medium-High	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgrades to toilet facility
Upgrade existing shade shelters within park	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgrades to existing shade shelters

> **Objective: Enhance connectivity, including better all abilities access**

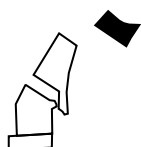
Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Relocate/redesign existing bubbler to ensure it is accessible and not creating muddy conditions to surroundings	High	Survey effectiveness of relocation/redesign in providing equal access to bubbler
Replace existing boomgate with a half boomgate to allow all abilities access to the park	High	Survey effectiveness of new boomgate in providing improved accessibility to the park
Provide a sharedway link to Greenway extension (north-east corner of site)	Long	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with sharedway link to Greenway



06 ACTION PLAN

Hoskins Park

(Refer to Master Plan)



> Objective: Acknowledge the cultural diversity & backgrounds of park users

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Introduce interpretation elements which acknowledge the sites history.	Low	Survey the level of the community's understanding of, and satisfaction with the installed interpretation elements

> Objective: Create opportunities for ecological restoration and connect with existing ecological assets

> Objective: Minimise impervious surface areas on site and store and reuse rainwater where possible

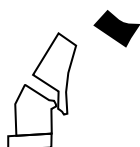
Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Subject to partnership funding with Sydney Water introduce a stormwater system within park (500m ² x 10m wide) walled to both sides to maximise treatment area	Medium	Survey community feedback on stormwater system. Survey effectiveness of stormwater system in reducing run off and impervious surfaces across site.
Provide boardwalk across proposed stormwater system to allow park users to interact with the ecological asset	Medium-Low	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with boardwalk
Introduce a frog habitat pond in the south-west corner of the site as per the Master Plan to allow frogs access to Hawthorne Canal	Medium-Low	Survey the effectiveness and usage of frog habitat and access for frogs into Hawthorne Canal
Install habitat features such as woody debris suitable for native bees and designed 'bat flaps' habitat for microbats in suitable areas within the park	Medium-Low	Survey the effectiveness and usage of habitat features
Installing new hollows for birds, possums and other similar species	Medium-Low	Survey the effectiveness and usage of hollows

> Objective: Improve connections with surrounding public transport modes, including light rail

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Upgrade existing pathways and kerbs where required	Medium-High	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded pathways

Hoskins Park

(Refer to Master Plan)



> Objective: Enhance connectivity, including better all abilities access

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Provide all abilities access path to childrens playground	High	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded playground facility
Provide pathway along Piggot Street edge of site (western edge) connecting to proposed childrens playground path	High-Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with additional pathway connection

> Objective: Enhance existing bush pocket planting and extend its footprint where feasible

> Objective: Use endemic plant species to build on existing site planting

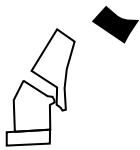
> Objective: Reuse materials on site wherever possible to minimise project footprint

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Incorporate existing bushcare vegetation community (STIF) into the planting palette across the site - in particular along the western boundary adjacent to Hawthorne Canal	Medium	Survey community and bushcare group feedback on, and satisfaction with incorporation of STIF planting across the site
Protect and enhance existing bushcare sites within the park	Medium	Survey community and bushcare group feedback on, and satisfaction with enhanced bushcare sites
Providing additional understorey plantings to existing trees in the eastern boundary of the site. In particular species that provide habitat for small birds, butterflies, and other similar grassland species.	Medium	Survey effectiveness and useage of additional planting as habitat
Consider staged removal of the <i>Camphor laurel</i> trees. Replace trees with STIF vegetation community.	Medium	Survey effectiveness of tree removal in reducing allelopathic and shading effect on the bush care site
Consider opportunity to repurpose <i>Camphor laurel</i> trees (if removed) as habitat logs	Medium	Survey effectiveness and useage of logs as habitat
Provide additional canopy tree planting, in particular to playground and picnic facilities	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with additional canopy tree planting
Provide additional native planting at northern edge of site	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with additional native planting

06 ACTION PLAN

Hoskins Park

(Refer to Master Plan)



> Objective: Increase the legibility of the site and create spaces for the community to meet and interact

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Upgrade existing lighting to energy efficient lighting. Additional lighting will only be provided where there are dedicated pedestrian routes through the park	High	Survey achieved level of visibility of all areas of the park at night and energy savings.
Update signage and wayfinding across the site	High	Survey the community understanding of, and satisfaction with the installed interpretation elements

> Objective: Upgrade existing amenities

Recommendation / Means to Achieve Objective	Priority	Assessment of Performance
Upgrade childrens playground facilities to include integrated all abilities equipment	High-Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with the playground upgrade
Provide additional slide and/or climbing rope to existing slide slope area	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with the changes to slide slope
Upgrade picnic and BBQ facilities and provide additional picnic and BBQ facilities	High-Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded picnic and BBQ facilities
Upgrade and re-open existing toilet amenity	Medium-Low	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded toilet facility
Upgrade existing sandstone kerbs, walls and stairs where necessary to ensure compliance with Australian Standards	High	Assess if upgrades meet Australian Standards
Upgrade turf area - this area will be passively irrigated with gravity fed stormwater run off	Medium	Survey community feedback on, and satisfaction with upgraded turf



07

IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

Implementation of Plan of Management

The majority of funding for general maintenance and improvement works of the Dulwich Hill Parklands comes from rates revenue, and occasionally grants are obtained for specific projects.

Funds may also be obtained through Section 94 Contributions, which are generated from developments within the municipality.

Attached in the Appendix of this report is an opinion of probable cost for the park improvements. This costing is based on the Draft Master Plans and Draft Plan of Management and is intended to be used as a guide only.

Review and monitoring of the Plan of Management

It is imperative the Dulwich Hill Parklands Plan of Management remains relevant. Frequent reviews of the plan are proposed to ensure the plan continues to accurately reflect community needs. Frequent reviews also allow planning to ensure resources are available to meet the parks design principles and objectives.

It is recommended reviews occur at the following frequency:

- Annually - review the action plan items and modify accordingly
- After 5 years - Major review of document
- 10 years - Major review and re-write of document

Potential changes to the plan may occur due to the following:

- New legislation.
- Changes in community values.
- Changes to project priorities.

Additionally, an annual progress review of all works within the park should be undertaken in order to assess and review against the action plan.

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