

Play Space Strategy

July 2019



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City of
Bayswater

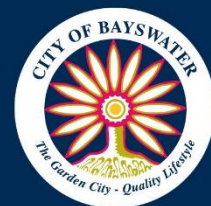


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Acknowledgement

Noongar language interpretation

Ngalla City of Bayswater kaatanginy baalapa Noongar Boodja baaranginy, Wadjuk moort Noongar moort, boordiar's koora koora, boordiar's ye yay ba boordiar's boordawyn wah.

English language interpretation

The City of Bayswater acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar Nation, and pays its respects to elders past, present and emerging.

Executive Summary

The development of a Play Space Strategy for the City of Bayswater is identified in the 2017/18 Corporate Business Plan. The strategy analyses current play spaces, and will help the City to plan for their provision more effectively in the future.

What is a play space?

A place that allows all people, regardless of age or ability, to experience physical and creative play, social interaction and physical activity.

- *Play spaces can be standalone or co-located with community and sporting facilities; in natural environments, public open space or urban areas*
- *Play spaces accommodate a variety of uses, amenities and elements.*

This definition is the result of preliminary engagement and research into the role that play spaces hold in the City and in people's lives. Previously, the City's policy for play spaces was limited to playgrounds in isolation, and focused primarily on replacement, installation and management of play equipment.

This strategy recognises the importance of a broad view approach to the planning of play spaces, taking into consideration the environment, and the existing provision of Public Open Space and play experiences offered within a local area.

An audit of all 169 parks and reserves provided an overview of the standard of parks and play spaces in the City, highlighting both good examples and challenging areas.

A comprehensive campaign of engagement activities was conducted between February and November 2018, including online surveys, community drop-in sessions, and ideas sessions with a broad range of community members, including school students. Along with many positive responses and creative ideas for how the City can improve play experiences, other areas highlighted by community members were the need for:

- A broader range of play types and activities outside of the standard plastic play equipment designed for 3 to 10 year olds
- Additional supporting infrastructure around play spaces including shade over play equipment, seating, BBQs and picnic tables
- Improved access to and around play spaces through path networks and connections
- Integration of play into the natural environment
- Mix of play activities to cater for more than one age group in bigger play spaces.

All of the findings were analysed, refined and grouped into focus areas reflecting community feedback, asset management principles, and improved distribution of play opportunities throughout the City.

Based on this analysis, three guiding principles were developed:

- Quality local provision
- Effective and sustainable asset management

- Annual assessment.

These principles are discussed in detail in the body of this report.

The strategy includes a 10 year Future Implementation Plan. Each year, the City will review this plan and propose a program of play space redevelopments. This program will be presented to Council for consideration and budget allocation annually following engagement with the local community. Any annual program proposed is subject to change depending on identified local circumstances.

It is anticipated the Play Space Strategy will be reviewed every three years, with a major review in 2029.

Although play can technically happen anywhere, the purpose of this strategy is to build on the analysis provided in the City's Public Open Space Strategy; therefore the focus is on existing play spaces within parks and reserves.

Part 1

1. Introduction

The Play Space Strategy is the first of its kind to be developed for the City. The development and implementation of a City-wide Play Space Strategy (PSS) was included as an action in the 2017/18 Corporate Business Plan. The purpose is to provide a framework to guide the planning, design and management of play spaces across the City.

The aims of the PSS are to:

- Be responsive to change and community demand
- Provide a strategic approach to decision-making
- Provide a variety of play experiences in local areas for the whole community to enjoy.

The process for developing this strategy included:

- Assessment of current play spaces to identify gaps and issues and build on the information provided by the City's Public Open Space Strategy
- Extensive engagement with the community to gather data on use, assess demand, generate ideas and determine priorities for future works
- Desktop review and analysis to understand the importance of play, current trends and benchmarking with other local governments
- Audit of 169 parks and reserves in the City, with and without play equipment
- Review of the previous, and development of a new, classification hierarchy for parks and play spaces
- Review of the current Playground Replacement Program
- Developing recommendations for the approach to design, management and provision of play spaces across the City.

1.1. Scope

The term *play space* is interchangeable with 'park' and 'reserve', as it refers to a place where people of all ages go to enjoy nature, socialise, walk their dogs and many other active and passive pursuits.

The important distinction to make in this strategy is that when considering play spaces, we are referring to more than just the play equipment - we are considering the whole space and the purpose it serves in terms of structured and unstructured play and recreation. Therefore, the term *play space* is used to consider:

- Parks and reserves
- Nature reserves and foreshore.

In addition to play equipment, the strategy considers the following elements in relation to play:

- Outdoor exercise equipment
- Outdoor accessible multi-use ball courts - public tennis, multi half courts
- Supporting infrastructure - seating, picnic shelters, fencing, shade (natural and sails), BBQs, drinking fountains
- Wheeled facilities - skate parks and BMX tracks
- Footpaths, cycle ways, connections, linkages and path networks in and around parks and reserves.

For the purposes of this strategy, the following have not been included:

- School grounds
- Non-city owned land
- Land not deemed useable i.e. road or rail reserve Public Open Space without a usage function.

169 parks in the City are open to the public. Play spaces that are not open to the public have not been included in this strategy. These are:

- Childcare, family and outside school hours care (OSHC) centres
- Community facilities such as libraries and community centres.

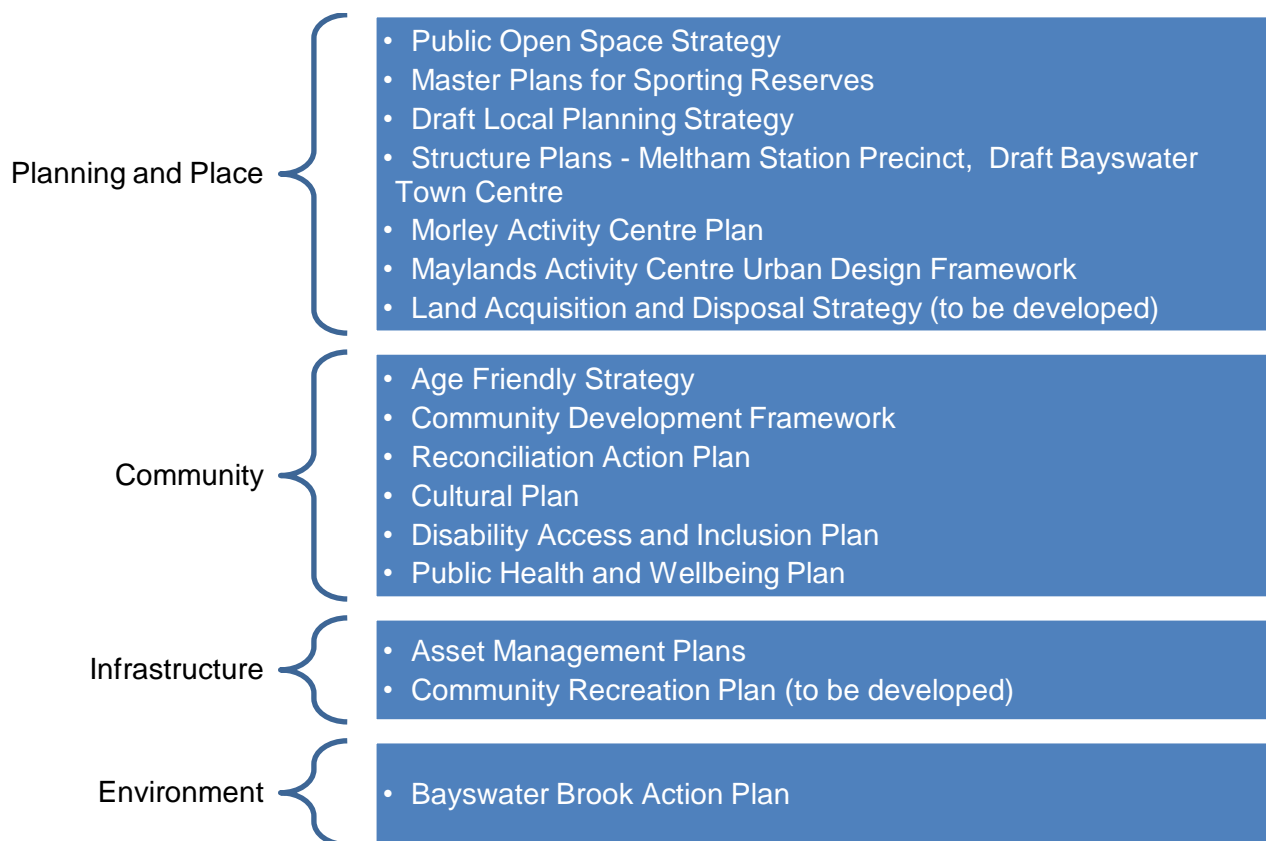
1.2. Context

The City's Strategic Community Plan (SCP) is the principal planning and strategic document that will guide the implementation of the City's services to the community until 2027. The Play Space Strategy is aligned with the following aspirations in the SCP:

- Our Community - 'An active and engaged community'
- Our Natural Environment - 'A green and sustainable environment'.

In the recent minor review of the SCP, a survey of the community found that parks and green spaces are held in high regard by residents and contribute to the liveability of the City.

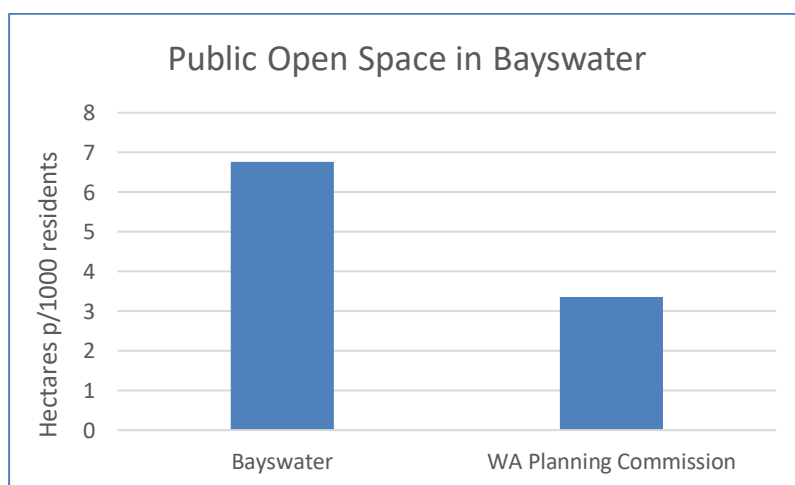
The strategic context of the PSS is very broad due to the universal nature of play and its role in the community as a form of recreation, social activity, community development and physical activity. Consequently, the PSS incorporates several strategic areas and is aligned to the following City of Bayswater plans and strategies:



The intention of the PSS is to align with existing strategies and plans, inform the development of new strategies and plans, and guide all complementary projects in parks, reserves and other public open spaces in order to deliver the best outcome to the community.

1.3. City of Bayswater Public Open Space Strategy

The Play Space Strategy adds to the information provided in the Public Open Space Strategy. This document outlines all the Public Open Space (POS) within the City of Bayswater - which is all the land in the City that is accessible by the public. Overall, 86% of residential properties within the City are within 300 metres of POS, and all residential properties are within 2 kilometres of a District or Regional Space. The City's POS provision per resident, measuring 6.76 hectares per 1,000 people, far exceeds the recommended amount identified by the Western Australian Planning Commission, which is 3.36 hectares per 1,000 people.



1.4. Resources

The following plans, reports and strategies were reviewed in the preparation of the PSS:

- *'Classification Framework for Public Open Space'* (2012), WA Department of Sport and Recreation
- *'Public Parkland – Planning and Design Guide'* (2014), WA Department of Sport and Recreation
- *'Play Space Guide – Creating valuable places to play and learn outdoors in Western Australian schools'*, UWA Centre for the Built Environment – collaboration with WA schools
- *'Access Guidelines for Parks and Outdoor Spaces Handbook v2'* (2017), Access Institute
- *'Parks and open space: for the health and wellbeing of children and young people'* (2009), Dr Lisa Wood – UWA Centre for the Built Environment and Health and Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth
- *Healthy Active by Design*, Heart Foundation
- *'SPARC Report – City of Monash'* (2015), Playce.

These documents provided insight into play types, trends and standards.

2. Play in general

The International Play Association considers play to be *'one of the best means to ensure the maximum potential development of every individual and the communities in which they live. Play stimulates creativity and is essential to the emotional, cognitive and physical development of the whole child, regardless of their level of ability'*.

There are numerous benefits to be gained from engaging in play – physically, mentally, emotionally and socially. There are different types of play and this strategy considers all types as being beneficial, using the following as a general guide:

- Active play, such as jumping, swinging, balancing and climbing
- Physical play such as kicking a ball, riding a bicycle or skateboard
- Creative or Imaginary play such as make-believe games, building cubbies
- Exploratory play such as tree climbing, bushwalks in natural areas, finding bugs, experiencing different textures through a mixture of objects and materials
- Social play such as sand pits, pair or group swings, group play equipment and hopscotch or ball games.

Parents, carers, families and individuals all benefit from parks and play spaces.

2.1 All ages and abilities

Types and components of play will differ according to age group and development. Due to the variety of play types and experiences, it is not possible to satisfy all of these in every play space, however the design of play spaces can target certain age groups or, in larger parks and reserves, a combination.

2.1.1 Children

Children learn through play, particularly in the early years. Development stages are outlined below:

Age	Development stage
Toddler (1 to 3 years)	Self-awareness Motor skills Speech, comprehension Interest in other children
Early childhood (3 to 6 years)	Fine and gross motor skills Strength improvement Independence, self-control increases Play, creativity and imagination develop
Middle childhood (6 to 12 years)	Logical thinking Memory and language skills Strength and athletic skills develop
Adolescence (12 years +)	Rapid physical change Peer groups help develop self-concept Abstract thinking and scientific reasoning develops

Source: A Child's World by Papalia, D.E. and Olds, S.W, USA: McGraw-Hill, 1993.

2.1.2 Adults

Use and enjoyment of public open space is a right afforded to everyone and engagement with young and older adults as part of this strategy divulged insights into how they use and would like to use parks and play spaces. Adults engage in types of play – interacting with their children, grandchildren and friends; physical activity; rest and relaxation – therefore it is important to consider the needs of adults in play space design.

2.1.3 All abilities

A play space for all abilities does not mean we only consider the equipment, nor is it designed only for children with disability. Some of the features of a play space without barriers include:

- Access – continuous path of travel from carparks; to and around seating, picnic tables, play nodes and public toilets
- Signage and wayfinding – clear symbols and language, tactile and Braille elements
- Gates and equipment at various heights and levels to accommodate people sitting or standing
- Accessible play equipment such as slides and swings
- Shade and shelters.

The Play Space Strategy guides the development of play spaces for use by the whole community and aims to provide a variety of spaces for a range of abilities. In 2015, Council resolved that all district and regional playground renewals would include at least one piece of play equipment that is accessible and inclusive for all children. This resolution is reflected in the *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy* (outlined in Part 2 of this strategy), and in the City's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.

In March 2019, as part of the strategy, Council resolved to include accessible pathways in all play space renovations and implement a long term annual program of shading all play equipment, either naturally, with shade sails or a combination of both.

2.2 Trends in play

Due to several factors such as lifestyle changes, early childhood research, resource availability, and adult perceptions of play spaces, play trends and play space design are continually changing at local, national and international levels. In addition, the emergence of green and other outdoor spaces has resulted in an increase in public artworks, outdoor events, pop-up initiatives, cultural heritage and place making.

It is important to consider these trends, recognising the local context to ensure appropriate planning of play spaces. The intent of this strategy is that it is a living document; flexible and responsive to change.

2.2.1 Risk

There is a wealth of information on risk associated with play. Increasingly, healthy levels of risk and challenge are considered a fundamental part of children's play and development. However, risk must be balanced with safety. The City will adhere to the Australian Standards for Playgrounds when planning, designing and maintaining play equipment.

2.2.2 Bigger play spaces

The trend towards large and diverse destination play spaces is evident on a local scale, evidenced by community expectations and more broadly, in the number of these types of play spaces being developed by local governments in association with developers and partners. Funding these destination play spaces has generally been a result of local government partnerships with LotteryWest, philanthropic funding bodies, and various organisations.

These play spaces demonstrate that play is no longer considered a short visit, or an activity that children generally engage in by themselves. Play spaces are considered to be an experience, sometimes for the whole family, hence emphasis is placed on increased availability of play choices for a variety of age groups, higher level of supporting park infrastructure and facilities for parents, carers and families; and access for all abilities and safety.

2.2.3 Nature play

The trend towards (or in some ways, *back to*) nature play can be observed in many play spaces in a number of settings – urban areas, schools and new residential developments. Accompanying this trend is significant evidence of the benefits to children in terms of learning, appreciation of the natural environment, risk-taking and social development. An abundance of nature play elements, such as loose parts play, and physical elements including rocks for climbing, balance logs and steppers made of recycled materials, provide imaginative and exploratory play for a broad age range. Similarly, interaction with the natural environment – puddles, building cubbies and observing wildlife – provides important experiences for children.

Nature play has been highlighted in all community feedback as something parents, carers and children would like to see in play experiences across the City.

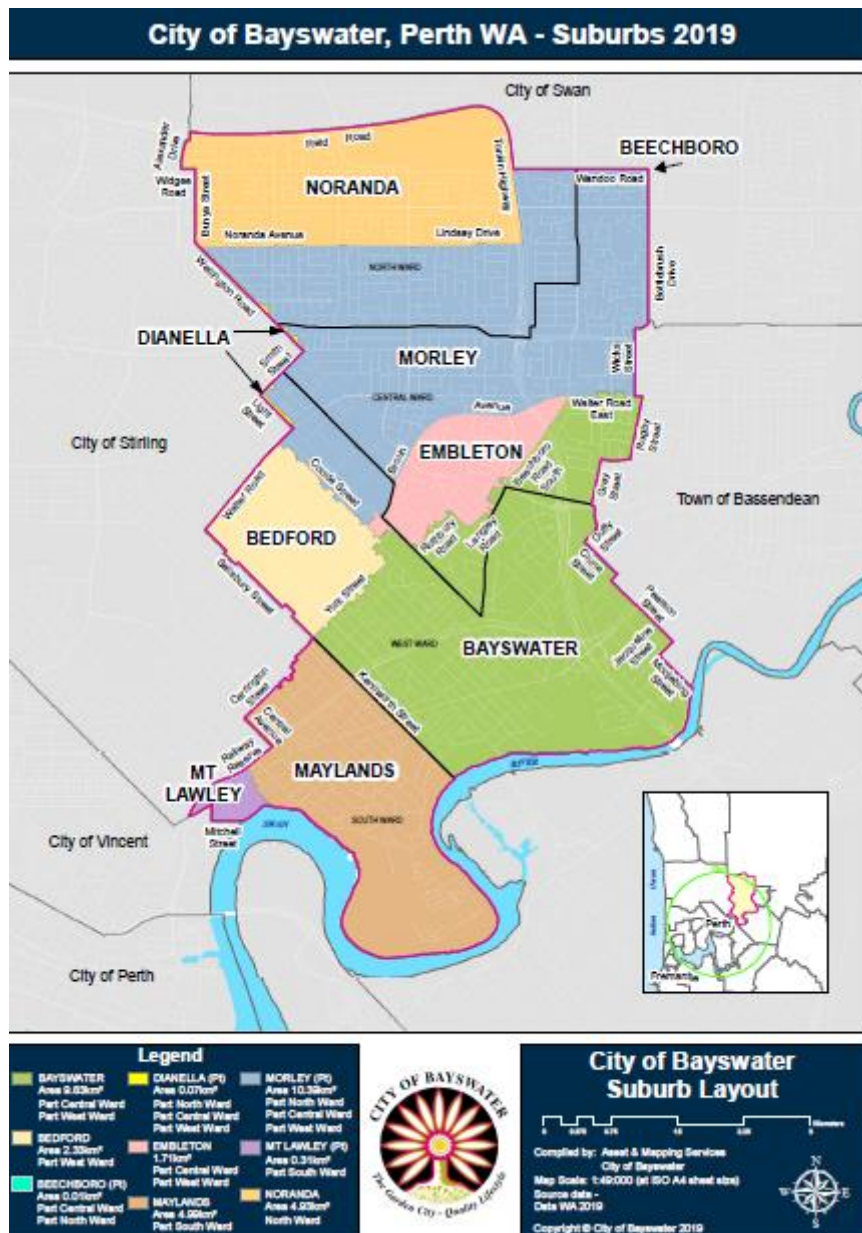
2.3 Health and wellbeing

The City recognises the importance of play spaces for everyone, from toddlers to older people. Play spaces hold an important position in the community as places to socialise, relax, exercise and play. Extensive research has been conducted worldwide into public open space planning and design. A number of studies have shown that in Australia, larger green public open spaces are frequently used and encourage greater levels of physical activity. Similarly, high quality and safe access to parks increases the likelihood the park will be well-used.

3. Snapshot of the City

Known as the 'Garden City' the City of Bayswater is located 8 kilometres north-east of Perth, covering an area of 34 square kilometres. The traditional custodians of the land are the Wadjuk Noongar people.

According to the 2016 census, 66,050 residents live in the City of Bayswater and enjoy an abundance of green space and natural areas, including approximately 10 kms of Swan River foreshore.



Map 1: Suburb map of City of Bayswater

3.1 Demographics

The City has experienced significant growth in the last decade, increasing from 55,803 people in 2006, to 66,050 in 2016. The number of residents born overseas in 2016 was 46% of the total population, with the most common places being England, India, New Zealand and Vietnam.

Categories	Australian Bureau of Statistics Census 2016
Estimated resident population	66,050
Median age	38 years
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population	1.22%
Older couples without children	8%
Lone person households	27%
Children aged between 1 and 14 years	10,190
Overseas born	45.77%
Language at home other than English	28%

Growth is expected to occur over the next seven years to 2026, resulting in a population of 75,200.

According to the WA Tomorrow 2015 Population Predictions, it is anticipated that 35-44 year olds will experience the most significant growth (as a percentage of the population) by 2026, while the percentage of 20-34 year olds is anticipated to significantly decrease. It is also anticipated that the City will see an overall decline in the percentage of elderly men and women.

Maylands is projected to experience the highest rate of growth (25%), followed by Morley (14%). An increase in residential density in these suburbs highlights the importance of parks and reserves, and the role they play in neighbourhoods and suburbs.

3.2 Public Open Space (POS)

All spaces are classified according to function and catchment hierarchy, for the purposes of management and planning. Functions are explained below and illustrated on Map 2:

Sporting spaces provide a setting for formal or structured sporting activities. Two examples of Sporting spaces are:

1. Frank Drago Reserve, Bayswater
2. Pat O'Hara Reserve, Morley.

Recreation spaces provide a setting for informal play, physical activity, recreation and social interaction. The majority of POS in the City has a Recreation function. Two examples of Recreation Spaces are:

3. Newington Reserve, Morley
4. Bardon Park, Maylands.

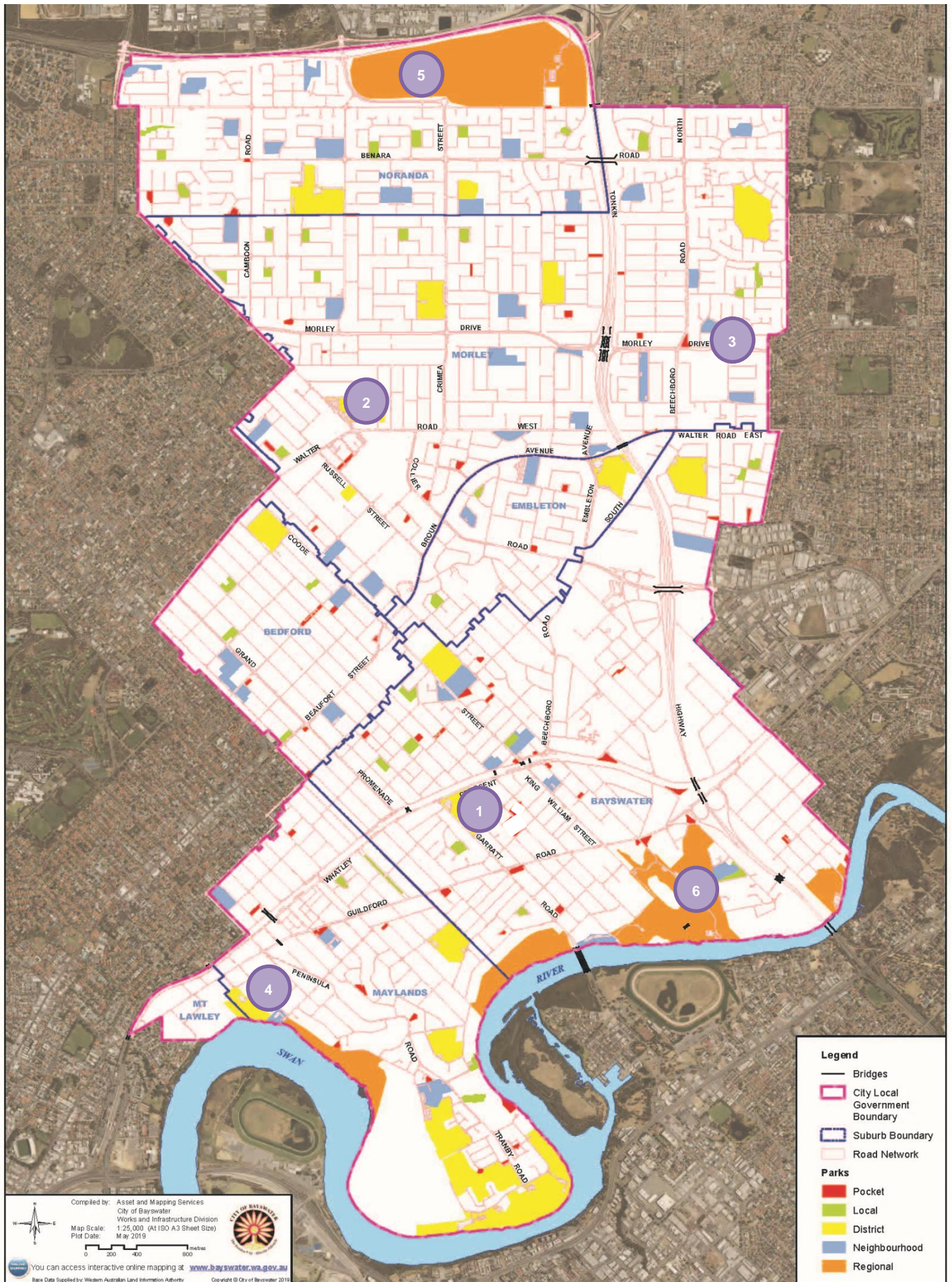
Nature spaces provide a setting for people to enjoy nature and protect local biodiversity. Spaces may be adjacent to reserves and may not be fully accessible to people. Two examples of Nature Spaces are:

5. Lightning Swamp Bushland, Noranda
6. Riverside Gardens, Bayswater.

Map 2 also shows the spread of Public Open Space across the City by catchment hierarchy (typical size and potential distance a user might travel). Catchment hierarchies form the basis of the City's *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy*. Further detail on the hierarchy can be found on page 13 of this report.

Some inequalities can be seen in the distribution of parks and reserves across suburbs. Bayswater, Noranda and Maylands have over the 10% Public Open Space recommended by the State Government's Liveable Neighbourhoods policy, whereas Morley, Bedford and Embleton have less.

In those areas lacking in POS, existing parks and reserves are more important. This presents challenges for planning and design of parks and play spaces, particularly as population density increases.



Map 2: Public Open Space classifications

4. Play in Bayswater

The following sections give an overview of play in the City of Bayswater.

4.1 Audit of play spaces

Overall, the City has an abundance of parks and play spaces of different shapes and sizes.

In order to form a more comprehensive picture of the play spaces in the City, a site audit assessed 169 parks and reserves according to specific criteria. The purpose of the audit was to provide an overall picture of play space performance in each suburb, highlighting good examples and deficiencies in play space design, layout and function.

The audit showed focus areas for the City to address in the Play Space Strategy, namely:

- **Improve diversity in play opportunities** - due to the high incidence of modular, predominantly plastic play equipment, the range of play types across the City is generally low. The previous approach to play equipment and parks infrastructure asset renewal has resulted in similarities between parks and play spaces and consequently, a lack of varied play experiences for the community.
- **Improve access to and around play elements and spaces** - perimeter pathways, connections and around park furniture such as picnic tables and seating are required to accommodate all users.
- **Utilise a holistic planning approach** – the layout of parks and play spaces could be improved to further enhance natural features in the City's parks.
- **Focus on quality of provision** - there are opportunities to improve the level and quality of provision for some suburbs (Embleton and Morley in particular) by upgrading spaces and aligning them to their correct classification, taking into account the role that play has in each park or reserve and capitalising on points of difference.

The complete audit report can be found in Appendix 1.

4.2 Playgrounds

There are 117 playgrounds within the City of Bayswater, including those that are attached to community facilities, including childcare centres, and fee-for-access facilities such as Bayswater Waves. This strategy does not include these in its scope, as planning for these play spaces will be determined by management agreements or other circumstances, and may not necessarily conform to the same principles and classification hierarchy. Similarly, development funding for these sites will be determined separately to the annual budget for play space redevelopments and additional external grant funding may be sought.

Therefore, the number of playgrounds included in this strategy is 105.

4.3 Playground provision

An accepted ratio for playgrounds per head of population does not exist in Western Australia, however it is useful to note for the purposes of benchmarking against other local governments:

LGA	Number of children aged 1-14 years	Number of playgrounds (public)	Ratio
City of Bayswater population – 66,050	10,190	105	1 playground p/629 residents, or 1 playground p/97 children

City of Vincent population – 33,693	4,773	48	1 playground p/910 residents, or 1 playground p/99 children
City of Canning – 92,965	15,852	145	1 playground p/641 residents, or 1 playground p/109 children
City of Belmont population - 39,682	6,389	37	1 playground p/826 residents, or 1 playground p/172 children

In comparison with other local governments, the ratio of playgrounds to children is relatively high in the City of Bayswater.

4.4 Play equipment replacement

The City bases its annual replacement of play equipment on asset management principles. Play equipment replacement is informed by an independent audit commissioned by the City, at a minimum of once every three years. This ensures play equipment is aligned with Australian Standards for safety. It also provides a recommended schedule for replacement, based on the age and condition of the equipment, on a 15 year cycle.

The replacement cost of play equipment assets in the City is approximately \$5.8 million. The annual depreciation cost for the play equipment is approximately **\$345,000**. The City will aim to maintain this level of service through considered replacement of play assets, renovation of current play spaces, and improving the spread of play opportunities for the community.

4.5 Maintenance regime

The City conducts regular inspections of play spaces, according to a specified maintenance regime in accordance with the Australian Standards for Play Equipment. Sand cleansing, and repair and replacement of equipment is carried out on a regular basis to ensure ongoing community safety. Signs are used when maintenance and repairs are underway so the community is aware of how it will impact their use of the site.

4.6 Additional play infrastructure

The City maintains 15 outdoor courts (tennis, basketball etc.), replacing them when necessary in accordance with asset management principles and community demand. In addition, outdoor exercise equipment is installed at 11 reserves. An example of physical play infrastructure is Russell St Park in Morley, which includes a Ninja Warrior obstacle course suitable for pre-teens and young adults.

The City aims to diversify the current physical play infrastructure through renovation, renewal and addition of elements for all ages and abilities, such as parkour apparatus, multi-courts and hit-up walls. These changes will generally occur at larger neighbourhood, district and regional reserves, in line with the *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy*, and guided by the community.

There are two skate parks in the City - Crimea Reserve in Morley and Wotton Reserve in Bayswater. The City funds a program of clinics and events each year, run by Skate WA, to encourage children of all ages to participate in wheeled sports. The City's Skate Park Advisory Committee will discuss skate facility improvements. The City also has a small BMX dirt jump circuit in bushland adjacent to the Lightning Park Recreation Centre.

4.7 Other projects

Parks and play spaces have a variety of uses and many are used for a number of functions, including place activation, community events and festivals. The aim of this strategy is to guide planning to make sure community spaces are as flexible as possible to accommodate the changing

needs of local communities. Over recent years, parks and reserves in Morley, Maylands, Bayswater and Noranda town centres have become important spaces used by the local community to help people connect, support local economies and host events. The changing nature of these play spaces will be taken into consideration in planning, design and renovation.

5. Community opinion

The development of the Play Space Strategy has been shaped by community feedback. Any strategy as all-encompassing and broad as this one requires a significant engagement program with community members of all ages from all walks of life. Throughout the development of the strategy, over 400 people participated online, in interviews, at workshops and drop-in sessions. The full report can be viewed in Appendix 2, and a summary of findings is provided below.

5.1 Local play spaces

Residents in the City of Bayswater highly value their play spaces for a number of reasons. It is imperative the City takes into account the whole community when renewing current play spaces. It is evident that local spaces that are conveniently located within close proximity to people's houses are highly valued and used for children's play, dog walking, community/social activities and exercise. There are unique differences between suburbs and communities which must be highlighted and valued in planning and provision. Ensuring residents have access to a range of different sizes and types of play spaces in their local area will be an important part of the strategy.

5.2 Natural environment is key

The natural environment and open space are important to the overall experience for children and their parents or carers. This matches industry trends concerning nature and water play. For primary school aged children, the most popular play spaces across all age groups are nature-based, with either specific nature play elements, or play in the natural environment.

5.3 Play types

A comprehensive program of activities with school age children gave valuable insights into preferred activities and types of play spaces. Play activities showed a clear trend towards adventure and challenge, namely climbing, building cubbies and exploring. There is a positive correlation between age and physical play, such as multi-courts, skate parks and riding a scooter/bicycle; along with hanging out with friends. Swings and flying foxes continue to be popular with 8-10 year olds. Parents and carers identified a lack of safe and enclosed play opportunities for toddlers, and a mix of play activities to cater for more than one age group in bigger play spaces has been a common request.

5.4 Safety

Results from all phases of engagement highlighted issues concerning child safety, specifically referring to fencing or enclosed play spaces for children - particularly in parks designated as off leash dog exercise areas. People walking dogs is also noted as a common motivation for using parks and reserves. The City has stipulated that dogs must be on a lead within 20 metres of a playground, for the safety of children, and in accordance with the *Dog Act 1976*, dog owners must have control of their dogs at all times.

5.5 Functionality

People of all ages and abilities enjoy parks and play spaces across the City. Suitable and accessible parks infrastructure including seating, picnic tables, shade and public toilets are important

for people's enjoyment of the site. Improved access to facilities and play spaces through path networks and connections is important to ensure the whole community can enjoy them.

Part 2:

6. Strategic approach

This section of the Play Space Strategy brings together the information that has been gathered, analysed and refined throughout the development process. This section comprises:

- Guiding principles
- A classification hierarchy for parks and play spaces
- Parks infrastructure and design elements
- Recommendations.

6.1 Guiding principles

The future planning and development of play spaces will be based on three guiding principles. These are:

6.1.1 Quality local provision

In order to improve the balance of play experiences in the City's parks, the broader context of the park must be considered, along with the role of play within that park. The aim is to provide a variety of play experiences in local areas in liaison with the local community users. In pocket parks, this may include meeting spaces for local residents with smaller amounts of modest play equipment, a community garden or similar community-driven initiatives. Similarly, local parks that have modular play equipment may be better suited to natural play elements, such as balancing logs, tree stumps or sand play.

A cornerstone of this strategy is that play is not just about children - play spaces are used by everyone. Families, older people, carers, teenagers and people with disability use play spaces in a number of ways. Play opportunities need to offer variety, interest and challenge for a broad range of ages, supported by parks infrastructure to facilitate a mix of uses, such as seating, picnic shelters, pathways and BBQs.

6.1.2 Effective and sustainable asset management

The City owns and manages many play assets. Regular review of play assets is required to achieve well-designed and high-functioning play spaces for the community, and to maintain appropriate service levels. When play equipment reaches the end of its useful life and is no longer suitable, or there is an oversupply of similar equipment in a local area, decisions will be made with the community for the design and use of the play space. These decisions will be guided by the *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy*, outlined below.

6.1.3 Annual priorities

In conjunction with an independent condition audit commissioned every three to five years, an annual assessment process will help determine implementation priorities. Criteria will include:

- Community profile i.e. demographics
- Surrounding environment i.e. existing parks, reserves and play opportunities in the area

- Available budget.

Collaboration with other service areas to plan, design and implement play spaces and complementary infrastructure will play a vital role in the process.

This approach does not negate the City's ability to respond to community requests for park and play space developments outside of the annual program of play space redevelopments. The purpose of this strategic approach is to remain flexible and responsive to community need.

6.2 Classification hierarchy of Parks and Play Spaces

The Play Space Strategy is based on the theory that play can occur anywhere. In practice, it is necessary to apply parameters for a strategic and consistent approach to planning.

A hierarchy has been created, based on the State Government's *Classification Framework for Public Open Space (2012)*, which was developed by the previous Department of Sport and Recreation. This will be used to guide redevelopments and make sure park and play spaces reflect the intended level of use (the full hierarchy can be viewed in Attachment 1). The hierarchy can be used to achieve a level of consistency between the opportunities available to residents in all suburbs. A summary of each hierarchical level, associated examples of play and park infrastructure, and estimated range of costs can be found below:

The classification hierarchy of parks and play spaces replaces the previous hierarchy applied by the City in relation to the provision of play equipment only within the broader reserve or public open space.

6.2.1 Pocket park

'Extension of my backyard'

- The City has a total of 59 pocket parks, and 18 of these have play equipment
- The purpose of a pocket park is a short visit for rest, relaxation or play
- The size of a pocket park is generally less than 0.4 hectares; 300m walk from home
- Estimated cost range for a pocket play space renovation is \$30,000 to \$50,000.



Gordon Reserve, Bayswater

Pocket play components:

- Basic/nature play elements, depending on proximity to main roads.

Pocket park infrastructure:

- Shade (natural/shade sail)
- Accessible pathways
- Seating
- Basic landscaping.

6.2.2 Local park

'A place to meet the street'


- The City has a total of 37 local parks, and 30 of these have play equipment
- The purpose of a local park is a short visit for play, recreation, rest or relaxation
- The size of a local park is generally between 0.4 to 1 hectare; 400m walk from home
- Estimated cost range for a local play space renovation is \$50,000 to \$65,000.

 <p><i>Feredy Street Reserve, Embleton</i></p>	<p>Play components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cater for a limited age range • 1 to 2 types of play e.g. nature play elements, modular equipment, climbing frame, swings. <p>Park infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shade (natural/shade sail) • Accessible pathways • Seating • Basic landscaping.
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6.2.3 Neighbourhood park

'Heart of the community'

- The City has a total of 47 neighbourhood parks, and 35 of these have play equipment
- The intended purpose of a neighbourhood park is a medium-length visit for community and social activity, such as picnics, dog walking, sport, recreation, and play
- The size of a neighbourhood park is generally between 1 and 5 hectares; 800m walk from home
- Estimated cost range for a neighbourhood play space renovation is \$65,000 to \$90,000.

 <p><i>Bert Wright Park, Bayswater</i></p>	<p>Play components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cater for a broader age range of children and adults • Mix of play opportunities and types, e.g. outdoor multi-courts, skate elements, adult exercise equipment. <p>Park infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shade (natural/shade sail) • Accessible pathways • Seating • Picnic shelter • Drink fountain with dog bowl (where appropriate) • Barbecue (where appropriate) • Lighting • Landscaping.
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6.2.4 District park

'Mix of sport and play'

- The City has a total of 17 district parks, and 14 of these have play equipment
- The purpose of a district park is, in most cases, organised sport with some recreation and/or nature function
- Visit length will vary depending on sporting function, and activities include dog walking, exercise and children's play
- The size of a district park ranges from 5 to 15 hectares; 1-2 km walk from home
- Estimated cost range for a district play space renovation will be between \$65,000 and \$120,000.



Play components:

- Dependent on the sporting function and space available.

Park infrastructure:

- Shade (natural/shade sail)
- Accessible pathways
- Seating
- Picnic shelter (where appropriate)
- Drink fountain with dog bowl (where appropriate)
- Barbecue (where appropriate)
- Lighting.

Wotton Reserve, Embleton

6.2.5 Regional park

'Super-sized reserve'

- The City has a total of nine regional parks, and six of these have play equipment
- The purpose of a regional play space is dependent on specific use. Regional parks and reserves can accommodate important sport or nature functions, such as Lighting Park and Riverside Gardens
- Accommodate important biodiversity principles and environmental management where possible
- The size of a regional park varies, servicing the whole of the City and neighbouring local government areas
- Estimated cost range for a regional play space renovation is \$120,000 +.



Claughton Reserve, Bayswater

Play components:

- Diverse, servicing different ages and abilities in a large enough area to enable multiple activities and users
- Accessible play elements.

Park infrastructure:

- Shade (natural and/or shade sail)
- Accessible pathways
- Seating
- Picnic shelter
- Drink fountain (with dog bowl where appropriate)
- Barbecue
- Lighting.

6.3 Park infrastructure and design

The *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy* outlined above identifies essential and optional park elements for each classification, based on the use and function of the space. It is important to provide a range of elements, based on the unique characteristics and location of the park and play space. As a general guide, the following park elements will be included at the appropriate level:

6.3.1 Soft fall

According to the Australian standard, all play equipment over 600mm in height requires a minimum of 300mm of some type of soft fall. The majority of play spaces will have sand or mulch. Higher level play spaces (neighbourhood and above) may contain rubber soft fall or a mix of surfaces, depending on the surrounding environment, type of play and feedback from the community.

6.3.2 Drink fountains

Drink fountains with dog bowls have been placed in parks and reserves that are designated as off leash dog exercise areas. Installing drink fountains will be considered at district, neighbourhood and regional level play spaces, taking into account water availability and lifecycle costs.

6.3.3 Fencing

Fencing around toddler play areas will be considered in situations where a barrier is required between the play space and hazards, such as the Swan River at Riverside Gardens play space, or at parks that are designated as off leash dog exercise areas. Enclosed play spaces for younger children can allow for separation from play equipment targeted at older age groups. Fencing of play areas at most levels of the hierarchy will be considered, taking into account the location, surrounding environment, site characteristics and park classification.

6.3.4 Seating

It is important to provide adequate seating in parks and play spaces to cater for parents and carers watching their children, older people, and others wanting to enjoy watching the world go by. Design

will vary, depending on the usage of the park, level of play space and community input. At a minimum, two seats should be available in all parks and play spaces, in adequate shade.

6.3.5 Picnic shelters

These are generally not considered essential infrastructure at pocket or local parks and play spaces, if adequate seating and shade is provided. At neighbourhood level and above, visits tend to be longer and therefore often warrant a picnic shelter. If a BBQ is installed at a park (generally neighbourhood level and above), a picnic shelter is ideally located within close proximity, connected by an accessible pathway.

6.3.6 Barbecues

Parks and reserves classified as neighbourhood or district may have a barbecue, depending on the location. In the case of district reserves with a sporting function, there may be constraints on the space available. Some neighbourhood level reserves may benefit from a barbecue if desired by the local community. Regional level reserves may include one or more barbecues, preferably with access to seating/picnic shelter and bin. Installation of barbecues will take into account electrical supply and lifecycle costs.

6.3.7 Pathways and connections

Pathways in parks and around play spaces have a dual purpose:

- Facilitate a path of travel between points, such as carpark to play space, or seating/picnic area to barbecue
- Integration into the play space in accordance with the site characteristics or theme, such as nature play areas or bicycle tracks.

In both instances, accessibility must be considered, therefore choices concerning the material used will depend on the specific requirements of the space. Materials may include concrete, asphalt, crushed limestone, rubber or pavers.

6.3.8 Public toilets

The City aims to provide public toilets at all district and regional reserves. Some parks are in close proximity to public toilet facilities in town centres or community facilities. In the case of pocket and local level parks intended for short visits, public toilets are generally not installed.

6.3.9 Car parking

Bigger parks and reserves often have an increased travel time to get to and encourage a longer stay, so these warrant the need for car parks - either on-street or verge parking, or a dedicated off street car park. District and Regional level parks and reserves will have a dedicated car park including Australian Council for Rehabilitation of Disabled (ACROD) bays, in accordance with the relevant standards.

6.3.10 Shade

In Perth's climate, shade in play spaces is vital. A number of parks and reserves have established, large-canopy trees, however not all of these trees adequately shade play equipment. The high incidence of plastic play equipment in play spaces can exacerbate heat, particularly at certain times of the day. It is a challenge to naturally shade play equipment, and some species of tree can drop significant amounts of leaf litter and there is potential for falling branches. Trees and the anticipated shade cover will be considered in the location of play equipment and seating.

The City is committed to ensuring all play equipment is adequately shaded, either naturally, with a shade sail or a combination of both.

6.3.11 Additional infrastructure

The City aims to provide spaces in parks and reserves that appeal to the broader community by planning and designing elements in a way that creates a sense of place and offers points of difference. If resources permit and the location is deemed appropriate, design of play spaces may include public artwork, themed and/or recycled play equipment, wayfinding and street furniture.

6.3.12 Access and all abilities

The City of Bayswater is committed to furthering the principles and objectives of the Disability Services Act and ensuring that the community is accessible for, and inclusive of, people with disability, their families and carers. The City's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) 2016-2020 is designed to meet the requirements of the Disability Services Act (2004). In addition to the Act, legislation such as the Building Code of Australia and Access to Premises Standard under the Disability Discrimination Act, also relate to planning for access and inclusion at facilities and in public open spaces.

The City will aim to ensure that all City facilities and infrastructure and pedestrian facilities in parks and reserves comply with minimum access standards as required by Australian Standards on Access and Mobility (ie. AS 1428 suite) and are physically accessible and safe. Upgrades to park infrastructure will provide access to people with disability through thoughtful planning and design to enable access by the whole community. An example of this is picnic shelters that incorporate an extended end with adequate space for a person seated in a wheelchair to move underneath. In addition, the concrete pad surrounding the picnic shelter should be large enough for adequate circular movement of a pram, wheelchair or gopher.

7. Recommendations

This section provides recommendations for the City's play spaces over a ten year period, broken into three areas:

- Annual Play Space Redevelopments (July 2019 – June 2022), focussing on the parks and reserves with play equipment due for replacement in the next three years
- Future Implementation Plan (2022-2033) for all remaining play spaces
- Annual Shade Program

7.1 Annual Play Space Redevelopments

This table contains the first three years' of redevelopments, based on the estimated year of replacement. This list is a guide and does not prevent the City from responding to community requests for park and play infrastructure developments outside of the annual program.

2019/20

The 2019/20 program is based on the average budget allocation for play equipment replacement over the past five years. Preliminary site assessments have been carried out using the criteria outlined above. The results from the community engagement to date will influence planning and design, however further input from local residents will be sought following Council approval of the 2019/20 budget.

<i>Park name</i>	<i>Suburb</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Dog off leash exercise area?</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Recommended action</i>	<i>Estimated Municipal funding \$</i>
Claughton Reserve	Bayswater	Regional	Y	Potential to expand/diversify play and supporting infrastructure. Community requests for nature-based play.	Consider nature play elements to complement the natural environment; landscaping, pathway connections and additional park infrastructure to suit communities of interest i.e. water craft, fishing	\$100,000

Mills Avenue Park	Bayswater	Neighbourhood	Y	Potential to expand/diversify play and supporting infrastructure. Community requests for improved play equipment.	Enhance current connectivity through perimeter and in-park pathways. Play to be based on community input.	\$50,000
The Strand Reserve	Bayswater	Pocket	N	Significant established trees. Consider leaf litter and shade provision in play and infrastructure location.	Enhance space for community use, basic level play equipment, based on community input.	\$25,000
Noranda Sporting Complex (SW corner)	Noranda	District (Sporting)	N	Co-located with a sporting function; development of Noranda Nook to be considered	Liaise with user clubs and stakeholders in the first instance to determine location and type of play.	\$35,000
Pat O'Hara Reserve	Morley	District (Sporting)	Y	Community input highlighted in Master Plan process. Emphasis on surveillance and CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environment Design) principles.	Enhance passive recreation space, taking into account potential Master Plan and future development of site.	\$90,000
Waltham Reserve	Morley	Neighbourhood (Sporting)	N	Partial removal of equipment in 2018/19 for safety reasons. Resident requests for equipment replacement, particularly swings.	Enhance play space based on community input, install pathways for greater connectivity to and around play space and playing fields.	\$50,000
Total amount required for 19/20 (POS and other external funds to be confirmed)						\$350,000

In the case of the sites proposed for redevelopment in 2020/21 and 2021/22, an estimated range has been applied to each play space, based on redevelopment cost estimates at the time of printing. Cost range is based on anticipated level of service as guided by the *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy*, explained previously in this document.

2020/21 *

Park name	Suburb	Classification	Dog off leash exercise area?	Comments	Recommended action	Estimated \$ range
Alf Brooks Park	Bayswater	Pocket	N	Play to be determined by residents. Current outdoor basketball court.	Increase tree canopy, improve connectivity and replace play elements at existing level. Retain shade sail.	\$30,000 to \$50,000
Belstead Reserve	Noranda	Local	Y	Play to be determined by residents.	Shade sail to be installed. Replace play elements at existing level. Improve connectivity.	\$50,000 to \$65,000
Gus Weimar Park	Morley	Local	N	Consider surrounding play provision at Moses Saunders, Newington, Allan Hill and Arbor Park.	Increase tree canopy and natural shade planting. Consider improving connectivity to surrounding parks and play spaces.	\$50,000 to \$65,000
Mahogany Reserve	Morley	Local	N	Explore options for multiple small play nodes within the park/trees.	Natural shade planting. Improve connectivity between play nodes, landscaping and throughout park.	\$50,000 to \$65,000

Stanbury Reserve	Morley	Pocket	N	Consider safety due to close proximity to Crimea St and Stanbury Cres.	Minor play elements, potential for sand/nature play element, community initiative eg garden. Install shade sail over play elements.	\$30,000 to \$50,000
Wattle Reserve	Morley	Neighbourhood	N	Current outdoor basketball court due for replacement. Consider future provision in light of court removals in Morley and Noranda.	Increase tree canopy and install shade sail over play equipment. Potential to combine play elements to promote accessibility, additional park infrastructure, seating. Potential BBQ and passive lighting.	\$65,000 to \$90,000

2021/22 *

Park name	Suburb	Classification	Dog off leash exercise area?	Comments	Recommended action	Estimated \$ range
Gibbney Reserve (East)	Maylands	District (Sporting)	Y	Potential to link existing play nodes to primary school with connecting pathway or merge. Engage primary school and local residents. Potential for toddler play elements, if aligned with usage and local demographics.	Consider merging play spaces, complement with improved park infrastructure – seating, shelters, potential fencing around play space. Retain existing shade sail.	\$65,000 to \$120,000
Riverside	Bayswater	Regional	Y	Regional play space with potential	Source external grant	\$1 mill

Gardens/Eric Singleton Reserve				for all-abilities and increased variety for multi-age group activities (based on community feedback/aspiration)	funds. Recommend master planning/concept design for all-abilities play space. Commence community engagement and planning in 19/20.	
York Reserve	Bedford	Pocket	N	Climbing net replaced 2018. Two existing play nodes.	Enhance natural shade through planting. Connectivity to play elements. Potential for sand play.	\$30,000 to \$50,000

*Program is subject to budget approval and available resources.

7.2 Future Implementation Plan

The following plan is proposed to guide play space redevelopments in the ten year period from 2022-2032. The plan was developed with the play equipment audit, and taking into account community feedback during the engagement phases. **Estimated play equipment replacement date** has been determined by the independent audit. The year of replacement is subject to change, depending on condition and available resources. An independent condition audit is due to be completed in 2020/21 financial year.

Recommended actions are noted as follows:

- **Maintain** - Maintain the play space at the specified classification level. Play equipment to be replaced and play space redeveloped in line with the estimated replacement date, based on community feedback and further analysis
- **Enhance** - Enhance play space to bring it up to classification level and align with the *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy*. Play equipment to be replaced and play space redeveloped in line with the estimated replacement date, based on community feedback and further analysis.

These recommended actions are preliminary, based on information to date. Further planning and analysis will occur prior to the estimated year of replacement, along with community engagement.

Park suburb and name	POS area (ha)	Classification	Dog off leash exercise area?	Estimated play equipment replacement	Comments from community feedback	Recommended action
Bayswater						
Bert Wright Park	1.01	Neighbourhood	N	2031/32	Popular park for events; future projects will further activate community use. Outdoor multi-court	Maintain
Donald Way Reserve	0.42	Local	N	2026/27	Address pathway and connection.	Maintain
Flora Reserve	0.71	Local	N	2024/25	Well-used local park; potential for nature play, adult exercise equipment. Facilitate connection to McWhae Gardens	Maintain
Frank Drago Reserve	7.62	District (Sporting)	Y	NIL	Reserve does not currently contain a play space; future development of the site may include play equipment	Enhance
Gobba Lake	0.88	Local	N	2023/24	Liaise with Friends Of Gobba Lake Group	Maintain

Park						
Gordon Reserve	0.35	Pocket	N	2032/33	Play equipment upgraded in 17/18	Maintain
Halliday Park	2.02	Neighbourhood (Sporting)	Y	2032/33	Play equipment upgraded in 17/18	Maintain
Hamilton Reserve	0.12	Pocket	N	2028/29	Potential for adult exercise; consider tree issues and leaf litter. High dependence area	Maintain
Headley Place Reserve	0.27	Pocket	N	2023/24	Investigate proximity to road.	Maintain
Hinds Reserve	1.80	Neighbourhood	N	2030/31	Site under investigation for potential bike trail	Enhance
Houghton Park	8.10	District (Sporting)	N	2026/27	Site has potential for play variety e.g. nature play elements, adult exercise equipment. Outdoor multi-court.	Enhance
Joan Rycroft Reserve	3.64	Neighbourhood (Sporting)	Y	2022/23	Used for overflow sports training.	Maintain
Lower Hillcrest Reserve	3.46	Neighbourhood (Sporting)	Y	2022/23	Well-used by primary school age children; popular with local residents. Potential to develop into a nature play space to complement neighbouring Evans Place.	Enhance. Dependent on sporting function
Upper Hillcrest Reserve	5.52	District (Sporting)	Y	2032/33	Play equipment upgraded in 17/18. Investigate potential to combine with Lower Hillcrest.	Maintain
Norco Way Reserve	0.06	Pocket	N	2030/31	Explore potential to develop the space for community initiatives. Improve maintenance level	Maintain
Paterson Reserve	0.88	Local	N	2031/32	Explore potential to develop the space with adjacent school students and residents.	Maintain
Swan Lake Reserve	0.80	Local	N	2023/24	Friends Of group looking to enhance the space.	Maintain
Toowong Reserve	0.61	Local	N	2023/24	Outdoor multi-court	Maintain

<i>Park suburb and name</i>	<i>POS area (ha)</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Dog off leash exercise area?</i>	<i>Play equip. replacement due</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Recommended action</i>
Bedford						
Alan Lehmann Reserve	0.66	Local	Y	2032/33	Play equipment upgraded in 17/18. Play space well-utilised by kindergarten.	Maintain
Beaufort Park	1.96	Neighbourhood	N	2031/32	Dependant on sporting function	Maintain
Birkett Street Reserve	0.78	Local	N	2022/23	Current shade sails. Potential to enhance use of the space for local residents. High dependency	Maintain.
Browns Lake Reserve	1.70	Neighbourhood	N	2025/26	Wayfinding to assist links to Rudloc Reserve and Nora Hughes.	Maintain
Grand Promenade Reserve	3.44	Neighbourhood (Sporting)	N	2027/28	Asset Plan due for 20/21. Potential to activate with series of play areas around the perimeter, BBQ, community events space. Outdoor multi-court	Maintain
Gummery Reserve	0.41	Local	N	2028/29	Play equipment to be improved	Maintain.
RA Cook Reserve	5.84	District	Y	2023/24	Adjacent water catchment	Maintain

<i>Park suburb and name</i>	<i>POS area (ha)</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Dog off leash exercise area?</i>	<i>Play equip. replacement due</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Recommended action</i>
Embleton						
Broun Park	2.14	Neighbourhood	Y	2030/31	Potential for engaging, nature-based play space to complement natural assets. Good location to attract families and children (adjacent to Bayswater Waves). Investigate a staged process of upgrading play space including pathway network and access from carpark and local streets; picnic, seating, BBQ; play nodes for 2-3 age groups.	Enhance

Feredy Reserve	0.75	Local	Y	2022/23	Update play equipment, potentially for preschool age depending on community input	Maintain
McKenzie Reserve	1.25	Neighbourhood	N	2032/33	Play equipment upgraded in 17/18	Maintain
Ockley Square Reserve	0.23	Pocket	N	2026/27	Build community initiatives	Maintain
Wotton Reserve	6.82	District (Sporting)	N	2031/32	Skate park considered as separate project via the City's Skate Park Advisory Committee	Maintain

<i>Park suburb and name</i>	<i>POS area (ha)</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Dog off leash exercise area?</i>	<i>Play equip. replacement due</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Recommended action</i>
Maylands						
Bardon Park (lower)	6.71	District	Y	2022/23	Potential for substantial development to play space at the time of upgrade for improved accessibility and play opportunities to complement natural environment.	Enhance
Bardon Park (upper)	6.71	District	Y	2029/30	As above	As above
Bath Street Reserve	0.74	Local	N	2027/28	Park currently provides a high level of service and interest due to site location and topography.	Maintain
Charles Reserve	0.92	Local	N	2027/28	Potential to improve play equipment and infrastructure to complement the surrounding environment.	Maintain
Clarkson Reserve	7.23	District	N	2031/32	Consider in broader planning of Maylands Peninsula.	Enhance
De Lacy Reserve	5.26	District (Sporting)	Y	2032/33	Play equipment upgraded in 2018/19	Maintain
Gibbney Reserve West	6.18	District (Sporting)	Y	2029/30	Consider combining two play spaces	Maintain

Kelvin Park	0.09	Pocket	N	2022/23	Consider appropriate community infrastructure	Maintain
Lake Bungana	9.39	District	N	2031/32	Consider in development of Brickworks Park	Maintain
Margaret Reserve	0.20	Pocket	N	2030/31	Community-managed.	Maintain
Maylands Foreshore	6.51	Regional/District	N	DEFERRED	Awaiting outcome of Maylands Waterland review (2019/20). Potential for BBQ, seating, picnic, play upgrade	Enhance
Plowmans Park	0.49	Local	N	2027/28	Well-designed and maintained local space for surrounding residents.	Maintain
Puntie Crescent Reserve	0.34	Pocket	N	2032/33	Play equipment upgraded in 2017/18	Maintain
Shearn Memorial Park	2.37	Neighbourhood (Sporting)	Y	2029/30	Focus on community safety. Potential for local history of the area to be integrated into the park. Current outdoor court.	Maintain
The RISE	1.55	Neighbourhood	N	2025/26	Surveillance and activation could be improved.	Maintain

<i>Park suburb and name</i>	<i>POS area (ha)</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Dog off leash exercise area?</i>	<i>Play equip. replacement due</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Recommended action</i>
<i>Morley</i>						
Abinger Reserve	2.34	Neighbourhood	Y	2028/29	Consider play space for future placement of basketball court	Enhance
Allan Hill Park	1.15	Neighbourhood	N	2023/24	Basketball court removed and extra exercise equipment installed 19/20. Potential to incorporate natural elements into surrounding environment	Enhance
Arbor Park	10.2	District	Y	2025/26	Basketball court removed and extra exercise equipment installed 19/20. Potential to incorporate natural elements, wayfinding and multiple play nodes/types	Enhance

Battersea Reserve	1.64	Neighbourhood	N	2023/24	Potential to enhance play, incorporating natural elements. Liaise with school students in design.	Enhance
Boxhill Reserve	0.62	Local	N	2024/25	Outdoor court replaced in 2018/19.	Maintain
Charlwood Reserve	0.42	Local	N	2026/27	Requires significant tree planting and landscaping for shade.	Maintain
Chesney Reserve	0.36	Pocket	N	2033/34	Play equipment upgraded in 2018/19	Maintain
Crimea Park	6.30	District (Sporting)	Y	2029/30	Potential to expand skate park to include mini ramp. More shade to cover the play equipment. Current outdoor court. Consider mix of play elements depending on community input	Maintain
Crowhurst Reserve	0.46	Local	N	2027/28	Established trees providing decent shade; scope to develop from existing pathway	Maintain
Emberson Reserve	5.13	District (Sporting)	N	2026/27	Potential for improved play, parks infrastructure and shade to complement usage	Enhance
Farnham Reserve	0.80	Local	N	2031/32	Play equipment upgraded in 2016/17	Maintain
Fedders Reserve	0.14	Pocket	N	2031/32	Play equipment upgraded in 2016/17	Maintain
FJ Beals Park	2.25	Neighbourhood (Sporting)	Y	2028/29	Used for overflow sporting activities.	Maintain
Hampton Square Reserve	2.85	Neighbourhood	Y	2030/31	BBQ requested by local residents. Install barbecue in close proximity to existing seating, picnic shelter and play equipment. Current outdoor court; upgraded in 2018/19.	Maintain
Jakobsons Reserve (North)	0.33	Pocket	N	2024/25	Develop relationship and access to adjacent reserve. Established trees; play equipment to requires shade	Maintain
Kanimbla Reserve	0.58	Local	N	2025/26	Potential for play equipment to cater for young children, depending on community input	Maintain
Kennedy	0.11	Pocket	N	2023/24	Well-landscaped, lacking shade	Maintain

Reserve						
Moses Saunders Park	0.84	Local	N	2026/27	Potential to connect play spaces in a 'tour' through wayfinding and connecting pathways - Arbor, Moses Saunders, Gus Weimar, Allan Hill, Newington	Maintain
Newington Reserve	2.36	Neighbourhood	N	203/32	Path for riding bikes; bench seat on opposite side of playground. Fences around playground for safety	Enhance
Peters Place Reserve	1.68	Neighbourhood	N	2026/27	Play equipment could be upgraded	Enhance
Rhodes Reserve	0.71	Local	N	2023/24	Under-utilised space, lacking shade	Maintain
Rudloc Reserve	1.65	Neighbourhood	Y	2028/29	Play for broader age range of children requested – toddler and older children due to close proximity to John Forrest Secondary College. Enhance with seating, barbecue, play nodes and connectivity.	Enhance
Russell Street Reserve	0.80	District	N	2032/33	Play equipment for younger children to be installed in centre section; in-keeping with the site	Enhance
Shadwell Reserve	2.06	Neighbourhood	Y	2033/34	Play equipment upgraded in 18/19. Increase natural shade, consider bike paths and connectivity.	Enhance
Silverwood Reserve	0.26	Pocket	N	2031/32	Liaise with childcare centre.	Maintain
Tom Cameron Park	2.14	Neighbourhood	N	2026/27	Needs upgrading for use by children in the area; lighting to be improved.	Enhance
Trewin Park	0.56	Local	N	2030/31	Play equipment to be shaded	Maintain
Weld Square Reserve	2.76	Neighbourhood	Y	2031/32	Play equipment to be more challenging - cater for older kids. Improve community safety.	Enhance

<i>Park suburb and name</i>	<i>POS area (ha)</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Dog off leash exercise area?</i>	<i>Play equip. replacement due</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Recommended action</i>
Noranda						
Bohemia Park	1.39	Neighbourhood	Y	2033/34	Play equipment upgraded in 18/19	Maintain
Bramwell Reserve	0.55	Local	N	2033/34	Play equipment upgraded in 18/19	Maintain
Corderoy Reserve	0.65	Local	Y	2028/29	Large under-utilised area; more planting and shade required	Maintain
Deschamp Reserve	2.36	Neighbourhood	Y	2026/27	Liaise with neighbouring primary school students	Maintain
Fitzpatrick Reserve	0.97	Local	Y	2032/33	Play equipment upgraded in 17/18	Maintain
Holden Reserve	0.99	Local	Y	2031/32	Large under-utilised area; could make use of existing trees for shaded seating and pathways	Maintain
Ivory Park	1.60	Neighbourhood	Y	2023/24	Vegetation maintenance required to improve community safety and surveillance. Current outdoor court.	Enhance
Kirkpatrick Reserve	1.51	Neighbourhood	Y	2025/26	BBQ and lighting; good local meeting place. Fenced playground, shade, seating, coffee	Enhance
Lightning Park Recreation Centre	16.39	Regional (Sporting)	N	2022/23	Play space will consider main sporting use and available space	Maintain
Logan Reserve	0.31	Pocket	N	2031/32	Potential for community garden allotments	Maintain
Luderman Park	2.03	Neighbourhood	Y	2033/34	Play equipment upgraded in 18/19	Maintain
McPherson Reserve	1.97	Neighbourhood	N	2032/33	Play equipment upgraded in 17/18	Maintain
Millerick Reserve	1.30	Neighbourhood	Y	2027/28	Space could be enhanced to reflect neighbourhood level.	Enhance
Nederpelt	0.84	Local	N	2027/28	Current outdoor court. Consider court	Maintain

Reserve					provision in the area before replacing	
Noranda Avenue Reserve	0.34	Pocket	N	2032/33	Play equipment upgraded in 17/18. Consider fence for safety?	Maintain
Noranda Sporting Complex (SE corner)	Noranda	Regional/District (Sporting)	N	2030/31	Liaise with user clubs and stakeholders in the first instance to determine location and type of play.	Maintain
Robert Thompson Park	3.45	Neighbourhood	Y	2024/25	More variety requested in play equipment – innovation, nature play. Expand to include more shaded seating; adult exercise; water play; fenced; shade; coffee	Enhance
Sherbrooke Reserve	0.45	Local	N	2027/28	Consider safety aspect of play in close proximity to Benara Rd	Maintain
Strutt Reserve	3.08	Neighbourhood	N	2031/32	Some issues with dogs off leash. Request for BBQ and exercise equipment stations. Current outdoor court.	Maintain

7.3 Annual shade program

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 March 2019, Council resolved to include an action in the Play Space Strategy to:

‘Develop a long-term program to progressively shade all of the City’s playgrounds, including through the use of shade sails and/or the planting of large canopy trees close to play equipment (where it is possible).’

The following program has been developed based on detailed analysis of current natural shade cover of play equipment, using the City’s LIDAR data capture (Light Detection and Ranging) in the City Spatial Portal. The system, developed in February 2018, allows observation of shadows cast from nearby trees over a 24 hour period. Supporting information has been sourced from ‘The Shade Handbook: A practical guide for shade development in Western Australia’ (2012).

For the purposes of the Annual Shade Program, data was collected on natural shade cover of play equipment between 9am and 6pm in the month of January, including:

- Duration of natural shade (hours)
- Times of natural shade e.g. 4pm to 6pm
- Partial or full shade over current play equipment.

The data does not show the extent of coverage by shade sails, as it is only based on tree shadow. Therefore it was not possible to glean the benefit provided by shade sails alone.

Results

Out of 105 playgrounds:

- 15 playgrounds currently have shade sails. Depending on the location of the playground, height and position of shade sails and nearby trees, the sails may or may not provide full shade. Approximately half of the playgrounds with shade sails also benefit from at least two hours of natural shade from nearby trees, generally in the afternoon between 1pm and 6pm.
- Out of the remaining 90 playgrounds without shade sails, 11 are adequately shaded for five hours or more each day, generally between 11am and 6pm. These playgrounds do not therefore require further shade, in line with the criteria outlined below
- The total number of playgrounds recommended for tree planting to increase natural shade is 67
- The total number of playgrounds recommended for shade sails is 38 (this includes playgrounds with existing shade sails).

7.3.1 Natural shade

Seedlings will be planted, rather than mature trees, as younger trees develop a stronger root system more quickly. The growth period could be between five and ten years to reach maturity and provide optimal shade over play equipment. Species selection is based on a range of factors including soil type, surrounding environment, consideration for biodiversity and improving fauna habitat. Specialist advice from the City’s arborist recommended seedlings be planted rather than mature age trees to ensure a faster growth rate, providing optimal shade within a shorter period of time. In addition to planting trees specifically to shade play equipment, trees will be planted at identified sites to support existing shade sail coverage of play equipment.

7.3.2 Shade sail

Sizes of shade sails vary, depending on the size of the play space, height of equipment and the required shade coverage. The amount of shade provided also depends on the angle and height of

the sail. Depending on the location of the play space, there will be times of day when the equipment cannot be shaded to full capacity. Existing shade sails are positioned in such a way as to protect users during peak UV periods - generally 12pm to 1pm, when the sun is directly overhead.

7.3.3 Costs

Costs illustrated below are based on the average price from several suppliers for the supply and installation of various shade sail sizes. Ongoing costs are based on historical information and an average rate from several suppliers. The City has an annual agreement with a supplier to remove and repair shade sails in winter months. This is important to prevent damage in unpredictable weather conditions.

Park Classification	Shade requirement	Install Cost	Ongoing Annual Maintenance Cost
Pocket	1 medium shade sail OR	\$15,000	\$270
	2 trees	\$840	<i>NIL – initial cost covers supply, planting, mulching, watering for the first 3 years</i>
Local	1 large shade sail OR	\$20,000	\$340
	2 – 3 trees	\$840 - \$1,260	<i>NIL – initial cost covers supply, planting, mulching, watering for the first 3 years</i>
Neighbourhood	2 small shade sails OR	\$25,000	\$470
	3 trees	\$1,260	<i>NIL – initial cost covers supply, planting, mulching, watering for the first 3 years</i>
District	3 medium shade sails OR	\$30,000	\$680
	2 – 3 trees	\$840 - \$1,260	<i>NIL – initial cost covers supply, planting, mulching, watering for the first 3 years</i>
Regional	5 medium shade sails OR	\$60,000	\$1200
	4+ trees	Min \$1,680+	<i>NIL – initial cost covers supply, planting, mulching, watering for the first 3 years</i>

7.3.4 Decision criteria

Based on the data analysis, shade type will be determined by the criteria shown below:

Criteria	Outcome	Rationale
Existing shade sail	Shade sail	Existing shade sails will not be removed; they will be replaced when they are due. Additional trees can also be planted to further increase shade.
Current shade is limited - 0 to 2 hours per day	Shade sail	Generally indicates a lack of surrounding trees therefore shade sail is required
Play space / equipment prevents natural planting	Shade sail	Natural planting may be restricted by certain factors including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Placement near a sporting reserve• Housing in close proximity / obstruction of residents' view Adjacent roads / foreshore• Underground services• Overhead power lines.
Current shade will be complemented by additional planting - 3+ hours full shade per day	Natural	Planting will complement current shade over time
Play equipment / play space design prevents shade sail	Natural	Height e.g. climbing net, or flying fox; location of play space is undulating, hills
Current shade is adequate – more than 5 hours full shade per day	NIL required	Shade over play equipment is sufficient

7.3.5 Implementation

It is recommended that, where shade sails have been identified for installation over existing play equipment, that this takes place in conjunction with the planned play space redevelopments. This will allow for maximum flexibility in shade design and coverage when planning the overall site and play equipment placement. It is anticipated the cost of shade sails will be funded separately each year, in accordance with annual budget approvals.

Tree planting will commence immediately at reserves identified for natural shade. Costs are covered by existing identified budgets such as the street tree planting program. Sites to be planted will be prioritised by size and level of usage over a two to five year period subject to stock and planting capacity.

Each year (commencing 2020/21), a program of sites to be redeveloped will be submitted for Council consideration in the draft budget based on the following information:

- Site, location and classification level
- Shade type – sail or natural

- Installation and life cycle costs for each
- Anticipated schedule of implementation

The first year of the Play Space Redevelopments would therefore comprise the following sites. It should be noted that the installation cost of trees will be covered in the City's existing parks and street tree planting programs:

2019/20

<i>Park name</i>	<i>Suburb</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Shade type</i>	<i>Installation cost</i>	<i>Ongoing annual cost (if applicable)</i>
Claughton Reserve	Bayswater	Regional	Natural	\$1,680	Nil
Mills Avenue Park	Bayswater	Neighbourhood	Natural	\$1,260	Nil
The Strand Reserve	Bayswater	Pocket	Not required – play equipment in full shade all day	Nil	Nil
Noranda Sporting Complex (SW corner)	Noranda	District	Not required – play equipment in full shade all day	Nil	Nil
Pat O'Hara Reserve	Morley	District	Shade sail (consideration for developer contribution cash-in-lieu Public Open Space funding)	\$30,000	\$680
Waltham Reserve	Morley	Neighbourhood	Shade sail (consideration for developer contribution cash-in-lieu Public Open Space funding)	\$25,000	\$470
Total costs				\$57,940	\$1,150

8. Conclusion

The Play Space Strategy was developed in response to an identified need for strategic direction in the planning and design of play spaces in the City of Bayswater. It is the result of comprehensive community engagement, data collection and analysis, and was influenced by current research and trends. It was then refined into three guiding principles:

- Quality local provision
- Effective and sustainable asset management
- Annual priorities.

The *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy* is a valuable tool to guide the planning of the function and hierarchy of parks and reserves, taking into consideration the role that play has in a park - along with other purposes including exercise, recreational activities and family gatherings. Analysis of these factors, the surrounding environment, existing provision in the local area, and demographic profile, will assist the City to make strategic decisions for play that benefit the whole community.

9. Evaluation and review

This strategy is a living document, adaptable to change and subject to regular review. The first major review is anticipated to take place after three years in 2022.

It is important to measure the success of the Play Space Strategy to ensure that the City adheres to the guiding principles and provides play spaces that are aligned with community expectations.

Measures of success include:

- The community is engaged in the planning and design of play spaces
- Appropriate resources are allocated to play space redevelopments each year
- Shade over play equipment is included in every play space redevelopment
- Accessible pathways are included in every play space redevelopment
- The *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy* is used as a guide for all play space redevelopments and other infrastructure works in parks and reserves

Reporting will include:

- Regular updates to the City's Executive team
- Annual reports to Council on play space redevelopments, lessons learned and challenges to be addressed
- Regular updates to the community through the City's online engagement platform, 'Engage Bayswater', social media and other communication mechanisms.

10. Attachment 1

Type	Pocket Park	Local Park	Neighbourhood Park	District Park	Regional Park
Catchment Area	Approx. 300m walk from home	400m walk from home	800m walk from home	1 - 2 km from home	Whole of City, service neighbouring LGAs
Site characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Less than 0.4 ha in sizeMost often used as Recreation and/or Nature spaceIntended for short visits for rest and relaxationAssist in preservation of local biodiversity and natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Generally 0.4 ha to 1 ha in sizeRecreation and/or Nature functionResponsive to natural featuresGood passive surveillanceAssist in preservation of local biodiversity and natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Generally 1 to 5ha in sizeRecreation and social focus for communityProvide a variety of features including bushland, play infrastructure, sporting infrastructure (if appropriate)Sport, Recreation or Nature function/sResponsive to natural featuresGood passive surveillanceAssist in preservation of local biodiversity and natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Generally 5 to 15ha in sizePrimarily used for organised sport with some Recreation and/or Nature functionService several neighbourhood areasLocated centrally to maximise accessibilityLocated on district distributor roads with public transportGood passive surveillanceSafe pedestrian and cycling connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Services one or more geographical region/sWell connected by major road and public transport networksAccommodate important Sport and Recreation functions as well as significant conservation and/or environmental featuresAccommodate biodiversity principles and environmental management goals where possible
Play characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Basic play infrastructure or nature play elements may be provided, depending on proximity to main roads, surveillance and sizeMay reflect local character, community-led initiatives aligned with City policies for Public Open SpaceIntended for short visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Basic level play infrastructure, nature play elements or exercise equipmentMay reflect local character, community-led initiatives aligned with City policies for Public Open SpaceIntended for short visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Extensive play opportunities and choices for different age groups including a mix of typesIntended for medium length visits by surrounding residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Play opportunities dependant on sporting infrastructure and space availabilityVisit length generally dependant on sporting use/outside sporting hours exercise, dog walking and children's play	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Diversity of play opportunities for different ages and abilitiesArea should be large enough to enable multiple activities, play types and users simultaneously
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Safe pedestrian and cycling connectionsAccessible pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Safe pedestrian and cycling connectionsAccessible pathwaysSand or mulch soft fall	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Safe pedestrian and cycling connectionsAccessible pathwaysAccessible seating and picnic furnitureAccessible play elementsSand and/or mulch soft fallLighting - general security and pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Safe pedestrian and cycling connectionsAccessible pathwaysAccessible seating and picnic furnitureAccessible play elementsSand and/or mulch soft fallLighting - general security, pathways and play areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Safe pedestrian and cycling connectionsAccessible pathwaysAccessible seating and picnic furnitureMix of accessible play elementsMix of surfaces, including sand, mulch and rubber soft fallLighting - general security, pathways and play areas
Shade/shelter	Natural/shade sail	Natural/shade sail	Natural/shade sail	Natural and/or shade sail	Natural and shade sails
Supporting infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">SeatingBin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">SeatingBinPicnic shelter (negotiable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Seating node/sPicnic shelterBinsDrink fountain (with dog bowl)BBQ (negotiable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Seating node/sPicnic shelter (where appropriate)BinsDrink fountain (with dog bowl)BBQ (negotiable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Multiple seating and picnic shelter nodesBinsDrink fountains (with dog bowl)BBQs
Public Toilets	Not required	Not required	Negotiable, depending on surrounding provision	Required	Required (fully accessible)
Parking	Not required	Street or Verge (as appropriate)	Street or Verge	Car park required (minimum 5 bays)	Car park required with ACROD bays
Fencing	Negotiable (depending on hazards)	Negotiable (depending on hazards)	Negotiable (depending on hazards, separation of areas)	Negotiable (depending on hazards, separation of areas)	May apply to some play areas for separation; hazard-dependant

Appendix 1

Executive Summary

A strategy is currently being developed to assess the current provision and plan for future provision of play spaces across the City. This strategy will analyse current usage of play spaces, community need and level of provision to inform a sound approach to future planning and set priorities for implementation over the next 10 years.

For the purposes of the strategy, the definition of a play space is:

A place that allows all people, regardless of age or ability, to experience physical and creative play, social interaction and physical activity. Play spaces can be standalone or co-located with community and sporting facilities; in natural environments, public open space or urban areas. Play spaces accommodate a variety of uses, amenities and elements.

In short, a play space refers to public open space that is owned or managed by the City, zoned for recreational use and useable. This includes play spaces, gardens, natural areas, public courts and spaces in which unstructured recreational activity takes place.

For the purposes of this strategy, the following spaces and places are NOT deemed as play spaces:

- Sports fields (unless co-located with a play space i.e. playground on the periphery of a football oval)
- Sport specific infrastructure including goals, full size indoor and outdoor courts, cricket wickets
- Sport and community buildings i.e. Libraries, senior citizens centres
- School grounds
- Leisure and recreation centres, such as Bayswater Waves, the RISE and Maylands Waterland
- Public art (without components designed for interaction/play)
- Footpaths, trails, roads and car park spaces (these will be considered in terms of connections and accessibility only)

This audit involved assessing 169 play spaces across the suburbs of Bayswater, Bedford, Embleton, Maylands, Morley and Noranda according to specific criteria. The purpose was to:

- give an overall picture of play space performance in each suburb
- highlight good examples and deficiencies in play space design, layout and function
- identify issues to be considered in future planning
- identify commonalities and duplications across play spaces
- inform priority works for upgrade and improvement in the Play Space Strategy Implementation Plan

It is noted that the terms *park* and *play space* are interchangeable. In assessing the play space, the surrounding park was also assessed.

The current classification hierarchy for playgrounds was used for the purposes of this audit, as shown in Appendix 2. This was used partly to inform a review of the hierarchy, as part of the Play Space Strategy.

The report presents the audit results and key findings for each suburb, as well as overall key findings grouped into the following themes:

- Play Opportunities
- Distribution
- Quality of Provision
- Access for All Abilities
- Facilities i.e. parks infrastructure and amenities.

These are detailed at the end of this report.

There are distinct differences when comparing play experiences across suburbs; this can also be attributed to an uneven spread of Public Open Space in some areas.

The report provides the evidence required to identify priorities for future works and review the current approach to play space planning, which, in its current form, is restrictive and focussed on asset condition rather than the broader play space environment, the role it plays in the network of Public Open Space and overall range of play experiences across the suburb and the City.

The Play Space Strategy recommendations will be a culmination of key findings from this audit, desktop review and analysis and community engagement.

Introduction

This audit involved assessing 169 play spaces throughout Bayswater according to specific criteria. The purpose was to:

- give an overall picture of play space performance in each suburb
- highlight good examples and deficiencies in play space design, layout and function
- identify issues to be considered in future planning
- identify commonalities and duplications across play spaces
- inform priority works for upgrade and improvement in the Play Space Strategy Implementation Plan

The audit results are subjective and therefore should be used as a guide rather than a technical analysis.

For the purposes of this audit, the play spaces have been classified according to the current classification hierarchy of playgrounds; the levels are Local, District and Regional (Appendix 2). This hierarchy is currently under review as part of the Play Space Strategy to better reflect a) the whole play space, not just the playground and b) the enhanced level of supporting infrastructure required for each level, from basic amenities to accessibility. One major revision of the classification hierarchy is the addition of a Pocket level to describe those play spaces that are less than 0.5 ha in size (25% of all play spaces in the City).

Assessment Criteria

Play function

- Variety in age and ability of play equipment in 4 general age groups: 0-4 years, 5-12 years, teen play (currently refers to multi-courts, skate parks and bike paths) and adult (currently refers to adult exercise equipment, bike paths);
- Types of play elements within the play space, i.e. Traditional, Natural, Creative/ imagination and Physical Play elements i.e. skate park, bike paths, multi-courts.

Accessibility and Inclusion

Criteria were based on the *Access Guidelines for Parks and Outdoor Spaces Handbook*, published by the Access Institute. These guidelines may not fully comply with all the requirements of the Australian Standards for Access and Mobility or the *Disability Discrimination Act*.

- Pathways and connections to and around the play space - range from no path to full pathway connections to and around play area for a continuous path of travel;
- Inclusive and accessible play elements - includes rubber softfall surface around play area, accessible basket swings and play components catering for various ages and developmental needs;
- Accessibility of parks infrastructure, including seating, picnic tables and ACROD parking bays* - based on type and surrounds i.e. grass, mulch or level surface

Surrounding Environment

- Supporting infrastructure and amenities including water fountains, shade over play equipment (either natural or by way of a shade sail) and bins**;
- Natural appeal of the space, relationship to environment, features and landscaping;
- Park and play area safety in terms of lighting, signage, proximity to roads and hazards, surveillance - this considers the whole space i.e. the park, as well as the area where the play space is located;

- Car parking;
- Public toilets.

**ACROD parking bays will generally only be provided if there is a dedicated carpark at the park/play space. Therefore, it is not assumed that all play spaces should contain ACROD bays.*

***In the case of a play space containing a bin ONLY and no other amenities, this was scored as a 1, as the minimum provision of supporting amenities is at least a bin and one other amenity.*

Assessment and rating

The audit scores are intended to demonstrate overall performance, rather than solely determine the individual value of that play space. It is assumed that smaller Pocket and Local play spaces will have lower scores since the function and expectation around the level of service is lower. Conversely, District level play spaces will generally reflect higher scores due to the function and level of service expected by the community and the dependence level in accordance with location and catchment.

The purpose of the ratings is to compare provision and diversity of play experiences within and between suburbs to identify key themes, areas of improvement and issues to be rectified in future planning, such as the quality of play provision and inconsistent level of supporting parks infrastructure.

The audit also demonstrates differences in the distribution and provision of play space levels. One example of this is Pocket play spaces. The audit shows that Pocket play space ratings are higher in Maylands than in Morley and there is a significant range of scores across the group of Pocket play spaces in Bayswater, showing different strengths in criteria such as play area safety and natural appeal of the space. This allows proper examination of the function and purpose of Pocket play spaces in the context of overall provision of play spaces in each suburb to directly inform priorities in the Play Space Strategy Implementation Plan.

It should be noted that the listing in the following audit differs from the hierarchy classification listed in the Annual Play Space Redevelopment Program and Implementation Plan. This is due to the previous playground classification being applied to the following audit and the new revised Parks and Play Space Hierarchy Classification being applied to the Play Space Redevelopment Program and Implementation Plan.

Bayswater

Bayswater has a total of 43 play spaces. These are classified as follows:

Pocket	Local	District	Regional
Armada Reserve Charles Newman Gardens Coode Street Reserve Drake Street Reserve Drop in Centre Evans Place Reserve Dunkley Reserve Grey Street Reserve Hobart Reserve Ingles Reserve John D'Orazio Park Rose Avenue Reserve	Alf Brooks Park (P) Claughton Reserve (P,D) Donald Way Reserve (P) Essex Street Reserve (D) Flora Reserve (P) Frank Drago Reserve (D) Gobba Lake Park Gordon Reserve (P) Grace Hardie Memorial Rose Gardens Halliday Park (P,D) Hamilton Reserve (P) Headley Place Reserve (P) Hinds Reserve (P) Houghton Park (P) Joan Rycroft Reserve (P,D) Lower Hillcrest Reserve (P,D) McWhae Gardens Mills Avenue Park (P,D) Norco Way Reserve (P) Paterson Reserve (P) Swan Lake Reserve (P) The Strand Reserve (P) Toowong Reserve (P) Upper Hillcrest Reserve (P) Whatley Hall Reserve Wymond Park	Baigup Wetlands Bert Wright Park (P,D)	Riverside Gardens Nature (D) Riverside Gardens/Eric Singleton (P)

- 9 of these play spaces include dog exercise areas **(D)**.
- 22 of these play spaces contain play equipment **(P)**.

Assessment ratings

Rating 6-19

46% - most of the lowest scoring play spaces are Pocket level, four of which have play equipment. Supporting infrastructure is minimal, i.e. bin/s, water fountains or shade over play equipment and accessibility is generally low. Examples are Grey St Reserve and Evans Place Reserve (linear nature space).

Rating 20-26

37% - these play spaces are generally Local level, most of which have play equipment of the standard variety and average accessibility in footpaths and connections to and around the play space. Supporting infrastructure is adequate, along with natural appeal of the space and play area safety. Examples include Upper and Lower Hillcrest Reserve (co-located with a Sport space), Mills Avenue Park and The Strand Reserve.

Rating 27-47

16% - the highest scoring play spaces in Bayswater are Riverside Gardens and Bert Wright Park. Local level spaces such as Joan Rycroft, Swan Reserve and Hinds Reserve also score highly in supporting infrastructure and natural appeal. Play variety in these spaces is above average. All spaces have dedicated car parks.

Play function

The assessment revealed that, overall, the variety in age ability of equipment is low with most playgrounds catering for children aged 0-4 years and 5-12 years.

The play equipment in five play spaces caters for all ages. In addition to standard play equipment:

- Alf Brooks, Bert Wright, and Houghton all contain multi-courts (either basketball or tennis);
- Hinds Reserve and Riverside Gardens have adult exercise equipment.

All play spaces except two (Bert Wright and Evans Place) include the traditional style playground; Bert Wright contains nature play elements, whereas Evans Place is a linear nature reserve adjacent to Lower Hillcrest Reserve.

Accessibility and Inclusion

Accessible Pathways and Connections to and around Play Space

Overall, the accessibility to and around play spaces in Bayswater is above average. 64% of play spaces have at least a basic pathway and/or connection.

- 23% have continuous access to and around the play space;
- 41% have paths with no connection to play space;
- 34% play spaces have no path or connection.

Inclusive and Accessible Play Elements

Within Bayswater, 78% of play spaces with equipment do not have accessible play elements.

- Bert Wright, Hinds Reserve and Upper Hillcrest Reserve playground all have an accessible swing. Riverside Gardens has a rubber softfall surface and continuous path of travel to and around the play equipment and space.

Accessible Parks Infrastructure

Seating

79% of play spaces have seating of some description at various locations; however, 30 of these are not universally accessible, i.e. they are surrounded by grass, rather than a concrete pad.

The remaining 4 seats are accessible i.e. situated on a concrete pad and connected by pathways; these are located at Bert Wright, Grace Hardie Memorial Rose Gardens, Riverside Gardens/Eric Singleton and Riverside Gardens Nature area.

Picnic tables

58% of play spaces contain picnic tables throughout Bayswater; the majority of these are not universally accessible.

- Halliday Park, Grace Hardie Memorial Rose Gardens and Swan Lake Reserve contain accessible picnic tables;
- 41% do not have picnic tables.

ACROD Parking

9 play spaces have ACROD parking availability. These play spaces also generally include accessible pathways, and either accessible seating or picnic tables, not generally both. 34 play spaces throughout Bayswater do not have ACROD parking bays.

Surrounding Environment

Supporting Infrastructure and Amenities

These include water fountains, shade over play equipment and bins. In the cases where bins were the only parks infrastructure item, this was scored as a 1; the minimum provision of parks infrastructure in a park is considered to be a bin and one other amenity, either natural shade over play equipment/shade sails or a water fountain.

- Houghton Park and Riverside Gardens/Eric Singleton provide all three listed amenities;
- 32% of play spaces provide 2 of the 3 listed amenities;
- 62% of play spaces do not provide any amenities, or bins only;
- Shade is provided (either natural or shade sails) over play equipment at Alf Brooks, Bert Wright, Donald Way, Gobba Lake, Hamilton, Norco Way, The Strand, Toowong, Houghton Park and Upper Hillcrest.

Natural Appeal of the Space

- 17 play spaces scored a 5 in this area, as the play space integrates well with the surrounding natural features. These were a mix of Pocket, Local, District and Regional play spaces, including Bert Wright Park, Riverside Gardens, Joan Rycroft Reserve and Swan Lake Reserve;
- 20 play spaces scored a 3, showing an average or limited relationship to surrounding natural features. These include play spaces that are co-located with a Sporting reserve, such as Upper Hillcrest Reserve and Houghton Park and Pocket spaces such as Armada Reserve and Coode St Reserve;

- 6 play spaces scored a 1, showing an absence of natural appeal of the space or relationship to surrounding natural features. These are predominantly Pocket play spaces and examples are Dunkley Reserve and Norco Way.

Park and Play Area safety

- 11 play spaces scored highly regarding park and play area safety, having adequate signage, passive lighting and good visibility throughout. Examples are Charles Newman Gardens, Donald Way Reserve and higher-level spaces including Bert Wright Park and Riverside Gardens;
- Most play spaces showed an adequate level of park and play area safety; these tended to be Local level spaces. Some play spaces near roads or other hazards do not have fences, including Joan Rycroft or the play space is blocked from view by trees, such as Swan Lake Reserve;
- Play spaces in a poor location with inadequate surveillance, lighting or fencing were predominantly Pocket play spaces such as Dunkley Reserve.

Parking

- Over 70% of play spaces accommodate either on road or verge parking. 37% of these are dedicated and off road (bitumen).

Toilets

- Bayswater has 4 public toilets either within play spaces or located nearby; some are shared between play spaces i.e. Upper and Lower Hillcrest, Wymond Park and Evans Place are all within walking distance of a public toilet;
- Joan Rycroft Reserve is the only public toilet that is fully accessible;
- 33 play spaces do not have toilets within walking distance.

Key Findings

- Bayswater is lacking in variety in terms of play function; most play equipment is in the traditional style, except for nature play elements at Bert Wright Park and the natural landscaping of Evans Place Reserve. There are 4 multi-courts spread across the suburb. Assessments revealed limited play equipment/opportunities for children over 12 years of age, particularly in Local play spaces;
- Over half (62%) of the play spaces are lacking in supporting parks infrastructure at the Local level - bins, shade over play equipment and water fountains;
- Bayswater play spaces are above average in natural appeal and integration with the surrounding landscape, across the range of Pocket to Regional play spaces, e.g. Riverside Gardens, Swan Lake Reserve.

Bedford

Bedford is one of the smaller suburbs throughout Bayswater with a total of 14 play spaces. They are classified as follows:

Pocket *	Local	District
Broun Crescent Lawrence North Lawrence Reserve	Alan Lehmann Reserve (D,P) Beaufort Park (P) Beaufort/Grand Prom Birkett St Reserve (D,P) Catherine Reserve (D) Gummery Reserve (P) RA Cook Reserve (D,P) Remembrance Park (D) York Reserve (P)	Browns Lake Reserve (P) Grand Promenade Reserve (P)

- 5 of the 14 are specified as a dog exercise area (D)
- 8 of the 14 play spaces contain play equipment (P)

* All three spaces have been highlighted as inappropriate for consideration as play spaces, due to their size, location and proximity to main roads.

Assessment ratings

Rating 7-10

28% - ratings are appropriate for the size, classification, location and nature of these spaces. The remaining useable play space, Lawrence Reserve, is adjacent to Browns Lake Reserve.

Rating 14-23

42% - spaces are mostly local, with a low scoring District play space in Browns Lake Reserve. Four out of six play spaces have play equipment. Pathways are present, without full connectivity to or around the play space.

Rating 26-31

28% - three out of four spaces are Local, showing adequate levels of amenity, supporting infrastructure and natural appeal. Grand Promenade Reserve, classified as a District play space, shares the highest score with Beaufort Park. Along with RA Cook, these three play spaces are co-located with a Sport space.

Play function

The assessment revealed low variety in type and age ability of equipment, with most of the play equipment catering for only two age groups - 0-4 years and 5-12 years in the traditional style.

Accessibility and Inclusion

Accessible Pathways and Connections to and Around Play Space

Accessibility through and around play spaces in Bedford is above average, as 85% of play spaces have a pathway or connection of some level. Birkett Reserve is the only park to have a fully accessible pathway and connections through the play space.

- Most play spaces have paths with no connection to play space; 2 of the 14 play spaces don't have any paths or connections.

Inclusive and Accessible Play Elements

Beaufort Park and Alan Lehmann are the only play spaces within Bedford to have an accessible play swing that can be used by people of all ages and abilities.

Accessible Parks Infrastructure

Seating

57% of play spaces in Bedford have seating; the remainder do not have seating. None of the seating in play spaces in Bedford is universally accessible.

Picnic Tables

5 play spaces have picnic tables; Beaufort Park and Grand Promenade have accessible picnic tables. 9 play spaces do not have picnic tables.

ACROD parking

R.A. Cook, Grand Promenade Reserve and Beaufort Park have ACROD parking.

Surrounding Environment

Supporting Infrastructure and Amenities

These include water fountains, shade over play equipment and bins. In the cases where bins were the only parks infrastructure item, this was scored as a 1; the minimum provision of parks infrastructure in a park is a bin and one other amenity, such as a water fountain.

The supporting infrastructure and amenities vary throughout Bedford.

- 5 of the play spaces contain two amenities - these were generally bin/s and water fountain; shade over play equipment is lacking. Shade is provided at 4 reserves - Birkett Reserve, Alan Lehmann, Grand Promenade and York Reserve;
- 64% of play spaces do not contain amenities or contain bins only.

Natural Appeal of the Space

- 28% of play spaces score well in this area, with the play space integrating well with the surrounding natural features, including York Reserve and Remembrance Park;
- 42% show an average score, meaning a limited relationship to surrounding natural features, including RA Cook, Beaufort Park, Browns Lake and Grand Promenade Reserve;
- Catherine Reserve was the only park to score a 1 with no natural appeal of the space or relationship to surrounding natural features. Due to the proximity of this reserve to Grand Promenade, there is potential to further develop the spatial relationship between the two spaces and improve the overall amenity.

Park and Play Area Safety

Bedford play spaces score generally low in play area safety, as many playgrounds are placed in poor locations, lacking signage and overall surveillance.

- RA Cook Reserve facilitates integration and flow through the site, ample signage and lighting and a playground with clear lines of sight; this is a benefit of co-location with an active Sporting space;

- 64% of play spaces are adequately safe with some consideration for surveillance and required fencing of the space;
- 28% of play spaces are poorly located on the site, with play equipment located in blind spots with minimum surveillance, lighting and signage. The water body at Browns Lake Reserve is in reasonably proximity to the play equipment and has the potential to be unsafe for young children.

Parking

- 4 of the 14 play spaces do not have parking;
- 6 of the 14 play spaces have either on road or off-road parking;
- 4 of the 14 of these car parks are dedicated or off road (bitumen). These are Beaufort Park, Catherine Reserve, Grand Promenade Reserve and RA Cook Reserve (contain ACROD bays).

Toilets

- Beaufort Park, Grand Promenade and RA Cook Reserve contain public toilets; Grand Promenade is the only public toilet that is fully accessible;
- 11 play spaces do not have toilets.

Key Findings

- There is a lack of variety in type and age catered for by play equipment; the majority is suitable for children aged 0-4 and 5-12 years and traditional style. In the play spaces without equipment, there is an opportunity to improve the space by integrating natural elements and landscaping for better flow and increased aesthetic value;
- There is a lack of accessible seating in play spaces as well as supporting parks infrastructure. 64% contain either bins only or no amenities;
- Most play spaces have enough parking for the level of play space;
- Pathways exist however connections to and around play spaces are insufficient and require improvement to facilitate mobility and enhance play area useability;
- Beaufort/Grand Prom does not appear to be a useable space, due to its size and proximity to two major roads (Beaufort St and Grand Promenade). Similarly, Broun Crescent and Lawrence North cannot be considered useable for the purposes of play or recreational activities;
- There are some opportunities to improve the integration with the natural features, including:
 - Design Browns Lake and Lawrence Reserve to create one free flowing space to improve the integration and relationship with surrounding natural features
 - Catherine Reserve has limited natural appeal of the space and relationship to surrounding natural features. Due to the proximity of this reserve to Grand Promenade, there is potential to further develop the spatial relationship between the two spaces and improve the overall amenity. This could be considered during Master Planning of Grand Promenade in the coming years.

Embleton

Embleton is one of Bayswater's smallest suburbs, with 7 play spaces, classified as follows:

Pocket	Local
Irwin Reserve	Broun Park (D,P) Feredy Reserve (D,P) Hawkins Reserve (D) McKenzie Reserve (P) Ockley Square Reserve (P) Wotton Reserve (P)

- 3 of these include a dog exercise area (D)
- 5 of the 7 play spaces have play equipment (P)

Assessment ratings

In the limited number of play spaces in Embleton, there are significant variances between local play spaces.

Rating 8-10

The sole pocket play space Irwin Reserve is not considered useable for any form of play or recreational activity in its current condition; Hawkins Reserve is a small local play space with minimal amenity.

Rating 18-26

The remaining local play spaces range from low amenity, lack of natural appeal and supporting infrastructure to the high scoring Ockley Square Reserve, a small local play space with high natural appeal and unique position as a truly local play space for surrounding residents.

Wotton Reserve contains a skate park, catering for older age groups and is co-located with a Sporting space, therefore there is a higher level of dependence and greater probability of a car park and supporting infrastructure than a standalone Recreation space.

Play function

Play function in Embleton is minimal as the equipment caters for only two age groups, 0-4 and 5-12 years; no adult exercise equipment or courts are provided. The play equipment provided throughout Embleton is limited to traditional, except for Wotton Reserve, which contains a dedicated skate park, co-located with a Sport space.

Accessibility and Inclusion

Accessible Pathways and Connections to and Around Play Space

Over half of the play spaces in Embleton do not have a pathway or connection; none of the play spaces allow direct access to or around the play spaces.

Inclusive and Accessible Play Elements

There are no inclusive play elements.

Accessible Parks Infrastructure

Seating

Out of 7 play spaces with seating, none is accessible and a lack of path ways and connections hinder access to seating and picnic tables in all 7 play spaces.

Picnic Tables

Broun Park, Feredy Reserve and McKenzie Reserve have picnic tables, but these are not universally accessible.

ACROD parking

Wotton Reserve is the only park within Embleton to have ACROD parking bays; parking is adjacent to the Sport space and not the play space.

Surrounding Environment

Supporting Infrastructure and Amenities

These include water fountains, shade over play equipment and bins. In the cases where bins were the only parks infrastructure item, this was scored as a 1; the minimum provision of parks infrastructure in a park is a bin and one other amenity, such as a water fountain.

Provision of supporting infrastructure and amenities at play spaces in Embleton is minimal.

- 2 of the play spaces contain 2 amenities;
- 5 play spaces do not contain amenities or only bin/s;
- Shade is provided over play equipment at Feredy Reserve and Broun Park.

Natural Appeal of the Space

Ockley Square Reserve scored a 5, as this play space integrates well with the surrounding natural features.

Broun Park, Feredy and Wotton Reserves scored a 3, showing a limited relationship to surrounding natural features.

Hawkins and McKenzie Reserves scored a 1 with no natural appeal of the space or relationship to surrounding natural features.

Park and Play Area Safety

Most play spaces in Embleton are adequate in terms of safety; some lack appropriate fencing and/or surveillance around play equipment.

Broun Park contains a body of water that is not fenced, which may be dangerous for young children, particularly as the surrounding trees are voluminous.

Parking

- 6 of the 7 play spaces provide for parking either on road or verge;
- Wotton Reserve has a dedicated car park.

Public toilets

Currently Embleton has no public toilet facilities available in play spaces.

Key Findings

- Pending further investigation and analysis, the biggest Recreation spaces, Broun Park and McKenzie Reserves could be further developed to provide a greater level of amenity and enhanced play function in the area;
- Supporting infrastructure including bins, shade and water fountains is low across local play spaces in Embleton;
- Accessibility is an issue in Embleton. With a limited supply of local play spaces for residents, an emphasis on providing pathways, connections and accessible parks

infrastructure and play elements is recommended. This could be improved with a footpath network and connections along local streets;

- Play spaces could be better designed to incorporate natural elements and features or at least complement it in some way through landscaping;
- There is a lack of variety in play equipment; the majority caters for either children aged 0-4 or 5-12 years; types of play equipment are traditional in nature. Wotton Reserve, co-located with a Sport space, is the only park to cater for older children and young adults, with a skate park. The access to the skate park is limited and the location does not facilitate adequate surveillance.

Maylands

Maylands has a total of 29 play spaces, classified as follows:

Pocket	Local	District
Anchorage Park Dakota Park Donald Park Hinkler Park Kelvin/Sherwood (P) Maylands Memorial/Town Hall/Old Police Station Milmoe Lane Reserve Peninsula Road Reserve Watervista Park	Brickworks Park Charles Reserve (P) Clarkson Reserve (P) Maylands Yacht Club Reserve Plowmans Park (P) Puntie Crescent Reserve (P) Shearn Memorial Park (P) St Margaret Reserve (P) Tranby Lake	Bath St Reserve (P) Gibbney Reserve (P,D) Berringa Park De Lacy Reserve (P,D) Bardon Park (P,D) Lake Brearly Lake Bungana (P) Maylands Foreshore Maylands Nature Foreshore The RISE (P) Tranby Reserve

- 13 have play equipment **(P)**
- 3 out of the 29 play spaces are classified as dog exercise areas **(D)**. This is low compared with other suburbs.

Assessment ratings

Maylands is well serviced by play spaces of various classifications and types across the suburb. Unlike other suburbs, a number of district spaces in Maylands are large areas with a Nature function, due to the location and surrounding environment.

Rating 8-20

51% - most of these play spaces are classified as Pocket, therefore an overall rating of less than 20 is appropriate due to the intended level of service of this classification. Interestingly, 2 play spaces in this grouping have play equipment (Kelvin/Sherwood and Charles Reserve) and none are designated as dog exercise areas. The low scoring District classifications are attributed to Nature spaces with a low level of amenity and accessibility.

Rating 21-29

27% - these spaces are a mix of well-equipped Pocket and Local play spaces (Maylands Memorial/Town Hall, Clarkson Reserve and Puntie Crescent Reserve) and District Nature spaces, including Lake Brearly, Lake Bungana and Tranby Reserve.

Rating 30-44

22% - the highest scoring play spaces are District level Bardon Park, Gibbney Reserve and Bath Street Reserve. St Margaret Reserve, De Lacy and Shearn Memorial Park show ratings of 30, 30 and 32 respectively due to high natural appeal, supporting infrastructure and accessibility.

Play function

The majority of play equipment in Maylands play spaces is standard and traditional style, mostly catering for two age groups, 0-4 and 5-12 years; however, there are some examples of non-traditional elements, such as:

- flying foxes in Bardon Park and De Lacy Reserve;
- connecting bike paths and varying topography in Bath Street Reserve;
- multi-courts at Gibbney Reserve and Shearn Memorial Park;
- adult exercise equipment elements in Clarkson, Maylands Foreshore and St Margaret Reserve.

Bardon Park and Gibbney Reserve both have 2 sets of play equipment; Bardon contains unique public art elements and nature play.

Accessibility and Inclusion

Accessible Pathways and Connections to and Around Play Space

This is generally good, with 82% of play spaces having basic access either around or directly to the play space; 9 of these play spaces are fully accessible by pathways.

Inclusive and Accessible Play Elements

4 play spaces within Maylands have at least one piece of accessible play equipment; these are Bardon Park, St Margaret Reserve, DeLacy Reserve and Clarkson Reserve; one of the sets of play equipment in Gibbney Reserve contains rubber soft fall, creating access to all equipment.

Accessible Parks Infrastructure

Seating

- 55% of play spaces contain seating; 38% of these are accessible;
- 3 play spaces do not contain any seating.

Picnic Tables

10 play spaces have picnic tables, 8 of which are not accessible. Bath Street Reserve and The RISE are the only play spaces in Maylands to have accessible picnic tables.

ACROD parking

6 Play spaces contain ACROD parking bays, out of 14 with dedicated parking areas.

Surrounding Environment

Supporting Infrastructure and Amenities

These include water fountains, shade over play equipment and bins. In the cases where bins were the only parks infrastructure item, this was scored as a 1; the minimum provision of parks infrastructure in a park is a bin and one other amenity, such as a water fountain.

Supporting infrastructure and amenities are minimal across the board in Maylands.

- 69% of play spaces either provide bins only or no amenities;
- 24% provide 2 amenities;
- Bardon Park, Bath Street Reserve, Gibbney Reserve and Shearn Memorial Park provide all 3 amenities - bins, shade (either natural or shade sails) and water fountains;
- Kelvin/Sherwood and Puntie Crescent have shade over the play equipment.

Natural Appeal of the space

17 play spaces showed a high score and integrate well with the surrounding natural features. This is largely due to the incidence of natural areas and green space in Maylands as a

whole. Examples of these play spaces are Anchorage Park, Donald Park and Tranby Reserve.

11 play spaces scored a 3, with limited relationship to surrounding natural features, including the RISE, Puntie Crescent Reserve and Milmo Lane Reserve.

Peninsula Road Reserve scored a 1 with no natural appeal of the space or relationship to surrounding natural features.

Parking

- 14 play spaces allow for dedicated parking. These are spaces classified as District level or co-located with a Sporting or Nature space;
- 9 provide for either on road or off-road parking;
- 6 play spaces have no parking availability.

Public toilets

- 72% of play spaces do not contain public toilet facilities;
- 28% of play spaces have public toilets; however, Gibbney Reserve has the only fully accessible toilet in Maylands.

Key Findings

- Some Pocket play spaces such as Dakota and Watervista are adjacent to lakes and natural areas, providing opportunities for networks of green space. There is an opportunity to link Brickworks Park with Watervista Park by pathways and connections, similarly Peninsula Road Reserve and Milmo Lane Reserve;
- Smaller Pocket play spaces such as Kelvin/Sherwood present an opportunity for community input into the space, like St Margaret Reserve; to plant Edible Gardens and create a community space;
- There are unique spaces such as Donald Park and Hinkler Park on the river that give Maylands a greener and more distinct character when compared with other suburbs. Points of difference include Bardon Park, St Margaret Reserve and the abundance of Nature spaces including the river, lakes and foreshore;
- There are only 3 dog exercise areas in Maylands. This may increase the desire in the community to have an enclosed dog park/area in the future;
- Universal accessibility is an issue in Maylands, particularly in terms of seating. Supporting infrastructure including bins, water fountains and shade over play equipment (either natural or shade sails) is also generally low and inconsistent across play spaces in Maylands. District level play spaces are generally better equipped than Local and Pocket level, however many spaces have either bins or nothing.

Morley

The City's largest suburb, Morley has the highest number of play spaces for the City at 51, classified as follows:

Pocket	Local	District
Gracechurch Reserve Brisbane Park Cherry Court Reserve Commemorative Park Dick Lucas Park Dorman Reserve Banstead Way Reserve Fedders Reserve (P) Hamersley Reserve Hollett Reserve Ivanhoe Street Reserve Jakobsons Reserve (North) (P) Robann Reserve Stanbury Reserve (P) Woking Reserve Wonga Reserve	Addlestone Reserve Allan Hill Park (P) Battersea Reserve (P) Boxhill Reserve (P) Charlwood Reserve (P) Chesney Reserve (P) Crowhurst Reserve (P) Elstead Reserve Emberson Reserve (P) Farnham Reserve (P) FJ Beals Park (P, D) Gus Weimar Park (P) Hampton Square Reserve (P, D) Jakobsons Reserve Kanimbla Reserve (P) Kennedy Reserve (P) Mahogany Reserve (P) Moses Saunders Park (P) Newington Reserve (P) Nora Hughes Park Pat O'Hara Reserve (P, D) Peters Place Reserve (P) Rhodes Reserve (P) Rudloc Reserve (P, D) Shadwell Reserve (P, D) Silverwood Reserve (P) Tom Cameron Park (P) Trewin Park (P) Waltham Reserve (P) Wattle Park (P) Weld Square Reserve (P, D)	Abinger Reserve (P,D) Arbor Park (P,D) Crimea Park (P, D) Russell St Reserve (P)

Morley has the highest number of play spaces with some form of play equipment (34) in the City. 27 of these are Local level; 3 are Pocket level. 6 Local and 3 District spaces are classified as dog exercise areas.

Assessment ratings

Rating 6-15

31% - These spaces are mostly Pocket play spaces, without play equipment, supporting infrastructure or accessible pathways. Natural appeal and integration to the surrounding landscape is minimal.

Rating 16-20

29% - These spaces are all Local play spaces and one Pocket; the majority with play equipment. Supporting infrastructure in these play spaces is minimal, natural appeal is average and accessible pathways are limited.

Rating 21-33

39% - These spaces are mostly high level Local and District level play spaces. 6 of these spaces have multi-courts and the majority have play equipment. Natural appeal of the space and surrounding environment is average, as is park and play area safety.

Play function

Morley has limited variety when considering the total number of play spaces with equipment (34). Play equipment is generally aimed at 0-4 and 5-12-year-old children in most play spaces; however, 8 play spaces cater for a broad range of age groups. These include:

- Russell Street Park - ninja warrior course;
- Outdoor multi courts at Arbor Park, Allan Hill, Boxhill, Hampton Square, Crimea and Wattle Reserves (this is the highest number of courts in any one suburb);
- Abinger and Crimea Reserves contain adult exercise equipment;
- Crimea Reserve contains a skate park.

Accessibility and Inclusion

17% of the play spaces with equipment have inclusive play elements. These are Abinger, Crimea, Emberson, Fedders, Hampton and Russell. Surfaces prevent these play elements from being universally accessible, as they are mostly surrounded by sand or mulch.

Accessible Pathways and Connections

- 2 play spaces (Hampton and Russell) have full accessibility to and around the play space;
- 29% of all play spaces have pathways without complete connections (mostly Local level);
- 62% of play spaces do not have pathways or connections (a mix of Local and Pocket spaces).

Accessible Parks Infrastructure

Seating

82% of play spaces have seating. None of this seating is universally accessible.

Picnic Tables

29% of play spaces contain picnic tables; however, these are not accessible. Arbor Park and Hampton Square have accessible picnic tables.

ACROD Parking

4 play spaces have ACROD parking bays available, out of 11 with dedicated car park areas.

Surrounding Environment

Supporting Infrastructure and Amenities

- Abinger and Rudloc Reserve are the only play spaces in Morley to have all 3 basic amenities - bins, shade over play equipment and water fountain/s;

- 33% of the play spaces have two amenities; 62% have either bins or nothing;
- There is natural shade over play equipment at Allan Hill, Chesney, Dick Lucas, Jakobsens North, Kanimbla, Peters Place, Rhodes, Rudloc, Russell St and Silverwood Reserves. There are no shade sails over play equipment in Morley.

Natural Appeal of the Space

- 27% of play spaces in Morley show a high level of natural appeal and relationship to the surrounding natural environment; these are predominantly Pocket and Local play spaces; Examples include Nora Hughes Park, Arbor Park, Hampton Square and Kennedy Reserve;
- 50% of play spaces show an average relationship to the surrounding environment and natural appeal;
- 23% of play spaces show a limited natural appeal, including Farnham, Ivanhoe and Gracechurch Reserves.

Park and Play Area Safety

- 3 play spaces are well placed, allowing for surveillance, integration and flow, with signage and passive lighting. These are Russell St, Elstead Reserve and Hampton Square;
- 74% of all play spaces (73% of which have play equipment) have an adequate level of safety, with some consideration for surveillance and the required external post and rail fencing of the space. Issues include lack of surveillance (mainly due to tree cover), lack of lighting and close proximity to hazards such as main roads and water bodies. Examples include Crimea Park (play equipment is next to a dense patch of bushland) and Weld Square (many blind spots in the play space caused by the shape of the space and dense trees). Hamersley and Woking Reserves are located on busy roads;
- 19% of play spaces are poorly located with blind spots, minimal lighting and signage. These play spaces are generally Pocket level, half of which have play equipment. Examples include Ivanhoe and Robann Reserves.

Parking

- 21% of play spaces have dedicated off road car park areas (bitumen); 4 of these are co-located with a Sport function (Crimea, Emberson, Pat O'Hara and Waltham Reserves);
- 54% of play spaces have the opportunity for verge parking or a small car park;
- 23% of play spaces do not have parking available. These spaces are Pocket and Local level, apart from Russell Street park, which is located on a major transport route in the town centre.

Public Toilets

Crimea Park is the only public toilet available within Morley; there are no universally accessible toilets.

Key findings

- When comparing the assessment ratings with other suburbs, Morley shows a lower range of scores overall. Play spaces are generally lacking in accessible pathways, seating and basic supporting infrastructure; 62% have either bins or nothing;
- Local level play spaces are lacking in play type variety. There are some good examples of varied play equipment and a good distribution of multi-courts, however

the quality of play experiences for residents in walking distance of play spaces is generally lower than in other suburbs;

- Crimea Park is the only park in Morley to have a public toilet and this is not wheelchair accessible;
- The natural appeal of play spaces in Morley is low in comparison with other suburbs; this is a key area to be addressed in terms of landscaping improvements and future play space renovations;
- There are some reserves that are larger than 1 hectare in size, including Allan Hill, Battersea and Newington Reserves, that have potential for an improved play function, above the current level. Opportunities include landscaping, nature play elements and improved supporting infrastructure such as seating, picnic nodes and BBQs.

Noranda

Noranda has a total of 26 play spaces, classified as follows:

Pocket	Local	District	Regional
Sewell Court Thornber Reserve	Belstead Reserve (P,D) Bohemia Park (P,D) Bramwell Reserve (P) Bunya Reserve Corderoy Reserve (P,D) Deschamp Reserve (P,D) Fitzpatrick Reserve (P,D) Holden Reserve (P,D) Ivory Park (P,D) Kirkpatrick Reserve Lightning Park Recreation Centre (P) Logan Reserve (P) Luderman Park (P,D) Maxwell Reserve McPherson Reserve (P) Millerick Reserve (P,D) Nederpelt Reserve (P) Noranda Avenue Reserve (P) Noranda Sporting Complex (P) Sherbrooke Reserve (P) Strutt Reserve (P)	Noranda Primary Reserve	Robert Thompson Park (P,D) Lightning Swamp Bushland

- 19 out of 26 play spaces have play equipment
- 11 out of 26 play spaces cater for dog exercise.

Assessment ratings

Noranda contains the highest amount of Public Open Space in the City at 133 hectares across 26 play spaces. These are mostly classified as Local.

Rating 12-18

30% - 5 of these play spaces do not contain equipment, including Lightning Swamp and Pocket play spaces Sewell Court and Thornber Reserve (two Pocket level spaces that add to green space and facilitate connection rather than play). Spaces generally have a lower functionality and lack of infrastructure.

Rating 21-26

53% - 5 of these play spaces are co-located with a Sport function, including Deschamp and Noranda Primary Reserves. Variety in play is average; accessibility in pathways and infrastructure is low. All play spaces have access to verge parking or dedicated carpark areas.

Rating 30-44

15% - 3 Local and 1 Regional level play space fall into this range, demonstrating generally higher variety in play elements and activities for different age groups; increased accessibility and supporting infrastructure. Robert Thompson Park (Regional) contains a public toilet.

Play function

- 75% of play spaces with equipment cater for the standard two age groups - 0-4; 5-12 years;
- 4 play spaces include outdoor multi-courts (Holden, Ivory, Nederpelt and Strutt Reserves);
- 1 play space includes connected bike paths (Robert Thompson).

Accessibility and Inclusion

Accessible Pathways and Connections to and Around Play Space

50% of play spaces have some pathways and/or connection to play spaces from the road, footpath or carpark.

4 of these have full accessibility to and around the play space. These are:

- Robert Thompson Park
- Kirkpatrick Reserve
- Bunya Reserve
- Ivory Park

8 play spaces (Local, District and Regional levels) have pathways but are lacking connections directly to the play space, such as Lightning Park Recreation Centre and Noranda Sporting Complex.

The remaining 13 play spaces, all Local level, do not have pathways or connections. These include Corderoy, Nederpelt and Sherbrook Reserves as an example.

Inclusive and Accessible Play Elements

- Robert Thompson Park provides accessible play elements and rubber softfall surface for universal accessibility;
- 26% include some accessible play equipment, these include Ivory Park, Fitzpatrick Reserve and Strutt Reserve;
- 50% of the play spaces with equipment do not have any inclusive or accessible play elements.

Accessible Parks Infrastructure

Seating

- 3 play spaces contain accessible seating; these are Ivory, Kirkpatrick and Lightning Park Recreational Centre;

- 19 play spaces contain seating of some description that is not accessible/surrounded by grass;
- 4 play spaces do not contain any seating.

Picnic Tables

73% of play spaces in Noranda contain picnic tables, 3 of these are accessible.

ACROD Parking

ACROD Parking is provided in 3 play spaces - Lightning Park Recreational Centre, Lightning Swamp Bushland and Robert Thompson Park.

Surrounding Environment

Supporting Infrastructure and Amenities

- 23% of play spaces throughout Noranda have all amenities - bin/s, water fountain/s and shade over play equipment;
- 30% of play spaces have 2 amenities;
- 46% have no amenities or bins only;
- Shade is provided at Deschamp, Fitzpatrick, Millerick Reserve, Nederpelt Reserve and Strutt Reserve.

Natural Appeal of the Space

- 30% of play spaces relate well to the surrounding environment and natural features. These include Robert Thompson, Kirkpatrick and Nederpelt Reserves;
- The remaining 70% demonstrate an average relationship to surrounding natural features and landscaping; some play spaces have play equipment in an isolated area. Most show some level of integration of landscaping and/or natural features into the play space; Examples are Logan Reserve, Bohemia Park and Holden Reserve.

Park and Play Area Safety

- 15% of play spaces are well placed allowing for integration and flow, have signage, lighting and good surveillance; these include Robert Thompson, Kirkpatrick and Nederpelt;
- 61% of play spaces are adequate, with some consideration for surveillance, signage and the required fencing of the space, where necessary; these include Luderman, Deschamp and Fitzpatrick Reserves;
- 23% were poorly located with blind spots and minimum surveillance such as Maxwell Reserve and Bohemia Park or close proximity to hazards, e.g. water body in Ivory Park.

Parking

- 38% have dedicated car park areas/off road (bitumen);
- 42% have provision for car parks either on road or verge;
- The remaining play spaces do not have parking available.

Public Toilets

1 public toilet is provided within Noranda Robert Thompson Park, this is not fully accessible.

Key findings

- The two Pocket play spaces in Noranda are not big enough to have a play function, as they would mainly be used for the pathway connection between streets. Potential minor improvements to these spaces could include drought-resistant native plantings and wayfinding;
- Reserves such as Kirkpatrick, McPherson and Millerick are a significant size with the potential for an increased level of play function and supporting infrastructure. These reserves could be renovated and therefore serve a greater catchment than a Local level;
- The variety in play function across Noranda is low; most play equipment is of the traditional style, catering for the same age range;
- 50% of all play spaces in Noranda do not have accessible pathways and connections. This should be improved to allow universal access in a greater number of parks and reserves. Similarly, accessible parks infrastructure such as seating and picnic tables is low.

Overall key findings

The intent of this audit of play spaces was to paint a picture of play space provision in order to compare suburbs and identify gaps in provision and key issues to be addressed. The overall key findings across all suburbs are presented as follows:

Play Opportunities

- There is an evident lack of diversity and creativity in existing play experiences. Older children aged 12 to 16 years and toddlers are generally not catered for in most play spaces in terms of equipment, except for two skate parks, bike paths (limited) and outdoor multi-courts.
- There is a lack of holistic planning and design of play spaces; as a result, play equipment location is generally not integrated successfully, overall site consideration is largely absent and relationships to the natural environment are not featured.
- Cultural heritage, local stories and recognition of Aboriginal stories are largely absent in parks and reserves.

Distribution

- Play space provision across the City is inequitable when comparing suburbs. Morley, Embleton and Bedford are lacking, both in number and quality. In Morley, there are many Local level play spaces with low amenity and limited supporting infrastructure and few District level spaces. Inequities are also caused by the high incidence of natural areas and river foreshore in Maylands.
- Most residents have access to a park or reserve within a 300m walk of their house; the City does not have a shortage of parks and reserves. When considering upgrades however, the emphasis should be on the area surrounding the play space, the existing network of parks and reserves and the diversity of experiences already offered in that suburb.

Quality of provision

- There is an inequitable spread of play spaces across the City. For example, parks and reserves that are classified as District according to the size of the POS does not necessarily result in a District level play space; the purpose that the park serves at a broader precinct level has not been considered. There are opportunities to improve the level and quality of provision for some suburbs (Embleton and Morley in particular) by reclassifying and upgrading certain spaces.

Access for all abilities

- Access to and around play elements and spaces is lacking across the board, including perimeter pathways, connections and around park furniture such as picnic tables and seating. Overall the standard of access and inclusion in the City's play spaces is inadequate. As play spaces are gradually upgraded however, the standard of access and inclusion will increase over time.

Facilities

- Basic supporting infrastructure including bins, water fountains and shade (either natural or shade sails) is generally low, except for Noranda play spaces which show higher numbers of supporting infrastructure components at most spaces. As upgrades of play spaces are done, over time the inconsistencies should level out, if

budgets allow the level of amenity in parks and supporting infrastructure to be improved.

Conclusion

Key findings from this report will inform specific recommendations as part of the overall Play Space Strategy and Implementation Plan, to be costed and prioritised in a schedule of staged works over the next ten years.

The City boasts a wealth of green space that is enjoyed by the community in a number of different ways, apart from and including children's play. It is for this reason that the objective of the Play Space Strategy is to explore how we can provide a range of play and recreation experiences that are more equitable, aligned with community expectations and reflect the right balance of sustainability and local character across all suburbs.

Appendix 1

Name of park		Current classification
Assessment area	Sub-Area	Rating guideline
Play Function	<u>Variety in age and ability of equipment</u> 0-4 yrs; 5-12 years; teen play; adult	One age group - 1 Two age groups - 3 Broad range - 5
	<u>Types of play elements incl:</u> Traditional - catalogue Natural - discovery, challenge, risk Creative/imagination - sensory, themed Physical elements - skate, bike, courts	Limited - 1 2+ types - 3 3+ types - 5
Accessibility and Inclusion	<u>Accessible pathways and connections to and around play space</u>	No path or connection - 1 Path/s without connection - 3 Paths and connections to play area - 5
	<u>Inclusive and accessible play elements</u>	No accessible play equipment - 1 Some pieces are accessible - 3 Majority is accessible - 5
	<u>Accessible parks infrastructure</u>	Seating is accessible Y - 1; N - 0 Picnic tables are accessible Y - 2; N - 1 Other infrastructure incl ACROD parking and accessible toilets Y - 2; N - 0
Surrounding Environment	<u>Supporting infrastructure and amenities, incl:</u> water fountains, shade over play equipment and bins	No supporting amenities - 1 Limited supporting amenities (ie 2) - 3 All listed supporting amenities - 5
	<u>Natural appeal of the space, including landscaping</u>	No relationship to surrounding natural features - 1 Limited relationship to surrounding natural features - 3 Integrates well with surrounding natural features - 5
	<u>Park and play area safety, incl:</u> proximity to main roads, water bodies and hazards; signage; passive lighting; adequate visibility and surveillance; fencing where necessary	Poor location with limited surveillance/min signage/min lighting; no fencing - 1 Adequate location, some consideration for surveillance, limited signage; adequate fencing - 3 Well placed to allow integration and flow; safe, signage and lighting; required fencing - 5
	<u>Car park within the reserve</u>	No parking - 1 Opportunity for on road parking/small car park up to 5 vehicles - 3 Dedicated off road, bitumen - 5
	<u>Public toilets</u>	None provided - 1 Public toilet available - 3 Fully accessible public toilet - 5

Appendix 2

Previous playground hierarchy

Requirements	Local Level	District Level	Regional Level
Catchment Area	300 - 500 meter radius from home	1 - 2 Km Radius from home	Whole of City
Size	Up to approx. 100 sq. m	Approx. 100-150 sqm	200 sqm +
Budget	Up to \$19,000 (indexed each year)	\$19,000 - \$35,000	\$70,000 +
Equipment	1 - 5 Activities	5 - 10 Activities	10 + Activities/Structures
Soft Fall	Sand or mulch	Sand or mulch	Rubber or other inclusive surface highly desirable. Can also contain sand and mulch.
Shade	Natural	Natural or sail	Shade Sails Desirable
Additional Infrastructure	1 x bench chair	Benches &/or picnic shelters	Multiple benches, picnic settings, drink fountain (desirable), BBQs, and pathways.
Toilets	Not Required	Desirable	Required
Parking	Street or Verge	Car Park Required	Car park required (should contain ACROD bay)
Locations	Non Central	Generally, more central i.e. Active Reserves (however is dependent upon usable space distance from sporting fields	Central hubs with a catchment area greater than the LGA boundary i.e. River foreshore area.

Appendix 2

Executive Summary

A strategy is currently being developed to assess the current provision and plan for future provision of play spaces across the City. This strategy will analyse current usage of play spaces, community need and level of provision to inform a sound approach to future planning and set priorities for implementation over the next 10 years.

For the purposes of the strategy, the definition of a play space is:

A place that allows all people, regardless of age or ability, to experience physical and creative play, social interaction and physical activity. Play spaces can be standalone or co-located with community and sporting facilities; in natural environments, public open space or urban areas. Play spaces accommodate a variety of uses, amenities and elements.

In short, a play space refers to public open space that is owned or managed by the City, zoned for recreational use and useable. This includes play spaces, gardens, natural areas, public courts and spaces in which unstructured recreational activity takes place.

For the purposes of this strategy, the following spaces and places are NOT deemed as play spaces:

- Sports fields (unless co-located with a play space i.e. playground on the periphery of a football oval)
- Sport specific infrastructure including goals, full size indoor and outdoor courts, cricket wickets
- Sport and community buildings i.e. Libraries, senior citizens centres
- School grounds
- Leisure and recreation centres, such as Bayswater Waves, the RISE and Maylands Waterland
- Public art (without components designed for interaction/play)
- Footpaths, trails, roads and car park spaces (these will be considered in terms of connections and accessibility only)

The purpose of community engagement was to gather valuable feedback on play space usage and generate ideas to inform future play space planning, design and implementation. The City's aim was to involve the community and ensure their concerns and aspirations were directly reflected in the alternatives developed. A vital part of the engagement approach was to close feedback loops regularly in the process to keep the community updated and continue momentum throughout the project.

The main anchor point for community engagement was the project page on the City's online engagement platform, Engage Bayswater. All background information, project updates and details were posted on this page; all communications directed interested community members to this page.

Throughout the course of the Play Space Strategy, three phases of engagement were undertaken. Each phase is explained in detail below. Throughout the project, an estimated 400 people were engaged in various ways.

Phase 1

This phase consisted of a preliminary community engagement survey (online) through Engage Bayswater. The survey ran for one month commencing 7 April 2018 and was launched at the Autumn River Festival at Riverside Gardens. City staff completed surveys on Ipads during the festival.

The survey questions were:

1. *What do you like to do when you visit a play space?*
2. *Tell us your favourite play spaces and what you like about them?*
3. *Would you like to be kept informed about the project, including future engagement activities for the Play Space Strategy? (Y/N)*

The purpose of the survey was to gather feedback on usage, motivation and preferences for visiting play spaces both in and outside of the City, seek broad community input to inform the scope and build interest in the community around the Play Space Strategy. The final question gave respondents the opportunity to remain involved and participate in the next phase of engagement activities.

122 responses were received. It could be concluded from the responses that the majority of respondents were parents or carers.

Survey findings

1. **Question 1 - What do you like to do when you visit a play space?**

The rationale behind this question was to gather information on the activities people/children enjoy and observe the common themes emerging from the data. Many respondents listed things they liked/preferred about play spaces, e.g. *'well-shaded seating areas'* rather than specifically what they liked to do in them, e.g. *'walk with dog'* however responses were interpreted consistently as activities.

The questions were qualitative in nature, rather than quantitative (e.g. multiple choice questions with tick boxes); therefore responses could contain several mentions of activities, including *kids play, BBQ, shade, relax* etc. The activity scores were based on the number of mentions, rather than the number of responses.

1.1. Activities

The top 5 ranked activities mentioned were:

- Kids Play - this term was used to encapsulate references to non-specific activity, equipment and play space/playground (36)
- Shade (28)
- Seating (26)

- Natural environment and wildlife (15)
- Coffee/relaxing/grassed open space/socialising (14 - tied for same score).

The following activities were close in scores thereafter:

- Picnic (13)
- Walking/cycling/exercise (adults) (12)
- Dog walking/Adventure and challenge (11 - tied for same score)

1.2. Equipment type

The data relating to specific types of play equipment for children (rather than the generic term 'Kids Play' mentioned above) showed the following types, in order of preference:

- Nature play elements/Swings (12 - tied for same score)
- Toddler and young children's play equipment (10)
- Ball games (kicking a football) (8)
- Climbing walls and frames (8)
- Slide/Flying fox (7 - tied for same score).

1.3. Key findings - Q1

It is evident from the survey responses that firstly, children's play (non-specific) is the main driver for visiting a play space and secondly, supporting infrastructure is important to respondents' enjoyment, along with the natural environment, particularly the river. Survey results are shown in Attachment 1.

2. Question 2 - Tell us your favourite play spaces and what you like about them?

The rationale behind this question was twofold; firstly, to gather specific data on visitation to play spaces within the City and secondly, to gain insight into popular play spaces outside the City and the attractors or distinguishing features of both.

The following points should be noted:

- a) The first 60 surveys were undertaken at the Autumn River Festival held in Riverside Gardens; this may have positively impacted the number of mentions;
- b) A number of respondents listed names of play spaces without any attractors/distinguishing features. These scores were excluded from the total scores, however are not disregarded from the overall analysis.

2.1. Play space ranking - City of Bayswater

The highest ranking play spaces in the City were:

- Riverside Gardens (54 mentions)
- Bardon Park (35 mentions)
- Bert Wright Park (12 mentions).

All remaining play spaces showed low scores in comparison to the top 3. A complete list can be found in Attachment 2.

2.2. Attractors/distinguishing features

The top 5 attractors overall in relation to play spaces in Bayswater were, in order of preference:

- Enjoyment of the natural environment (both by adults for relaxation and children's play) (20)
- Grassed open space/Enclosed playgrounds (10 - tied for same score)
- Shade (9)
- Nature Play/Access to coffee (8 - tied for the same score); and
- Flying fox (7).

The following table shows the relationship between the highest ranking play spaces and their specific attractors:

Play Space	#1 attractor	#2 attractor	#3 attractor
Riverside Gardens	Enclosed playground	Natural environment	Dog walking
Bardon Park	Flying fox	Natural environment	Shade/Coffee
Bert Wright Park	Nature Play	Co-location	Coffee

2.3. Play space ranking - outside City of Bayswater

The highest ranking play spaces outside the City were:

- Yokine Play Space, Yokine (53 mentions)
- Woodbridge Riverside Park and Play Space, Woodbridge (42 mentions)
- Braithwaite Park, Mt Hawthorn (41 mentions)
- Hyde Park, Perth (25 mentions)
- Stickybeaks Playground, Kings Park, Perth (21 mentions).

The next play spaces in the list were Dianella Play Space, Dianella (18 mentions) and Rio Tinto Naturescape, Kings Park (16 mentions). There was a distinct drop in scores between these and all remaining play spaces. A complete list can be found in Attachment 2.

2.4. Attractors/distinguishing features

The top 5 overall attractors to play spaces outside the City of Bayswater were:

- Multiple options for play available (33)
- Enclosed playgrounds (31)

- Shade (23)
- Water Play (21)
- Nature Play (20)

The following table shows the relationship between the highest ranking play spaces and their specific attractors:

Play Space	#1 attractor	#2 attractor	#3 attractor
Yokine Play Space, Yokine	Enclosed playground	Shade	Multiple options
Woodbridge Riverside Park and Play Space, Woodbridge	Multiple options	Enclosed playground	Coffee
Braithwaite Park, Mt Hawthorn	Multiple options	Shade	Enclosed playground
Hyde Park, Perth	Water play	Toilets	Kids Play
Stickybeaks Playground, Kings Park, Perth	(tied for same score) Multiple options Coffee Enclosed playground		

2.5. Key findings from Q2

It is clear from the data that the natural environment is a key factor in people's enjoyment of play spaces in the City. In terms of frequency of mentions, both Open Space and the Natural Environment scored highest for those play spaces within the City. Additionally, Riverside Gardens scored higher than the highest ranking play space outside the City (if including the number of mentions without an attractor) at 62% of total responses.

A key factor attracting visitors to play spaces outside the City is multiple options for play.

3. Additional comments - social media

Community members commented on Facebook posts promoting the survey (comments in Attachment 3). Key points from these comments were:

- Safety concerns around the nature playground in Bert Wright Park vs challenge and risk for children
- Incidence of dogs and proximity to children's play areas.

It is noted that actions from the Dog Exercise Area Review will influence the Play Space Strategy in terms of safety and play space design and location.

4. Themes

Themes emerged from the language respondents used to describe what is important to them and corresponding attractors. The data shows a definite congruence with industry trends; that the popular play spaces are designed for depth and variety in experience for multiple age groups, with infrastructure to support longer visits, hence responses such as shade, coffee, seating and socialising.

Another industry trend in play space and equipment design is a focus on challenge and elements of risk. Evidence of this was moderate in comparison to other activities in responses to Question 1; interestingly there was an overall focus on safety around play, specifically referring to fencing or enclosed play spaces for children.

The natural environment, shade and open space were shown to be key factors to the overall experience for children and their parents/carers. This is congruent with the trends around nature and water play.

5. Ongoing stakeholder communication

Respondents in this phase had the option to provide their email address for future contact from the City in regards to further opportunities for comment on the Play Space Strategy. A significant contact list was created as a result, allowing officers to 'close the feedback loop' with interested community members and advise of further engagement in phases 2 and 3 of the engagement process.

Phase 2

This phase consisted of a broad community engagement campaign of both online and in-person activities, during the month of September 2018.

The objectives of this engagement were to:

- Further expand on themes previously identified in Phase 1
- Gather specific information on local play spaces and local issues through a survey on Engage Bayswater
- Propose ideas for future planning and design through interactive sessions, interviews and information gathering.

In order to gain a more accurate sense of the spaces the community use on a local level, a more focussed approach was used to ask the community what they think of their local play spaces to try to get a more detailed picture. The activities were deliberately broad, as the strategy encompasses the whole community's use of play spaces, as opposed to purely children using playgrounds.

The methods used were:

- Online mapping tool and survey on Engage Bayswater
- Community drop-in sessions held at the City's libraries in conjunction with the Listening Posts (part of Strategic Community Plan engagement)
- Schools engagement activities with approximately 200 students at 3 primary schools and 1 secondary school
- Conversations with shoppers at Noranda Shopping Village
- Ideas sessions with Youth Advisory Committee and Community Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee

Mapping tool results

A total of 65 contributors dropped a total of 205 'pins' across 70 play spaces throughout the City of Bayswater. Respondents could choose between three responses, or different coloured 'pins':

- I enjoy this play space (green) - 47%
- I have an idea for this play space (yellow) - 28%
- I have an issue with this play space (red) - 25%

205 pins were dropped in play spaces across all suburbs; 4 regional, 17 district and 49 local. We also received a number of emails after the engagement period had closed which were included in the overall analysis of comments.

Where do people go and when?

The majority of people visit local play spaces on a weekly basis (32%); 25% of people visit play spaces daily; 13% visit fortnightly and 12% visit monthly. The main reason for visiting is because it is convenient and/or close to their house. The second highest reason for visiting is children's play on the play equipment, followed by dog exercise.

The local level play spaces with the most pins overall across the City were Halliday Park, Houghton Reserve, Lower Hillcrest Reserve, Claughton Reserve and Maylands Brickworks.

The suburbs with the highest number of pins were Bayswater and Maylands.

What do people like about their local play spaces?

Positive comments (either 'I enjoy this play space' or 'I have an idea' comments) tended towards:

- Higher level play spaces, i.e. Riverside Gardens (regional), Bert Wright (district);
- Play spaces that are surrounded by the natural environment/open space, i.e. Bardon Park and Maylands Foreshore;
- Co-located play spaces with a sporting reserve, i.e. Lower Hillcrest, Houghton.

The majority of 'Ideas' pins for regional and district play spaces related to increasing choice in activities and enhancing play experiences to:

- cater for different age groups and
- incorporate different elements such as nature play.

What do people find challenging in their local play spaces?

The most common issues noted by respondents across all suburbs revolved around upgrading and renovating play to satisfy a greater age range of children, including toddlers and older children. Other themes included:

- Improving community and child safety in some areas by installing fencing, improving surveillance and upgrading parks infrastructure such as lighting and access;
- Providing shade over play areas.

Bayswater

Out of 98 pins, 77 of these were dropped by Bayswater residents. Most of the remainder were dropped by residents in neighbouring Embleton and Maylands.

The age group who dropped the highest number of pins was 36-45 years.

Pins were dropped at 2 regional, 1 district and 16 local play spaces.

Out of a total of 34 pins, the play spaces with the highest numbers of 'idea' pins were Riverside Gardens, Houghton and Lower Hillcrest Reserves. The most common themes from the 'idea' responses were:

- Renovate/improve play to incorporate and complement nature
- Increase choice in activities - pump/bike tracks, exercise equipment.

Out of a total of 23 pins, the play spaces with the highest number of 'issue' pins were Bert Wright Park, Riverside Gardens and Halliday Park. The most common themes from the 'issue' responses were:

- Renovate/improve play for child safety and toddlers
- Improve community safety
- Dogs affecting usage in terms of dog faeces, lack of control of dogs around children's play areas
- Fences requested around play areas to ensure child safety in the vicinity of busy roads and water bodies

Bedford and Embleton

As the smallest geographical areas, these two suburbs were joined together to gain a more consistent result.

Out of 16 pins dropped, the majority were Bedford residents. The age group who dropped the highest number of pins was 36-45 years.

Pins were dropped at 2 district and 9 local play spaces.

Out of a total of 9 pins, the play spaces with the highest number of 'enjoy' and 'idea' pins were Browns Lake, Alan Lehmann and Wotton Reserves. The most common themes from the 'enjoy' and 'ideas' responses were:

- Renovate play to incorporate nature and improve play experience

Out of a total of 7 pins, the play spaces with the highest number of 'issue' pins were Alan Lehmann, Birkett, Gummery, Remembrance, York, Broun and Wotton Reserves. The common themes from the 'issues' responses were:

- Improve community safety
- Renovate play area to incorporate shade.

Maylands

Maylands had the highest number of 'I enjoy this play space' pins out of all suburbs and the lowest number of 'ideas' pins and 'issues' pins comparatively.

Out of 51 pins dropped, the majority were Maylands residents with the remainder Bayswater residents. Pin droppers ranged in age from 26 to 55 years.

People in Maylands tend to visit their local parks on a daily basis, more so than weekly and fortnightly.

Pins were dropped at 10 district and 6 local play spaces.

Out of a total of 7 pins, the common themes from the 'ideas' responses were:

- Renovate play for broader age range of children, enhance natural elements and parks infrastructure

Out of a total of 8 pins, the play spaces with the highest number of 'issue' pins were The Rise, Shearn and Charles Reserve. The common themes from the 'issues' responses were:

- Improve community safety and renovate play areas.

Morley

Out of 24 pins dropped, the majority were by Morley residents, who also tend to visit play spaces on a daily basis, similar to Maylands residents. Pin droppers ranged in age from 26 to 45 years.

Pins were dropped at 3 district and 14 local play spaces.

Overwhelmingly, the themes from both 'ideas' and 'issues' responses were renovating play for toddlers and young children and enhancing the play experience, across all local play spaces. These themes are consistent with feedback received from residents at the community drop-in session held at Morley library.

Noranda

The park with the highest number of pins dropped was Robert Thompson Reserve (6 out of 16 pins). Pin droppers ranged in age from 26 to 55 years and the majority were Noranda residents, who tend to visit play spaces on a weekly basis.

Pins were dropped at 2 regional, 1 district and 6 local play spaces.

The common themes from the 'ideas' responses were:

- Play space renovation to incorporate nature play and improve the play experience;
- Parks infrastructure improvement including shade, seating and BBQs.

The common themes from the 'issues' responses were:

- Enhance safety of children in play spaces in close proximity to a road;
- Improving community safety.

Some example comments from 'I have an idea for this play space' pins:

'Lower Hillcrest would be an excellent candidate for a long narrow play space like Gary Blanch. With the tall shady gum trees and the native regeneration of Evans Place Reserve, we could create a unique bush play space for all ages that connects Coode Street, Evans Place and Drake St' (Bayswater)

'This park (Donald Way Reserve) is heavily used by kids of all ages, many who live on the street and close by. My idea is to have it linked to other parks surrounding it as form of a 'progressive park play' where all the parks are somewhat linked, in theme etc. I know when my family and I (who consist of three young children) go on our weekend walks it's not uncommon for us to frequent a couple of parks along the way so having something that links them together like a sequence may be an entertaining idea? (Maylands)

Key findings

These findings are consistent with the first phase of engagement, the Have Your Say about Play survey, in which we asked the community to tell us about their favourite play spaces both in and outside of the City of Bayswater, in order to get an idea about the broad preferences around play. Responses in that phase demonstrated what people's expectations are for larger, higher level play spaces such as Riverside Gardens, Bardon Park and Bert Wright Park.

In this phase of engagement, through the mapping tool we were able to get more of an understanding of the community's expectations for local play spaces, the role that local play spaces have in residents' lives and how they use them.

Overall, people enjoy using their local play spaces (47%). Idea pins (28%) show trends away from traditional play equipment and more towards variety in age and play elements for all ages. It is evident that local spaces that are convenient to people's houses are highly valued and used for children's play, dog walking, community/social activities and exercise. There are unique differences between suburbs and communities which must be highlighted and valued in future planning and provision.

It is also evident that renovating play in local spaces to accommodate mainly younger children is a consistent theme in the community, particularly in Morley, along with provision of shade, improving community safety and incorporating nature in the play experience.

Face-to-face engagement results

Drop-in sessions

Three drop-in sessions were held in the City's libraries to facilitate informal conversation with community members around their use of local play spaces; places they like and don't like, how they use them and their ideas for improvement. City staff also set up an information display and spoke with people at Noranda Shopping Village on a Saturday morning.

Participants commented on their usage of play spaces all across the City, not just in their suburb of residence; however most conversations about issues and ideas for improvement were largely based on local play spaces close to people's homes that they used relatively frequently.

Conversations revolved around common themes, including play space renovation and upgrade to accommodate a broader range of ages, ensuring safety of children around dogs, improving the quality of supporting infrastructure in parks and increasing the variety of activities for people other than children, such as adult exercise equipment.

Comments were grouped according to suburb and summarised as follows:

Morley

- Access to higher quality play experiences for young children, including facilities and supporting infrastructure for parents, preferably in central locations;
- Balancing out the provision of infrastructure across local play spaces for a more equitable spread of activities for young and older people.

Maylands

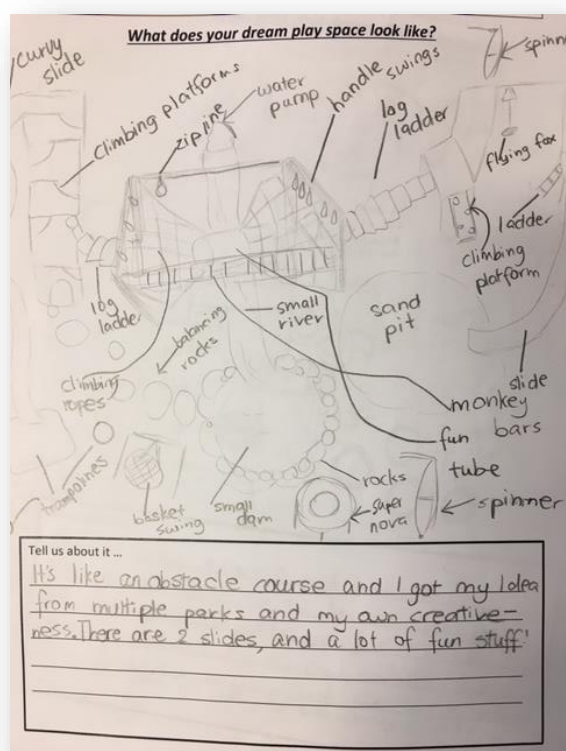
- Emphasis on cleaning up the natural environment around parks to improve people's recreation experiences;
- Providing more shade.

Bedford and Embleton

- Revamping play areas to incorporate more shade and enhance play experience;
- Improving community safety.

Noranda

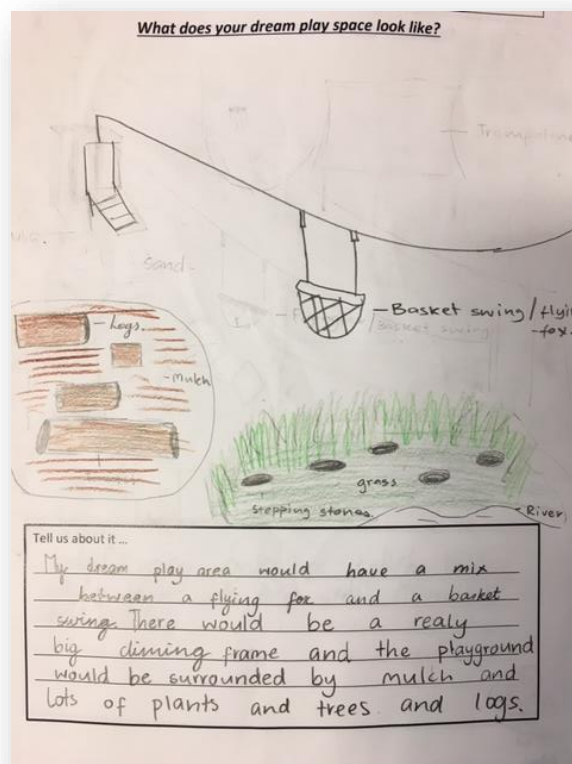
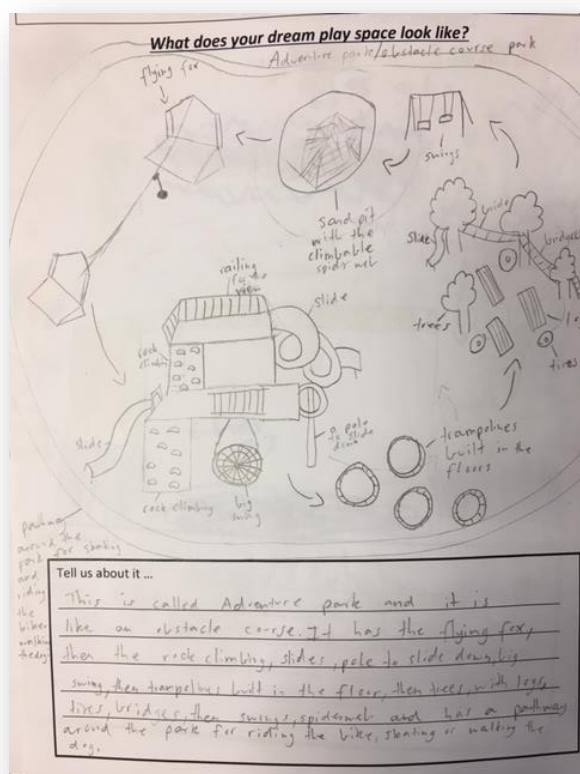
- Improve provision of passive lighting and improved supporting parks infrastructure to enable use and enjoyment of local play spaces as community meeting places .



Primary schools

Primary schools visited were Maylands Peninsula Primary, Noranda Primary and St Columba's. Students were aged between 8 and 12 years. Activities included 'Drawing your Dream Play Space' and a dotmocracy activity, wherein students indicated which play activities and spaces they liked the most and why. The results have been analysed and displayed in an infographic report.

For primary school aged children, the most popular play spaces across all age groups were nature-based; either specific nature play elements or play in the natural environment - bushland, river etc. Multi-courts were more popular with 11-12 year olds, whereas skate parks were more popular with 8-9 year olds.



Play activities showed a clear trend towards adventure and challenge, namely climbing and building cubbies/exploring. Riding a scooter was more popular with older children, along with hanging out with friends. Swings and flying foxes continue to be popular with 8-10 year olds, more so than 11-12 year olds. Graphic representation of these results were published in a poster and available for public view on the Engage Bayswater page (shown at Attachment 1).

John Forrest Secondary College

A group of 7 prefects aged 12 to 14 years participated in group activities to indicate the spaces they like to go, how frequently and why, to give a picture of their motivations for visiting play spaces. The students identified a number of play spaces they used for walking dogs, hanging out with friends, enjoying nature and playing recreational sport. Issues they identified as important for their use included safety in design and planning of spaces, adequate bins, lighting, and healthy and clean green spaces.

The students were also asked how they would design play spaces that people of their age would like to go to. Their answers were insightful and imaginative, clearly demonstrating what is important to them, such as:

- The natural environment and surrounding landscape; recycling waste bins and re-used materials for play equipment; incorporating education and science into play areas
- Interesting and challenging play elements such as parkour, climbing walls and webs, rock walls and nature playgrounds
- Seating, murals, sculptures and art, themed play and colour for visual attraction and relief.

Youth Advisory Committee (YAC)

Members of the YAC had an informal conversation with City officers about their motivations for visiting play spaces; ideas for how to improve spaces and make them more attractive to young people. Two out of six members (aged between 16 and 22 years) used parks approximately once a week for recreation and/or exercise; committee members generally didn't feel that parks and play infrastructure provision catered for their needs.

Motivations for using play spaces revolved around socialisation and the natural environment. Parks infrastructure elements that were considered important for young people's usage of play spaces were water fountains, natural and artificial shade and seating. Balance in provision of play infrastructure with the natural environment was also important.

Ideas to stimulate activity and enjoyment of play spaces included adult 'play' elements, i.e. jungle gym, climbing equipment and ping pong; pop-ups, public art and installations; amphitheatre for events and technological infrastructure such as WiFi and solar charged power stations.

Community Access and Advisory Committee (CAIAC)

As a representative committee comprising community members and Councillors, the CAIAC considers and makes recommendations on the implementation of the City's:

- Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP);
- Age Friendly Strategy;
- Other City plans and strategies with a focus on access and inclusion.

A session was held with the committee to get their feedback on the barriers to play spaces that are faced by the community, in terms of universal access and play opportunities. The committee identified barriers such as fencing design, footpath placement and lack of sensory assistance such as signage and lights.

Thoughtful planning and design of the space, parks infrastructure and play elements should all encourage universal access, variety in play, sense of place and socialisation, such as round tables with shade for sharing food and conversation, interesting park furniture and incorporating the City's logo in designs and public art. Funding of play spaces could include sponsorship and contributions from local businesses for park infrastructure. Compliance with the relevant standards for access and inclusion is an important factor for upgrades and future play space planning.

Key findings

Residents in the City of Bayswater value their play spaces highly, for a number of reasons; some are unique to where they live. It is imperative that the City takes into account the whole community when renovating current play spaces through the Playground Replacement Program and other design and upgrade works. Ensuring that residents have access to a range of different sizes and types of play spaces in their local area will be a key outcome of the Play Space Strategy.

People of all ages and abilities enjoy parks and play spaces across the City. Suitable and accessible parks infrastructure such as seating, picnic tables, bins, shade and public toilets (where applicable), are key to people's enjoyment and socialisation. The importance of designing in challenging elements for children of all ages should be balanced with safety. Play experiences should accommodate the needs of older people, young adults and people with disability where possible and appropriate to do so. Facilitating residents' sense of place and local ownership of their play spaces is paramount to the health and longevity of community connectedness.

Comments specific to play spaces have been noted and will form part of the 10 year Implementation Plan for further analysis in the annual Play Space Renovation Program.

Phase 3

This phase involved releasing the draft summary of the Play Space Strategy to the community for feedback. A summary of the draft Play Space Strategy was approved by Council for public comment at the Ordinary Council meeting on 26 March 2019. The public comment period ran for one month commencing 1 April 2019.

The method used was a Submission Form to comment on the draft document, which was posted on Engage Bayswater and provided in hard copy at the Civic Centre and the City's outstations:

- Bayswater Waves
- Bayswater library
- Maylands library
- Morley library
- The RISE

No hard copy Submission Forms were received, however, 321 visits to the project page on Engage Bayswater were recorded; the draft summary document was downloaded 147 times and 16 online Submissions Forms were completed.

In addition, information signs were placed at Bardon Park, Bert Wright Park, Riverside Gardens and Robert Thompson Reserve to advise park users of the public comment period.

Submissions

Seven of the 16 submissions received were explicit in support of the strategy. Out of the total number of submissions, five highlighted issues in specific reserves; the remainder commented on the type of play they would like to see, improvements in park infrastructure and safety, or accessibility. Themes were generally aligned with those noted in previous engagement phases conducted to inform the strategy.

One submission referred to the use of the classification hierarchy to guide future planning decisions; stating that they hoped the application of the hierarchy would not reduce the level of current provision.

Comments are summarised below:

Submission #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive feedback on the strategy in general• Lack of toddler play spaces available across the City <p>Feedback specific to a reserve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety an issue in Ivory St Reserve, Noranda
Submission #2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive feedback on the strategy in general• Activated play spaces as a result• Footpaths on every street leading to parks to ensure safety
Submission #3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive feedback on the strategy in general
Submission #4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Request more fenced parks to protect children from ball sports and dogs

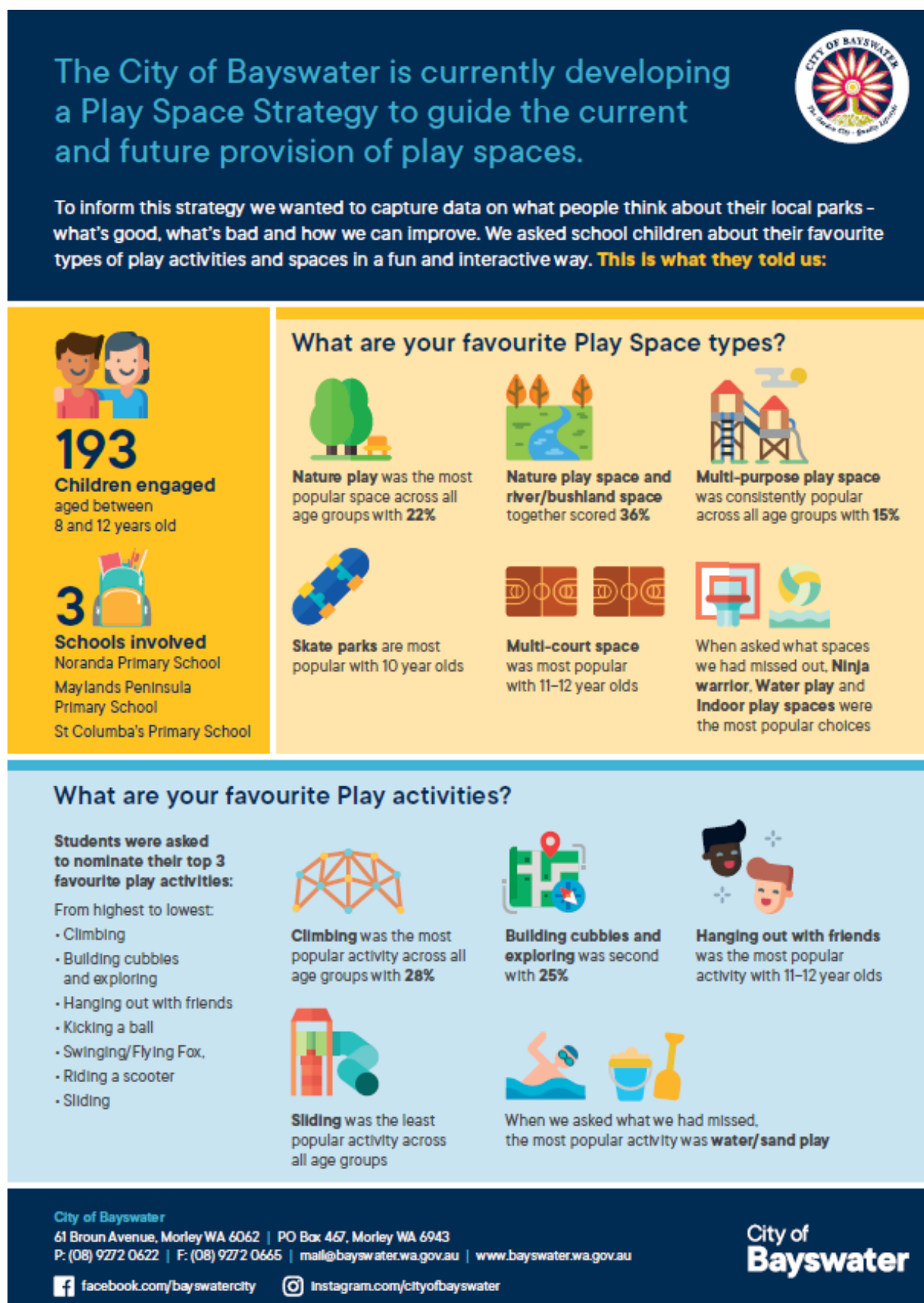
Submission #5	<p>Feedback specific to a reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charles Reserve (number of issues listed)
Submission #6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive feedback on the strategy in general Supportive of shade, nature play and water play
Submission #7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive feedback on the strategy in general Fencing around play areas for safety of young children in dog areas Links to public toilets and access to food/beverage options would be handy for parents planning outings with kids (City website info)
Submission #8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of spaces catering for family units in local areas
Submission #9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive feedback on the strategy in general Play is crucial to child development; open space for health and wellbeing – all ages Accessibility important – some parks to be designed for kids with mobility issues/disability
Submission #10	<p>Feedback specific to a reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rudloc Reserve – used by families; would benefit from nature play or multi-use courts
Submission #11	<p>Submitted by the Cancer Council Western Australia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strongly supportive of strategy, particularly in the interests of providing shade in all parks and play spaces Recommendations for City policies relating to Public Open Space to include shade in all parks and future planning Recommendations for analysis, prioritising and installation of shade through the Play Space Strategy
Submission #12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supportive of all play spaces having enough shade to cover play equipment The City must meet its duty of care in this regard
Submission #13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current level of play equipment shouldn't drop More physical play infrastructure for older kids and community building eg basketball in Ockley Square
Submission #14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desire for playgrounds with choice and stimulation for kids of all ages – active play, learning, sensory Shade, water fountains, fencing, rubber softfall for young kids Sand play, climbing and social play elements and activities
Submission #15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural shade preferred over shade sails – cooler, more resilient and less prone to vandalism Drink fountains with dog bowls Pathways continuous and logical Regional play elements should include nature play
Submission #16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More swings in play spaces Lift the maintenance standard of Pocket parks eg Norco Way

Comments did not refer to the Guiding Principles proposed, nor the process that the City went through to develop the strategy. The number of downloads of the draft summary (147) in comparison with the number of submission forms received (16) may indicate a general agreement and support of the draft Play Space Strategy.

Breakdown of the comments is as follows:

- Positive and directly supportive of the draft strategy (44%),
- Neutral, providing targeted feedback on specific issues (31%),
- Neutral, providing ideas for what they would like to see improved (assume as an outcome of the strategy) (19%), or
- Unsupportive of a potential outcome of the draft strategy (6%).

Attachment 1



2019-2029 Play Space Strategy

Draft for community feedback - April 2019



1 CONTEXT

Over the last 12 months we have reviewed our current play spaces and the way we plan, design and upgrade them. We have considered our approach, available resources, and current trends around play spaces. Most importantly, we have listened to what the community has told us about what they want to see in the City's parks and play spaces.

Why is play important?

- Cognitive development
- Development of social skills and emotional awareness
- Stimulation of senses, imagination and creativity
- Physical activity, health and wellbeing
- Engaging with the natural environment.



The Purpose of the Play Space Strategy is to guide the future planning, design and management of play spaces across the City for the whole community to enjoy.

2 FINDINGS AND FEEDBACK

We asked the community about play spaces they use so we could better understand what the issues are and how we can improve our parks and play spaces in the future.

Over 400 people contributed feedback.

“It would be great to build a children's nature playground and incorporate the water/river setting.”

“BBQ and lighting would make this park more useable year round. This park is perfectly situated as a local meeting place.”

“We would love to see the addition of a footpath so children can ride their bikes/scooters around.”

An audit of all 170 parks in the City gave us an overview of the standard of play and identified some issues to consider in future planning and renovations. Key findings from this audit were combined with community feedback, research and analysis to form the draft Play Space Strategy.

3 PROJECT TIMELINE

- **April - May 2018:** First round of community engagement to determine what play spaces people like and why.
- **May - August 2018:** Research and analysis.
- **September - October 2018:** Second round of community engagement to gather further detail on how people use local play spaces and their ideas for improvement.
- **November 2018:** Play space audit.
- **December 2018 - February 2019:** Draft strategy development.
- **March 2019:** Draft strategy to Council.
- **April 2019:** Draft strategy out for community feedback.
- **May 2019:** Final strategy considered by Council.

4 WHAT DOES THE COMMUNITY WANT TO SEE?

- 1 **More shade, particularly over play equipment.**
- 2 **Park infrastructure improvements for rest, relaxation and socialisation e.g. accessible seating, picnic shelters, shade and BBQs.**
- 3 **Play opportunities for a broader age range, including toddlers, older children and teenagers, young people and older people.**
- 4 **Play integrated with natural environment.**
- 5 **A continuous path of travel to and around play spaces for everyone, regardless of age or ability.**

5 THE PLAY SPACE STRATEGY IS BUILT AROUND 3 GUIDING PRINCIPLES:



Quality local provision

The City aspires to offer interesting and exciting play opportunities for a broad range of ages, supported by adequate parks infrastructure. We aim to provide play infrastructure that is best suited to each individual space, enhancing and making use of the existing natural environment. We will involve local park users and aim to provide a variety of play experiences in local neighbourhoods.



Effective and sustainable asset management

We will plan, manage and maintain our parks and play assets effectively to ensure continued service to the community. We will consider life cycles and ongoing costs before replacing assets. Where existing play equipment reaches the end of its useful life and is no longer suitable, or there is an oversupply of similar equipment in a local area, we will work with the community to develop options for future use of the space.



Annual assessment based on robust criteria

Each year we will:

- Prioritise play spaces for the Play Space Renovation Program based on key assessment criteria including:
 - Current condition of play and park assets
 - Analysis of surrounding environment and existing play provision in local area
 - Resource capacity
- Engage with the local community
- Plan and implement the Play Space Renovation Program, subject to budget availability.


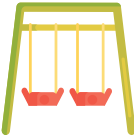


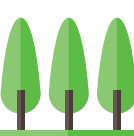
WHAT IS A PLAY SPACE?



- A place where people of all ages and abilities can experience physical and creative play, social interaction and physical activity
- Can be standalone or co-located with community and sporting facilities; in natural environments, public open space or urban areas
- Includes different types of play elements and park furniture for a variety of uses.

How will we implement the Play Space Strategy?

We propose a *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy* to guide the renovations and ensure that the park and play space reflect the intended level of use in future. This is a snapshot of the proposed park classifications, intended use and associated infrastructure we aim to provide at each level.

Type of park and catchment	Intended purpose	Potential play elements	Additional infrastructure
 <div>Pocket Less than 0.4 ha in size, 300m walk from home.</div>	<i>‘Extension of my backyard’</i> Rest, relaxation, play. Intended for short visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May have basic play element/s in a small play space e.g. swing, natural play elements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessible seating• Minimal landscaping and/or small scale community initiatives such as community gardens• Natural shade or shade sail• Accessible pathways.
 <div>Local 0.4 to 1 ha in size, 400m walk from home.</div>	<i>‘A place to meet the street’</i> Recreation activities such as dog walking, play. Intended for short visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small to medium sized play space• Caters for a limited age range• Can include 1 to 2 types of play e.g. nature play elements, modular equipment, climbing frame and swings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessible seating• Natural shade or shade sail• Accessible pathways.
 <div>Neighbourhood 1 to 5 ha in size, 800m walk from home.</div>	<i>‘Heart of the community’</i> Recreation activities such as family and social gatherings, ball games and physical activity and play. Intended for longer visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medium to large play space• Caters for broader age range• Can include range of play types e.g. exercise equipment, outdoor multi-court, play structures and nature play elements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessible seating, picnic shelter• Drink fountain• BBQ (negotiable)• Natural shade or shade sail• Accessible pathways.
 <div>District/Sporting 5 to 15 ha in size, 1–2 km from home.</div>	<i>‘Mix of sport and play’</i> Recreation activities such as dog walking and play. Use is dependent on sporting function.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Play space will depend on sporting function and available space• Generally caters for limited age range• Can include similar elements to local level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessible seating, picnic shelter• Drink fountain• BBQ (negotiable)• Natural shade or shade sail• Accessible pathways.
 <div>Regional Large areas of significance to the City. Whole of City, servicing one or more geographic regions.</div>	<i>‘Super-sized reserve’</i> Recreation, sport or nature function for a variety of activities in multiple areas. Use is dependent on function.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large/multiple play spaces• Caters for different ages and abilities• Diverse mix of play elements and types e.g. physical play areas, multiple play structures/nodes and enclosed spaces for younger children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessible seating and picnic shelter nodes• Drink fountain• BBQ• Natural shade or shade sail• Accessible pathways• Access to public toilets.

What’s next?

The City is seeking feedback from the community on the draft Play Space Strategy. If you would like to provide comments, ask any questions or tell us your concerns, please let us know by completing a Submission Form using one of the following methods:

- 1 Visit the [Play Space Strategy page on engage.bayswater.wa.gov.au](#) and click on the Submission Form tab at the bottom of the page.
- 2 Complete a hard copy form available at all of the City’s libraries, Bayswater Waves, The RISE and the Civic Centre.

If you have any questions, please contact the City’s Leisure Planner, Lucy Griffiths on 08 9272 0905 or email mail@bayswater.wa.gov.au.