

play your way



DECEMBER 2023

'PLAY YOUR WAY' STRATEGY 2023

A 10 YEAR PLAN TO GUIDE PLAY AND ACTIVE PROVISION IN KINGSTON



City of
KINGSTON



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Kingston proudly acknowledges the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, and we pay our respect to their Elders, past and present and emerging.

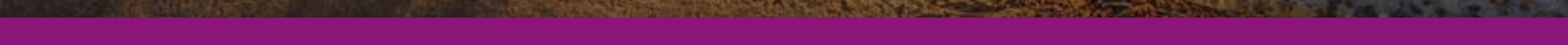
Council acknowledges the Bunurong's continuing relationship to the land and waterways and respects that their connection and spiritual identity is maintained through ancient ceremonies, songlines, dance, art and living culture.

Council pays tribute to the invaluable contributions of the Bunurong and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island elders who have guided and continue to guide the work we do.

2021 NAIDOC DINNER AT THE DERRIMUT WEELAM GATHERING PLACE.
PHOTO COURTESY: YANNI CREATIVE

CONTENTS

Mayor’s Message	3	What Will Our Play Spaces ‘Look Like’ and What Will They Include?	32
Introduction	4	Small Local Play Space	32
Definitions	6	Local Play Space	34
Background	7	Suburb Play Space	36
Vision for Play and Active Recreation	8	District Play Space	38
Value and Importance of Play and Active Recreation	10	Regional Play Space	40
Purpose of the Strategy	11	Fixed Term Play Space	42
Strategic Context	12	Municipal Wide Play Space Intentions	44
Methodology and Scope	14	Suburb Specific Play Space Intentions	45
Overview of the Strategy Development Process	14	Supplementary Information	52
Engagement – Play Your Way	15	Playgrounds	53
Councillors	15	Active Recreation Equipment	56
Community	16		
Build Your Own Play Space	19		
Collaborative Engagement Group (CEG)	20		
Play Trends	22		
Current Provision in Kingston	25		
The Current ‘State of Play’ in Kingston	27		
Specific Issues and Drivers of Change	27		
The Future of Play in Kingston	29		
Principles of Play and Active Recreation Provision in Kingston	29		
Our Focus Areas	30		
What Do We Want Kingston Play Spaces to Look Like?	31		
Our Play Space Hierarchy	31		



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

There is nothing more thrilling than that feeling of wind rushing through your hair as you swing through the air. Shouts of 'push me higher' filling a morning. The sound of children giggling as they zip down the slide and the amazement of grown ups when little ones achieve their first big monkey bar swing.

There really are few more enjoyable and uplifting places to be than a buzzing playground.

Whether it's for catch ups with family and friends, birthday parties, or just some outside time, our play spaces are always full of wonder, adventure, learning and laughing.

We all know how important these free spaces are for social connection and getting active too and how much our wellbeing improves with some time outside connecting with others of all ages.

Whether you seek dizzying heights climbing high into the sky, love hurtling along on your skates, or can't wait to shoot some hoops with mates – play is not only vital to our health and wellbeing – it's fun!

Together with our community, we have created an ambitious goal to develop a long-term plan for play in Kingston. You blew us away with your positive response and we couldn't have done it without you.

In addition to talking all things play, we took a closer look at all 117 of our playgrounds, as well as our skate parks, half courts, outdoor gyms and more.

Over 2,400 of you took the time to tell us how, what, when, where and why you play; and our dedicated, wonderful Collaborative Engagement Group provided some recommendations of their own to help guide our thinking.

From our littlies who gave the thumbs up to swings and slides, to our teens who let us know that half courts and bike paths are where it's at, to the young at heart who told us that walking paths and outdoor exercise equipment are important to them – your feedback has been simply invaluable.

All your exciting ideas and suggestions have got us to where we are today and will help us design, deliver and maintain these vital spaces into the future.

I'm thrilled to present this strategy for the future of play in our wonderful city and we can't wait for our community to have more wonderful adventures together.



Cr Jenna Davey-Burns
Mayor of Kingston



Throughout this document, keep an eye out for this symbol - where you'll find the Collaborative Engagement Group's work referenced.

INTRODUCTION

The community wide, people focused outcomes sought by Kingston City Council through its provision of public playgrounds are well recognised and accepted as fundamental aspects of community health and wellbeing.

These outcomes aren't unique to Kingston, they are universal and range from improved physical and mental health and wellbeing, social connectedness, early childhood learning and development opportunities, connection with open space and others....and of course, happiness, fun and freedom!

Playgrounds and the open spaces they exist within, including our 13km of foreshore, are valuable community assets. The play activities, social interaction and child development outcomes which result from the provision of public playgrounds are mostly intangible and it is not so easy to measure or correlate these outcomes with the financial value of the asset. However, to maximise these important social, health, wellbeing and developmental outcomes, playgrounds must be considered and planned for using a strategic process and framework which acknowledges play as a highly valued Council service, provided primarily for the benefit of children but through which our entire community can benefit.

Preparation of the 2023 Kingston Play Your Way Strategy is intended to provide Council with the necessary strategic framework, direction and recommendations to guide the ongoing development and management of Council owned and managed play spaces throughout our City. It is also intended to be the catalyst for Council to recognise the long term asset management and funding challenges historically associated with play and active recreation facilities, and to fully embrace this Strategy as the agreed way forward for these important assets.





DEFINITIONS

Throughout this document you will come across terms you may not be overly familiar with, and they are important to understand in the context of play spaces. Refer to the table below for details of what is meant by each play related term:

Active Recreation	Unstructured non-competitive physical activity for the purpose of wellbeing and enjoyment.
Active Recreation Facilities	Physical assets in public open spaces provided for the purposes of active recreation – such as skate parks, basketball and tennis courts, outdoor fitness stations, BMX jumps, climbing walls, ninja warrior equipment etc.
Adults/Carers	Defined in this document as a parent, guardian or carer of a young person or child or person with a disability who requires support to participate in daily activities such as play and physical activity.
Amenities	A feature or facility that makes a play space more comfortable, convenient, or enjoyable (i.e. shelter, public toilet, BBQ etc).
Children	Defined in this document as those below the age of 12; covering infancy through to the end of primary school.
Nature	Elements such as water, plants, rocks and logs within or adjacent to a Play Space.
Neighbourhood	A localised, smaller community within a larger municipality or suburb. Commonly four or five blocks of homes, bordered by physical boundaries such as larger roads/railway line/ water body.
Play	To engage in activity for enjoyment and recreation rather than a serious or practical purpose especially by children ut within this document it covers all ages!
Playground	An area within a play space that includes specific pieces of play equipment for the purposes of play.
Playground Classification	A hierarchy used to provide a diversity of play experiences for the community which also informs the level of service, size and supporting infrastructure to be provided at a playground.
Play Equipment	Any kind of structure or apparatus found in a playground to enable play – such as slides, swings, rockers, climbers etc.
Play Space	In Kingston this means an area within a public open space that includes a playground and active recreation equipment and also includes surrounding natural features, landscaping and amenities to support use of the space for play.
Play Value	The usability and quality of play that derives from each playground or piece of play equipment. A measure of how much a child is engaged by a playground or play equipment both physically and mentally. Playgrounds or play equipment with high play value can typically be used in many different ways.
Young People	Defined in this document as those aged 12–25. This period includes the three main stages of adolescence – early, middle, and late.

BACKGROUND

Council manages 117 public playgrounds and 105 active recreation facilities across Kingston. Council is responsible for the planning, design, construction and maintenance of public playgrounds and active recreation facilities on Kingston owned land and, in some instances, Crown or other public authority's land. To support its role as a primary provider of public play spaces, Council allocates annual capital and operational budgets as well as permanent staffing resources to enable the fulfilment of all associated playground related tasks and responsibilities.

Council's 2010 Playground Strategy developed a framework to guide Council in its provision for play; it set out a blueprint for the future of playground renewal and design over a ten-year period from 2010. Whilst the Strategy provided clear directions and recommendations for playground upgrades between 2010 and 2020, as well as significant detail about the importance of children's play, in 2023 it is now outdated. It no longer adequately represents Kingston's current and forecast population or demographics. Kingston has changed and a new approach is required to strategically provide play opportunities that adequately respond to current trends, changing community values, and new opportunities and areas of focus within our municipality.

Some of these changes include post-covid open space value, residential developments, population growth, demographic changes, level crossing removal projects, changing demands for outdoor recreation infrastructure, and updated accessibility and inclusion principles which seek to ensure play is available to all, regardless of age, culture, ability, geographic location. The 2010 Strategy also fell short in enabling strategic prioritisation for investment/renewals. An updated action plan which supports asset management related to play is now urgently required.

Given that the 2010 Strategy is now well over ten years old, a new and refreshed strategy is required to guide Council's provision of play and active recreation opportunities and spaces, and to ensure adequate investment/financial resourcing is secured to achieve Council's and the community's vision and objectives for play.



VISION FOR PLAY AND ACTIVE RECREATION

A network of fun, safe, inspiring spaces that encourage everyone in Kingston to play their way, connect and learn.





VALUE AND IMPORTANCE OF PLAY AND ACTIVE RECREATION

Provision of playgrounds and active recreation facilities is a long term service provided by Council which our community now expects and values greatly. Playgrounds and active recreation facilities provide health and wellbeing outcomes, social interaction settings and child developmental opportunities primarily for young people to learn about themselves and the world they live in.

But everyone can benefit from 'play spaces', not just children and young people. Play spaces actually provide opportunities for everyone to be active, to gather, to connect with others and to connect with nature in a green open space setting and our foreshore. It is true that a quality local play space can provide a no cost, readily available, easily accessible and enjoyable setting for all members of a community.

Providing accessible public play and active recreation spaces which encourage physical activity and social interaction for everyone is vital in furthering the objectives of Council's Public Health and Wellbeing Plan in particular the intentions related to physical and mental wellbeing, life-long learning and social and community connectedness.



PURPOSE OF THE STRATEGY

The 2023 Play Your Way Strategy is intended to provide Council with the necessary strategic framework, principles and direction to guide the ongoing development, management and investment in Council owned and managed playgrounds and active recreation facilities throughout our City.

The overall intended outcomes of the 2023 Play Your Way Strategy are:

PLAN AND DELIVER A NETWORK OF FRESH, EXCITING, ENGAGING, AND ENJOYABLE PLAY SPACES FOR OUR COMMUNITY



- » Make play spaces FUN for everyone!
- » Provide a range of play options that cater to all ages, abilities and interests
- » Provide high quality, well resourced play spaces that enable use by visitors of all ages and physical abilities
- » Ensure play spaces are well located so that play is provided equitably across our City.

FURTHER HIGHLIGHT COUNCIL'S FOCUS ON HEALTH AND WELLBEING OUTCOMES FOR OUR COMMUNITY



- » Provide quality public spaces for children and young people that prioritise young people's interests and feelings of belonging and connectedness within their community, where they can 'play' free from adult interference
- » Encourage physical activity for everyone, but primarily for children and young people
- » Create learning and development opportunities for children
- » Provide opportunities for play and outdoor enjoyment, for everyone.

FACILITATE A COORDINATED CROSS-ORGANISATION APPROACH TO PLAY DESIGN, DELIVERY, AND MAINTENANCE



- » Prioritise compliance with safety standards
- » Apply a 'whole of life' asset thinking – every play space should have a plan for the duration of its lifecycle from planning, to design, construction, maintenance and end of life/renewal
- » Consistent design parameters across the Kingston play network, closely aligned with community expectation, and benefits of play
- » Provide play spaces which enable physical access options and social inclusion for all members of our community.

RESPONSIBLE ASSET PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT


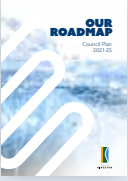







- » Planning now for play provision, to guide short and long term investment
- » Equitable and responsive investment across the City, so that everyone has access to play regardless of where they live in Kingston
- » Assets are designed, located, managed and maintained to maximise social return on investment.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The Play Your Way Strategy fits within a broader planning context for play, active recreation and open space at both local and State levels. Kingston is unique as are the needs of our community yet we are part of Victoria, the Southern metro region and the inner south/bayside district.

As a contributor to community outcomes within our region we have a responsibility to think broadly when undertaking strategic planning for any service but this is especially relevant for a Play Spaces Strategy which seeks equitable provision and opportunity to play for all. Below we have summarised strategic work which has influence on our local context for play and active recreation in Kingston.

Report	Strategic work
Kingston's Community Vision 	<p>Principle: Community Planning</p> <p>Description: We develop community infrastructure based on an agreed plan for the future.</p> <p>Principle: To make Kingston the most liveable city for its diverse community.</p> <p>Description: Characteristics of a liveable city include: land use, built form, public spaces and the natural environment; transport network, accessibility to work, education, health and community services; social and recreation opportunities.</p> <p>Principle: Safety, health and well-being of the people of Kingston.</p> <p>Description: Improve infrastructure that promotes safety and better accessibility.</p>
Council Plan 2021–2025 	<p>1. LIVEABLE</p> <p>Objective: 1.1 Our city will be a vibrant, enjoyable, and easy place to live</p> <p>Strategy: 1.1.1 Provide accessible, quality public open spaces for passive and active recreation 1.1.2 Invest in high-quality community assets</p> <p>4. HEALTHY AND INCLUSIVE</p> <p>Objective: 4.1 We are progressive, inclusive and prioritise the wellbeing of all members of our community</p> <p>Strategy: 4.1.4 Support community education, life-long learning and creativity 4.1.6 Support our community's physical wellbeing</p>
Public Health & Wellbeing Plan 2021–2025 	<p>Goal: 1. A healthy and well community</p> <p>Objective: 1.1 Increase participation in physical activity</p> <p>Goal: 4. A liveable community</p> <p>Objective: 4.4 Increase accessible and equitable supply of facilities, services and activities</p>
Open Space Strategy 	<p>Goal: Enhance quality of open space through high-quality design</p> <p>Goal: Ensure adequate provision of accessible, connected and inclusive spaces for people to enjoy</p> <p>Goal: Promote community health and wellbeing</p>

Report	Strategic work
<p>Active Victoria 2022–2026 (SRV)</p> 	<p>Objective: Through connecting communities all Victorians have access to high-quality environments and appropriate participation opportunities.</p> <p>Key Direction: Improve community sport and active recreation infrastructure coordination to better meet demand, with a focus on areas and populations who need it most. Deliver inclusive, multi-use and sustainable community sport and active recreation infrastructure.</p>
<p>Play Australia Strategic Plan 2020–2025</p> 	<p>Key Priority: We all value Play</p> <p>Outcomes: Play is recognised as a national health priority.</p> <p>Key Priority: We all access places to Play</p> <p>Outcomes: Play is embedded within the design of public spaces in Australia. Young people connect with each other and play in public spaces.</p>
<p>Plan Melbourne 2017–2050</p> 	<p>Principle: Living locally – 20 minute neighbourhoods</p> <p>Description: Creating accessible, safe and attractive local areas where people can access most of their everyday needs within a 20-minute walk, cycle or local public transport trip, will make Melbourne healthier and more inclusive.</p> <p>Principle: Strong and healthy communities</p> <p>Description: To remain a city of diverse, healthy and inclusive communities, Melbourne needs to ensure its neighbourhoods and suburbs are safe and walkable. Strong communities need affordable, accessible housing; local health, education and community services; access to recreation spaces; and healthy food.</p> <p>Outcome: 5. Melbourne is a city of inclusive, vibrant and healthy neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Direction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1 Create a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods. 5.2 Create neighbourhoods that support safe communities and healthy lifestyles. 5.3 Deliver social infrastructure to support strong communities. 5.4 Deliver local parks and green neighbourhoods in collaboration with communities.

METHODOLOGY AND SCOPE

As the basis for this Strategy, an extensive review of the current status of play and active recreation provision across our City has been completed as well as an assessment of current national and worldwide thinking regarding play and active recreation provision opportunities i.e what works well, what doesn't, what can we learn from others and importantly what can we learn from our own practices over the term of Council's previous 2010 Playground Strategy.

Achieving this level of understanding has involved looking more closely at the strategic context within which a new Strategy will exist, as well as broader play industry guidelines, regulations, standards, industry trends and our community's play values.

We also undertook the most extensive community engagement campaign in Council's recent history and engaged with nearly 2,500 community members about how, when, what, why and where they like to play. This information has significantly shaped the proposed design inclusions for future play spaces in Kingston and has informed service levels to be applied to play spaces and provision in Kingston.

A further significant component of our review process has been the considerable focus we have placed on data and evidence gathering related to Kingston's existing play and active recreation assets. This information was not available as a single source prior to commencing development of the Strategy and has been a lengthy task requiring the combination of multiple data sources and a subsequent process to ensure data reliability as the basis for our strategic planning. This newly created data set includes asset age, manufacturer, classification, location, condition, remaining useful life, forecast renewal cost, annual maintenance costs etc. It allows us to analyse and better understand the bigger picture relating to play in Kingston, and start to align asset delivery with community profile and demands.

OVERVIEW OF THE STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



ENGAGEMENT – PLAY YOUR WAY



Extensive work has now been completed to inform the development of a new Strategy including a wide-ranging review of multiple data sources, spatial analysis of distribution and access to play across all areas of our City. Importantly Council has engaged widely with key stakeholders and the broader community. The Play Your Way campaign was established to understand our community’s play values and interests and ensure authentic and successful engagement.

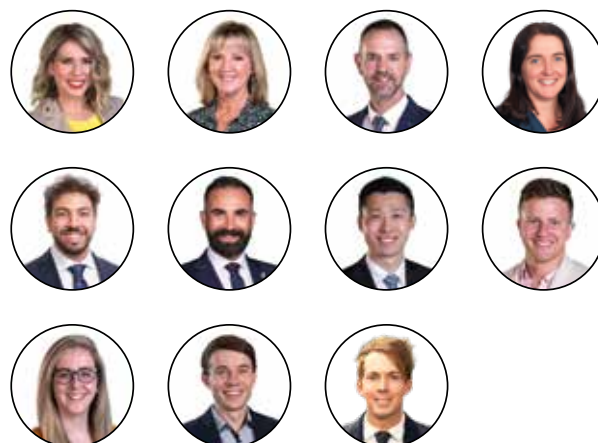


COUNCILLORS

Consistent with the views expressed by the community, Councillors recognise and strongly value the role of public play spaces.

Their involvement and support for development of the Strategy was critical to its success. Councillors contributed to the project scope, issue identification and they keenly work-shopped ideas about how to sustainably provide play and active recreation facilities over the coming 20 years.

Councillor support and advocacy related to the implementation of the play principles and intentions of the Strategy is critical to its success. Likewise, their decision making around future financial investment can now be heavily guided by this Strategy, with full confidence that the recommendations are a robust reflection of community values (achieved via the Play Your Way campaign).



Top row left to right: Mayor Cr Jenna Davey-Burns, Deputy Mayor Cr Tracey Davies, Cr Chris Hill, Cr Tamsin Bearsley.
Middle row left to right: Cr Hadi Saab, Cr Steve Staikos, Cr George Hua, Cr Tim Cochrane.
Bottom row left to right: Cr Georgina Oxley, Cr David Eden, Cr Cameron Howe.



COMMUNITY

We asked our community what they value about play and active recreation in Kingston. We wanted to know how, where, when, why and what they liked to do when it comes to play. Our Play Your Way engagement activities included the following activities:

- » We hosted three in-person large-scale drop-in sessions in north, central and south locations (Keeley Park in Clarinda, Kingston Heath in Cheltenham and Bonbeach Farmers Market) – a total of 379 in person, in-depth engagements.
- » We visited over 25 community settings including community hubs, kindergartens, libraries, community centres, schools, Waves Leisure Centre, advisory groups, the community bus clients, and Maternal Child Health Centre. At these settings we participated with children's groups, multi-cultural citizen's groups, older adult fitness groups, teenagers, parent/carer groups, young parents, all abilities advocates, and all genders. A total of 1,106 surveys were completed.
- » 1,900 people engaged with Your Kingston Your Say, and 280 people completed an online survey (14% conversion rate).
- » 712 people engaged with the Design Your Own Play Space online tool, and 184 people made a submission (26% conversion rate).
- » 100 people from the 225 person Kingston Community Representative Panel completed an online 'Quick Poll' response (conversion rate of 44%).
- » 82 children prepared drawings of their 'dream play space' the highlights of which were a playground made entirely of candy, a playground with 'one of everything' and many requests for waterslides, preferably pink or orange!
- » We talked directly with over 2,000 people and had conversations with toddlers, to teenagers, families, carers, and grandparents, to understand our community's expectations about all things play and active recreation.
- » Nearly 200 respondents provided feedback to the draft Play Your Way Strategy.



To inform the Strategy development over 2,200 responses to the Play Your Way campaign (Stage 1 consultation) were received by Council, as shown below:

Engagement setting	Responses
Drop-in sessions x3 (Keeley Park, Kingston Heath and Bonbeach Farmers Market)	379
Your Kingston Your Say online survey	280
Targeted pop-up sessions/paper survey – Adult	537
Targeted pop-up sessions/paper survey – Youth	386
Targeted pop-up sessions/paper survey – Children	183
Design Your Own Play Space – online tool	184
Representative Panel poll responses	100
Children’s drawings	82
Play Your Way total	2,131
Skate of Mind event	80
Talking Kingston/Councillor requests	50
Overall total	2,261

Specifically the engagement activities sought to determine feedback and input related to:

- » acceptable travel time from home to a playground;
- » how to tackle the issue of ageing play and active recreation infrastructure in Kingston;
- » Play equipment preferences – ‘design your own play space’;
- » the cost associated with the delivery of the current service; and
- » our community’s response to the importance of play quantity versus play quality.

Some key findings from Stage 1 engagement activities, as expressed by the community are listed below:

PREFERRED ACTIVITIES – ADULTS (OVER 25 YEARS OF AGE)

Adult survey respondents **choose to visit** their favoured playground because it is close to home (265), they enjoy the trees/nature it offers (306) and because of the variety of equipment and play opportunities available (304).

Favoured **things to do** at the small local playground 'close to home' include play with children on playgrounds (521), socialise/meet others (319), exercise/personal fitness (257), have a picnic (244) and fresh air/respite from home (221).

The **most important features of a play space** that would encourage people to visit include: close to home (484), public toilets (384), nature/trees (394) and range of play equipment for all ages (374).

People with a disability or their carers/parents (50 respondents) provided feedback about the important inclusions and design factors at play spaces which can support their use and enjoyment of the entire play space. Themes emerging from this feedback include considerations about being overwhelmed from multiple sensory stimuli especially noise/sounds and visual 'clutter', but also an interest in sensory seeking opportunities including sand, textures and equipment enabling freedom of movement.

The **most appealing active recreation activities** and **where** people would prefer to participate in active recreation are walk/bike/scooter paths (680), outdoor fitness equipment (309), bmx/pump tracks (322) and social basketball courts (314).

Location preference for active recreation participation is at a small park or playground close to home (264) or at a larger park/playground with plenty of play opportunities for everyone (160).

PREFERRED ACTIVITIES – YOUTH (AGED 13-25)

Favoured **things to do** at playgrounds and play spaces include play/hang out with friends (333), play with dog (226), exercise/personal fitness (214) and active recreation (half courts/skate/bmx etc) (187).

The **most appealing active recreation activities** and **where** people would prefer to participate in active recreation are basketball and netball courts, parkour/ninja warrior/boulder climbing activities and social soccer and football.

Location preference for young people is at a sports ground or large park with plenty of play opportunities for everyone (404) or at a small park or playground close to home (369).

65% of young people walk or ride to playgrounds and active recreation spaces, whilst 28% are driven by an adult. Preferred person to visit a play space with is a friend (30%) followed by a sibling (22%).

PREFERRED ACTIVITIES - CHILDREN (AGED 0-12)

Favoured **things to do** at playgrounds and play spaces for children include play/hang out with friends (159), play on the playground (154), run around (120) and play with dog (106).

Trampolines (182), flying foxes (177) and swings (156) ranked highest for children's preferred playground equipment. Interestingly more traditional playground elements such as sand pits, rockers, interactive musical instruments, and seesaws were of least appeal to children at a playground.

The **most appealing active recreation activities** and **where** children would prefer to participate in active recreation are outdoor bouldering and climbing (135), pump track (89), mini golf (87) and social basketball half courts (86). BMX, parkour/ninja warrior equipment and outdoor table tennis also featured highly with approximately 80 votes each.

Location preference for children is at a sports ground or large park with plenty of play opportunities for everyone (404) or at a small park or playground close to home (369).

BUILD YOUR OWN PLAY SPACE

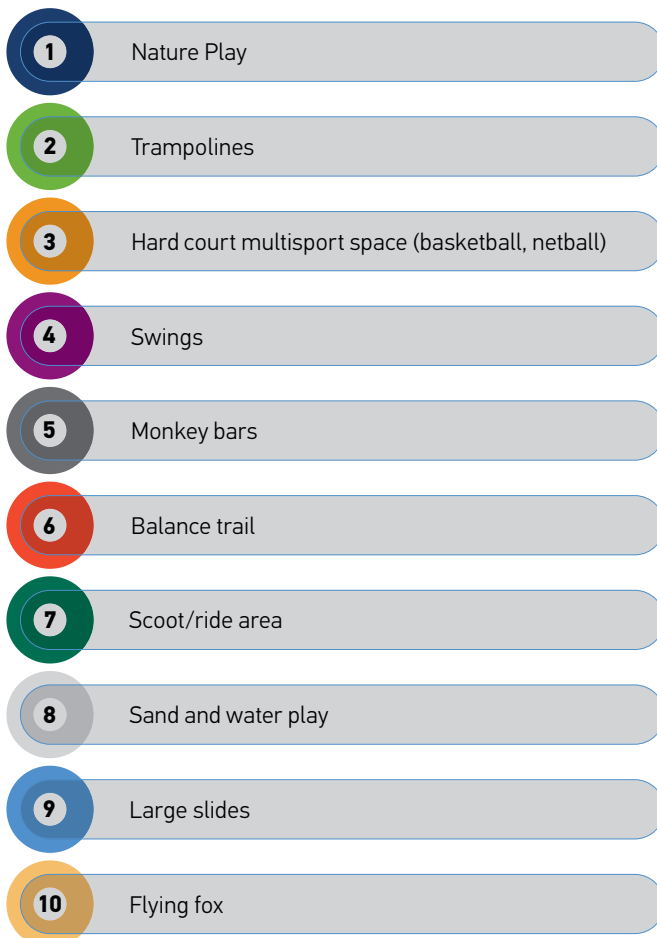
The online Build Your Own Play Space tool provided participants with a budget of 200 points (similar to \$200K) and invited them to design their own local play space – each playground element had a value and the tool was designed to demonstrate the complexities which apply when providing play spaces with limited budgets, often with limited spatial arrangements and other site limitations. Larger items such as skate parks which aren't provided within local play spaces would expend the entire budget and leave no points for supporting amenities whereas selecting other more site appropriate elements based on size and suitability within residential neighbourhoods would enable the 'designers' budget to extend further, creating a more balanced play space inclusive of seating, shade, water and a range of small to medium sized play elements.

44% of respondents were aged under 18 years old, and 56% were adults (184 total persons).

Favoured ancillary amenities include seating, drinking fountain, shelter, small shade sail, BBQ.

Interestingly items commonly seen in older Kingston playgrounds including spinners, rockers, diggers and small slides were of **minimal appeal** to respondents.

The top ten play space elements in the 'Build Your Own Play Space' tool were:





COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENT GROUP (CEG)

In 2023, Council established a Collaborative Engagement Group (CEG) with over 200 representatives from the Kingston community. Members of the CEG worked with Mosaic Lab (facilitators) and Council’s play professionals to deliberate about service levels related to play and active recreation over the coming 20 years. The CEG provided valuable input to the Strategy and developed four key areas of focus they would like Council to consider in its ongoing play and active recreation planning and delivery.

The following provides a ‘snapshot’ of the CEG’s feedback to Council about play and active recreation:

KEY THEME #1

Consider potential for reuse of equipment as part of the design for easier and more frequent change.

Description:

1. Council to consider designing equipment for reuse i.e. a modular approach according to the neighbourhood (size of park and user demographic).
2. Keeping it relevant and useful for current and potential users. This means regularly reviewing the state of the equipment, how the space is used and by whom.

KEY THEME #2

Proximity to residents.

Description:

- » We suggest that the distance will be proportional to the type of park facility.
- » Make the facilities varied and accessible for all ages and abilities.
- » Assess the age, demographics and usage of an area before we build/invest in playgrounds.
- » We need to effectively locate parks, considering neighbouring assets, to stop us from doubling up (i.e. communicate better with other councils, neighbouring stakeholders and levels of government (Parks Vic, DEECA and the Fed Govt).
- » We need to effectively communicate (i.e. with other departments within Council) to project future planning and potential population growth
- » We should survey residents to assess what they need and want – particularly in relation to 5-10 years’ time.



KEY THEME #3

Audience – who is the playground for.

Description:

1. Ensure data being used for demographics of the area is accurate, as up-to-date as available and constantly reviewed.
2. Ensure the park is complementary to surrounding facilities and activities. For example, sporting facilities, schools, beach, shopping centres, other parks.
3. Ensure parks are fit-for-purpose, accessible, safe to use and meet the needs of the local residents (for example, if a park is on a main street, and ensuring the fencing and a pedestrian crossings).

KEY THEME #4

High quality design.

Description:

1. Inclusive access and equipment that is suitable for all abilities, including sensory play.
2. Safe spaces from a surveillance, equipment and sun protection aspect.
3. Consider sustainability, recycled materials and longevity in equipment supply.
4. Cater for 8+ with some engaging, fun activities such as flying fox.
5. Driven by data in order to understand neighbourhood needs, existing gaps and future needs to provide intergenerational facilities within easy reach of all (10min walk).

PLAY TRENDS

When considering the future of play in Kingston it is of value to understand the factors that will have an impact on our local network of play and active recreation spaces and the potential interests and participation desires of our community. These influences are summarised below:

- » A trend towards more inclusive and dynamic play environments, which has resulted in the use of the term 'play space' rather than 'playground' and a greater emphasis on whole-of-park design.
- » Heightened awareness of the need to provide equal access to play for children and carers who have a disability.
- » Smaller and/or higher density homes which are closer together, often with smaller gardens to play in, and more densely populated suburbs especially in the north of Kingston.
- » A greater awareness about the value that connection with green spaces can have on mental wellbeing has created a desire for play spaces to provide opportunities for children to engage with the natural environment through nature play (with less traditional, equipment-based play space designs).
- » Many grandparents are providing care for children and as such there is a greater reliance on public play spaces due to less active play facilities or space at the grandparent's often 'down-sized' home. This has impacts on design and accessibility requirements also.
- » The inclusion of active recreation elements such as basketball half-courts and outdoor fitness equipment to increase the range of people who can make use of and enjoy a 'play space'. This has implications for the way we plan for play also, given these spaces are no longer only thought of as being for children. Active recreation is for everyone and effectively expands the focus of 'play' to now include all age cohorts.
- » Increased realisation that more activation of public open space can result in additional passive surveillance and can therefore improve perceptions of safety and mitigate anti-social behaviour.





- » Concern about the growing number of children who aren't achieving adequate amounts of physical activity, bringing greater attention to the positive role that play spaces can have in providing physical activity options for children and indeed everyone!
 - » A growing awareness by parents about the impacts of sun exposure for children is creating an increased expectation that shade will be provided in play spaces and play spaces will be available year round, at all times of the day.
 - » Traditional playground equipment such as slides and swings whilst still important are now considered to be only one component of the playground as opposed to once being the full extent of the playground. Parents and carers now seek the inclusion of the natural environment (nature play), creative landscaping, sensory elements such as water play, themed spaces, acknowledgement of cultural history, and additional features that promote a sense of belonging to a park. Users have expressed the need for more adventurous elements such as trampolines and flying foxes and places to be with friends.
 - » The diversification of user groups at play spaces to be for use by everyone has meant that the spaces now need to accommodate more people and allow for social gatherings/multi-generational interaction. Items not previously expected such as barbecues, shade and shelter, and end of trip facilities such as water, bike racks, carparks are all in high demand when undertaking consultation about play space designs.
- Fencing is also a common expectation to offer a sense of security when play spaces are located near to main roads, traffic, water bodies or when dogs may be present in adjacent open space areas.
 - » Play standards – there has been limited changes with playground standards in recent years, however common sense still applies and hazardous equipment should be appropriately managed to mitigate the risk of injury. It remains mandatory that Council continues to provide and maintain play equipment consistent with the requirements of relevant and applicable Australian Standards.
 - » From a planning perspective, the notion of play spaces being developed in areas where young people and their families are prevalent is now an outdated planning method. The needs of a child (and demographics generally) will change in relatively short periods of time in any location, whereas the asset life of a play space may exceed 20 years.
 - » Modern trends in planning for play spaces are therefore now based on an even distribution of a network of diverse facilities to ensure access for all including grandparents, people with disabilities and carers and families. It also considers the play space hierarchy and design and distribution based on local through to regional scale play spaces with each offering their own unique experiences.



CURRENT PROVISION IN KINGSTON










The 117 playgrounds and 105 active recreation facilities provided by Council in our open space reserves range in size, type and scope across suburbs and catchments. By providing a breadth of play and active recreation experiences that range from small local level playgrounds, with three to five play pieces, to regional destination play spaces inclusive of play and active recreation options for everyone, Council aims to provide a diverse range of environments where children and young people can explore, create, imagine, interact, be active and reflect.

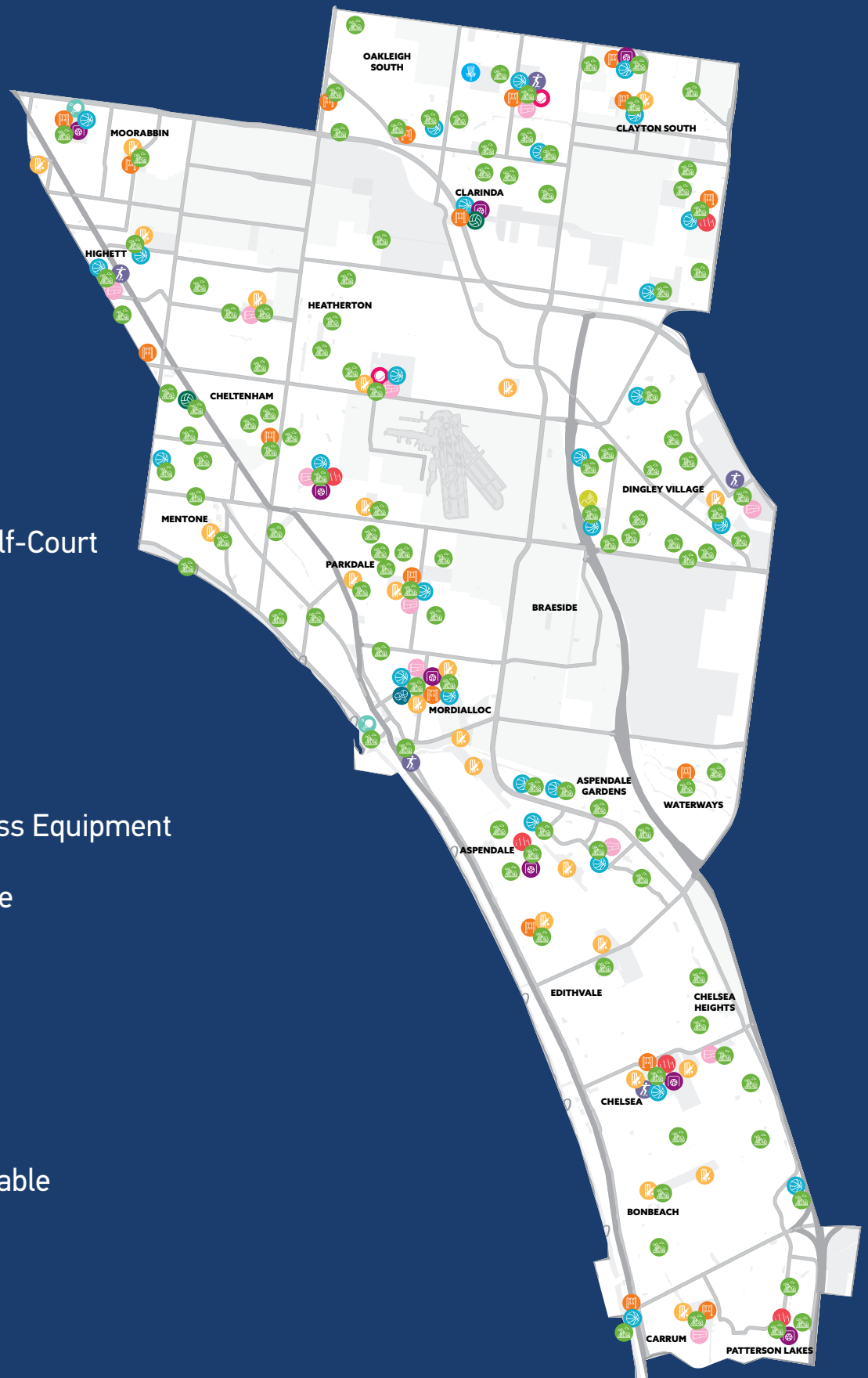
The Kingston play and active recreation network has been progressively developed and built up over a number of years. Research and data reveals that at certain times in previous years intensive efforts have been made to increase playground supply, whilst at others there has been minimal investment made. Playgrounds represent a large investment made for and by the community. For example the estimated replacement value for all 117 playgrounds is \$56 million. This figure does not account for the land the playgrounds exist on – it is the replacement value (2022) of our existing playgrounds, like for like.

Although individually these assets may be minor by comparison to other assets such as road, drains and community/sporting facilities, their important role in service provision means that they need to be managed in a strategic and proactive manner.

A map of all playground and active recreation locations is provided on the following page, and a list of each site is provided in the Supplementary Information section.

play & ACTIVE RECREATION MAP

-  Playgrounds
-  AFL Goals
-  Basketball Half-Court
-  Cricket Nets
-  Futsal Goals
-  Netball Ring
-  Outdoor Fitness Equipment
-  Petanque Piste
-  Pump Track
-  Rebound Wall
-  Skate Park
-  Table Tennis Table
-  Tennis Court
-  Disc Golf



THE CURRENT 'STATE OF PLAY' IN KINGSTON

SPECIFIC ISSUES AND DRIVERS OF CHANGE

In a similar way to play trends having implications for provision of play and active recreation in Kingston, so too do more localised factors which present opportunities as well as challenges for future provision. These are considered to be our 'Issues' and 'Drivers of Change and Demand' and both are summarised below. Each will have influence on the way we provide for play and active recreation in future years and require consideration now as part of any future strategic play and active recreation actions.

ISSUES

- » **Inconsistent design standards, and levels of service** – service standards adhered to over the term of 2010 Playground Strategy (and prior) is varied, unclear, and now becoming costly to maintain. Inconsistency related to playground classification is seen across our City and this presents an equity issue in terms of access to consistent quality of service and play outcomes across suburbs.
- » Existing playgrounds across Kingston **lack provision for teen play** – only 33% include elements for children older than 12 years. Crossover between traditional playgrounds and emerging active recreation demand exists and Council has taken the opportunity to expand the scope and breadth of this Strategy to consider active recreation as a meaningful 'play' option for people aged over 12 years of age. It is intended that where appropriate outcomes for both pursuits could be achieved at the one site. This would allow Council to respond to the assessed lack of play provisions for "teens" and the community's expressed demand for access to more active recreation opportunities including basketball half courts, cycling pump tracks, climbing walls and evolving outdoor fitness pursuits (ninja warrior, parkour and personal fitness training).
- » **Excessive age of playgrounds** – 40% of playgrounds across Kingston are beyond their industry accepted 20 year asset life. (NB: 46 out of 117 playgrounds are currently older than 20 years – an additional 32 will 'expire' over the next 10 years). The same is true of our active recreation equipment – our knowledge of these assets is also limited and they have not historically been well planned for or resourced.
- » Gap Analysis highlights that there are **areas of surplus provision (and deficit)** based on the 400-500m walkable catchment previously endorsed by Council in its 2010 Playground Strategy. Population based oversupply is observed in Parkdale and Dingley Village. Moorabbin, Aspendale, Edithvale, parts of Cheltenham and Chelsea have potential gaps in supply. When considering gaps and surpluses in the Kingston play network it's important to recognise that investigations have identified that not all playgrounds are created equal – there is disparity within classification types across the network which has led to inequity related to our residents' access to play experiences. As an example, Chelsea, Mordialloc and Dingley Village have similar current populations of between 9,000 and 10,900 people yet the availability of playgrounds in these suburbs is 2, 7 and 16 respectively. Play value across similarly classified sites within these suburbs is also highly varied.
- » Many **small playgrounds**, lack appeal and are used minimally – existing lower level playgrounds lack diversity in terms of play settings, variety of equipment, themes or use of natural elements. Accessibility and inclusive design at existing playgrounds is also limited. Our extensive community engagement campaign with nearly 2,500 residents highlighted that residents value quality play spaces within a 10 minute walk of their home. This presents opportunity to assess the future of a number of smaller under-utilised playgrounds and/or playground equipment in preference for the development of more suitable, high quality, responsively designed playgrounds, and to re-purpose any surplus play sites for alternate open space related purposes. This can be guided by Council's 2023 Open Space Strategy and could include nature parks, dog park or community garden.

As a result of the Play Your Way Strategy, all playgrounds and active recreation equipment should be evaluated (at the end of the asset life) to determine if it is still the right location for a playground based on residential catchment, demographics and other developments. This provides the opportunity to 'check in' with the intentions for that suburb or catchment and deliver on the strategic intent for play spaces (this Strategy).

- » **Financial investment required to address ageing infrastructure is significant** – approximately \$2M is required per year for five years (to address 36 local and small local playgrounds). A further \$6M investment is required in special project bids to address regional and district playgrounds beyond useful life within that same five year timeframe. Council's Long Term Financial Plan includes additional financial provisions to gradually increase its renewal funding from \$400,000 from 2022/23 to \$2M in 2025/26.
- » **Forecast population growth and demographic change** related to projects by other levels of governments and private landowners will drive demand for the development of new playground sites in suburban growth areas, including locations such as Cheltenham, Highett, Mentone and Moorabbin.

DRIVERS OF CHANGE AND DEMAND

- » A keen desire by Council and community to take a strategic collaborative approach to the planning, management and investment in community infrastructure in the City of Kingston.
- » Identified opportunity to update playground classifications to better reflect community access and use and maintenance services provided by Council.
- » The development of a revised Kingston Open Space Strategy, to guide the future allocation, use and design of open space in Kingston.
- » Significant forecast and localised population increases, particularly in areas of Moorabbin, Cheltenham and Clayton South places greater pressure upon Council to provide accessible, inclusive and meaningful play and active recreation facilities.



- » The changing way we live, and where we live in future – urban areas are becoming more densely populated and historically open space in these locations is at a premium. There may be opportunity to consider provision of play in settings beyond public open space including fixed term activation of facilities such as car parks and other hardstand areas located on public and private land.
- » Changing use of land including loss, acquisition, and repurposing – in particular Level Crossing Removal Projects, reserve/park master plans, Suburban Rail Loop project, and the activation of sites in the Green Wedge.
- » COVID-19 pandemic and the impact on people's recreation choices and value held for open space/nature. Also the availability of these type of options 'close to home' where people can gather safely and remain connected to and within their community, something we were required to do during the pandemic and have now become accustomed to.
- » Crossover between traditional playgrounds and emerging active recreation opportunities and demands; there is opportunity to expand breadth of use of existing playgrounds to include 'play' for older age cohorts through the addition of active recreation elements within the play space or broader reserve.

THE FUTURE OF PLAY IN KINGSTON

PRINCIPLES OF PLAY AND ACTIVE RECREATION PROVISION IN KINGSTON

DIVERSITY

Diversity of play opportunities and experiences is critical to ensure all residents, especially young people have access to, and can benefit from access to a broad range of play and active recreation spaces and experiences.



QUALITY (FIT FOR PURPOSE)

Ensure that the function and play value of a playground meets the intentions of its play classification. Our residents value high quality, well serviced play spaces with adequate amenities to support their use and enjoyment of the play space.



QUANTITY

The amount of playgrounds provided across Kingston will align with population and residential distribution as a key driver, and the premise that all residents should have access to a playground within 10 minutes of their home (800m). Play space classification will reflect the quantity of residents living with a 10 minute walk.



SAFETY

Playgrounds will be maintained and managed consistent with Australian Standards, and in a way that maximises and prolongs useful life of the asset (at reasonable cost to the community).



ENHANCED CONNECTION WITH AND APPRECIATION OF OPEN SPACE, AND OTHERS

Play spaces in Kingston will maximise opportunities for our community to connect with our green spaces, extensive foreshore and other urban landscapes; and learn about our natural environment eg. protection of canopy trees, habitat, flora and fauna, and waterways and the bay in and around play space settings. Play spaces will also be valuable community spaces for our community to meet and connect with others!



SUSTAINABILITY

To be prioritised in line with Kingston's broader commitment to our environment and declaration of a climate emergency. We will pursue environmental and financial sustainability outcomes via design, material selection, construction methods, and management of play spaces.



EQUITY

Ensure an appropriate level of access and inclusion at play spaces is available for all residents regardless of where they live, their age, gender, income, ethnicity, education or ability. As a priority, play spaces should support activities and users who are more dependent upon them however everybody should have equitable access to play opportunities.



OUR FOCUS AREAS

The Kingston Play Your Way Strategy is an ambitious document which seeks to address a range of pre-existing asset related conditions including excessive age and low play value of sites whilst also striving toward creation of a local network of fun, safe and inspiring play spaces offer meaningful opportunities for everyone to 'play'.

We will focus our actions and resources in the following key focus areas:



CEG The CEG would like us to identify opportunities for temporary play spaces and modular design as a principle to move with changing land use and population growth.

CEG The CEG would like to see us research and plan playgrounds to ensure appropriate access – with specific attention paid to high density areas and population growth.

WHAT DO WE WANT KINGSTON PLAY SPACES TO LOOK LIKE?

OUR PLAY SPACE HIERARCHY

Whilst not all playgrounds have a single focus, from 2024 we will move to a five level hierarchy of play spaces in Kingston as follows: Regional, District, Suburb, Local or Small Local. Using a classification system allows for the provision of facilities at each play space to be provided to a clearly articulated particular 'level' or standard.

This classification system is based around the catchment from which the playground draws users and is reflected in the size, type, breadth of play experience provided as well as provision of supporting amenities. The classification also relates to the length of time it is anticipated that users will 'stay and play', so the identification of supporting amenities/infrastructure such as toilets, car parking, shade etc is important within the classification description.

Whilst smallest in size and value, *small local* and *local* play spaces are often considered the most valuable of the play classifications as these are the spaces which are provided ideally within a 10 minute walk of every residential property and which are frequented by local children/residents from within a small neighbourhood catchment.

The *general* planning provision ratio for play is one playground per 1,400 people. In Kingston our updated service standard for access to play is up to a 10 minute walk from home to a Small Local or Local play space. The amount of people living within the nominated access range will consequently influence the classification or type of play space to be provided in a given location.

For example if 1,000 people live within a ten minute walk of the play space it will most likely only be required to be provided as a Small Local play space, whereas if the ten minute walkable catchment is home to 5,500 people then the classification of the playground would need to be increased to Local level classification which would enable provision of a greater amount of equipment and diversity of play options to accommodate the greater quantity and diversity of users.

The following pages outline Council's commitment to levels of provision and service standards at each of our five play space types – Small Local, Local, Suburb, District and Regional.



In addition to our permanent play space classifications, via the 2023 Play Your Way Strategy Council will also introduce a new play space type to be known as a 'Fixed Term' play space. This classification (or type of play space) is intended to enable a more timely and agile response primarily to active recreation trends and service gaps particularly in areas with significant population growth or current supply deficits. An example of a Fixed Term play space may include a relocatable BMX pump track located on a car park area for a set period of time, or temporary basketball facilities in an urban setting on disused land (which Council can secure tenure for, over a specified period of time).



Our CEG would like to see accessibility considered in all play spaces.

WHAT WILL OUR PLAY SPACES ‘LOOK LIKE’ AND WHAT WILL THEY INCLUDE?

SMALL LOCAL PLAY SPACE

These are our smallest most commonly provided play spaces located within residential areas. They generally have play options for smaller children (0–8 years), and will ideally be located within a 10 minute walk of a residential catchment, and include three to five pieces of play equipment and minimal support amenities. They are intended for short stays and can serve as ‘respite’ from home. They are often sited on a single or double house block sized allotment.

AN INDICATIVE CONCEPT PLAN FOR A SMALL LOCAL PLAY SPACE IS SHOWN BELOW:



CHARACTERISTICS OF A SMALL LOCAL PLAY SPACE

Size and Type of Reserve	» Typically less than 0.2ha (2,000m ²) » Small local/pocket park	Signage (as per Wayfinding Strategy)	» Identification signage, e.g. park name
Travel Distance for Residents	» Up to 800m	Artwork, murals and sculptures	» Not usually
Usual travel mode	» Walk	Landscaping and Trees	» Low level, three to four trees
Population provision ratio (indicative)	» 1,400 persons	Age range of play space/s	» Children
Catchment	» A 'neighbourhood', two or three blocks » Draws visitors within a 10 minute walking distance	Play Equipment – quantity	» Playground with three to four play elements
Play Value and Usage Levels	» Limited	Play Equipment – type	» Sensory, social, educational, nature (eg. small swings, slide, climbing, cubby, sand, rocks)
Anticipated users	» Residents who live close by. » Small children, with parent, carers, and grandparents.	Active Recreation – quantity	» Not commonly provided
Usage Types – in association with play space	» Play » Rest/relaxation/contemplation » Nature	Active Recreation – type	» Site dependant, small scale only
Length of Stay	» Short visits of 20–60 minutes	Estimated Cost	» \$150,000 – \$200,000, including play elements and amenities
Dogs	» On leash, not permitted in play areas	Maintenance Cost (per annum)	» \$2,500 to \$5,000
Accessibility	» Access to the playground must be provided	Maintenance Inspections and Compliance Audits	» Weekly routine maintenance » Every three weeks a compliance audit is completed » Annual independent safety and condition report
Amenities	» Basic, as set out below	Level of Community Influence and Engagement – Design Phase	» Limited, design will be significantly informed by Play Your Way outcomes and Play Space Service Standards. » Engagement outcomes at individual sites can influence type of equipment but not the play space scale and intended play outcomes related to early childhood development.
Public Toilet	» No	Asset Life Expectancy	» 20 years
Seating	» Yes; one to two seats/benches		
BBQ	» No		
Picnic Table	» Yes		
Water/drinking tap	» Where possible, one		
Sheltered or covered picnic area	» No		
Rubbish Bin	» Yes, usually just one		
Shade Structure in play space	» No, trees only		
Fencing	» As required, e.g. street frontage		
Pathways	» Accessible pathway provided to play space		
Parking	» On street		

LOCAL PLAY SPACE

These are small but are of important play value. They generally service three or four neighbourhoods and should ideally be within a 10 minute walk from home without the need to cross a major road or railway line. Visits are still likely to be short in duration but may involve social interaction with others. They are often equipment-based play 'spaces' with some kind of personal fitness/active recreation option as well as support facilities such as seating, shelter and bbq. There should also be surrounding open space for informal ball games, relaxation and social gathering.

AN INDICATIVE CONCEPT PLAN FOR A LOCAL PLAY SPACE IS SHOWN BELOW:



CHARACTERISTICS OF A LOCAL PLAY SPACE

Size and Type of Reserve	» Typically 0.2 – 1ha » Local/neighbourhood park	Signage (as per Wayfinding Strategy)	» Identification and possible directional signage, e.g. park name
Travel Distance for Residents	» 1,000m	Artwork, murals and sculptures	» Sometimes
Usual travel mode	» Walk/ride	Landscaping and Trees	» Large canopy shade
Population provision ratio (indicative)	» 3,000 persons	Age range of play space/s	» Children, teens, older adults
Catchment	» Services a few 'neighbourhoods' » Draws visitors within walking/riding distance	Play Equipment – quantity	» Playground equipment with five to six play elements
Play Value and Usage Levels	» Moderate	Play Equipment – type	» Imaginative, sensory, physical, social, role play, nature
Anticipated users	» Residents who live close by » Families with multiple children, of various ages » Small medium sized groups	Active Recreation – quantity	» Yes, where space permits
Usage Types – in association with play space	» Play, inclusively designed » Active recreation – small scale » Picnic/BBQ/social gatherings » Nature	Active Recreation – type	» Outdoor fitness equipment, junior casual sporting options, mini golf, small scooter loop or pump track, table tennis
Length of Stay	» One to two hours	Estimated Cost	» Up to \$500,000, including play elements and amenities
Dogs	» On leash, not permitted in play areas	Maintenance Cost (per annum)	» \$7,500 to \$15,000
Accessibility	» Some areas will be accessible for all – play and park	Maintenance Inspections and Compliance Audits	» Weekly routine maintenance » Every three weeks a compliance audit is completed » Annual independent safety and condition report
Amenities	» Moderate, as set out below	Level of Community Influence and Engagement – Design Phase	» Limited, design will be significantly informed by Play Your Way outcomes and Play Space Service Standards. » Engagement outcomes at individual sites can influence type of equipment but not the play space scale and intended play outcomes related to early childhood development.
Public Toilet	» Unlikely	Asset Life Expectancy	» 20 years
Seating	» Several locations		
BBQ	» As required		
Picnic Table	» Yes		
Water/drinking tap	» One		
Sheltered or covered picnic area	» One		
Rubbish Bin	» Yes, two or three		
Shade Structure in play space	» Not usually, respite from sun available via trees or sheltered picnic area		
Fencing	» As required, e.g. street front		
Pathways	» Accessible pathway provided to and within play space		
Parking	» On street		

SUBURB PLAY SPACE

Suburb play spaces are medium sized, well-resourced playgrounds with a good supply of play and active recreation options. This type of play space is usually located in a recreation reserve and includes amenities such as picnic settings, shelter, toilets, shade, play space fencing and seating. This type of play space provides an option for play and physical activity for an entire suburb and should accommodate a range of different activities for young people aged 0–18 years as well as families and older adults. Residents should have access to a Suburb playground within 2 or 3kms from home.

AN INDICATIVE CONCEPT PLAN FOR A SUBURB PLAY SPACE IS SHOWN BELOW:



CHARACTERISTICS OF A SUBURB PLAY SPACE

Size and Type of Reserve	» 2–5ha » Sport and recreation reserve, LXP site	Parking	» On street and most likely there will be off street parking also, within reserve. Bike parking to be provided.
Travel Distance for Residents	» 2-3kms	Signage (as per Wayfinding Strategy)	» Identification and directional signage
Usual travel mode	» Walk/ride/drive	Artwork, murals and sculptures	» As required
Population provision ratio (indicative)	» 10,000 persons	Landscaping and Trees	» Large canopy shade
Catchment	» Services one suburb » Draws visitors within walk/ride/drive distances	Age range of play space/s	» Older children, teens
Play Value and Usage Levels	» High	Play Equipment – quantity	» Moderate sized playground, mainly larger pieces
Anticipated users	» All including children, young people, families, older adults » Larger groups, social gatherings	Play Equipment – type	» Mainly physical and social (eg. climbing, jumping, balancing, swinging, gathering spaces)
Usage Types – in association with play space	» Play including all abilities accessible play options » Active recreation – extensive » Casual sport » Picnic/BBQ/social gatherings » Nature » Walking/running/fitness	Active Recreation – quantity	» Yes, multiple active recreation options
Length of Stay	» One to two hours	Active Recreation – type	» Multi-sport half or full court/s, outdoor fitness equipment, bouldering, parkour, ninja warrior, ball games space, skateable elements, small scooter loop or pump track, social space and amenity
Dogs	» On leash, not permitted in play areas	Estimated Cost	» \$1–2M, including play elements and amenities (applies to uplift of existing play spaces in recreation reserves). Up to \$5M is expected for establishment of entirely new Suburb play space.
Accessibility	» Most areas will be accessible for all members of the community	Maintenance Cost (per annum)	» \$10,000 to \$20,000
Amenities	» Excellent, as set out below	Maintenance Inspections and Compliance Audits	» Weekly routine maintenance » Every three weeks a compliance audit is completed » Annual independent safety and condition report
Public Toilet	» Yes	Level of Community Influence and Engagement – Design Phase	» Moderate, design will be significantly informed by Play Your Way outcomes. » Engagement outcomes at individual sites will influence type of equipment but not the play space scale and intended play outcomes related to early childhood development.
Seating	» Numerous locations	Asset Life Expectancy	» 20 years
BBQ	» Yes		
Picnic Table	» Yes		
Drinking tap	» At least two		
Sheltered or covered picnic area	» One or two		
Rubbish Bin	» Yes, several		
Shade Structure in play space	» Not usually, respite from sun available via trees or sheltered picnic area		
Fencing	» Yes, around play space		
Pathways	» Accessible shared pathway provided to and within play space, and around broader reserve.		

DISTRICT PLAY SPACE

District play spaces will cater for a larger population across multiple suburbs and offer a range of play and active recreation elements. Amenities such as picnic, shelter, toilets, shade, car parking and extensive seating can be expected. These play spaces service a cluster of suburbs and should accommodate a range of different activities for all. Residents should have access to a District play space within 5kms from home. Visitors will get there by walking, cycling or by car. District play spaces are destination spaces and are usually positioned adjacent to another high visitation area such as the foreshore, large park or shopping area. They should be supported by a path or trail network that connects it to other destinations such as shops, town centre or sporting reserve.

AN INDICATIVE CONCEPT PLAN FOR A DISTRICT PLAY SPACE IS SHOWN BELOW:



CHARACTERISTICS OF A DISTRICT PLAY SPACE

Size and Type of Reserve	» 2–10ha » District open space reserve, including foreshore, green wedge and large parks	Pathways	» Accessible shared pathway provided to and within play space, and through/around broader reserve. Ideally a connection to other shared pathways will exist
Travel Distance for Residents	» Up to 5km	Parking	» Off street, on site. Bike parking to be provided.
Usual travel mode	» Drive	Signage (as per Wayfinding Strategy)	» Identification, directional, park and interpretive signage
Population provision ratio (indicative)	» 25,000 persons	Artwork, murals and sculptures	» Yes
Catchment	» Services two to three suburbs » Draws visitors from surrounding suburbs, and close by	Landscaping and Trees	» Large canopy shade
Play Value and Usage Levels	» High	Age range of play space/s	» All ages – something for everyone
Anticipated users	» All including children, young people, families, older adults » Visitors, from within Kingston	Play Equipment – quantity	» Large playground with numerous elements
Usage Types – in association with play space	» Play including all abilities accessible play options » Active recreation – extensive » Casual sport » Walking/running/personal fitness » Picnic/BBQ/social gatherings » Events/markets » Nature	Play Equipment – type	» Imaginative, sensory, physical, social, role play (e.g. flying fox, large swings, large slides, cubbies, different textures, climbing opps)
Length of Stay	» Two to three hours	Active Recreation – quantity	» Yes, multiple active recreation options
Dogs	» On leash, not permitted in play areas. Likely to be a dog off-leash exercise area within the reserve	Active Recreation – type	» Multi-sport half or full court/s, outdoor fitness equipment, bouldering, parkour, ninja warrior, ball games space, street skate elements, table tennis, social space and amenity
Accessibility	» Most areas will be accessible for all members of the community	Estimated Cost	» \$2–3M, including play elements and amenities
Amenities	» Excellent, as set out below	Maintenance Cost (per annum)	» \$10,000 to \$20,000
Public Toilet	» Yes	Maintenance Inspections and Compliance Audits	» Weekly routine maintenance » Every three weeks a compliance audit is completed » Annual independent safety and condition report
Seating	» Numerous locations	Level of Community Influence and Engagement – Design Phase	» Moderate, design will be significantly informed by Play Your Way outcomes and Play Space Service Standards. » Engagement outcomes at individual sites will influence type of equipment but not the play space scale and intended play outcomes.
BBQ	» Yes	Asset Life Expectancy	» 20 years
Picnic Table	» Yes		
Water/drinking tap	» Two or three		
Sheltered or covered picnic area	» Several, at least one to cater for larger groups		
Rubbish Bin	» Yes, several		
Shade Structure in play space	» Yes		
Fencing	» Likely around sections of play space		

REGIONAL PLAY SPACE

Regional play spaces are the largest play space provided by Kingston, and are located within significant open space settings; they offer a large diversity of play and active recreation opportunities and play themes, and should accommodate play for all ages and abilities. They cater for residents from all over Kingston, as well as tourists and others from outside of the municipality. The vast level of supporting infrastructure will include seating, table, bins, drinking water, toilet, BBQ, shelter, fencing, lighting, car parking and it is expected that visitors to Regional play spaces will spend a much longer time here, often including family celebrations or meal times.

AN INDICATIVE CONCEPT PLAN FOR A REGIONAL PLAY SPACE IS SHOWN BELOW:



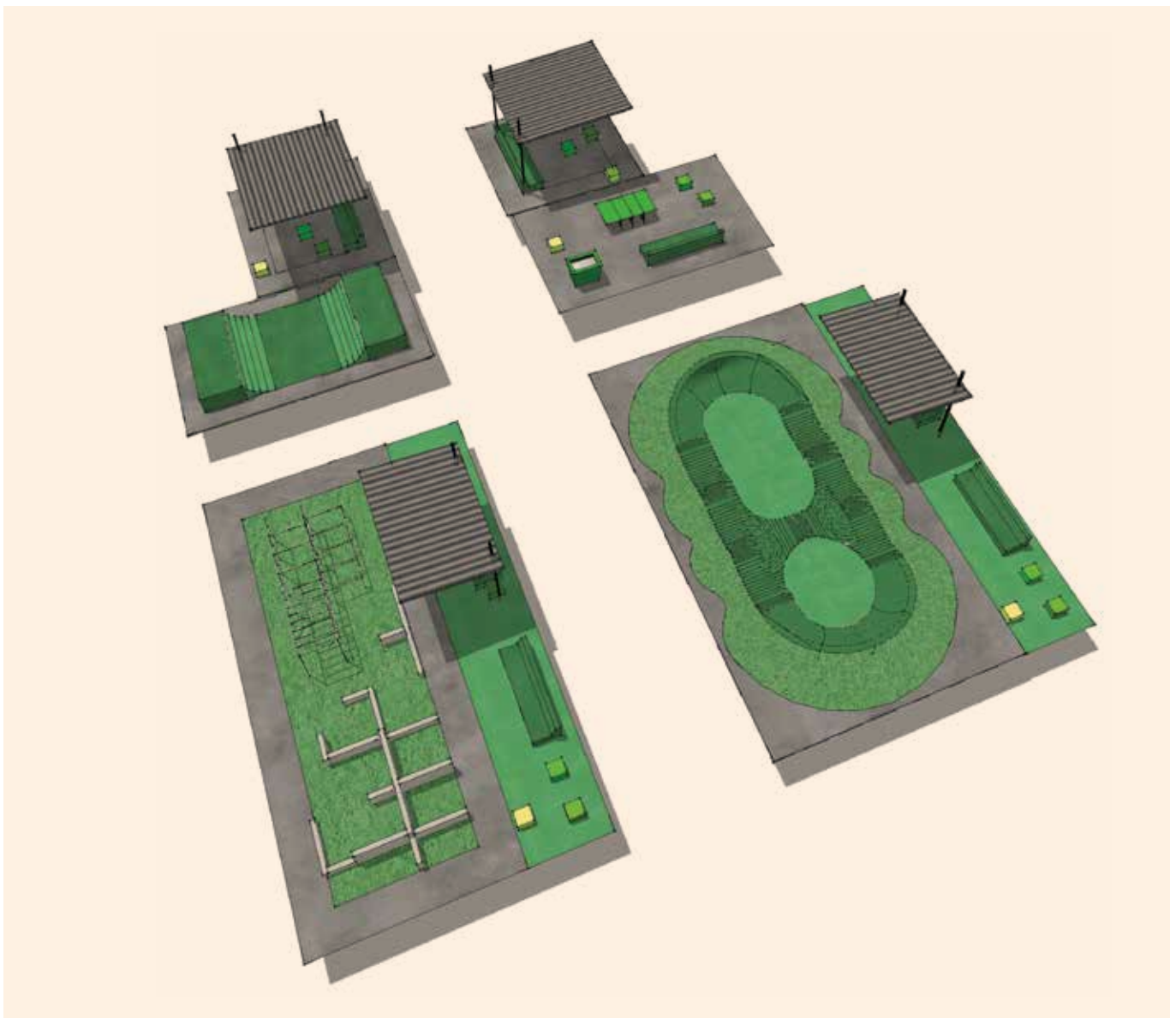
CHARACTERISTICS OF A REGIONAL PLAY SPACE

Size and Type of Reserve	» Greater than 10ha » Premier park, large scale reserves	Pathways	» Accessible shared pathway provided to and within play space, and through broader reserve. Circuit paths will be provided and a connection to other shared pathways will exist.
Travel Distance for Residents	» 10km	Parking	» Off street, dedicated on site. Bike parking to be provided.
Usual travel mode	» Drive	Signage (as per Wayfinding Strategy)	» Identification, directional and interpretive signage
Population provision ratio (indicative)	» 50,000+ persons	Artwork, murals and sculptures	» Yes
Catchment	» Services a geographic area, either north/central/south location » Draws visitors from across the municipality and beyond	Landscaping and Trees	» Large canopy shade
Play Value and Usage Levels	» Very high	Age range of play space/s	» All ages – something for everyone
Anticipated users	» All including children, young people, families, older adults » Visitors, from beyond Kingston	Play Equipment – quantity	» Very large playground with numerous elements
Usage Types – in association with play space	» Play including all abilities accessible and inclusive play options » Active recreation – extensive » Casual sport » Walking/running/fitness » Bike riding » Picnic/BBQ/social gatherings » Events/markets » Bookable event space » Nature	Play Equipment – type	» Imaginative, sensory, physical, social, role play, interactive, electronic, social (e.g. flying fox, large swings, large slides, cubbies, different textures, climbing opps, trampolines)
Length of Stay	» Up to five hours	Active Recreation – quantity	» Yes, extensive active recreation options
Dogs	» On leash, not permitted in play areas.	Active Recreation – type	» Multi-sport full court/s, outdoor fitness equipment, bouldering, parkour, ninja warrior, ball games space, skate space, social space and amenity
Accessibility	» Extremely good accessibility for all throughout the space	Estimated Cost	» Over \$3M
Amenities	» Extensive, as set out below	Maintenance Cost (per annum)	» \$25,000 to \$40,000
Public Toilet	» Yes	Maintenance Inspections and Compliance Audits	» Weekly routine maintenance » Every three weeks a compliance audit is completed » Annual independent safety and condition report
Seating	» Extensive provision	Level of Community Influence and Engagement – Design Phase	» Moderate, design will be significantly informed by Play Your Way outcomes. » Engagement outcomes at individual sites will influence type of equipment but not the play space scale and intended play outcomes.
BBQ	» Yes, typically many	Asset Life Expectancy	» 15–20 years
Picnic Table	» Yes		
Drinking tap	» Four or five		
Sheltered or covered picnic area	» Numerous, ranging in size		
Rubbish Bin	» Yes, numerous		
Shade Structure in play space	» Yes		
Fencing	» Yes, around play space		

FIXED TERM PLAY SPACE

A small to moderate modular play space solution intended to enable a more timely and agile response to active recreation trends and play service gaps especially in areas with significant population growth or current supply deficits. These play spaces are most likely to be provided outside of open space (or in partnership with other landowners), in urban settings, and around railway precincts. They are targeted primarily at teen and young adult physical activity options (12-25 year olds) and the value held by this age group for concurrent social interaction. The intention is that Fixed Term Play Spaces would be used as a temporary solution to activate a disused space, meet a service gap, or to 'pilot' an active recreation trend or localised service demand.

AN INDICATIVE CONCEPT PLAN FOR A FIXED TERM PLAY SPACE IS SHOWN BELOW:



CHARACTERISTICS OF A FIXED TERM PLAY SPACE

Size and Type of Reserve	» Various. The intent is for this facility to be relocatable across numerous sites, considering both open and urban spaces
Travel Distance for Residents	» Various, with a preference that these facilities are located near public transport activity hubs
Usual travel mode	» Walk/ride/drive
Population provision ratio (indicative)	» 10,000 persons
Catchment	» Various
Play Value and Usage Levels	» High
Anticipated users	» Primarily families with children, and young people.
Usage Types – in association with play space	» Retrofitted active recreation and/or play options
Length of Stay	» Location dependant
Dogs	» Activity dependant
Signage (as per Wayfinding Strategy)	» Instructional signage related to the equipment
Age range of play space/s	» Activity and/or issue dependant
Play Equipment – quantity	» Unknown. A focus to use modular locatable equipment is preferred
Play Equipment – type	» Social, physical (issue dependant)
Estimated Cost	» \$50,000 to \$500,000
Maintenance Cost (per annum)	» \$10,000 to \$15,000
Maintenance Inspections and Compliance Audits	» As required
Level of Community Influence and Engagement – Design Phase	» Likely to be in response to an emerging need so engagement and influence by community and stakeholders will most probably be significant.
Asset Life Expectancy	» 2–5 years

MUNICIPAL WIDE PLAY SPACE INTENTIONS



- » Access to small local/local play space sites will be up to a ten minute walk from home (800m)
- » Strategically include active recreation options in play spaces (at ALL but Small Local play space sites)
- » Review future of all play space sites at end of asset life and where surplus play provision is identified, repurpose for an alternate open space dependant purpose i.e. Urban Forest, habitat, dog exercise, community garden etc.
- » Introduction of two new play space classifications: Suburban and Fixed Term.
- » Actively seek opportunities to provide 'Fixed Term' play options in areas of identified shortfall and locations where 12–25 year olds seek to be active and socialise
- » Continued provision and enhancement of our three Regional play space facilities
- » Provide up to three fully inclusive and accessible play environments
- » Improved quality of play equipment, greater diversity across suburbs for many ages and abilities, and improved ancillary amenities e.g. seating, shade, and toilets (at all long stay play spaces)
- » Clear guidelines that direct and support the design of each play space classification, to ensure equitable access to play opportunities for all communities across all suburbs in Kingston
- » Design Guidelines – materials, look/feel, site considerations, sustainability intentions, efficient design and materials for maintenance.

SUBURB SPECIFIC PLAY SPACE INTENTIONS

Suburb	Strategic Play Space Recommendations
Aspendale	<p>Advocate to state government as part of level crossing removal projects at Mordialloc and Aspendale for the inclusion of active recreation/social public open space for teens.</p> <hr/> <p>Establish a suburb level play space in the northern section of Aspendale and provide equipment and facilities as per Suburb classification play space. The ideal location for this new space is close by to Mordialloc Secondary College at Attenborough Park where new space may be realised via the level crossing removal project (NB: elevated rail in this location will alter play space catchments and enable improved access between Mordialloc and Aspendale for residents of Aspendale.)</p> <hr/> <p>Diversify active recreation options within Aspendale, prioritising inclusion of a multi ball-sport court and casual biking/jumps options. This should be incorporated as part of the end of life renewal of a suitably sized existing play space.</p> <hr/> <p>Continue to provide access to improved quality street skate facilities close by at Attenborough Park.</p>
Aspendale Gardens	<p>Develop a centralised Suburb Play Space within Aspendale Gardens with a focus on teen play and active recreation options. Preferred location is LL Stevenson Reserve where a youth focus and supporting community infrastructure already exists.</p> <hr/> <p>At end of asset life (2026/27), reclassify Royal Palms to a Local level play space and seek to provide active recreation options for young people and families living close by. Ensure that active recreation inclusions diversify activity options rather than replicate options in this location; suggestions include large swings, bouldering, ninja warrior equipment, skate options, social gathering space.</p> <hr/> <p>Given the population based surplus provision of playgrounds in this suburb, consider future use of all existing play sites at end of their asset life. Where a surplus is determined based on overlapping walkable catchments, refer to Council's Open Space Strategy for other local open space demands that may be addressed through alternate use of play sites in future years.</p>
Bonbeach	<p>As a high priority, a review of existing small play sites (Melbourne Water owned) should be undertaken and a plan for suitable siting of play and active recreation determined for the suburb. This may involve securing access to additional open space or partnerships for play/active recreation purposes in Bonbeach, and should seek adequate space to provide a Local level play space ideally in the north-west of Bonbeach.</p> <p>(NB: Council's Open Space Strategy also identifies that residents in the north-west area of Bonbeach are without access to open space within 400m of home; any acquisition of land for play should be pursued as part of the Open Space Strategy intentions for broader open space requirements/functions).</p> <hr/> <p>Amend the classification of Bonbeach Recreation Reserve to a Suburb play space and uplift/diversify as necessary in line with Suburb play space classification. Of benefit here would be a multi ball-sport court (to include basketball), informal biking options along existing path network and ninja warrior/outdoor fitness equipment options.</p>

SUBURB SPECIFIC PLAY SPACE INTENTIONS (CONTINUED)

Suburb	Strategic Play Space Recommendations
Carrum	<p>Amend the classification of play at Roy Dore Reserve to become a Suburb classification play space – the intention of this play space is to provide social gathering options, physical activities and play in a centralised location for all residents. Siting within a recreation reserve provides access to car parking, toilets, shade and bbq/picnic facilities which enable greater length of stay and enhanced community/family/friendship connection opportunities for locals, including teens.</p> <hr/> <p>Secure a location within the suburb (or close by with good access) for BMX/mountain biking/informal jumps ideally along an existing trail network or at a large reserve (eg. Long Beach or Patterson River trail, or McDougall’s Reserve).</p> <hr/> <p>Plan for the renewal of the Carrum Foreshore Play Space by 2026/2027 – it’s location on the foreshore means its asset life is nearing expiry. Include options for broader range of young people. Consider future preferred siting of the play space within the foreshore precinct at this time.</p>
Chelsea	<p>A priority intention for Chelsea is to secure use of or access to additional open space for the provision of small local or local play and active recreation options.</p> <hr/> <p>Urgently commence planning for the renewal of Victory Park Playground on the Chelsea foreshore. It’s location within a harsh foreshore environment means it cannot endure a 20 year asset life and is nearing end of life (2024/2025). Future provision should include options for a broader range of play space users including older children and teens as well as older adults.</p> <hr/> <p>Continue to provide high quality play and active recreation options at Chelsea Bicentennial Reserve for Chelsea residents. Whilst Bicentennial Park is classified as a regional play space, residents of Chelsea are highly satisfied with the play options here and choose to visit this play space over other lower quality, smaller play spaces closer to their home</p>
Chelsea Heights	<p>Continue the planning and design process for play and active recreation at Heights Park.</p> <hr/> <p>Seek to provide a Suburb level play space within Chelsea Heights, potentially at a central location such as Heights Park.</p> <hr/> <p>Diversify active recreation and physical activity options to include personal fitness, and multi ball-sport spaces including basketball and netball activities.</p>
Cheltenham	<p>Review small local and local play spaces in Cheltenham to ensure diversity of play and active recreation is adequately planned and provided for, and that existing play space locations are appropriately sited to meet walkable catchments for residential populations (2021–2031 and beyond).</p> <hr/> <p>Provide a Suburb classification play space at Le Page Reserve (via Council endorsed Le Page Park Master Plan).</p> <hr/> <p>Commence planning for the renewal of Kingston Heath Reserve Regional Play Space.</p> <hr/> <p>Enhance teen play and social gathering options in Cheltenham via the use of Fixed Term play spaces to meet emerging interests and short-term activation of under-utilised urban spaces. Localised interests include multi ball-sport courts such as basketball and futsal, as well as street skate, parkour, personal fitness and bike options around high profile retail and railway station locations.</p>

Suburb	Strategic Play Space Recommendations
Clarinda	<p>Uplift Dalbeattie Reserve to a Suburb level play space to create opportunities for a broader range of young people and older adults to be physically active in Clarinda.</p> <hr/> <p>Assess existing play spaces at end of life to determine need to alter play space classification or re-locate play provision to a better located site which enables provision of higher quality play options, for same population.</p> <hr/> <p>Diversify play space classifications to facilitate inclusion of active recreation options for young people living in Clarinda as well as social family recreation options at Local play spaces including cultural gatherings, celebrations and small events.</p>
Clayton South	<p>Re-classify Namatjira Park play and active recreation spaces as Suburb level and prioritise investment at Namatjira Reserve to deliver the play and active recreation related recommendations of the Namatjira Park Master Plan (endorsed by Council in 2022).</p> <hr/> <p>As a high priority, a review of existing small play sites should be undertaken and a plan for suitable siting of play and active recreation determined for the entire suburb so that a network of quality play and active recreation spaces is provided here, and so that diversity of setting and play options is achieved rather than duplicated</p> <hr/> <p>To this end, Bemboka, Jackson Green, First Street and Meppell Drive play spaces all have significant populations living within a ten minute walk to the space; at end of life these play space classifications should be reviewed with a view to enhancing the quality and extent/size of the play and active recreation offering for these residents, either at these sites or alternates within close proximity/same play space catchment.</p>
Dingley Village	<p>Upgrade the classification of Chadwick Reserve to Suburb and build on existing play and active recreation opportunities at this reserve and further embellish accordingly.</p> <hr/> <p>Review distribution of existing playgrounds in line with 800m/10 minute walk service level to determine where there may be overlapping catchments</p> <hr/> <p>Review provision at each play space site based on the population within the catchment. Play spaces which are required to service close to 5000 people should be Local classification.</p> <hr/> <p>Age and quality of play spaces is an issue in Dingley and all play spaces should be reviewed at end of life (in accordance with the findings from catchment and classification assessment.</p> <hr/> <p>Seek to identify the potential impact on play and active recreation provision should any large scale changes be made to the future use of currently non-residential sites, and include this in Council's play and active recreation planning outcomes.</p> <hr/> <p>Continue to advocate to the State government for the replacement of land previously earmarked for regional sporting facilities (which will also include regional play and active recreation outcomes for the Dingley Village area and surrounds)</p> <hr/> <p>Diversify play equipment type as well as active recreation options – opportunities include bouldering, climbing activities and large play equipment suitable for teens such as basket swings, parkour type bars and trampolines.</p>

Suburb	Strategic Play Space Recommendations
Edithvale	<p>As a high priority, a review of existing small play sites should be undertaken and a plan for suitable siting of play and active recreation determined for the suburb. This may involve securing access to additional open space or partnerships for play/active recreation purposes in Edithvale, and should seek adequate space to provide a Local level play space ideally in the southern section of Edithvale. (NB: Council's Open Space Strategy also identifies that some residents Edithvale are without access to open space within 400m of home; any acquisition of land for play should be pursued as part of the Open Space Strategy intentions for broader open space requirements/functions).</p> <hr/> <p>Re-classify Edithvale Recreation Reserve playground to a Suburb level play space which provides active recreation and physical play equipment plus social gathering opportunities for young people aged 12–25 years.</p> <hr/> <p>Consider the opportunity to create an active recreation focused hub (or Fixed Term play space) at Edithvale Common to meet the demand for bike/dirt jumps facilities in this location.</p> <hr/> <p>Consider any suitable locations along the Long Beach trail for the inclusion of bike/bmx dirt jumps – as noted above, there is noticeable demand for this type of active recreation option amongst young males in Edithvale and other southern suburbs of Kingston; there is opportunity for a partnership approach involving other land owners eg. Melbourne Water as well as KCC Youth Services and Inclusive Communities to respond to this interest/desire. NB: Mornington Peninsula Shire have recently completed a similar successful pilot project which KCC could be guided by).</p>
Heatherton	<p>With a large population living within a ten minute walk of St George's Crescent Reserve Playground, as well as a good amount of surrounding open space when this play space is due for renewal ensure the new design is consistent with its Local Play Space classification and seek to include additional active recreation options including basketball and personal fitness options for this local community.</p> <hr/> <p>Continue to review the future of Henry Street Playground (in line with proposed SRL project) and in the meantime consider the inclusion of Fixed Term play pieces to better service this local catchment's play needs. NB: Ensure preservation of old steel pieces of equipment from the Henry Street playground – these are thought to be playground artefacts and may be some of the oldest remaining climbing frames in use in a play space in Australia (tbc).</p>
Highett	<p>As a high priority for Highett, a review of existing play space catchments should be undertaken and a plan for suitable siting of play and active recreation determined for the suburb. This may involve securing access to additional open space or partnerships for play/active recreation purposes. Council's Open Space Strategy identifies that some residents in Highett are without access to open space within 400m of home; any acquisition of land for play should be pursued as part of the Open Space Strategy intentions for broader open space requirements/functions.</p> <hr/> <p>Ensure advocacy opportunities are taken to influence the outcomes of any play and active recreation opportunities to be created via the removal of the level crossing on Highett Rd. Early assessment of suggests requirement for an active recreation focused play space (Suburb level) with a focus on teens (this is the highest cohort of population growth).</p> <hr/> <p>Additionally KCC seeks for improved access to the two playgrounds on the Bayside CC side of rail reserve to be enhanced via the project for KCC residents. NB: Highett has two district playgrounds (Highett Reserve and Sir William Fry) – it lacks smaller scale play for little kids, close to homes so achieving access to these types of play spaces in Bayside CC would address much of our need.</p> <hr/> <p>Continue to review the option to include a small play space at the former Highett Pre-School site (on Station Street) and establish connectivity between new open space gained at the LXR site, library, Bayside CC open space and the retail precinct. Inclusion of a lay space here would address shortfall identified for this section of the suburb.</p>

Suburb	Strategic Play Space Recommendations
Highett (cont.)	<p>Enhance the playground at Sir William Fry Reserve and ensure it is provided as a Suburb Level play space (in conjunction with proposed active recreation nodes as part of SRL project). If the impacts of the construction phase of the SRL project significantly impact the amenity of the existing playground, seek to provide a Fixed Term play space elsewhere within the play catchment.</p> <hr/> <p>Continue to advocate to SRLA regarding the replacement of the skate facilities and half court space at Sir William Fry Reserve, preferably along the Nepean Hwy frontage of the Reserve in proximity to the play space. This design and location will continue to be refined and debated over coming years (with SRLA). Council's City Place team will lead these discussions on Council's behalf.</p> <hr/> <p>Ensure any future populations in and around the SRL site including the adjacent Gas and Fuel site have adequate access to play and active recreation opportunities, within ten minutes walk from home.</p> <hr/> <p>Reclassify the existing play space at Highett Reserve as a Suburb based/District level play space and in so doing, seek to diversify active recreation and play options for residents of Highett on the east side of the Nepean Highway. This reserve is the only sporting reserve available for the Highett suburb and spatially it offers a range of options for inclusion of other activities i.e. additional, and more demographically relevant active recreation and personal fitness activities such as circuit walking paths and modern, functional fitness equipment.</p>
Mentone	<p>Provide a Suburb level play space at Mentone Reserve with a focus on teen play and active recreation and social gathering for young people. This is a highly prevalent need in this location with school kids gathering after school/weekends and minimal public space available for this purpose. Keith Styles play space on Mentone Parade frontage is a valued and important play space for young children and in this location it may be most suitable to locate the active recreation zone on the Remo Street blocks enabling separation of uses, and a more teen focused space within the sporting reserve. Young people should be engaged in the decision making and design outcomes for the space.</p> <hr/> <p>Add active recreation options including a multi-sport ball court and personal fitness options to the existing playground at Southern Road Reserve to create options for more teenagers to play in this location.</p> <hr/> <p>Consider use of a Fixed Term play space within the Mentone Activity Centre to respond to the shortfall of active recreation within this catchment – there are 5 secondary schools within 1km of the activity centre and many young people pass through and/or have affinity with the space. It would be an excellent location to seize the opportunity to encourage this age range to be physically active.</p> <hr/> <p>Bourke and Patty Street play space is a critical reserve for a large amount of our population living within a ten minute walk of the site. By 2041 this small play space will service over 6,000 residents. The playground should be reclassified to a Local level play space and embellished accordingly. A larger footprint within the Reserve should be allocated for purposeful active recreation to respond to demand for activities for older children and teens in this section of the suburb.</p> <hr/> <p>Ensure timely renewal of all playgrounds in Mentone; given the forecast undersupply based on population growth it will be very important to ensure high quality play spaces are available to this community with a diverse range of play and active recreation options provided across existing sites.</p> <hr/> <p>Mentone Foreshore Playground is currently being developed; whilst it is located on a district classification open space reserve, given site limitations it should only ever be provided to a Small Local/Local classification scale.</p>

SUBURB SPECIFIC PLAY SPACE INTENTIONS (CONTINUED)

Suburb	Strategic Play Space Recommendations
Moorabbin	<p>Create a Suburb level play space at Moorabbin Reserve to accommodate young people’s play and active recreation interests. Of particular interest and importance in Moorabbin is access to skate facilities, personal fitness options such as ninja warrior and parkour as well as social gathering options for teens in public space. Design outcomes must enable and support use by all genders and CPTED principles must be applied to support young women to feel safe within the Reserve.</p> <hr/> <p>Moorabbin lacks opportunities to repurpose existing open space for play purposes and it will be important as a long term strategy that additional open space is secured for play and active recreation purposes. Council’s Open Space Strategy has an important role in the realisation of additional open space for Moorabbin over the next ten years. In the meantime, a Fixed term play space should be used to address short term need, where identified as the population changes.</p> <hr/> <p>Add active recreation equipment to GR Bricker East play space and consider re-classifying to a minimum standard of Local classification. Given the surrounding land uses (athletics, model steam train venue) it is likely that play space visitors are travelling from beyond Moorabbin to use the space and a District classification may be more appropriate. Further assessment is warranted over coming years.</p> <hr/> <p>Uplift quality of play spaces at all existing sites in anticipation of each play space being required to accommodate approximately 50% more people by 2041.</p>
Mordialloc	<p>Attenborough Park (or another suitable, sizeable public open space with excellent connectivity to the train station) should be reinforced as a district standard active youth precinct to service the central area of Kingston including Mordialloc/Aspendale/Aspendale Gardens area. A detailed plan to guide future development, including street skate options which support beginners, intermediate and advanced skill levels, should be prepared and implemented. This use is consistent with the function of Attenborough Reserve currently, and its location adjacent to Mordialloc Secondary College, Mordialloc Railway Station, retail and foreshore supports a more district level of provision/ open space embellishment.</p> <hr/> <p>Level crossing removal projects in Mordialloc present opportunity for Council to advocate to state government for improved play and active recreation outcomes. A focus of provision at any new spaces should be for older children, teens and young adults.</p> <hr/> <p>Reclassify Ben Kavanagh Reserve as a Suburb level play space and progressively amend provision accordingly.</p> <hr/> <p>Re-classify Doug Denyer playground to a Local level play space to include active recreation and play opportunities as well as social family recreation and gathering/bbq/picnic spaces. The residential population with the ‘Racecourse Estate’ does not have access to a play space within the housing development and Doug Denyer play space presents good opportunity to address this under-supply issue.</p> <hr/> <p>Overlapping play space catchments are observed in the north western section of the suburb and at end of life of these play assets consideration should be given to future use of the sites for play (quantity) vs a greater investment in less sites but higher quality (whilst also retaining ten minute walkable access for residents.)</p>
Oakleigh South	<p>Reclassify Dales Park as a Suburb level play space and provide active recreation and supporting amenities as outlined in the classification standards.</p> <hr/> <p>Many play spaces in Oakleigh South have recently been upgraded. There is opportunity to diversify active recreation options and this should be factored in to future design/renewals especially at Dowling Road Reserve.</p>

Suburb	Strategic Play Space Recommendations
Oakleigh South (cont.)	<p>Mavis Hutter Reserve presents opportunity for inclusion of additional personal fitness equipment, kickabout spaces for ball sports, informal public volleyball and badminton options, as well as informal bmx/biking options.</p> <hr/> <p>Include opportunities for informal ball sports within or adjacent to existing play spaces, as well as support for social gathering opportunities at existing play spaces.</p>
Parkdale	<p>Duplication of play assets is observed in the north east of Parkdale and playground catchments should be reviewed to identify overlaps and to assess 800m walkability for residents living in this location. Play spaces which provide opportunity to expand the playground and active recreation options should be prioritised for renewal. NB: The 2010 Playground Strategy recommended the removal of a small playground in Parkdale, namely Ivy Marriot Playground.</p> <hr/> <p>Include additional active recreation opportunities in Parkdale primarily for teen play and social 'hang out' opportunities for teens living on Parkdale.</p> <hr/> <p>Retain all play options on beachside of Nepean Hwy where an undersupply of play, active recreation and green open space is observed. The Open Space Strategy should guide any intentions to gain access to additional green open space NB: the foreshore is readily available to residents in this location however it serves an alternate open space function to green open space.</p> <hr/> <p>Create a Local level play space at the Parkdale Gardens adjacent to Parkdale Library. This is long held vision for this open space which was acquired by Council with this purpose in mind. Despite the level crossing project including play options in their open space design, this provision does not adequately address need and demand in this catchment and further provision will be required to be made by Council.</p> <hr/> <p>Reclassify Walter Galt Reserve as a Suburb Play Space and allocate space for this purpose within any review of the 2008 Walter Galt Master Plan. Basketball courts, bouldering, and ninja warrior options which appeal to teens should be pursued, and flying fox, large play equipment should be added to the playground space.</p> <hr/> <p>Herbert Street and Meribah Court Play Spaces should be reclassified to Local Play Spaces, they have significant forecast populations living within a ten minute walk of each site.</p>
Patterson Lakes	<p>A more extensive review of provision is required in Patterson Lakes to determine catchment overlaps and future provision at all existing sites. This will also assist to better identify the preferred location for any additional play space that may be required in Patterson Lakes, to address any confirmed supply deficit.</p> <hr/> <p>Reclassify and improve quantity and diversity of play options, and include active recreation equipment at Gladesville Boulevard Play Space.</p> <hr/> <p>Broaden the play options at Harbourtown Play Space to include active recreation equipment so that the play space caters to a far broader range of users. Embellish to Local Level play space standard. Space is available adjacent to the new play space and should be allocated for this type of use. Low impact options such as ninja warrior, large social swings and basketball options utilising noise attenuating surfaces should be considered in this location, for 12–25 year olds.</p>
Waterways	<p>Prepare an open space master plan for the suburb of Waterways (with a focus on public facilities and amenities) as identified in the 2023 Open Space Strategy.</p> <hr/> <p>Uplift provision at Lake King Circle Play Space to offer additional active recreation options for all ages in this location.</p> <hr/> <p>Improve access for residents of Waterways to the Parks Victoria owned and managed regional play space at Braeside Park.</p>

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION



PLAYGROUNDS

Playground	Suburb	Classification
Albany Crescent Reserve Playground	Aspendale	Small Local
Carinya Avenue Reserve Playground	Aspendale	Small Local
Iluka Reserve Playground	Aspendale	Small Local
Amott Court Reserve Playground	Aspendale Gardens	Small Local
Branagan Drive Reserve Playground	Aspendale Gardens	Small Local
Kearney Drive Reserve Playground	Aspendale Gardens	Small Local
L.L. Stevenson Reserve Playground	Aspendale Gardens	Suburb
Palm Grove Reserve Playground	Aspendale Gardens	Small Local
Royal Palms Playground	Aspendale Gardens	Small Local
Winners Circle Playground	Aspendale Gardens	Small Local
Bonbeach Reserve Playground	Bonbeach	Suburb
Mernda Avenue Reserve Playground	Bonbeach	Small Local
Scotch Parade Reserve Playground	Bonbeach	Small Local
Carrum Foreshore Park Playground	Carrum	District
Carrum Roy Dore Reserve Playground	Carrum	Suburb
Bicentennial Park Playground	Chelsea	Regional
Victory Park Playground	Chelsea	District
Amaroo Drive Reserve Playground	Chelsea Heights	Local
Heights Park Playground	Chelsea Heights	Suburb
Talab Reserve Playground	Chelsea Heights	Local
Third Avenue Reserve Playground	Chelsea Heights	Small Local
Blackburn Drive Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Small Local
Booker Street Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Small Local
Elliott Street Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Small Local
Follett Road Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Small Local
Friendship Square Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Small Local

Playground	Suburb	Classification
Glyn Court Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Small Local
Jean Street Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Local
Judd Parade Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Small Local
Kingston Heath Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Regional
Le Page Park Playground	Cheltenham	Suburb
Lincoln Drive Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Small Local
Lorna Street Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Small Local
Page Street Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Small Local
Silver Street Reserve Playground	Cheltenham	Small Local
Stanley Avenue Park Playground	Cheltenham	Local
Bald Hill Park Playground	Clarinda	District
Dalbeattie Drive Reserve Playground	Clarinda	Suburb
Drushi Court Reserve Playground	Clarinda	Small Local
Elder Street South	Clarinda	Suburb
Hendon Court Reserve Playground	Clarinda	Small Local
Jacobs/Sundowner Playground	Clarinda	Small Local
Leonard Close Reserve Playground	Clarinda	Small Local
Bemboka Avenue Reserve Playground	Clayton South	Small Local
First Street Reserve Playground	Clayton South	Local
Heatherton Park (Ireland Road) Playground	Clayton South	Local
Jackson Green Playground	Clayton South	Small Local
Keeley Park Playground	Clayton South	Suburb
Larado Place Reserve Playground	Clayton South	Small Local
Meppel Drive Reserve Playground	Clayton South	Small Local
Namatjira Park Playground	Clayton South	Suburb
Scott Avenue Reserve Playground	Clayton South	Small Local

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

Playground	Suburb	Classification
Sheldon Place Reserve Playground	Clayton South	Small Local
The Grange Reserve Playground	Clayton South	District
Warraweena Road Reserve Playground	Clayton South	Local
Ashbourne Place Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Small Local
Balcombe Place Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Small Local
Cassava Court Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Small Local
Chadwick Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Suburb
Coughlan Reserve	Dingley Village	Local
Dingley Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Local
Gartside Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Small Local
Golf Links Crescent Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Small Local
Golfwood Close Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Small Local
Greenwoods Close Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Small Local
Gumley Court Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Small Local
Holland Avenue Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Small Local
Laurie Barnett Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Small Local
Rowan Road Reserve	Dingley Village	Local
William Bardoel Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Small Local
Williams Close Reserve Playground	Dingley Village	Small Local
Edithvale Reserve Playground	Edithvale	Suburb
Lochiel Avenue Reserve Playground	Edithvale	Small Local
Henry Street Playground	Heatherton	Small Local
St Georges Crescent Reserve Playground	Heatherton	Local
The Heath Estate Common Playground	Heatherton	Local
Highett Reserve Playground	Highett	Suburb
Sir William Fry Reserve Playground	Highett	District
Balcombe Road Park Playground	Mentone	Small Local

Playground	Suburb	Classification
Bourke and Patty Street Reserve Playground	Mentone	Small Local
Keith Styles Reserve Playground	Mentone	Suburb
Mentone Foreshore Playground	Mentone	Small Local
Mentone Racecourse Reserve Playground	Mentone	District
Phillip Street Reserve Playground	Mentone	Small Local
Reg Marlow Reserve Playground	Mentone	Local
Southern Road Reserve Playground	Mentone	Local
GR Bricker Reserve East Playground	Moorabbin	Local
GR Bricker Reserve West Playground	Moorabbin	Small Local
Perry Street Reserve Playground	Moorabbin	Local
Ben Kavanagh Reserve Playground	Mordialloc	Local
Brownfield Street Reserve Playground	Mordialloc	Small Local
Doug Denyer Reserve Playground	Mordialloc	Local
Duggan Street Reserve Playground	Mordialloc	Small Local
George Woods Reserve Playground	Mordialloc	Local
Peter Scullin Reserve Playground	Mordialloc	Regional
White Street Reserve Playground	Mordialloc	Small Local
Dales Park Playground	Oakleigh South	District
Dowling Road Reserve Playground	Oakleigh South	Small Local
Luain Ave Reserve Playground	Oakleigh South	Small Local
Mavis Hutter Reserve Playground	Oakleigh South	Local
Sherbrooke Ave Reserve Playground	Oakleigh South	Small Local
Dolomore Reserve Playground	Parkdale	Local
Gerry Green Reserve Playground	Parkdale	Local
Gertrude McKenzie Reserve Playground	Parkdale	Small Local
Herbert Street Reserve Playground	Parkdale	Small Local

Playground	Suburb	Classification
Ivy Marriott Reserve Playground	Parkdale	Small Local
Marriott Street Reserve Playground	Parkdale	Small Local
McDonald Healy Playground	Parkdale	Small Local
Meribah Court Reserve Playground	Parkdale	Small Local
Walter Galt Reserve Playground	Parkdale	Suburb
Adelong Court Reserve Playground	Patterson Lakes	Small Local
Arrunga Court Reserve Playground	Patterson Lakes	Small Local
Gladesville Boulevard Reserve Playground	Patterson Lakes	Small Local
Harbour Town Park (The Parkway)	Patterson Lakes	Local
Legana Court Reserve Playground	Patterson Lakes	Small Local
Lake King Circle Playground	Waterways	Small Local
Serpentine Court Playground	Waterways	Small Local

ACTIVE RECREATION EQUIPMENT

Active Recreation Reserve	Suburb	Equipment
Browns Reserve	Aspendale	Cricket Nets
Iluka Reserve	Aspendale	AFL Goals
		Futsal Goals
Regents Park	Aspendale	Cricket Nets
Amott Court Reserve	Aspendale Gardens	Basketball Half-Court
Aspendale Gardens Reserve	Aspendale Gardens	Cricket Nets
Kearney Drive Reserve	Aspendale Gardens	Basketball Half-Court
L.L. Stevenson Reserve	Aspendale Gardens	Basketball Half-Court
L.L. Stevenson Reserve (Cage)	Aspendale Gardens	Basketball Half-Court
		Futsal Goals
Winners Circle Reserve	Aspendale Gardens	Basketball Half-Court
Bonbeach Reserve (East)	Bonbeach	Cricket Nets
Bonbeach Reserve (West)	Bonbeach	Cricket Nets
Carrum Station (Railway Reserve)	Carrum	Basketball Half-Court
		Outdoor Fitness Equipment
Roy Dore Reserve	Carrum	Cricket Nets
		Outdoor Fitness Equipment
		Rebound Wall
Chelsea Bicentennial Park	Chelsea	AFL Goals
		Basketball Half-Court
		Netball Ring
		Futsal Goals
		Outdoor Fitness Equipment
Chelsea Recreation Reserve	Chelsea	Cricket Nets
		Cricket Nets
Beazley Reserve	Chelsea Heights	Cricket Nets
Heights Park	Chelsea Heights	Rebound Wall
Barker Street	Cheltenham	Outdoor Fitness Equipment

Active Recreation Reserve	Suburb	Equipment
Kingston Heath Reserve	Cheltenham	Cricket Nets
		Rebound Wall
		Basketball Half-Court
Kingston Heath Reserve	Cheltenham	Tennis Court
Le Page Park	Cheltenham	Cricket Nets
		Rebound Wall
Page Street	Cheltenham	Netball Ring
Bald Hill Park	Clarinda	Disc Golf
Elder Street South	Clarinda	Basketball Half-Court
		Futsal Goals
		Netball Ring
		Outdoor Fitness Equipment
Heatherton Park	Clayton South	Basketball Half-Court
Keeley Park	Clayton South	Basketball Half-Court
		Cricket Nets
		Outdoor Fitness Equipment
Namatjira Park	Clayton South	Basketball Half-Court
		Outdoor Fitness Equipment
		Rebound Wall
		Skate Park
		Tennis Court
Scott Avenue Reserve	Clayton South	AFL Goals
		Basketball Half-Court
Warraweenaa Road Reserve	Clayton South	Basketball Half-Court
Chadwick Reserve	Dingley Village	Basketball Half-Court
		Pump Track
Dingley Reserve	Dingley Village	Basketball Half-Court
		Cricket Nets
Gartside Reserve	Dingley Village	Basketball Half-Court
Rowan Road Reserve	Dingley Village	Rebound Wall
		Skate Park

Active Recreation Reserve	Suburb	Equipment
William Bardoel Reserve	Dingley Village	Basketball Half-Court
Edithvale Common	Edithvale	Cricket Nets
Heatherton Recreation Reserve	Heatherton	Cricket Nets
Highett Reserve	Highett	Basketball Half-Court Cricket Nets
Sir William Fry Reserve	Highett	Basketball Half-Court Rebound Wall Skate Park
Bourke and Patty Street Reserve	Mentone	Basketball Half-Court
Mentone Racecourse Reserve	Mentone	AFL Goals Basketball Half-Court Cricket Nets Futsal Goals Rebound Wall
Reg Marlow Park	Mentone	Outdoor Fitness Equipment
Southern Road Reserve	Mentone	Cricket Nets
Dane Road Reserve	Moorabbin	Cricket Nets
GR Bricker Reserve	Moorabbin	Cricket Nets Outdoor Fitness Equipment
Moorabbin Reserve	Moorabbin	Basketball Half-Court Futsal Goals Outdoor Fitness Equipment Table Tennis Table
Attenborough Park	Mordialloc	Skate Park
Ben Kavanagh	Mordialloc	Basketball Half-Court Cricket Nets Futsal Goals Outdoor Fitness Equipment Petanque Piste Rebound Wall

Active Recreation Reserve	Suburb	Equipment
Doug Denyer Reserve	Mordialloc	Basketball Half-Court Cricket Nets
Jack Grut Reserve	Mordialloc	Cricket Nets
Peter Scullin Reserve	Mordialloc	Table Tennis Table
Dales Park	Oakleigh South	Outdoor Fitness Equipment
Dowling Road Reserve	Oakleigh South	Basketball Half-Court
Mavis Hutter Reserve	Oakleigh South	Outdoor Fitness Equipment
Gerry Green Reserve	Parkdale	Cricket Nets
Walter Galt Reserve	Parkdale	Basketball Half-Court Cricket Nets Outdoor Fitness Equipment Rebound Wall
Gladesville Boulevard Reserve	Patterson Lakes	AFL Goals Futsal Goals
Legana Court Reserve	Patterson Lakes	Basketball Half-Court
Lake King Circle	Waterways	AFL Goals
Serpentine Court Reserve	Waterways	Outdoor Fitness Equipment
Waterways Estate	Waterways	Outdoor Fitness Equipment



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