

Actions

Priority Actions for Open Space in Hobsons Bay

To further improve our park network to:

Contribute to a sense of well being

- Link Brooklyn and Duane Reserves, using the Federation Trail reservation
- Implement improvements to Paisley Park, to cater for a broader cross-section of the community

Provide a diversity of landscape and recreational experiences

- Introduce a major program of shade tree planting in parks
- Provide one accessible, high quality park in each neighbourhood for social / family recreation. These parks will include seating and picnic area (some may include barbeques), shade trees and play space. They will be maintained as the "oasis" for the surrounding community. The key parks will be:
 - McCormack Park (Laverton)
 - Newport Lakes Reserve (Newport West)
 - Homestead Run (Seabrook)
 - Cherry Lake (Altona Industrial)
 - McLean Reserve & Edwards Reserve (Spotwood/South Kingsville)
 - Community Centre Reserve (Altona Meadows)
 - Long Reserve (Williamstown North)
 - Paisley Park (Altona North)
 - Logan Reserve (Altona)
 - Brooklyn Reserve (Brooklyn)
 - Williamstown Beach & Hatt Reserve (Williamstown)
 - Armstrong Reserve (Newport East)

Encourage people to participate and be proud

- Actively promote the park network to make residents aware of the opportunities available
- Provide interpretative/educational information at Williamstown Botanic Gardens, including a major celebration for the Garden's 150th anniversary in 2010
- Further improve paths and bridges, and plant more trees at McCormack Park in Laverton

Provide a linked system of public open space

- Develop a continuous park and trail along Skeleton Creek linking up Bruce Comben, Markham Way and Carinza Avenue Reserves
- Create a continuous park along Kororoit Creek, incorporating a cycling, wheeling and walking trail
- Work with the State Government to accelerate construction of the Federation Trail which will run from Westgate Bridge to Werribee, linking to the Coastal Trail, Kororoit Creek Trail and Skeleton Creek Trail

Encourage native fauna and flora to flourish

- Protect bird habitat areas along the Hobsons Bay foreshore
- Consolidate the Truganina Coastal Parklands (former Altona tip site) by linking the Truganina Swamp, Truganina Explosives Reserve, Truganina Park and City West Water land at the Altona Treatment Plant

Work together to improve our shared environment

- Continue to support 'Friends of Parks' groups, particularly in their efforts to recruit new members, through a combination of financial, technical, practical and promotional support
- Continue to work in conjunction with government agencies and adjoining Councils to develop cooperative management of key areas

Protect our rich cultural heritage

- Continue to support Parks Victoria in the creation of Point Gellibrand Coastal Heritage Park

Incorporate environmentally sustainable design into our parks

- Complete the final stage of development at Altona Green Park
- Further explore the use of solar lights

Contribute to a sense of well being

Incorporate environmentally sustainable **design** into our parks

Protect our rich cultural heritage

Provide a diversity of landscape and recreational experiences

Provide a linked system of public **open space**

Encourage native fauna and flora to flourish

Encourage **people** to participate and be proud

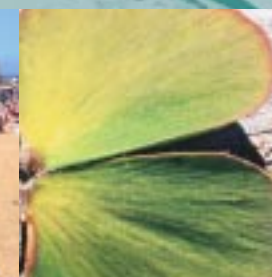
Work together to improve our shared environment



100 Steps under construction



100 Steps Truganina Park



Get involved

Join a local 'Friends of Park' Group, see Council's website: www.hobsonsabay.com.au

Check the local newspapers for new park plans and community consultation in your local area.

Take a friend or your family to your favourite park!

Where can the full documents be accessed?

You can access the full Open Space Plan from Council's libraries at Newport, Altona, Williamstown and Altona Meadows and from Council's Website.

Open Space Plan

Contact Us

For further information you can visit Council's website

www.hobsonsabay.com.au

or contact the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department on **9932 1000**.



Hobsons Bay
CITY COUNCIL



Open Space in Hobsons Bay

Open space contributes significantly to the character and quality of life in Hobsons Bay. With 5 creeks, 23 km of coastline linked by a cycling and walking trail, and 254 sites ranging from sporting fields to swamps (205 of which are managed by Council), parkland accounts for 24% of the land area of the municipality – this compares to a metropolitan average of around 15%. Our parks are important for recreation, conservation, landscape quality and residential amenity.

What is an Open Space Plan?

Hobsons Bay City Council (HBCC) commissioned this Open Space Plan (OSP) to ensure a vital and integrated park network is developed and maintained to meet the needs of its environment, community and visitors, and future generations.

The OSP will be used to plan for the future of Hobsons Bay's park network over the next 15 years, with 3 yearly review of the implementation of the Plan.

The Plan has been developed through consultation with the community, key government agencies, sports clubs, early childhood professionals and council staff. A random survey of residents, a review of literature, demographic information and existing plans, such as the HBCC Playground Strategy, was undertaken. Parks were inspected across the City and the type and distribution of our open space was analysed.

Health Benefits of Open Space

As population grows and housing densities increase, private backyards will diminish in size, leading to a more important role for public open spaces in community life. Parks soften the impact of urbanisation and encourage physical activity. People need parks which are more accessible, offer greater quality and a wider variety of experiences. They will look to open spaces to provide motivation for exercise, for learning about nature and to enable time out to relax in a pleasant environment. The significance of our remaining indigenous flora and fauna increases dramatically as urban pressures increase.

What Our Community Said

When asked what Council could do to improve parks, the main priorities identified by residents were:

- Shade and landscaping of local parks (a clear majority, 56% of respondents gave this response)
- A major tree planting program across all parks
- More bushland parks
- Improve local playgrounds

Main Issues for Hobsons Bay's Open Space Network

- Hobsons Bay has a good amount of open space compared to other Melbourne municipalities, however equitable distribution, accessibility and quality of parks is variable.
- Some neighbourhoods, such as Altona Meadows, are poorly provided for in terms of distribution and quality of parks.
- Many parks lack basic needs, such as shade, accessible seating and paths.
- There is a high standard of provision for some sports and outdoor activities however there is a need to provide recreation opportunities for a greater diversity of users and for growth in particular sports.
- The OSP highlights the need to continue to protect and enhance local native flora and fauna habitat and to continue working with the community, particularly the 'Friends of Parks Groups', to manage and improve these areas.
- Many people are unaware of the number and diversity of parks in Hobsons Bay and how to get to them.

Vision

The Vision for Hobsons Bay's Open Space is:

- **Urban areas surrounded and interspersed with a linked system of public open space, creeks, wetlands, foreshore and the coast;**
- **Recognised for its habitats of conservation significance;**
- **A distinctive open space network that will offer a diversity of landscape and recreation experiences, to provide personal, social, economic and environmental benefits to the City and its visitors;**
- **Quality and accessibility of parks will motivate residents to increase participation in physical exercise and group social activities, and contribute significantly to a sense of well being; and**
- **Significant conservation areas will continue to be protected and rehabilitated to encourage native fauna and flora to flourish, enhancing biodiversity and the perception of local environmental quality, and protecting our rich cultural heritage.**



Newport Lakes McCormack Park Newport Lakes Paisley Park Laverton Creek Bridge The Spit Laverton Park Oval Timeball Tower Williamstown Botanic Gardens Doug Grant Reserve Craig Street Park Altona Foreshore Altona Green Cherry Lake