



Attachment 2 to Item 172

**Draft Plan of Management -
McMahon Park, Kurrajong**

Date of meeting: 11 October 2022
Location: Council Chambers
Meeting Time: 6:30 p.m.



HAWKESBURY CITY COUNCIL

MCMAHON PARK
PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

Final Draft Report
September 2022



Project client : Hawkesbury City Council
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Studio : Sydney
Report contact : David Knights

AUSTRALIA
Sydney
Email: david@civille.com.au
Address: 104/27-39 Abercrombie St
Chippendale 2008, NSW, Australia

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DOCUMENT HISTORY AND STATUS

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

Hawkesbury City Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of this land, the Darug and Darkinjung nations . We pay our respects to Elders, past, present, and emerging, for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes for the future.

We recognise their continued connection to the land and waters of this beautiful place and acknowledge that they never ceded sovereignty. We respect all Darug and Darkinjung Elders and Ancestors, and any First Nations people here today.

Through thoughtful and collaborative planning, we seek to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally, and economically.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

McMahon Park is located at 30 McMahons Park Road, Kurrajong and is entirely on Crown Land and is managed by Hawkesbury City Council. Council has an agreement with McMahon Park Management Association (MPMA), who are responsible for the management and development of the park and Kurrajong Community Centre.

McMahon Park is a well-used park with a total area of approximately six hectares, located at the foot of the Blue Mountains in Kurrajong. The park is located approximately 10 km north-west of Richmond and approximately 60 km from Inner City Sydney.

The Plan of Management (PoM) provides a framework for managing the McMahon Park and it sets out how the park is intended to be used, managed, maintained, and enhanced in the future. The PoM is accompanied by a Landscape Masterplan, which shows proposed spatial changes to the park.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The objectives of the Plan of Management (POM) and Masterplan are to

- Provide direction and strategies to improve the overall amenity of McMahon Park
- Provide a management and landscape design framework for McMahon Park to function as a district level park
- Protect and enhance the natural values of McMahon Park
- Protect and enhance the significant Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultural heritage values of McMahon Park
- Provide direction for future public recreational uses, maintenance, and capital works
- Identify activities that need *a priori* approval of Council before being carried out on the land
- Meet the requirements, and processes required, of the Local Government Act and the Crown Lands Management Act.

This Plan of Management and the Masterplan provides direction on how this can be achieved and provides a strategic framework for future investment and operation of the Reserve.

1.2 LAND TO WHICH THIS PLAN APPLIES

This POM will provide direction for McMahon Park. This Park comprises of Lot 1 / DP 1169781. The lot is approximately 60000 m² or 6 ha. The lot is owned by Crown Lands with Hawkesbury City Council as the land manger.



Figure 1 McMahon Park

1.3 CONTEXT



Hawkesbury City Council manage their parks according to a hierarchy established and endorsed by Council as part of the Hawkesbury Regional Open Space Strategy (2018) . There are a total of eight reserves in Kurrajong, five local reserves and three district reserves. McMahon Park is one of the three district reserves in Kurrajong.

1.4 DESCRIPTION

1.4.1 PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

McMahon Park is at 30 McMahons Park Road, Kurrajong, approximately 10 km north-west of Richmond and approximately 60 km from Inner City Sydney. The reserve is purpose is 'Park' and the Crown Reserve number is 1028108. The Park's reserve purpose as the original purpose was 'Public Recreation Ground' (gazetted 14 June, 1911).

1.4.1.1 Condition of the land

Area/structure	Description	Condition	Image
Sports field	A large sports oval that is used weekly for Little Athletics, cricket, etc.	Good	
Outdoor gym equipment	There is one outdoor exercise station that consists of benches, beams and pull-up bars.	Poor	

Children's
playground

Playground
consists of a
slide, swings,
monkey
bars,
climbing net
and other
various
prefabricated
plastic play
elements.

Outdated



Kurrajong
Community
Centre

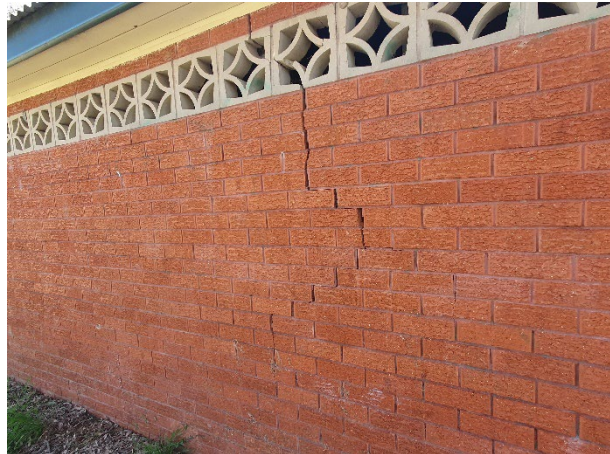
Good



Amenities block

Existing
amenities
block is
highly
degraded
with cracking
walls.

Poor



Community garden

There is a small community garden consisting of three raised planter beds.

Good



Cricket nets

There are two cricket nets.

Adequate



Shot put, discus, javelin throw stations

There are two throw stations that are used for discus, shot put and javelin throwing.

Adequate



Long jump pit

There are two long jump tracks with one long jump pit at the eastern side of the oval

Adequate



Storage shed

Storage sheds at the park are used by the community for storing sports equipment

Good



Double bay garage storage

& Used to store sports equipment and community buses that provide outreach services

Good



Carpark	31 regular car spaces, 1 disabled car space (other portions of open space are used as informal overflow car park, including the area under trees in the south-west of the site)	More parking is desired.	
Picnic shelters	There is one outdated picnic shelter beneath some trees on the eastern side of McMahon Park.	Poor	
BBQ area	There is a BBQ area north of the community centre at McMahon Park. This area includes two picnic tables and benches and two BBQs.	Adequate	

The Park is bound by low density residential properties to the north and west as well as large lot residential to the south. The western side of the park is bound by Little Wheeny Creek. The approximate area of the park is 6 ha.

The site is composed of:

- A large sports oval that is used weekly for Little Athletics, cricket, etc.

- Outdoor gym and exercise equipment
- Children's playground
- A small (<1km) walking track – McMahon Park Nature Walk
- Kurrajong Community Centre
- Amenities block
- A community garden
- Cricket nets
- Shot put, discus and javelin throw stations, long jump tracks and pits
- Storage shed
- Double bay garage
- A carpark – 31 regular car spaces, 1 disabled car space (other portions of open space are used as informal overflow car park, including the area under trees in the south-west of the site)
- Picnic shelters, BBQ areas, tables, and benches
- Concrete footpaths

Vehicular access to the Park is via McMahons Park Road . Pedestrian access into the Park is provided via Buckett Place.

1.4.1.2 Buildings on the land

The Kurrajong Community Centre is used by Hawkesbury Community Outreach Services (HCOS). Services run out of the community centre by HCOS including Out of School Hours (OOSH) care. The double bay garage is used to store community buses used to provide outreach services.

Storage sheds at the park are used by the community for storing sports equipment.

1.4.2 NATURAL HERITAGE

The site has a large amount of remnant bushland. On the north-west of the site is a small nature walk, less than 1 km loop that visits Little Wheeny Creek.

According to Biodiversity Value mapping the reserve contains high biodiversity value vegetation (Figure 2). According to 'Vegetation Classes of NSW' mapping at the park, vegetation either belongs to:

- Northern Hinterland Wet Sclerophyll Forest (grassy subformation), or
- Sydney Hinterland Dry Sclerophyll Forest (shrubby subformation)

Generally, onsite the overstorey is dominated by Eucalypts, midstorey is mostly absent in the Park's open space areas, except for some *Acacia* species. Understorey mostly consists of either turf or gravel.

Little Wheeny Creek borders the Park on its north -western boundary. The creek is a 3rd order stream where it runs alongside the Park. The creek drains to Wheeny Creek approximately 10 km north of the Park.



Figure 2 Biodiversity Value mapping at McMahon Park

GIS mapping using the 'Threatened Ecological Communities of NSW' dataset shows that within the two aforementioned broad vegetation associations, vegetation at McMahon's Park belongs to one of two ecological communities (Figure 3) either

- Shale Sandstone Transition Forest or,
- Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest.

These two ecological communities are listed as critically endangered under the Biodiversity Conservation Act (BC Act).



Figure 3 Critically endangered ecological communities (CEECs) at McMahon Park

1.4.3 CULTURAL HERITAGE

The area now known as McMahon Park has a long history as a centre of social significance. The earliest known written reference is found in a 1822 report by the staff of the then Surveyor-General John Oxley, where the area of flat land with permanent water amongst the foothills of the Kurrajong district, is referred to as:

“a sheltered area amongst the tallest of Curryjong (sic) brush where the steep hills form a ring around a flat area bounded on two sides by the clearest of mountain streams.”

With the opening of Bells Line of Road in 1841, the area was used for more than 30 years as a resting, watering and feeding area for the many bullock drays travelling over the Blue Mountains to the Western Plains.

In the 1870's it became the site of the Kurrajong Race Course and was being used for this purpose, when Colo Shire Council was established in 1906.

On June 14, 1911, an area of 15 2/3 acres was proclaimed as “Kurrajong Park” and used as a site for public meetings, gymkanas, football, cricket, athletics, picnics and as a destination for tourists from Sydney.

In honour of the late J.E.McMahon, an eminent citizen and long serving member of Colo Shire Council, the park was renamed “McMahon Park” on March 29, 1947.

Since the 1940's, McMahon Park has developed as the natural geographic centre for cultural, social and sporting activities for the local community.

There are no heritage items listed on site within the LEP and the State Heritage Inventory.

Note that any future works in areas with likely high potential archaeological deposits will require further investigations.

1.5 PROCESS

This plan of management was prepared by Civile Pty Ltd with input and review from Hawkesbury City Council. The plan was also informed by community consultation. Identifying existing issues and community values associated with the Park. The initial consultation phase consisted of:

- Information including a feedback survey published on the HCC's website "It's your Hawkesbury - have your say" website from 12th November to 4th December 2020
- Consultation with the chair of McMahon Park Management Association in October and December 2021
- Consultation with the president of the Little Athletics in October 2021

1.6 STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

This POM is structured into five different sections. The sections contained within this PoM are:

- Section 1 – Introduction: This section introduces the document and the Park and sets out how the plan was prepared
- Section 2 – Strategic Direction: This section sets out the relevant legislation and policy framework that gives direction to the POM such as Council's strategic documents and the Crown Land Management Act
- Section 3 – Management Direction: This section looks at what is important about the Reserve and what we want to protect and the management policies and objectives
- Section 4 – Masterplan: This section develops strategies consistent with the values and objectives of the Reserve, develops strategies and presents a spatial management plan for the Reserve; and
- Section 5 – Action Plan: This section contains the Action Plan for implementing the POM and indicates how the implementation of the POM will be measured and assessed

The POM also contains a reference and appendix section that contributes to the readers' understanding of the values, issues, priorities, and actions associated with McMahon Park.



2. STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This section summarises the strategic direction and framework for management of the POM and Masterplan. This section sets out the legal and policy documents which provide direction on how McMahon Park can and should be managed. Section 2.1 covers relevant State legislation and Section 2.2 covers strategic planning documents of Hawkesbury City Council.

2.1 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

2.1.1 CROWN LAND MANAGEMENT ACT 2016

McMahon Park is Crown land managed by Hawkesbury City Council as Crown land manager. The Crown Lands Management Act 2016 commenced on July 2018. Under this Act, Councils manage their dedicated or reserved land as if it were public land under the Local Government Act.

Council has an agreement with McMahon Park Management Association (MPMA), who are responsible for the management and development of the park and Kurrajong Community Centre.

The Crown Lands Management Act provides direction on the management of Crown land as outlined below:

“Objects of Act (S1.3) – The objects of this Act are to

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

“Principles of Crown land management (S1.4) – For the purposes of this Act, the principles of Crown land management are:

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

Section 3.23 (6) of the Act requires councils to adopt a POM for any Crown reserve for which it is the appointed Crown land manager, and that is classified as ‘community land’ under the Local Government Act.

Under Part 8 of the Act councils must obtain written advice from a qualified native title manager that any POM for Crown land complies with any applicable provision of Commonwealth native title legislation.

2.1.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993

Under section 36 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993 POMs must be prepared for all community land. Section 36 (3) of the Act set out what a POM is to include. A POM must include:

- Category of the land (refer Section 3.1)
- Objectives and performance targets for the land (refer Sections 3.3 and 5)
- Means by which Council proposes to achieve and assess the plan's objectives and performance targets (refer Section 5)

The plan must also

- Describe the condition of the land (refer Section 3.1)
- Describe any buildings and use of the buildings on the land (refer Section 1.4)
- State the purposes for which the land will be allowed to be used and the scale and intensity of that use (refer Sections 3.2, 4, and 5)

2.1.3 ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (EP&A Act) establishes the statutory planning framework for environmental and land use planning of all land in NSW with the objective of ensuring good management of land with specific reference to environmental protection and community service. The primary mechanism is through outlining processes for development applications. One of the main instruments for implementing the act are Local Environmental Plans (LEPs). LEPs are statutory planning tools that set controls over development in the area to which it applies. They contain zoning controls for heritage conservation areas and protected areas, amongst other matters.

2.1.4 BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 2016

The Biodiversity Conservation Act (BC Act) aims to protect threatened species or ecological communities of land plants and animals. The BC Act has many objectives including maintaining and conserving biodiversity, sharing knowledge of indigenous practices, regulating human development of land, assessing extinction risks of species, populations and ecological communities, collecting and sharing data and ultimately informing policy and decision makers and more.

It should be noted that a large proportion of the site is mapped as "high biodiversity value" using the NSW State Government Biodiversity Values Mapping and Threshold Tool (Figure 2). This tool identifies land with high biodiversity value that is particularly sensitive to impacts from development and clearing. The map forms part of the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme Threshold which is one of the triggers for determining whether the Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS) applies to a clearing or development proposal. The map has been prepared by the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) under Part 7 of the BC Act.

These areas are likely mapped as high biodiversity value (Figure 2) due to their listing as critically endangered ecological communities. The CEECs mapped at the Park include Shale Sandstone Transition Forest and Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest (Figure 3).

2.1.5 GREATER SYDNEY REGIONAL PLAN 2018

The Greater Sydney Regional Plan – *A Metropolis of Three Cities* is a strategic planning document that outlines a vision for Sydney residents to have easy access to work, education, health facilities and other services, as well as parklands.

The strategy aims to place workers closer to knowledge -intensive jobs, city -scale infrastructure and services, entertainment and cultural facilities. The strategy will also manage and retain existing industrial land close to centres and transport to ensure that critical services are available to support businesses and residents of the cities.

As Greater Sydney grows the strategy will aim to manage the effects of urban development to protect, restore and enhance existing natural landscapes, such as waterways, coastline, tree canopy and open spaces.

As part of sustainability goals, this plan describes a Green Grid for Greater Sydney that seeks to provide connectivity between parklands and other green spaces.

Greater Sydney's Green Grid sets a long-term vision for a network of high quality green areas that will connect communities to green infrastructure. It will promote a healthier urban environment and improve access to spaces for recreation and exercise.

The Greater Sydney Regional Plan categorises Sydney into three primary 'cities':

- The Western Parkland City
- The Central River City
- The Eastern Harbour City

As part of this categorisation there are tailored documents for each district. The Western Parkland City district encapsulates the Hawkesbury LGA. Strategies for this area are described in the Western City District Plan 2018.

Western City District Plan 2018

The Western City District Plan provides a strategy that supports the growth of the western side of Greater Sydney over the next 20 to 40 years. Similar to the parent plan, the Western City District Plan has a vision to provide diverse job choices, easy access to public transport, health services and education and recreational opportunities for its residents. It also aims to enhance links between 'green infrastructure' such as parklands, open space and existing natural landscapes.

The plan identifies planning priority W18, 'Delivering high quality open space'. It ensures that *public open space is accessible, protected and enhanced*. As the district grows, providing for and developing innovative ways to optimise open space areas for recreation, sport and social activities, as well as establishing physical links that support social networks and create a sense of community will become increasingly important.

2.1.6 RURAL FIRES ACT 1997 NO 65

The Rural Fires Act 1997 (RFA) provides the overriding direction for bush fire management in NSW. It directs Council to take action to protect people, property, and the environment from fire. This is usually manifested as fire trails and Asset Protection Zones. There are several codes and policies which guide fire management within the Hawkesbury. These take precedence over any local requirement for habitat or tree management.

The Park sits on three different vegetation classes as mapped using Bushfire Prone Land mapping tool (Figure 4). These categories include

- Vegetation Category 1
- Vegetation Category 2
- Vegetation buffer

Vegetation Category 1 is considered the highest risk vegetation type and is represented as red in Figure 4 and is given a 100m buffer (yellow in Figure 4). Vegetation Category 1 vegetation is highly combustible and has a high likelihood of forming fully developed fires with a heavy ember production. Generally, this may include forest, woodlands, heaths (tall and short), forested wetlands and timber plantations.

Vegetation Category 3 is considered medium bushfire risk and is represented as orange in Figure 4. Vegetation Category 3 is given 30m vegetation buffer and generally consists of grasslands, freshwater wetlands, semi-arid woodlands, alpine complex and arid shrublands.

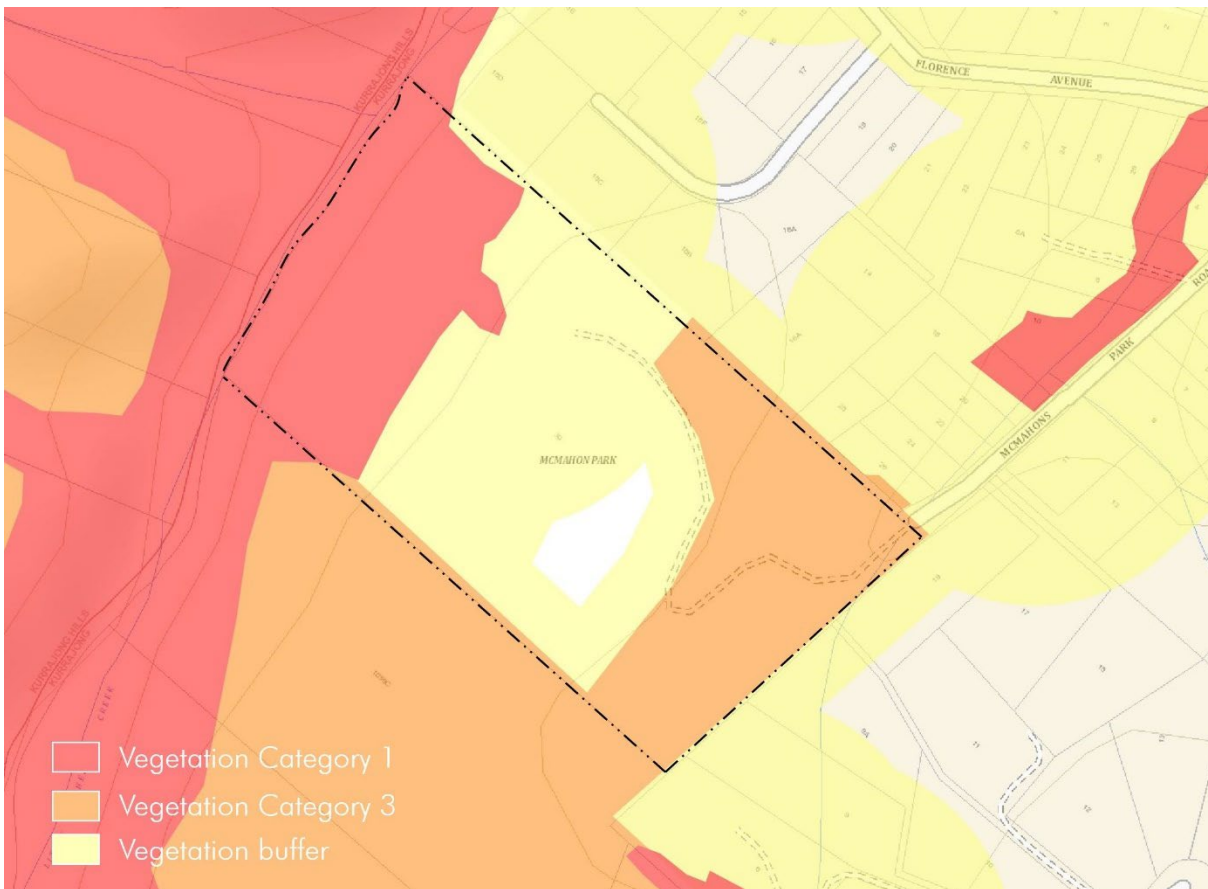


Figure 4 Bushfire prone land mapping at McMahon Park

Any future developments of the HCOS community centre should consider Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019 guidelines and construction standards for bushfire prone land (AS3959:2018).

2.2 HAWKESBURY CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLANNING CONTEXT

2.2.1 HAWKESBURY COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2036

The Hawkesbury Community Strategic Plan is Council’s highest level plan. It identifies the key priorities and aspirations to adequately manage and develop the LGA and then outlines broadly the strategies that can be implemented to achieve these. The Community Strategic Plan outlines a vision for the Hawkesbury LGA which includes:

- Council as a respected civic leader through consistent, transparent and engaged decision making that the community can understand
- Partner with the community and key service providers to deliver outcomes that support a connected, healthy, and inclusive Hawkesbury
- Through leadership, stewardship, and education, ensure that the natural and built environment is protected and enhanced for the current community and for future generations
- Provide, upgrade, and maintain assets to support the community

- Be a place that is vibrant, attractive, and welcoming, that treasures and celebrates Hawkesbury's history, environment, local economy, and lifestyle

A key guiding principle of the Community Strategic Plan that is of relevance to this POM is to 'ensure that our natural and built environment is protected and enhanced for the current community and for future generations'. Specifically, the key objectives relevant to this POM and outlined in the Community Strategic Plan include:

- Encourage effective management and protection of rivers, waterways, riparian land, surface and ground waters, and natural eco-systems through local action and regional partnerships.
- Act to protect and improve the natural environment, including working with key agency partners
- Minimise the community's impacts on habitat and biodiversity and protect areas of conservation value.
- Provide a variety of quality passive recreation spaces including river foreshores, parks, bushland reserves and civic spaces to enhance the community's health and lifestyle.
- Provide a variety of quality active recreation spaces including playgrounds, sporting fields, pool, stadium, and multipurpose centres to enhance the community's health and lifestyle.

The 2015 Community Survey and the Levels of Service consultation in 2016, which informed the Hawkesbury Community Strategic Plan, showed that the Hawkesbury community:

- is moderately satisfied with Council's protection of bushland, open space and natural habitats
- values community building and connecting people
- thinks that Council needs to invest money in improving access to, facilities in park and reserves, and the condition of our parks
- places priorities for parks and reserves on pet friendly, toilets, drinking water, facilities, standard of ovals, weed control, improve quality, drainage, and play areas for young people

2.2.2 HAWKESBURY LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT 2040

Council's Planning Priority 1 is to 'bridge the shortfall of infrastructure through stakeholder collaboration to support current and future growth.' A corresponding action is to "seek funding, investigate and deliver leisure and sporting related facilities at appropriate locations."

2.2.3 HAWKESBURY LOCAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN 2012

The current zoning for the McMahon Park study area is RE1 – Public Recreation (Figure 5 **Error! Reference source not found.**). The objectives of land zoned as RE1 are

- To enable land to be used for public open space or recreational purposes.
- To provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses.
- To protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes.
- To protect and enhance the natural environment for environmental purposes.
- To restrict development on land required for future open space purposes

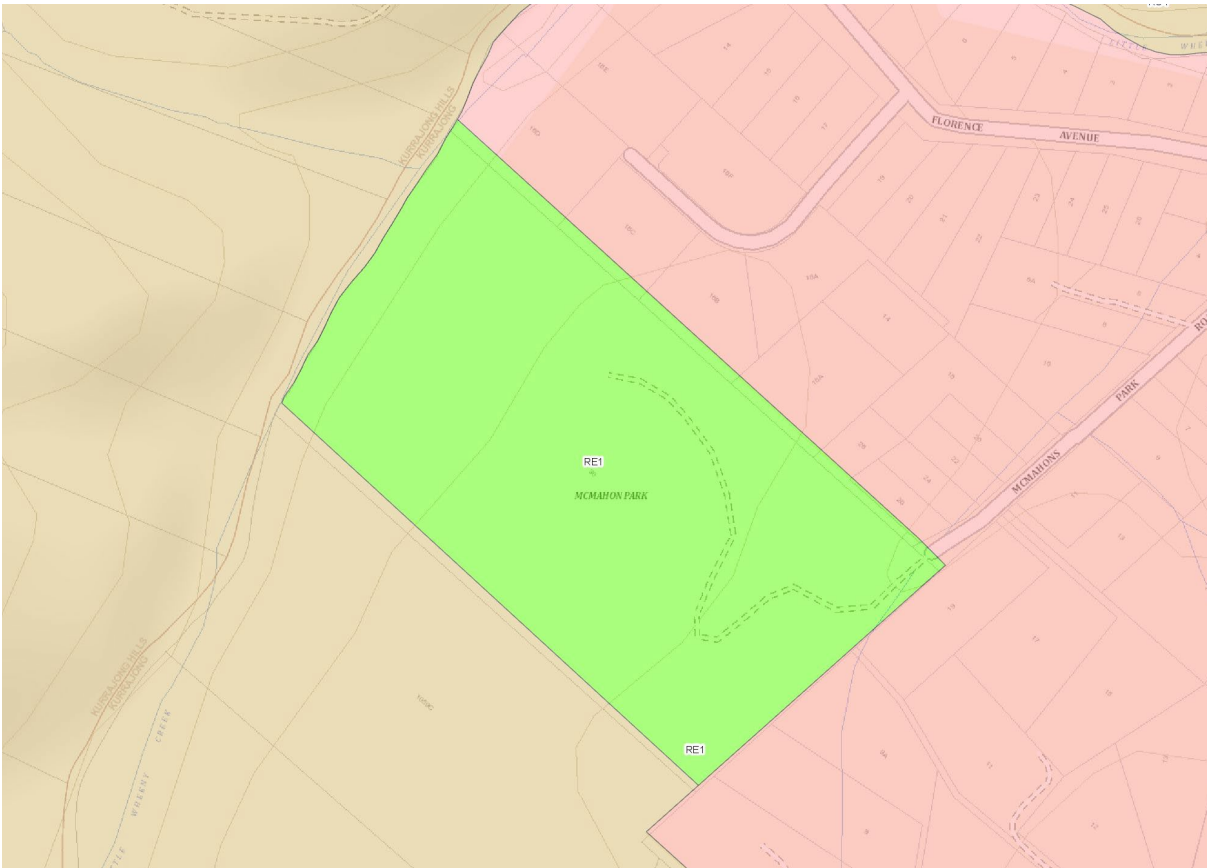


Figure 5 Land use zoning at McMahon Park (Hawkesbury City Council LEP)

The Hawkesbury City Council LEP also designates McMahon Park as an area of either 'Significant Vegetation' or 'Connectivity Between Significant Vegetation' (See Terrestrial Biodiversity Map Sheet BIO_008A). The objective of this clause is to maintain Terrestrial Biodiversity by

- g) protecting native fauna and flora, and
- h) protecting the ecological processes necessary for their continued existence, and
- i) encouraging the conservation and recovery of native fauna and flora and their habitats

Terrestrial biodiversity mapping is provided in Figure 2.

The acid sulfate soil (ASS) maps were also consulted for McMahon Park. The Park is zoned as Class 5 ASS (See Acid Sulfate Soils Map- Sheet ASS_008A). This means that development consent is required for the carrying out of works described if

- Works within 500 metres of adjacent Class 1, 2, 3 or 4 land that is below 5 metres Australian Height Datum and by which the water table is likely to be lowered below 1 metre Australian Height Datum on adjacent Class 1, 2, 3 or 4 land.

The Park is mapped as Class 5 ASS (Figure 6). The works are not within 500 m of adjacent Class 1, 2, 3 or 4 ASS land and therefore development consent does not apply in reference to ASS mapping.

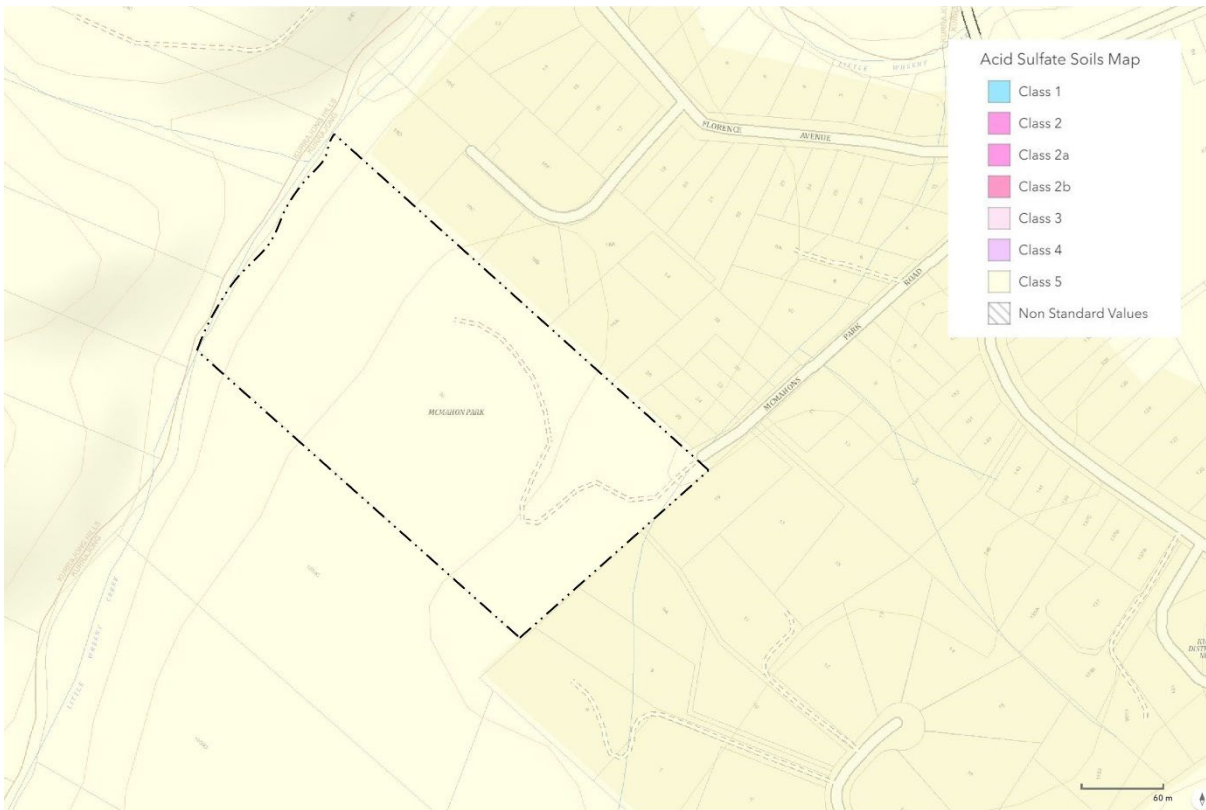


Figure 6 Acid sulfate soil mapping at McMahon Park

2.2.4 HAWKESBURY OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2013

The Hawkesbury Regional Open Space Strategy (HROSS) is a guiding strategic document that allows Council to plan and manage their recreational open space areas within the Hawkesbury City Council LGA. The broad objectives of the HROSS are to

- improve open space provision in terms of quality, quantity, accessibility and safety
- improve linkages within and between the open space networks
- ensure open spaces meet the needs of the Hawkesbury community and promotes greater social inclusion
- ensure open spaces enhance the quality of the local environment
- provide a clear framework for investment priorities and action

A core subject of the HROSS are the City's parks and open spaces. The major initiatives to be adopted in the HROSS are

- all residences in the City would have access to a park or parkland network within a maximum of 400 metres of home. However, given the rural nature of the City, distances of up to 1 km to local open space are more realistic
- newly acquired or consolidated parks are generally no less than 0.3 ha and generally flat to provide maximum opportunity for a diversity of user types and needs over time as well as to accommodate a significant vegetated canopy cover
- given the location of sports fields within the LGA, there is typically flooding impacts to consider. The HROSS recommends a sports plan to implemented in order to relocate sports facilities away from the most flood affected areas so that long term sports provisions will benefit, and the associated costs of flood damage repair can be amortised

2.2.5 HAWKESBURY DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2002

The Hawkesbury Development Control Plan (DCP) was prepared in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) and the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* (the Regulation). This DCP applies to all land within the Hawkesbury City Council LGA. The objectives of the DCP are:

- a) To provide a comprehensive document that contains detailed development controls for development which meets community expectations and addresses the key environmental planning issues of the Hawkesbury LGA;
- b) To promote economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development within the City of Hawkesbury;
- c) To enable an aesthetically pleasing and functional development that sympathetically relates to adjoining and nearby development;
- d) To maintain and enhance the environmental and cultural heritage of the Hawkesbury LGA;
- e) To involve the local community in the planning process by ensuring openness, accountability and transparency in the decision-making process;
- f) To set out clear processes, procedures and requirements to facilitate an integrated and consistent framework for dealing with development assessment;
- g) To ensure that development will respond to its context and not detrimentally affect the surrounding development ; and
- h) To promote the Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) principles including water sensitive urban design, climate responsive building design, energy efficiency, and selection/use of recycled materials.

2.2.6 HAWKESBURY CITY COUNCIL ACCESS AND INCLUSION POLICY

The main purpose of the Hawkesbury City Council's Access and Inclusion Policy (HCC 2017) is to eliminate barriers that may prevent residents from participating in civic and community activities and to work with the business and community sector to facilitate access and participation in all community and civic events in the LGA.

There are nine guiding principles that provide a framework by which Council can identify and implement appropriate actions which reflect their access and inclusion policy. Principle 1 is of particular relevance to the McMahon Park POM, which states:

- *People will experience Council's buildings, venues and outdoor spaces as accessible, people friendly and welcoming spaces*

Actions that will help Council achieve this are outlined in Table 1 of the Policy and may include,

- *Completing accessibility audits of community facilities and outdoor spaces*
- *Work towards compliance with accessibility guidelines and standards*
- *Identification and scheduling of building/spaces requiring accessibility upgrades*
- *Training to enable staff and managing agents to identify access and inclusion issues*



3. MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

3.1 PROPOSED CATEGORISATION

The land at McMahon Park is categorised as 'General Community Use', 'Park', 'Sportsground', 'Natural Area – Bushland' and 'Natural Area – Watercourse'.

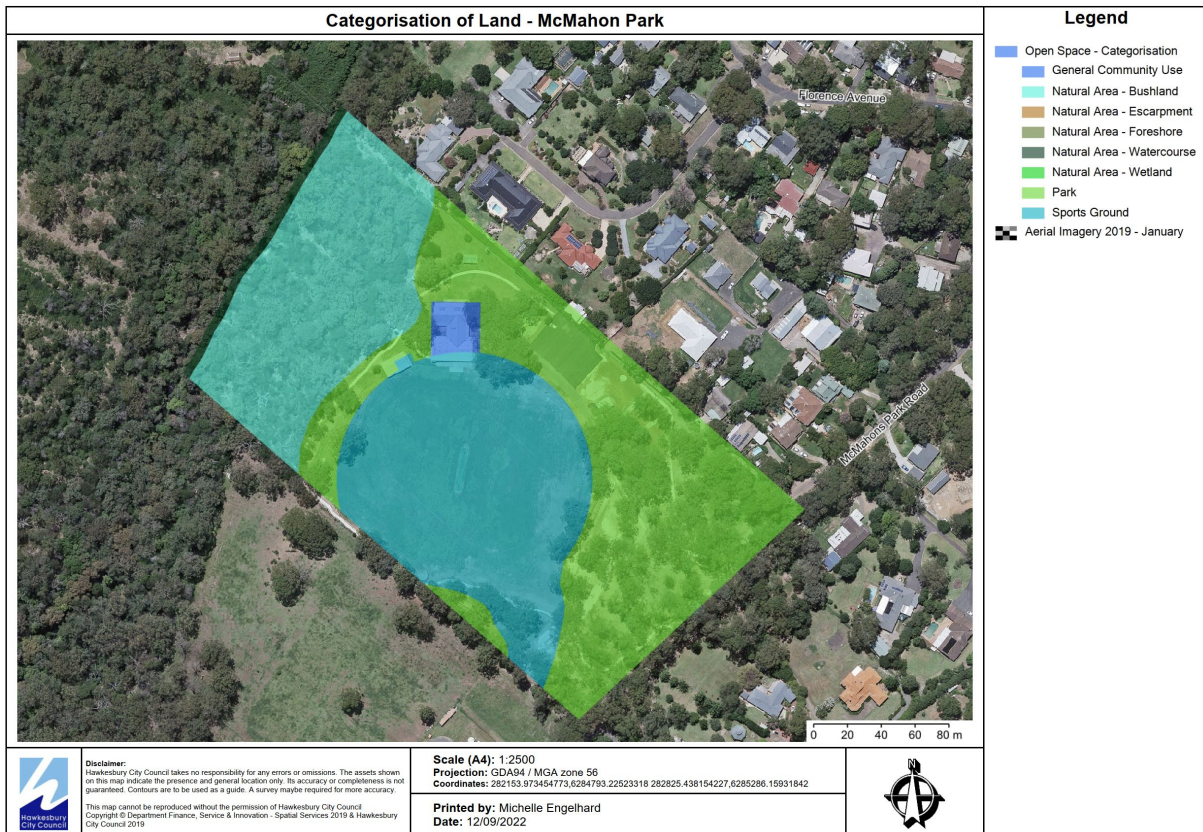


Figure 7 Categorisation of land at McMahon Park

The relevant core objectives for the category applied to McMahon Park, as outlined in the Local Government Act 1993, are outlined in the following sections.

3.1.1 LAND CATEGORY 'PARK'

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a 'Park' are:

- a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social, and educational pastimes and activities, and
- b) to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and
- c) to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management

3.1.2 LAND CATEGORY 'SPORTSGROUND'

The core objectives of the 1993 Local Government Act in relation to land categorised as sportsgrounds are as follows:

- a) To encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games; and
- b) To ensure that the activities are managed

3.1.3 LAND CATEGORY 'NATURAL AREA – BUSHLAND'

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as bushland are:

- c) To ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting
- d) the ecological biodiversity and habitat values of the land, the flora
- e) and fauna (including invertebrates, fungi and micro-organisms) of
- f) the land and other ecological values of the land; and
- g) To protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational, and
- h) scientific values of the land; and
- i) To promote the management of the land in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and to implement measures directed to minimising or mitigating any disturbance caused by human intrusion; and
- j) To restore degraded bushland; and
- k) To protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores; and
- l) To retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term; and
- m) To protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface.

3.1.4 LAND CATEGORY 'NATURAL AREA – WATERCOURSE'

Core objectives for management of community land categorised as a watercourse are:

- a) To manage watercourses so as to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the in-stream environment, particularly in relation to water quality and water flows; and
- b) To manage watercourses so as to protect the riparian environment, particularly in relation to riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability; and
- c) To restore degraded watercourses; and
- d) To promote community education, and community access to and
- e) use of the watercourse, without compromising the other core objectives of the category.

3.2 OBJECTIVES AND DIRECTION

The objectives relating to the above categories give the primary direction for the management of the site. Community values towards McMahon Park were determined through community consultation as detailed in Section 3.2.1 below.

3.2.1 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 2020, Hawkesbury City Council undertook community consultation for McMahon Park via an online survey on Council's 'Have Your Say' website. The survey received 73 submissions and found that:

- about 60% of the respondents used the park on a weekly basis
- about 70% of the respondents live in Kurrajong
- about 50% of the respondents used organised sport or activities at the park
- about 70% of the respondents drive to the park
- the walking, tracks, bushland, playground, picnic shelters and sports facilities were the most valued facilities
- about 70% valued the park extremely highly
- about 5% of respondents identified as having a disability.

The online survey included some open questions to which the community could provide their comments. These comments illustrate the valued qualities of the park that should be retained, as well as the opportunities for improvement. Of all comments and written submissions received, several recurring themes can be identified. Below a summary of the community's feedback is provided.

3.2.2 COMMUNITY VALUES

Of the 73 submissions, 51 people ranked the park with a 10/10 (extremely important). In the provided comments, the following elements, character, and uses were highly valued.

A natural, quiet, and peaceful park

The community highly values the natural environment that characterises the park and sees this as a drawcard for the area. The creek, the bushland, the large trees, and the walking tracks are key elements of the park that the community love. This quiet and peaceful park is also valued for its passive recreation opportunities.

Preservation of this natural quality and quiet, peaceful atmosphere is critical for McMahon Park. New park upgrades should not detract from these qualities.

Heart of the local community

Several people described the park as the heart, or backbone, of the local community. The park is a place to gather and meet people. People of all ages visit and use the park.

The Kurrajong Community Centre, which houses the Out of School Hours childcare centre (OOSH) and the Hawkesbury Community Outreach Service (HCOS), contribute to the park being important for the local community.

Great sporting facilities

The available sporting facilities of the park attract many users to the park. It was mentioned that it is the largest and best sporting facility west of the Hawkesbury River (in the area) and attracts many users, including schools who use the park for their school carnivals.

As part of the online survey the community was also asked to provide additional comments and suggestions to improve McMahon Park. The following suggestions have been considered in this Plan of Management and in the Masterplan for McMahon Park:

- Playground upgrade: it was suggested to upgrade and expand the existing playground, consider water and adventure play, and move the playground away from the car park.
- Provide youth facilities: the park lacks recreational opportunities for teenagers and young adults. It was suggested to provide youth facilities to also cater to this group of the community.
- Improved parking: the overflow carpark could be rationalised and sufficient parking spaces could be realised to cater for weekly events.
- Exercise stations upgrade: the existing exercise stations need an upgrade. It was suggested that they were moved away from the driveway and carpark. Several people mentioned they would like to have several fitness stations constructed along the walking track around the oval.
- Improved access: for both vehicles and pedestrians' access and connectivity into the park could be improved. The entrance experience could be improved, by providing a wider driveway, accessible footpaths, and clear entrance and information signage. It was also suggested to close the park's gate at night to avoid cars entering and doing burn-outs.
- General upgrade and maintenance: of park facilities, such as shelters, BBQs, cricket nets, toilet blocks, tables, benches, lighting and security, bush track maintenance, removal of barbed wire fence and weed control in bushland.
- Provide new park facilities: new park facilities were suggested, including more rubbish bins, dog waste bags and bins, shelters and BBQ areas, seating, bubblers with dog bowls, basketball hoops, interpretation / information signage about the park's history, and sustainability initiatives.

3.3 NATIVE TITLE

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

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

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

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

When proposing any act that may affect native title on Crown land or Crown reserves the act must be authorised through Part 2 Division 3 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cwlth).

Where it is proposed to construct or establish a public work on reserved or dedicated Crown land (including at McMahon Park), where native title is not extinguished, prior to approval Council will notify and give an opportunity to comment any representative Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander bodies, registered native title bodies corporate and registered native title claimants in relation to the land or waters covered by the reservation or lease as required under the Native Title Act 1993.

Any leases, licences, easements, and other estates on crown land (a use agreement) may impact native title rights and interests.

Any use agreement issued on Crown land (including at McMahon Park) must be issued in accordance with the future act provisions of the Native Title Act 1993 and in accordance with Part 8 of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 unless native title is extinguished.

For Crown land which is not excluded land this will require written advice of one of Council's native title managers that it complies with any applicable provisions of the native title legislation.

3.3.1 FURTHER ADVICE

Landsas provided native title advice for Council (See Appendix 2). All acts/works described in this POM were found to have either have no impact on native title or be valid under Section 24JA of the *Native Title Act 1993*. Any public works proposed will require that notification and opportunity to comment be given to NTSCorp Limited as the representative Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander body and any registered native title claimant or holder.

Some acts required further native title advice. Acts requiring further native title are to be investigated as required.

3.4 USER AGREEMENTS

Leases and licences are a way of formalising the use of community land. Leases and licences may be held by groups such as sporting clubs and schools, or by private/commercial organisations or people providing facilities and/or services for public use.

Under the Local Government Act 1993 a lease, licence, other estate or easement (use agreement) may be granted over all or part of community land.

In accordance with Section 46A of the Local Government Act 1993 a Plan of Management for community land is to specify and authorise any purpose for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted over community land during the life of a Plan of Management.

There are four main lease types at McMahon Park, including long term leases, seasonal leases, casual leases of sporting fields and casual leases of community hall. The leases that currently apply to McMahon Park are:

- HCOS has a long-term lease agreement with HCC. The lease includes areas for exclusive use and areas for shared use. The garage was built by HCOS (with approval from Council) since the agreement was prepared and is not currently included in the nominated areas. However, it is generally accepted that the garage is now part of HCOS's licence.
- Sporting clubs Kurrajong Bilpin Athletics, North Richmond Cricket and Colo Soccer Clubs pay a seasonal use fee which entitles them to priority use of the sporting facilities for 6 months during their season.
- Historically, commercial leases have also been granted to Pilates, tai chi and personal (fitness) training but there are currently no commercial leases.
- Local schools can (and do) lease the sporting fields for athletics carnivals.
- Casual lease uses include hiring the community hall or sporting field for events. Leases are generally for a day or half-day.

3.5 VISION

Council's vision is outlined in the Hawkesbury Community Strategic Plan 2017-2036. This plan signifies a new approach to the way Hawkesbury City Council prepares plans, program activities, budgets, and reports. It captures the vision of where the Hawkesbury community would like to be 20 years from now:

We see the Hawkesbury as a vibrant and collaborative community living in harmony with our history and environment, whilst valuing our diversity, striving for innovation, a strong economy and retaining our lifestyle and identity.

The Hawkesbury Sports Council Mission Statement is:

To provide, maintain, improve, and increase the network of active recreational areas to meet the needs and expectations of the community.

Consistent with the values and desired roles of McMahon Park, the vision for it is:

McMahon Park will continue to act as the community and sport centre of Kurrajong and as an important district park within Hawkesbury City LGA, providing services, facilities, and amenities for users of all ages and abilities, now and in the future. Future developments should retain and reinforce the park's natural features, including the mature native trees, the bushland, and the creek.



4. MASTERPLAN

Consistent with relevant legislation, the Plan of Management sets the vision for McMahon Park and gives direction on the permitted uses, and their scale and intensity. The Plan of Management is supported by a Masterplan, developed by Civille Pty Ltd. The Masterplan allows the community to see how the permitted uses and activities can occur across a large and popular park. The McMahon Park Masterplan was developed with consultation in parallel with the Plan of Management. The Masterplan provides high level strategies and a spatial framework for the park.

The McMahon Park Masterplan, once adopted, will be available on Hawkesbury City Council's website. The Masterplan can be amended and adapted without updating this Plan of Management, where the amendments are consistent with the adopted Plan of Management.

The McMahon Park Masterplan proposes a number of developments and uses distributed across the Reserve, including the following:

- Improve the Community Centre Precinct amenity by,
 - o Constructing a new path network to provide structure and improve accessibility and connectivity
 - o Providing a (fenced) playground directly north of the Community Centre, connected to the OOSH
 - o Removing the fence and clutter west of the building and reconnect this space with the parklands
 - o Upgrading existing play equipment. Potential for water play or adventure play spaces.
 - o Constructing a youth space between the carpark and the playground
 - o Demolish the existing exercise equipment and provide (informal) seating in this area
 - o Demolishing existing amenities block
 - o Providing buffer planting along the car park and site boundaries
- Improving the parking and arrival experience by,
 - o Extending the existing parking at the location of the community centre
 - o Formalising overflow parking
 - o Upgrading or renewing the entry portal
 - o Providing new entrance sign at the gate to clearly mark the entrance and welcome visitors to the park
 - o Provide new lockable gate to the park
 - o Relocating the garage east of the car park to open up this space
 - o Extend the existing garage to be a three bay garage
- Improving accessibility and connectivity at the Park by,
 - o Providing a new section of pathway that creates a new loop that does not require pedestrians to cross any roads
 - o Providing a new accessible pathway from the entrance to the existing path network
 - o Providing new path linkages to further improve connectivity and accessibility throughout the park.

- Improving recreation and exercise opportunities by,
 - o Activating the loop around the oval by providing a range of exercise stations along the pathway
 - o Activating the south-eastern part of the park under the existing native trees by,
 - providing a pathway
 - providing seating and picnic facilities
 - providing nature play elements
- Resolving park clutter and provide clarity to the park by,
 - o Providing a simplified and consistent palette of furniture styles and materials
 - o Removing fencing within the park where possible, opening up the parkland
 - o Replacing timber posts and steel wire fencing by boulders and dense barrier vegetation
 - o Demolishing and replacing old shelters, tables and benches
- Promote and enhance existing ecological character by,
 - o Planting new native vegetation throughout the park and particularly along the fence-line of the northern side of the park to soften the boundary
 - o Softening the southern border of the park, marked by a barbed wire fence, by planting locally native vegetation
 - o Protecting and caring for the native bush vegetation and Little Wheeny Creek, including
 - formalising bush tracks
 - providing erosion control works
 - provide wayfinding and indigenous interpretation signage
 - bush care
- Upgrade Kurrajong Community Centre to meet increasing demand of space by the Out of School Hours (OOSH) child care and for office spaces by,
 - o Providing a children's play space directly connected to OOSH on northern facing aspect of the building
 - o Removing the existing fence and clutter on western side of the building and reconnecting this area with the parklands
 - o Upgrading the building interiors to maximise storage space and efficiency
 - o Extend the community hall when required – an area between the northern and southern wings has been identified as being most suitable, to reduce the impact on the parkland.



Figure 8 McMahon Park Masterplan Overview (Civile 2022)



5. ACTION PLAN

This section outlines the actions required to implement the management direction and the Landscape Masterplan for McMahon Park. The actions are displayed below in table form and have been structured using the values of McMahon Park that the actions would enhance and protect. The table headings are explained as follows:

Need/issue	A need or issue to be addressed
Background	Explanation of the need/issue
Performance target	Targets/strategies to achieve vision and objectives for McMahon Park, consistent with defined roles
Action	Tasks that will be undertaken to address needs/issues, and to achieve performance targets and objectives
Stage	Stage 1 works include lower cost and higher priority actions, that could be achieved in the short term with. (0-5 years) Stage 2 works include higher cost and lower priority actions. (5-15 years)
Indicative cost	An estimate of the cost for the proposed action
Responsibility	Responsibility for undertaking the action
Means of assessing achieving	Methods of measuring and assessing the achievement of the action

This Plan of Management authorises all developments included in this Action Table.

The timing of implementation depends on delays such as funding, and design or development approvals.

5.1 IMPROVE THE COMMUNITY CENTRE PRECINCT AMENITY

Need/issue	Background	Performance target	Action	Stage	Indicative cost	Responsibility	Means of assessing achievement
New path structure	Improve access and connectivity. Activate and enhance the community centre precinct.	Provide equitable access and provide facilities for a wide range of users.	Construct new pathways	Stage 2	\$15,000	HCC	Construction of the pathway, positive feedback from park users
New children's play space connected to the building.	Community has a desire to provide play opportunities for children of all ages, including younger kids.	Improve play opportunity for small children Provide a safe (fenced) play space connected to the building Utilise the building's north facing aspect and activate this part of the park	Construct new fenced play space connected to the north facing aspect of the building, for children at the childcare centre.	Stage 2	\$100,000	HCC	Children's play area constructed, positive feedback from park users.
Upgraded children's play space	Community has a desire to upgrade existing children's play space and move the space away from carpark	Improve play experience for children at the park. Improve amenity and safety of the play space Provide an inclusive play space	Construct new play space (possibly including adventure play) in a new location closer to the community centre and away from the carpark.	Stage 2	\$200,000	HCC	Children's play area constructed, positive feedback from park users.
Youth play space.	The Park lacks recreational opportunities for teenagers and young adults.	Provide recreational opportunities for a greater range of ages.	Create an active space that caters for teenagers and young adults adjacent to the carpark. Alternative low-cost, Stage 1 option below.	Stage 2	\$200,000	HCC	Construction of recreational facilities for teenagers and young adults, such as half-court basketball court for example.
Youth play elements.	The Park lacks recreational opportunities for teenagers and young adults.	Provide simple low-cost recreational opportunity for youth age group.	Install informal seating and ping-pong tables for youth recreation.	Stage 1	\$10,000	HCC	Table tennis tables installed. Feedback from youths using space.

Accessibility to proposed new youth play space.	As part of the new play spaces to open access to surrounding parklands, new footpaths are required.	Provide access to new youth play space and improve connectivity at community centre. Provides the basis for future community centre restructuring in Stage 2.	Construct new pathway between the loop path and the main building access pathway	Stage 1	\$5,000	HCC	Feedback from park users.
Reconnect the lawn west of the building to the parklands	Fence on the western side of the building cuts the building off from parkland.	Reconnected fragmented parts of the park to the parklands Remove clutter from the park	Remove existing fence, hedges, and other clutter on western side of the building.	Stage 2	\$1,000	HCC	Existing fence west of the building is removed and the lawn in this area is reconnected to the parklands.
Existing amenities building west of community centre.	Existing amenities block is no longer functioning as intended and no longer in use.	Provide more space in parkland. Improve visual access to bushland.	Demolish the amenities building.	Stage 1	\$5,000	HCC	Removal of existing amenities building.
Provide a buffer between proposed youth space and existing carpark.	New youth play space will be adjacent to carpark. A buffer between this area and the carpark improves safety.	Improve safety around youth play space.	Planted buffer area with native species between youth play space and existing carpark.	Stage 1	\$1,000	HCC	Construction of planted buffer area between you play space and existing carpark.

5.2 IMPROVE PARKING AND THE ARRIVAL EXPERIENCE

Need/issue	Background	Performance target	Action	Stage	Indicative cost	Responsibility	Means of assessing achievement
Parking	Parking has been identified as an issue and the survey identified most people drive to the park.	Provide more parking spaces.	Extend existing carpark and relocate shed.	Stage 1	\$100,000	HCC	Extension of carpark provides more spaces for cars to park. Feedback from park users.
Parking	Once existing carpark overflows there is an informal	Improve parking efficiency and	Formalise the overflow parking with a line-marked asphalt	Stage 1	\$200,000	HCC	Construction of new parking area. Feedback from park users.

Need/issue	Background	Performance target	Action	Stage	Indicative cost	Responsibility	Means of assessing achievement
	parking area at the cricket nets.	provide more parking spaces.	carpark. Minimise impact to existing trees.				
Arrival experience	Existing entry 'portal' is relatively old and damaged.	Improve arrival experience.	Upgrade entry portal.	Stage 1	\$2,000	HCC	Construct new or upgrade of existing entry portal.
Arrival experience	Entry signage is old and could be more informative.	Improve arrival experience.	Provide a new entrance sign at the gate to clearly mark the entrance and welcome visitors to the park. This could include information on the Park's history.	Stage 1	\$5,000	HCC	Construct new entry signage.
Parking	Provide extra storage for community centre vehicles as centre grows.	Provides more parking for coaches or other community centre vehicles.	Extend the existing garage to be a three bay garage.	Stage 2		HCC	Garage is extended to a three bay garage capacity.
Arrival	A desire to provide security at night. Residents have complained about cars accessing the site and conducting antisocial behaviour.	Enable carpark to be lockable to improve safety of the park at night	Install a lockable gate at park entry.	Stage 2	\$10,000	HCC	A functioning lockable gate is installed and utilised.

5.3 IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY, CONNECTIVITY AND RECREATION

Need/issue	Background	Performance target	Action	Stage	Indicative cost	Responsibility	Means of assessing achievement
Safer pathways Additional accessible loop pathway	Existing pedestrian loop require pedestrians to cross the driveway and car park	Improve connectivity & accessibility	Provide a new section of Pathway between community centre and existing loop, that creates a new internal loop that does not require pedestrians to cross any roads.	Stage 1 / 2	40,000	HCC	Internal loop path is constructed. Feedback from park users.

Pathway into the Park	No accessible pathways into the park from McMahons Park Road	Improve pedestrian connectivity	Provide a pathway from the park's entrance to the existing path network.	Stage 2	\$15,000	HCC	Pathway from the park's entrance to the existing pathway is constructed. Feedback from park users.
New path linkages	With a new path loop new path linkages will improve park connectivity	Improve pedestrian connectivity	Provide path linkages between proposed new loop. Provide path linkages between existing paths i.e. through community centre and play spaces	Stage 2	\$20,000	HCC	Path linkages are constructed. Feedback from park users.
Outdoor seating	The existing exercise station is used as informal seating. After demolition of the exercise equipment, new seating would be desirable in this location	Improve outdoor experience.	Demolish existing exercise station, replace with park seating.	Stage 1	\$15,000	HCC	Outdoor seats are constructed in place of existing outdoor gym equipment. Feedback from park users.
Outdoor exercise	There was also a desire for additional exercise stations.	Improve outdoor exercise experience.	Upgrade existing outdoor exercise station and provide several additional exercise stations spread around the pedestrian loop path	Stage 1	\$50,000	HCC	There will be an increase in use of outdoor gym equipment at McMahan Park. Feedback from park users.
Diverse play opportunities	The was a desire to provide diverse play opportunities, including nature play	Provide diverse play opportunities	Provide logs, steppers and other nature play elements	Stage 2	\$20,000	HCC	Nature play constructed. Feedback from users of the park.

5.4 PROMOTE AND ENHANCE ECOLOGY

Need/issue	Background	Performance target	Action	Stage	Indicative cost	Responsibility	Means of assessing achievement
Hard suburban edge	Fence-line in the northern boundary of the park backs	Soften the park edge and enhance ecological	Plant out northern park boundary with locally native	Stage 1	\$5,000	HCC	New garden beds with native plants are

	on to residential properties.	value/character of the site.	plants to soften edge and enhance ecological value. Planting will need to ensure no connectivity of vegetation to Community Centre and low flammability species should be selected.				constructed at northern boundary.
Barbed wire park edge	Barbed wire fence-line in southern boundary. Park backs on to rural properties.	Soften park edge and enhance ecological value/character of the site.	Plant out northern park boundary with locally native plants to soften edge and enhance ecological value.	Stage 1	\$5,000	HCC	New plantings are constructed and obstruct views to barbed-wire fencing.
Impacts to flora and fauna	New informal bush tracks are being created in the bushcare area between the park and Little Wheeny Creek.	Reduce potential impacts to native flora and fauna.	Formalise existing trails, provide signage, and wayfinding.	Stage 2	\$5,000	HCC	Existing trails are formalised, and new trails are no longer constructed. Flora and fauna assessment.
Erosion	Informal bush tracks eroding.	Prevent erosion of tracks.	Stabilise tracks and conduct erosion control works.	Stage 2	\$5,000	HCC	Erosion control measures are implemented.
Trees / shade	The existing car park lacks shade and trees	Provide natural shade and soften the space	Plant new native shade trees around the car park and in exposed areas	Stage 1	\$2,000	HCC	New trees provide shade

5.5 KURRAJONG COMMUNITY CENTRE UPGRADES

Need/issue	Background	Performance target	Action	Stage	Indicative cost	Responsibility	Means of assessing achievement
Inefficient use of the building's interior	Insufficient storage in the Kurrajong Community Centre.	Improve efficiency of the Kurrajong Community Centre.	Upgrade the building's interiors to maximise storage space and efficiency.	Stage 2	\$100,000	HCC	Efficiency of the building is improved by providing more space and adequate storage.
OOSH growing quickly	OOSH is growing quickly, Kurrajong Community Centre may need to be expanded to meet the demand.	Expand building to facilitate growing OOSH. Building does not further encroach into the park.	Expand the building into the area between northern and southern wings of the Kurrajong Community.	Stage 2	\$200,000	HCC	Building is expanded to identified location, positive feedback from OOSH users.

Quality upgrades required	Professional advice required for future upgrades to the building	Ensure quality is achieved with any future upgrades to the building	Develop architectural plans for any building upgrades	Stage 1	\$30,000	HCC	Development plans consistent with PoM objectives.
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5.6 UNDERTAKE FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS

Need/issue	Background	Performance target	Action	Stage	Indicative cost	Responsibility	Means of assessing achievement
Insufficient heritage information	No Aboriginal heritage and colonial heritage studies have been undertaken on the site	Comprehensive understanding of the site's heritage and archaeological values	Undertake Aboriginal cultural heritage study for park	As required	\$30,000	HCC	Heritage managed consistent with study
Insufficient survey information	No comprehensive detailed survey has been undertaken for the site	Comprehensive and detailed site survey of the park for future works as needs arise	Undertake a detailed site survey	As required	\$10,000	HCC	Site survey complete
Insufficient arboricultural information available	No arborist assessment has been undertaken on site	Retain existing trees and have more information on tree management, and retention values as needs arise	Undertake an arborist assessment	As required	\$10,000	HCC	Arborist assessment complete. Existing trees retained.
Bushfires	The Community Centre is located in an area with high bushfire risk	Bushfire management planning for the park and future developments as needs arise	Undertake a bushfire management plan	As required	\$10,000	HCC	Bushfire management plan complete

6. REFERENCES

- Clouston Associates and OneEighty Sports and Leisure Solutions (2013), *Hawkesbury Regional Open Space Strategy*.
- Civille (2021), *McMahon Park Master Plan Draft*.
- Greater Sydney Commission (2018), *Greater Sydney Regional Plan 2018 – A Metropolis of Three Cities*.
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- Hawkesbury City Council (2002), *Hawkesbury Development Control Plan*.
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- Hawkesbury City Council (2017), *Hawkesbury Community Strategic Plan 2017-2036*.
- Hawkesbury City Council (2017), *Hawkesbury Local Strategic Planning Statement 2040*.
- Hawkesbury City Council (2017), *Hawkesbury Access and Inclusion Policy*.
- Landsas (2022), *Native Title Advice – McMahon Park – Plan of Management*
- NSW Rural Fire Service (2019), *Planning for Bush Fire Protection*.

7. GLOSSARY AND ABBREVIATIONS

ASS	Acid sulfate soils
Biodiversity	Variety and number of different species living in an ecosystem or a defined geographic area
BC Act	Biodiversity Conservation Act
Catchment	The area of land draining to a waterway. May also refer to areas served by a wastewater or stormwater system
CEEC	Critically Endangered Ecological Community
CMP	Conservation Management Plan
Conservation	Use, management and protection of resources so they are not degraded, depleted or wasted and are available on a sustainable basis for present and future generations
dB(A)	A-weighted decibels
Ecologically sustainable development (ESD)	Development that improves the quality of life, both now and in the future, in a way that maintains the ecological processes on which life depends
Ecosystem	A community of organisms, interacting with one another, and the environment in which they live. Processes occurring within an ecosystem are the flow of energy by food chains and food webs and nutrient cycling. An ecosystem may be a pond that is dry for half the year, a lake or even a planet
EEC	Endangered Ecological Community
REF	Review of Environmental Factors
Emission	Anything given off as a result of a process, for example, gases, heat and odours.
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EMS	Environmental Management System, the framework for the management of environmental issues
Environmental impact	Any change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partially resulting from an organisation's activities, products and services
Environmental indicators	Physical, chemical or biological features that can be monitored and used to measure changes in the environment
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
EP&A Act	Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
EP&A Regulation	Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000
EPBC Act	Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
EPL	Environment Protection Licence, issued by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
Greenhouse gas emissions	Gases such as carbon dioxide and other forms of emissions to the atmosphere, resulting from the burning of fossil fuels (such as coal, natural gas or oil) and land clearing, which contribute to global warming
Groundwater	Water found below the surface, usually in porous rock or soil or in underground aquifers (natural underground formations that contains sufficient saturated, permeable material to yield significant quantities of water)

LEP	Local Environment Plan – a statutory environmental planning instrument under the EP&A Act
LGA	Local Government Area
Nutrients	Substances required for growth by plants and other organisms. Major plant nutrients are phosphorus and nitrogen
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
OEH	Office of the Environment and Heritage
POEO Act	Protection of the Environment Operations Act
Pollutants	Contaminants in water, soil or air that, when in sufficient quantity, may cause environmental degradation
Pollution	Any harmful or undesirable change in the physical, chemical or biological quality of air, water or soil as a result of the release of chemicals, radioactivity, heat and large amounts of organic matter
POM	Plan of Management
Receiving water	A stream, river, pond, lake or ocean that receives stormwater or wastewater discharges
Runoff	Water that flows across the land surface and does not soak into the ground
Sediment	Soil or other particles that settle to the bottom of lakes, rivers, oceans and other waters
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy – a statutory environmental planning instrument under the EP&A Act
Sewage	The wastewater from homes, offices, shops, factories and other premises discharged to the sewer. Approximately 99 per cent of sewage is water
Sewerage system	The network of pipes, pumping stations and treatment plants used to collect, transport, treat and discharge sewage (wastewater)
SIS	Species Impact Statement
Stakeholder	A stakeholder is any individual or group, which can affect or is affected by an organisation's activities
Stormwater system	The system of pipes, canals and other channels used to carry stormwater to bodies of water, such as rivers or oceans. The system does not usually involve any treatment
Stormwater	Rainwater that runs off the land, frequently carrying various forms of pollution such as litter and detritus, animal droppings and dissolved chemicals
Suspended solids	Particles in water that can be removed by sedimentation or filtration
Sustainable development	Activities that can be maintained over the long term while achieving a balance between the environment, the economy and society
Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD)	Incorporates a range of initiatives designed to reduce the impact of urban stormwater
Waterways	All streams, creeks, rivers, estuaries, inlets and harbours
Wetland	A wetland is a low-lying area of land often inundated or permanently covered by shallow water. They play a major role in the water cycle by storing and filtering water and replenishing underground water supplies. Wetlands can also be effective in cleaning polluted water by reducing aquatic plant nutrients, suspended solids and oxygen demands

APPENDIX 1: MASTERPLAN REPORT