

Play Space Plan



2019 — 2029

Updated September 2025



Document details

Responsible Directorate	Infrastructure and Assets
Responsible Branch	Project Services
Responsible Officer	Manager Project Services
Affected Services	Parks and Gardens, Asset Management and Mapping
Corporate Document Hierarchy	Level 1 – Approved by Council on 25/11/2025
ECM Document Set ID	5043526

Risk evaluation	Low
Strategic link	
Next review due	29/09/2028
Reviewed/modified	29/09/2025
Revision details	[Insert details]

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	6
What is a Play Space?.....	7
Background	8
Key Principles	8
Implementation Plan	8
Part 1.....	9
1. Introduction.....	9
1.1. Scope	9
1.2. Context.....	11
1.3. Development Control Policy - 2.3: Planning for Public Open Space	11
1.4. Resources	12
1.5. Completed Play Space Projects	12
2. Play in general.....	19
2.1. All ages and abilities	20
2.2. Children.....	20
2.3. Adults	20
2.4. All abilities and inclusive play	20
2.5. Trends in play.....	21
2.6. Risk	21
2.7. Bigger play spaces.....	21
2.8. Nature play.....	21
2.9. Health and wellbeing.....	22
3. Snapshot of the City	22
.....	24
3.1. Demographics.....	24
3.2. Public Open Space (POS).....	25
4. Play in Bayswater.....	28
4.1. Audit of play spaces.....	28
4.2. Play spaces.....	28
4.3. Play equipment replacement	29
4.4. Maintenance regime	29
4.5. Additional play infrastructure	29
4.6. Other types of play spaces	29
5. Community opinion.....	30
5.1. Local play spaces	30
5.2. Natural environment is key	30
5.3. Play types.....	30
5.4. Safety	31

5.5.	Functionality	31
Part 2:	31
6.	Strategic approach	31
6.1.	Guiding principles	31
6.1.1.	Quality local provision.....	31
6.1.2.	Effective and sustainable asset management.....	32
6.1.3.	Annual priorities	32
6.2.	Classification hierarchy of Parks and Play Spaces	33
6.2.1.	Pocket park.....	33
6.2.2.	Local park	33
6.2.3.	Neighbourhood park	34
6.2.4.	District park.....	35
6.2.5.	Regional park.....	35
6.3.	Park infrastructure and design.....	36
6.3.1.	Soft fall	36
6.3.2.	Drink fountains.....	37
6.3.3.	Fencing	37
6.3.4.	Seating.....	37
6.3.5.	Picnic shelters.....	37
6.3.6.	Barbecues.....	37
6.3.7.	Pathways and connections.....	37
6.3.8.	Public toilets.....	37
6.3.9.	Car parking	38
6.3.10.	Shade.....	38
6.3.11.	Additional infrastructure	38
6.3.12.	Access and inclusion	38
6.3.13.	Play Equipment Materials.....	38
7.	Recommendations	39
7.1.	Annual Play Space Redevelopments	39
7.2.	Future Implementation Plan.....	43
7.3.	Annual shade program.....	51
7.3.1.	Natural shade	51
7.3.2.	Shade sail	51
7.3.3.	Costs.....	52
7.3.4.	Decision criteria	53
7.3.5.	Implementation	53
8.	Conclusion.....	54
9.	Evaluation and review	55

Acknowledgement of Country

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

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

Inclusivity Statement

The City of Bayswater is committed to providing an inclusive, safe and respectful organisation and work environment, free from discrimination, harassment and racism. We recognise the impacts of inequity and discrimination and strive to remove the barriers these create.

We celebrate diversity as a strength within our community. Supporting diversity and operating in an inclusive and respectful manner is central to our values and principles of providing safe, accessible and welcoming services and facilities for the community.

Accessibility

This publication can be found on the City's website. It is available in alternative formats on request, including hard copy in large print or standard print, and electronic format.

我们可以根据要求以其他格式提供此信息。

Possiamo fornire queste informazione in altri formati su richiesta.

Chúng tôi có thể cung cấp thông tin này ở các định dạng khác theo yêu cầu.

The free Translating and Interpreting Service can assist non-English speakers to communicate with the City of Bayswater. To find out more, visit www.tisnational.gov.au or call 131 450.

TIS National 为英语不流利人士提供免费口译服务, 帮助他们跟 贝斯沃特市沟通。如需了解更多有关信息, 请浏览他们的网站 www.tisnational.gov.au 或致电 131 450。

Il servizio gratuito di traduzione e interpretazione (TIS National) può aiutare chi non parla inglese a comunicare con la città di Bayswater. Per saperne di più, visita il loro sito web www.tisnational.gov.au o chiama il 131 450.

Dịch vụ Biên dịch và Thông dịch (TIS National) miễn phí có thể hỗ trợ những người không nói tiếng Anh giao tiếp với Thành phố Bayswater. Để tìm hiểu thêm, hãy truy cập trang web của họ www.tisnational.gov.au hoặc gọi 131 450.

Executive Summary

A Play Space Strategy was first identified as an action in the 2017/18 Corporate Business Plan to assess existing play spaces and guide the future planning and provision of play areas. First adopted in July 2019, the document has undergone two formal reviews — first in September 2022 and most recently in September 2025 where the document was renamed as the **Play Space Plan**, to accurately reflect its position in the City's hierarchy of corporate documents. These reviews assessed the plan's outcomes, ensured that its guiding principles remain relevant and effective, and informed updates to the Forward Capital Works Program, outlined in Part 2 of the Plan.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 22 November 2022, Council approved the revised Play Space Strategy with the following resolution:

'That Council:

Considers the Flora Reserve Play Space replacement in the 2023/24 budget, and

Requests the Chief Executive Officer to ensure that the playgrounds in the city cater for different age groups (including older children), and that consideration is also given to the materials that are being used in playgrounds and their likely exposure to sun, to increase usability and prevent burn risks for children. As well as the possible use of recycled materials.'

The document reflects this resolution.

In addition, at the December 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting, it was resolved in part:

'That Council supports the installation of the wheelchair inclusive swing component of the Bardon Park Redevelopment Project as a stage on its own.'

The installation of the City's first wheelchair swing has been successfully completed within the play space at Upper Bardon Park. This upgrade also includes the addition of accessible pathways and ramps, carpark wheel stops, bollards, a bike rack, a new A-frame swing, and an updated basket swing with rubber soft fall to assist accessibility.



Bardon Park, Maylands featuring the City's first wheelchair swing (pictured above)

What is a Play Space?

A play space is an inclusive environment where individuals of all ages and abilities can participate in physical activities, imaginative play, and social interaction.

- **Location:** Play spaces can be standalone or located within community hubs, sporting facilities, natural areas, public parks, or urban environments.
- **Design:** These spaces support various activities, amenities, and features that cater to diverse needs.

Background

This definition comes from research and engagement exploring the role of play spaces in the City and in people's lives. Prior to this document being endorsed in 2019, the City's approach was narrowly focused on playgrounds, mainly for equipment replacement, installation, and management. Although play can happen anywhere, this plan focuses on existing play spaces in public parks and reserves.

Between February and November 2018, extensive engagement took place through online surveys, community drop-in sessions, and consultations with a broad range of people, including students. This feedback highlighted several key needs:

- A wider variety of play types beyond traditional plastic play equipment designed for children aged 3 to 10.
- More infrastructure to support play spaces, such as shade structures, seating, BBQs, and picnic tables.
- Improved accessibility through enhanced path networks and connections.
- Better integration of play spaces with the natural environment.
- Larger play spaces that cater to multiple age groups.

Key Principles

The community feedback, asset management principles, and distribution of play opportunities across the City led to the development of three guiding principles:

1. **Quality local provision**
2. **Effective and sustainable asset management**
3. **Annual assessment**

These principles are discussed in this plan and inform the planning process for future play space renewals.

Implementation Plan

This Play Space Plan (**PSP**) adopts a broad, holistic approach, considering environmental factors and existing open spaces in local areas. It includes a rolling **10-year implementation plan** that is reviewed each year. Proposed future renewals will be shaped by ongoing community engagement, with annual reviews and budget allocation proposals presented to Council.

Renewals will be adapted based on local needs and conditions. The Play Space Plan will undergo a major review in 2029, with periodic reviews every three years.

Part 1

1. Introduction

The Play Space Plan (PSP) is the first of its kind for the City, identified as an action in the 2017/18 Corporate Business Plan. The purpose is to provide a framework to guide the planning, design and management of play spaces across the City.

The aims of the PSP are to:

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

The process for developing the PSP included:

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

1.1. Scope

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

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

Therefore, the term *play space* considers:

- Parks and reserves
- Nature reserves and foreshore.

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

- Outdoor exercise equipment

- Outdoor free and accessible multi-use ball courts - public tennis, multi half courts and pickleball courts
 - Crimea Park
 - Houghton Park
 - Gibbney Reserve
 - .Hampton Square Reserve
 - Bert Wright Park
 - Pat O'Hara Reserve
 - Grand Promenade Reserve
 - Toowong Reserve
 - Strutt Reserve
 - Holden Reserve
 - Wattle Park
 - Nederpelt Reserve
 - Farnham Reserve
 - Ivory Park
 - Boxhill Reserve
 - Shearn Memorial Park
 - Alf Brooks Park
 - Clarkson Reserve
- Supporting infrastructure - seating, picnic shelters, fencing, shade (natural and sails), BBQs, drinking fountains
- Wheeled facilities - skate parks and BMX tracks
 - City of Bayswater Skate Park
 - Crimea Reserve Skate Park
 - Lighting Park BMX Track
 - Bayswater BMX and Mountain Bike Facility
- Footpaths, cycle ways, connections, linkages and path networks in and around parks and reserves, in relation to play spaces.

For the purposes of this PSP, the following are not included:

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

169 parks in the City are open to the public. Play spaces that are not open to the public are excluded from this PSP. These are:

- Childcare, family and outside school hours care (OSHC) centres
- Community facilities such as libraries and community centres
- Leased facilities within enclosed grounds (not accessible to the broader community).

1.2. Context

The Strategic Community Plan (SCP) 2025-2035 is the City's principal planning and strategic document, linking the community's aspirations and vision with the Council's strategies. The PSP is aligned with the following goals in the current SCP, under the Built theme:

2.2.1 Improve the amenity of our public spaces and streetscapes

2.2.2 Ensure accessible connections between the built realm and natural green spaces to relax and recreate.

2.2.3 Plan, build and maintain current and future assets

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



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

1.3. Development Control Policy - 2.3: Planning for Public Open Space

The PSP adds to the Western Australian Planning Commission's (WAPC) public open space policy. The WAPC requires developers to set aside a minimum of 10% of gross subdivisible land for public open space (POS) in new residential subdivisions to be vested in the Crown.

POS within the City of Bayswater includes a range of areas like parks, playgrounds, sporting fields and bushland reserves used for recreation. The City's POS provision per resident, measuring 5.9 hectares per 1,000 people, far exceeds the recommended amount identified by the Western Australian Planning Commission, which is 3.36 hectares per 1,000 people.

1.4. Resources

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

- Government of Western Australia, Department of Sport and Recreation. (2012). *Classification Framework for Public Open Space: Building Stronger Communities through Sport and Recreation*. Leederville, WA: Department of Sport and Recreation.
- Government of Western Australia, Department of Sport and Recreation. (2014). *Public Parkland Planning and Design Guide WA*. Perth, WA: Department of Sport and Recreation.
- University of Western Australia, Centre for the Built Environment and Health. (2013). *Play Space Guide: Creating valuable places to play and learn outdoors in Western Australian schools*. Perth, WA: Author.
- Access Institute. (2017). *Access Guidelines for Parks and Outdoor Spaces Handbook v2*. Melbourne, Vic: Access Institute
- Wood, L. (2009). *Parks and open space: for the health and wellbeing of children and young people*. Action for Young Australians Report, commissioned by the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) in partnership with the Centre for the Built Environment and Health, University of Western Australia.
- Heart Foundation. (n.d.). *Healthy Active by Design*. Retrieved from <https://www.healthyactivebydesign.com.au/>
- The SPARC Report is an assessment of the City of Monash's parks and play spaces compiled by the consultancy firm Playce. The report, titled *SPARC Report: City of Monash*, was published in 2015 by Playce in Melbourne, Vic. More information is available from Playce.
- *Development Control Policy 2.3—Public Open Space in Residential Areas*, published by the Western Australian Planning Commission.

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

1.5. Completed Play Space Projects

The 2019 endorsement of the then named Play Space Strategy signalled a departure from the City's previous approach to play space redevelopments. This also sparked new approaches to community engagement and design of play spaces. The City has undertaken a more holistic and comprehensive approach to park and play space redevelopments, combining these (when resources are available) to achieve maximum efficiency and improved outcomes for the community.

2019/2020

Reserve	Classification	Inclusions	Cost	Funding
Bayswater Waves	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • fence 	\$100,000	Municipal
Alf Brooks Park	Pocket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole of park 	\$43,000 *play equipment	Local Economic and Social Stimulus Package
Nellie Tant Reserve	Pocket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • connecting pathway • seating • memorial plaque • turf 	\$30,000	Municipal
Waltham Reserve	District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • playground border • connecting pathway • seating • shade sail 	\$75,000	POS
Noranda South West Corner	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • playground border • connecting pathway 	\$41,000	Municipal
Belstead Reserve	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole of Park 	\$55,000 *Play equipment	Local Economic and Social Stimulus Package
Claughton Reserve	Regional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • playground border • fairy trail 	\$106,000	Municipal / POS
Mills Avenue Park	Neighbourhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • Connecting pathways • seating 	\$52,000	Municipal / POS
Pat O'Hara Reserve	District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • Multi-court • Connecting pathways • Seating • Shade sail 	\$92,000	Municipal / POS

2020/2021

Reserve	Classification	Inclusions	Cost	Funding
Stanbury Reserve	Pocket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole of Park 	\$45,000	Municipal
Gus Weimar Park	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • Connecting pathway • seating 	\$67,000	Municipal

Mahogany Reserve	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole of Park 	\$58,000 *Play equipment	Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
Wattle Park	Neighbourhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole of Park 	\$60,000 *Play equipment	Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program

2021/2022

Reserve	Classification	Inclusions	Cost	Funding
Gibbney Reserve	District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole of park 	\$360,000	Local Economic and Social Stimulus Package / Municipal
Maylands Waterland	Regional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole of park 	\$4.4m	Local Economic and Social Stimulus Package / Municipal / POS
Kelvin / Sherwood	Pocket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play equipment 	\$30,000	Municipal

2022/2023

No play spaces were renewed during this financial year.

2023/2024

Reserve	Classification	Inclusions	Cost	Funding
Hillcrest Reserve Lower	District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play equipment playground border tree planting 	\$60,000	Municipal
Birkett Reserve	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole of park 	\$85,000	Municipal
Feredy Reserve	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole of park 	\$114,000	Municipal

2024/2025

Reserve	Classification	Inclusions	Cost	Funding
Kennedy Reserve	Pocket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play equipment 	\$10,000	Municipal
Battersea Reserve	Neighbourhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play equipment Playground border Connecting pathway Seating 	\$96,000	Municipal
Rhodes Reserve	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play equipment Playground border 	\$53,000	Municipal

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shade sail • Connecting pathway • Seating 		
RA Cook Reserve	District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • Playground border • Shade sail • Connecting pathway • Seating 	\$90,000	Municipal
Toowong Reserve	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • Playground border • Connecting pathway 	\$51,000	Municipal
Ivory Park	Neighbourhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • Shade sail • Fence 	\$53,000	Municipal
Bardon Park Upper	District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • Carpark • Bicycle racks • connecting pathway 	\$90,000	POS
Flora Reserve	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • shade sail • connecting pathway • bench seat 	\$37,000	Municipal
Gobba Lake	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play equipment • Playground border • Connecting pathway 	\$49,000	Municipal

Recently Completed Play Spaces

- **R.A. Cook Reserve** now offers a play area designed for a variety of age groups under new shade sails. Connecting pathways and seating provide comfort and convenience for parents and carers, while new plantings help soften the landscape and offer ground cover to cool the surrounding play space.



R.A. Cook Reserve, Bedford (pictured above)

- **Toowong Reserve**, a local park, was renewed with a new sandpit border that extends closer to existing trees to provide natural shade, along with a connecting footpath to improve accessibility for all visitors.



Toowong Reserve, Bayswater (pictured above)

- **Flora Reserve** is a well-loved local park. The renewal aligned the park with the City's classification hierarchy and included the addition of a pathway, seating, new play equipment and a shade sail.



Flora Reserve, Bayswater (pictured above)

- **Ivory Park** is a dog park known for its close-knit community of dog owners. The renewal included new play equipment and a shade sail, while enclosed perimeter fencing was added in response to community feedback to enhance safety during busy times.



Ivory Park, Noranda (pictured above)

- **Bardon Park** upgrades include the installation of the City's first wheelchair-accessible swing, and an additional swing set with rubber Softfall to enhance safety. A new concrete footpath was added to improve accessibility.





Bardon Park, Maylands (pictured above)

2. Play in general

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

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

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

2.1. All ages and abilities

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

To ensure all age groups are considered, the City will undertake consultation within the immediate area that is inclusive of all age categories. The consultation will encompass age groups ranging from toddlers through to adults.

2.2. Children

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

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

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

2.3. Adults

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

2.4. All abilities and inclusive play

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

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

The Play Space Plan (PSP) guides the development of play spaces for use by the whole community and aims to provide a variety of spaces for a range of abilities. In 2015, Council resolved that all district and regional playground renewals would include at least one piece of play equipment that is accessible and inclusive for all children. This resolution is reflected in the Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy (outlined in Part 2 of this strategy). In the City's Access and Inclusion Plan 2025–2030, one outcome is to improve accessibility in natural recreational environments.

Additionally, as part of the strategic plan, Council resolved to include accessible pathways in all play space renewals and to implement a long-term annual program to provide shading for all play equipment, through natural means, shade sails, or a combination of both. Shade provision and connecting pathways are now considered integral components of the play space renewal budget for each site.

2.5. Trends in play

Play trends and the design of play spaces are constantly evolving in response to a range of influences, including shifts in lifestyle, advances in early childhood research, availability of resources, and changing adult perceptions of play environments. At the local, national, and international levels, these factors contribute to ongoing changes in how play is understood and supported.

Additionally, the growing emphasis on green and outdoor spaces has led to a rise in public art installations, outdoor events, pop-up activities, cultural heritage initiatives, and placemaking efforts. Understanding and responding to these trends while remaining mindful of the local context is essential for effective planning of play spaces. This plan is intended to be a dynamic, living document: adaptable and responsive to future renewals.

2.6. Risk

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

2.7. Bigger play spaces

The growing trend toward large, diverse destination play spaces is increasingly evident at the local level, reflected both in rising community expectations and in the number of such spaces being developed by local governments in collaboration with developers and other partners. Funding for these play spaces often comes through partnerships with Lotterywest, Cash in Lieu Public Open Space, philanthropic organisations, and various community groups.

These spaces highlight a shift in how play is perceived—no longer as a brief, child-only activity, but as a broader experience designed for families. As a result, there is a strong focus on offering a wide range of play opportunities for different age groups, enhanced park infrastructure and facilities to support parents and carers, and inclusive, safe environments that are accessible to all.

2.8. Nature play

The growing trend toward nature play is increasingly evident across a variety of settings, including urban areas, schools, and new residential developments. This movement is supported by strong evidence highlighting the benefits for children, including enhanced learning, connection to the natural environment, risk-taking, and social development.

Nature play often incorporates abundant natural elements such as loose parts, climbing rocks, balance logs, and steppers made from recycled materials, all of which encourage imaginative and exploratory play for children of various ages. Activities like splashing in puddles, building cubbies, and observing wildlife offer valuable hands-on experiences that foster curiosity and engagement with the natural world.

Community feedback across the City has consistently emphasised the importance of nature play, with parents, carers, and children expressing a clear desire for these experiences to be included in local play spaces.

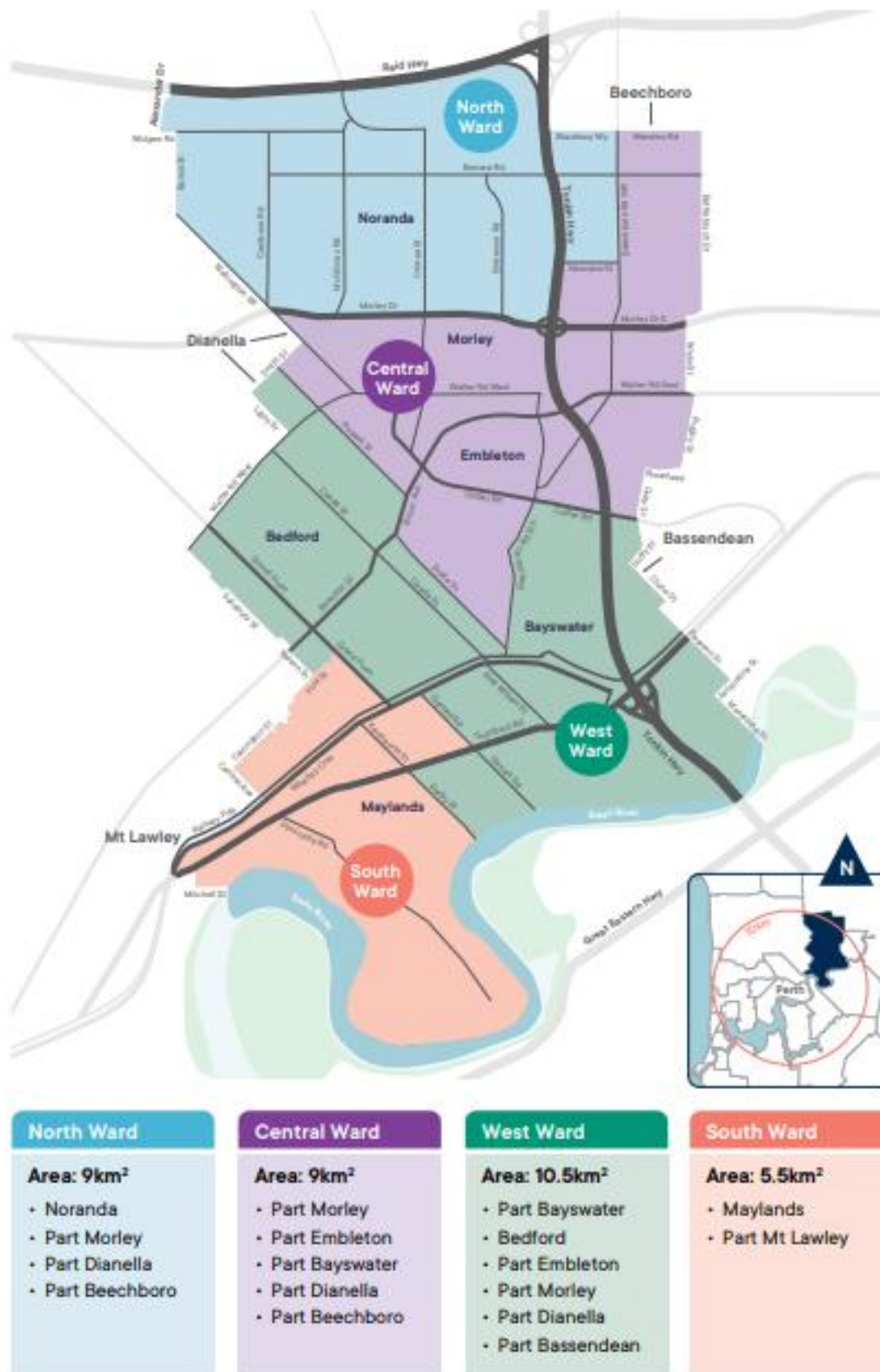
2.9. Health and wellbeing

The City acknowledges the vital role that play spaces play for people of all ages, from toddlers to seniors. These spaces are essential community hubs, offering opportunities to socialize, relax, exercise, and engage in play. Global research into public open space planning and design highlights that larger, green spaces in Australia encourage physical activity. Studies also show that when people have safe, easy access to well-maintained parks, they are more likely to use them regularly.

3. Snapshot of the City

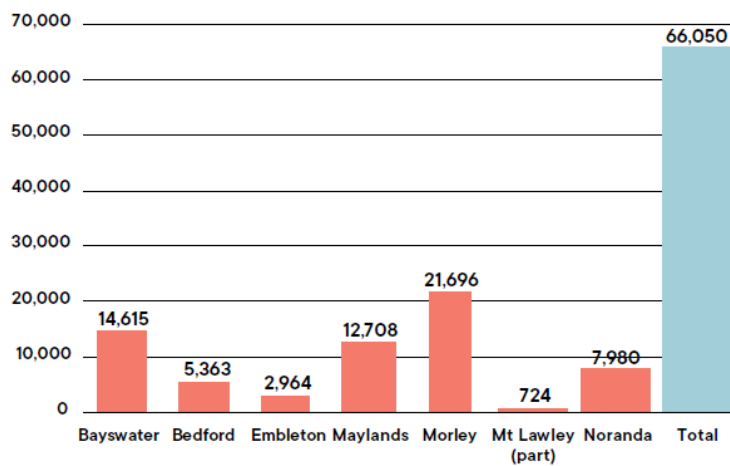
Known as the 'Garden City' the City of Bayswater is located 8 kilometres northeast of Perth, covering an area of 34.62 square kilometres. The traditional custodians of the land are the Wadjuk Noongar people.

According to the *Estimated Resident Population* published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) as of 30 June 2024, 75,981 residents live in the City of Bayswater, enjoying an abundance of green space and natural areas, including approximately 10 kms of Swan River foreshore.



Map 1: Suburb map of City of Bayswater

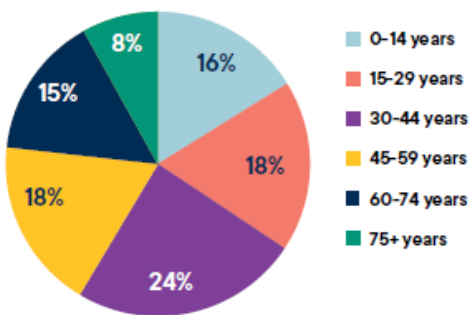
Population (2016 Census)



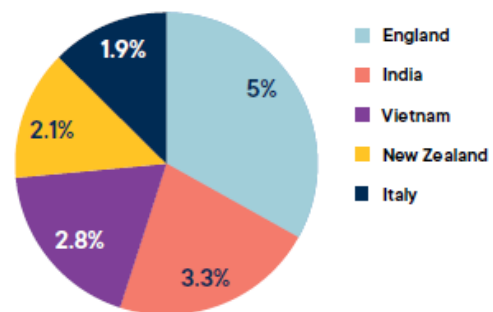
3.1. Demographics

Over the next 10 years, we expect to see our community grow significantly. If we look even further ahead, our community will likely reach 100,000 people by 2050. This will bring with it more diversity, more opportunities and more development. The role and function of Public Open Space in the City will become more important, particularly as density increases and more people live in medium and high-rise apartments. As at the 2021 census, 37.7% of the population was born outside of Australia, and 1.6% of people identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. Population density continues to be highest in Morley, followed by Bayswater, Maylands and Noranda.

Population by age



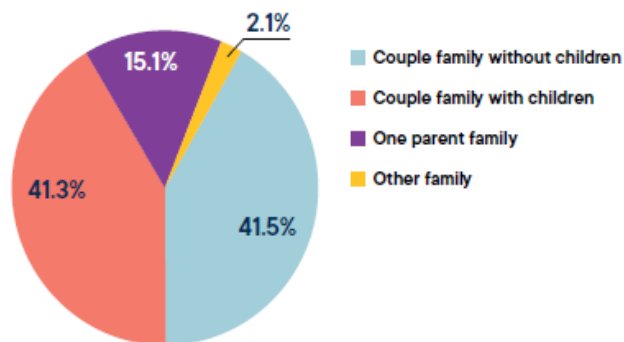
Country of birth



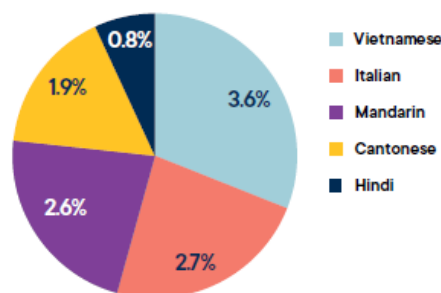
The largest age group is 30–44-year-olds. The median age is 38 years.

62.3% of the Bayswater population were born in Australia. The most common countries of birth outside of Australia are shown above.

Family composition



Languages other than English spoken at home



Couple families with children, and couple families without children make up the two largest cohorts in Bayswater.

68.2% of the population only speak English at home. Other languages spoken at home are shown above.

3.2. Public Open Space (POS)

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

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

- Frank Drago Reserve, Bayswater
- Pat O’Hara Reserve, Morley.

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

- Newington Reserve, Morley
- Bardon Park, Maylands.

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

- Lightning Swamp Bushland, Noranda
- Riverside Gardens, Bayswater.

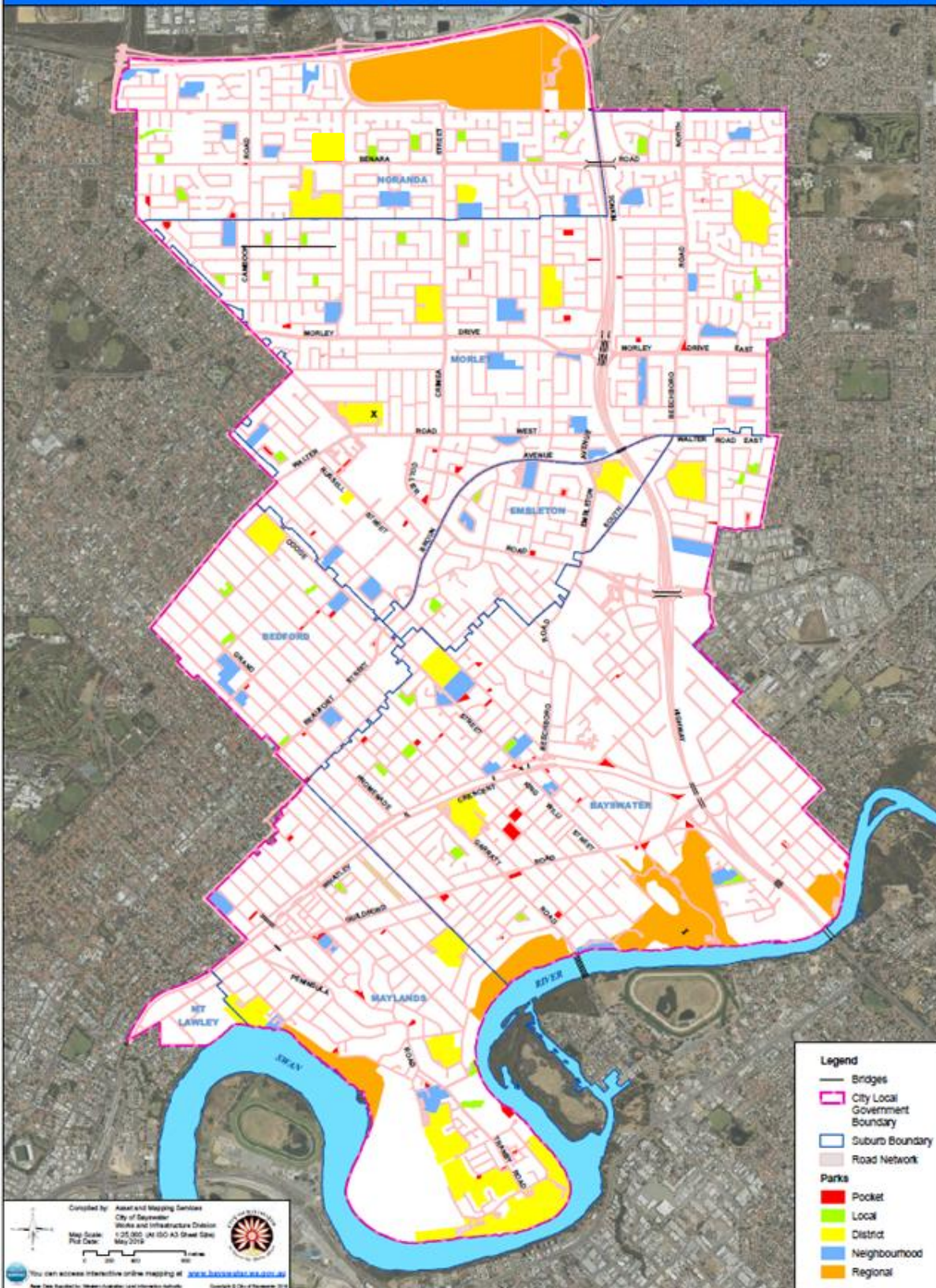
Map 2 also shows the spread of Public Open Space across the City by catchment hierarchy (typical size and potential distance a user might travel). Catchment hierarchies form the basis of the City’s *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy*.

Some inequalities in the distribution of parks and reserves are noted in various pockets of the City. Bayswater, Noranda and Maylands have over the 10% Public Open Space recommended by the

State Government's Liveable Neighbourhoods policy, whereas Morley, Bedford and Embleton have less.

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

City of Bayswater - Play Spaces



Map 2:

Public Open Space classifications

4. Play in Bayswater

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

4.1. Audit of play spaces

The City is well-served by a wide range of parks and play spaces in various sizes and configurations. To gain a clearer understanding of the overall state of these play spaces, a detailed site audit was conducted across 169 parks and reserves, using specific assessment criteria. The aim of the audit was to evaluate the performance of play spaces in each suburb—highlighting both strong examples and identifying areas where design, layout, and functionality could be improved.

The audit identified several key focus areas for the City to address in its PSP:

- **Enhance diversity of play opportunities** – Many play spaces rely heavily on modular, predominantly plastic equipment, resulting in a limited range of play experiences. The existing approach to equipment renewal and park upgrades has led to uniformity across many sites, reducing variety and uniqueness in play offerings.
- **Improve accessibility around play areas** – Better access is needed through the inclusion of perimeter pathways, improved connections, and accessible park furniture such as seating and picnic tables, to ensure all users can comfortably engage with the space.
- **Adopt a holistic planning approach** – Integrating Park upgrades, landscaping improvements, and enhanced pathway networks into play space redevelopment can improve overall park design, celebrate natural features, and create more cohesive, functional environments.
- **Increase the quality of provision** – There is significant potential to improve play space quality in some suburbs, particularly Embleton and Morley. This includes upgrading existing facilities and ensuring they align with their intended classification and role, while leveraging each site's unique characteristics to create distinct, engaging spaces.

Further detail can be found in the full audit report included in **Appendix 1**.

4.2. Play spaces

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

Therefore, this plan focuses on 109 play spaces.

Play provision

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

LGA	Number of children aged 1-14 years	Number of play spaces (public)	Ratio
City of Bayswater population – 69,238	11,028	107	1 play space p/ 647 residents, or 1 play space p/ 103 children

City of Vincent population – 37,865	5,246	48	1 play space p/ 788 residents, or 1 play space p/109 children
City of Canning – 95,860	17,402	142	1 play space p/ 675 residents, or 1 play space p/ 122 children
City of Belmont population - 42,245	6,723	48	1 play space p/ 880 residents, or 1 play space p/ 140 children

*Figures based on 2019 data

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

4.3. Play equipment replacement

The City bases its annual replacement of play equipment on asset management principles. Play equipment replacement is informed by an independent audit commissioned by the City, at a minimum of once every three years. This ensures play equipment is aligned with Australian Standards for safety. It also provides a recommended schedule for replacement, based on the age and condition of the equipment, on a 15–20-year cycle.

The total replacement cost of play equipment assets in the City, including shade sails and surface is approximately \$7.9 million. The total annual depreciation cost (as at 2024/25) is approximately \$486,000. The City will aim to maintain this level of service through considered replacement of play assets, renovation of current play spaces, and improving the spread of play opportunities for the community.

4.4. Maintenance regime

The City conducts regular inspections of play spaces, according to a specified maintenance regime in accordance with the Australian Standards for Play Equipment. Sand cleansing, and repair and replacement of equipment is carried out on a regular basis to ensure ongoing community safety. Signs are used when maintenance and repairs are underway so the community is aware of how use may be impacted. All equipment is sight inspected at least once monthly.

4.5. Additional play infrastructure

The City maintains 14 outdoor half and full-size courts (tennis, basketball etc.), and replaces them, when necessary, in accordance with asset management principles and community demand. In addition, outdoor exercise equipment is installed at 19 reserves. An example of physical play infrastructure is Russell St Park in Morley, which includes a Ninja Warrior obstacle course suitable for pre-teens and young adults. There are two skate parks in the City - Crimea Reserve in Morley and Wotton Reserve in Bayswater. The City also has two bike facilities - Bayswater BMX and Mountain Bike Facility, Bayswater and a small BMX circuit in bushland adjacent to the Lightning Park Recreation Centre.

The City aims to diversify the current physical play infrastructure through renovation, renewal and addition of elements for all ages and abilities, such as parkour apparatus, multi-courts and hit-up walls. These changes will generally occur at larger neighbourhood, district and regional reserves, in line with the City's Community Recreation Plan 2022-2032.

4.6. Other types of play spaces

Parks and play spaces have a variety of uses including place activation, community events and festivals. The aim of this plan is to guide planning to make sure community spaces are as flexible as possible to accommodate the changing needs of local communities. Over recent years, parks and reserves have become important spaces used by the local community to help people connect, support local economies and host events. One example of a successful place-making project in Noranda Town Centre is the Noranda Nook, an inclusive nature play space including swing, water and sand play

under natural shade, with native planting, reading corner and table tennis table. This was a community-led project, supported by the Noranda Town Centre Activation Plan.



Noranda Nook (pictured above)

5. Community opinion

The development of the PSP was shaped by community feedback. Throughout the development of the strategy, over 400 people participated online, in interviews, at workshops and drop-in sessions. The full report is included in Appendix 2, and a summary of findings is provided below.

5.1. Local play spaces

Play spaces are highly valued by residents across the City of Bayswater for a range of purposes, including children's play, dog walking, social connection, and exercise. As the City plans for the renewal of existing play areas, it is crucial to consider the diverse needs of the whole community.

Neighbourhood play spaces that are easily accessible and located close to homes are especially important to residents and see frequent use. Recognising and responding to the unique characteristics of each suburb and community is essential in ensuring that play spaces reflect local identity and needs. Providing a variety of play spaces differing in size, design, and function within all areas of the City is a focus of the plan.

5.2. Natural environment is key

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

5.3. Play types

A comprehensive program of engagement activities with school age children provided valuable insight into preferred activities and types of play spaces. Play activities showed a clear trend towards adventure and challenge, namely climbing, building cubbies and exploring. Older age groups showed a preference for physical play using multi-courts, skate parks and bike tracks, and hanging out with friends. Swings and flying foxes continue to be popular with 8–10-year-olds. Survey results from parents and carers identified requests for safe and enclosed play opportunities for toddlers, and a mix of play activities to cater for more than one age group in bigger play spaces.

5.4. Safety

Results also highlighted issues concerning child safety, specifically enclosed play spaces for children in parks designated as off leash dog exercise areas. The City has stipulated that dogs must be on a lead within 20 metres of a playground, for the safety of children, and in accordance with the *Dog Act 1976*, dog owners must always have control of their dogs.

5.5. Functionality

People of all ages and abilities enjoy parks and play spaces across the City. Suitable and accessible parks infrastructure including seating, picnic tables, shade and public toilets are important for people's enjoyment of the site. Improved access to facilities and play spaces through path networks and connections is important to ensure the whole community can enjoy them.

Part 2:

6. Strategic approach

This section of the plan brings together the information that has been analysed and refined throughout the development process. This section comprises:

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

6.1. Guiding principles

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

6.1.1. Quality local provision

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

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



Riverside Gardens Urban Forrest (pictured above)

6.1.2. Effective and sustainable asset management

The City owns and manages many play assets. Regular review of play assets is required to achieve well-designed and high-functioning play spaces for the community, and to maintain appropriate service levels. When play equipment reaches the end of its useful life and is no longer suitable, or there is an oversupply of similar equipment in a local area, decisions will be made with the community for the design and use of the play space. These decisions will be guided by the *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy* (outlined below in 6.2).

6.1.3. Annual priorities

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

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

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

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

6.2. Classification hierarchy of Parks and Play Spaces

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

The hierarchy is informed by the State Government's *Classification Framework for Public Open Space (2012)*, which was developed by the previous Department of Sport and Recreation. The purpose of the hierarchy is to guide redevelopments and make sure park and play spaces reflect the intended level of use (the full hierarchy can be viewed in Appendix 2). The hierarchy can be used to achieve a level of consistency between the opportunities available to residents in all suburbs. A summary of each hierarchical level, associated examples of play and park infrastructure, and estimated range of costs can be found below:

6.2.1. Pocket park

'Extension of my backyard'

- The City has a total of 66 pocket parks, and 18 of these have play equipment
- The purpose of a pocket park is a short visit for rest, relaxation or play
- The size of a pocket park is generally less than 0.4 hectares; 300m walk from home
- Renewal estimated cost of the pocket play space is projected at \$50,000+.



Nellie Tant Reserve, Bayswater

Pocket play components:

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

Pocket park infrastructure:

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

6.2.2. Local park

'A place to meet the street'

- The City has a total of 38 local parks, and 34 of these have play equipment
- The purpose of a local park is a short visit for play, recreation, rest or relaxation
- The size of a local park is generally between 0.4 to 1 hectare; 400m walk from home
- Renewal estimated cost of the local play space is projected at \$70,000+.



Rhodes Reserve, Morley

Play components:

- Cater for a limited age range
- 1 to 2 types of play e.g. nature play elements, modular equipment, climbing frame, swings.

Park infrastructure:

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

6.2.3. Neighbourhood park

'Heart of the community'

- The City has a total of 47 neighbourhood parks, and 32 of these have play equipment
- The intended purpose of a neighbourhood park is a medium length visit for community and social activity, such as picnics, dog walking, sport, recreation, and play
- The size of a neighbourhood park is generally between 1 and 5 hectares; 800m walk from home
- Renewal estimated cost of the neighbourhood play space is projected at \$100,000+.



Wattle Park, Morley

Play components:

- Cater for a broader age range of children and /or adults
- Mix of play opportunities and types, e.g. outdoor multi-courts, skate elements, adult exercise equipment.

Park infrastructure:

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

6.2.4. District park

'Mix of sport and play'

- The City has a total of 17 district parks, comprising 21 individual play areas. Some larger parks are divided into upper and lower sections due to their size — for example:
 - Hillcrest Reserve (Lower)
 - Hillcrest Reserve (Upper)
 - Bardon Park (Lower)
 - Bardon Park (Upper)
- The Noranda Sporting Complex also includes three separate play areas within the site:
 - Noranda Soccer Complex
 - Noranda Sporting Complex Athletics
 - Noranda Nook

One district park, Frank Drago Reserve, does not contain any play spaces.

- The purpose of a district park is, in most cases, organised sport with some recreation and/or nature function
- Visit length will vary depending on sporting function, and activities include dog walking, exercise and children's play
- The size of a district park ranges from 5 to 15 hectares; 1-2 km walk from home
- Renewal estimated cost for a district play space is projected at \$120,000+.



Gibbney Reserve, Maylands

Play components:

- Dependent on the sporting function and space available.

Park infrastructure:

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

6.2.5. Regional park

'Super-sized reserve'

- The City has a total of 9 regional parks, and 4 of these have play equipment.
- The purpose of a regional play space is dependent on specific use. Regional parks and reserves can accommodate important sport or nature functions, such as Lighting Park and Riverside Gardens.

- Riverside Gardens includes East Urban Forest that consists of seating node and balance logs
- Accommodate important biodiversity principles and environmental management where possible
- The size of a regional park varies, servicing the whole of the City and neighbouring local government areas
- Renewal estimated cost for a regional play space is projected at \$150,000+.



Cloughton Reserve, Bayswater

Play components:

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

Park infrastructure:

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

*Estimated renewal costs will vary from site to site

6.3. Park infrastructure and design

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

6.3.1. Soft fall

According to the Australian standard, all play equipment over 600mm in height requires a minimum of 300mm of some type of soft fall. Most play spaces have sand. Higher level play spaces (neighbourhood and above) may contain rubber soft fall or a mix of surfaces, depending on the surrounding environment, type of play and feedback from the community. Mulch is commonly used when play equipment is located within or near trees, as the natural tree debris blends well with the mulch. However, this option typically involves higher maintenance costs. Tree debris contaminates sand and may damage rubber. (hard surface abrasion or sap contaminants).

6.3.2. Drink fountains

Drink fountains with dog bowls may compliment parks and reserves that are designated as off leash dog exercise areas. Installing drink fountains will be considered at district, neighbourhood and regional level play spaces, considering water source availability and lifecycle costs.

6.3.3. Fencing

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

6.3.4. Seating

It is important to provide adequate seating in parks and play spaces to cater for parents and carers watching their children, older people, and others wanting to enjoy watching the world go by. Design will vary, depending on the usage of the park, level of play space and community input. At a minimum, two seats should be available in all parks and play spaces, in adequate shade.

6.3.5. Picnic shelters

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

6.3.6. Barbecues

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

6.3.7. Pathways and connections

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

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

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

6.3.8. Public toilets

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

6.3.9. Car parking

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

6.3.10. Shade

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

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

6.3.11. Additional infrastructure

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

6.3.12. Access and inclusion

The City of Bayswater is committed to furthering the principles and objectives of the Disability Services Act and ensuring that the community is accessible for, and inclusive of, people with disability, their families and carers. The City's Access and Inclusion Plan 2025-2030 is designed to meet the requirements of the *Disability Services Act 1993*. In addition to the Act, legislation such as the Building Code of Australia and Access to Premises Standard under the Disability Discrimination Act, also relate to planning for access and inclusion at facilities and in public open spaces.

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

The redevelopment of Maylands Waterland provides a recent example where above considerations have been incorporated.

6.3.13. Play Equipment Materials

The City will take into consideration material types made from recycled plastics, timber (for nature plays) that offer improved heat-resistant qualities. Colour selection will also be considered, as it can assist in reducing solar heat absorption.

Where feasible, these materials and colours will be prioritised to enhance durability and environmental performance.

Where metal materials are used, the metal component should be positioned in shaded areas.

7. Recommendations

This section provides recommendations for the City's play spaces over a fifteen-year period, in three areas:

- Annual Play Space Renewals, focussing on the parks and reserves with play equipment due for replacement in the next three years
- Future Implementation Plan (2025-2040) for all remaining play spaces
- Annual Shade Program

7.1. Annual Play Space Redevelopments

This table contains the next three years of redevelopments, based on the estimated replacement schedules.

These proposed play space renewals, along with necessary resources, are reviewed and prioritised as part of the City's Council-led Annual Business Planning and Budgeting process. Prioritisation is determined according to current community needs and available revenue. Funding for these renewals may be sourced from Municipal budgets, grant funding, or Public Open Space (POS) funding.

Please note that all projects are subject to funding availability and may be adjusted as part of the annual review process.

This list is a guide and does not prevent the City from responding to community requests for park and play infrastructure projects outside of the annual program.

2025/26 financial year

The following sites are included in the City's 2025/26 adopted budget. Comments and recommended actions are based on preliminary analysis and preliminary engagement to date:

2025/26*

Park name	Suburb	Classification	Dog off leash exercise area?	Shade requirement – natural or shade sail	Comments	Recommended action	Estimated \$ cost
Swan Lake Reserve	Bayswater	Local	N	Shade sail	Consider shade sail accessibility and inclusivity.	Maintain. Liaise with Sustainability, Environment and Waste team.	\$65,000
Jakobsons Reserve	Morley	Local	N	Natural	Develop relationship and access to adjacent reserve. Established trees, adjacent to drainage site (revitalised).	Maintain. Connect to adjacent water ways	\$70,000
Riverside Gardens	Bayswater	Regional	Y	Shade sails	Consider shade sails, accessibility and inclusivity. Enclosed fencing is to remain due to proximity to water.	Enhance. Shade to include shade sail and planting of more trees. More grassed area within enclosed fence.	\$650,000

The following sites are proposed for renewal in 2026/27 and 2027/28, and an estimated cost has been applied to each play space, based on a site assessment and anticipated level of service as guided by the *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy*.

2026/27*

Park name	Suburb	Classification	Dog off leash exercise area?	Shade requirement – natural or shade sail	Comments	Recommended action	Estimated \$ cost
Maylands Foreshore Reserve (Aerodrome Reserve)	Maylands	District	N	Natural	Reserve used as part of Maylands Waterland. New swing set required.	Replace Swings	\$30,000
Browns Lake Reserve	Bedford	Neighbourhood	N	Natural	Wayfinding to assist links to Rudloc Reserve and Nora Hughes.	Maintain	\$90,000
Plowmans Park	Maylands	Local	N	Shade Sail	Bench seat, pathway and new pit border.	Maintain	\$85,000
Kanimbla Reserve	Morley	Local	N	Natural	Potential for play equipment to cater for a variety of ages, including young children	Maintain	\$70,000
Tom Cameron	Morley	Neighbourhood	N	Natural / Shade Sail	Picnic table needs replacement together with possible shade sail addition	Enhance	\$100,000
Lightning Park	Noranda	Regional (sporting)	N	Shade sail (existing)	Play space will consider main sporting use and available space	Maintain	\$85,000

2027/28*

Park name	Suburb	Classification	Dog off leash exercise area?	Shade requirement – natural or shade sail	Comments	Recommended action	Estimated \$ range
Moses Saunders Park	Morley	Local	N	Shade sail	Potential to connect play spaces in a 'tour' through wayfinding and connecting pathways – Arbor, Moses Saunders, Gus Weimar, Alan Hill, Newington	Maintain	\$90,000
Charlwood Reserve	Morley	Local	N	Shade Sail	Connecting pathway	Maintain	\$70,000
Arbor Park	Morley	District	N	Natural	Potential for play equipment to cater for young children, depending on community input	Maintain	\$90,000
York Reserve	Bedford	Pocket	N	Shade sail	Replacement date pushed out due to equipment lasting longer than anticipated. Now replacing due to asset age.	Enhance	\$70,000
Joan Rycroft Reserve	Bayswater	Neighbourhood	Y	Natural	Reserve used for overflow soccer training.	Enhance. Requires pathways and seating.	\$90,000
Kirkpatrick Reserve	Noranda	Neighbourhood	N	Natural	Two play pits. BBQ and lighting, good local meeting place.	Enhance	\$100,000

					Fenced playground, shade, seating.		
Robert Thompson Reserve	Noranda	District	Y	Shade sail	Classification level changed in 2025. Play equipment and amenities will need to cater for wide variety of age and inclusivity.	Enhance.	\$300,000

*Programs are subject to review, budget approval and available resources.

7.2. Future Implementation Plan

The following plan is proposed to guide play space renewals up until 2040. The plan was informed by the original play equipment audit, considering community feedback during the initial engagement phases. **Estimated play equipment replacement date** has been determined by the independent audit, conducted in 2025. The year of replacement is subject to change, depending on condition and available resources. The next equipment condition audit is anticipated to occur in 2026.

Recommended actions are noted as follows:

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

These recommended actions are preliminary, based on information to date. Further planning and analysis will occur prior to the estimated year of replacement, along with community engagement. The table does not reflect estimated replacement costs.

Park suburb and name	Classification	Dog off leash exercise area?	Estimated play equipment replacement	Additional comments / community feedback	Recommended action
Bayswater					
Alf Brooks Park	Pocket	N	2036/37	Increase tree canopy, improve connectivity and replace play elements at existing level. Retain existing shade sail.	Maintain
Bert Wright Park	Neighbourhood	N	2032/33	Popular space for events; Natural shade from establishing trees. Outdoor multi-court on site.	Maintain
Cloughton Reserve	Regional	Y	2037/38	Retain natural feel of the area. Complimented by fairy trail and exercise equipment. Shaded by surrounding trees.	Maintain
Donald Way Reserve	Local	N	2029/30	Add pathway and connection. Site has a shade sail.	Maintain
Flora Reserve	Local	N	2039/40	Play equipment renewed in 2024/25 with shade sail	Maintain
Gobba Lake	Local	N	2039/40	Play equipment renewed in 2024/25 with shade sail	Maintain
Gordon Reserve	Pocket	N	2034/35	Play equipment renewed in 2017/18. Natural shade.	Maintain
Halliday Park	Neighbourhood (Sporting)	Y	2034/35	Play equipment renewed in 2017/18. Natural shade.	Maintain
Hamilton Reserve	Pocket	N	2030/31	Potential for landscape and beautification; Natural shade but some leaf litter.	Maintain
Headley Place Reserve	Pocket	N	2028/29	Natural shade	Maintain
Hillcrest Reserve Lower	District	Y	2038/39	Play equipment renewed in 2023/24. Additional trees planted for natural shade.	Maintain
Hillcrest Reserve Upper	District (Sporting)	Y	2033/34	Play equipment renewed in 2017/18. Existing shade sail.	Maintain
Hinds Reserve	Neighbourhood	N	2031/32	Natural shade. Site included in broader concept plan for Riverside and Hinds Reserve foreshore redevelopment.	Enhance
Houghton Park	District (Sporting)	N	2028/29	Site has potential for play variety e.g., nature play elements, adult exercise equipment. Site has shade sail.	Enhance
Joan Rycroft Reserve	Neighbourhood	Y	2027/28	Reserve used for overflow soccer training. Requires pathways and seating.	Enhance
Mills Avenue Reserve	Neighbourhood	Y	2036/37	Play equipment renewed in 2019/20. Natural tree shade.	Maintain
Nellie Tant Reserve (formerly The Strand Reserve)	Pocket	N	2036/37	Re-named to honour Nellie Tant, first female councillor in Bayswater. Play equipment renewed in 2019/20. Future renewals to align with Pocket level. Natural tree shade.	Maintain
Norco Way Reserve	Pocket	N	2031/32	Opportunity to beautify and landscape. Natural shade.	Maintain
Paterson Reserve	Local	N	2035/36	Explore potential to develop the space with adjacent school students and residents. Site has shade sail.	Maintain

Riverside Gardens	Regional	N	2025/26		Enhance
Riverside Gardens East Urban Forrest	Regional	N	2040/41	Seating node, stepping logs	Maintain
Toowong Reserve	Local	N	2039/40	Play equipment renewed in 2024/25. Natural shade.	Maintain
Swan Lake	Local	N	2025/26	Consider shade sail accessibility and inclusivity.	Maintain

<i>Park suburb and name</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Dog off leash exercise area?</i>	<i>Play equip. replacement due</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Recommended action</i>
<i>Bedford</i>					
Alan Lehmann Reserve	Local	Y	2033/34	Play equipment renewed in 2017/18. Play space well-utilised by kindergarten. Natural tree shade.	Maintain
Beaufort Park	Neighbourhood	N	2032/33	Consider additional shade either natural or shade sail	Maintain
Browns Lake	Neighbourhood	Y	2026/27	Wayfinding to assist links to Rudloc Reserve and Nora Hughes.	Maintain
Birkett Reserve	Local	Y	2038/39	Play equipment renewed in 2023/24. Shade sail on site.	Maintain
Grand Promenade Reserve	Neighbourhood (Sporting)	N	2029/30	Busy active reserve. Has shade sail on site.	Maintain
Gummery Reserve	Local	N	2031/32	Consider more natural shade	Maintain
RA Cook Reserve	District	Y	2039/40	Busy active reserve. Has shade sail on site.	Maintain
York Reserve	Pocket	N	2027/28	Renewal date pushed out due to equipment lasting longer than anticipated. Now replacing due to asset age.	Enhance

<i>Park suburb and name</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Dog off leash exercise area?</i>	<i>Play equip. replacement due</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Recommended action</i>
<i>Embleton</i>					
Bayswater Waves	Local	N	2036/37	Customer only usage within enclosed facility. Has shade sail.	Maintain
Broun Park	Neighbourhood	Y	2031/32	Potential for engaging and nature-based play to complement natural assets. Good location to attract families and children (adjacent to Bayswater Waves).	Enhance

				Opportunity to upgrade play space to include pathway connection from carpark and local streets; picnic, seating, BBQ; play nodes for differing age groups. Need to enhance natural shade.	
Feredy Reserve	Local	Y	2038/39	Play equipment renewed in 2022/23. Shade sail.	Maintain
McKenzie Reserve	Neighbourhood	N	2034/35	Play equipment renewed in 2017/18. Natural tree shade.	Maintain
Ockley Square Reserve	Pocket	N	2029/30	Opportunity for landscape and beautification.	Maintain
Wotton Reserve	District (Sporting)	N	2033/34	Busy sporting reserve. Site required shade sail. Consider relocation to compliment on site skate and bmx park.	Enhance

<i>Park suburb and name</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Dog off leash exercise area?</i>	<i>Play equip. replacement due</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Recommended action</i>
<i>Maylands</i>					
Alma Venville Park (The Rise)	Neighbourhood	N	2028/29	Opportunity to consider relocation within existing grounds.	Maintain
Bardon Park (upper)	District	Y	2030/31	Consider location and type of play equipment in conjunction with concept plan developed for Bardon Park.	Enhance
Bardon Park (Lower)	District	N	2030/31	Consider location and type of play equipment in conjunction with concept plan developed for Bardon Park.	Maintain
Bath Street Reserve	Local	N	2029/30	Opportunity to plan site in conjunction with river connectivity and foreshore.	Enhance
Charles Reserve	Local	N	2028/29	Consider future play opportunity in context of broader park site. Natural shade.	Maintain
Clarkson Reserve	District	N	2032/33	Consider in broader planning of Maylands Peninsula. Natural shade.	Enhance
De Lacy Reserve	District (Sporting)	Y	2034/35	Play equipment renewed in 2018/19. Natural shade.	Maintain
Gibbney Reserve	District (Sporting)	Y	2038/39	New play equipment renewed in 2021/22. Natural shade establishing with additional trees planted.	Maintain
Kelvin / Sherwood	Pocket	N	2038/39	Play equipment renewed in 2022/23. Natural Shade	Maintain
Lake Bungana	District	N	2032/33	Compliments Brickworks Park and Maylands Lakes. Natural shade.	Maintain
St Margaret Reserve	Pocket	N	2032/33	Mixed use site – meeting, games and play. Natural shade.	Maintain

Maylands Foreshore Reserve (Aerodrome Reserve)	District	N	2026/27	Reserve used as part of Maylands Waterland. New swing set required.	Replace Swings
Maylands Waterland	Regional	N	2038/39	Asset life applies to play equipment within the park only; water play elements based on a different asset plan.	Maintain
Puntie Crescent Reserve	Pocket	N	2035/36	Play equipment renewed in 2017/18. Shade sail on site.	Maintain
Plowmans Park	Local	N	2026/27	Bench seat, pathway and new pit border	Maintain
Shearn Memorial Park	Neighbourhood (Sporting)	Y	2031/32	Reserve mainly used as a dog park, busy community site. Future consideration required for additional shade – likely shade sail.	Maintain

<i>Park suburb and name</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Dog off leash exercise area?</i>	<i>Play equip. replacement due</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Recommended action</i>
<i>Morley</i>					
Abinger Reserve	Neighbourhood	Y	2030/31	Mixture of play equipment and community exercise on site. Consider combining with Noranda Avenue Reserve. All-natural shade.	Enhance
Allan Hill Park	Neighbourhood	N	2028/29	Equipment within trees for natural shade	Maintain
Arbor Park	District	Y	2027/28	Potential for play equipment to cater for young children, depending on community input	Maintain
Battersea Reserve	Neighbourhood	N	2039/40	Natural shade within establishing trees	Maintain
Boxhill Reserve	Local	N	2028/29	Play space within natural shade of trees	Maintain
Charwood Reserve	Local	N	2027/28	Connecting pathway	Maintain
Chesney Reserve	Pocket	N	2035/36	Play equipment renewed in 2018/19. Natural shade.	Maintain
Crimea Park	District (Sporting)	Y	2031/32	Busy community park with sports courts, food trucks and skate park. Shade to be installed over play equipment. Consider mix of play elements depending on community input	Maintain
Crowhurst Reserve	Local	N	2029/30	Established trees providing shade; scope to develop from existing pathway	Maintain
Emberson Reserve	District (Sporting)	N	2028/29	Potential for improved play, parks infrastructure and shade sail to complement busy sports usage	Enhance

Farnham Reserve	Local	N	2032/33	Play equipment renewed in 2016/17. Natural shade.	Maintain
Fedders Reserve	Pocket	N	2032/33	Play equipment renewed in 2016/17. Natural shade.	Maintain
FJ Beals Park	Neighbourhood (Sporting)	Y	2030/31	Used for overflow sporting activities. Natural tree shade.	Maintain
Gus Weimar Park	Local	N	2037/38	Play equipment renewed in 2019/20. Natural shade.	Maintain
Hampton Square Reserve	Neighbourhood	Y	2031/32	Busy community site with BBQ and tennis courts. Natural shade establishing.	Maintain
Jakobsons Reserve	Local	N	2025/26	Develop relationship and access to adjacent reserve. Established trees, adjacent to drainage site (revitalised).	Maintain
Kanimbla Reserve	Local	N	2025/26	Potential for play equipment to cater for a variety of ages, including young children.	Maintain
Kennedy Reserve	Pocket	N	2039/40	Swing set and landscaping. Natural tree shade establishing.	Maintain
Mahogany Reserve	Local	N	2037/38	Play equipment renewed in 2020/21. Natural tree shade.	Maintain
Moses Saunders Park	Local	N	2027/28	Potential to connect play spaces in a 'tour' through wayfinding and connecting pathways – Arbor, Moses Saunders, Gus Weimar, Alan Hill, Newington.	Maintain
Newington Reserve	Neighbourhood	N	2034/35	Path for riding bikes; bench seat on opposite side of playground. Fences around playground for safety	Enhance
Pat O'Hara Reserve	District (Sporting)	Y	2037/38	Play space renewed in 2019/20. Combination of shade sail and trees.	Maintain
Peters Place Reserve	Neighbourhood	N	2029/30	Opportunity for natural elements / landscape to link to Living Stream and revegetation establishing on site.	Enhance
Rhodes Reserve	Local	N	2039/40	Play equipment renewed in 2024/25 with shade sail.	Maintain
Rudloc Reserve	Neighbourhood	Y	2030/31	Play for broader age range of children requested – toddler and older children due to proximity to John Forrest Secondary College. Enhance with seating, barbecue, play nodes and connectivity. Established trees on site but may require shade sail.	Enhance
Russell Street Reserve	District	N	2035/36	Ninja play equipment, with some play elements for younger children. Broader use of space to be considered in play space redevelopments. Natural trees provide good shade.	Maintain
Shadwell Reserve	Neighbourhood	Y	2036/37	Play equipment renewed in 2018/19. Increase natural shade, consider bike paths and connectivity.	Enhance
Silverwood Reserve	Pocket	N	2033/34	Opportunity to consider beautification and landscaping	Maintain
Stanbury Reserve	Pocket	N	2037/38	Play equipment renewed in 2020/21. Natural shade.	Maintain
Trewin Park	Local	N	2032/33	Site requires additional shade.	Maintain

Tom Cameron	Neighbourhood	N	2026/27	Picnic table needs replacement together with possible shade sail addition	Maintain
Waltham Reserve	Neighbourhood	N	2036/37	Play space redeveloped in 2019/20 with shade sail.	Maintain
Wattle Reserve	Neighbourhood	N	2037/38	Play space redeveloped with shade sail small ball court and seating	Maintain
Weld Square Reserve	Neighbourhood	Y	2033/34	Play equipment could be more challenging to cater for teens. Natural tree shade currently.	Enhance

<i>Park suburb and name</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Dog off leash exercise area?</i>	<i>Play equip. replacement due</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Recommended action</i>
<i>Noranda</i>					
Belstead Reserve	Local	Y	2036/37	Play space renewed as part of City's COVID stimulus funding package, as a whole-of-park redevelopment in 2019/20. Natural shade.	Maintain
Bohemia Park	Neighbourhood	Y	2035/36	Play equipment renewed in 2018/19	Maintain
Bramwell Reserve	Local	N	2035/36	Play equipment renewed in 2018/19	Maintain
Corderoy Reserve	Local	Y	2030/31	Large, under-utilised area: more planting and shade required	Maintain
Deschamp Reserve	Neighbourhood	Y	2028/29	Liaise with neighbouring primary school students	Maintain
Fitzpatrick Reserve	Local	Y	2034/35	Play equipment renewed in 2017/18	Maintain
Holden Reserve	Local	Y	2033/34	Large, under-utilised area; could make use of existing trees for shaded seating and pathways	Maintain
Ivory Park	Neighbourhood	Y	2039/40	Play equipment renewed in 2024/25 with shade sail and fencing.	Maintain
Kirkpatrick Reserve	Neighbourhood	N	2027/28	Two play pits. BBQ and lighting, good local meeting place. Fenced playground, shade, seating.	Enhance
Lightning Park	Regional	N	2026/27		Maintain
Logan Reserve	Pocket	N	2033/34	Potential for community garden allotments	Maintain
Luderman Park	Neighbourhood	Y	2035/36	Play equipment renewed in 2018/19. Natural shade.	Maintain
McPherson Reserve	Neighbourhood	N	2034/35	Play equipment renewed in 2017/18. Natural shade.	Maintain
Millerick Reserve	Neighbourhood	Y	2029/30	Play space could be enhanced to reflect neighbourhood level.	Enhance
Nederpelt Reserve	Local	N	2029/30	Current outdoor court. Consider court provision in the area before replacing	Maintain

Noranda Avenue Reserve	Pocket	N	2034/35	Play equipment renewed in 2017/18. Consider removal and combining with Abinger Reserve.	Maintain
Noranda Nook	District (Sporting)	N	2037/38	Liaise with surrounding clubs and Noranda Vibes in relation to any play space redevelopments in future	Maintain
Noranda Sporting Complex (SE corner)	District (Sporting)	N	2031/32	Liaise with user clubs and stakeholders in the first instance to determine location and type of play.	Maintain
Noranda Sporting Complex (SW corner)	District (Sporting)	N	2037/38	Play space renewed in 2019/20. Natural shade.	Maintain
Robert Thompson Reserve	District	Y	2027/28		Enhance
Sherbrooke Reserve	Local	N	2030/31	Consider safety aspect of play near to Benara Rd	Maintain
Strutt Reserve	Neighbourhood	N	2033/34	Some issues with dogs off leash. Request for BBQ and exercise equipment stations. Current outdoor court.	Maintain

7.3. Annual shade program

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

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

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

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

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

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

As at the 2025 review:

- **26** play spaces currently have shade sails. Depending on play area's location, and the height and orientation of the sails in relation to nearby trees, the level of shade coverage varies. Approximately half of these play spaces also benefit from at least two hours of natural shade provided by surrounding trees, typically in the afternoon between 1pm and 6pm.
- Tree planting is recommended at sites with existing shade sails where additional shade is needed. Future planting priorities will be determined through site-specific assessments, community engagement outcomes, and other relevant considerations.
7 play spaces have been identified (as at the 2025 review) as future candidates for the installation of new shade sails during upcoming renewal works.

7.3.1. Natural shade

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

7.3.2. Shade sail

Sizes of shade sails vary, depending on the size of the play space, height of equipment and the required shade coverage. The amount of shade provided also depends on the angle and height of the sail. Depending on the location of the play space, there will be times of day when the equipment cannot be shaded to full capacity. Existing shade sails are positioned in such a way as to protect users during peak UV periods - generally 12pm to 1pm, when the sun is directly overhead.

7.3.3. Costs

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

Park Classification	Shade requirement	Approx. Install Cost	Ongoing Annual Maintenance Cost
Pocket	1 medium shade sail OR	\$18,000	\$270
	2 trees	\$840	<i>NIL – initial cost covers supply, planting, mulching, watering for the first 3 years</i>
Local	1 large shade sail OR	\$22,000	\$340
	2 – 3 trees	\$840 - \$1,260	<i>NIL – initial cost covers supply, planting, mulching, watering for the first 3 years</i>
Neighbourhood	2 small shade sails OR	\$25,000	\$470
	3 trees	\$1,260	<i>NIL – initial cost covers supply, planting, mulching, watering for the first 3 years</i>
District	3 medium shade sails OR	\$30,000	\$680
	2 – 3 trees	\$840 - \$1,260	<i>NIL – initial cost covers supply, planting, mulching, watering for the first 3 years</i>
Regional	5 medium shade sails OR	\$60,000	\$1200
	4+ trees	Min \$1,680+	<i>NIL – initial cost covers supply, planting, mulching, watering for the first 3 years</i>

7.3.4. Decision criteria

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

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

7.3.5. Implementation

It is recommended that, where shade sails have been identified for installation over existing play equipment, that this takes place in conjunction with the planned play space renewals. This will allow for maximum flexibility in shade design and coverage when planning the overall site and play equipment placement.

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

Each year a program of sites to be renewed will be submitted for Council consideration in the draft budget based on the following information:

- Site, location and classification level
- Shade type – sail or natural
- Anticipated schedule of implementation

2025/26

Park name	Suburb	Classification	Shade type
Jakobsons Reserve	Morley	Local	Natural
Riverside Gardens	Bayswater	Regional	Shade sails (existing)
Swan Lake Reserve	Bayswater	Local	Shade sail

2026/27

Park name	Suburb	Classification	Shade type
Browns Lake Reserve	Bedford	Neighbourhood	Natural
Lighting Park	Noranda	Regional	Shade sail (existing)
Maylands Foreshore Reserve (Aerodrome Reserve)	Maylands	Local	Natural
Kanimbla Reserve	Morley	Local	Natural
Plowmans Park	Maylands	Local	Shade Sail
Tom Cameron	Morley	Neighbourhood	Natural

2027/28

Park name	Suburb	Classification	Shade type
Joan Rycroft Reserve	Bayswater	Neighbourhood	Natural
Moses Saunders Park	Morley	Local	Shade sail
Arbor Park	Morley	District	Natural
Charlwood Reserve	Morley	Local	Natural
York Reserve	Bedford	Pocket	Shade Sail
Kirkpatrick Reserve	Noranda	Neighbourhood	Natural
Robert Thompson Reserve	Noranda	District	Shade sail

8. Conclusion

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

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

The *Parks and Play Space Classification Hierarchy* is a valuable tool to guide the planning of the function and hierarchy of parks and reserves, taking into consideration the role that play has in a park

- along with other purposes including exercise, recreational activities and family gatherings. Analysis of these factors, the surrounding environment, existing provision in the local area, and demographic profile, will assist the City to make strategic decisions for play that benefit the whole community.

9. Evaluation and review

This strategy is a living document, adaptable to change and subject to regular review. The first desktop review was completed in 2022, primarily to update informing documents for the strategy, provide information on the outcomes of the first three years, and update cost ranges for play space redevelopments.

It is important to measure the success of the PSP to ensure that the City adheres to the guiding principles and provides play spaces that are aligned with community expectations. Measures of success include:

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

Reporting will include:

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

