

# STEVENSON PARK

MASTERPLAN

*Draft C - 05.02.2019*



Prepared for



Consultant Team



Quality Information

Document	Stevenson Park Masterplan Report
Ref	60576999
Date	1-February-2019
Prepared by	Natalie de Sousa
Reviewed by	Nadia Greatbatch / Michael White

<b>Revision</b>	<b>Revision Date</b>	<b>Details</b>
DRAFT A	28-September-2018	Draft For Client Review
DRAFT B	2-October-2018	Draft for Client Review
FINAL C	1-February-2019	For Council Approval

**1.0** Executive Summary

**2.0** Introduction

**3.0** Site History

**4.0** Current Situation

**5.0** Visions & Principles

**6.0** Precinct Masterplan

**7.0** Playground Concept

**8.0** Materials & Furniture Palette

1.0

**EXECUTIVE  
SUMMARY**

***“War or no war, we have to be progressive and make provision for the increased population of the future ... I think the public will thank the council for a good job done well”***

***-Alderman Stevenson***

***Newcastle Morning Herald, 'Council to buy Mayfield Land for £12,000', 29 May 1941***

City of Newcastle engaged AECOM's Design + Planning team to renew the Recreational Precinct Masterplan and develop a new playground concept for Stevenson Park located in Mayfield West.

The purpose of the Masterplan is to provide a framework for the development within park over the next 10 years. The Masterplan will consider the existing site characteristics, infrastructure, current and future uses & community needs and desires for the future improvement of the park.

City of Newcastle's engagement process informed the design outcomes of both the Masterplan and Playground concept design.

This report will examine the existing site conditions with the results from the community engagement program to establish clear visions & principles for the development of Stevenson Park.



2.0

**INTRODUCTION**

***‘Stevenson Park is a highly valued open space for the residents immediately surrounding the park, as well as for the sporting groups that use the facilities year round’***



## 2.1 Stevenson Park Overview

Stevenson Park is 13 hectares of recreational parkland nestled in the suburb of Mayfield West. It is a highly valued open space for the residents immediately surrounding the park, as well as for the sporting groups that use the facilities year round. The parkland currently offers passive recreation opportunities such as general exercise, gathering, dog walking, kick about and relaxation, all amongst a generous coverage of tree canopy that provides overall amenity and habitat value. The sport facilities currently cater for softball, baseball and football (soccer). The local schools take advantage of the sports facilities for the above mentioned sports as well as cross country and athletics.

While the parkland is noted for offering passive recreation it is predominantly used and known for organised sports. It is the 'regional' home of softball; hosting the entire Hunter based club games as well as regularly hosting regional and state competitions. It is considered one of the better baseball facilities in Newcastle with multiple clubs playing their games regularly at Stevenson Park. The football grounds are shared between Mayfield Junior Football Club and the Hunter Christian Football League. The challenge for Stevenson Park is balancing the needs of multiple sports with the broader needs of the community for quality publicly accessible recreation facilities and open space.

## 2.2 Purpose of the Report

The purpose of the report is to present masterplan concept of the parkland, including a detailed concept plan for a proposed 'inclusive' playground. The masterplan will consider the following deciding factors to guide the preferred concept and pathway for future development of the parkland;

- Findings of the community engagement
- Relevant Council policies and strategic plans
- Concurrent sports and recreational needs studies being undertaken
- Current user requirements
- Aspirations of the community and stakeholders
- Site opportunities and constraints.

The masterplan will be predominantly a site enhancement masterplan, putting in place site improvement recommendations and strategies to ensure the parkland meets its full potential in terms of access, amenity, functionality and sustainability. The masterplan will not be addressing or providing recommendations for governance and management, as this is outside the scope of this report.

While it is acknowledged the parkland is heavily influenced and focussed around organised sport, this stage of the masterplan will not be making recommendations for major changes to the current layout, operations or sports that occupy the space. This masterplan will be updated, if required, to incorporate recommendations from both the Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Sports Plan and City Of Newcastle Strategic Sports plan, studies that are being undertaken separate to this report and expected to be finalised in 2019.

## 2.3 Masterplan Objectives

Ultimately the objective of the masterplan is to provide clear direction for Council, engaging the community and stakeholders, to develop a concept masterplan that will ensure the parkland meets the current and future needs of its users. Study objectives for Stevenson Park will include;

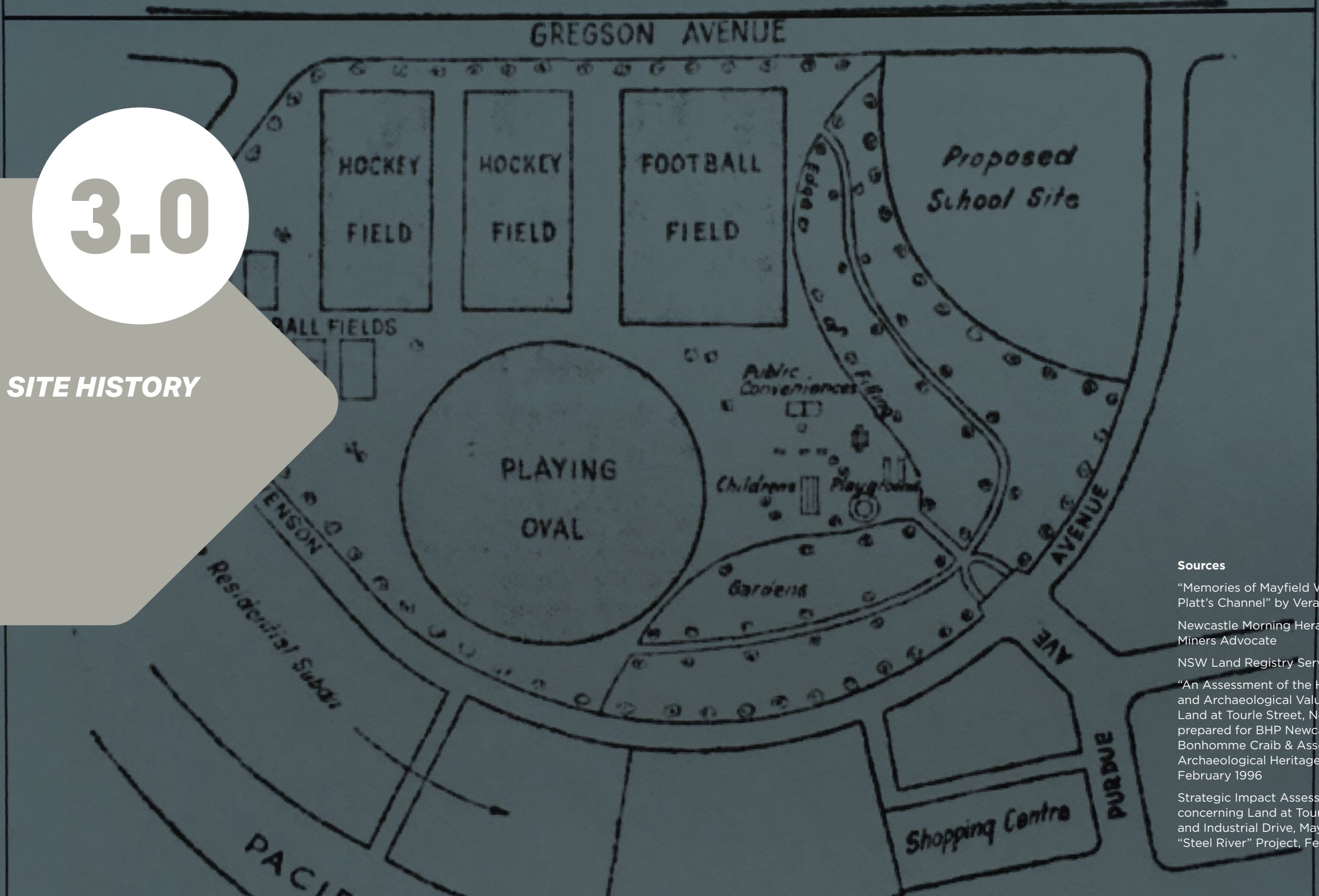
- Provide a holistic planning outcome within overarching Council planning schemes.
- Provide realistic recommendations and strategies for existing and proposed recreational opportunities.
- Where feasible implement recommendations relevant to Stevenson Park from the City of Newcastle Parkland and Recreation Strategy (2014)
- Improve access and connections within the parkland as well as to surrounding areas and active transport networks.
- Create opportunities for a variety of uses with the intention to increase visitation and activation of the parkland.
- Address car parking issues.
- Consider management of the existing trees and strategies for the long term replacement.
- Provide a concept plan for an inclusive playspace that Council can deliver in the short term, or staged over a period of time when funds are made available.
- Delivery of Councils budget requirement of \$150,000 in 2018/19 for Stevenson Park.



# New Park For Mayfield West

3.0

## SITE HISTORY



### Sources

"Memories of Mayfield West and Platt's Channel" by Vera Deacon

Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate

NSW Land Registry Services

"An Assessment of the Historical and Archaeological Values of BHP Land at Tourle Street, Newcastle", prepared for BHP Newcastle by Bonhomme Craib & Associates Archaeological Heritage Consultants February 1996

Strategic Impact Assessment Study concerning Land at Tourle Street and Industrial Drive, Mayfield - The "Steel River" Project, February 1998



### 3.1 Stevenson Park Timeline



**Awabakal**  
 The Aboriginal name for the Newcastle area is Mulubinba, named by the Awabakal after the Aboriginal plant mulubin, or “place of sea ferns.” Prior to colonisation, the Awabakal had traditional ownership of the land that includes present-day Stevenson Park. The period from 1822 to 1826 saw the land, waterways and lives of Aboriginal people along the Hunter River, including the Awabakal, come under direct threat from British colonists with the occupation of Crown Land Grants. When the British began occupying these Crown Land Grants conflict erupted with Aboriginal people who actively defended themselves and their land. In 1823 time present-day Stevenson Park became part of a Crown Land Grant of approximately 2,000 acres that was taken up by an ex-officer of the British Navy, John Laurie Platt.

**‘Platt’s Folly’**  
 Surviving documents show that many early settlers, including Platt, suffered much hardship due to a lack of infrastructure in the colony. The land Platt had selected was bush and scrub land and included an area that was known locally as “The Folly”, a portion of land that would today take in Stevenson Park and Mayfield West. Platt found no luck in his new homeland. Attempts at cultivation failed miserably and in 1831 his house went up in flames killing two sons. Within four years both Platt and his wife were dead and by decade’s end the estate had been sold to the Australian Agricultural Company (AACo), a major landholder in the district.

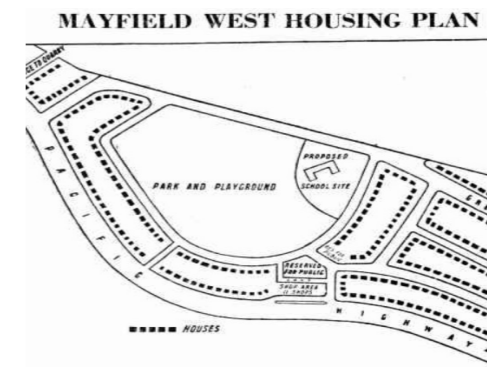
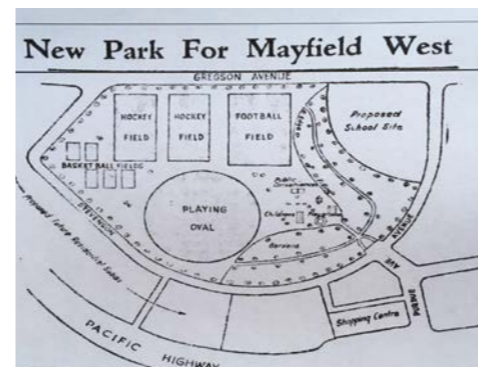
**AACo & The Great Depression**  
 Little has survived about the use of the site in the century after Platt’s death. Parish maps indicate that the site of Stevenson Park was still vacant land when acquired by the War Service Homes Commission in April 1920. Established to provide affordable housing for returned soldiers and their families, the Commission experienced difficulties realising its vision and the onset of the Great Depression left large swathes of their land undeveloped and underutilised. In about 1931, unemployed Novocastrians started camping on the site. As the depression deepened, more families sought refuge in the informal settlement and many a dispute erupted between relevant authorities. Proposed evictions were met with fierce resistance and by 1936 the Tarro Shire Council (later amalgamated into Greater Newcastle Council) was cooperating with the War Service Homes Commission to improve conditions in the camp. Despite the lift in amenities, however, antisocial activity plagued the camp and reports of nuisances and even deaths featured regularly in the Newcastle Morning Herald during the worst years of the crisis.

**Wartime & Need for Parklands**  
 H. D. Stevenson, an Alderman on the newly-created Greater Newcastle Council, saw in the Commission’s landholdings a solution to the lack of green space in Newcastle’s growing industrial suburbs. Stevenson’s advocacy for a park on this site can be traced back to a meeting of the Council’s Works Committee in 1938 during which he made a passionate case for more green space in Mayfield West. The Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners’ Advocate echoed Stevenson’s concerns, pointing out in the same year that “The WSH Commission’s land is a magnificent area, which could be used to advantage for park development” (NMH 13/10/1938). Although the proposition attracted the support of other Alderman, the Council deferred the purchase of the necessary land until May 1941. The initial purchase took in an area of 32 acres for a public park and recreation and was valued at £4000. Speaking on the purchase, which took place while the Second World War raged on, Alderman Stevenson told the Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners’ Advocate: “War or no war, we have to be progressive and make provision for the increased population of the future”.

Because of the active part Alderman Stevenson had taken in the original negotiations for the Mayfield West park, the Greater Newcastle Works Committee recommended in December 1947 that it be named after him. Improvements to the park were costed in 1951 and included the provision of “playing fields, playing oval, drainage, children’s playground equipment, conveniences, tree planting and gardens” (NMH 16/5/1951). Post-war construction shortages kept a handbrake on the park’s development and it was not until June 1954 that City of Newcastle announced funding of £9500 to convert the ‘garbage tip’ into a new park at Mayfield West.



this is the single men’s section of the camp at Platt’s Estate. There were four men. Each compartment has been converted into a little better than a box. It has been there a varying number of years, during which time they have





4.0

*CURRENT  
SITUATION*

## 4.1 Site Context

City of Newcastle is home to 162,480 residents, spread over a number of suburbs. Stevenson Park is situated in the suburb of Mayfield West, approximately 9km west of the Newcastle CBD. Mayfield West has a relatively low total population of 1,961 and approximately 13.55ha of open space which equates to 69m<sup>2</sup> of public open space per person. In comparison to World Health Organisation recommendation of 9m<sup>2</sup> of open space per person, Mayfield West has a relatively high amount of open space per person.

City of Newcastle has recognised the important role that Stevenson Park plays within the precinct and wider Newcastle community, being the major sports and recreation reserve for softball and baseball, local reserve for football and a recreational open space for the surrounding residential users.

Stevenson Park is bound by busy Industrial Drive on its northern boundary, the Pacific Highway for a portion of the western boundary and the remainder bordered by residential streets with houses overlooking the park. Immediately to the north of Industrial Drive and Stevenson Park is the Steel River industrial park with hundreds of workers that have access to the park.

The parkland has excellent visual exposure from Industrial Drive, however, beyond Industrial Drive it is tucked away amongst the quiet residential suburban streets. Access to the park is via the suburban streets of Terry Street and Purdue Ave that intersect with the Pacific Highway and Gregson Street that weaves its way through Mayfield West. For new visitors to the park access is not immediately obvious.



## 4.2 Site Analysis

### Access

Access to the site via vehicle is from Terry Street, Purdue Ave and Gregson Street. Terry Street and Purdue Ave connect directly to the Pacific Highway main arterial road. Gregson Street weaves through the suburban streets and is the least direct access. Access directly off Industrial Drive is currently available via a locked gate to an informal parking area and designated parallel parking areas along Industrial Drive. It is recognised that access from Industrial Drive poses considerable safety concerns and is to be removed as part of this masterplan.

There are no formalised pedestrian or cycle paths accessing the parkland. Street footpaths are limited and there are connections gaps to wider footpath network. There are no footpaths within Stevenson Park and visitors are forced to navigate their own path to their desired destination. There is no disabled compliant access to the park or within the park.

### Topography & Drainage

The site is predominantly flat due to large expanses of sports fields. There are varying grades of sloping land falling towards the sports fields along the park peripheries, creating a large 'bowl'. Generally the site drains to the north and is directed to stormwater pits in the Industrial Drive road reserve. Stormwater from the surrounding residential catchment area is captured in underground pipes and dispersed on to the park via open headwalls. During high rain events the park floods in low lying areas caused by poor grading of the fields and localised areas of elevated ground levels capturing run off.

### Vegetation

Vegetation in the park is characterised by a mix of mature native trees distributed mostly in the south east portion of the site along the edges. It also comprises strong linear rows of Fig trees of varying ages along Gregson Ave, Industrial Drive and the Pacific Highway; reinforcing the Fig tree planting further along Industrial Drive between Mayfield West and Newcastle CBD. 'Green Fleet' native bush and tree planting has occurred in the vicinity of the Industrial Drive / Pacific highway intersection and more recently between Industrial Drive and Gregson Ave. There are scatterings of mature trees in between the sports fields providing shaded places to spectate and for children to play.



- Vehicle access points
- Informal Parking
- Formalised Path
- Informal Pedestrian Desire Lines
- Signalised pedestrian Crossings
- Emergency & Maintenance Access



- Gently Sloping
- Minor Hill/Bund
- Drainage Lines
- Low points
- Retaining Wall with vertical drop



- 'Greenfleet' Planting
- Fig Tree Planting
- Native Mix Planting
- Combination of ornamental Tree & Native Tree Planting




**Views**

Stevenson Park enjoys excellent passive surveillance from the surrounding residents as the houses overlook the parkland. It also enjoys mostly uninterrupted views into the site from Industrial Drive. Views into the site from the Pacific Highway in the north west portion are limited due to the Fig trees and Green Fleet planting, reducing the visual prominence and sense of arrival into the park from the west. Views within the park are mostly uninterrupted, with elevated vantage points allowing excellent viewing of the parklands and beyond.

**Soils**

The soils within Stevenson Park are considered to be a 'Class 4' Acid Sulphate soil as described in the Newcastle LEP 2012. The flat portion of the site comprises a capping layer over the material that was previously dumped on the site during the 1950s this capping layer is integral to the park and is not to be compromised through excavation works. A shallow layer of topsoil covers the capping layer to support the grassing of the sports fields. The sloping portions of the site are deemed to be less contaminated and will support any proposed landscaping, tree planting or excavation works.



-  Unobstructed views
-  Partially obstructed views
-  Blocked Views



## 4.3 Sports Needs Assessment

As stated in the Introduction this masterplan will not be recommending major changes to the sports field arrangement, current sports being played or facilities. This masterplan may require updating to reflect relevant recommendations from the strategic sports plan currently under development. An assessment of the current sports situation for Stevenson Park has been undertaken in the context of local, regional and state sports strategic plans, trends and site specific conditions.

The review identified specific State and National sports strategic plans and Council policies that the masterplan will need to consider; along with industry trends, facility benchmarking and best practice in design and operation of sporting facilities. The review highlighted that there are conflicts between current users, ageing infrastructure and the need to further invest in the upgrade of facilities. The City's focus is on greater flexibility in the use of space and to extend the level of participation in all sports throughout the City. Therefore an overarching sports facility needs strategy for Newcastle LGA is required which will ultimately guide the future development of Stevenson Park sports facilities.

There are currently three sports user groups; Softball, Baseball and Football (Soccer). Cricket previously used Stevenson Park but the pitch was removed in late 2011/early 2012. Cricket have expressed a desire to come back to Stevenson Park and have a full size field to a standard that will allow for junior representative games. The following is an outline of the current sports use of Stevenson Park

### User Groups

Sports Facility	User Groups
<i>Softball Facility</i>	<p><i>Softball NSW</i></p> <p>The facility is used by the state sporting organisation on a regular basis, this year there is two events organised for Stevenson Park, Newcastle these include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Australia Youth Invitational Games</li> <li>Open Women's State Championship</li> </ul> <p><i>Newcastle Softball Association</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reached Softballs Home plate status through Softball NSW in 2017.</li> <li>Compliant with Department of fair training, and completed club health check to meet all of Softball Australian's national affiliation standards.</li> <li>Have developed training and development programs for the volunteers, umpires, coaches and statisticians.</li> <li>Approximate membership growth by 12%.</li> <li>The following clubs area associated with the Newcastle Softball Association:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Belmont Softball</li> <li>- Macquarie Softball</li> <li>- Camels Softball Club</li> <li>- Maitland Meteors Softball</li> <li>- Strikers Softball</li> <li>- Port Hunter Softball Club</li> <li>- Steelers Softball Club</li> <li>- University Softball Club</li> <li>- Wolves Softball Club</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<i>Football Facility</i>	<p>Mayfield United Junior SFC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Mayfield junior club is an extension to the currently established senior Mayfield United Club.</li> <li>The senior club formed in 1921 – 22 under a different name.</li> <li>The club is a long member within the local community and thrives on its volunteering and social members.</li> <li>The Tigers football club is one of the oldest and most stable senior clubs within Newcastle.</li> <li>The club is passionate about growing in size and developing up-and-coming footballers.</li> <li>Currently the age group focus on U12 – U16s, with a gateway into the senior side from juniors.</li> </ul> <p>Hunter Christian Churches Football</p>
<i>Baseball Facility</i>	<p>Mayfield Boomerangs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Been in operation for more than 60 years, forming in 1953.</li> <li>Teams range from t-ball to the major league 1st grade side (t-ball, juniors, seniors and social).</li> <li>Great support from dedicated teams, coaches and committee.</li> <li>Saturday and Sunday leagues.</li> <li>Training on every Wednesday.</li> <li>Most of the work carried out at Boomerang Field (part of Stevenson Park) is voluntarily by club members including erecting the screens and fences, laying the turf, building the dugouts and batting tunnel and as well as all general maintenance.</li> <li>Considered one of the best playing surfaces in Newcastle.</li> <li>4 senior sides and 4 junior sides.</li> <li>Numerous club members have represented regional, state, national and even Australia.</li> <li>Considered a family club, some families having as much as four generations involved with the club</li> </ul>
Sports Facility	Level of Usage
<i>Softball Facility</i>	<p><i>Regional</i></p> <p>Defined spaces that attract visitors from across the city and beyond due to their uniqueness, opportunity offered or the scale of events that may be staged.</p>
<i>Football Facility</i>	<p><i>Local</i></p> <p>Defined spaces primarily serving a local population. Positioned in a visible location for safety.</p>
<i>Baseball Facility</i>	<p><i>District</i></p> <p>A park area of substantial size, well developed, offering a broad range of quality recreation opportunities. Central to populations of approximately 15,000 – 25,000.</p>

**Level of Competition**

Sports Facility	Level of Competition
Softball Facility	<p><i>State</i></p> <p>State level is the highest level of competition within NSW, this includes players from all around NSW - linked with the Softball NSW association and Softball Australia.</p> <p><i>Regional</i></p> <p>Serves a catchment of the entire Council area and surrounding local government areas. Can range from elite to grass roots participation and competition (All grades).</p>
Football Facility	<p><i>Local</i></p> <p>Serves a catchment of immediate residential population - The Mayfield area.</p>
Baseball Facility	<p><i>District</i></p> <p>Serves a catchment of a mid-sized locality, and surrounding smaller residential areas. Ranges from semi-elite to grass roots participation and competition (juniors, seniors, social).</p>

**Participation**

The following table summarises Stevenson Park participation trends against National and State participation trends for each specific sport. The data includes both children and adult participation and is taken from a number of sources (AusPlay, ABS, State and national strategic plans).

Sports	Number of Clubs per Sport	Stevenson Park Participation	State Sporting Organisations	Participation NSW
Softball	11 Clubs	Increasing	Decreasing	Decreasing
Football	2 Club	Increasing	Increasing	Increasing
Baseball	1 Club	Increasing	Decreasing	Decreasing

The following table summarises participation numbers of each sport using Stevenson Park against National and State participation numbers. The Stevenson Park participation data was gathered from the local sporting organisations at the time of this study.

Sports	Stevenson Park Team / Participation	Participation NSW	Participation Australia
Softball	639 Players across the competition	8153	27,000
Football	Hunter Christian Churches Football: 852 Players Mayfield United Junior football Club: 501 Players	749,400	1,815,121
Baseball	580 Players across the competition	17,800	50,000

**Summary of Participation and latent demand of sports and recreation**

The following summary has been developed from the participation and latent demand of all sports within Stevenson Park as well as information gathered during consultation with the sporting clubs.

- Steady increase in participation of children and adults sports, with a major increase in women's participation.
- Trends in increasing participation in non-traditional sports.
- The increase in participation will create higher demand on sports and recreation spaces, therefore the need for spaces to meet a diverse range of needs.
- Softball has an increasing participation within Stevenson Park compared to that of a decreasing participation of both state and national participation.
- Football is seen to be increasing at Stevenson Park as well as throughout the state and Australia.
- Baseball at Stevenson Park has had a steady participation over the last few years.
- There is a high need and demand for intergenerational, multi-purpose and diverse facilities and spaces.

**Facilities Condition**

An analysis of the existing sports facilities conditions was undertaken to benchmark them against local, regional, state and national sports standards as well as a general overview of safety. The following is a summary of the findings;

- All facilities are meeting the needs of the clubs currently, however, they are ageing and nearing the end of their useful life.
- Increasing demand on the sporting facilities to meet the needs and growth of each sport is an issue and there is increased wear and tear on the fields and amenities.
- The facilities are unable to respond to current and future trends in sports participation and competition structure.
- The facilities will need to be upgraded to meet standards in order to attract higher levels competitions.
- There is poor access in and around the facility, particularly for maintenance, operations and emergency vehicles.
- Many elements of the facility are unsafe, do not meet Australian Standards and pose a risk to the community.
- The facility and associated amenities do not provide equitable access and is not DDA compliant.
- The amenities do not cater for the increasing participation rates of females in sport and their specific needs.
- Lighting does not meet Australian standards of play.
- There is a lack of comfortable spectator seating / viewing areas.



## 4.4 Community Engagement Findings

A participatory community engagement approach was undertaken to ensure diverse input from a range of park users was attained. A range of engagement methods were used to capture insights from users such as school students through to adults and key stakeholders. The following is a summary of the engagement process and participation rate.

Phase 1 Design development		
Methods	Objectives	Participation
Online Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore opportunities and issues</li> <li>Visioning and priority setting</li> </ul>	80 Surveys
Community Design Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore opportunities and issues</li> <li>Visioning and priority setting</li> <li>Education and awareness raising</li> </ul>	Over 50 attended
Student Design Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Playground Visioning and ideas generation</li> <li>Asset mapping</li> </ul>	Over 100 Students
Online interactive map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ideas generation</li> <li>Explore Opportunities and issues</li> <li>Asset mapping</li> </ul>	369 Unique Visitors & 153 Comments

**Concept design development:** concept designs prepared, informed by phase 1 community engagement findings, additional stakeholder consultation and site feasibility analysis.

A number of emerging themes and focus areas were identified in Phase 1 of engagement which included;

- **Sports fields and amenities;** better quality and amenity, resolution to usage conflict, potential co-location in a new multi-purpose building and clubroom/shed improvements.
- **Playground;** relocate to shaded area of the precinct, expand selection of play elements and improve amenity around playground.
- **Aesthetics and image;** people highly valued the wide open space and landscaping elements, suggested fenced off leash dog park and more trees would improve the space further.
- **Access and linkages;** need for shared path to connect and loop around, parking seen as crucial issue and poor disability access.

The following table summarises the emerging themes that came out of the Phase 1 engagement

### Sports Fields & Amenities

- Many wanted to see better quality sports fields and were concerned about over use.
- There is some conflict between the use of the grounds and the prospect of bringing in additional sports and increased usage.
- A need for improved lighting was identified - both formal for sports fields and also in free recreation areas.
- Popular new sports facilities and infrastructure suggestions were
  - Integrate existing sports field with temporary cricket pitch
  - Basketball/netball half court
  - Skate park/parkour
- Clubrooms/sheds improvements - need to upgrade ageing facilities
- Co-location of clubs in a multipurpose facility was discussed, particularly amongst those at the community workshop.
- More picnic tables, BBQs, water refill stations and signage throughout. Spectator seating was also suggested

### Playground

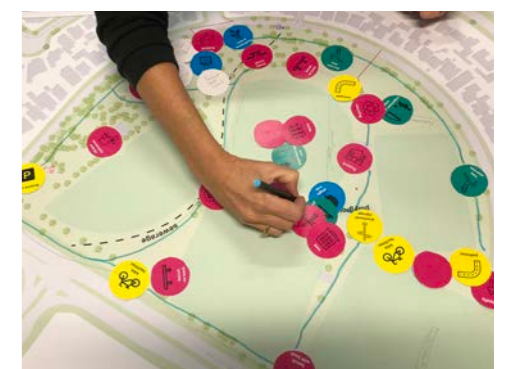
- Location: many comments recommended that it be placed amongst the trees on the hill to take advantage of the trees. It was noted that the current playground could just be repaired and remain.
- Flying foxes/zip lines were the most popular suggestion in both the adults and children participants.
- As part of the playground people spoke about footpaths, seats, BBQ areas and water bubblers being important.
- Interesting other inclusions were; quiet space or relaxing spaces for people not wanting the busyness of the playground - this came in the form of cubby houses and gardens
- Increased shade was seen as important in a new playground.

### Aesthetics and Activities

- People love the wide open space, landscape elements as well as the sportsground areas at the park.
- Fenced off leash dog park. Many suggested on the hill area of the precinct as it is underused.
- More trees and landscaping would improve the space.

### Access and Linkages

- Across all platforms the need for a shared path was mentioned regularly. Many said it would be great to have a sign posted path around the perimeter for cross country, running groups, general walkers and bike riders.
- Linking pathways were also seen as important to access sporting facilities
- Parking was raised as a crucial issue with varied solutions. Many suggested formalising current street parking and signposting appropriately. Suggestions also to install a carpark area near softball clubrooms.
- Disability access is seen as very poor or non existent.





Phase 2 Design Deliberation		
Methods	Objectives	Participation
Online Interactive Design Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify priorities and preferences</li> </ul>	31 playground surveys completed 109 comments
Design Feedback Park Drop in Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify priorities and preferences relating to initial concept designs</li> <li>Communicate engagement process and findings</li> </ul>	85 feedback markers received
Sporting Group Stakeholder Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand current and future sporting needs for the precinct</li> </ul>	

**Masterplan and playground concept development:** Masterplan and final playground concept design prepared for presentation to Council

Concept 1	
Things you like (n=62)	Things to change (n=22)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General playground (16)</li> <li>Basketball Half Court/Skate Elements (6)</li> <li>Flying Fox (4)</li> <li>Carparking (8)</li> <li>Co-location of Clubhouse (6)</li> <li>Accessible Path/Loop Path (5)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify priorities and preferences</li> </ul>
Concept 2	
Things you like (n=22)	Things to change (n=6)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General playground (9)</li> <li>Climbing structure (2)</li> <li>Flying fox (2)</li> <li>Proposed new planting (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General playground (3)</li> </ul>
Concept 3	
Things you like (n=27)	Things to change (n=4)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General playground (14)</li> <li>Skate Elements (6)</li> <li>Basketball Half Court (3)</li> <li>Proposed new planting (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General playground (3)</li> <li>Location (2)</li> </ul>

Phase 3 Public Exhibition	

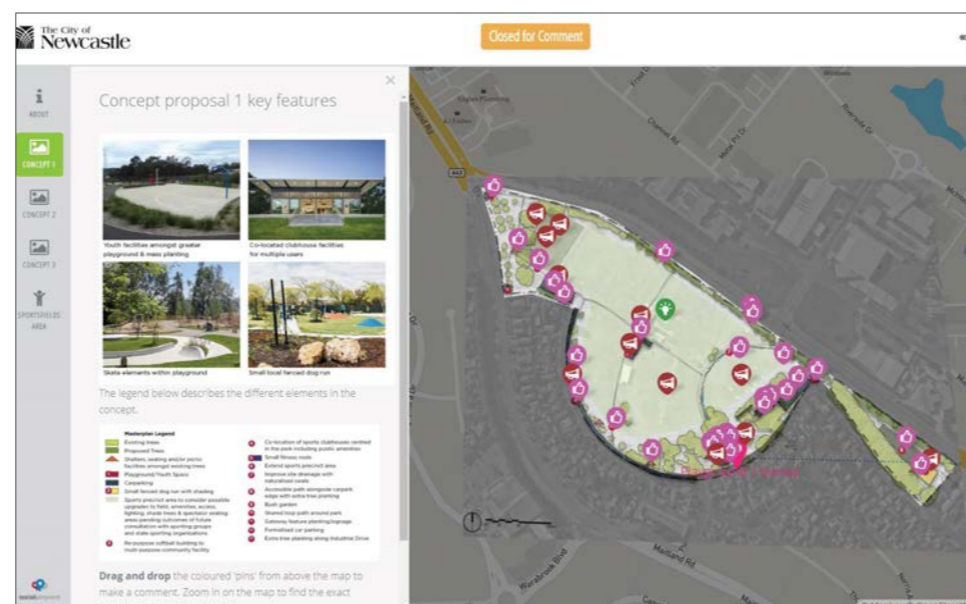
Phase 2 presented three concept designs of the precinct and playground for community feedback. Participants were able to provide feedback about their favourite elements of the concepts, areas they would like to change, and provide suggestions for a new idea or something that was missed.

Overall, participants provided positive feedback about the three concept designs. Common themes across all concepts mentioned support for increased parking, an expanded and re located playground and loop and access pathways throughout.

Other elements well supported include; playground elements (flying fox, basket swing and climbing structure), dog off leash areas and co-located clubhouse facilities.

The key issues raised related to the omission of the small existing playground in centre of sports fields and lack of lighting.

The following table summarises the emerging themes that came out of the Phase 2 engagement.



## 4.5 Issues & Opportunities

Based on the community engagement outcomes, analysis of the physical elements of the site, its function and role within the wider Newcastle LGA, the following list of issues and opportunities has been developed.

Issues	Opportunities	Issues	Opportunities
<b>Public Domain &amp; Open Space</b>		<b>Drainage</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is poor delineation between the recreational open space and sports precinct.</li> <li>There is a lack of sense of entry into the park.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delineate the spaces and functions of the park through landscaping and internal pathways.</li> <li>Open up and frame views to the park, particularly along the Pacific Highway / Industrial Drive intersection area.</li> <li>Create a linear recreational parkland around the perimeter of the site.</li> <li>Provide a public domain 'spine' through the site that becomes an activated space with multiple functions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low lying areas flood during high rain events.</li> <li>The sports fields have poor drainage.</li> <li>Stormwater runoff from the surrounding roads and houses is directed and dispersed onto the park.</li> <li>Stormwater runoff is not captured in defined channels and follows low lying paths across the site.</li> <li>There is no capture and management of stormwater.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce defined, 'naturalised' drainage channels to direct/capture stormwater runoff, providing water quality benefits.</li> <li>Naturalised channels offer habitat value and informal places for imaginative play and learning.</li> <li>Improve drainage on the sports fields.</li> <li>Redirect stormwater flows from the surrounding roads and houses to avoid excessive volumes runoff entering the park creating flooding.</li> <li>Investigate harvesting of runoff for irrigation.</li> </ul>
<b>Social &amp; Recreation</b>		<b>Landscape</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The site is being underutilised for socialising and public events and is dominated by sport.</li> <li>Recreational facilities such as picnic shelters, play areas, paths and park amenities are lacking.</li> <li>There are competing demands for sporting facilities and space.</li> <li>Sporting facilities and amenities buildings are aged, in poor condition and limit attracting higher level sports events and competitions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide spaces and infrastructure for large public events.</li> <li>Provide additional recreational facilities such off-leash dog exercise areas, multi-age inclusive play areas.</li> <li>Provide spaces that are multi-functional.</li> <li>Upgrade sports facilities and amenities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a lack of low shrub or ornamental planting with a dominance of trees in mowed grass.</li> <li>The 'Green Fleet' native planting in the north west portion of the site is overly crowded and restricts views into the park.</li> <li>There are a number of trees that are reaching their Useful Life Expectancy (ULE) and may pose a public risk.</li> <li>Landscaping in the vicinity of the softball amenities area is poorly maintained, impacts on passive surveillance and is creating safety and public risk issues.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use landscaping to better define spaces and direct users around the park.</li> <li>Selectively clear trees to open up / frame views.</li> <li>Reinforce the Fig Tree planting along the Industrial Drive and Pacific Highway edges.</li> <li>Use landscaping to complement the overall drainage strategy.</li> <li>Plant site appropriate trees throughout the site to enhance shade, canopy coverage and habitat value.</li> </ul>
<b>Access &amp; Circulation</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Car parking is poorly defined and there is overcrowding during weekend sports.</li> <li>Vehicle maintenance and operation access is poor and not formalised, allowing cars to drive across almost all areas of the park.</li> <li>There are no internal pedestrian or cycle paths.</li> <li>There is no disabled compliant access to the park, within the park or to any of the amenities buildings.</li> <li>There is a lack of external pedestrian and cycle paths connecting to the park.</li> <li>There is no directional signage or wayfinding devices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formalise car parking to maximise parking efficiencies.</li> <li>Design car parking for flexibility, e.g. dedicated minibus parking area when there are large events which can be used for general parking when not required.</li> <li>Provide internal and external linking paths.</li> <li>Provide DDA compliant access in and around the park and to all amenities buildings.</li> </ul>		
<b>Environmental</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capped contaminated soils cannot be disturbed.</li> <li>There is a lack of weed management in the north west corner.</li> <li>Some trees are in poor condition or nearing their end of life.</li> <li>There is no capture and management of run off or contaminants leaving the site.</li> <li>Waste management facilities are poorly located and unattractive.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raising ground levels in areas of proposed works or tree planting will introduce quality soils, improve stormwater management and avoid disturbing the contaminated soils capping layer.</li> <li>Reinforce the existing 'green fleet' planting to aid weed control and improve habitat links.</li> <li>Introduce a tree management, replacement and additional planting plan across the park.</li> <li>Introduce rubbish bins across the parklands and provide a discrete.</li> </ul>		



## Opportunities

- ➊ Improve sense of entry into the park. Opportunities to open up views to the park, signage and feature landscaping.
  - ➋ Possible off-leash dog area.
  - ➌ Landscape edge that reinforces the fig tree planting and provides a barrier to stop illegal parking.
  - ➍ Formalise parking.
  - ➎ Possible upgrade of the amenities including co-location of facilities and improved spectator areas.
  - ➏ Possible upgrade of facilities to bring up to standard befitting of the quality of competitions it holds.
  - ➐ Opportunity to improve recreational facilities including BBQs, playground, picnic facilities, walking trails and the like.
  - ➑ Reinforce the 'green fleet' planting and create a pocket bush reserve.
  - ➒ Intimate open lawn to service the adjacent Scouts and local residents.
  - ➓ Opportunity to improve drainage and incorporate a 'natural' drain comprising of a rock lined creek, native planting and pedestrian bridge crossings.
- ➔ Provide a network of pedestrian and cycle paths to improve access and delineate the different sports areas.

# 5.0

## VISIONS & PRINCIPLES

*Stevenson Park will be a welcoming and inclusive community meeting place that offers quality sports facilities within a parkland setting, provides multifunctional spaces that promote social interaction and active lifestyles.*



## 5.1 Vision & Principles

### Vision

The vision for Stevenson Park has been developed by listening to the community, stakeholders and park users. It is a holistic vision that captures the community's aspirations for the park that will ensure it will benefit the lives of its users now and in to the future.

### Principles

To support the implementation of the vision, a series of guiding principles have been identified. The principles are intended to guide the decision making process in assessing and prioritising ideas and interventions for the Park.

## Vision Statement

***Stevenson Park will be a welcoming and inclusive community meeting place that offers quality sports facilities within a parkland setting, provides multifunctional spaces that promote social interaction and active lifestyles.***



### Equality & Inclusiveness

- Incorporate universal access principles in design interventions for people of all ages and abilities.
- Implement inclusive playground design principles as outlined in the Inclusive Playground Design Guidelines, Department of Planning and the Environment, 2018.
- Provide DDA compliant access throughout the site and to amenities buildings.
- Upgrade amenities and facilities to accommodate special requirements of female participants.



### Access & Connectivity

- Establish pedestrian and cycle connections to the current and future planned external network.
- Provide a hierarchy network of internal paths that clearly delineate uses and spaces.
- Provide safe, legible and equitable DDA compliant access to all Park facilities and amenities.



### Multifunctional

- Optimise the Park space provision through flexible and multifunctional design interventions.
- Deliver open space areas that are flexible in programming and capable of responding to changing needs and demands.
- Expand the diversity of facilities and recreational uses for the Park.
- Introduce multi-purpose, multifunctional and shared / co-located sports and recreation facilities.



### Safety

- Incorporate integrated Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in Park upgrades and design interventions.
- Maintain and enhance passive surveillance from the surrounding residences and roads.
- Encourage activation of the Park to increase visitation, improving surveillance.
- Provide clearly visible and well-lit pedestrian and cycle paths.
- Upgrade facilities to relevant Australian Standards to mitigate public health and safety risks.



### Environment

- Establish well-connected biodiversity corridors.
- Protect the waterways by monitoring managing and improving stormwater quality within and leaving the site.
- Investigate water harvesting opportunities.
- Retain and protect the existing native trees and plant supplementary trees to increase canopy cover and habitat.
- Consider waste management techniques to reduce waste and collect recyclables.



### Aligning Strategic Plans

- Acknowledge and respect intent of relevant strategic plans.
- Implement recommendations of relevant strategic plans specific to the Park.



### Cultural Recognition

- Acknowledge and recognise the Aboriginal history of the site.
- Celebrate the rich European industrial history of the Mayfield area and greater City of Newcastle.

6.0

**PRECINCT  
MASTERPLAN**



## 6.1 Preliminary Precinct Masterplan Options

The information gathered during the community and stakeholder workshops and meetings was used to develop three preliminary options. These options were publicly exhibited to determine what elements of each option were most desirable in order to develop a **preferred option**.

It was agreed that the sports fields arrangement and current governance, operation and maintenance model was to remain in its current form following the outcomes of higher level sports facilities strategic plans currently being prepared by the Office of Sport, Department of Planning and The City of Newcastle. As such the preliminary options make no major recommendations for the playing fields areas or facilities.

It is envisaged that this masterplan will be updated accordingly pending the outcomes of the relevant sports facilities strategic plans.



**Masterplan Legend**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Existing trees  | Re-purpose softball building to multi-purpose community facility                | Bush garden                                |
| Proposed Trees  | Co-location of sports clubhouses centred in the park including public amenities | Shared loop path around park               |
| Shelters, seating and/or picnic facilities amongst existing trees   | Small fitness node  | Gateway feature planting/signage           |
| Playground/Youth Space  | Extend sports precinct area   | Formalised car parking                     |
| Carparking  | Improve site drainage with naturalised swale                                    | Extra tree planting along Industrial Drive |
| Small fenced dog run with shading   | Accessible path alongside carpark edge with extra tree planting                 |  |
| Sports precinct area to consider possible upgrades to field, amenities, access, lighting, shade trees & spectator seating areas pending outcomes of future consultation with sporting groups and state sporting organisations |   |  |



Youth facilities amongst greater playground & planting



Co-located clubhouse facilities for multiple users



Skate elements within playground





















Small local fenced dog run





**Masterplan Legend**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|  Existing trees   |  Sports precinct area to consider possible upgrades to field, amenities, access, lighting, shade trees & spectator seating areas pending outcomes of future consultation with sporting groups and state sporting organisations |  Bush garden   |
|  Proposed Trees   |  Sports clubhouses to remain independent of each other   |  Shared loop path around park                        |
|  Shelters, seating and/or picnic facilities amongst existing trees                          |  Small fitness node  |  Gateway feature planting/signage                    |
|  Nature playground  |  Improve site drainage with naturalised swale  |  Formalised car parking                              |
|  Active youth space for older children with skate elements & possible basketball half court |  Accessible path alongside carpark edge with extra tree planting   |  Extra tree planting along Industrial Drive          |
|  Carparking   |   |  Extra tree planting for shade & amenity within park |
|  Fenced dog run with shading  |   |   |



Nature themed playground amongst existing trees



Active youth space separate from playground



Nature themed play



Large off-leash fenced dog run



**Masterplan Legend**

- Existing trees
- Proposed Trees
- Shelters, seating and/or picnic facilities amongst existing trees
- 1 Playground/Youth Space
- Carparking
- 2 Fenced dog run for local residents with adjacent seating
- Sports precinct area to consider possible upgrades to field, amenities, access, lighting, shade trees & spectator seating areas pending outcomes of future consultation with sporting groups and state sporting organisations
- 3 Co-location of the sports clubhouses
- 4 Softball clubhouse to remain independent
- 5 Seating & shelters central to the sporting precinct
- 6 Improve site drainage with naturalised swale
- 7 Accessible path alongside carpark edge with extra tree planting
- 8 Bush garden
- 9 Shared loop path around park
- 10 Gateway feature planting/signage
- 11 Formalised car parking
- 12 Extra tree planting along Industrial Drive
- 13 Extra tree planting for shade & amenity within park



Small local fenced dog run



Big formal playground equipment



Linear skate elements



Active basketball half court youth space

## 6.2 Preliminary Community Comments

### **Park**

- The off leash dog run received positive feedback with the larger dog run favoured by the community.
- The community liked the idea of the co-location of clubhouses as long as it did not impose on the existing small playground.
- Support was received on re-purposing and upgrading the Softball clubhouse for a larger range of community uses .
- Lighting, Shade and an accessible path was supported in all concepts.
- The additional and formalised car-parking was supported by the community comments.

### **Playground**

- All concept received positive feedback on the play elements presented.
- Favourite playground elements including the flying fox, basket swing and climbing structure.
- Skate Elements & Basketball Half-court also were also received positively.
- Nature Play and embankment play were valued by the community.
- In addition to the large playground under the existing trees in the south-east of the park, the community also commented on the existing playground to be retained and upgraded.
- Lighting, shelter & picnic facilities around the playground were highly liked by the community.

## 6.3 Preferred Precinct Masterplan Option

Following the comments derived from the community and stakeholder engagement period, and in collaboration with City of Newcastle representatives, a **preferred option** has been developed. Key features of the masterplan in accordance with the guiding principles are outlined below and in the following plans.



### Equality & Inclusiveness

- Multi-purpose amenities building with female specific facilities centrally located within the parklands with DDA compliant access.
- Playground designed to cater for a range of ages and abilities incorporating principles from the Everyone Can Play Guidelines, Department of Planning and the Environment, 2018.
- Disabled parking located near park features and high use areas.
- A network of paths to Australian Standards for disability access.
- Multiple spectator areas to provide good viewing for people of all ages and ability.
- All-abilities park furniture throughout the parklands.



### Access & Connectivity

- A legible hierarchy of paths throughout the site connecting to the external path network.
- Park entry statements to help navigate visitors to the park.
- Formalised car parking in close proximity to high use areas.
- Numerous pedestrian entry points into the parklands.
- Formalised maintenance access points.



### Multifunctional

- Multi-purpose amenities building that can cater for non-sporting events and functions.
- Picnic facilities, outdoor gym, playground, dog park and marked running trail provides additional recreational offerings.
- Central 'spine' with utilities and services to enable staging of outdoor events.



### Safety

- Introduction of additional recreational facilities to increase activation.
- Formalised edge treatments with clear lines of site into the parklands.
- Lighting to the pedestrian path network and picnic facilities to encourage night time use
- Safety / risk audit of all the park facilities and amenities buildings.
- Tree inspection / audit and replacement program to alleviate potential risk of injuries from unhealthy trees.
- Landscaping incorporating low plant species to maintain sightlines throughout the park.
- Dedicated dog park to reduce unwanted contacted between park users and dogs.



### Environment

- Additional native planting extending the recent planting undertaken by City of Newcastle creating habitat areas.
- 'Naturalised' drainage swale managing stormwater runoff through a series of rock-lined 'creekbeds' and detention basins, providing filtration opportunities and habitat.
- Investigation of water harvesting opportunities to be used for sports field irrigation.
- Native tree planting / replacement program.
- De-centralised waste pick up locations with separate bins for general waste and recyclables.
- Weed management program.



### Aligning Strategic Plans

- Design of dog park in accordance with City of Newcastle guidelines.
- Incorporating recommendations from the City of Newcastle Recreation Strategic Plan.



### Cultural Recognition

- Acknowledge and design with respect to the Aboriginal history and rich industrial history of the site through signage and/or interpretation items.

- 1 Fenced Dog Park with seating, shade trees, paths & planting
- 2 New Clubhouse
- 3 New Baseball amenities building
- 4 Softball clubhouse. Opportunity for future upgrade with community facilities to be incorporated into building and opening up building frontages to the park
- 5 Picnic Area including shelters amongst existing trees
- 6 Major playground with adventure play & nature play elements, seating, picnic & BBQ facilities and a basketball half court
- 7 Retain existing minor playground. Review need for toddler play at this location as the asset nears end of useful life
- 8 Outdoor Gym
- 9 Raised central 'spine' with terraced seating to adjacent sporting fields. Central spine to provide park users a shaded place to meet, sit, rest, play and allow for service & maintenance access .
- 10 Improve site drainage with naturalised swale

- 11 3m shared loop path
- 12 Existing bush garden - opportunity to be extended towards scout hall
- 13 Gateway feature planting/signage
- 14 Formalised car parking
- 15 Accessible car parking
- 16 Additional tree planting along Industrial Drive retaining sight-lines into the park
- 17 Clear/thin under-storey and dense vegetation to increase sight-lines in to the park from Pacific Highway
- 18 New batting cage
- 19 Upgraded spectator 'plaza' to include pavement \* seating under existing trees
- 20 The Sports precinct may require revision pending the outcome of the City of Newcastle strategic sport plan, commencing late 2018. Area to consider possible upgrades to field, amenities, access, lighting, shade trees & spectator seating

1:2000 @ A3



## 6.4 Path Hierarchy





- 3m Share Path
- - 3m Future Investigation Share Path
- 2m Pedestrian Path
- - 2m Future Investigation Pedestrian Path
- 3.5m Maintenance/ Emergency Access Path
- .... Marked Grass Trail

1:2000 @ A3



7.0

**PLAYGROUND  
CONCEPT**





## 7.1 Preliminary Playground Options

Three preliminary options were developed to initiate discussion at the community and stakeholder workshops and public exhibitions. Ideas generated from workshop sessions with students from Mayfield West Public School had a strong influence on the location of the playground and the types of play experiences to be offered. There was a strong desire for a flying fox, skate park and areas to ride bikes. Elements of each option as well as further ideas from the public and The City of Newcastle were combined to develop a **preferred option**.

### Option 1

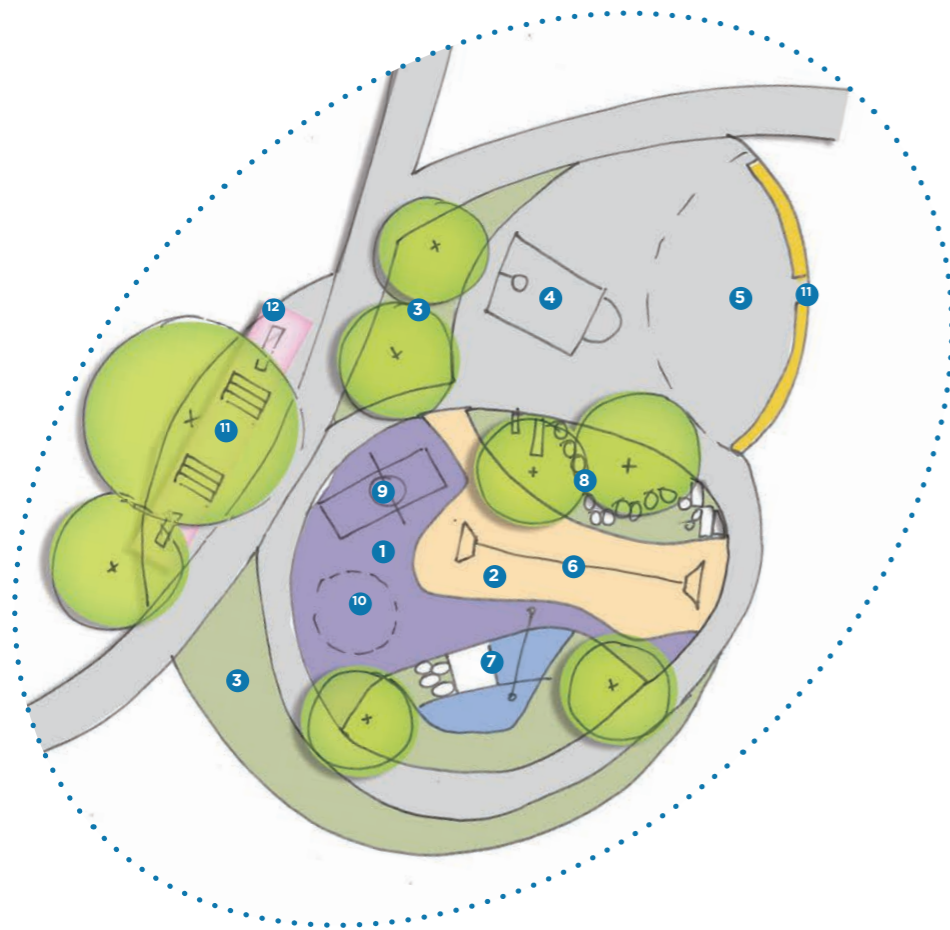
One inclusive playground for a range of age groups. Play elements include embankment play, half court, skate elements and nature play.

### Option 2

Nature playground amongst existing trees for younger children with a separate youth space for older groups

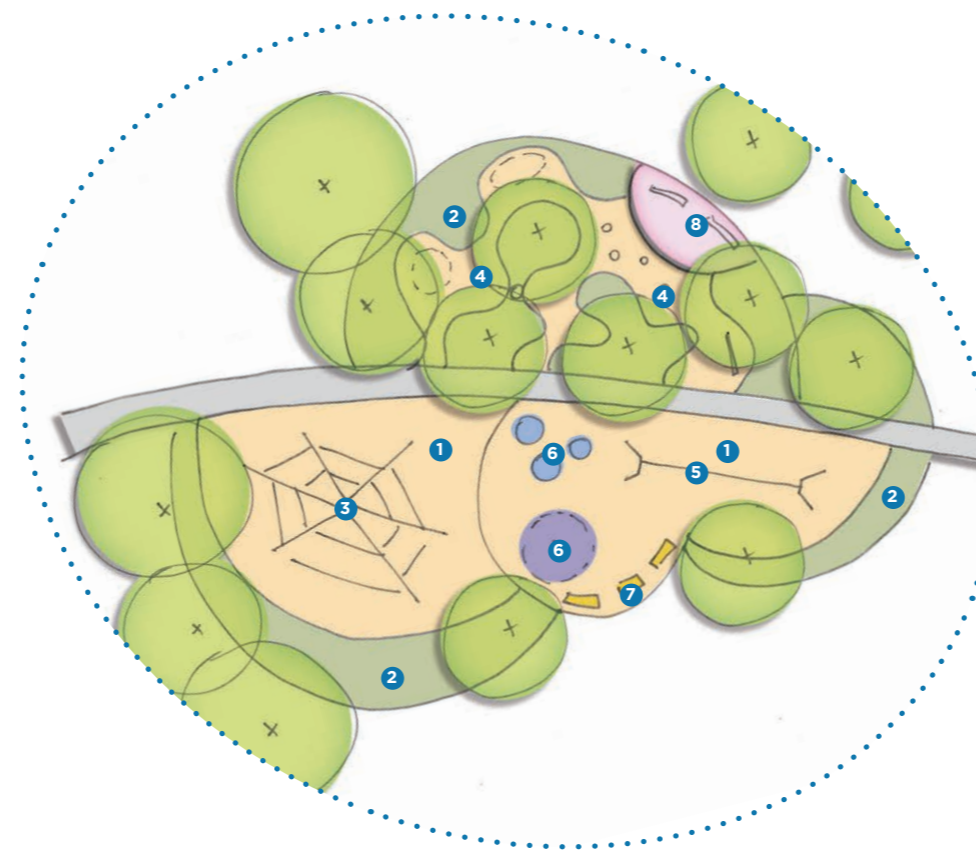
### Option 3

One inclusive playground for a range of age groups. A bolder and brighter playground with climbing elements, flying fox and formal play equipment



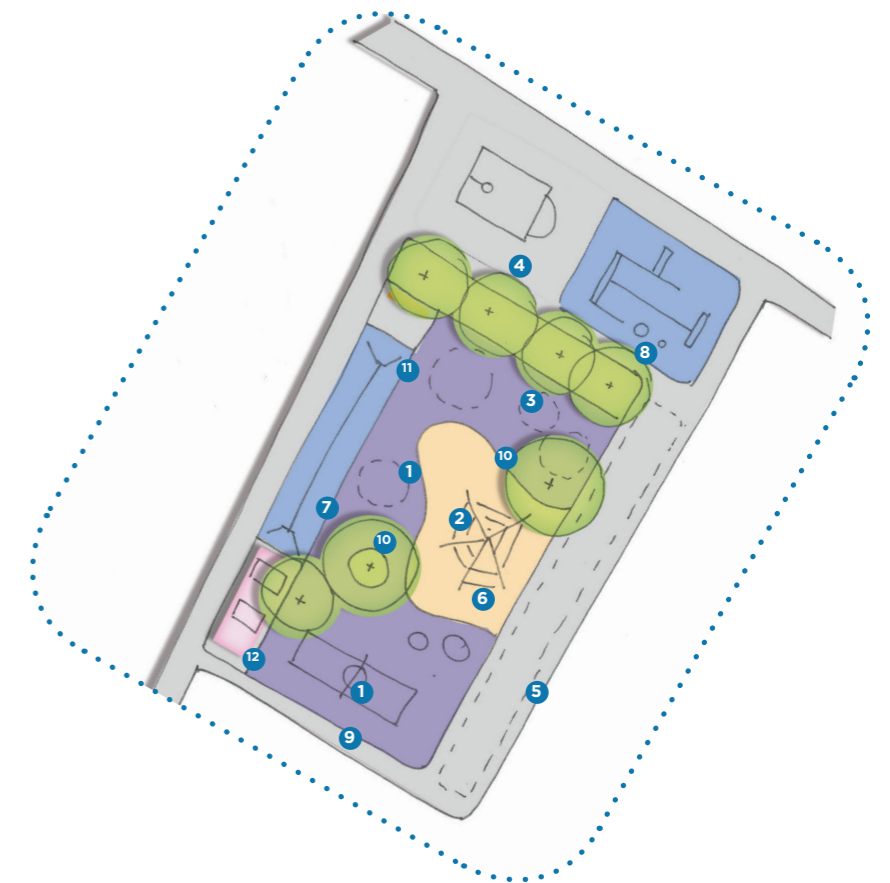
#### Playground Legend

- 1 Softfall
- 2 Mulch
- 3 Planting
- 4 Basketball half-court on concrete
- 5 Skate elements on concrete
- 6 Flying Fox
- 7 Embankment slide & play
- 8 Nature walkway through planting
- 9 Basket swing
- 10 Other play equipment
- 11 Formal seating/picnic seating
- 12 Shade structure



#### Playground Legend

- 1 Mulch
- 2 Planting
- 3 Climbing structure
- 4 Nature walkway through planting & mulch with play elements
- 5 Flying fox
- 6 Other play equipment
- 7 Formal seating/picnic seating
- 8 Shade structure with seating



#### Playground Legend

- 1 Softfall
- 2 Mulch
- 3 Planting
- 4 Basketball half-court on concrete
- 5 Skate elements on concrete
- 6 Climbing structure
- 7 Flying Fox
- 8 Parkour elements
- 9 Basket swing
- 10 Other play equipment
- 11 Formal seating/picnic seating
- 12 Shade structure with seating

## 7.2 Preferred Playground Option

Following comments derived from the the exhibition period and in collaboration with The City of Newcastle representatives, a **preferred playground option** was developed. Key features of the playground in accordance with the guiding principles are outlined below and in the following plans.



### Equality & Inclusiveness

- Incorporate universal access principles in design interventions for people of all ages and abilities.
- Playground designed to cater for a range of ages and abilities incorporating principles from the Everyone Can Play Guidelines, Department of Planning and the Environment, 2018.
- Incorporate a range of playground equipment that is inclusive and caters for multiple groups of people. Complement inclusive playground equipment with appropriate surfacing.
- Provide amenities that are inclusive and caters to a range of abilities and ages. For example, the inclusion of a range of seating options including seats with back rests and picnic setting with wheelchair and pram access.



### Access & Connectivity

- Provide a hierarchy network of internal paths that clearly delineate uses and spaces. Maintain a level of separation between the main park sharepath and the internal playground paths to avoid any conflicts between users.
- Provide safe, legible and equitable DDA compliant access to the playground.
- Provide subtle access routes through the playspace to avoid conflicts. For example, using different softfall colours to identify an access route.



### Multifunctional

- Optimise the playground's functionality and usability by providing a range of play activities and opportunities for all users including toddlers, school children, teenagers and carers through flexible and multifunctional design interventions.
- Deliver a range of activity spaces that are comfortable and challenge, stimulate and encourage imaginative play for users.
- Introduce multifunctional picnic and rest areas within the playground area for individuals, families and groups.



### Safety

- Ensure clear sight-lines to the playground to maintain and enhance passive surveillance from the surrounding residences and roads.
- Provide informal and formal barriers such as vegetation, seating and stairs provide a secure environment from potential risks such as Stevenson Avenue.
- Create a sense of separation between quite and activity spaces through surfacing, planting and landform.
- Ensure all playground equipment, fall zones and surfacing complies with the relevant Australian Standards.
- The multifunctional design of the playground encourages activation to increase visitation, improving surveillance.
- Provide appropriate lighting and shade provisions to ensure the playground is safe at all times of the day.
- Incorporate integrated Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in playground design.



### Environment

- Deliver a playground that retains and protect the existing native trees and plant supplementary trees to increase canopy cover and habitat.
- Incorporate nature play elements such that complement the natural drainage swale and encourage users to connect with the natural features of the parklands.



### Aligning Strategic Plans

- Acknowledge and respect intent of relevant strategic plans.
- Implement recommendations of the Everyone Can Play Guidelines, Department of Planning and the Environment, 2018.
- Ensure the playground equipment, surfacing and supporting amenities comply with the relevant Australian Standards.



### Cultural Recognition

- Acknowledge and design with respect to the Aboriginal history and rich industrial history of the site through signage and/or interpretative play items.



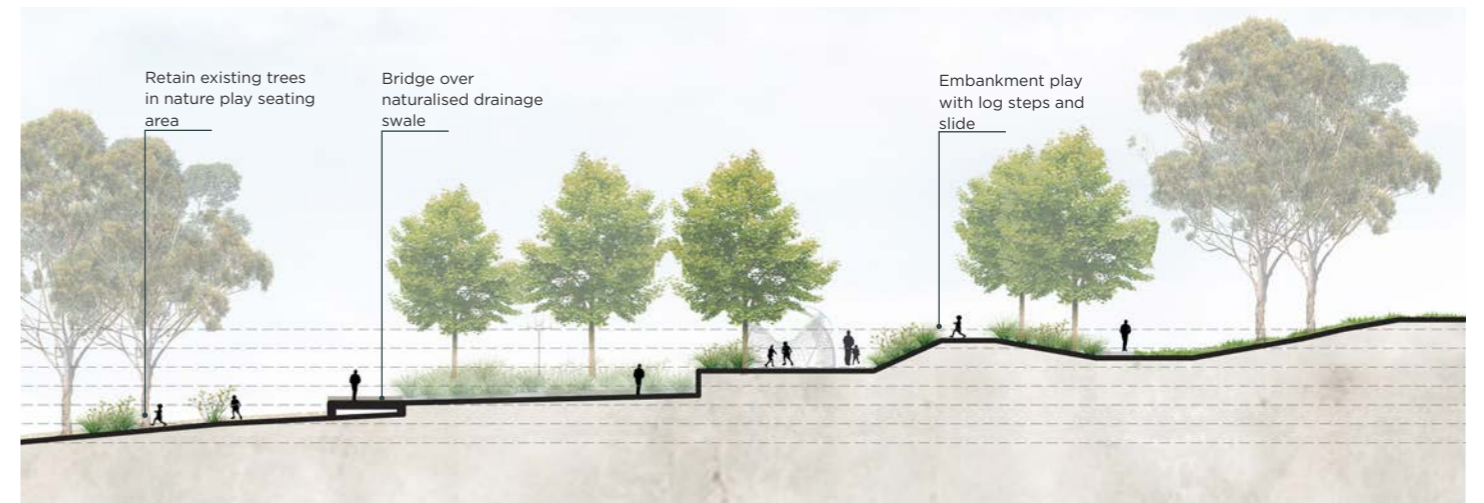
- 1 Active play area including skateable concrete elements & a basketball half court
  - 2 Nature Play Area including wobble bridge, bush xylophone and water play elements among the swale
  - 3 Adventure play area including large climbing structure, inclusive swing set, embankment slide, flying fox and other small play elements
  - 4 Toddler play area including multi-play structure, inclusive carousel & see-saw element
  - 5 Naturalise drainage swale with sandstone boulder and step crossings
  - 6 Embankment climbing stepping stones
  - 7 Large picnic area with seating, shelters BBQ, drinking fountain and bins
  - 8 Picnic shelter
  - 9 Seating options including informal sandstone blocks and timber seats with backrest
  - 10 Terraced seating walls
  - 11 Informal nature seating area
  - 12 Bridge
  - 13 Entry plaza with park signage and feature planting
  - 14 Formalised Parking
  - 15 Disabled Parking
- Planting
  - Grass
  - Concrete
  - Decomposed Granite
  - Existing Tree
  - Proposed Feature Entry Tree
  - Proposed Trees



### 7.3 Preferred Playground Option - Sections



Section A-A'



Section B-B'



Section C-C'

## 7.4 Playground Equipment Palette

The proposed Stevenson Park playground provides the community with a broad range of play opportunities including adventure play, nature play and youth space with half basketball court.

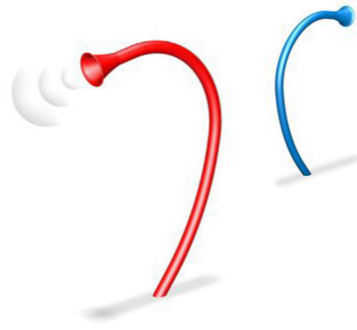
The playground concept aims to align with the NSW Everyone Can Play Guidelines in order to optimise the playground for all ages and abilities.

The following equipment examples detail choices that would cater for a range of abilities and size whilst still providing stimulation, challenge and imaginative play opportunities.

### Example Adventure Play



Embankment Slide - Kaiser & Kuhne



Voice Tubes - Moduplay

### Example Toddler Play



Robinia Play Tower with Slide & ADA Stairs - Kompan

### Example Nature Play



Runnel with Splash Table - Kompan

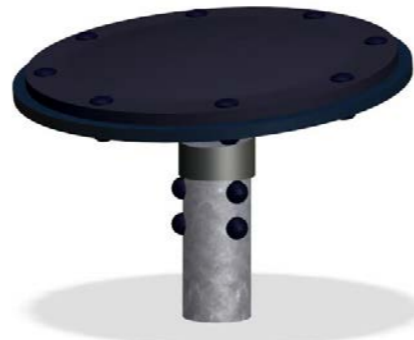
### Example Active Play



Half Court



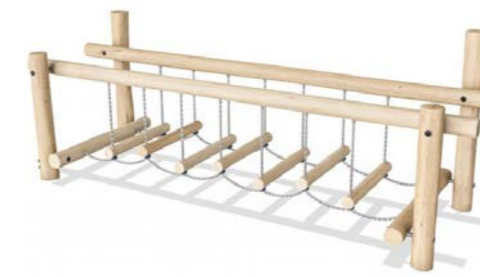
Spectra Orbit - Moduplay



Wacky Spinner - Kompan



Bedway Rocker - Moduplan



Wobble Bridge - Kompan



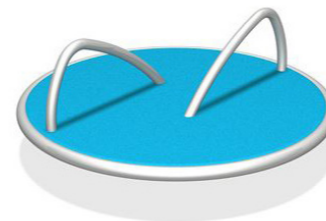
Skateable Concrete Elements



Supernova - Kompan



Spica 1 - Kompan



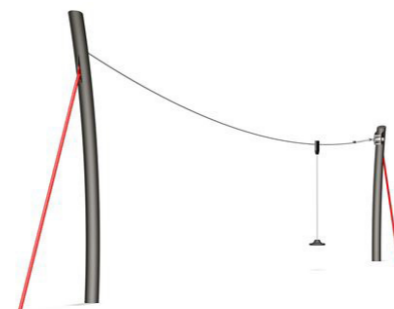
Saucer - Moduplay



Kids Table with Stools - Kompan



Bay Swing (Customised with Cradle Seat, Standard Seat & Birds nest Shell) - Kompan



Skyrider (Customised with cradle seat) - Moduplay



Bushwood Xylophone - Moduplay

**8.0**

**MATERIALS &  
FURNITURE**



## 8.1 Materials & Furniture Palette

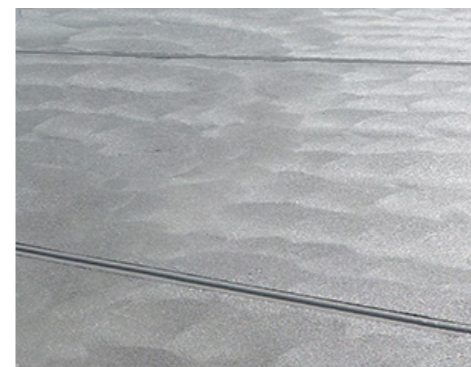
The existing parkland character of Stevenson Parks lends the material and furniture palette to natural and earthy materials such as timber, sandstone, concrete and steel.

The exception to this is the softfall and colourful nature of the adventure playground providing bright, coordinated and playful colours within the softfall and playground elements.

As a major recreational parkland the primary material will evidently be a turf suited for sports and passive use. The concrete pathways paired with earthy materials such as decomposed granite and sandstone compliment the stainless steel and timber furniture palette.

The park will require a range of seating to provide the community with a plentiful seating opportunities to cater for all ages and abilities. The seating palette includes informal sandstone blocks, formal benches and seating with back and armrests in addition to picnic setting that allow for wheelchair and pram access.

### Example Materials



### Example Furniture



