

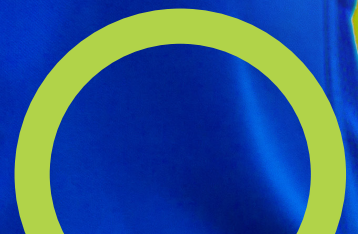


draft
Sportsground
Strategy and
Action Plan

Information summary



CITY OF
PARRAMATTA



draft Sportsground Strategy and Action Plan

This draft Sportsground Strategy and Action Plan (SSAP) provides a detailed roadmap for the provision of the City of Parramatta Council's (Council) sportsground network to meet existing and future community needs.

The draft SSAP complements and delivers on the strategic directions in Council's Community Infrastructure Strategy (CIS), through provision of detailed recommendations that will be used by Council to increase the number of sporting fields available to the community, and prioritise and guide the equitable resourcing of sportsground upgrades across the City. Taken together, implementing the recommendations in the draft SSAP will support our growing community to live active and healthy lives.

Our city is transforming

The pace and scope of change in the City is unprecedented. In just over twenty years, an additional 217,000 people will live in our City, increasing the population from 271,000 residents in 2020 to 488,000 residents in 2041.

The intensity of investment in the City will create many opportunities for a new and more diverse mix of high-quality housing, jobs and infrastructure in a liveable, productive and sustainable City.

We want to capitalise on the opportunities within the changing City landscape enabling opportunities for the community to participate in organised sport and informal recreation by providing facilities that are accessible, and relevant to the needs of people and sporting clubs.



Our neighbourhoods will be unique



We will have vulnerable communities



We will be young and family oriented



We will be diverse



We will be fast growing

Sportsgrounds play a critical role in the health of people and communities. They not only provide an important space for sport and exercise but play a critical role in bringing a community together and growing social networks.

The intensity of growth will provide demand for sportsgrounds that are multi-purpose spaces that meet a variety of needs for the City's diverse and unique demographics.

Council's sportsgrounds

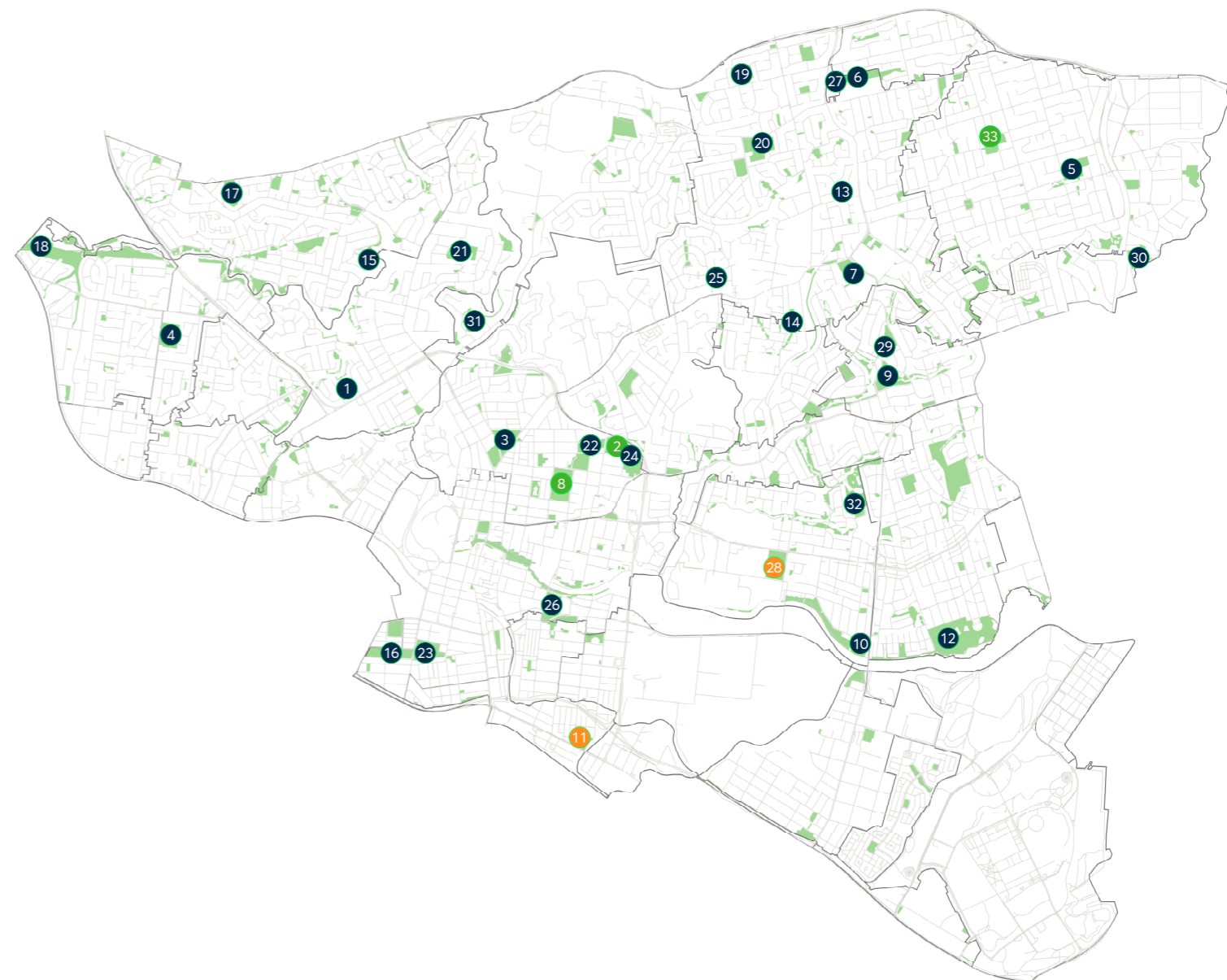
Many community members experience a strong sense of enjoyment and belonging through participating in sports and engaging with their various sports clubs and organisations. Council recognises the importance of sportsground facilities to the open space network within the City, in providing opportunities to improve health and well-being and enhance the lifestyle of residents.

Currently, Council has 33 sportsgrounds which provide 64 sporting fields. The sporting fields cover 53.6ha, with the total land area of the sportsgrounds being approximately 150ha.

Sportsground use for formal sports is managed around two distinct seasons (summer and winter). Council's sportsground network is configured differently in winter and summer to accommodate the different formal sporting uses that occur between the seasons. Use of Council's sportsground network can be formal (such as club competition), or informal (such as kicking around a ball after school or work).

Based on available data, Council currently allocates approximately 1565 hours per week of sportsground use to sporting clubs during the winter season, 949 hours per week during the summer season and 325 hours of school use throughout each school term.

Hours of use for seasonal bookings



Current sportsgrounds

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Arthur Phillip Park | 17 Max Ruddock Reserve |
| 2 Barton Park | 18 McCoy Park |
| 3 Belmore Park | 19 Murray Farm Reserve |
| 4 Binalong Park | 20 North Rocks Park |
| 5 Boronia Park | 21 Northmead Reserve |
| 6 Carlingford Schools Oval | 22 Old Saleyards Reserve |
| 7 Cox Park | 23 Ollie Webb Reserve |
| 8 Doyle Ground | 24 P H Jeffrey Reserve |
| 9 Dundas Park | 25 Peggy Womersley Reserve |
| 10 Eric Primrose Reserve | 26 Robin Thomas Reserve |
| 11 F S Garside Park | 27 Roselea Reserve |
| 12 George Kendall Riverside Park | 28 Rydalmere Park |
| 13 Harold West Reserve | 29 Sir Thomas Mitchell Reserve |
| 14 Homelands Reserve | 30 Somerville Park |
| 15 John Curtin Reserve | 31 Speers Road Reserve |
| 16 Jones Park | 32 Upjohn Park |
| | 33 West Epping Park |

Sportsground classification

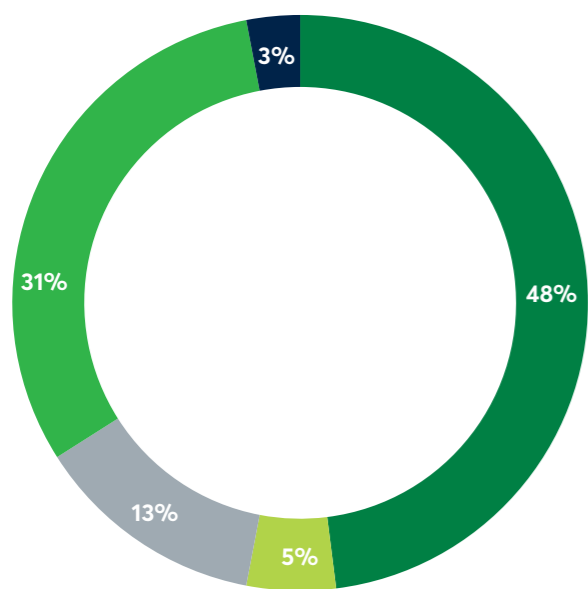
- Regional sportsgrounds
- District sportsgrounds
- Local sportsgrounds
- Parks & Reserves

Current sportsground capacity

The standard capacity of a sportsground refers to how much use, in hours per week, the sporting field can provide to the community before the quality of the playing surface is compromised. It is widely acknowledged that if a turf sporting field is used more than 25 hours a week it is likely that the surface will deteriorate.

An analysis of the current formal sports usage patterns of Council's sportsground sites is depicted in the pie chart.

Based on current allocations, fields that are over standard capacity (25 hours p/w) are on average 16 hours over their practical capacity. As a proportion of the total sporting field capacity, this represents approx. 13.5%. That is, Council would need to boost capacity by 13.5% to effectively meet the current allocation demand.



● Overuse ● At capacity ● <10 ● Under-use ● No use

Understanding the practical capacity of the City's sportsground network

- Practical Capacity considers the realistic output of our sporting fields by considering field area, hours of use and site-specific features including lighting, amenities, safety and neighbourhood context
- Currently, Council's 64 sporting fields provide the practical capacity of 55 sporting fields
- This is because not all of Council's sporting fields are 0.8ha in size and/or have elements which limit it from reasonably being able to be used for 25 hours per week
- If the current practical capacity of 55 fields is multiplied by 13.5% (our supply gap) to meet current demand we would need in total 63 sporting fields.

Supply



Demand



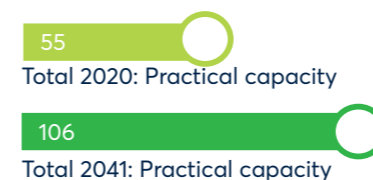
Future needs and targets

Future needs

Council currently has 64 sporting fields which have the practical capacity of 55 sporting fields.

Based on Council's analysis if the provision gap is increased by the forecast population growth then the City will require the practical capacity of 106 sporting fields by 2041. This is an additional practical capacity of 51 sporting fields to meet the needs of a growing population, which is set to double by 2041.

City of Parramatta ideal sporting field provision against practical capacity benchmark at 2041



Targets

Practical capacity highlights that there are a number of measures that can contribute to addressing the shortfall in the supply of sportsgrounds.

City of Parramatta Council will seek to realise the practical capacity of 51 sporting fields within our sportsground network by 2041, through collaboration, partnerships and the resources of many.

The practical capacity of 51 sporting fields translates to the following targets:

- Upgrading **26** existing sportsgrounds
- Improved and increased maintenance of sporting fields
- Installing **10** synthetic sporting fields
- Delivering **8** new sportsground facilities
- Increasing community access to **16** sporting fields not owned by Council.



Council would need to boost its practical capacity by 8 sporting fields to meet the current demand for formal sport.

A note on provision standards

There are various provision standards that can be employed when determining future community needs and potential gaps related to sportsgrounds. It is acknowledged that supply and demand modelling is indicative as it is based on a range of assumptions which are subject to several variables. However, they do provide a means to quantifying the likely demand and supply factors.

Principles for sportsground delivery

Decisions related to the planning and delivery of all sportsground facilities will be undertaken in accordance with the following principles.

- Best value – projects that maximise funding opportunities and provide a strong return on investment
- Best fit – provision of a diverse range of sportsground facilities at local and district level which maximise opportunities for multi-use and shared-use of sports infrastructure
- Best practice – projects that can implement industry, sustainability, and universal best practice principles in the planning, design and use of new facilities.

Trends critical to sportsground delivery

How people are participating:

- There is growing demand for more social and self-directed forms of participation
- There is a need to support and encourage physical activity for all ages, abilities, genders, cultural and socio-economic groups ensuring they employ universal design and access principles.

supporting infrastructure

- Participation in sport and recreation can help achieve mental and physical health, crime prevention and social development objectives.
- Declining volunteerism and increased accountability issues

How activity structures are changing:

- Sports are creating products that cater to different age groups, genders and accessibilities
- There is an increasing provision of commercial fitness, casual and social recreation opportunities
- There is increased demand for formal sports use - season overlap and across season usage is becoming more prevalent

Economic factors:

- The cost of living is rising, which increases the cost of participating in formal sport, which is an affordability barrier for many people affecting their health, wellbeing and connections with community
- Increasing costs associated with accelerated sporting field life cycle and community expectations. Sportsgrounds need to be developed to withstand increased wear and tear, especially in the context of changing climatic conditions like floods and extreme heat, which costs more
- There is greater pressure on Councils due to ageing assets and increasing community expectations of quality and diversity of inclusions
- There is declining land availability and increasing cost of land and infrastructure provision
- The Department of Education faces significant challenges to providing enough primary and secondary school places to meet existing and future demand based on projected population growth.

Social factors:

- We are becoming older and more ethnically diverse leading to a greater variety of recreation activities reflecting a wide range of interests and schedules
- The way we live, work and engage in sport has changed. Australians now look for sporting and physical activities that work around their other commitments
- An increase in gender equity and accessibility in sports participation can be difficult to accommodate within the limited availability of sporting fields and the appropriate

These principles and trends have been developed following a literature review of other local government sport and recreation infrastructure strategies, understanding key trends in sport and recreation planning, and considering results of audit, local needs analyses and community engagement commissioned by City of Parramatta Council.

Focus areas and key recommendations

The draft SSAP will incorporate a action plan to address focus areas which outline short, medium and long term priorities to guide the development of the City's sportsground network over the next 20-years. The action plan will assist Council and it's partners in advocating for and aligning resources to recommended projects however, each action will need to go through the required feasibility/ business case process before it is determined the project can be delivered. The prioritisation and delivery of these activities may also change as new opportunities and constraints arise.

These five focus areas are:

- a) Improve maintenance and upgrade existing sportsgrounds to increase capacity
- b) Install strategically located synthetic sporting fields to increase capacity and take demand off turf sporting fields
- c) Deliver new sportsground facilities
- d) Increase community access to sporting fields not owned by Council
- e) Implement efficient management processes to support and maximise the use of sportsground facilities.



What the draft SSAP will deliver

New and improved facilities

Priority area	How	Quantity		
		Short term	Medium to long term	Long term
Improve maintenance and upgrade existing sportsgrounds to increase capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reconfiguration Improving surfaces Drainage, irrigation and floodlighting Upgrading local facilities to district facilities 	13 sites	9 sites	4 sites
Install strategically located synthetic sporting fields to increase capacity and take demand off turf sporting fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site selection Business case Return on investment and community outcome 	2 fields	2 fields	6 fields
Deliver new sportsground facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repurposing parks/ existing suitable land Seek land acquisition and dedication Repurpose alternative spaces 	2 sites	2 sites	4 sites
Increase community access to sporting fields not owned by Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint use agreement 	4 fields	4 fields	8 fields

New and improved processes

Priority area	Action	How
Implement efficient management processes to support and maximise the use of sportsground facilities	Prioritise and develop supporting plans and policies which will guide the provision of infrastructure, services and programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocation and floodlighting policies Asset Management Plans Sportsground construction specifications
	Monitor sport participation rates and trends against utilisation and allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data gathering methodology and toolkit providing an up-to-date evidence base
	Commit to collaboration with key sporting stakeholders (including sporting organisations, all levels of government and clubs/ associations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support good governance, operations and strategic planning Increase participation and remove barriers to participation Promotion of programs and services of sporting partners

How will we implement the draft SSAP?

The draft SSAP enables and equips Council to deliver new and upgraded sportsgrounds to our community. Once adopted, to deliver the draft SSAP, we will:

- Actively plan for and seek opportunities to deliver recommendations of the draft SSAP.
- Identify and secure funding under Development Contribution Plans, Voluntary Planning Agreements and other infrastructure funding sources.
- Undertake advocacy, planning and negotiation with the State Government Department of Education, and the private sector, to meet sportsground needs within precinct plans and to facilitate access to non-Council owned land.
- Align current funding streams and budgets with the draft SSAP and seek out new funding opportunities (including grants) and partnerships.

How will we fund the recommendations?

The funding of the recommendations within the draft SSAP will result in higher capital and maintenance costs to Council. The recommendations require a variety and combination of funding sources which will include:

- Developer Contributions including Section 7.11 funding and/or Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPAs)
- Council funding sources from general revenue
- External funding sources for example grant funding or funding partnerships with other organisations like Federal and State Government, Sporting Organisations and/or the Department of Education.

Of the proposed projects the majority are expected to be delivered through development contributions and voluntary planning agreements supported by Council and grant funding. For projects which provide access to sportsgrounds which are not owned by Council it is recommended that funding partnerships will need to be delivered once a Joint Partnership Agreement is agreed upon.

Our future sportsground network

Current sportsgrounds

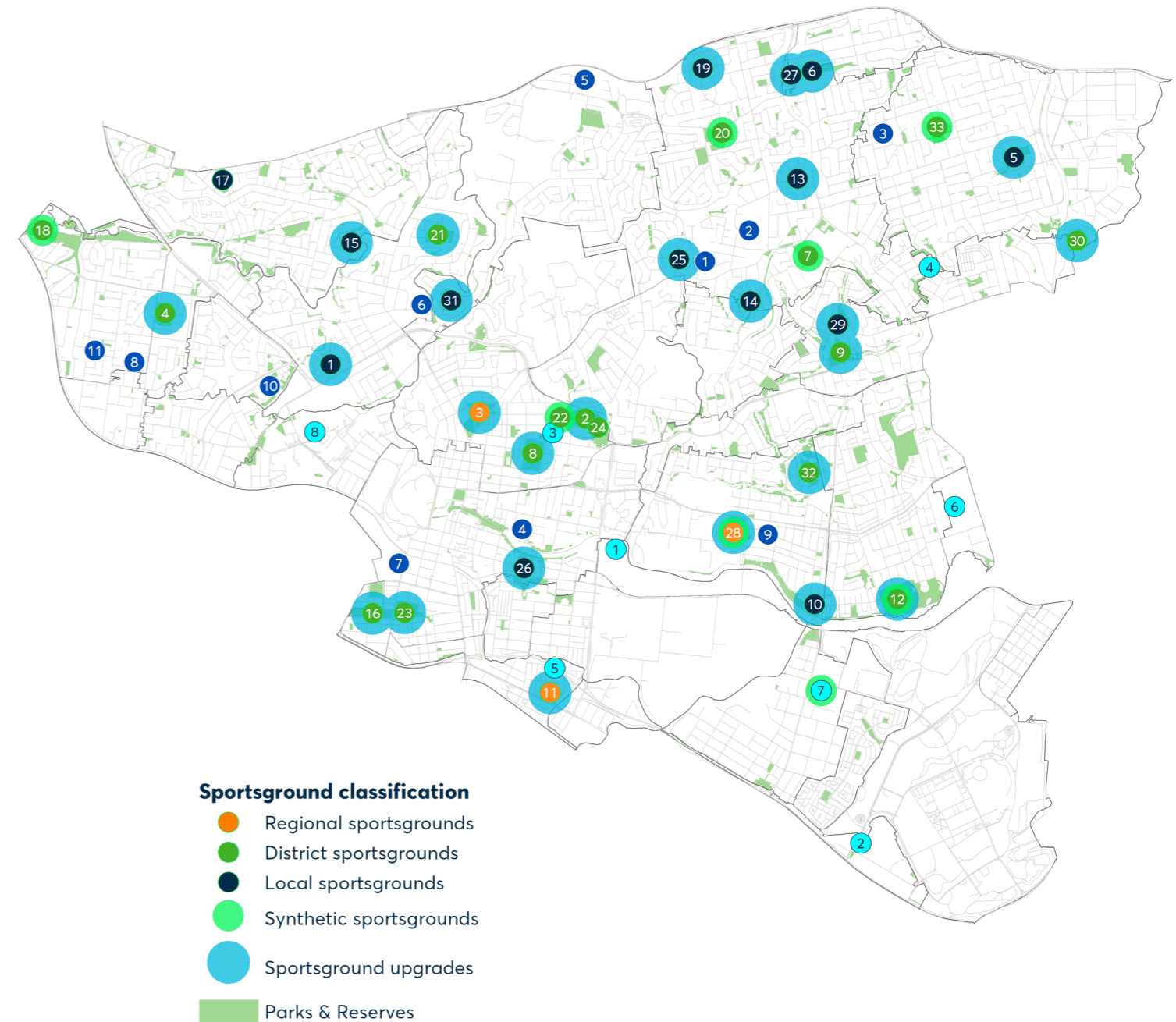
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- 29 Sir Thomas Mitchell Reserve
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Proposed community access

- 1 Cumberland High School
- 2 James Ruse Agricultural High School
- 3 Karonga School
- 4 Maccarthur Girls High School
- 5 Muirfield High School
- 6 Northmead CAPA High School
- 7 Parramatta High School / PPT
- 8 Pendle Hill High School
- 9 Rydalmere Public School
- 10 Toongabbie East Public School
- 11 Toongabbie West Public School

Proposed new sportsgrounds

- 1 Camellia Development
- 2 Carter Street Development
- 3 Dan Mahoney Reserve
- 4 Fred Spurway Reserve
- 5 Granville Development
- 6 Melrose Park Development
- 7 Newington Reserve
- 8 Westmead Development





For more information?

This draft SSAP draws on the knowledge and experience of our consultants and many staff from across Council who have a passion for sport and sportsground facilities. Together with feedback from our community, and our key stakeholders, implementation of this document will be a shared effort.

For further information on Council's draft SSAP the following resources are available:

- City of Parramatta Community Infrastructure Strategy
 - City of Parramatta Council's website:
cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au
- City of Parramatta Customer Contact Centre:
1300 617 058
- For access to demographic data log onto
profile.id.com.au/parramatta