



Final Report Public Hearing for Proposed Community Land Categorisation

City of Parramatta
Draft Community and Crown Land Plan of Management
11 September 2023



recreation
open space
and sport
specialists

This report has been prepared by:

ROSS Planning Pty Ltd
ABN 32 508 029 959
Upper floor, 63 Bay Terrace
Wynnum QLD 4178

PO Box 5660
MANLY QLD 4179

P: (07) 3901 0730
E: info@rossplanning.com.au
W: www.rossplanning.com.au

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Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this report

This report provides City of Parramatta Council with an accurate summary of the public hearing held on Wednesday 26 July 2023 regarding proposed categorisation and changes to existing categorisation of various Community land parcels included in the City of Parramatta Community and Crown Land Plan of Management (CCLPoM).

This report has been prepared under Section 40A of the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act).

1.2 Background to the public hearing

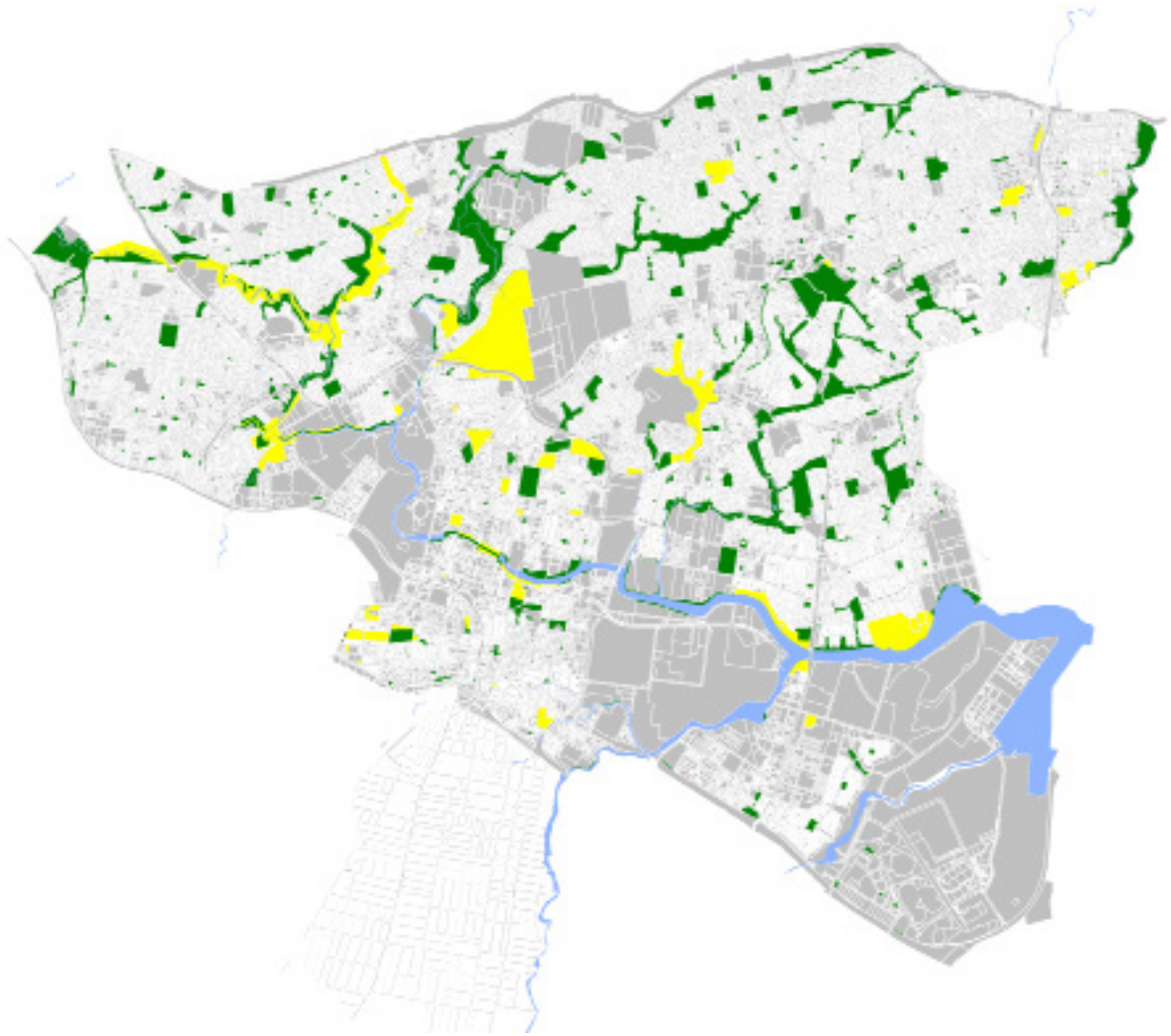
The City of Parramatta has prepared a Draft CCLPoM for both Council managed Community land and Crown reserves. The CCLPoM proposes changes to the categorisation of part or all of some of the land from the category assigned to the land previously under existing plans of management or the initial categorisation of Crown land consistent with the reserve or dedication purpose. It also proposes to categorise land not previously included under a plan of management.

A public hearing is required under Section 40A of the LG Act to categorise Community land not previously included in a plan of management or to change the existing categorisation. Under the LG Act the public hearing must be chaired by an independent facilitator. A public hearing is not required for the categorisation or recategorisation of Crown land under the *Crown Land Management Regulation 2018*.

1.3 Public hearing report

This report meets the requirements of the LG Act regarding Plans of Management and categorisation of Community land, including submissions regarding proposed categorisation. There were no submissions made at the public hearing meeting held on 26 July 2023. Written submissions were received by City of Parramatta between 3 July 2023 and 14 August 2023.

Council managed Community and Crown Land Network



Legend



Crown Land

Community Land



Crown Waterway (Submerged Land)



LGA Boundary

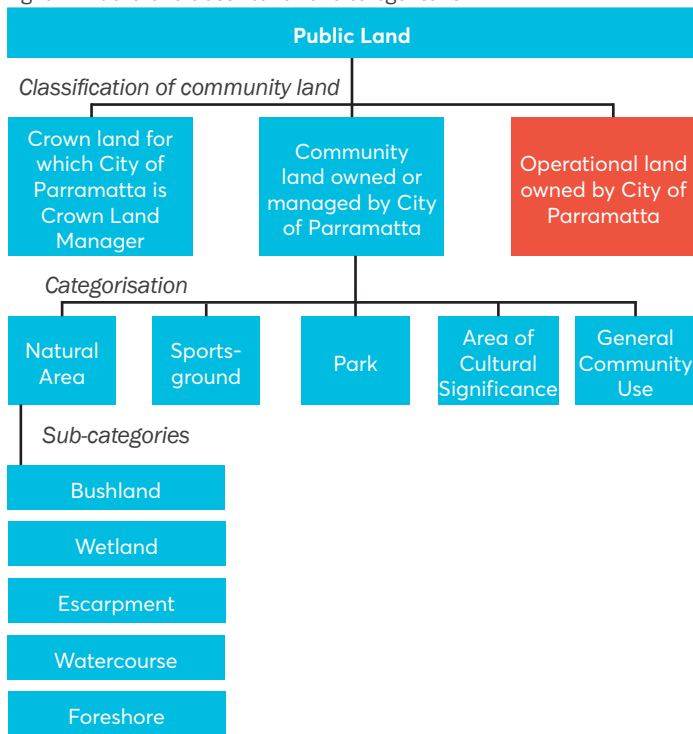


Planning context

2.1 Community and Crown land

Council is required to manage public land in accordance with the LG Act and *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (CLM Act). These legislative requirements include the classification and categorisation of public land as illustrated in Figure 1.

Fig. 01 Public land classification and categorisation



Crown Land

From 1 July 2018 the CLM Act empowers local Councils that are appointed to manage dedicated or reserved area of Crown land, to manage that land as community land under the LG Act. This includes preparing a Plan of Management and categorising the land.

Community Land

The LG Act requires that all public land owned by Council must be classified as “community” or “operational” land (Section 26).

Community land is intended to be managed for use by the community for purposes including environmental protection, recreational, cultural, social and educational activities. Community land may only be leased or licensed for up to 21 years without the Minister’s consent or up to 30 years with the Minister’s consent, it cannot be sold, and its use is restricted to the above purposes.

Operational Land

Conversely, operational land is land that can be used for any purposes deemed fit by Council, may be used for commercial purposes, be leased for a longer period, and can be sold.

2.2 Categorisation of community land and Crown reserves

Categories for community land and Crown reserves

The LG Act requires that all land owned by the Council which is classified as community land be categorised according to its characteristics and intended use/s. The CLM Act prescribes this categorisation requirement for Crown reserves under the control of an appointed “Council Crown Land manager”.

Community land and Crown reserves may be categorised as one or more of the following under Section 36(4) of the Act:

- natural area
- sportsground
- park
- area of cultural significance
- general community use.

Community land and Crown reserves that are categorised as a natural area are to be sub-categorised as one or more of the following under Section 36(5) of the LG Act:

- bushland
- wetland
- escarpment
- watercourse
- foreshore
- category prescribed by the regulations.

2.3 Guidelines for categorisation of community land and Crown reserves

Guidelines for the categorisation of community land and Crown reserves are outlined in Sections 102 to 111 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

The Office of Local Government’s revised Practice Note on Public Land Management (Department of Local Government, 2000) provides recommendations for categorisation of community land, as follows:

“Council must have regard to the guidelines in determining a category (cl.9) but are not required to adopt any category merely because the land fits the description in the guidelines. Council should look at all the circumstances of the land in making a decision as to categorisation. For example, a piece of land may seem to satisfy the guidelines for more than one category. Council has a discretion in this case to look at the land in context, taking into account all relevant material before determining a category. It is important that Council be able to justify a decision.”

Also, Council may have a piece of community land, parts of which may be best managed as different categories, for example a piece of land with remnant bushland in one part and children’s play equipment in another. Council is able to categorise land as part ‘Natural Area – Bushland’ and part ‘Park’. It is strongly recommended that the land in each category not overlap. Overlapping categories may cause conflict in management objectives and will create confusion in the minds of Council staff and the community.”

2.4 Core objectives for managing community land

Each category and sub-category of community land has core objectives that apply under the LG Act. The core objectives outline the management approach for the land covered by the particular category. The core objectives for each category of community land are set out in Sections 36E to 36N of the LG Act.

2.5 Guidelines and core objectives for categories for this public hearing

The guidelines and core objectives for the current and proposed Community land categories that apply to the CCLPoM are outlined in Table 1.

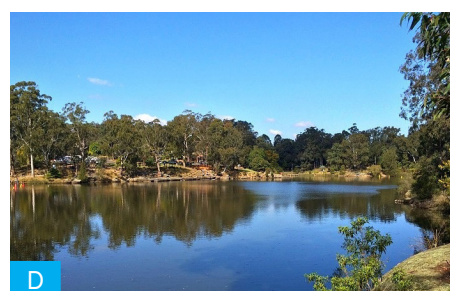


Image descriptions:

- A) Mays Hill Reserve
- B) Jones Park
- C) Baludarra Wetland
- D) Lake Parramatta Reserve
- E) West Epping Park

Table 01: Guidelines and core objectives for current and proposed categories of community land and Crown reserves.

| CATEGORY | GUIDELINES (1) LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL REGULATION) 2021 | CORE OBJECTIVES (2) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Natural Areas | <p><i>Regulation 102</i> Land whether or not in an undisturbed state, possesses a significant geological feature, geomorphological feature, landform, representative system or other natural feature or attribute that would be sufficient to further categorise the land as bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse or foreshore.</p> | <p><i>Section 36E:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function in respect of the land, or the feature or habitat in respect of which the land is categorised as a natural area, and <input type="checkbox"/> maintain the land, or that feature or habitat, in its natural state and setting, and <input type="checkbox"/> provide for the restoration and regeneration of the land, and <input type="checkbox"/> provide for community use of and access to the land in such a manner as will minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and <input type="checkbox"/> assist in and facilitate the implementation of any provisions restricting the use and management of the land that are set out in a recovery plan or threat abatement plan. |
| Sportsground | <p><i>Regulation 103</i> Land is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.</p> | <p><i>Section 36F:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving active recreation involving organised sports and informal sporting activities and games. <input type="checkbox"/> ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences. |
| Park | <p><i>Regulation 104</i> Land which is, or proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non sporting equipment and facilities, and for uses which are mainly passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.</p> | <p><i>Section 36G:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities <input type="checkbox"/> provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games <input type="checkbox"/> improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management. |
| General Community Use | <p><i>Regulation 106</i> Land that may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public.</p> | <p><i>Section 36I:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public: <input type="checkbox"/> provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and » in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities). |

| CATEGORY | GUIDELINES (1) LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL REGULATION) 2021 | CORE OBJECTIVES (2) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Natural Areas:</p> <p>Bushland</p> | <p><i>Regulation 107</i> Land contains primarily native vegetation that is the natural vegetation or a remainder of the natural vegetation of the land, or although not the natural vegetation, is still representative of the structure or floristics of the natural vegetation in the locality. Such land includes: (a) bushland that is mostly undisturbed with a good mix of tree ages, and natural regeneration, where the understorey is comprised of native grasses and herbs or native shrubs, and that contains a range of habitats for native fauna (such as logs, shrubs, tree hollows and leaf litter), or (b) moderately disturbed bushland with some regeneration of trees and shrubs, where there may be a regrowth area with trees of even age, where native shrubs and grasses are present in the understorey even though there may be some weed invasion, or (c) highly disturbed bushland where the native understorey has been removed, where there may be significant weed invasion and where dead and dying trees are present, where there is no natural regeneration of trees or shrubs, but where the land is still capable of being rehabilitated.</p> | <p><i>Section 36J:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat values of the land, the flora and fauna of the land and other ecological values, and <input type="checkbox"/> protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land, and <input type="checkbox"/> manage the land in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and to implement measures to minimise or mitigate disturbance caused by human intrusion, and <input type="checkbox"/> restore degraded bushland, and <input type="checkbox"/> protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores, and <input type="checkbox"/> retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term, and <input type="checkbox"/> protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface |
| <p>Natural Areas:</p> <p>Wetland</p> | <p><i>Regulation 108</i> Land includes marshes, mangroves, backwaters, billabongs, swamps, sedgeland, wet meadows or wet heathlands that form a waterbody that is inundated cyclically, intermittently or permanently with fresh, brackish or salt water, whether slow moving or stationary.</p> | <p><i>Section 36K:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> protect the biodiversity and ecological values of wetlands, particularly their hydrological environment (including water quality and water flow), flora, fauna and habitat value, and <input type="checkbox"/> restore and regenerate degraded wetlands, and <input type="checkbox"/> facilitate community education in relation to wetlands, and community use of wetlands, without compromising the ecological values of wetlands |
| <p>Natural Areas:</p> <p>Escarpment</p> | <p><i>Regulation 109</i> Land that includes such features as a long cliff-like ridge or rock, and significant or unusual geological, geomorphological or scenic qualities</p> | <p><i>Section 36L:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> protect any important geological, geomorphological or scenic features of the escarpment, and <input type="checkbox"/> facilitate safe community use and enjoyment of the escarpment |

| CATEGORY | GUIDELINES (1) LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL REGULATION) 2021 | CORE OBJECTIVES (2) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 |
|--|---|--|
| Natural Area: Watercourse | <i>Regulation 110</i> Land includes any stream of water, perennial or intermittent, in a natural or artificial channel, and associated riparian land or vegetation | <i>Section 36M:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> manage watercourses so as to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the instream environment, particularly in relation to water quality and water flows, and <input type="checkbox"/> manage watercourses so as to protect the riparian environment, particularly in relation to riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability, and <input type="checkbox"/> restore degraded watercourses, and <input type="checkbox"/> promote community education, and community access to and use of the watercourse, without compromising the other core objectives of the category. |
| Natural Area: Foreshore | <i>Regulation 111</i> Land situated on the water's edge forming a transition zone between the aquatic and terrestrial environment | <i>Section 36N:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> maintain the foreshore as a transition area between the aquatic and the terrestrial environment, and <input type="checkbox"/> protect and enhance all functions associated with the foreshore's role as a transition area, and <input type="checkbox"/> facilitate the ecologically sustainable use of the foreshore, and to mitigate impact on the foreshore by community use. |

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2.6 Plans of Management for Community land

Council must prepare a Plan of Management for Community land (Section 36 (1)).

Community land is required to be used and managed according to a Plan of Management applying to the land (Section 35).

The LG Act requires the Plan of Management for community land to include:

- categorisation of the land
- core objectives for management of the land.

2.7 Public Hearing

The LG Act Section 40A and the CLM requires a public hearing to be held if:

- a Plan of Management proposes to categorise the community land covered by the Plan of Management (that is, the Plan has not been previously been prepared and adopted by Council, or has not categorised community land)
- a Plan of Management proposes to recategorise, or change the adopted category, of the community land covered by the Plan of Management
- a Public Hearing is not required for proposed recategorisation of Crown land under the *Crown Land Regulation 2018*.

2.7.1 Conduct of public hearings

An independent chairperson conducts the public hearing, and provides a report to Council with recommendations on the proposed categorisation or recategorisation of Community land.

Under Section 47G of the Act, the person presiding at a public hearing must not be:

- a Councillor or employee of the Council holding the public hearing
- a person who has been a Councillor or employee of that Council at any time during the five years before the date of his or her appointment.

2.7.2 After the public hearing

Council must make a copy of this report regarding the outcomes of the public hearing available for inspection by the public at a location within the area of Council not later than four days after it has received the final report from the person presiding at the public hearing.

The public hearing report will be presented to Council for its information when it considers the Draft CCLPoM for adoption under the LG Act.

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Current and proposed categorisation

3.1 Current and proposed categorisation of community land

The table below lists the Community land and current categorisation along with proposed recategorisation and the reason for the proposed recategorisation. Council has provided mapping for each of the sites listed in Table 2 on the Participate Parramatta project page at <https://participate.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/plan-of-management>.

Table 02: Community land and current category along with proposed recategorisation and reason(s) for recategorisation

| NAME | CURRENT CATEGORY/S | PROPOSED CATEGORY/S | REASON(S) |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Adderton Road Reserve | - | Park | Omission |
| AE2 Park | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Alan Street Reserve | - | General Community Use | Omission |
| Albert Street Reserve | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Alfred Street Reserve | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Backhousia Reserve | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| Baludarri Wetland | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| Barnett Park | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Riparian Corridor (W1 Land Zoning) |
| Beaconsfield Street Reserve | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Channel |
| Belmore St East Reserve | Natural Area | General Community Use | Access Road Only (Aboriginal Land Claim) |
| Blankers Koen Park | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Burnside Gollan Reserve | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Riparian Corridor (W1 Land Zoning) |
| Buruwang Park | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Caber Park | Park Sportsground | Park Sportsground | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Tennis Courts) |
| Caroline Chisholm Park | Park Sportsground | Park Sportsground | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Tennis Courts) |
| CBD Foreshore Reserve | Park General Community Use | Park General Community Use Natural Area | River Channel (W2 Land Zoning) Road Alignment (George Khatter Lane) |
| Church Street Reserve | Park | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Coopers Creek Reserve | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Channel (W1 Land Zoning) |

| NAME | CURRENT CATEGORY/S | PROPOSED CATEGORY/S | REASON(S) |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Cowells Lane Reserve | Park General Community Use Natural Area | Park General Community Use Natural Area | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas Creek Riparian Corridor (W1 Land Zoning) |
| Cowper Street Reserve | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Cox Park | Sportsground Park Natural Area General Community Use | Sportsground Park Natural Area General Community Use | Bowling Club Lease Area Minor Boundary Adjustment (Sports fields) |
| Cumberland Park | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Dan Mahoney Reserve | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Riparian Corridor (W1 Land Zoning) |
| Darling Mills Creek Reserve | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| Deakin Park | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Channel |
| Dence Park | Park Sportsground General Community Use Natural Area | Park General Community Use Natural Area | Aquatic Centre Upgrade (Masterplan) Creek Riparian Corridor (W1 Land Zoning) |
| Dixon Park | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| Don Moore Reserve | Park Sportsground | Park Sportsground | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Netball Courts) |
| Duncan Park | Sportsground Natural Area | Sportsground Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| Dundas Park | Sportsground Natural Area General Community Use | Sportsground Natural Area General Community Use Park | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Creek Riparian Corridor) Passive Recreation Areas (Water Playground / Kickabout) |
| Dunrossil Park | Park Sportsground | Park Sportsground General Community Use | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Tennis Courts) Road Alignment |
| Edwards And Lamorna Avenue Reserve | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Large Mown Area) |
| Elizabeth Farm Reserve | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Channel (Land Zoning) |
| Eric Mobbs Memorial Park | Park | Park Natural Area | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Bushland) |
| Eric Primrose Reserve | Park Sportsground General Community Use | Park Sportsground General Community Use Natural Area | Creek Channel Sydney Water Pumping Station Minor Boundary Adjustment (Ferry Terminal & Sporting Fields) |
| Experiment Farm Reserve | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Channel (W1 Land Zoning) |
| Eyles Reserve | Park Natural Area | Park | Anomaly (No Creek) |
| F.S. Garside Park | Park Sportsground General Community Use | Park Sportsground | Community Building Demolished (Masterplan) Minor Boundary Adjustment (Sporting Field) |
| Finch Reserve | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Riparian Corridor (W1 Land Zoning) |
| Fred Robertson Park | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Large Mown Area) |

| NAME | CURRENT CATEGORY/S | PROPOSED CATEGORY/S | REASON(S) |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Fred Spurway Park | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Creek Riparian Corridor) |
| Galaringi | Natural Area | Natural Area General Community Use | Public Utilities Infrastructure Compound |
| Gallery Gardens | Park Sportsground Natural Area | Park Sportsground Natural Area | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Tennis Courts) |
| George Kendall Riverside Park | Sportsground Park Natural Area | Sportsground Park Natural Area General Community Use | New Sporting Fields (Masterplan) |
| Gibbons Reserve | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Channel (Land Zoning) |
| Giffard Street Reserve | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Greens Avenue Reserve | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| Hazlewood Rose Park | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area General Community Use | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Bushland) Multi-use Hardstand Area |
| Homelands Reserve | Park Sportsground | Park Sportsground | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Sporting Field) |
| Hospital Farm Reserve | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| Hume Park | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Channel |
| Inala Place Reserve | - | Park | Omission |
| Iona Creek Reserve | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| James Hoskin Reserve | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas Creek Riparian Corridor (W1 Land Zoning) |
| James Ruse Reserve | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Channel (W1 Land Zoning) |
| John Wearn Reserve | Park | Park General Community Use | Childcare Centre |
| Jubilee Park (Part) | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Ken Newman Park | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas Creek Riparian Corridor (W1 Land Zoning) |
| Kestrel Park | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Little Eagle Green | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Lloyds Avenue Reserve | Park | Park General Community Use | Public Carpark & Road (Coleman Avenue) |
| Lochinvar Parade Reserve | General Community Use | Park | Mown & Landscaped Parkland |
| Loftus Square | Park | Park General Community Use | Public Road (Willoughby Street) |
| Maid Marion Reserve | - | Park | Omission |
| Maple Tree Road Reserve | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Marri Badoo Reserve | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| McCoy Park | Park Sportsground Natural Area | Park Sportsground Natural Area | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas Creek Channels and Riparian Corridor (W1 Land Zoning) |

| NAME | CURRENT CATEGORY/S | PROPOSED CATEGORY/S | REASON(S) |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Midson Road Bushland (Part) | - | Natural Area | Omission |
| Milson Park | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas (Masterplan) |
| Mobbs Lane Reserve | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| Model Farms Reserve | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Large Mown & Landscaped Area) |
| Moxham Park | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Area |
| Murray Farm Reserve | Sportsground | Sportsground Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| Navy Park | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Area |
| Noller Park | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Channel (W1 Land Zoning) |
| North Rocks Park | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area General Community Use Sportsground | Community & Childcare Centres Minor Boundary Adjustments (Masterplan) |
| Northmead Reserve | Sportsground | Sportsground Park General Community Use Natural Area | Scout Hall Endangered Ecological Community (Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest) Passive Recreation Area (Playground / Kickabout) |
| Oakes Reserve | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| Oakes Road Reserve | - | Park | Omission |
| O'Connell Street Reserve | Park | Park Natural Area | River Riparian Corridor |
| Ollie Webb Reserve | Sportsground | Sportsground Park Natural Area | Creek Channel (W1 Land Zoning) Passive Recreation Areas (Water Playground / Kickabout) |
| Osprey Park | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Palestine Park | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Large Mown & Landscaped Areas) |
| Panaview Crescent Reserve | General Community Use | Park | Landscaped Parkland |
| Panora Avenue Reserve | General Community Use | Park | Landscaped Parkland |
| Parabianga Reserve | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Area |
| Peggy Womersley Reserve | Park Sportsground | Park Sportsground | Minor Boundary Adjustment (New Amenities) |
| Pierre De Coubertin Park | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Ponds Creek Reserve North | Natural Area General Community Use | Natural Area Park | Scout Hall Demolished Large Mown & Landscaped Area |
| Prior Street Reserve | General Community Use | Park | Mown & Landscaped Parkland |
| Putt Putt Park | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Rangihou Reserve | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Rapanea Community Forest | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Area |
| Reid Park | Park | Park Natural Area | River Riparian Corridor |

| NAME | CURRENT CATEGORY/S | PROPOSED CATEGORY/S | REASON(S) |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--|
| River Park | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Creek Riparian Corridors) |
| Robin Hood Park | Natural Area Park | Natural Area Park | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Large Mown & Landscaped Area) |
| Robin Thomas Reserve | Park Sportsground General Community Use | Park Sportsground General Community Use | Cottage Demolition (Masterplan) Light Rail Corridor Minor Boundary Adjustment (Sporting Fields) |
| Rock Farm Reserve | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Area |
| Rotary Park | Park General Community Use | Park General Community Use | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Guide Hall) |
| Russell Walker Reserve | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Riparian Corridor |
| Rydalmere Park | Sportsground Park General Community Use | Sportsground Park General Community Use | Minor Boundary Adjustments (Masterplan) |
| Shale Street Reserve | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Shannons Paddock | Park | Park Natural Area General Community Use | Creek Channel (W1 Land Zoning) Road (Darcy Road) |
| Simpson Reserve | Park General Community Use | Park General Community Use | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Telecommunications Facility) |
| Sir Thomas Mitchell Reserve | Park Sportsground Natural Area | Park Sportsground | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Large Mown Area) Exotic Vegetation |
| Skenes Avenue Reserve | Natural Area | Natural Area Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |
| Somerville Park | Park Natural Area General Community Use Sportsground | Park Natural Area Sportsground | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Large Mown Area) Passive Recreation Area (Playground / Kickabout) |
| Sophia Crescent Reserve | General Community Use | Park | Landscaped Parkland |
| Sturt Park | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Creek Riparian Corridor) |
| Sue Savage Park | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Creek Channel) |
| Swann Reserve | Park | Park Natural Area | Creek Channel (W1 Land Zoning) |
| Thallon Street Reserve East | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Thallon Street Reserve West | - | Park | Land Acquisition |
| Third Settlement Reserve | Park Natural Area Sportsground General Community Use | Park Natural Area Sportsground General Community Use | Minor Boundary Adjustments (Courts / Large Mown Areas / Scout & Guide Halls) |
| Timbergetters Reserve | Park Natural Area Sportsground | Park Natural Area Sportsground | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Tennis Courts / Large Mown Areas) |
| Upjohn Park | Park Sportsground Natural Area | Park Sportsground Natural Area | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Large Mown & Landscaped Areas) |
| West Epping Park | Sportsground General Community Use | Sportsground Park General Community Use | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Sporting Fields) Passive Recreation Areas (Playground / Courts / Kickabout) |

| NAME | CURRENT CATEGORY/S | PROPOSED CATEGORY/S | REASON(S) |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| William Wade Park | Park Natural Area | Park Natural Area | Minor Boundary Adjustment (Creek Riparian Corridor) |
| Yanung Reserve | Natural Area General Community Use | Natural Area General Community Use Park | Large Mown & Landscaped Areas |



The public hearing

4.1 Advertising and notification

4.1.1 Public notification and exhibition requirements

Section 38 of the LG Act requires councils to give public notice of a draft plan of management, and specifies both the public exhibition and public submission timeframe.

4.1.2 Public exhibition resources

Several resources were developed to support the Draft CCLPoM public exhibition, including:

- frequently asked questions relating to the Draft CCLPoM
- Draft CCLPoM online and in hardcopy format at PHIVE and City of Parramatta Libraries
- Proposed Community Land Categorisation Public Hearing Background information to assist people navigate and understand the public hearing and Draft CCLPoM
- a comprehensive mapping tool allowing people to visually compare the current categories and any new categories or changes proposed to existing categories
- instructions and tools to assist people to participate in the public hearing and how to make a submission
- how to access support to make a submission, including provision of information in another language or format
- a range of Council Officer contact details for additional information and support.

4.1.3 Online notification

Council notified the community of the online public hearing on its Participate Parramatta website <https://participate.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/plan-of-management> from Monday 3 July 2023 to Monday 14 August 2023.

The project page on Council’s website is shown in Figure 2.

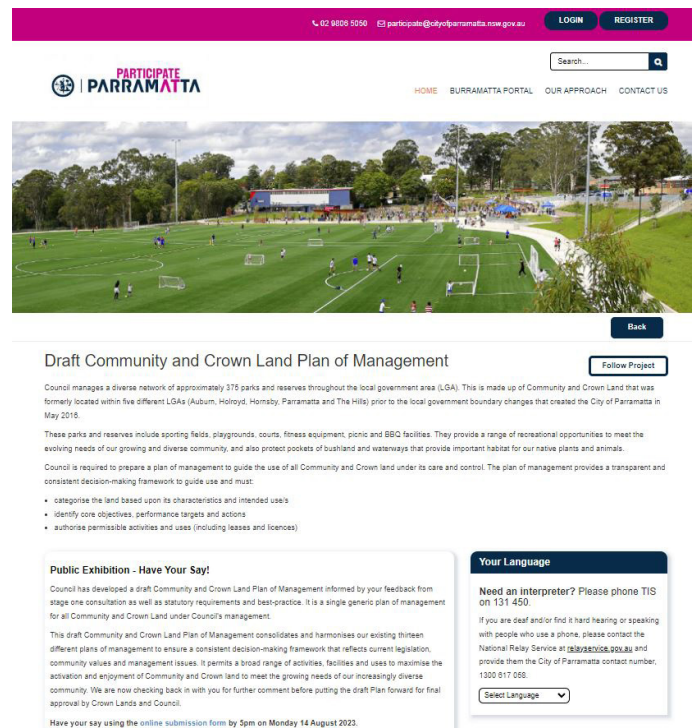


Table 03: Public exhibition and public hearing information online at Participate Parramatta

4.1.4 Other notification methods

Council advertised the public exhibition and public hearing via other methods including:

- Advertisement in the Parra News (the local Parramatta newspaper) on Tuesday 11 July 2023
- City of Parramatta Facebook
- Participate Parramatta Facebook
- Liveable Parramatta Facebook
- Banner item on the City of Parramatta external website from Tuesday 11 July 2023 to 4 August 2023
- Participate Parramatta Community Newsletter.

Overall, approximately 127,541 people were made aware of the opportunity to provide feedback based on data captured relating to online engagement tools.

4.2 Public hearing arrangements

The public hearing was held as a video conference via the platform Zoom on Wednesday 26 July 2023 at 6:00pm.

Attendees were requested to register before the public hearing at <https://participate.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/plan-of-management> or by calling Customer Service on 1300 617 058.

Registrations for the public hearing closed at 12:00noon on Monday 24 July 2023.

4.3 Attendance at the public hearing

Council appointed an independent chairperson, Helen Carroll, Senior Consultant, ROSS Planning, to chair the public hearing.

Council Officers attended the meeting to assist in answering questions from attendees and with the technical operation of the meeting. The Council Officers in attendance were:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Troy Holbrook | Senior Open Space and Natural Area Planner |
| Terry Johnson | Group Manager Parks and Open Space |
| Megan Ryan | Coordinator Parks and Open Space Planning |
| Bea Tan | Community Engagement Officer |

The independent chairperson was based in Brisbane and the Council staff were based in City of Parramatta.

One community member attended the public hearing online. This was the single attendee at the meeting.

4.4 The public hearing

Ms Carroll opened the public hearing meeting at 6:00pm.

Ms Carroll welcomed the attendee and explained that they were the single attendee at the meeting, and offered to either answer any questions they had, or deliver the previously prepared presentation.

The attendee responded that they did not have any specific questions, and their attendance was out of general interest in the project and community engagement processes.

A short conversation between the chair, Council Officers and the attendee occurred, however the content is not relevant to this report.

There were no submissions and Ms Carroll closed the hearing at 6:11pm.

4.5 Submissions

Submissions on the proposed categorisation or recategorisation of Community land could be made at:

- via the online submission form at Participate Parramatta website at <https://participate.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/plan-of-management>
- verbally at the public hearing; prior registration was required
- in writing via email to openspace@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au
- in writing via post to CCLPoM Submission, City of Parramatta, PO Box 32, Parramatta NSW 2124.

Ten written submission relating to the proposed categorisation/recategorisation were received by 14 August 2023.



Consideration of submissions

5.1 Verbal and written submissions

5.1.1 Introduction

One person registered and attended the public hearing, however the participant did not make a verbal or written submission at the public hearing meeting.

Five individuals and five organisations made written submissions as follows:

- four online submissions
- three email submissions
- three letters submitted electronically.

Written submissions relating to the proposed categorisation and recategorisation of community land are set out below, according to:

- comments about proposed recategorisation of Elizabeth Farm Reserve
- comments about proposed recategorisation of part of Experiment Farm
- comments about proposed recategorisation of Barnett Park
- comments about proposed recategorisation of Gallery Gardens
- comments about proposed recategorisation of Oakes Reserve.



5.1.2 Comments about proposed recategorisation of Elizabeth Farm Reserve

Table 03: Proposed recategorisation of Elizabeth Farm Reserve

| SUPPORT? | SUBMISSION | COUNCIL RESPONSE |
|----------|---|--|
| Support | <p>i. Museums of History NSW (MHNSW) supports the revised classifications of Elizabeth Farm Reserve as a park and natural area: watercourse</p> <p>ii. In terms of direct impacts there should be no adverse impacts to the Museums of History NSW property, Elizabeth Farm</p> <p>iii. MHNSW would be interested to work with CoP to achieve objectives as outlined in Park, Regulation 104</p> <p>iv. MHNSW has observed increased activation of the eastern side of the reserve (Arthur St) over the last 12 months, the relatively flat and open green space attracting the growing number of residents new to the area. There is 1 set of table and seating and the accessibility parking also attracts community access groups and their clients.</p> <p>v. MHNSW would be interested in promoting more community use of the surrounding park area with additional park facilities (seating, bbqs, public toilets, etc). This would be consistent with the general approach to all parks in Parramatta LGA.</p> <p>vi. This is also consistent with the Draft Bike Plan 2023 which sees a bike path run through the reserve from Arthur to Alfred Streets.</p> <p>vii. Tramway Avenue - as part of the light rail network to open in 2024 - is only 5 minutes walk from Elizabeth Farm and has the potential to encourage visitation from Sydney Olympic Park and outside the LGA.</p> <p>viii. The strong MHNSW education offer which attracts thousands of students per year from across NSW and key calendar events such as the Eel Festival can support CoP in achieving the requirements for Park, Regulation 104, Section 36G particularly to “encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities”</p> <p>ix. The closer working relationship between MHNSW and CoP can bring shared strategic benefits increasing community engagement and activation and the potential to build a stronger tourism network which would include Rosehill Gardens and hotels.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>Council’s Community Infrastructure Strategy recognises the need to upgrade recreation facilities in existing Council parks to support healthy high density living. Elizabeth Farm Reserve has been identified for upgrade, including a new playground, within the <i>Outside-CBD Contributions Plan 2021</i> to provide for the increasing recreational needs of the growing surrounding community.</p> |

5.1.3 Comments about proposed recategorisation of Mays Hill Reserve, Hambledon Cottage Reserve, Experiment Farm, and Saint Patrick's Cemetery

One respondent stated they do not support the proposed categorisation/recategorisation of Mays Hill Reserve, Hambledon Cottage Reserve, Experiment Farm, and Saint Patrick's Cemetery as detailed in table x.

Table 04: Proposed categorisation/recategorisation of Mays Hill Reserve, Hambledon Cottage Reserve, Experiment Farm, and Saint Patrick's Cemetery

| SUPPORT? | SUBMISSION | COUNCIL RESPONSE |
|----------------|--|--|
| Do not support | <p>I am disappointed with the proposed Draft Community and Crown Land Plan of Management because : * It will effectively delete several individual management plans and replace them with a generic model which can not reflect the needs of each site. In particular regarding Mays Hill Cemetery, Holroyd Council drafted a detailed document detailing the site requirements and history. This was written in 1997 and updated in 2004, but rather than update it again, it is to be effectively destroyed. If the current plan is "lost" and a future one needed to be developed from scratch it would be expensive. However, realistically, saying that some individual management plans may need to be developed some time in the future is, as we all know, tantamount to saying it will not be done. * Although there are Cultural Heritage Performance targets it is inappropriate to lump these sites into a category that has potential uses including the temporary storage of shipping containers, water quality control ponds and BMX biking. * One glaring omission is that there are no areas at all recommended to be classified as areas of cultural significance. In an LGA that includes such sites as Hambledon Cottage, Experiment Farm, St Patrick's Cemetery, Mays Hill Cemetery etc this is extraordinary. St Patrick's Cemetery for one is on the State Heritage Register noted to be of both State and National importance.</p> | <p>City of Parramatta manages Community and Crown land on behalf of its community and is committed to acknowledging and respecting unique characteristics of individual parks and reserve that are valued by the community.</p> <p>Council will continue to implement specific plans, including conservation management and landscape master plans, that have been developed to identify, recognise and protect the unique character of individual parks and reserves, and to develop them for continued, sustainable use by the growing community as publicly accessible open space.</p> <p>Experiment Farm Reserve is currently categorised as Park and part of the Reserve is proposed to be recategorised as Natural Area to identify and reflect the Creek Channel consistent with the W1 Land Zoning under the Parramatta Local Environmental Plan 2023.</p> <p>Hambledon Cottage Reserve is currently categorised predominantly as Park, and the area covered by buildings is categorised General Community Use. These categories are proposed to be retained.</p> <p>Part of Mays Hill Reserve is currently categorised as Park. It is proposed that parts of the Reserve are categorised as Park, Sportsground, and General Community Use to reflect different uses of the Reserve consistent with the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i> guidelines and Crown land requirements, including sports courts, and cemetery.</p> <p>Mays Hill Reserve was formerly the subject of an individual Plan of Management (POM) adopted by the former Holroyd City Council, prior to realignment of local government boundaries. The Mays Hill Reserve Plan of Management aimed to manage the cemetery, park and sports courts at the Reserve. Key objectives and recommendations of the Mays Hill Conservation Plan informed the Plan of Management. The Mays Hill Reserve POM categorised the community land as Park. The remaining land is Crown land and has been categorised in accordance with their requirements as landowner.</p> <p>Saint Patrick's Cemetery is currently categorised as General Community Use and no change is proposed to this categorisation.</p> <p>An 'Area of cultural significance' requires a specific plan of management and is subject to specific legislative requirements outside the scope of the draft plan of management. In the future, Council may consider development of a landscape master plan or a specific plan of management for individual or a group of parks or reserves that have similar attributes, such as cemeteries, if sufficient evidence is identified to demonstrate that protection of the values of the land require this approach. These will be informed by existing conservation management plans and other previous relevant documents to ensure that past information is captured.</p> |



5.1.4 Comments about proposed recategorisation of Bruce Cole Reserve

Table 05: Proposed recategorisation of Bruce Cole Reserve

| SUPPORT? | SUBMISSION | COUNCIL RESPONSE |
|----------------|---|--|
| Do not support | Categorisation has failed to review or refine the "Park" area that is in fact a highly significant remnant Endangered Ecological Community, under cumulative impacts. - Site needs to be correctly categorised Natural Area-"Bushland" with a polygon of "Park" for playground & shelters. | The proposed categorisation reflects current use and management of Bruce Cole Reserve. The northern portion of the reserve has a mown understorey with endangered ecological community (EEC) canopy only and is primarily managed as parkland to meet the increasing recreational needs of the growing surrounding community. Council has finite resources to expand bushland and focuses these on higher priority reserves that are less prone to disturbance and edge effects requiring more intensive management. The CCLPOM authorises bush regeneration activities on land categorised as park should additional resources become available. |
| Do not support | I dispute that there is more bushland depicted on MC Map 16 on page 137 where everything on the site other than the constructed fenceline/gate, playground/ equipment area and amenities - picnic shelters, BBQ and tap/bubbler are very much what is fully described on Page 30 as Bushland with vulnerable/ endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland spp. Granted there is a large portion of that depicted as 'park' which is currently being mown. However, It has a rare example of transitional geology which creates its Endangered Ecological Community and it supports a variety of wildlife including: Microbats, White-winged Choughs and Tawny Frogmouths as well as Scaly-breasted lorikeets, the usual rainbow lorikeets, sulphur-crested cockatoos, kookaburras, short-beaked corellas and more. This categorisation needs to be revisited and amended accordingly to ensure the management strategies are in keeping with the protection, preservation and restoration of the bushland on site whilst acknowledging there are portions and items of park categorisation also to a minor degree. | |

5.1.5 Comments about proposed recategorisation of Barnett Park

Table 06: Proposed recategorisation of Barnett Park

| SUPPORT? | SUBMISSION | COUNCIL RESPONSE |
|----------------|---|--|
| Do not support | Barnett Park Winston Hills "Park" - that had been 'developed with concrete pathways infrastructure' without any or adequate Environmental Assessment THAT HAS impacted substantially with the killing of most of the significant and healthy Stringybark Trees. - this reserve needs to have Additional Category Area of Natural Area-"Bushland" to include the full TPZ Areas of ALL remnant Trees Alive and Dead, added to Natural Area-"Watercourse". - Accurate and detailed pockets of 'Bushland' classification must be made and enable ALL the Strategies of Section 7, to protect and enhance all aspects of Endangered Ecological Communities and species with better bushcare management AND increased skilled funded. Thus regular mowing and (landscape) mulching need to be removed from all these TPZ areas and isolated as bushland pockets for regeneration from seed and recruitment | The proposed categorisation of Barnett Park reflects the current use and management of the Park. The reserve comprises mown parkland with isolated remnant EEC trees. It is managed to meet the increasing recreational needs of the growing surrounding community. Council has finite resources to expand bushland and focuses these on higher priority reserves that are less prone to disturbance and edge effects requiring more intensive management. The CCLPOM authorises bush regeneration activities on land categorised as park should additional resources become available. Council has an adopted 'Public Tree Protection During Works' Policy that applies to all works undertaken on Council owned or managed land. This requires that tree protection measures are implemented in accordance with AS 4970:2009 (Protection of Trees on Development Sites) during Council works. Any works undertaken 'without consent' also require a Part 5 environmental assessment (Review of Environmental Factors) to identify and minimise potential impacts on trees. |

5.1.6 Comments about proposed recategorisation of Gallery Gardens

Table 07: Proposed recategorisation of Gallery Gardens

| SUPPORT? | SUBMISSION | COUNCIL RESPONSE |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Do not support | MC Map 56 on page 156 of Gallery Gardens does not reflect that actual amount of existing bushland. The significant trees on the south-east side of the watercourse - Bogalara Creek and its unnamed tributary must be recognised as being Bushland and managed accordingly. There is a smaller portion of 'park' that contains some relatively recently installed exercise equipment and 3 patches of mown area thought the site. | <p>The proposed categorisation of Gallery Gardens reflects the current use and management of the land.</p> <p>The southern portion of the reserve has a mown understorey with endangered ecological community (EEC) canopy only and is primarily managed as parkland to meet the increasing recreational needs of the growing surrounding community. Council has finite resources to expand bushland and focuses these on higher priority reserves that are less prone to disturbance and edge effects requiring more intensive management. The CCLPOM authorises bush regeneration activities on land categorised as park should additional resources become available.</p> |

5.1.7 Comments about proposed recategorisation of Oakes Reserve

Table 08: Proposed recategorisation of Oakes Reserve

| SUPPORT? | SUBMISSION | COUNCIL RESPONSE |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Do not support | There appears to have been an oversight/error on Page 95 re Oakes Reserve not being an area that contains Bushland and not marked in the Bushland column where it actually does exist as marked on the map MC 97 on page 177 as such. | <p>The proposed categorisation of Oakes Reserve reflects the current use and management of the Reserve.</p> <p>Oakes Reserve is categorised as Park and Natural Area: Watercourse. Native vegetation is associated with the riparian zone and Natural Area: Watercourse categorisation definition includes riparian vegetation and is considered to be the most appropriate category based on the assessment of the values of the land.</p> |

5.2 Other submissions

Other written submissions that are outside the scope of this public hearing report are summarised below:

Table 09: Other submissions

| SUBMISSION | COUNCIL RESPONSE |
|--|--|
| <p>As a general rule, I advocate for more land to be converted back to natural bushland, preferably officially. Furthermore, more big shady native trees around. There's lots of mown grass in our parks and a lot isn't used for anything and could be reforested.</p> | <p>City of Parramatta's Environmental Sustainability Strategy provides a framework to ensure biodiversity is conserved whilst recognising land use along with social, health, and economic issues with the local government area. The Strategy includes specific targets to increase vegetation (33%) and tree canopy (23%) cover.</p> <p>City of Parramatta is committed to the Greening Parramatta project which is aimed at increasing tree canopy and green cover in streets and parks across the City of Parramatta and the Greater Sydney Region.</p> <p>City of Parramatta has declared 10 wildlife protection areas under the NSW Companion Animals Act 1998, for the protection of native animals and their habitat.</p> <p>Significant population growth associated with higher housing densities is increasing recreational demand on Community and Crown land. The CCLPOM performance targets aim to balance this with the need to protect native vegetation and increase tree canopy.</p> |
| <p>The Plan in Section 3.6 'Local Strategies, Plans and Policies', Table 6 'Environmental Planning Instruments and Other Legislation' mentions State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 in regard to it empowering Council to undertake a range of development, notwithstanding regard should also be had to the SEPP to Division 5 'Electricity transmission or distribution', Subdivision 2 'Development likely to affect an electricity transmission or distribution network'. Please find attached a copy of Endeavour Energy's Standard Conditions for Development Applications and Planning Proposals, Version 9, August 2023 which is used for submissions to concurrence and referrals received via the NSW Planning Portal but which may also relate to the management of the Council's Community and Crown land eg. various categories of use such as sportsgrounds, community use buildings etc. are likely to have or require electricity distribution connections; natural areas may be traversed by electricity distribution assets etc. I have also attached copies of other documents that may be of assistance.</p> | <p>Section 6.9 'Easements' of the Draft Community and Crown Land Plan of Management details the following: <i>"The LG Act empowers Council to grant 'other estates' over Community Land for the the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities or for purposes expressly authorised in a POM. The CCLPOM authorises easements for infrastructure over Community land subject to the following criteria: no feasible alternatives; no impact on threatened species, ecological communities, populations or their habitats; no impact on public infrastructure or native vegetation; no impact on public access to and enjoyment of public land; market based fees and charges".</i> The Crown Land Management Act 2016 requires that any easements over Crown land are in the public interest and consent of the Minister.</p> <p>Table 15: Authorised, Lease, Licence and Other Estate Purposes allows Council to grant other estates for public utility infrastructure on land categorised as park, sportsground, general community use, and natural area.</p> |
| <p>The Centre for Population Health congratulate the City of Parramatta on their Draft Community and Crown Land Plan of Management and provides recommended additions to performance assessment measures, as well as park and reserve facility design and embellishments.</p> | <p>City of Parramatta note the advice provided by the Centre for Population Health as it applies to the provision of recreation, sport and public open space for the benefit of the community. This advice will be considered and applied in Council's relevant strategies, plans and policies.</p> |

| SUBMISSION | COUNCIL RESPONSE |
|--|---|
| <p>In March 2002 the National Trust entered into a Landscaping Maintenance Agreement with Parramatta City Council for the area south of Experiment Farm Cottage, including the verge to the east adjacent to 22 Alice Street. The Agreement includes maintenance of soft works (excluding turf maintenance). The lands involved in the agreement are in the ownership of both Parramatta City Council and the National Trust of Australia (NSW). A copy of the Agreement dated 14 March 2002, is attached. The National Trust have recently completed some significant revitalisation works associated with the front (northern) garden bed and the council has of course recently undertaken some significant remediation works to the parklands. The Trust are also just about to commence fixing some of the gravel pathways. There are aspects of the agreement that are not entirely clear, and where further resolution would (we feel) be beneficial. For example, questions regarding the maintenance of fencing are not covered, and the actual design of the “footpath” on Alice Street is of concern given its good condition for almost the entire length of that street and yet resembles a goat track in front of Experiment Farm. The Trust feel that since it is now over twenty years existing agreement was made and certain landscape design decisions made, now would be an opportune time to meet with Council to discuss the above matters. A site visit, and a clear agreement, would assist both parties in addressing concerns</p> | <p>City of Parramatta will consider the request to review the Landscaping Maintenance Agreement for the area south of Experiment Farm Cottage, including the verge to the east adjacent to 22 Alice Street, entered into with the National Trust in March 2002.</p> |
| <p>Greater Sydney Parklands (GSP) is implementing the NSW Government’s 50 Year Vision for Greater Sydney’s Open Space and Parklands and advocating for quality parklands across Greater Sydney, particularly connectivity of green corridors and public access to open space. In this role, we are the custodian of Sydney’s iconic and regionally significant state government owned parklands and open space, including Parramatta Park.</p> <p>GSP supports the Draft Community and Crown Land Plan of Management and suggests the following matters for consideration to help deliver the best outcomes for open space in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • expanding the Community and Crown land management goals to not only protect and conserve but also improve/enhance natural areas in recognition of their cultural, ecological, aesthetic, recreational, educational and scientific values (section 4.2, p27). This better aligns with the Strategy and Action Plan which includes actions to improve and enhance natural areas. • providing actions in the Strategy and Action Plan that clearly encourage and support the blue - green grid and improvements to tree canopy. • Amending actions in the Strategy and Action Plan for Domestic and Pest Animals (p56) to include reference to aquatic pests, such as carp in Crown waterways. • Amending actions in the Strategy and Action Plan for Erosion and Stormwater to note that creek rehabilitation and improved bank stability may also be achieved through engineered solutions where necessary (p56). | <p>Council considers these suggested amendments as minor and inclusion will not affect the intent of the document. Council will incorporate the following into the Community and Crown Land Plan of Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve/enhance natural areas in recognition of their cultural, ecological, aesthetic, recreational, educational and scientific values (section 4.2, p27). • amend actions in the Strategy and Action Plan for Domestic and Pest Animals (p56) to include reference to aquatic pests in Crown waterways • amend actions in the Strategy and Action Plan for Erosion and Stormwater to note that creek rehabilitation and improved bank stability may also be achieved through engineered solutions where necessary (p56). |



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Recommendations

6.1 Consideration of submissions

Submissions regarding the proposed recategorisation of Community land have been assessed, and recommendations are detailed in this section of the report.

6.1.1 Proposed recategorisation of Elizabeth Farm Reserve

The single submission made by a key stakeholder in the continued management of Elizabeth Farm Reserve, supported recategorisation of the Reserve from Park, to Park and Natural Area: Watercourse.

The proposed categories of Park and Natural Area: Watercourse is consistent with the character, features and values of the land, and its current and proposed use and management.

Recommendation:

- Support the proposed recategorisation of part of Elizabeth Farm Reserve from Park, to Park and Natural Area: Watercourse.

6.1.2 Proposed recategorisation of Mays Hill Reserve, Hambleton Cottage Reserve, Experiment Farm, and Saint Patrick's Cemetery

Experiment Farm Reserve is currently categorised as Park. Part of the Reserve is proposed to be recategorised as Natural Area to identify and reflect the Creek Channel (W1 Land Zoning). The proposed recategorisation is consistent with the character, features and values of the land, and its current and proposed use and management.

Hambleton Cottage Reserve is currently categorised predominantly as Park, and the area covered by buildings is categorised as General Community Use. These categories are proposed to be retained, therefore no recategorisation is proposed.

Parts of Mays Hill Reserve are currently categorised as Park and General Community Use. It is proposed that parts of the Reserve are categorised as Park, Sportsground, and General Community Use to reflect current and proposed uses of the Reserve, including recreation, sports courts, and cemetery.

Mays Hill Reserve was formerly the subject of an individual Plan of Management (POM) adopted by the former Holroyd City Council, prior to realignment of local government boundaries. The Mays Hill Reserve Plan of Management aimed to manage the cemetery, park and sports courts at the Reserve. Key objectives and recommendations of the Mays Hill Conservation Plan informed the Plan of Management. The Mays Hill Reserve POM categorised the community land as Park. The remaining land is Crown land and was initially required to be categorised consistent with the land dedication/reservation purposes, being Park (Public Recreation) and General Community Use (Burial Ground).

Saint Patrick's Cemetery is a Crown Reserve. Saint Patrick's Cemetery is currently categorised as General Community Use and no change is proposed to this categorisation.

Recommendation:

- Support the proposed recategorisation of part of Experiment Farm Reserve from Park to Natural Area: Watercourse.
- Support the retention of categories Park and General Community Use for parts of Hambleton Cottage Reserve
- Support the retention of the category of Park and General Community Use over part of Mays Hill Reserve and the categorisation of parts of Mays Hill Reserve to reflect existing Crown categorisation
- Support the retention of the categorisation of General Community Use for Saint Patrick's Cemetery.

6.1.3 Proposed recategorisation of Bruce Cole Reserve

Bruce Cole Reserve is Community land and is proposed to retain categories as part Park and part Natural Area: Bushland to reflect the current use and management of the Reserve.

Recommendation:

- Support the retention of categories of Park and Natural Area: Bushland for parts of Bruce Cole Reserve.

6.1.4 Proposed recategorisation of Barnett Park

Barnett Park is proposed to be recategorised from Park, to part Park and part Natural Area: Watercourse to reflect the current use and management of the Park.

Recommendation:

- Support the proposed recategorisation of Barnett Park from Park, to part Park and part Natural Area: Watercourse.

6.1.5 Proposed recategorisation of Gallery Gardens

Gallery Gardens is currently categorised as Park, Sportsground and Natural Area: Bushland. It is proposed that these categorised are retained with minor adjustments to the boundaries of the category areas, to reflect values and ensure the most appropriate management.

Recommendation:

- Support the retention of existing categorisation of Gallery Gardens of Park, Sportsground and Natural Area: Bushland and the minor adjustments to category boundaries to reflect the current use and management.

6.1.6 Proposed recategorisation of Oakes Reserve

Oakes Reserve is predominantly Community land with a relatively minor portion being Crown reserve. It is proposed to be recategorised from Natural Area: watercourse, to Park and Natural Area: Watercourse to reflect the current use and management of the Reserve.

Recommendation:

- Support the categorisation of parts of Oakes Reserve as Park and Natural Area: Watercourse.

6.2 Recommendations

Based on the representations and written submissions to the public hearing on 26 July 2023 and written submissions made to Council by 14 August 2023, my recommendations to City of Parramatta are that Council:

1. Note the verbal and written submissions made in Section 5.
2. Recategorise part of Experiment Farm Reserve to Natural Area: Watercourse.
3. Recategorise part of Mays Hill Reserve to Sportsground.
4. Retain the category of General Community Use for Saint Patrick's Cemetery, and Experiment Farm Reserve.
5. Recategorise part of Barnett Park to Natural Area: Watercourse.
6. Retain the categories of Park, Sportsground and Natural Area: Bushland for Gallery Gardens with minor adjustments to the boundaries of the category areas.
7. Recategorise part of Oakes Reserve to Park.
8. Retain existing categorisation of Bruce Cole Reserve as part Natural Area: Bushland and part Park.

6.3 Adoption of proposed recategorisation

Council must agree to the proposed recategorisation of community land as set out in the Draft Crown and Community Land Plan of Management before resolving to adopt the Plan of Management.

Section 114 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 states that if Council receives any submission objecting to a categorisation of land in the Draft Plan of Management, and the Council adopts the Plan of Management without amending the categorisation that gave rise to the objection, the resolution by which Council adopts the Plan of Management must state the Council's reasons for categorising the relevant land in the manner that gave rise to the objection.

If Council intends to adopt the proposed recategorisation as was set out in the Draft Plan of Management, it must state the reasons why it did not make changes to categorisation in response to the objections received in its resolution to adopt the Plan of Management.

If Council decides to alter the proposed recategorisation of community land from that in the Plan of Management and that considered at the public hearing, Council must hold a further public hearing in respect of the proposed Plan of Management (Section 40A(3) of the LG Act).

6.4 Reporting

Within four days of receiving this final report, Council is required under Section 47G(3) of the LG Act to make a copy of this report available for inspection by the public at a location within the local government area. It is recommended that Council:

- send a copy of the public hearing report to the people who attended the public hearing and/or made a written submission
- provide a copy of the public hearing report for inspection at Parramatta Library
- publish a copy of the public hearing report on Council's website.



Helen Carroll

Senior Consultant

ROSS Planning Pty Ltd

11 September 2023

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Phone: 07 3901 0730
Fax: 07 3893 0593
PO Box 5660, Manly QLD 4179
Upper floor/63 Bay Terrace, Wynnum Q 4178
ABN 32 508 029 959
www.rossplanning.com.au