



The Plan of Management for the Western Sydney Parklands is for the purposes of the Plan adopted by the Minister for Western Sydney on 25 January 2011.

The Minister for Western Sydney's adoption of the Plan of Management for the Western Sydney Parklands excludes the Western Sydney Regional Park, Kemps Creek Nature Reserve and Prospect Nature Reserve which are gazetted and reserved under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act*. Plans of Management for these gazetted areas will be presented to the Minister for the Environment.

Prepared by the Western Sydney Parklands Trust.

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# Message from the Chairman



We have come a long way since 1968 when the NSW Government began the process that would create the Western Sydney Parklands.

With the diverse spaces and places that comprise the Parklands now recognised as a cohesive identity as outlined in the *Western Sydney Parklands Act 2006*, we are now focusing on the future.

The Trust is committed to achieving the Government's key goals for the Parklands which are to:

- activate these lands and make them accessible for the public to enjoy;
- provide a place for many different uses such as recreation, bushland conservation, urban farming near the city, involvement in active sports and key community services; and
- continue to grow private business investment to create a sustainable funding base for the Parklands in perpetuity.

The Trust aims to act prudently and wisely in its stewardship of the Parklands to sustain its long term future and to maintain its special place in the hearts and minds of Western Sydney residents.

**Brendan Crotty** Chairman



# **Message from the Director**



The 10 year Plan of Management for the Parklands has been developed with the assistance of many individuals and organisations. I would like to thank all those who took the time to provide a submission, attend a workshop or 'Have a Say' day, or participate on the online forums.

The Plan will provide a strong management framework and assist the Trust in determining actions and priorities over the coming years. To successfully implement the Plan the Trust will work closely with Blacktown, Fairfield and Liverpool City Councils, key stakeholders and landowners in the development of the Parklands.

The creation of this Plan is an important step in securing the future of the Parklands and delivering the long term vision to meet the needs of Sydney's growing population.

Suellen Fitzgerald Director



# **Acknowledgments**

The Trust would like to thank the individuals, Indigenous people, government agencies and organisations who have provided their feedback and input to the Plan.

In addition, the Trust would also like to thank the members of the Western Sydney Parklands Trust Board and representatives on the Plan of Management Partners Group for their input into the Plan.

### Western Sydney Parklands Trust Board

Brendan Crotty, Chairman

Carol Mills Mike Patrick Jim Mitchell Bob Waldron Ro Coroneos

Norma Shankie-Williams Suellen Fitzgerald

### Plan of Management Partners Group

Steve Corbett Director and Chief Executive, Centennial Parklands

Sharon Davies Manager, Urban Growth, Sydney Water

David Demer Strategic Project Officer, Urban Growth, Sydney Water Owen Graham Place Manager, Sydney Metropolitan Catchment

Management Authority

Phil Hamdorf Director, Research and Development, Communities NSW Liz Jeremy Director, Sustainable Living, Blacktown City Council Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Lands, Land

and Property Management Authority

Tanya O'Brien Manager, Strategic Planning, City Strategy,

Liverpool City Council

Travis Roberts Area Manager, Cumberland South Area, Department

of Environment, Climate Change and Water, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Kerry Robinson General Manager, Development, Landcom

Rhonda Tyne Executive Manager, City Outcomes, Fairfield City Council

Yolanda Gil Manager, Place and Programs, Western Sydney

Parklands Trust

Suellen Fitzgerald Director, Western Sydney Parklands Trust

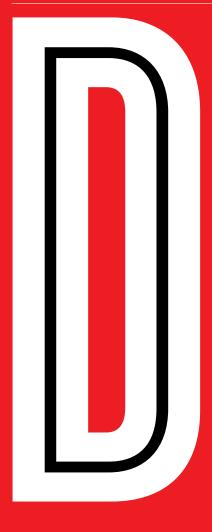
# **Caring for Country**

The Western Sydney Parklands Trust acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which the Parklands is situated.

The Trust will work in a respectful manner with the Indigenous Australians in Caring for Country and aim to treat Indigenous people, their cultural heritage, customs and beliefs with respect.



# Your Parklands, Your Plan



eveloping the Plan of Management for the Western Sydney Parklands has involved a broad range of consultation activities designed to gain stakeholder feedback and suggestions on the future management of the Parklands.

The consultation process was conducted in two stages between June and November 2010. The early part of the process helped raise awareness about the Trust's objectives, and inform the community about the various opportunities to get involved in developing the draft Plan.

The second stage of the consultation process coincided with public exhibition of the draft Plan between 11 October and 22 November 2010.

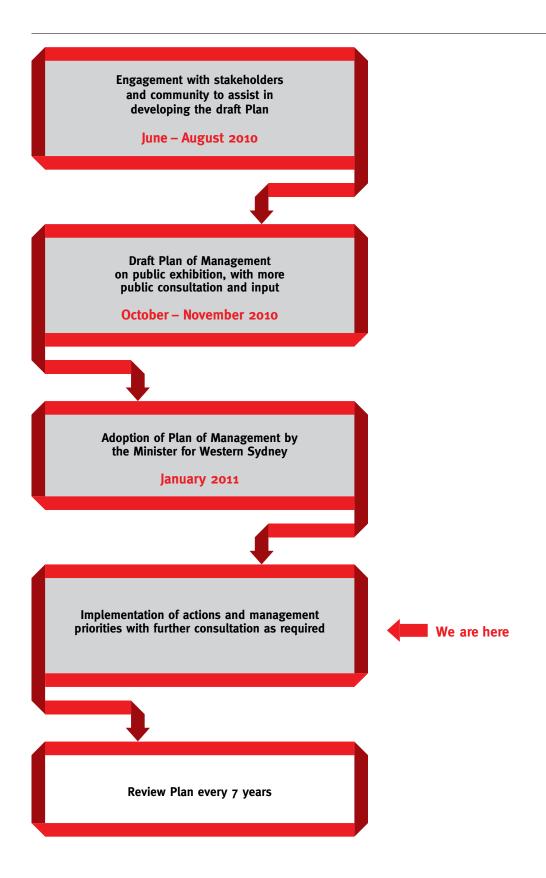
Engagement activities included stakeholder workshops structured around the five Strategic Directions, along with additional workshops focused on the 16 Parklands Precincts identified in the draft Plan. The public exhibition period was supported through newspaper advertisements, a Plan of Management web page, community 'Have a Say' days, online discussion forums, a survey (online and face-to-face) and a '1800' community phone line.

Over 840 people participated in the public engagement process. About 680 people received information on the draft Plan, contributed to the 'Have a Say' day events or attended the Stakeholder Workshops, and more than 160 people provided comments through the online discussion forums, surveys or written submissions.

Key stakeholders and the community were asked to identify opportunities, challenges and issues relating to the Strategic Directions identified in the draft Plan and comment on the Precinct Plans.

This feedback was used to develop a Plan that will guide the key priorities and actions for the Western Sydney Parklands over the next 10 years.

# **Plan Process**



# The Plan of Management at a Glance

### **Vision**

Western Sydney Parklands is a place for people of all backgrounds to meet, celebrate, learn, play and appreciate the environment. The Parklands will be a venue for communities to create and manage a new sustainable future on the Cumberland Plain.

# **Strategic Directions 2020**

Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure



Environment and Conservation



### Objectives 2020

- 1. Improve access to the Parklands.
- 2. Create varied park spaces that encourage passive recreation.
- Create venues and spaces that promote sport and active recreation.
- 4. Develop a cohesive and identifiable landscape character for the Parklands.
- 5. Promote the Parklands as a visitor and tourist destination.
- Secure a bushland corridor along the entire length of the Parklands to improve biodiversity.
- Maximise environment and conservation research and education opportunities.
- 3. Trust operations to achieve carbon neutral status.
- 4. Improve water quality and sustainable water use in the Parklands.
- Encourage community involvement in the environmental restoration of the Parklands.
- Protect and enhance the Parklands' Indigenous and Non-Indigenous cultural heritage.

### Outcomes 2020

- Prepare and implement an access plan for the Parklands.
- Activate an additional 5 percent (250 ha) of the Parklands for passive recreation.
- Expand capacity and attractiveness of Lizard Log and Bungarribee to create two new passive recreation hubs.
- Double the extent of the Parklands
   Track network to 70 km of pathway.
- Create a cohesive image for the Parklands along its entire boundary.
- Implement the Parklands design manual.
- Facilitate provision of new sports facilities as required.
- Provide various opportunities for tourists to visit and enjoy the Parklands.

- Increase percentage of on site water capture, reuse and recycling in recreation areas and urban farming.
- Increase percentage of renewable energy used in the Parklands.
- Expand the bushland corridor by an additional 6 percent of the Parklands (330 ha).
- Trust operations to achieve the targets for best practice as outlined in the NSW Government Sustainability Policy.
- Develop a clear description, baseline data and understanding of the state of the Parklands natural assets.
- Identify and protect Indigenous and Non-Indigenous cultural heritage assets within the Parklands.
- Compile a comprehensive Parklands heritage register.



# **Principles**

The Parklands will be:

- enjoyable for people of all ages, cultural groups and backgrounds;
- **sustainable** in its management, development and promotion;
- identifiable as Western Sydney's 'backyard', welcoming and inclusive for all;
- educational and provide information about sustainable park management, agriculture, recreation and a range of other activities;
- accessible to all physically, economically, in terms of safety, transport and other factors;
- viable economically for the Trust and for those using the land; and
- in partnership the above can only be achieved by working together with stakeholders and the broader community.

### Culture and Participation



Urban Farming



Parkland Development and Management

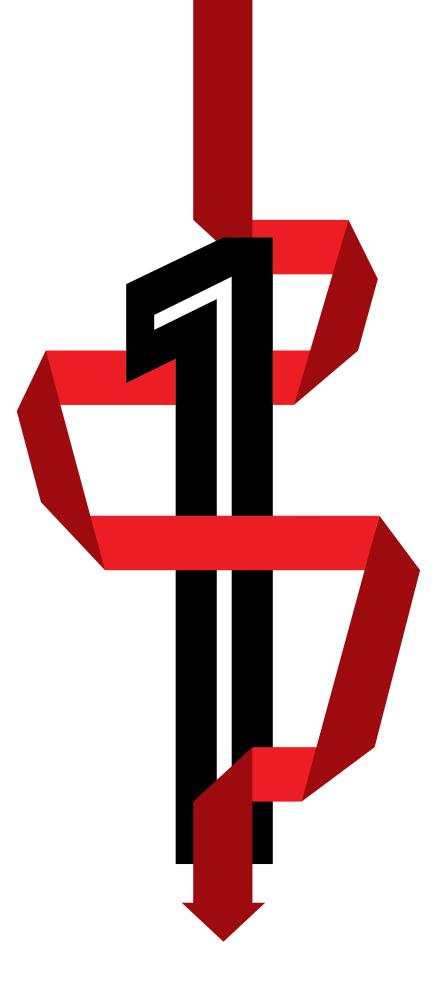


- 1. Maximise community awareness of the Parklands.
- 2. Increase community use of the Parklands.
- 3. Create a sense of community ownership of the Parklands.
- 4. Encourage children and young people to use the Parklands.
- 5. Reflect and respond to culturally diverse communities.
- 6. Promote the Parklands as a cultural venue.

- 1. Establish sustainable urban farming in the Parklands.
- 2. Promote urban farming as integral to urban futures.
- 3. Utilise underdeveloped land for farming in the interim prior to long term parkland development.
- 1. Deliver sustainable management of the Parklands Trust's assets.
- Maximise the use and community benefits of existing and new leased assets in the Parklands.
- Develop new business opportunities to support the management and further development of the Parklands.
- 4. Allow for new infrastructure/utilities and achieve a balance between the recreation and aesthetic values of the Parklands and the infrastructure needs of external agencies.

- At a minimum double the number of visitors to the Parklands.
- Increase participation in cultural events conducted in the Parklands.
- Increase volunteer numbers by 10 percent.
- Achieve visitor satisfaction ratings of 70 percent or above.
- Increase by 8 percent (415 ha) the land used for urban farming.
- Increase the community interaction with urban farming in the Parklands by establishing produce markets, farm gates and educational programs.
- Demonstrate a model of urban farming on public land.
- Establish and develop positive partnerships with existing farmers, private owners and other operators in the Parklands.
- Develop and implement an asset management strategy.
- Lease up to 2 percent of the Parklands over a number of sites for business uses to generate income to manage the Parklands.
- Expand minor income generating opportunities in recreational areas such as cafes, and shelter and bike hire.
- Increase visitation and use of existing leased government assets.
- Allow for new infrastructure/utilities and manage the impacts of new infrastructure/utilities within the Parklands.
- Provide for community facilities as required.





**BACKGROUND** 

# 1.1 Parklands for Western Sydney

### **Pictured**

Hand weeding around new plantings in the Cumberland Plain Woodland, Chandos Street, Horsley Park. The Western Sydney Parklands, located in the heart of Western Sydney, comprise a 27km corridor stretching from Quakers Hills to Leppington. **Figure 1** shows the Parklands today.

The Parklands runs through the three Local Government Areas of Blacktown, Fairfield and Liverpool and is adjacent to two emerging residential growth centres.

Successive NSW Governments have spent over \$400 million to date in acquiring the land and establishing the Trust to manage the Parklands. Since 2008, this significant investment in community infrastructure has been supplemented by Government with a further commitment of \$75 million in capital grants.

Consisting of 5,280 hectares, the Parklands will be the largest urban parkland system in Australia and one of the largest in the world.

In comparison, Hyde Park in London including Kensington Gardens comprises 253 hectares; Central Park in New York City comprises 341 hectares; and Golden Gate National Park in San Francisco comprises 411 hectares.

Much of the land is still to be developed for its long term parklands purpose. 40 percent of the Parklands is currently interim land uses such as rural residential or vacant land.

The Parklands is characterised by its diversity. Major recreation facilities located within the Parklands include:

- Blacktown Olympic Park;
- Eastern Creek International Raceway;
- Western Sydney International Dragway;
- Sydney International Equestrian Centre; and
- Sydney International Shooting Centre.

There are also picnic grounds at Plough and Harrow, The Dairy, Sugarloaf Ridge, Lizard Log, Nurragingy, Peckys, Walder Park and extensive walking and cycling areas. 21 percent of the Parklands is long term infrastructure. The Parklands incorporates Prospect Reservoir and the associated water supply canal and pipelines, as well as electricity, gas and water easements, waste services, water storage tanks, telecommunications towers and other essential infrastructure.

Prospect Reservoir and Prospect Nature Reserve (Special Areas) and Warragamba pipelines, Upper Canal and other adjacent lands (Controlled Areas) are Sydney Catchment Authority lands within the Parklands declared under the *Sydney Water Catchment Management Act*. These Special and Controlled Areas protect Sydney's water supply and as such public access is restricted.



Extensive areas are leased for a variety of uses including agriculture, waste processing, motor sports and rural residential purposes, while about 7 percent of the corridor is still to be acquired from private owners.

In short, the Parklands provides much more than recreational space; it is a critical area in Western Sydney in terms of infrastructure, agriculture and water supply and other essential community facilities.

The Parklands provides employment and training opportunities in tourism, recreation and environment and will continue to play an important role in providing jobs and training in these sectors in Western Sydney over the coming years.



# 1.2 History of the Parklands

### Pictured (from left)

Road to Prospect picnic areas adjoining Prospect Reservoir. Photo: Christine Murphy; Children and farm animals at Calmsley Hill City Farm 2010. Much of the area now constituting the Parklands was originally identified in the 1968 Sydney Region Outline Plan, to provide for infrastructure and future regional open space needs in Western Sydney.

In the 1970s, the boundaries of the Parkland's Eastern Creek and Hoxton Park corridors were confirmed through inclusion in local planning instruments. Thanks to an active land acquisition program by the NSW Government, almost 70 percent of the current Parklands area was accumulated by 1978.



In 1989, the NSW Government introduced SEPP No 29 — Western Sydney Recreation Area to allow for key recreational facilities such as the Eastern Creek International Raceway. These parklands provided lands for the 2000 Olympic Games, with venues for equestrian, shooting, baseball, softball and mountain biking.

Since 2001, the NSW Government has focused on managing and developing a single and cohesive park. The gazettal of the *Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No 31 — Regional Parklands* in 2001 provided a framework to manage land uses and development located within and along the edges of the Parklands, including residential developments that had reached the Parklands' edges.

The Western Sydney Parklands
Management Vision (2004) mapped out
a blueprint for the future of those lands
that included the creation of accessible
recreation areas and the regeneration of
natural bushlands as wildlife habitats.

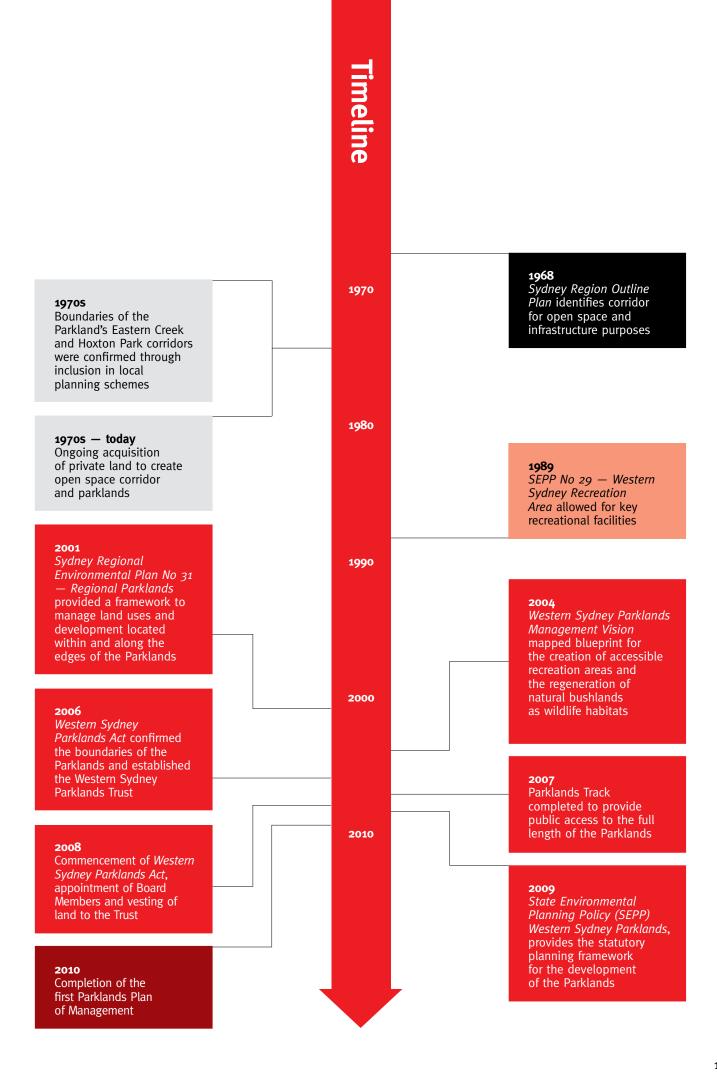
To create a long term management framework for the Parklands, the NSW Government introduced the *Western Sydney Parklands Act* 2006. This Act confirmed the boundaries of the Parklands and established the Western Sydney Parklands Trust (Trust) to manage and develop the Parklands in partnership with other state and



local government agencies within the Parklands boundaries.

The gazettal of the State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) Western Sydney Parklands, in March 2009, provided the statutory planning framework for the Trust and its partners to develop and manage the Parklands.

This Plan of Management 2010-2020 presents the vision for the Parklands and sets out prioritised actions for the Trust to implement over the next decade.



## 1.3 Parklands Today

### Pictured (this page from left)

Kids Discovery Walk 2010; Kids on play equipment in Lizard Log.

Photo: Phil Carrick Vision. **Pictured (opposite from left)** 

Clancy Catholic College Tree Planting Day at Shale Hills 2009; Senior's Week Nature Walk 2010; Cycling at Lizard Log. Photo: Phil Carrick Vision.

### **Metropolitan Context**

Greater Western Sydney is currently home to approximately 1.8 million people and is one of Australia's fastest growing regions. It is Australia's third largest economic region.

The Parklands provides an open space link between Sydney's North West and South West Growth Centres, and acts as a major service corridor containing significant components of Sydney's trunk infrastructure.



The Parklands is a major contribution to the *NSW State Plan's* priority, E8: More people using parks and reserves, participating in sport, recreation and cultural facilities and E4: Better environmental outcomes for native vegetation, biodiversity of lands and rivers.

The Trust operates the Parklands for community use and will continue to develop facilities and programs for community involvement and enjoyment whilst also improving the quality of the biodiversity in the Parklands.

There are three sites in the Parklands gazetted and reserved under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act*; Kemps Creek Nature Preserve, Western Sydney Regional Park, and Prospect Nature Reserve. Separate Plans of Management will be prepared for each site and adopted by the Minister for the Environment.

The Metropolitan Plan for Sydney 2036 (December 2010) sets out the Parklands' role in providing valuable regional open space for new communities expected in



the North West and South West Growth Centres, as well as the rest of Western Sydney.

According to the Plan, the Parklands provides a best practice demonstration of integrated urban parkland for the 21st century by:

- providing regional environmental and conservation opportunities;
- protecting and promoting ongoing agriculture in suitable areas;
- developing park tourism and commercial uses on sites along the major transport corridors;
- maintaining secluded areas for interaction with nature; and
- delivering significant regional community and recreation facilities.

In addition to the extensive adjacent industrial areas of Smithfield, Arndell Park and Wetherill Park, new employment areas identified along the boundaries of the Parklands include the Western Sydney Employment Area, located at the intersection of the M7 and M4 Motorways. This Employment Area has the potential to employ a total of 40,000 workers and to change the nature of the land use and transport patterns along the boundaries of the Parklands.

### **Community Context**

The places, activities, services and programs within the Parklands need to reflect this fast-growing, young and culturally diverse population. Significant factors to be considered include the following:

— The need to provide educational opportunities in environmental management and conservation, as well as agriculture, recreation, hospitality and other areas. Studies by University of Western Sydney indicate that, while the Western Sydney region has reasonable access to open space, the type, quality and range of facilities provided requires improvement.

Long term trends, including population growth and the popularity of larger dwellings relative to lot size, will continue to diminish the amount of private open space available. This reinforces the importance of the Parklands as a regional open space destination and recreation resource.



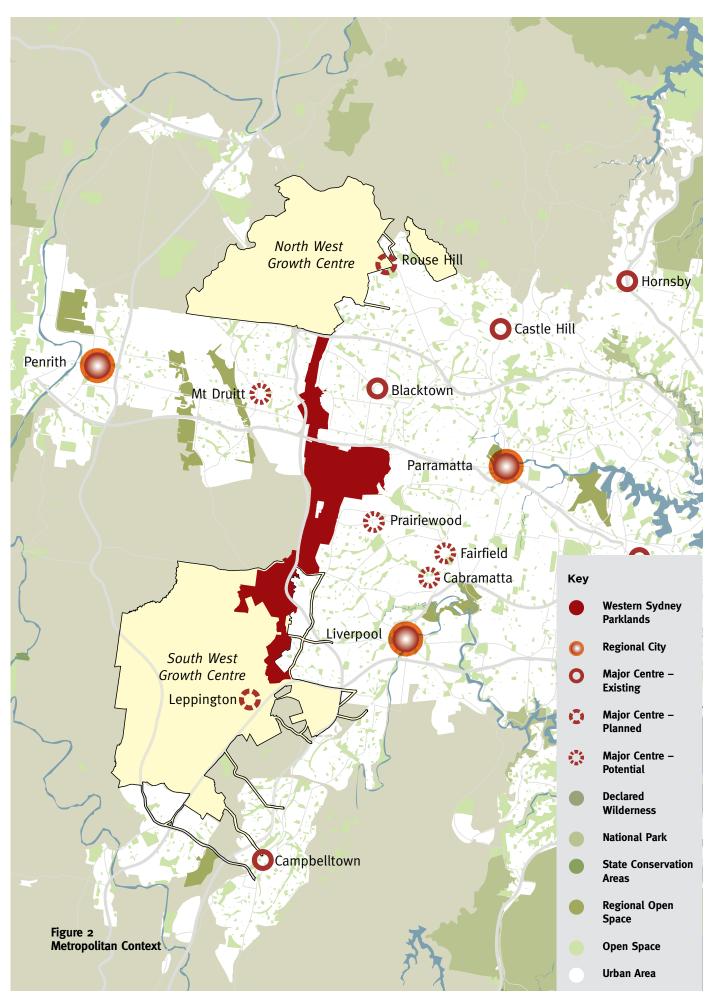
Future population and employment growth will need to be supported by additional public transport services. Existing services in Western Sydney are largely focused on Sydney's CBD, with few cross-regional services. The lack of public transport limits the options to access the Parklands.



- The importance of access to outdoor physical activity to address community health issues.
- The need to cater to families including parking and public transport requirements.
- The need to take into account the area's cultural diversity, and to encourage greater understanding between cultural groups.
- The need to cater to a significant range of income groups.



In addition, the Parklands can play an important role in providing employment and training opportunities in the tourism, recreational, environment and business sectors in Western Sydney.



"We require these patches of nature for our mental health and spiritual resilience. Future generations, regardless of whatever recreation or sport is in vogue, will need nature all the more."

Richard Louv Last Child in the Woods 2006

Pictured (from left) Cycling at Sugarloaf Ridge; Picnic in the Parklands. Photo: Phil Carrick Vision.



Natural Environment and Landscape Located on the Cumberland Plain, the Parklands contains examples of the Cumberland Plain environment as it was prior to European contact.

These habitat areas and corridors contain threatened and endangered species which are protected under State and Commonwealth legislation. Conservation of these areas and the species within are critical to maintaining the natural heritage of Western Sydney against the pressures of continued growth and development within the region.

The Parklands also contain the headwaters of Eastern Creek, as a tributary of the Hawkesbury-Nepean. The north-south ridgeline in the Parklands is the catchment boundary between the Hawkesbury-Nepean, Georges River and Parramatta River catchments.

The Western Sydney Parklands Biodiversity Restoration Strategy 2008 provides a framework for the restoration of the ecological values of the Parklands and prioritises actions for ongoing environmental management of the Parklands.

### **Indigenous Heritage**

The Cumberland lowlands that cover most of Western Sydney is one of the most artefact rich landscapes in Australia and is dominated by scatters of artefacts that are known to be concentrated along the margins of freshwater creeks. Eastern Creek which is central to the northern half of the Parklands has evidence of important open artefact sites.

The Parklands falls within the interests of the Darug people and the Deerubbin and Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Councils.



### Non-Indigenous Heritage

The Parklands' Non-Indigenous heritage derives from its location on the route to South Creek and the Blue Mountains, and from early grazing and farming along Cowpasture Road. The Parklands includes market gardens, former military places and major infrastructure such as reservoirs and service infrastructure. Key heritage sites include Prospect Reservoir, Upper Canal, The Rooty Hill, Bungarribee Farm Homestead complex archaeological site, Eastern Creek and the rural ridgeline through Fairfield and Liverpool Local Government Areas.

The Parklands provides an opportunity for Western Sydney and the broader community to learn about the region's European heritage and later layers of history, as well as celebrating the cultural diversity of Western Sydney.

# Western Sydney Data Snapshot

of the population are children aged o-11 years

of the population are young people aged 12-24

of the population were born overseas

of the population were from non-English speaking backgrounds

the population are lndigenous people

of the population are families

By 2031 the Western Sydney Region is estimated to accommodate an additional **350**,000 new dwellings, which equates to **60 percent** of the wider Sydney Metropolitan area. This equates to an additional 889,300 people in the Region.

The population to the south of the Parklands is expected to increase by **113.1 percent** in the next 30 years. In the north it is expected to increase by **51.8 percent**.

Source: Metropolitan Strategy Review 2036 Discussion Paper, NSW Planning and NSW Statistical Local Area Population Projection, 2006–2036, NSW Planning.

# 1.4 Operational Context

Parklands around the world are acknowledged as vital leisure resources for the urban community. Globally, parklands managers acknowledge the link with the broader issues facing our individual societies. For instance, by helping promote healthy and active lifestyles, parklands can play a vital role in fighting the increasing prevalence of lifestyle diseases such as obesity, heart disease and diabetes.



Environmental challenges, such as climate change and resource depletion, will change how communities use and perceive the Parklands. To respond to these challenges, measures such as improving transport to and from the Parklands, improving water management techniques, and promoting up-to-date sustainable park management practices will be important.

In addition, the Parklands faces a range of specific issues requiring complex management strategies, many of which relate to its large scale and the diversity of uses within and adjacent to the Parklands.

### **Funding Context**

The Trust has been established as a self funded agency. To fully implement this Plan including developing facilities, programs and environmental initiatives, the Trust is developing an income stream of \$10 million per annum within the 10 year life of this Plan. In order to achieve this goal a significant portion of income will be derived from developing long term leases for business purposes on 2 percent of its land over the long term to be able to deliver its mandate to create the largest parkland in Australia. The Trust will also supplement its income through recreation activities such as tourism, and venue and bike hire.

### **Key Assumptions**

The strategic thinking in this Plan has been based on a number of assumptions. These assumptions are outlined below.

- All of the Trust's land within the Parklands remain as set out in the Western Sydney Parklands Act.
- Outstanding acquisitions of remaining private land will continue under the Western Sydney Parklands SEPP.
- The Trust will continue to fund its own operational costs.
- Existing infrastructure and easements will remain in place and agencies will continue to plan for their expansion to meet the needs of infrastructure in the Sydney Basin.
- Major Parklands infrastructure will be of a regional scale.
- The current statutory framework for the Parklands such as the SEPP and Western Sydney Parklands Act remain
- Objectives and timelines as put forward in the State Plan and Metropolitan Plan for Sydney continue to provide context to this Plan.

"Large parks... are complex, dynamic systems... The trick is to design a large park framework that is sufficiently robust to lend structure and identity whilst having sufficient pliancy and 'give' to adapt to changing demands and ecologies over time."

lames Corner Large Parks 2007

21

Radar Creative.

### 1.5 Best Practice in Parklands

Globally, park managers are facing an array of issues and opportunities. To deliver the best possible result for the people of Sydney, the Western Sydney Parklands Trust is learning from the experiences and examples of other parklands, through sharing experiences and practices through a range of professional bodies and forums.

### Pictured (this page)

Mangrove walk at Bicentennial Park Photo: Paul Wright © Sydney Olympic Park Authority Image courtesy of Sydney Olympic Park Authority

### Pictured (opposite from left)

Aerial view of Cockatoo Island, Sydney Harbour. Photo: Sydney Harbour Federation Trust; Golden Gate National Park Fort Mason Oval. Photo: Christine Murphy. Outlined below are some examples of best practice in parks management which are informing the Trust's management priorities and approach.

### **Community Health and Wellbeing**

It is well documented that increasingly sedentary lifestyles are leading to a range of health problems — mental and physical — that hinder productivity and community wellbeing (*The Value of Parks*, Parks Forum 2008). By providing spaces for recreation and cultural activities, parks have the capacity to improve community health and wellbeing.

Central Park, New York City

contains an abundance of high quality facilities, provides extensive sports and recreation programs, hosts diverse cultural programs and events and provides a valuable resource for the 48,000 school children located in the area. (Valuing Central Park's Contributions to New York City's Economy, Appleseed 2008)

### **Productivity**

Growing community interest in eating locally grown food has led to numerous partnerships between local growers and communities. These ensure the maintenance of agricultural land through sustainable farming practices, and also create opportunities for a range of education and food tourism programs.

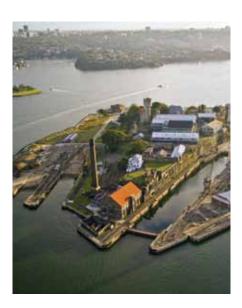


The Canadian Farm Folk/ City Folk Society is a non-profit society that works with farm and city to cultivate a local, sustainable food system. They develop and operate projects that provide access to and protection of agricultural land; that support local growers and producers; and that educate, communicate and celebrate with local food communities (www.ffcf.bc.ca).

### **Funding**

With park managers increasingly under pressure to generate funds for continuing parkland maintenance and development, examples of parks utilising their assets to create a range of income streams are very instructive.

Cornwall Park is located in the central residential area of Auckland, New Zealand. The park generates income from a range of uses including a working farm element that includes cattle and sheep. Another key income stream is the subdivision of a large portion of the site under a 21 year renewable lease agreement. The income produced has been responsible for meeting the development and maintenance costs of the park.

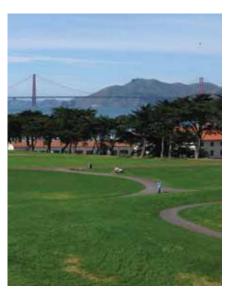


# Conservation and Climate Change

Population growth, diminishing biodiversity and climate change are increasing threats to native eco-systems. Parks can respond by expanding areas of natural habitat within their boundaries to provide refuges for wildlife. Parks may also be able to provide eco-linkages, such as wildlife corridors, that extend beyond their own boundaries.

Parks form the core of a new, innovative approach to conservation that is establishing habitat linkages through vegetation corridors across the landscape, on public and private lands. Many scientists view 'connectivity conservation' as the best way of maximising nature's resilience against climate change and other threats. (*The Value of Parks*, Parks Forum 2008)

Bicentennial Park, Homebush Bay Sydney, was created in the 1980's in time to celebrate Australia's Bicentenary in 1988. The Park is part of Sydney Olympic Park and is a 100 hectare natural heritage site that includes important wetland, vegetation and environmental linkages and natural systems and offers visitors recreation, nature based tours, environmental education and outdoor event experiences.



### **Parks Usage**

As our urban population grows, the experiences people expect from parks also evolve. Through innovative and multi-faceted offerings, park managers can deliver unique experiences, which will also assist in achieving economic and management goals.

Cockatoo Island, Sydney Harbour, is a former imperial prison, industrial school, reformatory, gaol and dockyard. It is now a park managed by the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust and offers the opportunity to camp in the middle of Sydney Harbour. The campground provides the community with a unique city experience and generates revenue for the Trust. The island provides a venue for entertainment and tourism activities as well as running a vibrant arts, heritage and cultural program. (www.cockatooisland.gov.au).

### **Brand and Communication**

Increasingly, the concept of the park "brand" is crucial in attracting not only patrons, but also funding from a range of sources. Branding should be clear and recognisable, and applied to all products and programs. All communication materials should also be streamlined, up to date and branded.

Online information is an increasingly important way to communicate with park users: a high quality, user-friendly, interactive website is therefore crucial. The internet also allows parks to participate in 'partner hubs' with other parks around the world.

The Golden Gate National Park Conservancy, California, USA has a clear brand and image. Its products, such as *E-ventures*, a monthly electronic update on park news and events, is both sophisticated and user friendly. (www.parksconservancy.org).

# 1.6 Key Challenges

### Pictured (from left)

Lizard Log playground. Photo: Phil Carrick Vision; Planting Day at Glendenning 2010. The Parklands and Trust face a number of challenges over the next decade. These include:

- the large scale of the Parklands;
- the diversity of land uses within the Parklands, including farming, waste management, recreation, bushland and trunk infrastructure;

The Parklands seeks to learn from the development and operations of other parks in order to manage the overarching challenges it faces, as well as specific challenges that face the Parklands in the future.





- the need to raise the community's awareness and understanding of the Parklands;
- the varying needs and expectations of the diverse and fast growing existing and new community accessing the Parklands;
- use of Parklands for illegal trail bike riding, and dumping of waste;
- finding ways to maintain sustainable environments, including bushland and urban farming, in the middle of Australia's largest city;
- the need for more public transport to and from the Parklands;
- engaging with the health challenges facing the community; and
- creating a sustainable business model for large scale and diverse parklands.



**STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS** 

# WESTERN SYDNEY PARKLANDS

is a place for people of all backgrounds to meet, celebrate, learn, play and appreciate the environment. The Parklands will be a venue for communities to create and manage a new sustainable future on the Cumberland Plain

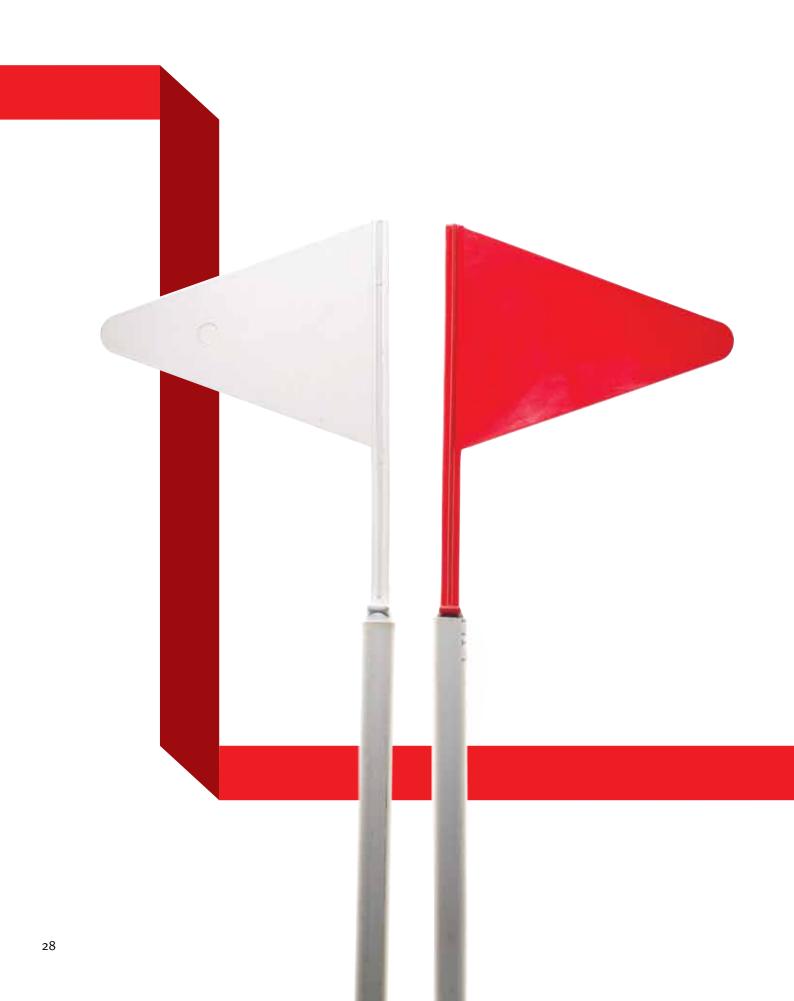
# 2.2 Principles

The Trust makes a commitment to the community to ensure that the Western Sydney Parklands reflect the principles of being:

- enjoyable for people of all ages, cultural groups and backgrounds;
- sustainable in its management, development and promotion;
- identifiable as Western Sydney's 'backyard', welcoming and inclusive for all;
- educational and provide information about sustainable park management, agriculture, recreation and a range of other activities;
- accessible to all physically, economically, in terms of safety, transport and other factors;
- viable economically for the Trust and for those using the land; and
- in partnership the above can only be achieved by working together with stakeholders and the broader community.



# 2.3 Strategic Directions



This Plan of Management is structured around five key Strategic Directions, each of which contains a number of Outcomes to be achieved.

Each Direction also contains detailed Objectives and Actions to be implemented in order to help achieve the Outcomes.

By regularly reviewing its progress against the Outcomes, the Trust will be able to measure how successfully it is delivering its Vision.

The Plan sets out the actions for the next 10 years. Some aspects of the Vision will go well beyond the 10 years of this Plan.

# The Strategic Directions are:

- Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure
- Environment and Conservation
- Culture and Participation
- Urban Farming
- Parklands Development and Management

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure



The Trust will work towards providing the highest quality sport, passive and active recreation facilities, programs and infrastructure.

| Parklands Now  | 2020 Outcomes   |
|--|---|
| <ul> <li>Strong north-south track network<br/>with need to improve circulation<br/>and access to surrounding areas.</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Prepare and implement an access plan<br/>for the Parklands.</li> </ul>   |
| - 5 percent (264 ha) of Parklands used for passive recreation.   | <ul> <li>Activate an additional 5 percent (250 ha)<br/>of the Parklands for passive recreation.</li> </ul>                              |
| <ul> <li>Plough and Harrow fully developed<br/>recreational hub at peak capacity<br/>in the Parklands. Lizard Log and<br/>Bungarribee have capacity<br/>to be significantly expanded.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Expand capacity and attractiveness<br/>of Lizard Log and Bungarribee to create<br/>two new passive recreation hubs.</li> </ul> |
| - 35 km of Parklands Track.  | — Double the extent of the Parklands<br>Track network to 70 km of pathway.  |
| <ul> <li>Not all of the Parklands' 78 km<br/>boundary is clearly marked as being<br/>within the Parklands.</li> </ul>  | — Create a cohesive image for the Parklands along its entire boundary.  |
| <ul> <li>The Parklands has inherited<br/>design elements which are a legacy<br/>of different development styles,<br/>times and previous owners.</li> </ul>                                       | — Implement the Parklands design manual.  |
| -8 percent (422 ha) of Parklands used for sports.  | <ul> <li>Facilitate provision of new sports facilities as required.</li> </ul>  |
| — Limited tourism opportunities.   | <ul> <li>Provide various opportunities for tourists<br/>to visit and enjoy the Parklands.</li> </ul>                                    |

To achieve these outcomes, the Trust will undertake the following actions.

### Objective 1:

# Improve access to the Parklands

Key actions:

- Develop and implement an access plan for the Parklands to improve walking, cycling and vehicle links between the Parklands Precincts and continue enhancing the Parklands track network with new loop routes.
- 2. Work with transport agencies to improve public transport to the Parklands.
- Work with local Councils, the RTA and M7 Motorway operators to create better links with neighbouring communities.
- 4. Work with the road and rail government authorities, and Councils to improve access and signage to and from the Parklands from major roads, railway stations and key facilities.
- Develop a transport overlay for special events that includes public transport and 'park and ride'.

### Objective 2:

# Create varied park spaces that encourage passive recreation

Key actions:

- Enhance and maintain recreation hubs at:
- Nurragingy;
- Bungarribee;
- Lizard Log; and
- Plough and Harrow.
- Create a range of regional distinctive, varied play spaces — nature-based, structured and unstructured.
- Provide spaces and facilities that encourage families and community groups to meet in an outdoor environment.
- 4. Work with Councils and Police to maintain the Parklands' reputation as a safe, crime-free environment.

### Objective 3:

# Create venues and spaces that promote sport and active recreation

- Work with Councils to identify opportunities and facilitate the development of sport and active recreation hubs at Eastern Creek (Blacktown Olympic Park), Leppington and Austral.
- Position the Parklands as a regional destination for active sports, by expanding current activities such as horse riding, and introducing new activities such as mountain biking.
- Capitalise on existing venues such as Eastern Creek International Raceway, Western Sydney International Dragway and the Sydney International Equestrian and Shooting Centres by diversifying and enhancing activities at these venues.



Objective 4: Develop a cohesive and identifiable landscape character for the Parklands

- Prepare a landscape strategy to guide capital works within the Parklands.
- 2. Develop a Parklands design manual to govern future capital works and achieve best practice in design and sustainability.
  3. Define and maintain a cohesive
- image for the Parklands from the adjacent roads and properties along its boundary.
- 4. Develop a public art strategy that is appropriate for the Parklands and its community.

- 1. Develop relationships with public and private tourism agencies to explore opportunities.
- 2. Promote the Parklands as a regional destination through marketing of activities such as agriculture and sport.
- 3. Encourage investment in supporting infrastructure such as a range of tourist accommodation.

# **Environment and Conservation**



The Trust will develop, manage and conserve the Parklands using best practice and inclusive sustainable practices.

| Parklands Now   | 2020 Outcomes  |
|---|--|
| <ul> <li>Limited on site water capture,<br/>reuse and recycling in recreation<br/>areas and urban farming.</li> </ul>                                       | <ul> <li>Increase percentage of on site water capture,<br/>reuse and recycling in recreation areas and<br/>urban farming.</li> </ul>           |
| <ul> <li>Limited use of renewable energy in the Parklands.</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Increase percentage of renewable energy used in the Parklands.</li> </ul>   |
| - 1,056 ha of Parklands is bushland.  | <ul> <li>Expand the bushland corridor by an additional<br/>6 percent of the Parklands (330 ha).</li> </ul>                                     |
| - Limited implementation of targets set out in the NSW Government Sustainability Policy as relating to water consumption, energy use, and waste management. | <ul> <li>Trust operations to achieve the targets<br/>for best practice as outlined in the NSW<br/>Government Sustainability Policy.</li> </ul> |
| <ul> <li>The current data is high level<br/>and needs updating and expanding.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Develop a clear description, baseline data<br/>and understanding of the state of the<br/>Parklands natural assets.</li> </ul>         |
| <ul> <li>Limited information currently available<br/>on cultural and historical assets.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Identify and protect Indigenous<br/>and Non-Indigenous cultural heritage assets<br/>within the Parklands.</li> </ul>                  |
| <ul> <li>Informal heritage register with limited information.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Compile a comprehensive Parklands heritage register.</li> </ul>   |

To achieve these outcomes, the Trust will undertake the following actions.

### Objective 1:

# Secure a bushland corridor along the entire length of the Parklands to improve biodiversity

Key actions:

- Research, map and understand the quality of the Parklands natural systems and assets.
- 2. Continue implementing, reviewing and updating the *Biodiversity Restoration Strategy*.
- Maintain ongoing protection and enhancement of core habitats, including weed, feral animal control and fire management.
- Deliver key projects, including the restoration of the Cumberland Plain Woodland and linking areas of existing core habitats.
- Create a register of the Parklands' natural assets to be incorporated into the asset management strategy.
- 6. Implement the *Bush Fire Management Strategy* for the Parklands for safety and biodiversity outcomes.
- Work with external groups on restoration and recovery initiatives such as bio-banking.

### Objective 2:

# Maximise environment and conservation research and education opportunities Key actions:

- 1. Further develop an ongoing
- monitoring program.
  2. Work with partners on case study
- Work with partners on case study research projects.
- 3. Work with research agencies and educational organisations to promote the exchange of information across the Western Sydney community.

### Objective 3:

# Trust operations to achieve carbon neutral status

- Develop and implement a Parklands operation plan that will address waste management, energy and water resources and use of materials.
- Work with the tenants and stakeholders to reduce the Parklands' carbon footprint.



### Objective 4:

Improve water quality and sustainable water use in the Parklands

Key actions:

- Work with a range of partners to improve water quality in Eastern Creek and other water bodies.
- In partnership, investigate and implement water harvesting and recycling systems.
- Ensure sustainable water principles and practices are integral to the design and operations of the Parklands.

### Objective 5:

Encourage community involvement in the environmental restoration of the Parklands

Key actions:

- Establish a volunteer program to involve the local and broader community in the restoration process.
- 2. Work with partners to develop and implement an environmental education and training program.
- Promote opportunities for children and young people to interact with nature.

### **Objective 6:**

Protect and enhance the Parklands' Indigenous and Non-Indigenous cultural heritage

- Develop partnerships with local Indigenous individuals and groups to understand, protect and celebrate the Indigenous heritage and cultural values of the Parklands.
- Work collaboratively with local and state heritage groups and agencies to ensure the Parklands' Non-Indigenous heritage is considered in future planning.
- Develop partnerships to interpret the Parklands' cultural heritage, and to uncover and promote further aspects of the area's cultural heritage.
- Develop a consolidated Parklands heritage register to be incorporated into Parklands asset management strategy.

# **Culture and Participation**



The Trust will work with its partners to provide spaces, facilities and programs catering for people representing a wide range of cultures, abilities and backgrounds.

| Parklands Now  | 2020 Outcomes   |
|--|---|
| - 1.6 million people visit the Parklands per annum.                    | <ul> <li>At a minimum double the number of visitors to the Parklands.</li> </ul>              |
| Little opportunity to participate in cultural events in the Parklands. | <ul> <li>Increase participation in cultural events<br/>conducted in the Parklands.</li> </ul> |
| - Little opportunity for volunteering in the Parklands.                | <ul> <li>Increase volunteer numbers</li> <li>by 10 percent.</li> </ul>                        |
| Limited testing of visitor satisfaction.                               | <ul> <li>Achieve visitor satisfaction ratings<br/>of 70 percent or above.</li> </ul>          |

To achieve these outcomes, the Trust will undertake the following actions.

### Objective 1:

### Maximise community awareness of the Parklands

Key actions:

- 1. Enhance public awareness and engagement through a public relations program utilising diverse activities designed to appeal to all sections of the community.
- 2. Strengthen relationships with key stakeholders through a stakeholder engagement strategy.
- 3. Liaise with other park bodies in Australia and overseas to promote the Parklands activities and programs.
- 4. Develop a unique Parklands brand to be applied consistently across all activities and programs with a distinctive 'look and feel'.

### Objective 2:

### Increase community use of the Parklands

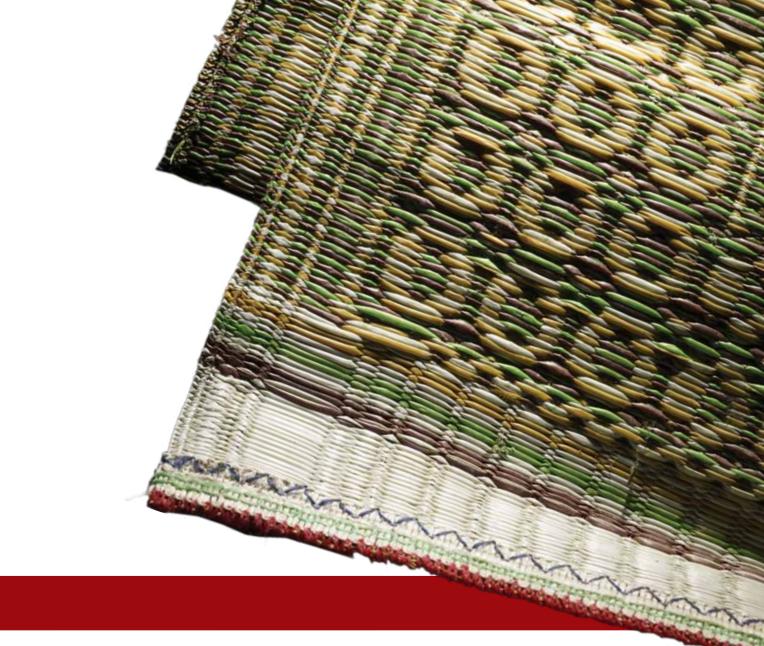
Key actions:

- 1. Create a calendar of programs and activities that increases visitor numbers through multiple return visits.
- 2. Develop and promote diverse programs and events to attract a variety of users across a broad range of age groups.
- 3. Develop activities that encourage visitors to use the Parklands Precincts and areas.
- 4. Promote the Parklands as a venue of choice for organisations and community groups.

### Objective 3:

### Create a sense of community ownership of the Parklands

- 1. Create volunteering opportunities in areas such as education, recreation and the environment.
- 2. Establish community and web based forums to build two-way relationships with Parklands stakeholders.
- 3. Engage directly with Parklands neighbours and private landowners in the Parklands.
- 4. Develop a 'Friends of the Parklands' program.
- 5. Maintain feedback opportunities for visitors.



### Objective 4:

Encourage children and young people to use the Parklands Key actions:

- Develop educational programs and activities including schools and youth organisations focused on the environment, urban farming and healthy lifestyles.
- 2. Use new technologies including communications and interactive technologies to engage with children and young people.
- 3. Create nature-based spaces that encourage play and creativity.

### Objective 5:

Reflect and respond to culturally diverse communities
Key actions:

- 1. Provide facilities that meet the needs of diverse cultural groups.
- 2. Work with cultural groups and organisations to develop a program of events and opportunities that will help build strong connections between these communities and the Trust.
- 3. Develop communications material and processes for non-English speaking people.

### **Objective 6:**

Promote the Parklands as a cultural venue Key actions:

- Connect with cultural events, exhibitions and programs across the wider metropolitan area.
- 2. Provide venues for a range of events and activities.
- 3. Partner with appropriate agencies to develop and provide cultural programs.

### **Urban Farming**



The Trust will protect and promote the Parklands as a valuable urban agricultural setting, with benefits for recreation, tourism, education and the local economy.

| Parklands Now  | 2020 Outcomes  |  |
|--|--|--|
| - 2 percent of public land in the Parklands is being farmed.   | <ul> <li>Increase by 8 percent (415 ha) the<br/>land used for urban farming.</li> </ul>  |  |
| - Community interaction with urban farming in the Parklands is limited to Calmsley Hill City Farm's educational program. | <ul> <li>Increase the community interaction<br/>with urban farming in the Parklands<br/>by establishing produce markets,<br/>farm gates and educational programs.</li> </ul> |  |
| - Limited amount of public land in the Parklands is being farmed.  | <ul> <li>Demonstrate a model of urban farming<br/>on public land.</li> </ul>   |  |
| - Existing farmers operating within the Parklands.   | <ul> <li>Establish and develop positive<br/>partnerships with existing farmers,<br/>private owners and other occupants<br/>in the Parklands.</li> </ul>                      |  |

To achieve these outcomes, the Trust will undertake the following actions.

### Objective 1:

### Establish sustainable urban farming in the Parklands

Key actions:

- 1. Establish agricultural uses at appropriate locations within the Parklands.
- 2. Recognise the status of farming on private landholdings within the Parklands.
- 3. Work with existing and new farmers to promote sustainable practices through improved farm management.
- 4. Use initiatives such as farmers markets and farm gate sales to promote sustainability.
- 5. Build relationships with other Sydney basin and regional farming operations.

### Objective 2:

### Promote urban farming as integral to urban futures Key actions:

- 1. Continue supporting Calmsley Hill Farm's educational program, including programs linking to the wider Parklands.
- 2. Attract community based agricultural training programs and activities.
- 3. Partner with research and industry organisations to research and develop issues around urban farming and sustainable technology.
- 4. Encourage community participation in an urban farming program, its activities and events.

### Objective 3:

### Utilise underdeveloped land for farming in the interim prior to long term parkland development Key actions:

- 1. Work with agencies to achieve an understanding of long term infrastructure development within the Parklands, in order to identify opportunities for interim farming operations.
- 2. Plan for the transition between land identified as interim farming operations and long term recreational and environment uses.



# Parklands Development and Management



The Trust will develop and manage the Parklands in a responsible manner, to ensure the ongoing viability of the Parklands and the spaces, activities and programs it contains.

| Parklands Now  | 2020 Outcomes   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Limited data available on breadth of Parklands assets.   | <ul> <li>Develop and implement an asset management strategy.</li> </ul>   |  |
| Trust's capacity to develop Parklands limited by available funding.                              | <ul> <li>Lease up to 2 percent of the Parklands<br/>over a number of sites for business<br/>uses to generate income to manage<br/>the Parklands.</li> </ul> |  |
|  | <ul> <li>Expand minor income generating<br/>opportunities in recreational areas<br/>such as cafes, and shelter and bike hire.</li> </ul>                    |  |
| Around 900,000 visitors to government leased land in the Parklands.                              | <ul> <li>Increase visitation and use of existing leased government assets.</li> </ul>   |  |
| Ongoing dialogue with infrastructure utility providers and Trust on proposed new infrastructure. | <ul> <li>Allow for new infrastructure and manage<br/>the impacts of new infrastructure/utilities<br/>within the Parklands.</li> </ul>                       |  |
| Limited community facilities available.  | <ul> <li>Provide for community facilities as required.</li> </ul>   |  |

To achieve these outcomes, the Trust will undertake the following actions.

### Objective 1:

### **Deliver sustainable management of the Parklands Trust's assets** Key actions:

- Create an asset register of the Parklands' recreational, environmental, real property and intellectual assets.
- Develop and implement an asset management strategy for built and natural assets to deliver long term sustainability and viability.
- Establish contamination management guidelines to be applied as needed to any affected sites within the Parklands.

#### Objective 2:

### Maximise the use and community benefits of existing and new leased assets in the Parklands

Key actions:

- Work with lessees to increase their business opportunities and marketing profile to attract a broader range of users and enhance community reach.
- 2. Provide land for key community facilities with public benefit.

### Objective 3:

### Develop new business opportunities to support the management and further development of the Parklands Key actions:

- Develop Business Hubs in appropriate locations in the Parklands.
- Establish consultative committees with Blacktown, Fairfield and Liverpool City Councils to explore locations and land uses for Business Hubs, and consult with relevant State Government agencies and others as required.
- Improve the Parklands income base by moving from small, short term lease assets to longer term, high-yield lease assets.
- 4. Develop and explore minor income generating opportunities such as cafés, and shelter and bike hire.
- Develop partnerships with government and non-government entities to encourage investment in environmental, recreational, cultural or agricultural programs.

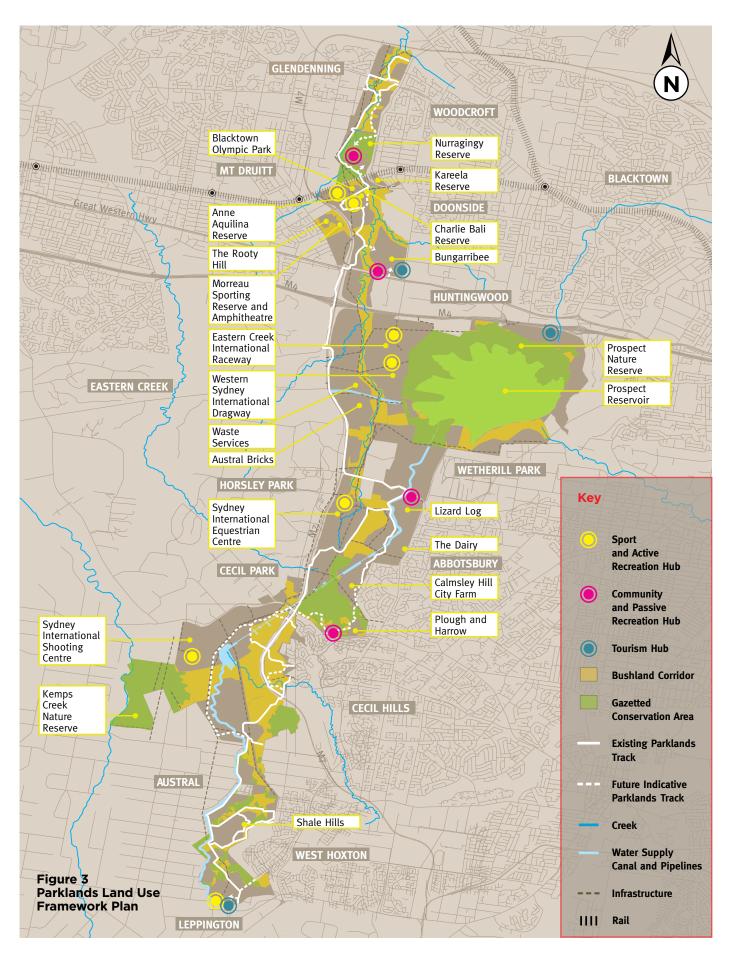


### Objective 4:

Allow for new infrastructure and achieve a balance between the recreation and aesthetic values of the Parklands and the infrastructure needs of external agencies
Key actions:

- Work with agencies to decide on the location and appearance of all new infrastructure/utilities in order to manage impacts on the Parklands whilst still allowing expansion to meet community demand.
- 2. Work with agencies to achieve public access and environmental benefits without adversely affecting infrastructure viability.
- Allow for new infrastructure/utilities and manage the impacts of new infrastructure/utilities in the Parklands.
- 4. Where appropriate provide for critical community infrastructure such as emergency services.5. Work with Sydney Catchment Authority
- 5. Work with Sydney Catchment Authority and others on appropriate pedestrian and vehicle crossings over the water supply canal and pipelines to ensure that security, maintenance and integrity of the water supply infrastructure and water quality is protected.

### 2.4 Land Use Framework

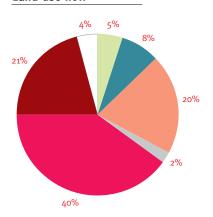


The Parklands land use framework plan (**Figure 3**) identifies the various activity hubs, linkages, infrastructure, bushland corridor, and gazetted conservation areas to be planned or delivered over the next 10 years. The Parklands precincts discussed in the next section provide a greater level of detail on each precinct.

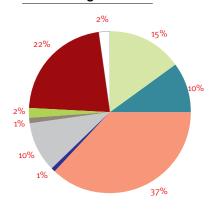
The Plan focuses on what will be delivered over the next 10 years as well as the interim land uses.

As a context for this 10 year Plan the future land use table indicates the targets for long term land uses beyond 2020 and the life of this Plan. As indicated in the Strategic Directions the Parklands will provide a mix of land uses in the long term to create a vibrant Parklands. As the Plan is reviewed every 7 years the long term land uses will also be reviewed.

#### Land use now



# Long term land use targets



| Land Use table - Now and Long Term  |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| Land Use  | Land use now<br>Existing area (ha)<br>and percentage<br>of Parklands | Long term<br>land use targets<br>Future area (ha)<br>and percentage<br>of Parklands |  |
| Passive Recreation Picnic, play, events grounds, open space, walking, cycling and riding tracks, cafes  | 264 /5%  | 795/15%   |  |
| Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities Sports fields and courts, sports centres such as equestrian and shooting centres, stadiums, racetracks, motorcycle tracks                            | 422/8%   | 520/10%   |  |
| Natural and Cultural Heritage Conservation Core bushland and habitat corridors, riparian corridors, wetlands  | 1056/20%   | 2006/37%  |  |
| Community Facilities Meeting rooms, community centres and associated facilities   | 7/0%   | 52/1%   |  |
| Urban Farming and Rural Grazing, cropping, horticulture and viticulture, forestry, agri processing plants, farmers markets, animal boarding, children's farm, agistment community gardens | 105/2%   | 520/10%   |  |
| Tourism Hotels, theme parks, wildlife parks, camping areas, entertainment venues, cinemas, convention/function centres  | 6/0%   | 52/1%   |  |
| Business Hubs   | _  | 100/2%  |  |
| Interim Land Uses Short term residential tenancies, vacant land, private land yet to be acquired  | 2130/40%   | -   |  |
| Long Term Infrastructure Water storage and supply, electricity, gas, sewerage, roads, easements   | 1050/21%   | 1108/22%  |  |
| Interim Infrastructure<br>Waste services, Austral Bricks  | 240/4%   | 127/2%  |  |
| Passive Recreation Tourism  |  |   |  |

Business Hubs

Interim Land Use

■ Long Term Infrastructure

□ Interim Infrastructure

Indoor & Outdoor Sports Facilities

Natural & Cultural Heritage

Conservation

■ Community Facilities

■ Urban Farming & Rural

# 2.4 Land Use Framework continued

### **Identification of Business Hubs**

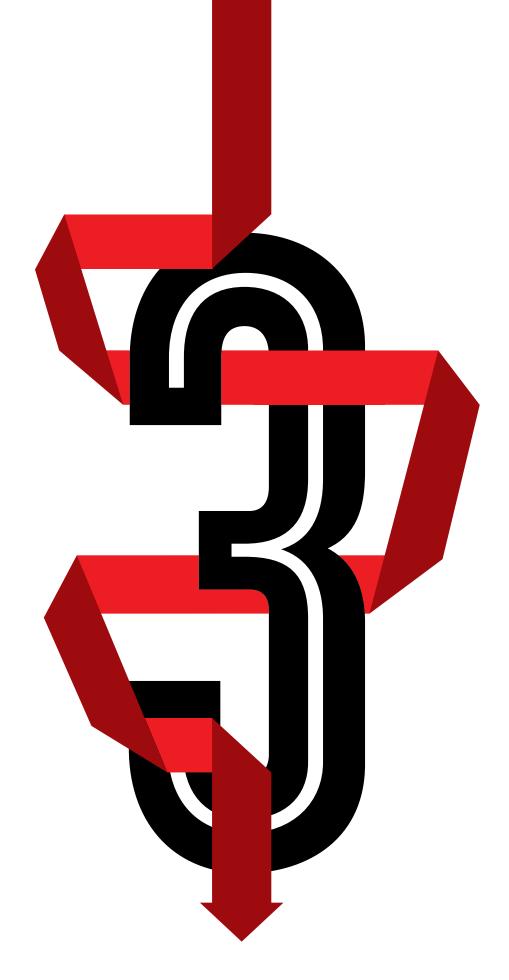
The Trust proposes that 2 percent of the Parklands will be for long term uses as Business Hubs and a further 1 percent of the Parklands for Tourism Hubs. These Hubs will be spread across the three Local Government Areas which the Parklands cover. Revenues generated from land rent from the long term leases of the Business Hubs will be used to fund the maintenance of existing facilities and the provision of additional park infrastructure.

The Trust recognises that the Parklands can make a significant contribution to economic development and employment in Western Sydney, as well as meet the Trust's recreation, environmental and sustainable funding goals.

The Plan marks the start of close consultation with the relevant local Councils and communities. The Trust intends to create council consultative committees and invite the involvement of Blacktown, Fairfield and Liverpool City Councils. The committees will be involved with the implementation of the Plan and in particular the identification of locations and land uses in Business Hubs.

- In identifying these sites and land uses, four simple criteria will apply:
- Land uses should generate an appropriate commercial return and also add to the amenity of adjacent communities.
- Land uses must generate additional employment and training opportunities for local and regional communities.
- Development must be undertaken in a manner that will minimise the environmental impact of such development.
- The development of Business Hubs will only be permitted to occur on sites with low environmental and recreational values.

The Trust will also consult with relevant State Government agencies and others in identifying the Business Hubs.



**PARKLANDS PRECINCTS** 

### 3.1 The Precincts

# **3.2 Precinct Management Guidelines**

16 Precincts have been identified within the Parklands, each with its own character and land uses, infrastructure, issues and opportunities.

The Precinct boundaries are defined by their character, context, and commonality in land uses and function.

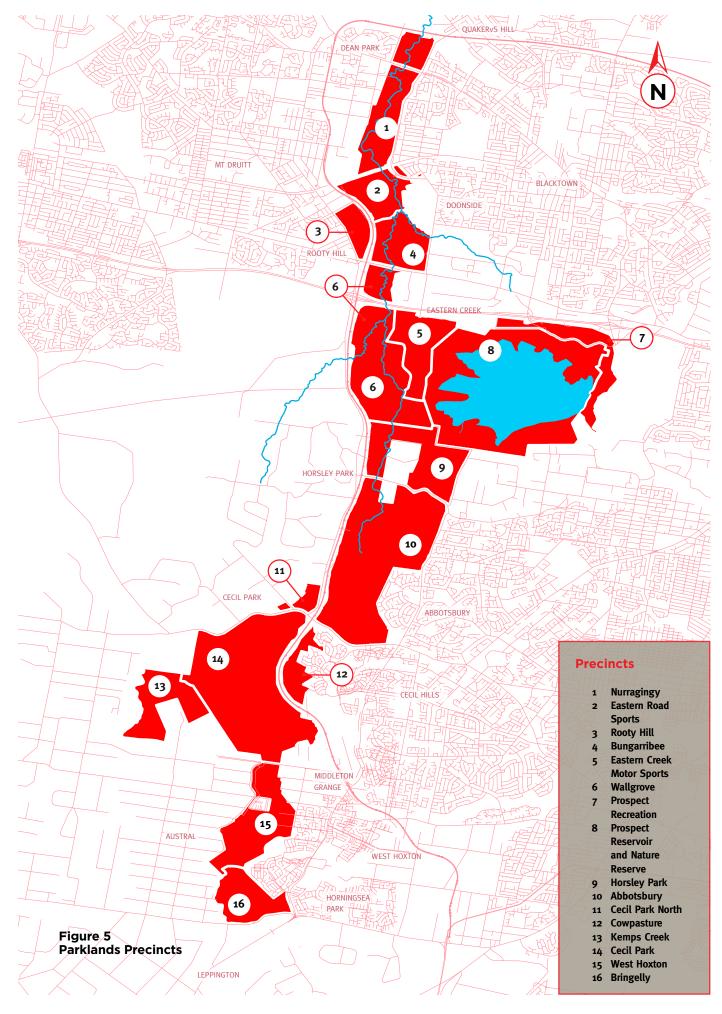
This section details the precinct management guidelines for the 16 Parklands Precincts.

The Precinct management guidelines outline the objectives, desired future character, land use opportunities and management priorities for each Precinct. In some cases, programs and issues may overlap between Precincts. A number of management approaches will be shared across Precincts, including the need to:

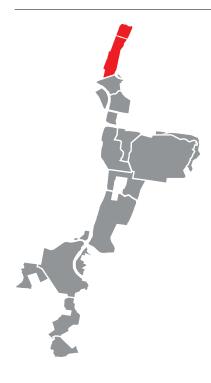
- work closely with local Councils and State/Commonwealth Government agencies on issues such as public transport, safety, education programs, provision of sporting activities and spaces, access and signage, pedestrian paths and cycle ways, economic development and water management;
- work with Blacktown, Liverpool and Fairfield City Councils to determine location and land uses of the Business Hubs;
- work closely with infrastructure/utility providers to manage existing and new infrastructure services, in terms of access, security, public safety and other operational requirements;
- work with environmental groups, government agencies and landowners to preserve remnant bushland, manage introduced species including weeds, run revegetation programs, manage feral animals, protect threatened species and educate people about sustainable approaches and practices such as recycling and using renewable energies;

- partner with local heritage groups and historical societies to preserve and where appropriate educate about Precinct specific aspects of Non-Indigenous heritage and culture;
- partner with local Indigenous communities in order to preserve and, where appropriate, educate about Precinct specific aspects of Indigenous heritage and culture;
- engage with the local community including schools through volunteer and education programs; and
- engage with the business community to explore partnership opportunities, sponsorship, tourism, business training/development and viable Parklands businesses.

In coming years detailed Precinct plans will be developed by the Trust in consultation with key stakeholders and the community. The Precinct plans may detail the desired future character, land uses, proposed lease opportunities, enhancements to the natural environment, access and identification of proposed programs or activities.



### **Nurragingy**



### **Precinct Description:**

The 285ha Precinct includes the Eastern Creek floodplain, Nurragingy Reserve and agistment lands in the north. The Precinct is defined by the M7 Motorway in the north, Knox Road to the east, Glendenning Road to the west and the Western Railway Line to the south. Doonside and Rooty Hill Railway Stations are in close proximity to the Precinct.

### **Desired Future Character:**

A well developed regional recreational hub focussed on the gardens and bushland at Nurragingy Reserve, connected by cycling and walking tracks to local passive and active recreational sites in a semi-rural and bushland setting.

#### **Objectives:**

- Enhance Nurragingy Reserve as a key recreation hub.
- Conserve and maintain the natural and cultural heritage values including the core habitat in Nurragingy Reserve.
- Improve walking and cycling connections to and through Nurragingy Reserve to the wider Parklands.

#### Land Use Opportunities

- Regional passive recreation
- Local active and passive recreation
- Environmental education facilities
- Walking and cycling trails
- Indigenous culture and heritage
- Community facilities
- Bushland regeneration/ conservation
- Creek line and flood management
- Existing and future service infrastructure



**Key Management Priorities:** 

## Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

- Work with Blacktown City Council to upgrade Nurragingy Reserve to improve public facilities and amenities.
- Provide opportunities for local active and passive recreation.
- Create a cohesive image for the Precinct along boundaries to Richmond Road, Power Street and Knox Road.
- Provide improved walking and cycling connections throughout the Precinct, including links to Nurragingy Reserve and to adjoining tracks.
- Provide improved local connections from the Parklands to key areas and tracks outside the Parklands.

### **Environment and Conservation:**

- Work in collaboration with Blacktown City Council to improve riparian bushland and biodiversity along Eastern Creek including Nurragingy Reserve.
- Work with partners to improve water quality in Eastern Creek and to develop potential sustainable water projects.
- Investigate restoration of floodplain wetland (currently dam) and tributary near Owen Street.
- Explore the Non-Indigenous and Indigenous heritage values and opportunities in this Precinct.

### **Culture and Participation:**

- Expand social and community programs in the Precinct.
- Increase use of the Precinct north of Nurragingy Reserve by developing engagement programs geared to local communities.

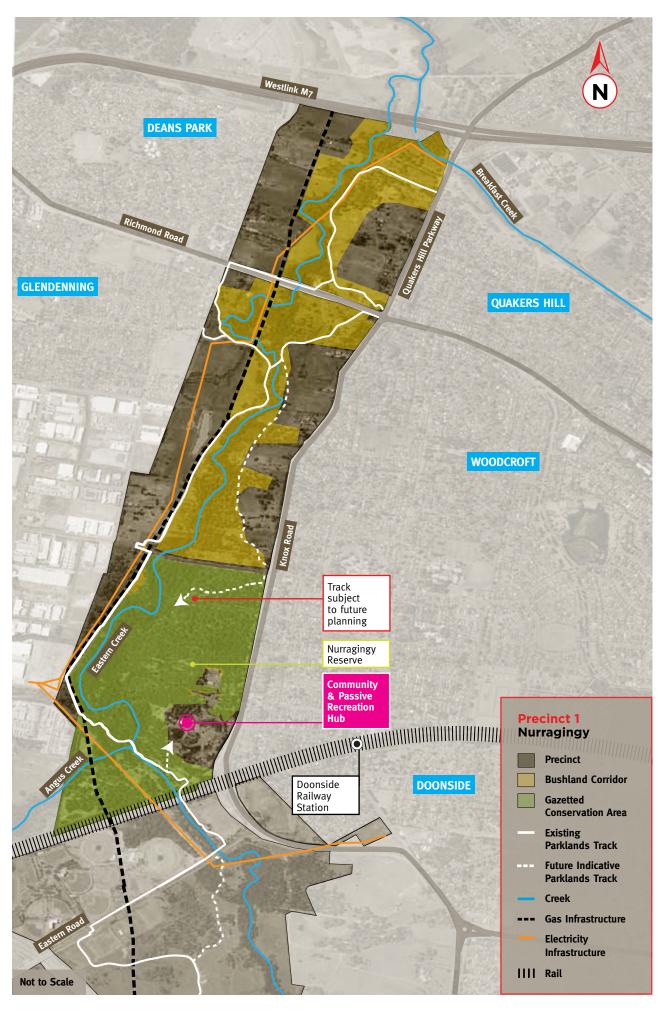
### **Urban Farming:**

 Maintain and improve rural agistments as an interim land use, including with private landowners north of Nurragingy Reserve.

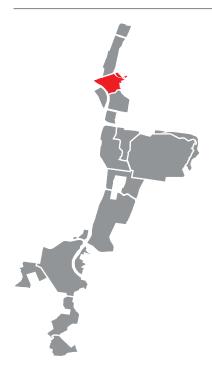
# Parklands Development and Management:

- Continue to work with Blacktown City Council under the current Nurragingy Reserve lease arrangement.

**Pictured:** Nurragingy Reserve, Pond and surrounds. Photo: Blacktown City Council.



### **Eastern Road Sports**



### **Precinct Description:**

The Eastern Road Sports Precinct (188ha) includes Blacktown Olympic Park and associated sports facilities east of Eastern Creek and south of Eastern Road. The M7 Motorway provides a strong visual boundary to the west of the Precinct.

Blacktown City Council play an important role in delivering sports facilities in the Precinct and it is expected that the Trust and Council will continue to work together in delivering the management priorities.

### **Desired Future Character:**

A key regional sport and active recreation hub for Western Sydney with strong connections to the Parklands, providing high quality facilities for the region along with bushland conservation areas.

#### **Objectives:**

- Continue to develop the Precinct as a regional and high quality sport and active recreation destination.
- Enhance linkages with the internal Parklands access trails and to surrounding areas (including the M7 Motorway cycleway).
- Provide ecological links to the east and south to Doonside Reserve and Bungarribee.

### **Land Use Opportunities**

- Active recreation
- Local passive recreation
- Bushland regeneration/conservation
- Indigenous culture and heritage
- Community facilities
- Walking and cycle trails
- Sport and fitness based tourism, employment and educational facilities
- Existing and future service infrastructure

### **Key Management Priorities:**

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

- Plan to expand the diversity of regional sport and active recreation at Eastern Creek, potentially through public private partnerships.
- Ensure auxiliary and complementary sports, tourism and education facilities in Blacktown Olympic Park.
- Improve pedestrian/cycle links between Blacktown Olympic Park, the residential development to the east and Bungarribee.
- Work in collaboration with Blacktown City Council to plan for this Precinct.
- Investigate and work with relevant transport agencies and providers to develop better public transport access to this Precinct.

#### **Environment and Conservation:**

 Work with partners to improve water quality in Eastern Creek and maximise opportunities for water recycling for irrigation and other uses.

### **Culture and Participation:**

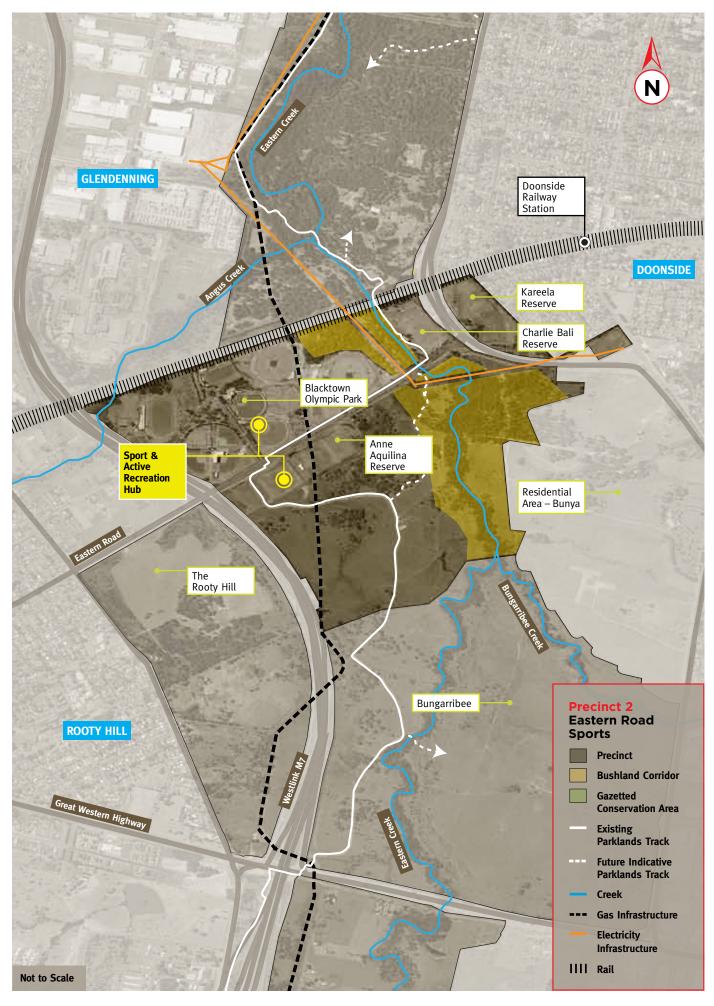
 Work with other parties to develop and coordinate an events program.

# Parklands Development and Management:

 Work with sports facility stakeholders to explore carbon neutral opportunities, including waste management and use of biodegradable materials and renewable energies.



**Pictured:** Blacktown Olympic Park, NAB Cup Match 2010 Photo: Blacktown Olympic Park.



### **Rooty Hill**



### **Precinct Description:**

The Rooty Hill Precinct (206ha) is isolated from the wider Parklands corridor by the M7 Motorway to the east. It contains the open bushland reserve of Rooty Hill, Morreau Sporting Reserve and amphitheatre and former agricultural flood plain lands along Rooty Hill Road.

### **Desired Future Character:**

Maintain the prominence, and cultural and historical significance of Rooty Hill and its sports facilities and amphitheatre.

### **Objectives:**

- Maintain local park facilities for the use of adjoining local communities.
- Conserve the scenic and cultural heritage values associated with Rooty Hill and provide opportunities for visitors to engage with the heritage of the local area.

### **Land Use Opportunities**

- Community facilities
- Local active recreation
- Local passive recreation
- Cultural heritage facilities

### **Key Management Priorities:**

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

 Connect the Precinct with the wider Parklands through walking/cycling tracks along Eastern Road and the Great Western Highway.

### **Environment and Conservation:**

- Allow for biodiversity links to the wider Parklands bushland corridor.
- Explore the Non-Indigenous and Indigenous heritage values and opportunities in this Precinct.

### **Culture and Participation:**

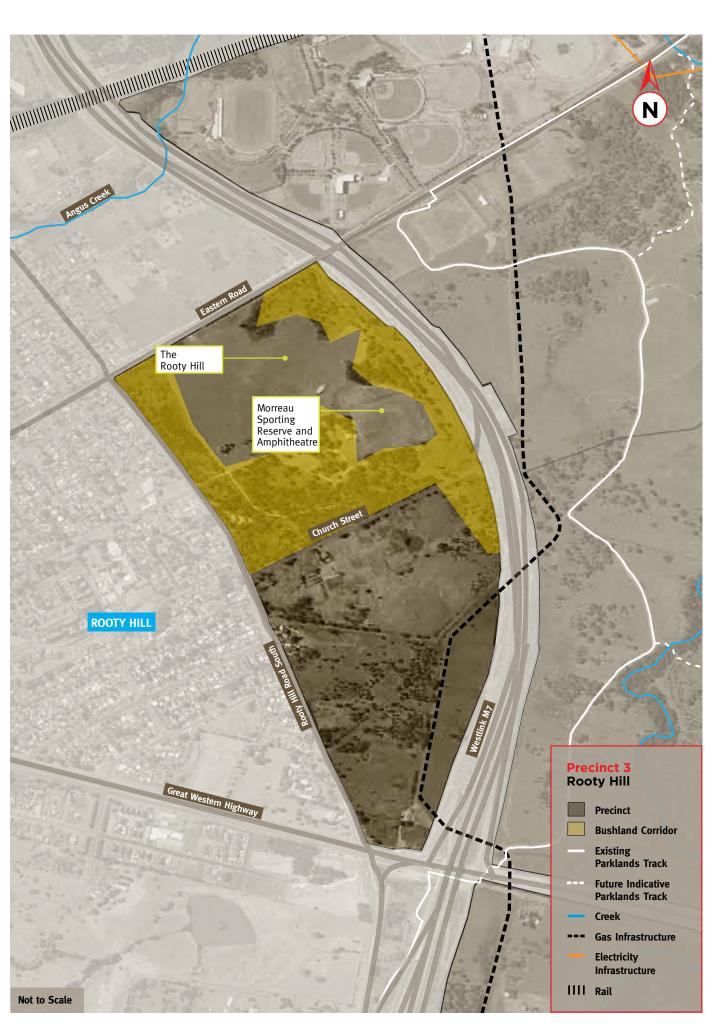
- Deliver events and programs that actively engage with residents and school communities.
- Provide opportunities for local play and involvement in public art and community and social interaction.

### **Urban Farming:**

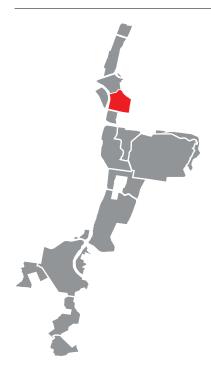
 Provide opportunities for urban farming and agistment as an interim land use.



**Pictured:** The Rooty Hill Photo: Andy Stevens.



### **Bungarribee**



### **Precinct Description:**

The Bungarribee Precinct (216ha) is a wide open scenic landscape that includes Eastern Creek and its flood plain, which flows through former grazing lands. The Precinct is surrounded by the M7 Motorway to the west, and residential and industrial land to the south and east.

This Precinct has a rich Indigenous and Non-Indigenous history.

### **Desired Future Character:**

An emerging hub for regional passive recreation, tourism, social and cultural activities, with an extensive walking/cycling trail network that links across Eastern and Bungarribee Creeks.

#### **Objectives:**

- Creative a major regional passive recreation and tourism hub.
- Enhance access within and to the Precinct for pedestrians and cyclists, including links to adjoining residential, employment and sporting areas.
- Conserve and maintain a vital link in the bushland corridor within the Parklands and surrounding areas.

### **Land Use Opportunities**

- Regional passive recreation
- Local active recreation
- Walking, cycle and bridle trails
- Tourism and entertainment
- Bushland regeneration/conservation
- Indigenous culture and heritage facilities
- Community facilities
- Environmental education
- Existing and future service infrastructure

### **Key Management Priorities:**

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

- Create the facilities for a major new regional recreation hub in a scenic landscape setting.
- Expand the existing network of walking and cycling tracks with bridge crossings over Eastern and Bungarribee Creeks, and safe crossings of major adjacent roads.
- Deliver a strong and cohesive Precinct image along the Great Western Highway and Doonside Road.

### **Environment and Conservation:**

- Improve the biodiversity and bushland quality within the Precinct.
- Work with partners to improve water quality in Eastern and Bungarribee Creeks and develop potential sustainable water projects.
- Recognise and interpret the Indigenous and Non-Indigenous heritage of the Precinct in future developments.

### **Culture and Participation:**

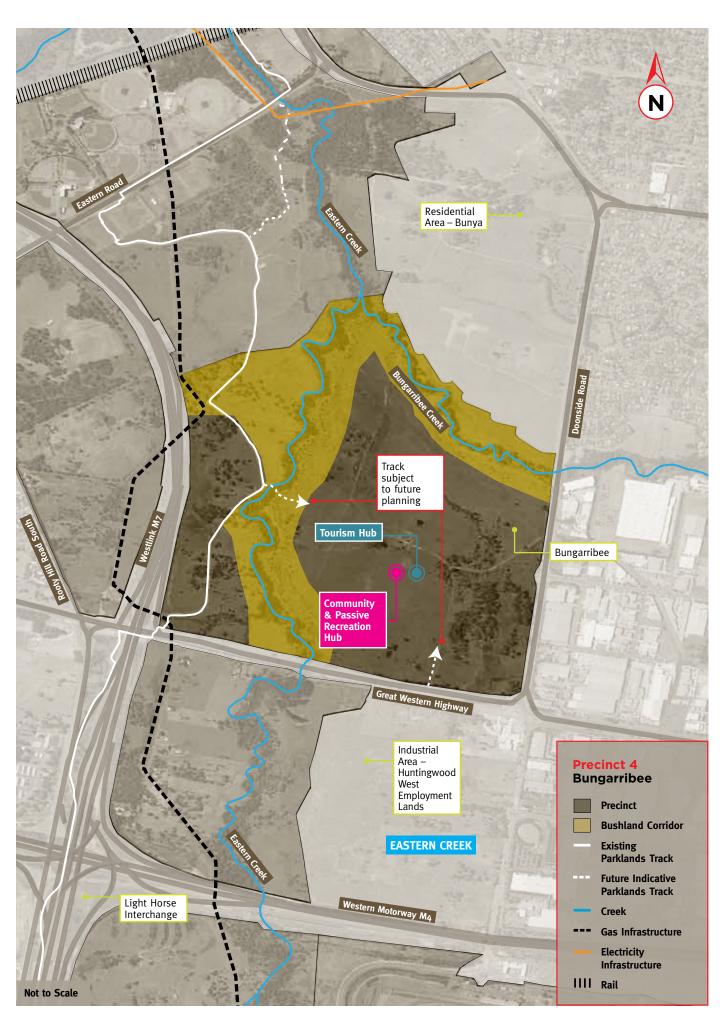
- Create an entertainment and tourism precinct with a wide range of programs and events to attract a wide variety of future users and age groups.
- Actively engage with the surrounding communities.

# Parklands Development and Management:

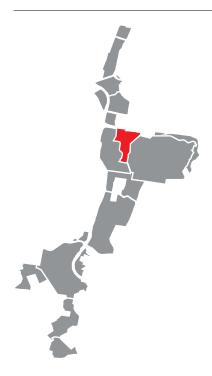
- Focus on waste management, recycling and renewable energies.
- Incorporate income generating activities as part of any tourism and commercial recreation developments.



**Pictured:** Bungarribee, Warrigal Run. Photo: Andy Stevens.



## **Eastern Creek Motor Sports**



### **Precinct Description:**

The Eastern Creek Motor Sports Precinct (272ha) is a constructed landscape containing two major sport venues: the Eastern Creek International Raceway and the Western Sydney International Dragway.

#### **Desired Future Character:**

A national venue for amateur and professional motor sports and themed activities, events and facilities.

### **Objectives:**

- Work cooperatively with stakeholders to continue to provide a quality national motor sports facility.
- Improve the general amenity of the streetscape and buffer/integration to the broader Parklands, whilst acknowledging the Precinct's motor sport character.

### **Land Use Opportunities**

- Motor sports, driver training and active recreation
- Entertainment, events and exhibitions
- Commercial recreation
- Tourism facilities
- Education and training
- Bushland regeneration/conservation
- Existing and future service infrastructure

### **Key Management Priorities:**

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

- Continue to facilitate the sustainable operations and development of the Precinct by lessees for motor sports and tourism.
- Work with stakeholders to develop a gateway to the Precinct and create a cohesive Parklands image along Ferrers Road.

### **Environment and Conservation:**

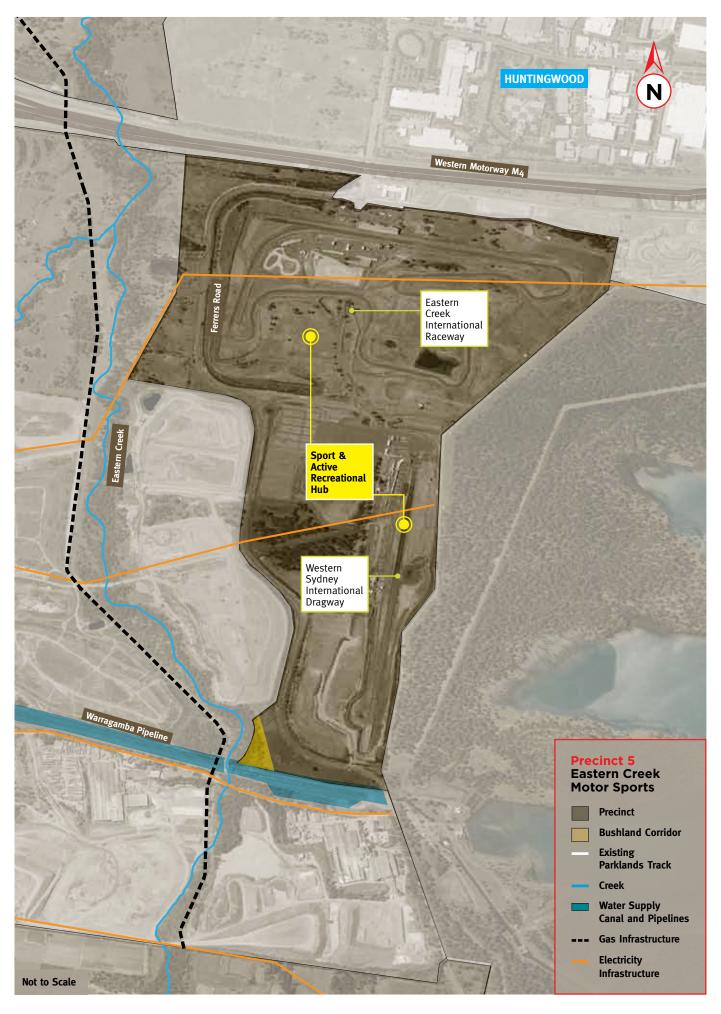
 Protect the adjoining Prospect Nature Reserve and Prospect Reservoir.

### **Culture and Participation:**

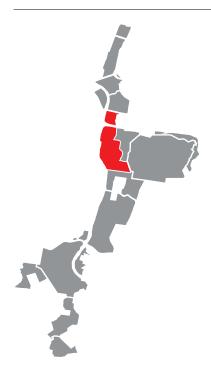
 Works with lessees to better promote and expand the venues and events within the Parklands.



**Pictured:** Eastern Creek International Raceway. Photo: Eastern Creek International Raceway.



### **Wallgrove**



### **Precinct Description:**

The Wallgrove Precinct (309ha) contains a diverse range of interim land uses, such as landfill, waste recycling, brick making and quarrying, along with rural land adjacent to the Light Horse Interchange and the M7 Motorway.

#### **Desired Future Character:**

In the short term, maintain the existing infrastructure operations and their progressive restoration, whilst working towards the long term goal of a mixed use precinct. This will be a highly recognisable, iconic Precinct at Light Horse Interchange supported by surrounding recreation and urban farming lands and glasshouses.

### **Objectives:**

- Retain the existing infrastructure operations.
- Work with agencies to restore ecological and visual landscapes.
- Retain the option to develop the Light Horse Interchange site for parklands purposes in the future.
- Develop an urban farming area between the Great Western Highway and the M4 Motorway and on landfill sites.

#### **Land Use Opportunities**

- Urban farming
- Tourism facilities
- Walking and cycle trails
- Passive recreation
- Bushland regeneration/conservation
- Indigenous culture and heritage facilities
- Existing and future service infrastructure

### **Key Management Priorities:**

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

- Improve access to the M7 Motorway cycleway from the Parklands Track.
- Create a strong, cohesive identity at the Light Horse Interchange and adjoining roads.
- Allow appropriate recreation on restored lands from the landfill sites.

### **Environment and Conservation:**

Enhance the riparian Bushland
 Corridor to improve the creek habitat
 and water quality.

#### **Urban Farming:**

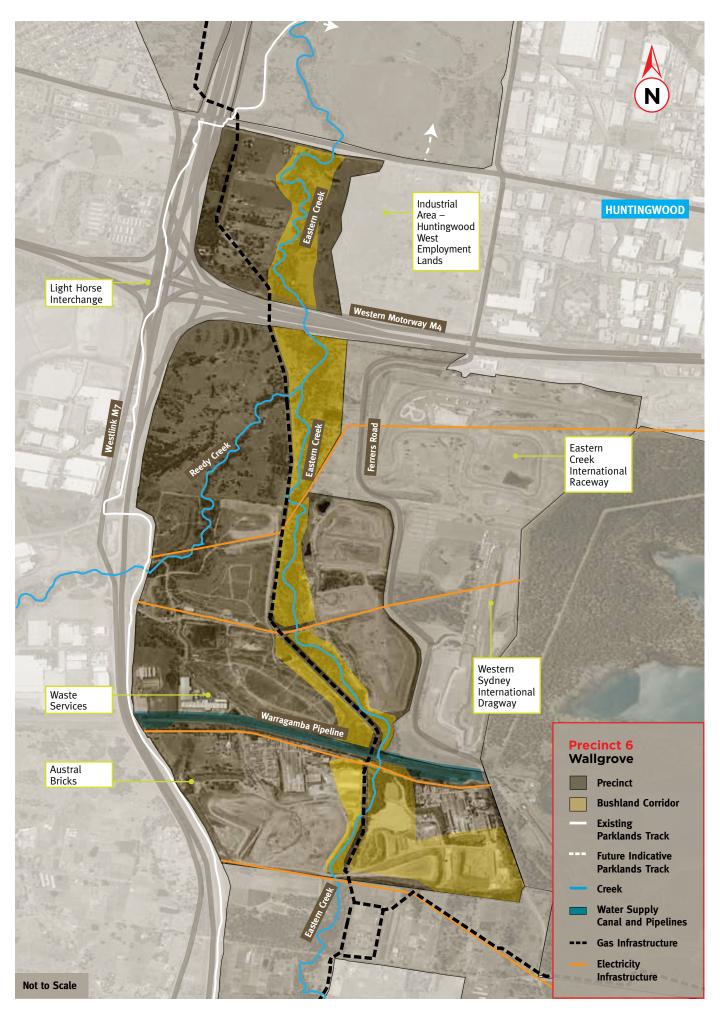
 As restored lands from the landfill site become available, allow appropriate urban farming and establish a new urban farming area along the Great Western Highway.

# Parklands Development and Management:

- Manage the Precinct in the short term to allow interim recreation or urban farming land uses with minimum infrastructure facility needs.
- Work with lessees and private landowners to develop plans for water recycling, renewable energies and waste management.
- Plan for the impacts of future service infrastructure expansions in the Precinct.



**Pictured:** Parklands site adjacent to the Light Horse Interchange. Photo: Andy Stevens.



### **Prospect Recreation**



### **Precinct Description:**

The Prospect Recreation Precinct (148ha) is isolated by the M4 Motorway and Prospect Reservoir catchment area. It contains the Blacktown Drive-In and historic Cricketers Arms Hotel, popular picnic grounds, a disabled children's facility and playground, and areas of rural landscape.

#### **Desired Future Character:**

A major destination for tourism and passive/active recreation, including picnic grounds, Sydney Water infrastructure, a drive-in cinema and historic Cricketers Arms Hotel.

### **Objectives:**

- To provide a cohesive image from the M4 Motorway.
- To protect the integrity of Prospect Reservoir and its infrastructure.
- To protect the heritage items listed in the Western Sydney Parklands SEPP including items on the state heritage register.

### **Land Use Opportunities**

- Passive recreation
- Entertainment facilities
- Walking and cycle trails
- Commercial/business uses
- Tourism facilities
- Hotels and visitor accommodation
- Scenic drive routes
- Bushland regeneration/conservation
- Community facilities
- Historic education facilities
- Existing and future service infrastructure

### **Key Management Priorities:**

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

- Investigate with infrastructure agencies the potential for expanding cycle/walking and vehicle access to the wider Parklands.
- Work with the private sector to develop a tourism hub adjoining the M4 Motorway.

#### **Environment and Conservation:**

- Improve biodiversity quality and links to the Prospect Nature Reserve.
- Explore and protect the Indigenous and Non-Indigenous heritage values and opportunities in this Precinct.

### **Culture and Participation:**

 Work with Sydney Water and Sydney Catchment Authority on educational and cultural programs related to the area.

# Parklands Development and Management:

- Work with partners to develop an energy, water and waste framework for any future developments.
- Actively promote the area for private investment in tourism and tourism related employment.



**Pictured:** Royal Cricketers Arms Hotel. Photo: Andy Stevens.



# **Prospect Reservoir** and Nature Reserve



### **Precinct Description:**

The Prospect Reservoir and Nature Reserve (1080ha) Precinct contains the Prospect Reservoir, Sydney Water infrastructure and adjoining Prospect Nature Reserve. The area has significant Indigenous and Non-Indigenous heritage value and a unique landscape.

### **Desired Future Character:**

A designated nature reserve and conservation area, containing Prospect Reservoir and important water storage and supply infrastructure.

#### **Objectives:**

- Support Sydney Catchment Authority, Sydney Water and Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water to maintain the water infrastructure and bushland resource.
- Conserve and maintain the bushland corridor within the Parklands and surrounding areas.
- Surrounding development should not detract from the visual and environmental qualities of the area.

### **Land Use Opportunities**

- Nature reserves
- Existing and future service infrastructure
- Bushland regeneration/conservation

### **Key Management Priorities:**

### **Environment and Conservation:**

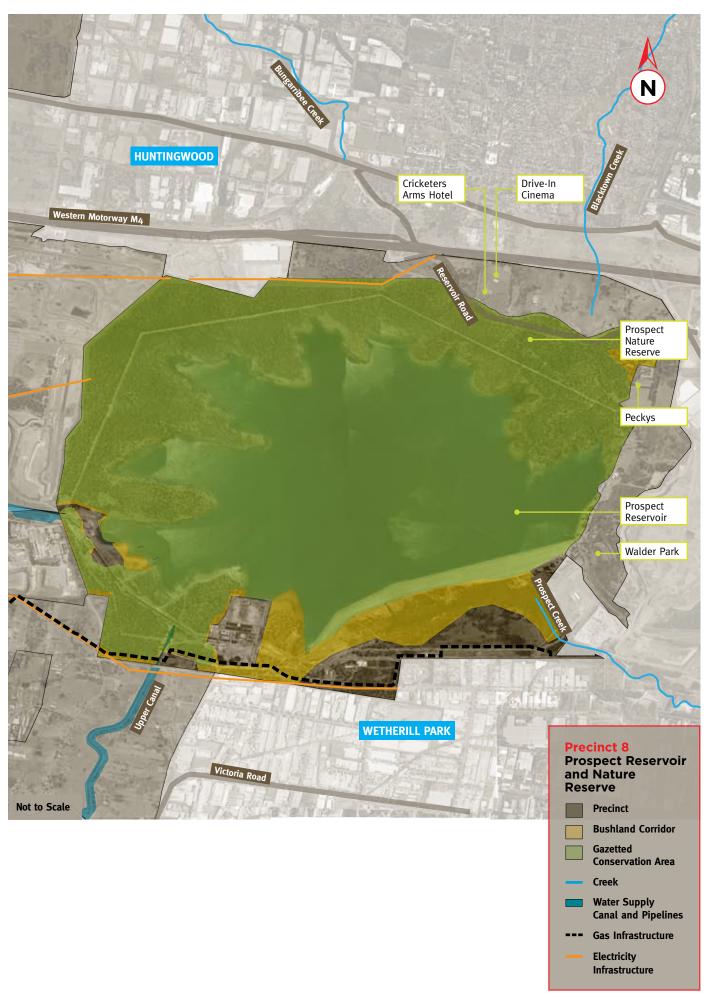
- Conserve and protect the biodiversity of the Prospect Nature Reserve and the quality of water in Prospect Reservoir.
- Explore and protect the Indigenous and Non-Indigenous heritage values and opportunities in this Precinct.

# Prospect Nature Reserve Plan of Management

This Precinct contains the Prospect Nature Reserve which is subject to a separate Plan of Management, as required under the National Parks and Wildlife Act.

**Pictured:** Prospect Reservoir and Prospect Nature Reserve in the distance. Photo: Sydney Water.





### **Horsley Park**



### **Precinct Description:**

The Horsley Park Precinct (313ha) comprises undulating rural farming lands bounded by the M7 Motorway, industrial lands (Smithfield and Wetherill Park) and private quarrying and brick making facilities.

#### **Desired Future Character:**

A centre of sustainable urban farming, featuring market gardening, community gardens, farmers markets, agri-tourism, and education programs.

### **Objectives:**

- Engage existing farming landowners in sustainable urban farming practices.
- Build a cohesive rural image (including from internal and boundary roads) that clearly identifies the Precinct as part of the Parklands.
- Protect the Upper Canal and water supply quality.

### **Land Use Opportunities**

- Agri-tourism and business
- Urban farming/market gardens
- Education facilities
- Farm gate shops/markets
- Walking, cycle and bridle trails
- Existing and future service infrastructure



### **Key Management Priorities:**

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

- Develop a walking and cycling track network through the Precinct.
- Accommodate interim recreation uses to meet demand prior to full development of the urban farming program.
- Enhance the visual quality of the farming landscape and create a cohesive urban farming identity for the Precinct's internal and boundary roads.

### **Environment and Conservation:**

- Improve the biodiversity and bushland quality within the Precinct.
- Work with partners to investigate water harvesting, landscape recycling systems and water recycling for irrigation.
- Work with partners to improve the water quality in Eastern Creek.

### **Culture and Participation:**

- Develop with partners sustainable farming educational programs.
- Work with private landowners to engage them in the sustainable urban farming program.

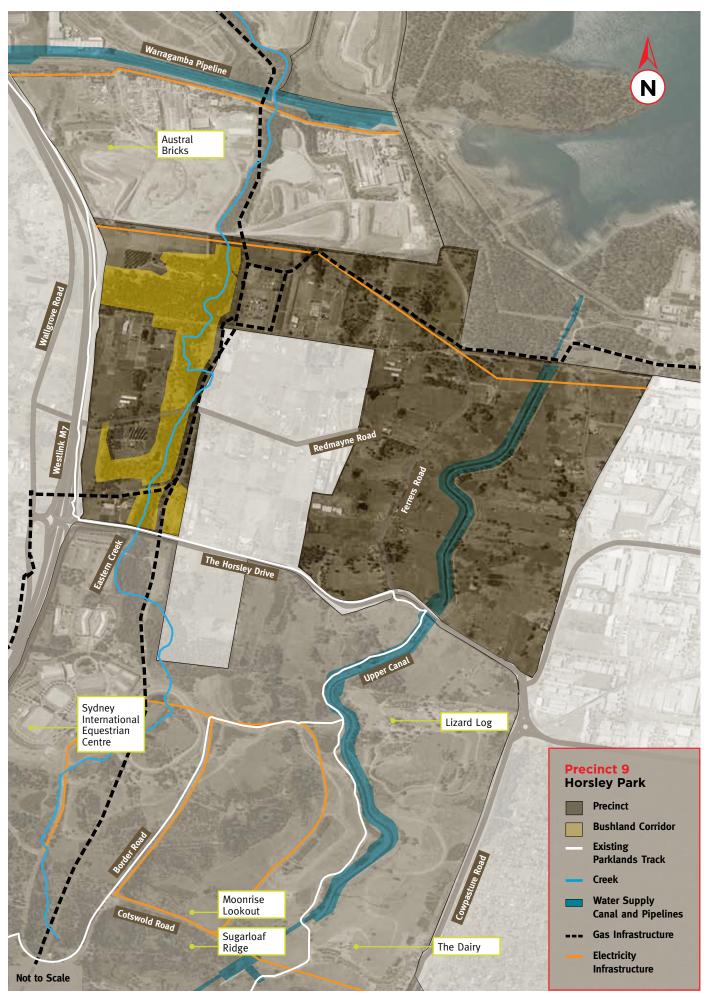
### **Urban Farming:**

- Activate further sites for urban farming.
- Work with industry/educational groups to develop best practice urban farming programs and industry links across Sydney.
- Create the opportunity for farmers markets and farm-gate sales.

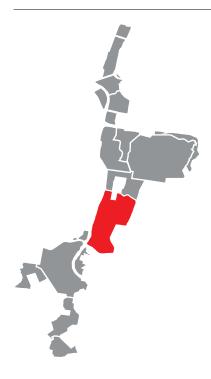
# Parklands Development and Management:

- Work with lessees and private landowners to develop plans for water recycling, renewable energies and waste management.
- Plan for the impacts of future service infrastructure expansions in the Precinct.
- Work with Sydney catchment Authority to identify appropriate access opportunities across the Upper Canal.

**Pictured:** Existing farming in Horsley Park. Photo: Andy Stevens.



### **Abbotsbury**



### **Precinct Description:**

The Abbotsbury Precinct (708ha) is a scenic area including Cumberland Plain Woodland, the Sydney International Equestrian Centre, Calmsley Hill City Farm and picnic areas (Lizard Log, Sugarloaf Ridge and The Dairy). A north-south ridgeline with regional views creates two distinct areas.

### **Desired Future Character:**

A major activity precinct for the Parklands offering a range of cultural, recreation and community uses with a high level of design quality, in a picturesque environment.

#### **Objectives:**

- Enhance picnic areas, entertainment venues and play spaces by creating passive and active recreation hubs.
- Enhance internal connections and legibility between destinations.
- Protect bushland.
- Expand recreation and tourism opportunities at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre.
- Protect the Upper Canal and water supply quality.

### Land Use Opportunities

- Regional passive recreation
- Sport and fitness
- Walking, cycle and bridle trails
- Café/kiosk facilities
- Entertainment facilities
- Urban farming
- Community facilities
- Education facilities
- Tourism and business
- Indigenous culture and heritage facilities
- Bushland regeneration/conservation
- Service infrastructure

### **Key Management Priorities:**

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

- Create a destination hub around Lizard Log.
- Support the Precinct with increased use of Moonrise, The Dairy, Sugarloaf Ridge and ongoing management of Plough and Harrow.
- Increase access between Plough and Harrow, The Dairy and Lizard Log by allowing walking, cycling and vehicle links.
- Investigate development of a mountain bike course.
- Deliver a strong and cohesive precinct image along Horsley Drive, M7 Motorway and at key entrances.

### **Environment and Conservation:**

- Conduct a flora and fauna survey within the Precinct.
- Continue existing fire, pest and weed management programs.
- Explore the Indigenous and Non-Indigenous heritage values and opportunities in this Precinct.

### **Culture and Participation:**

- Develop Lizard Log for entertainment, events and programs including café and tourism facilities.
- Work with Sydney International Equestrian Centre and Calmsley Hill City Farm to expand recreation, education, tourism, heritage and business links.

### **Urban Farming:**

 Work with Calmsley Hill City Farm to develop education programs and other key partnership opportunities.

# Parklands Development and Management:

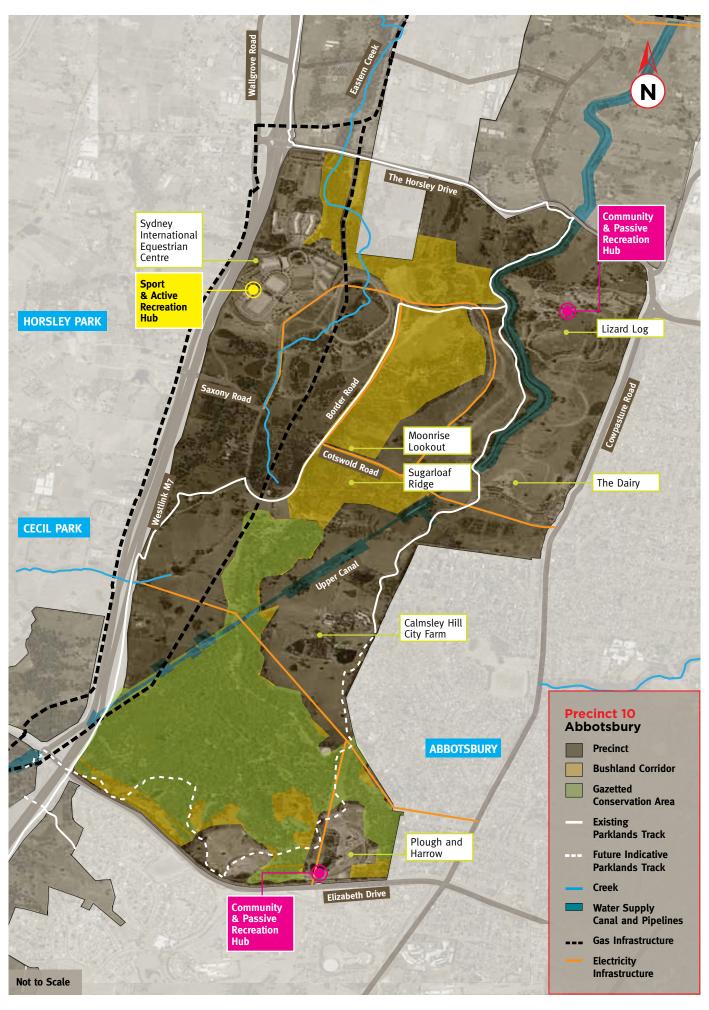
 Consider income generating opportunities such as cafés and shelter and bike hire.

### Western Sydney Regional Park Plan of Management

This Precinct contains the Western Sydney Regional Park which is subject to a separate Plan of Management, as required under the National Parks and Wildlife Act.

**Pictured:** Lizard Log. Photo: Phil Carrick Vision.





### **Cecil Park North**



### **Precinct Description:**

The Cecil Park North Precinct (65ha) is a small area of bushland and rural residential lands isolated from the main Parklands corridor by the M7 Motorway and Elizabeth Drive.

### **Desired Future Character:**

Retain the existing mix of bushland and semi rural paddocks as an interim land use prior to precinct planning for future park needs.

### **Objectives:**

- Protect and enhance the natural systems and environmental values.
- Continue to allow existing urban farming areas.
- Provide for service infrastructure as required.
- Protect the Upper Canal and water supply quality.

### **Land Use Opportunities**

- Urban farming (interim)
- Bushland regeneration/conservation
- Existing and future service infrastructure

### **Key Management Priorities:**

### **Environment and Conservation:**

Conserve environmental values within the Precinct.

### **Urban Farming:**

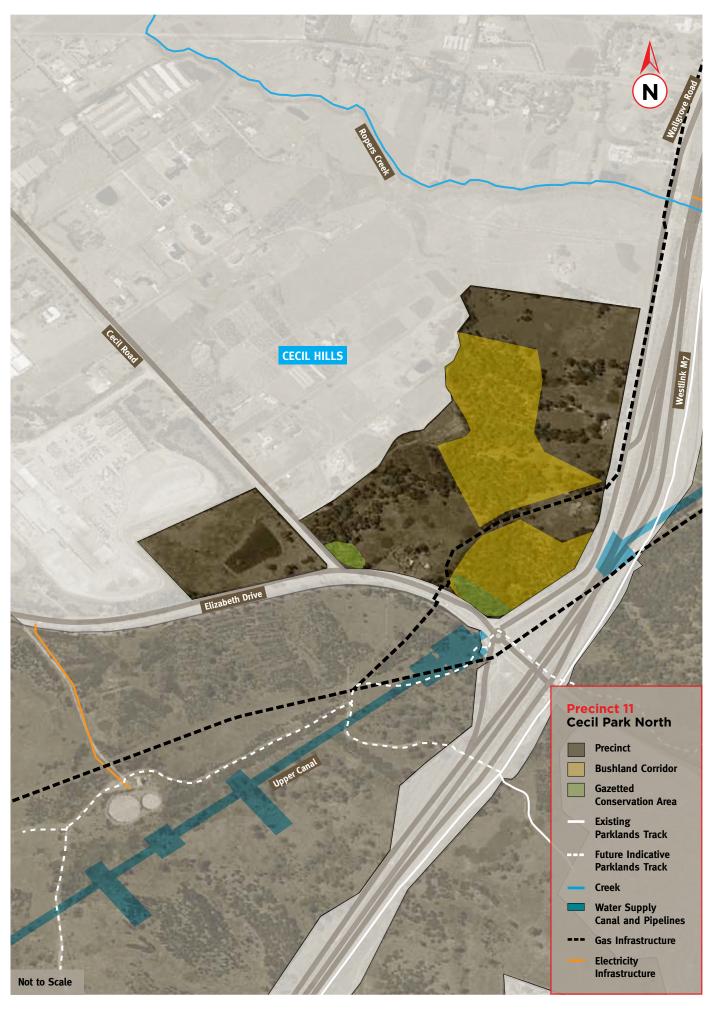
 Maintain and improve existing semi rural land uses as an interim land use.

# Parklands Development and Management:

- Liaise with Fairfield City Council and NSW Planning about the ongoing planning for new land uses adjacent to the Precinct.
- Balance the impact of future service infrastructure expansion with future uses.



**Pictured:** View over Precinct. Photo: Andy Stevens.



### Cowpasture



### **Precinct Description:**

The Cowpasture Precinct (119ha) is a hilly backdrop to residential development and a vegetation buffer to the M7 Motorway.

### **Desired Future Character:**

A scenic natural landscape backdrop for neighbouring residential areas and access point to future recreational facilities at Cecil Hills.

### **Objectives:**

- Support local passive recreation such as walking and cycling trails.
- Maintain the existing semi rural and bushland character.
- Maintain the Bushland Corridor within the Parklands.

### **Land Use Opportunities**

- Local passive recreation
- Community facilities
- Bushland conservation and regeneration
- Existing and future service infrastructure

### **Key Management Priorities:**

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

 Work with Liverpool City Council and others to provide passive recreation opportunities to meet community demand.

### **Environment and Conservation:**

 Engage with the community via volunteer programs focused on recreation, environment and education, including bushland, and enhancement and management of the existing dam.

### **Culture and Participation:**

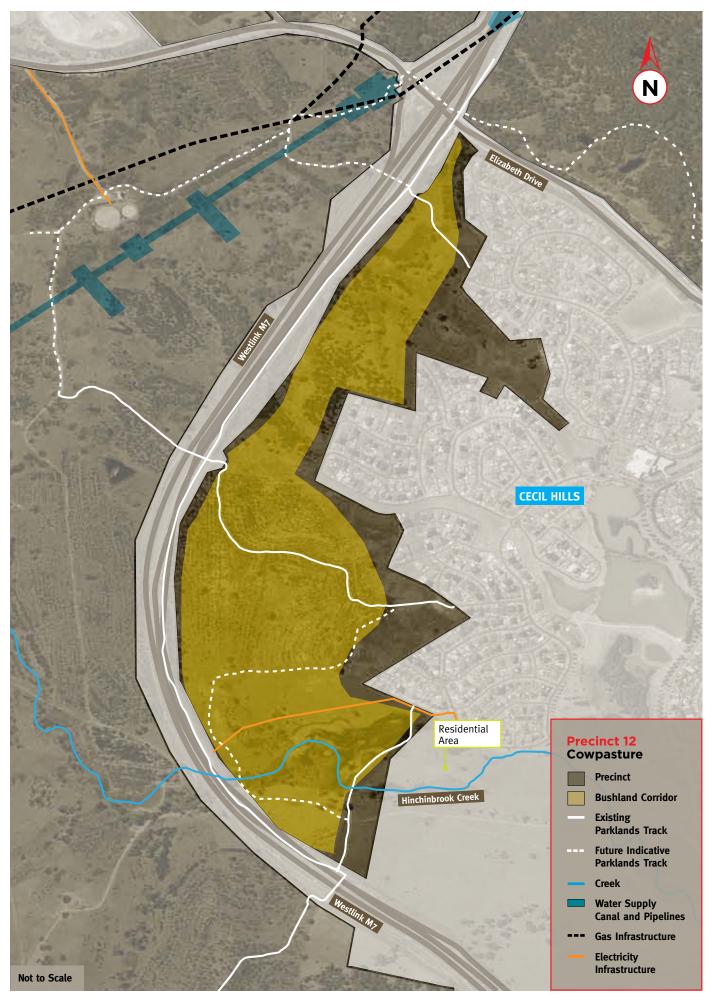
 Provide for children's play in a natural setting with unstructured and informal opportunities.

# Parklands Development and Management:

- Balance the impacts of future service infrastructure with future recreation uses.
- Liaise with Liverpool City Council and NSW Planning about the ongoing planning for new land uses adjacent to the Precinct.



**Pictured:** RTA Cycleway adjacent to Cowpasture Precinct. Photo: Andy Stevens.



### **Kemps Creek**



### **Precinct Description:**

The Kemps Creek Precinct (212 ha) is a core habitat bushland area with limited public access, and contains the Kemps Creek Nature Reserve.

### **Desired Future Character:**

A conservation and ecological resource for the Parklands and the broader Western Sydney community.

### **Objectives:**

- Promote environmental conservation and educational opportunities.
- Conserve and maintain a vital link in the Parklands ecological corridor.

### **Land Use Opportunities**

- Bushland regeneration/conservation
- Environmental education facilities
- Existing and future service infrastructure

### **Key Management Priorities:**

### **Environment and Conservation:**

- Conserve and protect the biodiversity of the Nature Reserve.
- Explore the Indigenous and Non-Indigenous heritage cultural values and education/ recreation opportunities.

### **Culture and Participation:**

 Promote public appreciation, enjoyment and understanding of the Nature Reserve.

# Parklands Development and Management:

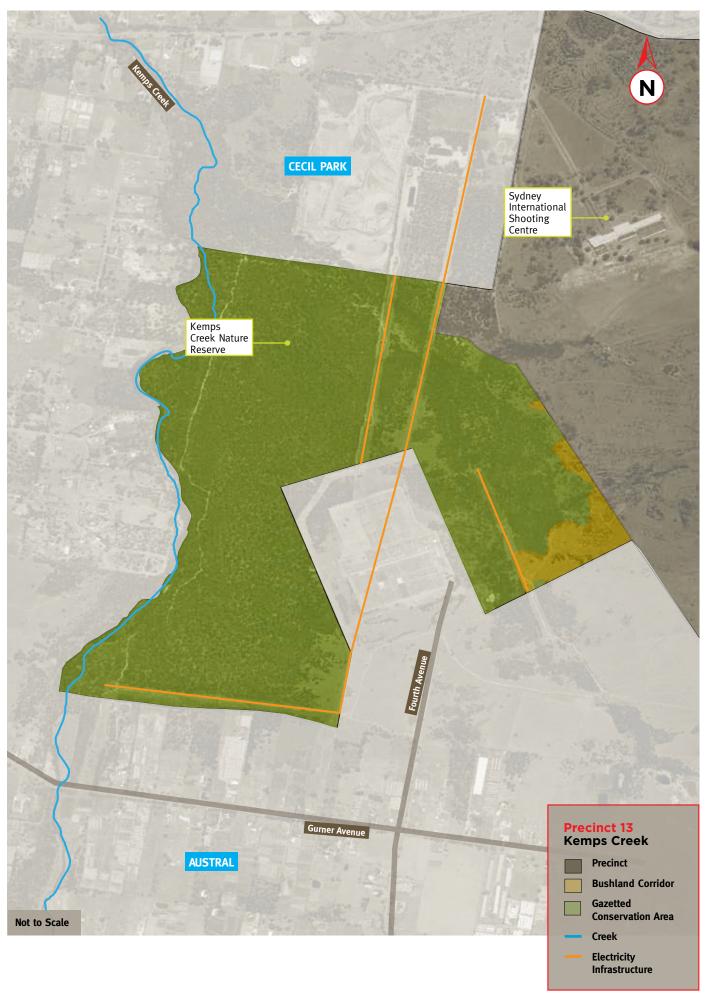
 Work with service infrastructure agencies to manage visual and other impacts.

### Kemps Creek Nature Reserve Plan of Management

This Precinct contains the Kemps Creek Native Reserve which is subject to a separate Plan of Management, as required under the National Parks and Wildlife Act.

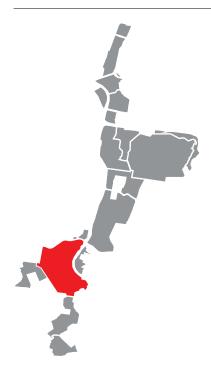
**Pictured:** Kemps Creek Nature Reserve. Photo: Andy Stevens.





# **Precinct 14**

# **Cecil Park**



## **Precinct Description:**

The Cecil Park Precinct (622ha) is an expansive area consisting of rolling hills, rural lands and bushland areas. It is a scenic precinct that includes the Sydney International Shooting Centre and service infrastructure such as the Upper Water Canal. The Precinct has a high point offering views to the Blue Mountains and broader Sydney.

#### **Desired Future Character:**

A natural setting adjacent to the South West Growth Centre with interim landscape and nature based recreation opportunities in the short term whilst working to a long term goal of developing a passive recreation and tourism hub.

#### **Objectives:**

- Conserve and protect the natural landscape and ecological corridors as a setting for a future regional recreational park.
- Expand recreation and visitor accommodation opportunities around the Sydney International Shooting Centre.
- Provide a venue for low key nature based recreation.
- Minimise the visual impacts of future service infrastructure.
- Protect the Upper Canal and water supply quality.

## **Land Use Opportunities**

- Regional passive recreation
- Tourism
- Walking, cycle and bridle trails
- Sport and active recreation
- Visitor accommodation
- Café/kiosk facilities
- Lookouts
- Indigenous culture and heritage facilities
- Community facilities
- Education facilities
- Bushland regeneration/conservation
- Existing and future service infrastructure

# **Key Management Priorities:**

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

- Expand on walking, running and adventure sports opportunities, including better links over the Upper Canal.
- Build and enhance the Parklands identity, especially as viewed from the M7 Motorway.
- Long term protection of views both in and out of the Precinct.

#### **Environment and Conservation:**

- Conserve and protect the biodiversity and bushland quality within the Precinct, including improving links to Kemps Creek Nature Reserve.
- Enhance riparian quality around the headwaters of Hinchinbrook Creek.

## **Culture and Participation:**

 Explore the expansion of a range of activities, user groups and business and tourist opportunities at the Sydney International Shooting Centre and adjacent areas.

## **Urban Farming:**

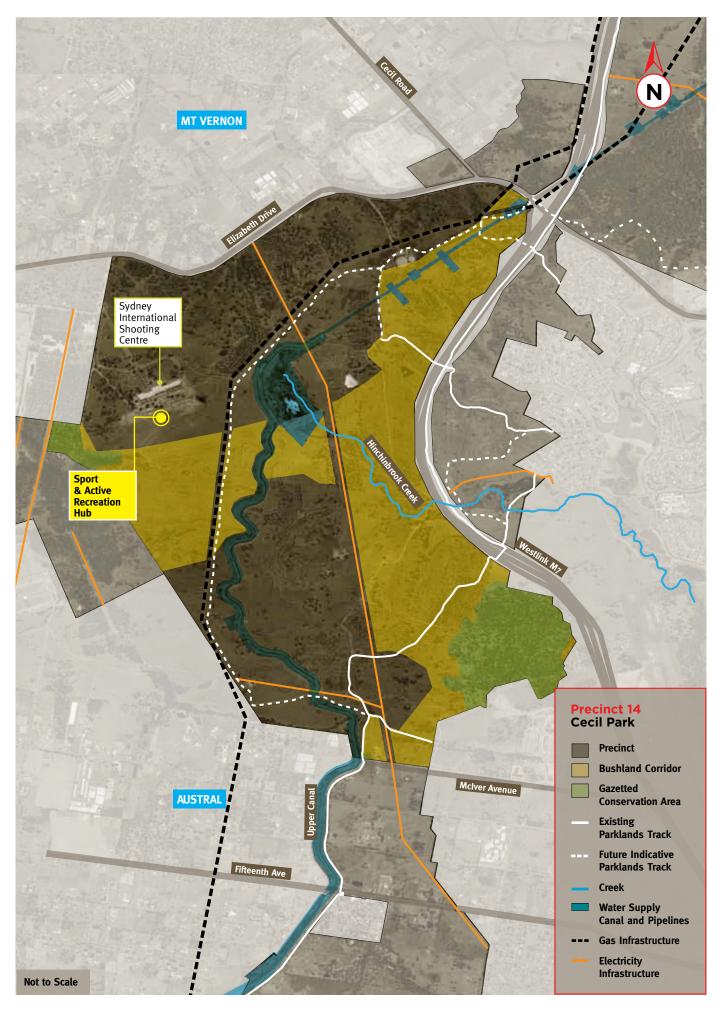
Maintain and improve rural agistments as an interim land use.

# Parklands Development and Management:

- Liase with Liverpool City Council and NSW Planning on the planning for new land uses adjacent to the Parklands.
- Work with the Sydney Catchment Authority Water and other service infrastructure agencies to manage impacts of new infrastructure and to maintain appropriate access for servicing.

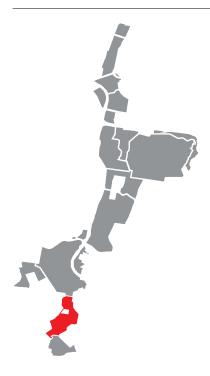


**Pictured:** View from the Cecil Park Precinct looking towards the Sydney CBD skyline.



# **Precinct 15**

# **West Hoxton**



## **Precinct Description:**

The West Hoxton Precinct (468ha) with some remnant bushland areas is an undulating area bounded by the Upper Canal, West Hoxton residential lands and the Fifteenth Avenue village.

#### **Desired Future Character:**

A conservation focused passive recreation precinct for the southern area of the Parklands which protects and enhances bushland areas while meeting local community and recreational needs as the surrounding areas are further developed.

#### **Objectives:**

- Enhance the interface with existing and future residential areas.
- Protect the natural landscape character of ridgelines and bushlands.
- Maintain and improve the management of existing rural land uses.
- Protect the Upper Canal and water supply quality.

## **Land Use Opportunities**

- Local passive recreation
- Community facilities
- Tourism
- Walking, cycle and bridle trails
- Urban farming
- Community gardens
- Bushland regeneration/conservation
- Indigenous and Non-Indigenous culture and heritage
- Existing and future service infrastructure

# **Key Management Priorities:**

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

- Continue to build walking and cycling tracks including tracks across the Upper Canal, with options for bridle trails.
- Provide for passive recreation and community facilities.
- Create a cohesive image for the Parklands along boundary roads including Fifteenth Avenue.

#### **Environment and Conservation:**

- Expand the Bushland Corridor to link with remnant bushland.
- Utilise environmental restoration volunteer programs.

#### **Culture and Participation:**

Provide for informal children's play in a natural setting.

## **Urban Farming:**

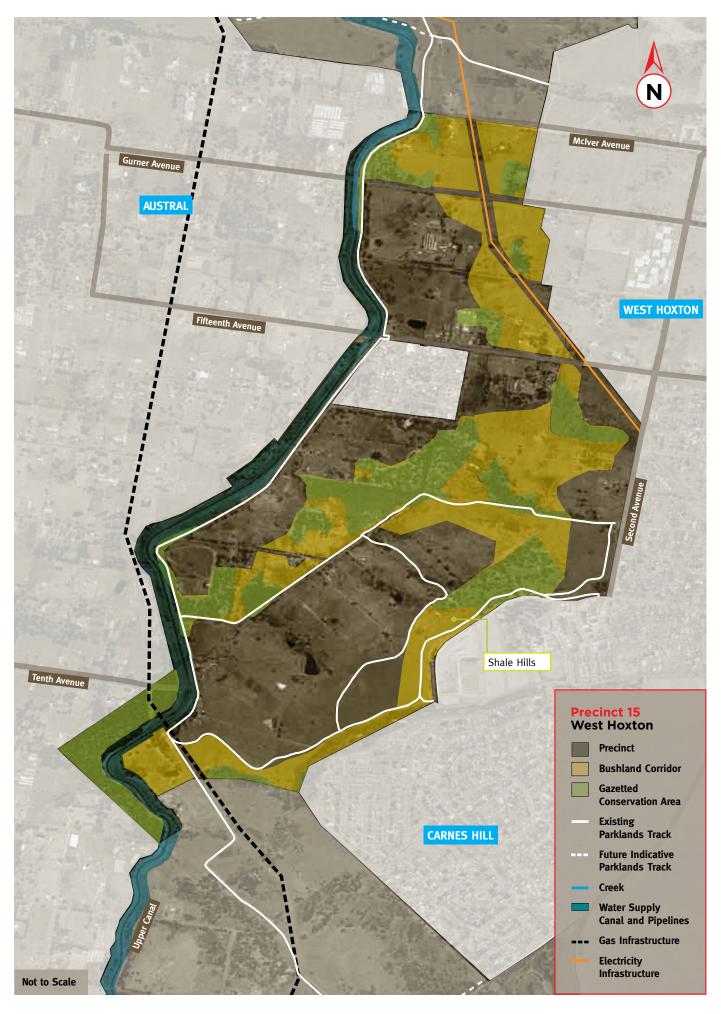
 Maintain and improve rural agistments including with private landowners as an interim land use.

# Parklands Development and Management:

- Liase with Liverpool City Council and NSW Planning on the planning for new land uses adjacent to the Parklands.
- Balance the impacts of future service infrastructure/utility expansions with future uses.

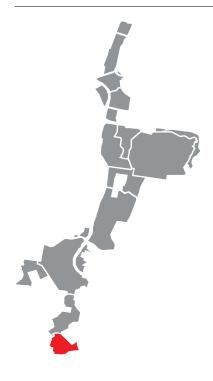


**Pictured:** Entrance to Shale Hills and amphitheatre in background. Photo: Andy Stevens.



# **Precinct 16**

# **Bringelly**



## **Precinct Description:**

The Bringelly Precinct (69ha) is characterised by undulating and largely cleared rural residential properties, bounded by the Upper Canal, Bringelly Road and residential development. The Precinct is a patchwork of public and private small landholdings with limited existing public use.

#### **Desired Future Character:**

This southern Parklands gateway will provide interim uses for local passive recreation, community facilities and urban farming in the short term, while working to the long term goal of creating a regional sport and active recreation and tourism hub.

#### **Objectives:**

- Maintain and improve existing management of semi-rural land uses as an interim measure, prior to future Parklands development.
- Maximise opportunities for developing regional sport and active recreation to meet the needs of the South West Growth Centre.
- Conserve, maintain and expand the ecological corridor.
- Protect the Upper Canal and water supply quality.

## **Land Use Opportunities**

- Regional sport and active recreation hub
- Local passive recreation
- Urban farming
- Walking and cycle trails
- Community facilities
- Education facilities
- Indigenous and Non-Indigenous culture and heritage
- Bushland regeneration/conservation
- Existing and future service infrastructure



# **Key Management Priorities:**

# Recreation and Parkland Infrastructure:

- Create better linkages with residential areas, such as cycle and walking tracks, car parks and related signage.
- Work with the relevant authorities, Council and State Government agencies to plan a future regional sport and active recreation hub.
- Work with Liverpool City Council and Sydney Catchment Authority to create better links into the Precinct, including across the Upper Canal.
- Work with the RTA, Transport Construction Authority and NSW Planning to ensure appropriate vehicular, pedestrian and cycle access to the Parklands in planning for the future of the Leppington and Austal areas, including links from the South West Rail Link.
- Work with the private sector to develop a sport and tourism hub adjoining Bringelly Road as demand develops.

## **Environment and Conservation:**

- Expand the Bushland Corridor to link with remnant bushland.
- Explore the Indigenous and Non-Indigenous heritage values and opportunities in this precinct.

# **Culture and Participation:**

 Engage the local community in environmental restoration volunteer programs including schools and community groups.

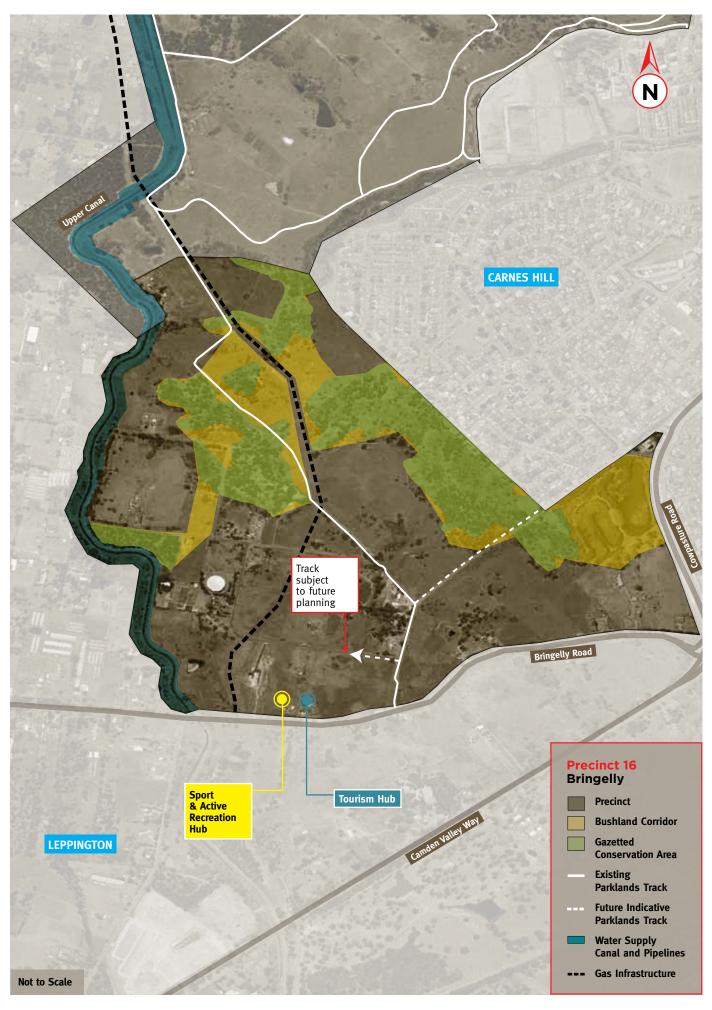
#### **Urban Farming:**

 Maintain and improve urban farming as an interim land use and work with private landowners.

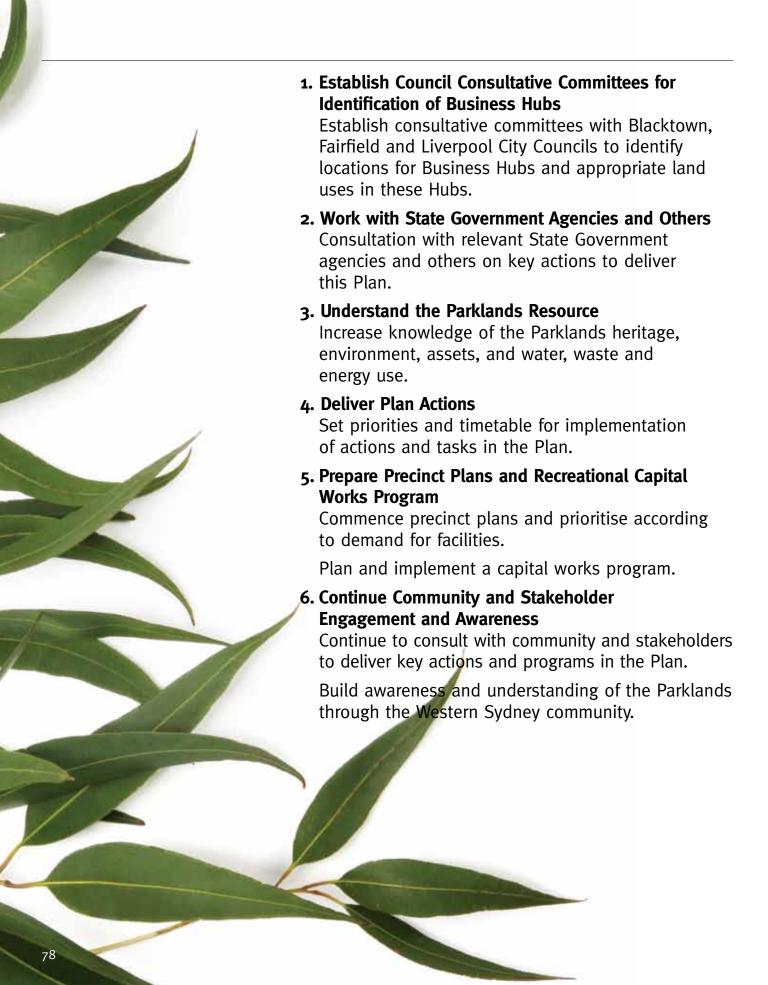
# Parkland Development and Management:

- Liase with Liverpool City Council and NSW Planning on the planning for new land uses adjacent to the Parklands.
- Actively promote the area for private investment in tourism and employment as demand develops.
- Balance the impacts of future service infrastructure/utility expansion with future recreation uses.

**Pictured:** View into Bringelly Precinct. Photo: Andy Stevens.



# **Next Steps**



# **Definitions**

## **Sport and Active Recreation Hub**

Regional active recreation, sports, motor sports, with significant built form including arenas, stadia, fields and tracks, cycling tracks and ancillary facilities such as parking, clubs, cafés, accommodation, education and training and related retail.

### **Community and Passive Recreation Hub**

Regional passive recreation and entertainment with significant picnic and playgrounds, event spaces and venues and ancillary facilities such as parking, cafés and function centres, education centres and connections to the Parklands Track and other track networks.

#### **Tourism Hub**

Tourism destination based on a wide range of recreation, leisure, entertainment, education and nature based opportunities with associated facilities such as accommodation, exhibition spaces, conference centres and retail.

#### **Business Hub**

A mix of commercial, retail, community support facilities and public open space to service regional and local communities. The specific land uses and locations will be determined in consultation with Blacktown, Fairfield and Liverpool City Councils.

#### **Community Facilities**

Regional and special purpose sites such as community centres, cemeteries, emergency services, community health, community gardens and education facilities and the like.

#### **Urban Farming**

Production of food and other primary products in the vicinity of cities and suburbs. This includes market gardens, orchards, live stock and green house production.

### **Bushland Corridor**

Bushland and waterways set aside to improve biodiversity, create habitat, habitat linkages and enhance the viability of gazetted conservation lands. The Corridor can include active and passive recreation activities.

## **Gazetted Conservation Areas**

Bushland and waterways protected under state and federal legislation, to enhance and protect the native flora and fauna.

The Gazetted Conservation Areas includes Priority Conservation Lands identified in the *NSW and National Cumberland Plain Recovery Plan* (2010) and Existing Native Vegetation (ENV) under the Biodiversity Certification conferred on the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Growth Centres)*.

### **Parklands Track**

Network of sealed and unsealed cycling, jogging and walking tracks.

#### Infrastructure/Utilities

This includes gas, electricity, water, sewerage services and roads.





