

Belmore Park

Draft Plan of Management



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Reconciliation Statement

Our vision for reconciliation is a Sydney that values the living cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, embraces the truthful reflection of the history and experiences of First Nations peoples, and is dedicated to equity, opportunity, and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

In taking action, the City strives to reflect the needs and aspirations of Sydney's First Nations communities and recognise their impact and contribution. The City will listen to and elevate the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Source:
City of Sydney Stretch Reconciliation Plan
November 2020 – November 2023

Part A

Management Framework

1. Introduction

What is a PoM

A Plan of Management (“**PoM**”) is a document which provides a clear set of guidelines for the short and long-term management of a parcel of community land owned by Council or Crown land under Council’s care, control, and management.

A PoM outlines how a park, facility or civic space will be used, improved, and managed in the future. It identifies Council’s goals and objectives for the land, and establishes the overall direction for its planning, resource management and maintenance.

- Specify how achievement of the objectives and performance targets are to be assessed.

Under section 37 of the Local Government Act 1993, the PoM must also:

- Describe the condition of the land, any buildings, or other improvements on the land as at the adoption of the plan
- Describe the use of the land
- State the purposes for which the land will be used.

This PoM has been prepared in accordance with and seeks adoption under the LG Act and CLM Act.

Need for the PoM

The Crown Land Management Act 2016 (“**CLM Act**”) commenced on 1 July 2018, introducing a consolidated, modern piece of legislation to govern the management of Crown land in New South Wales.

The CLM Act introduces significant changes to the management of Crown land by councils. Specifically, councils are now required to manage dedicated or reserved Crown land as if it were public land under the Local Government Act 1993 (“**LG Act**”).

Belmore Park (Crown Reserve P. 1039471) is now treated as “community land” under the LG Act requiring a PoM.

Process for preparing the PoM

Figure 1 on the following page illustrates the process for preparing the PoM that has been undertaken by the City of Sydney.

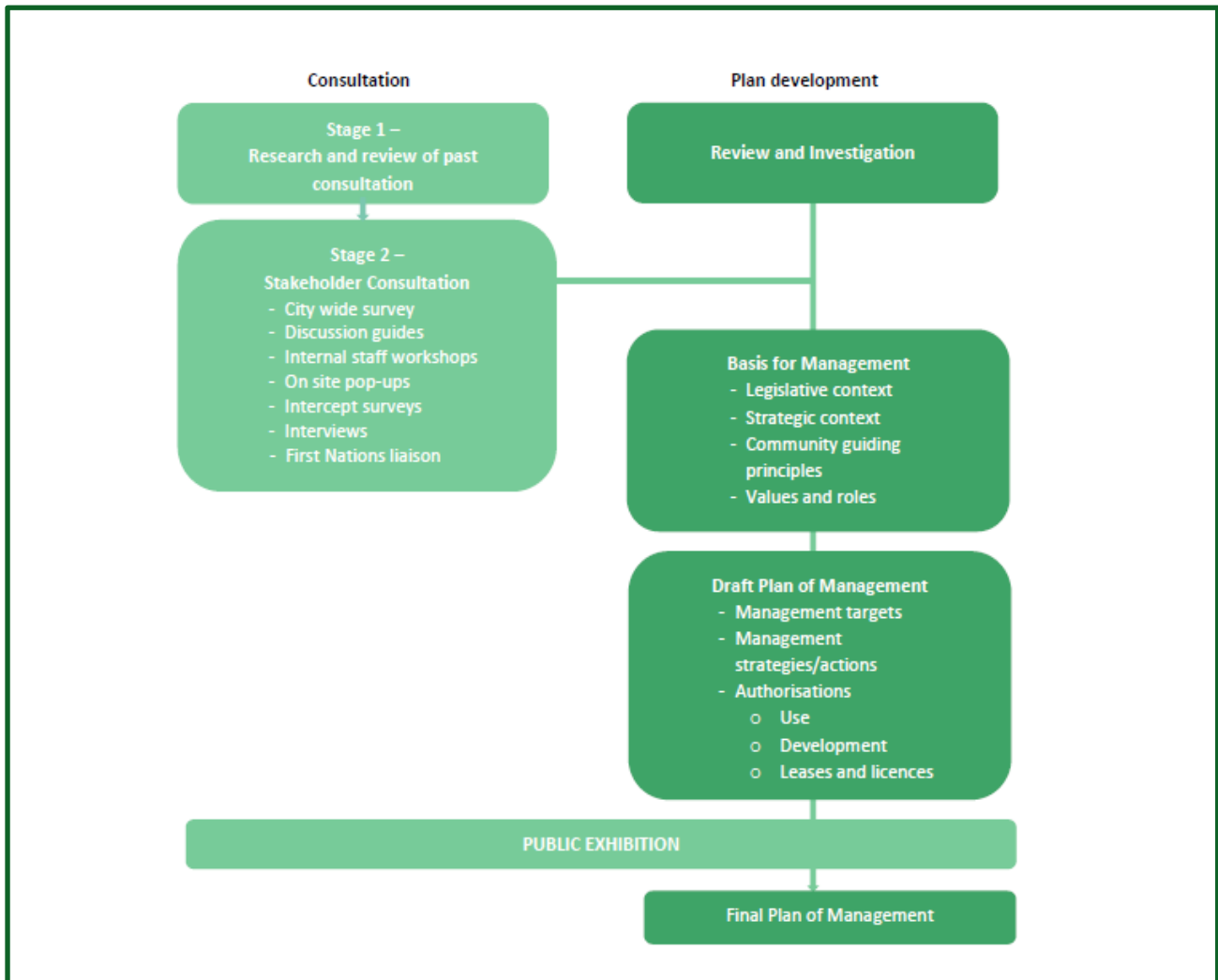
The process has integrated extensive consultation with the broader community, First Nations stakeholders and other authority stakeholders.

Purpose of the PoM

Under section 36 of the Local Government Act 1993, a PoM must:

- Categorise the land in accordance with the legislation
- Contain objectives and performance targets for the management of the land
- Specify the means by which Council proposes to achieve the objectives and performance targets

Figure 1. PoM process



Consultation

Purpose of the consultation program

The purpose of the community engagement was to understand the community's vision for Crown land spaces, how the community use the land now and how they would like to use the land in the future.

An important aspect of the engagement program was to recognise the important relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have to these spaces, strengthen the relationship with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and use the PoMs as an opportunity to further recognise and foster Aboriginal people's custodianship, living culture and connection to these places.

The opportunity to participate in the engagement program was communicated to the community via:

- A letter to local residents from the City of Sydney
- Sydney Your Say web page
- Notification signs in parks
- Decals with QR code on footpaths in parks, reserves, and civic spaces
- E-newsletter sent to a targeted stakeholder list.

The Engagement program

The engagement program consisted of an online survey, intercept surveys and pop-ups at some of the Crown land spaces, a conversation guide and community and staff workshops.

The surveys and pop-up boards sought to gather statistical data around community values and uses of Crown land, and the workshops provided an opportunity for more in depth discussions around Crown land within different locations across the city and specifically with the First Nations community.

Children's activity kits were also sent to schools in the area and provided an opportunity for children in years 3-6 to participate.

Detailed findings of the engagement program are outlined in the separate Crown Reserves Plan of Management Engagement Report February 2021.

What we heard – community engagement

The community engagement report noted the following highlights:

- **Strong support for the recognition and practice of First Nations peoples continuous connection to Country and important role as caretakers and knowledge holders of these spaces**
- **Public open spaces are important for mental health, wellbeing and provide a place of refuge and sanctuary for all**
- **Open, green, and natural public spaces in the city are highly valued and should accommodate the needs of the growing population**
- **Accessible, safe, and inclusive open spaces are important for everyone to enjoy**
- **Diverse and unique open spaces that manage our shared spaces fairly**
- **Open spaces that support wildlife and biodiversity**
- **Preserving our open spaces and safeguarding their history for the future**
- **Improving amenities in our open spaces to increase accessibility and support community use**

City-wide survey: seek to understand community values and visions for their open spaces (informs both generic and specific Plans of Management)

Discussion guides: guided opportunity for regular user groups (e.g schools, sporting clubs) to map values, and places of significance.

Internal staff workshop: internal City of Sydney staff workshop



Engagement tools to inform general plans of management

City-wide survey: opportunity to comment on general issues in addition to specific parks according to preference.

Discussion guides: guided opportunity for regular user groups (e.g schools, sporting clubs) to map values, and places of significance.

On-site pop-ups/intercept surveys: pop-ups/intercept surveys in the specific parks at specific times to capture a wide variety of feedback.

Interviews with key stakeholders: We will conduct interviews with key external stakeholders.

Work in partnership with local First Nations leaders and groups: liaison with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders.



Engagement tools to inform specific plans of management

Children told us they value parks because...

"It has at least one thing everybody likes"

"It's just beautiful"

"There is space"

"They make me happy"

"When going outdoors it's nice to be in a place that is well maintained and easy to access"

"I like having time with nature"

"Everyone's welcome there"

What we heard – First Nations engagement

A series of **general principles** for the integration of First Nations input into the management of Crown land in the City of Sydney were identified during the conversations. These included:

- **Access to land as a human right of Indigenous peoples (UN Convention on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)**
- **Recognition and respect for sacred sites and places**
- **Truth telling**
- **Talking about Country helps bring the community together**
- **The environment as living culture**
- **Importance of waterways and wetlands-rivers tell stories**
- **Creating opportunities for Aboriginal economic benefit**
- **First Nations design principles that recognise:**
 - **local cultural knowledge**
 - **sustainability and resilience**

Putting the principles into action – potential ways that these principles can be followed through by Council and others were also discussed:

The environment as living culture

Imagine having a space like this in Sydney that is real and permanent, not just digital (in response to Brett Leavy's animation – Warrane)

- Respecting ancestral sites
- Connecting places by Songlines (these include many main roads in Sydney)
- Returning Country to how it was (pre-invasion)
- A holistic approach: not just land but also water, sky, seasons, cultural calendar, plants, and animals
- Implement 'Caring for Country' principles (including maintenance, planting, holistic understanding of Country, etc.)
- Important to return the knowledge of waterways and wetlands. Rivers tell stories and are an historical link that have been covered up over time

- Commitment to healing Country
- Designing with Country – a number of participants referred to the work of the State Government Architect

Language and naming

The use of language needs to go beyond naming

- Dual naming in local language based on a geographical feature
- Incorporating Gadigal language into descriptions will help the community better understand the meaning of these places
- Recognising that the first language of this place is the authentic language
- Removal of colonial names of parks

Decolonising spaces and truth-telling

We need a different way of looking at 'monuments' – as significant, empowering, culturally correct markers of the truth

- Trees of significance as monuments
- Sites of significance as monuments
- Take leadership on dealing with colonial artefacts
- Gadigal artists creating new markers of truth

Visibility

We are here - this land was never ceded

- The need to make this more visible in Sydney
- Participants referenced how New Zealand is Indigenous culture, practices, and perspectives visible to international visitors
- The potential to push digital notifications when walking on different bits of land (i.e. a notification to acknowledge/welcome to country, when you are close to a sacred site or a burial ground, etc.)
- Permanent acknowledgement in each space that enlivens and engages - not just commemorative

Significance of Sydney as the site of invasion and first contact

Make these important places recognisable to Aboriginal people

- Sydney as the first frontier means it is a critical place for truth-telling and healing trauma

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- Recognise the cultural disruption and diaspora in Sydney
- Burial grounds and should be part of truth-telling
- Recognise places of protest

Practicing and sharing culture and supporting community

- Returning cultural fishing (e.g. Woolloomooloo and Pyrmont)
- Dedicated spaces to practice culture and interact with the community
- Dedicated ceremonial spaces practical for events
- Maker-spaces (places for creating) that are culturally correct
- Locations to busk, make things, be social and demonstrate culture
- Importance of community festivals – Yabun at Victoria Park

Economic and cultural ownership and management

- Importance of cultural ownership and intellectual property rights
- Ongoing employment and business opportunities at all levels
- Making, markets, food, trading, learning, etc. should be able to be practiced somewhere permanently (not a one-off event)
- There are effective working examples of shared arrangements with State Government (DPIE) who work with Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council on protecting and managing places
- The Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council sought that the City of Sydney provides Crown Land or City-owned sites to MLALC for local Aboriginal community needs of culture, health wellbeing, housing, and business
- The Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council asked that the City of Sydney support addressing the issue of underpayment of NSW Aboriginal Land Rights fund of \$500 Million in perpetuity for all Freehold, Leasehold, Pastoral, National Parks, State Forests, Reserves and Parks as well as mineral and water

Advocacy/leadership/influence

- Encourage the City of Sydney to take on the hard issues and use position to influence other organisations including other councils and government departments
- Work with other authorities who have ownership over Crown land parcels
- Advocate and work at local, state, and federal levels

Barriers

Several existing barriers to First Nations peoples cultural and spiritual use of Crown land were raised that the community want to see resolved. These include:

- Red-tape constraints to the economic use of spaces
- Barriers to the practice of living culture.

It is proposed that the City of Sydney continue to engage with the First Nations community to explore avenues to pursue the above principles and actions.

Section 5 of this Plan of Management details a series of “Community Guiding Principles”. It is proposed that ongoing management of Crown and community land pursue these principles.

Specific feedback related to Belmore Park

The engagement report identifies the following outcomes specifically related to the subject site.

What we heard - Specific POMs snapshot:

Belmore Park, Haymarket



Image: Belmore Park, City of Sydney

Number of people who commented on this park:



18

people completed the online survey for Belmore Park.

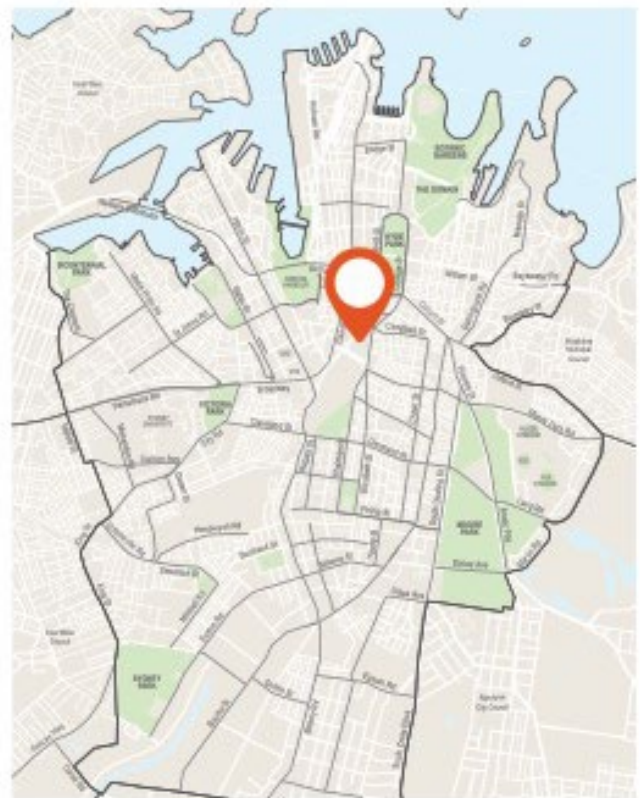


25

people completed intercept surveys for Belmore Park.

Current visitation to Belmore Park

- Respondents were more likely to be visitors to the area (56%; 24 respondents). This was followed by respondents who live nearby (33%; 14) and work nearby (30%; 13).
- Approximately one quarter of survey respondents visit the park weekly (26%; 11), or monthly (26%; 11); followed by respondents who visit a few time per year (17%; 7)
- The majority of respondents usually visit Belmore Park in the afternoon (12pm - 4pm) (60%; 26). This was followed by afternoon/evening (6pm - 9pm) (35%; 15) and morning (9am - 12pm) (26%; 11).



Belmore Park, Haymarket

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What people value about Belmore Park

Survey

Survey respondents were asked to choose what they value most about Belmore Park.

Top values as indicated by survey respondents are:

- Its nature and natural elements (47%; 20)
- It's history & heritage (35%; 15)
- It's a relaxing place (28%; 12), and
- It's a peaceful place (29%;12).

Participants also told us they value this place because it is quiet, there is wildlife (bats at night), there are abundant trees and because it is unceded Aboriginal land.

Why people value Belmore Park

Survey respondents were asked why they chose these values. A number of comments spoke about this place being an important refuge for people, in particular vulnerable members of the community.

Respondents told us...

"This park is scary, run down, filthy, and full of people who have no where to live. It would be great to have this park for a market or community area but needs a massive change to it. It's just a thoroughfare at the moment.."

- Survey respondent

"It's only peaceful because its so poorly used. The main challenge with Belmore Park is retaining its park-like atmosphere while embedding it with the myriad activities and supporting infrastructure that a contemporary city requires."

- Survey respondent

"Yes as rare for disadvantaged people to find anywhere comfortable on the city as lack of shelters"

- Survey respondent

Respondents told us...

"I think it's beauty and the sense of clean space are continuing as important factors"

- Survey respondent

"It's interesting because it feels nothing more than a place to pass through but it's a microcosm of a world."

- Survey respondent

"It is a beautiful place with the magnificent trees and should remain green. Maybe sensor lighting as you walk through at night would be a good idea.."

- Survey respondent



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Current activities at Belmore Park

Survey respondents were asked what are the main activities they do at Belmore Park. The majority of respondents walk through Belmore Park to get somewhere else (70%; 30 respondents).

This was followed by sitting and relaxing (37%; 16), enjoying nature (21%; 9) and watching the world go by (19%; 8).

Other activities survey respondents currently do at this park include provide food service for people experiencing homelessness.

Future activities at Belmore Park

Survey respondents were asked to comment on anything else they would like to do or see in this park in the future, with key comments including:

- Picnic, BBQ, relax
- Listen to live music
- Buy community art
- Eat and drink with friends
- Watch outdoor cinema, and
- Meet with international visitors.

Respondents told us...

"I think something needs to be done to improve the safety of the area. Just making it cleaner and more attractive would assist."

- Survey respondent

"I would like to see it well lit up. Perhaps not just normal lighting but more beautiful to look at."

- Survey respondent

"Enjoy some beautiful plants as currently the only flowers are there amazingly ugly succulents outside the coronation Centre."

- Survey respondent



Additional comments about Belmore Park:

Survey respondents were asked if there was anything else they would like to share about Belmore Park, with comments including:

- The addition of more comfortable seating would benefit everyone but especially people experiencing homelessness who find respite in the park
- Gardens with flowers
- Improve the safety of the area
- Improve cleanliness
- Better lighting that is functional and beautiful, and
- Recognise Aboriginal peoples continuing connection to country.

Respondents told us...

"Belmore Park is tired and poorly structured. It needs to become an oasis in the centre of the city, lush and green, sure, but with all manner of interesting and enticing activities and offerings suitable to the contemporary metropolis."

- Survey respondent

"I don't visit there because its dangerous and filthy. There isn't accessible shade."

- Survey respondent

"It needs to be more welcoming, needs to recognise the many different people that use this space to get to wherever they're going and be recognised as a park for people."

- Survey respondent

"It lacks of vegetation, trees, just grass, it doesn't function as oxygen creator in the polluted and congested street Cleveland Street."

- Survey respondent



2. Land description

Location and description

Belmore Park is a 2.1-hectare public open space, located on the eastern edge of Chinatown. Located directly opposite Central Station on Eddy Avenue, the park is bounded on its eastern and western edges by high embankments that support road, light rail, and heavy rail. The park offers extensive grass areas, wide shaded tree-lined paths and ample seating near the heart of the Sydney CBD.

The table below summarises key land information for Belmore Park. A Site Plan has been provided on page 16, refer to **Figure 2**.

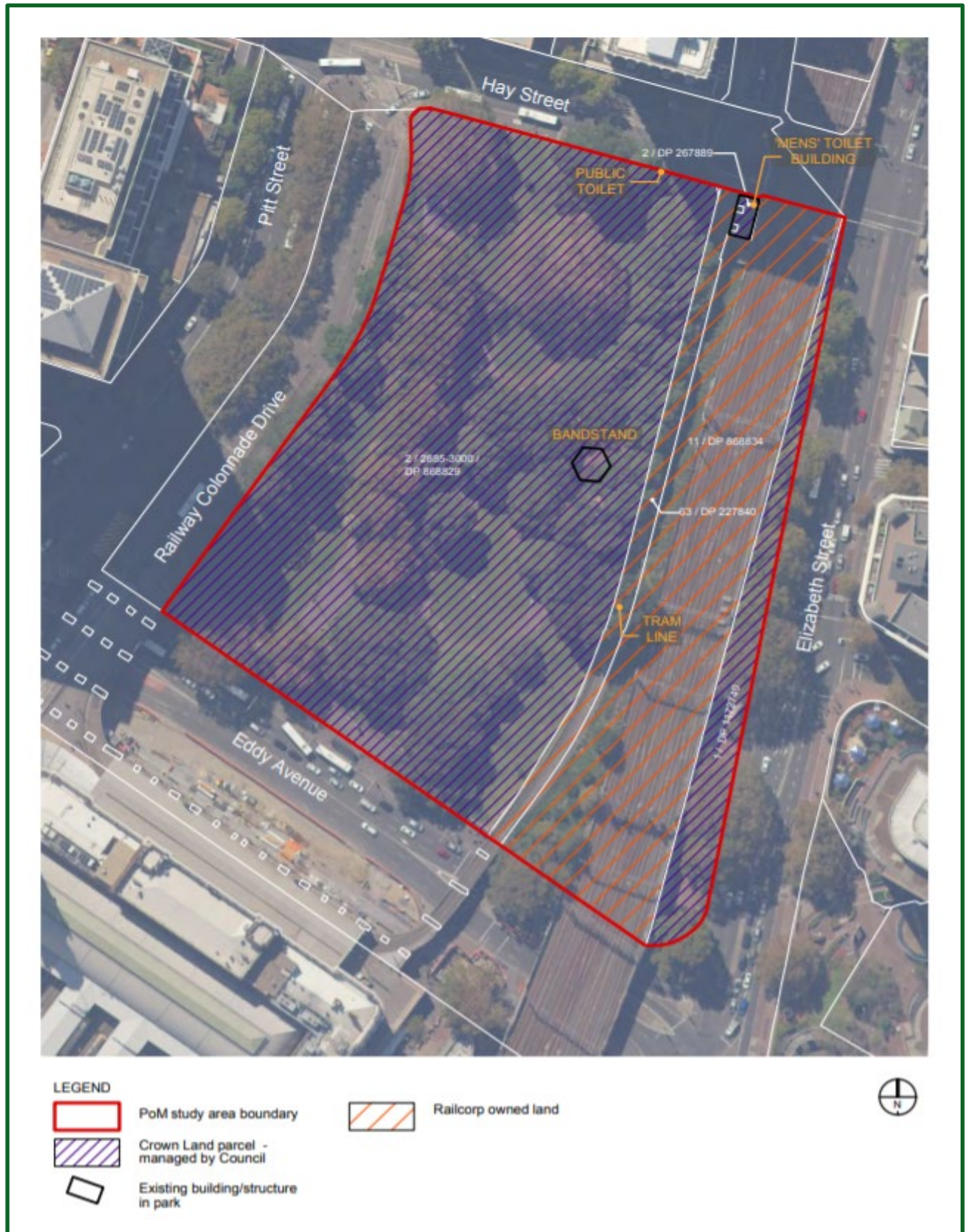
Table 1. Summary land information

Item	Description
Site Name	Belmore Park (East & West)
Address	191 Hay Street, Haymarket (Belmore Park West) 379 Elizabeth Street, Haymarket (Belmore Park East)
Ownership	Crown (The State of New South Wales)
Crown Reserve No., purpose, and gazetted date	Reserve 1039471, Public Park, 30/12/1908
Zoning	RE1 Public Recreation
Area	22,983.12 m ²
Lot & DP	
Crown Reserve	Lot 1 DP 1172740 Belmore Park East Lot 2 DP 868829 Belmore Park West Lot 2 DP 267889 (Heritage Toilet Block)
Restrictions / easements	Easement for Railway purposes
Community land categorisation	

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Item	Description
	Park
Condition of land	refer to Table 2 for Condition Summary

Figure 2. Site plan



Heritage and culture

Overview

The land on which Belmore Park lies is within the traditional lands of the Gadigal people.

Belmore Park was dedicated for public recreation on 19 May 1868, making it the sixth gazetted park in Sydney. However, the current park layout dates to the early 1900's following the development of Central Railway Station.

Belmore Park has a longstanding historical and cultural relationship with Chinatown, commerce, and trade. Markets, including the cattle, hay, and corn markets were in the area from the 1820's. In the late 1860's, the Belmore Produce Markets were established on the northern side of Hay Street opposite Belmore Park. The markets brought an influx of Chinese merchants and other businesses to the area, creating a Chinatown – which was originally centred around Goulburn, Pitt, and Campbell Streets. The markets subsequently moved several times, firstly to the Capitol Theatre site in 1892 (the Capitol Theatre was originally the New Belmore Markets Building) and then to the current Paddy's Market Building in 1914. The nucleus of Chinatown also moved west over time, following the markets.

Due to its proximity to Central Railway Station, Belmore Park is regularly used for public rallies, either within the park or as a meeting point for marches. The park is also a regular venue for organised events, particularly the Chinese New Year Festival in keeping with its historical associations with Chinatown.

The park's significant layout and plantings are typical of the approach of Charles Moore and Joseph Maiden, the esteemed Directors of the Royal Botanic Gardens in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The park's two most defining and memorable elements are the large bandstand, which has fallen into disrepair and is closed off from public access, and the wide western pathway with its spectacular London Plane (*Platanus x acerifolia*) avenue planted down the centre.

Source: Adapted from the Chinatown and City South Public Domain 2015

Heritage Context

Listed heritage item:

Sydney LEP # I1655— 'Belmore Park grounds, landscaping and Bandstand'.

In the vicinity of multiple SHR and SLEP 2012 items including:

- Sydney Terminal and Central Railway Station group (SHR No.01255)
- Capitol Theatre (SHR No. 00391)
- Municipal Building (SHR No. 00693)
- Former Manning Building (No. I859)
- Former Presbyterian Manse (No. I860)
- Former Fire Engine House (No. I861)
- Former Australian Gaslight Co (No. I862)
- Former Daking House (No. I863)

History

The original Aboriginal inhabitants of the Sydney area are the Gadigal people. The territory of the Gadigal people stretched along the southern side of Port Jackson (Sydney Harbour) from South Head to around what is now known as Petersham. Their southern boundary is the area that now forms the Alexandra Canal and Cooks River.

There are about 30 clan groups of the Sydney metropolitan area referred to collectively as the Eora Nation. The 'Eora people' was the name given to the coastal Aboriginal peoples around Sydney. The Gadigal are one of the clans of the Eora Nation.

Following the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788, the British encountered Aboriginal people around the coves and bays of Port Jackson. Many places around the harbour remained important hunting, fishing, and camping grounds long after settlement, and continue to be culturally significant today. Despite the impacts of first contact, Gadigal people and their ways of life and culture survived. As the town of Sydney developed into a city, the Gadigal were joined by other Aboriginal people from around NSW to live, work and forge relationships with the urban Aboriginal community. Sydney's inner suburbs have long been home to Aboriginal peoples seeking employment, housing and connections with community and family.

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During the early years of settlement in Sydney the area around Belmore Park was located outside of the Sydney town limits in an area known as the Brickfields. Early European observers wrote that Aboriginal people living in the Sydney Cove settlement would regularly settle disputes around Brickfields. Brickfields was also sometimes referred to as Brickfield Village and this was due to the numerous buildings surrounding the clay brick fields.

Records recount a known ceremonial contest ground described as lying between the road to Botany Bay and the Brickfields. It is believed that this was probably near Hyde Park South. Until the mid-1820's, Aboriginal people travelled from all over Sydney, and as far away as the Hunter and the Illawarra to gather at a ceremonial contest ground to the south of the city. Consultation for this Plan of Management in 2020 also noted stories of a site near Central Station that is the first burial ground post-invasion.

By the 1830's, the area surrounding Belmore Park lay at the southern extremities of Sydney Town between the cattle and corn markets and the burial ground (Devonshire Street Cemetery). This area was part of the Crown land containing the Police Barracks and residence, Devonshire Street Cemetery, Female Refuge of the Good Samaritan, Benevolent Asylum and a common. Belmore Park was known as the Police Paddock, as it was located adjacent to the Police Barracks.

The area has long been associated with markets. In the late 1860's, Belmore Produce Markets and Paddy's Markets were built in the area opposite the current Belmore Park.

During the 1860's, Belmore Park was according to one writer, 'a receptacle for all the rubbish and street sweepings of Sydney. Running from Gipps Street across the park towards Haymarket, an open gutter was supposed to carry off stormwater from Surry Hills, but didn't, as it lay in the gutter stagnant and noisome. In the summer the plague of flies was something terrible, yet the spot was the only "lung" in Surry Hills that youngsters could use as a playground.'

On 19 May 1868, Belmore Park was dedicated for public recreation. The park was named after the Governor of NSW, the Rt Hon Somerset Richard Lowry-Corry, fourth Earl of Belmore in Ireland, who arrived in the colony in January 1868. Belmore Park of the 1880's and 1890's

had a strong diagonal path system with an avenue of trees along its axis. A fountain was located with the pathway at the centre of park and the entrances were marked by stone pillars.

In 1901, the whole area including Hay St Presbyterian Church and manse and Crown land including the cemetery, Belmore Park, the Police Barracks, the female refuge, and the Benevolent Asylum was resumed for the construction of the Sydney's Central Railway Station from 1900 to 1906. The majority of earth fill (80,000 cubic yards) from the railway station excavations was placed on Belmore Park, burying the original layout.

From 1900 to 1906 the park was bare earth with a few trees and the site was rented for circus performances. It is believed the three Moreton Bay Figs on the Eddy Avenue frontage are survivors of the original park. The park was returned to Council management in 1907 and replanted with one of the city's most impressive single row plantations of London plane trees. In 1909, Belmore Park featured in the Report of the Royal Commission for the Improvement of Sydney and its Suburbs. The Commission was focused on civic beautification, improved sanitation, transport planning and housing for the future development of the city. In responding to the transport issues of the day, architect, John Sulman's scheme for the treatment of Belmore Park fronting Central Station imagined a grand classical colonnade framing a circular park with radiating pathways terminating centrally with Beaux Arts inspired statuary. Sulman's scheme was never realised, though perhaps it inspired the bandstand that was built in 1910.

A further area of the park was resumed in 1923 to build the city circle rail system. The eastern tramway approach to the railway was relocated and a portion of the park along Elizabeth Street permanently separated from the rest of the park.

Belmore Park's proximity to Central Railway makes it a convenient starting point for rallies on public issues and cultural events such as the annual Mardi Gras festival. Likewise, in 2000 it was an Olympic Live site. During 2015, Belmore Park attracted considerable media attention as it became home to many homeless people that were sleeping rough. At its height, there were around 58 people living in Belmore Park until people were relocated by the NSW government in 2017.

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Statement of Significance

Located on Gadigal Country, as one of Sydney's earliest parks dedicated for public recreation, Belmore Park has historical significance for the evidence it provides of the historical development of the public open space in Sydney and the development of the local area from the early years of the colony to the present.

Belmore Park has been in the City of Sydney Council's ownership over the past 170 years and much of its history, its maintenance and promotion, and changes to its design and layout have been the work of the Council. The history of Belmore Park expresses the varying attitudes to public open space and recreation planning.

Belmore Park has historical significance for its association with the design and construction and subsequent expansions of Central Station and the city railway system, which have shaped its form and purpose. The park's current form demonstrates the maturation of and technological advances in the city railway system, realised through the construction of Central Station and the City Underground Railway.

While affected by changes to its size and layout wrought by those advances, Belmore Park provides evidence of the key characteristics of park design in the early part of the twentieth century, many of these as espoused by JH Maiden, former director of the Royal Botanic Gardens. The park has a number of elements characteristic of this era, including a loosely formal layout, a bandstand, tree avenues, and expanses of lawn, as well as a men's convenience near Hay Street's well-detailed sandstone building that contributes to the aesthetic significance of the park. Belmore Park contributes to the aesthetic qualities of Central Station by providing a landscaped forecourt to the prominent sandstone terminus.

Belmore park in more recent history has played an important role as a starting place or end point for social and cultural events. It likely to be of significance to a wide range of communities within the Greater Sydney area that have participated in cultural activities or seen social issues highlighted as part of gatherings or rallies for climate change, Black Lives Matter and Hong Kong pro-democracy supporters. It has been a prominent focal point for other social welfare issues including homelessness following its prolonged use as a homeless camp.

Archaeological remains associated with the Carters Barracks are likely to survive at the site. These elements, if they survive, may have high archaeological significance at a State level. Archaeological remains associated with the Pitt Street Presbyterian manse and school and deeper evidence relating to the air raid shelters are likely to survive intact. These elements, if they survive, may have moderate archaeological significance at a Local level. Other archaeological elements associated with the development of the park from the 1870s would have low archaeological significance.

Key heritage features

Belmore Park provides evidence of the key characteristics of park design in the early part of the twentieth century, many of these as espoused by JH Maiden. The park has several elements characteristic of this era, including a loosely formal layout, a bandstand, tree avenues, and expanses of lawn.

Significant elements are largely associated with the post-central station era of park development.

The current form and layout of the park dates from 1906 and 1917, identified through the system of curved paths following the main desire lines through the space.

Early or reused sandstone kerbing remains.

Views to the sandstone terminus of Central Station to the south provides a backdrop to the trees, views to the east and west are predominantly of the two railway viaducts, now with the tops of buildings peaking over as the city was built up around the park.

The park contains several trees listed on the City of Sydney's Significant Trees Register:

- 4 Moreton Bay Figs (*Ficus macrophylla*)
- 1 Holm Oak (*Quercus ilex*)
- 2 Seem trees (*Meryta denhamii*)
- 14 London planes (*Platanus x acerifolia*)
- 4 Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*)
- 5 Washington Palms (*Washingtonia robusta*)
- 1 American Cotton Palm (*Washingtonia filifera*)

Figure 3. Heritage sensitivity mapping of Belmore Park



(Source: GML)

Environment and landscape

The following descriptions have been derived from the Chinatown and City South Public Domain Plan (2015) and Heritage Report (2012).

Pre-existing Natural Characteristics:

The site has been heavily modified since 1788. It would have formed part of a natural low point in the surrounding topography as it fell towards what is now Darling Harbour.

Physical Characteristics:

Landform, soils, and drainage

The majority of earth fill from the Central Railway Station excavations in the early 1900's was placed in Belmore Park, burying the original layout, most of the plantings and raising the general level of the park. Soil profile testing undertaken for the Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management 1993 identified an artificial soil profile of mixed fill to a depth of at least 1,200mm below ground level. Where greater depth of fill was required for construction of ramps, sand appears to have been used as a base and covered with a medium clay. A sandy loam to loamy sand has been installed as topsoil. Compaction has previously been identified as an issue over a large percentage of the park. Establishment and maintenance of turf cover is difficult and growth and long-term vigour of trees can be comprised by soil compaction. The presence of clay in the subsoil profile also affects subsoil drainage and can exacerbate the compaction problems.

The topography of the park gradually falls from Eddy Avenue down to Hay Street, responding to the elevational difference of about 4metres between the two streets.

Planting and Layout

The park is notable for what the City of Sydney's Register of Significant Trees (2013) describes as 'one of the city's most spectacular single row plantations of London Planes'. These trees are located along the park's western avenue, the primary path through the park and one of the key pedestrian routes from Central Station to Chinatown.

Other notable plantings include the park's four large Moreton Bay Figs (*Ficus macrophylla*), three located near the Eddy Avenue frontage and one on the Hay Street frontage. The figs are

the oldest surviving plantings in the park and are likely to be remnants of its original nineteenth century layout, pre-dating the development of Central Station (1900). All four figs are substantial specimens and are memorable for the sense of drama and grand scale that they impart to the park's street frontages.

The historically and botanically significant planting palette also includes:

- A collection of Washingtonia palms that may also date from the earlier Belmore Park plantings
- Two extremely rare Seem trees (*Meryta denhamii*) – the only other known specimens are in the Royal Botanic Gardens and were sourced by Charles Moore
- A collection of Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), including one of the largest specimens in the City of Sydney at 18 metres high and 25 metres wide
- One Holm Oak (*Quercus ilex*).

Belmore Park's collection of mid-to-late nineteenth century and early twentieth century planting is scheduled in the City of Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012, Sydney City Heritage Study and classified by the National Trust of Australia (NSW). The trees are considered to have group significance in terms of visual, historic, and botanic values.

Belmore Park (East) consists of a small sliver of residual land which was part of the main park up until the railway viaduct was built. The area now contains a shared footpath which is separated from Elizabeth Street by a wide planting bed containing an avenue of mature Plane Trees set back from Elizabeth Street. The shared footpath is well used by commuters walking to and from Central Station to the central business district.

Landscape and visual character

As one of the oldest parks in Sydney, Belmore Park is a mature landscape with an informal configuration that is fundamental to its character. The park layout has a strong north-south emphasis due to its topography and the presence of large embankments along its eastern and western edges, which limit park access to Eddy Avenue and Hay Street only.

Views into the park from the surrounding streetscape is limited by this topography and the transport infrastructure either side. Although

Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

some of the best views over the park can be obtained from the light rail route or the City Circle line. The Hay street frontage offers the best long views into and of the park from street level. The parks mature landscape and expanses of green grass provides a strong 'green' character to both Eddy Avenue and Hay Street.

Access and Circulation

The park is bounded on its eastern and western edges by high embankments that support road, light rail, and heavy rail, which create significant barriers for park access.

There are currently four entrances to the park: two at the eastern and western corners of the Hay Street frontage, and two dividing the Eddy Avenue frontage into thirds. The path network within the park has an informal character that facilitates the key pedestrian desire lines through the park.

The path system consists of two avenues running north-south through the park, connected by three diagonal paths.

The primary pedestrian route runs diagonally between the north-west and south-east corners of the park, with a secondary route along the eastern side of the park.

Both routes highlight the importance of the connection from Central Station, which has an entrance to the suburban train concourse located opposite the south-eastern corner of the park. Currently access into the park is not possible from Railway Colonnade Drive due to a combination of factors including the light rail route adjacent the boundary, no path connections or available fence openings.

Reserve development

Parks such as Belmore Park were born out of the Nineteenth Century Parks Movement in the City of Sydney. Key milestones in the park's development include:

Pre-1900

- Belmore Park was dedicated for public recreation on 19 May 1868
- Its original development with paths and plantings occurred from this time till 1900

- The pre-1900 park provided a strong diagonal path system with an avenue of trees along its axis
- A fountain was located at the centre of park and the entrances were marked by stone pillars.

1900-1920

- In 1901, the area was resumed for the construction of the Sydney's Central Railway Station from 1900 to 1906
- The majority of earth fill (80,000 cubic yards) from the railway station excavations was placed on Belmore Park, burying the original layout
- The park's four large Moreton Bay Fig trees are believed to be survivors from the earlier nineteenth century park
- The park was declared a Public Park in 1908
- Subsequent development of the City Circle railway line in the 1920's significantly modified the park's eastern edge and reduced the size of the park, causing a park remnant along Elizabeth Street to be permanently separated from the rest of the park.

1920-2000

- Since the 1920's Belmore Park experienced little change in form or layout
- Most significant change was for the 2000 Sydney Olympics, which saw an upgrade of Central Station and it surrounds, including the introduction of a light rail line that reused the original tramways along the eastern and western edges of the park
- During the Olympics, Belmore Park was a 'Live Site' for the event.

Past studies and plans:

- Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study 2016
- Chinatown and City South Public Domain 2015
- Belmore Park Heritage Study 2012
- Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management 1993

Reserve purpose and community use

Crown Reserve Purpose

Crown land is to be used for the original purpose for which it was dedicated or reserved. Multiple uses of reserves are encouraged, where those uses are consistent with the original purpose of the Crown reserve.

The public purpose for Belmore Park Crown reserve is **Public Park**.

Community usage

The primary uses of Belmore Park in the recent past have related to the day to day life of the city and the park's proximity to Central Station.

These include:

- Walk through access
- Cycle through access
- Informal passive recreation
- Fitness training
- Events
- Rallies

Based on the findings of the Belmore Park Intercept Study 2012, the park has two main user groups: people who use the park as a thoroughfare between the station and Haymarket; and people who use the park for relaxing or socialising. Belmore Park East is used primarily as an access route for commuters.

Recent user intercept surveys undertaken for the Crown Reserves Plan of Management in 2020, indicate that the most popular activities undertaken in the park by respondents were:

- Walk through to get somewhere else
- Sitting and relaxing
- Enjoying nature
- Watching the world go by.

Within the park, other activities survey respondents participated in include providing a food service for people experiencing homelessness.

The majority of the survey respondents were more likely to be visitors to the area and a quarter would visit the park on a weekly or monthly basis.

Event use of the park

Due to its proximity to Central Railway Station, Belmore Park is regularly used for public rallies, either within the park or as a meeting point for marches.

The park is also a regular venue for organised events, particularly the Chinese New Year Festival in keeping with its historical associations with Chinatown.

The park has been a location for promotional events, public assemblies, charitable fundraising, festivals, ceremonies, memorial services, live performances, community consultation, and markets.

Attendance for these events has typically ranged up to 20,000 people. The City of Sydney registered a total of 46 events between 2015-19.

Future role in the context of city evolution and development

Chinatown and its surrounds will continue to experience dramatic urban changes that are also likely to significantly affect Belmore Park.

The development of the Sydney and South East Light Rail and the introduction of the light rail line along Eddy Avenue, resulted in Belmore Park being surrounded by light rail on all four sides.

Critically, the redevelopment of the Entertainment Centre site at Darling Square brought 5,000 new residents to Chinatown, a dramatic increase of about 30% over the current estimated population of Chinatown and City South (*Source: Chinatown and CBD South Village Community Profile, 2011*).

In 2020, the Central Station Precinct Master Plan established a vision for development covering 24 hectares over the railway corridor which will significantly increase the local residential population in addition to bringing additional commercial and retail activities to the area and increasing the level of activity in all surrounding public domain areas.

These influences place additional pressure on Belmore Park as a green space for the local community.

A coordinated plan for the upgrading of Belmore Park is required to ensure that it can sustainably cater for local recreational and open space needs while conserving its important natural and cultural heritage.

Table 2. Condition of facilities and improvements

Facilities	Usage	Condition assessment (source / reference)
Bandstand/ Rotunda	No current usage	Very Poor (5)
Men's Toilets Building	No current usage	Poor (4)
Footpaths	General public	Average
Shared path (Belmore Park – East)	General public	Average
Park furniture - lighting	General public	Average to Good
Park furniture – seating, bins	General public	Average to Good
Park furniture - fencing	n/a	Average to Good
Park furniture – water bubbler	General public	Average to Good
Park furniture - signage	General public	Average to Good

(#) City of Sydney asset assessment - other assessments by general observation for PoM

Table 3. Existing leases and licences

Lease / licence	Crown Reserve / Lot and DP	Lease / licence holder	Date commenced Date expiring Term	Purpose / Comments
No current leases / licences				

3. Legislative context

Ownership and management

Belmore Park is a Crown reserve owned by the State of New South Wales. The City of Sydney is the Crown land manager responsible for the management of the Crown reserve. Refer to **Section 2**, pages 14-15 for further property details.

Relevant legislation

Crown Land Management Act 2016

Crown land is governed by the Crown Land Management Act 2016 (“**CLM Act**”). Historically, reserve trust managers were appointed as the custodians of Crown reserves. Upon the introduction of the CLM Act in 2018, the reserve trust regime was abolished. The management of Crown reserves is now delegated to Crown land managers, many of which are local councils.

The Objectives of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 under section 1.3 are identified as:

- Provide for the ownership, use and management of the Crown land of NSW
- Provide clarity concerning the law applicable to Crown land
- Require environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations to be considered in decision-making about Crown land
- Provide for the consistent, efficient, fair, and transparent management of Crown land for the benefit of the people of NSW
- Facilitate the use of Crown land by the Aboriginal people of NSW because of the spiritual, social, cultural, and economic importance of land to Aboriginal people and, where appropriate, to enable the co-management of dedicated or reserved Crown land
- Provide for the management of Crown land having regard to the principles of Crown land management.

State Environmental Planning Policy – Infrastructure 2007

The State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007 (“**ISEPP**”) aims to facilitate the effective delivery of infrastructure across NSW. The Infrastructure SEPP assists local government and the communities they support by simplifying the process for providing essential infrastructure.

The ISEPP has specific planning provisions and development controls for 25 types of infrastructure works or facilities including roads, emergency services, electricity delivery, parks and other public reserves and telecommunications networks.

The ISEPP outlines the planning rules for such works and facilities, including:

- Where such development can be undertaken
- What type of infrastructure development can be approved by a public authority under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (“**EP&A Act**”) following an environmental assessment (known as ‘development without consent’)
- What type of development can be approved by the relevant local council, Minister for Planning or Department of Planning under Part 4 of the EP&A Act (known as ‘development with consent’)
- What type of development is exempt or complying development.

Of relevance to Belmore Park is Clause 65 that specifies that development for any purpose may be carried out without consent if the development is for the purposes of implementing an adopted Plan of Management. The clause also lists a range of ancillary developments permitted without consent.

Clause 66 provides for a range of exempt developments within a public reserve such as the construction, maintenance and repair of walking tracks, boardwalks, stairways, gates, seats shelters and shade structures.

Applicable planning controls for the reserve

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Local Environmental Plans are statutory planning tools that set controls over development in the area to which they apply and are one of the main instruments for implementing the EP&A Act. They contain zoning controls as well as controls for heritage conservation areas and protected areas, amongst other matters.

Belmore Park is zoned **RE1 – Public Recreation**.

1 Objectives of zone

- To enable land to be used for public open space or recreational purposes
- To provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses
- To protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes
- To provide links between open space areas
- To retain and promote access by members of the public to areas in the public domain including recreation facilities and waterways and other natural features.

2 Permitted without consent

Environmental protection works

3 Permitted with consent

Aquaculture; Boat launching ramps; Boat sheds; Charter and tourism boating facilities; Centre-based child care facilities; Community facilities; Electricity generating works; Emergency services facilities; Environmental facilities; Food and drink premises; Horticulture; Information and education facilities; Jetties; Kiosks; Marinas; Markets; Recreation areas; Recreation facilities (indoor); Recreation facilities (major); Recreation facilities (outdoor); Registered clubs; Research stations; Respite day care centres; Roads; Roadside stalls; Signage; Water recreation structures; Water recycling facilities; Water supply systems

4 Prohibited

Any development not specified in item 2 or 3.

Native Title

On Crown land, Native Title rights and interests must be considered unless Native Title has been extinguished, surrendered, or determined by a court to no longer exist.

Dealings in land or water that affect (impair or extinguish) Native Title are referred to as 'Future Acts' and these acts must be done in compliance with the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) ("**NT ACT**"). The NT Act specifies procedures that must be followed before future acts can be done legally.

Some examples of acts which may affect Native Title on Crown land managed by the City of Sydney include:

- The construction of new buildings and other facilities such as toilet blocks, walking tracks, tennis courts, grandstands, and barbecues
- The construction of extensions to existing buildings
- The construction of new roads
- Installation of infrastructure such as powerlines, sewerage pipes, etc.
- The creation of an easement
- The issue of a lease or licence
- The undertaking of major earthworks.

On Crown land, a future act undertaken by the City of Sydney which is not covered by one of the Future Act subdivisions of the NT Act will be invalid.

Section 8.7 of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 requires that written Native Title Manager advice is required before a council Crown land manager does any of the following:

- a. Grants leases, licences, permits, forestry rights, easements, or rights of way over the land
- b. Mortgages the land or allows it to be mortgaged
- c. Imposes, requires, or agrees to covenants, conditions, or other restrictions on use (or removes or releases, or agrees to remove or release, covenants, conditions, or other restrictions on use) in connection with dealings involving the land

- d. Approves (or submits for approval) a plan of management for the land that authorises or permits any of the kinds of dealings referred to in paragraph (a), (b) or (c). Accordingly, Native Title Manager advice must be obtained prior to the approval (or submittal for approval) of a PoM that allows a dealing in (a)–(c) and the execution of any lease, licence, permit, etc. that may be authorised under that plan.

The City of Sydney's Native Title Manager has been and will continue to be consulted in all relevant aspects of Native Title pertaining to the land that is covered by this Plan of Management.

Heritage management

The planning and management of Belmore Park must recognise and adhere to the requirements applicable to Local heritage listings.

4. Strategic context

Past planning and management

Planning and management directions have been established for Belmore Park through past master planning (2015), citywide strategic documents (2016) and plans of management (1993). This Plan of Management references the Chinatown & City South Public Domain Plan 2015 and Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study 2016, as the current planning directions for Belmore Park, superseding the Draft Plan of Management 1993.

Key strategic directions

The following guiding strategic directions are summarised for the planning and management of Belmore Park.

Strategic Directions from Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study 2016:

Master Plan for Belmore Park

Develop a master plan for Belmore Park that:

- Revitalises the park as an important CBD park that provides a safe welcoming place that encourages people to stay and use
- Provides infrastructure and amenity to facilitate events and community gatherings.

The design is to retain the character and sympathetically edit the park to improve recreation opportunities, environmental performance and create a cohesive and elegant landscape.

Recommended design principles are:

- a) Retain and enhance the existing park character
- b) Respect and reveal the parks heritage
- c) Improve access and permeability
- d) Activate the open space and increase recreation opportunities
- e) Improve sightlines and passive surveillance
- f) Use simple, robust, and high-quality materials

- g) Facilitate event uses and meet resident, worker, and visitor needs
- h) Improve the parks environmental performance and sustainability.

Potential scope for consideration in the development of the master plan are:

- Restoration of the Bandstand, lowering and reinstating public access
- Removal of the western boundary fence, understorey and upgrade the surface
- Improve the north western Hay Street entrance and street frontage (including removal of the flag poles)
- Improve the south-western Eddy Avenue entry to improve access
- Open sightlines and views through, into the middle of the park to improve safety with selective tree removals
- Establish a Central Spine and associated recreation opportunities
- General landscape upgrade and planting.
- Lighting and hydraulic upgrade
- Rationalise the bus shelters and improve the Eddy Avenue footpath
- Removal of redundant path network
- Adaptive reuse of the Men's Convenience
- Environmental performance initiatives to contribute to the City of Sydney's environmental targets.

Chinatown & City South Public Domain Plan 2015 ("CCSPDP") objectives

In July 2015, Council endorsed the Chinatown & City South Public Domain Plan 2015 for public exhibition. The CCSPDP recommends a range of improvement works in the Chinatown & South CBD precinct, including Belmore Park.

The primary objectives relevant to the management of the park include:

- To improve the integration of the park with the nearby Surry Hills and Chinatown communities, and enhance its role as a local green public open space

- To ensure that the park continues to balance its functions as both an urban thoroughfare and a place of relaxation and socialisation
- To encourage further activation of the park for passive recreation and cultural events
- To ensure that the park's significant heritage landscape values and elements are preserved for future generations to enjoy.

Demographic context

As part of the Plan of Management process Cred Consulting reviewed the demographic and recreational context of the subject reserve which provides useful background to ongoing planning and management.

Key observations are summarised following:

More residents

The City of Sydney's increasing resident population and density will result in more use and capacity pressures on all levels of the open space network, particularly the larger parks that offer opportunities for active sport.

The majority of population growth will be accommodated in various urban renewal areas. This trend will continue over the next 10-15 years.

The planning of urban renewal areas will provide opportunities to increase the open space and recreation facility network provision and provide linkages to the established open space network.

More workers and visitors

In the city centre and other concentrations of workforce population and visitors the quality of public spaces to allow people to lunch sit and socialise as well as provision of larger spaces for lunch time sport and exercise needs to be an important consideration.

Increasing density

Open space provision will be critical to the liveability of higher density urban areas by supporting community well-being, physical activity, social interaction, and a sense of space within an otherwise intensive built environment.

More lone persons

The acceptance for high density housing in order to live close to the city centre and lone person households' places importance on the

distribution of the open space network to ensure people have convenient access to a park that serves as a "backyard" and facilitates social interaction and recreation opportunities. Open space planning and management is an important component of the liveability and quality of high-density developments.

More young and old people

The age structure profiles increasing in the city of families with young children, young adults, and older people are expected to be heavy users of open space network.

In 2041, 47% of the City of Sydney's residents will be between 18 and 34 years of age. This age group has high participation rates in active sports and recreation, and many reside in new high-density urban renewal areas which suggests higher density communities could potential be very active communities and will require opportunities for physical activity and social interaction.

The open space network needs to be flexible and provide a diverse offer of recreational, social, cultural, and creative activities and facilities to cater for various age, cultural and income groups.

Total population

City of Sydney is forecast to grow by 949,824 people or 37% in 2041. The highest growth will be in Green Square-City South, CBD-Harbour, Chinatown-CBD South, and Redfern Street villages respectively.

Service age structure

Decrease in the proportion of 25 to 49 year old people

While the working age population will remain the largest demographic group to 2041, the proportion of this age group decreases across the Local Government Area ("LGA"). The villages with the most significant change in this age group proportion will be King Street (-5%), Glebe Point Road (-4%), Harris Street (-4%), Macleay Street-Woolloomooloo (-4%) and Oxford Street (-4%).

Increase in the proportion of 60 to 84 year old people

The proportion of people aged between 60 and 84 years is forecast to increase by 2% in 2041. While the increase in proportion of 60 to 69 year old people is consistent across all villages within the LGA, the increase in proportion of 70 to 84 year old people varies. The villages with the highest increase in proportion of 70 to 84 year old people will be Glebe Point Road (+4%), Crown – Baptist Streets (+3%), Harris Street (+3%), Macleay Street-Woolloomooloo (+3%) and Oxford Street (+3%).

Households

The total number of dwellings in the LGA is forecast to increase by 35%. The villages that will see the highest increase in number of households are CBD-Harbour, Green Square – City South and Redfern Street. Villages including CBD-Harbour and Redfern Street with a high number of Crown lands will cater to an increasing number of households by 2041.

Household type

The overall LGA is forecast to see a high increase in households with one parent families and group households. However, there are variations in forecast household type across the villages including those within this Plan of Management study area:

- Chinatown – CBD South, Harris street and Crown – Baptist Streets will see a high increase in one parent families.

Overnight and daily visitors

The City of Sydney is Sydney's premier metropolitan core that contains regional and village level services including retail to health, education to entertainment. The Sydney CBD and surrounds are also attractive places for tourists to visit, explore and stay overnight.

Given the diversity of offerings across the LGA, visitors are distributed to places such as Oxford Street, Kings Cross/Darlinghurst, Newtown, the Rocks, Chinatown, and Central Station. Accommodation is provided throughout the LGA via short term rental accommodation as well as through traditional hotel and hostel services.

The City of Sydney experiences 680,000 daily and overnight visitors for range of purposes and services including:

- Shopping
- Health and education
- Recreation and entertainment
- Accommodation
- Personal business
- Work related business.

It is forecast that this will grow to approximately 860,000 by 2036. (Source: *Infrastructure Baseline Assessment, City of Sydney, 2019*)

Social and cultural considerations (as per 2016 census data)

Cultural diversity

47.7% of City of Sydney population are born overseas with top countries of birth being China, United Kingdom and Thailand. Villages areas with highest born overseas rates include Chinatown and CBD South (76%), Harris Street (57.1%) and Green Square and City South (54.7%).

36.1% of City of Sydney population speak a language other than English with top languages being Mandarin, Thai and Cantonese. Village areas with highest percentage of other language speakers include Chinatown and CBD South (71%), Harris Street (47.1%) and Green Square and City South (45.9%).

Low-income households

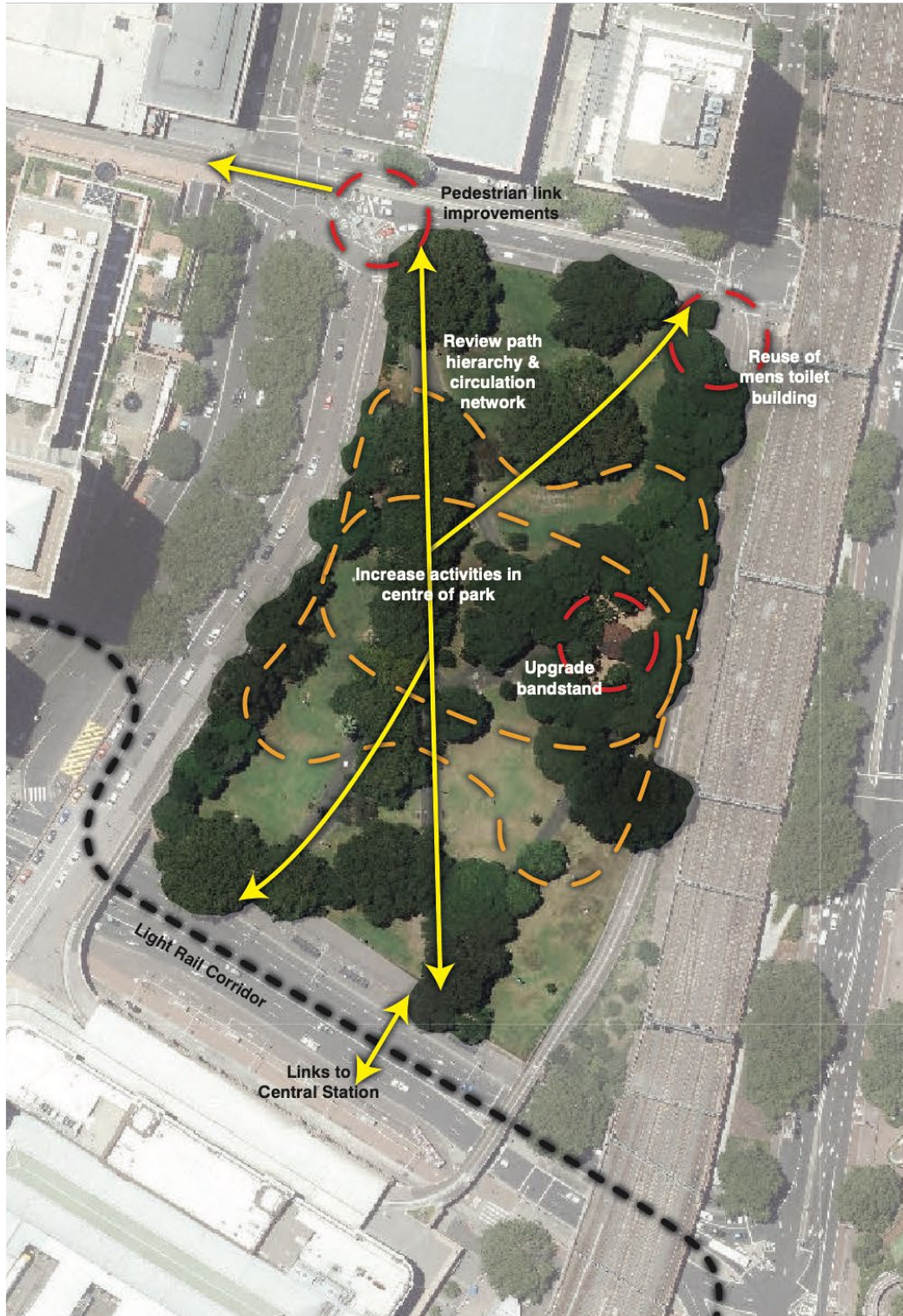
18.2% of households in the City of Sydney LGA are characterised as low-income households. Village areas with highest percentage of low-income households include Redfern Street (29.5%), Chinatown and CBD South (17.5%) and King Street (15.6%).

Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA Index)

City of Sydney has a SEIFA index 1,027. Village areas with lowest SEIFA scores being Chinatown and CBD South (940.2) and Redfern Street (970.2).

Figure 4. Master Plan

Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study 2016



City of Sydney Policy and Strategy framework

The City of Sydney has developed an extensive range of policies which provide guidance to Council decision-making. A number of these influence planning and management decision-making for open space and must be referred to in conjunction with this Plan of Management.

The City of Sydney has also developed a range of strategies focused on specific issues. While strategies are high-level guideline documents and usually carry less influence than policies, they can provide important references for the planning and management of open space.

Generally, policy guidance for the management of specific issues shall take precedence where no guidance is provided in the plan. However, all decision-making, and ongoing management must also have regard to the conservation of the specific park values and application of the core objectives of the applicable community land category/categories.

A summary of the key policies and strategies is provided in the Appendices.

Future Policy and Strategy guidance

In addition, it is intended that future policy and strategy development should also inform specific aspects of reserve planning and management as applicable.

5. Community guiding principles

The City acknowledges the Gadigal of the Eora Nation as the Traditional Custodians of our local area, and we acknowledge their continued connection to Country. We pay respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and emerging.

The City of Sydney has an important role as caretaker of these places. We will consciously consider these principles in the decisions we make for the Crown and community land we are responsible for. This includes how we maintain, change, and manage this land.

Aboriginal world view of Country – First Nations workshop participant

Country is our identity; spiritually, culturally, physically, and socially. We refer to Country as part of the family. We speak to Country; we sing to Country; and we dance for Country.

Increasingly we worry for Country and seek greater protection measures to carry out our cultural obligations to the land and waterways. These are our fundamental rights and cultural responsibilities in protecting country as First Nations People.

Community and place

These are the principles for our plans of management for Crown and community land. They were developed by listening to our communities – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, community gardeners, bushcare contributors, local residents, school children, city workers and visitors. And they reflect their values.

These principles are guided by the world view of Aboriginal people. They reframe our systemic relationship with the land. Since invasion, the relationship between people and land has been disrupted with little respect for the land, animals, waterways, and First Peoples. We've seen the extinction of plants and animals and damage to waterways and land. Aboriginal lives have been lost in trying to protect country. By challenging our approach in this way, we hope to cause no further harm and begin to heal.

We are on Gadigal Country

These principles are founded in the understanding of **Country** in the worldview of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This understanding of Country includes the landscape – land, water and sky, the plants and animals, and the relationship between these. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people responsibility for care of Country and the continuation of these relationships. Country has existed in this place for thousands of generations. Country precedes the colonial boundaries and definitions of 'Crown land'. We acknowledge the responsibility that First Nations People have in the carriage of their living cultures including access to land for practising culture. Crown and community land should bring social, spiritual, and economic benefit to First Nations People.

We commit to truth-telling and decolonisation

Gadigal Country was never ceded. In managing the Crown and Community land in Gadigal Country, we recognise the significance of this land as the site of invasion.

We work towards telling the history of these places with honesty and acknowledge the negative impacts caused to Country and to the people.

We endeavour to cause no further harm to Aboriginal people and the relationship they hold to the land.

We challenge ourselves to decolonise our approach to managing Crown and community land. This is evident in the decisions we make as we manage these places.

We value how important these places are to people's wellbeing

Crown and community land are a place of refuge and respite in an intensely urban environment. These places have cultural and community significance to many people. They are places of shared identity and pride, of community connection and celebration, and of protest and social transformation. They must be welcoming to all people and will provide equity of access to all to enjoy. We strengthen the connections between and within these places.

We are guided by Country and strive to heal and care for it

We learn about how this Country has been cared for thousands of generations. We respect the natural landforms, waterways, and endemic species. We work to heal places that have suffered degradation. We support these places to play their role in the health of the whole environment.

We protect these places for future generations

We accept our role as caretakers of these places. These places must benefit the community now and in the future. As we face a changing climate and growing population, we make decisions that prepare these places and ensure their continued health into the future.

Guiding documents

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Principles of Co-operation with Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council

City of Sydney Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Protocols

City of Sydney Reconciliation Action Plan 2021

City of Sydney Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Policy

Design with Country – NSW State Architects

6. Basis for management

Values and roles of Belmore Park

Community values and roles have guided the development of this Plan of Management. Values are the qualities and roles of the park that the community wishes to protect, conserve, and enhance. These have been identified through:

- Consideration of past plans of management and master planning for the site
- Past and current community engagement
- Liaison with City of Sydney staff
- Site appraisal.

In brief, the values and roles are identified as:

1.0 Identity Character and Experiencing the Place

- A meaning of the place that resonates with Country
- A place which signposts and celebrates local, natural, and cultural history
- A village green for the Central/Chinatown/Haymarket precincts

2.0 Access, Connections and Accessibility

- A well-connected space to adjoining neighbourhoods and to district and regional users
- Wayfinding that seamlessly aids access and use
- A place that is clear, easy, and safe to move around
- An appropriately lit environment
- A community destination accessible from the cycle network

- A place that is not compromised by parking and vehicle access

3.0 Community Use and Activation

- A place of respite for users and adjacent residents
- Spaces and facilities that support youth use of the park
- A place for dog walking and exercise
- A place that recognises and celebrates First Nations living culture
- A place for events
- A place that is open and usable by all members of community
- A safe place to visit day and night
- A place that provides access to public amenities

4.0 Facilities and Built Infrastructure

- The heritage rotunda provides a well-known landmark
- The toilet block adjoining railway viaduct is of heritage significance
- Park elements that support park use and create an attractive character
- Railcorp infrastructure
- Underground infrastructure

5.0 Environment and Sustainability

- Resilient landscaping to future-proof our green spaces
- Landscaping and planting that reflects the original natural environment
- A place of diverse habitats

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- A place that is cool, calm, and comfortable in summer heat
 - Established plantings which contribute to the park setting and habitat
 - A place exhibiting water sensitive urban design
 - A place exhibiting sustainable energy management
 - A place exhibiting sustainable waste management practices
-

6.0 Culture and Heritage

- A place that represents Aboriginal people and their living culture
 - A place which is a conservatory of natural and cultural heritage
 - A place that connects the community to the city's past and present
 - A place that provides a canvas for arts and culture
-

7.0 Management and Maintenance

- A place with a coordinated plan for future improvement and management
- Potential future integration with Central Precinct Renewal Program
- A place which is clean, well-maintained, and carefully managed
- Facilities that continue to service and meet the community's needs
- Appropriate leases and licences

Reflecting Crown reserve purpose

Under the Local Government Act 1993 (“**LG Act**”), all community land is required to be categorised. Where the land is owned by Crown Lands, one or more categories may be assigned that should align with the public purpose for which the land was dedicated or reserved.

The public purpose for Belmore Park Crown reserve is **Public Park**.

Current / existing use

In accordance with Crown Lands requirements, the City of Sydney has established an initial categorisation of Park for Belmore Park. The application of this categorisation is consistent with the way in which Belmore Park is currently used and has been endorsed by Crown Lands.

Any change to the initial categorisation to support a future use should be altered via an amendment to the Plan of Management and in accordance with requirements under the LG Act.

Figure 5 maps out the community land categorisation in the context of Belmore Park.

Characteristics of the land

The physical characteristics of the land must be considered in applying community land categorisations. Land that possesses a significant geological feature, geomorphological feature, landform, representative system, or other natural feature should be considered for categorisation as one of the Natural Area categories. In such a case the plan should describe the related characteristics of the land.

For Belmore Park there are no site characteristics that would justify the Natural Area categorisation.

Likewise, where land is of Aboriginal or historical heritage significance Council should consider whether Area of Cultural Significance is applicable. This should consider whether there are heritage listings or controls on the land that address heritage conservation. Where such protections are not afforded and a site warrants heritage significance, the Area of Cultural Significance category may be applicable.

For Belmore Park, **Section 2** describes the heritage characteristics of the land and the applicable listings and controls. These will be considered in all management decisions related to the land. The additional layer of Area of Cultural Significance categorisation is not deemed to be required.

Proposed community land categorisations

Table 4 outlines the guidelines for categorisation as listed in the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Part 3 - categorisation, use and management of community land for the applicable category to Belmore Park. Under the guidelines for the category, interpretation and application to Belmore Park is explained.

In addition, the core objectives and purpose (as outlined in the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005), are also listed.

Table 4. Community land categorisation

Guidelines for categorisation and application to Belmore Park	Core objectives for management
Park Land should be categorised as a park under section 36 (4) of the Act if the land is, or is proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, for use mainly for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that do not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others Application The Park categorisation applies to the entirety of the Belmore Park Crown reserve. The categorisation enables the park and built facilities to be used and developed to complement commercial, social and passive recreational activities.	The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park are: (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social, and educational pastimes and activities, and (b) to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and (c) to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.

Figure 5. Community land categorisation map



7. Review of the plan

Lifespan of the plan

If the Plan of Management (“**PoM**”) is to remain relevant in the future it is essential that its implementation is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure any relevant changes are incorporated.

Changes that may need to be addressed include:

- New legislation
- Changes in community values
- Inclusion of additional land
- Project priorities
- Funding resources
- New opportunities for future upgrades.

Given that community expectations and requirements change over time, this plan also needs to have some flexibility to adapt to any changes of circumstance.

Other triggers for review / update

Should a major development or works be proposed that is not represented in the authorised uses and developments listings, the PoM will require amending.

Should changes in categorisation be proposed, the PoM will require amendment, re-exhibition and the need to undertake a public hearing prior to adoption.

Process for review

It is recommended that the plan be reviewed in the following sequences and time spans:

Annually: monitor progress of PoM

Every five years: undertake a review of all values based on revised analysis, issues and amended planning legislation
review outcomes against survey information, photographic record and register of correspondence
review and amend the PoM, where required

Every ten years: review of the PoM

Part B

Management of community land categories

8. General requirements

This section sets out the specific requirements for the individual management areas located within Belmore Park and is applicable to the community land category, as outlined in **Section 6** of this Plan of Management (“**PoM**”).

Management Framework

A Management Framework is provided in **Section 9** of this PoM. It provides a decision-making framework for the future management of Belmore Park and addresses the requirements of section 36 of the Local Government Act (“**LG Act**”).

Management targets

The framework sets out management targets that define a series of “desired outcomes” for the management of Belmore Park. The outcomes seek to conserve and enhance the values of Belmore Park and address management challenges and opportunities identified by the community and City of Sydney.

Means of implementation

In response to the identified management targets, the means of implementation define the recommended strategies to be implemented over the life of this PoM.

Assessment indicators and measurement

A means of assessing the achievement of the identified management targets is provided for ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

Permitted development and use

Section 36 of the LG Act states that a PoM must expressly authorise any proposed uses and development activities on community land.

The City of Sydney encourages a wide range of uses on community land and intends to facilitate uses which increase the activation of the land, where appropriate. The use of community land is often supported by appropriate ancillary development such as playground equipment, amenity blocks or food kiosks.

The general types of uses which may occur on community land categorised as Park and the forms of development generally associated with those uses, are set out in **Section 10** within this PoM.

Any proposal for the development and use of buildings, structures and spaces at Belmore Park will be considered on merit and benefits to the community and balanced against physical constraints, the amenity of adjoining residents and land uses.

Restrictions on management of Crown land

The City of Sydney is the Crown land manager of the Crown reserve described within this PoM in accordance with the legislation and conditions imposed by the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016. The use and development of the land described in this PoM must:

- Be consistent with the purpose for which the land was dedicated or reserved
- Consider native title rights and interests and be consistent with the provisions of the Commonwealth Native Title Act 1993
- Consider the inchoate interests of Aboriginal people where an undetermined Aboriginal Land Claim exists
- Consider and not be in conflict with any interests and rights granted under the Crown Land Management Act 2016
- Consider any interests held on title.

Legislative requirements

The Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 (“**LEP**”) specifies the range of uses and activities that may be permitted on the land, in accordance with the relevant zoning and associated objectives. Several uses are also set out in the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

Guidelines and core objectives of the community land category

Under the LG Act, uses and the development of community land must be consistent with the guidelines for categorisation, the core objectives of each category, and any other additional objectives that Council proposes to place on the community land categories.

Consistency with Council adopted policies and strategies

Relevant Council policies and strategies as at the date of adoption of this PoM are identified in the Appendices and have been used to guide the outcomes of this PoM.

Council’s adopted policies and strategies will continue to develop after the preparation of this PoM. Management of the City of Sydney’s assets, and their development will consider existing policies and strategic frameworks at the relevant time.

In addition, activities that involve the representation or depiction of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples heritage or living culture must also adhere to Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Protocols.

- Core objectives of the categories that apply to the land
- Crown reserve purpose
- LEP and any other applicable Environmental Planning Instruments
- Applicable master plans, asset management plans and any subsequent detailed design plans.

Consistent with the objectives of this PoM, development activities must also include sustainable initiatives and measures, where feasible.

Native Title and Public Works

Where it is proposed to construct, establish a public work, or lease or licence activities on reserved or dedicated Crown land where Native Title is not extinguished, prior to approval, the City of Sydney will ensure that Native Title Manager advice is sought to ensure that the works can be validated under the Native Title Act 1993 and the appropriate native title holders, claimants or NTSCorp will be provided the appropriate procedural rights as required under the Native Title Act 1993.

Assessment and approval of permissible uses and development activities

The authorisation in a PoM gives ‘in principle’ support for uses and development activities consistent with the objectives of the land categorisation to proceed to development assessment under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (“**EP&A Act**”).

This PoM does not in itself imply or grant consent for uses or development activities. Any proposed uses and development activities which are consistent with this PoM must still be referred for development consent and where required, be advertised widely for information and invitation to comment. Any subsequent application for development consent would be supported by and assessed against this PoM.

Buildings and structures

Express authorisation

This PoM expressly authorises the development of new buildings, structures and civil infrastructure, and the redevelopment / refurbishment of buildings, structures and civil infrastructure which support the desired use of Belmore Park.

Such buildings, structures and civil infrastructure will not materially harm the use of the land for any of the purposes in which it was dedicated or reserved and will be consistent with the:

Prohibited activities

Activities and uses that are inconsistent with the Crown reserve purpose or core objectives associated with the applicable community land category are prohibited.

Certain activities at Belmore Park may also be prohibited by the applicable land use zoning. The City of Sydney may prohibit certain activities from time to time. Prohibited uses will be communicated via City bookings, lease, and licence agreements, or otherwise communicated where prohibited activities may be temporary.

Managing impacts on adjoining land uses

Uses and activities permitted at Belmore Park must consider the needs of and impacts on residents, workers and adjoining land uses in terms of accessibility, noise, lighting, traffic, and parking.

Scale and intensity of use

The scale and intensity of development and activities on Crown and community land is to be generally compatible with the scale and anticipated use of the park, reserve, and associated facility.

In particular, the scale and intensity of use will be consistent with the carrying capacity of the land, and any master plan or development consent relating to the land.

High Intensity use

This PoM specifically authorises activities at Belmore Park which may attract high numbers of people including one-off community events and performances.

Applications for permissible activities will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by Outdoor Venue Management.

The scale and intensity of such activities will be managed by the City of Sydney's booking process and associated conditions of use.

Informal use

The intensity of use for informal recreational activities across Belmore Park and settings will be determined by the community use of the site but will be managed to avoid undue impacts on park fabric and environment.

Commercial uses

Commercial operations for cafes, markets and kiosks that support and encourage community use of the open space, and/or address a community need are to be assessed based on the proposed scale and intensity of use and are authorised subject to compatibility with the objectives identified within this PoM.

Funding

Funding is integral to implementing the management targets identified with this PoM and is defined under two categories:

- Capital works involving the construction and development of new facilities and structures
- Maintenance and management of the park.

The implementation of this PoM is achieved through its linkage with Council's management plan, operational budget, and capital works program.

Council currently funds management and maintenance costs through its annual budget allocation and uses capital funds and 7.11 contributions for capital and nonrecurrent works.

Funding arrangements for the park need to address recurrent costs of management and maintenance, together with capital costs for new facilities or upgrading works. Funding for construction of new facilities is generally through the annual budgeting process, but special projects may be partly funded through New South Wales Government grant allocations, which may involve matching funding from Council.

Sources of funding include but are not limited to:

- 7.11 contributions – utilised for new landscaping and/or facilities complementary to the core management objectives
- Partnerships – there is an opportunity to develop further partnerships with residents and interested people in relation to park

improvements and ongoing management, such as bush regeneration

- Park revenue – income from the park is generated by lease and licence fees, and from applicants for approved functions and events
- Grants – several state and federal government grants are available to assist with capital works in the park.

What are leases and licences

Leases and licences formalise the use of Crown and community land by groups such as sporting clubs, community groups and schools, or by commercial organisations and individuals providing facilities or services for public use. The occupation of Crown and community land not only applies to the surface of the land but may also include the airspace above and subsurface below.

A lease is normally issued where exclusive control of all or part of an area by a user is proposed. Licences allow multiple and non-exclusive use of an area. A licence may be required where intermittent or short-term use or control of all or part of the park, reserve or associated facilities are proposed. Several licences for different users can apply to the same area at the same time, provided there is no conflict of interest.

The City of Sydney's ability to lease or licence Crown reserves managed as community land such as Belmore Park is authorised by section 3.22 of the CLM Act, which requires the preparation of a community land PoM, adopted by Council, to authorise an occupancy or use agreement.

Authorisation of leases and licences

Tenure may be granted for exclusive and non-exclusive uses to any organisation for any compatible purpose, as determined by Council, on such terms as Council may provide.

Under section 46 of the LG Act, a lease or licence may only be granted for a maximum term of 21 years, including options. A lease or licence

for a term exceeding 5 years may be granted only by tender unless it is granted to a non-profit organisation. All leases and licences must be publicly notified for a minimum period of 28 days.

To ensure that usage or occupation of the Crown reserve is appropriate for the lease or licence, a council Crown land manager must always consider:

- Compatibility with the Crown reserve purpose and core objectives for the category of the land
- Compatibility with the applicable land zoning
- If development consent is required and has been obtained (and other consents under the EP&A Act and LG Act)
- Environmental and social impacts of the activities to be permitted by the lease or licence
- Appropriate term (period of occupation) of the lease or licence
- Capability of the Crown reserve to support the proposed lease or licence
- Current and future use of the land
- If the issue of the lease, licence or other estate will materially harm the use of the land for any of the purposes for which it was dedicated or reserved.

In addition to the conditions provided within the authorisations, the granting of a lease, licence, short-term use or other estate must also:

- Have no negative impact on historical heritage sites or significant fabric
- Not alienate the park or reserve unreasonably
- Be ecologically sustainable
- Have a component of community benefit
- Demonstrate a clear nexus between the activity and the park or Crown reserve
- Not result in overuse of the area or conflict with community use of the area
- Ensure traffic, parking and essential or required vehicular access implications are considered
- Be in accordance with all Council policies and procedures governing the use of open space.

A use agreement (lease, licence, short-term use, or other estate) on Crown land may impact Native Title rights and interests. A use agreement issued on Crown land must be issued in accordance with Future Act provisions of the Native Title Act 1993, and in accordance with Part 8 of the CLM Act unless Native Title is extinguished. For Crown land, which is not excluded land, this will require written advice from the City of Sydney's Native Title Manager that it complies with any applicable provisions of the Native Title legislation.

Where the land is subject to a claim under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983, the issue of any lease, licence or other estate will not prevent the land from being transferred in the event the claim is granted.

Express authorisation of Leases, Licences, Short-term Uses and Other Estates under this Plan of Management

Section 10 details the specific authorisations and purposes for which tenure may be granted in accordance with the community land categories for Belmore Park. The purposes for which tenure may be granted are consistent with existing uses and will enable the social, intellectual, spiritual and physical enrichment of residents, workers, and visitors to the City of Sydney area.

The following outlines general authorisations applicable under this PoM and an indication of the criteria in which specific activities are to be assessed by the City of Sydney.

Access

Access for building-related activities including for construction or maintenance purposes

Access across community land shall be authorised under this PoM provided that (but not limited to):

- The access is of a temporary nature

- In circumstances where proposed works require access and it is associated with an adjoining property, proponents must clearly demonstrate that there are no alternative means of access available to avoid access through community land to undertake the required development works
- A performance bond as prescribed in Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges in respect of potential damage to City assets is lodged with the City of Sydney
- All necessary approvals have been obtained
- The City of Sydney is in receipt of proof of suitable insurances including public liability insurance.

Temporary structures

Land use planning controls

Under the LEP, the temporary use of community land may be deemed as exempt development if the proposed activity can be authorised under the LG Act and is no more than 52 days in any 12-month period ("**the prescribed period**").

Temporary structures for building-related activities including for construction or maintenance purposes

The City of Sydney may authorise a short-term licence for the placement of temporary building-related structures provided that (but not limited to):

- The use of community land is within the prescribed period
- In circumstances where the proposed works are associated with an adjoining property, proponents must clearly demonstrate that there are no alternative means of placement available to avoid use of community land to undertake the required development or maintenance works including satisfying any safety requirements under the Work, Health and Safety Act 2011
- Building-related structures comply with the City's technical requirements
- A performance bond as prescribed in Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges in respect of potential damage to City assets is lodged with the City of Sydney

- All necessary approvals have been obtained
- The City of Sydney is in receipt of proof of suitable insurances including public liability insurance.

Proponents can refer to the following City of Sydney documents as a technical guide for temporary structures until such time as they are revised and adopted:

- Guidelines for Hoardings and Scaffolding 2017
- Draft Code of Practice for Hoisting and Construction Activities in Public Places.

If the City of Sydney is unable to approve a short-term licence for these activities, applicants should consider an application under the provisions of the Access to Neighbouring Lands Act 2000.

Temporary structures related to events

The use of community land for the placement of temporary event structures shall be authorised under this PoM provided (but not limited to):

- The use of community land is within the prescribed period
- The event structures comply with the City of Sydney's technical requirements and where required, the relevant standards identified within the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008
- A performance bond as prescribed in Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges in respect of potential damage to City assets is lodged with City of Sydney
- All necessary approvals have been obtained
- The City of Sydney is in receipt of proof of suitable insurances including public liability insurance.

Bookings and events

Temporary events

Temporary events and activities are to be assessed and approved in accordance with the City of Sydney's temporary event approvals process and in line with existing applicable guidelines, policies, and legislative

requirements, both locally and at a State Government level.

The following criteria is not an exhaustive list but provides guidance on how temporary events and activities are assessed:

- Location including permissible use and compatibility with the relevant land
- Scale and intensity
- Duration and date sensitivity
- Proposed operational times
- Required infrastructure and proposed production design
- Access and logistics requirements
- Environmental impacts
- Proposed signage and/or advertising
- Addressing safety and security requirements.

Venues for hire

The City of Sydney offers a diverse range of indoor and outdoor venues for hire on a short-term or hourly basis that service the community enabling cultural, recreational, and social outcomes.

Applications to use venues for hire are to be assessed and approved in accordance with the City of Sydney's venue for hire approval process and in line with existing applicable guidelines, policies, and legislative requirements.

All applicable fees are outlined in Council's adopted schedule of fees and charges.

Banner Hire

The City of Sydney banner network is used to promote events and activities which are of public interest. Banner campaigns are subject to approval and must comply with the City's Banner Terms and Conditions. All applicable fees are outlined in Council's adopted schedule of fees and charges.

Personal trainers

The City of Sydney encourages all members of its community to use parks and open space responsibly in meeting their health, wellbeing, and fitness needs.

The City of Sydney chooses not to charge for the use of its parks and open spaces for outdoor

fitness training as it does not wish to create a barrier to participating in physical exercise.

stated herein and where the road is necessary for the enjoyment of that land.

Personal fitness trainers including commercial, not-for-profit and community groups, wishing to train outdoors in the City of Sydney local government area are expected to comply with the Outdoor Fitness Training Voluntary Code of Conduct and its criteria for use.

Fitness training groups and activities that are exempt from this Code are:

- Walking groups
- Activities of schools under the supervision or a teacher
- Hirers that have a current booking with the City of Sydney to use a sports field, oval or court and comply with the City's Terms and Conditions of Use.

Other Estates

Easements across Crown and community land for the purpose of public utilities, providing pipes, conduits, or other connections under the surface of the ground, for the connection of premises adjoining the community land to a facility on the community land shall be authorised by this PoM, and shall be subject to the following criteria:

There is no feasible alternative to connecting to a facility on the community land

- There is no significant impact on the Crown reserve
- Where the proposal involves the creation of an easement and/or a restriction on the future development potential of the property, compensation is assessed.

In instances where there is an encroachment (existing or proposed) upon public land by a permanent structure, and the structure does not significantly interfere with the functioning of the Crown reserve, the City of Sydney may consider the creation of an easement. In all cases, the applicant is to be responsible for all costs incurred by City of Sydney in the creation of the easement.

Subject to the provisions of Section 47F of the LG Act, an estate in respect of this land category is expressly authorised by this PoM for the purpose of a "public road" where the provision of that road is consistent with the core objectives

9. Management targets and strategies

The table below outlines the management targets or desired outcomes for Belmore Park, including the means and strategies for their realisation, and means of assessment and review by the City of Sydney.

Ref	Values / Roles	Management Target	Means (strategies for implementation)	Performance Measures
1.0 IDENTITY CHARACTER AND EXPERIENCING THE PLACE				
1.1	A meaning of the place that resonates with Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement a meaning and description that reflects connection to place 	Work with the community to establish a meaning and description that captures the place's connection to Country	Consultation completed Adopted meaning and description
1.2	A place which signposts and celebrates local, natural, and cultural history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contribute to the spaces identity and character 	Investigate the inclusion of informative and interpretive elements that reflect the spaces historical identity and natural character	Increased visibility of park identity
1.3	A village green for the Central / Chinatown / Haymarket precincts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve the "green" and natural character of the park 	Management has regard for conserving green and natural character of the park	Increased use of park measured by survey and observation
2.0 ACCESS, CONNECTIONS AND ACCESSIBILITY				
2.1	A well-connected space to adjoining neighbourhoods and to district and regional users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide functional, inviting, accessible and safe routes to the park from adjoining areas 	Review, monitor and work towards improving local access routes for workplace precincts and adjoining residential areas	Maintain records of public comments in relation to park access. Regular review of register to guide future directions
2.2	Wayfinding that seamlessly aids access and use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide effective wayfinding and signage for park users and cyclists 	Maintain and upgrade wayfinding and signage in accordance with asset management plan Where required, implement new wayfinding and signage	Increased local use of park, measured by observation Routine surveys, audits, and inspections
2.3	A place that is clear, easy and safe to move around	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide functional, attractive, and compliant internal circulation routes and path networks 	Maintain and upgrade paths and pavements in accordance with park service levels Where required, implement new pathways to create greater connectivity in park	Path and pavements managed in accordance with Australian Standards Routine surveys, audits, and inspections
2.4	An appropriately lit environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide adequate lighting to support desired night access, recreational and leisurely use of open space 	Maintain and renew lighting in accordance with asset management plan Monitor to identify lighting issues and address as require	Lighting maintained in accordance with Australian Standards Routine surveys, audits, and inspections
2.5	A community destination accessible from the cycle network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enable park to be effectively accessed from cycle network and encourage cycle use 	Investigate the integration of park access to adjoining and potential future cycle corridors Where required, integrate enhancement of cycle facilities into park improvements	Increased local use of park by cyclists, measured by surveys and observation

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Ref	Values / Roles	Management Target	Means (strategies for implementation)	Performance Measures
2.6	A place that is not compromised by vehicle access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide and manage functional maintenance and emergency access mitigating adverse impacts on park and uses Prevent unauthorised vehicle access 	<p>Ensure that permitted use of vehicles in park are regulated and do not affect community use of space</p> <p>Ongoing surveillance and enforcement of open space areas</p> <p>Incorporate educational activities into ongoing management</p>	<p>Reduced pedestrian, cyclist, and vehicle conflicts</p> <p>Improved public safety</p> <p>Management measures carried out</p>
3.0 COMMUNITY USE AND ACTIVATION				
3.1	A place of respite for users and adjacent residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that the park provides a range of flexible and informal use spaces that are attractive and comfortable to be in 	<p>Ensure that park planning and management maintains and enhances flexible informal use of spaces for broad community benefit</p>	<p>Increased local use of park measured by survey and observation</p>
3.2	Spaces and facilities that support youth use of the park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To sustainably respond to youth needs for gathering and activity spaces 	<p>Investigate opportunities to support youth gathering and activity</p>	<p>Increased youth participation measured by survey and observation</p>
3.3	A place for dog walking and exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide for effective dog exercise in accordance with Companion Animals Act 	<p>Manage off leash dog access to spaces as defined by City's Companion Animals Policy</p> <p>Monitor to identify management issues and address as required</p>	<p>Dog access maintained</p> <p>Reports of conflicts between dogs and other park users</p>
3.4	A place that recognises and celebrates First Nations living culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To celebrate First Nations heritage and living culture 	<p>For the pursuit of 'practising living culture', work with the First Nations community to understand the processes and procedures required to enhance access to spaces and facilities</p>	<p>Review existing policies and procedures</p>
3.5	A place for events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To sustainably encourage temporary event use that contributes to local activation and cultural and community outcomes 	<p>To facilitate temporary event use that is appropriate to scale of spaces and in consideration of other park uses</p> <p>Manage events in accordance with event's guidelines for Belmore Park</p>	<p>Increased use of park for events appropriate to scale and intensity</p> <p>Ongoing review and compliance of guidelines</p>
3.6	A place that is open and usable by all members of community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the park is managed as part of a coordinated compassionate approach across the city to assist homeless persons 	<p>Ongoing management of people sleeping rough in the park in accordance with the City of Sydney's policy on homelessness in public spaces, which 'recognises the right of everyone in the community to use public spaces' (Homelessness Action Plan 2019) and aims to ensure that public space can be accessed and enjoyed by everyone, including people who are homeless</p>	<p>Maintain records of public feedback in relation to people sleeping rough. Regular review of register to guide future directions</p>
3.7	A safe place to visit day and night	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the park and park facilities provide a safe place to visit and pass through, appropriate to intended (and varied) usage times of facilities and access routes 	<p>Monitor ongoing safety and access in park and facilities</p> <p>Coordinate with local police to identify and act on safety issues</p> <p>Where improvements are proposed, ensure that they are designed and maintained in accordance with Crime Prevention through Environmental Design principles</p>	<p>Percentage of people who feel safe in these spaces</p> <p>Safe spaces with no reported incidents</p> <p>Sustained relationship with local police</p>
3.8	A place that provides access to public amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain access and provision of public toilet facilities for all park users 	<p>Monitor to identify management issues for public toilet facilities, address as required</p> <p>Implement new improvements, where required</p>	<p>Maintain records of public comments in relation to public toilets. Regular review of register to guide future directions</p>

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Ref	Values / Roles	Management Target	Means (strategies for implementation)	Performance Measures
4.0 FACILITIES AND BUILT INFRASTRUCTURE				
Rotunda				
4.1	The heritage rotunda provides a well-known landmark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a sustainable future for rotunda structure contributing to park character and use 	Investigate the viability of an adaptive reuse for the Rotunda that activates the eastern portion of the park	Completed study on adaptive reuse
Men's toilet building				
4.2	The Toilet Block adjoining railway viaduct is of heritage significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a sustainable future for the toilet block contributing to community activity and use in area 	Investigate the viability of an adaptive reuse for the Heritage Toilet Block that is appropriate to the park and local area	Completed study on adaptive reuse
Park elements				
4.3	Park elements that support park use and create an attractive character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support recreational and leisurely use of park while avoiding proliferation of elements 	Maintain and renew park furniture and other park elements in accordance with asset management plan Monitor the appropriateness of placement Implement new improvements, where required	Measured against contract KPIs Routine surveys, audits, and inspections
Underground and adjoining infrastructure				
4.4	Railcorp infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that transport infrastructure is accommodated sympathetically to the park and with clear maintenance requirements and responsibilities 	Monitor and manage RailCorp access to enable maintenance and renewal of their assets Monitor to identify management issues and address as required	Sustained relationship with RailCorp
4.5	Underground infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure services infrastructure requirements are effectively integrated into planning and design 	Liaise and coordinate with services authorities to identify amplification and renewal works that may impact park Manage to limit impacts on use and facilitate effective make good / integration	Sustained relationship with authorities
5.0 ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY				
Vegetation management and urban ecology				
5.1	Resilient landscaping to future-proof our green spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To sustain a green landscape for continued community enjoyment 	Maintain and renew horticulture, grass cover and plantings in accordance with park service levels and City of Sydney guidelines	Improved grass cover condition Measurement and monitoring of vegetation Compliance with park service levels
5.2	Landscaping and planting that reflects the original natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase indigenous plantings within the park landscape 	Where appropriate and site conditions allow, investigate the planting of indigenous species	Increased indigenous plantings
5.3	A place of diverse habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase habitat value of natural and built features 	Investigate the potential to enhance habitat values through areas of built form and natural ground	Monitoring of natural habitat
5.4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance ecological importance in open space 	Maintain urban ecology advisory role for proposed works associated with open space Investigate opportunities to increase community understanding and participation in the preservation of green space and ecological elements	Ongoing internal participation in open space works Increased community participation

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Ref	Values / Roles	Management Target	Means (strategies for implementation)	Performance Measures
Shade and temperature management				
5.5	A place that is cool, calm, and comfortable in summer heat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve existing shade tree canopy and to selectively extend to create new shade 	<p>Maintain and manage existing tree canopy for ongoing health</p> <p>Plan for and integrate tree canopy shade in suitable locations across site</p>	<p>Preserved and increased shade cover</p> <p>Increased use of park measured by observation</p>
5.6	Established plantings which contribute to the park setting and habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To effectively maintain and manage the existing tree resources at optimum health for their safe and practical lifespans To effectively plan for succession planting 	<p>Implement tree management including pruning and/or removal of trees and replacement planting in accordance with park service levels and City of Sydney guidelines</p> <p>Plan and implement a succession planting program in accordance with tree management plan</p>	<p>Improved tree health and successful establishment of new trees as measured by arborist's survey</p> <p>Compliance with park service levels and guidelines</p> <p>Implemented succession planting and tree management plan</p>
Water management				
5.7	A place exhibiting water sensitive urban design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To effectively manage water use and runoff 	<p>Where feasible, implement water saving initiatives, alternative water sources and install metering to effectively manage water use</p> <p>Implement water-sensitive urban design to minimise environmental degradation and improve waterway quality</p>	<p>Increased savings in water consumption</p> <p>Reduced potable water demand for park</p> <p>Improved water quality</p>
Energy management				
5.8	A place exhibiting sustainable energy management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To effectively manage energy use 	<p>Where feasible, implement energy management initiatives, renewable energy, investigate alternatives to temporary generators and install metering as appropriate to effectively manage energy</p>	<p>Sustainable initiatives implemented</p> <p>Increased savings in energy consumption</p> <p>Reduction in open space maintenance post event activities</p>
Waste management				
5.9	A place exhibiting sustainable waste management practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A place that maximises the diversion of waste away from landfill 	<p>Ongoing implementation and support of best practice waste management activities</p>	<p>Minimised waste measured against contract KPI's and audits</p>
6.0 CULTURE AND HERITAGE				
6.1	A place that represents Aboriginal people and their living culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify and interpret Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the local area 	<p>Consult with Aboriginal people on how to interpret and integrate cultural heritage values in ongoing planning of improvements</p>	<p>Consultation completed</p> <p>Implementation of processes</p>
6.2	A place which is a conservatory of natural and cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To appropriately manage and conserve elements of heritage significance To guide management and design decision making to achieve optimum heritage management outcomes 	<p>Preparation and ongoing implementation of supporting documentation to guide the maintenance of sensitive and significant heritage assets or fabric</p>	<p>Completed supporting documentation</p>
6.3	A place that connects the community to the city's past and present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enable park users to understand the rich and complex layering of natural and cultural values represented on the site and add to the experience and use of the park 	<p>Develop a cohesive framework that recognises Strategies 6.1-6.2</p>	<p>Adoption of supporting framework</p>

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Ref	Values / Roles	Management Target	Means (strategies for implementation)	Performance Measures
6.4	A place that provides a canvas for arts and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate public art in temporary and permanent forms that complements the park setting and adds to the range of experiences provided 	Consider opportunities to implement temporary and permanent art installations, where appropriate	Increased representation of public art in park
7.0 MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE				
7.1	A place with a coordinated plan for future improvement and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a clear coordinated direction for ongoing improvement of the park 	Develop an integrated concept plan that addresses all targets and strategies and incorporates the influences of the Central Station redevelopment	Adoption of concept plan
7.2	Potential future integration with Central Precinct Renewal Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To optimise the benefits of the Central Station precinct redevelopment for Belmore Park and the community 	Monitor and participate in ongoing planning for the Central Station precinct	Sustained relationship with TfNSW and State Government regarding Central Precinct Renewal Program
7.3	A park which is clean, well-maintained, and carefully managed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide well-maintained parklands 	Maintenance programs carried out in accordance with City of Sydney Parks Maintenance Technical Specifications	Regular visitation and condition assessments Measured against contract KPI's and audits
7.4	Facilities that continue to service and meet the community's needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide well-maintained facilities 	Maintain and renew facilities in accordance with asset management plans	Regular visitation and condition assessments Measured against contract KPI's and audits
7.5	Appropriate leases and licences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that tenure and permitted use arrangements allow the widest possible community access to open space and are orientated to mutually compatible recreational, sporting, community, educational, cultural, and social activities 	All future leases and licences to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, Crown Land Management Act 2016, and Native Title Act 1993	Ongoing review and compliance of leases and licences

10. Park category - authorisations

Table 5. Permissible uses and development activities – Park Category

Table 5 outlines the permitted uses and development activities of the areas of Belmore Park categorised as Park subject to City of Sydney assessment, approvals, and booking/hire systems.

This is not an exhaustive list and other non-listed uses and development activities may still be permitted subject to merit and compatibility with the Crown reserve purpose, core objectives and aims of this Plan of Management.

Uses	Development Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Access through a Crown reserve (e.g. to undertake building activities associated with adjoining property) – Advertising consistent with Crown reserve purpose (e.g. banners and signage) – Broadcasts associated with any event, concert, or public speech – Café/Kiosk, including outdoor seating and tables – Casual and informal recreation – Catering and coffee carts – Community, cultural, educational, and social uses – Community gardening – Concerts and other performances, including both live performances and film (cinema and TV) – Conducting a commercial photography session or filming (as defined in the Local Government Act 1993) – Decorations, displays, exhibitions, fairs, fashion parades, festivals and shows – Emergency occupation for prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery – Engaging in an appropriate trade or business (e.g. community auctions and similar activities) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Advertising structures and signage (e.g. banners and signage) that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ relate to approved uses/activities ○ are discrete and temporary ○ complies with Planning requirements ○ are approved by the City of Sydney – Café/Kiosk, including outdoor seating and tables – Community gardening – Development that facilitates community, cultural, educational, recreational, and social activities, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adaptive reuse of existing building/structures for a use compatible with the park ○ Amenities to facilitate the safety, use and enjoyment of the park (e.g. seating, shade structures, BBQ, picnic tables, toilets, bike rings) ○ Ancillary areas to facilitate use and enjoyment by the community (e.g. storage and change rooms, car parks) ○ Buildings and structures that facilitate the permissible uses and activities (e.g. grandstands, pavilions, fitness equipment, playgrounds, outdoor courts) ○ Improving access including active transport, disability access to facilities, amenity, and the visual character of the general community area (e.g. fountains, pathways, lighting, paved areas, hard and soft landscaped areas)

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Uses	Development Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Functions (e.g. commemorative services, book launches, film releases, balls, and similar activities) – Markets – Outreach services – Passive and active recreational activities – Playgroups – Playing a musical instrument, or singing for fee or reward – Public art or other cultural installations – Public speeches, meetings, workshops, seminars, and presentations, including educational programs – Publicly accessible ancillary areas (e.g. toilets) – Signage (cultural, educational, regulatory and wayfinding) – Social events (e.g. weddings, picnics, and community gatherings) – Sports, fitness and leisure training or classes – Storage (e.g. ancillary to use of park) – Temporary structures (e.g. building/construction or events related) – Venue hire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Development that facilitates energy and water efficiencies (e.g. solar lighting and photovoltaic panels, stormwater harvesting and storage, swales, rain gardens, irrigation, and reticulation systems) – Environmental management (e.g. remediation and flood mitigation work) – Heritage and cultural interpretation (e.g. memorials and public art) – Markets – Signage (cultural, educational, regulatory and wayfinding) – Temporary structures (e.g. building/construction or events related)

Table 6. Express authorisation of leases, licences, short-term uses, and other estates – Park Category

The Local Government Act 1993 requires that any lease, licence, short-term use or other estate over community land must be expressly authorised by a Plan of Management. **Table 6** outlines the purposes for which tenure may be granted on community land categorised as Park. Licences and approvals for short-term casual use or occupation for a range of uses may also be granted for Belmore Park in accordance with Clause 116 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

Any lease, licence or short-term proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this Plan of Management and the capacity of the area to support the activity. The below is not an exhaustive list and other non-listed purposes may still be permitted subject to merit.

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Type of tenure arrangement	Purpose for which tenure may be granted
Lease (up to 21 years)	<p>Sympathetic, compatible uses may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Café/kiosk areas, including seating and tables – Community, cultural, educational, and social uses
Licence (up to 21 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Access through a Crown reserve (e.g. to undertake building activities associated with adjoining property) – Café/Kiosk, including outdoor seating and tables – Coffee carts – Community, cultural, educational, and social uses – Emergency occupation for prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery – Management and operation of community garden – Markets – Outreach services – Storage hire (e.g. ancillary to use of park)
Short-term uses (12 months or less)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Access through a Crown reserve (e.g. to undertake building activities associated with adjoining property) – Advertising consistent with Crown reserve purpose (e.g. banners and signage) – Broadcasts associated with any event, concert, or public speech – Casual and informal recreation – Catering and coffee carts – Community, cultural, educational, and social uses – Community gardening – Concerts and other performances, including both live performances and film (cinema and TV) – Conducting a commercial photography session or filming (as defined in the Local Government Act 1993) – Decorations, displays, exhibitions, fairs, fashion parades, festivals and shows – Emergency occupation for prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery – Engaging in an appropriate trade or business (e.g. community auctions and similar activities) – Functions (e.g. commemorative services, book launches, film releases, balls, and similar activities) – Kiosks – Markets – Outreach services – Playgroups

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Type of tenure arrangement	Purpose for which tenure may be granted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Playing a musical instrument, or singing for fee or reward – Public art or other cultural installations – Public speeches, meetings, workshops, seminars, and presentations, including educational programs – Signage – Social events (e.g. weddings, picnics, and community gatherings) – Sports, fitness and leisure training or classes – Storage hire (e.g. ancillary to use of park) – Temporary structures (e.g. building/construction or events related) – Venue hire
Other estates	<p>This Plan of Management allows the City of Sydney to grant ‘an estate’ over community land for the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.</p> <p>Estates may also be granted across community land for the provision of pipes, conduits, or other connections under the surface of the ground for the connection of premises adjoining the community land to a facility of the council or other public utility provider that is situated on community land.</p> <p>Note: refer Section 8 for Express authorisation of leases, licences, short-term uses and other estates under this Plan of Management.</p>

11. Appendices

Glossary of terms

Term	Definition
Categorisation	This informs the category for the specified land under the Local Government Act 1993 Confined to Park
Community Land	Classification of land under the Local Government Act 1993 requiring a Plan of Management
Council Crown Land Manager	City of Sydney's appointed position under the Crown Land Management Act 2016
Crown Land	Land owned by the State of New South Wales
Crown Reserve	Crown land that has been dedicated or reserved in accordance with legislation
Outreach Services	Voluntary and Professional Services - a service, group or program that provides food and material support, social contact, clinical outreach, and critical care to people who are homeless as well as other disadvantaged groups. Mobile voluntary services are not provided from a building or other fixed place but are provided from vehicles or general 'pop up' infrastructure within an outdoor public space
Temporary Structure	Is not designed, installed or constructed to be permanent; and <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is erected on public land to facilitate demolition, excavation, construction, or maintenance work; and site safety/security fencing, scaffolding, cantilevered work platforms and other constructed-related temporary structures; or• Is erected on public land to facilitate events activities and involves the installation of stages, platforms, tents, marquees, booths, and other events-related temporary structures.

References

- The Chinatown & City South Public Domain Plan City of Sydney 2015
- Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management 1993
- City of Sydney Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study 2016
- Crown Reserves Plan of Management Engagement Report February 2021

Refer also to policies and strategies review in this Appendix.

City of Sydney Policy framework

The City of Sydney has developed an extensive range of policies which provide guidance to decision-making. A number of these influence planning and management decision making for open space.

In some cases, these documents should always guide reserve planning and management having regard for the reserve purpose and core objectives of the community land category.

A summary of the key policies and their relationship to open space planning and management are as follows:

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
A City for All- youth action plan 2017-2027		
<p>Articulates the outcomes that the City wants to achieve for young people, as well as a vision for ensuring that Sydney continues and strengthens its status as a youth-friendly city.</p> <p>This plan applies the framework of social sustainability, which puts people at the heart of cities and recognises that personal wellbeing impacts on, and is impacted by, the collective wellbeing of the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Inclusive: young people have opportunities to succeed – Connected: young people feel connected and welcomed in their community – Liveable: young people live safe and healthy lives – Engaged: young people have a voice and can influence change 	<p>Planning and management of open space must recognise youth as a key existing and potential user of open space facilitating opportunities for youth gather and interact and to undertake activities relevant to a diverse demographic.</p>
Asset Management Policy 2016		
<p>To ensure that the City has information knowledge and understanding about the long-term and the cumulative consequences of being the custodian of public infrastructure.</p> <p>This is achieved by ensuring that the systems and processes are in place to enable people to determine the most effective and efficient options for delivering infrastructure related services while controlling exposure to risk and loss.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take a lifecycle approach and apply a whole of life 2. Sustainable environmental performance 3. Best value – balance financial, environmental, and social aspects to achieve best value 4. Long-term financial plans 5. up to date infrastructure asset information to inform decisions 6. Sharing of asset data through digital platforms 7. Service levels – infrastructure asset service levels will be clearly defined 8. Manage risks associated with infrastructure assets; and 9. Continuous improvement of asset management practices 	<p>Implementation of park improvements must use the City's established materials and treatments systems where applicable. Maintenance must be systematic and pro-active to optimise the safe useful lifespan of parks materials finishes and elements.</p>

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Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
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Community Gardens Policy 2016

Outlines a framework for community gardeners to grow fresh organic produce to supplement their groceries and to develop friendships, socialise with neighbours and to connect with residents in their local community

Community gardens connect with vibrant local communities and economies to create a space for people to meet and share knowledge, learn new skills and harvest in a harmonious way. These activities encourage interaction between diverse people in passive recreation and gardening pursuits

- Promote community gardens as demonstration sites where people can meet, work together, build stronger community relationships, and learn about sustainability.
- Document and standardise processes, procedures, and criteria.
- Help increase the number of community gardens according to the City's capacity; community need and availability of appropriate sites.
- Clarify the rights and responsibilities of all stakeholders involved.
- Support community gardens to become self-managed and encourage community ownership.
- Recommend the development of new community gardens on land established for community use as part of proposed park upgrades and developments.
- Ensure that there is potential for a community garden within a kilometre (a 15-minute walk) of the dwellings of most city residents.
- Promote access for the community to fresh, organic, and locally produced herbs, vegetables, and fruit.
- Ensure gardens are well maintained by the garden members to demonstrate a high standard to the community

Consideration and implementation of community gardens must be done in accordance with the Community Gardens Policy 2016 in particular the principles and site selection criteria. Creation of a community garden to a specific site must also have regard for conservation of the specific park values and the core objectives of the applicable community land category.

Inclusive and accessible public domain policy 2019

Outlines the City's vision is for an inclusive and accessible public domain which:

- provides equity of access in the public domain for people with disability,
- provides people with disability with more equitable opportunities to participate in employment and social and cultural life in the City of Sydney,
- enables people with disability to visit, travel through, explore and enjoy the City's outdoor spaces with independence and dignity, and
- enables people with disability to make informed decisions about their journey in the public domain.

When planning parks and playgrounds, the City adopts a network approach to ensure that within a network of parks within each neighbourhood, a variety of experiences and amenities are provided.

- All City parks, including pocket parks and playgrounds will be designed to include a continuous accessible path of travel to key elements in the park, and ensure that permanent furniture is accessible and inclusive of people with a range of disabilities. Inclusive play elements and play spaces will be strategically located across the City's networks of parks and play spaces.
- The design of the City's neighbourhood and iconic parks will consider the inclusion of socially supportive amenities, such as accessible public toilets and on-site mobility parking spaces where feasible, taking into account existing amenities nearby

Planning design and management of reserves shall implement the vision and principles of the Inclusive and accessible public domain policy 2019, and relevant standards and design codes.

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Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
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Markets Policy 2019

Establishes the City of Sydney's approach to approval of markets and the level of commitment it requires from market operators to achieve quality market operations. It aims to facilitate well managed markets that help to support and contribute to local communities, complementing the offerings of local businesses	<p>The City will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – apply a consistent assessment framework to the approval of Market Site Applications and Market Proposals. – require Market Operators to demonstrate capacity to meet community needs, contribute to social cohesion, strengthen the local economy, and complement the offerings of local businesses; and – Consult the community about new Market Proposals by providing consultation opportunities for the community to comment. 	Planning design and management of reserves shall implement the principles of the community gardens policy 2019, having regard for conservation of the specific park values and the core objectives of the applicable community land category.
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Mobile Voluntary Services Policy 2020

<p>Recognises and values the contribution made by mobile voluntary services within the inner city in supporting people experiencing homelessness, food insecurity and disadvantage.</p> <p>The City will work with mobile voluntary services to facilitate the delivery of effective and responsible services that meet the needs and rights of service users, while using public places in a responsible and respectful manner</p>	<p>The Policy seeks to guide the City's role in assisting disadvantaged persons in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – ensuring equitable access to public places. – balancing the needs of all users of public places including mobile voluntary services, people experiencing homelessness, pedestrians, local residents and businesses. – providing public places that are clean, safe with high level amenity. – encouraging responsible behaviour by all people in our public places, whilst acting to ensure that disadvantaged people are not discriminated against and are treated with compassion and respect. – investigating and respond to community feedback and complaints about the improper use of public places, and. – Considering appropriate action using the City's regulatory powers and the City's Compliance Policy to ensure that public places are safe and accessible to all users. 	Planning design and management of reserves shall implement the principles of the mobile voluntary services policy 2019, having regard for conservation of the specific park values and the core objectives of the applicable community land category.
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Busking & Aboriginal & Torres Street Islander Policy 2019

<p>Outlines the criteria for exemptions for cultural practitioners as well as the criteria for giving or receiving an approval to busk, the conditions of the approval and regulations that apply to busking in the City of Sydney</p>	<p>Key Principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sydney has a strong tradition of busking and buskers contribute to a sense of place and the character of the city. – Buskers make an important contribution to the cultural life of the city and help build a social city. – Buskers contribute to the tourist experience of Sydney and drive foot-traffic. 	Planning design and management of reserves shall consider the potential for busking specific to each site, and its related carrying capacity, management of impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category
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Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Busking is a legitimate means for professional artists and performers to make income. – Busking is a legitimate means for hobbyists, amateur performers, enthusiasts, or anyone to express themselves creatively in the public domain. – Busking is an important part of the ecology of the creative industries. – The practice of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage is a unique and important activity that takes place in the public domain. – Regulation of busking activity should expect nothing more or less of buskers than any other person or group of people using shared public space. – Other users of public space, residents, business owners and workers in the city have a right to quietly enjoy the city's open spaces. 	

Outdoor Dining Policy 2016

To set out the circumstances and conditions under which Council will issue approvals for outdoor dining on the public footway and other similar public domain areas	<p>To promote public access and well managed outdoor dining on footways and in parks, Council will consider the following (summary of items relevant to open space):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – promote accessibility on the footway by maintaining a consistent and predictable clear path of travel for all users. – manage neighbourhood amenity through minimising additional noise, visual, and other impacts; and – Consider the appropriateness of applications for approval against Council's adopted guidelines. 	Planning design and management of reserves shall consider the potential for outdoor dining specific to each site, and its related carrying capacity, management of impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category.
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Public Art Policy 2016

To reflect the City's commitment to the development of a tolerant, diverse, prosperous, and sustainable city which values its rich natural, cultural, and urban heritage	<p>As the most visible and accessible art form, public art plays a role of unprecedented importance in contributing to the poetic dimension of the city. Thriving art and culture are the great indicators of a city's pulse and should have a palpable presence throughout the city. Guiding Principles include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Align significant City Art projects with major Sustainable Sydney 2030 urban design projects 2. Recognise and celebrate Aboriginal stories and heritage in public spaces 3. Aboriginal artists will foster awareness in the local community of a history and histories of the local land and its original peoples. 4. Support local artists and activate city places through temporary art projects 5. Support vibrant places in Village Centres with community art and City Art projects 	<p>Planning design and management of reserves shall consider the potential for public art specific to each site including both temporary and permanent installations.</p> <p>Temporary installations may be preferred generally as these provide a greater level of flexibility and capacity to adapt and evolve the character of spaces.</p> <p>This shall include consideration of the reserves carrying capacity, management of impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core</p>
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Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Promote high quality public art in private development 7. Support stakeholder and government partners to facilitate public art opportunities 8. Manage and maintain the City's collection of permanent art works, monuments, and memorials 9. Initiate and implement programs to communicate, educate and engage the public about City Art <p>Intended public art outcomes applicable to Crown Reserves include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The integration of art into the fabric of the city in ways that will reflect, respond, and give meaning to Sydney's unique environment, history, and culturally diverse society. – A commitment to excellence, innovation, and diversity in keeping with the aesthetic and cultural significance of the city's public domain and with the dynamic and experimental nature of contemporary art practice. – Nurturing the city as a creative environment in which opportunities for artists and their role in the community can flourish and expand. – Encouragement of a greater contribution by artists to the design and development of the public domain by implementing collaborations between artists, architects, landscape architects, urban designers, and planners in relevant Council capital works projects. – Involvement of Sydney's diverse communities in the creative planning process to encourage civic pride and developing the distinct local character of the city's villages. – Increased understanding and enjoyment of public art and an awareness and appreciation of the significant benefits provided by a rich and diverse artistic environment. – Providing a sustainable framework for the care and conservation of the City's unique cultural heritage. – Support/direct any temporary public art projects in accordance with the Public Art Strategy. 	<p>objectives of the applicable community land category.</p>

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Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
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Tree Management Policy 2013

<p>The purpose of this policy is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – establish the City of Sydney's commitment and future strategic direction for tree planting, protection, management, and maintenance of its urban forest – address tree management and maintenance issues faced by the City of Sydney – provide a framework for decision making, documentation and standardised processes to ensure consistency in the management of the City of Sydney's urban forest 	<p>The objectives of the Tree Management Policy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – prioritise the maintenance and protection of the existing tree population. – broaden the emphasis of urban tree management to include urban forestry principles, with trees managed as a collective asset, to maximise the benefits canopy cover provides. – improve the quality and quantity of City of Sydney's canopy cover. – increase species diversity and improve the age spread of the urban forest – recognise and protect trees considered significant due to heritage, cultural, social, and ecological criteria. – increase awareness and educate the community, developers, and Council staff on the value of trees in the urban landscape; and – Enhance the City of Sydney's reputation within the community as a steward and manager of trees. 	<p>Planning design and management of reserves shall recognise the key priority of effective tree management, however where conflicts arise (e.g. poor tree health) decision making is to be guided by the policy.</p> <p>Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.</p>
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Naming Policy 2018

<p>This policy provides clear direction for the naming of suburbs, roads, parks, open spaces, places, and buildings that are owned, operated, or managed by the City of Sydney</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Names must be meaningful, clear, and concise, and can reflect the location and purpose. 2. Names must have local or cultural relevance, reflecting the heritage and history of local people, events, the community, or landscape. Names should not refer to or reflect current commercial businesses in that location. 3. Dual naming to restore traditional Gadigal names to geographical features is strongly supported. Aboriginal names are encouraged and shall be in the local Gadigal language, chosen in consultation with the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council and the City's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel. 4. Names acknowledging the multicultural nature of our society and gender diversity are encouraged. 5. Place names assigned by the Geographical Names Board and road names should not be changed, except where necessary to avoid ambiguity or duplication. These names become part of the historical fabric of a community and should be respected as such. 	<p>Management of reserves shall consider the potential for dual naming to reflect Gadigal connections, and to contribute to First nations recognition and acknowledgment.</p>
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Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Names that perpetuate the names of eminent persons, such as historical figures, prominent local residents or community identities, may be considered. These names will normally only be applied posthumously, however there may be occasions when a name is suggested which honours a living person. Such a person's contribution to the local community should have been of outstanding benefit to the community. Ownership of the land is not sufficient reason for the application of the owner's name to a geographical feature. The name of a person still holding public office will not be used. Long and clumsily constructed names and names composed of two or more words (for placenames) or more than three words (for roads) should be avoided except where culturally appropriate. Repetition of commonly used names will be avoided. Duplication of road names within the local government area, and within a 10-kilometre radius must be avoided. Names for different parts of the same feature, such as a park or building, will be avoided whenever possible and the one name applied throughout its entire space unless there are very clearly defined boundaries between one space and another or distinct features warranting a separate name. Where names have been changed or corrupted by long established local usage, it is not usually advisable to attempt to restore the original form; that spelling which is sanctioned by general usage should be adopted. Names considered offensive or likely to give offence should not be used. Names must conform to the principles in the Place Naming Policy and the NSW Addressing User Manual endorsed by the Geographical Names Board, particularly in relation to language, grammar, and duplication. The community will be consulted on all naming proposals through public exhibition 	

City of Sydney Strategy framework

The City of Sydney has also developed a range of strategies focused on specific issues and open space considerations relevant to open space planning and management. While strategies are high-level guideline documents and usually carry less influence than policies, they can provide important references for planning and management decision making for open space.

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
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A City for All - Inclusion (Disability) Action Plan 2017-2021

This plan includes a series of actions designed to actively address barriers faced by people with disability in all age groups. They build on the success of previous plans, and harness new and emerging opportunities

This *Inclusion (Disability) Action Plan* will set the framework and priorities for:

- meeting the City's responsibilities under the NSW Disability Inclusion Act 2014, the (Cth) Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the NSW Carers (Recognition) Act 2010
- identifying barriers to inclusion, and developing strategies and actions that will respond to and address those barriers
- continuous improvement in relation to inclusion and access for people with disability
- achieving outcomes for people with disability and/or caring responsibilities in line with the City of Sydney's Social Sustainability Policy - *A City for All* and forthcoming action plan.

Four key directions

The action plan focuses on four key directions:

- the development of **positive community attitudes and behaviours** towards people with disability and carers
- the creation of more **liveable communities** for people with disability and carers
- the achievement of a higher rate of **meaningful employment** participation by people with disability and carers through inclusive employment practices
- more **equitable access to mainstream services** for people with disability through better systems and processes.

Planning design and management of reserves shall implement the relevant directions of the strategy and ensure design and implementation is undertaken in accordance with relevant standards and design codes.

This shall include reference to the Inclusive and accessible public domain Policy 2019.

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Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
Adapting for Climate Change - A long term strategy for the City of Sydney 2019		
<p>This strategy sets out the impacts the changing climate will have on our city, the risks these pose and the actions the City of Sydney, businesses and communities must take now, and in the decades to come. This is the City's first adaptation strategy and has been written to raise the issues and opportunities that adapting to climate change will present. As our understanding of the risks and responses develops over time, so the adaptation strategy will evolve in the years to come. This will ensure that the City of Sydney continues to be a resilient and globally competitive place to work and live.</p>	<p>In 2070 in Sydney, the changing climate will likely mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – An increase in average temperatures – An increase in extreme heat days – An increase in air particulates and pollution – An increase in rainfall intensity and storm events – Continued variability in annual rainfall – An increase in bushfire conditions – An increase in drought conditions – An increase in sea levels and the extent of coastal inundation <p>The plan describes five principles for management actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Resilient and long-term: politically sustainable, economically efficient, and socially inclusive 2. Flexible and dynamic: able to evolve and respond to unexpected trends and consequences 3. Based on the most up-to-date data 4. Able to harness natural environmental systems 5. Delivered via a comprehensive and effective communication strategy. 	<p>Planning design and management of reserves shall apply the principles of the strategy and will monitor the ongoing development of climate science as applicable to open space management.</p> <p>Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.</p>
Wayfinding Strategy Report 2012		
<p>A Wayfinding System that allows the delivery of a more legible public domain that encourages people to walk with comfort and confidence around the City of Sydney.</p> <p>The strategy provides a guiding document to inform future design and is supported by separate style guides and element manuals.</p>	<p>For residents, visitors, and commuters a coherent wayfinding system throughout the Sydney LGA is paramount. The system requires two conventions – i.e. naming and placement policies: and visual information such as maps and signs.</p> <p>The principal requirements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Enabling pedestrians to assess and plan (to “understand”) their journeys and find their way about at street level with ease and confidence. – To help build up and reinforce an effective and reliable cognitive map of Sydney for pedestrians. – To create a common and constantly updated central information system flexible enough to be applied in all relevant forms and media, such as maps, signs, and websites. – Provide the information overlay to the Liveable Green Network across the City of Sydney local government area. 	<p>Planning design and management of reserves shall apply the principles of the strategy, and any implementation will be guided by the strategy and supported documentation.</p> <p>Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.</p>

Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
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Asset Management Plan 2020

Asset management is the combination of management, financial, economic, and engineering and other practices applied to physical assets with the objective of providing the required level of service in the most cost-effective manner."

It is a "whole of life" approach that includes planning, acquisition, operation, maintenance, and disposal of assets.

This report assessed the City's current resources and evaluated the efficacy of current asset management.

The policy objectives are:

1. Provide infrastructure and services to sustain the City of Sydney communities
2. Implement a life-cycle approach to the management of infrastructure and public assets
3. Ensure that service delivery needs are the primary driver for infrastructure asset management practices
4. Provide a sustainable funding model that provides assets aligned with the City's long-term plans and community needs
5. Develop and implement best value environmentally sustainable asset management practices
6. Provide reliable asset and infrastructure data through supported digital platforms

The plan identifies considerations for management of Parks and open spaces and Trees. The Plan then assesses current performance against identified service levels

Planning design and management of reserves shall apply the principles and systems of the strategy and the associated maintenance service levels as defined by the City.

Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.

City Centre Public Art Plan 2013

The City Centre Public Art Plan aims to bring inspiring public art with a permanent legacy to Sydney's residents and visitors

Guiding Principles

- Transforming Sydney with a legacy of permanent public art works
- Supporting events and temporary works of art
- Allowing quality, diversity, inclusivity, and fairness
- Working with our history, our stories, and our existing public art
- Considering children
- Looking to the future, remaining flexible and being open to change
- Ensuring amenity and sustainability
- Creating partnerships

Opportunities

- Use our distance as a chance to be original
- Involve artists for successful outcomes
- Use art to make the city more legible and easier to navigate
- Try a variety of art types and approaches
- Share initiatives with government agencies, arts groups, and other countries and leading cities
- Develop local public-private initiatives
- Consider other opportunities

Planning design and management of reserves shall consider the potential for public art specific to each site including both temporary and permanent installations. This shall include reference to the Public Art Policy 2016.

Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.

Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
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City North Public Domain Plan 2015

The Plan outlines ideas for improving City streets and open spaces which can be used as guidelines for future development. It forms part of the overall City Centre Public Domain Plan

Guiding directions include:

- Strengthen north-south streets and encourage east-west pedestrian permeability
- Reinforce a connected public space at Circular Quay and create a unified square from the building edge to the water
- Reinforce Martin Place as the City's premier civic and public space
- Create a linked series of park and garden spaces and upgrade existing open spaces
- Support and encourage active building edges and high-quality activation of the public domain

Planning design and management of reserves in the plan area shall apply the identified principles and strategies (note these have been included where applicable in management targets and Strategies in the PoM.

Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.

City Plan LSPS 2036

Since 2008, the City of Sydney has been working towards a vision of a green, global, and connected city. Sustainable.

Sydney 2030 captures this vision and the ambitious environmental, economic, social, and cultural goals arising.

The plan reinforces 10 villages, reflecting the historic growth of Sydney. Each has its own character and contributes to the wide diversity of housing, jobs, services, and recreation available to residents. The village areas typically have a centre or high street which provides services, fresh food, entertainment options and infrastructure for the community within a 5 to 10-minute walk for most people.

The plan identifies the following planning priorities

Infrastructure

- Movement for walkable neighbourhoods and a connected city
- Align development and growth with supporting infrastructure
- Supporting community wellbeing with social infrastructure

Liveability

- A creative and socially connected city
- Creating great places
- New homes for a diverse community
- Productivity
- Growing a stronger, more competitive Central Sydney
- Developing innovative and diverse business clusters in City Fringe
- Protecting industrial and urban services in the Southern Enterprise Area and evolving businesses in the Green Square-Mascot Strategic Centre

Sustainability

- Protecting and enhancing the natural environment for a resilient city

Planning design and management of reserves shall apply the identified principles and strategies of the LSPS.

Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.

Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Creating better buildings and places to reduce emissions and waste and use water efficiently – Increasing resilience of people and infrastructure against natural and urban hazards <p>Governance and implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Open, accountable, and collaborative planning 	

Climate Emergency Response 2020

The City of Sydney Council declared a climate emergency in June 2019, stating that climate change poses a serious risk to the people of Sydney.

The plan sets science-based targets that guided its work to reduce carbon emissions and make operations more resilient to climate-related hazards

Generally, the City seeks to take bold steps to reduce the city's environmental footprint and promoting transformative change in energy production, resource consumption, water use and climate adaptation in a way that is inclusive and supports a just transition across all communities.

Principles

- City actions are at a pace and magnitude commensurate with science-based climate observations and models to limit global heating to less than 1.5°C above pre industrial levels
- Actions are inclusive and acknowledge the First Peoples of Australia and the need for a just transition
- All City functions, activities and decision-making will address the climate emergency
- The City can influence others through its networks, functions, and activities
- Staff across the organisation are champions of change
- Pro-active, timely communication and reporting are essential to influence and mobilise action
- An empowered community will take positive climate actions and be more resilient to future challenges

Goals

1. Address climate emergency priorities in our major strategies, projects, and service delivery
2. Decarbonise the City's procurement of products, services, and assets
3. Empower staff to act more sustainably and become more resilient
4. Streamline governance processes to support significant climate action
5. Use the planning system to support climate emergency priorities
6. Develop, prioritise, and embed communications about the climate emergency
7. Support the community to take further action to address the climate emergency
8. Help the community access onsite and offsite renewables, including
9. 100 per cent GreenPower

Planning design and management of reserves shall apply the identified principles and goals for the climate action plan.

Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.

Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Substantially increase the number of existing buildings that achieve net zero energy use and switch to recycled water within 10 years 11. Share resources and work collaboratively with other councils 12. Collaborate with allies to drive change to state and federal policies and regulations to transition to a zero-carbon economy, and ensure sustainable waste and water policies 	

Community Safety Action Plan 2019-2023

<p>Sets out the City of Sydney's contribution to making Sydney a safe and resilient place to live, visit, work, and study. It describes the commitment to safety and our areas of focus for the next five years.</p>	<p>Priority areas are as listed</p> <p>Safe streets and spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Increase actual and perceived public safety in city streets and spaces and ensure they are well lit and attractive – Promote a creative and vibrant night life to reduce alcohol related anti-social behaviour – Improve road, public transport, and pedestrian safety <p>Crime prevention and response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Reduce the opportunities for crime to occur – Contribute to reducing domestic and family violence and sexual assault – Contribute to preventing child abuse and supporting effective responses <p>Ready and resilient</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensure Sydney knows how to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies – Build resilient and connected communities to increase safety – Reduce harm from drugs and alcohol <p>A safe global destination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensure visitors feel safe and welcome in Sydney – Promote Sydney's Safety Globally – Help international students to live, study and work safely in Sydney 	<p>Planning design and management of reserves shall apply the identified priority areas of the Community safety Action Plan.</p> <p>Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.</p>
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Cultural Policy-and-Action-Plan 2014-2024

<p>Plan for how the City of Sydney can unlock the creative potential of its city and its creative community</p>	<p>Vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Creativity in Sydney is visible – Innovation is central to Sydney's creative community – Sydney takes pride in its Aboriginal history, culture, and its contemporary expression – Cultural experiences and creative opportunities are valued and accessible – Sydney's diversity is prized and promoted 	<p>Planning design and management of reserves shall apply the vision, strategic priorities, and founding principles of the Action Plan.</p> <p>Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.</p>
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Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sydney welcomes bold ideas, new visions, and unexpected connections – Curiosity is encouraged and opportunities for discovery are everywhere <p>Strategic Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Precinct distinctiveness and creativity in the public domain – New avenues for creative participation – Sector sustainability: surviving and thriving – Improving access, creating markets – Sharing knowledge – Global engagement <p>Foundation principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Culture and creativity are central to all our lives and to our community's sense of identity and confidence. – Creativity is part of the human condition, and its expression defines and reflects our culture and our community. – Culture reflects, reinforces, and shapes our identity: individual identity, identification with a community and our connections to place. – Aboriginal culture, now globally recognised as the world's oldest continuous living culture, is our city's most unique and enduring asset. – Sydney's citizens and visitors have the right of access and contribute to the city's cultural and creative life and its history and heritage. – Sydney's cultural riches arise from a plethora of diverse activity at all scales, arising from the 200 nationalities that make up our city, and the many diverse communities that form bonds around identity, interests, and place. – Cultural and creative activity contribute to many community concerns and priorities including economic, social, behavioural, and environmental objectives through catalysing civic participation, promoting stewardship of place, preserving cultural heritage, exploring the challenges of climate change, and supporting economic development. – Initiative, experimentation, and enterprise is the bedrock of fermenting a creative culture. Creative risk is a pre-condition of innovation and industry growth. 	

Cycling Strategy and Action Plan 2018-2030

Plan for making bicycle transport easier and safer, so it is an attractive and feasible option for more people.	<p>Priorities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Connecting the network 2. Supporting people to ride 3. Supporting businesses 	Planning design and management of reserves shall apply the actions of the Cycle
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Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
Recognises a 2030 target for 10 per cent of all trips in the city to be made by bike.	4. Leadership and advocacy	Plan in particular with regard to Connecting the Network. Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.

Cycling Strategy and Action Plan 2018-2030

The master plan proposes to utilise local water resources in a way that represents a radical departure from current practice. The proposed decentralised water system can provide immediate and significant reductions in mains water consumption by using recycled water to cool and green the City contributing towards climate change adaptation	Priorities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reducing 10 per cent of mains water demand within the City of Sydney LGA by 2030 2. Reducing 25 per cent of mains water demand within the City of Sydney's own buildings and operations by 2030 3. Replacing 30 per cent of mains water demand within the City of Sydney LGA with recycled water for non-drinking uses by 2030 4. Reducing 50 per cent of sediments and suspended solids and 15 per cent of nutrients currently discharged into the waterways from stormwater run-off generated within the City of Sydney LGA by 2030. 	<p>Planning design and management of reserves shall apply the priorities of the Master Plan.</p> <p>Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.</p>
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Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2016-2021

The strategy and action plan address the areas of impact, including low-carbon city, water sensitive city, climate resilient city, zero waste city, active and connected city and green and cool city	Issue and Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Energy efficiency – existing buildings contribute around 80% of our city's emissions - Improving energy efficiency will lower energy bills and emissions – Renewable energy at building-scale alone is insufficient to reach our city's renewable energy target of at least 33 000 gigawatt hours of electricity to be produced from renewable sources -The City is exploring opportunities to facilitate Environmental Innovation grants, supporting proponents of community renewable energy projects – Energy storage – batteries have been too expensive for most homes and businesses - The city is looking at opportunities for energy storage on our properties and to support its uptake across the city – Low-carbon technology - Waste heat can be converted into cooling via a heat-driven chiller system, and cogeneration and trigeneration low-carbon technology provide opportunities to reduce emissions Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Design for low water demand and drought resilience 	<p>Planning design and management of reserves shall apply the priorities of the Strategy.</p> <p>Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.</p>
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Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Employ water sensitive urban design techniques – Select low water demand plant species – Protect existing healthy trees – Plant well located canopy tree that provides summer shade and light in winter – Supply of quality tree stock – Select local provenance, hardy and resilient plant species – Engage with local Bushcare groups for plant stock/advice – Avoid disturbing existing soil profiles in areas designated for landscaping – Create spaces for community gardens – community gardens are ‘enablers’ creating social connection opportunities for residents, neighbours, businesses – Select residential development plants from BASIX to assist BASIX Water score 	

Greening Sydney Plan 2012

<p>A greener Sydney can assist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To filter and improve the air we breathe – Provide shade for our houses and streets – Regulate sunlight to our houses and streets – Reduce urban run-off and stormwater pollution – Improve the appearance, economic value, and liveability of our Cities – Provide a connection to nature in our Cities 	<p>Establishes a target for expanding the urban forest – increasing canopy cover in the City of Sydney by 50% in the year 2030 and by 70% in the year 2050</p> <p>Greener streets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Create a liveable green network of streets by planting all footpath location with trees – Plant trees in unused road space – Central landscaped medians, replacing paving with trees and landscape planting <p>More parks and open space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Acquire more land for public open space, and tree and landscape planting – Balance recreational and functional requirements of parks – Build habitat parks and landscape City streets to promote and support biodiversity <p>Greening new development and private land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establish guidelines and standards for provision of open space, landscaping, and urban canopy in new development – Promote use of green roofs and green walls on new buildings and development – Investigate provision of a grant program to provide funding for residents and businesses to plant and maintain large canopy trees on their property <p>Green links and urban wildlife corridors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Building wildlife corridors and habitat pockets in residential suburbs 	<p>Planning design and management of reserves shall apply the targets and strategies priorities of the Greening Sydney Plan in particular with regards to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation and consolidation of tree canopy - Supporting within reserves the continuation broader habitat corridors <p>Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.</p>
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Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting on stormwater, gas and power easements main road and rail corridors to create green links Undergrounding and aerial bundle cabling (ABC) of electricity services to expand and improve the quality of the urban forest <p>Empowering the community to green our city</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building social capital by empowering the community to work together to protect and strengthen the urban forest and landscape. Supporting volunteer groups to revegetate and maintain green space and urban habitat Developing a Junior Ranger program to encourage children to assist in the maintenance, monitoring and managing of the City's urban parks and landscape Building community gardens to support residents in sustainable food production and community building Establishing a City Farm Sustainability Learning Centre 	

Harbour North Public Domain Study 2012

Ideas for improving the public areas of the Harbour Village North precinct of the City which are to be used as guidelines for future development	<p>Guiding directions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve access connectivity and wayfinding Create a network of linked parks and upgrade existing open spaces Respect and celebrate heritage, conserve, and restore Observatory Hill Celebrate landform and harbour views Support Walsh Bay cultural precinct and enhance cultural ribbon connections Strengthen local communities and support local economies <p>The study notes a series of recommended projects which have been integrated into the PoM as applicable</p>	<p>Planning design and management of reserves in the plan area shall apply the identified principles and strategies (note these have been included where applicable in management targets and Strategies in the PoM).</p> <p>Management shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.</p>
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Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2015-2017

A RAP is the strategic framework developed by Reconciliation Australia for organisations to document and progress the aims of reconciliation within their sphere of influence. The RAP demonstrates practical actions toward reconciliation. By improving the City's work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, the City can become a more innovative, courageous, and respectful organisation.	<p>Key Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement the City's Principles of Cooperation with the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council. Engage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in the City's projects and decision-making process. Contribute to and strengthen networks within the local government sector to promote reconciliation. 	Management of reserves shall seek to implement the key Actions of the RAP in particular providing a voice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Crown reserve management.
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Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Strengthen networks within the RAP community and promote collaboration and knowledge sharing on reconciliation. – Investigate opportunities to support Recognise: the campaign to create constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. – Recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures, and achievements in Sydney through the Eora Journey: Recognition in the Public Domain. – Promote cultural knowledge and understanding by establishing a local cultural centre. – Celebrate and share Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures through an annual significant event. – Acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories through the naming of places within the City. – Increase knowledge within the broader community of the history, heritage, cultures, and social values of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities of Sydney. – Show respect to traditional custodians by continuing to implement the City's Protocols for working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities including Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome to Country protocols. – Promote economic prosperity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Sydney. – Explore opportunities to increase supplier diversity – Respond to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities through local programs and services. – Increase the effectiveness of the City's grant and sponsorship program for Torres Strait Islander groups, organisations, and businesses. 	

Park Fitness Equipment Plan 2015

Reflects the Council's commitment to establishing a network of outdoor fitness equipment facilities in the local government area, complementing existing installations. The plan identifies sites and equipment for future facilities	Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Increase provision of outdoor fitness equipment, so all members of the community are within 800m of outdoor fitness equipment – Encourage greater participation in physical activity to help the public reach their recommended levels of physical activity – Prioritise installation of outdoor fitness equipment to ensure areas with the least fitness equipment are provided for in the next 5 years 	<p>Investigation and potential for fitness equipment in reserves shall be done in consideration of plan recommendations for siting and equipment.</p> <p>Provision of fitness equipment shall also consider impacts on other park values, uses, and neighbours, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category in considering actions.</p>
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Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage the community, promoting greater social inclusion Ensure best practice planning and design of outdoor fitness equipment facilities <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bourke Street Park, Woolloomooloo - retain Embarkation Park, Potts Point - new facility, Parks Fitness Equipment Program Waterloo Park - new facility, Park Fitness Equipment Program. Turruwul Park - new facility, Park Fitness Equipment Program. Gunyama Park - new facility, Masterplan / Capital Upgrade Works. Alexandria Park - new facility, Park Fitness Equipment Program. Sydney Park, St Peters - retain. Perry Park, Alexandria - removal. South Sydney Rotary Park - upgrade facility, Park Fitness Equipment Program. Victoria Park - new facility, Masterplan / Capital Works Upgrade. Johnstons Creek Parklands - new facility, Masterplan / Capital Works Upgrade. * Bicentennial Park - removal, replaced by new facility at Johnstons Creek Parklands. * Wentworth Park, Glebe – retain Pirrama Park - new facility, Park Fitness Equipment Program Observatory Hill Park, Millers Point - expanded facility, Park Fitness Equipment Program. 	

Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan 2014

<p>A vision for the Plan is to restore and conserve resilient urban ecosystems that support a diverse range of locally indigenous flora and fauna species, and in so doing to create a liveable City for all of its inhabitants</p>	<p>Strategic Action Plan</p> <p>Objectives and targets are identified for the following:</p> <p>Locally indigenous vegetation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect, expand, and improve condition of naturally occurring locally indigenous vegetation, including possible remnants. Increase the extent of bush restoration sites across the LGA and maintain sites in good condition. Re-establish representative patches of the likely original vegetation communities. <p>Fauna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and enhance sites that provide habitat for priority fauna species. 	<p>Management of reserves shall seek to implement the key Actions of the Plan where possible.</p> <p>Ecology related actions shall also consider relationship to other park values and uses, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category.</p>
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Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Increase the distribution and abundance of priority fauna species across the LGA <p>Habitat connections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Improve habitat connectivity across the LGA, particularly between priority sites, and between identified habitat areas in adjoining LGAs. 	

Urban Forest Strategy 2013

Plan for development and protection of the City's urban forest	<p>Motivations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Urban forests play a vital role in the health, social framework, and economic sustainability of a city – Trees improve our air, soil, and water quality, while also improving mental health and wellbeing – Canopy coverage over paved surfaces is a cost-effective means of mitigating urban heat islands – This will also reduce emissions of hydrocarbons involved in ozone depletion, while increasing pavement longevity – An Urban Forest Strategy will assist the City in managing the conceptual shift from dealing with trees individually, to managing vegetation as a collective and integrated canopy <p>Key Initiatives and Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Prioritise maintenance and protection of existing tree population – maximise benefits received from this asset – Increase average total canopy cover from current 15/5% to 23.35% by 2030, and then to 27.13% by 2050, through targeted programs for trees in streets, parks, and private property – Improve age spread of street and park trees by increasing species diversity, while also ensuring the population does not compromise more than 40% for any particular family, 30% for any particular genus, and 10% for any one species – The City will engage and educate the community on the benefits of trees and their management requirements, assisting community participation in the greening of Sydney 	<p>Management of reserves shall seek to implement the key Actions of the Strategy where possible</p> <p>Tree canopy actions shall also consider relationship to other park values and uses, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category.</p>
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Water Savings Action Plan 2012

Identifies the actions required to sustainably manage potable water consumption while delivering high quality parks and urban landscape	<p>Key Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Water use is variable – Expectation – Maintenance and water use are directly influenced by expectations for parkland presentation. 	<p>Management of reserves shall seek to implement the key Actions of the Plan where possible.</p> <p>Tree canopy actions shall also consider relationship to other</p>
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Belmore Park Draft Plan of Management

Purpose	Key principles	Implications for the plan of management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Demand – Parks are maintained for the enjoyment and use of the community. Management of parklands and the subsequent water use is influenced by the demands on use for parklands. – Increase in irrigated area – Timing of water restrictions – It should be noted that in 2006 when base line figures for 2030 were taken, Sydney Water had rigorous restrictions on water use in parklands. – Accuracy of information- – Specialised technology and consistency of information – Progression in water management has seen the development of a number of tools for managing water use, and subsequently managing data. Consistency in information is essential when measuring water efficiency. <p>Key actions to be delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Exceeding the Sustainable Sydney 2030 target of 10% recycled water usage in the City's Parks. – Change of water consumption measurement from an absolute target to a water efficiency measure of litres per square metre. – Installation of smart meters to improve the measurement of non-potable water use at 30 sites. – Set water budgets for the City's top 30 water using parks which allow for average, dry and wet years. – Construct storm water harvesting and treatments systems at Alexandria Park, Waterloo Oval and Pirrama Park (old part). – Connect Erskineville Oval to the Sydney Park water re-use project. – Upgrade irrigations systems at Alexandria Park, Waterloo Oval, Jubilee Oval and Pirrama Park (old part); and, – Implement an irrigation testing and efficiency program on the top 10 water using parks. 	<p>park values and uses, and the core objectives of the applicable community land category.</p>

