

HOSKEN  
RESERVE  
MASTER  
PLAN  
REFRESH

background report.

## disclaimer.

Information contained in this document is based on available information at the time of writing. All figures and diagrams are indicative only and should be referred to as such. This is a strategic document which deals with technical matters in a summary way only.

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WHAT?

WHY?

WHERE?

WHO?

the state of play.

# WHAT?

## about the project.

### background.

Hosken Reserve is a 5.5-hectare reserve located in Coburg North. It is used by a number of sporting clubs such as Pascoe Vale Soccer Club, the Australian International Academy school and the Merlynston Tennis Club and is used by local residents and visitors for active and passive recreation. It is a designated off lead dog park.

Hosken Reserve is located off Shorts Road (the northern border) with its car entrance to the facilities via Sheppard Street. The eastern border is an industrial estate, the southern border is Bakers Road and the AIA school, and the western border is Pallett Street.

A redevelopment masterplan plan was completed for Hosken Reserve in 2009, with principles and a site development plans (option 3) adopted. The 2009 master plan process highlighted 18 key improvements listed including the installation of a synthetic training pitch, a formalised turf soccer pitch, pavilion upgrades and an extension to the car parking area off Pallett Street.

A subsequent 'Hybrid Synthetic Sports Surface Needs Analysis' report was tabled and endorsed in April 2018 which recommended that a synthetic pitch be installed at 'Hosken Reserve North' and the existing, fenced southern soccer pitch be converted to hybrid.

The development of a full-size synthetic pitch was then further resolved through the following Council strategies (which were released for public consultation): Moreland Sport and Physical Activity Strategy 2014-2018; Moreland Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2020; Council annual budgets and Action Plans from 2018/19 onwards.

In March 2020, Council officers applied to the World Game Facilities Fund for the development of a synthetic pitch at Hosken Reserve. In August 2020, Council was advised that it had been successful in its application

for the World Game Facilities Fund of \$500,000 contribution towards the project. Council publicised this via media release.

A tender process for the installation of the pitch commenced in September 2020, in order to meet construction timelines under the 2020/21 budget and terms of the grant.

Residents who were previously unaware of the project were understandably surprised and taken aback when they learned of the project. Numerous complaints were submitted to Council.

Issues raised included:

- Concern that no consultation had taken place with local residents about the synthetic pitch project.
- Many local residents were not living there when the original 2009 Masterplan was developed and could not be expected to be aware of the plan.
- The original 2009 resident survey did not canvass views about synthetic turf.
- Lack of transparency and information available about the project. For instance, the 2009 Masterplan was not on the Council website. In addition, the 2009 Masterplan proposed synthetic turf in the north-east field, not the northern oval, and it was unclear why or when this had changed and how.
- Use of synthetic turf and loss of natural grass, and impact on sustainability and urban heat effects.
- Lack of open space for passive recreation and dog walking.
- Increased sports usage of the reserve and impact on traffic and amenity.
- Alignment with other key Moreland strategies and plans including Moreland Open Space Strategy, Zero Carbon Moreland - Climate Emergency Action Plan, and Urban Heat Island Action Plan and the recently adopted Nature Plan.
- Long term implications on the recently installed stormwater harvesting project.

Council officers have acknowledged that the community engagement for the Hosken Reserve synthetic turf project was not adequate.

All stakeholders should be included in Council's engagement practices and in this case, nearby residents were not adequately consulted. The gaps in engagement were not intentional but they have caused frustration and stress to local residents.

The situation has also affected other community stakeholders such as the Pascoe Vale Football Club who have been working in good faith to improve sporting facilities at Hosken Reserve.

The State Government undertook a review of the World Facilities Fund grant to Council for Hosken Reserve. The review found that consultation and local support was insufficient, and the funding was withdrawn in November 2020. The Council tender process for the procurement of the synthetic pitch has been terminated.

Council considered this matter in detail at its December 2020 council meeting where it resolved that Council:

1. Conducts an independent, robust, and broad community engagement process in 2021 on a refresh of the Hosken Reserve Master Plan.
2. Receives a report by May 2021 on the outcomes of the Hosken Reserve community engagement with options to determine future action.

This would ensure that a thorough understanding of current and future demand and use of the precinct is captured and understood.

The renewed strategic process would confirm the principles that will be applied for management of the site.

It would identify the most appropriate future land uses for the reserve to ensure it has the best ability to meet the needs of the community in the short, medium, and long term.

## project delivery.

Council sought to engage a consultant to: analyse site opportunities; undertake an in-depth community engagement process; and develop a precinct plan for Hosken Reserve.

Council appointed a consortium led by *theCommunityCollaborative*. to project manage the Hosken Reserve Masterplan Refresh. *tCC*. are supported by *Conversation Caravan* leading the engagement activities. *Pollen Studio* are providing the landscape design response.

The aim of the Hosken Reserve Precinct Plan is to provide Moreland City Council with a strategic document to guide the planning, provision, promotion and advocacy of sport and informal recreation.

In order to achieve this, the following methodology is being delivered:



# WHY?

## strategic context.

### literature review.

The following section outlines a brief overview of the implications of a range of national, state, and local strategies, plans and policy positions. This is focused on those that directly influence the planning, provision and management of formal sport and active recreation precincts such as Hosken Reserve. An overview of the documents reviewed can be found in Appendix 1.

### LOCAL.

In 2015, Council adopted the Moreland **Community Vision**, underpinned by extensive consultation. The Community Vision reflects the aspirations of the community for 2025 – where “diverse, healthy and connected people live and flourish in our neighbourhoods, which are attractive, safe, clean & accessible. As a community we share a rich history and celebrate our diversity and cultural vibrancy.”

The **Council Plan** establishes priorities and sets an agenda for this council term while keeping sight of long-term future challenges and opportunities. The overarching vision in this plan for 2021 is that ‘Moreland will be known for its proud diversity, and for being a connected, progressive and sustainable city in which to live, work and play’. To achieve this vision, three strategic objectives have been set: Connected Community; Progressive City; and Responsible Council and includes a clear commitment to ‘set a clear vision and strategy for aquatics, leisure and sporting facilities to meet ongoing community needs; and ‘maintain and match our infrastructure to community needs and population growth’.

Council’s **Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan** seeks outcomes which encourage Moreland residents to be more active at all stages of life, have walkable access to everyday needs and have access to open space close to where they live. It identifies a number of key priority areas focusing on: the promotion of formal

and informal forms of physical activity; the benefits of incidental exercise and of choosing sustainable modes of transport where possible; prioritise local access to health, education, social, leisure and cultural facilities; ensure that the provision of community infrastructure is based on strong evidence of community need and value; and ensure the design of community facilities allows for multi-purpose use by different groups, with the flexibility to adapt to changing needs over time.

The **Municipal Strategic Statement** notes that Moreland has experienced strong population growth, and this is forecast to continue in the future. It focuses on managing growth in line with the 20-minute neighbourhood principle; where communities can ‘live locally’ and access many of their daily needs within a 20-minute walk, cycle, or public transport trip from their home. Open Space is specifically noted as important to the liveability of Moreland and the health of its people. Specific areas in Moreland have been assessed as deficient in the provision of open space, however the area in and surrounding Hosken Reserve is not identified as an open space gap area.

The **Moreland Open Space Strategy** sets Council a cohesive direction for the future provision, planning, design, and management of publicly owned open space. The main aim is to preserve and enhance its environmental values and provide for future community needs. It notes that the broader Coburg area is relatively well served by open space but the area to the West of Hosken Reserve, between Sussex St and Cumberland Road is an area not within 500m of open space access.

The **Park Close to Home: A Framework to Fill Open Space Gaps** guides the proactive expenditure of Councils open space fund to create open space in the areas that have the least access to open space, to remove or reduce gaps in open space provision before land prices and population further rise. It reinforces the MOSS finding that the area West

of Hosken Reserve as a 'low priority open space gap area'. It also notes that in 2016, there was 113.3 square metres of unrestricted open space per person in Coburg North – the highest in Moreland and more than 4 times the Moreland average of 27.8 square metres per person. There are 42 open space gap areas in Moreland, 14 of which have been assessed as either a high or medium priority for creating open space. There are no open space gap areas in Coburg North that require closure.

The **Sport and Active Recreation Strategy** sets three key Council priorities to: increase participation; ensure adequate supply and distribution of infrastructure; and be underpinned and well informed by robust policies, strategies, and plans. It notes that over that past decade, participation rates in most outdoor recreation activities have risen, some significantly, but this increase in participation is not universal. For example, areas with high CALD population, like Moreland, have comparatively lower participation levels. The strategy identifies a number of key actions that impact on this master plan including:

- Continue to encourage the use of Council's outdoor sporting venues by schools;
- Investigate the actions that Council can take to encourage residents to more frequently use active and passive reserves for social sport and informal recreation activities;
- Undertake a high level, strategic and integrated analysis of Moreland's open spaces and recreation facilities;
- Review the Council's formal hierarchy system for classifying Council's sports reserves and pavilions;
- Regularly review and amend, when necessary, Council's recreation policies;
- In particular reference to Hosken Reserve it notes to implement existing masterplan recommendations, refurbish the pavilion facilities (\$222k in 21/22 FY), develop a synthetic field including sports field lighting (\$1.2m in 21/22 FY) and reconstruct the playing field (\$600k in 21/22 FY);
- Referencing the Merlynston Tennis Club it notes to convert remaining en-tout-cas courts to synthetic grass (\$100k in 21/22FY) and upgrade the toilet facilities;
- It also notes to upgrade the pavilion (\$700k in 19/20 FY) and playing field (\$220k 10+ years away) at Richards Reserve to accommodate cycling and soccer.

The **Hybrid and Synthetic Sports Surface Needs Study** suggests that Council will increase playing capacity on natural playing fields from 20+ to 30+ hours a week with the introduction of hybrid turf. Where further capacity is needed the embracement of synthetic turf technology should allow for playing capacity in excess of 30 hours per week to 60 hours which should then allow natural turf fields the time to recover and rest ensuring an integrated and sustainable sports fields strategy to meet growing playing needs. The report is confusing with various references to Hosken specific recommendations including: Notes the existing project of installing a synthetic pitch at Hosken Reserve and further recommends that the Hosken Reserve (Southern field) is upgraded to a hybrid surface in the Executive Summary, but then recommends installing a hybrid soccer / multi-sports field for community use with the \$1.2 m already allocated to the Hosken Reserve Northern field in the body of the report. Importantly, it notes that a three-year review should assess priorities against playing capacity/condition of each field, standards of play needed, economic conditions, growth of the participation and strategic alignment.

The City of Moreland is also an environmental leader, having declared a climate emergency and making a number of core commitments including but not limited to:

- be a 'zero carbon' community by 2040 (**Zero Carbon Moreland Climate Emergency Action Plan**)
- achieving zero waste to landfill by 2030 (**Waste and Litter Strategy**)
- integration of UHIE reduction and responses into existing operations, policies, and programs of Council (**Urban Heat Island Action Plan**)
- doubling canopy cover to 29 per cent by 2050 (**Urban Forest Strategy**)
- incorporate sustainable design and operation into all Council buildings (**Sustainable Buildings Policy**)
- a zero-carbon emissions municipality by 2030 and future proofing unmetered/metered public space lighting (**Public Lighting Policy**)
- facilitate a demonstrable mode shift to more sustainable modes of transport (**Integrated Transport Strategy**)

There are a number of other key directions in City of Moreland strategies, plans and policies that influence this masterplan including:

- Maximise participation in sport and recreation on sporting facilities, grounds, and pavilions; and Prioritise the allocation and use of sporting grounds and pavilions to clubs which are inclusive of priority groups including females, actively support juniors, people with disabilities and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (**Allocation of Sporting Grounds and Pavilions Policy 2016**)
- Evaluation of capital proposals according to their sustainability, need, risk and consequence; and Application of 'Renew' before 'Upgrade' or 'New' (**Asset Management Policy 2019**)
- Engage impacted parties when a decision is to be made by Council; may not always make decisions based on the viewpoints of prominent voices or majority groups of participants. Instead we may make decisions based on our principles; and Where five years or more passes between a community engagement process and the implementation of a project it should be regarded as no longer reliable and should be carried out afresh (**Community Engagement Policy 2020**)
- Dogs in public places present challenges, including: compliance by dog owners with off-leash requirements; compliance with dogs being prohibited from certain areas within public places (e.g. within 15m of a playground); effective control of dogs in off-leash areas; removal of dog faeces from public places (**Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017**)
- Council has positioned itself as a leader in encouraging females as leaders and participants in sport in Victoria, if not Australia; and As a percentage of all hiring/usage of their sports grounds female participation rose from 8% to 22% between 2009-16 (**Female Participation in Sport: Evaluation 2016**)
- The area immediately South of Hosken reserve, from Bakers Rd to Gaffney St, is defined as a 'core industry and employment area' – this also includes the existing adjacent South-East block of industrial properties; and Allow for the transition of other industrial zoned land... to multi-use or residential outcomes. This includes the area immediately adjacent to Hosken Reserve in the North-East (**Industrial Land Strategy 2015**)
- Facilitate a demonstrable mode shift to more sustainable modes of transport including by: Reallocating space from cars and parking to walking, cycling and public transport; Expanding parking restrictions; Close some local roads to through traffic; and creating more pedestrian crossings (**Integrated Transport Strategy 2019**)
- All projects constructed by Council to investigate implementation of an integrated water management approach for stormwater; Investigate the inclusion of passive irrigation systems; Investigate sustainable water options for sports fields; Increase urban tree resilience; Reduce flood extent; and Reduce urban heat island; (**Integrated Water Management Strategy 2040**)
- Moreland is currently unable to meet the high level of demand for the provision of football facilities; Nomination of Richards Reserve as a potential site to provide a regional centre, CB Smith Reserve as a nominated Municipal-wide venue and the potential provision of a synthetic pitch at Fawkner Secondary College and Hosken Reserve (**NWR Football Venue Strategic Review and Feasibility 2009**)
- 125 additional tennis courts are required to match existing provision levels to future population growth - over double currently available (**NWMR Tennis Strategy 2011**)
- The most common reasons for open space usage was exercise, and for taking children along to play; While there was a desire for more open space, most people saw this as unrealistic; Many respondents questioned the relative allocations for different uses in open space, suggesting that there is a need for more informal recreation areas, more multi-use areas and fewer single-purpose sporting grounds; Safety and feeling safe while using open space emerged as a major issue for many people. The main problems highlighted were lack of lighting, lack of cleaning, and lack of "supervision". Unmanaged dogs off the leash also rated highly; Play areas for older children are perceived to be lacking (**Open Space Strategy 2012**)
- Parking could be considered for removal when it provides an overall benefit to the sustainable movement of people; Parking must ensure that it does not impose on the safety of people using other modes; Parking should be considered for removal when it is demonstrated to provide an

overall benefit to the creation of 'places' (**Parking Implementation Plan 2019**)

- Hosken is classified as a Local, Primary, Soccer – A class facility that requires a reconfigure internally and potentially expansion of the pavilion to improve functionality and meet standards. The following deficits also need to be addressed: Number of change facilities and amenities areas; Provision of a 2nd first aid room; Larger social room (**Pavilion Strategy 2017**)
- Hosken Reserve is defined as a small local play facility that was originally built in 1994. It was recommended for upgrade in the 18/19FY (this has occurred) and as such, limited further development would be required. However, additional key design consideration include: Increase opportunities for nature play; Add or upgrade accompanying amenities (shade, seating etc.); Consider strategic design interventions to manage high safety risks (fencing to main roads etc.); enforce the local law requiring dogs to be on lead within 15m of play spaces; explore the provision of free public Wi-Fi (**Play Strategy 2016**)
- Provision of LED lighting and use of dusk to dawn timers, motion sensor activated lighting and specific consideration of the impact of lighting on biodiversity values of sites (**Public Lighting Policy 2018**)
- Average usage level of sports fields is approximately 11.7 hours/week; A high quality turf surface can be used for 21-25 hours/week but it must be closed for about 6 weeks/year for renovation; A synthetic surface can be used from 30 to 60 hours/week; Capacity to move some usage (especially training) or teams from overused sports fields to underused sports fields; Consideration should also be given to setting usage limits and enforcement of usage limits and penalties for any breaches by Clubs; Specifically, both fields at Hosken were recommended for drainage and sprigging at a minimum, which would improve capacity from low (6-10hr) to moderate (11-15hrs). A full reconstruction is also recommended for both fields if Council wishes to increase capacity to high (21-25hrs). (**Sports field Condition Assessment 2017**)
- Recommendations for LED lighting, no net loss of site biodiversity, 75% of the total project site area comprises building or landscaping elements that reduce the impact of heat island effect, where

deemed suitable 85% retention of stormwater on a lot (**Sustainable Buildings Policy 2018**)

- Doubling canopy cover across Moreland to 29 per cent by 2050; Continuing to plant canopy trees in Moreland's streets and parks to fill vacant sites and replace under-performing trees; Improving tree health and cooling through integration of WSUD (**Urban Forest Strategy 2017**)
- Moreland's highly urbanised environment experiences a high UHIE; Major industrial areas, such as Coburg North, are priority areas for urban heat island effect action due to the large built form and minimal green infrastructure that exists; Integration of UHIE reduction and responses into existing operations, policies and programs of Council is required; Increase vegetation cover in Moreland's most vulnerable areas by 35% by 2020; Stormwater harvesting infrastructure supplying 30ML/a of treated water for open space irrigation by 2020; Improve cooling capacity of Council owned/managed public open space with tree shade, large-scale WSUD and irrigation prioritising those in socially vulnerable hotspots and playgrounds; and foster a heat aware community (**Urban Heat Island Action Plan 2016**)
- Council has renewed its commitment to a dual focus on waste management and waste minimisation including a range of initiatives to help meet zero carbon 2040 targets such as a commitment to achieving zero waste to landfill by 2030 (**Waste and Litter Strategy 2018**)
- It is Council's adopted goal for Moreland to be a 'zero carbon' community by 2040. By 2040 it aims for efficient and 100% renewably powered energy, active or zero emissions transport and a circular economy with zero waste by: Continue to progressively upgrade public lighting in Council parks and reserves to energy efficient LEDs; Facilitate 'mode shift' to active travel and public transport; Prioritise access for sustainable transport modes over car travel, including through road space reallocation and parking; Act to reduce Council's operational waste and the ecological footprint of Council's facilities and services including specifying use of recycled content and/or 'carbon positive' materials in Council construction projects (**Zero Carbon Moreland Climate Emergency Action Plan 2019**)

## STATE.

The Victorian Government's **Active Victoria** provides a strategic framework for sport and recreation in Victoria. In particular, it highlights the need for increasing the capacity of sport and active recreation infrastructure and creating flexible and innovative participation options, supporting non-organised and unstructured physical activity, and investing in infrastructure that enables active recreation.

**Plan Melbourne** is the Victorian Government's Metropolitan Planning Strategy and outlines a number of key challenges that we face including managing population growth, growing the economy, creating affordable and accessible housing, improving transport, responding to climate change, and connecting communities. Of particular note for the Master Plan is the Strategy's direction to: 'Improve local travel options to support 20-minute neighbourhoods'; 'Strengthen community participation in the planning of our city'; 'Create a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods'; 'Create neighbourhoods that support safe communities and healthy lifestyles'; 'Deliver social infrastructure to support strong communities'; 'Deliver local parks and green neighbourhoods in collaboration with communities'; 'Support a cooler Melbourne by greening urban areas'; and an overarching commitment to responding to climate change through energy, water and waste performance.

The Victorian Planning Authority's **Metropolitan Open Space Network: Provision and Distribution** report notes that there is 525HA of public open space in Moreland of which 215HA is natural open space, 143.7HA is parks and gardens, and 143.4HA is sports fields/organised recreation. It found that the proportion of the Moreland area that is public open space is higher than average, however the amount of public open space per person is significantly lower, ranking it the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest municipality. Positively thought, 81% of the Moreland population are within 400m of public open space, the same as the average.

**State Football Facilities Strategy** is Football Victoria's plan for facility development to 2026, outlining an ambitious target of 145 new pitches, 31 artificial surface pitches, and 80 pitches in new schools. It notes that the projected membership in 2026 in Moreland will require 16 additional pitches. It also lists a priority project to add a new synthetic pitch in Moreland.

## NATIONAL.

**Sport 2030 - National Sport Plan** articulates the Australian Government's clear and bold vision for sport in Australia — to ensure we are the world's most active and healthy nation, known for our integrity and sporting success. This is underpinned by the key priority of 'More Australians, more active, more often' which provides a clear mandate to continue to invest in recreation facilities at a local level.

The Australian Government and CSIRO's **Future of Australian Sport** report further states that sports played in Australia, as well as how and why we play them, are changing over time. Individualised sport and fitness activities are on the rise - participation rates in aerobics, running and walking, along with gym memberships, have all risen sharply over the past decade, while participation rates for many sports have held constant or declined.

## COVID-19 IMPACTS.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to disrupt and impact Australians and their communities. In particular, the coronavirus pandemic has had a significant impact on organised sport as these gatherings were put on hold to adhere to health advice.

A number of research groups/projects have commenced investigating the short and long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on physical activity and wellbeing finding:

- COVID-19 appears to have prompted the need for more frequent participation with an increase in adults saying they had deliberately been more active, however children were more impacted
- Non-sport-related activities kept adults active during lockdown. Recreational and fitness activities (such as walking, jogging, and cycling) were most popular
- Australia's 70,000 sports clubs have lost an estimated aggregate \$1.6bn due to COVID-19. Nearly 70% predict a decline in participants and 43% in volunteers
- Overall over 16,000 community sports clubs nationally are at risk of closure. This would have a devastating impact on health and wellbeing for millions of Australia's sports participants.

# participation trends.

An analysis undertaken by SportAus, utilising aggregated data from 2015-16 FY to 2019-20 FY, notes the following key insights nationally:

- Participation in sport and physical activity has increased overall in the last two decades. More adults participate more frequently in 2020 compared to 2001.
- Female participation has remained on par with male participation throughout. However more women have constantly participated more often.
- The ACT has always had the highest participation rates over the years, while Victoria and SA has seen most progress (Victoria has grown from 77.4% to 91.0%).
- Participation in sport-related activities hasn't increased, while at the same time non-sport physical activities have increased significantly
- non-sport related activities has grown from 46% to 74%
- Participation in non-sport recreational activities such as walking, and fitness/gym have increased the most. Individual sport activities such as running/jogging and cycling have seen upticks, while golf and tennis have significantly dropped.

The SportAus analysis also identifies the following key insights at a state level:

- Participation rate of 75.9% for children (73.5% national) with participation peaking at ages 9-11 (91.8%) before dropping off between 12-14 (85.8%) and then increasing again at age 15-17
- Indigenous (80.3%) children have a higher participation rate than the state and national total participation rate, while CALD (67.8%) and LOTE (65.8%) children participation is significantly lower
- Participation rate of 90.1% for adults (higher than national average of 89.4%) with participation peaking at ages 15-17 (95.5%), remaining relatively steady from 18-54 (around 91%), before dropping off from 55 onwards (89.4% and 86.8% for 65+)
- Indigenous (85.8%), CALD (86.3%) LOTE (84.2%) and PWD (81.4%) adults all have lower participation rates than the state and national total participation rate
- 58% participate in sport-related activities and 72% in non-sport activities
- 34.9% met Australia's Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour Guidelines

Importantly, the same analysis by SportAus identifies the following key insights from local participation data for Moreland:

- Participation rate of 89.6% for adults, higher than the national average
- Participation rate of 86.0% for children, higher than state and national averages
- Pilates and football/soccer are the only activities in Moreland's top 10 participated activities for adults that is not represented in the state and national top 10 activities – they replace golf and tennis
- Moreland has a significantly higher participation rate in swimming and football/soccer for children as compared to state and national averages
- Moreland's top 5 activities (all ages) are all 'recreational' activities, all except for walking have higher participation rates than state averages

Figure 1. Top 10 participated in activities (all ages)

Activity	Participation rate (%)	
	Moreland	Vic
Walking	35.7	37.3
Fitness/gym	33.8	29.2
Swimming	22.2	18.7
Cycling	20.7	11.2
Running/athletics	15.0	14.3
Yoga	8.3	n/a
Football/soccer	8.2	5.4
Bushwalking	6.4	4.8
Australian football	5.6	6.2
Basketball	4.0	6.6

Figure 2. Top 10 participated in activities (adults)

Activity	Participation rate (%)		
	Moreland	Vic	National
Walking	44.8	45.4	43.9
Fitness/gym	40.6	35.5	34.7
Cycling	25.1	13.3	11.7
Running/athletics	18.3	16.5	15.9
Swimming	17.2	14.3	15.4
Yoga	10.4	5.4	5.2
Bush walking	8.1	5.7	6.0
Football/soccer	5.9	4.6	5.4
Pilates	4.2	4.2	3.1
Basketball	3.7	5.2	3.6

Figure 3. Top 5 participated in activities (children)

Activity	Participation rate (%)		
	Moreland	Vic	National
Swimming	41.5	36.5	33.5
Football/soccer	17.0	9.1	14.6
Australian football	16.4	14.6	8.3
Gymnastics	8.5	9.4	9.3
Tennis	7.1	7.5	6.0

# demographics.

## MORELAND.

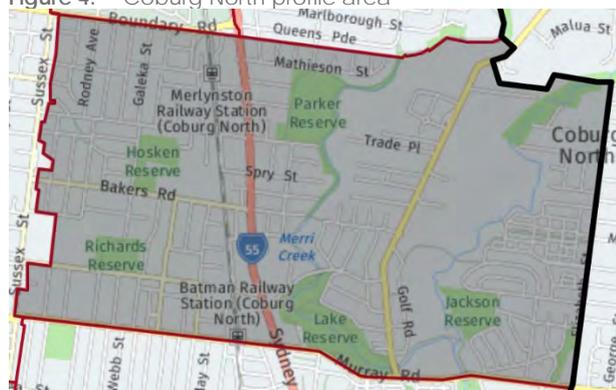
Covering 51km<sup>2</sup> it is one of Melbourne’s most populous LGA’s with 185,767 people.

The Moreland community is getting younger with the median age falling from 36 to 34 years between 2006 and 2016. Households are getting wealthier with the median household income growing by 61% over the same period compared to 40% for Greater Melbourne. The overseas born population increased slightly, and the proportion of detached dwellings decreased significantly.

The population is forecast to grow to 213,719 in 2026 and 228,425 by 2036 – near 23% increase.

## SURROUNDING PRECINCT.

Figure 4. Coburg North profile area



In taking a closer look at the precinct surrounding Hosken Reserve, namely the Coburg North area, these insights are seen:

- The estimated resident population in 2019 is 8,866, expected to grow by 1,537 to 10,403 by 2031 (+17.3%). Significantly, the population is expected to grow by 1,385 within the next 5 years to 2026 alone.
- In 2019, 30-34 and 35-39 are the dominant 5-year age groups accounting for 10% of the total population respectively. This remains into 2031 but drops to 8.3%.
- The biggest change is expected in the 45-49 and 15-19 age brackets (+163) followed by 40-44 (+159).
- In 2016, 603 people (8.0%) reported needing help in their day-to-day lives due to disability – higher than Moreland (6.2%), and Greater Melbourne (4.9%).
- Coburg North has a higher rate compared to Greater Melbourne of train (17.2%v11.5%), tram (3.5%v2.4%), and bicycle (3.5%v1.4%) use as the main method of travel to work

A comparison of the 2016 Census for Moreland and Coburg North is provided below:

MORELAND	COBURG NORTH
<b>country of birth</b>	
In 2016, 33.9% of people were born overseas, compared with 33.8% in Greater Melbourne. The top 5 countries of birth for residents (ex. Aus) were Italy, India, UK, Greece, Pakistan, and New Zealand.	57.8% of Coburg North residents stated they were born in Australia. The top 5 countries of birth for Coburg North (excluding Australia) were Italy, China, England, and Lebanon.
<b>languages</b>	
Moreland’s multicultural population means that 38.1 per cent of residents speak a language other than English at home, whilst 56.0 per cent speak English only at home. The top 5 other languages spoken are Italian, Arabic, Greek, Urdu, and Mandarin.	Coburg North had a similar proportion of residents who speak English only at home (54.8%) compared to the City of Moreland (56.0%). The top 5 languages spoken at home in Coburg North (other than English) were Italian, Greek, Arabic, Mandarin and Turkish.
<b>religion</b>	
In the 2016 census there were more residents stating that they had no religion (32.4%) compared to the most populous religious denomination in which was Catholicism at 26.6%. This was followed by Islam at 9.8 per cent and Eastern Orthodox at 5.9 per cent.	The same proportion of Coburg North residents professed no religious affiliation (31.8%) when compared to the City of Moreland (31.9%). The main religions represented by Coburg North residents were Catholicism (27.5%), Islam (7.3%) and Eastern Orthodox (6.6%).
<b>education</b>	
54.0% of the population aged 15 and over held educational qualifications, and 36.9% had no qualifications. 6.5 per cent attending primary school, 4.4 per cent in secondary school and 8.2 per cent at a university or tertiary institution.	A total of 30.4 per cent of residents in Coburg North were attending an educational institution. Of those attending an educational institute 23.4 per cent were attending a university or tertiary institution which was similar to the 27.3 per cent of those living in Moreland.
<b>housing</b>	
The most common type of dwelling structure in Moreland was a separate house (54.8%). This was followed by medium density housing (35.1%) and high density (9.2%). Residential development forecasts assume the number of dwellings in Moreland City Council will increase by an average of 1,289 dwellings per annum to 96,015 in 2036.	The majority of dwellings were separate houses in Coburg North (73.5%). This was followed by semi-detached, row/terrace housing (20.8%) and flats/apartments (4.7%) and. Three-bedroom dwellings were more common (47.7%) in Coburg North than two-bedroom dwellings (29.2%) which was the next most common number of bedrooms.

# demand analysis.

Utilising the findings outlined in the strategic context, participation trends and demographic profile sections, in conjunction with key strategic documents, the following key impacts on demand for sport and recreation participation can be seen:

- Council has 56 turf sports grounds available in the City of Moreland. These are currently very well utilised by a variety of user groups including sports clubs, Sports Associations, schools, and residents. The demand on these facilities is ever increasing, with club membership growing annually, and Council also supporting growth through inclusive participation policies. While Council would like to have facilities available to meet all requests, but this is becoming more difficult with the increasing demands and the very limited opportunity for expansion.
- In addition to the 56 turf surfaces, Council has one synthetic hockey pitch located at Brunswick Secondary College and two community synthetic soccer pitches, one located at Clifton Park and the second at John Fawkner College. All three synthetic pitches are currently booked to capacity.
- In response to the challenges of supply and demand, Moreland has invested significantly in the use of warm season grasses, improved water management, the construction of three synthetic pitches and altering horticultural practices. However, Moreland is continually looking for more sustainable solutions to help local sport thrive in the face of weather extremes and increasing participation.
- There is only a small amount of population growth expected in the Coburg North precinct, and therefore limited additional expected demand that will be placed on Hosken Reserve. However, with the effects of COVID-19 increasing the propensity for people to work from home and utilise their immediate park nearby the use of Hosken Reserve as a place of congregation and social interaction has, and likely will continue to, be intensified and thought must be given to non-sport facilities and ancillary amenities that support and improve its function for activities outside of traditional sport. This may also result in a strong focus on dog friendly facilities, which needs to be considerate of providing appropriate separation and protection of other users and wildlife.
- The high proportion of CALD communities within the surrounding precinct for which research shows face a number of barriers to participation in traditional sport, suggests that the provision of free, unstructured recreation opportunities may be of significant benefit. Consideration of upgraded and/or additional infrastructure that supports improved physical activity outcomes at low-to-no cost to participants should be prioritised.
- Ensuring Hosken Reserve and its surrounds has appropriate infrastructure to continue to support the positive active travel choices of Coburg North and Moreland residents more broadly (such as integrated walk/cycle paths connecting roads into and through the reserve) and public transport access (such as commuter friendly shelters, road crossings) will be important to ensure it continues to serve the community's needs.
- Consideration of the existing form and function of Hosken Reserve must factor in the expressed future demand for facilities. Validation of the current mix of user groups should be investigated, whilst analysis of the current usage and functionality of sports facilities should be undertaken to ensure the facility can be utilised to its maximum potential.
- Council and state sporting association planning documents state that there is a shortage of tennis courts and football (soccer) pitches in Moreland, while a state government investigation found that Moreland had the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest level of public open space provision on a m<sup>2</sup> per person basis. This is a significant issue with respect to often competing demands between formal and informal use when considering what the appropriate mix is to facilitate equitable access for all. Coburg North however does have the highest provision of open space per person - more than 4 times the Moreland average.
- Individualised sport and fitness activities are on the rise. People are now looking to casual, pay-as-you go or often free physical activity options to fit into their increasingly busy and time fragmented lifestyles to achieve personal health objectives. This means that increasing opportunities to participate in these active recreation pursuits, while continuing to support traditional sport, may offer the best opportunity to improve the health and wellbeing of the community.

# WHERE?

## existing conditions.

### overview.

Hosken Reserve is a 5.5ha park located off Sheppard St in Coburg North. The reserve is bounded by Pallett St to the west, houses to the north, Sheppard St to the east and the Australian International Academy and Bakers Rd to the south. The reserve has houses along or adjacent to its western and northern edges and industrial areas to the west, south and east.

The Park is predominantly an active sporting reserve. It comprises a soccer field (South); oval (North); a rectangular field (East); central football pavilion; tennis clubhouse and four courts; 2 carparking areas; playground and cricket practice nets.

It is 'home' to two formal sporting clubs in Pascoe Vale Football Club and Merlynston Tennis Club and has a formal usage agreement in place with the neighbouring Australian International Academy. The Academy is on 1.4ha of land which is very small for a secondary college – thus its reliance on the reserve as a play space and a venue for intra and inter-school sports.

As a passive/informal space, the reserve mainly caters for the community bounded by Gaffney St, the railway line, Boundary Rd, and Sussex St. As an active sporting space, the reserve has a larger catchment. Essentially the catchment area is determined by the standard of sport played at the reserve, the history and 'pulling power' of the clubs using the reserve, and the proximity of like reserves/clubs.

For the purpose of this report, the catchment area for the reserve is nominated as Coburg North.

### site context.

Hosken Reserve is in the South-West corner of a 0.83km<sup>2</sup> key road grid, bound by Boundary Rd to the North, Sussex St to the West, Bakers Rd to the South and the train line to the East. It shares a boundary with a major residential road in Shorts St, however this does not cross the train line.

The Reserve is located approximately 400m from Merlynston train station and Merlyn St shops to the North East. It is surrounded by residential properties on the North and West sides, industrial to the South and East, and the AIA International Academy school on the South-East corner boundary.

The area is well served by open space:

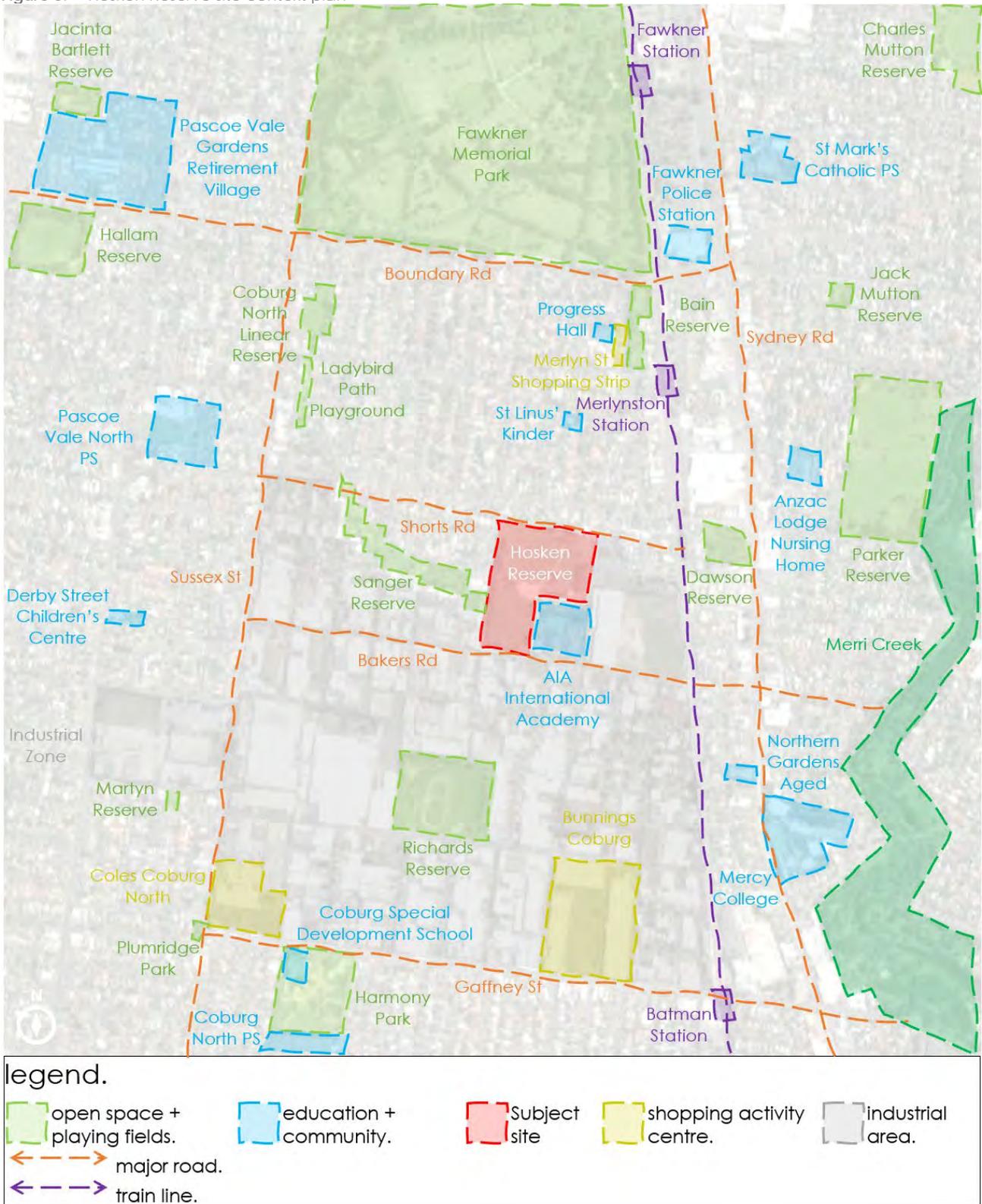
- Fawkner Memorial Park 550m to the North
- Coburg North Linear Reserve and Ladybird Path Playground 550m, Hallam Reserve 1km and Jacinta Bartlett Reserve to the North-West
- Bain Reserve 400m and Charles Mutton 1.3km to the North East
- Parker Reserve 600m and the Merri Creek trail/ parklands 800m to the East
- Richards Reserve 250m and Harmony Park 825m to the South
- Plumridge Park 1km to the South-West
- Sanger Reserve immediately adjacent to the West that runs for roughly 400m

The park is in close proximity to a range of sport specific facilities including:

- playing fields, tennis, lawn bowls and netball at Charles Mutton Reserve
- playing fields, including baseball at Parker Reserve
- playing field and velodrome at Richards Reserve
- skate park at Harmony Park

However, it must be noted that Sydney Road is a key barrier to access of any facilities to the East, including Charles Mutton Reserve and Parker Reserve.

Figure 5. Hosken Reserve site context plan



# planning.

The site contains two defined properties, six parcels of land and four planning zones.

The majority of the sites land area is designated PPRZ – Public Park and Recreation Zone, with adjacent access road parcels zoned accordingly to surrounding development areas.

Property	Parcel	Zone
39A Shorts Rd	1/TP901979	PPRZ – Public Park and Recreation
	1/TP221490	
	45/LP2669	IN3Z – Industrial 3
	1/TP885851	IN1Z – Industrial 1
12 Sheppard St	R2/LP12693	GRZ1 – General Residential
	2/TP221490	PPRZ – Public Park and Recreation

Figure 6. Parcel allotments (in sequential order)



## AREAS OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SENSITIVITY

All or part of this parcel is an 'area of cultural heritage sensitivity' – as shaded in green.

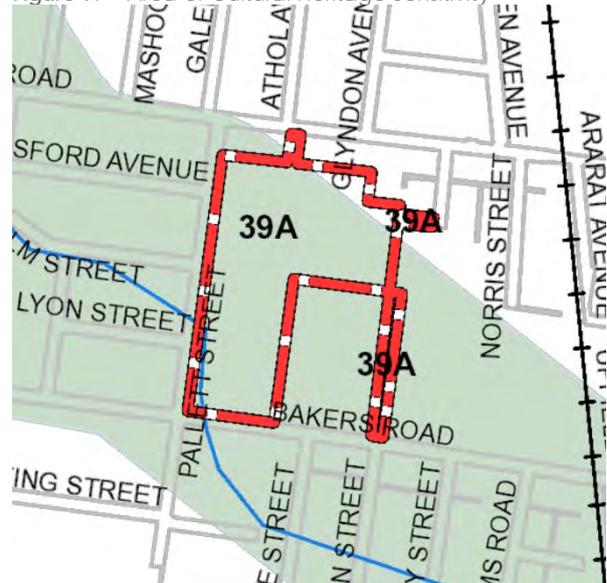
Areas of cultural heritage sensitivity are defined under the Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007 and include registered Aboriginal cultural heritage places and landform types that are generally regarded as more likely to contain Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Under the Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007, 'areas of cultural heritage sensitivity' are one part of a two-part trigger which require a 'cultural heritage management plan' be prepared where a listed 'high impact activity' is proposed.

If a significant land use change is proposed (for example, a subdivision into 3 or more lots), a cultural heritage management plan may be triggered. One or two dwellings works ancillary to a dwelling, services to a dwelling, alteration of buildings and minor works are examples of works exempt from this requirement.

Under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006, where a cultural heritage management plan is required, planning permits, licences and work authorities cannot be issued unless the cultural heritage management plan has been approved for the activity.

Figure 7. Area of Cultural Heritage Sensitivity



# OVERLAYS

The whole broader area is subject to a DCPO1- Development Contributions Plan Overlay, while a specific portion of the site is subject to a SCO1 – Specific Controls Overlay.

It is not clear what the SCO1 is in relation to, however a portion of the adjacent school is subject to a HO – Heritage Overlay due to its status as the former Merlynston State School No. 4328.

While not directly applicable to the site, EO – Environmental Significance and SBO – Special Building Overlay is applicable to the areas immediately adjacent to the sites South-Western border, following the Merri Creek route through Sanger Reserve, down Pallett St and on to across Sydney Rd.

Figure 8. Specific Controls Overlay

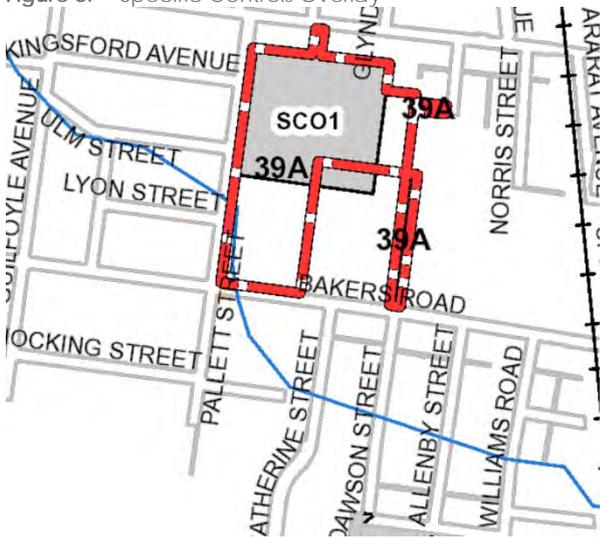
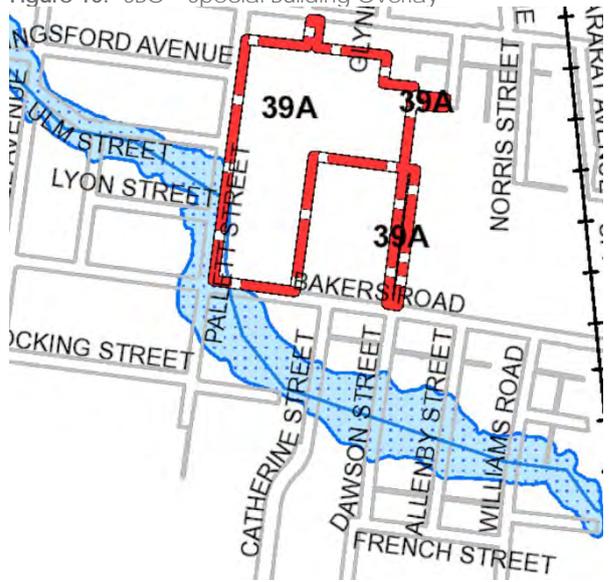


Figure 9. EO – Environmental Significance Overlay



Figure 10. SBO – Special Building Overlay



## ownership + management.

The site is wholly Council owned and managed, with the exception of the school facility in the South-Eastern corner.

There are some irregularities with existing property boundary lines, whereby approximately two-thirds of the existing carparking on the Eastern boundary is built upon the adjacent land parcel that is currently subject to sale and development plans.

Figure 11. Extent of property boundary encroachment



# site usage.

Hosken Reserve is formally used by Pascoe Vale Football Club, Merlynston Tennis Club, and the AIA International Academy. There are also many local residents surrounding the reserve who use the site for recreational activities. The following section delves into the aforementioned formal use in more detail.

## PASCOE VALE FOOTBALL CLUB

The Club formed in 1966 and played a number of venues around Coburg before settling at Hosken Reserve in 1992. The club is strong socially, administratively, and financially. In the past, it has been able to contribute funds and in-kind labour towards the development of facilities in Hosken Reserve.

The Club have teams playing in the National Premier League Competition and the Community Competition both run by the governing body of soccer, Football Victoria.

They have a strong membership base of 428 playing members and 537 non-playing social members in 2021. This is in an impressive growth of 87 playing members coming out of a COVID affected season in 2020. PVFC's 'community' membership outnumbers its elite level NPL membership on a 2:1 ratio.

Figure 12. PVFC membership figures: 2020/2021

	2021	2020
Miniroos u7-u13	169	132
Saturday morning program (mixed)	25	0
Female (all ages)	82	82
All abilities (all ages)	10	10
<i>Community sub-total</i>	286	224
u14-u17 (male)	80	73
u19/u21/seniors (male)	62	44
<i>NPL sub-total</i>	142	117
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>341</b>

PVFC has the following Council endorsed ground allocations:

### Hosken Reserve (annual allocation)

- PVFC have an Annual allocation (1 April – 31 March) for the use of Hosken Reserve. The hours of use will often change during an annual allocation based on the club's fixtured season to accommodate preseason, fixtured games, and finals.
- Currently the allocation on both North and South areas includes Monday to Friday 4pm - 9pm and competition games

scheduled between 8am - 6pm on Saturday and Sunday (pending home/away competition fixtures).

### Other reserves (seasonal allocation)

- CB Smith Reserve (1 game day plus 1 training night 8 times a year). This pavilion and sports field are shared with two other clubs and a school - Fawkner SC, Moreland Zebras FC, and Fawkner College.
- Richards Reserve (4 days per week – training only). This pavilion is shared with the Coburg Cycling Club.
- Reddish Reserve (2 nights per week – training only). This pavilion and sports field is shared with Moreland Zebras FC.

As can be seen below, PVFC's current allocation of Hosken Reserve is relatively consistent with the previous five years. Their usage was at its lowest in 17/18 and 18/19 but has gradually increased in the last two years back to 15/16 and 16/17 levels.

During 2020, the Hosken Reserve hours of use changed multiple times to accommodate modified participation opportunities during COVID restrictions. This is consistent across all Council sporting facilities during 2020.

Figure 13. PVFC allocations at Hosken Reserve

Year	Mon - Fri	Sat	Sun
15/16	4 - 9pm	8am - 6pm	8am - 6pm
16/17	4 - 9pm	8am - 6pm	8am - 6pm
17/18	6:30 - 8pm	11am - 1pm	10am - 3pm
18/19	6:30 - 8pm	11am - 1pm	10am - 3pm
19/20	4 - 9pm	10am - 4pm	10am - 4pm
20/21	4 - 9pm	8am - 6pm	8am - 6pm

While the allocations indicate potential usage, as competition start dates draw closer, clubs modify training needs to suit the number and age group of teams as players sign up to play. This may include an increase or decrease of hours of use pending player numbers, coach availability and level of competition/ training required for that level.

The reality is, Council don't have enough grounds to cater for all sports in Moreland and it's not in the club's best interest to turn away players. This means that required use is ever increasing, impacting on turf condition. Council works with the club to monitor the hours of use and the impact on grounds to ensure standards are maintained, especially around high use (goal) areas. The South pitch in particular is closely managed to maintain it to a high standard required in line with the high standard played at the site (NPL).

## MERLYNSTON TENNIS CLUB

The Club is about 100 years old and has been located at Hosken Reserve for about 70 years.

They have a strong membership base of 100 in 2020, up by 15 members from 5 years ago. They expect growth of 50% in their sub-junior and junior age groups over the next 5 years.

The club note that an estimated 80% of their members come from within Moreland, with Coburg North attributing about 40%.

**Figure 14.** MTC membership figures: 2015/2020

	2015			2020		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Sub-junior (U6 - U11)	0	0	9	5	5	10
Juniors (U12 - U18)	10	10	20	15	10	25
Seniors (19+ years)	10	5	15	10	5	15
Masters (35+ years)	30	20	50	30	20	50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>100</b>

The Club participates in the NSJTA, NSNTA, NSTA and Sat/Sun afternoon pennant:

- North Suburban Night Tennis Association (NSNTA)  
Ladies: Tuesday 7pm start  
Mixed: Wednesday 7pm start  
Men: Thursday 7pm start
- North Suburban Junior Tennis Association (NSJTA)  
A Grade: Friday night 7pm start  
All grades: Saturday morning 7.45am / 8.30am / 9.30am start
- North Suburban Tennis Association (NSTA)  
A Grade: Saturday 1pm start

The club have an agreement with an external coaching provider in 'Tennis Programs Victoria'. Coaching is currently available on Monday, Wednesday and Sunday delivering the following services:

- ANZ Hot Shots
- Cardio Tennis
- Private (one on one) & Semi-Private (two on one) Lessons
- Squad Training (Intermediate/Advanced)
- Group Lessons
- Adult (Male/Female) Lessons
- School Holiday Programs
- Racquet Restring

## AIA INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

The Australian International Academy (AIA) is an equal opportunity educational institution established in 1983 as the first Islamic school in Australia. AIA offers the internationally recognised and acclaimed International Baccalaureate (IB Programme) as well as the local Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE).

The Academy is a leading Muslim school that has a student population of nearly 1,500 students across three campuses: Caroline Springs (Prep – Year 12); King Khalid, Coburg (Prep – Year 5); Melbourne Senior Campus, Coburg (Year 6 – 12).

The Melbourne Senior Campus borders Hosken Reserve to the South-East, and has a strong student population:

**Figure 15.** AIA Melbourne Senior Campus Students

Year	Female	Male	Total
2014	296	300	596
2015	263	282	545
2016	241	277	518
2017	197	278	475
2018	217	288	505
2019	225	309	534
<b>Change</b>	<b>-71</b>	<b>+9</b>	<b>-62</b>

According to their Annual Report, 2019 delivered a strong profit of \$1.5m; a significant increase (\$1.3m) from the previous year. They attribute this sharp increase in profit to the increased student numbers in each classroom increasing at a greater rate than the necessity for additional teaching staff (Coburg-based campuses posting an uplift of 61 students).

AIA is an extremely successful sporting school. Their 2019 Annual Report notes that it secured its status as the most consistent and successful team in the Bachar Houli Cup and Islamic School Sports Association Victoria Inc. They dominated the ISSAV Sports Carnivals for Primary and Secondary schools and also qualified in four Bachar Houli Cup Grand Finals out of five age groups. AIA also had great success in the School Sport Victoria competition, finishing 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in a range of year levels in tennis, cricket, football (soccer), futsal, basketball, and Australian rules football.

The Academy formally use the Northern sports fields at Hosken Reserve for their physical education classes, sports programs, and lunchtime 'play'. They also have a usage agreement with Merlynston Tennis Club to run tennis programs from the two synthetic courts.

## existing practices + influences.

Interviews were undertaken with a number of Council officers to provide additional site context. Key findings include:

- Have had reports of illegal dumping and antisocial behaviour at night on Eastern carpark along industrial boundary.
- Field of play is a highpoint, carpark/ property in North East and Shepard St is flooding concern. Need to consider in design RE: additional runoff and flooding.
- Irrigation upgrade was undertaken on both grounds about 5 years ago – linked into stormwater harvesting project – however North Oval irrigation system design is still that of former oval layout, not ideal for football pitch.
- Generally close fields for 4-6 renovation program between Winter and Summer seasons. Have had to close fields in middle of Winter due to poor condition.
- No drainage system on either North or South field of play, and existing levels are poor – 10% fall, generally aim for 1-2%.
- Currently can withstand 15-20 hours of use at most, which could be increased to 25-30 hours with an upgrade. Suggest conversion to sand base, new drainage, levelling and turfing of both playing fields.
- Off-leash dog park review will be delivered as part of new Open Space Strategy to be undertaken in near future.
- Proposal to rezone industrial area in North-East off Shepard St to residential and expected sale of site at 1 Norris St. No development plans in place, but previous indications suggest 2-4 stories with a 3m set back. Site could accommodate 100 dwellings; developer would push for more.
- Vehicle movements issues - something of a 'rat race' from Shepard St to school, and garbage trucks can't turn at end of Norris St. Opportunity to consider a connected road from Shepard St to Norris St with pedestrian link to park as part of future development proposal.
- Previous investigations identified that the development site boundary encroaches onto park. Current carpark along Eastern fence line impacted with 2/3 of each space appearing to not be Council land.
- Opportunity to convert parcel of land adjacent to school site into a roadway with indented parking to enable access to site off of Bakers Road.

## current facilities.

A review of the existing facilities at Hosken Reserve highlights the following issues:

- The entrances are poorly signed
- Boundary fencing is in reasonable condition, but some areas are unattractive and block views
- The playground has been recently upgraded and is suitable for a local level park
- All playing fields are in decent condition but have poor drainage, inefficient light systems and would benefit from redevelopment (soil profile upgrade, levelling, drainage)
- The small rectangular East field is in OK condition but has little to no lighting
- The vegetation is predominately native species with some scattered exotic species. Most of the trees in the reserve appear to be in good condition
- Lighting is restricted to the parking areas and playing fields – additional security lighting is required
- Limited seating and other public amenities (drink taps etc.)
- Pavilions are in good structural condition but need updating to meet current/future needs of users
- The tennis courts are in reasonable condition but some evidence of tree root damage
- The corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts is unsightly and should be removed
- The carparking area in the north west of the reserve is poorly defined.
- There are sections of the path network that need to be completed
- Clean and functional public toilet positioned well adjacent to playground
- 2 lane cricket net structure in poor condition and no longer formally used
- Wayfinding signage is poor – both on site and in surrounding streets to provide directional information
- There is a missing section of the path network from the Pallet St laneway to the North-West carpark. The path from the playground also abruptly ends before reaching Sussex St, whilst there is no external footpath on the reserve side of Sussex St to improve access and egress

Figure 16. Hosken Reserve existing facilities - map



legend.

	sports fields.		playspace.		football pavilion + fence line		parking.		tennis pavilion + courts
	stormwater harvesting.		public toilet.		cricket nets.		path network.		subject site.
1	Overflow carpark approx. 30 spaces	2	Stormwater harvesting pond	3	Main carpark 100 spaces	4	North Oval 135m x 120m	5	East Pitch 85m x 45m
6	Playspace	7	Public toilet 93m <sup>2</sup>	8	Football pavilion 613m <sup>2</sup>	9	Cricket nets 2 x lanes	10	Tennis pavilion 125m <sup>2</sup>
11	Tennis courts 2 x en-tous-cas 2 x synthetic	12	South Pitch 109m x 73m						

Figure 17. Hosken Reserve existing facilities - description

#	ITEM	DESCRIPTION
1	Overflow carpark	Un line marked carpark area that can accommodate approx. 30 cars. Lockable chain link gate upon entry that is managed by tenant football club.
2	Stormwater harvesting wetland	Recently (2016) constructed stormwater harvesting wetlands. Currently irrigates all sports fields and surrounds - a total of 2.4 ha with 75% reliability.
3	Main carpark	Formal carpark along access road from Shepard St and into central area near sporting pavilions. Can accommodate approximately 100 spaces. Used as key access and drop-off point for school.
4	North oval	135m x 120m oval. Good turf coverage and irrigation system, but poor drainage. Currently licenced to PVFC as a full-size senior soccer pitch and small sided football pitch running – both running East-West orientation. 2 x 4-head floodlight system and additional 2 x spotlights in front of pavilion provide inefficient lighting.
5	East pitch	85m x 45m informal turf space. Currently licenced to PVFC and used as small-sided football field. 1 x 4-head floodlight system provides limited lighting.
6	Playspace	Recently renovated playspace area, suitable for local level park. Existing trees provide OK shade.
7	Public toilet	Clean and functional public toilet positioned well adjacent to playground.
8	Football pavilion	612m <sup>2</sup> pavilion leased to PVFC. Consists of commercial grade kitchen, social room/ café space, internal public toilets, storage and 5 x changerooms.
9	Cricket nets	2 lane cricket net structure in poor condition. No longer formally used.
10	Tennis pavilion	125m <sup>2</sup> pavilion. In poor condition with limited facilities. Leased to Merlynston Tennis Club.
11	Tennis courts	2 x en-tous-cas and 2 x synthetic courts leased to MTC. Average condition, with evidence of tree root damage to North-Western section. Non-compliant spoon drain along Southern boundary. Lights, while serviceable, are inefficient. Existing fence around courts in poor state and also restricts visual permeability.
12	South pitch	109m x 73m turf pitch with low-level fence surrounding playing surface. Good turf coverage and irrigation system, but poor drainage. 6 x 4-head floodlight system provides serviceable yet inefficient lighting. Site is leased to PVFC. Additional high silver chain mesh fence around broader leased area boundary.
-	Boundary fencing	<p>North boundary – A number of separate residential paling fences line this boundary. The fences are in fair to good condition. Three sheds/garages back onto the reserve. Two are of corrugated iron construction and one is constructed of brick. The paling fences and sheds/garages do not create an aesthetically pleasing backdrop</p> <p>South boundary – The tennis court is surrounded by a tall, corrugated iron fence which forms a solid barrier and detracts from the appeal of the reserve. A more appropriate fence would allow visual permeability through to the tennis courts. The fence between the school and the soccer pitch is a 2.4-metre-high chain wire fence and is in good condition</p> <p>East boundary – Two factories back onto the eastern edge of the reserve. The factories' walls are constructed of corrugated iron and are rusting. There are also significant lengths of chain wire mesh fencing along this boundary. The fencing is in reasonable condition</p> <p>West boundary – Treated pine barrier rails line this boundary from the northwest corner to the soccer pitch. The barrier rails appear worn and dated and many are damaged. The soccer pitch is surrounded by a 2.4-metre-high chain wire mesh fence which is in good condition.</p>
-	Access points	The main vehicular entrance to the reserve is in the northeast corner from Sheppard Street. An asphalt road provides access to parking and the reserve's sports fields, courts, and pavilions/club rooms. The main entrance is poorly defined. The other vehicular entrance is in the northwest corner from Pallett Street. This entrance is to an asphalt car parking area and does not provide access to the reserve's central facilities. These entrances are poorly signed on the main roads. There is a lack of defined pedestrian entry points into the reserve; however two points of entry are to the northwest on Pallett Street and through the pedestrian laneway from Shorts Rd.
-	Vegetation	The vegetation within the park comprises of predominately native species with very few scattered exotic species. Whilst the vegetation in the reserve is generally in good condition, there are some trees that are in poor condition. A formal vegetation impact assessment should be undertaken once a design has been developed.
-	Security lighting	Lighting in the reserve is restricted to the parking areas and sports fields. Lighting is deficient in other areas of the reserve, including the pedestrian path.
-	Park furniture	There is a general lack of seating and other amenities (drink taps etc.) throughout the reserve. The only BBQ facilities are provided next to the stormwater harvesting pond.
-	Path network	A concrete pathway extends from the carpark on the north-western edge of the reserve to the gate on the north-western corner of the school and continues on around the North oval. There is a missing section from the Pallet St laneway to the North-West carpark.

# 2009 master plan.

## OVERVIEW

A Hosken Reserve Redevelopment Masterplan was completed in March 2009 and found that:

- All stakeholders, in particular Council staff and residents, want the passive recreation spaces and facilities within the reserve to be enhanced. This includes paths, park furniture, the playground, picnic areas, shade, and trees
- Making the playground more diverse and the reserve more welcoming to informal users were very important objectives for most stakeholders
- The provision of more seating, particularly around the playground, in the main spectator areas and in the enhanced passive spaces was also considered to be very important
- Residents and Council's Planning Officer were emphatic that the redevelopment should not result in a loss of neighbourhood amenity. There were concerns that increased usage may cause traffic and parking issues
- Concern was expressed by all stakeholders about litter control in the reserve. Increased usage could also exacerbate this problem
- There is general support for the reserve to be primarily redeveloped as a soccer venue. However, some stakeholders want the oval shape of the main field to be retained so that the field can be used casually for football and cricket or for competition if needed (in addition to soccer)
- Most stakeholders want the directional signage to the reserve enhanced
- There is concern among stakeholders that the amount of carparking in the reserve will not be sufficient to cater for the increased use of the reserve.

As such, the report suggested the following general improvements for consideration under any redevelopment plans:

- Make the reserve more visually attractive.
- Enhance view lines through the reserve where possible
- Provide additional shade and shelter
- Ensure that the redevelopment of the reserve does not promote activities that would detrimentally impact on neighbourhood amenity

- Express the local landscape character in the design of the reserve
- Promote physical activity through design of reserve
- Enhance the lighting around the reserve
- Conduct an education/enforcement program to address the litter problems at the reserve
- Retain reserve as a 'dog off leash' areas
- Diversify and enhance the playground
- Make the reserve more welcoming to informal users. Define spaces for passive recreation and enhance these spaces with trees and landscaping
- Provide more park furniture, particularly near the playground, around the playing field and in passive spaces
- Construct walking paths in appropriate locations through the reserve
- Give consideration to providing BBQ and picnic areas in the reserve
- Create a picnic/lunch area for the adjacent factories in the north east end of the reserve
- Undertake a tree audit. Replace trees that are in poor condition
- Replace the trees lining the tennis fence with a more attractive species. At a minimum, prune the trees so that they do not trap litter
- Make the pavilion disability accessible. Provide disabled toilet/s
- Ensure buildings are well maintained and compliant with codes and legislation
- Make the central pavilion suitable for women's sport and ensure that design can cater for future growth in soccer
- Upgrade the soccer pavilion to Class B standard as per the FFV specifications.
- Give consideration to converting the main soccer playing field to a synthetic surface
- Give consideration to providing an outdoor netball/basketball playing area
- Give consideration to relocating the Cricket Club to another venue and redeveloping the reserve as primarily a soccer venue
- Upgrade the oval and rectangular field and make suitable for soccer. Convert surface to warm season grass
- Retain the oval so that it can be used by the school for football and cricket
- Reconfigure and expand the carpark
- Address issues relating to turning buses
- Give consideration to installing public art piece in reserve
- Improve signage to the reserve
- Provide an external cage for litter bins

# KEY IMPROVEMENTS

The report had 18 specific key improvements listed with a total project cost in excess of \$2.25 million. Below is an overview of these items, with the current status outlined.

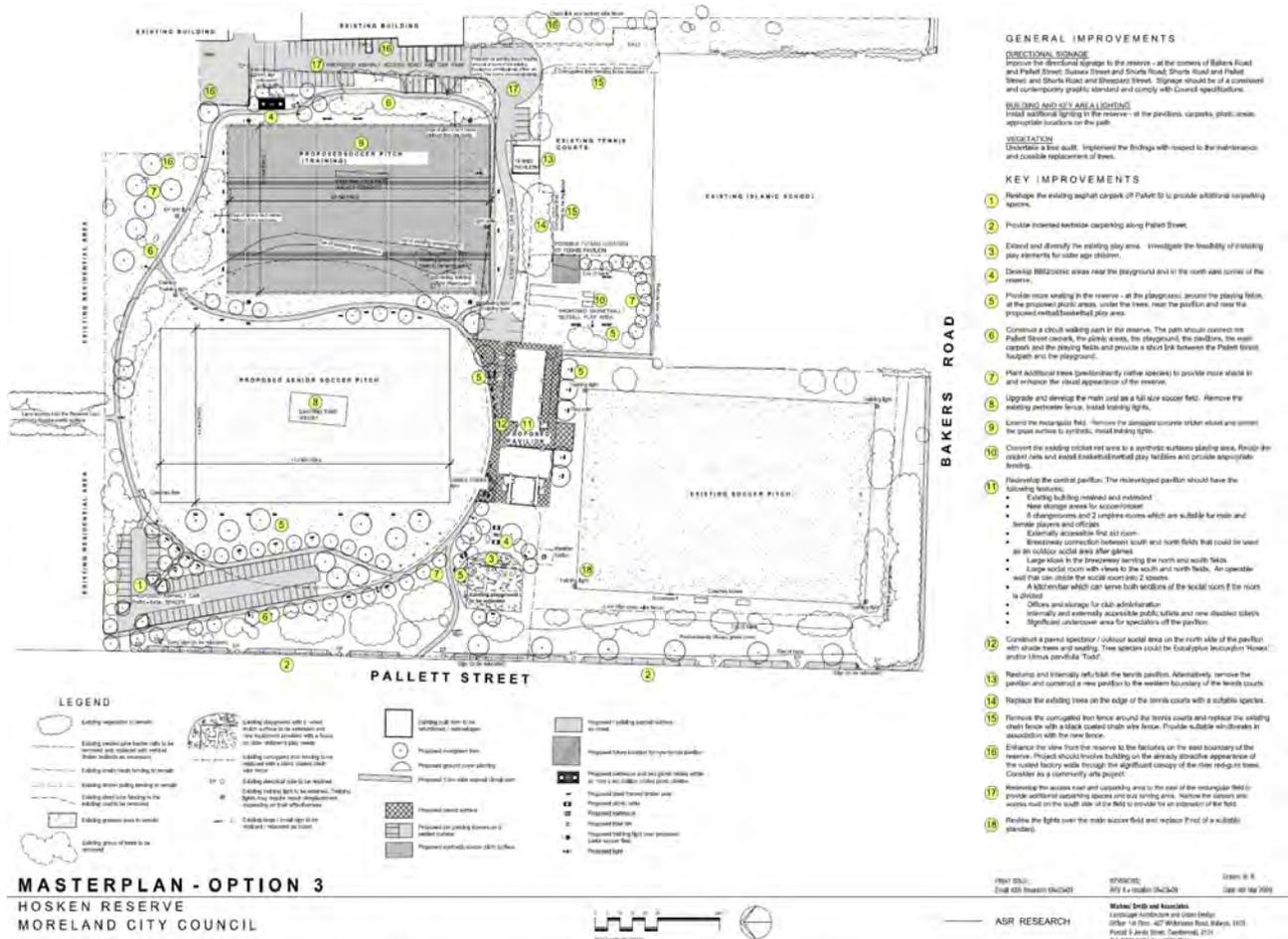


Figure 18. 2009 Master Plan key improvements current status

No	Improvements	Estimated cost (\$)	Priority (Years)	Status	Notes
1	Extend and reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St to provide additional carparking spaces.	100000	1	Not started	Item already budgeted for in future capital works program (\$425,000 in 2023/24)
2	Provide indented carparking along Pallett St	150000	1	Not started	Item already budgeted for in future capital works program (\$425,000 in 2023/24)
3	Extend and diversify the existing play area. Investigate the feasibility of installing play elements for older age children.	30000	1	Completed	Recently upgraded
4	Develop BBQ/picnic areas near the playground and in the north east corner of the reserve.	45000	2	Completed	Installation completed adjacent to stormwater harvesting pond
5	Provide more seating in the reserve - at the playground, around the playing fields, at the proposed picnic areas, under the trees, near the pavilion and near the proposed netball/basketball play area.	50000	2-5	Not started	
6	Construct a circuit walking path in the reserve. The path should connect the Pallett St carpark,	90000	3	Underway	Some missing sections still exist. Consideration should be given to connect areas of the reserve to

No	Improvements	Estimated cost (\$)	Priority (Years)	Status	Notes
	the picnic areas, the playground, the pavilions, the main carpark and the playing fields and provide a short link between the Pallett St footpath and the playground.				make it easy to move between spaces with a pram/motorized wheelchair, including areas to rest/view activities occurring.
7	Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and enhance the visual appearance of the reserve.	15000	1	Not started	Planting locations will be dependent on the final design and location of the pitch and or other facilities in the park.
8	Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the fence.	60000	1	Underway	North Oval – fence removed. The current oval is used as a full sized soccer pitch for training and competition games. However, the pitch is not currently formalized. As Pascoe Vale Soccer Club plays in the Semi Professional National Premier League, the requirements of this competition is that the pitch is formalized as per the guidelines. Synthetic soccer pitch already budgeted for (\$900,000 in 2020/21).
9	Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence.	600000	2-3	Underway	Turf wicket removed. Concrete wicket removed. To achieve a field extension, mature trees would need to be removed and this is not the preference of Council. This area should be maintained as a grass area suitable for soccer and other games to be played, however the area does not need to be formalised.
10	Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.	100000	2-3	Not started	This area is no longer used formally by a cricket club.
11	<p>Redevelop the central pavilion. The redeveloped pavilion should have the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing building retained and extended</li> <li>• New storage areas for soccer/cricket</li> <li>• 6 changerooms and 2 umpires rooms which are suitable for male and female players and officials</li> <li>• Externally accessible first aid room</li> <li>• Breezeway connection between south and north fields that could be used as an outdoor social area after games</li> <li>• Large kiosk in breezeway serving the north and south fields</li> <li>• Large social room with views to the south and north fields. An operable wall that can divide the social room into 2 spaces</li> <li>• A kitchen/bar which can serve both sections of the social room if the room is divided. Offices and storage for club administration</li> </ul>	700000	3-5	Underway	Italicised items have been completed. New disabled toilet to be added. Design completed for spectator terrace area south ground. Budget has been set aside (\$221,500 in 2021/22).

No	Improvements	Estimated cost (\$)	Priority (Years)	Status	Notes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internally and externally accessible public toilets and new disabled toilet/s</li> <li>Significant undercover area for spectators off the pavilion.</li> </ul>				
12	Construct a paved spectator/ outdoor social area on the north side of the pavilion with shade trees and seating.	80000	3-5	Not started	Pending site of formalised soccer pitch.
13	Restump and internally refurbish the tennis pavilion.	20000	2	Not started	Item already budgeted for (\$566,000 in 2021/22), design process to begin 2021.
14	Convert 2 en-tout-cas tennis courts to synthetic.	80000	2	Completed	Tennis court refurbishment already budgeted for (\$100,000 in 2021/22), possible conversion of remaining two en-tout-cas courts.
15	Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence.	30000	1	Not started	Fence is old and damaged, in the interests of public safety this will be completed. Tennis Victoria Court guidelines to be followed including the Australian Standard AS1725.2 Tennis Court Fencing
16	Enhance the view from the reserve to the factories on the east boundary of the reserve. Project should involve building on the already attractive appearance of the rusted factory walls through the significant canopy of the river red-gum trees. Consider as a community arts project.	15000	2	Not started	Moreland Industrial Land Strategy is seeking to rezone and redevelop the industrial buildings to the north east. Strategic planning already in the process of working with land owners to rezone the land – therefore the interface is likely to change.
17	Redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the rectangular field to provide additional carparking spaces and bus turning area. Narrow the carpark and access road on the south side of the field to provide for an extension of the field.	150000	2-3	Not started	Item already budgeted for in future capital works program (\$425,000 in 2023/24)
18	Review the lights over the main soccer field and replace if not of a suitable standard.	40000	3	Completed	
Not shown	Install additional lighting in the reserve – at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path.	36000	2	Not started	Consideration should be given to public safety around the whole site.
Not shown	Improve the directional signage to the reserve - at the corners of Bakers Rd and Pallett St; Sussex St and Shorts Rd; Shorts Rd and Pallett St; and Shorts Rd and Sheppard St. Signage should be of a consistent and contemporary graphic standard and comply with Council specifications.	4000	1	Not started	Refer to Council's signage policy for implementation.
Not shown	Undertake a tree audit. Implement the findings with respect to the maintenance and possible replacements of trees	10000	2	Not started	Final planting locations will be dependent on the final design and location of facilities in the park.

# WHO?

## stakeholder views.

### overview.

The intent of the consultation was to consult with those that use Hosken Reserve to understand their current needs and future aspirations for the site.

The decision to remove reference to synthetic options as per the 2020 tender process and use the 2009 master plan as a base for this process was the decision of Council. The purpose of this process was therefore to determine initiatives where there is:

- community and stakeholder support
- community and/or stakeholder opposition
- community and/or stakeholder concern for future consideration.

As a result of this process Council would like to create a master plan that:

- reflects and balances the varied community needs and aspirations
- is fiscally responsible, environmentally sensitive while maximizing community use.

Feedback from this process will be used to inform the later stages of the project and through a process of deliberation used to create a refreshed master plan that can be delivered by Council in the medium-term.

### STAGES

There are three engagement phases in this project. Each stage builds on the previous stage, both in the specificity of data collected and detailed discussion:

- Stage 1 Understanding the needs and aspirations (16 February – 28 March 2021)
- Stage 2 Strengthening the options
- Stage 3 Testing the draft master plan.

This section and accompanying Engagement Summary Report (Appendix 6) provides an analysis of Stage 1.

Figure 19. Engagement stages

<b>STAGE 1 - UNDERSTANDING THE DIVERSE NEEDS AND EXPERIENCES</b>	
Timeframe	16 February to 28 March 2021
Purpose	To understand how Hosken Reserve is currently used, the challenges and opportunities with this use, and desired use for the future. Conversations will also focus on the needs (social, environmental, and economic) for the site. Information from this stage will be used to prepare options for further consideration
Outcome	Clear understanding of community needs and aspirations for input into the master plan options.
Method	Online engagement, collection of responses to open ended questions (survey, forum); place-based consultation (pop ups); interviews with key stakeholders.
Key questions	What do you currently enjoy about your use of Hosken Reserve? What needs to be improved to increase this enjoyment?
<b>STAGE 2 - STRENGTHENING THE OPTIONS</b>	
Timeframe	19 May to 2 June 2021
Purpose	Work with the Refresh Group to prepare options and make recommendations to Council.
Outcome	Level of support for each option and individual ideas for costing and refining.
Method	Hosken Reserve Refresh Group meetings (3).
Key questions	Which option best suits your needs and aspirations for Hosken Reserve? Why? What elements strengthen or support your enjoyment? What elements limit or affect your enjoyment?
<b>STAGE 3 - TESTING THE MASTER PLAN</b>	
Timeframe	19 July to 15 August
Purpose	To publicly exhibit the draft master plan for final feedback.
Outcome	Clear indication of support for the master plans implementation.
Method	Online engagement supported through interviews and direct mailout.
Key questions	Have we heard you correctly? Does this 2021 Hosken Reserve master plan reflect your needs and aspirations? Why? Why not?

## METHODS

Four engagement methods were used to engage stakeholders during Stage 1.

**Figure 20.** Method and Participation by Method

Method	No.	Notes on Participation
Conversations Moreland online platform	467 surveys	An online survey was created and hosted on Conversations Moreland. This was also available in a paper-based version.
Pop-up engagement events	153	Four pop-ups were held across a variety of times and dates to speak with a variety of users onsite at Hosken Reserve.
Submissions	13	Submissions received from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Climate Action Moreland</li> <li>▪ Keep Hosken Reserve Accessible</li> <li>▪ Moreland Local Soccer Clubs (6)</li> <li>▪ NUCA</li> <li>▪ 8 private residents</li> <li>▪ Hosken Reserve Organised Sports Collective (map provided).</li> </ul>
Stakeholder targeted interviews	6	Key users interviewed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Australian International Academy</li> <li>▪ Football Victoria</li> <li>▪ Keep Hosken Reserve Accessible</li> <li>▪ Merlynston Tennis Club</li> <li>▪ Pascoe Vale Football Club</li> <li>▪ Tennis Victoria.</li> </ul>

## PROMOTION

- **Online project specific website:** The project was hosted through Conversations Moreland which was well known and already widely used by the community:
  - 5,082 page visits
  - 115 people are ‘following’ the page meaning they will be alerted directly of future updates
  - 14.3% of visitors made a contribution.
- **Direct Mail:** Council distributed 2000 letters and engagement plans to residents within 800m of Hosken Reserve.
- **Provision of paper-based surveys:** Participants were able to complete a paper-based survey and return it by reply-paid mail.
- **Communications Support:** Comprehensive communication support was provided by Moreland City Council which resulted in:
  - Reach of 10,000 people through social media posts.

- 41 clicks through to Conversations Moreland via My Moreland EDM newsletter.
- 19 people visited the nomination form via My Moreland.
- 58 visits to Conversations Moreland came via QR code scans (included on corflute at Hosken Reserve and engagement plan brochure).
- 14 people clicked ‘attending’ on Facebook event set up for pop ups.
- The Mayor spoke about Hosken Reserve Master Plan Refresh on 98.9 Northwest FM on 19/03 – page visits spiked on this date.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

**Figure 21.** Demographic breakdown of participants

Demographic Identifier	Survey	Pop Up	Total
Male	188	65	253
Female	248	63	311
Other/Prefer Not to Say	25	6	31
0-17 yrs	14	26	40
18-24 yrs	14	7	21
25-34 yrs	70	13	83
35- 50 yrs	266	55	321
51-69 yrs	88	24	112
70 - 84 years	13	9	22
85+ years	3	0	3
ATSI	2	NA	2
Born overseas	62	NA	62
LOTE	35	NA	35
Have a disability	22	NA	22

**Figure 22.** Participation connection by method

Connection	Survey	Pop Up	Total
lives within 800m	231	74	305
lives 800m -1km away	61	24	85
walk or exercise our dog(s)	143	43	186
visit the playground	179	43	222
meet up with others	136	NA	136
Tennis Club community	42	7	49
Soccer Club community	53	18	71
Australian Academy school community	46	50	96
general interest in the Reserve	36	NA	36
Moreland Council ratepayer not living near Hosken Reserve	60	NA	60
walk, cycle or exercise there	NA	56	56

# key findings.

## POP UPS

At each pop-up participants were invited to select their top five priorities from the list of incomplete master plan elements. A summarised overview of responses received is shown below:

Figure 23. Top 5 priorities: Pop Ups

Top 5 Priorities	Responses	Rank
Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St to provide additional carparking spaces.	28	12
Provide indented carparking along Pallett St.	34	11
Extend and diversify the existing play area. Investigate the feasibility of installing play elements for older age children. (note: this has been completed).	36	T7
Develop BBQ/picnic areas near the playground and in the north east corner of the reserve.	47	4
Provide more seating in the reserve – at the playground, around the playing fields, at the proposed picnic areas, under the trees, near the pavilion and near the proposed netball/basketball play area.	36	T7
Construct a circuit walking path in the reserve. The path should connect the Pallett St carpark, the picnic areas, the playground, the pavilions, the main carpark, and the playing fields and provide a short link between the Pallett St footpath and the playground. (note: elements of this has been completed).	35	10
Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and enhance the visual appearance of the reserve.	58	1
Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full-size soccer field. Remove the fence. (note: this refers to the 'Hosken North' oval).	57	2
Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. (note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field).	46	5
Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.	55	3
Redevelop the central pavilion. (note: some pavilion items have already been completed).	14	17
Construct a paved spectator/outdoor social area on the north side of the pavilion with shade trees and seating.	12	18
Restump and internally refurbish the tennis pavilion.	16	16
Convert 2 en-tout-cas tennis courts to synthetic. (note: this has been completed).	36	T7
Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence.	20	14
Enhance the view from the reserve to the factories on the east boundary of the reserve. Project should involve building on the already attractive appearance of the rusted factory walls through the significant canopy of the river red-gum trees. Consider location as a community arts project.	18	15
Redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the rectangular field to provide additional carparking spaces and bus turning area. Narrow the carpark and access road on the south side of the field to provide for an extension of the field.	12	19
Install additional lighting in the reserve – at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path.	22	13
Improve the directional signage to the reserve - at the corners of Bakers Rd and Pallett St; Sussex St and Shorts Rd; Shorts Rd and Pallett St; and Shorts Rd and Sheppard St. Signage should be of a consistent and contemporary graphic standard and comply with Council specifications.	4	20
Undertake a tree audit. Implement the findings with respect to the maintenance and possible replacements of trees.	45	6

## ONLINE SURVEY

This section looks at individual master plan elements based on the level of community and stakeholder support drawing on the online survey data.

Formalisation of the soccer pitch and oval and surface treatment options are explored within this section; however, we know and understand that synthetic turf (or hybrid treatment) was not an original 2009 master plan option. We have analysed it alongside other major master plan elements.

### least supported elements

Elements with the least amount of participant support (strong and somewhat opposition), greater than or equal to 50% of participants across the online survey are listed in order (n 467):

1. Upgrade and redevelop a full-size synthetic soccer pitch on the North Oval (335).
2. Upgrade and redevelop a full-size hybrid soccer pitch on the North Oval (306).
3. Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. (note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field) (301).
4. Installation of a fence around any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval to enable club matches to be played (the pitch would not be locked and remain open outside of club training and matches for casual play) (277).
5. Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full-size soccer field. Remove the fence (267). When asked about the specific placement of this on the North Oval this has less opposition (136).

### most supported elements

Elements with the most amount of participant support (strong and somewhat support), greater than or equal to 50% of participants across the online survey are listed in order (n 467):

1. Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and enhance the visual appearance of the reserve (425).
2. Resident access to the North soccer pitch outside club training and matches for casual play (360).
3. Develop BBQ/picnic areas near the playground and in the north east corner of the reserve (353).
4. Provide more seating in the reserve (348).
5. Undertake a tree audit. Implement the findings with respect to the maintenance and possible replacements of tree (343).
6. Install additional lighting in the reserve – at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path (322).
7. Enhance the view from the reserve to the factories on the east boundary of the reserve. Project should involve building on the already attractive appearance of the rusted factory walls through the significant canopy of the river red-gum trees. Consider location as a community arts project (315).
8. Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence (304).
9. Restump and internally refurbish the tennis pavilion (268).
10. Increase resident access to the South soccer pitch (note: this would require upgrades to ensure safe access and redevelopment of the pitch surface to accommodate additional use) (272).
11. Provide indented carparking along Pallett St (236).

## elements with concern

Some elements attracted similar levels of support and opposition. Additional analysis has been undertaken to understand the reasons for support and opposition.

### Provision of additional parking

This looks at the three elements related specifically to the provision of additional parking:

- Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St
- Indented carparking along Pallett St.
- Redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the rectangular field to provide additional carparking spaces and bus turning area.

An immediate concern for participants is with the use of the existing carpark off Pallett St being locked to general public use. Those concerned did not believe that the soccer club should have the right to prevent or provide access and that this carpark should remain unlocked.

### Formalisation of Use

This section looks at the three elements related specifically to the formalisation of use or changing use:

- Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full-size soccer field. Remove the fence.
- Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. (note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field).
- Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.

From the verbatim comments it is clear that each of these areas created confusion and for some were indistinguishable from the installation of synthetic onto the pitch.

### Additions to the Central Pavilion

The element to continue to modify the central pavilion might have misled participants even though it stated that some pavilion items have already been completed.

There seemed to be concern that the facility was being overcapitalised and that this money should be spent on other areas of the reserve that provided public use (public value).

## Provision of fencing

This section looks at the two elements related to fencing, responses to both elements provide an overall understanding of concerns, tolerances, and aspirations when it comes to fenced access.

This looks at:

- Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence.
- Installation of a fence around any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval to enable club matches to be played.
- Provision of lighting for sporting use
- This section looks at the two elements related to increasing lighting in Hosken Reserve:
  - Install additional lighting in the reserve – at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path.
  - Installation of training lights with any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval.

Responses to these elements seem to elicit the most considered responses in comparison to other elements and empathy towards others. With those in support or with no opinion/neutral wanting to make sure that nearby residents are not unduly impacted by impact of light.

## BARRIERS + NEW IDEAS

Through the pop up and the online survey we asked participants to consider what else could be done to strengthen their enjoyment.

We have reported on this feedback under key themes. Some ideas translate into a physical change, while others relate to the programming and management.

### masterplan inclusions

**Informal fitness:** Look at opportunities to increase informal exercise

**Formal fitness:** Facilities that will increase and facilitate formal exercise

**Children's play and safety:** Increasing the age range of the play space to entice older children

### natural environment and climate

**Keeping the natural charm:** Increasing the naturalness of the area

### planning for community use

**Traffic and cars:** Increase safety and convenience

**Governance:** Managing access to all community members and minimising conflict

**Leisure Facilities:** Enhancing usage and enjoyment

**Wider community use:** Using the facilities for new initiatives

### maintenance

**Repair of BBQs:** making sure the BBQ is working

**Cleanliness and safety:** general tidiness

**Fencing:** Management of fencing

Through the online survey we also asked participants to consider what prevented their enjoyment or was an existing barrier to use. For over half of the participants (232) there was no barrier, and they can use Hosken Reserve in a way that they would like to.

For others, the barriers were:

- Use by formal sporting groups/tournaments (125). Occupying the site at times of peak (after hours and weekend use).
- Incorrect facilities (26). Unable to use the facilities across all times of the year, inclusive of wet weather days (Australian International Academy) or during the peak of the season (closed for repair, rest).
- Rowdy behaviour (16). Reports of swearing and yelling during games and practice were considered off-putting to using other parts of the Reserve during game and training days.
- Understanding if you are allowed (11). Knowing what times and where the community were allowed and when they could respectfully ask other users to leave.

## INTERVIEWS

Interviews were held with formal users of the site, or those with significant interest and/or involvement in the project. Groups or organisations selected for interviews:

- Keep Hosken Reserve Accessible
- Australian International Academy
- Merlynston Tennis Club
- Pascoe Vale Football Club
- Football Victoria
- Tennis Victoria

The outcomes of the interviews are best summarised by noting the provision of a proposed master plan developed by the 'Hosken Reserve Organised Sports Collective' incorporating AIA, MTC PVFC and supported by FV and TV. This annotated master plan essentially supports the provision of:

- defined soccer fields on the 'North' and 'East' fields of play (preferably synthetic with fencing and lights)
- upgrades to other sporting facilities including the tennis courts and both pavilions
- a range of other associated items such as parking, security lighting etc.

The interview with Keep Hosken Reserve Accessible resident group is best summarised by the following key issues:

- Failure to consult community about the proposals prior to tender
- Proposals improve access for one user group (PVFC) and excludes other Reserve users
- PVFC have been given increased access on weeknights/weekends
- Residents do not want synthetic, or hybrid surfaces installed
- Interest groups have more power than local residents – those most impacted should take priority
- Council has lost the trust of local residents
- Project needs to consider other sportsgrounds
- 2009 Masterplan is out-of-date
- Online survey should have required personal identification to reduce bias

## SUBMISSIONS

Stakeholders and individual residents were able to make a written submission, in addition to participating in other engagement activities.

Submissions were received from:

- 8 individuals
- Keep Hosken Reserve Accessible
- Climate Action Moreland
- Neighbours United for Climate Action
- Glenroy Lions Football Club
- Brunswick City Soccer Club
- Fawkner Soccer Club
- Brunswick Juventus Football Club
- Moreland United Soccer Club
- Moreland City Football Club

A common theme was the belief that access for one user group was being prioritised over the needs of other users of the Reserve.

A number of submitters highlighted the clash (policy or strategic intent) between the 2009 Masterplan proposals and other endorsed Council strategies.

The environmental harms from synthetic surfaces was also highlighted by a number of submitters.

While in contrast, the six submissions received from local football (soccer) clubs focused on the positive impacts that the project would have for PVFC and the broader football community.

# learnings.

## DATA LIMITATIONS

- **Duplication in participation:** Participants were able to participate across different methods in Stage 1. Considering the level of interest in this project we expect that some people participated more than once, for example, completed an online survey and attended more than one pop up. Through the collection of IP Addresses on the survey we know that 84 responses came through 37 IP Addresses however had different responses. However 55 surveys had repeated text, from different IP Addresses and with different demographic data
- **Assisted participation:** Some stakeholder groups provided their members, students, and their wider community with advice around how to provide feedback and what to provide feedback on. This is not necessarily wrong or right, rather an acknowledgement that people were participating under direction.
- **Gaps in data:** All elements of participation in stage one were voluntary which means there are inconsistencies and gaps in the collected data. Participants could answer any number of questions, could choose to provide, or withhold demographic information.

## COMMUNITY CONCERNS

We received some concerns about the consultation process:

- **Lack of participation by CALD people:** Some residents expressed concern that the process left out those from non-English speaking backgrounds. Standard translation text was included on Council issued material. From the demographic data collected through the survey we had 35 people that identified as speaking another language, this accounted for 7.5% of survey participants. This is substantially lower than the 38.1% of Moreland residents who reported that they spoke a language other than English at home in the 2016 Census.
- **Lack of participation by older people:** Some residents expressed concern that the process left out older people, who may be physically immobile and/or

unable to participate in the process. From the demographic data collected through the survey and pop up 25 people were over the age of 70, with 3 people over the age of 85. This accounted for 4% of the participants which is lower than the 11% of the Moreland population (aged 70 years or over) counted in the 2016 Census.

- **Survey perpetuated a 'support/oppose' binary:** There was concern that this 'loaded' language and the use of 'oppose' set the tone for the consultation and sets up residents as oppositional rather than "simply exercising their right to fully understand and be informed of the nature of a proposed change to a significant local space and to then make a decision about whether they support the proposed change."

## ADDRESSING BARRIERS

An important part of our practice is to reflect upon where and how engagement with our target stakeholders could be improved, to improve both our practice and provide more information about your stakeholders for future engagement programs run by Council.

- **Safety concerns:** We have received feedback across the diversity of participants that some stakeholder groups did not feel comfortable providing their feedback publicly. Participants were able to provide feedback anonymously via the online survey and direct to project team.
- **Survey complexity:** We received feedback from participants that the survey was too complex to complete. This can also be seen by participants repeating information across multiple questions. As well as questions within the survey itself.
- **Interdependence of master plan elements:** We received feedback from participants that it was difficult to provide feedback on individual master plan elements, without understanding the impact on other elements.
- **Resubmissions issues:** Within the survey there was the opportunity for participants to review additional supporting information. When participants clicked on this information, they were unable to go back to the survey to continue providing feedback. This design flaw may account for the duplication in IP addresses if residents restarted the survey multiple times to finally complete and submit it.

- **Distrust in process:** We received feedback from active participants and passers-by that chose not to participate in the process. Concerned that this process would not be upheld, nor feedback taken on Council. Some needed a more thorough investigation, punishment, and apology over the funding process prior to participating. This was also expressed in the online survey.
- **Lack of clarity over oval names/ references:** Some participants expressed confusion regarding the naming and location of ovals, and which oval the master plan element related to. Some survey respondents requested a map be provided with proposed changes clearly marked.

## NEXT STEPS

Following this broader engagement (Stage 1) was the opportunity to work with a group of community representatives (Hosken Reserve Master Plan Refresh Group), appointed to review community feedback, and research to make recommendations to Council for consideration as part of the master plan refresh.

Now with a greater understanding of the community and the project we have some concerns about this approach that we believe need to be addressed and thought through prior to proceeding.

### requires council decision

- **Creating an issues hierarchy:** through the project we observed three distinct issues given equal priority within a Council adopted strategy. Consideration needs to be given to the role Hosken Reserve could or will play in delivering each of these strategies or adopted viewpoints.
- **Delivering public value:** during the consultation 'who this project is serving', was a common concern or question raised. This project brought under question the location of this increased use and activity and its appropriateness for Hosken Reserve. Consideration needs to be given

to other locations (including Richards Reserve) and the appropriateness.

- **Issue of synthetic is deeply divisive:** we believe we are unlikely to achieve a resolution through the refresh group on the use of synthetic, grass or hybrid surface. We are unlikely to move into other areas of the master plan while this element remains open.

### requires process consideration

- **Keeping people safe:** this project, the project elements and project history have caused anxiety and concern for some. We need to keep people both physically and psychologically safe during the process. With a better understanding of the different user groups and views, we feel like this needs further consideration and discussion.
- **Keeping people in the process:** using deliberation requires a variety of people, interests, perspectives and understanding, to come together to discuss and reflect on the topic and make recommendations. This approach does not work if individuals leave throughout the process, either as a result of frustration, personal safety or bullying through an inability to express their views. With a better understanding of the different user groups and views, we feel like this needs further consideration and discussion.

### additional engagement

- **Understanding the needs of Australian International Academy students:** we recommend doing additional and direct engagement with students to understand how they use the reserve during lunchtime and areas that are not used, without teacher influence.
- **Residents that share a boundary with the Reserve:** we recommend carrying out direct engagement with adjoining residents to understand preferences for the master plan.

HOW?

WHEN?

the game plan.

# HOW?

## future opportunities.

### issues analysis.

The following issues and opportunities have been identified throughout analysis of the 'What?', 'Why?', 'Where?' and 'Who?' sections of this report.

ITEM	ISSUES	SOURCE(s)	OPPORTUNITIES
Participation trends	As we become increasingly time poor, sport is being tailored to meet personal needs. Health, rather than competition, is becoming a major driver for participation in sport. Traditional sports now compete with less organised physical activities such as bushwalking, cycling, gym and parkruns	National participation trends	The ability of our open space areas to meet the changing leisure and recreational needs of our population is becoming an increasingly important issue  This means that increasing opportunities to participate in these active recreation pursuits, while continuing to support traditional sport, may offer the best opportunity to improve the health and wellbeing of the community.
	We know that more Victorians participate in active recreation than in organised sport  The three most common activities – walking, fitness, and gym, and jogging or running – make up 44 per cent of all recorded activity	State participation trends	An increased focus on infrastructure that supports active recreation pursuits is needed, while continuing to ensure facilities provided for traditional sport are fit-for-purpose
	Individualised sport and fitness activities are on the rise. People are now looking to casual, pay-as-you go or often free physical activity options to fit into their increasingly busy and time fragmented lifestyles to achieve personal health objectives.	Literature review	
Demographic implications	We are becoming older, more ethnically diverse and time poor. The high proportion of CALD communities within the surrounding precinct for which research shows face a number of barriers to participation in traditional sport	Demographic profile	Suggests that the provision of free, unstructured recreation opportunities may be of significant benefit. Consideration of upgraded and/or additional infrastructure that supports improved physical activity outcomes at low-to-no cost to participants should be prioritised.
	Coburg North has a higher rate compared to Greater Melbourne of train, tram, and bicycle use.		Ensuring Hosken Reserve and its surrounds has appropriate infrastructure to continue to support the positive active travel choices of Coburg North and Moreland residents more broadly (such as integrated walk/cycle paths connecting roads into and through the reserve) and public transport access (such as commuter friendly shelters, road crossings) will be important to ensure it continues to serve the community's needs.
	There is only a small amount of population growth expected in the Coburg North precinct, and therefore limited additional expected demand that will be placed on Hosken Reserve.  However, with the effects of COVID-19 increasing the propensity for people to work from home and utilise their immediate park nearby the use of Hosken	Demand analysis	Thought must be given to non-sport facilities and ancillary amenities that support and improve its function for activities outside of traditional sport.  This may also result in a strong focus on dog friendly facilities, which needs to be considerate of providing appropriate separation and protection of other users and wildlife.

	Reserve as a place of congregation and social interaction has, and likely will continue to, be intensified.		
Facility provision	Council has 56 turf sports grounds available in the City of Moreland. These are currently very well utilised by a variety of user groups including sports clubs, Sports Associations, schools, and residents. The demand on these facilities is ever increasing, with club membership growing annually, and Council also supporting growth through inclusive participation policies. While Council would like to have facilities available to meet all requests, but this is becoming more difficult with the increasing demands and the very limited opportunity for expansion.	Demand analysis	In response to the challenges of supply and demand, Moreland has invested significantly in the use of warm season grasses, improved water management, the construction of three synthetic pitches and altering horticultural practices.  Council must continually look for more sustainable solutions to help local sport thrive in the face of weather extremes and increasing participation.
	Council and state sporting association planning documents state that there is a shortage of tennis courts and football (soccer) pitches in Moreland, while a state government investigation found that Moreland had the 3rd lowest level of public open space provision on a m2 per person basis.  Coburg North however does have the highest provision of open space per person - more than 4 times the Moreland average.	Literature review	This is a significant issue with respect to often competing demands between formal and informal use when considering what the appropriate mix is to facilitate equitable access for all.  The area in and surrounding Hosken Reserve is not identified as an open space gap area and as such the demand for the provision of formal sporting facilities as a priority could be argued.
Field of play	All playing fields are in serviceable condition but have poor drainage and inefficient light systems	Existing facilities review	Would benefit from redevelopment (soil profile upgrade, levelling, drainage) and upgrade to LED lighting
North Oval	Tenant football (soccer) club require access to additional competition venues to support growth and would like to formalise a pitch on the North Oval.  Football Victoria regulations stipulate that the pitch must include the provision of a non-permeable fence that delineates the field of play.  Both Football Victoria and PVFC prioritise the delivery of a synthetic pitch to aide in increased usage of the site.	Stakeholder consultation	The delineation of a football pitch by use of a permanent fence would actually constrain PVFC to a limited area and increase circulation space around the pitch that would not be formally booked/used increasing informal recreation opportunities.  There are options to also consider temporary, retractable fencing, however this comes with a range of practicality and OHS issues for the club in set-up and pack-down.
	Local residents do not support the development of a synthetic pitch or installation of fencing around the pitch as it limits the flexibility of use of the space, would result in increased use, and a range of environmental concerns.		
Synthetic surfaces	Conflicting policy direction exists on the use of synthetic surfaces, particularly between Sport and Active Recreation Strategy and Synthetic Surfaces Strategy, against the Zero Carbon Moreland and Urban Heat Island Effect Action Plan	Literature review	In line with the Sport and Active Recreation Strategy's recommendation to 'Regularly review and amend, when necessary, Council's recreation policies': Undertake review of Council's position on the use of synthetic surfaces.
	The Hybrid and Synthetic Sports Surface Needs Study suggests notes the existing project of installing a synthetic pitch at Hosken Reserve and further recommends that the Hosken Reserve (Southern field) is upgraded to a hybrid surface in the Executive Summary, but then recommends installing a hybrid soccer / multi-sports field for community use with the \$1.2 m already allocated to the Hosken Reserve Northern field in the body of the report.		The Hybrid and Synthetic Sports Surface Needs Study also notes that a three-year review should assess priorities against playing capacity/ condition of each field, standards of play needed, economic conditions, growth of the participation and strategic alignment.
	Concerns raised by local residents and environmental action groups on the	Stakeholder consultation	

	<p>economic and environmental issues that may exist with the use of synthetic surfaces</p> <p>Support for the use of synthetic surface by formal user groups (sports clubs and school) in recognition of the increased usage</p>		
Access + use	<p>The Open Space Strategy found that while there was a desire for more open space, most people saw this as unrealistic. Many respondents questioned the relative allocations for different uses in open space, suggesting that there is a need for more informal recreation areas, more multi-use areas and fewer single-purpose sporting grounds.</p>	Literature review	<p>Implement the Sports field Condition Assessment recommendations that the use of reserves should be reviewed to ensure currently underutilised venues are used more often, and that consideration should also be given to setting usage limits and enforcement of usage limits and penalties for any breaches by Clubs.</p>
Tennis	<p>Pavilion needs updating to meet current/future needs of users</p>	Existing facilities review	<p>Redevelopment of existing facility is expected to result in a range of asbestos and DDA compliance related issues. Consider knock down and rebuild as preferred option with improved sense of arrival and signage</p>
	<p>The Club is hidden away and visiting teams/players find it difficult to locate</p> <p>The clubhouse requires an internal upgrade and restumping in areas</p>	Stakeholder consultation	
	<p>The tennis courts are in reasonable condition, but some evidence of tree root damage and southern spoon drain is non-compliant</p>	Existing facilities review	<p>Convert two existing en-tous-cas courts to synthetic surface</p>
	<p>Although the preferred playing surface, the en-tout-cas courts are not easy to maintain.</p>	Stakeholder consultation	
	<p>The tennis court is surrounded by a tall, corrugated iron fence which forms a solid barrier and detracts from the appeal of the reserve</p>	Existing facilities review	<p>Renewal of entire structure with Council preferred black chain mesh fence to allow visual permeability through to the tennis courts</p>
	<p>The fence around the courts is unattractive and traps litter</p>	Stakeholder consultation	<p>Consider of sight screen on South side to provide privacy to school boundary</p>
Cricket nets	<p>2 lane cricket net structure in poor condition and no longer formally used</p>	Existing facilities review	<p>Remove and repurpose space for alternative use</p>
Playground	<p>The playground has been recently upgraded and is suitable for a local level park</p>	Existing facilities review	<p>Consider nature play extension to improve diversity of offerings and installation of some form of safety barrier between road and play area.</p>
	<p>Play options limited to traditional play equipment</p>	Stakeholder consultation	
	<p>The Play Strategy recommends considering strategic design interventions to manage high safety risks (fencing to main roads etc.)</p>	Literature review	
Parking	<p>The carparking area in the north west of the reserve is poorly defined.</p>	Existing facilities review	<p>Opportunity to reimagine what the parking area in the North-West is used for.</p> <p>Could be the site of additional active recreation infrastructure such as an urban recreation zone incorporating ball sports, outdoor exercise equipment etc.</p> <p>To cover loss of parking can provide indented carparking along Pallett St and redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the small rectangular field to provide additional carparking spaces and bus turning area.</p>
	<p>The main carpark at the reserve is not big enough during busy periods e.g. on Saturdays when tennis, soccer and football are being played concurrently</p> <p>The carpark and areas around the buildings in the reserve are not well lit</p> <p>The carpark at the reserve is important to the school. It is used by buses and individual parents for student 'drop offs and pick ups'.</p>	Stakeholder consultation	
	<p>The Parking Implementation Plan recommends that parking could be considered for removal when it provides an overall benefit to the sustainable movement of people or when it is demonstrated to provide an overall benefit to the creation of 'places'</p>	Literature review	

Path network	There are sections of the path network that need to be completed. There is a missing section of the path network from the Pallet St laneway to the North-West carpark. The path from the playground also abruptly ends before reaching Sussex St There is no external footpath on the reserve side of Sussex St to improve access and egress	Existing facilities review + Stakeholder consultation	Develop path to link existing trails to sports pavilion and other infrastructure Improve signage, including consideration of distance markers throughout trail network to support recreational walkers/runners
Lighting	Lighting in the reserve is restricted to the parking areas and sports fields. Lighting is deficient in other areas of the reserve, including the pedestrian path.	Existing facilities review	Improve security lighting throughout reserve. Recommend path lighting every ~30m for public safety and activation and adherence to the Public Lighting Policy recommendation for the provision of LED lighting and use of dusk to dawn timers, motion sensor activated lighting and specific consideration of the impact of lighting on biodiversity values of sites
	Site security was an issue raised by stakeholders due to a lack of security lighting, both around the pavilion, public toilets, and existing path network	Stakeholder consultation	
Public amenities (shade, seating etc.)	Limited seating and other public amenities (drink taps etc.)	Existing facilities review	Improve location and function of park amenities inclusive of shade, seating, water taps throughout reserve
	Lack of formal shade, particularly an issue at playground	Stakeholder consultation	
Public toilet	Well maintained and in good order. Positioned well adjacent to playground	Existing facilities review	Improve security lighting in and around public toilet and surrounding connecting paths/trails
Wayfinding	The entrances are poorly signed	Existing facilities review	Support continued provision of wayfinding signage throughout reserve and surrounding streets in line with Council's Signage Policy
Trees + vegetation	The vegetation is predominately native species with some scattered exotic species. Most of the trees in the reserve appear to be in good condition	Existing facilities review	A formal vegetation impact assessment should be undertaken once a design has been developed. When planning and designing developments consideration should be given to minimise impacts as far as practical to all trees while promoting increased planting in sensible locations (i.e. not too close to key infrastructure)
	The trees lining the carpark and tennis fence are unattractive and pose maintenance issues to courts and pavilion	Stakeholder consultation	
	Urban Forest Strategy seeks to double canopy cover across Moreland to 29 per cent by 2050.	Literature review	
Stormwater harvesting	The stormwater harvesting was highlighted as a positive project undertaken by Council in recent years and there is support to continue proactive management and support of this infrastructure	Stakeholder consultation	Continue to preserve wetlands ensuring it remains a 'natural oasis' while providing suitable connections to other site infrastructure
Urban cooling	Moreland's highly urbanised environment experiences a high UHIE; Major industrial areas, such as Coburg North, are priority areas for urban heat island effect action due to the large built form and minimal green infrastructure that exists. Irrigation of sporting and passive open space areas with treated stormwater	Stakeholder consultation + literature review	Work to achieve Sustainable Buildings Policy directions that 75% of the total project site area comprises building or landscaping elements that reduce the impact of heat island effect, and 85% retention of stormwater. Improve cooling capacity of Council owned/managed public open space with tree shade, large-scale WSUD and irrigation prioritising those in socially vulnerable hotspots and playgrounds as outlined in the Urban Heat Island Action Plan. Ensure stormwater connections are maintained in any irrigation upgrades and consider installing irrigation of open space areas as part of any future works to support provision of 'cool refuges'
Boundary fencing	Boundary fencing is in reasonable condition, but some areas are unattractive and block views	Existing facilities review	Work with proposed development site on Eastern boundary to deliver improved park and residential interface

	Two factories back onto the eastern edge of the reserve. The factories' walls are constructed of corrugated iron and are rusting. There are also significant lengths of chain wire mesh fencing along this boundary.		
Access + movement	The main vehicular entrance to the reserve is in the northeast corner from Sheppard Street. An asphalt road provides access to parking and the reserve's sports fields, courts, and pavilions/club rooms. The main entrance is poorly defined. The other vehicular entrance is in the northwest corner from Pallett Street. This entrance is to an asphalt car parking area and does not provide access to the reserve's central facilities. These entrances are poorly signed on the main roads. There is a lack of defined pedestrian entry points into the reserve; however two points of entry are to the northwest on Pallett Street and through the pedestrian laneway from Shorts Rd.	Existing facilities review	Consider delivery of additional site access point and carriageway to improve North-South permeability through reserve from Shorts Rd to Bakers Rd and consider options to eliminate existing 'rat race' from Shepard St to school. Opportunity to convert parcel of land adjacent to school site into a roadway with indented parking to enable access to site off of Bakers Road.
	The Integrated Transport Strategy recommends consideration of closing some local roads to through traffic where it improves local conditions.	Literature review	
Industrial development	The Industrial Land Strategy notes: 'Allow for the transition of other industrial zoned land... to multi-use or residential outcomes.' This includes the area immediately adjacent to Hosken Reserve in the North-East	Literature review	Opportunity to consider a connected road from Shepard St to Norris St with pedestrian link to park as part of future development proposal. Work with proposed development site on Eastern boundary to deliver improved park and residential interface.
	Proposal to rezone industrial area in North-East off Shepard St to residential and expected sale of site at 1 Norris St. No development plans in place, but previous indications suggest 2-4 stories with a 3m set back. Site could accommodate 100 dwellings; developer would push for more. Previous investigations identified that the development site boundary encroaches onto park. Current carpark along Eastern fence line impacted with 2/3 of each space appearing to not be Council land.	Existing site review	

# key deliberations.

The previous issues analysis section highlights a range of complimentary items that are generally supported by most stakeholders that can be appropriately integrated into a new master plan design such as:

- completing the pedestrian path network around the oval
- addressing parking congestion, particularly within existing carpark and in residential streets
- creation of new entry to site off Bakers Rd
- possible nature-based play extension
- new sports courts (basketball, futsal etc.)
- public safety lighting improvements
- a range of additional tennis/football sporting infrastructure upgrades (pavilion, courts etc.)

However, there are three specific issues which have arisen that have conflicting design outcomes and opposing views:

- access and use of open space
- surface type used for existing open space
- installation of new sports field infrastructure on open space

## ACCESS AND USE

**Prioritise access that supports sporting use over general public access OR set aside defined public hours of use?**

- PVFC currently have an allocation from 4-9pm Monday to Friday and 8am-6pm Sat + Sun (45 hours), however their practical use is generally lower than this pending training/match requirements.
- residents have requested defined public access times, which would require additional scrutiny be placed on allocated booking times and a likely reduction in site usage by PVFC.
- this would result in PVFC being required to increase use of alternative venues and will likely have wide-ranging impact on all sporting reserves and booking allocations across Moreland.

Council has 56 turf sports grounds available in the City of Moreland. These are currently very well utilised by a variety of user groups including sports clubs, Sports Associations, schools, and residents. The demand on these facilities is ever increasing, with club membership growing annually, and Council also supporting growth through inclusive participation policies.

While Council would like to have facilities available to meet all requests, this is becoming more difficult with the increasing demands and the very limited opportunity for expansion. The Sports field Condition Assessment did however recommend that the use of reserves should be reviewed to ensure currently underutilised venues are used more often, and that consideration should also be given to setting usage limits on reserves.

Council and state sporting association planning documents state that there is a shortage of tennis courts and football (soccer) pitches in Moreland, while a state government investigation found that Moreland had the 3rd lowest level of public open space provision on a m<sup>2</sup> per person basis. Coburg North however does have the highest provision of open space per person - more than 4 times the Moreland average.

This is a significant issue with respect to often competing demands between formal and informal use when considering what the appropriate mix is to facilitate equitable access for all. The area in and surrounding Hosken Reserve is not identified as an open space gap area and as such the demand for the provision of formal sporting facilities as a priority could be argued.

However, there is an ever-increasing expectation of public access to previously defined formal sporting reserves. Through this Hosken Reserve Master Plan refresh project, residents have requested defined public access times.

The Open Space Strategy also found that while there was a desire for more open space, most people saw this as unrealistic. Many respondents to a survey conducted as part of the Strategy questioned the relative allocations for different uses in open space, suggesting that there is a need for more informal recreation areas, more multi-use areas and fewer single-purpose sporting grounds.

Achieving this would require additional scrutiny be placed on allocated booking times and a likely reduction in site usage by PVFC. This would result in PVFC being required to increase use of alternative venues and will likely have wide-ranging impact on all sporting reserves and booking allocations across Moreland.

## SURFACE TYPE

### Proceed with considering the provision of synthetic turf at Hosken Reserve?

- Resident sentiment does not support.
- Environmental concerns.
- Football club have a level of acceptance of no synthetic pitch being provided (pending other upgrades such as South field renovation, fencing, lights etc.).

In response to the challenges of supply and demand, Moreland has invested significantly in the use of warm season grasses, improved water management, the construction of three synthetic pitches and altering horticultural practices. Council must continually look for more sustainable solutions to help local sport thrive in the face of weather extremes and increasing participation.

All playing fields at Hosken Reserve are in serviceable condition but have poor drainage and limited effective hours of use before their condition would deteriorate over time. It has been suggested that they would benefit from redevelopment (soil profile upgrade, levelling, drainage) which in turn would lift their available hours of use to around 25 hrs/week.

Given the increased demands for additional allocated use of sports fields by PVFC to cater for their continued growth, Council has considered the use of synthetic surfaces at Hosken Reserve primarily as it would enable additional use of between 30-60 hrs/week. Football Victoria, PVFC and the school prioritise the delivery of a synthetic pitch to aide in increased usage of the site.

The Hybrid and Synthetic Sports Surface Needs Study also support synthetic surface use and specifically notes installing a synthetic pitch at Hosken Reserve and further recommends that the Hosken Reserve (South field) is upgraded to a hybrid surface.

Given the high costs associated with installation and required cyclical replacement of synthetic surfaces (albeit offset with lessened maintenance costs), it is common practice for Council's to want to 'sweat' the pitch and achieve as much use as possible. Commonly, this will see increased activity across all times resulting in a positive outcome of more people participating more often. However, this also comes with more traffic and heightened amenity issues (light, noise etc.). Given these considerations, it is common practice for synthetic surfaces to be installed at higher level sporting facilities, often away

from residential properties and with good transport access. Hosken Reserve is a local level facility, surrounded by residential properties and narrow streets. This is not an ideal location from a design perspective.

Conflicting policy direction exists on the use of synthetic surfaces, particularly between the Sport and Active Recreation Strategy and Hybrid and Synthetic Sports Surface Needs Study, against the Zero Carbon Moreland and Urban Heat Island Effect Action Plan. There has also been significant concerns raised by residents and environmental groups on the economic and environmental issues that exist with the use of synthetic surfaces, primarily the synthetic turf carbon footprint (up to 1500 CO2e tonnes in total life cycle greenhouse gas emissions), and synthetic turf increasing waste to landfill contributing to toxic leachates pollution and microplastics pollution (a detailed analysis can be seen in Climate Action Moreland's consultation submission).

In line with the Sport and Active Recreation Strategy's recommendation to 'Regularly review and amend, when necessary, Council's recreation policies' and the Hybrid and Synthetic Sports Surface Needs Study also noting 'that a three-year review should assess priorities against playing capacity/ condition of each field, standards of play needed, economic conditions, growth of the participation and strategic alignment', there is an opportunity for Council to undertake a review of Council's position on the use of synthetic surfaces, and at what locations.

## SPORTS FIELD INFRASTRUCTURE

**Prioritise infrastructure development that supports defined sporting use OR seek flexible design approaches for all?**

- Provision of low-level black chain mesh fence to formalise football (soccer) pitch on North Oval is a stated requirement by Football Victoria (although examples across Melbourne where this is not enforced) and provides positive OHS/risk outcomes for ball entrapment and off-leash dogs. Additional associated sporting infrastructure, such as player benches, is also requested by PVFC. However, resident sentiment does not support the installation of any fencing or other structures as it limits other uses of site.
- Existing sportsground lighting requires upgrading to improve efficiency. Resident concerns on amenity impact however upgrade would improve useability, efficiency, and sustainability.

Given strong membership increases, the tenant football (soccer) club require access to additional competition venues to support growth and would like to formalise a pitch on the North Oval. Football Victoria regulations stipulate that the pitch must include the provision of a 1m high non-permeable fence that delineates the field of play, however there are numerous instances of exemption being granted to enable competition to be played on non-fenced fields.

The use of sportsground fencing as FV require is common practice in Moreland, with a focus being on its positive safety outcomes in terms of keeping balls within and restricting access of off-leash dogs to the field of play area. However, local residents do not support the installation of fencing around the pitch as it limits the flexibility of use of the space and believe it would result in increased use.

While a fence would indeed make the North Oval a more 'inflexible' space, the delineation of a football pitch by use of a permanent fence would constrain PVFC to a limited area and increase circulation space around the pitch that would not be formally booked/used, thus increasing informal recreation opportunities. Depending on the final location and/or reorientation of a pitch on the North Oval, significant additional space may be able to be achieved.

There are options to also consider temporary, retractable fencing, however this comes with a range of practicality and OHS issues for the club in set-up and pack-down.

## POLICY ISSUES

There are also two broad policy issues that require Council consideration:

### **Support for the use of synthetic surfaces**

- in light of Council's recent commitment to a range of environmental policies and emerging environmental concerns with the use of synthetic surfaces, Council's position on their use across Moreland could be reviewed
- this will have direct downstream implications on all sporting facilities in Moreland, including sites already earmarked for synthetic pitch upgrades, and the use of synthetic surfaces for cricket, tennis, hockey, and other sports which are currently more commonly accepted

### **Determining an appropriate level of public access to and use of defined sports reserves**

- there are clear Council policies on the desired distribution and access to open space and playgrounds (i.e. within 500m of homes) however, the expected level of access to sporting reserves by non-formal sports users is not explicitly stated
- local residents are increasingly expecting access and use of their local reserve, even if it has traditionally been a formal sporting reserve, and the consideration of setting aside allotted maximum hours of use for formal sport could be considered
- this would have a significant flow on affect to all other sporting reserves in Moreland and potentially negatively impact a large contingent of users (sports clubs)

These policy considerations cannot be resolved by the Hosken Reserve Master Plan Refresh project and require additional separate consideration that reviews whole-of-Council impacts.

# proposed master plan directions.

To assist in providing guidance for 'Engagement Stage 2 – Refresh Group', the following key directions are suggested:

1. Council should proceed with a redevelopment of all three fields of play at Hosken Reserve to improve their acceptable hours of use.
  - However, there is a strong resident response to the installation of a synthetic surface on the North Oval, conflicting policy direction that exists, and imperfect site design considerations (amenity, traffic etc.)
  - As such, the 'North' and 'East' fields should remain natural turf, while the use of hybrid technology could be considered for the 'South' field, pending Council's future direction on the use of synthetic surfaces.
2. Council should prioritise PVFC access to the formal sporting reserve that is Hosken Reserve but work with PVFC to assess ground allocations more closely in line with usage targets and communicate 'community hours of use' to the public.
  - This is recommended given the push for increased community access to open space and the recommended upper limit for formal sports ground use (currently 15 hours at Hosken Reserve, potentially increased to 25 hours if ground redevelopment occurs)
3. Council should provide sportsground infrastructure that formalises the field of play on the North Oval.
  - Hosken Reserve is a defined sportsground in an area identified as not lacking access to open space.
  - As such, Council should look favourably upon infrastructure that supports formal sports use where required under sporting association requirements.
  - Given the existing tenancy of PVFC and strong demand for football facilities in Moreland, the formalisation of a football pitch on the North Oval should continue to be supported. This includes the installation of a 1m high black chain mesh fence delineating the field of play.
  - While a fence would indeed make the North Oval a more 'inflexible' space, the delineation of a football pitch would constrain PVFC to a limited area and increase circulation space around the pitch that would not be formally booked/ used.
  - The final location and orientation of the defined pitch should prioritise the development of increased open space areas surrounding the pitch to improve access for non-formal sporting activities.

The Master Plan must propose facilities and elements to support an existing demand for formal sport and an increase in active and passive recreation pursuits, offering a range of opportunities for the improvement of the health and wellbeing of the community.

The benefit of getting the balance between active and passive just right ensures use of the reserve is maximised, boosting the local amenity of the site, and building whole of community ownership.

The following master plan directions are proposed, with further detail to be refined through the Refresh Group process:

## SPORT

- Formalise a full-size senior football (soccer) pitch on the North Oval
- Extend 'East' field of play if possible
- Redevelop all three fields of play to improve their acceptable hours of use:
  - 'North' as natural turf
  - 'East' as natural turf
  - 'South' as natural turf or hybrid
- Include provisions for supporting infrastructure (fence, player shelters, scoreboard, and other ancillary facilities as predicated by relevant standards)
- Provision of compliant floodlights on all fields of play
- Redevelop the central pavilion to relevant standards
- Redevelop tennis pavilion to relevant standards
- Convert 2 en-tout-cas tennis courts to synthetic
- Facilitate 'book-a-court' technology
- Replace tennis court fence with black chain mesh structure

## ACTIVE RECREATION

- Extend the existing playground to include additional nature play elements
- Install outdoor exercise equipment
- Develop an urban recreation zone that incorporates items such as a futsal/ basketball half-court, tennis hitting wall, skate/ BMX elements and other recreational infrastructure
- Consider provision of distance markers throughout path network

## WETLANDS

- Preserve area as a 'natural oasis'
- Retain water use for reserve maintenance

## MOBILITY + ACCESS

- Formalise existing access points and identify strategic locations for new access points (i.e. adjacent to linear reserve)
- Improve pedestrian links to and from all reserve access points and parking
- Establish bicycle parking location
- Establish new accessway to/from Bakers Rd

## PARKING

- Redevelop main carpark
- Repurpose North-West informal carpark
- Provide indented carparking on Pallett St and new Bakers Rd accessway

## SAFETY

- Promote adherence to CPTED principles to improve visitor safety
- Improve security lighting throughout

## WAYFINDING

- Install wayfinding signage at reserve access points
- Improve directional signage to the reserve

## TREES + VEGETATION

- Undertake a tree audit
- Provide a range of well vegetated areas and supporting landscape improvements throughout the site
- Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and enhance the visual appearance of the reserve

## PUBLIC AMENITY

- Create places of congregation and social interaction (such as shade and seating)
- Improve provision, location, and function of park amenities inclusive of shade, seating, water taps throughout reserve, paying particular attention to high use areas and areas of social gathering
- Enhance the view from the reserve to the factories/ development to the East

## SUSTAINABILITY

- Ensure stormwater connections are prioritised
- Consider irrigation of open space areas to support provision of 'cool refuges'

# concept plans.

To be developed.

# environmentally sustainable design opportunities assessment

To be developed.

# WHEN?

## implementation.

An Implementation Plan will be developed that provides an indication of probable costs and priority of works. The priority ranking reflects the:

- Dependency of other works;
- Level of design development required;
- Available funding; and
- Statutory and regulatory approvals, where applicable.

Common items suggested for delivery regardless of final design outcomes will be outlined to provide Council with a level of understanding for current capital works budget planning.

The proposed developments within the Master Plan have been estimated at a total cost of \$<to be developed> and implementation is subject to future Council Budget and/or external funding opportunities.

Figure 24. Implementation Plan: Hosken Reserve

#	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	PRIORITY	EXPECTED COST	
				BASIS	VALUE
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
<i>Sub-total</i>					\$
Contingency (XX%)					\$
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$</b>

# APPENDICES

additional info.

# appendix 1 - literature review.

## NATIONAL.

### Sport 2030 - National Sport Plan

The Australian Government has a clear and bold vision for sport in Australia — to ensure we are the world's most active and healthy nation, known for our integrity and sporting success.

Sport 2030 is Australia's first national sports plan and has four key priority areas which will, when fully implemented, create a platform for sporting success through to 2030 and beyond.

#### Key principles:

The priorities are:

- Build a more active Australia;

More Australians, more active, more often;

- Achieving sporting excellence;

National pride, inspiration, and motivation through international sporting success;

- Safeguarding the integrity of sport;

A fair, safe and strong sport sector free from corruption; and

- Strengthening Australia's sport industry;

A thriving Australian sport and recreation industry.

#### Key takeaways:

- An important change made is how they define sport for the purposes of Government policy and programs.
- The definition of 'sport' will be broadened to include physical activity, as well as organised and high-performance sport, reflecting ever increasing opportunities for Australians to engage in physical activity throughout life.
- When the Australian Government talks about 'sport', it will now talk about a broad range of physical activities including informal, unstructured activity such as walking, riding, swimming, and running as well as traditional, structured sport.
- Where once people planned their weeks around sporting and physical activity, today many Australians now look for sporting and physical activities that work around their week.

- Traditional sports now compete with less organised physical activities such as yoga, bushwalking, cycling, gym and parkruns for the physical activity demands of Australians.
- There has been an exponential growth in the use of digital technology within Australia, while the demography of Australia continues to change.
- We are becoming older, more ethnically diverse and time poor. By 2036, one third more Australians will be aged over 65 than in 2012.
- Currently only 25 per cent of Australians over 65 meet the physical activity guidelines, providing a future challenge but also an opportunity.
- Inactivity is the fourth largest cause of chronic conditions in Australia and the nation is now one of the most obese on earth.
- Fifty-six percent of Australian adults — or more than 10 million people — are living sedentary or low-activity lifestyles.
- Only 19 per cent of Australians aged 5 to 17 are meeting the recommended guidelines of 60 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity each day, with the same age group spending on average two to three hours on screens.



## Future of Australian Sport

The Future of Australian Sport report by the Australian Sport Commission (SportAus) states that sports played in Australia, as well as how and why we play them, are changing over time.

### Key principles:

The report identifies the six megatrends below that may redefine the sport sector over the next 30 years.

A megatrend represents an important pattern of social, economic, or environmental change.



### Key takeaways:

- As we become increasingly time poor, sport is being tailored to meet personal needs. This is largely being influenced by the increased use of online tools and applications to individualise sport. Health, rather than competition, is becoming a major driver for participation in sport
- Lifestyle, adventure, and alternative sports are becoming popular with Australians particularly young Australians, with participation being driven by widespread exposure through digital media.
- There is an increased focus on the broader benefits derived from participation in sport, including physical and mental benefits, crime prevention and social inclusion.
- The types of sports Aussies are likely to play will shift as demographics, including cultural landscapes, change. There are indicators Australians are embracing sport in older age resulting in the need for sport to cater for senior citizens to participate in sport.
- Market forces are likely to put pressure on sport in the future drawing athletes away from sports which have lower salary bases. In addition, the administration of sport may transition from community-based organisations to corporate structures as they face increased accountability.



# STATE.

## Active Victoria (2017)

Active Victoria is the State government's strategic framework for sport and recreation in Victoria.

### Key principles:

The strategy is based on six strategic directions:

- Meeting demand

Increase the capacity of sport and active recreation infrastructure and create flexible and innovative participation options.

- Broader and more inclusive participation

Build inclusion into the system, provide affordable participation options for all with a focus on under-represented communities.

- Additional focus on active recreation

Create a model that supports non-organised and unstructured physical activity and invest in infrastructure that enables active recreation.

- Build system resilience and capacity

Support volunteers encourage good governance and diverse leadership and develop a strong evidence base.

- Connect investment in events, high performance, and infrastructure

Invest in state and regional facilities that underpin Victoria's event calendar and develop pathways to excellence.

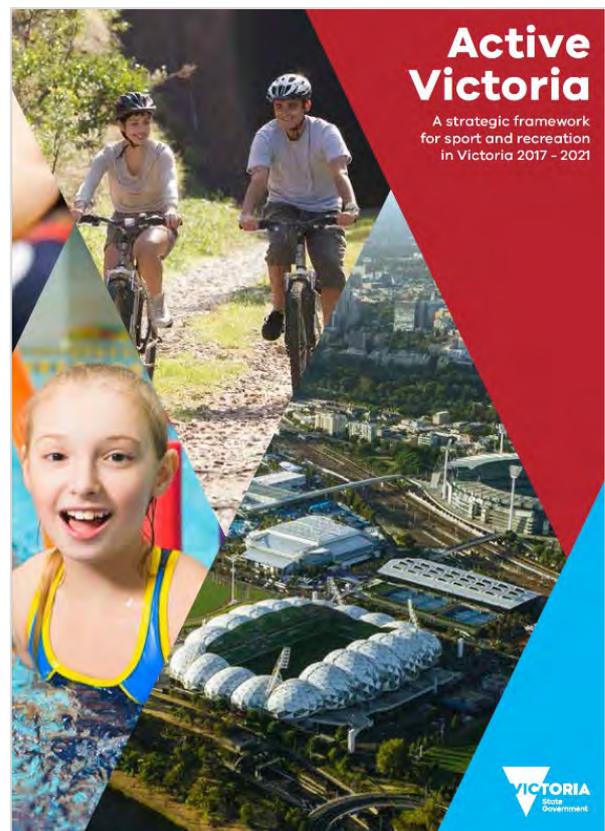
- Work together for shared outcomes

Develop agreed priorities for collaborative action and ensure complementary investment to create collective impact.

### Key takeaways:

- Increasing the level of participation of Victorians in sport and active recreation will boost demand for infrastructure, programs, and opportunities.
- Our population will also grow, almost doubling from 5.5 million in 2011 to 10.1 million by 2051, increasing this demand further.
- The mix of sport and active recreation activities enjoyed by Victorians is changing. Time and lifestyle pressures mean Victorians are looking for more flexible options that better fit their circumstances.

- Participation in sport falls significantly in the late teenage and young adult years and there is also a significant drop in sport and recreation activity as people age.
- Aboriginal Victorians, people with a disability, people with poor health, recently arrived migrants, and those with little or no English all have significantly lower levels of participation.
- People with low incomes or living in areas of relative socio-economic disadvantage are also much less likely to engage in any sport or active recreation activity.
- More Victorians participate in active recreation than in organised sport.
- Adult Victorians spend 736 million hours a year on physical recreation, exercise, and sport. Eighty per cent of these hours are spent in active recreation and 20 per cent in sport.
- The three most common activities – walking, fitness, and gym, and jogging or running – make up 44 per cent of all recorded sport and recreation activity.
- This means that increasing participation in active recreation offers the best opportunity to improve Victorian's health and wellbeing.



## Plan Melbourne (2017)

Plan Melbourne is the Victorian Government's Metropolitan Planning Strategy and outlines a number of key challenges that we face including managing population growth, growing the economy, creating affordable and accessible housing, improving transport, responding to climate change, and connecting communities.

Plan Melbourne is a long-term plan to accommodate Melbourne's future growth in population and employment. It includes:

- 9 PRINCIPLES that underpin a long-term vision for Melbourne
- 7 OUTCOMES to drive Melbourne as a competitive, liveable, and sustainable city
- 32 DIRECTIONS setting out how these outcomes can be achieved
- 90 POLICIES outlining how each outcome will be achieved

### Key principles:

The strategy notes the following nine key principles:

- A distinctive Melbourne
- A globally connected and competitive city
- A city of centres linked to regional Victoria
- Environmental resilience and sustainability
- Living locally — 20-minute neighbourhoods
- Social and economic participation
- Strong and healthy communities
- Infrastructure investment that supports balanced city growth
- Leadership and partnership

The strategy notes the following seven key outcomes that it aims to achieve, with a number of directions under each outcome:

- Melbourne is a productive city that attracts investment, supports innovation, and creates jobs
- Melbourne provides housing choice in locations close to jobs and services
- Melbourne has an integrated transport system that connects people to jobs and services and goods to market
- Melbourne is a distinctive and liveable city with quality design and amenity
- Melbourne is a city of inclusive, vibrant, and healthy neighbourhoods
- Melbourne is a sustainable and resilient city
- Regional Victoria is productive, sustainable and supports jobs and economic growth

### Key takeaways:

Of particular note for the Master Plan is the Strategy's directions and policies to:

- 'Improve local travel options to support 20-minute neighbourhoods'
- 'Strengthen community participation in the planning of our city'
- 'Create a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods'
- 'Create neighbourhoods that support safe communities and healthy lifestyles'
- 'Deliver social infrastructure to support strong communities'
- 'Deliver local parks and green neighbourhoods in collaboration with communities'
- 'Support a cooler Melbourne by greening urban areas, buildings, transport corridors and open spaces to create an urban forest'
- And an overarching commitment to responding to climate change through energy, water and waste performance including:
  - transitioning to a low-carbo city
  - integrate urban development and water cycle management
  - make Melbourne cooler and greener



# Metropolitan Open Space Network: Provision and Distribution (2017)

The Victorian Planning Authority's **Metropolitan Open Space Network: Provision and Distribution** report reviewed existing data and the many definitions and categories of open space that are utilised by state and local governments in order to understand Melbourne's open space network

## Key principles:

The VPA has identified a series of six fundamental network planning principles to guide assessment of open space provision across the metropolitan region, and to assist in identifying and prioritising potential interventions:

- **EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION**

Deliver a network of open spaces that are located to ensure community access within a safe 5-minute walk (approximately 400m) of 95% of residents.

- **ACCESS & CONNECTIVITY**

Create a network of open spaces that are accessible to all, free of charge and connected by safe pedestrian and cycle links, public transport options and where practicable co-located with community infrastructure.

- **QUALITY**

Design, build and maintain open spaces to optimise their capacity and resilience, and to enhance community appreciation.

- **QUANTITY**

Provide an appropriate amount of open space to cater for a range of community uses.

- **DIVERSITY**

Deliver a network of open space types (pocket, neighbourhood, community, district, municipal and regional parks) that provide for a range of uses, functions and differing levels of amenity.

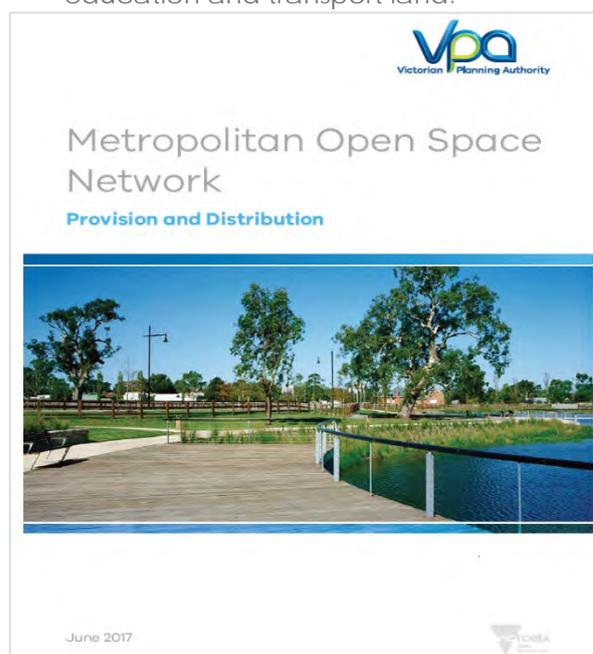
- **SUSTAINABILITY**

Create a network that is planned and managed to support biodiversity and city amenity which is also fit for purpose, fiscally responsible and resource efficient.

## Key takeaways:

The VPA has undertaken a rigorous mapping exercise of actual walkable access via the available path and trail networks across Melbourne. The result is a far more accurate assessment of open space network coverage which in turn will assist state and local government planners and designers to better target interventions and improvements. The benchmark used for this mapping is a 400m walking distance to a public open space feature. This assessment found that there is:

- 525HA of public open space in Moreland of which 215HA is natural open space, 143.7HA is parks and gardens, and 143.4HA is sports fields/organised recreation.
- 10.3% of the Moreland municipal area is public open space, higher than the average of 9.3% across the 32 metro LGAs (ranking it equal 14<sup>th</sup> overall)
- 31.5m<sup>2</sup> of public open space per person in Moreland, lower than the average of 57.7m<sup>2</sup> (ranking it the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest)
- 81% of the Moreland population are within 400m of public open space, the same as the average (ranking it 19<sup>th</sup> overall)
- 70% of public open space is local government owned in Moreland, higher than the average of 53.6% (ranking it the 8<sup>th</sup> highest overall). This is offset by significantly lower Crown land (8.78% Moreland v 31.5% average).
- 339HA of restricted public land in Moreland, ranking it the 10<sup>th</sup> highest overall. This includes things such as education and transport land.



# State Football Facilities Strategy to 2026 (2018)

**State Football Facilities Strategy** is Football Victoria's plan for facility development to 2026.

It outlines an ambitious target of 145 new pitches, 31 artificial surface pitches, 80 pitches in new schools, 96 lighting upgrades, 80 drainage upgrades, and 58 new pavilions across Victoria.

## *Key principles:*

The plan is underpinned by four goals and a number of key issues within each:

- More pitches
  - Additional pitches and new sites in growth areas
  - Schools
- Increase the carrying capacity of existing pitches
  - Lighting
  - Drainage, irrigation, and turf quality
  - Artificial turf pitches
- Facilities suitable for all levels of the game
  - Female friendly and accessible
  - Competition compliant
  - Regional venues
- Facility Development opportunities
  - Metro
  - Regional

## *Key takeaways:*

- the projected FFV membership in 2026 in Moreland is amongst the highest for the Metro area.
- Moreland will require 16 additional pitches by 2026.
- Lists a priority project for the region to add a new synthetic pitch in Moreland.



## LOCAL.

There are a number of Moreland City Council strategic plans and policies that will influence the provision and management of sporting reserves within the municipality. A brief overview of the primary influences from each is outlined below.

**Figure 25.** Moreland City Council Literature Review

ITEM	KEY FINDINGS
Active Women and Girls Strategy 2014	<p>The consultation and research identified Council's key challenges in the provision of sport, leisure and active recreation for women and girls are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ensuring the availability of adequate resources and co-ordinating the existing resources to maximise participation</li> <li>▪ continually introducing new opportunities to participate and develop pathways to ensure participants remain</li> <li>▪ creating and delivering on strategies that meet increasing and changing demand for facilities</li> <li>▪ improving the management of knowledge and information relating to sports, leisure, and physical activity opportunities within Moreland.</li> <li>▪ communicating with the community to ensure participants know where to source information, when they need it and that new opportunities are brought to attention in a timely manner</li> <li>▪ facilitating access to recreation facilities of the appropriate quality for women and girls</li> <li>▪ ensuring opportunities are inclusive</li> <li>▪ enhancing provision for cycling and walking</li> <li>▪ defining Council's role in meeting these challenges and establishing performance measurement criteria</li> </ul>
Allocation of Sporting Grounds and Pavilions Policy 2016	<p>The allocation and use of sporting facilities, grounds and pavilions policy seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maximise participation in sport and recreation on sporting facilities, grounds and pavilions;</li> <li>▪ Prioritise the allocation and use of sporting grounds and pavilions to clubs which are inclusive of females, actively support juniors, people with disabilities and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (CALD) to participate in sport and recreation;</li> <li>▪ Ensure sporting facilities, grounds and pavilions are allocated to clubs with sound governance structures, open membership, elected committees, and a demonstrated commitment to social responsibility;</li> <li>▪ Enable Council to address the needs of growth sports; and</li> <li>▪ Increase the number of participants, members, coaches, officials, spectators, and volunteers by reaching new audiences.</li> </ul> <p>Moreland City Council through previous and ongoing studies recognise four key priority groups within the sporting community who have traditionally participated less either as players, coaches, officials, or volunteers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Junior/youth sport</li> <li>▪ Women's and girls' sport</li> <li>▪ People with disabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People from CALD backgrounds</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>From March 2016, leasing and allocation of Council facilities will only be provided to clubs whose membership provides the following in their respective sporting codes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Junior teams/sides;</li> <li>▪ Female teams/sides;</li> <li>▪ registered sport association development programs; and</li> <li>▪ Female representation on club committee and/or board.</li> </ul> <p>Priority leasing and allocation of facilities will be given to clubs that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Are inclusive of people with disabilities, and actively support juniors, females, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (CALD) to participate in recreation;</li> <li>▪ Demonstrated participation by Moreland residents;</li> <li>▪ Comply with all previous occupancy requirements; and</li> <li>▪ Complete significant capital works to the satisfaction of Council.</li> </ul>
Asset Management Policy 2019	<p>The objective of this policy is to maintain Council's asset base through a long-term asset sustainability index averaging 95-105%. In meeting this objective Council will optimise the whole of life costs of its assets, whilst meeting the present and future service delivery needs of the community and minimising exposure to risk by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Allocation of funding to provide agreed services that is sustainable for current and future generations.</li> <li>▪ Evaluation of capital proposals according to their sustainability, need, risk and consequence.</li> <li>▪ Application of 'Renew' before 'Upgrade' or 'New' philosophy for asset related programs.</li> <li>▪ Replacement of assets at a rate consistent with their consumption (Capital Replacement),</li> </ul>

ITEM	KEY FINDINGS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Delivery of responsive services in a sustainable manner that meets quality of life, safety and amenity needs of the community.</li> </ul>
Community Engagement Policy 2020	<p>The Policy outlines the Councils commitment to genuinely involving the community in decision making so they can deliver better quality outcomes. It stipulates, among others, the following key considerations for Non-statutory projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Engage impacted parties when a decision is to be made by Council that may impact our community.</li> <li>▪ Engage impacted communities as early as practicable.</li> <li>▪ Where possible, host two stages of community engagement. Typically, in the first stage of engagement we will gather community input to inform a project, and in the second stage of engagement we will exhibit any draft documents for a minimum of 10 business days.</li> <li>▪ Typically allow 4-6 weeks for community engagement delivery as part of our overall project management processes. However shorter timeframes may be applied for some low impact/risk projects.</li> <li>▪ Allow 2 weeks minimum for our community to have notice of upcoming community engagement opportunities including time to read information prior.</li> <li>▪ Carry out technical research and/or impact assessments and/or other studies prior to seeking community input if this is required. This will ensure our community can be appropriately informed about the evidence base for a proposal and have informed discussions with us about it.</li> <li>▪ When a matter is complex, affecting multiple people with competing needs, interests and levels of rank, power, and influence; we aim to have in-depth conversations with our community to balance competing voices and find an outcome that delivers equitable benefits. Delivering equitable benefits means that we may not always make decisions based on the viewpoints of prominent voices or majority groups of participants. Instead we may make decisions based on our principles (e.g. principles of inclusion and community strengthening which include planning for the future Moreland community). The reasons and evidence behind our decision making will be explained to all parties.</li> <li>▪ In circumstances where we seek to implement a long-term strategy that comprises multiple projects; even if extensive community engagement has previously been carried out to develop the long-term strategy, we will undertake community engagement as required to deliver any individual projects of that strategy that may impact our community.</li> <li>▪ Where five years or more passes between a community engagement process and the implementation of a project; the community engagement should be regarded as no longer reliable and should be carried out afresh if a) this will ensure the effective implementation of the project, and b) there will be no detrimental impact on the community resulting from delays to the project caused by the need for further community engagement processes.</li> <li>▪ At the end of a community engagement process we will report back to those who have participated, to advise of the decision that has been made, and how community input influenced the process.</li> </ul>
Council Plan 2017-21	<p>The overarching vision in this plan for 2021 is that 'Moreland will be known for its proud diversity, and for being a connected, progressive and sustainable city in which to live, work and play'. To achieve this vision, three strategic objectives have been set: Connected Community; Progressive City; and Responsible Council. These three strategic objectives guide a range of priority actions which Council will implement during this term. Of particular note for this master plan are the key priorities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Set a clear vision and strategy for aquatics, leisure, and sporting facilities to meet ongoing community needs</li> <li>▪ Help people feel safer in our neighbourhoods</li> <li>▪ Facilitate a demonstrable shift to more sustainable modes of transport...</li> <li>▪ Increase tree canopy cover, enhance existing open space, and create at least two new parks, in areas with the lowest access to open space</li> <li>▪ Develop a clear and funded approach to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2040</li> <li>▪ <u>Maintain and match our infrastructure to community needs and population growth</u></li> </ul>
Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Public parks where dogs can exercise and socialise with other dogs are important. Moreland has 51 off-leash parks across the municipality. In all other parts of the municipality, dogs are required to be leashed. Dogs in public places present challenges, including: compliance by dog owners with off-leash requirements; compliance with dogs being prohibited from certain public places or areas within public places (e.g. within 15 metres of a playground); effective control of dogs in off-leash areas; removal of dog faeces from public places.</li> <li>▪ In the 2013 - 2017 Domestic Animal Management Plan, Council committed to investigating the possibility of funding a dog-agility park. This is an area that is fenced off with a dual-access gate entry. Benefits of providing an enclosed dog park include: people are more likely to interact in public places when accompanied by dogs; areas which attract dog owners are often community social hubs; off-leash and agility areas encourage owners to exercise with their dogs; well-exercised dogs are less likely to become bored and a nuisance. In</li> </ul>

ITEM	KEY FINDINGS
	<p>August 2017, Council consulted with the community to determine if there was support for an enclosed dog park and to determine the preferred location of the park. Council received overwhelming support for the construction of an enclosed park. Construction of the first enclosed dog park will occur in the 2017/18 financial year and a second dog park in the 2018/19 financial year.</p>
<p>Female Participation in Sport: Evaluation 2016</p>	<p>Moreland City Council (Council) commissioned the Institute of Sport, Exercise and Active Living (ISEAL), Victoria University, to conduct an evaluation of Council policies relating to attracting and sustaining female leaders and participants in local sport clubs. Key insights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the physical, cultural, and social environment is critical to encourage and retain females in sport clubs. Emphasis for longer-term success needs to focus on these insights and how Council can encourage, reward, and support such environments with clubs.</li> <li>▪ Most club managers reported an increase in female participants over the past four years and most believe the action prompted by Council policies has influenced the number of female participants.</li> <li>▪ The Council has positioned itself as a leader in encouraging females as leaders and participants in sport in Victoria, if not Australia. Recognition began from the 'Allocation of Sporting Grounds and Pavilions Policy' (2009), and policies and related strategies continue to expand to increase the number of girls and women in sport. To date the Council is recognised as a leader in Victoria, examples include: Winner of the Vicsport 2017, Local Government award for policy development and implementation of strategies to encourage females in sport; Only Council to present at the Minister of Sport and Minister of Women Female Friendly Facilities symposium, 2017; Recognised as providing good practice in policy design in the Ministerial Inquiry into Girls and Women in Sport and Active Recreation report, 2016; Recognised as a leader in Council and sport policy, accepting the invitation to present at the National Sport Convention, 2016.</li> <li>▪ Four factors are associated with enhancing related policies, strategies and programs that target females in sport: 1. Policy implementation and adoption; 2. Assessing policy impact; 3. Policy focus; and 4. Incentives for clubs who are performing well.</li> <li>▪ Council has identified that female participation, as a percentage of all hiring/usage of their sports grounds has risen from 8% to 22% (2016/17).</li> </ul>
<p>Industrial Land Strategy 2015-30</p>	<p>The Moreland Industrial Land Strategy 2015-2030 (MILS) guides planning decisions about the future of Moreland's industrial land. The Strategy is underpinned by Council's broad commitment to a strong and prosperous economy and to creating sustainable neighbourhoods where residents can access services and businesses locally and have the opportunity to find jobs locally. In summary, the MILS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Retains Moreland's three large concentrations of industrial zoned land in Brunswick, North Coburg, and Newlands. Some revisions to the boundaries of the Brunswick and North Coburg core areas have been made. A number of smaller concentrations of industrial land are also recommended for retention. The area immediately South of Hosken reserve, essentially running from Bakers Rd to Gaffney St, is defined as a 'core industry and employment area' – this also includes the existing adjacent South-East block of industrial properties.</li> <li>▪ Allows for the transition of other industrial zoned land to prioritise alternative employment uses and, in some instances, to allow for a transition to multi-use or residential outcomes, depending on the geographic characteristics of the land and its suitability for continued industrial or alternative employment uses. This includes the area immediately adjacent to Hosken Reserve in the North-East, defined as a 'Transition-residential area'.</li> </ul>
<p>Integrated Transport Strategy 2019</p>	<p>Aim to 'Facilitate a demonstrable mode shift to more sustainable modes of transport that also targets a long-term reduction in car use' by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Permitting less parking in new developments to allow people to choose a lower level of parking to suit their needs</li> <li>▪ Expanding parking restrictions to protect local streets from changes to parking requirements in new developments</li> <li>▪ Reallocating space from cars and car parking to walking, cycling and public transport</li> <li>▪ Reallocating space for greener, more pleasant streets</li> <li>▪ Creating more pedestrian crossings</li> <li>▪ Close some local roads to through traffic</li> <li>▪ Work with schools to support walking and cycling</li> <li>▪ Work with communities to support behaviour change</li> </ul>
<p>Integrated Water Management Strategy 2040</p>	<p>The plan's vision is that 'Moreland will be a Water Sensitive City; a liveable city where we take good care of our waterways and make the most of our precious water resources. We keep our open spaces resilient to climate change impacts and, enhance urban and natural environments and support community health and wellbeing. Council leads by example and working together with our key partners, supports community actions to become a water sensitive city.' It will do this by implementing a range of actions including the following that are pertinent for this master plan:</p>

ITEM	KEY FINDINGS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All projects constructed by Council to investigate implementation of an integrated water management approach for managing stormwater</li> <li>▪ Investigate the inclusion of passive irrigation systems for all newly planted council trees as part of capital works (e.g. tree planting program) to support tree health and canopy density to increase cooling.</li> <li>▪ Investigate sustainable water options for sports fields (e.g. turf types and irrigation volume, turf and soil health and Soil Moisture Monitoring)</li> <li>▪ Reduce Council's mains water use</li> <li>▪ Increase Council alternative water use where there will be overall positive impact on the environment</li> <li>▪ Increase urban tree resilience supported by water, increase permeability</li> <li>▪ Reduce flood extent, reduce urban heat island</li> <li>▪ Reduce stormwater pollutant loads and flow volumes discharged to receiving waters</li> <li>▪ Increase provision of water for biodiversity</li> </ul>
Municipal Strategic Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Moreland has experienced strong population growth, and this is forecast to continue in the future. The population is expected to grow to over 250,000 people by 2036 and an additional 38,000 dwellings. Around 1920 dwellings a year will be required to accommodate this growth. The majority of population growth is expected to occur in Brunswick, Brunswick East, and Coburg, with this corridor accounting for 53 per cent of future population growth.</li> <li>▪ Focuses on managing growth in accordance with the 20-minute neighbourhood principle; where communities can 'live locally' and access many of their daily needs within a 20-minute walk, cycle, or public transport trip from their home.</li> <li>▪ Moreland is a highly urbanised municipality with few native vegetation remnant patches or scattered trees remaining. Moreland's landscape is under pressure from a growing population, urban densification, and climate change. Urban consolidation, loss of backyards and incremental loss of vegetation to infrastructure make it difficult to maintain biodiversity. Council seeks to improve and protect its environmental and landscape values by: Creating a diverse urban forest of trees and other vegetation that will enhance urban ecology and greening in both the public and private realm.</li> <li>▪ Moreland is committed to creating an environmentally sustainable and liveable city; where development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Incorporating sustainability principles in the design of buildings provides ongoing benefits by: Reducing living costs associated with housing, such as energy costs; Improved amenity and liveability; Reduced greenhouse gas emissions; and Greater resilience to the impacts of climate change</li> <li>▪ Open Space is important to the liveability of Moreland and the health of people living, working, and recreating in the municipality. Moreland has an open space network that includes sports fields, conservation areas, playgrounds, and recreation trails, as well as public land provided for drainage and utility purposes that is used or valued for leisure and environmental purposes. Public spaces, such as town squares, public plazas and streetscapes also make a significant contribution to the overall provision of public spaces in Moreland. Specific areas in Moreland have been assessed as deficient in the provision of open space and these are identified on the Strategic Framework Plan: Open Space at Clause 02.04 – the area in and surrounding Hosken Reserve is not identified as an open space gap area.</li> <li>▪ Council seeks to improve its open space and recreational opportunities by: Supporting the provision of a diverse open space network for amenity, recreational and ecological reasons. Prioritising new open space in areas where there is a deficiency in the open space provision as identified on Strategic Framework Plan: Open Space. Expanding and enhancing the open space corridor along the Moonee Ponds, Merri, and Edgars Creek waterways.</li> </ul>
Nature Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Moreland Nature Plan is the first dedicated plan towards the protection and enhancement of biodiversity in Moreland. It highlights the challenges for nature in the City including climate change, habitat fragmentation, loss of diversity and impacts from increasing urban development. It also identifies many opportunities, particularly for supporting greater community connection to nature such as potential for inclusion of nature in parks, schools, nature-strips and private backyards and other private outdoor spaces. These programs will not only have biodiversity benefits but are increasingly being recognised as having significant health and well-being benefits for community.</li> <li>▪ The accompanying implementation plan is based on four themes: Protecting and enhancing biodiversity on Council managed land; Seeking opportunities for the private realm to contribute positively to biodiversity; Connecting people to nature; and Improving governance and collaboration in natural resource management.</li> <li>▪ An investigation into the economic benefits of open space in Moreland was undertaken in 2019 (Natural Capital Economics 2019) to better understand this connection. The study used an ecosystem services valuation approach and quantified the following key benefits from open spaces in Moreland for which data</li> </ul>

ITEM	KEY FINDINGS
	<p>is readily available: Property price premiums; Recreation; Avoided health costs due to physical inactivity; Traffic decongestion from bicycle commute.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Based on the four benefits, the investigation identified Moreland's open spaces have an estimated value of \$94 million per annum and indicated annual benefits of \$152,000 per hectare.</li> <li>▪ It specifically notes the wetlands at Hosken Reserve and its contribution to the wider habitat network.</li> </ul>
North West Region - Football Venue Strategic Review and Feasibility 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Strategy notes that even in 2009, 'The City of Moreland is currently unable to meet the high level of demand for the provision of football facilities and key facility infrastructure requirements across all grounds. Accommodating the rapid growth in the popularity of the sport particularly among junior age groups is also a challenge and clubs are exceeding their capacity.</li> <li>▪ It nominates Richards Reserve as a potential site to provide a regional centre, CB Smith Reserve as a nominated Municipal-wide venue and the potential provision of a synthetic pitch at Fawkner Secondary College, Clifton Park and Hosken Reserve.</li> </ul>
NWMR Tennis Strategy 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is expected that by 2021 up to 20,000 additional people may participate in organised tennis in the north west metropolitan region. Additional courts will be required in new development areas to service this population growth.</li> <li>▪ In utilising TV's court ratio benchmark of one tennis court per 2,000 people, an additional 127 courts in the region would be required to maintain this level of provision in 2021.</li> <li>▪ Based on available information, Moreland has 12 tennis facilities, comprising 61 tennis courts. The breakdown in respect to court surfaces is as follows: 5 are hard courts, 26 are sand filled artificial grass, and 30 are porous courts. 84% (46) of tennis courts are lit. In respect to the Tennis Australia facilities hierarchy, 63% (8) of clubs could be classified as local clubs.</li> <li>▪ Based on the current court provision for metropolitan Melbourne there are 1,289 people per tennis court. If applied to Moreland's projected population in 2021, 125 would meet the average. This is over double of what is currently available.</li> <li>▪ The population of Moreland is expected to grow by 8.3% by 2021, at an annual rate of 0.8%. This equates to a 9.9% increase in organised tennis participation and a 7.9% increase in non-organised tennis participation.</li> <li>▪ The strategy provides no direct reference to the tennis facilities at Hosken Reserve.</li> </ul>
Open Space Strategy 2012-22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Moreland Open Space Strategy sets Council a cohesive direction for the future provision, planning, design, and management of publicly owned open space that is set aside for leisure, recreation and nature conservation purposes. The main aim is to preserve and enhance its environmental values and provide for future community needs.</li> <li>▪ Seven key open space issues are identified in this strategy. These are: 1. Providing parks close to home; 2. Having a mix of open space types and experiences; 3. Making places for nature; 4. A greener more liveable Moreland; 5. Making the most of open space through effective management; 6. Enhancing participation and use of open space; and 7. Development of a network of shared trails</li> <li>▪ In the City of Moreland there is an estimated 839ha of open space - 6.2ha of open space per thousand residents in Moreland (4.2ha publicly accessible open space not including restricted access land such as the Northern Golf Course and the Fawkner Memorial Park). Some 200.2ha of open space is provided specifically for sport and recreation. This equates to 1.5ha per thousand residents.</li> <li>▪ This strategy recommends that open space is provided within 500m of all residential properties, and 300m of all activity centres. Due to the specific requirement to provide some function types, shared trails within 800m; and sports reserves within 1km of all residential properties.</li> <li>▪ Analysis shows that sports reserves in the municipality are generally well distributed within a 1km catchment of residences. Few areas are well served by social / family recreation spaces; however some sporting reserves and schools provide this as a secondary function, and these should be further investigated to determine priority areas for enhancing the quality and quantity of social / family recreation spaces.</li> <li>▪ The City has a relatively good distribution and range of types of open space. It has an unusually high quantity of land dedicated to memorial parks, as these are regional assets serving the whole of Melbourne's north. For an inner-city Council, Moreland also has a good resource of land reserved for conservation of flora and fauna. The area and number of open spaces serving social / family recreation are less generous and these are not well distributed.</li> <li>▪ The City also has a relatively good range of spaces based on landscape setting type. There is a surprising quantity of treed parkland or bushland, considering the distance from the CBD. A large proportion of this area is the Fawkner Memorial Park, for which Council is not responsible.</li> <li>▪ Coburg has 152.4ha of public open space. Two major social / family recreation spaces, Lake Reserve and Harmony Park, are located here. Edgars and Merri Creeks provide the major bushland open space in the suburb, with the Upfield Railway Line providing another valuable north-south oriented off-road trail. Only five parcels of social / family recreation open space are identified in the suburb,</li> </ul>

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	<p>with Lake Reserve the most significant social / family recreation reserve in Moreland. There are a large number of smaller spaces with a play function, suggesting there is scope for embellishment of some of these spaces to cater for a wider range of age groups and activities. Coburg is relatively well served by open space, however there are some small pockets with poor access to open space, and key barriers, such as Sydney Road, Bell Street and the Upfield Railway that make it difficult to access open space safely.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It notes the area to the West of Hosken Reserve, between Sussex St and Cumberland Road as an area not within 500m of open space.</li> <li>▪ A survey was undertaken that provides important insights for the future planning of open space in Moreland. It found that the most common reasons for usage was exercise, and for taking children along to play. Other reasons related to other forms of exercise such as walking the dog or general leisure, recreation, or sports. This emphasises the range of function type and landscape settings required for high usage of the open space network.</li> <li>▪ Of note was that 30% of respondents reported that there was nothing (or they did not know) what they would like to see improved. This indicates a lack of awareness of open space, something Council can address through greater marketing and promotion. Comments about recreation facilities were most common; with 20% citing something should be improved or added. Closer analysis of this theme revealed these individuals were most likely to cite more playgrounds / play equipment / skate parks / or updated play equipment, followed by better maintained walking tracks. Further common themes included: improvements to general amenities; (specifically more seats); barbecues and drinking fountains; comments related to trees; plants and gardens (specifically in terms of more green spaces, parks, and gardens); and better maintenance of parks and gardens; and more trees.</li> <li>▪ Generally there is a desire for more open space, and strong support for the principle of an equitable distribution throughout the municipality.</li> <li>▪ While there was a desire for more open space, most people saw this as unrealistic and therefore suggested ways of increasing the diversity, quality, and accessibility of what already exists. Many respondents questioned the relative allocations for different uses in open space, suggesting that there is a need for more informal recreation areas, more multi-use areas and fewer single-purpose sporting grounds.</li> <li>▪ Safety and feeling safe while using open space emerged as a major issue for many people, particularly, women and older people. The main problems highlighted were lack of lighting, lack of cleaning (broken glass, syringes), and lack of "supervision". Unmanaged dogs off the leash also rated highly.</li> <li>▪ The needs of older people are widely recognised as being under-catered for in Moreland's open space. Meeting basic needs such as seats with a view (perhaps near a play area), shade, well-maintained paths and providing a wider range of opportunities was seen as vital to cater for Moreland's ageing community. Children's play areas were seen as varying in quality, with little diversity available across the municipality. Small play areas close to home, and spaces where informal ball games are allowed were important. Play areas for older children are perceived to be lacking.</li> </ul>
Park Close to Home 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Park Close to Home: A Framework to Fill Open Space Gaps (the Framework) has been prepared to assist Council to provide a 'park close to home' – a key goal of the Moreland Open Space Strategy (MOSS). This Framework guides the proactive expenditure of Councils open space fund to create open space in the areas that have the least access to open space, to remove or reduce gaps in open space provision before land prices and population further rise.</li> <li>▪ This Framework establishes a methodology to identify the open space gap areas that require the most urgent attention. High and medium priority gap areas are those that have the highest population and density, highest population growth and lowest amount of open space in the surrounding suburb. The Framework establishes a process to ensure land purchase to address high and medium priority gap areas occurs proactively, rather than waiting for appropriate land to come on the market for sale. Once land is purchased, it will be converted into open space in accordance with findings of a design and consultation phase to service both the gap area and surrounds.</li> <li>▪ It reinforces the MOSS finding that the area East of Hosken Reserve as a 'low priority open space gap area'.</li> <li>▪ In 2016, there was 113.3 square metres of unrestricted open space per person in Coburg North – the highest in Moreland and more than 4 times the Moreland average of 27.8 square metres per person. There are 42 open space gap areas in Moreland, 14 of which have been assessed as either a high or medium priority for creating open space. There are no open space gap areas in Coburg North that require closure.</li> </ul>
Parking Implementation Plan 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The purpose of the Parking Implementation Plan is to provide further detail on car parking related actions in the MITS, both to provide strong justification for these changes and to provide further detail to guide implementation. Importantly, this</li> </ul>

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	<p>document provides the detail required to implement changes to the Moreland Planning Scheme envisaged by MITS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In the context of Moreland, the adoption of status quo car parking provision requirements is unlikely to achieve transport change and as such a “vision and validate” approach should be considered to set maximum parking policies in key areas which would apply to new developments.</li> <li>▪ Moreland is growing. To cater for this demand sustainably, change will be required to the way that space is allocated. To achieve this change investment will be required. The reallocation of parking space to support improvements to movement networks, road safety and creation of great places should be supported and could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reallocating Space for Movement - Parking could be considered for removal when it provides an overall benefit to the sustainable movement of people in circumstances such as: Improves pedestrian linkages, pathways, and connections; Improves the operation and capacity of public transport routes; Improves cycling corridors and connectivity.</li> <li>▪ Reallocating Space for Safety - Parking must ensure that it does not impose on the safety of people using other modes. This is particularly relevant along cycling routes and around schools. To improve road safety, parked vehicles must not hinder the safety of other modes. Similar to above, parking should be given less priority where required to improve safety.</li> <li>▪ Reallocating Space for Place - Parking should be considered for removal when it is demonstrated to provide an overall benefit to the creation of ‘places’ in Moreland. This could include circumstances such as, but not limited to: Creating new green spaces and street tree planting opportunities to improve pedestrian amenity; Creating places for sustainable transport end of trip facilities; Creating improved outdoor dining; Creating improved places for storage of vehicles for those with reduced mobility and for sustainable vehicles.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Council should ensure that all public parking resources in and around activity centres are time restricted or provided as permit parking to ensure vehicles are not stored on-street over the long-term except as permitted by parking permits for existing residents, and to encourage fair use of a restricted resource.</li> </ul>
Pavilion Strategy 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The aim of the Strategy was to review the current level of provision and standard of Council-owned sporting pavilions in Moreland and provide strategic directions for the future provision, use and redevelopment of these pavilions.</li> <li>▪ The Strategy covers sporting pavilions that are occupied by sporting clubs under seasonal or annual agreements. In Moreland, these pavilions are used by football, cricket, netball, soccer, lacrosse, and baseball clubs. The Strategy does not cover pavilions that are occupied by sporting clubs under lease arrangements. In Moreland, these pavilions are used by tennis, lawn bowls, cycling, athletics, croquet, and gun clubs.</li> <li>▪ It provides a pavilion hierarchy that recognises the standard of competition that Council will allow to be played at the reserves being served by the pavilions and the current and future roles of the reserves (i.e. are they/will they be secondary or primary reserves).</li> <li>▪ Hosken is classified as a Local (meaning it caters for clubs in levels other than the highest grade of competition), Primary (meaning it is a defined ‘home’ base for a club), Soccer – A class (meaning it caters for NPL women’s and men’s competitions) facility.</li> <li>▪ It provides specific site-based actions including: Reconfigure internally and potentially expand the pavilion to improve functionality and meet MCC Facility Standards for primary soccer venues (Class A). Address the following deficits: Number of change facilities and amenities areas; Provision of a 2nd first aid room (15m2); Larger social room (min 150m2).</li> <li>▪ A recent example of a usage change that occurred which impacted on pavilion needs was at Hosken Reserve. For many years, the second playing field at this reserve was used for soccer and cricket and the pavilion catered for soccer in the winter season and cricket in the summer. Cricket has recently been relocated and all the playing fields and pavilion are now solely used for soccer. The resident soccer club has been promoted through the competition grades and is now in the Premier Division (NPL1) and the Reserve is highly likely to remain a soccer only reserve in the medium to long term. Similar changes in use or standard of competition may occur at other Moreland reserves.</li> </ul>
Play Strategy 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This strategy is based on an analysis of the municipality’s existing play spaces and will guide Council in the management and maintenance of existing spaces, as well as identifying priorities for design, development, and funding allocation for new play space developments. It is based on three key areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Accessible:</b> Ensure all Moreland residents and visitors can safely walk no more than 500m from home to a local play space. Areas which do not meet this aim should be prioritised for the creation of new play spaces, with an emphasis on areas of disadvantage and low levels of outdoor exercise.</li> <li>▪ <b>Quality:</b> Offer a range of connected play experiences involving structured and natural elements in an attractive and landscaped setting that is well designed,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<p>maintained and meets the relevant best practice and safety guidelines. Moreland's play spaces should aim to attract and encourage more frequent use to promote social interaction and increase the community's sense of ownership of the space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Diverse:</b> Moreland's play spaces should cater for a range of ages, abilities and activities involving structured and natural play spaces that specifically encourage children to develop and explore a variety of challenges.</li> <li>▪ Hosken Reserve is defined as a small local play facility that was originally built in 1994. It was recommended for upgrade in the 18/19FY (this has occurred) and as such, limited further development would be required.</li> <li>▪ The strategy does not the following key design considerations that are important for this masterplan: Increase opportunities for nature play experiences, make better use of the natural environment and landscaping to enhance play opportunities; Make play spaces suitable for children of a wider range of ages, from 0 to 11; Add or upgrade accompanying amenities such as shade, seating, drink fountains, paths and toilets in line with the play space hierarchy and future design framework; Assess potential hazards (main roads, creeks, off-leash dogs, falling branches) at each play space and consider strategic design interventions to manage high safety risks where needed; Publicise, and continue to enforce the local law requiring dogs to be on lead within 15 metres of play spaces, regardless of whether the surrounding area is an off-leash zone; Work in conjunction with the IT and Youth Services Units to explore the provision of free public Wi-Fi when play spaces are upgraded.</li> </ul>
Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Two focus areas: Healthy Communities and Liveable Neighbourhoods with a range of outcomes underneath each. Pertinent to this masterplan are the following outcomes and 4-year priorities within:</li> <li>▪ HC; Outcome 1: Moreland residents are physically active at all stages of life: Council will provide a variety of high quality aquatic, leisure and sporting facilities to meet community needs; Council will encourage a diverse range of active and passive recreation activities that reflect the priorities of our diverse community; Council will promote the ongoing benefits of formal and informal forms of physical activity; Council will promote the benefits of incidental exercise and of choosing sustainable modes of transport where possible; Council will support inclusive sports environments that promote the participation of women, juniors and priority groups, outlined in the Moreland Active Women and Girls Strategy, Allocation of Sporting Grounds and Pavilions Policy, and the Human Rights Policy; Council will develop and maintain partnerships with sporting clubs, associations, health agencies, and service providers to enhance residents' participation in physical activities.</li> <li>▪ LN Outcome 4: Moreland residents have access to well designed and well-located community facilities: Council community infrastructure planning will consider a growing and changing population and prioritise local access to health, education, social, leisure and cultural facilities; Council will ensure that the provision of community infrastructure is based on strong evidence of community need and value; Council will ensure the design of community facilities allows for multi-purpose use by different groups, with the flexibility to adapt to changing needs over time; Council will ensure the design and location of community infrastructure contributes to a sense of place and opportunities for social connections; Council will explore investment partnerships for the development of consolidated community facilities that enable a variety of services at the one location.</li> <li>▪ LN Outcome 6: Moreland residents have access to open spaces close to where they live: Council will ensure that every household has safe and convenient access to parkland for passive recreation, quiet contemplation, sport and access to nature; Council will provide and protect quality open space that provides a range of experiences and accessible recreational opportunities, natural and cultural heritage features, and high quality park facilities and landscape settings; Council will identify, acquire and develop open spaces in areas where there is a lack of open space; 4 Council will encourage participation and recreational use of open spaces.</li> </ul>
Public Lighting Policy 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Moreland's Public Lighting Policy provides a consistent and flexible approach to design, installation, and management of public lighting throughout the municipality. Council is committed towards a zero-carbon emissions municipality by 2030 and future proofing unmetered/metered public space lighting.</li> <li>▪ Council has committed to reducing its greenhouse emissions to zero by 2030. Street lighting is the second greatest source of GHG from Council operations, representing up to 30% of Council emissions in 2017/2018.</li> <li>▪ Council aims to meet, but not exceed the requirements of the Australian Standards unless there are particular reasons to do so. This is to ensure that Council minimises costs and conserves energy. In many areas of Moreland over lighting has occurred in the past.</li> <li>▪ The policy focuses on the provision of LED lighting and use of dusk to dawn timers, motion sensor activated lighting and specific consideration of the impact of lighting on biodiversity values of sites.</li> </ul>

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Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Council is committed to the long-term planning for recreation and sport which is a key contributor in maintaining and improving the health and wellbeing of the Moreland community. This commitment will ensure that facilities and services are provided with careful consideration of current needs, as well as future community expectations.</li> <li>▪ The Strategy sets the foundation and priorities across three key strategic directions along with detailed actions for Council and partners to provide a range of sport and recreational participation opportunities over the next ten years and beyond:</li> <li>▪ 1 - Increasing participation by Moreland residents in sport and active recreation and fostering strong relationships with local recreation clubs, associations, peak bodies and government agencies; 2 - Ensuring an adequate supply and distribution of good quality sporting infrastructure used in the most effective and efficient manner possible; 3 - Ensuring Moreland City Council's approach to sport and active recreation provision is underpinned and well informed by robust policies, strategies and plans.</li> <li>▪ Moreland's junior sports age cohort (8-17) is projected to increase by around 4,120 (or 24%) and Moreland's main senior sports age cohort (18-35) is projected to increase by around 5,920 (or 9%) over the next 17 years.</li> <li>▪ Over that past decade, participation rates in most outdoor recreation activities have risen, some significantly – particularly in junior and women's teams in competition sport, youth and young adults in social unstructured sport and middle and older adults in informal recreational activities like cycling, running, gym, swimming, and dog walking.</li> <li>▪ This increase in participation is not universal across Melbourne. For example, areas with high CALD population, like Moreland, have comparatively lower participation levels. Communities with less access to facilities have lower participation levels. Also, the increase is not universal across all sports. There are some sports, such as cricket, tennis, and bowls, where competition participation rates in some parts of Melbourne are declining. Conversely, there are some sports where casual or social participation is increasing, e.g. social cricket, soccer, bowls, tennis, and basketball.</li> <li>▪ Traditionally, active sports reserves were used for structured sporting purposes. This use was typically during the day on weekends and the early evenings on weekdays. The reserves would sit near idle at other times. This trend has changed in recent decades and sports reserves are now seen as community recreation reserves which provide for both structured and unstructured recreation.</li> <li>▪ Schools are increasingly using Council's sporting reserves for their physical education activities and intra and interschool sports, particularly schools situated on small sites in inner City locations (like many Moreland Schools). Some are using the reserves for their morning and lunchtime play activities. This increased school use is adding to the load on playing fields and pavilions and reducing the recovery time of the playing fields.</li> <li>▪ Continue to encourage the use of Council's outdoor sporting venues by schools.</li> <li>▪ Investigate the actions that Council can take to encourage residents to more frequently use active and passive reserves for social sport and informal recreation activities – accessible spaces, dog facilities, circuit paths, other walking and bike paths, exercise stations, rebound walls, cricket nets, soccer nets, rebound walls, climbing walls and other like play facilities.</li> <li>▪ Undertake a high level, strategic and integrated analysis of Moreland's open spaces and recreation facilities (involving all relevant sections of Council) that will inform and prioritise Council's capital investments in recreation, open space and community infrastructure and assist in the development of Council's community infrastructure plan.</li> <li>▪ Review the Council's formal hierarchy system for classifying Council's sports reserves and pavilions.</li> <li>▪ Regularly review and amend, when necessary, Council's recreation policies.</li> <li>▪ Prepare a development plan for Richards reserve.</li> <li>▪ In particular reference to Hosken Reserve it notes to implement existing masterplan recommendations, refurbish the pavilion facilities (\$222k in 21/22 FY), develop a synthetic field including sports field lighting (\$1.2m in 21/22 FY) and reconstruct the playing field (\$600k in 21/22 FY).</li> <li>▪ Referencing the Merlynston Tennis Club it notes to convert remaining en-tout-cas courts to synthetic grass (\$100k in 21/22FY) and upgrade the toilet facilities.</li> <li>▪ It also notes to upgrade the pavilion (\$700k in 19/20 FY) and playing field (\$220k 10+ years away) at Richards Reserve to accommodate cycling and soccer.</li> </ul>
Sports field Condition Assessment 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Notes industry best practice maintenance programs and associated annual costs for High (\$50-55k), Medium (\$31-37k) and Low (\$24-29k) maintenance standards.</li> <li>▪ It also provides indicative costs for a range of capital works projects including levelling (\$145k/HA), existing drainage upgrade (\$20k/HA), new drainage (\$50k/HA), irrigation (\$50k/HA), sprigging (\$15k/HA), seeding (\$3.5k/HA), sodding (\$100k/HA) and full reconstruction (\$550k/HA).</li> <li>▪ Average usage level of the sports fields is approximately 11.7 hours/week and ranges from no usage to an excessively high 33 hours/week for a total of 573 hours/week across the 49 sports fields. The maximum potential usage level of a</li> </ul>

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	<p>well-constructed sports field (i.e. sand profile, effective drainage system, irrigated, warm-season turf oversewn with ryegrass) with a high level of maintenance is 21 to 25 hours/week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Given that there are several sports fields that are being underused there is capacity to move some usage (especially training) or teams from the overused sports fields to the underused sports fields.</li> <li>▪ Encourage clubs to adopt training strategies that minimise wear/damage to the playing surface. Any training activities must be spread over the entire ground and training on weak areas (e.g. in front of the pavilion) and the centre corridor avoided. All drill work must be conducted off the playing surface. Any pre-season training must be strictly controlled as the overuse of a sports field at the start of the season will significantly reduce the amount of use it can sustain for the rest of the season.</li> <li>▪ Consideration should also be given to formulating/reviewing how sports field usage is managed including; - Setting usage limits to prevent sports fields from being overused; - Having a usage policy in place that addresses pre-season training, training restrictions (e.g. no training in high wear &amp; weak areas), training relocation (e.g. move off sports fields under wet conditions), ground closures if surface conditions become critical, enforcement of usage limits and penalties for any breaches by Clubs; - Having dedicated training fields where a lower surface quality can be tolerated; - Making available training facilities (indoor, synthetic, hard court etc.) during periods when the main facilities are most vulnerable to damage (e.g. after rain); - Installing training lights across a whole facility or providing portable lighting so training can be spread more evenly across the field; - Providing movable goals; - Educating sporting clubs on usage issues especially training practices so that they have some buy-in / ownership</li> <li>▪ Synthetics can sustain significantly higher use allowing activities to be intensively programmed (i.e. more teams, training etc.) with minimal impact on the surface. A high-quality turf surface (e.g. sand profile, effective drainage system, irrigated, warm-season turf that is oversewn) can be used for 21 to 25 hours per week (at best) but it must be closed for about 6 weeks/year for renovation. This equates to 966 to 1,150 hours of use per year. A synthetic surface can be used from 30 to 60 hours per week depending on quality of the product installed. This equates to around 1,560 to 3,120 hours per year. The level of use on a synthetic surface will impact directly on its lifespan and maintenance costs.</li> <li>▪ States that Hosken Reserve North is 1.3HA cool-season, sandy clay loam with a shallow topsoil depth with no drainage. It is a Council rated B level field that received a medium maintenance level but was recommended to be reclassified to an A level field.</li> <li>▪ Notes that Hosken Reserve South is a 0.8HA cool-season, sandy clay loam with a shallow topsoil depth and partial spoon drain that is performing poorly. It is a council rated A level field that receives a high maintenance level.</li> <li>▪ Both fields were noted for having 21hr/week of usage (high) in comparison to a recommended 6-10 hr/week based on existing turf profile, received a condition score of 79%/good and interestingly neither were noted for poor winter durability, although both had coverage, thatching and drainage issues.</li> <li>▪ Both fields were recommended for drainage and sprigging at a minimum, which would improve its capacity from low (6-10hr) to moderate (11-15hrs). A full reconstruction is also recommended for both fields which would increase capacity to high (21-25hrs).</li> </ul>
Sustainable Buildings Policy 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The purpose of this Sustainable Buildings Policy is to incorporate sustainable design and operation into all Council buildings. This will be achieved by applying the policy to all new Council buildings and projects to upgrade, renovate and refurbish existing buildings where practical.</li> <li>▪ This policy applies to buildings owned or managed by Council. The policy is designed to provide clear, industry-understood requirements for use by project managers, designers, architects, engineers, and other building contractors. These requirements are deliberately specific; they are written for direct insertion into tender specification documents.</li> <li>▪ It focuses on recommended design considerations for lighting, HVAC, hot water, renewable energy, water efficiency and stormwater, comfort, materials, building fabric, equipment fit out, transport, urban ecology, and management.</li> <li>▪ Most importantly for the master plan are recommendations for LED lighting, no net loss of site biodiversity, 75% of the total project site area comprises building or landscaping elements that reduce the impact of heat island effect, where deemed suitable 85% retention of stormwater on a lot, which may require a combination of rainwater tanks and infiltration (non-lined) rainwater gardens,</li> </ul>
Synthetic Needs Analysis 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This Hybrid and Synthetic Sports Surface Needs Study aims to support Council's commitment to an active Moreland by identifying how the technology of hybrid and synthetic surfaces can improve sports fields in a manner that can both satisfy demand and allow Council, clubs, schools, and others to encourage greater participation in play, recreation, and community sports.</li> </ul>

ITEM	KEY FINDINGS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In response to the challenges of supply and demand, Moreland has invested significantly in the use of warm season grasses, improved water management, the construction of three synthetic pitches and altering horticultural practices. However, Moreland is continually looking for more sustainable solutions to help local sport thrive in the face of weather extremes and increasing participation rates. Artificial grass surfaces have proven to be a viable alternative because they are easy to maintain and durable; provide a consistent playing surface; do not require watering or mowing; and most importantly allow up to three times as many hours of use than natural turf surfaces.</li> <li>▪ With an increasing population and increasing demand for sportsground use from local sporting clubs, schools and commercial providers Council finds itself in a position in which it must explore ways to allow for greater utilisation of its existing sportsgrounds.</li> <li>▪ By planning and embracing hybrid and synthetic sports surface technology Council will increase playing capacity on natural playing fields from 20+ to 30+ hours a week with the introduction of hybrid turf. Where further capacity is needed the embracement of synthetic turf technology should allow for playing capacity in excess of 30 hours per week to 60 hours which should then allow natural turf fields the time to recover and rest ensuring an integrated and sustainable sports fields strategy to meet growing playing needs. With key synthetic facilities throughout the city that allows for greater usage, to best encourage growth in training, ability to compete and to rest traditional natural turf fields for competition purposes.</li> <li>▪ Recommends that: The adoption of hybrid/root-reinforced technology for high wearing areas should be strategically adopted on key fields annually to extend play to a minimum of 25 hrs per week; Extend the use of synthetic sports turf to Active Moreland Sport Zones which can be used in smaller spaces to provide recreational opportunities for young people to play recreationally where there is a growing children and youth population that currently over use small park areas; A three-year review should assess priorities against playing capacity/condition of each field; standards of play needed; economic conditions; growth of the participation and strategic alignment; Develop fields that are environmentally friendly and aligns with Councils ESD Policy.</li> <li>▪ The report is confusing with various references to Hosken specific recommendations including: Notes the existing project of installing a synthetic pitch at Hosken Reserve and further recommends that the Hosken Reserve (Southern field) is upgraded to a hybrid surface in the Executive Summary, but then recommends installing a hybrid soccer / multi-sports field for community use with the \$1.2 m already allocated to the Hosken Reserve Northern field in</li> </ul>
Urban Forest Strategy 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Moreland has a relatively young urban forest providing 14% tree canopy cover comprised of 9% private trees and 5% public trees (park trees, 2.6%; street trees, 2.4%). This compares with 17.3% tree canopy cover in neighbouring Darebin and 18.5% in Yarra.</li> <li>▪ Between 2005 and 2016, overall canopy cover has declined from 15.6% to 14.2%.</li> <li>▪ Urban consolidation is the main cause of the decline in tree canopy on private land from 12% to 9%.</li> <li>▪ During the same period, canopy cover from street trees and park trees has grown by 26% and 63% respectively, albeit from a low base.</li> <li>▪ The strategy provides a strategic approach to protecting and enhancing vegetation across the municipality while increasing tree canopy in streets and parks. Key actions include:</li> <li>▪ Doubling canopy cover across Moreland to 29 per cent by 2050 to mitigate the impacts of heatwaves</li> <li>▪ Improving both the health and successful establishment of Council trees</li> <li>▪ Protecting existing trees through improved planning and enforcement measures</li> <li>▪ Working closely with community groups and residents to support greening initiatives while fostering positive community attitudes towards urban forest</li> <li>▪ Continuing to plant canopy trees in Moreland's streets and parks to fill vacant sites and replace under-performing trees</li> <li>▪ Improving tree health and cooling through the integration of water sensitive urban design</li> </ul>
Urban Heat Island Action Plan 2016-26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reducing and responding to the Urban Heat Island (UHIE) – a phenomenon where the urban area is considerably warmer compared to surrounding rural areas – is a rapidly emerging priority for Moreland City Council. Moreland's highly urbanised environment experiences a high UHIE due to its many dense, dark, and solid surfaces that absorb heat, as well as concentrated human activity. It will take a long period of time to affect real change. This Action Plan is Council's long-term commitment to respond to the UHIE.</li> <li>▪ It nominates major industrial areas, such as Coburg North, as priority areas for action due to the large built form and minimal green infrastructure that exists.</li> <li>▪ Strategy 1 notes the need for integration of UHIE reduction and responses into existing operations, policies, and programs of Council.</li> <li>▪ Strategy 2 recommends strengthening and build green infrastructure including: Increase vegetation cover in Moreland's most vulnerable areas by 35% by 2020;</li> </ul>

ITEM	KEY FINDINGS
	<p>Stormwater harvesting infrastructure supplying 30ML/a of treated water for open space irrigation by 2020; and Improve cooling capacity of Council owned/managed public open space with tree shade, large-scale WSUD and irrigation prioritising those in socially vulnerable hotspots and playgrounds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Strategy 5 suggest the need to foster a heat aware community including increased community action to reduce and respond to the urban heat island effect by the community.</li> </ul>
Waste and Litter Strategy 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Council's Waste and Litter Strategy 2018-2022 outlines an innovative and bold plan to change the way waste is managed in the city.</li> <li>▪ Council has renewed its commitment to a dual focus on waste management and waste minimisation. Waste minimisation, although more complex to achieve, will be a key factor in delivering the strategies overall objectives. These objectives are aligned with the Environment Protection Act's waste hierarchy, which prioritises avoidance and waste reduction as the most preferred options for waste management, above recycling, recovery, treatment, and disposal.</li> <li>▪ It includes a range of initiatives to help meet zero carbon 2040 targets including a commitment to achieving zero waste to landfill by 2030.</li> </ul>
Zero Carbon Moreland Climate Emergency Action Plan 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is Council's adopted goal for Moreland to be a 'zero carbon' community by 2040. This Zero Carbon Moreland Climate Emergency Action Plan 2020/21 – 2024/25 (ZCM Action Plan) outlines key initiatives and programs for the first five-year period of the Zero Carbon Moreland 2040 Framework, adopted by Council in September 2018.</li> <li>▪ The ZCM Action Plan summarises key activities to influence and reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions across Energy, Transport and Waste sectors.</li> <li>▪ By 2040 it aims for efficient and 100% renewably powered energy, active or zero emissions transport and a circular economy with zero waste.</li> <li>▪ Key actions that are relevant for this master plan include: Continue to progressively upgrade public lighting in Council parks and reserves to energy efficient LEDs; Facilitate 'mode shift' to active travel and public transport; Prioritise access for sustainable transport modes over car travel, including through road space reallocation and parking; Act to reduce Council's operational waste and the ecological footprint of Council's facilities and services including specifying use of recycled content and/or 'carbon positive' materials in Council construction projects</li> </ul>

## COVID impacts.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to disrupt and impact Australians and their communities.

A number of research groups/projects have commenced investigating the short and long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on physical activity and wellbeing. However, there is currently a limited amount of robust data and analysis available.

This section identifies a short overview of the key findings from a selection of emerging research relevant to the recreation sector.

### Household Impacts of COVID-19 Survey (ABS)

- Fewer Australians reported feelings that had an adverse impact on emotional and mental wellbeing in November 2020 than in August.
- Around one in five (21%) Australians experienced high or very high levels of psychological distress in November 2020.
- Women were more likely than men to have experienced high or very high levels of psychological distress (25% compared with 16%).
- The most common precautions being taken in November continued to be people washing their hands or using hand sanitiser regularly (93%) and keeping a physical distance from people (80%).
- In November 2020, around one in six (16%) Australians aged 18 years and over reported providing unpaid care for a vulnerable person.
- Since 1 March 2020, one in four (25%) people who provided unpaid care to a vulnerable person had difficulty providing care or assistance because of COVID-19.
- In November 2020, paying household bills was reported to be the most common use of the Coronavirus Supplement (67%) and the JobKeeper Payment (78%).
- Australians aged 18 years and over who had a job working paid hours remained stable between October (62%) and November (62%).
- In November 2020, one in seven (15%) people reported life had already returned to normal, compared with one in ten (10%) in July 2020.
- The most common aspect of life Australians wanted to continue after the COVID-19 restrictions ease was spending more time with family and friends (37%).

## Coronavirus Victorian Wellbeing Impact Study (VicHealth)

During the first lockdown of 2020, VicHealth surveyed 2,000 Victorian adults to explore how their health and wellbeing was affected.

The survey covered general wellbeing, social connection, healthy eating, physical activity, financial hardship, smoking, alcohol consumption, as well as working and home life.

It shows the positive and negative impacts of the first lockdown including:

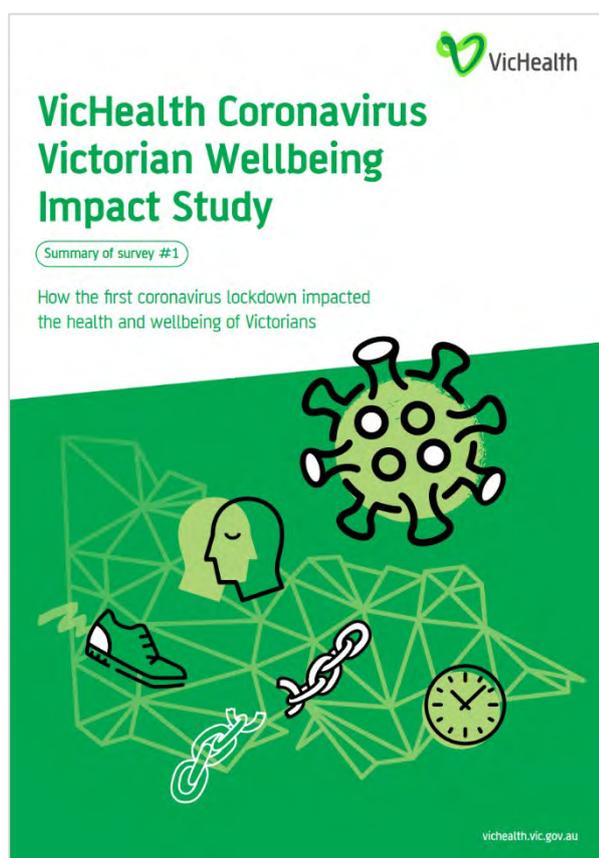
- **General wellbeing:** many people experienced mental wellbeing issues and lower levels of life satisfaction.
- **Social connection:** overall Victorians felt less socially connected.
- **Healthy eating:** there was a concerning rise in food insecurity and consumption of sugary drinks.
- **Smoking:** there was a mix of positive and negative results for smoking.
- **Alcohol consumption:** feeling anxious or stressed may have increased alcohol intake for some people.
- **Financial hardship:** a large number of Victorians have experienced financial hardships and increasing uncertainty.
- **Physical activity:** on the positive side most of those able to continue being active did so, but there were some limiting factors.
- **Working and home life:** many Victorians were concerned about their job prospects, and mothers were bearing the greater load of helping children with school at home.
- **Positive impacts:** there were some silver linings with Victorians wanting to keep some aspects of work and home life during lockdown.
- **People facing hardship:** there are stark differences between the experiences of some people or communities and the rest of the state.

A follow-up survey of around 2,000 Victorians was conducted in September 2020.

Overall, the significant changes in health and wellbeing factors at the state level between Survey One and Two can be summarised as follows:

- Improvement in the risk of short-term harm from alcohol; reliance on low-cost unhealthy food due to shortage of money; and financial hardship.

- Decline in life satisfaction; subjective wellbeing; and social connection.
- Other changes have also occurred, such as a slight improvement in the frequency of daily consumption of sugary drinks and running out of food due to shortage of money, however these were not statistically significant changes.
- Survey Two identified stark differences between the experiences of communities facing hardship and the wider population. Those experiencing the most significant health and wellbeing impacts compared to the Victorian population overall, included:
  - young people aged 18–35 years
  - people on low incomes
  - people who are unemployed
  - people with a self-reported disability
  - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
  - people living in inner Melbourne
  - bushfire-affected communities.



## AusPlay Focus: Early impact of COVID-19 on sport and physical activity participation (SportAus)

### General findings:

- *COVID-19 appears to have prompted (or perhaps necessitated) the need for more frequent participation.* For example, those that participated 5+ times per week increased by 5-6% in the April-June 2020, as compared to the same period in 2019. As participation frequency increases so does the gap between participation rates in data collected pre and during COVID-19 for both males and females.
- *The types of activities that were (or weren't) possible during and after COVID-19's first wave may explain this.* Physical activities like walking were still possible and these are typically participated in more frequently than sports, particularly organised sports, which were largely paused during COVID-19.
- In April 2020, around the time that restrictions were first put in place, there was an increase in adults 18+ saying they had deliberately been more active. This was more pronounced in the under-35s and over 55s than those aged 35-54.
- Looking at motivations for participation, physical and mental health and social reasons are more prevalent in data collected during April–June 2020. This aligns with what we know about why Australian adults get active. Historical AusPlay data shows that non-sport-related activity is more strongly associated with physical and mental health, whereas sport is more closely tied to fun/enjoyment. What's atypical, however, is the increased prevalence of social reasons as a motive during COVID-19 as this has historically been more closely tied to sport. This may be due to Australians craving some form of social connection, irrespective of the activity, during and after COVID-19's first wave.
- People who were finding it easier to keep fit and active reported feeling more optimistic and connected, with greater wellbeing.
- *Children were more impacted than adults.* Nine in 10 adults were active at least once in the last 12 months and 73% were active at least once in the seven days prior to interview in April–June 2020. That is, almost three quarters of Australian adults were active during lockdown.

Comparatively, 72% of children were active outside of school in organised sport or physical activity at least once in the last 12 months but only 17% were active at least once in the seven days prior to interview in April–June 2020. This means that less than one in five Australian children were active in organised activities outside of school during lockdown. This makes sense given that organised sport, particularly club sport, is the main staple of organised activity for children outside of school.

- *Some children's activities were more likely to be continued.* Instead of the usual popular organised activities such as swimming and football, various forms of dancing, some of which could be done online, were most able to be continued in the seven days prior to interview in April–June 2020.
- *Younger and middle-aged Australian adults were more impacted than older Australians.* Of those adults who had participated in at least one activity in the last 12 months, fewer younger and middle-aged adults than older Australians had continued to participate in at least one activity in the seven days prior to interview in April–June 2020. Younger and middle-aged Australians experienced significant disruption with many losing their employment and others being forced to work from home. Parents working from home also had to juggle children at home as school students switched from classroom to online learning. Adults who continued with their usual activities in the seven days prior to interview in April–June 2020 were asked whether the amount they participated had changed due to COVID-19. The percentage of adults whose participation did not change increased with age. One reason for this is non-sport-related physical activities being more popular as we age. The data shows that younger and middle-aged adults were more likely to participate in their activities less. Older Australians, however, had less disruption to their physical activity routine.
- *Non-sport-related activities kept adults 18+ active during lockdown.* Younger adults aged 15–17 maintained less of their nonsport-related activity by comparison. Adults 18+ were able to keep up a higher proportion of their non-sport-related physical activity than sport-related during lockdown.

- *Recreational and fitness activities were most popular.* The top-10 adult activities with highest continuation during April–June lockdown included:
  - Walking (recreational) 86.3%
  - Exercise at home 81.6%
  - Exercise biking 81.3%
  - Track/road cycling 65.8%
  - Weightlifting 64.0%
  - Running 63.9%
  - Jogging 62.7%
  - Weight training 59.4%
  - Trail running 58.2%
  - Horse riding 57.9%
- Recreational and fitness activities also dominated the types of activities that were participated in more from April–June 2020. These activities, particularly those that can be done solo or physically distanced, were more immune to COVID-19 disruption. The top-10 activities adults participated in more during April–June lockdown included:
  - Jogging 41.8%
  - Running 41.0%
  - Yoga 38.6%
  - Exercise at home 37.9%
  - Bike riding/Cycling 36.1%
  - Mountain biking 34.4%
  - Walking (Recreational) 33.6%
  - Bush walking 31.6%
  - Surfing (Other) 30.6%
  - Track/Road cycling 27.1%
- In contrast, organised or team sports were more likely to be participated in less or not at all across the same period.
- Top 10 activities adults participated in less:
  - Football/soccer 50.2%
  - Basketball 47.2%
  - Gym workouts 41.8%
  - Australian football 40.8%
  - Gym classes 37.2%
  - Weightlifting 34.3%
  - Weight training 27.8%
  - Pilates 24.3%
  - Hiking 23.2%
  - Swimming 21.9%
- Top 10 activities adults did not participate in at all:
  - Futsal 100%
  - Indoor netball 100%
  - Rock climbing 100%
  - Squash 97.2%
  - Touch football 96.5%
  - Indoor football/soccer 94.0%

- Netball 93.8%
  - Swimming 91.0%
  - Stand up paddle boarding 90.5%
  - Badminton 89.7
- *Australians have missed sport being in their lives.* Sport is a part of Australian culture and many people miss it when it's not there. In April 2020, after it had been suspended for several weeks, almost half of Australians (44%) said that beyond being active they missed sport being in their life. This fell steadily since professional and community sport restarted across most of the country, to 29% in August 2020. This feeling of missing sport is more pronounced among men and younger adults.
  - In June the majority of adult 18+ participants were looking forward to being able to play their chosen sport again.
  - 57% were extremely or very keen to play if their sport started up again. 61% were extremely or very likely to do so when it was available.
  - Similar proportions of parents/guardians wanted their children to get back to sport. 57% were extremely or very keen for their children to play again. 59% said their children were extremely or very likely to do so when it was available.
  - By August 2020, Adult participation levels were 71% of what might have been expected had the pandemic not emerged. 64% of children who expected to play organised sport were participating.
  - 19% of adults expected to volunteer in at least one sport before COVID-19. 13% were actually volunteering by August, which is 68% of pre-COVID-19 expectations.
  - This enthusiasm to get back to sport may provide hope for a post-pandemic future and helped many get back into organised sport as soon as they could. Some players had chosen not to return to all or some of their sport but more often it was because their sport was yet to start again. Furthermore, some people had started playing sport when they hadn't expected to or weren't sure if they would pre-COVID-19.



# Impact of COVID-19 on Community Sport: survey report July 2020 (Australian Sports Foundation)

In May and June ASF carried out a survey to assess the impact of COVID-19 on community sport. It is estimated that over 16,000 of these local sports clubs are at risk of closure due to financial losses and new costs associated with COVID-19.

Key findings include:

- 93% of all clubs surveyed have lost money since the onset of COVID-19, caused by a steep decline in revenues and the need to pay ongoing costs;
- Up to 80% of clubs forecast ongoing reductions in core revenue streams (such as memberships, local sponsorships, and community fundraising), while 97% of all clubs surveyed face additional COVID-19 related costs;
- These new financial realities threaten the sustainability of community sports clubs. Around one in four respondents cited organisational solvency as a major concern - meaning over 16,000 community sports clubs are at risk of closure if financial support is not provided;
- COVID-19 has also significantly impacted Australia's 3 million sporting volunteers, with up to 43% of sports clubs projecting a decline in volunteering, contributing further to fears about the sustainability of many local community sports clubs.
- Australia's 70,000 Community sports clubs have lost an estimated aggregate \$1.6bn to date due to COVID-19. For Small Local Clubs, the average amount lost to date is around \$14,900, while for Larger Local Clubs, the average amount lost to date is just over \$37,000;
- The shutdown of community sport from March onwards has had a profound social impact on community sports participants, with a contemporaneous research study showing around 1 in 3 respondents reported worse physical and mental health compared to the year before;
- Nearly 70% of Small Local Clubs forecast a decline in active participants and 43%

project a decline in volunteers. At the same time, around a third of clubs' project increased demand for community sport post lockdown, putting them under increased pressure they may be unable to meet due to financial constraints and lack of volunteers;

- Overall the combination of reduced revenues and increased costs mean that one in four respondents feared for their club's solvency – indicating over 16,000 community sports clubs nationally are thought to be at risk of closure;
- On average, Small Local Clubs require additional funding of around \$12,600 per club, to assist them through the return to sport, and Large Local Clubs require around \$26,800 per club.
- In aggregate the support needed is in the region of \$1.2bn across Australia's 70,000 community sports clubs;
- Without financial support, thousands of community sports clubs risk closure. This would have a devastating impact on physical and mental health for millions of Australia's sports participants and volunteers.

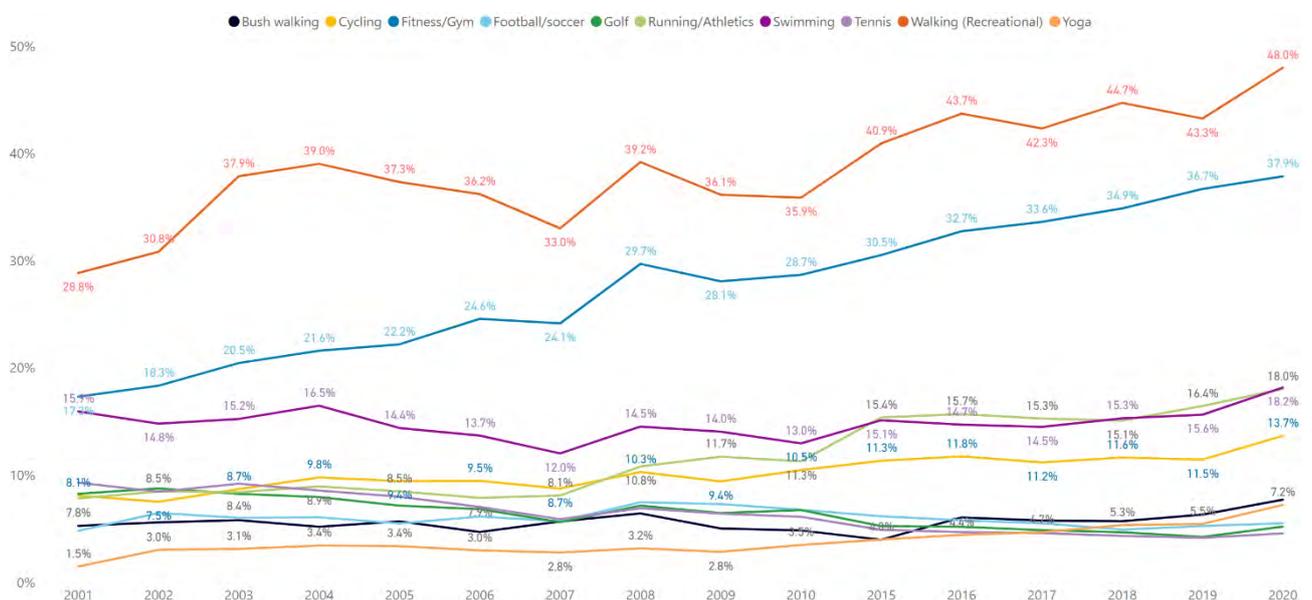


# appendix 2 – participation trends.

## national trends.

An analysis undertaken by SportAus, utilising aggregated data from 2015-16 FY to 2019-20 FY, notes the following key insights:

- Participation in sport and physical activity has increased overall in the last two decades. More adults participate more frequently in 2020 compared to 2001.
- Those that participated 1+/year has grown from 77.8% to 90.0%.
- Those that participated 1+/week has grown from 62.0% to 82.5%
- Those that participated 3+/week has grown from 37.1% to 64.7%
- Female participation (at least once a year) has remained on par with male participation throughout. However more women have constantly participated more often.
- Those that participated at least once per year has grown from 79.8% to 89.7% for males, and from 75.9% to 90.4% for females
- Those that participated at least 3 times per week has grown from 35.0% to 61.1% for males, and from 39.2% to 68.2% for females
- The ACT has always had the highest participation rates over the years, while Victoria and SA has seen most progress (Victoria has grown from 77.4% to 91.0%).
- Participation in sport-related activities hasn't increased, while at the same time non-sport physical activities have increased significantly.
- sport related activities has grown from 57% to 62% (with a dip to 50% in 2007)
- non-sport related activities has grown from 46% to 74%
- Participation in both sport and non-sport related activities is the highest group in 2020 at 45%, significantly higher than non-sport related physical activities only (28%) and sport related activities only (17%)
- In comparison, sport only was the highest group in 2001 at 32%, higher than both sport and non-sport related activities (25%) and non-sport related activities (21%)
- Participation in non-sport recreational activities such as walking, and fitness/gym have increased the most. Individual sport activities such as running/jogging and cycling have seen upticks, while golf and tennis have significantly dropped.
- Walking is the highest participated sport at 48.0% (growing from 28.8%), followed by Fitness/gym at 37.9% (growing from 17.3%), and swimming at 18.2% (growing from 15.9%). These three activities have consistently been the top three activities during this time.
- Running/athletics at 18% (growing from 7.8%) and cycling at 13.7% (growing from 8.1%) are the next highest.
- Rounding out the top 10 activities in 2020 are bush walking (7.7%), yoga (7.2%) football/soccer (5.5%), golf (5.2%) and tennis (4.6%).
- Interestingly, in 2001 golf (8.2%) and tennis (9.3%) were both higher than running/athletics and cycling - however this has dropped off significantly.



## state trends.

An analysis undertaken by SportAus, utilising aggregated data from 2015-16 FY to 2019-20 FY, notes the following key insights:

### children

- Participation rate of 75.9% for children (73.5% national)
  - 1+/month = 71%
  - 1+/fortnight = 69%
  - 1+/week = 60%
  - 2+/w = 36%
  - 3+/w = 22%
  - 4+/w = 13%
  - 5+/w = 8%
  - 6+/w = 4%
  - 7+/w = 3%
- More males (52%) participate than females (48%) for children
- Participation peaks at ages 9-11 (91.8%) before dropping between 12-14 (85.8%) and then increasing again at age 15-17
- Highest participation is found in households with an equal number of children 15 and under/over (84.2%), and lowest in younger families with most children under 15 (75.1%)
- Indigenous (80.3%) has a higher participation rate than the state and national total participation rate, while CALD (67.8%) and LOTE (65.8%) is significantly lower
- 44% participate through a sports club or association
- 72% participate in sport-related activities and 4% participate in physical activity only
- Participation at least once per year has grown from 70.5% to 73.5% between 2015-16 and 2019-20, but peaked in 2018-19 (82.2%)
- Participation at least once per week has grown from 53.6% to 57.3%, peaking in 2016-17 (65%)
- Participation at least three times per week has grown from 18.8% to 19.9%, peaking in 2017-18 and 2018-19 (22.8%)
- Most children participate in two activities

Figure 26. Top 10 participated in activities (children)

Activity	Participation rate (%)	
	Vic	National
Swimming	36.5	33.5
Australian football	14.6	8.3
Basketball	12.7	7.2
Gymnastics	9.4	9.3
Dancing	9.2	9.0
Football/soccer	9.1	14.6
Tennis	7.5	6.0
Netball	7.0	6.8
Cricket	6.7	5.3
Running/athletics	4.1	5.3

### adults

- 90.1% for adults (higher than national average of 89.4%)
  - 1+/month = 88%
  - 1+/fortnight = 86%
  - 1+/week = 82%
  - 2+/w = 74%
  - 3+/w = 63%
  - 4+/w = 51%
  - 5+/w = 41%
  - 6+/w = 31%
  - 7+/w = 25%
- Participation at least once per year has grown from 87.1% to 91.2% between 2015-16 and 2019-20. It peaked in 19-20
- Participation at least once per week has grown from 79.1% to 82.5%, however it peaked in 2018-19 (84.1%)
- Participation at least three times per week has grown from 59.6% to 63.9%, however it peaked in 2018-19 (64.6%)
- More females (51%) participate than males (49%) for adults
- Participation peaks at ages 15-17 (95.5%), remains relatively steady from 18-54 (around 91%), before dropping off from 55 onwards (89.4% and 86.8% for 65+)
- Highest participation is found in mature family households (most children over 15) and lowest is in adult shared house, but the difference is small (90.8% to 89.3%)
- Indigenous (85.8%), CALD (86.3%) LOTE (84.2%) and PWD (81.4%) all have lower participation rates than the state and national total participation rate
- Those living in major cities are more likely to participate than state/ national rates and those living regionally
- 61% participate via organisation/ venue
- 22% participate via sports club/ assoc.
- 58% participate in sport-related activities and 72% in non-sport activities
- Most people participate in two activities
- 34.9% met Australia's Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour Guidelines
- 21.2% of 15-17-year-olds met the guidelines of 60 minutes every day
- 37.9% of 18-64 and 25.8% of 65+ met the guidelines of 30 minutes every weekday

Figure 27. Top 10 participated in activities (adults)

Activity	Participation rate (%)	
	Vic	National
Walking (Recreational)	45.4	43.9
Fitness/Gym	35.5	34.7
Running/athletics	16.5	15.9
Swimming	14.3	15.4
Cycling	13.3	11.7
Bush walking	5.7	6.0
Yoga	5.4	5.2
Golf	5.3	4.8
Basketball	5.2	-
Tennis	5.1	4.5

## Local trends.

An analysis of participation trends in Australia undertaken by SportAus, utilising aggregated data from 2015-16 FY to 2019-20 FY, notes the following key local insights for Moreland:

- Participation rate of 89.6% for adults, higher than the national average
- Participation rate of 86.0% for children, higher than state and national averages
- Pilates and football/soccer are the only activities in Moreland's top 10 participated activities for adults that is not represented in the state and national top 10 activities – they replace golf and tennis
- Moreland has a significantly higher participation rate in swimming and Football/soccer for children as compared to state and national averages
- Moreland's top 5 activities (all ages) are all 'recreational' activities, all except for walking have higher participation rates than state averages

Figure 28. Top 10 participated in activities (all ages)

Activity	Participation rate (%)	
	Moreland	Vic
Walking	35.7	37.3
Fitness/gym	33.8	29.2
Swimming	22.2	18.7
Cycling	20.7	11.2
Running/athletics	15.0	14.3
Yoga	8.3	n/a
Football/soccer	8.2	5.4
Bushwalking	6.4	4.8
Australian football	5.6	6.2
Basketball	4.0	6.6

Figure 29. Top 10 participated in activities (adults)

Activity	Participation rate (%)		
	Moreland	Vic	National
Walking	44.8	45.4	43.9
Fitness/gym	40.6	35.5	34.7
Cycling	25.1	13.3	11.7
Running/athletics	18.3	16.5	15.9
Swimming	17.2	14.3	15.4
Yoga	10.4	5.4	5.2
Bush walking	8.1	5.7	6.0
Football/soccer	5.9	4.6	5.4
Pilates	4.2	4.2	3.1
Basketball	3.7	5.2	3.6

Figure 30. Top 5 participated in activities (children)

Activity	Participation rate (%)		
	Moreland	Vic	National
Swimming	41.5	36.5	33.5
Football/soccer	17.0	9.1	14.6
Australian football	16.4	14.6	8.3
Gymnastics	8.5	9.4	9.3
Tennis	7.1	7.5	6.0

appendix 3 – engagement plan

# Hosken Reserve



## Master Plan Refresh 2021

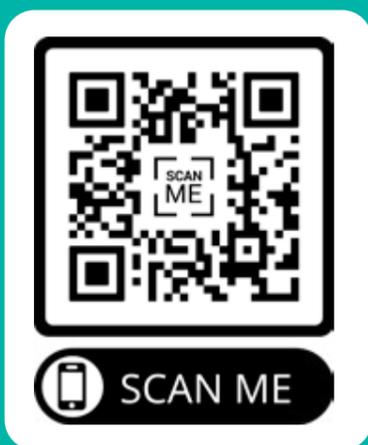
### Engagement Outline

Live near, visit or play on Hosken Reserve?

Tell us how you currently use Hosken Reserve and how you'd like to use it in the future.

We want your feedback on a few projects and ideas from the 2009 master plan to see what is still important to you and what is no longer a priority.

We also want to hear your new ideas to strengthen and support community use.



[conversations.moreland.vic.gov.au/hosken-reserve-masterplan-refresh](https://conversations.moreland.vic.gov.au/hosken-reserve-masterplan-refresh)

### Project Timeline

Consultation on this project will run from Thursday 25 February 2021 to Sunday 15 August 2021 across three stages.

#### Engagement Stage 1

**Thursday 25 February to Sunday 28 March 2021**

**Purpose:** To understand how Hosken Reserve is currently used, the challenges and opportunities with this use, and desired use for the future.

**Key engagement questions:** What do you currently enjoy about your use of Hosken Reserve? What needs to be improved to increase this enjoyment?

**Council Report 12 May 2021**

**Purpose:** To report on the outcomes of the Hosken Reserve community engagement with options to determine future action.

#### Engagement Stage 2

**Wednesday 19 May to Wednesday 2 June 2021**

**Purpose:** Work with the Refresh Group to prepare options and make recommendations to Council.

**Key engagement question:** Which option best suits the needs of the community?

**Council Report 14 July**

**Purpose:** To present a draft Master Plan for Council consideration.

#### Engagement Stage 3

**19 July to 15 August 2021**

**Purpose:** To publicly exhibit the draft master plan for final feedback.

**Key engagement question:** Does this 2021 Hosken Reserve master plan reflect your needs and aspirations?

**Council Report September/October 2021**

**Purpose:** To present new Master Plan for final endorsement.

### Keep updated

#### Conversations Moreland

A project page has been set up on Conversations Moreland that will be kept up to date during the project and all the current opportunities to have your say.

Sign up to follow the project so you receive regular updates and information.  
[conversations.moreland.vic.gov.au/hosken-reserve-masterplan-refresh](https://conversations.moreland.vic.gov.au/hosken-reserve-masterplan-refresh)

#### Current ways to have your say

##### Take the survey

Visit Conversations Moreland and complete the survey online. If you need help to complete the survey or would like a hard copy be sent to you, call 9240 1111 to speak to our Customer Service Team.

##### Come along to a pop up

Look for the Conversation Caravan and project team who will be at Hosken Reserve or Bain Reserve speaking with locals, users and visitors to about the project.

Community engagement activities will run in line with COVID Safe Guidelines.

#### Pop Up 1

**Wednesday 10 March**

**Time:** 8:30 am to 10:30 am

**Location:** Hosken Reserve

#### Pop Up 2

**Saturday 13 March**

**Time:** 9:30 am to 11:30 am

**Location:** Bain Reserve

#### Pop Up 3

**Friday 19 March**

**Time:** 4:00 pm to 6:00pm

**Location:** Hosken Reserve

#### Pop Up 4

**Sunday 28 March**

**Time:** 9:00 am to 11:00am

**Location:** Hosken Reserve

#### Express your interest in the Refresh Group

We know there will be diverse and ranging views about future needs and aspirations for Hosken Reserve and will be forming a Refresh Group. This group will be made up of 25 people that will represent the current informal and formal recreation users as well as subject matter experts across a range of social and environmental areas. This group will meet three times and will consider community feedback, listen to expert presenters, discuss and work alongside the project team to prepare options and make recommendations for Council's consideration.

**Meetings will be held in-person at Harry Atkinson Art and Craft Centre, Lake Grove, Coburg North.**

**If COVID restrictions change, the sessions will either move online or be rescheduled.**

- **Wednesday 19 May 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm**
- **Wednesday 26 May 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm**
- **Wednesday 2 June 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm**

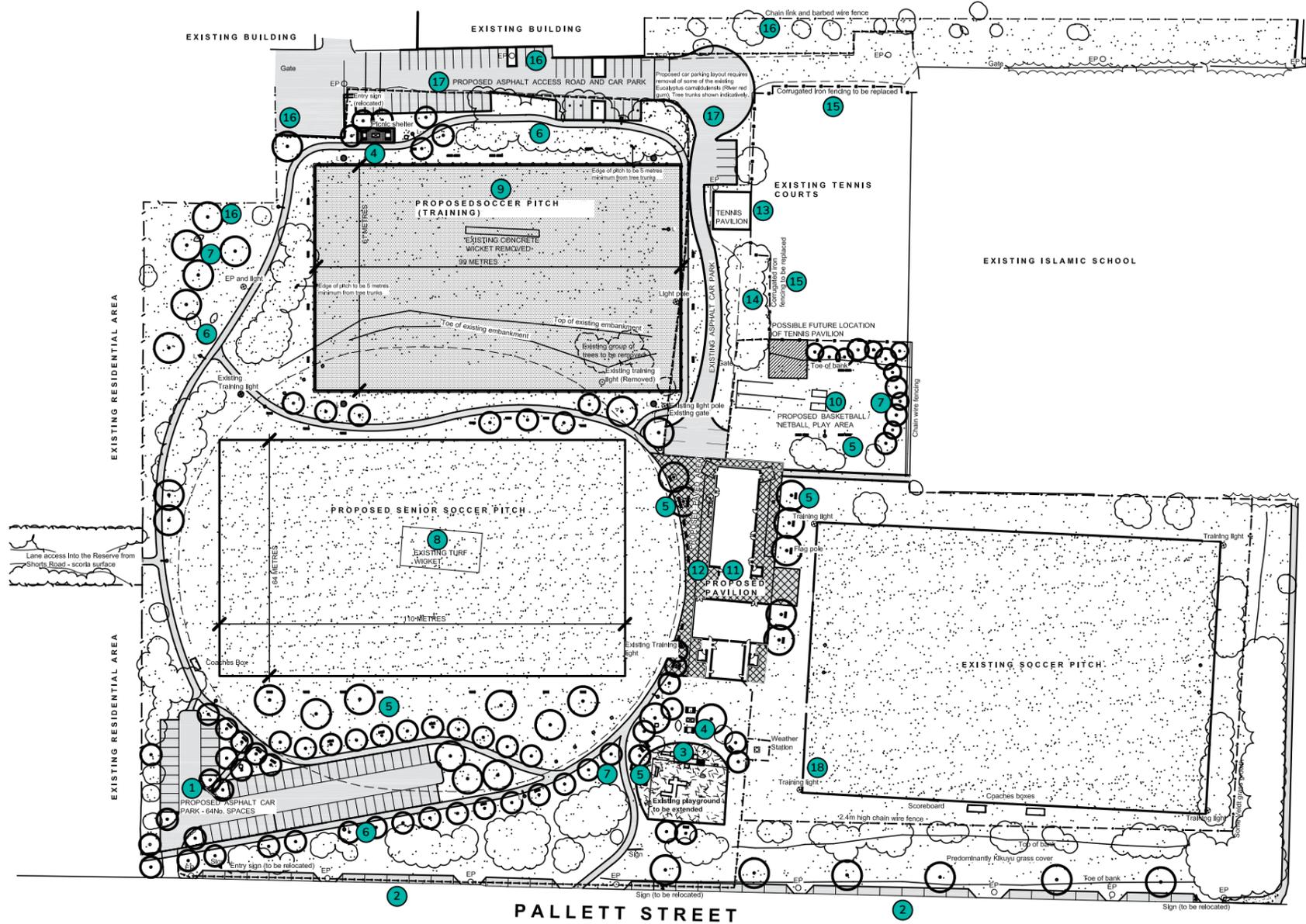
To express your interest in joining the Refresh Group please visit Conversations Moreland to fill in the nomination form. If you need help to complete the nomination form over the phone or would like to request a hard copy be sent to you, call 9240 1111 to speak to our Customer Service Team.

#### People we need to speak with

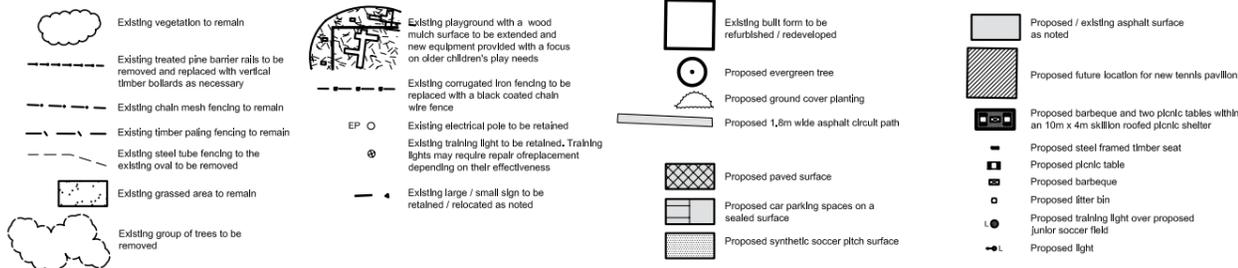
We know that Hosken Reserve is important to lots of people, here is a list of the people we know we need to speak to. If you know of others, we invite you to share this information with them.

- **Informal recreation users:** includes residential community and visitors who use Hosken Reserve for informal recreation (dog walking, play, kick the footy, play cricket, bike riding and walking).
- **Formal users:** includes users that visit or use Hosken Reserve in a formal capacity, this includes players and support staff that play an organised sport as well as students and staff of the adjoining school.
- **Community partners:** includes local organisations working with Moreland City Council to improve and protect local amenity.
- **Subject matter experts:** includes community groups and professional bodies with a unique perspective or point of view for consideration as part of the Hosken Reserve master plan.

# Original 2009 Hosken Reserve Master Plan



## LEGEND



If you need help to complete the survey or nomination form over the phone would like to request a hard copy be sent to you, or require more information about the project call 9240 1111 to speak to our Customer Service Team.

## Moreland Language Link

廣東話	9280 1910	عربي	9280 1913	हिंदी	9280 1918	All other languages 9280 1919
Italiano	9280 1911	Türkçe	9280 1914	普通话	9280 0750	
Ελληνικ	9280 1912	Tiếng Việt	9280 1915	ਪੰਜਾਬੀ	9280 0751	

## Master Plan reference

Ref No.	Item
1	Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St to provide additional carparking spaces.
2	Provide indented carparking along Pallett St.
3	Extend and diversify the existing play area. Investigate the feasibility of installing play elements for older age children. (note: this has been completed).
4	Develop BBQ/picnic areas near the playground and in the north east corner of the reserve.
5	Provide more seating in the reserve – at the playground, around the playing fields, at the proposed picnic areas, under the trees, near the pavilion and near the proposed netball/basketball play area.
6	Construct a circuit walking path in the reserve. The path should connect the Pallett St carpark, the picnic areas, the playground, the pavilions, the main carpark and the playing fields and provide a short link between the Pallett St footpath and the playground. (note: elements of this has been completed).
7	Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and enhance the visual appearance of the reserve.
8	Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the fence. (note: this refers to the 'Hosken North' oval).
9	Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. (note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field).
10	Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.
11	Redevelop the central pavilion. (note: some pavilion items have already been completed).
12	Construct a paved spectator/outdoor social area on the north side of the pavilion with shade trees and seating.
13	Restump and internally refurbish the tennis pavilion.
14	Convert 2 en-tout-cas tennis courts to synthetic. (note: this has been completed).
15	Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence.
16	Enhance the view from the reserve to the factories on the east boundary of the reserve. Project should involve building on the already attractive appearance of the rusted factory walls through the significant canopy of the river red-gum trees. Consider location as a community arts project.
17	Redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the rectangular field to provide additional carparking spaces and bus turning area. Narrow the carpark and access road on the south side of the field to provide for an extension of the field.
Not shown	Install additional lighting in the reserve – at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path.
Not shown	Improve the directional signage to the reserve - at the corners of Bakers Rd and Pallett St; Sussex St and Shorts Rd; Shorts Rd and Pallett St; and Shorts Rd and Sheppard St. Signage should be of a consistent and contemporary graphic standard and comply with Council specifications.
Not shown	Undertake a tree audit. Implement the findings with respect to the maintenance and possible replacements of trees.

appendix 4 – project faq's

# Hosken Reserve

# Master Plan Refresh

## Project Frequently Asked Questions

## Previous synthetic pitch project.

*Please note this project is on hold whilst the Hosken Reserve Master Plan Refresh is completed.*

### **What were the key design features of the previously proposed synthetic pitch project?**

The oval proposed to be redeveloped is at the north-west of Hosken Reserve between Pallett Street and Shepard Street. Drawings and specifications for the proposed synthetic pitch included:

- Installation of Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) - accredited cool grass synthetic surface with shock pad to reduce injuries
- 100-lux LED Sportsfield Lighting
- Low perimeter fence (approximately 1m high) to prevent soccer balls leaving the playing space and an option of a higher fence (approximately 6m high) behind the goal areas to prevent soccer balls entering neighbouring properties.
- Low-maintenance, drought-resistant and durable all year-round facility – able to withstand up to 10 years of wear and tear.
- The proposed synthetic pitch will be designed to capture water and harvest it into the existing wetland – reducing the amount of potable water required to irrigate the reserve.

### **Why was synthetic turf preferred and not natural grass?**

The demand for sport and recreation facilities in Moreland is rapidly increasing, with club membership growing annually. Council is supporting this growth through inclusive participation policies and investment in new facilities. Participation rates in most outdoor recreation activities have increased by 2,929 players over the 10-year period 2009-2019. Soccer had the biggest increase in numbers (1,542 players). Well-designed and accessible sporting facilities encourage our community to stay active, healthy and connected.

With changing weather patterns, it has become more difficult for natural turf to cope with the demand of additional recreation, training and matches. It is increasingly common for natural turf fields to be deemed unplayable during the depths of Winter and require significant renovation periods (several weeks) of no use in order to undertake required maintenance works.

Synthetic sport fields can accommodate far more playing hours in areas where sports fields are in high demand. This applies to both active use, through sports training competition, and passive recreation by community outside of programmed training/competition.

### **What environmental considerations had been made?**

Moreland currently has 2 soccer synthetic pitches based at Fawkner Secondary College, Fawkner and Clifton Park, Brunswick along with a synthetic hockey field at Brunswick College, Brunswick. These pitches have been in Moreland for approximately 15 years.

We have more than 30 synthetic cricket and cricket practice synthetic wickets, more than 30 synthetic tennis courts and 3 lawn bowls synthetic rinks. Many playgrounds at schools and council's parks also have synthetic grass components and play areas. To date, there have been no reports or claims to Council in relation to any health risks or illnesses in relation to the use of these facilities.

Research has continuously highlighted that the infill on a synthetic soccer pitch (tiny black rubber crumbs) that help support the blades, may be a health risk to users of the pitch. Although not substantiated, council would use 100% natural organic infills for the proposed project rather than the traditional rubber infill.

An environmental impact assessment hasn't been undertaken, however the original design of the previously proposed synthetic pitch project incorporated:

- installation of LED technology floodlights also help to reduce our carbon footprint. The lights are far more environmentally friendly and light spill control is far greater than existing lights.
- Shock pad made from recycled rubber - reduce infill between up to 50%.
- 100% recyclable grass with no latex, no polyurethane and no coatings for the carpet.
- Organic infills - 100% natural organic infill.
- Planting of more trees to offset any reduction of vegetation or increase in the built footprint.
- Construction using recycled concrete (green concrete).
- Installation of Cool Grass synthetic which uses patent pending technology to reflect UV rays and dissipate the heat into the atmosphere instead of into the surface. Reducing the turf temperatures by 15% and up to 10 degrees.

### **What would have happened to the stormwater harvesting project?**

The stormwater harvesting infrastructure would remain. The stormwater harvesting system currently irrigates a total of 2.4 ha with 75% reliability. By adding synthetic grass, the irrigated area will be reduced to 1.6 ha. The southern rectangular grass soccer pitch, eastern half-sized rectangular grass pitch and surrounds of the proposed synthetic pitch would remain irrigated. By reducing the irrigated area from 2.4 to 1.6 ha, we would increase the reliability of the system to above 95%.

Our response to the proposed project in terms of the harvesting system:

- The proposed synthetic pitch had been designed to capture rainfall water and harvest it into the existing wetland at Hosken Reserve.
- We would keep all surrounding areas of the proposed synthetic grass irrigated with the stormwater
- With impact of climate change in future, and potential increase in drought period, higher reliability is welcomed.

We also would investigate to utilise any extra water available for Council's water trucks to fill up with and use for street tree watering.

### **What previous consultation had taken place and did endorsed plans change?**

The Hosken Reserve Redevelopment Plan was launched in 2007 and consultation on the plan concluded in 2009. The plan was received and endorsed by Council in April 2009 containing a list of more than 18 recommended improvements including:

- Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full-size soccer field;
- Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence; and
- Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.

A subsequent 'Hybrid Synthetic Sports Surface Needs Analysis' report was tabled and endorsed in April 2018 which recommended that a synthetic pitch be installed at 'Hosken Reserve North' and the existing, fenced southern soccer pitch be converted to hybrid.

It is believed this is where the resulting confusion as to the exact location of the proposed synthetic pitch has originated and been embedded over subsequent years.

The development of a full-size synthetic pitch was then further resolved through the following Council strategies (which were released for public consultation):

- Moreland Sport and Physical Activity Strategy 2014-2018
- Moreland Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2020
- Council annual budgets and Action Plans

The project was listed as part of Council's annual budget plans from 2018/19. All ratepayers and members of the community are invited to make submissions on annual budget plans each year.

Additionally, as common practice with sport and recreation projects in Moreland, it is our process to inform local residents and undertake further consultation with the feasible project design once identified. The feasible project design is commonly determined through the tender process (refer question below for more information).

We acknowledge that consultation on the Hosken Reserve proposed synthetic pitch has been indirect and is not in line with contemporary practice. Our community's feedback is important to us and we agree that a further clear, direct and robust community engagement process is required which is what we are currently aiming to achieve.

### **Why did a tender go out just before caretaker period?**

Please note the tender process is now on hold.

- Council officers released a tender for construction on 19 September 2020. The tender closed on 20 October 2020. This was before the election period (caretaker period) which started on 22 September 2020. The State Government's Funding Agreement with Council required us to provide the preferred schematic plan and construction signage design for endorsement by the 31 January 2021.
- The tender was released in September to make sure that the project could be completed within the current financial year. If Council officers released the tender after the election (13 November), it would have been unlikely that the project would be delivered on time.
- Drawings and specifications for the proposed synthetic pitch included two different options for Council to consider. The tender would provide Council officers with the market cost of the two options to help determine which option is feasible and viable for the project to proceed.
- As with all sport and recreation projects undertaken in Moreland, it is our process to inform local residents and undertake further consultation with the feasible project design. The feasible project design is determined through the tender process and awarding of a successful tender is always a Council decision.

### **How was the previously proposed synthetic pitch project funded, who pays for it and why hasn't the 2009 master plan been implemented yet?**

Funding for the implementation of master plans across Moreland are referred to the annual budget process and forward capital works program. All Council projects are assessed against each other on merit and funding approved or put on hold dependant on demand. As such, master plans may be implemented in various stages and over varying periods of time.

Council will often seek external funding, such as State or Federal Government funding, in order to implement projects that align to funding program objectives that may not otherwise be able to be fully funded by Council. Council may also request a funding contribution from organisations that directly benefit from projects.

Specifically, Moreland Council has committed \$900,000 to the previously proposed synthetic pitch development project. A \$500,000 grant application was originally approved through the Victorian Government's World Game Facilities Fund, along with a \$50,000 contribution from Pascoe Vale Football Club. The Victorian Government funding however has now been withdrawn.

### **How would the original project impact community access and use of the reserve?**

The northern and eastern sport fields would continue to be accessible to sports clubs, schools, neighbouring residents and the broader community and retained as an off-leash dog park.

Under Football Victoria guidelines there must be a perimeter fence surrounding the entire field of play that is at least one metre in height and be constructed of substantial material (i.e. cyclone wire). In order to support

the tenant soccer club, this low perimeter fencing would be installed to formalise the field of play area, with an option of a higher fence (approximately 6m high) behind the goal areas to prevent soccer balls entering neighbouring properties.

The access gates will not be locked and public access to the synthetic pitch area will be retained, outside of Football Victoria's sanctioned games and club training as per the club's current Council approved annual tenancy allocation.

## **How much time and space does the Pascoe Vale Soccer Club occupy at Hosken and other reserves?**

Council has 56 sports grounds available for use for sporting activities. These are very well utilised by a variety of user groups including sports clubs, sports associations, schools, community groups and residents. The demand on these facilities is ever increasing, with club membership growing annually, and Council supporting growth through inclusive participation policies.

From a supply perspective, most sporting grounds in Moreland can sustain a recommended maximum of 15 hours of usage per week. Unfortunately, due to the high demand being placed on grounds some are required to be used above and beyond this recommended usage. This is a moderate usage rate which leaves many clubs requesting to access multiple grounds across the municipality to satisfy their requests for participation, and Council is unable to allocate grounds to new or emerging sporting groups/needs.

The majority of Moreland's AFL, soccer and cricket clubs have high club memberships, and each has an allocation of a minimum of two and up to four grounds which include shared usage arrangements with other clubs and schools.

Pascoe Vale Soccer Club has over 400 playing members and are allocated the following:

### *Hosken Reserve (annual allocation)*

- PVSC have an Annual allocation (1 April – 31 March) for the use of Hosken Reserve. The hours of use will often change during an annual allocation based on the club's fixtured season to accommodate preseason requirements, fixtured games, and finals. Currently the allocation on both fields includes Monday to Friday 4pm - 9pm and competition games scheduled between 8am - 6pm on Saturday and Sunday (pending home/ away competition fixtures scheduled by Football Victoria).

### *Other reserves (seasonal allocation)*

- CB Smith Reserve (1 game day plus 1 training night 8 times a year). This pavilion and sportsfield are shared with two other clubs and a school - Fawkner SC, Moreland Zebras FC and Fawkner College. The sportsfield's recommended hours of usage is 15 hours per week only.
- Richards Reserve (4 days per week – training only). This pavilion is shared with the Coburg Cycling Club, and the sportsfield's recommended hours of usage is 15 hours only.
- Reddish Reserve (2 nights per week – training only). This pavilion and sportsfield is shared with Moreland Zebras FC, and the sportsfield's recommended hours of usage is 15 hours only.

PVSC have teams playing in the National Premier League Competition and the Community Competition both run by the governing body of soccer, Football Victoria. As these competition start dates draw closer, clubs modify training needs to suit the number and age group of teams as players sign up to play. This may include an increase or decrease of hours of use pending player numbers, coach availability and level of competition and training required for that level.

Council works with the club to monitor the hours of use and the impact on grounds to ensure standards are maintained, especially around high use (goal) areas. The reality is, we don't have enough grounds to cater for all sports in Moreland and it's not in the club's best interest to turn away players.

Pre season practice matches are part of many organised sport club activities. PVSC promotes their activities to the community via social media and other avenues. Council will continue to work with club officials to find a

solution to advising neighbours in the area of any changes to the usual training times such as these sanctioned games.

Until the fixtures are released which can include weeknights, clubs do their best to ensure the training needs meet the level of competition to be played and ensure they only use the hours they need. Football Victoria share with Council Officers the National Premier League fixture and Community Competition Football fixture when they are released.

During 2020, the Hosken Reserve hours of use changed multiple times to accommodate modified participation opportunities during COVID restrictions. This is consistent across all clubs and associations using Council sporting facilities during 2020.

### **How can council have conflicting policies?**

Council has a considerable sphere of influence and is responsible for the support, development, and management of a range of societal issues. While every effort is made to ensure Council's strategies, plans and policies are consistent with each other, there inevitably will be occasions where there may be conflicting objectives or directions. This may in part be due to outdated policies that have yet to be reviewed or competing broader priorities that require consideration to a specific level of detail.

We acknowledge that the proposed synthetic pitch development project may have posed a number of conflicting objectives, such as increasing participation in sport as supported by Council's Sport and Active Recreation Strategy, against our commitment to reduce surface temperatures through our Urban Heat Island Effect Action Plan. In these instances, Council may be required to assess a project on merit at a defined point in time, based on site-specific considerations and consistent with the views of the Council of the day.

# New master plan refresh project

## **Is there scope to consider alternative solutions to where a synthetic field could go?**

With further community and stakeholder engagement, we will be able to ascertain whether there is an alternate location that better serves community interests. Please note that all decisions will be resolved by Council at a future meeting after further consultation has been completed.

## **Does it have to be synthetic?**

Simply put, no. As part of the Hosken Reserve Master Plan Refresh process, it very well may be recommended that Council formalises a natural turf pitch, hybrid turf pitch or a synthetic turf pitch within the Northern Oval.

## **Will additional parking, traffic and access measures be considered?**

Council will be looking to take proactive steps to ensure the safety of vehicles and pedestrians visiting the reserve. The original Hosken Reserve Masterplan included a re-configuration and extension of the carparking area to the east and south of the rectangular field and a range of path upgrades.

We have heard a number of suggestions about the poor 'sense of arrival' at the reserve, some restrictions to the way the reserve intersects with neighbouring residents, streets and industrial buildings and limitations to the existing path network to, from and within the reserve.

We will reassess the refreshed Master Plan and undertake a further access and traffic assessment to determine what additional transport management changes may be required.

## **How will accessibility and inclusion be considered?**

We have received a number of suggestions relating to improving accessibility at the reserve and look forward to working with the community to identify further improvements that can be made. Council has a very active Disability working group who we will be actively seeking to involve in the community engagement process.

## **What other infrastructure can be provided to improve the use and experience of the reserve?**

We have heard a range of ideas to improve the current use of the reserve including informal sport active recreation installations such as multi-use basketball, netball, and futsal courts, skate facilities, and improved public amenities such as shade, seating and tree canopy coverage.

We look forward to working with the community as part of the engagement process to identify even more great ideas to improve the communities experience and use of Hosken Reserve.

## **How will you make sure that the new engagement process is transparent, independent and includes everybody?**

In December 2020, a report about Hosken Reserve was tabled at our Council meeting recommending a refresh through an in-depth community engagement process. The engagement objective will be community-led recommendations on future development options for the Hosken Reserve master plan, for consideration at a May Council Meeting. The May Council report will include an overview of all engagement activities undertaken and the various requests that are received from different groups.

As part of the upcoming community engagement process, Council will strive to provide equal opportunity and voice to all community members as part of its decision making on the future of Hosken Reserve. No single group and their views are provided additional weighting or consideration over another. We will be inviting equal representation from stakeholder groups through engagement and discussion facilitated by our independent consultants. All opinions will be heard and considered equally and will be ultimately reviewed by a refresh group. Councillors will not be directly involved in this process.

We will also be seeking to utilise a range of engagement methods including online Q and A forums and surveys, face to face pop-up consultation sessions, direct stakeholder interviews, resident mailouts, social media and other promotional/advertising activities. As common practice for Moreland, a translation service is available, and we will be promoting its use throughout the project. We will also be utilising our Council Advisory Committees throughout the project. Our intent is to engage with as many different members of our diverse community as possible.

### **How are you engaging Non-English speaking communities in the engagement program?**

38.1% of Moreland residents speak a language other than English at home. 10,000 people in Moreland have poor or no spoken English. We know that true community engagement in Moreland must take into consideration our cultural and linguistic differences.

We are taking a number of steps to help all community members have their say about Moreland's future including using Language Link, a free telephone interpreting service, and the translation of content into other languages when requested.

### **How are you including people that aren't online in the engagement program?**

Hosting on-site pop-ups, mailing out letters to all properties within 800m of Hosken Reserve, and providing hard copies of engagement materials when requested are just some of the steps we are taking to make the engagement process as inclusive as possible. Anybody can of course call 9240 1111 to speak to our Customer Service Team and receive further information about the project too.

### **What will happen at the pop-ups?**

We'll explore a range of themes and questions with the community to help us understand how Hosken Reserve is currently used, the challenges and opportunities with this use, and desired use for the future. Some of our key questions include: What do you currently enjoy about your use of Hosken Reserve? What needs to be improved to increase this enjoyment?

### **How can we trust council, be confident that it is being impartial in its decision making and holds no conflicts of interest?**

We appreciate that there is some mistrust in Council and our processes, in particular as a result of a lack of consultation about changes to Hosken Reserve last year. We are committed to rebuilding this relationship with our community and to addressing outstanding concerns as part of the community engagement.

Our process going forward has been to engage a team of independent consultants to refresh the master plan for Hosken Reserve so that any future improvements to the reserve meet the diverse needs and expectations of local residents, ratepayers, and other users of the space.

As with any projects that Council deliberates on, Councillors are required to declare any conflicts of interest as part of Council governance processes. No conflicts of interest were noted at the December 2020 Council meeting.

appendix 5 – refresh group faq's

# Hosken Reserve Master Plan Refresh

## Refresh Group Frequently Asked Questions

### **Why is Moreland Council setting up this Group?**

We know there will be diverse and ranging views about future needs and aspirations for Hosken Reserve and will be forming a Refresh Group. This group will be made up of 25 people that will represent the current informal and formal recreation users as well as subject matter experts across a range of social and environmental areas.

### **How will the Refresh Group members be chosen?**

To ensure the process is fair and unbiased, an independent external organisation, the Conversation Caravan will manage recruitment and selection. Members will be selected at random to represent the diversity of users and subject matter experts across a range of ages.

### **How do I register my interest in the Refresh Group?**

You can register your interest at [conversations.moreland.vic.gov.au/hosken-reserve-masterplan-refresh](https://conversations.moreland.vic.gov.au/hosken-reserve-masterplan-refresh)  
The deadline for registering your interest is **Friday 30 April**.

### **After I register my interest, what happens next?**

Once registration has closed, 25 people will be selected. If selected, you will be contacted by phone and/or email on 13 May 2021 to explain next steps, workshop arrangements and discuss any dietary, accessibility or specific support requirements you may have.

### **How will the Group meetings work?**

Prior to attending each meeting, you will be given information to review, this might include feedback from the community or a technical report regarding the site. During the meetings, you will be asked to consider everything you hear, and work with the other participants to come up with recommendations and directions.

### **Who will be in charge of the Group meetings?**

Meetings will be facilitated by Conversation Caravan with the support of technical consultants theCommunityCollaborative and Pollen Studio.

### **Will my name or photo be published anywhere?**

Limited participant details (i.e. name and group representing) may be published as part of Council's reporting. If you have privacy concerns, we encourage you to let us know and we will do everything possible to work with you on an acceptable outcome.

### **Will Moreland Councillors be attending?**

No, Councillors will not be attending these sessions.

## **When and where will the Group meetings take place?**

Meetings will be held in-person at Harry Atkinson Art and Craft Centre, Lake Grove, Coburg North. If COVID restrictions change, the sessions will either move online or be rescheduled.

- Wednesday 19 May 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm
- Wednesday 26 May 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm
- Wednesday 2 June 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

## **Do I have to attend every meeting?**

Yes. It is expected that you can attend each meeting and commit to reviewing the pre meeting information before attending. The content of each meeting will require knowledge of earlier discussions, likewise will inform later decisions.

## **What is expected of the Group, by the time we are at the last meeting?**

During the meetings, we will write and record the groups ideas and recommendations. We will then use this information to report back to Council at the Ordinary Meeting in July 2021.

## **What will Moreland Council do when the Group meetings have finished?**

The intended outcome of the Refresh Group process is the development of recommendations and a refreshed master plan that will be reported back to Council at the Ordinary Meeting in July. A broad public exhibition process will occur after this. This group will cease after the three meetings, there is no expectation that this group will continue post this process.

## **What if all Group members can't agree about what to recommend?**

Areas of agreement and disagreement will be recorded and reported back to Council as part of the final recommendations report. During the meetings, conversations will be facilitated to understand where there are concerns, where there are potential solutions or alternatives and where there is consensus of 60% support.

## **Will I be reimbursed for any necessary costs? Will we be provided with an evening meal?**

Participation is on a volunteer basis. Participants will be reimbursed \$100 for their time. Light refreshments will be provided and additional support can be provided on an as needs basis.

## **How will you ensure that the Group meetings and materials are accessible?**

If participants need additional support, we will do all that is reasonably possible to provide this support to you.

## **Where can I find out more information about the project?**

To find out more information, or to register your interest please visit [conversations.moreland.vic.gov.au/hosken-reserve-masterplan-refresh](https://conversations.moreland.vic.gov.au/hosken-reserve-masterplan-refresh)

appendix 6 – engagement report



**Hosken Reserve  
Masterplan Refresh  
Engagement Summary Report**

April 2021

*Conversation*  
CARAVAN

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# Introduction

Conversation Caravan was engaged by the City of Moreland as part of a consortium (Pollen Studio, theCommunityCollaborative) to support the design and delivery of the wider consultation program. The intent of the consultation was to consult with those that use Hosken Reserve formally and informally for recreation to understand their current needs and future aspirations for the site.

The decision to remove reference to the synthetic options as per the 2020 tender process and use the 2009 master plan as a base for this process was the decision of Council. This master plan was the last plan to undergo a full consultation process. A major critique of Council's process was that the tender process was developed without community input. The purpose of this process was therefore to determine initiatives where there is:

- community and stakeholder support
- community and/or stakeholder opposition
- community and/or stakeholder concern for future consideration.

As a result of this process Moreland City Council would like to create a master plan that:

- reflects and balances the varied community needs and aspirations
- is fiscally responsible, sensitive to the environment while maximizing community use.

Feedback from this process will be used to inform the later stages of the project and through a process of deliberation used to create a refreshed master plan that can be delivered by Council in the medium-term.

# Engagement Methodology

There are three engagement phases in this project. Each stage builds on the previous stage, both in the specificity of data collected and detailed discussion. The three stages of engagement are:

- Stage 1 Understanding the needs and aspirations (16 February – 28 March 2021)
- Stage 2 Strengthening the options
- Stage 3 Testing the draft master plan.

This report provides an analysis of Stage 1. The findings from this report will be used to inform Stage 2 and 3 of the project. This report will also be released to the wider Moreland community and those that participated in the process to effectively close the loop.

## Stages of Engagement

### Stage 1 Understanding the diverse needs and experiences

**Timeframe:** 16 February to 28 March 2021

**Purpose:** To understand how Hosken Reserve is currently used, the challenges and opportunities with this use, and desired use for the future. Conversations will also focus on the needs (social, environmental and economic) for the site. Information from this stage will be used to prepare options for further consideration

**Desired outcome:** Clear understanding of community needs and aspirations for input into the master plan options.

**Engagement method:** Online engagement, collection of responses to open ended questions (survey, forum); place based consultation (pop ups); interviews with key stakeholders.

**Key engagement questions:** What do you currently enjoy about your use of Hosken Reserve? What needs to be improved to increase this enjoyment?

### Stage 2 Strengthening the Options (with Hosken Reserve Master Plan Refresh Group)

**Timeframe:** 19 May to 2 June 2021

**Purpose:** Work with the Refresh Group to prepare options and make recommendations to Council.

**Needed Input:** Information collected through Stage 1 along with reports relating to the strengths and limitations of each option and individual elements

**Desired outcome:** Level of support for each option and individual ideas for costing and refining.

**Engagement method:** Hosken Reserve Refresh Group meetings (3).

**Key engagement questions:** Which option best suits your needs and aspirations for Hosken Reserve? Why? What elements strengthen or support your enjoyment? What elements limit or affect your enjoyment?

### Stage 3 Testing the draft master plan

**Timeframe:** 19 July to 15 August

**Purpose:** To publicly exhibit the draft master plan for final feedback.

**Needed Input:** Draft master plan and engagement summary report from Stages 1 and Stages 2 along with background information.

**Desired outcome:** Clear indication of support for the master plans implementation.

**Engagement method:** Online engagement supported through interviews and direct mailout.

**Key engagement question:** Have we heard you correctly? Does this 2021 Hosken Reserve master plan reflect your needs and aspirations? Why? Why not?

## Engagement Methods

Four engagement methods were used to engage community and stakeholders on this project. Method and participation by method is summarised in Table 1.

Participation was promoted through City of Moreland’s corporate website, social media channels and a direct mail campaign to residents and stakeholders within 800m of Hosken Reserve.

Participation was supported by the Conversations Moreland online platform, distribution of flyers sent to homes, and hosting COVID-safe community pop-ups at Hosken Reserve and Baines Reserve.

Given the interest in this project, we expect that there is duplication across the multiple methods, for example attending a pop up also completed a survey.

**Table 1 Method and Participation by Method**

Method	No.	Notes on Participation
<p><b>Conversations Moreland online platform</b> Participants were invited to complete a survey online.</p>	467 surveys completed (from 426 contributors so there may be some who have completed the survey more than once)	Keep Hosken Reserve Accessible provided initial feedback to the community survey and provided suggested changes. Australian International Academy also provided hardcopy surveys from students (400) with identical responses this has been recorded as one entry.
<p><b>Pop-up engagement events</b> Four pop-ups were held across a variety of times and dates to speak with a variety of users onsite at Hosken Reserve.</p>	153	Pop up dates and times, all except where stated were held at Hosken Reserve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday 10 March 8:30am to 10:30am</li> <li>• Saturday 13 March 9:30am to 11:30am (Bain Reserve)</li> <li>• Friday 19 March</li> </ul>

		<p>4:00pm to 6:00pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saturday 28 March 9:00am to 11:00am</li> <li>Monday 1 March 10:30am to 12:00pm</li> </ul>
<p><b>Submissions</b></p> <p>Residents and community members requested the option to submit feedback directly to the project team via email or letter. Only the names of the organisations have been released as permission to publish the names of individuals was not sought.</p>	12	<p>Submissions were received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Action Moreland</li> <li>• Keep Hosken Reserve Accessible</li> <li>• Moreland Local Soccer Clubs (6)</li> <li>• Neighbours United for Climate Action</li> <li>• 7 private residents whose names have been kept confidential</li> <li>• Hosken Reserve Organised Sports Collective (map provided).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stakeholder targeted interviews</b></p> <p>Key users (formal and informal) were interviewed about the needs and aspirations for Hosken Reserve.</p>	6	<p>Groups were selected based on their current use and involvement with the project. Groups or organisations selected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian International Academy</li> <li>• Football Victoria</li> <li>• Keep Hosken Reserve Accessible</li> <li>• Merlynston Tennis Club</li> <li>• Pascoe Vale Football Club</li> <li>• Tennis Victoria.</li> </ul>

## Pop Up Engagement

Four pop up conversations were held as part of this project to both collect feedback and promote participation in the more detailed survey. Activities are planned so that they can all be completed, or one or two can be completed. Activities were designed for people that could spend 2 minutes on their way to somewhere else or have a deeper conversation with a project lead.

Three stations were set up around the following questions:

- What are your top five priorities from the 2009 master plan? Please review Appendix 1 to view the collection card for this activity.
- What can we do to strengthen your enjoyment of the reserve?
- What is your preferred surface treatment and why?

## Online survey

An online survey was created and hosted on Conversations Moreland. This was also available in a paper based version. Please refer to Appendix 2 to view the survey.

## Limitations of Data

### Duplication in participation

Participants were able to participate across different methods in Stage 1. Considering the level of interest in this project we expect that some people participated more than once, for example, completed an online survey and attended more than one pop up. Through the collection of IP Addresses on the survey we know that 84 responses came through 37 IP Addresses however had different responses. However 55 surveys had repeated text, from different IP Addresses and with different demographic data. Table 2 shows the results of this review based on the participants stated connection to the project.

**Table 2 Analysis of IP Addresses**

	<b>Same IP Address Different Responses</b>	<b>Same IP Address Same Responses</b>	<b>Different IP Address Same Responses</b>
<b>Number of IP Addresses and surveys</b>	84 response from 37 IP addresses (2 IP address are linked to 4 entries each, 4 IP address are linked to 3 entries each, 31 IP addresses are linked to 2 entries each)	none	55 surveys with repeated text responses from different IP address
<b>Possible Reason</b>	Possible that participants from the same household shared a device or used a public device such as a computer in a library. This also includes Council Staff and Project Staff entering hard copy survey responses into the online portal.	-	Multiple participants were likely provided with the same suggested responses.

### **Assisted Participation**

Some stakeholder groups provided their members, students and their wider community with advice around how to provide feedback and what to provide feedback on. This is not necessarily wrong or right, rather an acknowledgement that people were participating under direction.

### **Gaps in data**

In line with many other Council surveys, such as the recent comprehensive 'Imagine Moreland' process, we opted to not require sign-in for the Hosken Reserve Master Plan Refresh project survey to encourage as much community participation as possible.

Acknowledging the expressed community distrust in Council currently, it is believed the ability for the community to provide feedback anonymously should they wish will increase participation in the survey.

We also declined to block multiple responses from one IP address to not limit the use of public computers such as libraries to undertake the survey should home internet access be a barrier while also enabling multiple family members from one household to complete the survey.

All elements of participation in stage one were voluntary which means there are inconsistencies and gaps in the collected data. Participants could answer any number of questions, could choose to provide or withhold demographic information. For this reason, demographic data is not known across all methods.

# Who Participated?

Demographic data such as gender, age, place of residency was not obtained across all engagement activities. Participants had a choice to provide or not provide this information. Where it was collected and recorded, it is presented.

## By Demographic Descriptor

Where collected the demographic questions sought to gather information about participants' connection to the site, gender, age and connection with the following identified communities: Living with a disability; Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander; speaking a language other than English at home.

Table 3 shows a comparison of demographic descriptors across the two main engagement activities (pop ups and survey). Diagrams 1, 2 and 3 show totals across Stage 1.

**Table 3 Comparison of participation across method**

Demographic Identifier	Survey	Pop Up
Male	188	65
Female	248	63
Other/Prefer Not to Say	25	6
0-17 yrs	14	26
18-24 yrs	14	7
25-34 yrs	70	13
35- 50 yrs	266	55
51-69 yrs	88	24
70 - 84 years	13	9
85+ years	3	0
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	2	NA
Born overseas	62	NA
Speaks a language other than English at home	35	NA
Have a disability	22	NA

Diagram 1 Participation by gender Stage 1

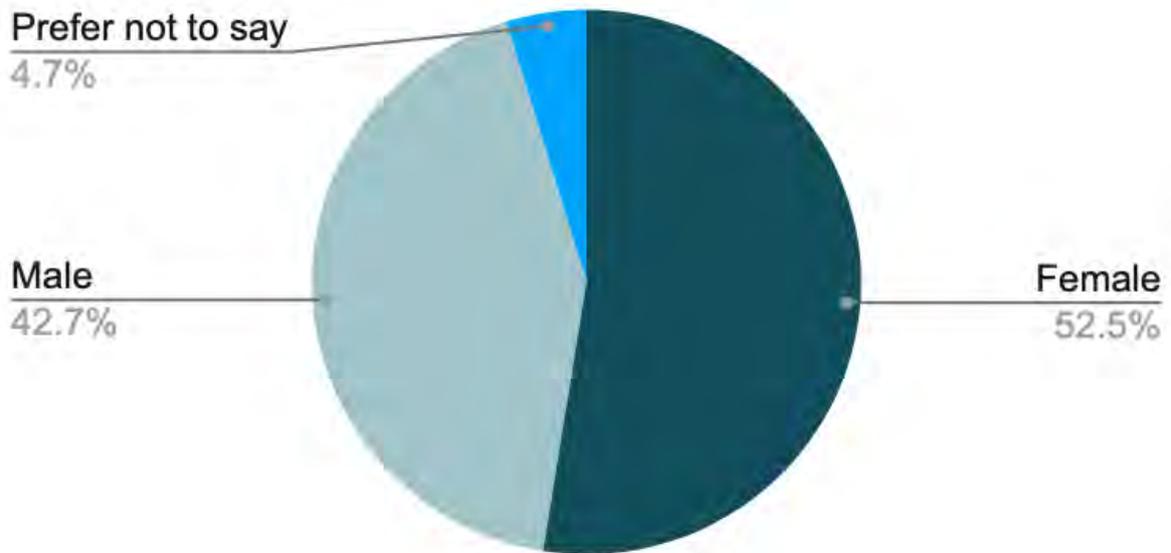


Diagram 2 Participation by age Stage 1

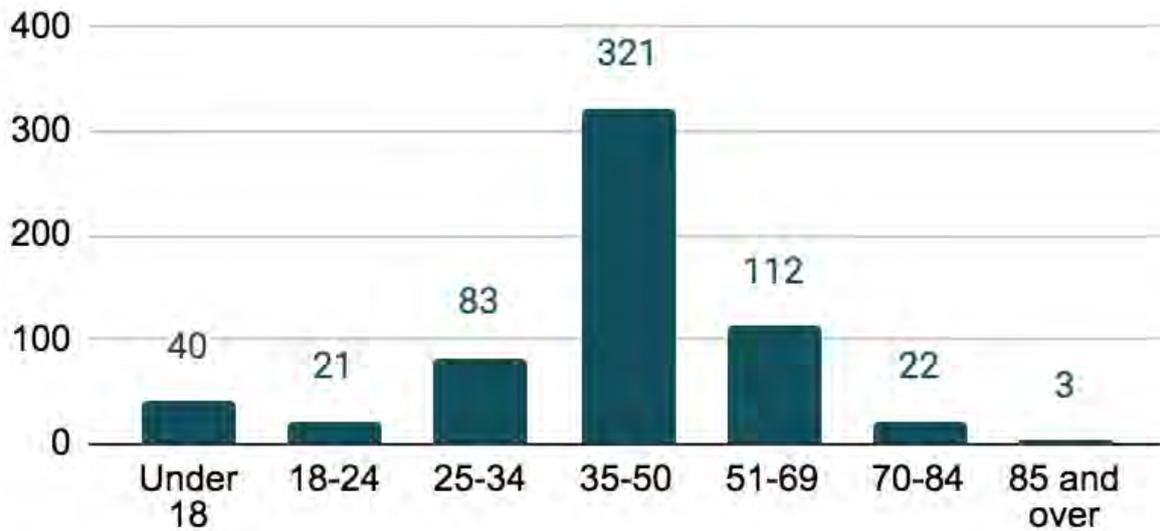
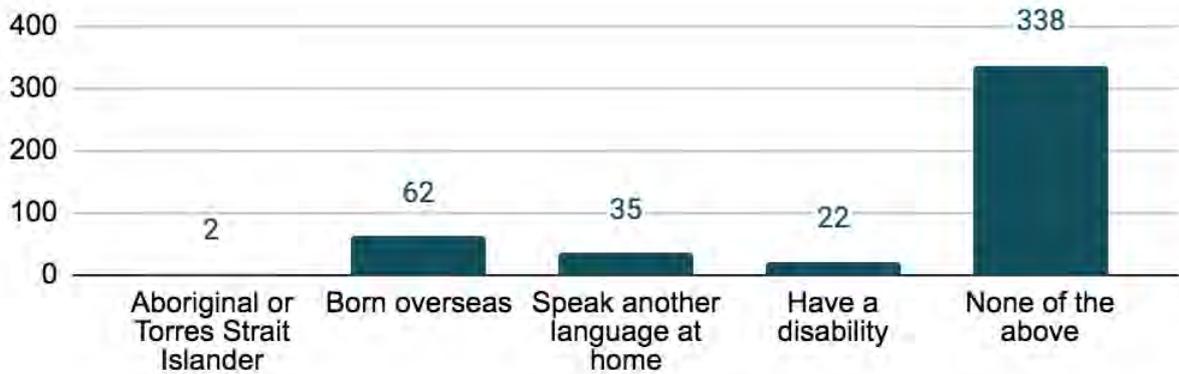


Diagram 3 Participation by demographic descriptors Stage 1



## By Connection

Participants were asked to provide their connection to Hosken Reserve and invited to select all that apply. This included:

- Live within 800m of the Reserve
- Live in the wider area around the Reserve (800m-1km away)
- Walk or exercise our dog/s there
- Walk, cycle or exercise there
- Visit the playground
- Meet up with other dog walkers or neighbours
- Members or players at the Tennis Club
- Members or players at the Soccer Club
- Part of the Australian Academy school community
- Not a current visitor or user but have a general interest in the Reserve
- Moreland Council ratepayer.

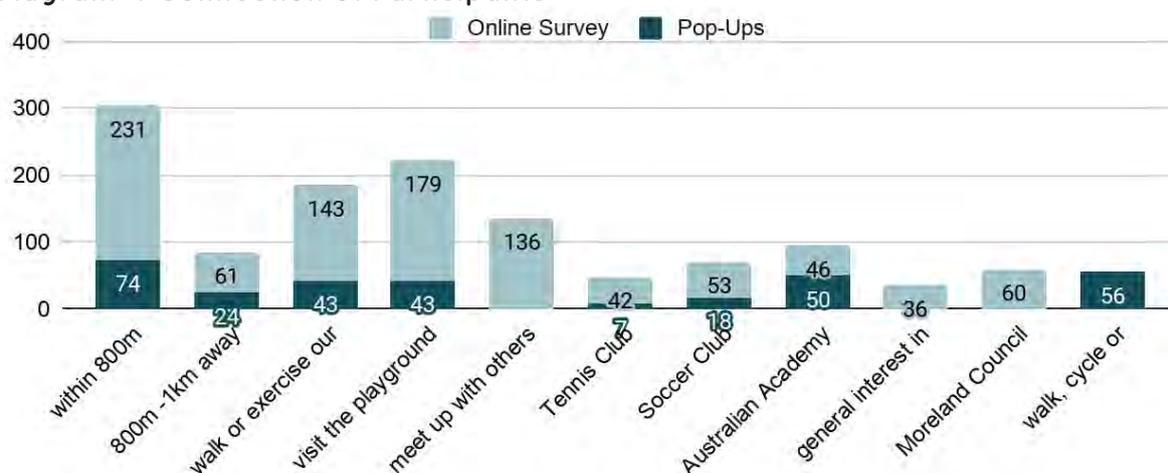
Table 4 shows the breakdown across the consultation.

**Table 4 Participation connection by method**

Connection	Survey	Pop-Up	Totals
lives within 800m	231	74	305
lives 800m -1km away	61	24	85
walk or exercise our dog(s)	143	43	186
visit the playground	179	43	222
meet up with others	136	NA	136
Tennis Club community	42	7	49
Soccer Club community	53	18	71
Australian Academy school community	46	50	96
general interest in the Reserve	36	NA	36
Moreland Council ratepayer not living near Hosken Reserve	60	NA	60
walk, cycle or exercise there	NA	56	56

Diagram 4 shows the connection of participants across Stage 1.

**Diagram 4 Connection of Participants**



## Addressing barriers to participation

An important part of our practice is to reflect upon where and how engagement with our target stakeholders could be improved, to improve both our practice and provide more information about your stakeholders for future engagement programs run by Council.

### Supporting participation

- **Provision of paper based surveys:** Participants were able to complete a paper based survey and return it by reply-paid mail.
- **Online project specific website:** The project was hosted through Conversations Moreland which was well known and already widely used by the community:
  - 5,082 page visits to Conversations Moreland in stage 1.
  - 115 people are 'following' the page meaning they will be alerted directly of future updates
  - 14.3% of visitors made a contribution.
- **Direct Mail:** Moreland City Council distributed 2000 letters & engagement plans to residents within 800m of Hosken Reserve.
- **Communications Support:** Comprehensive communication support was provided by Moreland City Council which resulted in:
  - Reach of 10,000 people through social media posts.
  - 41 clicks through to Conversations Moreland via My Moreland EDM newsletter.
  - 19 people visited the nomination form via My Moreland.
  - 58 visits to Conversations Moreland came via QR code scans (included on corflute at Hosken Reserve and engagement plan brochure).
  - 14 people clicked 'attending' on Facebook event set up for pop ups.
  - The Mayor spoke about Hosken Reserve Master Plan Refresh on 98.9 Northwest FM on 19/03 – page visits spiked on this date.

## Barriers to participation

- **Safety concerns:** We have received feedback across the diversity of participants that some stakeholder groups did not feel comfortable providing their feedback publicly. Participants were able to provide feedback anonymously via the online survey and direct to the project team.
- **Survey complexity:** We received feedback from participants that the survey was too complex to complete. This can also be seen by participants repeating information across multiple questions. As well as questions within the survey itself.
- **Interdependence of master plan elements:** We received feedback from participants that it was difficult to provide feedback on individual master plan elements, without understanding the impact on other elements.
- **Resubmissions issues:** Within the survey there was the opportunity for participants to review additional supporting information. When participants clicked on this information they were unable to go back to the survey to continue providing feedback. This design flaw may account for the duplication in IP addresses if residents restarted the survey multiple times to finally complete and submit it.
- **Distrust in process:** We received feedback from active participants and passers-by that chose not to participate in the process. Concerned that this process would not be upheld, nor feedback taken on Council. Some needed a more thorough investigation, punishment and apology over the funding process prior to participating. This was also expressed in the online survey.
- **Lack of clarity over oval names/references:** Some participants expressed confusion regarding the naming and location of ovals, and which oval the master plan element related to. Some survey respondents requested a map be provided with proposed changes clearly marked.

## Community Expressed Concerns

We received some concerns about the consultation process:

- **Lack of participation by CALD people:** Some residents expressed concern that the process left out those from non-English speaking backgrounds. Standard translation text was included on Council issued material. From the demographic data collected through the survey we had 35 people that identified as speaking another language, this accounted for 7.5% of survey participants. This is substantially lower than the 38.1% of Moreland residents who reported that they spoke a language other than English at home in the 2016 Census.
- **Lack of participation by older people:** Some residents expressed concern that the process left out older people, who may be physically immobile and/or unable to participate in the process. From the demographic data collected through the survey and pop up 25 people were over the age of 70, with 3 people over the age of 85. This accounted for 4% of the participants which is lower than the 11% of the Moreland population (aged 70 years or over) counted in the 2016 Census.
- **Survey perpetuated a 'support/oppose' binary:** There was concern that this 'loaded' language and the use of 'oppose' set the tone for the consultation and sets up residents as oppositional rather than "simply exercising their right to fully understand and be informed of the nature of a proposed change to a significant local space and to then make a decision about whether they support the proposed change."

# Key findings 2009 Master Plan

In this section we look at feedback collected about the incomplete elements of the 2009 master plan. Feedback related to the master plan is reported on by engagement method (pop up and online survey). =Where a number is shown with an *n* this refers to the sample size. Where a number is shown in brackets (*x*) this refers to the number of participants or number of comments.

## Pop Up: Top 5 Priorities

At each pop up participants were invited to select their top five priorities from the list of incomplete master plan elements. Provided below are community priorities from the community pop ups across the five key participant groups. Participants were asked to select their top five priorities based on a list of items. Refer to Appendix 1 to see the collection card for this activity.

Moreland Resident living with <800m of Hosken Reserve (n74)

1. Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and around the reserve (37)
2. Develop BBQ and picnic areas near the playground and around the reserve (34)
3. Provide more seating in the reserve – at the playground, around the playing fields, at the proposed picnic areas, under the trees, near the pavilion and near the proposed netball/basketball play area (23).
4. Construct a circuit walking path in the reserve (22).
5. Extended and diversify the play area (19).

Moreland Resident living great >800m of Hosken Reserve (n24)

1. Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing (9).
2. Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the fence (9).
3. Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. (note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field) (7).
4. Provide indented carparking along Pallett St (5).
5. Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St to provide additional carparking spaces (5).

Formal users Pascoe Vale Soccer Club (n18)

1. Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the fence (10).
2. Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing (8).
3. Provide indented carparking along Pallett St (5).
4. Install additional lighting in the reserve – at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path (5).
5. Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St to provide additional carparking spaces (4).

Formal user Merlynston Tennis Club (n7)

1. Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and around the reserve (3)
2. Develop BBQ and picnic areas near the playground and around the reserve (3)
3. Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence (2).
4. Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing (2).
5. Provide more seating in the reserve – at the playground, around the playing fields, at the proposed picnic areas, under the trees, near the pavilion and near the proposed netball/basketball play area (2).

Formal/Informal User Australian International Academy (50):

1. Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the fence. (note: this refers to the 'Hosken North' oval) (42).
2. Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing (41).
3. Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. (note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field) (34).
4. Convert 2 en-tout-cas tennis courts to synthetic (30).
5. Undertake a tree audit. Implement the findings with respect to the maintenance and possible replacements of trees (22).

## Level of Support

This section looks at individual master plan elements based on the level of community and stakeholder support drawing on the online survey data. Formalisation of the soccer pitch and oval and surface treatment options are explored within this section; however, we know and understand that synthetic turf (or hybrid treatment) was not an original 2009 master plan option. We have analysed it alongside other major master plan elements.

### Least Supported Elements

Elements with the least amount of participant support (strong and somewhat opposition), greater than or equal to 50% of participants across the online survey are listed in order (n 467):

1. Upgrade and redevelop a full-size synthetic soccer pitch on the North Oval (335).
2. Upgrade and redevelop a full-size hybrid soccer pitch on the North Oval (306).
3. Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. (note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field) (301).
4. Installation of a fence around any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval to enable club matches to be played (the pitch would not be locked and remain open outside of club training and matches for casual play) (277).
5. Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the fence (267). When asked about the specific placement of this on the North Oval this has less opposition (136).

## Most Supported Elements

Elements with the most amount of participant support (strong and somewhat support), greater than or equal to 50% of participants across the online survey are listed in order (n 467):

1. Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and enhance the visual appearance of the reserve (425).
2. Community access to the North soccer pitch outside club training and matches for casual play (360).
3. Develop BBQ/picnic areas near the playground and in the north east corner of the reserve (353).
4. Provide more seating in the reserve (348).
5. Undertake a tree audit. Implement the findings with respect to the maintenance and possible replacements of tree (343).
6. Install additional lighting in the reserve – at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path (322).
7. Enhance the view from the reserve to the factories on the east boundary of the reserve. Project should involve building on the already attractive appearance of the rusted factory walls through the significant canopy of the river red-gum trees. Consider location as a community arts project (315).
8. Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence (304).
9. Restump and internally refurbish the tennis pavilion (268).
10. Increase community access to the South soccer pitch (note: this would require upgrades to ensure safe access and redevelopment of the pitch surface to accommodate additional use) (272).
11. Provide indented carparking along Pallett St (236).

## Elements with Concern

Some elements attracted similar levels of support and opposition. Additional analysis has been undertaken to understand the reasons for support and opposition as seen by participants.

### Provision of additional parking

This looks at the three elements related specifically to the provision of additional parking:

- Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St
- Indented carparking along Pallett St.
- Redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the rectangular field to provide additional carparking spaces and bus turning area.

An immediate concern for participants is with the use of the existing carpark off Pallett St being locked to general public use. Those concerned did not believe that the soccer club should have the right to prevent or provide access and that this carpark should remain unlocked.

### Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St

Those who responded as Neutral n=124, 49 comments stated that this change did not affect them citing:

- Currently walk to the site
- Already think the parking is sufficient

- Other elements that are of higher priority
- Did not drive.

Those that responded as Somewhat Support n=103 or Strongly Support n=119 cited:

- Carparking could be more efficiently used
- Prevent near misses on game day
- Ensure that other cars are not parked in.

Those that responded as Strongly Oppose n=71, 62 comments reasons cited:

- Disagreement that more parking is needed at that location\*/overall (32)
- No tree or green space lost (26)
- Don't want more cars using the park-not sustainable transport (15)
- Don't want more asphalt/removal of natural spaces (10)
- Traffic concerns in the street next to carpark (4).

Those that Responded as Somewhat Oppose n=49, 37 comments reasons cited:

- No tree or green space lost (12)
- Disagreement that more parking is needed at that location\*/overall (12)
- Don't want more cars using the park-not sustainable transport (9)
- Traffic concerns in street next to carpark (6)
- Don't want more asphalt (2)

Some preferring to provide parking spaces on eastern side, not this side of the park.

#### **Indented carparking along Pallett St**

Those that responded as Neutral n=114, 38 comments reasons cited:

- Walk to the site (not impacted)
- Believe parking is sufficient
- Did not drive.

Those that responded as Somewhat Support n=108 or Strongly Support n=128 reasons cited:

- Stop parking over driveways
- Increase safety through the narrow street (Pallet St)
- Bike path could be included as part of change
- Increase ease and proximity to the reserve.

Those that responded as Strongly Oppose n=69, 55 comments reasons cited:

- Traffic concerns/street too narrow/unsafe for pedestrians (23)
- No tree or green space lost (20)
- Disagree more parking is needed at that location/overall (19)
- Don't want more cars using the park-not sustainable transport (12)
- Don't want more asphalt/removal of natural spaces (6).

Those that responded as Somewhat Oppose n=46, 55 comments reasons cited:

- No tree or green space lost (12)
- Traffic concerns/street too narrow/unsafe for pedestrians (12)
- Disagree more parking is needed at that location/overall (6)

- Don't want more cars using the park-not sustainable transport (3)
- Don't want more asphalt/removal of natural spaces (2)

### **Redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the rectangular field**

This element included the provision of additional carparking spaces and bus turning area. Narrowing the carpark and access road on the south side of the field to provide for an extension of the field. This proposal confused some respondents. They didn't understand what was being changed and responded with more questions.

Those that responded as Neutral n=128, 28 Comments reasons cited:

- Don't use the area
- Unsure if its needed
- Unsure what to say.

Those that responded as Somewhat Agree/Support n=87, 36 comments or Strongly Agree/Support n=125, 71 comments reasons cited:

- Problem for buses on competition days and interschool training days
- Carpark area is not functioning well
- Needs to be more efficiently used
- Reduce parking requirements for Pallet St, belief that people avoid that side because of the pot holes and damage to cars
- It's a better location as it does not require the removal of trees.

Those that responded as Strongly Disagree/Oppose n=75, 53 comments reasons cited:

- Disagree more parking is needed at that location/overall (15)
- Traffic and safety concerns (11)
- Don't see the need for buses to use the park (10)
- Concern tree or green space lost (10)
- Don't want more cars using the park-not sustainable transport (5)
- Use by private school opposed (2).

Those that responded as Somewhat Disagree/Oppose n=48, 26 comments:

- Don't want more cars using the park-not sustainable transport (6)
- Don't see the need for buses to use the park (4)
- Concern tree or green space lost (3)
- Want playing space increased or maintained in size (3)
- No need to increase parking (3)
- Improve what is there (parking) (2)
- Safety concerns about traffic (2)
- Use by private school opposed (2).

### **Formalisation of Use**

This section looks at the three elements related specifically to the formalisation of use or changing use:

- Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the fence.

- Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. (note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field).
- Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.

From the verbatim comments it is clear that each of these areas created confusion and for some were indistinguishable from the installation of synthetic onto the pitch.

### **Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field**

While the use of synthetic or a hybrid surface created strong opposition, we believe this element caused confusion and was answered with the belief that the pitch would not be natural. We believe this to be true as when specifically asked about the use of synthetic surface on the North Oval in a subsequent question there was less opposition (136). Therefore, opposition was less about the redevelopment of a full size soccer pitch, more about the potential use of synthetic and restricted community access.

Overall this attracted 30% support, 13% neutral, 57% oppose (mostly strongly oppose). Here we focus on understanding opposition to this element.

Of those that responded Somewhat Oppose n50, 33 comments reasons cited:

- Keep as is, no change (13)
- Do not want synthetic surface (8)
- Do not want access restricted by soccer club/need oval open for all to use (7)
- Only okay if grass used (4)
- Traffic/parking concerns (4)
- Confusion about engaging 2009 proposal vs last year's proposal (4).

*Seven comments indicate confusion about the site being referred to here – e.g. area having no fence anyway.*

Of those that responded Strongly Oppose n217, 155 comments reasons cited:

- Do not want access restricted by soccer club/need oval open for all to use (92)
- Keep as is, no change for community access/grass (42)
- Do not want synthetic surface (40)
- Negative comments about Council engagement and trust (7)
- Only okay if grass used (5)
- Traffic/parking concerns (2)
- Don't remove the fence (2).

*18 comments indicate confusion about the site being referred to here – e.g. area having no fence anyway. The 7 comments about last year's proposal may also indicate site confusion*

*Mentions of stormwater harvesting project and how that money will be wasted if site changed*

**Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence**

Overall this attracted 29% support, 7% neutral, 64% oppose (mostly strongly oppose). Here we focus on understanding opposition to this element.

Of those that Somewhat Oppose n30, 17 comments reasons cited:

- Opposed due to synthetic surface (8)
- Need more information/cannot decide as it depends on what happens to other parts of the Reserve (6)
- Opposed due to tree loss (2)
- Opposed due to lighting (2)
- Opposed due to fence (2)
- Opposed due to parking impact (2).

*Three comments indicate confusion about the site being referred to here e.g. a damaged cricket wicket does not exist.*

Of those that Strongly Oppose n271, 204 comments reasons cited:

- Do not want synthetic surface (151)
- Do not want access restricted by soccer club/need oval open for all to use (44)
- Do not want fencing related to access (40)
- Do not want lighting (25)
- No tree loss (3)
- Opposed due to parking impact (2)
- Need more information/cannot decide as it depends on what happens to other parts of the Reserve (2).

*Eight comments indicate confusion about the site being referred to here e.g. a damaged cricket wicket does not exist.*

*Mentions of stormwater harvesting project and how that money will be wasted if the site changed.*

*Very negative sentiment towards Pascoe Vale Soccer Club and Council. Comments on how Moreland City Council's environmental credentials are being damaged by even proposing synthetic materials.*

**Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing**

Though this element had higher levels of support than opposition it triggered concern among participants. Overall this attracted 46% support, 15% neutral, 39% oppose (mostly strongly oppose).

The use of synthetic created concern as did a perception that Council was acting counterintuitive to its policy and position of climate change and environmental sustainability.

Here we focus on understanding opposition to this element.

Of those that Somewhat Oppose n26, 16 comments reasons cited:

- Do not want synthetic surface (10)
- Do not want fencing related to access (3)
- Not necessary as same facilities in other sites (2)

- Parking impact (1)
- Not sure what site is being referred to (1)
- Prefer other changes to Reserve (1).

Of those that Strongly Oppose n156, 100 comments reasons cited:

- Do not want synthetic surface (68)
- Not necessary to add basketball/netball etc (11)
- Do not want fencing related to access (9)
- Prefer other changes to Reserve (4)
- Parking impact (1)
- Not sure what site is being referred to (1).

## Additions to the Central Pavilion

The element to continue to modify the central pavilion might have misled participants even though it stated that some pavilion items have already been completed. There seemed to be concern that the facility was being overcapitalised and that this money should be spent on other areas of the reserve that provided public use (public value).

Overall this attracted 40% support, 37% neutral, 23% oppose (mostly strongly oppose). Here we focus on understanding opposition to this element.

Of those that Somewhat Oppose, n32 18 comments reasons cited:

- Do not want money spent on a pavilion the public cannot access not even the toilets (8)
- Don't think the changes are needed (5)
- Funds should be spent on other buildings e.g., tennis club (3)
- Do not want money spent on a pavilion if only one club has access, extend to other clubs (3)
- Querying why consultation is asking about this site (1).

Of those that Strongly Oppose n74 48 comments reasons cited:

- Do not want money spent on a pavilion the public cannot access not even the toilets (22)
- Don't think the changes are needed to support a private club only (15)
- Funds should be spent on other buildings e.g. tennis club (5)
- Do not want money spent on a pavilion if only one club has access, extend to other clubs (1)
- Querying why Council is allowing this (1).

## Provision of fencing

This section looks at the two elements related to fencing, responses to both elements provide an overall understanding of concerns, tolerances and aspirations when it comes to fenced access.

This looks at:

- Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence.
- Installation of a fence around any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval to enable club matches to be played.

### **Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence**

Analysing the level of support for the removal and replacement of the fences around the tennis court provide an interesting comparison. Responses show a general acceptance that the tennis court is fenced and for member access; removal of the existing fence is seen as an improvement; and replacement of the fence is seen as necessary.

Overall this attracted 65% support, 29% neutral, 6% oppose (mostly strongly agree). Here we focus on understanding what is supported about this element.

- Visual design and improved amenity (66)
- Support for tennis/tennis club (33)
- Improved safety (10).

### **Installation of a fence around any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval**

This element opened up a conversation about the public and private access to open space areas and the weighting of different community users. Additional information was attached to this element “...to enable club matches to be played (the pitch would not be locked and remain open outside of club training and matches for casual play)”. Despite this open fence condition, the main concern from those that opposed and strongly opposed was ongoing commitment that the fence would not be locked, or gates later installed.

Overall this attracted 30% support, 10% neutral, 60% oppose (mostly strongly oppose). Here we focus on understanding opposition to this element.

Of those that Somewhat Oppose n31, 16 comments reasons and Strongly Oppose n246, 142 comments cited:

- Maintaining the inclusivity of the Reserve and shared use (43)
- Interfering with the openness of the space/wide open area/extended play/naturalness (43)
- Lack of trust from Council and trust that it would remain open/concern about bias towards soccer club (33)
- Impact on the visual amenity of the Reserve (views) (20)
- Needs of soccer club and formal users over public use (11)
- Concerns about safety/being locked into a space (particularly as a woman) (6).

*Fifteen comments sighted that if the fence was low (under 1.5m) and was guaranteed to remain open then it would be acceptable.*

## Provision of lighting for sporting use

This section looks at the two elements related to increasing lighting in Hosken Reserve:

- Install additional lighting in the reserve – at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path.
- Installation of training lights with any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval.

Responses to these elements seem to elicit the most considered responses in comparison to other elements and empathy towards others. With those in support or with no opinion/neutral wanting to make sure that nearby residents are not unduly impacted by impact of light.

### **Install additional lighting in the reserve – at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path**

Overall this attracted 69% support, 14% neutral, 17% opposed (mostly strongly supported). Here we focus on understanding opposition to this element.

Of those that Somewhat Oppose n22 or 13 comments and Strongly Oppose n56, 50 comments reasons cited:

- Impact on homes (light pollution, impact sleep, shine into house) (22)
- Not needed for community use or sporting use (some lighting to increase safety, who uses it at night current, or would use it with lights) (18)
- Increased lighting would increase the amount the park is used for sport (12)
- Impact on the natural environment (disturb wildlife) and add to light pollution (10).

*Those that were Neutral or of No Opinion felt the decision ultimately resided with adjoining properties and were supportive provided there were no consequences.*

### **Installation of training lights with any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval**

Overall this element attracted 35% support, 15% No Opinion and 49% opposed (mostly strongly opposed). Here we focus on understanding opposition to this element. This element attracted comments that demonstrated acceptance, provided that conditions were met.

Of those that Somewhat Opposed n24, 17 comments reasons cited:

- Impact on surrounding houses (8) glare and disruption of enjoyment.
- Support the addition of lights provided it does not impact community use or affect nearby households (6).
- Extend the use of the reserve by the club (5) and restrict community use and enjoyment.
- Not needed (3) current lights work well now.
- Impact on the natural environment and wildlife (3).

Of those that Strongly Opposed n188, 79 comments reasons cited:

- Support with exceptions and more information (consideration to residential impact) (22).
- Impact on surrounding houses (21) increased use, brightness and noise.
- Not needed and a waste of money (19), given there are already working lights on site that were recently installed. Other areas are a priority.

- Extend the use of the reserve by the club (12) and restrict community use and enjoyment. Concern that community would not benefit from lighting.
- Impact on the natural environment and wildlife (6).
- Need for more information to decide, understand the impacts and the benefits, the colour, the height (5).
- Concern community use will further diminish and this is the start of increased takeover and use of space (5).
- Not the right location for this level of infrastructure (Richards Reserve was noted). Concern that it will end up like the MCG.

# Ideas to Strengthen Enjoyment

This section analyses questions related to the ongoing and future enjoyment of Hosken Reserve, including current barriers to enjoyment.

## Stakeholder Interviews

Interviews were held with formal users of the site, or those with significant interest and/or involvement in the project. Groups or organisations selected for interviews:

- Australian International Academy
- Football Victoria
- Keep Hosken Reserve Accessible
- Merlynston Tennis Club
- Pascoe Vale Football Club
- Tennis Victoria.

### Australian International Academy

An interview was conducted with the Head of AIA Health, Physical Education and Sports, and representative for Australian International Academy. The school is expected to grow by 150 students in the next five years. Two thirds of the schools' enrolments come from the municipalities of Moreland and Hume, with the associated primary school the feeder school.

In addition to the interview, 400 hardcopy surveys were received from students with identical responses. These surveys were in alignment with the points of view expressed during the interview.

#### Immediate needs

- Flexible spaces for the school to use for informal and formal learning.
- Spaces to increase the physical activity of students all year round.
- Walking track around the perimeter that can allow for community fitness and school athletics.
- Well signed and marked carparking. Preference for maintaining or increasing the number of parking, as any major reduction in parking will negatively impact school community because of school pick up and drop off with parents.
- Looking at entry points to the Reserve (from the school) to make it faster to get students on the Reserve and back to school. Currently don't use the reserve for Recess due to the time it takes.
- Supervision and safety of students when using the Reserve prefer using the factory side of the school and do not allow students on the playground.

#### Future aspirations

Interested in working with Council and the community more for example:

- Open to exploring how the community could use our facilities on the weekend and outside of school times (basketball courts). Consideration needs to be given to the insurance and risk of injury.

- Using our building or the back of our building to get involved in an arts project. We do more calligraphy so could write 'Welcome' or 'Hosken Reserve' in Arabic.
- Interested in hiring the pavilion more for overflow classes and for the occasional hire (conference) or for wet weather days.
- Environmental days in Hosken Reserve, current travel to Coburg Lake and Merri Creek to do some of those of these programs. Open to considering how this could be done at Hosken Reserve (if needed).

### 2009 Master Plan Elements

The school currently uses the ground during lunchtime and during school carnivals. This includes the toilets in the pavilion. The school also has an arrangement with the Merlynston Tennis Club and hires the synthetic tennis courts.

No.	Item	Level of support and reason
1	Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St to provide additional carparking spaces.	Strong support, additional carparking spreading demand across the site.
2	Provide indented carparking along Pallett St.	Strong support, additional carparking spreading the demand across the site.
5	Provide more seating in the reserve	Strong support, increased seating for students at lunchtime.
7	Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and enhance the visual appearance of the reserve.	Strong support, reserve is hot in summertime particularly at lunchtime.
8	Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the fence. <i>(note: this refers to the 'Hosken North' oval)</i>	Strong support, however keep the fence a low fence helps to provide boundaries for play.
9	Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. <i>(note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field)</i>	Strong support, primarily because of the synthetic surface and the fencing. Concerned that as a school they will no longer be able to use it due to potential for creation maintenance issues.

10	Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.	Strong support, futsal and basketball is needed in this community.
11	Redevelop the central pavilion. <i>(note: some pavilion items have already been completed)</i>	Support, addition of multi-use facility, gymnasium that is bookable by the community give us potential to sublet it for wet weather days. Or for a conference.
12	Construct a paved spectator/outdoor social area on the north side of the pavilion with shade trees and seating.	Support, would be used during tournaments. It's already a well-used space for tournaments and competition days. Anything that supports spectators. Would be used for bags in wet weather.
13	Restump and internally refurbish the tennis pavilion.	Support, could be a potential to sublet as part for classroom use or for conferences that the schools runs. A pavilion could be used by the schools for classroom or PD's for staff.
15	Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence.	Support, replacing fences with something that provides screening between the school and the tennis court. Preference for increased security.
16	Consider location as a community arts project.	Support, happy to be involved in an arts project, maybe use our school or write in our language 'welcome'.
17	Redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the rectangular field to provide additional carparking spaces and bus turning area. Narrow the carpark and access road on the south side of the field to provide for an extension of the field.	Strong support, congestion of the area makes it difficult for the school bus and excursions.

	Improve the directional signage to the reserve	Strong support, parents and visitors come from all directions and find it difficult to get around.
	Undertake a tree audit. Implement the findings with respect to the maintenance and possible replacements of trees.	Preference for more trees
	Upgrade and redevelop a full-size synthetic soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Hybrid on central oval and synthetic on the North-East. Want the synthetic for the wet weather and continued increased use by the school.  There is a balance. The hybrid gives a little bit back to the community it's a nice balance and supports the use.
	Installation of a fence around any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval to enable club matches to be played (the pitch would not be locked and remain open outside of club training and matches for casual play)	Fencing is important for supervision and play.

## Football Victoria

An interview was held with representatives of Football Victoria including CEO of Football Victoria, Club Ambassador and Head of Government Relations. Football Victoria through the clubs and local council's works to increase participation in football. Based on moderate predictions, Football Victoria predicts an additional 440 (full sized equivalent) pitches will be needed within five years to accommodate for this growth.

Synthetic is an attractive solution for Football Victoria as one synthetic pitch takes up the demand of two grass pitches. When lights are added to a synthetic pitch this fills the demand of three pitches. Therefore, reducing the need for multiple pitches in a municipality.

### Immediate needs

- Meeting the demand for football in this area through the provision of synthetic pitches, as recognised in Moreland City Council's Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2020: "Councils are constructing synthetic playing fields. These fields have considerably more capacity than natural surfaces and are a good solution in established areas where existing fields are at or near capacity and there is growing and unmet sporting demand" (MCC, 2020).
- Meet the demand across all age groups and genders, Pascoe Vale Football Club has grown by 27% in the past five years.

### Future aspirations

Football Victoria's main vision is to have Football available "anywhere, anytime for anyone" and "the provision of this facility upgrade goes a long way towards providing this".

- Moreland City Council creating a plan that looks at how and where football can be accommodated across the municipality.
- Enable and improve facilities to increase access and utilisation for all community users.
- To provide opportunities for all to access and enjoy social community programs (such as Go Soccer Mums).
- Provide opportunities for the community to become leaders for culture and social change. Moreland population includes many of CALD background which will allow them to feel inclusive of the Australian lifestyle.
- Increase Women and Girls and Social programs. Pascoe Vale's female participation has risen by 145% in the past five years, a number that FV expects will increase in the lead-up to, during and after the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup.

## 2009 Master Plan Elements

No.	Item	Level of support and reason
1	Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St to provide additional carparking spaces.	Somewhat support
2	Provide indented carparking along Pallett St.	Somewhat support
4	Develop BBQ/picnic areas near the playground and in the north east corner of the reserve.	Somewhat support
5	Provide more seating in the reserve	Somewhat support
7	Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and enhance the visual appearance of the reserve.	Somewhat support
8	Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the fence. ( <i>note: this refers to the 'Hosken North' oval</i> )	Strong support
9	Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. ( <i>note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field</i> )	Strong support
10	Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.	Strong support
11	Redevelop the central pavilion. ( <i>note: some pavilion items have already been completed</i> )	Strong support (application to expand on the café and provide a gymnasium)

12	Construct a paved spectator/outdoor social area on the north side of the pavilion with shade trees and seating.	Strong support
13	Restump and internally refurbish the tennis pavilion.	Somewhat support
15	Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence.	Somewhat support
16	Consider location as a community arts project.	Somewhat support
17	Redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the rectangular field to provide additional carparking spaces and bus turning area. Narrow the carpark and access road on the south side of the field to provide for an extension of the field.	Strong support
	Install additional lighting in the reserve - at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path.	Somewhat support
	Improve the directional signage to the reserve	Somewhat support
	Undertake a tree audit. Implement the findings with respect to the maintenance and possible replacements of trees.	Somewhat support
	Community access to the North soccer pitch outside club training and matches for casual play.	Strong support
	Upgrade and redevelop a full-size grass soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Somewhat support

	Upgrade and redevelop a full-size synthetic soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Strong support
	Upgrade and redevelop a full-size hybrid soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Somewhat support
	Installation of training lights with any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Strong support
	Installation of a fence around any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval. to enable club matches to be played (the pitch would not be locked and remain open outside of club training and matches for casual play)	Strong support
	Increase community access to the South soccer pitch ( <i>note: this would require upgrades to ensure safe access and redevelopment of the pitch surface to accommodate additional use</i> ).	Strong support

## Keep Hosken Reserve Accessible

Keep Hosken Reserve Accessible (KHRA) is a group of residents who have an affinity with the park. KHRA formed in September 2020 in response to Council's tender response with a formal petition, and Facebook group. This group has grown in interest and informal membership since then. This group is not incorporated and as such is difficult to articulate exact members represented, however the group feel confident that they represent the residential community from within 800m of Hosken Reserve who have concerns of the synthetic pitch proposal and hours of use. KHRA feels confident that they represent a broader, and growing philosophical view around land access and use – concerns on strategic planning decisions made by Council etc.

KHRA acknowledges that they do not represent the views of residents that are either ambivalent or pro synthetic. Nor do they feel they know and understand the more specific concerns of residents adjoining the site.

### Immediate needs

- Community needs transparency around when the facility is genuinely available. Use, used to finish at 4pm, now 6pm – further encroaches on public use. Would like to be able to plan BBQ's, have child parties etc. "we understand that sports fields are to be used for sport, but need to maintain public access and use – continue previous 'shared use' arrangement." "Establish residential hours of use."
- Shared co-use has been happening fine for years. The issues around use has only just recently come about with recent training time changes.
- Discussion with Council around access to the Hosken Reserve and asset equity. In a growing community the use of this space will increase from both parties.
- Managing club use, Council has a role to play in reminding clubs that it is public open space and resident access needs to be maintained. Broader policy issue where State, local and sporting associations are promoting and pushing infrastructure developments without recognition of existing use of public open space.
- Residents need certainty around the future of Hosken Reserve and the potential impact on housing values and residential amenity. It was noted that "a lot of people purchased their houses here because of the park".
- Being told to use other parks is not feasible. The open space at Hosken Reserve is not comparable to other parks that are commonly referenced for community use "the cemetery to the North is not functional for sport/formal recreation, nor is the linear park that is too skinny and goes across multiple roads." "As a public user, I feel safe at Hosken reserve due to natural surveillance – Richards Reserve is isolated, so is the links to that site."
- Continue to see the return of through more repair and environmental rehabilitation of Hosken Reserve "the amount of wildlife since the stormwater harvesting went in is amazing – not just on site but in broader area".
- Concern for the biodiversity of the area through the introduction of hard (synthetic) surfaces "starts with insects and soil profile, expands out to pollination etc". "Stormwater harvesting area is a stepping stone for wildlife moving through area".

- Concerns that this project sets a precedence for land access, use and most importantly the environmental impacts of supporting synthetic across the whole municipality.

### **Future aspirations**

- Would like to see the club encouraging more “grass roots local community sport” rather than “a professionalised elite level club.” This would mean seeing more local residents as members.”
- Making Hosken Reserve more open, so that people that live South have better access to the site. Perception that the fence and signage of south pitch and school precludes understanding and viewing.
- Making it easier to cross Bakers Rd, particularly crossing during school times is unsafe.
- Return to typically soccer season use (over Winter) belief this is the first time the club have used the space over Summer – which is when the community want to use the reserve. Need to understand if this the new normal or to catch up on games delayed through COVID?
- Seeing Richards, Parker being utilised more for formal sport.

### **Concerns about the process / Long term concerns**

- Local interests are being lost in the discussion – cannot compete with formalised, powerful groups in terms of financial resources and people power.
- Triple bottom line decision making is not effectively being implemented as part of this project. Social outcomes are narrowly viewed and linked to participation in sport, economic and environmental components being disregarded.
- The use of the 2009 master plan refresh as the starting point/discussion point has limited the feedback that Council would receive on new/fresh ideas.
- Concern about the long term impacts of micro-plastics. “As a taxpayer, don’t want to then be paying for the lawsuits in the future. The evidence that exists cannot answer the ongoing questions regarding health concerns – it is a great unknown.” “Council needs to know its liability cap into the future.”
- Concerns on Council process i.e. CEO’s and Council/Mayor’s reluctance to identify who was responsible for the fraudulent grant application etc.

### **2009 Master Plan Elements**

General discussion about the master plan elements:

- Shade structure that can be used for BBQs/gatherings near playground make sense.
- Inclusion of natural features (nature play) into the playground. Inclusion of a natural barrier treatment (natural, stones, planting etc.) to reduce chance of kids going onto road.
- Additional natural vegetation planting and a reduction in lawned areas – natural play extension, water feature (like at Royal Children’s).
- Shorts Rd access point needs some landscaping.
- Public art/sculpture as signage (could celebrate industrial), status, sense of arrival. Like CERES, but not as elaborate.
- Better lighting (skylights) in public toilets.
- Footpath on East side of Pallet St (bike and pedestrian).

- Traffic calming/study to address the speed and volume of traffic. In particular:
  - Pallet St
  - Need and utilisation of carparking “don’t think providing additional parking on site is the answer, it then promotes car volumes further.”
  - Accessibility of existing carpark “currently locked by the club”, it it’s a safety concern that needs to be addressed.
  - Traffic management for school at pickup and drop off times.
  - Safety and movement of cyclists. “Shorts Rd used as an East/West informal cycling route. Use Pallet as a North-South informal cycling route. Sussex St too dangerous.”
  - Lower traffic speeds.
  - Fix Sussex/Gaffney intersection.
- Merlynston linear park opened up at Bridges.
- Better bike infrastructure (bike parking and service station).
- Concerned of anything that makes the space single use – synthetic, fence etc. The existing field on the South is already single-use – why does the North need to be? If synthetic is built, can’t mark multiple pitches as they do currently – so wouldn’t this actually reduce their use?

### **Comments / Questions on how to continue to accommodate formal sport**

- We “aren’t frightened of change – but are so burnt by previous decisions and practices of Council that there is mistrust in any proposed developments.”
- We recognise that Council needs to support sporting use, but not by development of single use facilities etc.
- Need to understand the strategic visioning behind why Hosken Reserve is the location for this increased activity?
- Concerned about anything that reduces activity and singular use.
- ““Leave it as is” refers to the North Oval only – no synthetic in North half of reserve, and maintaining access/use.
- Support other upgrades such as the cricket net area being developed better etc.
- Can a reconfiguration of the South pitch be undertaken to increase additional land use for the club? The fence is quite tight against the pitch. Land between tennis and club could be used as small training space.
- If the site stays grass and no tree loss, should be OK.
- Are there temporary fencing options that could be considered?

## Merlynston Tennis Club and Tennis Victoria

Interviews with the President of Merlynston Tennis Club (MTC) and Area Manager of Tennis Victoria (TV) were conducted separately to understand the immediate needs of the MTC and its members and the longer term focus of TV. Given the similarity of opinion, the interviews have been reported on together. Where it was only the opinion of one group the acronym has been shown in brackets (TV) or (MTC).

### Immediate needs

- Safety and security of the site, tucked away in the corner of the site away from the main flow of traffic and use. The club has experienced break ins and damage to the site.
- Visibility to attract new members, signage of the club and wayfinding makes it harder to promote the club and attract new members.
- Fit for purpose facility, the clubrooms need serious repair, or redevelopment. Concern that the state of the club rooms is off putting to new members who come and try a social game.
- Removal of trees nearby the court, roots lifting courts and creating a trip hazard for players and leaf litter damaging the surface of the court.

### Future Aspirations

- Building on the interest for social/occasional games. This is also a Tennis Victoria aim who works with clubs and Council's to install the 'Book a Court' system. This system provides people with the ability to flexibly hire and use a tennis court, they register and pay online, and are given a pin code to enter. For clubs this means that entry is automated, members are not needed to open gates and a user can be restricted to certain levels of access.
- Being an inclusive club for all abilities. This is also a Tennis Victoria aim who works with clubs and Council's to make modifications to make clubs accessible for people with disabilities. Modifications needed include widening doorways, provision of accessible toilets and showers and ensuring the tennis court surface is level and on a solid base.
- Replace the clay courts with a synthetic surface, laid over a concrete based to increase the use and ongoing financial sustainability of the club.
- Ensure adequate run off requirements are met, if doing a larger redevelopment to ensure that injuries are prevented (TV).
- Planning for independent access to the courts without interrupting or crossing other courts (TV).
- Externally accessed toilets that can be accessed by flexible hirers (TV).
- Replacing the lighting with LED lighting decreases the costs for the clubs and environmental impact (TV).
- Create multi use facilities that can be shared by the community or other community groups - mum's group, kindergarten playgroup - fits in with the vision of Tennis Australia outside of play times (TV).

### 2009 Master Plan Elements

As far as the site is concerned the MTC keeps to their portion of the park. Members do of course use the carparking available and parents or siblings of players use the playground or walking track while waiting. Master plan elements with support are shown below. Beyond the elements that affected MLC, TV did not have an opinion.

No.	Item	Level of support and reason
1	Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St to provide additional carparking spaces.	Strong support, might free up more carparking spaces near tennis.
2	Provide indented carparking along Pallett St.	Strong support, might free up more carparking spaces near tennis.
5	Provide more seating in the reserve	Strong support, just to get more people onto the site.
7	Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and enhance the visual appearance of the reserve.	Strong support (with condition) trees and tennis courts don't work. Need to plant trees away from the tennis court to reduce the leaves onto the court.
8	Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the fence. <i>(note: this refers to the 'Hosken North' oval)</i>	Strongly support - Keep it grass and without a fence.
9	Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. <i>(note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field)</i>	Neutral, need to manage impact on the tennis club.
13	Restump and internally refurbish the tennis pavilion.	Strong support would prefer a refurbishment but understand this may not be possible, given the asbestos. Open to push the clubhouse closer, or altering location. Providing there is a good view of the courts from the clubhouse. Similar sized clubhouse. Could be longer and narrower with a bit of spectator seating.

15	Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence.	Strong support (with condition), we wouldn't want to remove the fencing until we have synthetic courts as there is already a lot to maintain and keep this in place. Along the back between the school colourbond or solid material. Chain fence at the front.
16	Consider location as a community arts project.	Strong support, it would be nice to have some colour and art. Happy to have art on our new building and existing building.
17	Redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the rectangular field to provide additional carparking spaces and bus turning area. Narrow the carpark and access road on the south side of the field to provide for an extension of the field.	Support, (with condition) concerned that this would create a loss of carparking preference for the turning point to the corner.
	Install additional lighting in the reserve - at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path.	Strongly support - security issues
	Improve the directional signage to the reserve	Strongly support - with our name on it.
	Undertake a tree audit. Implement the findings with respect to the maintenance and possible replacements of trees.	Support (with condition) trees around the court don't work. Need to remove the Pine Trees there is always larger branches that fall down and have damaged the fence and fall into the court.
	Community access to the North soccer pitch outside club training and matches for casual play.	Strongly support
	Upgrade and redevelop a full-size grass soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Strongly support - Keep it grass and without a fence.

	Upgrade and redevelop a full-size synthetic soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Strongly oppose - natural grass so kids can play and people can walk their dogs.
	Upgrade and redevelop a full-size hybrid soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Strongly oppose- natural grass so kids can play and people can walk their dogs.
	Installation of training lights with any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Support - already training lights as part of the football club.
	Installation of a fence around any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval. to enable club matches to be played (the pitch would not be locked and remain open outside of club training and matches for casual play)	Support if it's a low fence and there are two gates, one natural opposite to create a walkway. Not just one fence.
	Increase community access to the South soccer pitch (note: this would require upgrades to ensure safe access and redevelopment of the pitch surface to accommodate additional use).	No opinion-neutral

## Pascoe Vale Football Club

An interview was held with club president and project manager (club member) for this project.

During the interview the club presented an idea (refer to Appendix 3) which was discussed alongside the 2009 Master Plan elements. The club has made significant financial investment in lighting, facilities, concrete paths, renovated the kitchen (twice), women friendly change rooms and addition of 5 (from 2 change rooms) and invested in goals, fencing, invested in shade.

### Immediate needs

- Support with rebuilding relationships “we have never had a conflict with any other users for the past 40 years of existence. Since the synthetic pitch discussion, we have, and are having increased personal attacks towards the club. We have waited our turn and have been constantly promised increase in facilities. We have upgraded our facilities, improved the lighting in the pitches. Improved the venue and the soccer field.”
- Running out of room, demand from 15 years ago is a lot higher.
- Need a formalised pitch with fence around the ground proper LED lights aligned to the field.
- Need a fence around the North Oval senior pitch, not the Eastern Pitch. “Why do we put a fence around a dog park – why does a school – why does AFL ovals? Precedents of all other football clubs having a fence.” Fence alleviates OHS issues “parents close to pitch, dogs entering pitch chasing balls, affecting players etc.” “A fenced field will also delineate the space that the club use – i.e. keep us to a specific space and not utilise the whole oval as we do currently. Reduce square meter use and increase hours of use/access to oval to community.”

### Future aspirations

- Build success on and off the field. Club culture and atmosphere is important (new clubrooms have created a culture of joining in), would like to build on this and success across other divisions. We would like to be regarded as one of the best clubs in Victoria.
- Implement the clubs Women and Girls Development strategy and provide opportunities through NPL league.
- Through the successful obtainment of a grant, develop a new community gymnasium and look at ways to opening this up to the surrounding residential community.
- Recently engaged a café operator “to help us set up a separate café business that will allow us to open up our café to external community groups”.
- Outdoor community congregating space – café opening out to park, provide seating, umbrellas, to activate the space further.

## 2009 Master Plan Elements

Discussed alongside proposed master plan developed by the Hosken Reserve Organised Sports Collective, led by Pascoe Vale Soccer Club (refer to Appendix 3).

- Feel like our position has been misrepresented in the community, misunderstanding and belief that we are trying to take over the whole reserve, including their facilities. Simply not true.
- We generated discussion with all users (tennis and school) to formulate a consolidated proposed plan that provides benefits to all groups in a clear way.
- We listened to our members about their wants and needs beyond additional playing space e.g. requests for additional walking trails for parents.
- While similar to FV in that a synthetic surface is the preference on both North Oval and East pitch – we could offset one or both being turf by having the South pitch upgraded to a hybrid pitch to enable increased usage – shifts the burden away from the North/East and onto the South more.
- Request lux lighting of 200 on North pitch for potential games, with ability to drop down to 100 for training, and again down to 50 for warm-down/security lighting for coming and going. Want to limit any potential impacts on residential amenity wherever possible. However, would like to note that the lights being on actually increases public use of the site as it would not be used at night if not for the club paying for the training lights to be on.
- We would like to play more games at Hosken Reserve, a 500 seat grandstand on the South pitch would support this. Our intent for Hosken to be the home for womens football and junior programs, and the training centre for senior mens teams. Would like to play some of the senior mens games that draw lower crowd numbers at Hosken if possible, but maintain CB Smith as the primary match venue due to its superior facilities and increased ability to accommodate attendees etc.
- Preference for positioning the pitch on the North Oval to allow for the Eastern pitch being increased as close to a senior size pitch as possible. Clear preference for North-South orientation. Southern pitch size needs extended, not currently to standard – same size as CB Smith as preference. Eastern pitch needs redevelopment regardless of surface treatment as its quite undulating and requires levelling.

## Submissions received from key stakeholders and individual residents

Stakeholders and individual residents were able to make a written submission, in addition to participating in other engagement activities. A summary of the written submissions is shown below.

A common theme was the belief that access for one user group was being prioritised over the needs of other users of the Reserve. A number of submitters highlighted the clash (policy or strategic intent) between the 2009 Masterplan proposals and other endorsed Council strategies. The environmental harms from synthetic surfaces was also highlighted by a number of submitters.

Submitter	Issues addressed in submission
Australian International Academy (student surveys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Seasonal change impact use (too hard in Summer, too wet in Winter)</li> <li>● Strongly support the 2009 Masterplan elements and the inclusion of a full sized synthetic soccer pitch</li> <li>● Install a walking track around the outside of the track for walking</li> </ul>
Brunswick City Soccer Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposal creates opportunities for more children to play</li> </ul>
Brunswick Juventus Football Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposal meets community demand</li> <li>● Other clubs can share the resources</li> </ul>
Brunswick Zebras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Project helps meets community demand and future proofs soccer during a period of rapid population growth</li> <li>● Other clubs can share the resources</li> <li>● Limited space availability forcing teams and people to travel further for sport</li> <li>● Preference for the north oval for Hoskens to be synthetic or hybrid</li> <li>● Create a multiuser facility that can be used for a number of local sports</li> <li>● Synthetic surface is preferred because of its durability and cost/maintenance effectiveness</li> </ul>
Climate Action Moreland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Synthetic turf proposal not supported by triple bottom line decision making due to environmental impacts</li> <li>● Policy clash with other Council strategies</li> <li>● Proposals improve access for one user group (PVFC) and excludes other Reserve users</li> <li>● Council's subjectivity/conflict of interest</li> </ul>
Fawcner Soccer Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposal creates opportunities for more children to play</li> <li>● Other clubs can share the resources</li> </ul>

Glenroy Lions Football Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposal meets community demand</li> </ul>
Hosken Reserve Organised Sports Collective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pavilion can be better integrated into the community through outdoor dining</li> <li>● Seating and landscaping can be used to create natural areas around the synthetic pitch</li> <li>● Creating multiuse facility that can be used for other recreational activities</li> <li>● Better connection between the users through pathways, lighting, wayfinding and shared facilities</li> </ul>
Individual 1 (household members involved in soccer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Injury risk to players on synthetic surfaces</li> <li>● Cannot see how proposal will increase participation numbers</li> <li>● Negative experience of PVFC attitude to girls/women</li> <li>● Proposals improve access for one user group (PVFC) and excludes other Reserve users</li> </ul>
Individual 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Project scope excludes other grounds used by PVFC</li> <li>● Interest groups lobbying to skew engagement results</li> <li>● Proposals improve access for one user group (PVFC) and excludes other Reserve users</li> </ul>
Keep Hosken Reserve Accessible (local resident campaign group) (residential survey conducted by group)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Failure to consult community about the proposals prior to tender Council and State Government</li> <li>● Proposals improve access for one user group (PVFC) and excludes other Reserve users</li> <li>● PVFC have been given increased access on weeknights/weekends</li> <li>● Residents do not want synthetic or hybrid surfaces installed</li> <li>● Interest groups have more power than local residents - those most impacted should take priority</li> <li>● Council has lost the trust of local residents</li> <li>● Project needs to consider other sportsgrounds</li> <li>● 2009 Masterplan is out-of-date</li> <li>● Online survey should have required personal identification to reduce bias</li> </ul>
Moreland City Football Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposal creates opportunities for more children to play</li> </ul>
Moreland United Soccer Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposal creates opportunities for more children to play</li> <li>● Other clubs can share the resources</li> </ul>
Neighbours United for Climate Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Transparency in community engagement implementation and impact on Council decision</li> <li>● Sharing of open spaces between formal (organised sport) and informal users (walking, cycling, play)</li> <li>● Policy clash with endorsed Council strategies</li> </ul>

Resident 1 (lives adjoining Reserve)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Access currently given to Pascoe Vale Football Club (PVFC) – excessive noise</li> <li>● Airborne plastic particles from synthetic surfaces – potential health risk</li> <li>● Concern about future of wetland storage pond</li> <li>● Increased road traffic/anti-social behaviour by car drivers</li> <li>● Increased rubbish in Reserve</li> </ul>
Resident 2 (lives adjoining Reserve)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Failure to inform and consult with neighbouring residents re 2020 proposal</li> <li>● Increased tension between PVFC and residents due to Council</li> <li>● Revert back to all options for site, not revisiting 2009 Masterplan</li> <li>● Environmental risks of synthetic materials</li> </ul>
Resident 3 (lives locally)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● PVFC have been given increased access on weeknights/weekends</li> <li>● Proposal contradicts Open Space Strategy and Planning Scheme objectives regarding access for all</li> <li>● Proposal contradicts Open Space Strategy and Planning Scheme objectives regarding environmental impact of synthetic surfaces</li> <li>● Financial burden of synthetic surfaces to Council</li> <li>● Allocation of open space to organised sport versus informal use</li> <li>● Council policy regarding open engagement for this project but not others</li> <li>● Project needs to consider other soccer ovals</li> </ul>
Resident 4 (lives locally)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposals excludes other Reserve users</li> </ul>
Resident 5 (lives locally)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2009 Masterplan is out-of-date</li> <li>● Proposals improve access to one user group (PVFC) and excludes other Reserve users</li> </ul>
Resident 6 (lives locally)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposals excludes other Reserve users</li> <li>● Proposals will increase tension between PVFC and residents</li> <li>● Project needs to consider other sportsgrounds and ovals</li> <li>● Policy clash with other Council strategies</li> <li>● Cannot see how proposal will increase participation numbers</li> <li>● Synthetic surfaces are dangerous and harm the environment</li> </ul>

## New ideas to strengthen enjoyment

Through the pop up and the online survey we asked participants to consider what else could be done to strengthen their enjoyment. We have reported on this feedback under key themes. Some ideas translate into a physical change, while others relate to the programming and management.

## Masterplan inclusions

**Informal fitness:** Look at opportunities to increase informal exercise through the addition of:

- Outdoor fitness (opportunities, equipment) (6)
- Walking trails and running trails (6)
- Linking together trails.

**Formal fitness:** Facilities that will increase and facilitate formal exercise

- Tennis court upgrade (1)
- New modern sports facilities (4)
- Sports facilities for young kids (2).

**Children's play and safety:** Increasing the age range of the play space to entice older children through:

- Increase or add a playground space (3)
- Traffic calming near children's playspace (2).

## Natural environment and climate

**Keeping the natural charm:** Increasing the naturalness of the area through:

- Keep current trees or plant more (4)
- Increased landscaping and green areas for cooling effect (1)
- Maintain native wetlands and pond water level (2).

## Planning for community use

**Traffic and cars:** Increase safety and convenience through:

- Increase the carpark size (3)
- Speed humps or traffic calming for safety (3)
- Increase carpark opening hours and accessibility (2).

**Governance:** Managing access to all community members and minimising conflict:

- Clear information about space usage and available times (4)
- Access for non-soccer players (8)
- Keeping all areas opened up for community use (5)
- Limit noise disturbance from soccer matches (2).

**Leisure Facilities:** Enhancing usage and enjoyment

- BBQ facilities improved or increased (4)
- More seating areas and picnic (3)
- Dedicated dog area (2)
- Undercover pavilion area (1).

**Wider community use:** Using the facilities for new initiatives

- Food markets and events (2).

## Maintenance

**Repair of BBQs:** making sure the BBQ is working (7).

**Cleanliness and safety:** general tidiness

- Less rubbish, cigarette butts, broken glass (1)
- Assess if gum trees are safe (1).

### **Fencing:** Management of fencing

- Keep all fences open or remove fences (3)
- Keep current fences or increase them (3)
- Remove advertising from fences (1).

## **Ideas to strengthen continued enjoyment**

Through the online survey we asked participants to consider what prevented their enjoyment or was an existing barrier to use. For over half of the participants (232) there was no barrier and they can use Hosken Reserve in a way that they would like to.

For others, the barriers were:

- Use by formal sporting groups/tournaments (125). Occupying the site at times of peak (after hours and weekend use).
- Incorrect facilities (26). Unable to use the facilities across all times of the year, inclusive of wet weather days (Australian International Academy) or during the peak of the season (closed for repair, rest).
- Rowdy behaviour (16). Reports of swearing and yelling during games and practice were considered off-putting to using other parts of the Reserve during game and training days.
- Understanding if you are allowed (11). Knowing what times and where the community were allowed and when they could respectfully ask other users to leave.

## **Ideas to enjoying surrounding reserves**

Online survey participants were asked to consider improvements that could be made to nearby parks and reserves to increase enjoyment and access. This question was optional and was completed by 127 people.

A small number of participants viewed providing feedback about another park or reserve as a 'distraction' to the discussion about Hosken Reserve, or an attempt by Council to encourage the community to use additional parks. While for some participants there was no other reserve or park that met their needs like Hosken Reserve, either due to the proximity to home (7) or the large open space (33).

Across the comments there was a desire for additional shade trees at all parks (18) and better connections for cycling and walking (31). Below is feedback as it relates to specific parks and reserves.

### **Sanger Reserve (27)**

- Targeted at babies, can't be used for sport (4)
- Not secure and too close to roads (3)
- Replace climbing equipment with traditional play area or water play
- Path lighting needed
- More toilets
- Off-lead dog area (2)
- Too Small (2)

### **Bain Reserve (8)**

- Install basketball court
- More seating (2)
- Playground needs upgrading (3)
- More sun shelter (2)
- Markets and programming

### **Linear Reserve (31)**

- Should be accessible from Bridges Avenue (3)
- You can't kick a footy without it ending up in someone's backyard (8)
- Young kid oriented, not suitable for pre-teens (2)
- Link it with Hosken reserve (4)
- Public toilets
- More trees
- BBQ area and facilities (3)
- Off-lead dog area needed (2)

### **Harmony Park (25)**

- Too far for an after-school visit (2)
- Needs facilities for younger kids
- Unsafe (4)
- Paths are too wide, not enough grass
- More trees (2)
- Too crowded
- Off-lead dog area needed (2)
- Waterplay area needed
- Dog owners are not picking up after their dogs (2)

### **Parker Reserve (9)**

- Need courts or racket facilities
- Ball walls or racketball cages
- Unsafe access (3)

### **Richards Reserve (112)**

- Access is too narrow and unsafe (18)
- More trees and lights (6)
- Dog park needs fixing (5)
- Needs a childrens playground and facilities (7)
- More suitable for soccer facilities than Hosken is (4)
- Dog owner not picking up after their dogs (2)

### **De Chene Reserve (5)**

- Replacement of bubbler
- Better lighting
- BBQ facilities

### **General Feedback**

- More funding for community access to green spaces, better facilities (4)
- More trees and less organised sport
- Connect all parks together better (6)
- Other parks are too far away (12)
- Have some parks where no dogs are allowed
- Don't all have toilets and aren't as large a grassy area as Hosken (7)

# Next Steps

Following this broader engagement (Stage 1) was the opportunity to work with a group of community representatives (Hosken Reserve Master Plan Refresh Group), appointed to review community feedback, and research to make recommendations to Council for consideration as part of the master plan refresh.

Now with a greater understanding of the community and the project we have some concerns about this approach that we believe need to be addressed, and thought through prior to proceeding.

## Requires Council Decision:

- Creating an issues hierarchy: through the project we observed three distinct issues given equal priority within a Council adopted strategy. Consideration needs to be given to the role Hosken Reserve could or will play in delivering each of these strategies or adopted viewpoints.
- Delivering public value: during the consultation 'who this project is serving', was a common concern or question raised. This project brought under question the location of this increased use and activity and its appropriateness for Hosken Reserve. Consideration needs to be given to other locations (including Richards Reserve) and the appropriateness.
- Issue of synthetic is deeply divisive: we believe we are unlikely to achieve a resolution through the refresh group on the use of synthetic, grass or hybrid surface. We are unlikely to move into other areas of the master plan while this element remains open.

## Requires process consideration:

- Keeping people safe: this project, the project elements and project history have caused anxiety and concern for some. We need to keep people both physically and psychologically safe during the process. With a better understanding of the different user groups and views, we feel like this needs further consideration and discussion.
- Keeping people in the process: using deliberation requires a variety of people, interests, perspectives and understanding, to come together to discuss and reflect on the topic and make recommendations. This approach does not work if individuals leave throughout the process, either as a result of frustration, personal safety or bullying through an inability to express their views. With a better understanding of the different user groups and views, we feel like this needs further consideration and discussion.

## Additional engagement:

- Understanding the needs of Australian International Academy students: we recommend doing additional and direct engagement with students to understand how they use the reserve during lunchtime and areas that are not used, without teacher influence.
- Residents that share a boundary with the Reserve: we recommend carrying out direct engagement with adjoining residents to understand preferences for the master plan.

# Appendices

## Appendix 1 Demographic and Top 5 Priorities Collection Card



### A bit about you

Which of the following describe you?	Firstly, what is your age?	What is your connection to Hosken Reserve? (select all that apply)
<input type="radio"/> Female	<input type="radio"/> Under 18	<input type="checkbox"/> I/we live within 800m of the Reserve
<input type="radio"/> Male	<input type="radio"/> 18-24	<input type="checkbox"/> I/we live in the wider area around the Reserve (800m-1km away)
<input type="radio"/> Another term (please specify below) _____	<input type="radio"/> 25-34	<input type="checkbox"/> I/we walk or exercise our dog/s there
	<input type="radio"/> 35-50	<input type="checkbox"/> I/we walk, cycle or exercise there
<input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say	<input type="radio"/> 51-69	<input type="checkbox"/> I/we visit the playground
	<input type="radio"/> 70-84	<input type="checkbox"/> I/we are members or players at the Tennis Club
	<input type="radio"/> 85 and over	<input type="checkbox"/> I/we are members or players at the Soccer Club
		<input type="checkbox"/> I/we are part of the Australian Academy school community



### What are your TOP 5 priority projects from the 2009 Hosken Reserve Masterplan?

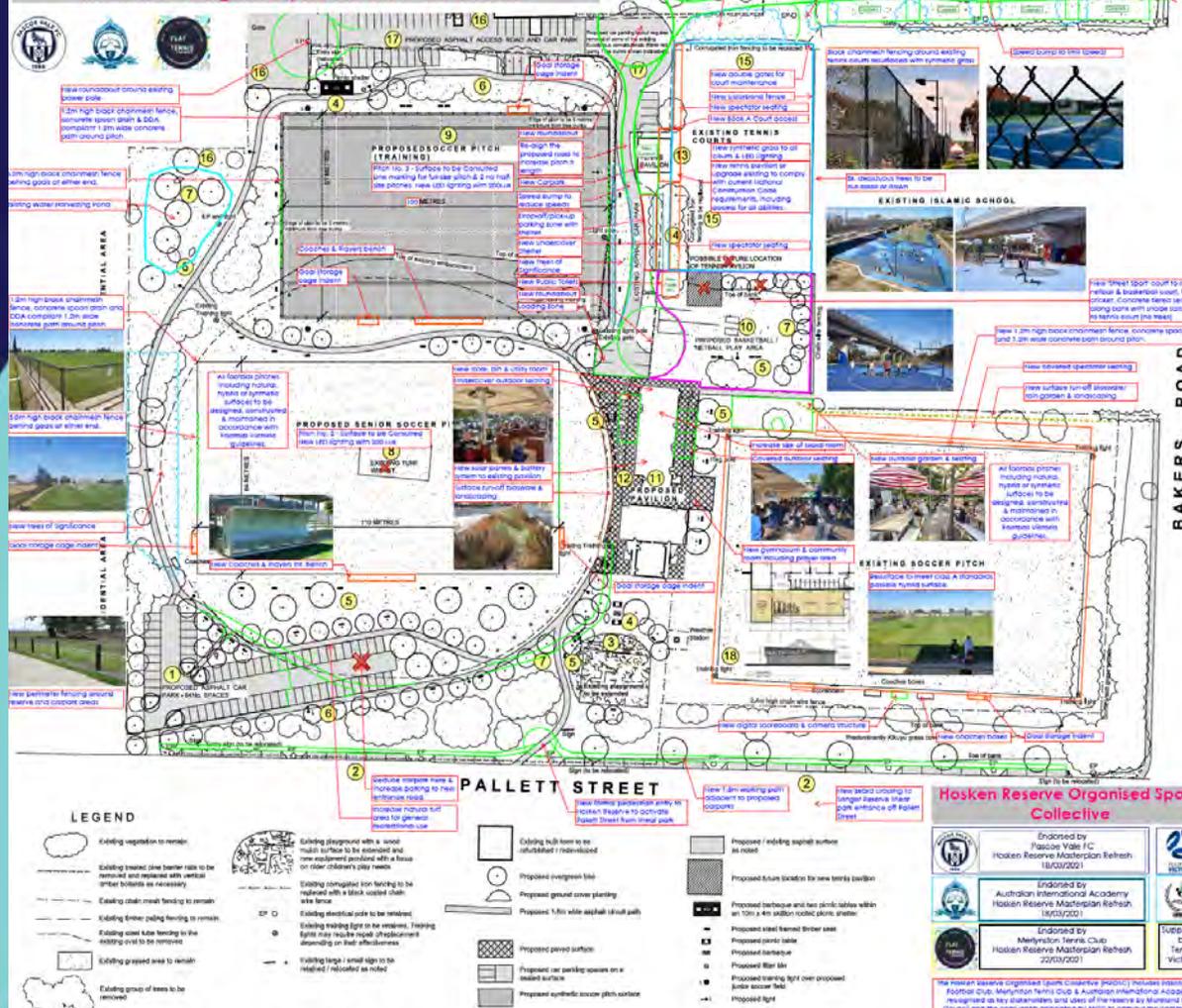
Poster	Item
	Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St to provide additional carparking spaces.
	Provide indented carparking along Pallett St.
	Extend and diversify the existing play area. Investigate the feasibility of installing play elements for older age children. (note: this has been completed).
	Develop BBQ/picnic areas near the playground and in the north east corner of the reserve.
	Provide more seating in the reserve - at the playground, around the playing fields, at the proposed picnic areas, under the trees, near the pavilion and near the proposed netball/basketball play area.
	Construct a circuit walking path in the reserve. The path should connect the Pallett St carpark, the picnic areas, the playground, the pavilions, the main carpark and the playing fields and provide a short link between the Pallett St footpath and the playground. (note: elements of this has been completed).
	Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and enhance the visual appearance of the reserve.
	Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the fence. (note: this refers to the 'Hosken North' oval).
	Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. (note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field).
	Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.
	Redevelop the central pavilion. (note: some pavilion items have already been completed).
	Construct a paved spectator/outdoor social area on the north side of the pavilion with shade trees and seating.
	Restamp and internally refurbish the tennis pavilion.
	Convert 2 en-tout-cas tennis courts to synthetic. (note: this has been completed).
	Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence.
	Enhance the view from the reserve to the factories on the east boundary of the reserve. Project should involve building on the already attractive appearance of the rusted factory walls through the significant canopy of the river red-gum trees. Consider location as a community arts project.
	Redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the rectangular field to provide additional carparking spaces and bus turning area. Narrow the carpark and access road on the south side of the field to provide for an extension of the field.
	Install additional lighting in the reserve - at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path.
	Improve the directional signage to the reserve - at the corners of Bakers Rd and Pallett St; Sussex St and Shorts Rd; Shorts Rd and Pallett St; and Shorts Rd and Sheppard St. Signage should be of a consistent and contemporary graphic standard and comply with Council specifications.
	Undertake a tree audit. Implement the findings with respect to the maintenance and possible replacements of trees.

## Appendix 2 Survey

# Appendix 3 Master Plan Drawing Hosken Reserve Organised Sports Collective

## HOSKEN RESERVE MASTERPLAN REFRESH 2021

Hosken Reserve Organised Sports Collective - Official Position



### GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS

**DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE**  
Improve the directional signage to the reserve - at the corner of Bakers Road and Pallett Street, Sussex Street and Shorts Road, Shorts Road and Pallett Street, and Shorts Road and Sheppard Street. Signage should be of a consistent and contemporary graphic standard and comply with Council specifications.

**BUILDING AND KEY AREA LIGHTING**  
Install additional lighting in the reserves - at the pavilions, carparks, picnic area, appropriate locations on the path.

**VEGETATION**  
Undertake a tree audit. Implement the findings with respect to the maintenance and possible replacement of trees.

### KEY IMPROVEMENTS

- 1 Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St to provide additional carparking spaces.
- 2 Provide indented kerbside carparking along Pallett Street.
- 3 Extend and diversify the existing play area. Investigate the feasibility of installing play elements for older age children.
- 4 Develop BBQ/picnic areas near the playground and in the north east corner of the reserve.
- 5 Provide more seating in the reserve - at the playground, around the playing fields, at the proposed picnic areas, under the trees, near the pavilion and near the proposed netball/basketball play area.
- 6 Construct a circuit walking path in the reserve. The path should connect the Pallett Street carpark, the picnic areas, the playground, the pavilions, the main carpark and the playing fields and provide a short link between the Pallett Street footpath and the playground.
- 7 Plant additional trees (predominantly native species) to provide more shade in and enhance the visual appearance of the reserve.
- 8 Upgrade and develop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the existing perimeter fence. Install training lights.
- 9 Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights.
- 10 Convert the existing cricket net area to a synthetic surfaced playing area. Retain the existing net and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.
- 11 Redevelop the central pavilion. The redeveloped pavilion should have the following features:
  - Existing building retained and extended
  - New storage areas for soccer/cricket
  - 6 changerooms and 2 engines rooms which are suitable for male and female players and officials
  - Externally accessible first aid room
  - Breezeway connection between south and north fields that could be used as an outdoor social area after games
  - Large kiosk in the breezeway serving the north and south fields
  - Large social room with views to the south and north fields. An operable wall that can divide the social room into 2 spaces
  - A kiosk/bar that can serve both sections of the social room if the room is divided
  - Offices and storage for club administration
  - Internally and externally accessible public toilets and new disabled toilets
  - Significant undercover area for spectators off the pavilion.
- 12 Construct a paved spectator / outdoor social area on the north side of the pavilion with shade trees and seating. Tree species could be Eucalyptus leucopylla 'Royal' and/or Ulmus parvifolia 'Gold'.
- 13 Restump and internally refurbish the tennis pavilion. Alternatively, remove the pavilion and construct a new pavilion to the western boundary of the tennis courts.
- 14 Replace the existing trees on the edge of the tennis courts with a suitable species.
- 15 Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence. Provide suitable windbreaks in association with the new fence.
- 16 Enhance the view from the reserve to the factories on the east boundary of the reserve. Project should involve building on the already attractive appearance of the rusted factory walls through the significant canopy of the river red-gum trees. Consider as a community arts project.
- 17 Redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the rectangular field to provide additional carparking spaces and bus turning area. Narrow the carpark and access road on the south side of the field to provide for an extension of the field.
- 18 Review the lights over the main soccer field and replace if not of a suitable standard.

**Hosken Reserve Organised Sports Collective**

Endorsed by  
Ruscoe Vale FC  
Hosken Reserve Masterplan Refresh  
18/03/2021

Endorsed by  
Australasian International Academy  
Hosken Reserve Masterplan Refresh  
18/03/2021

Endorsed by  
Melbourne Tennis Club  
Hosken Reserve Masterplan Refresh  
20/03/2021

SUPPORTED BY  
Tennis  
Victoria

The Hosken Reserve Organised Sports Collective (Hosken Reserve Sports Collective) includes the following clubs: Melbourne Tennis Club & Australasian International Academy recognised as the stakeholders and users of the reserve by Shire of Boroondara City Council and the community supported by MCC to contribute the community consultation process. The 2008 Masterplan has been updated by HOSKEN to reflect a plan position on sport's business, the important developments for the reserve, a focus for major specific goals for the growth community and the contribution organized sport provides.



Conversation

CARAVAN



# Hosken Reserve

# Master Plan Refresh

## Community survey

We want to understand how Hosken Reserve is currently used, the challenges and opportunities with this use, and desired use for the future. Please note, the survey closes 11:59pm on Sunday 28 March 2021.

**Q1a What is your interest in Hosken Reserve?** *(select all that apply)*

- I/we live within 800m of the Reserve
  - Name of street:
- I/we live in the wider area around the Reserve (800m-1km away)
- I/we walk or exercise our dog/s there
- I/we walk, cycle or exercise there
- I/we visit the playground
- I/we go to meet up with other dog walkers or neighbours
- I/we are members or players at the Tennis Club
- I/we are members or players at the Soccer Club
- I/we are part of the Australian Academy school community
- Not a current visitor or user but have a general interest in the Reserve's future [\(skip to question 2\)](#)
- I am a Moreland Council ratepayer not living near Hosken Reserve [\(skip to question 2\)](#)

**Q1b When do you currently use the site?** *(select all that apply)*

- Weekday morning
- Weekday midday
- Weekday afternoon
- Weekday evening
- Saturday/Sunday early morning (before 9am)
- Saturday/Sunday mid morning (9am to 12pm)
- Saturday/Sunday midday
- Saturday/Sunday afternoon
- Saturday/Sunday evening

**Q1c When would you like to use the site?** *(select all that apply)*

- Weekday morning
- Weekday midday
- Weekday afternoon
- Weekday evening
- Saturday/Sunday early morning (before 9am)
- Saturday/Sunday mid morning (9am to 12pm)
- Saturday/Sunday midday
- Saturday/Sunday afternoon
- Saturday/Sunday evening

**Q1d What is preventing this use?**

**Q2. In your opinion, what is the best feature of Hosken Reserve?**

**Q3a. Hosken Reserve is used by people in the community for many different purposes. What is its most important purpose for the people in your household?**

Please rank these from 1 – most important, to 7 – not as important (*number the boxes 1-7*)

- A place with good facilities and infrastructure for organised sport
- A place with green spaces for walking, cycling and enjoying
- A place with safe spaces to walk-exercise dogs
- A place with safe spaces for children to play
- A place for people to meet (community buildings or outdoors)
- A place for active recreation (e.g. jogging) and non-organised sport (e.g. playing cricket with friends or kicking a football)
- A place for hosting community events

**Q3b. What can we do to strengthen your enjoyment of this experience?**

**Q4. Listed below are items that are yet to be completed from the 2009 Master Plan, what items do you support or oppose? Please provide the reason for your response where you feel appropriate.**

Reference No.	Item	Answer (please circle)
1	Reshape the existing asphalt carpark off Pallett St to provide additional carparking spaces.	Strongly oppose/Somewhat oppose/No opinion-neutral/Somewhat support/Strongly support
2	Provide indented carparking along Pallett St.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
4	Develop BBQ/picnic areas near the playground and in the north east corner of the reserve.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
5	Provide more seating in the reserve – at the playground, around the playing fields, at the proposed picnic areas, under the trees, near the pavilion and near the proposed netball/basketball play area.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
7	Plant additional trees to provide more shade in and enhance the visual appearance of the reserve.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support

8	Upgrade and redevelop the main oval as a full size soccer field. Remove the fence. <i>(note: this refers to the 'Hosken North' oval)</i>	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
9	Extend the rectangular field. Remove the damaged concrete cricket wicket and convert the grass surface to synthetic. Install training lights and perimeter fence. <i>(note: refers to 'Hosken East' rectangular field)</i>	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
10	Convert the cricket net area to a synthetic playing area. Retain the cricket nets and install basketball/netball play facilities and provide appropriate fencing.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
11	Redevelop the central pavilion. <i>(note: some pavilion items have already been completed)</i>	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
12	Construct a paved spectator/outdoor social area on the north side of the pavilion with shade trees and seating.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
13	Restump and internally refurbish the tennis pavilion.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
15	Remove the corrugated iron fence around the tennis courts and replace the existing chain fence with a black coated chain wire fence.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
16	Enhance the view from the reserve to the factories on the east boundary of the reserve. Project should involve building on the already attractive appearance of the rusted factory walls through the significant canopy of the river red-gum trees. Consider location as a community arts project.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
17	Redevelop the access road and carparking area to the east of the rectangular field to provide additional carparking spaces and bus turning area. Narrow the carpark and access road on the south side of the field to provide for an extension of the field.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
	Install additional lighting in the reserve – at the pavilions, carparks, picnic areas, appropriate locations on the path.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
	Improve the directional signage to the reserve - at the corners of Bakers Rd and Pallett St; Sussex St and Shorts Rd; Shorts Rd and Pallett St; and Shorts Rd and Sheppard St. Signage should be of a consistent and contemporary graphic standard and comply with Council specifications.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
	Undertake a tree audit. Implement the findings with respect to the maintenance and possible replacements of trees.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support

**Q5. Listed below are more items for consideration, which ideas do you support or oppose?**

Please provide the reason for your response where you feel appropriate.

Item	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
Community access to the North soccer pitch outside club training and matches for casual play.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
Upgrade and redevelop a full-size grass soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
Upgrade and redevelop a full-size synthetic soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
Upgrade and redevelop a full-size hybrid soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
Installation of training lights with any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval.	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
Installation of a fence around any upgrade and redevelopment of a full-size soccer pitch on the North Oval. to enable club matches to be played (the pitch would not be locked and remain open outside of club training and matches for casual play)	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support
Increase community access to the South soccer pitch ( <i>note: this would require upgrades to ensure safe access and redevelopment of the pitch surface to accommodate additional use</i> ).	Strongly oppose/ Somewhat oppose/ No opinion-neutral/ Somewhat support/ Strongly support

**Q6. Do you have any other ideas to change or improve the facilities at Hosken Reserve?**

**Q7a. While not directly included in the Hosken Reserve masterplan refresh, are there current limitations that impact your experience and use of other reserves or parks in this area or do you have any other ideas to change or increase your enjoyment?**

Yes

No

**Q7b. If yes, what is the name of this park or reserve and what is the limitation or your suggestion?**

Sanger Reserve	
Richards Reserve	
Linear Reserve	
Harmony Park	
Other	

## A little about you

Q8. Is this person:

- Female
- Male
- Another term (please specify)
- Prefer not to say

Q9. Age:

- Under 17
- 18 – 24
- 25 – 34
- 35 – 50
- 51 – 69
- 70 – 84
- 85 and over

Q10. Do you identify:

- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- Born overseas
- Speak another language at home
- Have a disability
- Other (please specify)

Q11. Which of the following best describes your household? (*single choice*)

- Single adult
- Groups of adults sharing a house
- Couple with no children living at home
- Family with children living at home, where the youngest child is 5 years or under
- Family with children living at home, where the youngest child is primary school age
- Family with children living at home, where the youngest child is secondary school age
- Family with adult children living at home
- Extended or multiple families
- Other household/family: please specify

