

3.2.2 Framework

Item	Objectives		Pressures and Opportunities	Means (Strategies)	Priority	Planning Principles	Assessment	
	Values	Desired Outcome					Performance criteria	Monitoring technique
1.0 Natural Environment:								
VISION: Natural environmental values and processes related to vegetation, water cycle management, and fauna habitat are optimised, recognising historical cultural influences on the open space which should appropriately shape its parkland character								
1.1	Established trees within the park	Optimal health maintained to all tree specimens	<p>A number of landmark trees in the park have been removed due to poor health including:</p> <p>2 Moreton Bay Figs due to safety concerns</p> <p>whole avenue of Canary Island Date Palms due to infestation with <i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> (no known cure)</p> <p>placement trees with species that are compatible with park use and heritage constraints</p>	Tree planting location and species to be resolved through development of masterplan options	High	Supplementary native tree planting of Port Jackson Fig and Tuckeroo adjoining park edges to be provided integrating consideration of view corridor management and heritage interpretation of historic building sites	Supplementary shade tree planting implemented and successfully established	Number of established plants against those planted
			Potential danger of falling branches from declining trees	Undertake regular arborist reports to ensure trees are well maintained and reduce risk of personal injury from falling branches	Medium		Tree health and visual condition maintained / improved	Arborists Report Public reporting of problems / issues regarding tree management / condition
			A number of Canary Island Date Palms were retained adjoining Dunbar House however <i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> may effect these specimens in the future	Monitor trees for signs of infestation	Medium		Tree health and visual condition maintained / improved	Public reporting of problems / issues regarding tree management / condition
			High levels of park usage have led to root compaction problems to base of existing shade trees*	Investigate potential treatments under existing heritage significant trees to minimise compaction and related impacts	High	Upgrade seating areas under existing significant foreshore trees, enhancing tree protection – potential for incorporation of interpretation related to early site history including Pilots Cottages and stream that crossed the site	Tree health and visual condition maintained / improved Compaction of root zones reduced	On site inspections
			Large trees often have mulch installed individually Connect mulch areas between adjoining trees	Consolidate mulched areas where trees are close together to provide garden bed and potential for under-planting to discourage access / compaction	Medium	Provide where practical and sustainable -lower level planting that enhances habitat value of park landscape eg. to bank to northern park edge	Visual appearance of tree planting zones improved Maintenance effectiveness improved	Review on site by Council Landscape Architect Liaison with maintenance staff
			Harsh site conditions that make tree establishment and maintenance difficult include: shallow sandstone soils; waterlogged soils; and strong sea winds A range of appropriate tree species are evident on the site: Moreton Bay Fig Port Jackson Fig Norfolk Island Pine	Select hardy species for replacement plantings All new planting works to incorporate comprehensive establishment period	High	Supplementary native tree planting of Port Jackson Fig and Tuckeroo adjoining park edges to be provided integrating consideration of view corridor management and heritage interpretation of historic building sites	Supplementary shade tree planting implemented and successfully established Enhancement of view corridor across and through the park to harbour	Number of established plants against those planted Ongoing monitoring of view corridor
			Garden bed planting can create high recurrent maintenance requirements	Garden bed planting to be restricted to key focal areas and resolved through development of masterplan options	Medium	Provide where practical and sustainable -lower level planting that enhances habitat value of park landscape eg. to bank to northern park edge	Garden bed where incorporated provides improved functional and visual quality	On site follow up inspection by Council Landscape Architect

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1.2	Trees – recreational amenity	Reinstatement of the shade and green character lost in recent tree removals	The recent required removal of mature trees has impacted park character and amenity Potential replacement with appropriate sympathetic species	Tree planting location and species to be resolved through development of masterplanning	High	Supplementary native tree planting of Port Jackson Fig and Tuckeroo adjoining park edges to be provided integrating consideration of view corridor management and heritage interpretation of historic building sites Reinforce visual and access link from The Gap through improved pedestrian crossing and potential harbour viewing point at the edge of park Park edge planting to provide a backdrop to views within the park, buffering visual impacts from adjoining commercial / residential areas whilst maintaining views into the park	Supplementary shade tree species implemented and successfully established Planting adapts well to site conditions	Number of established plants against those planted through the site On site follow up inspection by Council Landscape Architect
			Tree removal has resulted in a general lack of shade provision through the centre of the park and along the foreshore If avenue was not replaced this would enhance significant view corridors and consolidate grassed open space Potential for enhanced planting to edges of the park	Replace shade trees through plantings to park edges of existing site species (eg Port Jackson Fig) and appropriate native species (eg. Tuckeroo, Smooth Barked Apple)	High	Supplementary native tree planting of Port Jackson Fig and Tuckeroo adjoining park edges to be provided integrating consideration of view corridor management and heritage interpretation of historic building sites	Supplementary shade tree planting implemented and successfully established Positive community feedback on supplementary planting	Number of established plants against those planted through the site Community comments on implementation of replacement planting
			Banksia's planted to the eastern section of the park are poor shade trees, constrain views / visibility and conflict with cultural park character Selectively remove plantings that obstruct views and replace with a more suitable species in an alternative location	Selective removal of inappropriate tree plantings	Medium	Park vegetation management to remove lower branching planting that impede cross site views, divides park, and reduces user safety through passive surveillance	Improved views, security and visual character to the park Positive community feedback on supplementary planting	On site follow up inspection by Council Landscape Architect Community comments on implementation of replacement planting
			Norfolk Island Hibiscus planting in the park causes skin irritation to many park users and the seed pods are a problem to maintenance staff (mowing) Norfolk Island Hibiscus characterised by good floral displays – flowering trees to be considered for replacement species	Removal of Hibiscus and replacement planting of species with cultural heritage appropriate character	Medium		Removal of planting	Completion of plant removal
			Tree species for replacement plantings should be carefully considered Consider replacement tree species which has the following characteristics hardiness heritage compatibility wildlife habitat recreation visual compatibility	Preferred tree planting species: -Port Jackson Fig: existing park species, and common harbour foreshore planting -Tuckeroo: evergreen native tree which will visually integrate with Figs, is compatible with heritage themes, and can maintain clear sight lines under -Sydney Red Gum: open native tree of Sydney sandstone areas providing link to adjoining National Park		Supplementary native tree planting of Port Jackson Fig and Tuckeroo adjoining park edges to be provided integrating consideration of view corridor management and heritage interpretation of historic building sites Reinforce visual and access link from The Gap through improved pedestrian crossing and potential harbour viewing point at the edge of park Park edge planting to provide a backdrop to views within the park, buffering visual impacts from adjoining commercial / residential areas whilst maintaining views into the park	Supplementary shade tree planting implemented and successfully established Positive community feedback on supplementary planting	Number of established plants against those planted through the site Community comments on implementation of replacement planting

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1.3	Natural landform / geological features	Park planning and use responds to the opportunities and constraints presented by existing site conditions	A stream originally flowed through the site providing fresh water for early settlers Potential to interpret natural stream line with water feature and / or planting	Interpret the former creek alignment through the park and Marine Parade currently marked by paving feature to Marine Parade (Refer 6.1 Interpretation)	Low	Upgrade seating areas under existing significant foreshore trees, enhancing tree protection – potential for incorporation of interpretation related to early site history including Pilots Cottages and stream that crossed the site	Implementation of interpretative elements as part of coordinated design	On site follow up inspection shows elements in good condition Community comments on interpretive elements
			Naturally poor drainage in the north west section of park near the hotel is further impacted by blocked stormwater drains Undertake drainage improvements to reduce ponding	Improvements to drainage to be resolved through development of masterplan options to include: soakage tank for water storage and re-use and surface water removal	Medium	Incorporate subsoil drainage at problem drainage areas and potentially provide underground storage tank for recycling of drainage for irrigation	Reduction in ponding and drainage problems	On site monitoring after rain Volume of stored water used for grass irrigation purposes Community comments / complaints
			Sandstone outcrops adjoining Military Road – incorporating grooves from Clovelly House era	Protect sandstone outcrops and recognise as park feature	High	Reinforce visual and access link from The Gap through improved pedestrian crossing and potential harbour viewing point at the edge of park	Sandstone outcrop conserved in good condition integrated with park entry improvements Community understanding of its history	On site monitoring Community comments on interpretation
			Natural springs / watercourse underneath the South Head peninsula are a potential source of water Potential investigation of underground water sources	Liaise with National Parks and Wildlife Service regarding investigation of underground water sources and potential use in local area	Low		Liaison and investigations undertaken Interpretation developed	Correspondence and Investigation outcomes Incorporation of interpretation making reference to adjoining park and groundwater conditions in Robertson Park if appropriate
			Potential water feature within park	Water element within Robertson Park not preferred by Council due to ongoing maintenance and potential safety concerns				
1.4	Biodiversity	Replacement and supplemental plantings optimise wildlife habitat and movement corridors	Some native plantings may conflict with park heritage character New plantings to potentially include site indigenous (native to the local area) tree, shrub and herbaceous (grasses) planting to appropriate location	Tree planting species and potential layout to be resolved through development of masterplan options	High	Supplementary native tree planting of Port Jackson Fig and Tuckeroo adjoining park edges to be provided integrating consideration of view corridor management and heritage interpretation of historic building sites Provide native tree planting adjoining National Park interface providing contextual link to sandstone vegetation community (eg Sydney Red Gum)	Supplementary shade tree planting implemented and successfully established Positive community feedback on supplementary planting	Number of established plants against those planted through the site Community comments on implementation of replacement planting
			The park has a different character from the bushland character of Gap Park and Gap Bluff	Park planning to recognise cultural heritage character of Robertson Park as unique and separate from adjoining spaces	High	Supplementary native tree planting of Port Jackson Fig and Tuckeroo adjoining park edges to be provided integrating consideration of view corridor management and heritage interpretation of historic building sites	Planting addresses need for shade and screening compatible with interpretation of heritage building sites and 19 th Century informal park	Review of design by Heritage specialist Community comments on implementation of replacement planting

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							character	

2.0 Heritage:

VISION: Interpretation and recognition of the pre 20th century character, role and function of the site in Sydney's early European settlement related to its residences, other buildings and the pre 20th century informal park-like landscape is facilitated

2.1	Robertson Park	Protection of park heritage significance	Original site character as harbour foreshore private allotments has been lost in progressive park works Improve relationship of park facilities / layout with heritage significant building sites	Park planning to identify opportunities to recognise 19th century site character and use	High	Mitigation of park developments that have eroded conservation and interpretation of heritage features and character including: -the formal cross park path system which does not respect earlier informal garden site character related to residences -the toilet block (encroaching on Clovelly house site curtilage) -the Rotunda structure (encroaching on Clovelly house site curtilage)	Heritage fabric and curtilage recognised through park improvements and management	Acceptance of strategies by heritage specialists Community comments NSW Heritage Office comments
		Robertson Park has a long history of being a destination for picnics / gatherings	Interpretation to integrate display / information on early function / character of the site and tourist visitation	High	Interpretation of 19 th century heritage elements aimed at facilitating an understanding of the first phase of European history, related site use, and informal landscape character for park users	Completion of Interpretative strategy coordinated with park design improvements Implemented interpretative works	Progress review of strategy development Community comments NSW Heritage Office comments	
		The park provides curtilage to a number of heritage features	Park improvement works to respect / respond to heritage elements	High	Mitigation of park developments that have eroded conservation and interpretation of heritage features and character including: -the formal cross park path system which does not respect earlier informal garden site character related to residences -the toilet block (encroaching on Clovelly house site curtilage) -the Rotunda structure (encroaching on Clovelly house site curtilage)	Heritage fabric and curtilage recognised through proposed strategies / policies	Acceptance of strategies by heritage specialists Community comments NSW Heritage Office comments	
		Appropriate heritage conservation mechanisms in place	Robertson Park is an important heritage resource, but is not properly heritage listed Undertake steps to ensure that Robertson Park is protected through heritage listing	Robertson Park to be listed as a place of State significance on the State Heritage Register and on the heritage schedule to Woollahra LEP	Medium		Park listed on heritage register	Completion of registration
2.2	Clovelly house site	Protection and recognition of house site and curtilage	The historical remnants of Clovelly House located within the eastern zone of the site (c.1824-1903). The house has high heritage significance as one of the first mansions in the area and its occupation by two former NSW Premiers Potential for sub-surface heritage significant elements (eg. Clovelly House footings)	Clovelly to be acknowledged / interpreted through park improvement planning aimed at improving relationship of site to park planning elements Provide coordinated interpretative design	High	Mitigation of park developments that have eroded conservation and interpretation of heritage features and character including: -the formal cross park path system which does not respect earlier informal garden site character related to residences -the toilet block (encroaching on Clovelly house site curtilage) -the Rotunda structure (encroaching on Clovelly	Recommendations for park improvements respond to Clovelly house site and interpretation opportunities	Implementation of heritage interpretation strategies Community comments NSW Heritage Office comments

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						house site curtilage)		

2.2 (cont.)	Clovelly house site (cont.)	Appropriate interpretation of Clovelly House site	Footing holes and steps in sandstone outcrop adjoining Military Road (formerly Clovelly House stable site) warrant investigation and interpretation	Undertake archaeological investigations of Clovelly site following provision of archaeological permit	High	Interpretative facilities integrated in park design improvements	Archaeological investigations carried out to satisfaction of relevant authorities	Permit issued Findings of archaeological investigations tabled and incorporated into park design						
				Design park improvements in area of Clovelly site to reflect interpretation opportunities										
				Investigate opportunities to reinstate original park boundary at north east corner (encroached by Military Road) enhancing interpretation potential for Clovelly house out - buildings										
2.3	Dunbar House (Zandvliet)	Protection and recognition of existing house and curtilage	Significant as an example of a 19th century Marine Villa associated with persons of importance in the cultural history of NSW	Park planning to identify opportunities to better interpret the historical role of the building and understanding of its physical character	Medium		Recommendations for park improvements respond to Dunbar House Heritage Interpretation planned and implemented	Acceptance of strategies by heritage specialists Community comments NSW Heritage Office comments						
				Improved curtilage to Dunbar House compatible with heritage character					Low masonry wall (c.1970-80's) to front / side of Dunbar House conflicts with heritage character	Improved heritage curtilage around Dunbar house to be resolved through development of masterplan options: -improvement of disabled access -removal of inappropriate masonry walling	Medium	Remove landscape elements incompatible with heritage curtilage of Dunbar House including brick masonry walling and more recent plantings to rear grassed area	Disabled access improved Heritage curtilage improved	Access specialist review of proposed design Acceptance of strategies by heritage specialists Community comments NSW Heritage Office comments
				The native planting garden (to the rear) is out of character with the rest of the park and provides poor curtilage to Dunbar House					Park planning to consider selective removal of inappropriate planting and appropriate replacement planting	Medium	Remove landscape elements incompatible with heritage curtilage of Dunbar House including brick masonry walling and more recent plantings to rear grassed area	Heritage curtilage improved	Acceptance of strategies by heritage specialists Community comments NSW Heritage Office comments	
				The existing roadway separates Dunbar House from the rest of the park					Park planning to consider options to improve relationship of Dunbar House site with remainder of park compatible with heritage character	Medium	Improved pedestrian relationship between grassed area adjoining Dunbar House and the main park – potential paved shared zone	Improved level of usage of existing grassed area and level of access between areas	Monitoring of use Community comments	
2.4	Zenleith house site	Protection and recognition of house site and curtilage	Significant as an example of a pilots cottage	Park planning to consider potential for interpretation of the house site	High	Interpretation of Zenleith house site through appropriate landscape elements (eg sandstone markers to building corners) following site investigations	Recommendations for park improvements respond to Zenleith house site and interpretation opportunities	Acceptance of strategies by heritage specialists Community comments NSW Heritage Office comments						

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2.5	Rotunda	Protection and recognition of heritage interest - minimising conflict with earlier heritage items and their curtilage (eg Clovelly House)	The Rotunda (constructed in the 1920s) is in a location that may compromise effective interpretation of the Clovelly House site	Park planning to investigate options for potential enhancement of Clovelly House curtilage including Rotunda relocation to alternative location	High	Mitigation of park developments that have eroded conservation and interpretation of heritage features and character including: -the Rotunda structure (encroaching on Clovelly house site curtilage)	Heritage conservation and understanding of Clovelly house site is enhanced Function and visual park role of Rotunda is maintained / improved	Acceptance of strategies by heritage specialists Community comments NSW Heritage Office comments Monitoring of Rotunda use
2.5 (cont.)	Rotunda (cont.)	Improved condition and accessibility of Rotunda	Shingle roof is in poor condition	POM to incorporate recommendations for works to restore the Rotunda roof to acceptable condition	Low		Function and visual park role of Rotunda is maintained / improved	Community comments Monitoring of Rotunda use
			Disabled access is currently not provided	Review potential for incorporation of ramp access in any future upgrading of Rotunda (incorporate Heritage appraisal of design solution)	Low		Function of Rotunda is maintained / improved	Community comments Monitoring of Rotunda use
2.6	Milestone Obelisk	Protection and recognition of heritage significance	Milestone Obelisk (for Old South Head Road) located on steep bank with poor curtilage treatment Alternative locations with improved curtilage are available but would conflict with historical locations and potential for increased vandalism due to more prominent position Investigate appropriate interpretation	Retain existing location		Protection of existing heritage elements and provision of interpretation to improve community understanding Interpretation of 19 th century heritage elements aimed at facilitating an understanding of the first phase of European history, related site use, and informal landscape character for park users	Conservation and improved awareness	Monitoring of condition Community comments
2.7	Robert Watson Memorial Seat	Protection and recognition of heritage significance	Robert Watson residence was located to the south of the site – Thomas Watson had a residence closer to this location	Conserve seat structure in park planning and management Potential development of pedestrian square at Military Road / Marine Parade intersection as Watsons Square	Low	Protection of existing heritage elements and provision of interpretation to improve community understanding Enhanced pedestrian circulation amenity and safety at Military Road / Marine Parade intersection through provision of pedestrian plaza	Pedestrian plaza development enhances interpretation and visual role	heritage specialists Community comments NSW Heritage Office comments
2.8	Heritage tree plantings	Protection and conservation of heritage tree species.	High levels of park usage have led to root compaction problems to base of existing shade trees*	Investigate potential treatments under existing heritage significant trees to minimise compaction and related impacts	High	Upgrade seating areas under existing significant foreshore trees, enhancing tree protection – potential for incorporation of interpretation related to early site history including Pilots Cottages and stream that crossed the site	Tree health and visual condition maintained / improved Compaction of root zones reduced	On site inspections
2.9	Aboriginal Heritage	Robertson Park plays role in the recognition and interpretation of Aboriginal life and culture in the local area	Limited knowledge / facts on Aboriginal heritage in the area	Undertake further investigation (including Oral History) as to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage of Watsons Bay area generally and review potential for appropriate interpretation in Robertson Park and adjoining National Park	Medium	The Sydney Harbour National Park at Watsons Bay provides the most effective context for major interpretation of Aboriginal significance of the area	Completion of study and integration of findings in Interpretive strategy Community awareness increased	Review undertaken Interpretation in park and adjoining National Park implemented Correspondence with Land Council Community comments
2.10	Creepline through park	Recognise pre existing creepline and natural drainage characteristics of park site	Potential interpretation	Consider potential interpretation of creepline without impact on park function (eg. artwork in pavement)	Low	Upgrade seating areas under existing significant foreshore trees, enhancing tree protection – potential for incorporation of interpretation related to early site history including Pilots Cottages and stream that crossed the site	Implementation of interpretative measures	Acceptance of strategies by heritage specialists Community comments NSW Heritage Office comments

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3.0 Visual:								
VISION: A simple, informal, and safe parkland character (reflecting pre 20 th century site character) that reinforces and enhances significant view corridors, the harbour front setting, and visual links through, from and to the park								
3.1	Views and vistas	Visual character of the park enhanced without affecting the amenity of adjoining commercial / residential areas	Robertson Park is characterised by its excellent views of Sydney Harbour and the city skyline* Park planning to incorporate view protection as a fundamental principal	Park planning to investigate options to improve spatial layout, function and visual sight lines in the park	High	Consolidation of open grassed area through centre of park through selective tree removal, and relocation of bus layover parking to Military Road to enhance harbour views from The Gap and within the park	Enhancement of view corridor across and through the park to harbour	Ongoing monitoring of view corridor Community comments
		Vistas and view lines integrated with tree management	Recent Norfolk Island Pine avenue planting along the north south pathway could potentially add to park separation and limitation of harbour views from eastern park and The Gap Potential to remove / relocate trees to prevent future view obstruction from The Gap and eastern section of the park Potential for shade tree planting to park edges without compromising views					
3.2	Open grassland character	Open grassland areas provide community village green and relief from surrounding urban development	Community desire for coverage of the park by hard surfaces and fencing to be minimised Park improvements to retain all grassed areas and avoid new structures and large areas of concrete pavement	Park planning to consider options for maximisation and consolidation of open grassed areas: - relocation of path access to avoid fragmentation and improve curtilage to heritage features - improvement of path surfacing and widths	High	Park improvements to promote simple informal landscape character of pre 20 th century site	Increased area of informal use village green Enhanced recreational use and enjoyment Clear and functional path access through park	Monitoring of park use Community comments
		Visual impact of adjoining commercial and residential uses	Large open grassed areas are often used for informal play but use is limited on hot days Investigate potential for new tree plantings (shade provision) within grass area Retain central grass area for family ball games	Provide shade tree planting adjoining open grassed areas to provide for complimentary use	High			
		Visual impact of adjoining commercial and residential uses	Visual impact of surrounding area (eg. bus layover, commercial and residential areas)	Amelioration of visual impact to be addressed through development of	Medium	Reduced visual impact of adjoining uses	Ongoing review on site by Council Landscape	

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		minimised	Potential for additional edge planting to screen surrounding uses	masterplan options (eg. additional edge plantings) and Military Road improvement works			Enhanced park character	Architect Community comments
			Landscape elements adjoining Clovelly Street such as the treated pine fence and speed humps fail to compliment park character	Park improvement works to replace inappropriate furniture elements	Medium		Coordinated furniture implemented in functional locations	Ongoing review on site by Council Landscape Architect Monitoring of use Community comments

3.3	Simple parkland character	Simple parkland character and natural elements as key park features	Potential for proliferation of "built" elements	Park masterplanning and component elements should contribute to a simple / unified park character	Medium	Cater for both local and visitor user needs through provision of a balanced and sustainable range of facilities located to park edges: -toilets -playground -Rotunda shelter -Shaded seating areas	Improvement works improve and complement simple park character	Ongoing review on site by Council Landscape Architect Monitoring of use Community comments
3.4	Residential amenity	Conflicts of park facilities / usage with residential amenity are minimised	Potential impacts of lighting	Lighting of park features to consider residential amenity as key outcome	Medium	Pole top lighting to be provided to major through park path access and at park entry points in consideration of potential night view corridor impacts and relationship to residential housing	Adequate lighting of key path access Resident satisfaction	Ongoing monitoring on site by Council Monitoring of use Community comments
		Privacy of the residential areas adjoining the park is respected	Local residents have previously expressed concerns over the impact of developments and improvements to the park*	To ensure that residents' concerns are voiced and addressed, Council will consult with the community over changes to the park that may affect them*	High		Community awareness of values and issues Community participation in consultation	Community meeting minutes Community response to consultation and implementation of works Ongoing community input
3.5	Integrated relationship to Military Road Commercial Centre	Strong relationship of the park with the adjoining urban centre whilst conserving parkland character		Park planning to integrate with adjoining streetscape planning	Medium	Reinforce effective and comfortable link within the park between The Gap and Marine Parade without compromise of parkland character and use Reinforce effective and comfortable direct link between Watsons Bay Village Centre and Camp Cove Enhanced pedestrian circulation amenity and safety at Military Road / Marine Parade intersection through provision of pedestrian plaza	Integrated design outcomes	Progress review of design development to ensure coordination
4.0 Social / Cultural:								
VISION: A balanced and sustainable community role for the park recognising both local and visitor (tourism) significance and acknowledging the park's civic role in the Watsons Bay village								
4.1	Cultural heritage	European and Aboriginal heritage of the site and Watsons Bay area is protected and recognised	Lack of interpretative reference to previous Aboriginal occupation / use of the site	Develop coordinated interpretation strategy Interpret cultural heritage features (refer 6.1 Interpretation)	High		Completion of Local Aboriginal History review and integration of findings in Interpretive strategy Community awareness increased	Review undertaken Interpretation in park and adjoining National Park implemented Correspondence with Land Council Community comments

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		Park plays an integral part of the Watsons Bay experience for visitors from the Sydney region, interstate and overseas	The park experiences high levels of local and tourist visitation	Park improvements to emphasise local and tourist family use and reinforce such roles through development of masterplan options	Medium	Consolidate extent of open grass areas to enhance flexibility of use for a range of passive recreational activities	Improved park setting and facilities for family recreation	Ongoing monitoring of use Community comments
4.2	Community use of Dunbar House	Appropriate and sustainable level of community use as public library is maintained	Limited parking	Reinforce current library use within limitation of existing space	Low		Library maximises the quality of its role for local use	Library use retained Community comments

5.0 Recreation / park use:

VISION: A sustainable range of passive family recreation activities in a quality landscape and visual setting that is not compromised by recreational uses and can facilitate long term flexibility of community use

5.1	Passive recreational use	Robertson Park continues to function as a venue for the local community and visiting tourists seeking passive recreation in a waterfront atmosphere*	Users are generally attracted to the western zone of park being closer to water Maintain the park as an open space for passive recreation (picnics, childrens play area)	Passive recreational use to be emphasised and developed in masterplan options Park planning to investigate options for enhancement of popular park areas to meet community usage and related pressures	High	Consolidate extent of open grass areas to enhance flexibility of use for a range of passive recreational activities Upgrade seating areas under existing significant foreshore trees, enhancing tree protection – potential for incorporation of interpretation related to early site history including Pilots Cottages and stream that crossed the site Enhanced pedestrian circulation amenity and safety at Military Road / Marine Parade intersection through provision of pedestrian plaza	Improved passive recreational amenity including upgrading of existing areas to respond to high usage pressures	Ongoing monitoring of use Community comments
		Passive recreation as primary park use	Park condition in the north western zone of Robertson Park (adjoining Military Road turning circle) is impacted by high use	Masterplan options to investigate alternative surface treatments and furniture provision	Medium	Upgrade seating areas under existing significant foreshore trees, enhancing tree protection – potential for incorporation of interpretation related to early site history including Pilots Cottages and stream that crossed the site Enhanced pedestrian circulation amenity and safety at Military Road / Marine Parade intersection through provision of pedestrian plaza	Tree health and visual condition maintained / improved Compaction of root zones reduced	On site inspections
		Demand for dog use – currently not permitted in the park The rear of Dunbar House may be a suitable location for off leash dog use	Previous Council consideration of dog management determined that due to high level of visitation and picnic usage that Park remain dog free	High		Appropriate control of dog access in high use family parklands	Ongoing monitoring of use Ranger inspections Community comments	
		Potential conflicts of desired dog use with passive recreational uses Potential provision of off leash dog area adjoining Dunbar House	Off leash dog areas allowable at: Christison Park (4.30pm-8.30pm)					
		Provision of dog waste bins and bags required	Existing on leash dog areas allowable at: Camp Cove Reserve (all times) Samuel Park (all times)					
		Anti social behaviour / noise (especially at night) Potential for improved lighting to reduce levels of anti-	Detailed design of park improvements to ensure adequate light levels to deter anti-	Medium	Pole top lighting to be provided to major through park path access and at park entry points in consideration of potential night view corridor	Adequate lighting of key path access	Ongoing monitoring on site by Council	

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			social behaviour	social behaviour		impacts and relationship to residential housing	Resident satisfaction	Monitoring of use Community comments
			Active recreational uses such as a designated bike track conflict with existing passive recreational uses. The Woollahra Bike Plan requires modification in this regard.	Liaise with internal Council departments to ensure that a bike track is not constructed within the park	Low		Bike track not included in masterplan proposals for Robertson Park Bike track proposed in suitable location where it complements existing use patterns	Community response to draft Masterplan and pom Bike track implemented in alternative location

5.2	Childrens play	Informal and formal play opportunities for children of all ages	Existing playground will require medium term improvements Revitalise playground appearance	Childrens play equipment to be updated in compliance with guidelines established by Australian Standards and Woollahra Council Playground Policy*	High	Cater for both local and visitor user needs through provision of a balanced and sustainable range of facilities located to park edges: -toilets -playground -Rotunda shelter -Shaded seating areas	Compliance with Australian standards Community Use	Audit of design strategies Monitoring of use Community comments
		Playground appearance and condition improved	Playground gate needs improved childproof locking mechanism	Safety considerations to feature in the purchase, installation and layout of facilities*	High	Cater for both local and visitor user needs through provision of a balanced and sustainable range of facilities located to park edges: -playground	Compliance with Australian standards Community Use	Audit of design strategies Monitoring of use Community comments
			Existing wood chip surface to playground should be upgraded	Potential upgrading to "Wetpour" surface	Medium	Cater for both local and visitor user needs through provision of a balanced and sustainable range of facilities located to park edges: -playground	Contemporary equal access softfall surface implemented	Council inspection on site Monitoring of use Community comments
			Lack of play facilities for children aged 5 yrs and over	Playground improvements to consider enhancement of equipment for all ages	High	As above	A well used range of play equipment is provided that caters to various age groups	Monitoring of use Community comments
			Informal play opportunities exist within the grass areas of the park	Consolidate open grassed areas for recreational use	High	Consolidate extent of open grass areas to enhance flexibility of use for a range of passive recreational activities	Improved passive recreational amenity	Ongoing monitoring of use Community comments

6.0 Education:

VISION: Robertson Park provides an educational link to the 19th century history of settlement in Sydney, the natural environment, and our contemporary community in an outdoor harbour side setting

6.1	Interpretation	Natural and cultural heritage features of the park are effectively interpreted where appropriate	A range of natural and cultural heritage features elements exist within the park Interpret former heritage uses of the site (eg. Clovelly House, Cork House, and Dunbar House)	Undertake coordinated Interpretative Strategy aimed at developing themes and styles for a coordinated signage approach throughout the park	Medium	Interpretation of 19 th century heritage elements aimed at facilitating an understanding of the first phase of European history, related site use, and informal landscape character for park users	Coordinated approach for Watsons Bay implemented	Interpretation. strategy Implementation of strategy recommendations
			Lack of heritage interpretation through Robertson Park and Marine Parade promenade Recognise unique role / function of the site – only park joining Harbour and ocean	Refer also section 2.0 Heritage				Community comments NSW Heritage Office comments

Item	Objectives		Pressures and Opportunities	Means (Strategies)	Priority	Planning Principles	Assessment	
	Values	Desired Outcome					Performance criteria	Monitoring technique

7.0 Intrinsic								
7.1	Green open focus of Watsons Bay Centre for locals and visitors	Community open space area	Expanded park visitation is limited by parking provision especially during peak use periods – existing parking facilities limited to onstreet parking and two carparks located adjoining the northern boundary Emphasise the role of public transport in providing access to the Watsons Bay area	Promote public transport as a positive means of accessing Robertson Park and the Watsons Bay area through improving transport related facilities	High	Enhanced pedestrian circulation amenity and safety at Military Road / Marine Parade intersection through provision of pedestrian plaza	Mitigation of parking pressures on park and local area character	Promotional material developed Increase in public transport provision and use Monitoring of usage Community comments
		Ease of access and viability of park for local and visitor recreation	Frequency of ferry service fails to meet community expectations	Liaise with Sydney Ferries for potential improvement to service	Medium		As above	As above
			A residential parking scheme has been implemented along Clovelly Street with zones designated for resident parking* – this reduces the amount of parking available for visitors Consider time limit and pay for parking provisions	Council to consider introduction of pay parking and residential parking permits in place of resident only parking scheme	Low		Mitigation of parking pressures on park and local area character	Promotional material developed Increase in public transport provision and use Monitoring of usage Community comments
7.2	Simplicity and legibility of park character	Simple park layout provides for functional park use	Major pedestrian nodal point occurs at intersection of Military Road, Ferry Wharf and Marine Parade and is compromised by vehicular roadway and associated low level traffic The roundabout at the end of Military Road is an activity hub characterised by pedestrian and traffic movements	Options for revised traffic configuration aimed at improving pedestrian amenity to be resolved through development of masterplan options	High	Enhanced pedestrian circulation amenity and safety at Military Road / Marine Parade intersection through provision of pedestrian plaza	Plaza development implemented Improved pedestrian amenity Minimal conflicts for service access	Community and user group consultation On site monitoring Community comments

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	Values	Desired Outcome					Performance criteria	Monitoring technique	
			Robertson Park is located between public transport nodes with the Ferry terminal located to the west and bus stop located to the east – most direct connection route is through the park	Relationship between park and surrounding uses to be enhanced / resolved through development of masterplan options: - improved path access - enhanced visual character - potential pedestrianisation of Military Road turning circle (as above) - enhanced pedestrian entry points	High	Enhanced visual and functional relationship of park to Watsons Bay Village Centre and Marine Parade including: -upgraded street frontage incorporating management of pedestrian access points to park -upgraded park entries Reinforce effective and comfortable link within the park between The Gap and Marine Parade without compromise of parkland character and use Enhanced pedestrian circulation amenity and safety at Military Road / Marine Parade intersection through provision of pedestrian plaza Enhanced accessibility between grassed area of park and Marine Parade – potential for localised sitting and walking steps along part of edge to enhance accessibility and informal seating Improved pedestrian relationship between grassed area adjoining Dunbar House and the main park – potential paved shared zone	Improved usage of access links between park and adjoining areas	On site monitoring Community comments	
			Poor physical relationship between the park and The Gap Provide improved access between the park and The Gap Potentially reinforce park role as a land access when viewed from the Gap lookout						
			Major entry points to the park are low key	Improve park entry points with wider entry pavements, sandstone walling, and entry signage as appropriate			Refer above	Refer above	

7.2 (cont.)	Simplicity and legibility of park character (cont.)	Simple park layout provides for functional park use (cont.)	The existing sandstone wall along Marine Parade reduces the level of pedestrian access / connectivity between the park and foreshore promenade	Potential to provide stepped access / seating edge to southern section to provide more free access and improved relationship between the park and promenade	Low	Enhanced accessibility between grassed area of park and Marine Parade – potential for localised sitting and walking steps along part of edge to enhance accessibility and informal seating	Improved access and seating used by park users	On site monitoring Community comments
		Coordinated park directional signage	Directional signage is poorly provided for visitors to the Watsons Bay area Clear way-finding signage is required	Prepare coordinated signage strategy integrating: way finding information interpretative signage	Medium	Interpretation of 19 th century heritage elements aimed at facilitating an understanding of the first phase of European history, related site use, and informal landscape character for park users	Improved visitor awareness and use of area	On site monitoring Community and visitor comments
		Strong inter-relationship between park spaces	Separation of eastern and western parts of the park due to functional and visual barrier caused by axial pathways, grouped vegetation and structures (playground, gazebo, amenities block) Consider removal / relocation of offending structures and planting	Spatial relationships within park to be enhanced through development of masterplan options considering relocation of pathways and facilities as part of an enhanced overall design	High	Consolidation of open grassed area through centre of park through selective tree removal, and relocation of bus layover parking to Military Road to enhance harbour views from The Gap and within the park Mitigation of park developments that have eroded conservation and interpretation of heritage features and character including: -the formal cross park path system which does not respect earlier informal garden site character related to residences -the toilet block (encroaching on Clovelly house site curtilage) -the Rotunda structure (encroaching on Clovelly	Improved visual setting Improved security Improved visual character Improved heritage curtilage	Heritage specialist compliance Monitoring of usage Community comments

Item	Objectives		Pressures and Opportunities	Means (Strategies)	Priority	Planning Principles	Assessment	
	Values	Desired Outcome					Performance criteria	Monitoring technique
						house site curtilage) Park improvements to promote simple informal landscape character of pre 20 th century site Reinforce effective and comfortable link within the park between The Gap and Marine Parade without compromise of parkland character and use		
			The open space area to the side and rear of Dunbar House is separated from the remainder of Robertson Park by Clovelly Street and as such has limited public recreation potential	Consider provision of raised shared access paved street surface to Clovelly Street between Dunbar House and waterfront to improve connectivity	Low	Improved pedestrian relationship between grassed area adjoining Dunbar House and the main park – potential paved shared zone	Improved level of usage of existing grassed area and level of access between areas	Monitoring of use Community comments
	Equal access to park pathways and facilities	Footpaths are of insufficient width to cater to existing high levels of usage Potential improvements including path width and surface The existence of pedestrian “desire lines” suggest that the existing path alignments fail to cater to user demands Consider reconfiguration of path system to provide improved routes catering to user demand	Long term path alignment strategies to be resolved through development of masterplan options		Medium	Reinforce effective and comfortable link within the park between The Gap and Marine Parade without compromise of parkland character and use	Path links cater for park users	Monitoring of use Monitoring on “non path” access Community comments
Reinforce effective and comfortable direct link between Watsons Bay Village Centre and Camp Cove Enhanced pedestrian circulation amenity and safety at Military Road / Marine Parade intersection through provision of pedestrian plaza								
		Improved ramp access required for Rotunda and Dunbar House	Investigate potential strategies for ramp access to heritage items with input by Heritage specialist	Low		Function of Rotunda is maintained / improved	Community comments Monitoring of Rotunda use	

7.3	Individual park like no other	Essential qualities that provide Robertson Park with its distinctive character are conserved	Long term impact tree plantings on harbour views	Park masterplan to review potential visual impacts of existing and proposed plantings	High	Consolidation of open grassed area through centre of park through selective tree removal, and relocation of bus layover parking to Military Road to enhance harbour views from The Gap and within the park	Enhancement of view corridor across and through the park to harbour	Ongoing monitoring of view corridor Community comments
			Impacts of excessive park usage	Park masterplan to define high usage areas and provide appropriate landscape treatment	High	Upgrade seating areas under existing significant foreshore trees, enhancing tree protection – potential for incorporation of interpretation related to early site history including Pilots Cottages and stream that crossed the site Enhanced pedestrian circulation amenity and safety at Military Road / Marine Parade intersection through provision of pedestrian plaza	Tree health and visual condition maintained / improved Compaction of root zones reduced Plaza development implemented Improved pedestrian amenity Minimal conflicts for service access	On site inspections Community and user group consultation On site monitoring Community comments
		Structures are minimised and compatible / unobtrusive to landscape character	Any architectural design proposed for the park to be undertaken in compliance with Urban Design and Heritage Controls for Watsons Bay	High		Compliance with Woollahra planning controls	Council review and approval	
7.4	Open space connection between ocean and the harbour	Visual and functional link between the Harbour and The Gap is conserved and enhanced		Refer 7.3				

Item	Objectives		Pressures and Opportunities	Means (Strategies)	Priority	Planning Principles	Assessment	
	Values	Desired Outcome					Performance criteria	Monitoring technique
				Robertson Park to be conserved / protected as open space	High		Protection for park provided by statutory and non statutory guidelines	Continued use of land as community park
8.0 Management / maintenance:								
VISION: Community use to be supported by a coordinated and quality park setting and a sustainable effective park maintenance regime								
8.1	Provision of passive recreational facilities	Functional unified character of furniture elements throughout the park	Range of furniture styles within the park Upgrade with consistent treatment	Rationalise location of seats and tables to under shade trees adjoining park boundaries with appropriate wearing surface Furniture to be from Councils approved public domain furniture palette	Medium	Recognise dual recreational role of park in provision for both local and visitor use through a balanced and sustainable provision of shaded seating and informal recreation areas with access to toilet and playground facilities to waterfront and edges of park oriented towards views Locate park furniture (eg. table settings, park benches, bins, etc.) to provide for comfortable recreational use and effective maintenance access Improved furniture and materials provision with coordinated, hard wearing elements (and wearing surface under) providing sustainable maintenance requirements based on Councils approved furniture range	Adequate furniture provision for park use Attractive visual appearance as part of coordinated layout approach and furniture palette	Implementation of improvements Monitoring of use Community comments

8.1	Provision of passive recreational facilities (cont.)	Functional unified character of furniture element throughout the park	Tables and seats require wearing surface underneath – maintenance problem	Furniture to be provided with appropriate wearing surface under	High	Locate park furniture (eg. table settings, park benches, bins, etc.) to provide for comfortable recreational use and effective maintenance access	Under furniture areas are maintained erosion free and visually attractive	Monitoring on site Community comments
			Furniture provided under mature fig trees increase soil compaction and impacts tree health	Investigate potential treatments under existing heritage significant trees to minimise compaction and related impacts	high	Upgrade seating areas under existing significant foreshore trees, enhancing tree protection – potential for incorporation of interpretation related to early site history including Pilots Cottages and stream that crossed the site	Tree health and visual condition maintained / improved Compaction of root zones reduced	On site inspections
			Lack of public drinking facilities (bubblers)	Vandal resistant bubblers should be provided at suitable points eg. foreshore seating area / proposed Watsons Square)	Medium		Adequate provision Vandalism prevented	Monitoring on site Community survey Monitoring on site
			The location of furniture elements (bins and seats) could be improved	Placement of furniture items in consolidated locations which maximise potential for park use	Medium	Locate park furniture (eg. table settings, park benches, bins, etc.) to provide for comfortable recreational use and effective maintenance access	Adequate furniture provision for park use Attractive visual appearance as part of coordinated layout approach and furniture palette	Implementation of improvements Monitoring of use Community comments
			Different lighting style between park and Marine Parade	Lighting style and position to enhance user safety and integrate with adjoining areas – to be resolved in detailed design	Medium	Pole top lighting to be provided to major through park path access and at park entry points in consideration of potential night view corridor	Adequate lighting of key path access	Ongoing monitoring on site by Council

Item	Objectives		Pressures and Opportunities	Means (Strategies)	Priority	Planning Principles	Assessment	
	Values	Desired Outcome					Performance criteria	Monitoring technique
			Potential for better lighting integration	development phase		impacts and relationship to residential housing	Resident satisfaction	Monitoring of use Community comments
			Potential for barbecues to attract excessive park usage and create maintenance problems	No barbecue provision in park	N/A		No barbecues to be provided	Community comments
8.2	Quality of park environment	A clean and well kept park*	Bin provision / servicing fails to meet use requirements during peak times	Council to pursue a consistent approach to maintenance to ensure that Robertson Park remains a safe, clean and attractive public open space*	Medium	Locate park furniture (eg. table settings, park benches, bins, etc.) to provide for comfortable recreational use and effective maintenance access	Adequate furniture provision for park use Attractive visual appearance as part of coordinated layout approach and furniture palette	Implementation of improvements Monitoring of use Community comments
			Potential for improved siting of bins					
			Increased maintenance is needed to cope with greater amounts of rubbish during peak usage times (summer, school/public holidays and weekends)*	Review recurrent maintenance programme to respond to potential park improvements and current needs	Medium		Maintenance addresses key requirements for a neat and tidy park within resource constraints	Monitoring of maintenance issues Community comments
			The take away food shop located on the ferry wharf is a large contributor to excess rubbish					
			Opportunity for shop to contribute to resolving rubbish issue					
Potential for provision of recycling bins	Upgrade grass areas with improved topsoil, drainage and irrigation	Low	Consolidate extent of open grass areas to enhance flexibility of use for a range of passive recreational activities	Quality of grassed area Level of community use	Monitoring of maintenance issues Community comments			
Grass areas are in overall poor condition due lack of regular irrigation and reduced capacity to handle heavy use								
			Potential to fine grade and reinstate turf areas incorporating irrigation system					
8.2 (cont.)	Quality of park environment (cont.)	A clean and well kept park*	Steep landform adjoining roadways makes grass maintenance difficult	Options for embankments improvements including groundcover planting and regrading to be resolved through development of masterplan options	Medium	Provide where practical and sustainable -lower level planting that enhances habitat value of park landscape eg. to bank to northern park edge	Pedestrian safety improved Reduction of erosion / grass wear Improved maintenance	Monitoring on site Community comments Monitoring of maintenance requirements
			Improved toilet facilities within the park without on park visual character, heritage sites, and park use	The amenities block receives high visitation from park users and tourist bus users Opportunity for general facilities upgrade or relocation of amenities block	Masterplan options to incorporate relocation of amenities block when facilities require major upgrading	Low	Existing structures and facilities (toilet and playground) relocated and upgraded adjoining park edges improving visual continuity and recreational amenity of park	Improved visual character and usage of eastern park Improved Curtilage to Clovelly site
8.3	Availability of funding	Staged implementation programme addresses community and environmental priorities	Funding for improvement works needs to be confirmed / established Potential for external funding through Stage Government programmes (eg. Metropolitan Green Space, Heritage Commission, etc.)	Masterplan and staged action plan to provide basis for seeking of external funding	High		Adequate funding of works and pre construction items achieved	Recurrent funding levels as budgeted and implemented
8.4	Availability of leases, licenses, and bookings	Leasing and licensing of park facilities where there is no conflict with the community values / objectives of the park and consistent with Reserve purpose	Ground floor of Dunbar House is shared between café and library use	Continue leasing to provide community use in accordance with appropriate conditions	High		Lease, license and bookings compatible with community use and statutory requirements (Local Government Act, Crown Land Act)	Lease agreements Monitoring of compliance Community comments

Item	Objectives		Pressures and Opportunities	Means (Strategies)	Priority	Planning Principles	Assessment	
	Values	Desired Outcome					Performance criteria	Monitoring technique
		Potential use of park for functions during non peak periods to supplement park improvement funding	Potential impacts of events on general park use	Continue bookings for functions that will not compromise public use and amenity of land and residential amenity	Low			
				Uses should be consistent with relevant Council and Crown Policy regarding function use and bookings	Low			
				Size of events and booked area to be limited to maintain community access to and use of park during temporary events	High			
		Permanent / fixed commercial uses within the park area are avoided	Council occasionally grants permission for use of the park for wedding ceremonies / photographs for a nominal fee	No permanent / fixed commercial uses should be allowable within the park area	High		Park usage compatible with family passive recreational role	Review of applications Monitoring of use for bookings etc. Community comments