## PLAN OF MANAGEMENT 1996

## LOCAL PARKS

# WOOLLAHRA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

FINAL DOCUMENT AS APROVED BY COUNCIL AT ITS MEETING 18 DECEMBER, 1995

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## PARKS - LOCAL

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#### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background

In June 1993 the Local Government Act (1993) was enacted. The Act includes specific requirements relating to the preparation of Plans of Management for Community Land.

Plans of Management will regulate the use and management of land. They do not replace existing legislation/systems relating to the approval of activities and development.

The Act does allow more than one area of land to be covered by a single Plan of Management.

This Generic Plan includes all community land that has been categorised as Parks - Local and this category basically denotes small parks and playgrounds with a neighbourhood catchment.

Given the large number of small parks and playgrounds and the relative similarity in their function and issues, it is intended that this Generic Plan cover all these areas.

#### 1.2 Aims

- \* To provide a Generic Plan of Management to comply with the Act in relation to Parks Local within Council's area.
- \* To cover the range of situations within small parks and playgrounds in Council's area whilst recognising the individuality of particular areas.

#### 1.3 Corporate Goals

Corporate goals in the strategic land management programme in relation to Parks - Local are:

- \* That small parks and playgrounds be available to all members of the public.
- \* That Council develops a quality system of small parks and playgrounds and further that these form a link to other components of open space within Council's area.

\* That community participation in the management of open space be encouraged.

#### 1.4 Land Covered by the Plan

Community land covered by this Plan of Management is detailed in Appendix A. This schedule of land could change as elements of the Plan of Management are implemented.

#### 2 MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Small parks and playgrounds comprise approximately 50% of all parks settings in the Municipality of Woollahra.

The majority are under 0.5 hectares. Over half provide active recreation facilities in the form of playgrounds whilst others are less structured spaces for passive recreation.

Local open space catering for the local community is predominantly pocket parks scattered throughout the Paddington and Woollahra areas.

The remainder of the Municipality has only small areas of public open space as the needs of these areas is greatly reduced due to residents having a substantial amount of private open space. Estimates of private residential facilities include approximately 1,750 swimming pools and over 100 tennis courts. These facilities are concentrated in the eastern sections of the Municipality - particularly the Point Piper, Rose Bay, Vaucluse and Bellevue Hill areas.

In the higher density residential areas such as Paddington local pocket parks are important. Residents depend more on the recreational opportunities provided by local parks. Most of these parks contain a children's playground catering for specific groups of children.

There are several major issues relevant to small parks and playgrounds and these have been grouped into the follow:

#### 2.1 Cleanliness, Safety and Accessibility

Given that many of the local parks are particularly frequented by mothers and children along with frail aged people, safety should be assured. Parks should also be adapted so that they provide safe areas for disabled people.

In areas of higher residential density fencing may be required for security reasons and all parks should be well lit at night.

Along with security, cleanliness of the parks should be assured.

#### 2.2 Sun Protection

Physical protection from the sun has become increasingly important. Open space areas may vary in the amount of shade provided by sun protection.

It is requisite to provide shade trees or structures where necessary in parks to provide sun protection.

#### 2.3 Views and Vistas

Views and vistas for those parks that are elevated open space may have been reduced in some parts of the Municipality.

These views should be maintained and wherever possible enhanced by tree pruning if necessary.

#### 2.4 Encroachment

Use of public open space for purposes other than recreation occurs in some parks. This is either in the form of private land owners utilising public open space for the storage of material and dumping of rubbish or private property boundaries extending into public open space. These activities restrict public access to open space and are to be discouraged.

#### 2.5 Drainage

In a limited number of parks drains run through the open space area.

The dual use of land for open space and drainage has been shown to reduce the quality of open space.

Wherever possible these drains should be encased to prevent pollutants entering the system or causing any other damage.

#### 2.6 Maintenance

Local parks should be not only maintained but also upgraded and improved wherever possible.

This includes all plantings, facilities such as playgrounds and structures such as seating, fencing and lighting.

In some cases, adjoining residents assist in maintaining some of the local parks. Community involvement in maintenance programmes greatly assists in enhancing the quality of open space areas and should be encouraged.

#### 2.7 Residential Amenity

With regard to local parks, surrounding residential amenity should be preserved. The privacy of adjoining residences should be maintained and residents should be consulted as to any significant changes to the parks.

#### 2.8 Community Consultation

Woollahra Council is committed to Community consultation. In relation to local parks, Council will ensure that the community is involved in the management of open space through consultation.

#### 2.9 Visibility

Open space is essential for the general health and vitality of the community through the provision of natural elements in a built environment. In higher density residential areas parks also provide a release from city living, a sense of place and are also a visual resource.

In relation to local parks, wherever possible, signage should be improved to increase local awareness.

#### 2.10 Heritage Significance

There are few items of heritage significance in the local parks.

Any items of significance should be conserved, maintained and enhanced in an appropriate manner.

#### 2.11 Indigenous Plantings

Where parks have pockets of indigenous flora these should be maintained and enhanced with appropriate indigenous plant associations.

# 3 MANAGEMENT PROCESS : OBJECTIVES, ACHIEVEMENT AND ASSESSMENT

The structure of this Plan of Management has been developed to facilitate its implementation.

The first part is the policy document which includes background to the plan, corporate goals and major issues.

The second is the management process which specifies:

- (a) Objectives and performance targets
- (b) The means to achieve the plan's objectives and performance targets
- (c) The manner in which Council assesses performance with respect to the plan's objectives and performance targets.

In order for this Plan of Management to function as a true working document, a Management Process Schedule has been developed.

# MANAGEMENT PROCESS

No	MANAGEMENT ISSUES	OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT	MANNER OF ASSESSMENT
3.1	Cleanliness, Safety and Accessibility	Maintain a clean, safe and accessible open space area.	Maintain and wherever possible upgrade and improve facilities and structures such as playgrounds, fencing, lighting and pathways. Keep pathways clean along with other facilities and structures. Wherever possible, improve wheelchair access.	Carry out regular inspections to ensure standards are maintained.
3.2	Sun Protection	Ensure physical protection from the sun in local parks.	Maintain shade trees and provide shade structures where necessary.	Obtain feedback from local residents. Incorporate awareness of new technologies into programme.
3.3	Views and Vistas	Preserve and improve views.	Prune trees to preserve and improve harbour views.	Carry out regular inspections to ascertain whether views are impeded.
3.4	Encroachment	Discourage private property boundaries extending into public open space and the dumping of rubbish.	Educate the community to this effect by means such as the placement of signs.	Carry out regular inspections to ensure standards are maintained.

No	MANAGEMENT ISSUES	OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS	MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT	MANNER OF ASSESSMENT
3.5	Drainage	Wherever possible, remove open drains in local parks.	Wherever possible, encase drains.	Monitor and evaluate whether pollutants are entering the system.
3.6	Maintenance	Maintain open space areas and wherever possible, improve and upgrade.	Preparation of a maintenance schedule. Implementation of routine maintenance procedures to meet maintenance schedule objectives.	Review maintenance priorities and standards.
3.7	Residential Amenity	Ensure that the amenity of surrounding residential areas is maintained.	Consider the impact on local residents when open space facility improvements are proposed.	Obtain feedback from local residents.
3.8	Community Consultation	Ensure the community is involved in the management of open space through consultation.	Liaise with the community.	Assess whether expressed community needs are being met.
3.9	Visibility	Increase awareness of reserves.	Improve signage.	Obtain feedback from local residents.
3.10	Heritage Significane	Conserve items of heritage significane whereever possible.	Maintain and enhance heritage in an appropriate manner.	Ascertain whether the heritage value of the parks has been maintained.

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3.11	Indigenous Plantings	Conserve and enhance areas of indigenous vegetation.	Maintain existing plantings and undertake additional plantings.	Evaluate effectiveness of maintenance procedures.

#### APPENDIX A - PARKS (LOCAL)

CAMP COVE RESERVE

DERBY STREET RESERVE

BEACH AVENUE RESERVE

WHARF ROAD RESERVE

SAMUEL PARK

PANNERONG RESERVE

SHELDON PLACE RESERVE

MARCH STREET CLOSURE

THORNTON PLAYGROUND

BRADLEY AVENUE RESERVE

EPPING ROAD RESERVE

HARBOUR VIEW PARK

307-309 EDGECLIFF ROAD RESERVE

**ELMS RESERVE** 

CHISWICK PARK

**EUROKA RESERVE** 

HOLDSWORTH STREET RESERVE

HALLS PARK

**DAVIES RESERVE** 

PLUMB RESERVE

SABER STREET PARK

**DUNARA GARDENS** 

FOSTER PARK - HUGH LATIMAR CENTRE AND SHERBROOKE HALL

GUILFOYLE AVENUE RESERVE

**EDGECLIFF SQUARE** 

LOFTUS ROAD RESERVE

SUTHERLAND AVENUE RESERVE

SOUDAN STREET RESERVE

SUTHERLAND STREET RESERVE

CASCADE/GURNER STREET RESERVE

CAMBRIDGE STREET PLAYGROUND

UNION STREET PLAYGROUND

COOKS PADDOCK

SPRING STREET RESERVE

COMBER STREET RESERVE

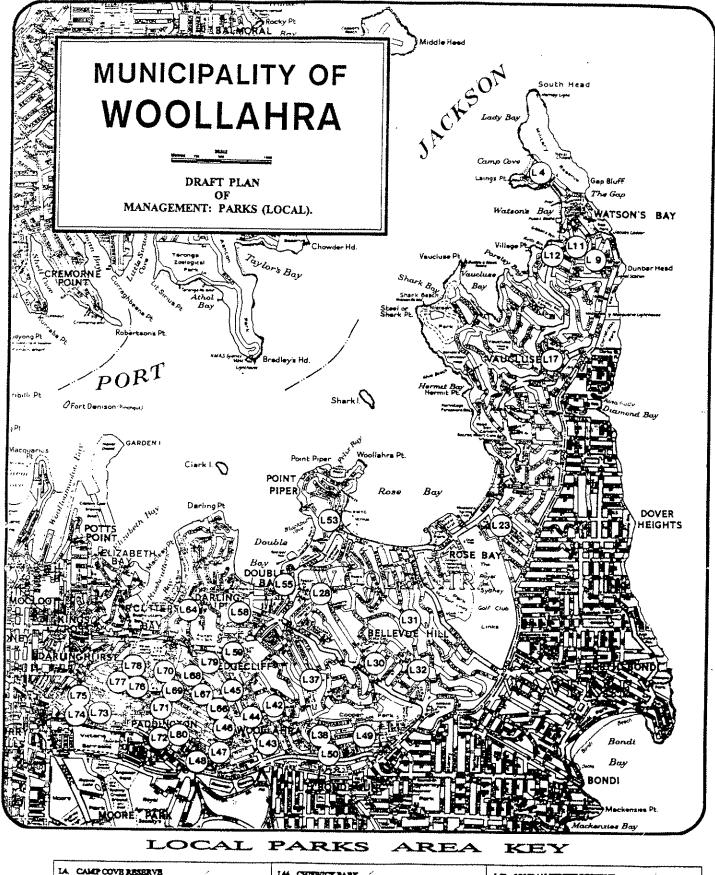
COMBER/BOUNDARY STREET RESERVE

STEPHEN STREET RESERVE

DILLON STREET RESERVE

NEILD AVENUE MAZE

HERBERT STREET RESERVE E.J. WARD CENTRE



IA CAMP COVE RESERVE	LAA. CHIEWICK PARK	LET. SOUDAN STREET RESERVE
L9. DERBY STREET RESERVE	LAS, EUROKA RESERVE	LAL SUTHERLAND STREET RESERVE
LIL BEACE AVENUE RESERVE	LAS. BOLDSWORTH STREET RESERVE V	Les. Cascade/Gurner Street Referve
L12. WHARF ROAD RESERVE	LAT. HALLSPARK X	L70. CAMBRIDGE STREET PLAYGROUND
LIT. SAMUELPARK	LAL DAVIES RESERVE	L7L UNION STEER PLAYGROUND
L23. PANINERONG RESERVE	LAS. PLUMB RESERVE	LTL. COOKES PADDOCK
L28. SHEELDON PLACE RESERVE	LSG. SABER STREET PARK	L/3. SPRUNG STREET RESERVE
L30. MARCH STREET CLOSURE	LSL DUNARA GARDENS	L74. COMBER STREET RESERVE
L3L THORNTON PLAYGROUND 🗸	LSI. FOSTER PARK-SHERBROOKE HALL &	L75. COMBER / BOUNDARY STREET RESERVE
L32. BRADLEY AVENUE RESERVE	HUGH LATIMAR CENTRE	LAL STEPHEN STREET RECEVE X
L37. BYTING ROAD RESERVE	LSE. GUILPOYLE AVENUE RESERVE	L77. DILLON STREET REPORTS
LM. HARBOUR VIEW PARK	LS. EDGECLIFF SQUARE /	L78. NEILD AVENUE MAZE
LAL 307-309 EDGECLIFF ROAD RESERVE	LAA. LOFTUS ROAD RESERVE	L79. HERMENT STREET RESERVE
LA3. ELMS RESERVE	LAG. SUTHERLAND AVENUE RESERVE	LSO. BJ. WARD CENTRE