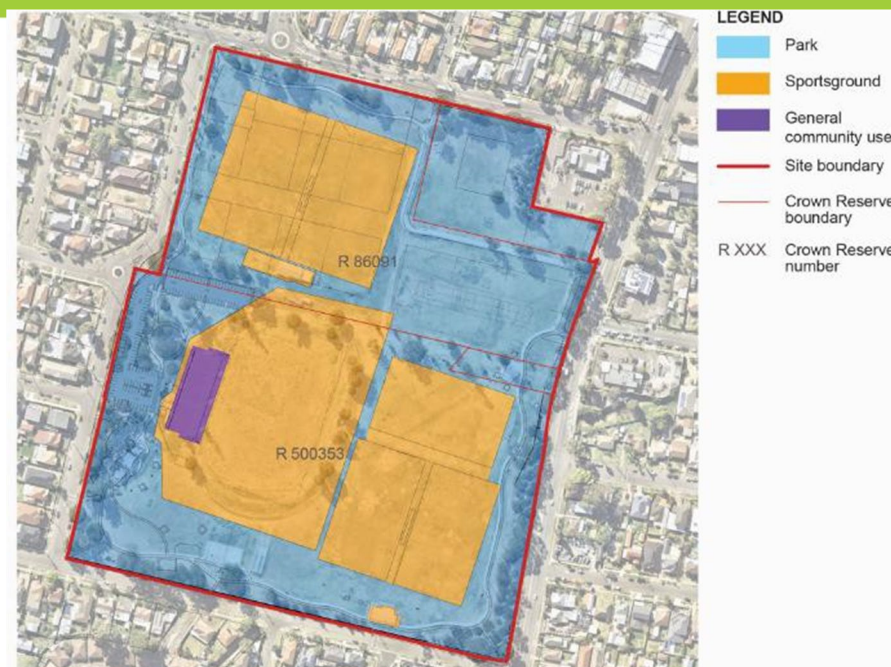


PUBLIC HEARING AND SUBMISSIONS REPORT FOR PROPOSED RECATEGORISATION OF PARTS OF GRANVILLE PARK

FINAL REPORT

22 FEBRUARY 2023



CUMBERLAND CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEARING AND SUBMISSIONS REPORT
FOR PROPOSED RECATEGORISATION OF
PARTS OF GRANVILLE PARK

FINAL REPORT

22 FEBRUARY 2023

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of this report

The purpose of this report is to convey to Cumberland City Council the submissions made in relation to a public hearing held on Tuesday 29 November 2022 regarding the proposed recategorisation of parts of Granville Park in Merrylands.

This report has been prepared under Section 40A of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

1.2 Background to the public hearing

Granville Park comprises Crown land and community land owned by Cumberland City Council. Crown and community land is required to be categorised under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The Crown and Council-owned land in Granville Park was categorised wholly as Sportsground in the Community Land Plan of Management (Parramatta City Council, 2014).

While retaining the current Sportsground category over the sporting fields and associated facilities, Cumberland City Council proposes to recategorise parts of Granville Park as Park and General Community Use. This is consistent with the proposed improvements and activities in the Draft Landscape Masterplan for Granville Park, the guidelines for categorisation of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, and the core objectives for each category in the Local Government Act.

Community land is also required to be subject to a Plan of Management prepared under the Local Government Act. A Draft Plan of Management has been prepared for Granville Park (Sturt Noble Associates, November 2022) which was placed on public exhibition for comment until Monday 6 February 2023.

A public hearing is required under Section 40A of the *Local Government Act 1993* to receive community submissions about categorising or recategorising community land. Under the Act the public hearing must be chaired by an independent facilitator. The public hearing was held on Tuesday 29 November 2022.

1.3 Land covered by this report

Granville Park and its surrounds are shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1 Location of Granville Park



Source: Granville Park Draft Plan of Management (Sturt Noble Associates, November 2022)

1.4 This report

The remainder of this report presents the relevant requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* regarding Plans of Management and categorisation of community land, and submissions regarding the proposed recategorisation of parts of Granville Park. The submissions comprise verbal submissions made at the public hearing held on 29 November 2022. No written submissions received by Council between Tuesday 15 November 2022 and Monday 6 February 2022 referred to the proposed recategorisation.

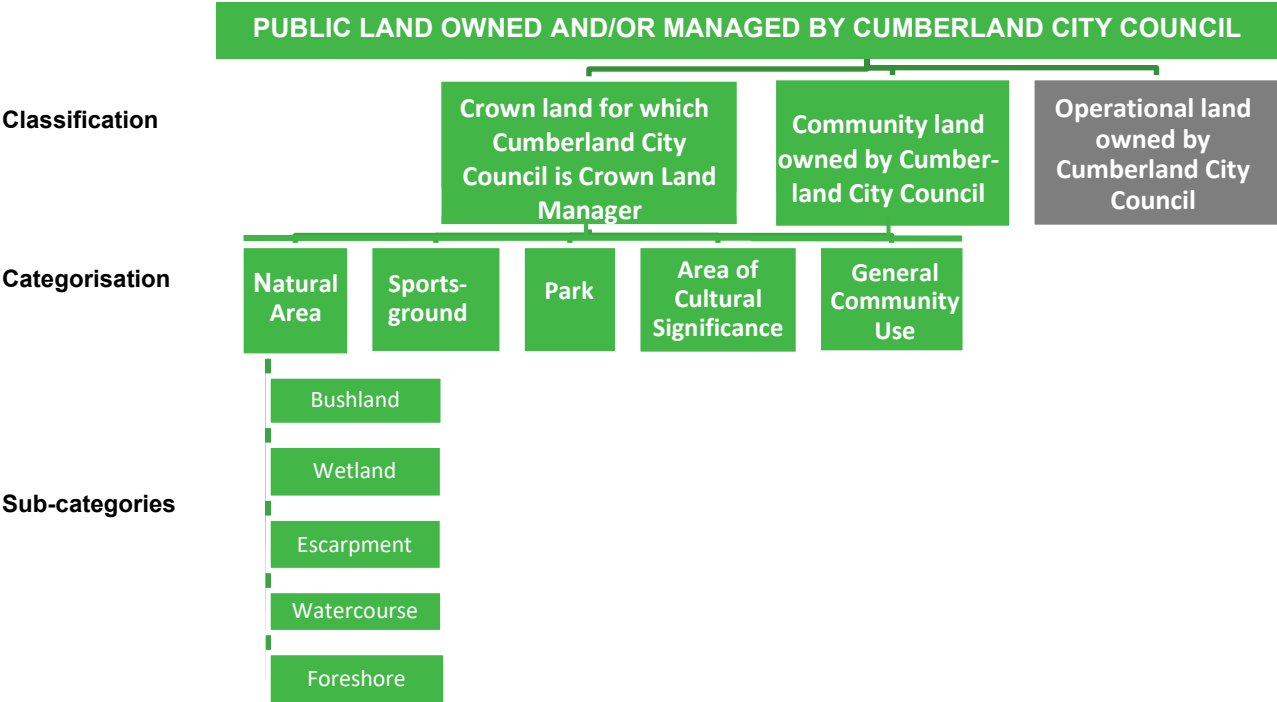
2 PLANNING CONTEXT

2.1 What is community land?

The *Local Government Act 1993* sets out a range of requirements for the management of public land that Cumberland City Council is legally bound to adhere to.

The Local Government Act requires that all public land owned by Council must be classified as ‘community’ or ‘operational’ land (Section 26). Granville Park includes community land owned by Cumberland City Council and Crown land for which Council is Crown Land Manager.

Figure 2 Classification and categorisation of community land



Community land is intended to be managed for use by the community for purposes including environmental protection, recreational, cultural, social and educational activities. Community land may only be leased or licensed for up to 21 years without the Minister’s consent or up to 30 years with the Minister’s consent, it cannot be sold, and its use is restricted to the above purposes.

Conversely, operational land is land that can be used for any purposes deemed fit by Council such as those that it may want to restrict public access to (for example a works depot), may be used for commercial purposes, be leased for a longer period of time, and can be sold.

2.2 What are the categories of community land?

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires that all land owned by the Council which is classified as community land be categorised.

As shown in Figure 2, community land may be categorised as one or more of the following under Section 36(4):

- a natural area.
- a sportsground.
- a park.
- an area of cultural significance.
- general community use.

Land that is categorised as a natural area is to be further categorised as one or more of the following under Section 36(5) of the Act:

- bushland.
- wetland.
- escarpment.
- watercourse.
- foreshore.
- a category prescribed by the regulations.

2.3 What are the guidelines for categorising community land?

Guidelines for categorising community land as a particular category are in Clauses 102 to 111 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

The Department of Local Government's revised Practice Note on Public Land Management (Department of Local Government, 2000) made general recommendations on the guidelines for categorising community land. The Practice Note stated:

“Council must have regard to the guidelines in determining a category (cl.9) but are not required to adopt any category merely because the land fits the description in the guidelines. Council should look at all the circumstances of the land in making a decision as to categorisation. For example, a piece of land may seem to satisfy the guidelines for more than one category. Council has a discretion in this case to look at the land in context, taking into account all relevant material before determining a category. It is important that Council be able to justify a decision.”

Also, Council may have a piece of community land, parts of which may be best managed as different categories, for example a piece of land with remnant bushland in one part and children's play equipment in another. Council is able to categorise land as part 'Natural Area – Bushland' and part 'Park'. It is strongly recommended that the land in each category not overlap. Overlapping categories may cause conflict in management objectives and will create confusion in the minds of Council staff and the community.”

2.4 Core objectives for managing community land

Each category and sub-category of community land has core objectives that apply to it under the Local Government Act. The core objectives outline the approach to management of the land covered by the particular category. The core objectives for each category of community land are set out in Sections 36E to 36N of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

2.5 Guidelines and core objectives for categories of community land considered for Granville Park

The guidelines and core objectives for the current and proposed categories of Sportsground, Park, and General Community Use for Granville Park are in Table 1.

Table 1 Guidelines and core objectives for current and proposed categories of community land in Granville Park

Category	Guidelines	Core objectives
Sports-ground	If the land is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving active recreation involving organised sports and informal sporting activities and games, and - ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.
Park	Land that is, or is proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, for use mainly for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that do not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities - provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games - improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.
General Community Use	Land that may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public. - purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).

2.6 Plans of Management for community land

Council must prepare a Plan of Management for community land (Section 36(1)).

Community land is required to be used and managed according to a Plan of Management applying to the land (Section 35).

Among the requirements of the Local Government Act for the contents of a Plan of Management for community land are:

- categorisation of the land
- core objectives for management of the land according to the category.

2.7 Public hearings

2.7.1 Why hold a public hearing?

A public hearing is required under Section 40A of the *Local Government Act 1993* if:

- ❑ a Plan of Management proposes to categorise (that is, the Plan has not been previously been prepared and adopted by Council, or has not categorised community land) the public land covered by the Plan of Management
- ❑ a Plan of Management proposes to re-categorise (changing the adopted category) the public land covered by the Plan of Management.

Note: Public hearings regarding categorisation or re-categorisation of community land are not related to reclassification. Reclassification is when community land is re-classified as operational land that can then be managed differently and has the ability to be sold by Council. Community land is protected under the Local Government Act and cannot be sold.

2.7.2 Who conducts a public hearing?

An independent chairperson conducts the public hearing, and provides a report to Council with recommendations on the proposed categorisation of community land.

Under Section 47G of the Act, the person presiding at a public hearing must not be:

- a) A Councillor or employee of the Council holding the public hearing.
- b) A person who has been a Councillor or employee of that Council at any time during the 5 years before the date of his or her appointment.

2.7.3 What happens after the public hearing?

Council must make a copy of the report regarding the outcomes of the public hearing available for inspection by the public at a location within the area of Council no later than four days after it has received the final report from the person presiding at the public hearing.

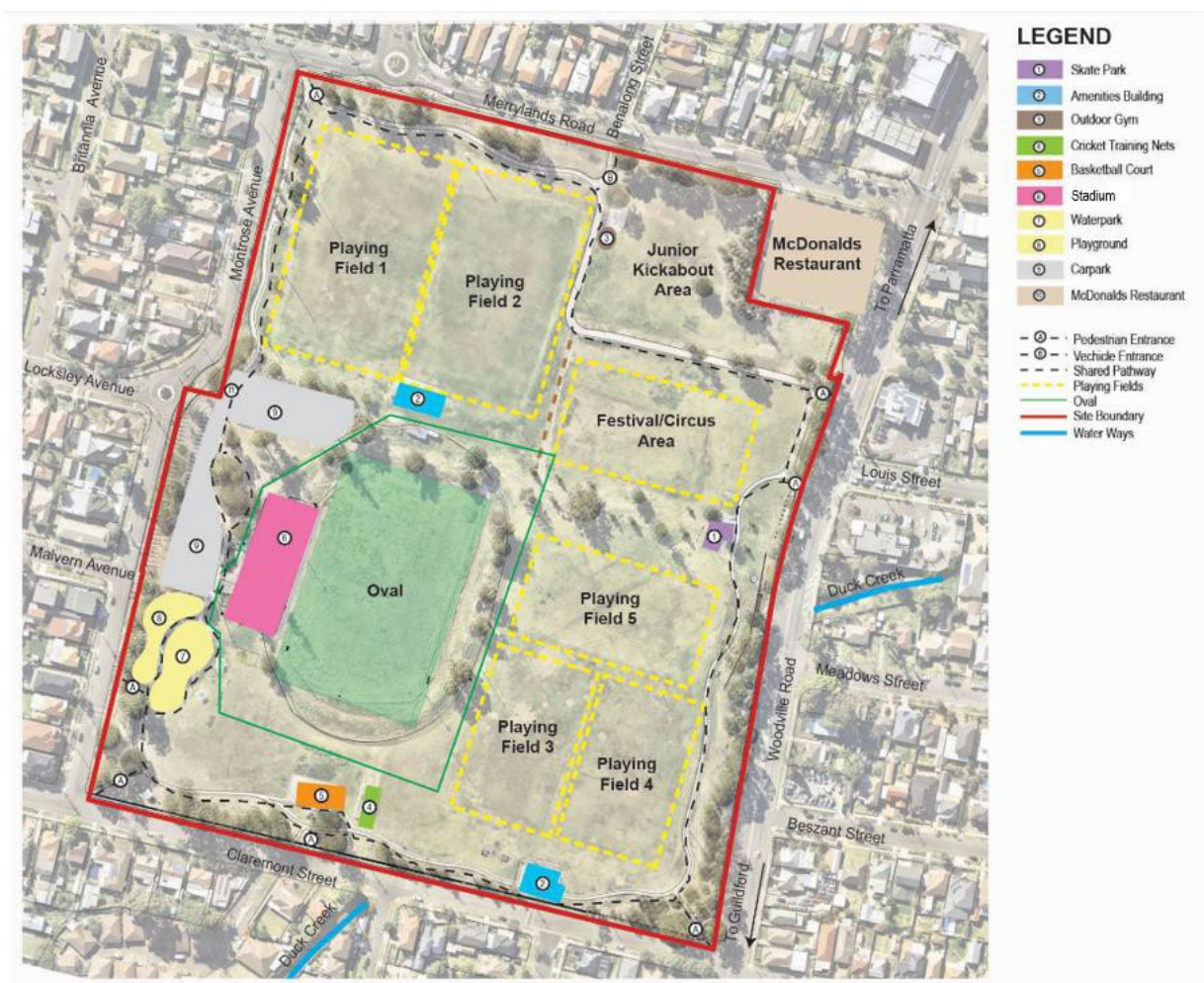
The public hearing report will be presented to Council for its information when it considers adopting the Granville Park Plan of Management.

3 PROPOSED RECATEGORISATION OF PARTS OF GRANVILLE PARK

3.1 Features of Granville Park

The site features of Granville Park are in Figure 3.

Figure 3 Features of Granville Park

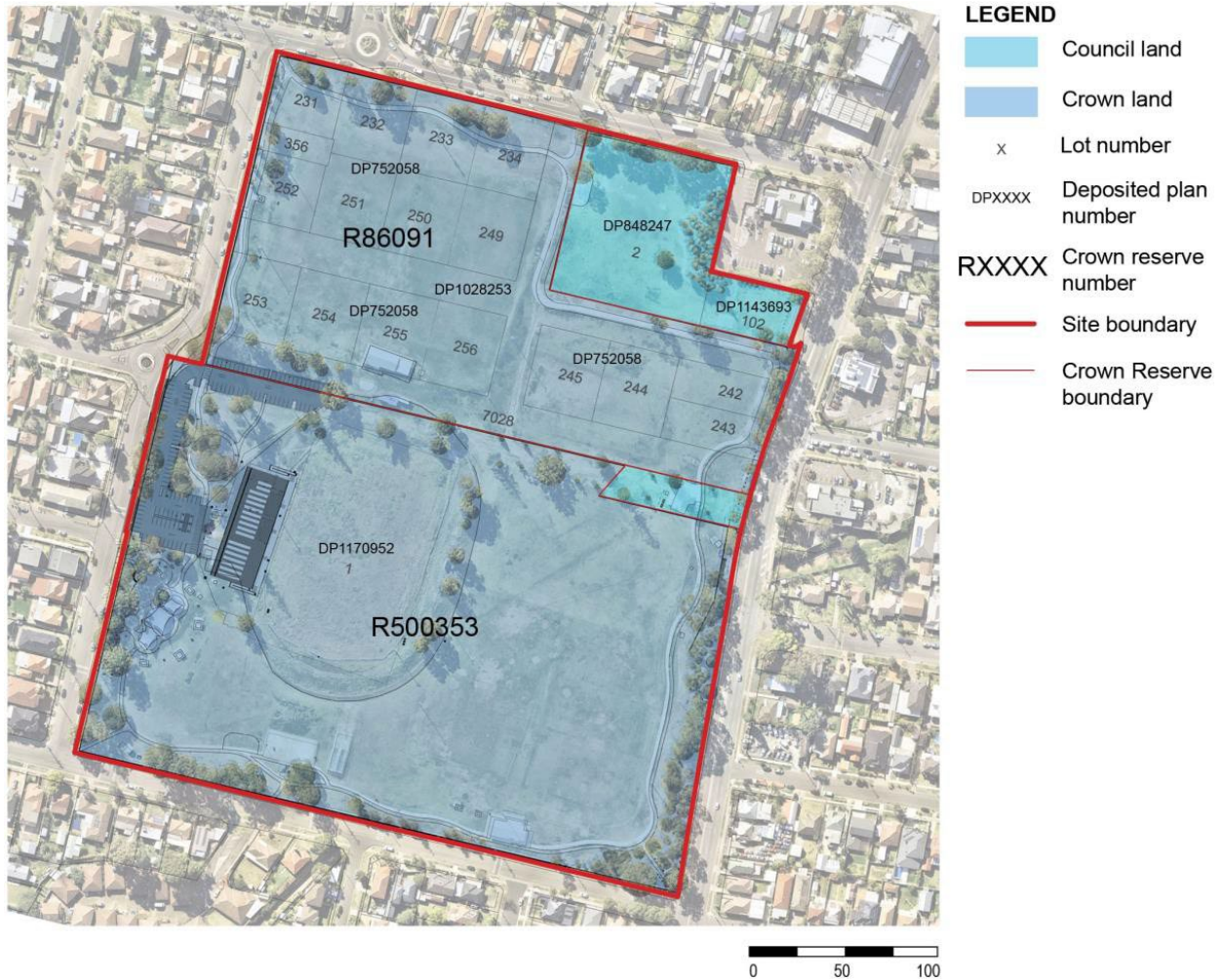


Source: Granville Park Draft Plan of Management (Sturt Noble Associates, November 2022)

3.2 Ownership of Granville Park

Granville Park comprises Crown land and land owned by Cumberland City Council as shown in Figure 4 below.

Figure 4 Ownership of land parcels in Granville Park



Source: Granville Park Draft Plan of Management (Sturt Noble Associates, November 2022)

3.3 Proposed recategorisation of parts of Granville Park

Council proposes to recategorise parts of Granville Park from Sportsground to Park and to General Community Use, which would be consistent with the Draft Landscape Masterplan for Granville Park as shown in Figure 5.

Figure 5 Granville Park - Draft Landscape Masterplan



- STADIUM AND PAVILION**
1. New stadium and pavilion with sport and community facilities
 2. Upgraded main oval
 3. Stadium entry
- SPORTS FIELDS**
4. Sports fields 1 & 2, upgrade with synthetic surface
 5. Sports fields 3, 4 and 5, upgrade with hybrid synthetic
 6. Cricket pitch
 7. Amenities, upgrade to male and female friendly change rooms, amenities, canteen and clubhouse
- CARPARK**
8. Upgraded and resurfaced carpark
- PLAY AREA**
9. Playground
 10. Nature play
 12. Loop path
- MULTI-USE ZONE**
13. Multi-use courts with options for netball, basketball and soccer
 14. Cricket nets
 15. Fitness equipment
 16. Amenities building for multi-use zone, playground
- COMMUNITY EVENTS AREA**
17. Temporary fire championship facility and area for community events
- OFF-LEASH DOG AREA**
18. Fenced off leash dog area
- YOUTH HUB**
19. Skate facilities with sheltered seating areas
- PARK FACILITIES**
20. Main perimeter loop path with distance markers
 21. Pedestrian entry
 22. Seating upgrades, provide additional seating along pathways and at sports fields and activities
 23. Picnic Zone with picnic lawn, sheltered tables and BBQ
 24. Fitness equipment
 25. Interpretive signage
 26. Trees and planting, maintain and improve existing vegetation
 27. Install additional trees and planting to increase biodiversity and urban canopy
 28. Remnant eucalyptus
 29. Speakers corner, with stand / platform and interpretation signage



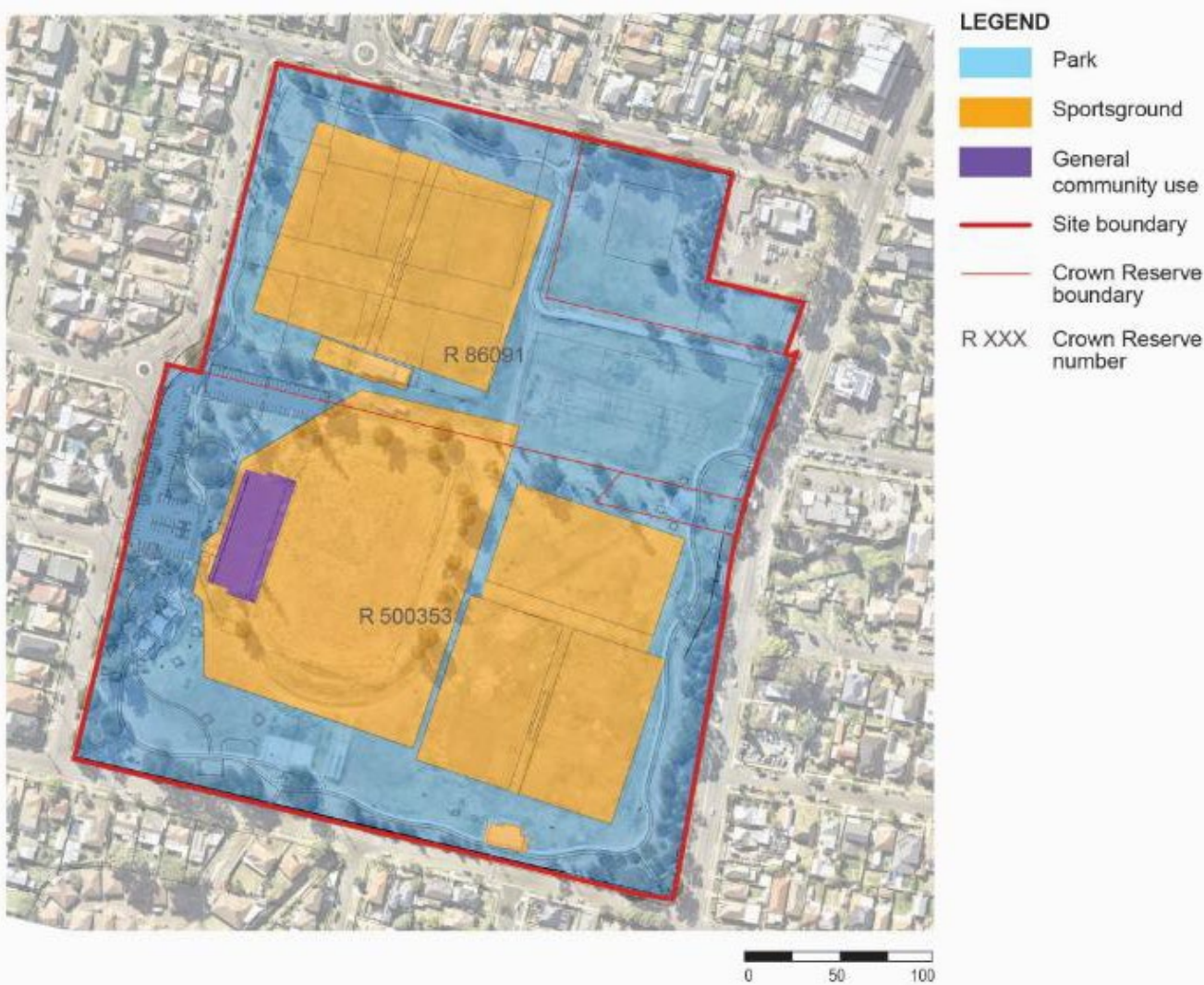
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Source: Granville Park Draft Plan of Management (Sturt Noble Associates, November 2022)

The proposed recategorisation of parts of Granville Park is shown in Figure 6.

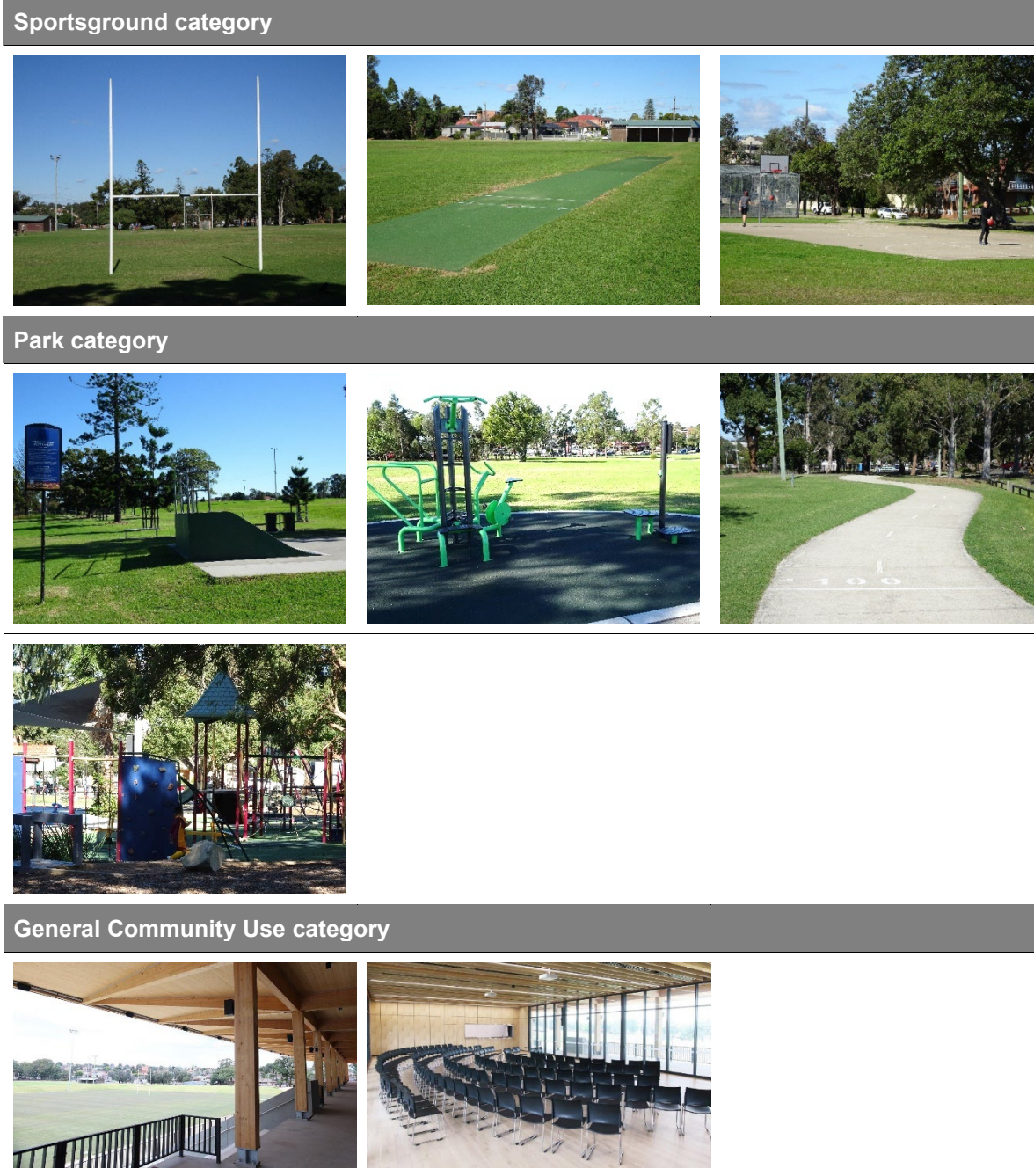
Figure 6 Proposed recategorisation of parts of Granville Park



Source: Granville Park Draft Plan of Management (Sturt Noble Associates, November 2022)

Features of Granville Park in each category are shown in Figure 7 below.

Figure 7 Features of Granville Park by category



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4 THE PUBLIC HEARING

4.1 Advertising and notification

4.1.1 Public notification and exhibition requirements

Section 38 of the *Local Government Act 1993* states that Councils must give “public notice” of a draft Plan of Management, and the length of time that it must be on public exhibition and for submissions to be made. The public notice contents are set out in Section 705 of the Act.

4.1.2 Online notification

Council notified the community of the public hearing and the Draft Plan of Management public exhibition on its website <https://haveyoursay.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/granville-park-pom> from Tuesday 15 November 2022 to Monday 6 February 2023 as shown in Figure 8.

Figure 8 Online notification of public hearing

Granville Park Draft Plan of Management

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Granville Park Documents ↑

Granville Park Draft Plan of Management


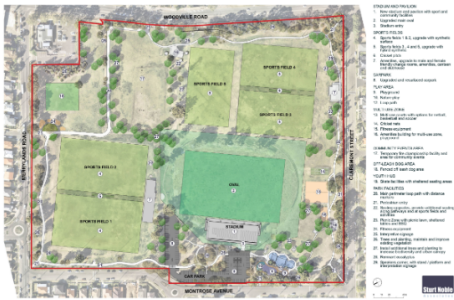
Public Hearing Information ↓

Gallery

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Council has prepared a draft Plan of Management and Masterplan to guide the future of Granville Park. The plan has been prepared within the legislative requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, Crown Land Management Act 2016 and Crown Land Management Regulation 2018, to support how the space is managed and developed into the future.

The draft Master plan can be seen below and in the Gallery:



A Public Hearing about the Granville Park Draft Plan of Management was held on Tuesday 29 November 2022 at 6pm. You can view [the background material for the Public Hearing](#) in the document library.

Now we want your feedback!

Council values the opinions and suggestions of the community, and would appreciate your thoughts on the draft Plan of Management and Masterplan for Granville Park.

We encourage you to download a copy of [the draft Plan of Management](#) for review from our document library.

During this community consultation period, residents are encouraged to give their feedback about the the draft Plan of Management for Granville Park and what they would like to see in the draft masterplan. **Submissions are open from Tuesday 15 November 2022 until Monday 6 February 2023.**

To Make A Submission on this Proposal:

Submissions concerning this proposal are to be made by **Monday 6 February 2023**.

There are three ways you can lodge a submission:

1. Complete an online submission below.
2. Email your submission to Council@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
3. Post your submission to The General Manager, Cumberland City Council, PO Box 42, Merrylands NSW 2160.

Submit Your Feedback

Feedback on the Granville Park draft Plan of Management

Council has prepared a draft Plan of Management to guide the future of Granville Park. We would love to get your feedback on the Plan of Management and Masterplan.

Submissions close on Monday 6 February 2023.

Submit Your Feedback

Contact us

Any questions?

If you have any questions about this project, please contact:

Lisa Ivcevic

Urban and Open Space Planner
P: (02) 8757 9000
E: council@cumberland.nsw.gov.au

Join the conversation and have your say!

Key Dates

- ✓ Consultation for Draft Plan of Management commences
Tuesday 15 November 2022
- ✓ Granville Park Masterplan Public Hearing
Tuesday 29 November 2022
- Consultation for Draft Plan of Management concludes
Monday 6 February 2023
- Review of submissions
February 2023
- Finalisation of Plan of Management
Mid 2023

Related Projects

- ✎ Granville Park Fields 3, 4 & 5 Upgrade
- ✎ Eric Tweeddale Stadium and Sports Field

Who's Listening

 **Lisa Ivcevic**
Urban and Open Space Planner
Cumberland City Council
P: (02) 8757 9000
E: council@cumberland.nsw.gov.au

A background information document explaining the proposed recategorisation and the public hearing, and an online submission form, were also provided on the project page.

4.1.3 Other notification methods

Council also advertised the public hearing and the invitation to make a submission about the Draft Granville Park Plan of Management and Masterplan by:

- ❑ five A3-sized posters placed within the park
- ❑ letterbox drop of flyer to 350 nearby properties
- ❑ notices placed in the *Auburn Review* and *Parramatta News* on 15 November 2022 and 31 January 2023 (refer to Figure 9)
- ❑ notice placed in the *Parramatta News* on 20 December 2022
- ❑ flyers placed at Merrylands and Auburn Service Centres and at Granville Centre information desk.

Figure 9 Council notice in Auburn Review 15 November 2022



4.2 Public hearing arrangements

The public hearing for the proposed recategorisation of parts of Granville Park was held on Tuesday 29 November 2022 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm in the Function Room, Eric Tweedale Stadium, Granville Park, Montrose Avenue, Merrylands.

4.3 Attendance at the public hearing

As required under Section 47G of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council appointed an independent chairperson, Sandy Hoy, Director of Parkland Planners, to chair the public hearing. Ms Hoy has not been a Councillor or employee of Cumberland City Council at any time.

Lisa Ivcevic (Urban and Open Space Planner), Linda Wright (Co-ordinator Public Spaces Planning and Design) and Daniel Anderson (Executive Manager Environment and Planning Systems) represented Cumberland City Council, providing information and answering questions on Council's behalf during the public hearing.

Four community members and three Councillors (Clr Ola Hamed, Clr Mohamad Hussein and Clr Glenn Elmore) attended the online public hearing.

4.4 The public hearing

Ms Hoy opened the public hearing at 6:05pm.

Ms Hoy explained the purpose of the public hearing, the legislative basis for categorisation and recategorisation of community land, and the requirement for public hearings, based on the background information document provided online.

Council representatives explained the Draft Masterplan and the background to and reasons for Council proposing to recategorise parts of Granville Park.

The question that the Chair asked people attending the hearing to address is:

Do you agree or not with the proposal to categorise Crown and community land comprising Granville Park as Sportsground, Park and General Community Use as shown in Figure 3.1 of the Granville Park Draft Plan of Management (Sturt Noble Associates, November 2022) and Figure 5 of the background information document? Why or why not?

The content of submissions which are relevant to the proposed recategorisation are outlined in more detail in Section 5 of this report. Other comments and questions about Granville Park are noted but are outside the scope of this report. Such comments and questions will be addressed with the submissions to the Draft Plan of Management for Granville Park.

With there being no further submissions or questions, Ms. Hoy closed the hearing at 7:15pm.

4.5 Submissions

Submissions about the proposed recategorisation of Granville Park could be made:

- verbally at the public hearing
- by completing an online submission at <https://haveyoursay.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/granville-park-pom>

- ❑ by emailing Council@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
- ❑ by posting to The General Manager, Cumberland City Council, PO Box 42, Merrylands NSW 2160.

5 CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS

5.1 Introduction

Verbal and written submissions relating to the proposed recategorisation of Granville Park are set out below, according to:

- ❑ verbal submissions to the public hearing and Council's response
- ❑ other topics raised at the public hearing outside the scope of recategorisation and the public hearing
- ❑ written submissions about the proposed recategorisation.

5.2 Public hearing submissions

5.2.1 Submissions about recategorisation

Table 2 Verbal submissions to the public hearing about recategorisation

	Question/comment	Council response
Change in categories	Will the categories change?	Yes, from Sportsground to Sportsground, Park and General Community Use
Current/previous category	What was the category?	Sportsground only
Classification of the stadium	Why is the stadium classified differently? The stadium should not be classified as community land as the public can't get in to use the field, so it is not publicly accessible and should be operational land. Would like to see the licence.	The stadium is classified as community land. Council cannot sell community land. The stadium is categorised as General Community Use because of licenced uses.
Clarification of categorisation of amenities building	What is the orange at the bottom of the categorisation map? Refer to Figure 6.	A public amenities building associated with a sportsground. It's basically what it is used for now. Sportsgrounds get used a lot.
Implications of categorisation on use	Will the categorisation involve changes to use?	No
Implication of categorisation on noise	Will the categorisation increase noise?	No, not under this plan.

Question/comment		Council response
	Will the Sportsground category increase noise?	No. The Sportsground category controls the level of sporting use allowed by Council.
Implication of Sportsground categorisation on park use	If it is categorised as Sportsground will people use the park more often?	The frequency of use depends more on the use of the space than the categorisation.
Implication of categorisation on playing Oztag	Oztag is played at the corner of Woodville Road and Claremont Street. Oztag played late at night is an unauthorised use. Who do we call to complain about late night Oztag? What happens if Oztag play in the blue zone [Park category]?	Oztag within reasonable use is allowed. Residents can call Council for unauthorised use. Unorganised active sports can take place across the park and sportsground, but organised sporting competition is limited to the Sportsground area within terms set out by Council. Council can restrict Oztag by the Park category in which people can kick a ball around. The Oztag group can't use the "fire area" which is proposed to be categorised as Park. Council rangers will visit the park and follow up use by Oztag late at night and if it is being played in the Park category.
Impact of categorisation on expansion of the skate park	Would the category map affect expanding the skate park? Residents wanted the skate park in the current location as it is close to Woodville Road and pedestrian lights. The Sportsground below the skate park is the least used and has a drainage issue. This location would be the best place to recategorise to Park if the skate park is expanded to the south.	No. The skate park is currently in the Park category. Expansion of the skate park would affect categorisation only if it expanded into the Sportsground category.

The Chair asked the people attending if they agreed with the proposed categories or not. There was general agreement that the proposed categories are appropriate for Granville Park.

General comments related to the proposed recategorisation were:

- Happy with the categorisation.
- The community has already been using Granville Park consistent with the categorisation map, including markets and events for example.
- Won't see much difference in current uses of the park in the future.
- Some concern about an increase in usage with change to categorisation.

5.2.2 Submissions outside the scope of the public hearing and recategorisation

Submissions made at the public hearing which are not related to the proposed recategorisation, but are relevant to the Draft Plan of Management and Masterplan for Granville Park, include:

5.2.2.1 Land ownership

Referring to the land ownership map (Figure 4 of this report):

- The centre strip of Council land is due to a road reserve/closure.
- Can the Council land be sold? Council: Yes, but with significant processes involved.
- The top/kickabout area was purchased by Parramatta Council from Federal Government
- McDonalds purchased their land in the north-east corner from the Federal Government at the same time. There was no previous consultation about the land sale to McDonalds.

5.2.2.2 Dog park

Support for a dog park in Granville Park

High use of dog walking has been observed by the community. Lots of people walk their dogs around Granville Park, especially older local people who already walk to and use the park with their dogs.

Have been to Isabella Street dog park [Dan Mahoney Reserve in North Parramatta, outside Cumberland]. There is little or no noise from dogs there.

It is hard to get to another dog park. It is a long drive from Granville Park to go to the dog park in Isabella Street.

Feedback in favour of an off-leash dog park in the local area for those walking to the park with dogs.

Children also make noise in the park.

Opposition to dog park in Granville Park

- On record (Councillor Ola Hammed) has received a lot of complaints about a dog park and feedback to not proceed with a dog off-leash area.
- A dog park will attract more people who don't normally come here.
- Not against dogs, but concerned about noise. A dog park will increase the noise levels. There are already issues with noise levels in the park.
- A larger play area for kids would be a better use of space in the park than a dog park.

General comments

No feedback was provided to the community after the dog park consultation.

If a dog off-leash park goes ahead it should be fenced and include seating inside, a water tap, and include parking.

Next steps

Council:

- There is a need for fenced dog parks which can be walked to

- ❑ The location and suitability of other parks for a dog park should be looked at
- ❑ Discussion regarding surrounding dog off leash areas not being adequately fenced. If the issue is people don't want a dog park because of fencing it is a simple solution to fence it
- ❑ Council will provide a report on neighbouring dog parks and fencing.

5.2.2.3 Water park and play area

What is happening in the water park area?

Council: The previous water park didn't work. It was hard to maintain. The plant room was removed in the stadium construction and not replaced. The water park has been closed for several years. It would cost significant money (\$1.3 million) to fix it to standards and buy a new pump house.

Council is preparing a mini master plan for a smaller play area, including potable water play elements so that kids can still play with water, to balance needs and what people want. It is better to co-locate water parks with aquatic centres. Council has received a grant from State member Julia Finn MP for improvements to the play area which will take place soon within the next 3 months. Council has to balance community needs and wants with the costs of different options when making decisions.

Clr Ola Hammed is on record as wanting to restore the water park. Having a water park in a pool behind a gate which costs money to get in defeats the purpose and would be less accessible to families. People don't want to have to pay to use a water park at a pool. A water park in a park is free to use.

The group agrees that a free water play park/area in Granville Park is important. It is a good area for small children.

Council is looking to expand the play area because it is very popular, and it needs more than two swings.

Council will be asking the community further about the play area.

Get contact details from people attending to send Granville Park project updates.

5.2.2.4 Function space in the stadium

November and December are the peak times for events held in the function room.

Happy with functions being held in the function centre, but the appropriateness of the building for weddings needs to be addressed. The building was designed as a community hall for meetings and small parties, not as a wedding reception hall. Don't want weddings here at all - small parties are OK if they don't go crazy.

Are drums just played at the start of events? No, they are played the whole time. Don't mind if they are played just at the start of the event. Music and singing must be louder than drums.

On the north side and in front of the building you can hear noise from functions clearly. The Woodville Road side is not as bad, but drums can still be heard.

Other noise concerns associated with functions are yelling, vehicles (burnouts etc), and loud music.

If the stadium function space is used for functions such as engagements and weddings with music and drums then noise cancelling measures in the building are needed to reduce noise experienced by residents living across the road.

Council needs to:

- fix the windows
- fix acoustics
- limit decibels allowed in the function room
- reduce times that noise can occur during functions.

Council: drums are a licensing issue. We will look into restricting drums in the function room.

5.2.2.5 Community Event Space

What is the area at number 17 on the Draft Masterplan used for?

Council: it is a community event space that can be hired for circuses, and set up for the Fireman Championships.

5.2.2.6 Fields 3,4,5

- Fields are used for Oztag, soccer, and rugby.
- The north-east field is the least used. It could be used for something else.
- Irrigation is not good. Council has recently completed an irrigation upgrade of this facility

5.2.2.7 Skate Park

Clr Hussein: The skate park is designed more for younger kids than for young people. So many little kids are using the skate park so older youth and adults can't use it because children are in their way and they don't wish to cause harm.

Council: The skate park could be increased in size.

Either expand the skate park for everyone, or keep it for younger kids.

Council: adults using the skate park drive to the park.

Put in smaller ramps to ride scooters for younger kids who are already using it with their bikes. Adults can't use it when little kids are using it.

Would the group be ok with expanding the skate park? Directly behind, yes.

A facility for older kids would be good, but where?

5.2.2.8 Paths

The paths are well used for walking, jogging and running laps around the park.

The walking track has resulted in an increase in the number of older people using the park.

Council: Larger parks include facilities for walking and running.

Jogging on concrete pathways is not good for legs and joints, so consider a soft woodchip inner track surface which is cheap.

Has Council counted how many more people are using the park since the walking track was installed? Council: No.

Council: Walking tracks are well used across Cumberland.

5.2.2.9 Other recreation opportunities

Suggestions for other recreation facilities in Granville Park include:

Table tennis tables

- Fixed outdoor table tennis tables, which would need little maintenance.
- Council plans to place table tennis tables in a park in Pendle Hill. Council has to be mindful of noise when placing facilities for activities like table tennis and futsal in the park.

Sports courts/facilities

- Multipurpose courts – could incorporate suggestions
- Tennis courts – below/next to/opposite McDonalds. Tennis courts would work well in Granville Park.
- Badminton/squash cubes (Clr Ola Hamed) which can be rented to hit balls against a wall.
- Volleyball courts

Go-karting

- Go-karting.

General comments about other recreation facilities

- All good ideas, but issues include destruction of nets, maintenance, and protection from vandalism.
- Council: Different specialised uses will attract people from outside the area and will require more parking.
- Master planning requires balance to ensure the park isn't overused but to still stay on track to expand uses for the community.

5.2.2.10 Park furniture

- Bins: There are not enough bins. They overflow from picnics on weekends. Provide additional bins to keep the park tidy.
- Seating: Increase seating areas with shelter.

5.2.2.11 General comments about Granville Park

- The number of people using the park is increasing. It is well utilised, which is what we want
- The park has everything – basketball, cricket, walking track. Why go anywhere else?
- The park allows for intercultural interaction, social events, and for families to enjoy.
- The park is good to support young people to get away from their devices and to get some exercise outdoors. If Council improved the sports fields and facilities it would attract more young people.
- It is not a small park any more. Use of the park has increased dramatically. With increased use facilities in the park need to be upgraded and expanded to meet community and population needs
- We are lucky to have the park.

5.2.2.12 Process

Clr Elmore: Is it a requirement to have a Plan of Management? Council: Yes, for community and Crown land. Until recently there was no real plan for the park. The Plan of Management means we can apply for grants.

5.2.2.13 Next steps

Council: The Plan of Management will be adopted with future plans. It will allow Council to progress upgrades and apply for grant funds, etc.

5.3 Written submissions about the proposed recategorisation

It is understood that no written submissions received by Council during the public exhibition of the Draft Plan of Management and Masterplan referred to categorisation or recategorisation of Granville Park.

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6 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Consideration of submissions

The verbal submissions regarding the proposed recategorisation of parts of Granville Park have been carefully considered and assessed below.

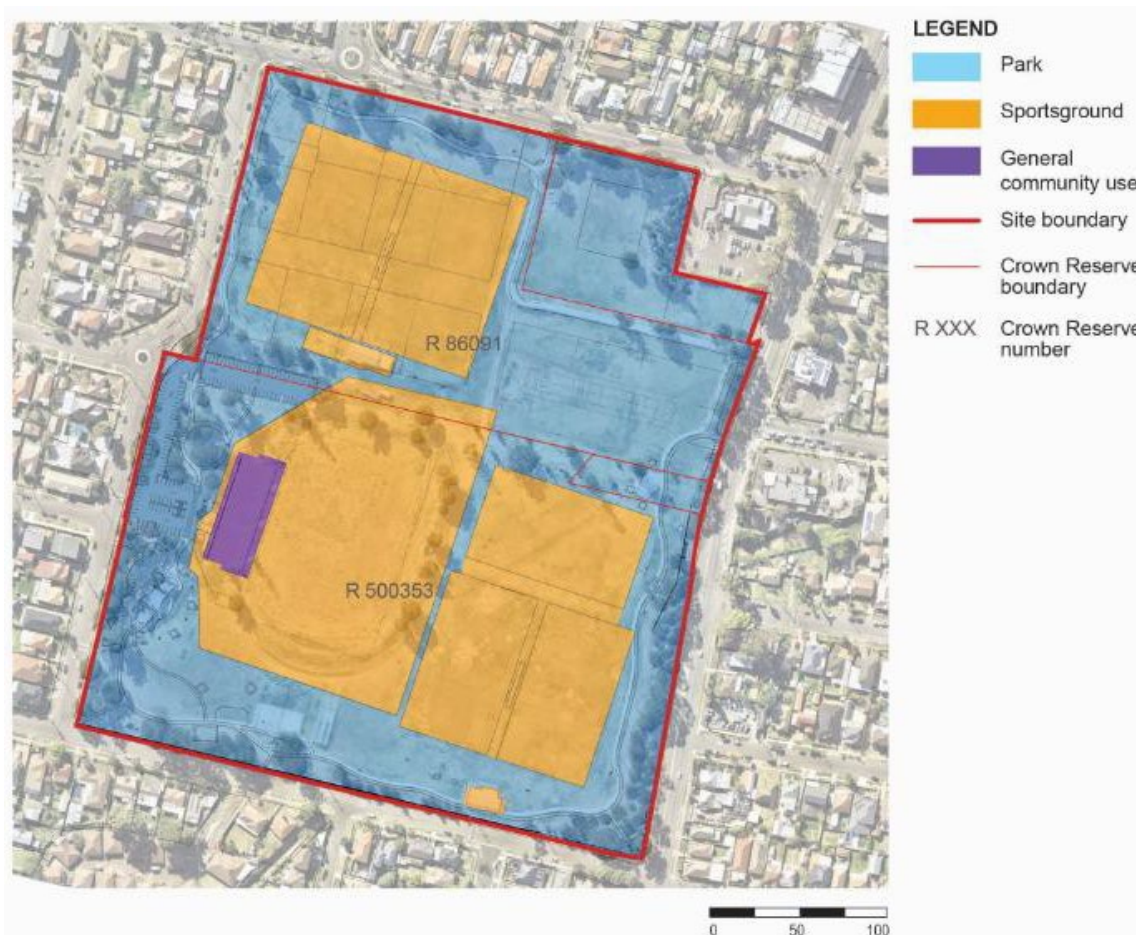
The proposed recategorisation of parts of Granville Park is intended to reflect the publicly exhibited Draft Masterplan for Granville Park. There was general support by community members at the public hearing for the proposed recategorisation, with no objections about the proposed recategorisation.

6.2 Recommendations

Based on the representations to the public hearing on 29 November 2022, my recommendations to Cumberland City Council are that Council:

1. Note the verbal submissions made to the public hearing in Section 5.
2. Recategorise parts of Granville Park from Sportsground to Park and General Community Use as shown on the proposed recategorisation map in Figure 10 below.

Figure 10 Proposed recategorisation of parts of Granville Park



6.2 Adoption of proposed recategorisation

This public hearing report will be presented to Council for its information as part of its approval of the proposed recategorisation of parts of Granville Park.

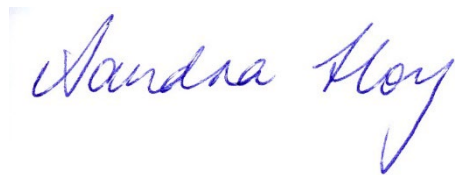
If Council adopts the proposed recategorisation of parts of Granville Park, Council will update the Granville Park Plan of Management and its Land Register to reflect the recategorisation.

If Council decides to alter the proposed recategorisation of Granville Park from the existing adopted category or the categories and boundaries considered at the public hearing, Council must hold a further public hearing (Section 40A(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*).

6.3 Reporting

Within four days of receiving this final report, Council is required under Section 47G(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* to make a copy of this report available for inspection by the public at a location within the area of the Council. It is recommended that Council:

- send a copy of the public hearing report to the people who registered and/or attended the public hearing and/or made a written submission.
- keep a copy of the public hearing report for inspection at:
 - Council's Service centres at Merrylands and Auburn
 - Granville Centre information desk
- post an electronic copy of the public hearing report on Council's website.



Sandy Hoy
Director
Parkland Planners

22 February 2023