



WOLSELEY PARK DRAFT MASTER PLAN

Gunnedah Open Space Master Plan project

We acknowledge First Nations peoples and their continuing connection to land, waters and culture, because we strongly believe in reconciliation and collaborative engagement for a better future.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, whose knowledge, traditions and stories guide custodianship on what will always be their ancestral lands.

Issue	Title	Date	Prepared	Checked (consultant)	Checked (council)
1	Issue for council review	25.06.2024	A.Hoffman	J.Holland	
2	Issue for exhibition	02.07.2024	A.Hoffman	J.Holland	
3	Revised issue for exhibition	10.07.2024	A.Hoffman	J.Holland	M.Welch
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CO N TEN TS

INTRODUCTION	4
INTRODUCTION	5
CONTEXT ANALYSIS	6
COUNTRY	7
POST-SETTLEMENT	8
ECOLOGY	9
REGIONAL CONTEXT	10
CONTEXT ANALYSIS	11
NEEDS ASSESSMENT	12
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	13
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT	14
COMMUNITY SURVEY	16
COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS	17
SITE ANALYSIS	18
EXISTING FACILITIES	19
EXISTING CHARACTER	20
LAND USE & BUILT FORM	21
LANDFORM AND ACCESS	22
OPPORTUNITIES (OPTION 1)	23
OPPORTUNITIES (OPTION 2)	24
DRAFT MASTER PLAN	25
DESIGN PRINCIPLES	26
DESIGN PRINCIPLES	26
DRAFT MASTER PLAN (OPTION 1)	27
DRAFT MASTER PLAN (OPTION 2)	29
ARTIST IMPRESSIONS	31



INTRODUCTION

01

INTRODUCTION

The need to develop master plans for key sporting and recreation precincts within the Gunnedah township was identified by council with the adoption of the “*Gunnedah Shire Open Space Strategy 2022-2032*”.

As identified in the Community Strategic Plan 2017 to 2027, Gunnedah Council’s vision is “*a prosperous, caring and proud community reflected in the achievements of the people*”.

This vision statement is supported by four key themes:

- Engaging and Supporting the Community
- Building Our Shire’s Economy
- Retaining Our Quality of Life
- Protecting and Enjoying Our Beautiful Surrounds

The project represents Council’s commitment to provide high quality recreation facilities and open space for all ages and abilities across the LGA. This is to ensure the availability of high quality open space to all residents, adding to their well-being and overall liveability of the community.

As an outcome of the strategy Council has selected four key sites within Gunnedah as a catalyst projects:

1. Gunnedah Showground
2. Wolseley Park
3. Kitchener Park
4. Donnelly Fields/Namoi Fields/Riverside Precinct

The project will culminate with a comprehensive Master Plan for each of the selected open spaces in Gunnedah, which will provide a clear vision for the future development and ongoing operation of these open spaces.

The selected open space sites within Gunnedah are considered strategically important to the township due their location, current and potential uses and heritage.

The directions from the “*Gunnedah Shire Open Space Strategy 2022-2032*” are as follows.

Gunnedah Showground

- Develop a new, comprehensive Master Plan over the Showgrounds, including comprehensive consultation with user groups and adjacent land users to ensure this significant community asset is future-proofed and meets contemporary users needs

Wolseley Park

- Develop a master plan over Wolseley Park, with particular focus on the passive recreation areas (i.e. non-sport) around the perimeter of the park
- Investigate upgrading of the existing amenities
- In reference to proposed directions for Kitchener Park, and at the appropriate time, investigate the requirements and available external funding for upgraded field lighting at Wolseley Park

Kitchener Park

Council should continue to maintain Kitchener Park and the following enhancements are recommended:

- Investigate external funding for shade and weather protection over sections of the tiered seating/ grandstand
- Remove the existing tennis and basketball courts and replace with two multisport courts, including basketball, tennis and handball
- Develop an irrigated turf area for warm-up activities and training
- Undertake additional landscaping integrated with the playground and lawn area parallel with Conadilly Street
- Investigate opportunities for a partnership arrangement with a professional team for multiple visits, and the requisite field and facility requirements, including potential relocation of the grass cricket wicket

Donnelly Fields/Namoi Fields/Riverside Precinct

- The entire sport and recreation precinct including Donnelly Fields, Namoi Fields, Namoi River parklands, acquired council land, storm water drainage reserve and parcels of travelling stock routes (TSRS) require a master plan to guide development of this important community asset over the next 10 years

Report Purpose

The master plan report provides a synthesis of work undertaken to date by Group GSA and supported by Gunnedah Shire Council.

This report encompasses work done to date to progress from project inception to the master plan proposals.

Including desktop analysis, site investigations, community and stakeholder engagement, opportunities and constraints, concept design and master plan proposals.

The master plan report compiles the following:

- Desktop analysis - digital mapping and background research, including review of relevant council and state government strategies and background documents
- Site investigations – physical mapping, on-site observations and photographic records
- Stakeholder engagement outcomes summary
- Community consultation outcomes summary
- Identification and exploration of opportunities for the site
- Master plan for the site, identifying key proposals and recommendations
- Supporting descriptions and imagery for key elements included in the master plan

Artist impressions of the site master plan design

The draft master plan report will be placed on public exhibition, inviting community and stakeholder comment on the proposals. Following the end of the exhibition period, feedback will be collated and examined to agree any changes required before finalisation of the master plan document.

Once a final master plan document is prepared and adopted by Gunnedah Shire Council, the document will be used by Council and key stakeholders to guide the development of the site, and the direction of any future projects contained within it.

All items included within the master plan would be subject to a future detailed design process as projects receive funding. A master plan document is an important tool to ensure the delivery of a cohesive outcome on ground, and can help enhance applications for funding from various bodies.



CONTEXT ANALYSIS

02

COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Kamilaroi Aboriginal Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we stand, and their deep and enduring connection to the lands, waterways, community and Spirit.

We pay respect to Elders, past present and emerging.

The name 'Gunnedah' originates in the Gamilaraay/Kamilaroi/Gomeri language and is derived from the name of its Traditional Custodians, the Gunn-e-Darr Peoples.

The word 'Gunnedah' or 'Gunn-e Darr' is thought to mean 'Place of White Stones', referring to the quartz outcrops which are prevalent throughout the region.

Traditional Custodians have maintained a presence in the Gunnedah region for tens of thousands of years and the Shire sits on the Traditional lands of the Kamilaroi/Gamilaroi/Gomeri peoples. It extends throughout much of north-east New South Wales and is one of the four largest Aboriginal nations in Australia.

Prior to European settlement, the Gunnedah region was more heavily forested than today, providing staple foods that were hunted, gathered, and cultivated. These hunting practices are preserved in the names of places in the surrounding region, including the 'Wallaby Trap' at the base of Porcupine Lookout, an area where animals were driven and trapped by hunting bands.

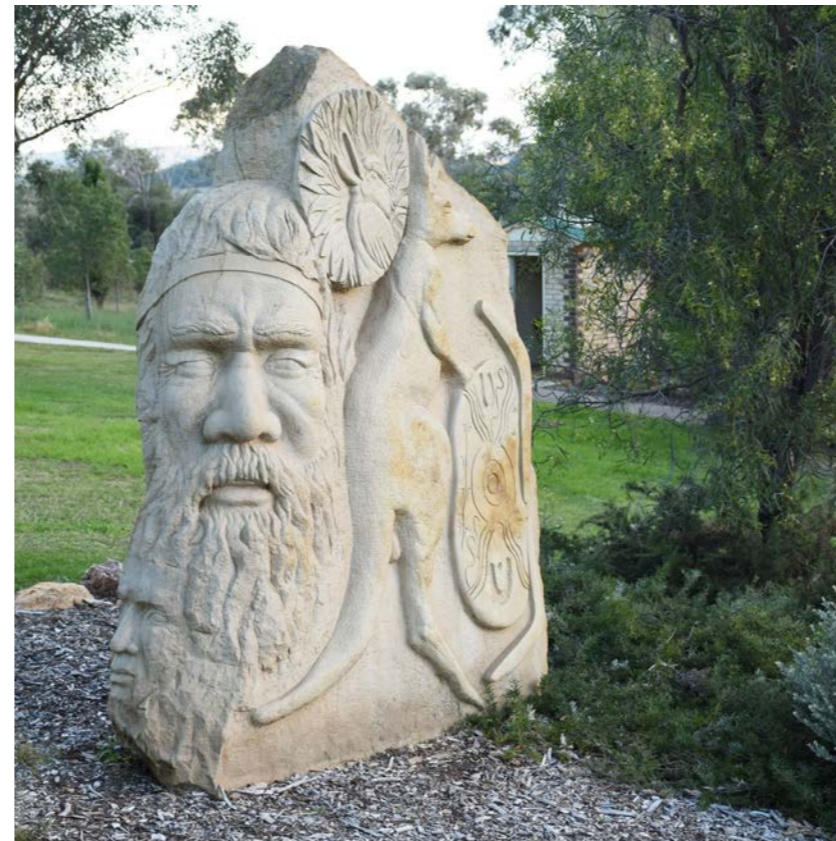
Through shared language, its peoples would trade, conflict, and gather for ceremony and celebrations. Today the Gunnedah region is represented by the Red Chief Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) based in Gunnedah.

Gunnedah traditions and cultural practices remain prevalent in the region today, preserved and extended to community through Elders and family, oral storytelling, the work of local creatives, public art, events and special celebrations, and through artefacts exhibited in the Cumbo Gunnerah Keeping Place at the Red Chief Local Aboriginal Land Council.

The 'Red Chief' refers to Cumbo Gunnerah, a celebrated warrior and leader of the Gunn-e-Darr peoples during the late 18th century, whose stories of bravery and achievement have been passed down to the present day.



The Gunnedah Rainbow Serpent water feature, prepared by local Kamilaroi women, installed in 2020



The Red Chief Stone Sculpture



Sculpture depicting Cumbo Gunnerah the 'Red Chief/Kangaroo'

POST-SETTLEMENT

“I love a sunburnt country,
A land of sweeping plains
Of ragged mountain ranges,
Of droughts and flooding rains.”

Excerpt from Dorothy Mackellar’s poem ‘My Country’ thought to have been inspired by her years living in Gunnedah.

The European settlement of Gunnedah developed on the banks of the Namoi River at a suitable river-crossing, used by traders, travellers, and agriculturalists.

Settlement began soon after European explorers passed through the region in the early decades of the 19th century, revealing fertile soils and scattered plains.

The collection of settlements which emerged aside the Namoi River was at first known as ‘The Woolshed’ owing to the prevalence of sheep grazing in the region.

After being surveyed for subdivision in 1854 land sales took place, and the town of Gunnedah was gazetted and settled in increasing numbers, establishing a town centre and a greater variety of local industries.

Gunnedah sits at the intersection of the Oxley Highway, the Kamilaroi Highway and the Namoi River, acting as a rest stop for those travelling to and from New South Wales coastal cities.

In 1879 the train line was constructed to pass directly through Gunnedah on the North West NSW Line, improving transport of goods throughout the state, and allowing further development of local industry, which now includes cotton, coal, beef, lamb, pork, and cereals.

Gunnedah is most famous today for its contemporary influence on Australia’s rural culture, being the host for AgQuip, one of the world’s largest agricultural events, and the inspiration for Dorothea Mackellar’s poem ‘My Country’.

Gunnedah Showground

Gunnedah Showground hosted its first annual show in 1888, when the grounds were little more than an open scrub.

The annual Gunnedah Show was renowned in the region and would mark an important opportunity for agriculturalists and visitors throughout the country to gather.

Gunnedah Showground took its current form in the 1990s and early 2000s, when many of its original and older livestock pavilions and exhibition sheds were demolished and replaced by sporting facilities.

Riverside Precinct

Gunnedah’s Riverside Precinct includes a network of developed and sparse open spaces along the length of the Namoi River, including Woolshed Reserve, Donnelly and Namoi Playing Fields.

Woolshed Reserve is named in honour of the woolsheds that settler John Johnson established on the banks of the Namoi River in the mid 19th century, and is today primarily used for picnics and casual activities.

Donnelly Playing Fields are named after John ‘Dallas’ Donnelly, a Rugby League player from Gunnedah who was a member of the NSW Blues and national Kangaroos teams.



Gunnedah Showground, circa. 1924



Gunnedah, Kamilaroi Highway intersection with Chandos Street, facing east, circa. 1950s. Corner of Wolseley Park visible at left of image

ECOLOGY

Gunnedah is located in the centre of the Namoi River and Black Jack State Forest. The Namoi River is a vast riparian ecological system and a major perennial river that is part of the Barwon catchment of the Murray Darling basin. The Black Jack State Forests is another example of a healthy woodland communities being home to an abundance of wildlife.

The Namoi River contributes to a large river system that extends through much of rural NSW, being the main waterway running west through undulating country.

Extensive ecological communities thrive along the river foreshore and basin. The Namoi River is habitat for many aquatic species and River Red gum woodlands.

The overall ecosystem health of the Namoi River Valley is considered poor. The health of the fish community was rated very poor, the expected native species are not as present.

The riverine vegetation is considered also to be in a poor condition. The overall physical form of the river system was rated as moderate.

There are three vegetation communities that dominate the Black Jack State forest being the Ironbark cypress Woodland, Cypress-White Box and Hilltop Red Gum Woodland.

These communities are common trees that are fed on by koalas, showing the importance of the maintenance and protection of this ecological communities located south of Gunnedah.

Two ecological communities are identified within the site area, to be conserved and bolstered where possible:

- Poplar Box - Yellow Box - Western Grey Box grassy woodland on cracking clay soils mainly in the Liverpool Plains, Brigalow Belt South Bioregion (Brigalow Clay Plain Woodlands)
 - + Upper Stratum - Eucalyptus populnea (Boxes)
 - + Mid Stratum - Geijera parviflora (Wilga); Maireana
 - + Ground Stratum - Arundinella
- River Red Gum riparian tall woodland / open forest wetland in the Nandewar Bioregion and Brigalow Belt South Bioregion (Inland Riverine Forests)
 - + Upper Stratum - Eucalyptus
 - + Mid Stratum - Callistemon (Bottle Brush)
 - + Ground Stratum - Aristida personata (Wire-Grass)

Australian Green Tree Frog

One of the 4 native amphibians that inhabit the Black Jack State Dry Sclerophyll Forest and the Namoi River, benefiting from the open wetlands which dominate its foreshore, present within the Riverside Precinct.

Koala

The koala also occupies the eucalyptus trees in the State Forest and with their declining population, are a very important species to help protect and flourish within Gunnedah.

Gunnedah Shire Council has initiated revegetation efforts along the foreshore of the Namoi River to provide feeder trees for the local koala population.



Australian Green Tree Frog



Koala



The Namoi River which defines the northern edge of Gunnedah's urban area



Sparse tree coverage along the foreshore of the Namoi River within the Riverside Precinct

REGIONAL CONTEXT

Gunnedah is situated in north-western New South Wales in the fertile Liverpool Plains, a primarily agricultural region, west of the Great Dividing Range.

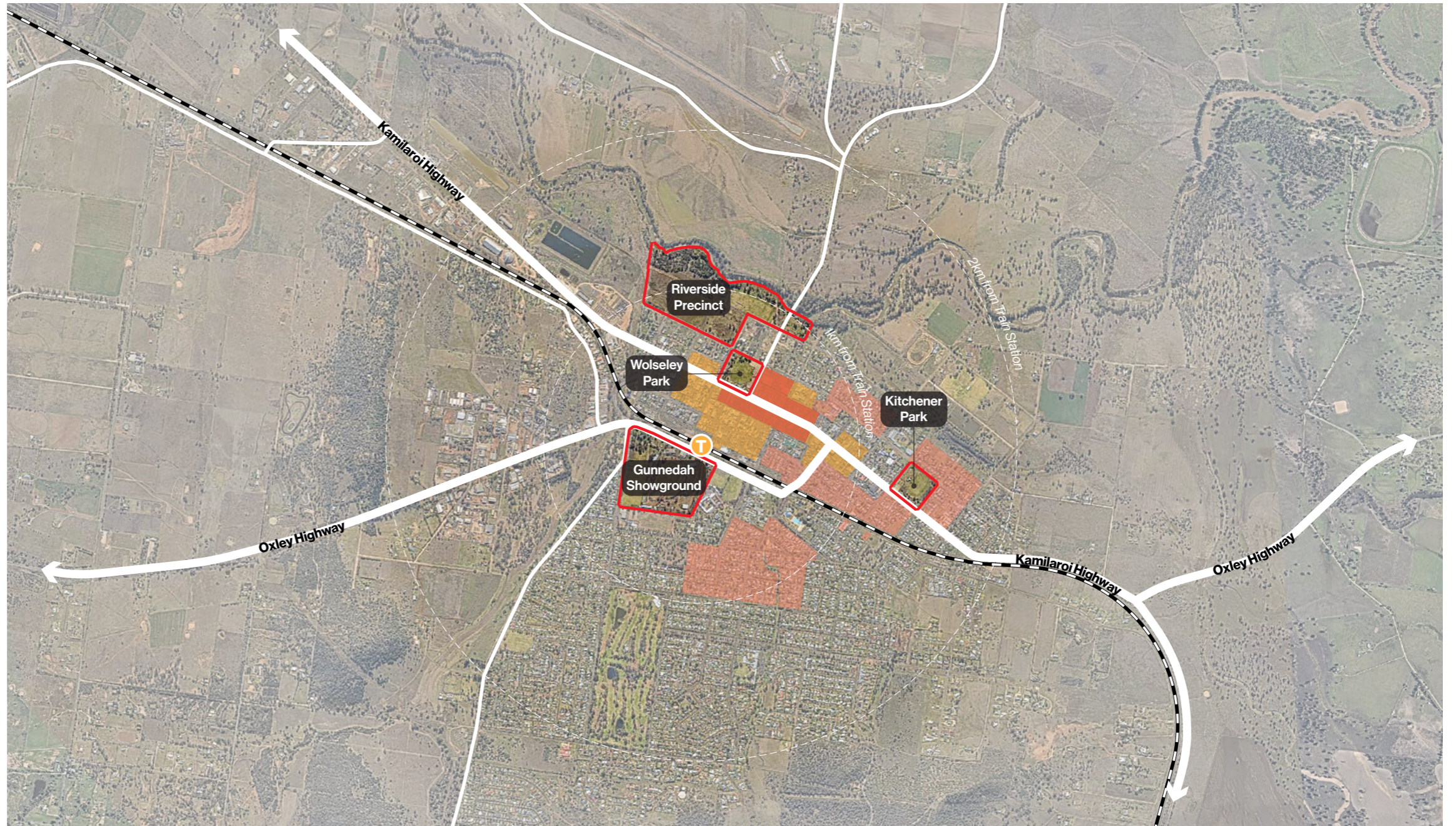
The town is located at the junction of the Kamilaroi Highway and Oxley Highway, providing excellent links to surrounding rural centres of Tamworth, Narrabri, and Coonabarabran. The township is located south of the Namoi River, with an urban area extending south towards Black Jack State Forest.

The two regional east-west arterial roads intersect in Gunnedah town centre, bringing many travellers through the town as they continue towards north-west NSW or the east coast.

Gunnedah Train Station is situated south of the town centre adjacent to Gunnedah Showground, which is the host of the annual Gunnedah Show and many other local events.

Gunnedah's residential areas extend far to the town's south towards Black Jack State Forest, with its town centre primarily focussed on commercial industry and community services.

Higher density typologies of residential development are found in proximity of the town centre, including strata properties and shop-top housing.



LEGEND

Site Boundary

Rail Line

Primary Road

Sub-Arterial Road

Commercial / Retail

E1 Local Centre

R3 Medium Density Residential

Scale 1:30,000 @ A3

0m 120 240 600 1,200



CONTEXT ANALYSIS

Gunnedah's public open space network is distributed throughout its town centre, and consists primarily of large, sporting-oriented parks and playing fields.

Gunnedah's local centre extends along Kamilaroi Highway and Chandos Street, and hosts much of the town's commercial offers and community infrastructure.

Wolseley Park on Kamilaroi Highway is most easily accessible from Gunnedah's local centre, and is one of the town's most popular recreational open spaces, host to a cricket pitch and playground.

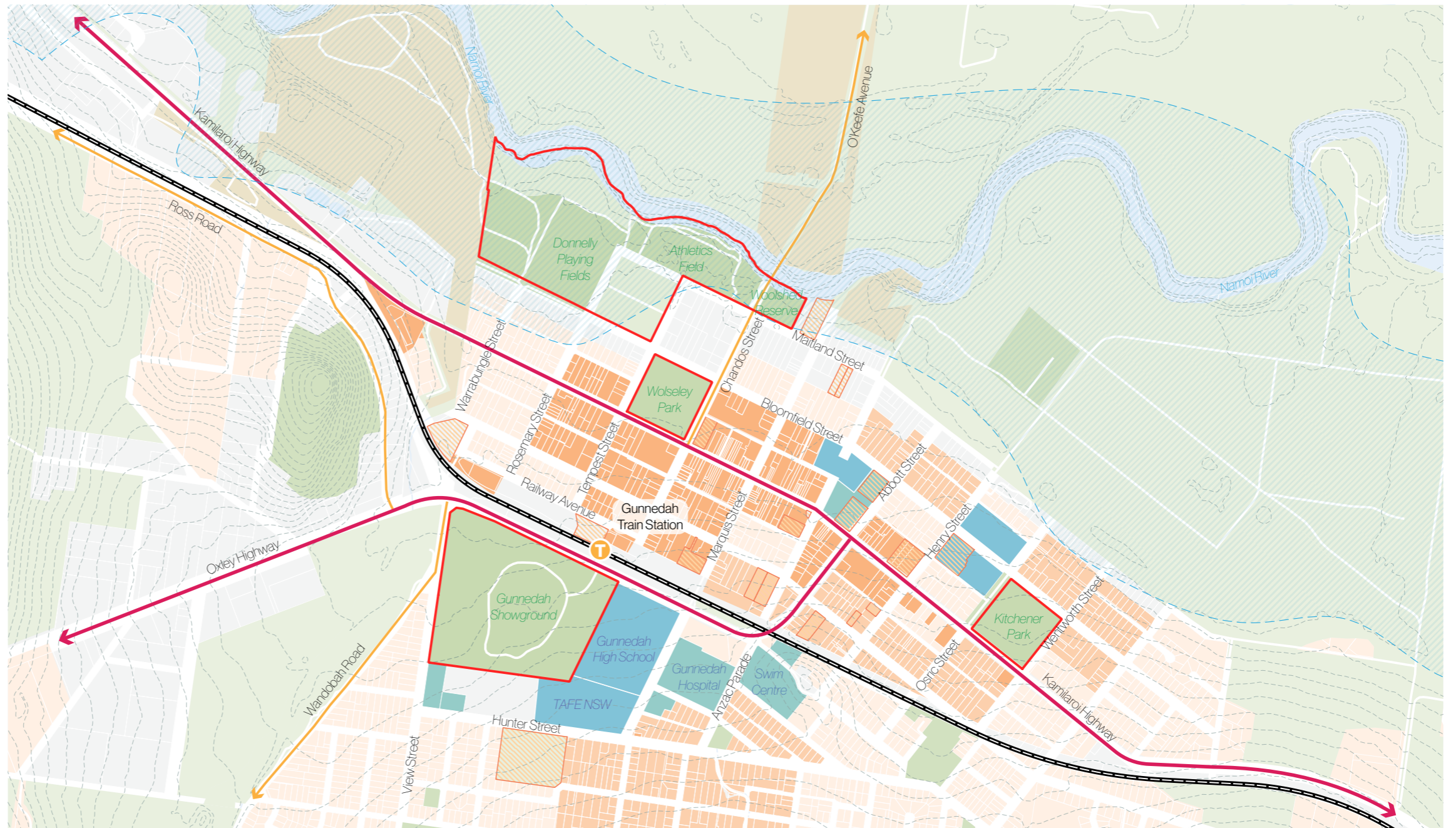
Due to its proximity to commercial offers and active streets, Wolseley Park is the town's most well developed open space, offering a range of services and catering to a wide audience with an inclusive playground.

To Wolseley Park's north, the Riverside Precinct including the Donnelly Playing Fields and Woolshed Reserve constitute open space along the length of the Namoi River.

In comparison to other large open spaces, the Riverside Precinct remains relatively undeveloped, due to their distance from Gunnedah town centre and proximity to grazing grounds, consisting of open pasture and riverside wetlands. The Riverside Precinct is within a high hazard floodway area during a 1% AEP as it is situated within close proximity of the Namoi River.

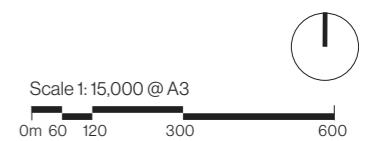
Gunnedah Showground sits south of the rail line with access limited from Gunnedah town centre via a rail crossing on Marquis Street. It is situated within an active community precinct which includes Gunnedah High School, Gunnedah TAFE, and a number of key local community institutions.

Kitchener Park is situated at the eastern extent of Gunnedah's urban fringe, sitting within a largely residential neighbourhood.



LEGEND

- | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| Site Boundary | Rail Line | Residential | Education | Travelling Stock Reserve |
| Public Open Space | Primary Road | R3 Medium Density Residential | Community | High Hazard Flood (1% AEP) |
| Open Space | Sub-Arterial Road | Commercial / Retail | Heritage Item | |



NEEDS ASSESSMENT

In June 2022, Gunnedah Shire Council released the Gunnedah Shire Open Space Strategy 2022 - 2032.

A 10 year plan to inform the development of Gunnedah's open space network, the strategy identifies existing infrastructure demands, and where they are best allocated in future.

The Gunnedah Shire Open Space Strategy 2022-2032 identifies an existing gap in the supply of 'Recreation Parks' to be exacerbated with future population growth.

Currently the total provision of public open space in Gunnedah is high when compared with other LGA's in NSW, at approximately 6.4ha / 1,000 people.

Much of this open space however is currently utilised for sporting facilities, leaving a deficit in the amount of passive recreation parks.

These sporting facilities include many of the town's largest open spaces, including Wolseley Park and Kitchener Park, as well as Gunnedah Showground.

Existing passive recreational open space is concentrated within the Riverside Precinct, and various pocket parks throughout Gunnedah.

The gap identified in the provision of passive 'Recreation Parks' suggests that either:

- There is opportunity to repurpose active open space (sport parks) into passive open space (recreation parks), ideally by allowing for dual function and integration of different spaces
- Additional open space may be required in future through residential development contributions or the repurposing of crown lands

Overall however, Gunnedah's total supply of combined open space meet demand for projected populations up to 2040 at a provision rate of 4ha / 1,000 people.

It is most appropriate then that existing active open space (sport parks) be reconfigured to allow for dual function, as both sporting fields when needed, and as passive open space at other times.

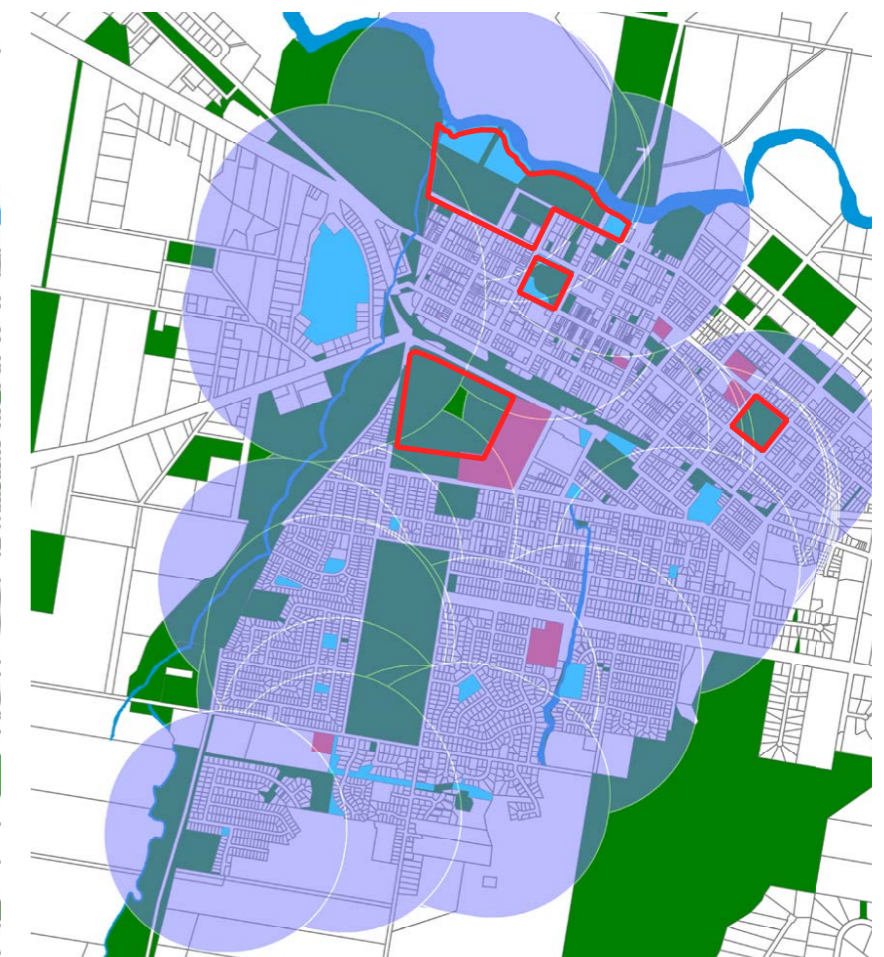
This will ensure that Gunnedah's total supply of passive open space is met up to 2040, while also ensuring that existing sporting infrastructure is maintained.

Open Space Classification	Current Supply (ha)	Current (2016) 12,500		Future (2041) 20,508	
		Demand	Gap	Demand	Gap
Recreation Parks	35.74	43.75	-8.01	71.78	-36.04
Sports Parks	47.93	36.25	+11.68	59.47	-11.54
Total Open Space	83.68	80.00	+3.68	131.25	-47.57
Calculations using the alternative provision rate of 4ha / 1,000 people					
Total Open Space	83.68	50.00	+33.68	82.00	+1.68

Scenario Three: Council population projection of 20,000 residents by 2040. Provision of core open space required for current and projected population in 5 year increments.
Source: Gunnedah Shire Open Space Strategy 2022-2032, pg. 36



Map showing the location of playgrounds and youth spaces in relation to residences. Site outlined in red. Source: Gunnedah Shire Open Space Strategy 2022-2032, pg. 61.



Map showing the open space network and recreation parks within 600m of residents. Site outlined in red. Source: Gunnedah Shire Open Space Strategy 2022-2032, pg. 59.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

An important part of the project is engagement to seek community input and to ensure the voices and inputs of the community and interest groups are heard in the future planning and enhancement of the open space areas.

Overview

GroupGSA have liaised with Gunnedah Shire Council to determine the most appropriate methods for organising and conducting the community engagement throughout the project.

The community engagement strategy has been structured to occur over three rounds.

- Round 1 - Key stakeholder engagement to inform the draft master plans (complete)
- Round 2 - Community engagement to inform the draft master plans (complete)
- Round 3 - Exhibition period and community engagement to present the draft master plans (scheduled for 2024)

Round 1 (Completed)

The purpose of Round 1 was to meet with key stakeholders in small groups to share important background information such as current use patterns, opportunities, constraints and wish lists.

Meetings were conducted with the following organisations/groups during October 2023. Meetings were generally held on site for a period of 1-2 hours, incorporating a site walk to discuss key items.

1. Riverside precinct key stakeholders, including Rotary, Landcare, and touch football
2. Wolseley Park key stakeholders including Gunnedah Tennis Club, Louis Tennis Academy, and Gunnedah Bulldogs AFL club
3. Evening stakeholder forum at Gunnedah Town Hall with stakeholders invited to open discussion on all sites. Stakeholders and representatives from key groups were invited to attend this session in addition to or in place of the on-site meetings held during the same period (meetings 1, 2, 5 & 6). This Included Representation from various sporting groups associated with various sites
4. Council parks and gardens staff to discuss maintenance and other relevant items
5. Gunnedah Showground key stakeholders, including Gunnedah Show Society, Gunnedah & District Kennel Club, Gunnedah Basketball Association, Gunnedah Junior Rugby League, Gunnedah Woodturners Association, Namoi Horse, Gunnedah & District Pony Club, Riding for the Disabled, Gunnedah Pottery Club, and Gunnedah & District Spinners & Weavers
6. Kitchener Park key stakeholders, including Gunnedah Rugby League Football Club
7. Meeting with key council staff from planning, infrastructure, economic development and tourism departments

All the consultation sessions included representatives from both GroupGSA (Consultant) and Council.

Round 2 (Completed)

The purpose of Round 2 was to provide open community forums to gain input and background knowledge from the general community and to help the project team to better understand community attitudes and views towards each of the parks. Sessions were held as follows.

1. Afternoon drop in session held outside Gunnedah Town Hall (Dec 5, 2023)
2. Evening drop in session held outside Gunnedah Town Hall (Dec 5, 2023)
3. Morning drop in session held outside Gunnedah Newsagency (Dec 6, 2023)
4. Online "Have your Say" survey on the council website inviting community to complete a questionnaire for each of the sites (Dec 2023 - Jan 2024)

All the consultation sessions included representatives from both GroupGSA (Consultant) and Council.

The key outcomes from round 1 and round 2 of the engagement process are covered in the following section of the report.

Round 3 (Future)

The purpose of Round 3 will be to give the community and stakeholders an opportunity to review the master plans and comment on the proposals. This is vital to ensuring that the master plan for each site reflects community attitudes and values, preserving key features and addressing challenges in the short, medium and long term.

Prior to commencing the engagement process, approval will be obtained from Council to display the draft master plan. The engagement methodology is to include the following.

1. Exhibition period to gather feedback and commentary from the local community
2. Community drop-in session held outside Gunnedah Newsagency
3. Publicity through Council website and social media

As per rounds 1 and 2, all consultation sessions will include representatives from both GroupGSA (Consultant) and Council.



Community drop in session, Dec 2023

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT (ROUND 1)

Meeting Attendees



Wolseley Park

Current Use

- Markets held monthly in the area near corner of Conadilly St & Tempest St
- Town Christmas tree is erected in Brock's Court at the corner of Conadilly St & Chandos St. Carols by Candlelight is held on the sports field
- Brock's Court has a public amenities building, known locally as the 'Lyrical loos' due to the poetry playing over an audio system in the building. Dorothea Mackellar is from Gunnedah, and the town has embraced a bush poet heritage
- Tennis courts are well-used by the club and community. Used by coaches and for casual hire. Also after school programs. Used for Regional Match Play (RMS) tournaments
- Turf wicket pitch for 4 pitches. No cricket nets on the site
- AFL season runs April – August normally, with pre-season training commencing around February. Normally no overlap with cricket
- Small playground adjacent to Bloomfield Street is still well-used, often by mothers' groups as it is fully fenced and can be easily supervised
- Livvi's Place playground alongside Conadilly Street is popular and well-used
- Rotunda is used regularly as a casual seating location for lunches etc

Problems Identified

- Tennis courts 1-3 (closest to Conadilly St) are uneven, with drainage issues causing subsidence and uneven settlement. Courts not suitable for a high level of play, but still being used for competitions due to lack of other options. Courts 1-2 worse than 3. Problems seemed to get worse when council completed works to the amenities building. New hob wall has changed drainage patterns
- Bottom tennis courts flood, with flood waters extending partly under the club house building too. Club lifts chain mesh prior to flood to prevent damage to fences, and replaced sand infill in artificial turf afterwards. Artificial turf surface is well-fixed down and does not generally lift now
- Footpath along Chandos Street is not wide enough for current use and is very uneven
- Current scoreboard is derelict and cannot be used for intended purpose. Currently used for storage by tennis club

- Risk of errant balls flying into Livvi's Place playground in AFL season. Higher netting/fencing near goals would be useful
- Lighting is insufficient for AFL training purposes, with current lighting restricted to a small portion of the field. There is no clear line of sight to toilets from training area, creating a duty of care problem for the club, particularly when children are training
- Change rooms for AFL / cricket not fit for purpose

Wish lists / Possible Uses

- Tennis Club would like additional courts. In the past, there were an additional 4 courts on the Coles site which were removed for the supermarket development. High School about to install new tennis courts which may help, but impractical to spread competitions over multiple sites when families have children playing in different locations
- Idea to have some mini-courts adjacent existing (where length inadequate for full size courts), then two additional full courts in the NW. These could be hard surface to provide some versatility in surface (good for training) and better flood durability
- New tennis clubhouse needed. Existing facilities are inadequate and bathrooms not to the required standard
- Opportunity raised by tennis club to replace with a two-storey building and include a café with deck facing onto the playing field which could be used by other sports also
- New (functional) scoreboard suitable for AFL and cricket
- Improved lighting an urgent requirement for AFL users
- Additional space and/or improved facilities needed for AFL and cricket. Existing change rooms too small and storage space inadequate, with gear currently stored in walkways and ante rooms as other spaces are full

Meeting Attendees



Council Staff - Parks and Gardens team

Current Use

- Wolseley has two more turf wickets than Kitchener and is therefore the premier cricket field in Gunnedah
- McAndrew Park was previously used for cricket but is not being used currently
- Council currently have a mower store at the Showground, and a mower stored in the scoreboard building at Wolseley Park, although tennis keep asking council to relocate it to facilitate additional storage space for the club
- All council playing surfaces are currently irrigated. Plans have been drawn up to irrigate the surrounds of Wolseley Park and Kitchener Park which will improve the quality and maintenance of these parks
- Wolseley Park has 5 BBQs, with the bottom one being replaced after the last flood
- Bins are emptied by a contractor where easily accessible. Bins along the riverside walkway are emptied by council

Problems Identified

- Graffiti problem in dark locations like Wolseley Park

Wish lists / Possible Uses

- Council staff would like a mower store at each park
- Wolseley Park car park is in a good location, well used by travelers and to unload maintenance vehicles
- Gardens at Gunnedah Cemetery are low maintenance and easy to look after. Similar style of gardens would be acceptable

Council Staff - Planning, infrastructure, economic development & tourism

Wolseley Park

- Connection needed to Riverside precinct to make it a safe and accessible walking route for all
- Visitor Information Centre looking at designated caravan parking along Chandos Street to improve accessibility for visitors
- Rotunda currently used for events. Event capacity is currently limited on the field area due to the turf cricket wickets
- Large events currently have the capacity to wrap the whole western side of the park (along Tempest St)
- Events capacity is currently limited by power supply
- Existing clubhouse is not accessible which impacts the ability of the park to host events
- Wolseley Park and Kitchener Park are both alcohol-free zones
- Original idea for the Livvi's Place playground was to include a future stage 2 with 'soft' water play such as jets (rather than tipping buckets etc). Removed from later plans
- Cultural precinct to include library in the future
- Question regarding open space being the best use of space in the town centre from a strategic planning perspective?

COMMUNITY SURVEY (ROUND 2)

Summary

Gunnedah Shire Council conducted an online survey from December 2023 - January 2024 to gather information on how community members utilise the open space area and recreation facilities.

The information gathered will help guide the development of the master plans for Gunnedah Showground, Wolseley Park, Riverside Precinct and Kitchener Park. The master plans will guide the future development of many of Gunnedah Shire's key sport and recreation facilities.

The input will help address current key challenges, including improving accessibility and inclusiveness, finding ways to better activate spaces, and determining the need for renewals or additional facilities and infrastructure.

The survey asked the following questions:

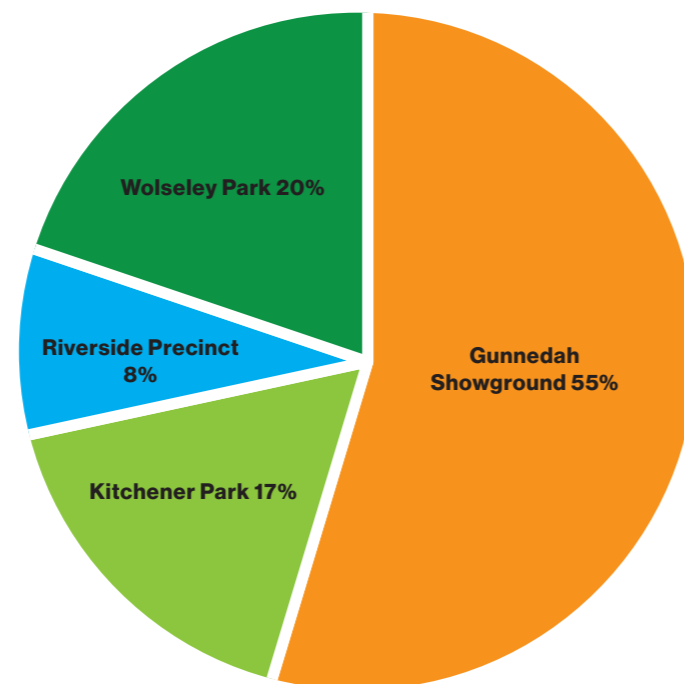
1. How often do you visit the space?
2. Why do you visit the space?
3. Are you or family members a member of any sporting clubs or sporting association that use the area?
4. Are you or family members a member of any community group that use the Park?
5. What do you like most about at the space?
6. What do you like least about at the space?
7. What could be improved at the park
8. Are there new or renewed facilities that you would like to see at the Park
9. Are there any other comments you would like to add about the space ?

Results

There were a total of 525 responses to the online survey. Visitors to the website had the option to complete surveys for any or all of the open spaces.

Number of responses by park

OPEN SPACE	RESPONSES
Gunnedah Showground	287
Wolseley Park	104
Riverside Precinct	45
Kitchener Park	89



“ It is extremely well-maintained and can be used by a variety of community and sporting groups for a variety of events. ”
Gunnedah Showground

“ It is an asset to the town and having the tennis courts always in action makes Gunnedah look thriving. ”
Wolseley Park

“ It is a peaceful area to walk in nature or ride bikes, especially with a pet or little children. ”
Riverside Precinct

“ Plenty of space that can offer the community a variety of activities including sports, recreational activities as well as family options. ”
Kitchener Park

How often the parks get visited

Gunnedah Showgrounds

	RESPONSES	%
Daily	24	8%
Up to 3 times a week	27	9%
Up to 5 times a week	11	4%
Weekly	56	19%
Monthly	101	31%
Other	68	23%

Wolseley Park

	RESPONSES	%
Daily	6	6%
Up to 3 times a week	34	33%
Up to 5 times a week	5	5%
Weekly	36	35%
Monthly	16	15%
Other	7	7%

Riverside Precinct

	RESPONSES	%
Daily	5	11%
Up to 3 times a week	11	24%
Up to 5 times a week	7	15%
Weekly	16	35%
Monthly	6	13%
Other	1	2%

Kitchener Park

	RESPONSES	%
Daily	4	4%
Up to 3 times a week	11	12%
Up to 5 times a week	4	4%
Weekly	21	24%
Monthly	31	35%
Other	18	20%

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS



Likes

Which parts of the Wolseley Park do you usually visit?

What do you like most about the Wolseley Park?

- Large Park
- Sporting field
- Oval
- Shared path
- Tennis complex
- The playground
- Safe place
- Great pathway
- Location
- Trees/Vegetation
- Shared zone
- Accessibility
- Clean/Well presented
- Central Location/Near shopping
- Green space



Improvements

What could be improved at the Wolseley park?

- Accessibility
- Toilet facilities
- More Security
- Parking
- Picnic areas
- Shade
- Nicer Grandstand
- The lighting
- Increase vegetation/Nicer Trees
- Clubhouse upgrade
- BBQ Facilities
- Maintenance
- Seating
- Skate park

What do you like least about the Wolseley park?

- Tennis clubhouse
- Lighting
- Seating
- Poor sporting sheds
- Lack of shaded car park spaces
- Maintenance of Tennis courts
- Vandalism
- Nothing



Accessibility

Are you or family members a member of any sporting clubs or association that use the Wolseley Park ?

- Yes - 71.71%
- No - 29.29%

Comments about accessibility across survey

- Formalise parking
- Great Location
- Good accessibility
- Easy access for pedestrians and car



Wish List

Are there new or renewed facilities that you would like to see at Wolseley Park?

Are there any other comments you would like to add about the Wolseley Park?

- More tennis courts
- Upgrade to tennis clubhouse
- Increased shading/ eating area
- Increased toilet amenities on other side of park
- Fixed footpath
- Increased Vegetation/ Gardens and trees
- New toilets
- Skate park
- Grandstands
- Play equipment maintenance
- Lighting
- Water park/water pad element
- Pathway and sporting resurfacing
- Park Extension



SITE ANALYSIS

03

EXISTING FACILITIES

- 1 Brock's Court and public toilets 'The Lyrical Loos'
- 2 Tennis courts
- 3 Tennis club building
- 4 Scoreboard & storage building
- 5 Main oval with turf cricket wickets
- 6 Enclosed playground
- 7 Sports pavilion
- 8 Rotunda
- 9 Livvi's Place inclusive playground (fenced)



EXISTING CHARACTER

Wolseley Park is located at the western end of the town centre, acting as a gateway to the heart of Gunnedah as well as access point to the river precinct.

Brock's Court, playground, and tennis centre which occupy the park's southern corner feature a high quality public domain, with ample seating, tree coverage, and amenity.

The central sports oval of Wolseley Park is used primarily for cricket and AFL, with other uses within the park situated surrounding the oval.

Buildings associated with the oval include the Frank O'Keefe Pavilion on Tempest Street, and the scoreboard situated near to the tennis centre.



1. Brock's Court defines the park's main entry point



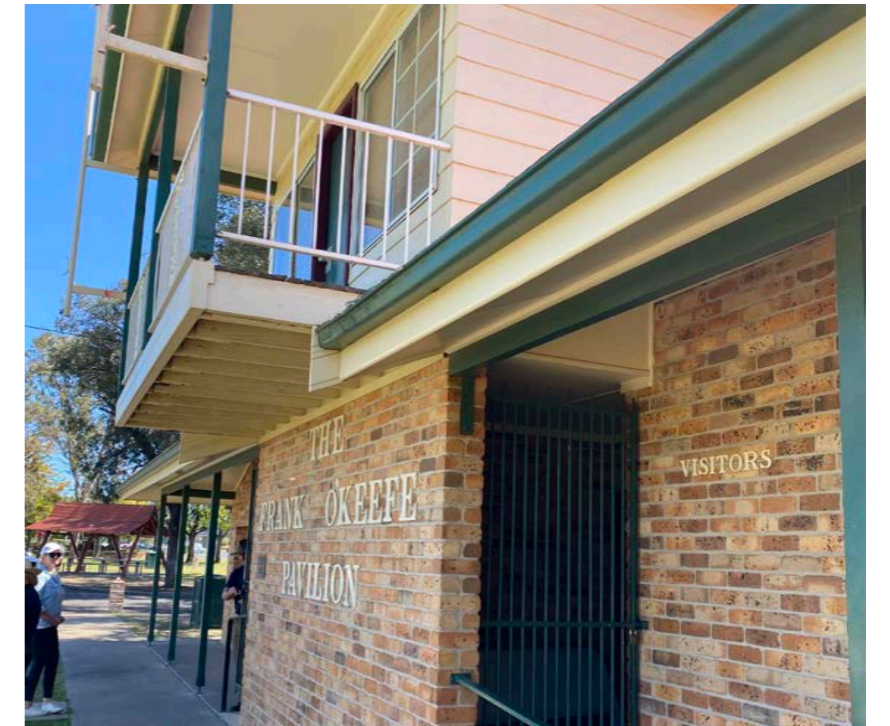
2. Wolseley Park's central sports oval is used for AFL and cricket



3. High quality landscaping characterises the tennis centre



4. Recently completed Livvy's Place Playground



5. The Frank O'Keefe Pavilion is situated within the park's west

LAND USE & BUILT FORM

Wolseley Park accommodates a variety of uses distributed throughout the park, with the majority of activity concentrated along Chandos Street.

Along the eastern interface of the park with Chandos Street is located the Gunnedah Tennis Club, Brock's Court, and Livvi's Place Inclusive Playground. This interface is utilised much more than the rest of the park, and faces Gunnedah town centre.

An additional smaller playground is situated near Bloomfield Street, which was upgraded alongside the construction of Livvi's Place Playground in 2018.

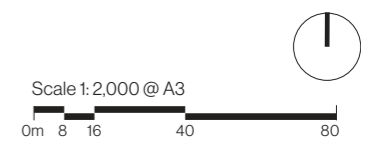
The western half of Wolseley Park accommodates fewer uses, and is reserved primarily for picnics and activities associated with the sports oval.

Built form within Wolseley Park is largely associated with the sporting facilities oval, including a pavilion, scoreboard, and tennis clubhouse. In addition to these, there is a public toilet situated in Brock's Court, and a park pavilion along the Conadilly Street frontage.



LEGEND

- | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Site Boundary | Existing Built Form | Fencing | Playground |
| Public Open Space | Heritage Item | Active Frontages | Sporting Field |
| Open Space | | | Landmark |



LANDFORM AND ACCESS

Vehicular access to Wolseley Park is limited to a single entry point on Tempest Street to a parking area which allows for limited parking spaces and no through-traffic.

Parking for events within Wolseley Park is limited to the edges of surrounding streets, usually concentrated along Chandos Street and Conadilly Street due to their proximity to Gunnedah town centre.

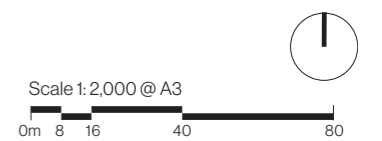
Public domain improvements are focussed on the southern corner of the site, requiring pedestrians to walk on open ground or side streets to traverse the park.

Tree coverage throughout Wolseley Park is relatively dense in the north-western part of the site, due to the few public domain improvements. In the eastern half of the site however tree coverage is sparse due to the highly concentrated activities around the tennis courts and Brock's Court.



LEGEND

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Site Boundary | Vehicular Access Point | Existing Tree | Contours 2m |
| Public Open Space | Vehicular Movement | Carparking | |
| Open Space | Pedestrian/Cycle Link | | |



OPPORTUNITIES (OPTION 1)

Opportunities

Wolseley Park is a significant and strategically located area of open space and gateway to the Gunnedah Town Centre from the west and is host to a number of key sports notably cricket, tennis and AFL.

The focus of the opportunities is the enhancement of the existing sporting activities, along with potential to broaden recreation opportunities, taking advantage of the sites location relative to the CBD and the river precinct.

- 01** Refurbish and upgrade Brock's Court as meeting place for the community and entry into Wolseley Oval
- 02** Upgrade existing tennis courts north of tennis club / adjacent Bloomfield Street as required to maintain required level for completion
- 03** Upgrade / rebuild tennis courts to rectify long term drainage issues
- 04** Upgrade single court as show piece / finals court
- 05** Potential location for 2 additional tennis courts (noting separation from existing facility and blocking of view and connection to Riverside Precinct open space)
- 06** Replace the existing tennis club facility as the existing tennis building is in poor condition and not fit for purpose
- 07** New facility to include improved amenities, community areas, suitable kitchens, toilets and change rooms, store rooms etc
- 08** Investigate opportunity to provide cafe or function space which opens facility to general community use
- 09** Repair and / or replace existing scoreboard & storage building - noting storage and scoreboard may be provided in other buildings either proposed for upgrade or new buildings
- 10** Replace in same location or refurbish and extend existing amenities for winter and summer sports using oval ie. cricket, AFL). Driveway Access maintained
- 11** In lieu of the above option (08), build new amenities and add community function. This will enable continued use of existing facilities until new building is constructed. Two possible locations identified. Driveway Access to be relocated subject to building location
- 12** Potential location for water play activities
- 13** Improve linkages between oval and river precinct, with provision of build outs to reduce crossing widths and improve safety
- 14** Improved streetscape, tree planting and footpaths of perimeter roads
- 15** Existing stage / rotunda to be refurbished
- 16** Opportunities for additional landscape / canopy tree planting across the site, to improve the visual setting of the oval and increased shade across the site



OPPORTUNITIES (OPTION 2)

Opportunities

Option of repositioning oval to improve the overall presentation of the open space and improve circulation.

The option retains the proposals to enhance the existing sporting activities and potential to broaden recreation opportunities whilst reinforcing the sites current status as Gunnedah's "Village Green".

- 01** Refurbish and upgrade Brock's Court as meeting place for the community and entry into Wolseley Oval
- 02** Upgrade existing tennis courts north of tennis club / adjacent Bloomfield Street as required to maintain required level for completion
- 03** Upgrade / rebuild tennis courts to rectify long term drainage issues affecting
- 04** Upgrade single court as show piece / finals court
- 05** Potential location for 2 additional tennis courts
- 06** Replace the existing tennis club facility as the existing tennis building is in poor condition and not fit for purpose
- 06** New facility to include improved amenities, community areas, suitable kitchens, toilets and change rooms, store rooms etc
- 06** Investigate opportunity to provide cafe or function space which opens facility to general community use
- 07** Potential locations for water play activities
- 08** Improve linkages between oval and river precinct, with provision of build outs to reduce crossing widths and improve safety
- 09** Improved streetscape, tree planting and footpaths of perimeter roads
- 10** Existing stage / rotunda to be refurbished
- 11** Opportunities for additional landscape / canopy tree planting across the site, to improve the visual setting of the oval and increased shade across the site
- 12** Option of repositioning of oval to provide greater separation between tennis facilities and main oval, improving overall presentation and circulation driveway access to be relocated subject to building location
- 13** Two potential locations for new amenities and change rooms to repositioned oval. Driveway access maintained
- 14** Potential new scoreboard location





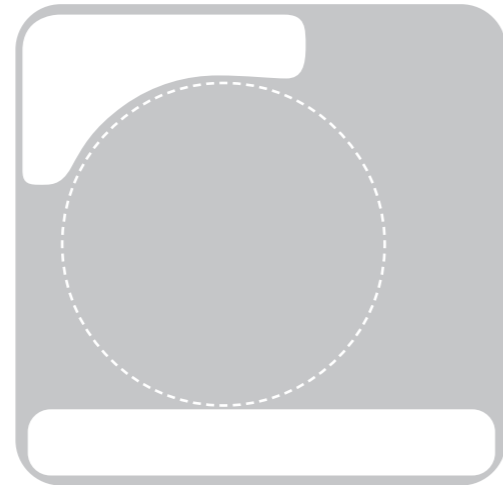
DRAFT MASTER PLAN

04

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

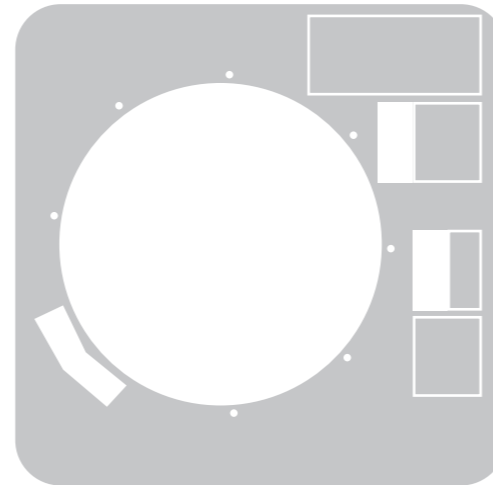
The four key design principles adjacent have guided development of the draft master plan for Wolseley Park

Build on the town centre location to provide a park which encourages casual use and supports broader community recreation needs



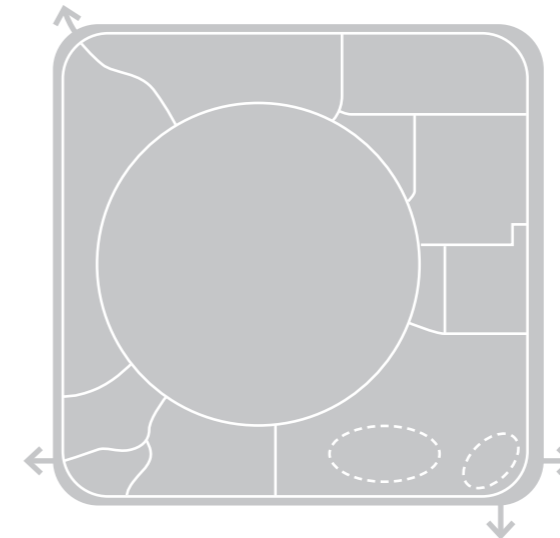
- Think beyond organised sport to provide space for casual recreation
- Design to accommodate regular events such as farmers or craft markets
- Consider larger, irregular events such as Carols by Candlelight or Moonlight Cinema

Enhance existing sporting activities to encourage an active lifestyle for the Gunnedah community



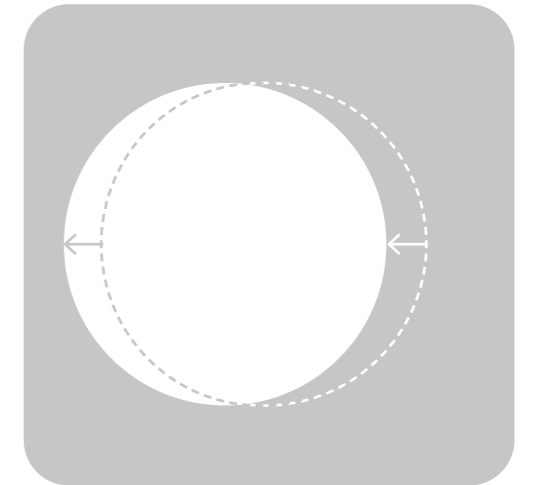
- Upgrade infrastructure to accommodate sporting users groups
- Meet current and needs and anticipate future demands for facilities and infrastructure

Increase permeability and accessibility



- Enhance permeability of the park, with an improved pedestrian path network
- Improve connectivity between the Wolseley Park, the town centre and the Riverside Precinct
- Design to consider visual permeability and views into and from the central village green

Be bold



- Consider varying degrees of change from minor to major upgrades

DRAFT MASTER PLAN (OPTION 1)

- 01** Refurbish and upgrade Brock's Court as meeting place for the community and entry into Wolseley Park
- 02** Upgrade existing tennis courts north of tennis club / adjacent Bloomfield Street as required to maintain required level for competition
- 03** Upgrade/rebuild tennis courts to rectify long term drainage issues
- 04** Upgrade single court as show piece / finals court
- 05** Replace the existing tennis club facility as the existing tennis building is in poor condition and not fit for purpose. New facility to include amenities, suitable kitchen/canteen space, change rooms, store rooms as required
- 06** Investigate opportunity to provide cafe or function space which opens facility to general community use
- 07** Remove existing scoreboard & storage building. Storage to be relocated into other buildings and freestanding scoreboard constructed (or scoreboard to be provided in/on an upgraded or new building on site)
- 08** Replace in same location or refurbish and extend existing amenities to provide improved facilities for both winter and summer sports using oval (currently AFL and cricket). New facility to provide suitable change rooms for both genders
- 09** In lieu of item 07, build a new amenities building over existing car park area to enable the continued use of existing facilities until a new building is complete. If a new build option is pursued, the building should incorporate a general purpose room that opens towards Conadilly St and is available for general community use/hire
- 10** Existing stage / rotunda to be refurbished
- 11** New loop pathway around western half of main oval
- 12** Livvi's Place playground retained as existing
- 13** Existing playground to be removed at the end of its useful life
- 14** Wolseley Oval retained as existing with turf wicket for cricket and use by AFL in winter. Lighting upgrade required to enable safe usage throughout the year
- 15** New pathways and gardens to improve general park appearance and encourage casual use

- 15** New LED events sign
- 16** Opportunities for additional landscape / canopy tree planting across the site, to improve the visual setting of the oval and increased shade across the site
- 17** Improved street scape, tree planting and footpaths of perimeter roads
- 18** Improve linkages between oval and river precinct, with provision of build outs to reduce crossing widths and improve pedestrian & cyclist safety



Sporting Facilities

Tennis

- Retention of existing tennis court locations and layout.
- Upgrade courts to address drainage and subsidence issues in southern courts
- Replacement of tennis club building to provide a fit for purpose building with covered viewing areas for adjacent courts

AFL & Cricket

- Retention of current oval in current location including turf cricket wicket

Athletics

- Removal of remnant long jump pits (no longer in use)

Lighting

- Upgrade of lighting to main oval to facilitate training and allow for safe use of the oval by sporting groups in the evenings

Built Form

AFL & Cricket Amenities Building

Renovate and extend or rebuild amenities building to provide the following facilities:

- Minimum two (2) gender neutral change rooms. Flexible use allows change rooms to be as home and away on game days, and as male and female on training days
- Canteen and canteen store
- Equipment store
- Council store (for maintenance vehicles)
- Umpire and first aid room
- Toilet facilities for spectators, including accessible toilet and baby change facility
- Covered outdoor area to provide shade and weather protection

Option to locate a new build in the current car park location to allow for staging and for current building to remain in use during construction.

If a new build option is pursued, consideration should be given for a community room to be incorporated into the building at the southern end of the building. This location would interface with the community recreation zone along Conadilly St and provide a space for local community groups or small events. This space could also be used by the sporting groups for club meetings, gala days or presentations.

Tennis Building

The existing tennis club building needs renewal and anecdotal reports from users indicate that it is not suitable for renovation, and more likely needs replacing.

A replacement building should incorporate the following

- Toilets and change rooms
- Club room
- Kitchen/kitchenette space
- Storage
- External break-out space and covered viewing areas

Consideration should be given to construction staging to ensure that tennis users can be decanted and share the facilities adjacent to the main oval during construction.

Community Facilities

Brock's Court Arrival

The public Brock's Court (Brock's Court) at the corner of Conadilly St and Chandos St is to remain, with upgrades in the medium term to ensure it remains a welcoming entry to the park from the town centre.

Brock's Court should include:

- Diverse seating opportunities for groups and individuals
- Tree canopy cover for shade and climate resilience (target 40% minimum)
- Space to accommodate town Christmas tree

Playground

The existing Livvi's Place playground alongside Conadilly St is to remain in its current location. No upgrades are currently proposed.

The existing playground on the northern boundary of the park is proposed to be removed to consolidate play opportunities in one location at Wolseley Park and allow council to better target resources into appropriately spaced play areas to ensure equitable access to playgrounds for all Gunnedah residents.

Garden areas

New planted garden beds are proposed at the north-west and south-west corners of the park to provide beautification and encourage locals and visitors to enjoy the park in a casual manner.

New seats and a covered picnic shelter provide invitation to pause and enjoy the park landscape.

Garden beds should be comprised primarily of hardy, low maintenance plants to minimise ongoing maintenance demands. Opportunity exists for a 'display' garden bed at SW corner of the park as an arrival gateway to the Gunnedah Town Centre.

LED Sign

A new LED events sign is proposed to be installed at the corner of Conadilly St and Tempest St as a community noticeboard and arrival signal.

Events

The master plan retains a casual community area adjacent to Conadilly St to allow for hosting of regular markets in this area. Larger, infrequent events may be held on the 'village green' of the oval.

Trees & Ecology

Tree Removal

No trees are proposed for removal in the current plan.

Additional Trees

New trees are proposed throughout the park to increase canopy cover and provide shade for users.

New street trees are proposed as follows:

- Western portion of Conadilly St
- Tempest St
- Bloomfield St
- Gaps between existing trees on Chandos St

A typical section has been included showing indicative tree location in relation to new pedestrian paths and existing kerb lines.

Tree species selection should focus on locally indigenous tree species which are naturally well-suited to the local environment and will do well with minimal maintenance inputs.

The tree planting to be in accordance with Council's Tree Planting Strategies and Vegetation Management.

Accessibility & Parking

Path Network

A new pedestrian path network is proposed within the park to maximise permeability and encourage more casual use within the park. A loop path will be established around the western side of the oval, connecting to street footpaths and key crossing points.

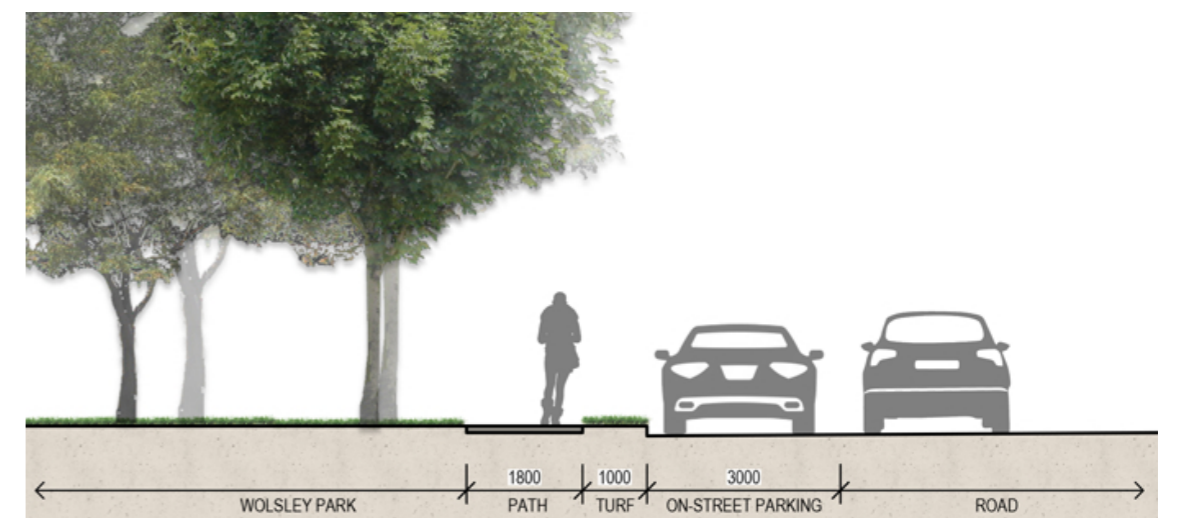
New kerb build-outs are proposed in the NW corner of the park, to reduce crossing distances, increase visibility and improve pedestrian safety when crossing adjacent roads. This work will help connect the Riverside precinct to Gunnedah Town Centre through Wolseley Park.

Parking

Retention of the existing parking within the site is dependent on the preferred option for the amenities building (renovation and extension or replacement in a different location).

If the amenities building is to be located over the existing car park area, a new vehicle access with limited parking may be installed in the location of the current building. This would not be intended to provide significant parking for sporting uses, rather it would be intended to include accessible parking bays, facilitate canteen deliveries and maintenance access and provide parking for casual use outside peak periods.

It is recommended to formalise the existing angle parking along Tempest St and Chandos St with linemarking to maximise efficiency. Consideration may be given to marking long vehicle parking on Chandos St opposite the visitor centre.



DRAFT MASTER PLAN (OPTION 2)

- 01** Refurbish and upgrade Brock's Court as meeting place for the community and entry into Wolseley Park
- 02** Option of repositioning of oval to provide greater separation between tennis facilities and main oval, improving overall presentation and circulation. Wolseley Oval function to remain as existing, with turf wicket for cricket and use by AFL in winter. Adequate lighting required to enable safe usage throughout the year
- 03** Loop path provided around new oval for pedestrian circulation and to encourage passive recreation within the park
- 04** Upgrade existing tennis courts north of tennis club / adjacent Bloomfield Street as required to maintain required level for competition
- 05** Upgrade/rebuild tennis courts to rectify long term drainage issues
- 06** Potential location for 2 additional tennis courts within existing tennis area
- 07** Separation from oval provides opportunity for buffer planting
- 08** Replace the existing tennis club facility as the existing building is in poor condition and not fit for purpose. New facility to include amenities, suitable kitchen/canteen space, change rooms, store rooms as required
- 09** Investigate opportunity to provide cafe or function space which opens facility to general community use
- 10** Remove existing amenities building
- 11** New amenities building to serve the main oval. Building to include toilets, change rooms, canteen, storage and club room. Opportunity to provide a general purpose room that opens towards Conadilly St and is available for general community use/hire
- 12** Existing stage / rotunda to be refurbished
- 13** Livvi's Place playground retained as existing
- 14** Existing playground to be removed to consolidate play opportunities at Livvi's Place playground on Conadilly St frontage
- 15** New LED events sign

- 15** Opportunities for additional landscape / canopy tree planting across the site, to improve the visual setting of the oval and increased shade across the site
- 16** Improved streetscape, tree planting and footpaths to perimeter roads
- 17** Improve linkages between oval and river precinct, with provision of build outs to reduce crossing widths and improve safety



Sporting Facilities

Tennis

- Retention of existing tennis court locations and layout
- Provision of two (2) additional tennis courts
- Upgrade courts to address drainage and subsidence issues in southern courts
- Replacement of tennis club building to provide a fit for purpose building with covered viewing areas for adjacent courts

AFL & Cricket

- Oval shifted west to allow for more breathing space around tennis courts and Livvi's Place playground
- Existing size and dimensions of oval to be replicated in new location
- Turf cricket wicket to be reinstated in new location
- Boundary fencing to be reinstated in new location

Athletics

- Removal of remnant long jump pits (no longer in use)

Lighting

- Upgrade/replacement of lighting to main oval to facilitate training and allow for safe use of the oval by sporting groups in the evenings

Built Form

AFL & Cricket Amenities Building

New amenities building to provide the following facilities:

- Minimum two (2) gender neutral change rooms. Flexible use allows change rooms to be as home and away on game days, and as male and female on training days
- Canteen and canteen store
- Equipment store
- Council store (for maintenance vehicles)
- Umpire and first aid room
- Toilet facilities for spectators, including accessible toilet and baby change facility
- Covered outdoor area to provide shade and weather protection
- Community room at the southern end of the building to interface with the community recreation zone along Conadilly St and provide a space for local community groups or small events. This space could also be used by the sporting groups for club meetings, gala days or presentations.

The master plan indicates a split built form arrangement with a central covered area to provide weather protection and increase visual permeability and casual surveillance.

Tennis Building

A new tennis building should be designed to suit the enlarged area available, while maintaining a minimum 8m setback from the oval to maximise physical and visual connectivity and prevent intrusion of bulk and scale over the village green of the oval.

Building to incorporate the following:

- Toilets and change rooms
- Club room
- Kitchen/kitchenette space
- Storage
- External break-out space and covered viewing areas

Consideration should be given to construction staging to ensure that tennis users can be decanted and share the facilities adjacent to the main oval during construction.

Community Facilities

Brock's Court Arrival

The public Brock's Court (Brock's Court) at the corner of Conadilly St and Chandos St is to remain, with upgrades in the medium term to ensure it remains a welcoming entry to the park from the town centre.

Brock's Court should include:

- Diverse seating opportunities for groups and individuals
- Tree canopy cover for shade and climate resilience (target 40% minimum)
- Space to accommodate town Christmas tree

Playground

The existing Livvi's Place playground alongside Conadilly St is to remain in its current location. No upgrades are currently proposed.

The existing playground on the northern boundary of the park is proposed to be removed to consolidate play opportunities in one location at Wolseley Park and allow council to better target resources into appropriately spaced play areas to ensure equitable access to playgrounds for all Gunnedah residents.

Garden Areas

New planted garden beds are proposed at the north-west and south-west corners of the park to provide beautification and encourage locals and visitors to enjoy the park in a casual manner.

New seats and a covered picnic shelter provide invitation to pause and enjoy the park landscape.

Garden beds should be comprised primarily of hardy, low maintenance plants to minimise ongoing maintenance demands. Opportunity exists for a 'display' garden bed at SW corner of the park as an arrival gateway to the Gunnedah Town Centre.

LED Sign

A new LED events sign is proposed to be installed at the corner of Conadilly St and Tempest St as a community noticeboard and arrival signal.

Events

The master plan retains a casual community area adjacent to Conadilly St to allow for hosting of regular markets in this area. Larger, infrequent events may be held on the 'village green' of the oval

Trees & Ecology

Tree Removal

Five (5) existing trees are proposed for removal in the current plan due to the relocation of the oval.

Additional Trees

New trees are proposed throughout the park to increase canopy cover and provide shade for users. Trees are also proposed to ring the oval, framing the 'village green' and providing shade to spectators.

New street trees are proposed as follows:

- Western portion of Conadilly St
- Tempest St
- Bloomfield St
- Gaps between existing trees on Chandos St

A typical section has been included showing indicative tree location in relation to new pedestrian paths and existing kerb lines.

Tree species selection should focus on locally indigenous tree species which are naturally well-suited to the local environment and will do well with minimal maintenance inputs.

Tree planting to be in accordance with Councils Tree Planting Strategies and Vegetation Management.

Accessibility & Parking

Path Network

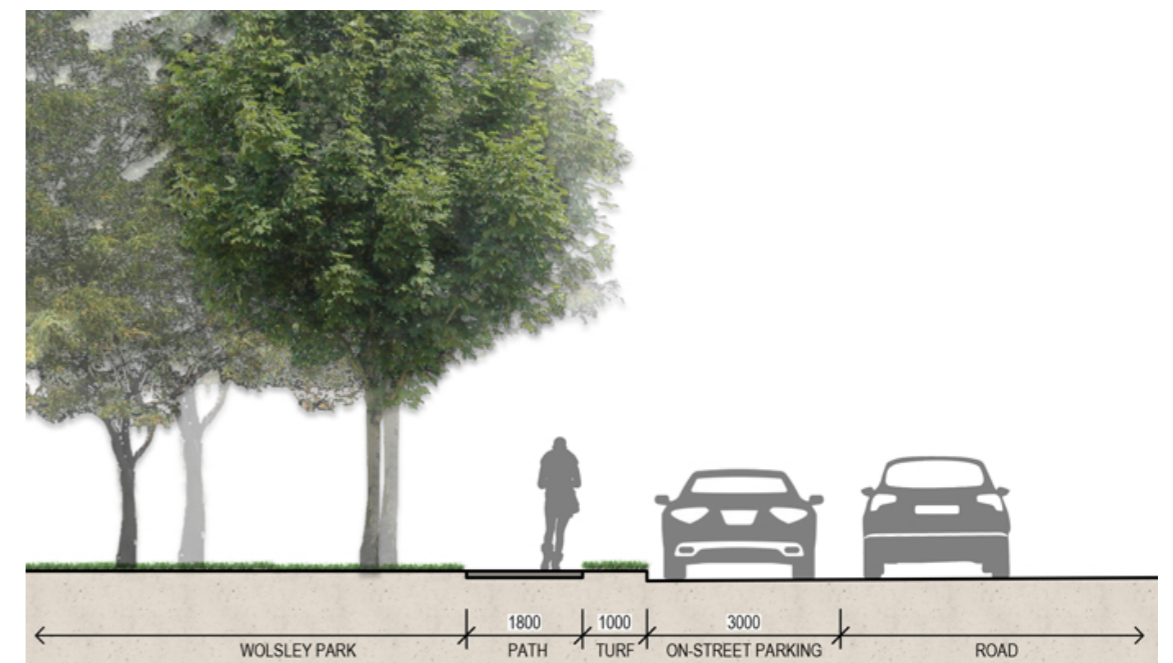
A new pedestrian path network is proposed within the park to maximise permeability and encourage more casual use within the park. A loop path will be established around the full extent of the new oval, connecting to street footpaths and key crossing points.

New kerb build-outs are proposed in the NW corner of the park, to reduce crossing distances, increase visibility and improve pedestrian safety when crossing adjacent roads. This work will help connect the Riverside precinct to Gunnedah Town Centre through Wolseley Park.

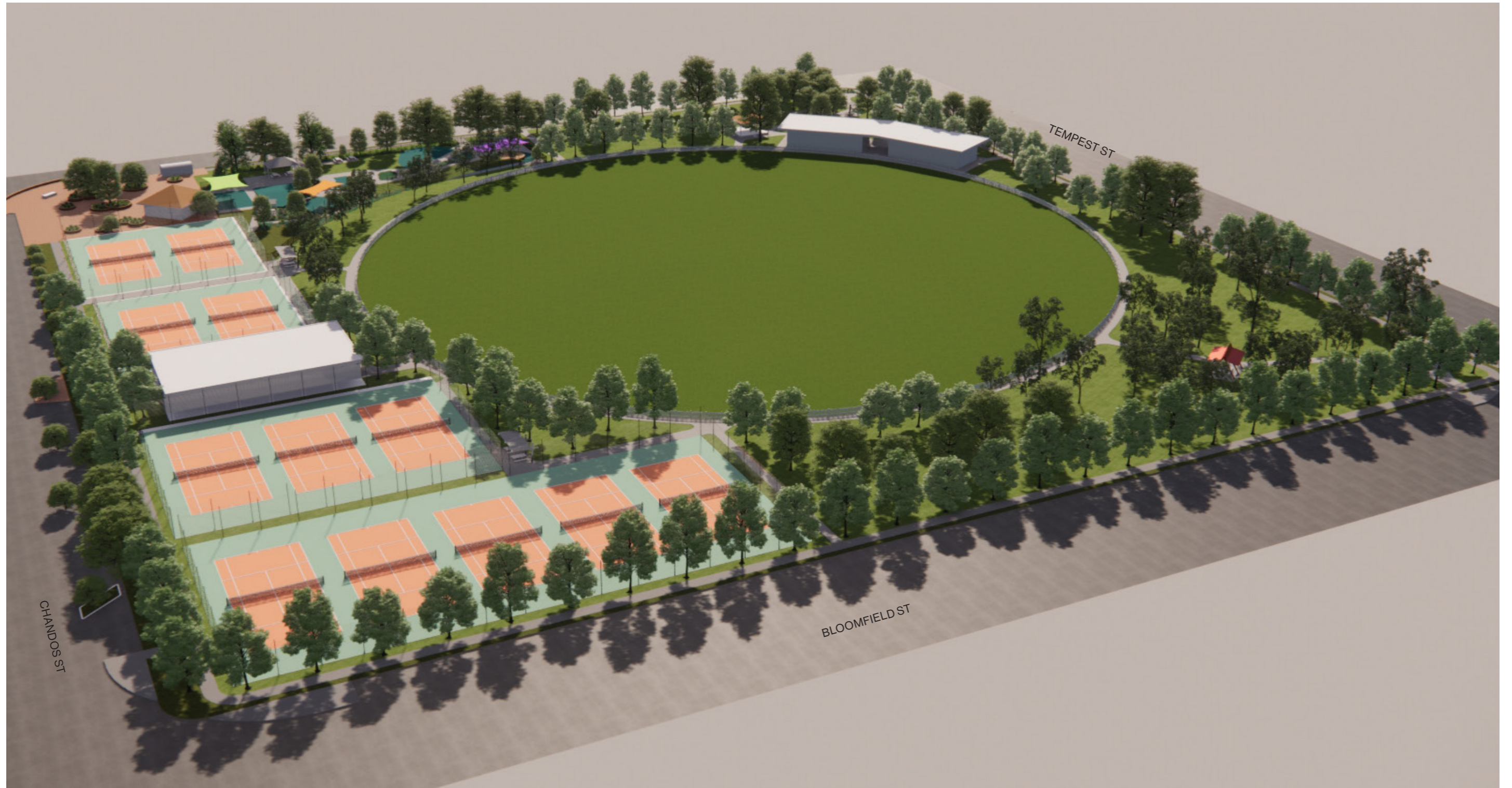
Parking

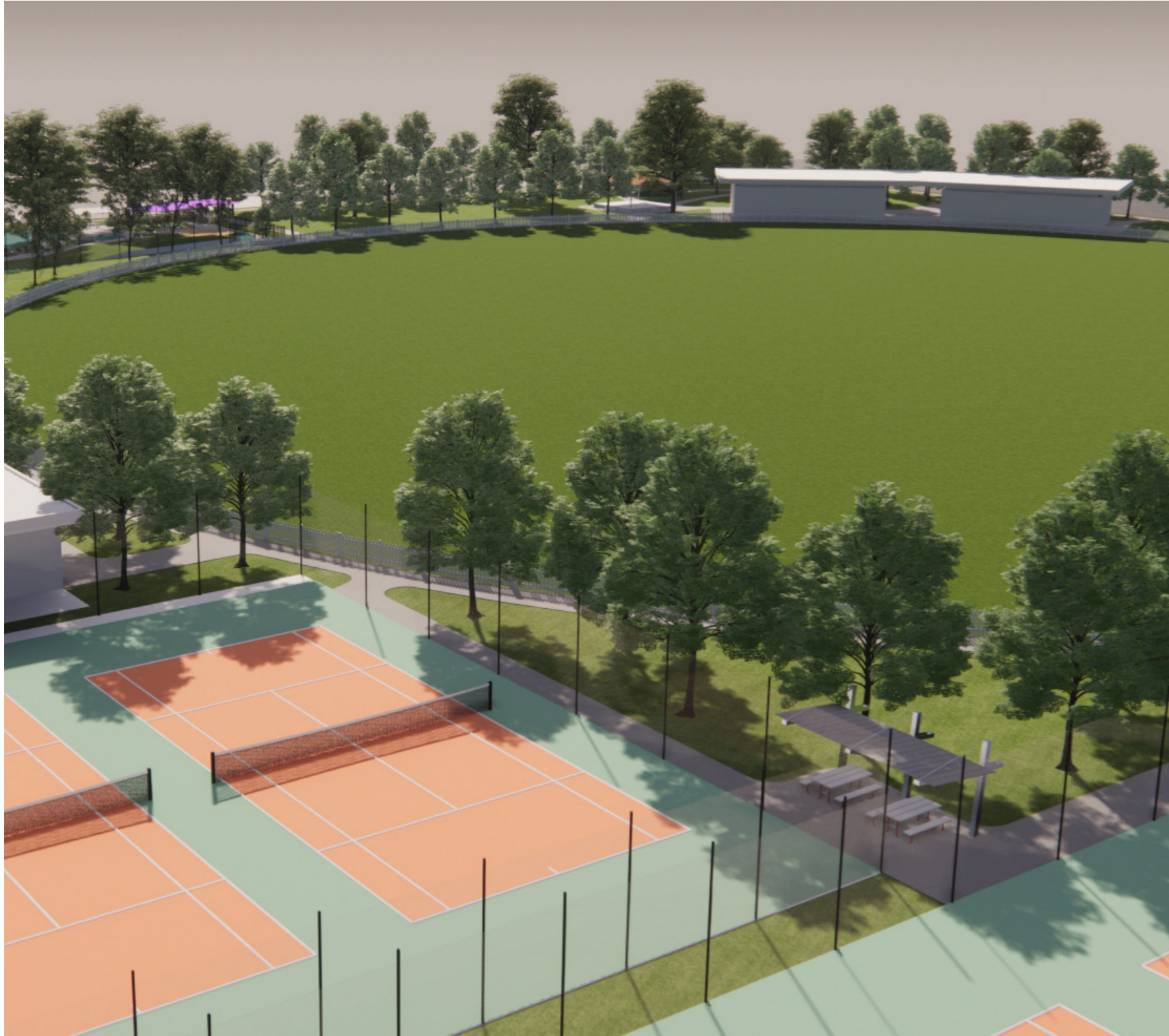
The current parking area within the park is proposed to be removed to allocate additional space to the recreation offering within the park. A dedicated driveway and loading area would be provided on Tempest St to allow for canteen deliveries and emergency vehicle and maintenance access onto the oval.

It is recommended to formalise the existing angle parking along Tempest St and Chandos St with linemarking to maximise efficiency. Consideration may be given to marking long vehicle parking on Chandos St opposite the visitor centre.



ARTIST IMPRESSIONS (OPTION 2)





SYDNEY

Level 7, 80 William Street
East Sydney NSW 2011
Australia

MELBOURNE

Level 5, 145 Russell Street,
Melbourne VIC 3000
Australia

BRISBANE

Level 7, 260 Queen Street
Brisbane QLD 4000
Australia

HO CHI MINH CITY

Ho Chi Minh City, Level 9, 117 Nguyen CuuVan,
Ward 17 Binh Thanh District
Ho Chi Minh City
Vietnam

