



CITY OF RYDE

SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY 2016 - 2026

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL 25 JULY 2017

Through its role in sport and recreation planning and management, the City of Ryde will contribute to the lifestyle, health and wellbeing and social cohesion of Ryde.

Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016 - 2026

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ryde community have expressed that their open spaces and their recreation and sporting facilities are very important to them and are critical to the community living an active and healthy lifestyle. As the City of Ryde changes and grows, it is essential for Council to provide for sport and recreation with facilities and programs that are flexible and adaptable to these changing community needs and expectations. To do this, Council needs to provide for the right mix of active and passive opportunities conveniently located across the City.

The purpose of the Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016 - 2026 (the Strategy) is to provide a framework for the ongoing effective provision, management and coordinated development of recreation facilities and services across the City of Ryde. Understanding and planning for recreation and sport is essential to ensure that the community has every opportunity to live an active lifestyle that is available and equitable to all members of the community. To achieve this, it is necessary to plan for changes in recreation and sporting needs strategically and to build in flexibility and adaptability to existing and future facilities.

This Strategy will guide the management, future planning and investment on sport and recreation across the City. As such, it will challenge how the City of Ryde currently provides for sport and recreation, question how a changing City will impact provision and allocation, contemplate new partnerships for investment, and provide the City with a long term vision of sport and recreation.

Finally, the Strategy will specify the goals and areas for strategic focus for the City of Ryde as it designs, plans and manages for sport and recreation into the future.

As Council takes a more strategic and community focused approach to the provision and management of the structured recreation across the City, the Strategy will provide the foundation stone for ongoing improvement and priority setting for the City. This will occur through a detailed understanding of local and regional trends for sport and recreation together with a detailed investigation of community needs and expectations for sport and recreation within the City of Ryde.

Vision for sport and recreation

Sport and recreation are key elements to the lifestyle of Ryde residents. A 'vision' for sport and recreation that is consistent with the broader strategies of Council will provide a framework in this area. The following vision is proposed:

"Through its role in sport and recreation planning and management, the City of Ryde will contribute to the lifestyle, health and wellbeing and social cohesion of the community."

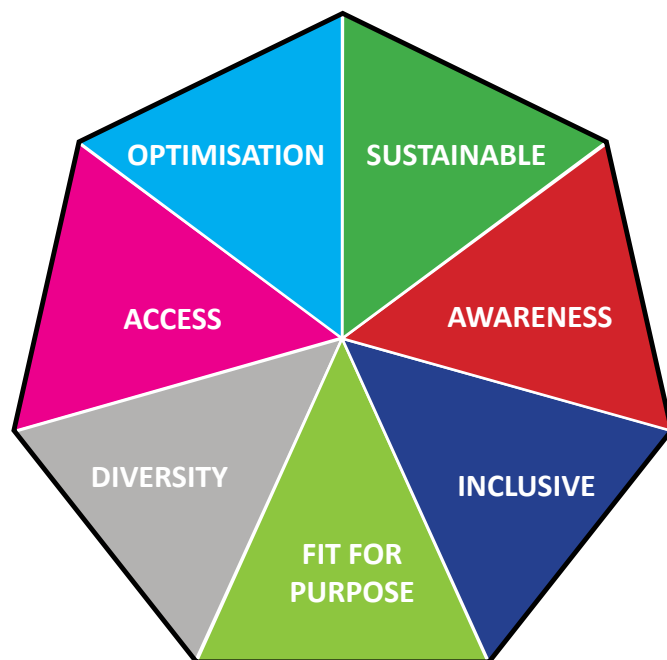
Additionally, Council's commitment to the open space network is to ensure that

"...we have ample accessible open space to meet our needs, shared and enjoyed by us all, founded on a healthy natural environment, conserving our rich history, culture and local character and managed sustainable now and for future generations."

To achieve this vision, **Seven Thematic Priorities** have been established for sport and recreation. It is these themes that will provide the structure for the ongoing management and planning for sport and recreation for the City of Ryde into the future.

The Seven Thematic Priorities for the provision, management and planning for sport and recreation in the City of Ryde are as follows.

- **Optimal use** of sport and recreation facilities
- **Access** to sport and recreation facilities
- **Diversity of facilities** for participation and enjoyment
- **Facilities** that are **fit for purpose**
- **Inclusive** and **accessible** sport and recreation facilities
- **Awareness** of recreation **facilities** and **programs**
- **Sustainable management** of facilities and sports



These seven key priorities/themes arose from research on sport and recreation trends and from an extensive consultation program. They have been used as the foundation for the establishment of the Goals for Sport and Recreation; seven (7) goals developed to align all future actions for sport and recreation to the Vision for the management of Open Space in the City of Ryde, and to offer an aspirational vision for a healthy and active community.

The City of Ryde's seven goals for a healthy and active community are:

Goal 1 - To Make the Most of What We Have

- *The City of Ryde will examine ways to get the most out of our existing open spaces to meet the sport and recreation needs now and into the future whilst recognising the role and connection to our natural and cultural environmental areas, while maintaining the amenity of our neighbourhoods.*

Goal 2 - Equitable Access for All

- *The City of Ryde will provide fair and equitable allocation of sporting facilities and will work closely with the community to provide for their changing sport and recreation needs.*
- *The City of Ryde will focus on the distribution and accessibility of passive recreation opportunities across the City.*
- *The City of Ryde will provide sport and recreation facilities for the whole community through a balance between the provision of structured and unstructured opportunities.*

Goal 3 - We Understand and Respond to the Needs of Our Diverse Community

- *The City of Ryde will respond to the changing needs of our diverse community by creating flexible sports and recreation areas that can adapt to the future needs and preferences of our Community.*

Goal 4 - Our Facilities are Fit For Purpose

- *The City of Ryde will ensure the design of all sports and recreation facilities are fit for purpose, specific to the levels of sport and recreation they are providing for.*

Goal 5 - We Provide Inclusive and Accessible Sport and Recreation

- *The City of Ryde will design sport and recreation facilities to maximise access for people of all abilities. This will include the design of physical access to sport and recreation facilities, and the planning of programs to eliminate barriers to access and participation.*

Goal 6 - Our Community Will be Aware of Our Facilities and Programs

- *The City of Ryde will actively engage with our community and partners/stakeholders to support and promote the sustainable growth, management and success of our local clubs and associations.*
- *The City of Ryde will continue to advocate the benefits of a healthy and active lifestyle by promoting the variety of sport and recreation facilities and programs in the City.*
- *The City of Ryde will maintain a transparency in the management of all sport and recreation facilities with the assistance of the Sport and Recreation and Wheeled Sports Advisory Committee, where proactive engagement with our community will inform management strategies and priority setting.*

Goal 7 - Sustainable management of facilities and Sport

- *The City of Ryde will continue to work with clubs and associations to promote sustainable growth and development of our sporting facilities.*

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SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTION

Background

The Ryde community have said that their open spaces and their recreation and sporting facilities are very important to them. As the City changes due to population growth and shifting attitudes towards living an active and healthy lifestyle, it is important for Council's sport and recreation opportunities be both flexible and adaptable to meet the needs of our changing community. This requires Council to provide the right mix of active and passive opportunities conveniently located across the City, that can meet the community's needs and expectations.

As the foundation to providing for a changing community the City of Ryde's vision is to provide an Open Space Network that will be managed to ensure:

"We have ample, accessible open space to meet our needs, shared and enjoyed by us all, founded on a healthy natural environment, conserving our rich history, culture and local character and managed sustainably now and for future generations".

The Open Space Network, as shown in Figure 1, is a range of open space settings and typologies that support the provision of sport and recreation across the City of Ryde.

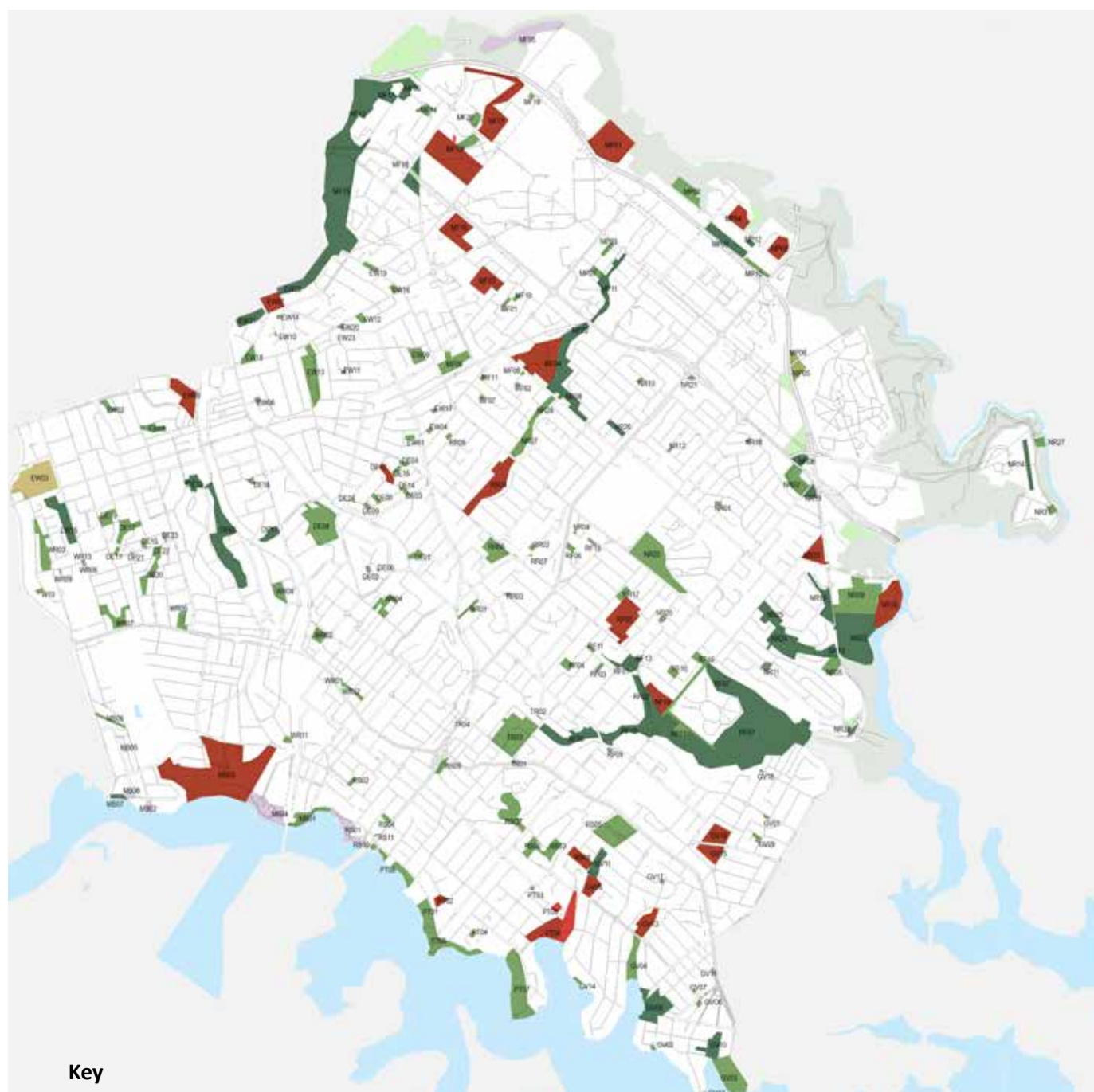
The Integrated Open Space Plan (IOSP) 2012, provides Council with a detailed understanding of the current and future open space needs of the community. It outlines the requirement to undertake detailed planning that will guide decision making on the provision and management of sport and recreation across the City. In the past, Council has been responsive to the needs of it's community and delivered sport and recreation facilities in an opportunistic, unplanned and largely ad-hoc approach. While successfully meeting short term goals, Council now needs to ensure that decision making and design of sport and recreation facilities is strategic, sustainable and informed.

Purpose and Strategic Links

The purpose of the Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016 - 2026 (the Strategy) is to provide the framework for the ongoing effective provision, management and coordinated development of recreation facilities and services across the City of Ryde.

Understanding and planning for recreation and sport is essential to ensure that the community has every opportunity to live an active lifestyle that is available and equitable to all members of the community. To achieve this, it is necessary to plan for changes in recreation and sporting needs strategically and to build in flexibility and adaptability to facilities.

The Strategy guides the management, future planning and investment on sport and recreation across the City. As such, the Strategy considers how the City of Ryde currently provides for sport and recreation, questions how a changing City will impact provision and allocation, considers new partnerships for investment and offers the City a long term vision of sport and recreation. Importantly, the Strategy specifies the goals and areas for strategic focus for the City of Ryde as it design, plans and manages for sport and recreation into the future. This will aid decision making via a suite of detailed and prioritised actions to meet Council's visions for sport and recreation.



Key

	Passive Parklands		Cultural Heritage	
	Outdoor Sports		River Foreshore	 National Park (NPWS)
	Civic and Urban Spaces		Ancillary	Suburb Boundary
	Natural Areas and Bushlands			

Figure 1- The Open Space Network in the City of Ryde

Objectives of the Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016 - 2026

The Strategy has the following objectives:

- Identify the current and projected sporting and recreation needs of residents/ visitors
- Recommend approaches for Council in response to relevant sporting and recreation trends
- Identify and map existing recreation facilities and services in Ryde
- Determine the role of Council and other stakeholders (e.g. Community sporting clubs and groups, the private sector and other government authorities) with the provision of sporting and recreation services and facilities
- Identify Council's role with the planning and delivery of services through its facilities
- Provide a 'best practice' template for the management of recreation reserves that articulates the expectations, roles and responsibilities of Council, tenants/ allocated users, local residents and other recreation reserve users
- Establish guiding principles to assess the broader community benefits of commercially managed, recreational activities within Council owned/managed facilities
- Review existing, and if unsuitable, recommend alternate models with guiding principles, for the provision of capital contributions from community sporting groups toward facility improvements
- Provide tenancy models that reflect equitable maintenance responsibilities and cost recovery principles for the various tenancy arrangements of Council owned/ managed recreational facilities

Scope of the Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016 - 2026

The Strategy guides the provision, allocation, management and planning for sport and recreation within the Ryde Local Government Area (LGA). This includes sport and recreation opportunities in all open spaces as shown in Figure 1, with the focus of the Strategy on structured and unstructured recreation.

Recreation in the City of Ryde is very broad and can be described using the following terminology detailed in Table 1. The definition of recreation is important in the context of this plan as the Strategy focuses on meeting the needs of both structured and unstructured recreation.

Descriptor	Definition	Common Recreation Facilities	Examples
Structured	Recreation undertaken as a part of an organised competitive club competition. There is usually a fee to participate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sportsfields and hard courts • Club houses and canteens • Storage facilities • Floodlighting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer games, both training and competition as a part of GHFA • Netball games, both training and competition as a part of ERNA • Tennis • Night competition netball, badminton etc • Personal Training
Unstructured	Recreation undertaken on a casual basis where there is no formal organisation of the competition and there is usually no fee to participate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share paths (such as Ryde River Walk) • Playgrounds • Dog off leash areas • Sportsfields and hard courts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social running club • Dog walking • Social sports (eg a social groups or family playing soccer on a Sunday afternoon)

Table 1- Recreation Definitions

The City of Ryde is taking a more strategic and community focused approach to the provision and management of the structured recreation across the City of Ryde. In 2012, Council completed the Allocation and Management of Sportsgrounds Best Value Review

- To compare the performance of the City of Ryde with other Councils and to consider other stakeholders, local users, external stakeholders and staff on how to best manage Councils's community sports infrastructure
- The Strategy builds on the Best Value Review by updating its outcomes whilst analysing the unstructured recreation challenges facing the City.

Council engaged with the community to challenge why, how and by whom the services supporting community sports are being provided.

Plan Methodology

The study process comprised a four-stage methodology:

- Stage 1: Research & analysis of current situation
- Stage 2: Community & stakeholder consultation
- Stage 3: Analysis of findings and future demands
- Stage 4: Outcomes and recommendations

Contents of this report

The remaining sections of this report are:

- Section 2 Vision and Guidelines Principles for Sport and Recreation
- Section 3 Context
- Section 4 Sport and Recreation in the City of Ryde
- Section 5 Trends in Sport and Recreation
- Section 6 Community Needs and Demands for Sport and Recreation
- Section 7 City Growth and Impact on Recreation
- Section 8 Participation in Sport and Recreation
- Section 9 Themes and Goals for Sport and Recreation
- Section 10 Implementation Plan

SECTION 2 - VISION & GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR SPORT AND RECREATION

City Vision

The overarching planning document that guides long term strategic planning in the City of Ryde is the Community Strategic Plan 2025. It states that:

“Our vision will respond to and deliver on the aspirations of our community. City of Ryde: The place to be for lifestyle and opportunity @ your doorstep.”

Vision for Sport and Recreation

Sport and recreation are key elements of the lifestyle of Ryde residents. A ‘vision’ for sport and recreation that is consistent with broader strategies of Council will provide a framework for Council’s role in this area. The following vision is proposed:

“Through its role in sport and recreation planning and management, the City of Ryde will contribute to the lifestyle, health and wellbeing and social cohesion of the community.”

Additionally, Council’s commitment to the open space network is to ensure that:

“...we have ample accessible open space to meet our needs, shared and enjoyed by us all, founded on a healthy natural environment, conserving our rich history, culture and local character and managed sustainable now and for future generations.”

The vision for sport and recreation is underpinned by a number of guiding principles that directly relate to the key challenges described in Council’s Community Strategic Plan 2025.

These key challenges are described below:

Resource sustainability

Council will manage the pressures on its finite sport and recreation resources in a manner that maximises sustainability and functionality. Innovative and sustainable practices, such as synthetic surfaces, lighting and maintenance and upgrade planning will contribute to the sustainability of the City’s valuable sport and recreation resources.

Responding to demographic change

Council recognises the need for accessible, adaptable and culturally appropriate sport and recreation opportunities that are available to all residents regardless of age, gender, culture, income or physical ability.

Communication and collaboration

Council will encourage sport and recreation clubs and community groups to work collaboratively with Council rather than creating a reliance on Council. Council recognises the importance of clear communication and engagement with clubs and the community in the planning and management of sport and recreation opportunities.

Outcome Framework

How our suite of documents will work together to deliver our vision and mission.



Figure 2- City of Ryde Community Strategic Plan's Outcomes Framework

Balanced provision

Council acknowledges the importance of active recreation in providing opportunities for residents to lead healthy lifestyles. Council acknowledges its important role in the provision of sporting opportunities for the broader Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) region and will endeavour to ensure future planning balances organised sport, with active recreation needs of the community.

Participation

Council will advocate for increased participation in sport and active recreation to improve the lifestyle, health and wellbeing of all Ryde residents. Council acknowledges that a primary focus must be on increasing participation for local residents through provision of adequate facilities.

Council's primary role in sport and recreation is to ensure that its community have access to a range of recreation and sporting opportunities that support the diversity of communities in the City. These should be sustainable, meet identified needs, and encourage an active and healthy community. Council does this by:

- Planning
- Advocating
- Providing
- Collaborating

SECTION 3 - CONTEXT

This Section provides a summary of the information and analysis that has been used to inform the recommendations for the future provision, management and planning for sport and recreation within the City of Ryde. This has included developing and understanding of:

- Where the City of Ryde sits within a geographical context in Sydney,
- What changes will impact the City from population growth and changes to the way people live their lives (including dwelling types and preferences for recreation and sport)
- How the proposed changes to LGA boundaries will impact the future of sport and recreation.

Regional Geographic Context

Currently, the City of Ryde is bordered by six other Councils (refer to figure 3); Parramatta, Hornsby, Willoughby, Lane Cove, Ku-ring-gai and Hunters Hill. The LGA's southern boundary is the Parramatta River and located to the south of the River are Canada Bay and Auburn Councils.

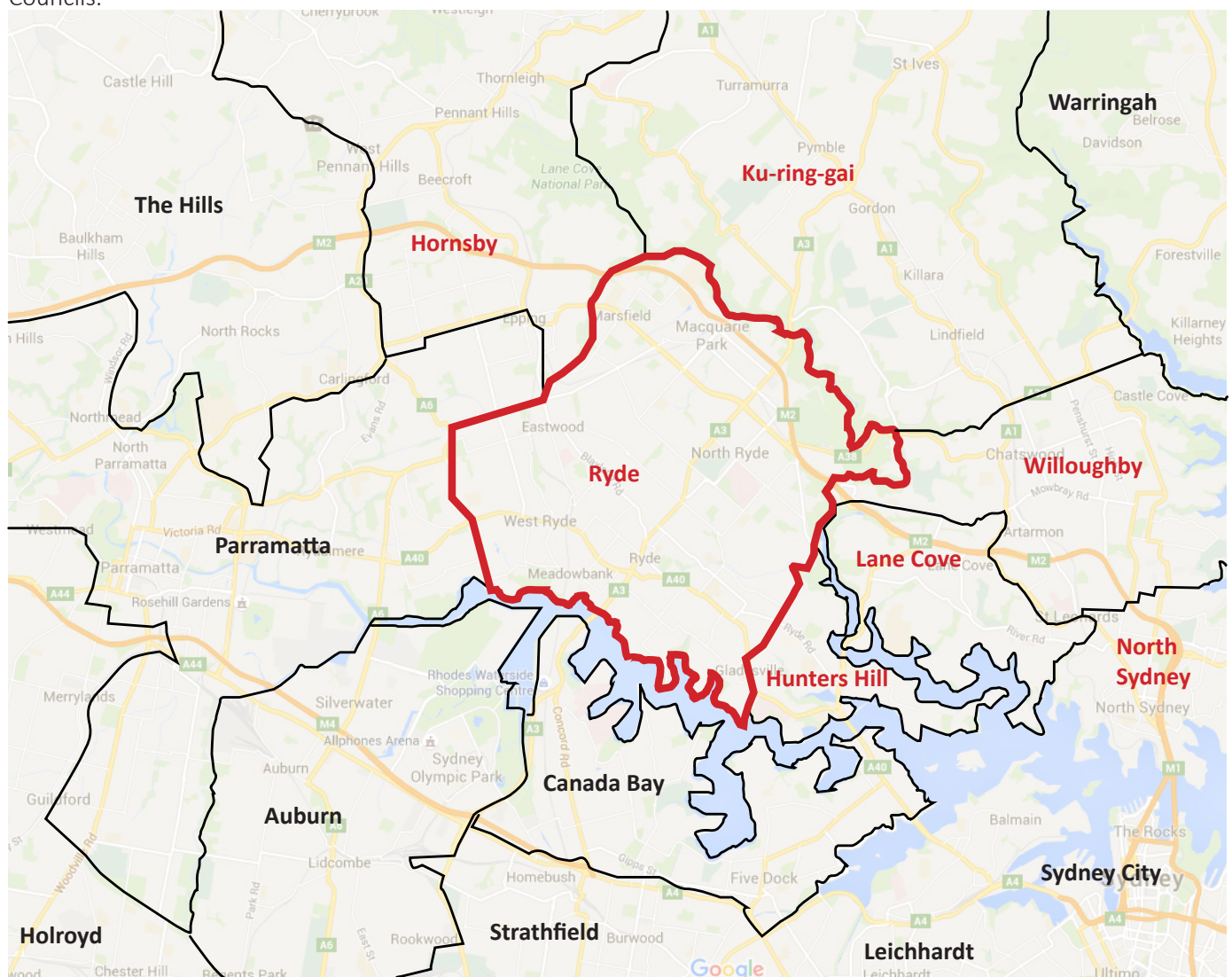


Figure 3 - Regional Geographic context of the City of Ryde (red labelled names are NSROC)

A detailed map of the Sydney Olympic Park area, showing the location of the Olympic Park and surrounding areas. The map includes labels for various locations and transport routes. The Sydney Olympic Park is highlighted in green, and the surrounding areas are shown in grey. The map also includes labels for various locations and transport routes, such as the Sydney Olympic Park, the Sydney Harbour Bridge, and the Sydney Harbour Tunnel. The map is oriented with North at the top.

Labels on the map include:

- Parramatta Park and Stadium
- Pennant Hills Park Sports Complex
- Kuringai Chase National Park
- Lane Cove National Park
- Rosehill Racecourse
- Parramatta Lake Parklands
- Auburn Netball Complex
- Blaxland Riverside Reserve
- Sydney Olympic Park
- Parramatta River
- Lane Cove River
- Sydney Harbour

Local Government Boundary Review

The State Government's Fit for the Future Program is proposing a possible merger of Hunter's Hill Council, Lane Cove Council and City of Ryde Council, as shown in Figure 5. At the time of preparing this Plan, the outcome of the Governments program has not been finalised. The following extract is taken from the Merger Proposal that provides a high level synopsis of the possible outcome for the City of Ryde;

'The proposed new Council will be responsible for infrastructure and service delivery to more than 164,000 residents across the Hunter's Hill, Lane Cove and City of Ryde area of Sydney. The creation of a new Council provides the opportunity to bring together the communities from across the local government areas of Hunter's Hill, Lane Cove and Ryde. These communities have similar lifestyles, demand similar services and have a common identity as residents of the broader northern Sydney region. The new council will be responsible for infrastructure and service delivery to more than 215,000 residents by 2031.'

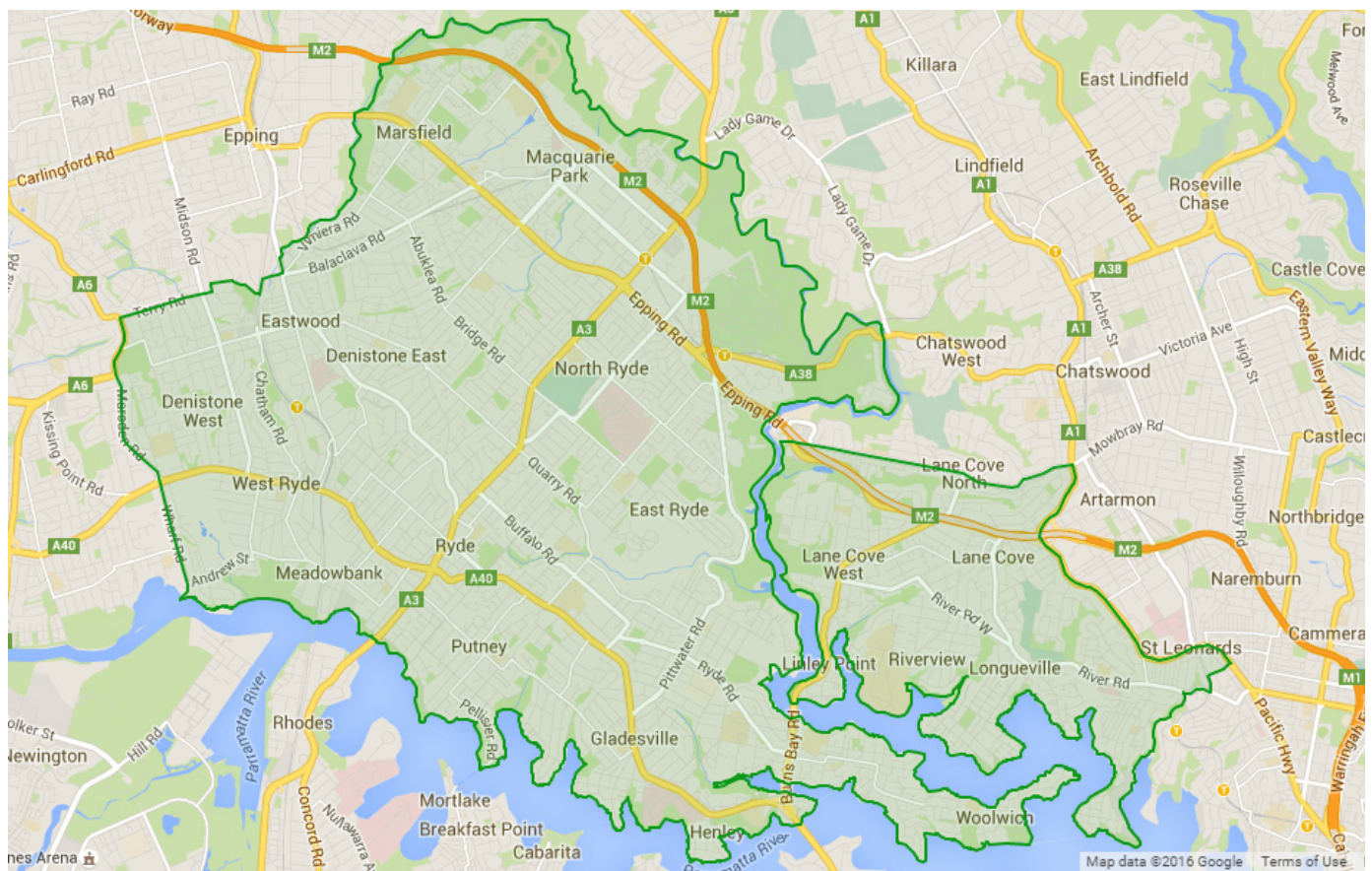


Figure 5- Possible Local Government boundary review

This Strategy should be reviewed following any future changes to the LGA boundaries and updated to reflect the needs of a larger community, a broader catchment and a wider supply of sport and recreation facilities and program.

Goal 3: A great place to live with communities that are strong, healthy and well connected will have better access to jobs and economic opportunities; good transport and social infrastructure; healthy natural and built environments; and will find it easy to get to services, the arts, cultural and recreational activities.

The City of Ryde has a role to play in the maintaining and embellishing Sydney's reputation as a vibrant cosmopolitan place, through the provision of quality public spaces, green spaces, sports facilities and precincts that engage people and reflect the city's heritage and history. The City of Ryde will assist in achieving Goal 3 through being committed to raising living standards and improving wellbeing to create strong, inclusive communities. Council/Government will improve access to the natural and built environments by improving access to and provision of recreational activities and facilities that meet the communities needs of today, while remaining flexible to evolve to meet the community needs into the future.

Relating to sport and recreation, the directions and actions prescribed the *Plan for Growing Sydney* are outlined in Table 2.

Direction	Action	Actions for the City of Ryde
Direction 3.2: Create a network of interlinked, multipurpose open and green spaces across Sydney		
Sydney's much loved open spaces, bushland tracks and trails support recreation, sporting activity, walking and cycling, and improve the environmental quality and liveability of our urban communities. More than 90% of the City's residents live within a five to 10 minute walk of green space and less than a 30 minute drive from a large regional open space. A Plan for Growing Sydney aims to improve the quality of green spaces and create an interconnected network of open spaces and parks, tree-lined streets, bushland reserves, riparian walking tracks and National Parks. It will also encourage innovative uses of these spaces – from bushland renewal to outdoor theatres and stimulating children's playgrounds.		
	Action 3.2.1: Deliver the Sydney Green Grid project	The Sydney Green Grid will include open spaces, parks, bushland, natural areas, waterway corridors and tree-lined streetscapes in a network that connects our homes to centres, public transport, jobs and recreation. It will build upon the open space network already established through the Metropolitan Greenspace Program and the Regional Tracks and Trails Framework. Providing open space guidelines will resource local councils to develop recreational and open space policies to meet local community needs and inform the preparation of local level plans and policies that are consistent with the Sydney Green Grid.
		Specific Actions relative to Ryde include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing to implement the Metropolitan Greenspace Program; Continuing to implement the Sharing Sydney Harbour Program; Working with councils to develop open space guidelines to encourage appropriate local planning for the open space needs of communities; Working with local councils and communities to connect walking trails identified in the Regional Tracks and Trails Framework and locate new recreation and sporting facilities within the Sydney Green Grid;
	Action 3.2.2: Investigate options for a Bushland renewal program	Urban bushland is important to the city's network of green spaces, biodiversity and the development of the Sydney Green Grid. A bushland renewal program will be developed to preserve and improve the environmental quality of the bushland within the City.
		Specific Actions relative to Ryde include those that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore options to enhance current programs and investment to support habitat and bushland renewal; and Investigate the application of Environmental Trust funds to habitat and bushland renewal projects

Direction	Action	Actions for the City of Ryde
Direction 3.3: Create Healthy Built Environments		
The design of our City and suburbs play an important role in supporting physical activity, social interaction and equitable access to healthy food. The built environment can also facilitate social cohesion and community connectivity.		
		<p>The built environment can encourage healthy communities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating mixed-use centres that provide a convenient focus for daily activities; • Providing separated footpaths and cycleways to safely connect people to destinations; • Providing facilities such as bike lockers at rail stations and workplaces to make it easier to walk or cycle to public transport and local centres; • Creating attractive public spaces and improving the quality of the public domain through better design, including landscaping, lighting and traffic calming measures in high pedestrian areas; and • Linking open spaces to encourage recreational walking and cycling, and support cross-regional trips to centres and other destinations.

Table 2- The Plan for Growing Sydney- Sport and Recreation specific Directions and Goals

North District Plan

The Sydney region is divided into six subregions;

- Central
- West Central
- West
- North
- South West, and
- West

Ryde is located in the north subregion with the following local government areas; Hornsby, Hunters Hill, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, Northern Beaches Council, Mosman, North Sydney and Willoughby.

Of the priorities outlined for the subregion the priority relevant to the Strategy is to '*Promote the natural environment and promote its sustainability and resilience*'. Key areas are to protect and enhance natural and regional parks including the enhancement of connectivity.

The North District Plan is currently being finalised by the Greater Sydney Commission.

Feedback given to the commission relating to Sport and Recreation include;

- There needs to be a coordinated approach to the delivery of regional open space facilities between local and State governments,
- The district plan should identify open space areas for acquisition including appropriate funding models, and
- Open spaces within the district need to be better connected with better access to Lane Cove National Park for regional links, particularly for active transport.

Sydney Regional Recreation Trails Framework

As outlined in the IOSP, The Sydney Metropolitan Regional Recreational Trails Update 2010, identifies a number of regional trails that are either complete or in need of extension across Metropolitan Sydney. The trails of relevance to the City of Ryde include the Regional Trails:

- Ryde Riverwalk (Trail 5.7) which includes the section to Kissing Point Park completed

since 2005

- Meadowbank to Lane Cove (Trail 3.7) which is part of the Walking Volunteers Harbour Circle route.

The following subregional walks are also identified in the Plan:

- Lane Cove River to Ryde (Trail 3.17)
- Shrimpton's Creek Trail (Trail 3.23).

In recognition of the significance of these trails, the City has focused on improving and extending trails along the Parramatta River with the recent completion of the eastern most link of the Ryde Riverwalk. The Ryde River Walk now offers a combination of on road and off road pedestrian and shared pathways that connect Banjo Patterson Park in the east with Wharf Road in the west of the LGA, allowing the community to access a wider trail network that continues to Sydney Olympic Park and Parramatta CBD.

NSROC

The City of Ryde is part of the Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC), which comprises seven Councils, namely Hornsby, Hunters Hill, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, North Sydney, Ryde and Willoughby as shown with a red name label in Figure 3.

Regional sport and recreation planning studies undertaken for NSROC have also been taken into account. These include:

- NSROC Netball Development Plan (2015)
- NSROC Regional Sportsground Management Strategy (2011)

NSROC remains an important regional direction setter for sport and recreation. Ryde's ongoing participation in planning for sport and recreation in this forum is recommended.

Local Strategic Context

The City of Ryde 2025 Community Strategic Plan

The 2025 Community Strategic Plan sets out the overall direction and long-term planning for the economic, social and environmental growth of the City. It aims to reflect the aspirations of the Ryde community, while meeting the challenges of the future. The Community Strategic Plan sets out the following Vision for the Ryde community:

"Our vision will respond to and deliver on the aspirations of our community. City of Ryde: The place to be for lifestyle and opportunity @ your doorstep."

The document outlines Council's Mission as:

"Working with our community and partners to provide strategic leadership, effective projects and quality customer service."

The document outlines seven challenges facing the City of Ryde, followed by Seven Key Outcomes for the City. The plan contains 21 Goals and 59 Strategies listed under their relevant outcome.

The seven Challenges for the City of Ryde are:

1. **Meeting the needs of a growing population** - To meet the increasing pressure and needs of a growing population and changing demographics, while maintaining the prosperity, uniqueness and liveability of our City.
2. **Addressing the needs of a changing population** - To offer appropriately targeted support services, appropriate recreational and cultural opportunities, and to design accessible public domain to ensure that we adjust to our changing community's needs.
3. **Offering suitable housing options while maintaining the characteristics of our suburbs** - To offer a range of affordable and varied accommodation options, through strategic forecasting and planning that meets the changing needs and demands of our growing and diverse community while maintaining the character of our many suburbs.
4. **Creating a strong economy and employment closer to home** - To plan for sufficient land and infrastructure for business. As Sydney's transport systems and roads networks are placed under increasing pressure we need to accommodate this growth and encourage people to live closer to their place of employment.
5. **Managing the pressure of population growth on our amenity** - To plan and design a growing and liveable city through considered urban renewal and land use, while protecting and enhancing our natural assets and keeping abreast of demand for passive and active recreation opportunities from our community and visitors.
6. **Adapting to climate change** - To collaborate with all our partners to address the predicted long term effects of climate change such as higher frequencies of extreme weather patterns, bushfires, storm surge and flood inundation.
7. **Remain competitive** - To reinvigorate Macquarie Park, address its traffic management issues and utilise all the opportunities that a close association between a university and business park bring so that it remains competitive and nationally significant.

The seven Outcomes are:

1. **City of Liveable Neighbourhoods** – a range of well-planned clean and safe neighbourhoods, public spaces, designed with a strong sense of identity and place.
2. **City of Wellbeing** – A healthy community, with all supported throughout their life by services, facilities and people.
3. **City of Prosperity** – Creating urban centres which champion business, innovation and technology to stimulate economic growth and local jobs.
4. **City of Environmental Sensitivity** – Working together as a community to project and enhance our natural and built environments for the future.
5. **City of Connections** – Access and connection to, from and within the City of Ryde. Providing safe, reliable and affordable public and private travel, transport and communication infrastructure.
6. **City of Harmony and Culture** – A welcoming and diverse community, celebrating our similarities and difference, in a vibrant city of culture and learning.
7. **City of Progressive Leadership** – A well led and managed city, supported by ethical organisations which deliver programs and services to the community by listening, advocating and responding to their needs.

A City of Wellbeing is the outcome of particular relevance to sport and recreation planning in Ryde. This outcome aims to ensure the creation of a City that supports the physical and emotional health of all of the community.

Specific goals and strategies relevant to sport and recreation planning are:

- Our residents are encouraged and supported to live healthy and active lives.
 - To offer a range of cultural, sport, recreational and leisure facilities to meet the needs of all.
 - To collaborate with our partners to encourage more people to lead healthy and active lives locally.
- All residents feel supported and cared for in their community through the provision of ample services and facilities.
 - To provide services and facilities that meet the needs and challenges of all our community, throughout the cycles of their life.
 - To collaborate with our partners to offer the whole community a range of quality services and facilities.

This outcome states that "...the network of volunteer sporting groups and associations will be supported with sports amenities which are optimised across the region in collaboration with neighbouring Council areas (Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils) and educational institutions. As the population ages Council will ensure that active living reaches all generations in the way that we design our active and passive recreational facilities".

Ryde Section 94 Development Contributions Plan 2007: Interim Update (2014)

The Ryde Section 94 Development Contributions Plan 2007: Interim Update (2014) which is currently in force, levies for open space, recreation and community cultural facilities based on a works schedule dating back to 2006-07.

Works levied for include new parks in Macquarie Park, walking tracks and cycleways, improvements to sportsgrounds, and park upgrades.

Council is currently preparing a new contributions plan for the City. The Plan will include a new works schedule meeting the future infrastructure needs of the City. The works programme is based on predicted population growth for the next 20 years and the goals set by the Community Strategic Plan 2025.

Integrated Open Space Plan

The Integrated Open Space Plan (IOSP) is a key recreation planning document for the City of Ryde and contains the following objectives for open space:

- Ample, Accessible Open Space
 - Providing open space within at least 400 metres safe and direct walking distance from every residence.
 - Maintaining existing provision at minimum (i.e. No net loss of open space)
 - Ensuring safe and convenient access to open space for all abilities.
 - Optimising access by walking and cycling.
 - Maintaining a network of recreational corridors, linkages and connections.
- Shared and Enjoyed by All
 - Providing opportunities for all ages and backgrounds.
 - Balancing structured and unstructured recreation.
 - Incorporating flexibility for multiple uses.
 - Fostering healthy physical activity and mental wellbeing.

- Offering safe environments that encourage social interaction, health and wellbeing.
- Enabling simple wayfinding and providing accessible information and interpretation.
- Founded On a Healthy Natural Environment
 - Responding to Ryde's natural topography and geology.
 - Maximising creek, river and bushland connections and corridors.
 - Conserving and enhancing native flora and fauna communities and habitats'.
 - Providing natural connections across the City linking with adjoining LGA's.
 - Promoting awareness of Ryde's natural values.
 - Maximising permeable areas by minimising built structures and hard surfaces.
 - Adapting to the impacts of climate change by park planning and design.
- Conserving Our Rich History, Culture and Local Character
 - Integrating natural, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage into the City's open spaces.
 - Interpreting and promoting the unique history of Ryde for residents and visitors.
 - Drawing on local landscape character in park design and planting strategies.
 - Maximising views and vista opportunities across the City.
 - Implementing public art to express the identity and culture of the City.
- Managed Sustainably Now and for Future Generations
 - Conserving energy and resources and optimising life cycles.
 - Managing assets to a financially and operationally sustainable model.
 - Designing to high standards and quality with innovative practices.
 - Actively involving the community in planning and design.
 - Fostering partnerships with other parties to extend recreation opportunity.
 - Operating under a structured management and maintenance plan and program.

The IOSP provides an Open Space Structure Plan, which is the framework for delivering the Open Space Implementation Plan. The Structure Plan, refer to Figure 7, contains direction on:

- Corridors, Connections and Barriers
- Active Parklands
 - Level 1 Sports Hubs/ Precincts- Regional (Meadowbank Park, ELS Hall, Marsfield Park/Waterloo Park, Christie Park, Morrison Bay Park/Bremner Park/Tyagarah Park precinct)
 - Level 2 Sports Parks- District (e.g. Ryde Park, Eastwood Park, Gannan Park)
 - Level 3 (neighbourhood) Multi-Use Parks (e.g. Fontenoy and Tyagarah Parks)
- Passive Parklands
- Urban Spaces
- Consolidation, Acquisition and Rationalisation

The IOSP outlines the following implications for open space in response to the City's population and future growth:

- Increase in population will require additional capacity in open space
- Growth in numbers of residents living in apartments will place emphasis on ease of access to local open space in the absence of backyards
- High numbers of families in the City, with an expected increase, suggests additional demand on play and sports facilities
- High proportion of residents from Cultural and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds implies the need to ensure facilities meet cultural needs
- The significant and growing numbers of seniors in the population will place emphasis on

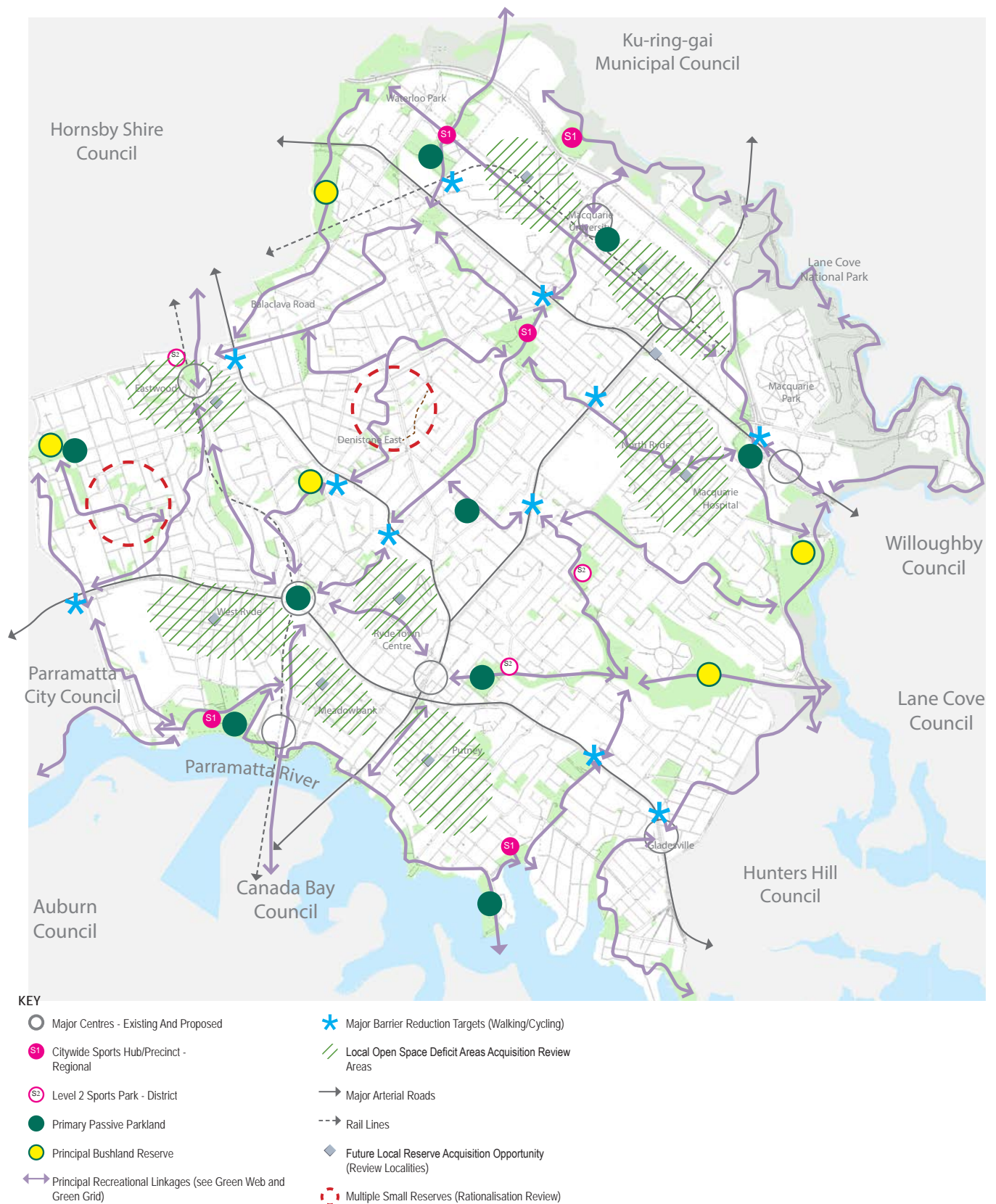


Figure 7- Integrated Open Space Plan's Structure Plan

- the need for ease of access to and within open space
- Expected growth in the working population will place pressure on facilities for formal and informal recreation in those localities
- In relation to transport and access, key implications for open space are identified:
 - Major roads act as barriers to walking access to local open space
 - Public transport access to open space is highly variable across the City- few open spaces have access via rail stations, while more have access via bus routes
 - Off-road cycle access into and across the City is limited and not linked to natural corridors and on road options
 - Planning for walking will be an essential aspect of the City's future open space
- Environmental and heritage implications are:
 - The network of creeks, including high natural values, provides opportunities for connected recreation corridors
 - A more connected recreational network would enhance environmental connectivity
 - Steep topography makes non-vehicular access to and around some open spaces challenging
 - The City's rich Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage is not currently reflected in park character and layout

The IOSP contains an Open Space Inventory identifying all open spaces in the care, control and management of the City of Ryde. The inventory identifies:

- The hierarchy of open space (Levels 1-4)
- Primary and contributory setting
- Other attributes (i.e. Status, networks and associations, levels of embellishment, assets and functions)
- Major assets within the open space (e.g. lighting, fencing, play structures, buildings)

Key points identified by the Open Space Inventory:

- The City contains 197 open spaces under the care, control and management of Council
- 35% of open spaces are over 1Ha
- 36% of all open spaces are under 0.2Ha
- There is a very high dependence on a large number of smaller reserves
- Residents in some suburbs have more immediate access to open space than others
- Some suburbs contain a large number of small open spaces while others have fewer larger open spaces
- Outdoor Sports open space is extensive. Many offer singular focus and limited opportunity for additional recreation opportunities
- There are relatively few large Passive Parklands

The IOSP outlines needs and demands from previous surveys and consultations undertaken with the community and stakeholders. Some key points to note include:

- Informal activities make up the highest leisure and recreation participation across the City (e.g. walking, walking the dog, runabout, play, picnics, BBQs, etc.)
- More than 35% of the population participate in some form of sport
- Sportsgrounds have high usage levels
- Use of indoor facilities is high, particularly amongst CALD communities
- Visitation to parks increased between 2002 and 2009
- The majority of park users travel less than 5km to a park

Best Value Review: Allocation and Management of Sportsgrounds, 2012

The Best Value Review (BVR) is a four volume report that provide specific recommendations for the allocation and management of sports grounds in the City of Ryde. The Volumes identify and provide resolution actions for a number of key issues relating to Council's sportsground allocations and management, including:

- Allocation and hire of sportsgrounds
- Fees and charges and relationship with ground quality
- Sportsground maintenance
- Facility Condition and Capital Works
- Function of the Recreation Team
- Usage and Demand for Sportsgrounds
- Overall User Perceptions

A summary of the Reviews findings are provided below:

- The sportsground services that Council offers include an enquiry, booking, allocation, maintenance service as well as the management and development of sporting infrastructure. In general, the service is highly regarded by customers and the outputs could be considered to be good value considering that many sites are affected by encumbrances, are overused, and that maintenance and capital works are underfunded. In future this service should aim to embrace a stronger marketing and sports development focus, to enhance sporting participation.
- In comparison with other Councils benchmarked the City of Ryde provides a good suite of sportsground opportunities and considering limited funds, the resource quality and the cost to users the service provided is good value. Like most other Councils refinements are required due mostly to changing professional practices, financial pressures and increasing expectations of users.
- The Open Space Unit is responsible for the delivery of these services with the exception of maintenance and capital improvements. The unit plays a minor role in capital improvements. In future it would be desirable for these aspects to be managed from the same unit, and this unit to have a stronger customer, marketing and planning focus.
Note:- During the project in 2015 Council restructured the Open Space Unit. The planning component moved into Strategic City and the operational staff moved to the Operations Unit in City Works and Infrastructure.
- Whilst Council should retain turf and infrastructure management as a core service partnerships with other NSROC Councils, sports associations or peak bodies should be considered, to fund or undertake non core or supplementary elements of maintenance. Many internal systems relied on to deliver the sportsground service are in need of refinement and updating.
- An upgrade of the CLASS software is required and all booking, referral, reporting and monitoring should be conducted electronically with a user interface. A new system to record and analyse costs by playing field, reserve and season is essential to monitor performance and efficiency and make service deliver choices.
- The absence of this information prevents this review from recommending more specific actions in relation to maintenance, and comparing costs with other providers. In the delivery of the service a greater focus on communication with sport peak bodies and users, and regular monitoring of the importance of service aspects to users and their perceptions of performance is required (rather than satisfaction measures).

- An additional staff person would be beneficial to deliver this aspect as well as market available opportunities to residents. Overall the greatest gaps in users' expectations relate to capital works and the condition of grounds. This is unlikely to be resolved without significant additional funds. In relation to how the service is delivered; users identified gaps in communication.
- There needs to be a stronger ownership of issues faced by Council, by sports associations and users, with respect to managing the condition and use of grounds. This needs to a focus in communication efforts and documenting.

City of Ryde Leisure and Recreation Needs Community Consultation Report, 2009

This study sought community views on current and future leisure and recreation needs. Key findings included:

Participation

- Over one third of respondents said they participated in "Outdoor Active Recreation" and "Passive or Social Outdoor Leisure" regularly to frequently.
- "Indoor Organised Sport" and "Outdoor Organised Sport" rated in the lowest 3 participation levels.
- Participation was higher amongst English speaking respondents for "Outdoor Active Recreation" and "Passive or Social Outdoor Leisure".

Use of Council Facilities

- The eight most regularly used Council-provided facilities/ venues were:
 - Parks and gardens (13.7%)
 - Libraries (13.4%)
 - Walking tracks (7.9%)
 - Halls and meeting rooms (7.7%)
 - Bike paths (7.4%)
 - Swimming pools (7.2%)
 - Sportsfields (5.7%)
 - Playgrounds (5.6%)
- The top 10 facilities and services identified as lacking, inadequate or required were:
 - Bike paths
 - Off-leash dog areas
 - Swimming venues
 - Parks and gardens
 - Playgrounds
 - Walking paths/ tracks
 - Sportsfields and sports facilities
 - Improved transport/ accessibility/ parking
 - Libraries
 - Picnic facilities and barbecues.

Future participation patterns/ behaviours

- Activities people expect or hope to participate in more frequently in 5 to 10 years were:
 - Walking
 - Outdoor organised sport
 - Cycling, including mountain biking
 - Visiting parks and gardens, including picnicking
 - Visiting libraries
 - Swimming.
- Parks and open space, bike paths and BMX facilities were identified as the highest priorities for Council spending in the next 5 to 10 years.

CALD Communities

- Some key notes in relation to CALD communities:
 - Halls and meeting rooms were the most used facilities
 - Natural areas were visited more frequently by CALD than English-speaking respondents
 - CALD residents reported lower frequencies of use of Council facilities/ settings
 - As well as walking, visiting libraries, swimming, visiting parks/ gardens, picnicking, outdoor active recreation, cycling, indoor organised sport, indoor leisure/ recreation and visiting playgrounds, CALD residents also indicated a desire in the future to participate in dancing, golf and bushwalking
 - Dancing/ dance socials was ranked the top priority item for future needs by CALD residents, followed by indoor sports facilities, indoor leisure venues, golfing facilities, social and recreation support services and seniors activities/ centres

Key recommendations focussed on sport and recreation:

- Provision of additional informal leisure and recreation facilities or settings (i.e. Open spaces, bike paths, walking paths and tracks, dog exercise areas, youth facilities, skate parks)
- A multi-disciplinary approach to planning, design and management of informal leisure and recreation facilities or venues
- The requirements of organised sporting groups are balanced with the needs of informal/ independent participants
- Investigating improved transport and access services for leisure and recreation, particularly where seniors are concerned
- Continuing consultation regarding the needs of CALD residents

Sport and Recreation Strategic Directions

The City of Ryde has been very active in planning for sport, recreation and open space in recent years. A great deal of strategic plans, management and maintenance plans, and policy development work has occurred in the last six years. This includes:

- Children's Play Implementation Plan (2013)
- Provision of Recreation Areas for Dogs (2010)
- Skate Feasibility Study (Draft) (2011)
- Synthetic Sports Surfaces Study (2013)
- Sports Field Assessment Studies (2015)

- Sports Fields Lighting Audit (2015)
- Sportsfield Upgrade Program (2014)
- Sports Ground Allocation Policy (2014)
- Sports Ground User Fees and Contribution Policy (2014)
- Parks Access Review Report (2013)

Many of the recommendations from these studies have been partially implemented or are in the process of being implemented. The Strategy is mindful of the amount of recent planning that has already occurred and endeavours to build on this work and reinforces the need to complete the implementation of recommendations from these studies.

Other relevant plans and studies were also reviewed. These included:

- City of Ryde Four Year Delivery Plan (2015-2019)
- Capital Works Projects 2014 to 2018: Sportsground, Amenities and Floodlighting
- City of Ryde Youth Interagency Survey (2015)
- City of Ryde Bicycle Strategy (2014)
- City of Ryde Council Community Research (2013)
- Recreation & Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government, Department of Planning (2010)
- Generic Plan of Management: Sportsgrounds, Parks, Natural Areas (2001)
- Macquarie Park and North Ryde Pedestrian and Cycling Issue Report
- Football NSW Future Needs Report (2015)

The Strategy will consolidate the finding of these studies and reports. Table 3 provides a summary of the key sport and recreation strategic documents.

Name of Strategic Document	Summary
A Study on the Provision of Recreation Areas for Dogs in the City of Ryde, 2010	<p>This study involved an assessment of parks within the City of Ryde to determine suitability as dog off leash areas. The report presents 5 recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of a City Wide Approach to the provision of on and off leash dog recreation areas • Creation of enclosed free running areas • Creation of free running areas • Creation of shared sportsfield dog facilities • Creation dog walking trails along the Ryde River Walk and Shrimpton's Creek
The City of Ryde Sports Field Assessment Program – Assessment Made August 2015 Labosport	<p>This study involved an end-of-season investigation of six of Council's sports fields, as a follow up of the initial assessment in February (see summary below). The study scope included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing recommendations on remedial works to be undertaken. • Comment on drainage.
City of Ryde Sports Fields Lighting Audit, 2015	<p>This document presents the results of an audit of current lighting systems on nominated Council sports fields for compliance with relevant Australian Standards. The study investigated lighting on 18 nominated sports fields in the City of Ryde.</p>
Netball Development Plan. Northern City Regional Organisation of Council's (NSROC). 2015.	<p>This plan is a strategic document intended to guide Council's within NSROC (Hornsby, Hunters Hill, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, North Sydney, Ryde and Willoughby) in the development of netball facility plans for each Local Government Area. The Report outlined the key future needs of netball in NSROC Region included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to be able to meet growing demand from women and girls' participation. Competition schedules and facilities are reaching capacity. • Need access to indoor courts by representative teams, particularly for training. The few indoor facilities available are unavailable. • Need better access to local training facilities for clubs. There is a shortage of training courts and lack of floodlighting.

Name of Strategic Document	Summary
Macquarie Park and North Ryde Pedestrian and Cycling Issue Report, 2015	<p>Connect Macquarie Park + North Ryde (Connect) is a Transport Management Association that has made a number of recommendations to improve the walkability of Macquarie Park and North Ryde to fully realise their potential as a blue chip employment and activity centre. The report examines footpath and bicycle network issues in the Macquarie Park-North Ryde activity centre. It identifies the following key actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritising pedestrians and cyclists over motor vehicles. • Reduce speed limits (to 50km/hr). • Fund footpath projects by increasing car parking cap prices. • Deliver footpaths and pedestrian crossings by bringing them forward in development stages. • Install pedestrian crossings. • Audit and monitor the pedestrian network.
Youth Interagency Survey 2015. City of Ryde.	<p>An internal survey conducted by City of Ryde officers of youth preferences and needs found the following in relation to sport and recreation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More males than females indicated their 'talents and passions' included sports & outdoors (68% compared to 46%). • More males than females indicated they are currently involved in sports and outdoors (75% compared to 54%). • More men who indicated that their talents and passions included sports and outdoors were actually involved in that activity compared to females (82% compared to 55%).
City of Ryde Sports Ground Allocation Policy (2014)	<p>This policy applies to all sports grounds owned or managed by the Council and is aimed at ensuring the sustainable and equitable use of sports fields and providing guiding principles on how they will be managed. The intent of the policy is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a responsible, consistent, transparent and equitable process for the use of Council sportsgrounds and associated facilities. • Provide agreed principles to priorities use and management of the sportsgrounds and associated facilities. • Assist Council in the allocation of Sports Grounds when competing requests are submitted. • Provide a Policy that is consistent with Council policies, relevant local laws and other relevant legislation
City of Ryde Children's Play Implementation Plan: Volume 1, 2013	<p>This Plan was commissioned to guide the City of Ryde's approach to the provision of play over the next 10 years. The Plan contains the following vision <i>"The City of Ryde is committed to enhancing and promoting imaginative, creative and diverse play opportunities which are intrinsically linked to the vibrant community and natural environment, and also enhance health, wellbeing and social connections."</i></p> <p>The Plan recommends 5 Regional Destination playgrounds, 17 District Destination Playgrounds, 28 Everyday Neighbourhood Playgrounds and 38 Everyday local playgrounds, with decommissioning of 23 playgrounds (1 x district destination, 5 x neighbourhood everyday, 17 x local everyday).</p> <p>There are five strategy streams, each with recommendations and key actions provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe play for all • Convenient everyday play • Exciting and challenging destination play • Play valued as a child's right • Sustainable play for the future
The City of Ryde Sports Field Assessment Report. Labosport, May 2015.	<p>This study involved assessment of the current condition of Council's sports fields, and advice on how to optimise sports field usage. 11 sports fields were investigated, and 10 key performance properties were measured at five separate locations at each of these fields. Surveys of user groups and Council's maintenance staff were also used to understand the current situation.</p>

Name of Strategic Document	Summary
Sports Ground User Fees and Contribution Policy (2014)	<p>This policy applies to all sports grounds located in the City of Ryde. The goal of the policy is to “ensure the sustainable and equitable use of Council’s sports grounds.” Key points of the policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fees are based on actual cost of maintenance and provision of the service (including administration costs associated with bookings). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two levels of fees apply: - City of Ryde rate – incorporated not-for-profit community sporting groups, associations & charities. - Non City of Ryde Rate – user groups who do not meeting the “City of Ryde” definition (e.g. commercial and private operators). • Fees are set based on a 3-level ground hierarchy determined depending on competition level, associated amenities and supporting infrastructure. • Fees will be based on a daily rate or hourly rate (i.e. Not a seasonal rate). • Fees applied to sports grounds will aim to achieve a 75% subsidy for the total cost to council of maintaining the sports ground. • School groups will be able to use sportsgrounds free of charge for general sports programs. Fees will be applied for carnivals and inter-school competitions. • Council encourages capital contribution from sporting groups, aiming for a minimum 40% contribution towards the total project cost. Council will enter into an agreement with clubs that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MoU outlining the project and responsibilities of each party; - Capital depreciation schedule; - Agreement for reduction of fees if appropriate. • Council will consider applications for up to a 50% reduction in fees for groups supporting people from disadvantaged backgrounds/ target groups, • 3 or more programs for people from the target groups will receive a 50% reduction, 2 or more programs will receive a 30% reduction, 1 program will receive a 10% reduction.
City of Ryde Bicycle Strategy, 2014	<p>This study builds on a 2007 Bicycle Strategy, and aims to make cycling easier and more attractive in Ryde, and to reduce car usage, particularly for short trips with the following Community vision-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryde will be a bicycle friendly environment where people of all ages are encouraged to use bicycles for every-day transportation and enjoyment. • The City will be connected by a cycling network providing safer, more comfortable and enjoyable cycling environment. • Our community recognises the important role of cycling in improving the quality of city life and community health, better environmental sustainability and reduced traffic congestion, and; • Cycling and walking are the natural first choices for medium and short trips and local shopping in our City.
City of Ryde Skate Feasibility Study: A Summary Report (Draft), 2011	<p>This study assessed six sites for suitability as a regional skate park location. The following key site selection criteria were used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical site conditions & technical considerations • Access/ transport • Natural surveillance, security and safety • Proximity to amenities (water, toilets, shade, food & drink) • Impact on existing facilities, adjoining uses and users • Distance from housing and incompatible land use • Event space opportunities • Maintenance issues • Context & amenity • Consistency with strategic objectives

Name of Strategic Document	Summary
City of Ryde Parks Access Review Report, 2013	<p>This report was prepared to provide advice and strategies to maximise the accessibility provisions to and within 13 of the City of Ryde's most popular parks for people of all ages and abilities. The Parks were analysed and recommendations presented for each park under the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park Entrances – entry points which visitors could use to enter the park • Path of Travel – Pathways and stairs in the parks • Facilities – Sanitary facilities, playground areas, BBQ areas and other facilities • Car Parking – Provision of accessible car parking facilities • Miscellaneous – Directional signage, seating and other facilities
City of Ryde Synthetic Sports Surfaces Study, 2013	<p>This report identified the following as key sports that would probably need to accommodate growth over the next two decades- Football (soccer), Australian Rules Football, Hockey, Rugby Codes. It suggested that the City would be unlikely to be able to accommodate growth just with the current natural sports turf facilities. It recommended that due to the growth in demand, Council consider using the synthetic turf technology in order to satisfy growing demand for sporting facilities and reduce the financial impost on Council due to the additional maintenance and renovation cost that will be needed should natural turf fields continue to be over utilised.</p> <p>Vision (outcome): <i>"More people recreating, playing sport more often in Ryde by providing quality, safe and appropriate facilities."</i></p> <p>Mission (purpose) <i>"To use the technology of synthetic surfaces to allow for greater use by the community who wish to recreation and play sport, by satisfying the demand and encouraging development opportunities."</i></p>
NSROC Regional Sportsground Management Strategy. Volume 1 – Strategy, 2011	<p>This report analyses sportsground management in the NSROC region. Five key issues and associated recommendations are presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councils' role in sports • Managing fluctuations in demand • Planning and managing infrastructure and the carrying capacity of grounds • Pricing and occupancy of facilities • Funding capital works as well as planning and management <p>Key regional initiatives to emerge from the plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional sports knowledge base • A regional golf, bowls and tennis strategy • A regional schools' initiative • Smart transport and low sport miles • Joint Council approach to capital works forward planning • Co-operative development of proposed regional facilities • Standardising conditions of use • Region wide sportsground information portal • A consistent approach to costs of ownership for synthetic and grass sportsgrounds • Bundled projects and funding packages

Table 3 - Sport and Recreation Strategic Directions at the City of Ryde

SECTION 4 - SPORT AND RECREATION IN THE CITY OF RYDE

In Ryde, sport and recreation takes place in a very diverse range of settings and locations. It may be a structured sporting activity such as a water polo competition at the RALC, or sitting in a cafe in Ryde Park as children play at the adjoining playground, or enjoying a bush walk in the Field of Mars and Lane Cove National Park. Ryde has diversity of open space and park settings that can accommodate a wide variety of land based and water based recreation opportunities for the community and the residents of Ryde participate in recreation activities at times that are convenient to them. This can mean that on any given day, Ryde residents are up in the early hours of the morning enjoying a cycling course along the Ryde River Walk and connecting to Sydney Olympic Park or late in the evening with night competition netball at Meadowbank Park or a jog along the Shrimpton's Creek Corridor. Further to this, drop past a Eastwood Park during lunchtime and you will see school children enjoying lunch time recreation and PE classes.

The demand from the community, for a diversity of settings, activities, times and purposes for recreation and sport requires Council to understand the facilities available for the community. Council needs to be able to respond and adapt to the changing sport and recreation needs of the community. This section provides a snap shot on the sport and recreation facilities provided by the City of Ryde and what recreation activities the Ryde Community participates in.

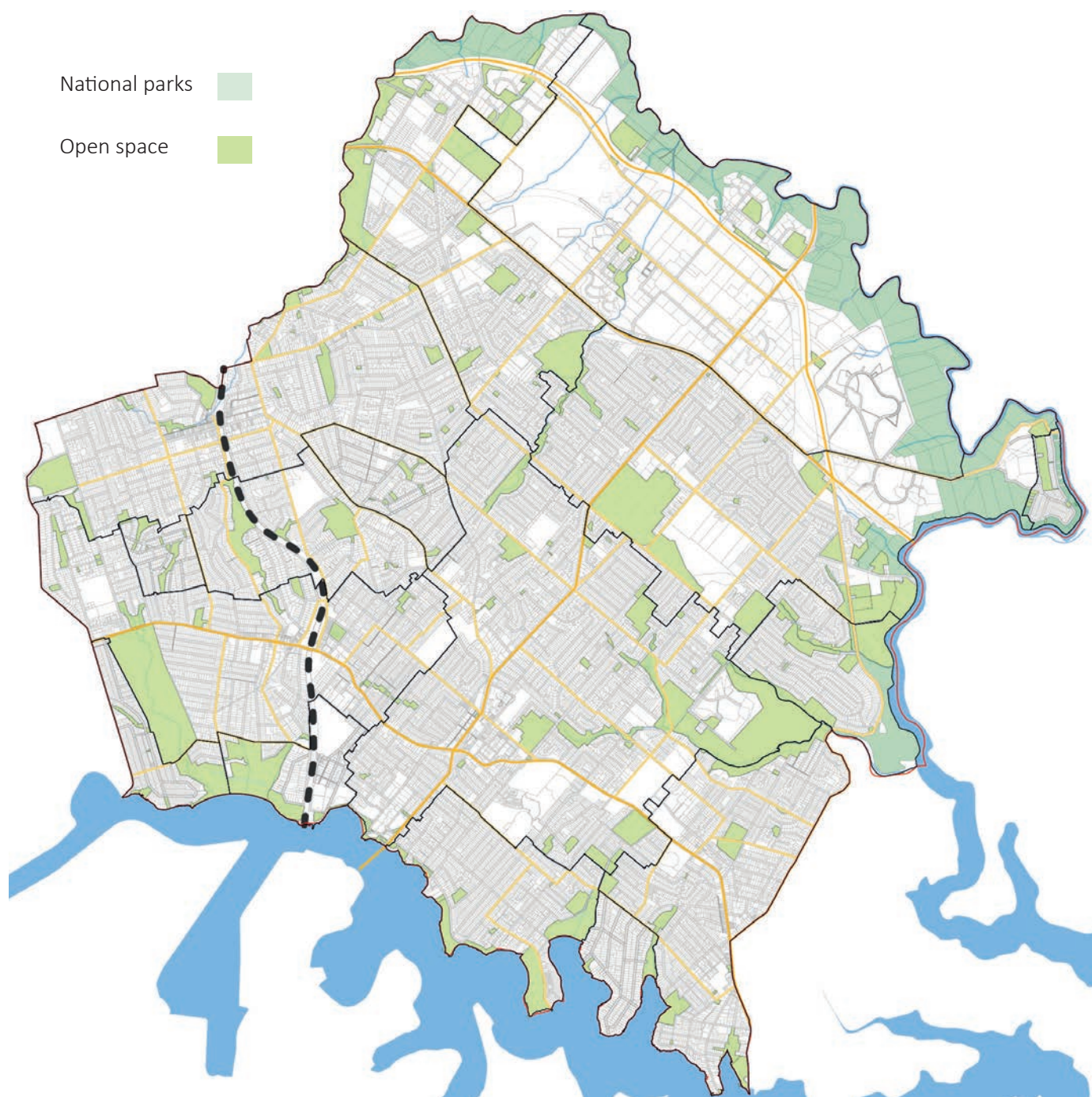
Open Space Provision

As detailed in the IOSP, Council manages 355 hectares of public open space across 197 open spaces within the suburbs of the City of Ryde, representing approximately 8.7% of the total LGA. The distribution of open space can be seen in Figure 9.

The City's open space network is complex and can provide for many recreation opportunities simultaneously. Council manages this complexity by segregating all open space into active, passive and natural areas. The purpose of this is to simplify the management of the open space and to comprehensively plan for open space typologies. However, recreation can sit within each of these open space typologies and Figure 8 and Table 4 provides definition of the typology and examples of recreation that can sit within each type.



Figure 8 - Open space typologies are areas across the City of Ryde



Suburb	Number of Parks	Suburb	Number of Parks	Suburb	Number of Parks
Denistone- East- West	24	Meadowbank	8	Ryde- South	11
Eastwood	23	North Ryde	30	Top Ryde	4
Gladesville- Tennyson Pt.	18	Putney	9	West Ryde	13
Macquarie Park	12	Ryde - Field of Mars	16	TOTAL	197
Marsfield	22	Ryde- Santa Rosa	7		

Figure 9 - Open Spaces and Reserves

Open Space Typology	Definition	Locations	Possible Recreation Activities
Passive Parklands <i>Approx area 133 hectares</i>	<p>Those park areas that facilitate unstructured activities that do not generally require a high level of physical exertion.</p> <p>Typically examples of passive parklands include river foreshores, playgrounds, open kick about areas etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Putney Park Meadowbank Park surrounds (the areas not used as sportsfield) Ryde Park surrounds (the areas not used as sportsfield) Elouera Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog off leash areas Children's playgrounds Share paths and footpaths Fitness equipment Viewing areas Fishing and water sports Cafes
Active Parklands <i>Approx area 61 hectares</i>	<p>Those park areas that facilitate active participation in a sport involving a moderate to high level of physical activity, usually but not exclusively on a competitive basis, be it individual or team related.</p> <p>Typically occurring active parklands are sportsfields and indoor sporting venues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meadowbank Park sportsfields Christie Park sportsfields Magdala Park sportsfields ELS Hall Sports Centre RALC Eastwood Park sportsfields 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soccer Netball Cricket Hockey Rugby Union / League Tennis
Natural Areas <i>Approx area 158 hectares</i>	<p>Those park areas of unique ecological value that are maintained with minimal human intervention and are protected because of their significant ecological value for the Ryde Community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field of Mars Reserve Brush Farm Park surrounds (the areas not used as sportsfield) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bushwalking Running Bushcare Programs Bird watching

Table 4 - Sport and Recreation Strategic Directions at the City of Ryde

Sport and Recreation Provision

This Section provides an analysis and evaluation of the sport and recreation assets and infrastructure that are located within the City of Ryde. As a baseline of information, the *Sport and Recreation Inventory* will be the foundation stone for assessing whether the Ryde community has access to adequate facilities and will offer insight into those area where there are deficits and oversupply.

This Inventory should be read in conjunction with the *Open Space Inventory* that is contained in Section 3 of the IOSP.

For the purpose of this audit, sport and recreation facilities and settings are physical assets which accommodate sport and recreation activities. They are:

- Places where people recreate or play sport
- Either natural or built assets specifically provided and managed for recreational purposes
- Land or water based
- In public or private ownership or management

Primarily the Sport and Recreation Inventory differentiates the following types of recreation facility

- a. Structured sport infrastructure. This will include playing fields, floodlighting, park amenity buildings, courts etc.
- b. Water based recreation infrastructure and will include boat ramps, jetties, dinghy racks etc.
- c. Unstructured facilities and settings encompassing playgrounds, dog off leash areas, outdoor gyms, cycle and walking trails
- d. Sport and recreation facilities that are available to the public but are owned or managed privately

Refer to figures 10,11 and 12

It should be noted that many of the Council assets are designed to fulfil several roles such as parks and reserves that can be used for both structured and unstructured recreation. Included in this Audit are the facilities within the schools of the Ryde LGA as there are opportunities to enhance community access to Department of Education facilities and settings.

Understanding the facilities that are available to the community will enable us to establish whether the City has enough open space to meet the recreation needs of the existing community, as well as the flexibility to meet the requirements of the future generations.

As outlined in the IOSP, when establishing the adequacy and accessibility of public open space that serves a given population, a number of factors need to be considered. Similarly, this applies to the analysis of recreation and sporting facilities and infrastructure and as such, the analysis of provision extends beyond a listing of assets. The analysis also considered the following:

- Quantum and sizes of open space and sporting fields
- Distribution (geographic spread across a given area) and diversity (range of open space settings)
- Flexibility of the infrastructure
- Accessibility and connectivity to the facility
- Ratio of population (current and forecast) to quantum of open space and facilities
- Influence of facilities that are owned and managed by other agencies (schools, universities)
- Private providers of open space or recreation facilities (golf course, fitness centres etc).



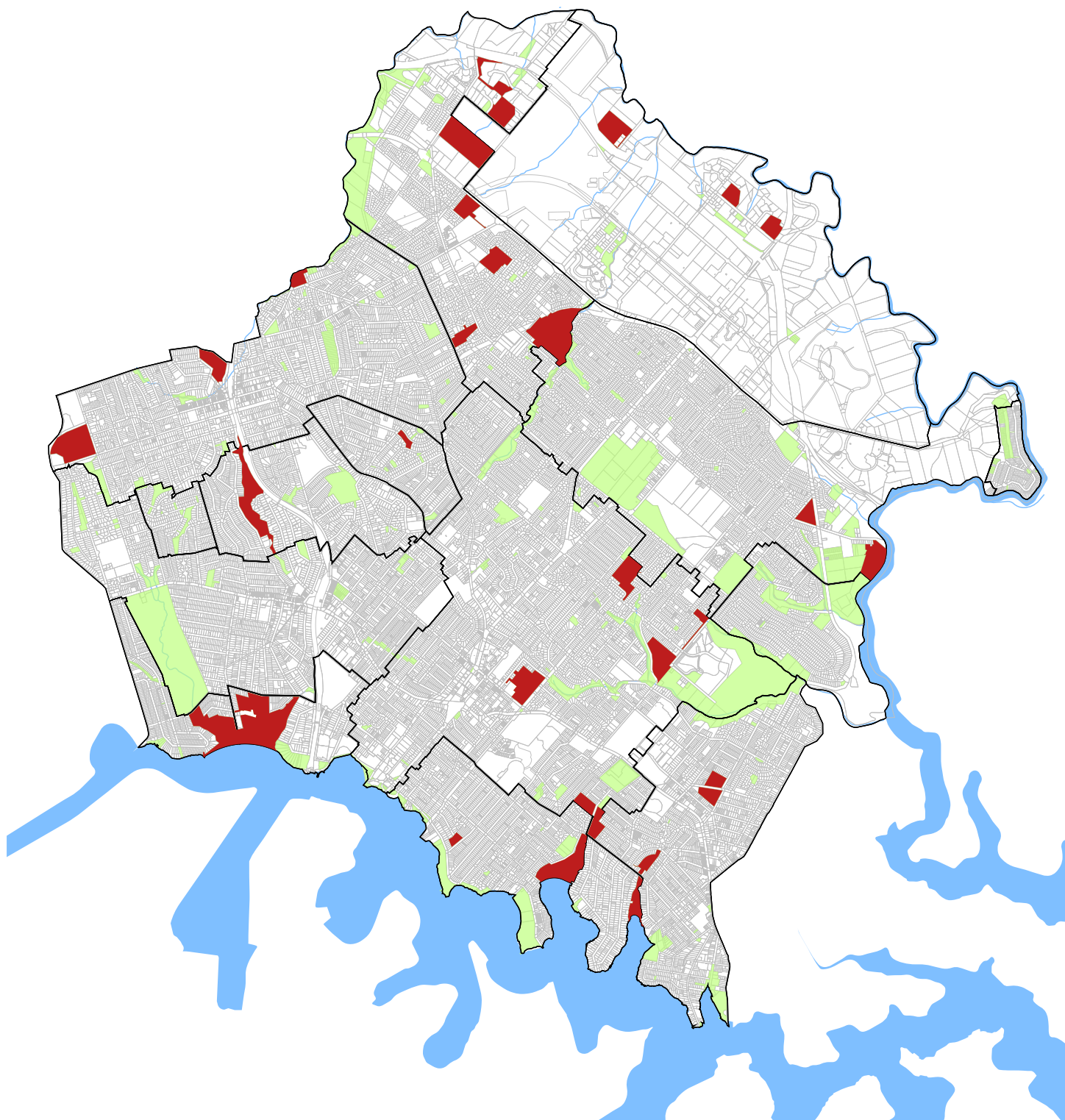


Figure 10 - Existing Structured Recreation Facilities

Structured Recreation Facilities

Legend



Summary of assets and facilities

Recreation Asset	Quantity
Cricket Wicket (Turf)	4
Cricket Wicket (Synthetic)	21
Cricket Nets	9
Soccer Pitches (Senior)	37
Soccer Pitched (Junior / Mini)	9
Baseball (Senior)	6
Baseball (Junior)	8
Rugby (Senior)	4
Rugby (Junior)	1
AFL (Junior)	2
Tennis Courts	30
Netball Courts	47
Multi Court Indoor	4
Basketball Court (Half Court)	1
Swimming Pools (Public)	2
Athletics Track	1
Hockey Pitch (Turf)	1
Bowling Greens and Clubs (Public ownership)	9
Indoor Sports Facilities	2
Sailing Club	1

Notes

Not all areas within each of the active parks are a designated active park area. Reference to individual park maps is required to identify designation of active areas, passive areas and natural areas.

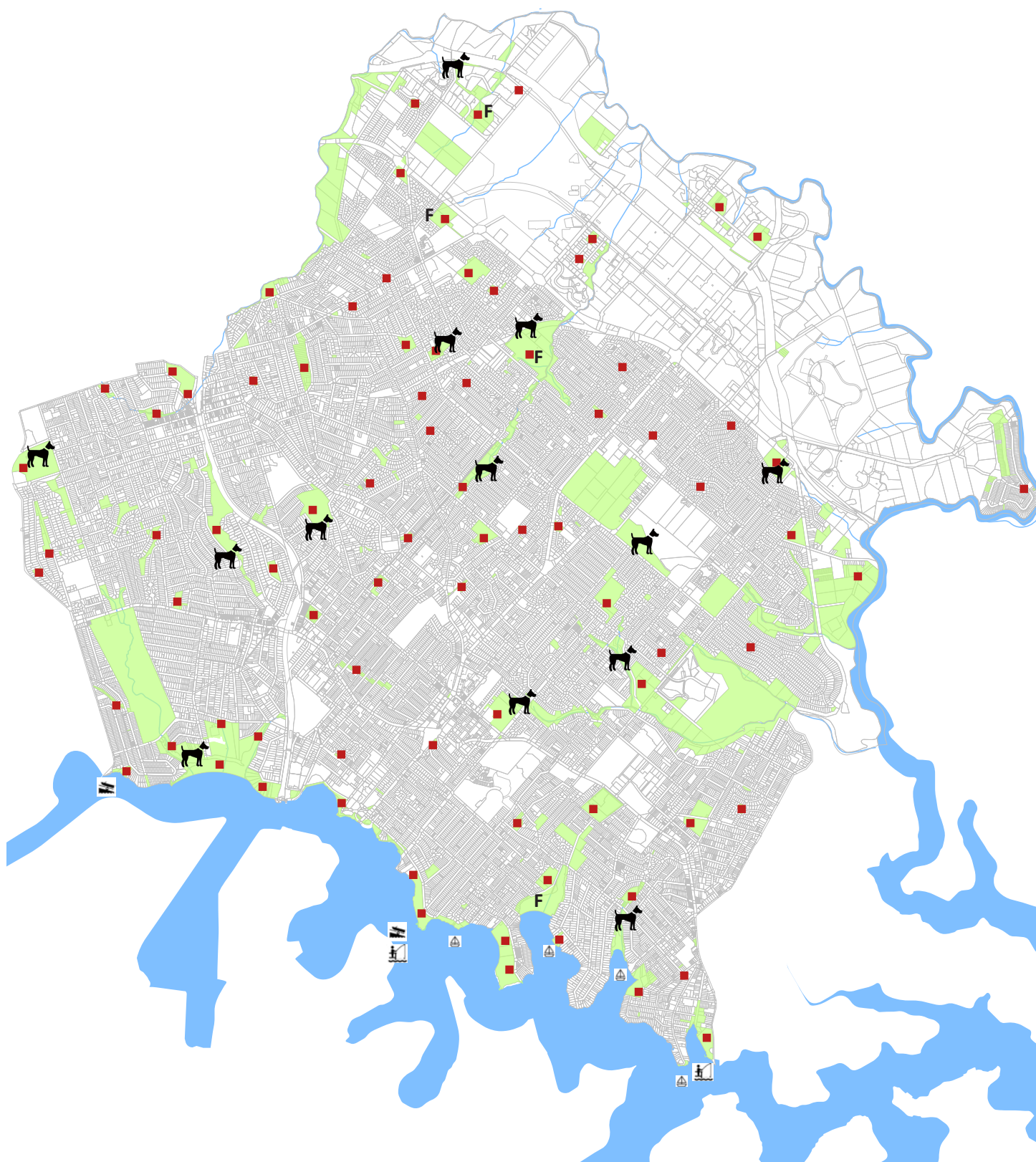








Figure 11 - Existing Unstructured Recreation Facilities

Unstructured Recreation Facilities

Legend

-  Playgrounds
-  Outdoor Gyms
-  Dog off leash areas
-  Public Boat Ramp
-  Public Jetty / Wharf
-  Dinghy Racks

Summary of assets and facilities

Recreation Asset	Quantity
Basketball Court (Half Court)	1
Bowling Greens and Clubs (Public ownership)	9
Outdoor Fitness Centres	4
Wharfs + Jetties	7
Boat Ramps	2
Dinghy Racks	86
Cycle Network	20,436m
Walking Trails	TBC
Equestrian	1
Boat Houses + Clubs (Sailing)	1
Boat Houses + Clubs (Rowing)	1
Dog Off Leash Areas	13
Playgrounds	87

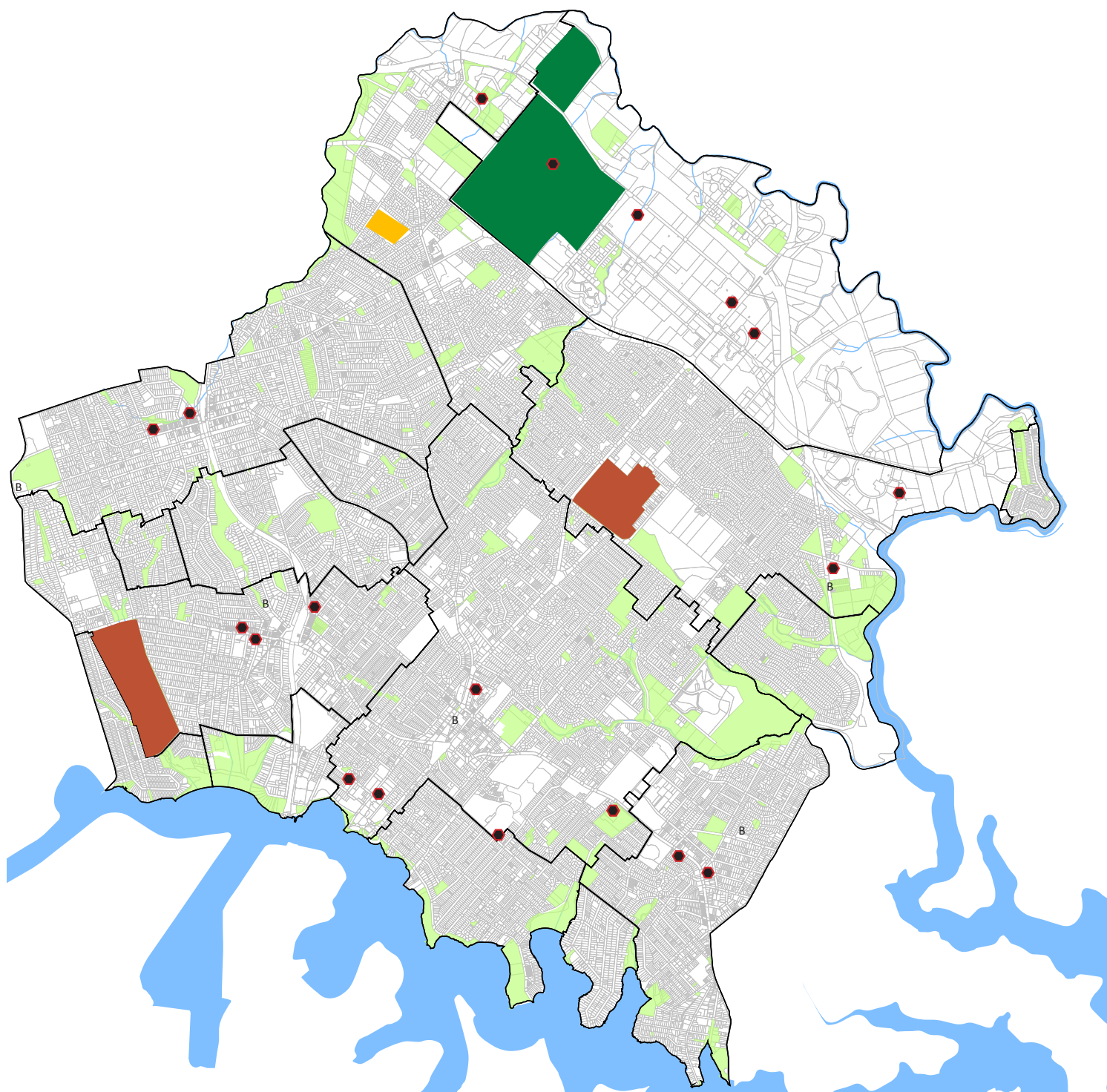


Figure 12 - Existing Privately Owned / Managed Recreation Facilities

Recreation Facilities Owned / Managed by Others

Legend

-  Golf Courses
-  Private sports fields
-  University Recreation Areas
-  Indoor Fitness Centres / Gyms
-  Bowling Clubs

Summary of assets and facilities

Recreation Asset	Quantity
Rugby (Private)	3
Tennis Courts (Private)	30
Netball Courts (Private)	1
Swimming Pools (Private)	7
Hockey Pitch (Synthetic Private)	1
Bowling Greens and Clubs (Private ownership)	5
Indoor Fitness Centres (Private)	23
Golf Courses (Private)	2
University Facilities	
Boat Houses + Clubs (Sailing)	1
Boat Houses + Clubs (Rowing)	1
Ice Skating	1
Concord and Ryde Sailing Club	1

Active Open Space Areas

The City of Ryde has 61.35 hectares of active sports area spread across 30 open space areas where they are predominately a component of a broader open space area. The City of Ryde does not have any open spaces that have the active space classification for the entirety of the park area. The active areas within the City of Ryde are listed in Table 5.

Park Name	IOSP ID	Ward	Street Address	Suburb	Area (m ²)	% of total park area
DARVALL PARK	DE07	West	2c Chatham Road	West Ryde	2,954	3%
BRUSH FARM PARK	EW03	West	2- 4 Lawson Street	Eastwood	11,880	15%
WATERLOO PARK	MF21	West	191a Waterloo Road	Marsfield	12,733	19%
TYRELL PARK	RF16	East	25a John Miller Street	North Ryde	2,100	20%
GANNAN PARK	RF08	East	Buna Street	Ryde	10,896	24%
SANTA ROSA PARK	RR04	Central	64 Bridge Road	Ryde	11,707	25%
TYAGARAH PARK	RS08	East	5 Tyagarah Street	Gladesville	5,595	31%
PIDDING PARK	RF14	East	84 Cressy Road	Ryde	15,617	34%
KOTARA PARK	MF09	West	87 Abuklea Road	Eastwood	7,776	39%
PIONEER PARK	MF16	West	188a Balaclava Road	Marsfield	9,989	39%
TUCKWELL PARK	MP09	Central	442 Lane Cove Road	Macquarie Park	9,319	39%
MARSFIELD PARK	MF13	West	202 Vimiera Road	Marsfield	35,690	39%
PEEL PARK	GV13	East	32 Stanbury Street	Gladesville	6,403	39%
ELS HALL PARK	MFO4	Central	Kent Road	Marsfield	49,761	40%
FORRESTER PARK	EW07	West	47 Vimiera Road	Eastwood	6,560	44%
NORTH RYDE PARK	NR23	East	26 Cressy Road	North Ryde	9,460	44%
DUNBAR PARK	MF03	West	16 Sobraon Road	Marsfield	15,450	44%
WESTMINISTER PARK	GV16	East	6a Ryde Road	Gladesville	7,782	45%
BREMNER PARK	GV06	East	129 Morrison Road	Gladesville	9,879	46%
BILL MITCHELL PARK	GV04	East	82 Morrison Road	Tennyson Point	11,250	48%
MAGDALA PARK	NR15	East	Magdala Road	East Ryde	20,464	48%
CLEVES PARK	PT02	East	53 Douglas Street	Putney	3,590	49%
FONTENOY PARK	MP04	Central	52a Fontenoy Road	Macquarie Park	9,911	51%
MONASH PARK	GV15	East	142 Ryde Road	Gladesville	10,620	54%
RYDE PARK	TR03	Central	7 Blaxland Road	Ryde	35,776	55%
CHRISTIE PARK	MP01	West	16- 26 Christie Road	Macquarie Park	29,027	56%
MORRISON BAY PARK	PT06	East	Frances Road	Putney	56,305	64%
MEADOWBANK PARK	MB03	West	Constitution Road	Meadowbank	165,385	66%
EASTWOOD PARK	EW05	West	45 West Parade	Eastwood	23,135	67%
KINGS PARK	DE10	West	22 Salter Crescent	Denistone East	6,495	85%

Table 5- Active Open Spaces in Ryde

Active open space areas contain those areas that are used for structured recreation, such as sportsfields, tennis courts, swimming pools etc. To assist with planning and management of active areas, all active areas have been allocated one of three classifications based on the function, setting, capacity and community desire for each of the active areas. These classifications are:

- Premier Grounds
- Community Grounds
- Supplementary Grounds and Training Areas

Premier Active Areas

The City of Ryde provides for a range of community sport including high level competition and accordingly, the City offers eight Premier Active Areas that cater to the needs of higher level sporting competition. These active areas will draw people from the whole of the City of Ryde and from wider afield as a result of their use for regional sporting competitions and as destination areas for competition finals. The following sportsgrounds, as listed in Table 6 are Premier Grounds.

Park	Field	Summer Season	Winter Season
Christie Park	Field 1	✓	✓
Eastwood Park	Upper	✓	✗
ELS Hall Park	Field 2	✓	✗
Magdala Park	Field 1	✗	✓
Marsfield Park	All	✗	✓
Meadowbank Park	Field 1	✗	✓
Morrison Bay Park	Field 4	✗	✓
Ryde Park	Field 1	✓	✗

Table 6 - Premier Active Areas

Community Active Areas

The City of Ryde provides for a range of community sport whereby the City offers 35 Community Active areas that cater to the needs of community level sporting competition and associated training. These active areas will draw people from the whole of the City of Ryde and from adjoining suburbs as a result of their use for community sporting competitions and associated training. The following sportsgrounds, as listed in Table 7, are Community Active Areas.

Park	Field	Summer Season	Winter Season
Bremner Park		✓	✓
Brush Farm Park		✓	✓
Dunbar Park		✓	✓
Eastwood Park	Upper	✗	✓