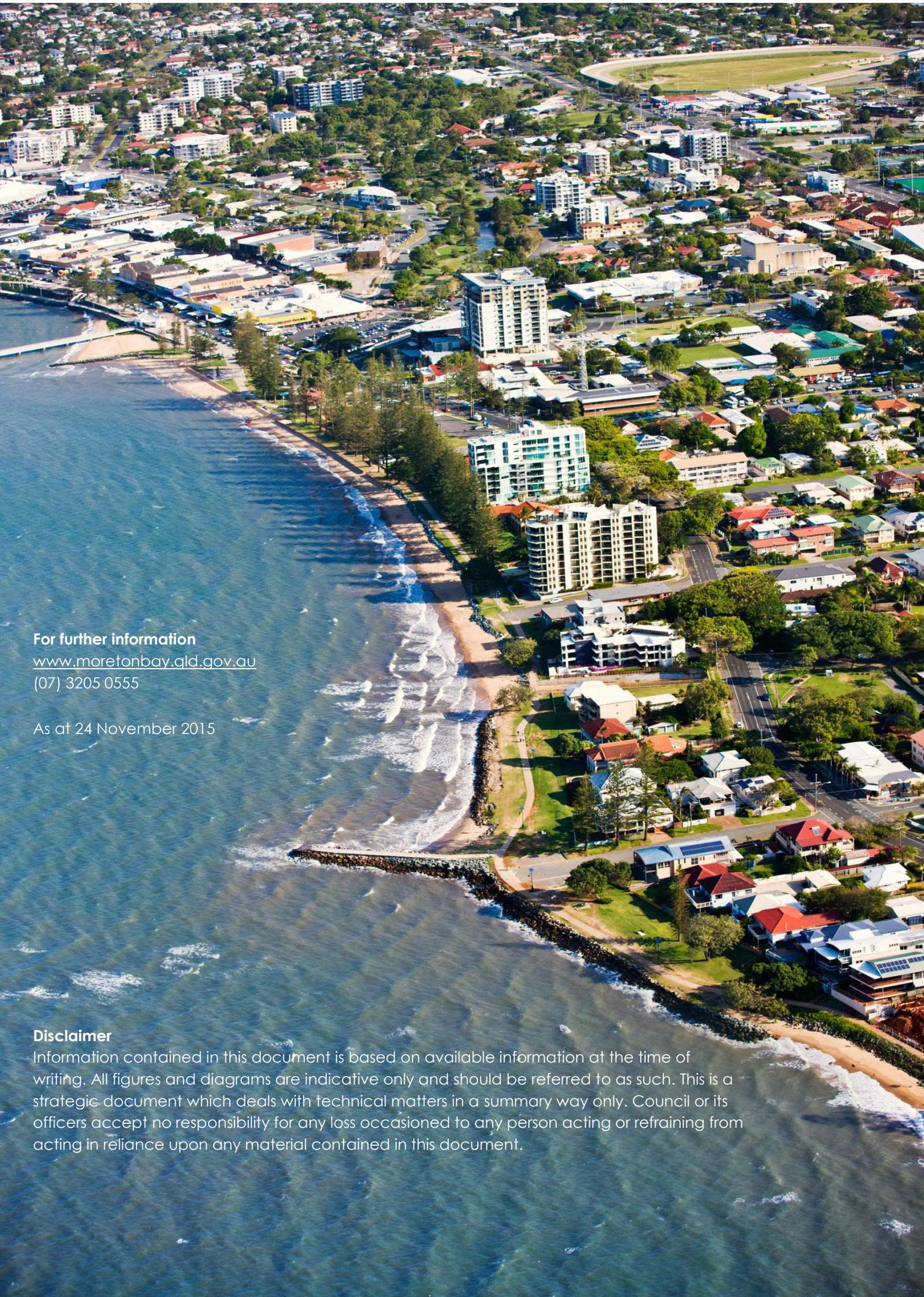




Open Space Strategy

2012-2031



An aerial photograph of a coastal town, likely Moreton Bay, Queensland, Australia. The image shows a mix of residential and commercial buildings along the waterfront. In the foreground, there's a rocky breakwater and a sandy beach with waves crashing against it. The middle ground features several multi-story apartment buildings and a few smaller houses. The background is filled with dense residential housing and a large green field, possibly a sports ground or park. The sky is clear and blue.

For further information

www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au
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As at 24 November 2015

Disclaimer

Information contained in this document is based on available information at the time of writing. All figures and diagrams are indicative only and should be referred to as such. This is a strategic document which deals with technical matters in a summary way only. Council or its officers accept no responsibility for any loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from acting in reliance upon any material contained in this document.

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Executive summary

The Moreton Bay Region has a diverse and complementary network of open space ranging from expansive national parks, state forests and outdoor recreation opportunities to recreational parkland, sports fields and civic spaces. Many of these spaces are managed by Council for the benefit of the public.

The region's population is projected to increase by around 150,000 residents by 2031, with growth to occur across a number of communities in the region.

Our communities are also changing - employment, education, the daily commute, an aging population and home ownership all influence our lifestyle. Council measures these trends to identify changes in our communities over time. These changing trends will influence community needs and future open space infrastructure requirements.

Council is responding to growth and changing community needs through the development of the Open Space Strategy. The Strategy identifies a 20 year vision for the planning and delivery of sports and recreation facilities in the region. The development of the Strategy will ensure the high quality living environment that residents and visitors to our region have come to expect is maintained and enhanced.

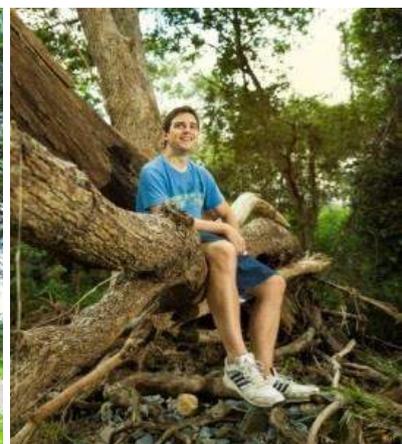
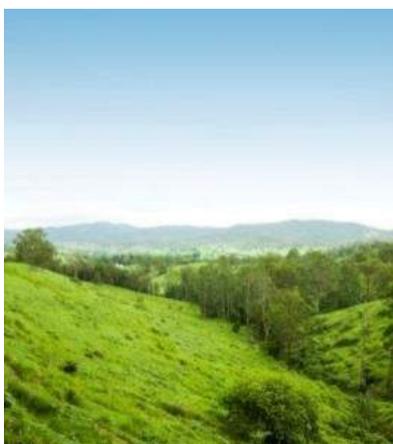
The Open Space Strategy contains:

- Council's vision and principles for open space provision;
- opportunities for Council to respond to user needs;
- a framework for delivering the Strategy; and
- an action program to achieve Council's vision for open space.

Key recommendations include:

- detailed planning for the region's urban recreation parks, sports facilities, outdoor recreation opportunities and hard to locate activities;
- integration with the Moreton Bay Region Planning Scheme through the development of codes and open space design requirements;
- ongoing reviews of the community's open space needs through demographic analysis and community surveys; and
- participation and collaboration across Council departments responsible for the design, construction, maintenance and management of the region's open space areas.

The Open Space Strategy is one of a suite of infrastructure strategies developed by Council to help deliver better places to live, work and play.



Introduction



What is open space?

The Moreton Bay Region contains a wide range of sport and recreation facilities. Council manages many of these assets to provide the community with a range of recreation options. The Open Space Strategy focuses on Council controlled and managed spaces for public recreation, which include the following park types:

Recreation parks

Recreation parks are located throughout the region and offer many different experiences. They range from local, district and regional recreation parks to the extensive foreshore park areas in the region such as the Redcliffe foreshore. Recreation parks may include areas to kick a ball, play on swings, exercise your dog or just have a picnic and socialise.



"Open space provides land and water areas of a range of sizes and types that generally contrast with the predominately built form and have nature conservation, environmental, scientific, social, recreational, cultural, spiritual, scenic, health or economic benefit for a community both now and in the future."

Source: Queensland Government, SEQ Regional Plan 2009-2031

Sports parks

Sports parks offer users the opportunity to play their favourite organised sports. These parks may have a range of fields, courts and surfaces and are often some of the most well used parks in the region. They may include other facilities like club houses, change rooms, lighting and car parking. Some sports parks provide for specific uses such as equestrian facilities.



Civic parks

Civic parks are often referred to as plazas, town squares or public spaces. They provide important areas for people to relax, eat lunch, meet friends or attend events. They may also offer facilities such as playgrounds, shade and seating areas. They are designed to provide amenity in our centres and create destinations that people are attracted to.



Showgrounds

Showgrounds make up some of the oldest public open spaces within our region. They are important sporting, recreational and community facilities in many townships and communities. In most places they continue to perform many of their original functions such as rodeos, organised sports, community events, markets, regional shows, camping and other various activities throughout the year.



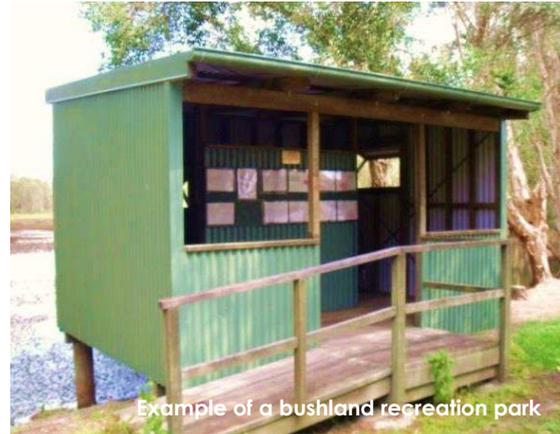
Linear linkage parks

Linear linkage parks are linear shaped and orientated parks which facilitate connectivity between destination nodes, residential catchments and the open space network. They may provide informal recreation opportunities such as walking, cycling and incorporate areas for play equipment, fitness nodes, seating, WSUD and shade trees. In some instances they may be co-located with urban infrastructure or form part of a floodplain management or environmental area.



Bushland recreation parks

These are natural areas which provide low key passive recreation opportunities for users. They may include recreational trails for walking, mountain biking or horse riding. There may also be areas to have a picnic and observe the region's natural riches. These parks are managed to both preserve native fauna and flora and provide passive recreation activities to the public.



Conservation parks

These parks are managed primarily for their conservation value. This means preserving the areas native fauna and flora. In some cases these locations may also provide low key recreation opportunities like bushwalking, picnicking and nature observation. These parks are not included in the scope of the Open Space Strategy. For more information on how we manage and plan these parks, refer to Council's Sustainable Environment and Green Infrastructure strategies.



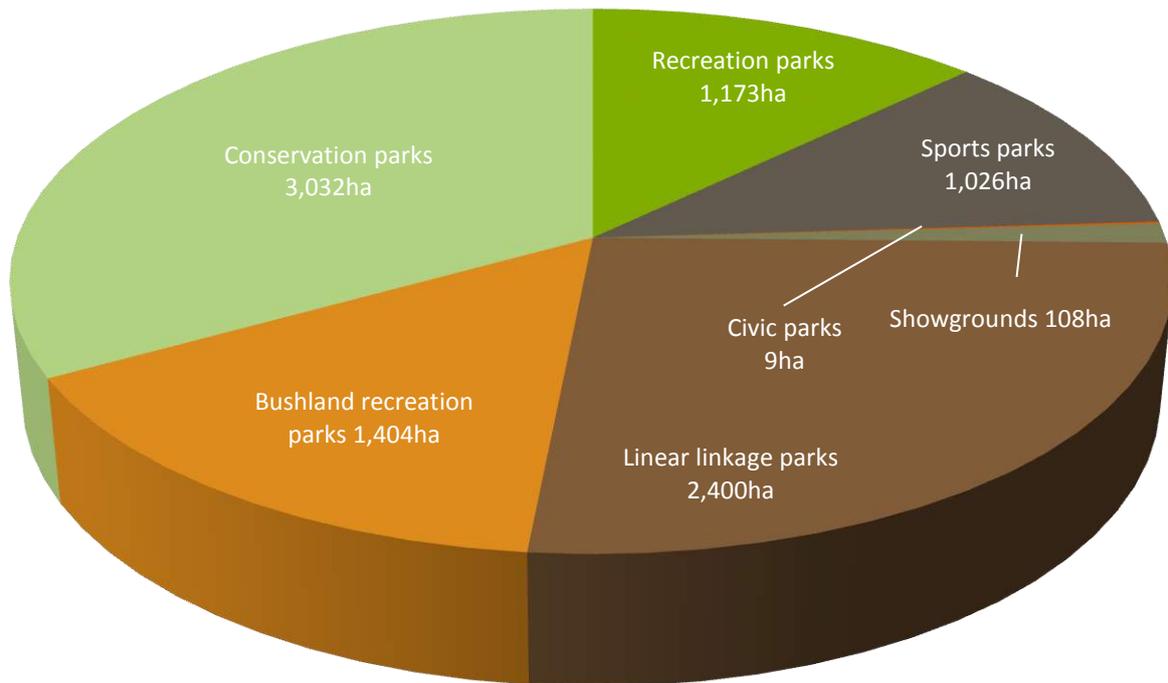
** For a more detailed explanation of the types of open space contained within the region, refer to Appendix A – Park Classification System.*



How much open space does Council manage?

Council manages a network of open spaces that provide a range of recreation options to the community. The graph below identifies the quantity and type of Council's open spaces across the region.

Moreton Bay Regional Council Open Space Network (2013)



The benefits of open space

The quality of public open space gives a strong impression of our region. It is part of what gives our communities their unique identity and local citizens a sense of civic pride.

Investing in open space is a long-term investment in Moreton Bay's sustainable future. This investment will create a thriving region where people want to live, work and play.

Research has shown that proximity to well-designed and managed parks and green spaces results in higher property values and has a positive influence on business performance, investor confidence, lifestyle, health, enhanced character and biodiversity.

Cities, towns and regions that invest in and maintain generous, high-quality public open space look better, feel better and work better. Prioritising investment in open spaces is not just about aesthetics. It also helps to resolve health problems and promotes active transport and community development.

Great parks, squares and streets make for a better quality of life. A network of well-designed and cared-for open spaces adds to the character of places where people want to live, work and visit. Open spaces also provide the vital green infrastructure that enables us to deal with floods or mitigate and adapt to climate change while providing wildlife habitats, sporting facilities or attractive parks.

Parks are integral to healthy people and a healthy environment

Human health depends on healthy ecosystems

Parks conserve healthy ecosystems

Contact with nature can improve human health

Parks contribute to economic growth and wellbeing

Parks contribute to cohesive, vibrant and healthy societies

Source: The Melbourne Communiqué: 'Healthy Parks, Healthy People' International Congress, 2010

Why is an Open Space Strategy important?

The Open Space Strategy is the primary driver for Council to plan and deliver open space solutions across the region. It will deliver the required open space needs for the community over the next 20 years.

Open space planning sits within a broad policy framework. The Strategy will provide the stimulus to implement a range of State and local policies and legislation. The primary driver for the preparation of the Strategy is the Moreton Bay Region's Community Plan 2011- 2021. The Community Plan was developed in 2011 and was prepared in partnership with community groups, businesses, state agencies and local residents. The Community Plan identifies a number of community outcomes, themes and targets which open spaces can help deliver.

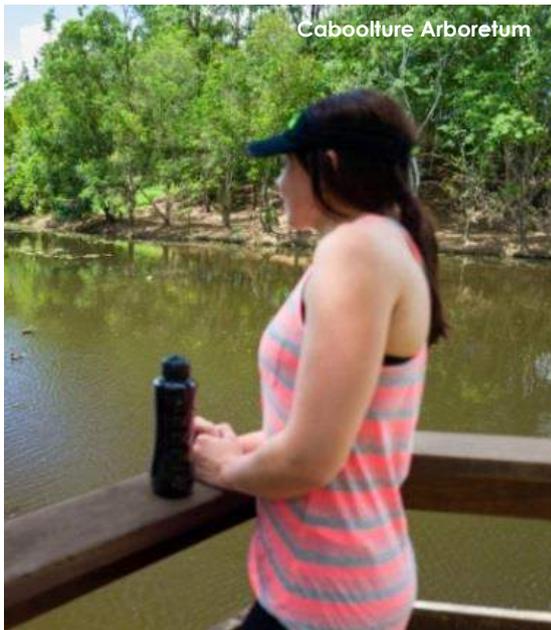
Council's Policy Framework



Theme: Quality recreation and cultural opportunities MBRC Community Plan 2011-2021		
<p>Target 26: <i>Improve the provision and maintenance of accessible and connected networks of open space</i></p> 	<p>Target 27: <i>Sustainable use of open space including parks and sporting fields</i></p> 	<p>Target 28: <i>Increase the number of Moreton Bay residents undertaking physical activity</i></p> 

What can an Open Space Strategy deliver?

Council's Open Space Strategy is part of an integrated framework that seeks to effectively manage the current and future provision of Council owned or managed public open space in the Moreton Bay Region.



The Open Space Strategy seeks to:

- align with the new MBRC Planning Scheme to ensure open space is a key element of future planning;
- identify infrastructure needs and associated costs;
- identify strategies, plans and policies for Council controlled and managed spaces;
- identify new and improved open space requirements for sports and recreation facilities;
- enhance existing open spaces by improving network connectivity, variety, design and accessibility;
- improve opportunities for healthy communities;
- provide an increased variety of recreational experiences;
- protect community use of reserves and corridors;
- inform strategic planning initiatives in environmental, transport, water and asset management programs;
- inform the region's asset management framework;
- identify desired standards of service that provide a practical framework for asset management;
- identify opportunities for collaboration with other Council programs and external stakeholders; and
- ensure responsible financial planning and management of open spaces.

Preparation of the Open Space Strategy

The Strategy has been developed in three stages. First, Council's vision and principles for open space in the region have been identified.

Second, the existing and future open space infrastructure network has been examined to identify opportunities for Council to respond to growth and the needs of users.

Finally, a framework for delivery has been determined - identifying and prioritising the land acquisitions, facilities and programs to achieve Council's vision for open space.



Our vision

A photograph of a woman with blonde hair, wearing a blue and white striped shirt and denim shorts, kneeling in a sandpit and smiling as she plays with a young child. The child is wearing a yellow shirt and a blue hat with a red brim. In the background, other people are sitting on a bench under a clear blue sky with green trees.

'A diverse network of open space including parks, recreation trails and sports reserves that support a vibrant, creative and sustainable community which builds on the lifestyle and identity of our region'

Principles

Principles for the planning and design of the Moreton Bay Region's open space network provide a framework to guide existing and future open space development. Applying these principles to open space outcomes will ensure Council's vision for open space is achieved throughout the region.

Relative to place

Open space will be planned and designed to relate to location and setting. There will be a focus on creating spaces with identity and a sense of place relevant to place types identified in Council's Strategic Framework. This may require the design of spaces to retain and promote natural and cultural features and utilise public art.

Open spaces will be welcoming and desirable locations, and will provide the necessary recreational opportunities related to their role, function and location. There will be a clear distinction between private and public spaces.

Open space will be responsive to climatic conditions.



Diversity

The open space network will provide a range of passive, active and structured recreation opportunities in a range of settings and locations. An equitable distribution of open space across the region will be responsive to community needs.

Diversity of spaces will be encouraged by creating identity and sense of place.



Connected and accessible

The open space network will be connected through a green network of corridors and spaces to facilitate access and encourage use.

Recreation parks will provide activities and facilities for a range of ages and abilities.

Open space will be located in prominent locations with a level of transport accessibility relevant to their place type, role, form and function. Open space will be integrated into the existing and future transport networks.

Safe

Open space will be designed and located to provide safe recreational spaces. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Principles (CPTED) will be used to guide the planning and design of open space.

Open space areas will encourage a range of activities throughout the day and evening to promote the activation of space.

Open space areas will be designed to mitigate unnecessary conflicts between users and potential risks.



Sustainable

The open space network will be planned and designed to balance costs with the service standards expected by both Council and the community. Open spaces will promote the shared use of space and consolidation of facilities and activities. Creating vibrant and functional spaces with an ability to change and adapt over time is important. The use of sustainable products is encouraged. Open spaces will enhance the ecological values of the region.



Fit for purpose

The design of open space will be conducive to facilitating the required infrastructure and recreational activities and opportunities expected for that open space type. Levels of equipment and facilities will be consistent with the function and role of the open space area.

The physical characteristics of the open space are to meet the design and planning intent of the area.

Open spaces are integrated with adjoining land uses and transport systems.



Snapshot of the region



Regional profile

The people of the Moreton Bay Region

The Moreton Bay Region stretches from The Hills District in the south to Woodford in the north, from as far west as Mount Glorious to the shores of Moreton Bay. The region covers over 2,000 square kilometres and has an estimated resident population of 390,000 people (2011).

The Moreton Bay Region accounts for 19% of the population of greater Brisbane and is the third largest by population and third fastest growing local government area in Australia (2011).

Population and jobs growth

The Moreton Bay Region has experienced rapid and sustained growth in population and jobs since the 1950s. Information on population and jobs gives us valuable insight about the residents in the region and how their lifestyle may be changing. This helps Council make informed decisions about policy and investment to intervene and influence the future direction for the region.

Until the year 2000, annual growth in both population and jobs tracked at a similar rate. Since 2000 job growth within the region has slowed, at the same time population growth has accelerated. 44% of all working Moreton Bay residents now commute outside our region to work. This

Region summary

- The Moreton Bay Region covers approximately 2,000 square kilometres.
- The region's population is approximately 390,000 people (2011).
- The region is expected to grow by around 150,000 people by 2031.

number is likely to double if the trend in jobs growth continues to 2031, a trend not encouraged by Council. Achieving a better balance is crucial to meeting the lifestyle aspirations of the region's residents and the economic outcomes sought by the business community.

This has implications on the lifestyle of our residents and all forms of infrastructure. As our residents spend more time travelling outside the region for work they have less social time. This can lead to a cycle of highs and lows on demand for infrastructure such as roads, community facilities and parks. These types of facilities can become very busy in peak periods.



Age and households

When compared to other local government areas within a similar distance to the Brisbane CBD (i.e. Logan and Ipswich), the Moreton Bay Region shows some unique trends in age distribution. The region has a very low number of people aged between 17 and 35, most likely because some young adults migrate away to take up social, educational and career opportunities elsewhere. We also see a lower number of infants below the age of 5.

From about 35 onwards, people tend to migrate into the region. These new residents, aged between 35 and 45, tend to be second or third home buyers, upgrading their homes from lower cost suburbs on the urban fringe or other local government areas like Logan and Ipswich. The majority of these new residents have families with children aged from 7 to 17 and consistent with trends across the greater Brisbane area choose to live in single detached dwellings particularly in the former Pine and Caboolture local government areas.

Although single detached dwellings make up the bulk of housing stock, the Redcliffe Peninsula provides the region with higher density living options and a greater diversity of housing choice than similar local governments.

The conclusions drawn from the age profile are supported by household distribution in the region. Over 70% of our residents are part of either two parent families or they share a house with another adult. Both of these groups tend to have more disposable income than singles and single parent families, which is why housing prices are generally higher than equivalent local governments on the greater Brisbane fringe.

The age and household structure tells Council that we need to deliver parks which meet the needs of the communities they service and are responsive to the living environment in which they are situated.



Responding to change

Council's intent to achieve greater levels of job self-containment, accommodate significant population growth and respond to a changing age profile is outlined in Council's Strategic Framework. The Strategic Framework is a component of the new MBRC Planning Scheme and states how Council intends to respond to growth and changing community needs. This document is a key consideration in the development of the Open Space Strategy.

A key element of the Strategic Framework is place types – the different locations where we work, live and play. The place types are a future land use model which establishes the specific planning and design outcomes expected in a variety of locations throughout the region.

The Strategic Framework outlines the following key land use strategies to address regional trends:

- The bulk of new residential development will be accommodated within next generation suburban neighbourhoods each containing greater levels of services and facilities.
- The development of urban places adjoining activity centres and transport nodes which are intended to accommodate medium density residential development and increased urban business and employment opportunities.
- The development of vibrant and attractive activity centres providing a broader range of services and facilities, business and employment opportunities at central locations within the transport network which are easily accessible by residents in existing and new neighbourhoods.

- The development of major places for enterprise and employment alongside the major transport corridors that provide alternative employment destinations for residents of the region.

These land use strategies drive the outcomes of the Open Space Strategy and Council's investment and initiatives in developing places where business and private investment can prosper.

Council's strategy to deliver higher densities around activity centres and transport networks will change the region's profile by providing a diversity of housing choice to the market and encouraging the 17-35's to return. Higher densities will provide opportunities for our residents to 'age in place' in locations that have good access to transport options and open spaces tailored to their needs.



Moreton Bay Regional Council Planning Scheme

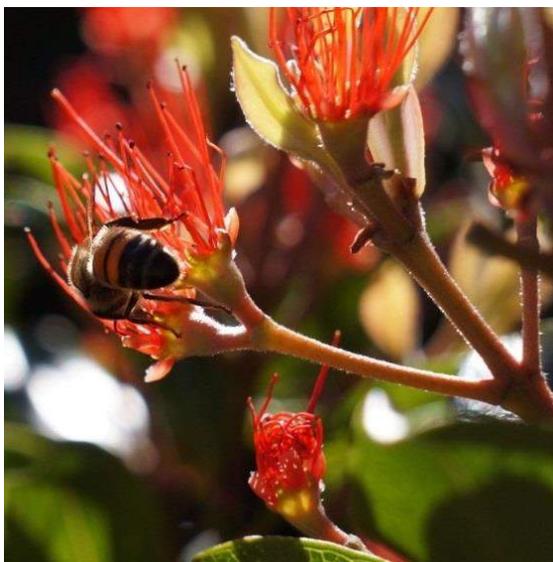
Key issues for the region's open space network

The Moreton Bay Region faces significant population growth and increasing diversity over the next 20 years. In areas of increasing density, the reduction of private open space will likely increase demand on the public open space network.

As demand for housing grows, so does the cost of land and community expectations for quality services. The nature of demand is also changing, putting pressure on high use open spaces and creating new demands for non-traditional recreation opportunities such as civic spaces.

The existing open space network was historically developed around traditional forms of recreation such as sporting fields, as well as the conservation of the area's ecology. As a result, the range of opportunities available within the current network is not aligned to current community needs.

Beyond parks, playgrounds, sporting ovals and reserves, the integration of urban plazas, civic spaces, street scaping, community gardens and a range of other types of open spaces are expected by modern communities to increase the diversity of options and reduce the sense of 'sameness' in the open space network.



Region strengths

- The region has a reasonably high provision of open space when compared to other regions.
- The region is culturally diverse with a number of communities.
- The region contains regional recreation and sport assets, regional landscapes, recreational links and corridors, regional environmental assets and waterways, civic spaces, public realm, streets as places, National Parks and Conservation Estate 'Mountains to Mangroves'.
- Council has strong baseline data on the open space network including spatial mapping and identified asset items.

Region opportunities

- Planning for growth - an integrated land use and infrastructure plan to guide future development in a coordinated and sustainable way.
- Community partnerships - agreements to utilise open space owned or managed by community groups or other agencies for general community use.
- Utilise some former rail corridors for recreation
- Proposed Transit-Oriented Developments (TOD's) provide opportunities for the delivery of new types of open space to meet the needs of communities living in dense environments.



Responding to user needs

Future directions

To meet the open space requirements of a growing community, Council has developed the Open Space Strategy around existing and future user needs.

This information allows Council to better plan the type, location, function and quantity of parks and recreation facilities required to service the needs of our community.



The 'place types' approach to planning

To provide a range of parks and recreation activities Council is using a planning framework known as the place types model. The place types model is a strategic planning tool that provides a range of park types and activities for the different locations where we live, work and play.

Council uses place types to understand user needs within particular communities for parks, recreation and sports facilities. This information allows Council to plan, design and deliver the variety of spaces and facilities that each place requires, where they should be located and the activities that occur there.

Examples of recreation activities in open spaces				
Place types		Passive	Active	Social
	Activity Centre	Reading a book	Using the playgrounds	Music festival in town square
	Urban & Next Generation Neighbourhood	Exercising your dog	Enjoying the fitness equipment	Having a BBQ with friends in the park
	Suburban Neighbourhood	Walking or cycling	Playing tennis	Watching a local soccer match
	Rural Residential	Bird watching	Mountain biking	Planting trees through a bushcare group
	Rural Townships	Photography	Playing on the swings	Meeting friends for a coffee
	Coastal Communities & Coast & Riverlands	Shore fishing	Going for a kayak	Meeting at the foreshore
	Enterprise & Employment Area	Eating lunch in the park	Using outdoor BMX tracks on the weekend	Going for a lunchtime walk with colleagues



Examples of place types in action

Caboolture Town Square – Activity Centre place type

In 2012 Council redeveloped the Caboolture town square. The Caboolture CBD is in the Activity Centre place type and in the future is expected to accommodate more people in apartment style living and a larger workforce.

This park will meet users' needs into the future by providing a place to meet friends, eat lunch, sit and relax or attend an event. It is also centrally located and easily accessible by a number of transport options including walking, cycling, train, bus and car.

The square complements the town centre and is co-located with a library and other community facilities. The town square is a multi-functional space that complements the vision for this Activity Centre place type.

John Scott Park – Rural Township place type

John Scott Park is centrally located on the main street of Samford Village. Samford is in the Rural Township place type. Rural Townships support the retention of local character and modest tourist related developments.

John Scott Park not only provides an essential recreational space but is also a central gathering space for the local community. The township is popular for day trips and the park provides facilities and amenities for visitors. Historical elements have been used in the design which raises awareness of its heritage.

The park provides an important focal element to the village and compliments the vision for this place type.



John Scott Park - Samford

A spectrum of open space settings

The 'Nature and People Experiences Approach' to open space planning looks at the spectrum of open space, from natural settings (nature/nature), suburban and urban parks (nature/people), to areas of high activity such as community hubs and central plazas (people/people). This spectrum provides a framework for creating a network of recreational experiences across different place type settings.

The aim of the Nature/People/Experience approach to network development and planning is to ensure that the community has access to a range of recreational experiences.

'Nature/Nature' settings

- Natural settings seek to maintain the region's ecological health, diversity of wildlife and native plants while also providing for low-key outdoor recreation and education opportunities.
- This setting may include recreational facilities such as mountain biking and bushwalking trails, seating and opportunities for nature appreciation and relaxation.

'Nature/People' settings

- Important for linking people with the natural environment.
- Places where people can have rich nature experiences without going to sensitive natural areas.
- Can be part of a larger open space area with broader facilities.
- This setting forms the smallest component of the current open space network. A challenge of the Open Space Strategy is to increase this setting and provide more Nature/People opportunities in close proximity to urban areas.

'People/People' settings

- Highly developed urban settings with recreation the primary social function. The main motivation is interaction with others, including as part of a team.
- Settings are asset-dependent, and can support intense use with some People/People places completely people oriented.
- Facilities such as sporting fields are located in 'people' areas of a park.
- This setting currently forms the majority of the public open space network and includes sporting facilities, urban parkland, civic plazas and community spaces.



Catchment profiles

To understand the current and future open space needs of communities throughout the region, detailed plans for urban recreation parks, sports facilities, outdoor recreation opportunities and hard to locate activities are being developed. These plans consider a series of local, district and regional open space catchments.

Catchments provide a reference area which assists Council in planning open spaces to the year 2031. The solutions in these locations are structured towards a user needs approach to achieve Council's vision for open space.

Solutions identify both the location of new public parks and open spaces and sites for upgraded facilities into the future. This will guide Council's plans for trunk infrastructure and capital works budgets.



Opportunities for meeting user needs

Council is responding to user needs by creating attractive parks and open spaces that people will want to use and enjoy. In such a large region, people's needs for open space vary depending on social factors, physical fitness, sports and leisure preferences and location. Council is responding by providing better parks and facilities using the following themes:

- **Our park, our place** – Residents take great pride in their neighbourhoods. It is important that parks complement the places we live and provide the activities which we expect. Council will plan spaces that relate to locations by understanding the needs of people and the future vision of these places.
- **Connecting people to places** – The region has a good network of open spaces. Council will create accessible parks and open spaces for all members of the community. By doing this we can create healthy communities and increase access to open spaces and destinations.
- **Multipurpose and adaptable places** – People's needs for parks and open spaces change over time. Parks also need to make the best use of space as the area undergoes growth.
- **Diversity of places and activities** – A diverse community has equally diverse expectations for parks and open space. There is an opportunity for Council to plan for a variety of sports and recreation activities and facilities across a number of locations.



South Pine Sports Complex

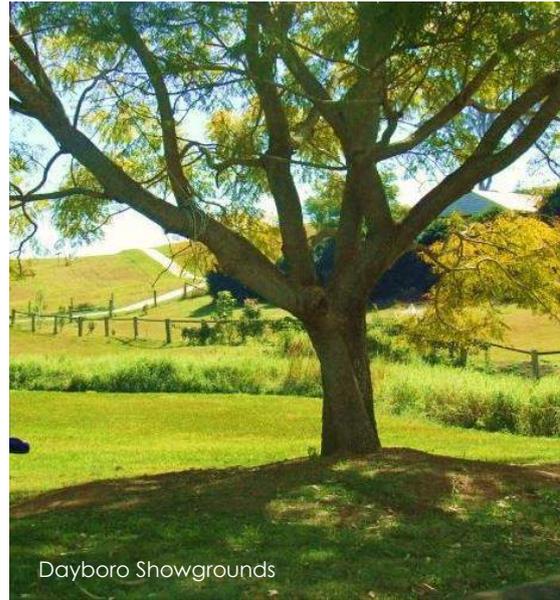
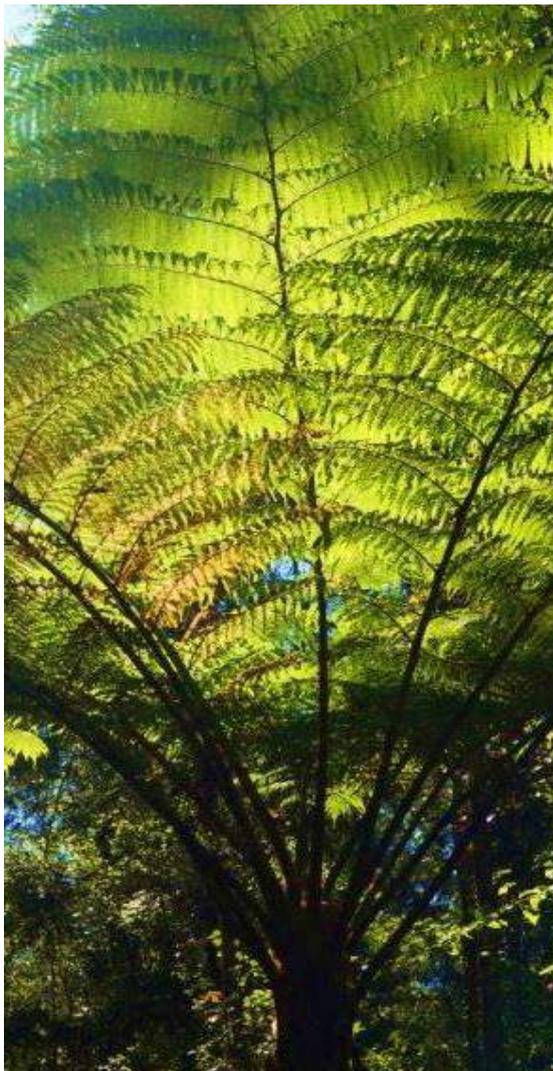


**Our park, our
place**

Being able to kick a ball, go for a walk or have a picnic with your family and friends in your neighbourhood contributes significantly to families and individuals quality of life. We all want to be able to enjoy our favourite activities in parks and open spaces and take in the great natural areas that our region has to offer.

We all have different needs and expectations about parks. Some of us live in apartments and want a convenient place to meet friends for a coffee on the weekends. Others need a place to take their dog for a walk or fields for their kids to play soccer.

Council recognises that we need to create parks which people will use and complement the places in which they live.



Dayboro Showgrounds



Pine Rivers Park

We will:

- 1.1 Provide a range of recreational spaces which complement the places we live, work and play.
- 1.2 Provide a range of recreational spaces and infrastructure which meet user needs.
- 1.3 Develop a complimentary network of open space which contributes to the vitality and attractiveness of the region's activity centres.

Greening our centres

The greening of our activity centres will create attractive, connected and legible spaces and promote vibrant and activated urban cores.

By greening our centres, Council is recognising the important synergy between land use activities and people's ability to walk safely and freely within a connected and accessible network.

The return on investment is the successful activation of spaces and encouragement of a people friendly urban core which promotes a mixture of commercial, residential and retail functions.



We will:

- 1.4 Increase people's awareness of open spaces, sports and recreation opportunities and facilities.



Conceptual Illustration of Accessible Green Corridors and Spaces, Caboolture CBD

Community pride and ownership

Council wants to encourage people to take pride in their communities and public spaces. Parks are a key part of our social fabric and it is important they remain as inviting and attractive destinations.

Council will partner with the local community to get involved in the way parks are planned and managed.

The community has a growing estate of open spaces with well over 2000 hectares of parkland. This is a large area to maintain and manage.

To assist us with the maintenance of parks and promote a sense of ownership Council will look to partner with the local community. We will investigate options for volunteers to help us keep our parks clean and attractive places to use and enjoy. This will also encourage community pride and ownership of the region's parks.



Management and life cycle

Council has a responsibility to maintain the public open space network in a sustainable and efficient manner. Council has a minimum standard for the upkeep and maintenance of all parks. Major parks and sporting facilities require a higher level of maintenance due to their popularity and greater use. This approach ensures Council's resources are allocated appropriately across the region.

Parks are a significant investment to establish, maintain and replace over time. Council will develop a cost effective management and maintenance program to provide the best open space facilities possible.



We will:

- 1.5 Work collaboratively with the community to increase pride and ownership of open spaces.
- 1.6 Partner with the community to promote, strengthen and enhance cultural and historical elements in the design of public spaces.

Cultural recognition

Council is committed to ensuring the region's cultural heritage is recognised and promoted. Each place within our region has distinct characteristics and diverse cultures. It is important to recognise these important elements in the design of parks and public spaces.

Council will continue to promote the region's rich history through design. This also includes providing spaces for cultural groups.

Scenic amenity and viewing corridors often define locations throughout the region and help retain a unique sense of place. Council will investigate measures to protect and retain these unique values



Pine Rivers Park

We will:

- 1.7 Encourage the identification and protection of scenic amenity values.
- 1.8 Ensure the responsible financial planning and management of open spaces.



Dayboro Historical Cottage

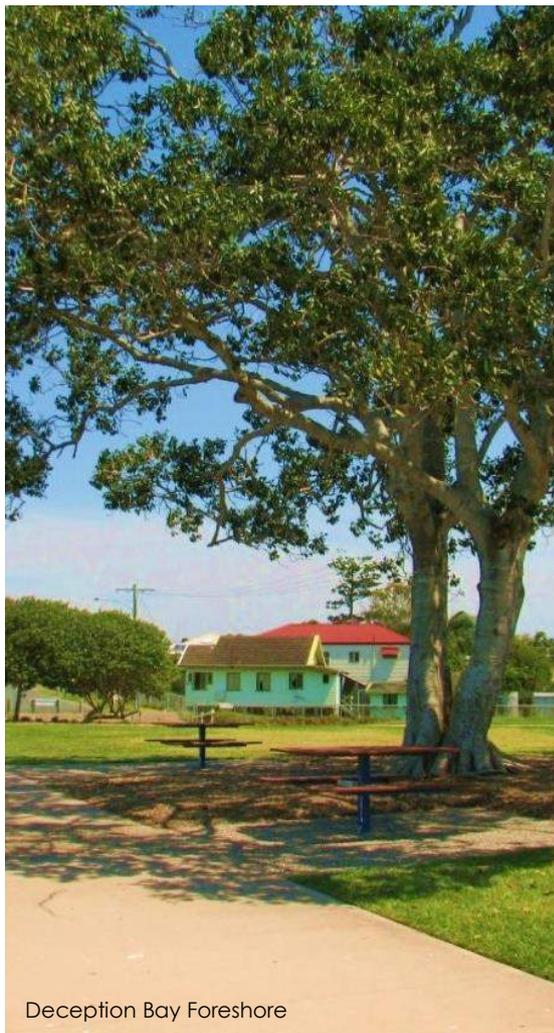


**Connecting people
to places**

Council will make parks more desirable and attractive places, so that we can all enjoy the lifestyle the region is known for. Having a good quality park close to our home or workplace makes our neighbourhoods much better places to live, work and play.

Physical inactivity is a risk factor for cardiovascular and other chronic health diseases. As a commitment to creating healthy communities, Council recognises the importance of increasing people's access to open spaces.

To improve access to our parks and get more people using them we need to consider a range of issues. These issues include pathway connectivity, safe road crossings, distances to parks, shade and personal security.



Deception Bay Foreshore

Council's approach to these issues is to promote local park opportunities that are within walkable distances of residents in urban areas. To encourage people to access open space by walking and cycling, Council will create an attractive walking and cycling environment. This may include better off road shared pathways, shade tree planting, on road bicycle lanes, pedestrian crossings and end of trip facilities.

By creating walkable attractive neighbourhoods, open spaces will become more desirable and accessible places to recreate.

We will:

- 2.1 Create attractive neighbourhoods which promote walking and cycling to sports and recreation parks.



Open space links

Physical links are required to support walking and cycling access to open spaces and destinations. Linkages may be in the form of linear urban parks for pathways or natural corridors for recreational trails.

To encourage connectivity these key linkages must be protected and retained in the development process. Council's approach will be to identify key linkages which support active transport and recreation - connecting people to destinations and open spaces.



Transport options

Many popular sport and recreation facilities rely on car travel. This in turn requires large areas of land set aside for parking and access. Sporting and other community events can often lead to traffic impacts in the local area, including congestion and overflow parking.

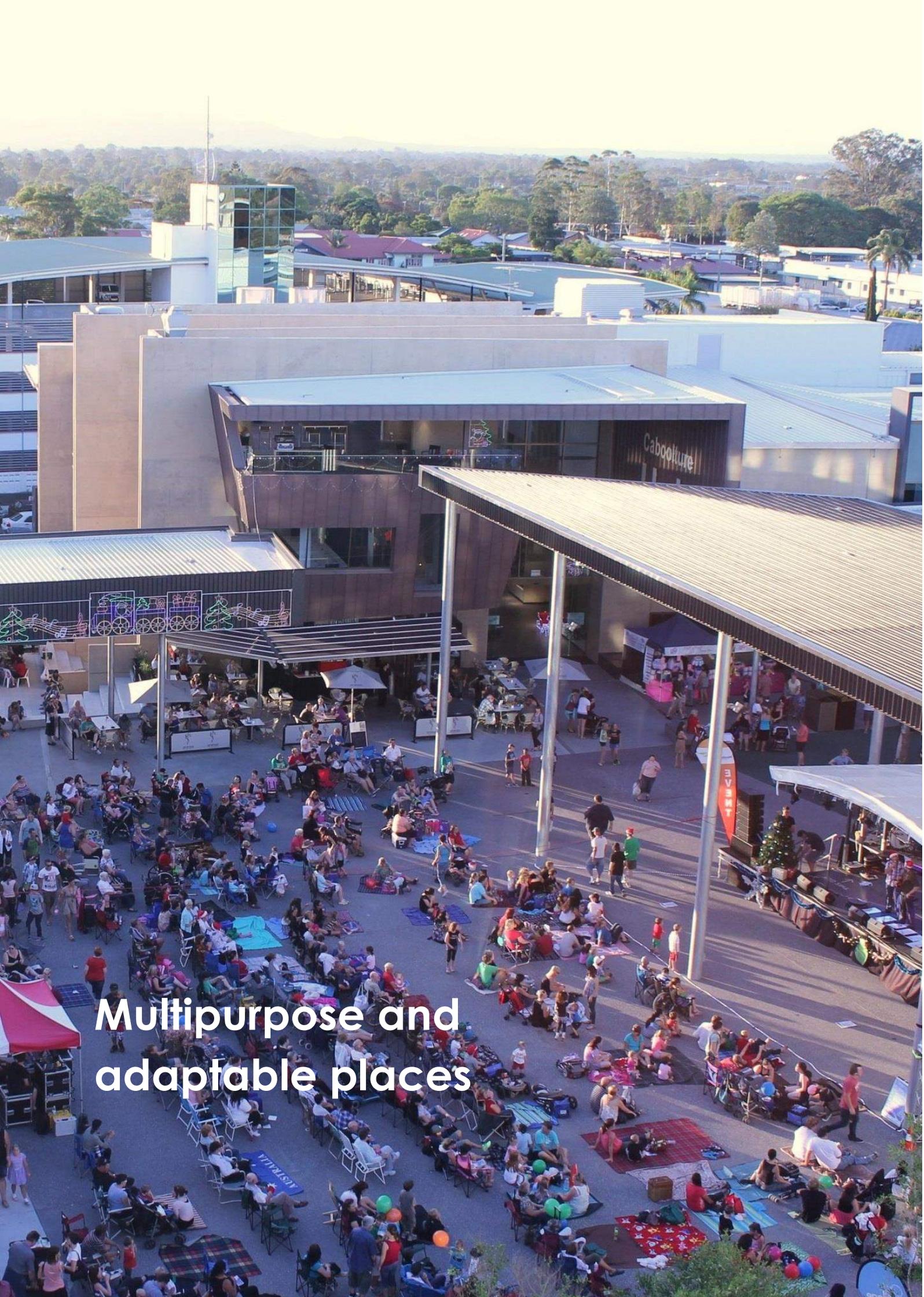
To provide better access to all, Council will provide a range of travel options. This will include good accessibility for cars but also enhanced access for walking, cycling and public transport.

The establishment of larger, multi-use facilities with a range of activities and services will support improved transport options and increase accessibility for more people.

We will:

- 2.2 Identify and retain key urban and natural linkages to increase people's access to open spaces and destinations.
- 2.3 Provide parks and facilities with equitable access.
- 2.4 Encourage a range of transport options to sports and recreation facilities.





**Multipurpose and
adaptable places**

A region in transition

As communities grow, the need for open spaces also increases.

A number of established urban locations will experience population growth through infill development. In these locations parks and open spaces will become increasingly important as access to private open space is likely to decrease with higher density living.

Council will ensure that the existing network of parks continues to meet user needs over time. This may require upgrades to certain locations which incorporate innovative design.

In greenfield locations new communities are being established. New residents will expect the same quality parks and facilities that the region is known for. Council will continue to identify new sports and recreation parks and facilities which will meet the needs of these communities into the future.



Organised sports

Organised sports are a very popular pursuit in this region. Sporting clubs benefit the wider community by promoting active healthy lifestyles and community interaction. The community expects quality sports fields and facilities.

Constructing and maintaining sports parks comes at a significant cost. Council will continue to investigate new and improved sporting facilities to meet user needs.

Many existing clubs are finding it increasingly difficult to accommodate additional members. As many of these locations are not suited for expansion, requests for additional land and facilities are common.

Council's response is to encourage larger, well located, multi-use facilities. These facilities will be designed to support a wide number of sports. They will be well located and service a larger catchment area. The scale and mix of activities will support a number of travel options for users.

Adaptable spaces

To get the best out of parks and make the most efficient use of space, parks need to be adaptable to change and capable of meeting a variety of users' needs.

In some locations Council will design parks and civic spaces to be multi-use. For example civic spaces may be used to host community events such as markets or live music but also provide space for people to meet and eat lunch during the day.

We will:

- 3.1 Provide a network of open spaces which meets the needs of a growing community now and into the future.
- 3.2 Provide adaptable and multi-use sport and recreational spaces which meet community needs.



Petersen Road Football Fields, Morayfield

Diversity of places and activities



We all interact with parks and open spaces in different ways. Park users want a choice of activities and recreation opportunities across a range of settings.

In some neighbourhoods many parks and open spaces can tend to replicate the same experiences. This does not encourage a variety of people from across different age groups with diverse interests to utilise our open spaces.

Council will provide a greater choice of activities and experiences for people in our parks. This will include a range of options depending on location and user needs. Council will plan and design parks that have a variety of settings, experiences and facilities. Each park will complement its location and have a unique sense of place and identity within the neighbourhood.

Open space spectrum

Council has developed an 'Open Space Spectrum' (illustrated on page 25). The spectrum introduces and promotes a mix of different park activities, settings and experiences.

The spectrum will be used along with the place types model to encourage a range of options for users across the region.



Providing the right mix

Council has a vision to deliver a mix of sports, recreation and civic parks. To provide the right mix, Council will use a desired standard of service to guide the future provision of open space.

The standard of service identifies a number of park types, their role, distribution and function within the region. This enables Council to understand the types of open space communities require into the future.

For example, a local recreation park provides low key recreation opportunities such as small ball games areas and playgrounds for children. This park generally services one neighbourhood and is accessible by walking and cycling from your home. A regional recreation park is a large area which services the entire region and has a mix of activities and spaces for a variety of users.

We will:

- 4.1 Provide a network of open spaces which delivers a range of activities, settings and experiences.
- 4.2 Ensure that the open space network meets the changing needs of the community over time.

Emerging trends

Emerging trends and leisure preferences are placing new demands on the existing parks network. More people are participating in informal recreational activities at their leisure.

Council will ensure that user needs for new facilities and spaces are identified and encouraged in our planning.

Solutions may, for example, include youth and social spaces, dog areas, community gardens, outdoor recreation areas, innovative and challenging play spaces and innovative private open spaces.



Hard to locate activities

Council will consider future locations for special use sports and hard to locate activities like shooting, racing and model aeroplane flying.

Some of these activities can cause significant impacts to adjoining land uses and often require a large amount of land. In a growing region some of the locations where these activities occur are being encroached upon by urban development over time. Identifying and retaining sites for these activities is increasingly challenging.

Council will explore options to protect existing sites where appropriate and investigate new sites to meet increased demands over time.

We will:

- 4.3 Provide a network of open spaces which supports economic vitality.



Community gardens

Community gardens are identified in Council's Community Plan (Target 26) as a key opportunity in the region to improve the diversity of open space.

Community gardens are defined broadly as plots of land, gardened and managed collectively by a group of people. They typically provide locations to plant fresh produce including, vegetables, fruit, nuts and flowers.

Community gardens are commonly joint projects between community groups and local government authorities and are becoming increasingly popular both in Australia and overseas. They provide a number of social and physical benefits to both the community and the landscape.

Council will develop an edible landscapes policy to support the successful establishment and future management of community gardens across the region.



Community Garden – Caboolture PCYC

Environmental values

Natural areas not only provide essential habitats for native fauna and flora but also provide important green spaces for people. Natural areas face significant pressure from population growth and urban expansion.

Council has identified key open space areas with conservation values. These locations will have planning standards and management practices which protect these important habitats. In locations which have both recreational and conservation values, Council will ensure the provision of facilities and activities are considerate of the sites natural setting. Council will also incorporate natural elements and feature trees into park designs where appropriate.

Linkages of aquatic, riparian and high value vegetation often provide both recreational and environmental values. These corridors not only support the movement of people between places but support animal and plant movement, dispersal and refuge.

Council will continue to identify significant corridors which provide both environmental and recreational values.

We will:

- 4.4 Protect important environmental values in the open space network through a coordinated and integrated approach to land management.



Framework for delivery



Detailed open space planning

Delivering our vision and responding to the needs in the region are the primary objectives of this Strategy. This will provide residents with a vibrant and integrated open space network.

Delivery of the Strategy will be achieved through detailed planning of our urban recreation parks, sports facilities, outdoor recreation and hard to locate activities. These detailed plans will outline the future infrastructure needs for the next 20 years.

A series of programs with measurable targets and an ongoing monitoring and review schedule will help develop the open space network in the region and adapt as times change.

The outcomes of this Strategy and future programs will inform Council's Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS), capital works program, the Moreton Bay Planning Scheme, Priority Infrastructure Plan and other infrastructure strategies.



Leadership and governance

Moreton Bay Regional Council will adopt the findings of this Strategy and its action plan as policy. Council will champion the vision of achieving the open space strategic outcomes and will work to achieve the goals and targets expressed within the Strategy.

Council will establish a cross departmental committee to implement and monitor the Strategy and action plan and ensure that the action plan and network plan are reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

The design and delivery of projects needs to be reflective of the Strategy and principles that define the needs of the community. Council's design process will ensure that cost effective outcomes will be established that address these user needs. This will include the establishment of a multidisciplinary design review panel that seeks to ensure that all needs have been considered throughout the process including project scoping, planning, concept design and detailed design. The design review panel may include external agencies where collaboration on joint projects is undertaken, such as the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads.

Council will capacity build within its corporate structure to facilitate quality planning and design outcomes that are reflective of the vision and respond to the needs of the community.

We will:

- 5.1 Adopt as Council policy the Moreton Bay Regional Council Open Space Strategy.
- 5.2 Assign responsibility for the implementation of the Strategy within the organisation.
- 5.3 Establish cross departmental processes to ensure effective implementation of the Strategy.



Centenary Lakes, Caboolture

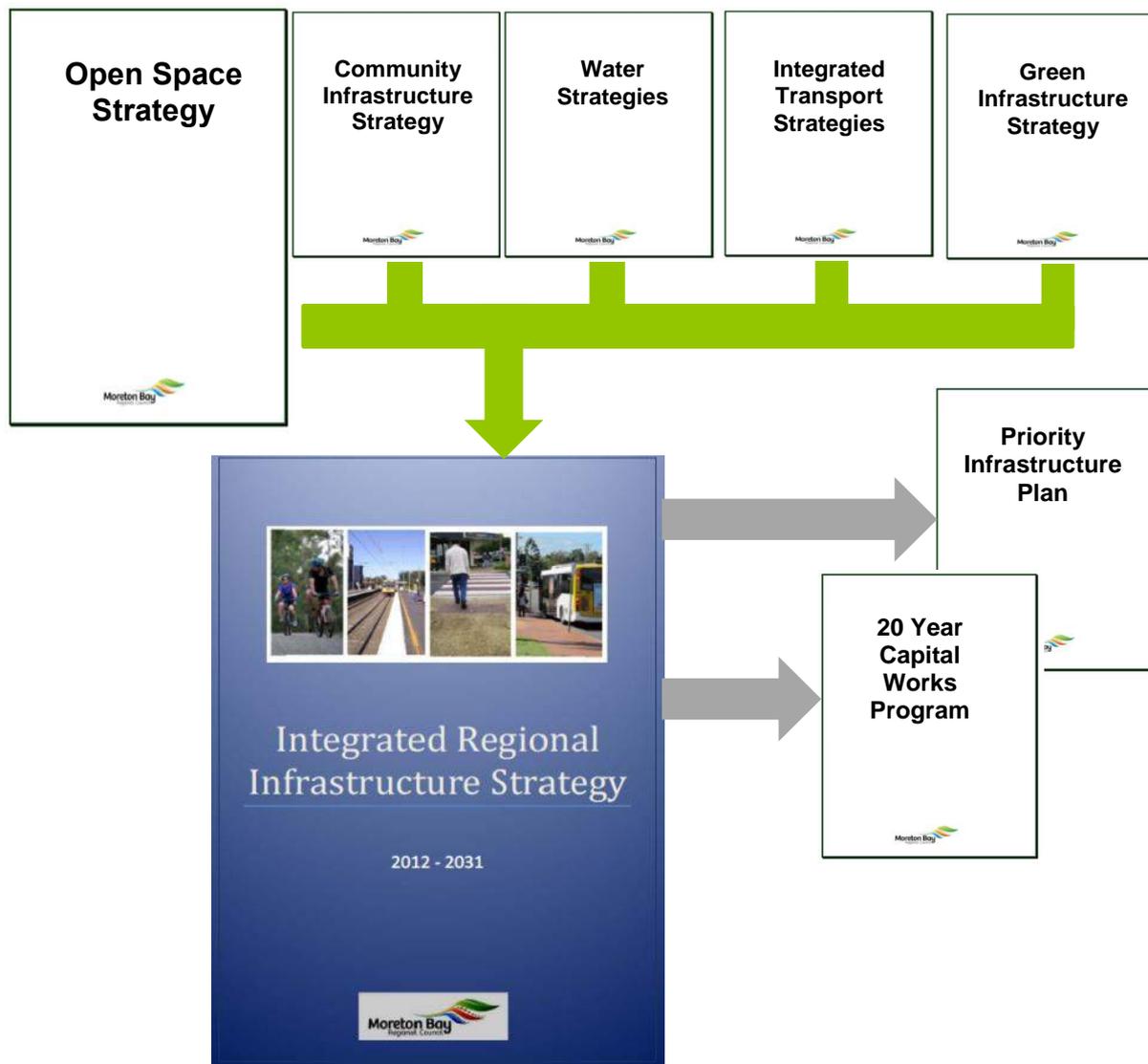
iRIS and Council's capital works program

Moreton Bay Regional Council performs a leading role in coordinating the delivery of infrastructure for existing and new communities throughout the region. To do this more efficiently, we are preparing an integrated approach to infrastructure network planning.

The Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy, or 'iRIS', will combine Council's infrastructure priorities with the priorities of other infrastructure in the region, such as water, sewerage and energy providers. The iRIS will coordinate the planning, design and construction process for all infrastructure networks. This will assist Council in prioritising infrastructure projects based on a quadruple bottom line assessment that stimulates economic development, is socially equitable, environmentally robust and has a governance framework based on excellence and value for money.

The Open Space Strategy will inform the preparation of iRIS by identifying land acquisitions and new facilities required to meet changing community needs, and determining when and how these facilities will be provided.

The outcomes of iRIS will guide Council's capital works program for the next 20 years.



Moreton Bay Region Planning Scheme

Council is planning for the future with a new regional planning scheme. The new scheme will help to respond to growth and development across the region. The Strategic Framework which provides a vision and strategy for the region forms part of the new Planning Scheme.

The Open Space Strategy will inform the development of the Planning Scheme, which will include design and accessibility standards for public parks in new developments, such as where the facilities should be located and the recreation opportunities they provide.

Priority Infrastructure Plan

The Strategy will inform the development of a Priority infrastructure Plan (PIP). The PIP seeks to integrate land use and infrastructure planning by encouraging growth in areas where infrastructure exists or can be provided efficiently. This Strategy will inform the PIP by determining future trunk open space requirements based on population growth, estimating the cost to provide this infrastructure.

Programs

A range of programs will be undertaken by Council, bringing together policy direction and planning contained in this Open Space Strategy. These programs will build on the current policies and programs undertaken by Moreton Bay Regional Council and direct future priorities in open space planning and management for the next 20 years.

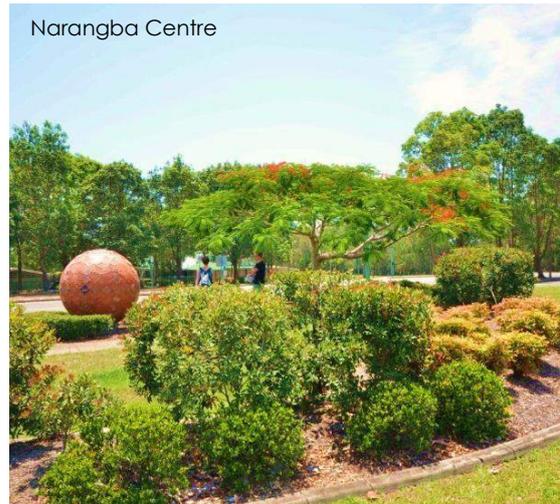


Targets and goals



Moreton Bay Regional Council is working towards improving the planning, delivery and management of open spaces in the region. While Council is not the only managing authority of open spaces, it plays a significant role in both provision and advocating for provision of facilities, especially for active sports and recreation areas.

To meet the goals of this Strategy, Council has set targets to be achieved by the end of the 2014/2015 financial year and beyond.



Short term to medium term selective key targets - 0-4

- Prepare and endorse an Urban Recreation Parks Plan, outlining the future infrastructure needs for recreation and foreshore parks and linear linkages across the region.
- Prepare and endorse a Sports Facilities Plan, incorporating sports demand modelling, to identify future sports infrastructure requirements.
- Prepare and endorse an Outdoor Recreation Plan, identifying opportunities and infrastructure requirements to encourage passive and unorganised outdoor activity.
- Ensure the Strategy recommendations are reflected in the MBRC Planning Scheme, iRIS and Council's capital works program.
- Complete a Hard to Locate Activities Plan.
- Complete a Playground Plan.
- Undertake a community survey program.
- Increase people's walking and cycling access to local park opportunities.
- Increase people's awareness of open space opportunities within the region.

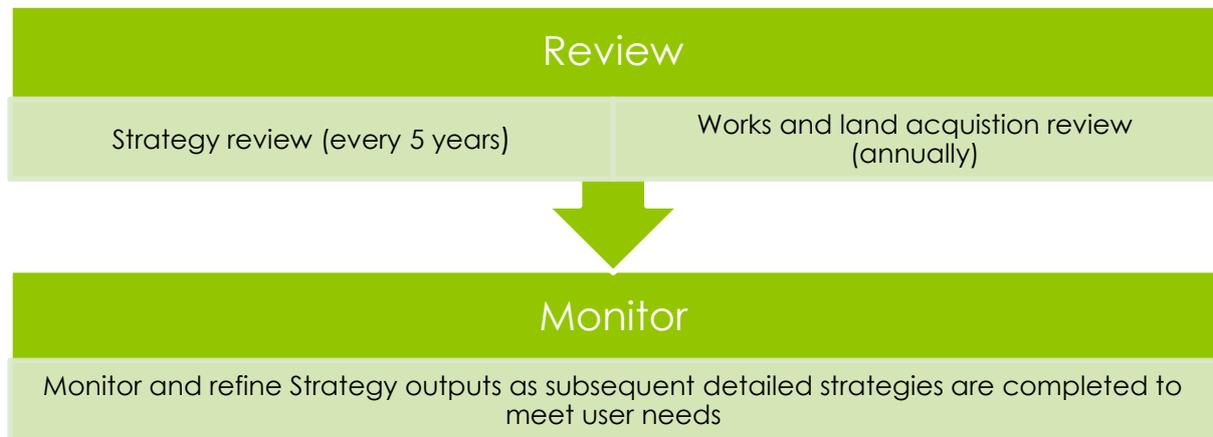
Long term selective key targets - 5-10 years

- Review the Strategy, schedule of works and desired standards of service.
- Ensure the supply and standard of open space required to service growth meets Council's desired standards of service.



Monitoring and review

To ensure we continue to meet the vision and actions proposed in this Strategy, evaluation and monitoring will be undertaken. This will allow Council to continually monitor its progress, be responsive to legislative change and remain current.





Appendix A

Park classification system
Open Space Strategy 2012-2031

Park classification system

The park classification system establishes a hierarchy of open spaces in the Moreton Bay Region. The system identifies the varying park types, scale and role of open spaces across the network. It also provides the basis for the preparation of Council's desired standards of service for public parks.

More detailed information including concept layouts, expected recreation opportunities, planning and design criteria and typical embellishments for each park type will be provided in the desired standards of service for each park type.

Catchments

Local - serves a neighbourhood or small township and is located within a close distance to most residents.

District - serves a number of neighbourhoods and provides a higher level of service for a greater number of people.

Regional - serves the whole local government area and provides the highest level of service. In some cases the catchment may extend into other government areas.

District and regional parks may also provide a local recreation function for their immediate catchment. Linear and bushland recreation parks may also include local park nodes and passive recreation opportunities in some locations.

Parks classifications

The following table establishes the park types for the region. The existing network has been reviewed and all parks are aligned with this classification system.

Park type	Role
Local recreation park	Local recreation parks provide informal passive and active recreation and leisure opportunities to a local community, appropriate to its setting and context. These parks are located in accessible, prominent areas which promote active transport and provide for the recreational needs of a local community. Local recreation parks provide visual amenity, small areas for kick-a-bout activities, playgrounds, seating, picnic spaces and shade cover. They also provide an important focal point for social interaction and recognise the need to enhance landscape amenity and biodiversity values.
District recreation park	District recreation parks are large parks which provide an intermediate level of recreation opportunities and facilities to a district catchment. These parks are provided in a variety of settings and cater for large numbers of people. In addition to standard facilities and spaces, district recreation parks may have bushland areas for nature appreciation, internal roads, off street parking, public amenities and area's for community gathering and performances.
Regional recreation park	Regional recreation parks are very large parks which provide the highest level of recreation opportunities and facilities to a regional catchment. They provide a significant range of recreational facilities and spaces for the needs of the region. They are capable of supporting large numbers

	of people and events.
Foreshore recreation parks	Foreshore recreation parks are located in coastal areas and provide direct access to the bay and the open ocean. They are linear in nature and are some of the most popular destinations in the region. They vary significantly throughout the region and include a range of park infrastructure items. In some coastal communities they provide the main recreation opportunities in the local area. Foreshore recreation parks range in scale from local to regional.
Local sports park	Local sports parks provide spaces and facilities for playing and practising formal, organised sporting activities to a local catchment. They may include formal playing areas, courts and amenities such as clubhouses, toilets and change facilities. These facilities may be located in communities such as rural townships and coastal communities which require local sporting facilities. The provision of local sports parks is not encouraged in the region.
District sports park	District sports parks provide spaces and facilities for playing and practising formal, organised sporting activities. These parks are large and provide enough space for a variety of playing areas such as courts, playing fields and surfaces. They usually accommodate sports at a district and local function level; however, they may include sports with a regional function. They may also provide necessary ancillary infrastructure such as court and field lighting, clubhouses, change rooms, toilets and basic spectator seating. In most locations they are to be multi-use and promote the shared use of facilities between a number of clubs and sporting codes. Some informal recreation opportunities may also be provided for visitors and local residents.
Regional sports park	Regional sports parks provide the highest standard of spaces and facilities for playing and practising formal, organised sporting activities. They are very large parks which can cater for high numbers of visitation, accommodating regional, district and local function sports. They accommodate a diverse range of formal sporting activities and include other physical activity infrastructure for the local community. They can also cater for regional sporting events. Multi-use in nature, a number of clubs and organisations share facilities, fields, courts and spaces. Some informal recreation spaces are provided to serve visitors and the local catchment.
Specific use sports park	Specific use sports parks are open space areas which are restricted for use by the public. These are locations which may require affiliation or membership with a club or organisation to gain access. This may include hard to locate and noisy sport areas and facilities. These locations provide limited recreational opportunities to the general public.
Local civic park	Local civic parks are small spaces with limited embellishments and provide opportunities for social interaction and resting places in urbanised areas. They may include seating, public art, shade trees, WSUD features and small elements for children's play. Hardened surfaces or small grassed areas with shade trees may be appropriate in most locations. They are typically located along strategic urban green corridors, greened boulevards and in local centres.
District civic park	District civic parks are located in district centres and offer residential users, visitors and employees an informal recreation space in an urban setting. These parks are located in a prominent, central location with a high level of pedestrian accessibility. Given the urban context and location, the park focuses on providing spaces for people to socialise, sit and enjoy the sub-tropical climate. This may include hardened surfaces,

	free seating, shade trees, water bubblers, lighting, turf mounding, performance spaces and play equipment. A variety of colours, textures and unique public art installations can be used to create a sense of place and identity. Adjoining land use activity should contribute to activating the edge and provide casual surveillance.
Regional civic park	Regional civic parks are located in major activity centres and offer residential users, visitors and employees an informal recreation space in an urban setting. These parks are located in a prominent central location with a high level of pedestrian accessibility. Given the urban context and location, these parks focus on providing spaces for people to socialise, sit and enjoy the subtropical climate. This may include hardened surfaces, free seating, shade trees and structures, turf mounding, toilets, water bubblers, public telephones, lighting, free Wi-Fi, kiosks, performance spaces and play equipment. A variety of colours, textures and public art can be used to create a sense of place and identity. Way finding elements can be incorporated into the park. Adjoining land use activity should contribute to activating the edge and provide casual surveillance.
Linear linkage park	Linear linkage parks are linear shaped and orientated parks which facilitate connectivity between destination nodes, residential catchments and the open space network. They may provide informal recreation opportunities such as walking, cycling and incorporate areas for play equipment, fitness nodes, seating, WSUD and shade trees. In some instances they may be co-located with urban infrastructure or form part of a floodplain management or environmental area. They should be designed in context to their landscape setting and location.
Amenity park	Amenity parks are small spaces such as garden beds, planted and landscaped areas that provide visual relief from the urban form. They typically have no infrastructure and provide limited recreation opportunities.
Constrained open space	Constrained open spaces are open space areas which provide limited recreational opportunities to the community. They may be encumbered or constrained by physical characteristics such as topography or poor access. They may also be locations which are required for non-park related infrastructure, within a floodplain or for stormwater quality and quantity purposes.
Bushland recreation park	Bushland recreation parks preserve important bushland landscapes and provide unique nature based recreation opportunities. They contribute to the ecological health of the region by providing refuge for native fauna and flora. Recreation activities are at a scale and intensity in context with the setting of the park. This may include providing opportunities for recreational trail users, seating, shelters, BBQ's and picnic areas and pathways. They form part of the greater open space network.
Conservation park	Conservation parks are managed primarily for their conservation value. This means preserving the areas native fauna and flora. In some cases these locations may also provide low key recreation opportunities like bushwalking, picnicking and nature observation. These parks are not included in the scope of the Open Space Strategy. For more information on how we manage and plan these parks, refer to Council's Sustainable Environment and Green Infrastructure strategies.



Appendix B

Program action plan
Open Space Strategy 2012-2031

Program action plan

The program action plan identifies a prioritised list of projects that Council will undertake to deliver the open space vision for the region. The program action plan is Council's direct response in meeting the strategic objectives identified in the Strategy's themes for meeting user needs. This response includes defining the actions, purpose and the timing, responsibility and status of achieving those actions.

Timeframes

Short term - 1-2 year timeframe

Medium term – 3-4 year timeframe

Long term – 5+ year timeframe

Definitions

ATS – Active Transport Strategy

CES – Community and Environmental Services Division

DSS – Desired Standards of Service

ECM – Engineering, Construction and Maintenance Division

FPS – Financial and Project Services

IDM – Integrated Design Manual

INP – Infrastructure Network Plan

IRIS – Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy

MBRC – Moreton Bay Regional Council

OSS – Open Space Strategy

PID – Project Initiation Document

PIP – Priority Infrastructure Plan

PTS – Public Transport Strategy

SPD - Strategic Planning and Development Division

TNCS – Transport Networks and Corridors Strategy

Our park, our place					
Actions	Purpose	Timeframe	Responsibility	Status	
1.1	Provide a range of recreational spaces which complement the places we live, work and play				
1.1.1	Develop a place type approach to planning the region's open space network	The place type approach to planning for the region is identified in the Strategic Framework. Each place type has its own open space requirements, from urbanised civic spaces in our centres to passive recreation opportunities in a rural setting. Future planning for the open space network will ensure that parks are provided and designed to be relative the place type in which they are located.	Short term	SPD	Complete
1.1.2	Incorporate the place type approach in developing Desired Standards of Service (DSS) for the whole open space network	The DSS establishes Council's planning and design intent for the range of park types across the region. The DSS will include provisions to integrate design outcomes with the place types in which they are located.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
1.1.3	Incorporate the place type approach to open space planning in the development of an Integrated Design Manual (IDM) open space component	The IDM will be the primary referral document for the design and construction of open space by Council and developers. The objective of the IDM is to demonstrate the opportunities identified through the Open Space Strategy in a deliverable format for users. The IDM will include provisions to integrate design outcomes with the place types in which they are located.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
1.2	Provide a range of recreational spaces and infrastructure which meet user needs				
1.2.1	Prepare Desired Standards of Service (DSS) for the whole open space network	The DSS for the whole network establishes Council's planning and design intent for the range of park types across the region. The DSS will encourage a range of recreational activities and spaces for social interaction and community events such as markets and festivals.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM, CES	Complete
1.2.2	Develop a Dog Off Leash Area Planning and Design Guideline	Dog off leash exercise is a very popular recreational activity in the region. Council requires a coordinated planning and delivery dog off leash guideline to ensure these areas meet user needs.	Medium term	SPD with advice from ECM, CES	Not yet commenced
1.2.3	Prepare a Youth and Public Spaces Report	The report will provide direction on the provision of open space services and infrastructure to the regions youth. The report will inform future open space projects and reviews of the Strategy.	Medium term	SPD	Not yet commenced
1.2.4	Prepare a report on the relationship between residential density and open space provision	The region is undergoing significant population growth and density increases in some locations. The report will provide further information on the delivery of open space needs in areas of higher densities which will inform future reviews of the Strategy outcomes.	Medium term	SPD	Not yet commenced

1.2.5	Prepare a Public Toilet Plan	The plan will coordinate the planning and delivery of amenities to meet community needs within and outside the open space network.	Long term	SPD with advice from ECM, CES	Not yet commenced
1.2.6	Develop an Edible Landscapes Policy	Edible landscapes include such things as community and vegetable gardens. These are increasingly popular uses of open spaces throughout Australia. Community gardens are identified in Council's Community Plan for future investigation and now Council requires a policy to guide the planning development and management of these activities in the region.	Long term	SPD with advice from ECM, CES	Not yet commenced
1.2.7	Conduct biennial community park surveys	Community surveys will provide vital information regarding community perceptions and issues surrounding the, planning, delivery and management of open spaces. The data will be used as a tool to inform future parks projects and reviews of the Open Space Strategy.	Ongoing	SPD	Not yet commenced
1.2.8	Engage with the community on major parks projects	Regular community engagement ensures that open space projects meet both the expectations of Council and the community. Council will undertake regular engagement with the community for all major parks projects using Council's "Think Out Loud" Community Engagement Framework with a focus on delivering user needs.	Ongoing	SPD, ECM	Ongoing
1.3	Develop a complimentary network of open space which contributes to the vitality and attractiveness of the regions activity centres				
1.3.1	Prepare a Streetscape Improvement Program for Activity Centres	The program will recommend and include design considerations for locations in activity centers for streetscape upgrades. The program will help achieve the vision for green centers and improve the amenity of these locations.	Long term	ECM	Not yet commenced
1.3.2	Integrate the INP with the Activity Centre Master Planning Program	Council will include the outcomes and recommendations of the Strategy in the Master Planning program for activity centres. This will ensure the efficient delivery of the INP and the Strategy's vision for open spaces in activity centres.	Ongoing	SPD	Ongoing
1.4	Increase people's awareness of open spaces, sports and recreation opportunities and facilities				
1.4.1	Develop a recreational trails weblink	The weblink will provide important information for visitors and residents regarding the regions recreational trail network. Recreational trails not only provide obvious health benefits but also support economic growth especially related to tourism.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM, CES	Complete
1.4.2	Develop an open space interactive mapping and information website	The website will provide an opportunity for the community to locate vital information about open space recreation opportunities. It will promote open spaces as destinations and encourage more healthy communities.	Short term	SPD with advice from Communications , FPS	Not yet commenced

1.5	Work collaboratively with the community to increase pride and ownership of open spaces				
1.5.1	Develop a Public Art Plan	The plan will provide a framework for the planning, delivery and management of public art in open spaces. The plan will provide a framework for best practise integration and design.	Long term	SPD with advice from CES, ECM	Not yet commenced
1.5.2	Develop an adopt-a-park program	The program will provide a policy/guideline on volunteer involvement in the management and operation of open spaces across the region. The intent of this program is to increase the ownership and pride in open spaces by local communities.	Long term	SPD, ECM, CES	Not yet commenced
1.6	Partner with the community to promote, strengthen and enhance cultural and historical elements in the design of public spaces				
1.6.1	Develop an External Stakeholder Reference Group	The reference group will provide a forum to partner with cultural groups, traditional owners and community groups to foster ongoing cooperation in open space planning projects.	Long term	SPD, ECM, CES	Not yet commenced
1.6.2	Prepare a Cultural Heritage Mapping Project	The project will identify and map cultural heritage sites located in the open space network to include in future open space projects design process.	Long term	SPD, ECM, CES	Not yet commenced
1.7	Encourage the identification and protection of scenic amenity values				
1.7.1	Incorporate scenic amenity provisions in the MBRC Planning Scheme	To protect key scenic amenity values in the region, the planning scheme will include scenic amenity protection measures.	Short term	SPD	Complete
1.8	Ensure the responsible financial planning and management of open spaces				
1.8.1	Prepare an Open Space Desired Standards of Service (DSS) for the Priority Infrastructure Plan (PIP)	The DSS will establish Councils expectations for trunk infrastructure for the PIP.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
1.8.2	Prepare a trunk network plan for the Priority Infrastructure Plan (PIP)	The trunk network plan identifies the required open spaces to service the community. The plan will be used for the PIP.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
1.8.3	Provide a list of capital works and land acquisitions to inform the development of the iRIS	A detailed list of future infrastructure requirements, including cost estimates of the proposed network, is required to inform the development of iRIS and future capital works and land acquisition programs.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
1.8.4	Prioritisation Framework	Provide a Prioritisation Framework for the timely delivery of open space infrastructure.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
1.8.5	Prepare an open space disposal program	An open space disposal plan is required which identifies open spaces managed or controlled by Council which do not meet the desired standards of service and are not required to meet community needs into the future. These decisions will be based on sound financial and logical decision making.	Medium term	SPD with advice from ECM, CES	Not yet commenced

Connecting people to places					
Actions	Purpose	Timeframe	Responsibility	Status	
2.1	Create attractive neighbourhoods which promote walking and cycling to sports and recreation parks				
2.1.1	Develop Planning Scheme mechanisms to encourage active transport to open spaces	Planning scheme provisions are required to ensure the development of legible, connected and user friendly urban environments which promote walking and cycling to open spaces.	Short term	SPD	Complete
2.1.2	Incorporate active transport mechanisms in the development of an Integrated Design Manual (IDM)	The IDM will be the primary referral document for the design and construction of open space by Council and developers. The objective of the IDM is to demonstrate the opportunities identified through the Open Space Strategy in a deliverable format for users. The IDM will establish the principles for street design and include provisions for street trees and a focus on creating attractive environments for walking. The IDM will include provisions for where parks are located and how they relate to the places in which they are set. The IDM will encourage walking and cycling by including infrastructure such as off-road footpaths, connectivity to open spaces and end of trip facilities.	Short term	SPD, ECM	Complete
2.1.3	Incorporate active transport mechanisms in the development of Desired Standards of Service (DSS) for the whole open space network	The DSS for the whole network establishes Council's planning and design intent for the open space network. The DSS will require accessibility and park distribution provisions which promote walking and cycling access to parks. They will also include standard parks infrastructure items for walking and cycling such as off road footpaths, shade provisions and end of trip facilities.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
2.1.4	Prepare a Street Tree Planting Program	The program will provide recommendations on locations to establish street tree plantings. The focus of this program will be to create user friendly pedestrian routes which focus on connectivity between residential areas and sports and recreation locations.	Medium term	ECM	Not yet commenced
2.2	Identify and retain key urban and natural linkages to increase peoples access to open spaces and destinations				
2.2.1	Identify key linear linkages across the region and identify future linear linkages and corridors required in urban areas.	Linear park types help to connect people to open spaces and destinations. The identification and development of future linkages to accommodate a growing population is required.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
2.2.2	Develop a Recreational Trails Plan	The plan will provide recommendations on the planning, delivery and management of the regions trail network. It will also include projects which will be used to inform Council capital budgets, PIP and future OSS reviews.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Not yet commenced

2.3	Provide parks and facilities with equitable access				
2.3.1	Incorporate equitable design outcomes in the DSS and Integrated Design Manual (IDM)	The DSS and IDM will be the primary referral documents for the design and construction of open space by Council and developers. The objective of these documents is to demonstrate the opportunities identified through the Open Space Strategy in a deliverable format for users. These documents will include provisions on incorporating universal access principles in the planning, design and delivery of infrastructure in and around parks and public spaces.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
2.4	Encourage a range of transport options to sports and recreation facilities				
2.4.1	Include a range of transport options in the requirements of the DSS and Integrated Design Manual (IDM)	The DSS and IDM will be the primary referral documents for the design and construction of open space by Council and developers. The objective of these documents is to demonstrate the opportunities identified through the Open Space Strategy in a deliverable format for users. They will include provisions which promote access to public, private and active transport services. This may include parking rates, off road foot paths, shade provisions, location and access criteria and access to public transit requirements.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
2.4.2	Provide input into the development of the Active Transport Strategy (ATS)	The ATS will identify the transport infrastructure required to service the needs of the community. Partner with the development and implementation of the ATS to provide pedestrian and cycle links between residential neighbourhoods and sports and recreation parks.	Short term	SPD	Complete
2.4.3	Provide input into the development of the Transport Networks and Corridors Strategy (TNCS)	Partner with the development and implementation of the TNCS to ensure sports and recreational facilities are accessible by private vehicle transport.	Short term	SPD	Complete
2.4.4	Provide input into the development of the Public Transport Strategy (PTS)	The PTS will provide the vision for the region's public transport network. Partner with the development of the PTS to promote public transport routes and infrastructure that support the open space network.	Short term	SPD	Underway
Multipurpose and adaptable					
Actions		Purpose	Time Frame	Responsibility	Status
3.1	Provide a network of open spaces which meet the needs of a growing community now and into the future				
3.1.1	Provide recommendations into the development of MBRC Planning Scheme provisions	Provide recommendations into the development of planning scheme provisions to ensure well designed, accessible, responsive and integrated local and linear recreation park opportunities are provided in new communities.	Short term	SPD	Complete

3.1.2	Provide input into the development of planning scheme provisions for special use sports sites	Special use sports include activities which require specific sites due to noise or operational requirements, such as motor racing, shooting, model aero flying etc. Council provides a number of sites for special use sports. In a growing region some of the locations where these activities occur are being encroached by urban development over time. Identifying and retaining sites for these activities is increasingly challenging. Council will explore options to protect existing sites where appropriate in the MBRC Planning Scheme.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM, CES	Complete
3.1.3	Prepare an Open Space Infrastructure Network Plan (INP)	The INP establishes the required open spaces and infrastructure upgrades to meet the growing needs of the region. This will include a range of sports and recreation facilities across the region and be in accordance with the established DSS targets for the whole region.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
3.1.4	Prepare an Urban Recreation Park Plan	The Urban Recreation Parks Plan will build on the vision, principles and outcomes of the OSS, focusing on the current and future planning for recreation park provision in a region-wide analysis. The Plan will enable Council to prioritise urban recreation infrastructure land acquisitions and development.	Short term	SPD with advice from CES, ECM	Underway
3.1.5	Prepare a Sports Facilities Plan	The Plan will build on the vision, principles and outcomes of the Open Space Strategy, focusing on the current and future planning for sports facility provision in a region-wide analysis. The Plan will enable Council to prioritise sporting infrastructure land acquisitions and development.	Short term	SPD with advice from CES, ECM	Underway
3.1.6	Sports Demand Model	A sports demand model will provide vital information on the participation rates of key organised sports throughout the region. This information will allow Council to actively plan to meet any anticipated future shortfalls in sporting facilities now and to the year 2031. The model will be used to inform the works program and Sports Facilities Plan.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM, CES	Underway
3.1.7	Prepare an Outdoor Recreation Plan	Outdoor recreation includes recreation or sport activities which are undertaken in open spaces without significantly changing those places, such as mountain biking, camping, bushwalking, kayaking, four-wheel driving etc. There are a number of health and economic benefits of outdoor recreation for the region. Council requires a coordinated response to guide the future planning, development and management of outdoor recreation activities in the region's open space network. The project outcomes will inform future Council budgets and reviews of the OSS.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM, CES	Not yet commenced

3.1.8	Prepare a Hard to Locate Activities Plan	Hard to locate activities require specific use sites due to noise or operational requirements, such as motor racing, shooting, model aero flying etc. Council provides a number of sites for special use sports. Council requires an investigation into new sites to meet increased demands over time. Council requires a coordinated plan to guide the future planning, delivery and management of sites for special use sports. The project outcomes will inform future Council budgets and reviews of the OSS.	Medium term	SPD with advice from ECM, CES	Not yet commenced
3.1.9	Prepare a Playgrounds Plan	A Playgrounds Plan is required to provide a strategic direction for the provision and management of playgrounds and play spaces within the MBRC region. Council currently provides a significant quantity of playgrounds and requires a more strategic and coordinated response to the future delivery of playgrounds to ensure they continue to meet user needs over time. This may include an analysis of the existing network and recommendations for new playgrounds and renewal projects to meet demographic needs. The Plan will also provide recommendations on the management and maintenance of playgrounds. The Plan will inform future parks projects and subsequent reviews of the OSS.	Medium term	SPD, ECM	Not yet commenced
3.2	Provide adaptable and multi-use sport and recreational spaces which meet community needs				
3.2.1	Incorporate multi-use and adaptable provisions in the Desired Standards of Service (DSS) for the whole network	The DSS for the whole network establishes Council's planning and design intent for the open space network. The DSS includes design principals around the creation of adaptable and flexible spaces that change with our community's needs over time.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
Diversity of opportunities and spaces					
Actions			Timeframes	Responsibility	Status
4.1	Provide a network of open spaces which deliver a range of activities, settings and experiences				
4.1.1	Develop a parks classification system	The system develops a range of park types which responds to the variety of land use settings and locations in the region.	Short term	SPD	Complete
4.1.2	Develop a framework based on the Nature and People Experiences Approach	The framework is a model which establishes three major landscape settings for the open space network. The settings will have a direct influence on the types of activities and experiences that will be expected in those locations. This will inform the preparation of the Desired Standards of Service (DSS) and the Integrated Design Manual (IDM) and create a network of recreation experiences which relate to the places where people, live work and play.	Short term	SPD	Complete

4.2	Ensure that the open space network meets the changing needs of the community over time				
4.2.1	Prepare a report on demographic trends and the provision of open space	The region is undergoing significant population growth which will have ongoing implications for open space planning. This report will consider the impact of major demographic trends on the provision and design of open space.	Medium term	SPD with advice from CES	Not yet commenced
4.2.2	Prepare a bi-annual report on leisure preferences and recreational trends	Council needs to ensure that it is actively planning for emerging trends and leisure preferences in the open space and recreation network. The report will be used as a tool to inform future planning projects and subsequent reviews of the OSS.	Medium term	SPD with advice from CES	Not yet commenced
4.3	Provide a network of open spaces which supports economic vitality				
4.3.1	Incorporate economic considerations in the Integrated Design Manual (IDM)	The IDM will be the primary referral document for the design and construction of streets, roads, public spaces (e.g. open space) and the use of WSUD. It will identify a range of design outcomes that will relate to the different place types as envisioned by the Moreton Bay Regional Council Strategic Framework. The manual will include provisions regarding the integration of commercial, residential and retail land uses adjoining civic and recreation spaces.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Completed
4.3.2	Develop a Commercial Use of Public Spaces Policy	To promote complementary commercial enterprises within open spaces Council requires the preparation of a policy to guide the application and management process.	Medium term	SPD, CES	Not yet commenced
4.4	Protect important environmental values in the open space network through a coordinated and integrated approach to land management				
4.4.1	Incorporate environmental values in the Desired Standards of Service (DSS) for the whole open space network	The DSS establishes Council's planning and design intent for the open space network. The DSS will include provisions which promote the retention of natural features and areas of environmental value in park design.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Complete
4.4.2	Incorporate conservation values in the develop a parks classification system	The system develops a range of park types which responds to the variety of land use settings and locations in the region. The system includes 'conservation park' which establishes the management intent of these locations. Conservation parks have been identified through liaison with the Environment and Policy Unit in Council.	Short term	SPD	Complete
Framework for delivery					
Actions		Purpose	Timeframes	Responsibility	Status
5.1	Adopt as Council policy the Moreton Bay Regional Council Open Space Strategy				
5.1.1	Adopt the Open Space Strategy as Council Policy	Council requires a policy position on open space planning throughout the region. The Strategy will guide the future planning, delivery and management of the MBRC Open Space Network.	Short term	SPD	Underway

5.1.2	Nominate an open space champion within the elected members	To advocate the vision of this Strategy Council requires an open space advocate within the elected members.	Short term	SPD	Not yet commenced
5.2	Assign responsibility for the implementation of the Strategy within the organisation				
5.2.1	Assign overall responsibility for the implementation of the Open Space Strategy to the Director Strategic Planning and Development Services	The Director will be responsible for the implementation of the Strategy.	Short term	SPD	Complete
5.2.2	Provide funding, resources and allocate responsibility to the Strategic Planning Department to facilitate and report on the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Strategy	To ensure the Strategy is implemented and maintained throughout the life of the document a nominated officer position will be delegated responsibility by the Director of Strategic Planning and Development Services to facilitate delivery and reporting of the Strategy.	Short term	SPD	Complete
5.2.3	Provide an annual report to Council on the progress of the Strategy	The annual report will provide an update to Councillors on the progress of the Strategy and will include where necessary recommendations to amend strategic responses and actions.	Ongoing	SPD	Not yet commenced
5.3	Establish cross departmental processes to ensure effective implementation of the Strategy				
5.3.1	Review and refine as necessary cross corporate and intra departmental processes	To ensure best planning and design outcomes are being delivered to the community.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM, CES, Major Projects	Not yet commenced
5.3.2	Establish a cross corporate OS strategic implementation group	To facilitate and monitor the implementation of the Strategy and update the action plan annually.	Short term	SPD, ECM, CES, Major Projects	Not yet commenced
5.3.3	Facilitate monthly open space coordination meetings	Regular internal coordination meetings will provide cross discipline discussion and coordination of open space planning, delivery and management matters.	Short term	SPD	Not yet commenced
5.3.4	Develop a System for Information and Planning of Open Space (SIPOS)	The SIPOS will provide a central information portal for internal open space planning. It will include the coordination of documents and standards, GIS layers, management plans, master plans etc. It will provide a vital tool for the coordinated and efficient delivery of open space planning and delivery outcomes.	Short term	SPD with advice from ECM	Underway
5.3.5	Establish a cross departmental design review panel	The panel will bring Council's strategic planning, design and delivery areas together to ensure the policy objectives and actions of the OSS are implemented. The panel will review concept plans, PIDs, briefs, prioritisation schedules and budget submissions, to ensure multi-disciplinary design outcomes are scoped, designed and delivered.	Short term	SPD, ECM, CES, Major Projects	Not yet commenced

5.3.6	Introduce design and access statements as a component of the design and development process	To ensure that each design meets Council's policies and visions and has been designed with consideration of adjoining land uses.	Short term	SPD, ECM, CES	Not yet commenced
5.3.7	Develop a prioritised program of Parks Concept Plans	Concepts plans guide the upgrade and development of parks. The OSS has identified a number of new and upgraded sites into the future which will require subsequent Concept Plans to guide future development.	Short term	SPD, ECM, CES	Underway
5.3.8	Develop PIDS for all major projects in the 5 year Capital Works Program	To guide the implementation of the OSS, PIDS provide a link between the vision and objectives and the master planning and design for sites. The PIDS ensure that all work designed and programmed meets the objectives of network planning.	Short term	SPD, ECM, CES	Underway
5.3.9	Develop detailed design briefs for budgetary approved projects	To ensure all user needs and integrated design elements have been addressed design briefs will be written and reviewed by the design review panel prior to proceeding to detailed design for approved capital works projects.	Ongoing	SPD, ECM, CES	Ongoing
5.3.10	Work in partnership with government agencies, education and private providers	Council will continue to work in partnership with various stakeholders to increase the community's access to sports and recreation facilities and services.	Ongoing	SPD, ECM, CES	Underway