



**WILLOUGHBY CITY COUNCIL**

**PLAN OF MANAGEMENT  
NAREMBURN WARD PARKS**

**Adopted May 1999**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 What Is A Plan of Management?

*“A plan of management is a document that provides the framework for the management of a park or recreation area... the central product that governs the use and management of community land....”*

Department of Conservation and Land Management  
Manidis Roberts Consultants 1993

### 1.2 Scope Of This Plan of Management

Willoughby City Council has a total of 147 open space areas, covering about 424 hectares. Of these, 95% are administered by Council and the remaining 5% by other government authorities.

The Local Government Act (1993) requires that all community land (as defined by the Act) be the subject of a plan of management.

Due to the large number of open space areas classified as community land, Council has decided, wherever feasible, to have specified areas of open space covered by a single plan of management, as allowed by the Act.

A number of open space areas included in this plan of management are Crown Reserves, and not subject to the Local Government Act. However, the areas are under the control of Council, and have been included in this plan of management so that there will be consistency with other park management documents within the Council.

### 1.3 Aim Of This Plan of Management

The aim of this plan is to provide a systems plan of management to comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act (1993) in relation to thirty one parks and reserves located in the Naremburn Ward of the City of Willoughby.

The plan corresponds with the overall goals and objectives adopted in the *Open Space Plan (1996)*, and the *Willoughby Recreation Plan (1993)*.

The Plan has been developed after consultation with focus groups comprising local residents and Council staff, consideration of submissions, inspection of the parks, and review of other relevant studies.

## 1.4 Structure Of This Plan of Management

This plan is divided into two major parts:

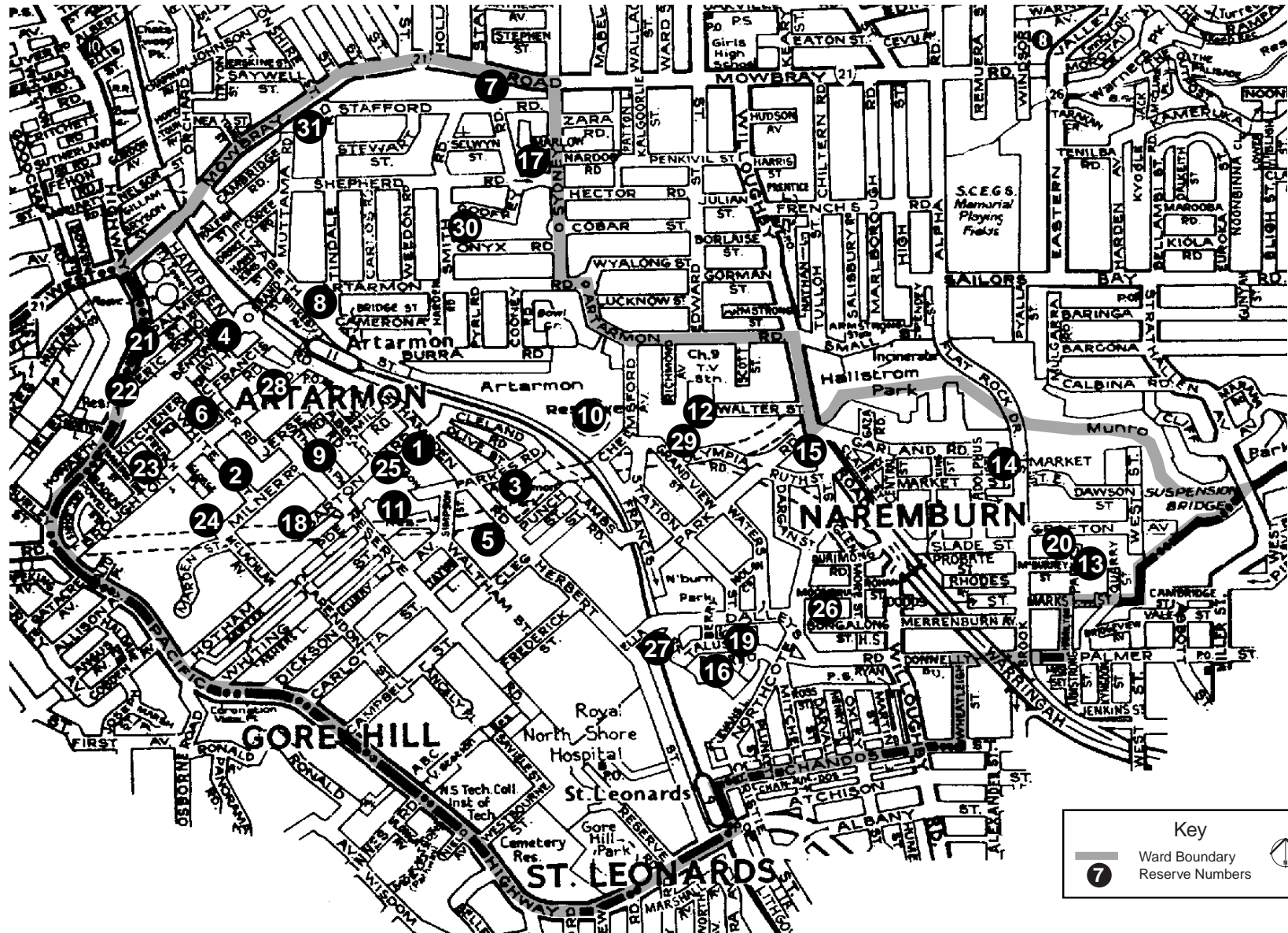
- **Sections 1 to 7** comprises the main policy document, and provides the framework and policies to be applied to the reserves as a whole. This part is to be reviewed every five years.
- **Section 8** comprises management issues and action plans in respect of each of the individual subject parks. This part is to be reviewed annually, with a major review and amendment every five years.

## 1.5 Land Covered By This Plan of Management

This plan of management pertains to the following community land located in the Naremburn Ward of the City of Willoughby;

1	Cleland Park
2	Jersey Road Reserve
3	Artarmon Park
4	Robert Street Park
5	Taylor Lane Reserve
6	White Street Reserve
7	Mowbray Road Reserve
8	Elizabeth Street Reserve
9	Thomson Park
10	Artarmon Reserve (not bushland)
11	Parkes Road Reserve
12	Walter Street Reserve
13	McBurney Street Reserve
14	Brook Street Reserves
15	Fleming Park
16	Talus Street Reserve
17	Marlow Street Reserve
18	Barton Road Reserve
19	Waters Road Closures
20	Parkes Street Closure
21	Palmer Street Closure
22	Eric Street Closure
23	French Street Closure
24	Milner Road Closure
25	Abbott Road Closure
26	Bongalong Street Closure
27	Ella Street Reserve
28	Artarmon Pathways
29	Olympia Road Reserve
30	Artarmon Link Path
31	Muttama, Stafford and Tindale Road Closures

Refer to Figure 1 for park locations.



1. Cleland Park
2. Jersey Road Reserve
3. Artarmon Park
4. Robert Street Park
5. Taylor Lane Reserve
6. White Street Reserve
7. Mowbray Road Reserve
8. Elizabeth Street Reserve
9. Thomson Park
10. Artarmon Reserve (not including bushland)
11. Parkes Road Reserve
12. Walter Street Reserve
13. McBurney Street Reserve
14. Brook Street Reserves
15. Fleming Park
16. Talus Street Reserve
17. Marlow Street Reserve
18. Barton Road Reserve
19. Waters Road Closures
20. Parkes Street Closure
21. Palmer Street Closure
22. Eric Street Closure
23. French Street Closure
24. Milner Road Closure
25. Abbott Road Closure
26. Bongalong Street Closure
27. Ella Street Reserve
28. Artarmon Pathways
29. Olympia Road Reserve
30. Artarmon Link Path
31. Muttama, Stafford and Tindale Road Closures

Figure 1:  
Location of Naremburn Ward Parks covered by this Plan

## 1.6 Other Land Not Covered By This Plan Of Management

The following open space areas located in Naremburn Ward are not owned by Council and are not covered by this Plan of Management;

- Artarmon Bowling Club - privately owned land,
- Artarmon Primary School - State Government land ,
- Railway Pathway from Brand to Raleigh Streets - State Rail Authority land,
- Gore Hill Cemetery - State Government land. A Plan of Management in respect of the site has been prepared by the Gore Hill Cemetery Trust.

## 1.7 Relationship To Other Plans of Management

The playing fields, large parks and bushland reserves of Naremburn Ward are covered by the following plans of management;

- Urban Bushland Plan of Management, 1997
- Naremburn Park, 1995 (included with Willoughby Park; Bales Park; OH Reid Reserve and Greville Street Reserve)
- Flat Rock Gully and Bicentennial Reserve Plan of Management (1995)
- Gore Hill Park (included in Sportsfield Plan Of Management)

## 1.8 Council Open Space Management Goals

The *Open Space Plan (1996)* lists the following goals for open space in the City of Willoughby;

- to accommodate and balance the outdoor recreation needs of the community within the open space system
- to protect and enhance the natural and cultural landscape qualities of the City through the management of the open space system
- to encourage wider participation in the management of open space.

In addition, the *Willoughby City Council Management Plan* identifies as one of the proposed key achievements for 1995 - 2000;

*“Improved passive recreation opportunities and conditions.”*

This plan of management proposes that the subject parks are managed within the framework of these overall goals.

## 1.9 Consent Authority

The consent authority for this Plan of Management is Willoughby City Council and the Department of Land and Water Conservation as appropriate.

## **2. THE OPEN SPACE SYSTEM AND RECREATION NEEDS**

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In recent years Willoughby City Council has commissioned two major studies focusing on recreation needs and resources. These are the *Willoughby Recreation Plan* (Willoughby City Council, 1993) and the *Open Space Plan* (Manidis Roberts Consultants, 1996)

### **2.1 The Willoughby Recreation Plan**

This document aims to provide a framework for recreation provision within the local government area. The plan formulated the following mission statement for recreation:

*“The provision of quality recreational opportunities in order to provide all sectors of Willoughby’s community with diverse and satisfying experiences.”*

#### **2.1.1 Recreation Needs**

The *Willoughby Recreation Plan* listed a general need for the following:

- Walking trails.
- Improved and safer playgrounds and a variety of creative play opportunities.
- Off-road bicycle paths.
- BMX facilities.
- Skateboard/rollerblade facilities.
- Outdoor basketball courts.
- Improved picnic grounds (some with undercover seating).
- More accessible open spaces.
- More amenities at parks (bins, bubblers, seats, toilets).
- A comprehensive signage system including interpretation information
- More information about what is available in the parks

The *Willoughby Recreation Plan* listed the following needs specific to Naremburn Ward:

- Thomson Park - provision of bubblers near sportsfield
- Artarmon Reserve - rollerblading area, upgrade of pavilion
- General - passive open space areas to be further developed

### **2.2 The Open Space Plan**

This plan focuses on the overall open space system. It records open space supply, assess demand for different recreation settings and facilities, matches supply with existing and future demand. It develops strategies for the provision of open space and recreational opportunities.

#### **2.2.1 Open Space Goals**

The *Open Space Plan* states the following goals for open space in Willoughby;

- “To accommodate and balance the outdoor recreation needs of the community within the open space system



- To protect and enhance the natural and cultural landscape qualities of the City through the management of the open space system
- To encourage wider participation in the management of the open space system”.

### 2.2.2 General Needs

The *Open Space Plan* listed the following general needs for the City of Willoughby:

- Recreational walking paths with picnic tables and facilities provided along the paths.
- Recreational facilities for young people/adolescents.
- Dog control, education of dog owners, enforcement of dog laws and policies, designation of dog walking areas.
- Shade trees for protection from the sun and reduction of skin cancer, particularly at sports fields, playgrounds and along walking/cycle paths.
- Educational role of open space, particularly bushland.
- Information about and promotion of parks.
- Park entry signs and directional signs to parks.
- Development of linkages between parks and through parks to other destinations.
- Implementation of the recommendations of the Regional Bike Plan Study.
- Tree planting and conservation for environmental purposes and as wildlife corridors.
- Protection and replanting of ridge top vegetation.
- Improved access for the disabled, frail and aged.
- Safety within parks and pedestrian safety on roads within 100 metres of parks.
- Greater involvement/use by people with non-English speaking backgrounds.
- High standard of 'local' children's playgrounds with shade, seating and stroller access.
- Provision of drinking 'bubblers',
- Suitable park cleaning and maintenance

### 2.2.3 Relevant Recommendations

The *Open Space Plan* made the following recommendations specific to Naremburn Ward:

- Cleland Park - Construct kerb ramps
- Taylor Lane Reserve - Access improvement required
- Thomson Park - Upgrade the childrens playground, plant additional shade trees, make it more like Beauchamp Park, construct kerb ramps
- Marlow Street Reserve - Remove playground equipment
- Milner Road Closure - Access improvement required
- Rhodes Ave, Dodds St, Slade St, Merrenburn Ave - Access improvement required
- Walking tracks - Complete the walking track from Artarmon to Tunks Park.



#### 4. LIST OF THE PARKS

PARK	Area (m2)	Existing Facilities/Features	Category <sup>†</sup>
Cleland Park	7942	6 tennis courts, 2 clubhouses, toilets, Guides hall, playground, parking, paths, trees, garden	Not applicable
Jersey Road Reserve	2866	Kids Cottage child care with fenced playground, open play- ground, picnic table, seats, bubbler, car parking, trees	Park, General Community Use
Artarmon Park	North - 14000 South - 7000 approx	North and South sections divided by freeway. North- lawn, bollards, date palms, bush South- car parking, native planting, cycleway access	Not applicable
Taylor Lane Reserve	3432	Undeveloped	Not applicable
White Street Reserve	2088	Playground, picnic table ,seats, landscaped gardens, trees	Park
Robert Street Park	448	Fenced playground, landscaped gardens	Park
Parkes Road Reserve	5111	Native planting	General Community Use
Mowbray Road Reserve.	284	Large trees	Park
Elizabeth Street Reserve.	107	Gardens	Park
Thomson Park	16099	Sportsfield, synthetic wicket and net, basketball ring, playground, seats, toilets, clubroom, paths, trees, partly fenced. (no parking)	Sportsground, Park
Artarmon Reserve (not bushland)	32850	Sportsfield, clubroom, toilets, carpark, playground, picnic tables, seats, BBQs, cycleway	Not applicable
Walter Street Reserve	17364	Native planting, stormwater drains, undeveloped	General Community. Use
McBurney Street Reserve.	1530	Bushland, rock outcrop above unfenced 10m cliff, path, lookout (no view), safety rail	Natural Area -bushland
Fleming Park	700 approx	Paths, cycleway, trees (freeway overhead)	Park, General Community Use
Talus Street Reserve	19228	8 tennis courts, clubhouse, car parking, pathway, native planting, re-created wetland	Not applicable

<b>PARK</b>	<b>Area (m2)</b>	<b>Existing Facilities/Features</b>	<b>Category<sup>†</sup></b>
Marlow Street Reserve	3281	Large grass area, play slide, native woodland. Seats and native landscaping in Shepherd Road closure	Park
Barton Road Reserve	1910	Undeveloped	General. Community Use
Waters Road Closures	480	Trees, lawn	Park
Parkes Street Closure	480	Lawn, shrubs, sandstone	General Community Use
Palmer Street Closure	1120	Shrub screen, paths, road	Park
Eric Street Closure	640	Shrub screen, paths	Park
French Street Closure	320	Trees, grass	Park
Milner Road Closure	320	Undeveloped	General Community Use
Abbott Road Closure	1120	Concrete road, trees	General Community Use
Bongalong Street Closure	480	Grass, new trees	Park
Ella Street Reserve	640	Grass, tree, bollards	Park
Olympia Road Reserve	4160	Undeveloped	General Community Use
Muttama, Stafford and Tindale Road Closures	320 480 320 Total: 1120	Concrete road, street trees	General Community Use
Artarmon Link Path	6240	Partially constructed cycle path over stormwater pipe	Not applicable
Artarmon Pathways	2080	Footpaths, grass, small trees, play equipment	General Community Use
Brook Street Reserves	West -1500 East -1700 approx	Footpath, concrete road, trees boulders, stormwater headwalls	General Community Use

<sup>†</sup> As per the Local Government Act (1993)

## 5. EXISTING LEASE/LICENCE DETAILS

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Leases and licences formalise the use of community land by groups such as sporting clubs and schools, or by commercial organisations or individuals providing facilities or services for public use at little or no cost to Council. Leases and licences must be authorised by the Plan of Management for the subject land, and comply with the other relevant requirements of the Local Government Act (1993), specifically sections 44 to 47 of the Act.

There are no existing leases on any of the Council owned land covered by this Plan of Management.

There are currently four existing leases on two of the Crown Reserves covered by this Plan of Management. These leases are subject to the provisions of the Crown Lands Act (1989).

The *Open Space Plan (1996)* recommends as a matter of general policy that there be no further alienation of parkland due to the issuing of leases granting exclusive use of those areas to the lessee.

### 5.1 Lease/Licence Arrangements Authorised By This Plan

#### 5.1.1 Cleland Park

This is a Crown Reserve.

There are two **leases** on this park:

- I. Artarmon District Tennis Club has 3 tennis courts and clubhouse. The lease expires August, 2002;
- II. Cleland Tennis Club has 3 courts and a clubroom. The lease expires September, 1999.

The Girl Guides Hall has a separate arrangement with the Department of Land and Water Conservation.

#### 5.1.2 Talus Street Reserve

This is a Crown Reserve.

Northern Suburbs Tennis Club has 8 courts and a clubhouse on **lease**. The lease expires April 1998.

#### 5.1.3 Artarmon Reserve

This is a Crown Reserve.

Playing fields at Artarmon Reserve are **licensed** to sporting groups and schools on a seasonal basis through the Winter sports season.

#### 5.1.4 Thomson Park

Playing fields at Thomson Park are **licensed** to sporting groups and schools on a seasonal basis through the Summer and Winter sports seasons.

### 5.2 Leases / Licence Arrangements on Crown Reserves

The issue and renewal of leases on Crown Reserves are subject to the provisions of the Crown Lands Act (1989) and require the consent of the Minister of Land and Water Conservation.

## **6. PARKS SYSTEM PLAN OF MANAGEMENT**

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### **6.1 Basis For Management**

The conservation, development and maintenance of open space according to sound environmental procedures, in order to provide a diverse and satisfying range of outdoor settings and recreation.

### **6.2 Objectives For Parkland Management**

- To identify and protect public parkland.
- To provide visible and accessible open space.
- To avoid alienation of parkland.
- To protect the environment and manage natural events such as water infiltration to soil, control of soil erosion, protection of water courses, growth of plants for oxygen replenishment and air filtration.
- To provide 'green', health-promoting parks, and to exclude any damaging or disturbing influence of utilities and urban infrastructure etc.
- To satisfy general outdoor recreation needs.
- To provide limited special recreational facilities.
- To provide a variety of park settings and facilities.
- To provide a pleasant outdoor public space within 500 metres of all homes.
- To provide attractive views into the parks.
- To provide non-vehicular links between streets and neighbours.
- To provide parks that are focal points for local communities.
- To provide parks that are safe, and places of fun, learning and socialising for all ages.

### **6.3 Action Plan To Achieve Objectives**

- Consult and involve the community in management of parks.
- Assess the ability of existing parks to provide identified open space needs.
- Identify and protect areas of environmental importance.
- Provide venues to meet outdoor recreational needs.
- Identify existing parkland which does not and cannot adequately provide open space needs, and arrange disposal of this land.

- Identify and remove encroachments in the parks.
- Identify suitable locations and land to meet open space needs, and arrange for acquisition or use of that land.
- Plan new park development to meet identified needs.
- Park planning and development to provide the maximum area of vegetation and the minimum area of paving and buildings.
- Grow trees for habitat purposes, climate control, screening, and as landscape features.
- Carry out park development which has Council and community approval.
- Investigate park problems and opportunities in order to achieve a healthy environment for people, plants and wildlife.
- Encourage wide participation in the use and appreciation of parks.
- Develop and apply park maintenance strategies to achieve attractive and safe parks.
- Control the behaviour of people and animals in order to make parks safe, healthy and appealing to most people.
- Develop pleasant walking links between parks.
- Install attractive and consistent park signage.
- Install suitable park furniture and facilities.

#### **6.4 Assessment**

- Necessary investigations are completed
- Effective consultation with the community takes place.
- Necessary park planning is completed.
- Planned open space is provided.
- Approved park developments are completed.
- Surveys of park users are conducted and results assessed.
- Residents who live near parks are consulted for their opinion of that park.
- Carry out park inspections to assess visual features, safety issues, maintenance requirements, etc.
- 'State of the Park' reports to be prepared by district resident groups annually.
- Provision of park facilities to be compared with district census information and recreation needs study results (5 yearly).

#### **6.5 Principles Of Crown Land Management**

Artarmon Reserve, Artarmon Park, Talus Street Reserve, Taylor Lane Reserve and Cleland Park are Crown Reserves under the control of Willoughby City Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 48 of the Local Government Act (1993).

This Plan of Management takes into account the following principles of management in respect of crown land as set out in The Crown Lands Act (1989):

- a) *“that environmental protection principles be observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown land;*
- b) *that the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flor, fauna and scenic quality be conserved wherever possible;*
- c) *that public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged;*
- d) *that, where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land be encouraged;*
- e) *that, where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity; and*
- f) *that Crown land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles.”*



## **7. GENERAL PARK MANAGEMENT ISSUES AND STRATEGIES**

### **7.1 Park Names**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Strategy</b>
<p>Many of the parks in this plan of management have not been officially named. They are simply known by the nearest street name, and some are still called 'road closure' rather than parks.</p> <p>The naming of parks is a formal process carried out through the Geographical Names Board of NSW. Naming of public places presents a wonderful opportunity to recognise historical events, local features or personalities. Local communities should be involved in the selection of place names to ensure relevance and ownership of the name.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiate consultation to establish suitable names for the unnamed parks.</li> <li>• Ensure the new names are used on park signs.</li> </ul>

### **7.2 Park Signs**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Strategy</b>
<p>Most of the parks in Naremburn Ward do not have name signs. In some cases there is no indication that the land is in public ownership. Willoughby Council intends to develop a signage system so that all parks will have attractive and consistent name signs and information signs. Park signs should not detract from the appearance of the parks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop the park signage system.</li> <li>• Prepare a program for park sign installation.</li> <li>• Install the park name signs at all parks.</li> <li>• Install directional signs to parks where necessary.</li> </ul>

### **7.3 Park Facilities and Furniture**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Strategy</b>
<p>The focus group meeting and letters to Council stated that many parks have insufficient facilities. In fact many parks do not even have a seat. The reports on each park in this plan of management give recommendations for additional furniture and facilities where appropriate. In some parks a well placed rock or log may be the only seat required.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a programme for provision of furniture and facilities</li> </ul>

### **7.4 Playgrounds**

Issue	Strategy
<p>The <i>Open Space Plan</i> recommended that Artarmon Reserve playground be upgraded to a 'district level' playground, the playground at Thomson Park be upgraded, and all 'local level' playgrounds (all the rest in this plan of management) be maintained or upgraded to a high standard of facility.</p> <p>The focus group meeting expressed concern that when play equipment is removed it is not replaced or there is a long wait for replacement. A number of letters requested maintenance of play equipment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiate consultation re: playground equipment for recommended parks.</li> <li>• Design playground improvements and new playgrounds.</li> <li>• Prepare a program for playground improvements.</li> <li>• Carry out playground improvements and installations.</li> </ul>

## 7.5 Dog Access

Issue	Strategy
<p>It is generally considered a healthy activity for dogs and their owners to walk. Parks where the dog can run free are popular destinations for walking and car trips. Many people own dogs and most people like dogs. The presence of dogs in parks is appealing for some but disturbing or frightening for others. Dog faeces are unpleasant and may be a health risk. It is more often the presence of dog faeces, not the dog itself that causes annoyance. In public places it is the responsibility of dog owners to ensure that their dog is leashed and does not defecate, or to remove faeces if that occurs.</p> <p>The <i>Open Space Plan</i> states that "Dogs and dog excreta have reduced the quality of the open space experience for all users".</p> <p>It recommends that dog laws and policies be enforced and other actions taken such as; education of owners, introduction of dung beetles and dog loos, and the designation of some open spaces as dog walking areas. Current Council regulations prohibit dogs from all playgrounds and picnic areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install dog loos or dog excreta bins in selected parks.</li> <li>• Introduce suitable dung beetles to identified 'dog' parks.</li> </ul>

## 7.6 Walking and Cycle Routes

Issue	Strategy
<p>Council is in the process of implementing a system of walking and bicycle routes throughout the Municipality, both as transport linkages and to access specific areas and features.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is recommended that the parks be incorporated in the development of pedestrian and cycling links, both in a local context and as part of Council's overall bicycle route and walking trail development programs.</li> </ul>

## 7.7 Community Involvement In Park Management

Issue	Strategy
<p>This plan recommends that local residents play an active role in the decisions, management and maintenance of their parks. It is anticipated that neighbours will keep an eye on nearby parks and advise Council of needs, problems and good ideas. Local residents could form a neighbourhood committee or become 'friends of the park' to monitor use, development and maintenance of the park and to assist in voluntary care activities.</p> <p>For some of the small parks and street closures, Council could negotiate with neighbours of the park for them to carry out the maintenance of lawns and cleaning.</p> <p>It is recommended that a system be established where an annual 'State of the Parks' report is prepared by the community. It is envisaged that this would be coordinated by the Progress Associations. The report would cover issues of park use and maintenance, and suggestions for changes to the parks.</p>	<p>In accordance with this goal, this plan recommends that the community be encouraged to participate in the following aspects of park management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>involvement in the decision making process</li> <li>input into the design process</li> <li>community planting programs</li> <li>community involvement in the ongoing maintenance of the parks</li> <li>local community be invited to participate in a "friends of park" style group to monitor the use of the relevant park, provide feedback to Council, and to assist in voluntary activities.</li> </ul>

## 7.8 Sun Protection

Issue	Strategy
<p>Australia has a very high incidence of skin cancer. The provision of shade in open space areas is often limited, or in some cases non-existent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide shade trees or shade structures wherever necessary to supply sun protection for park users, particularly the young.</li> </ul>

## 7.9 Promotion of the Parks

Issue	Strategy
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Issue	Strategy
<p>A map or brochure of all Naremburn Ward parks should be produced showing the facilities, existing organised activities and suggestions for recreation.</p> <p>This map should also show linkpaths and include information about non-car methods of travel to the parks.</p> <p>The information should be in graphic form using international symbols as far as possible.</p> <p>An invitation to contact Council for further information should be written in English and the likely first language of non-English speaking background residents.</p> <p>This map/brochure should be circulated widely in Naremburn, Artarmon and nearby areas, and provided to groups which hire the parks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produce a map identifying all the parks located in Naremburn Ward, showing their location, access routes, facilities available, specific usages, and any other information deemed applicable.</li> <li>• The map should be in a format consistent with other similar Council publications, be easy to interpret, be in graphic format, and use recognised interpretation symbols. Points of contact for further information should be printed on the map in English and the major predominant non-English languages spoken in the Municipality.</li> <li>• The map should comprise part of an overall Open Space System coordinated information package, and be made readily available to the public through the following channels; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Rates notices</li> <li>* Council News publications</li> <li>* Council Offices and facilities</li> <li>* Schools</li> <li>* Shopping Centres</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Council should also promote the parks by adopting a co-ordinated system of signage identifying the parks and their locations</li> </ul>

## 7.10 Encroachment & Boundary Management

Issue	Strategy
<p>Council has responsibilities under the Local Government Act (1993) to manage community lands for community benefit. Encroachments and the private or exclusive use of community land can only be permitted subject to the issuing of Licences or Leases.</p> <p>Parks have been used for the dumping of rubbish/waste and the storage of materials. This alienates recreational use.</p> <p>Boundaries of parks are not always clearly defined where they adjoin non-Council owned land.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and clearly mark boundaries of Council reserves.</li> <li>• Encroachments are to be identified and clearly marked. Council to resolve the issue with the party/s involved.</li> <li>• Council to discourage by use of appropriate methods the dumping of rubbish or storage of materials in reserves.</li> <li>• Enforce the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act (1993).</li> </ul>

## 7.11 Natural Environment

Issue	Strategy
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Issue	Strategy
<p>One of the major open space goals identified in the <i>Open Space Plan (1996)</i> was</p> <p><i>“To protect and enhance the natural and cultural landscape qualities of the City through the management of the open space system.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The parks be managed as a system of “green” linkages between the larger parks and open space areas</li> <li>• Assess the potential for the creation or enhancement of habitat and/or wildlife corridors in areas not essential for other recreation purposes.</li> <li>• Initiate a study to identify actual/potential habitat and corridors across the Willoughby Local Government Area, as per the <i>Urban Bushland Plan Of Management</i>.</li> <li>• Remnant bushland pockets in the parks be protected and appropriate management be undertaken.</li> <li>• Locally occurring indigenous native plant species be used in park plantings.</li> <li>• Removal from the parks of plant species known to cause weed infestation problems in bushland areas.</li> <li>• Install interpretation signage and elements.</li> <li>• Progress towards environmentally sustainable landscape design and management practices.</li> <li>• Re-establish appropriate native vegetation on sites where natural conditions have been significantly altered.</li> <li>• Provide a wide range of habitat types required for encouraging, maintaining and increasing native fauna.</li> <li>• Make available to residents information on how they can contribute to the provision of native fauna habitat.</li> <li>• Adopt relevant management strategies as per the <i>Urban Bushland Plan Of Management</i>.</li> </ul>

## 7.12 Greenhouse Strategies

Issue	Strategy
<p>Greenhouse gas buildup is recognised as a major global environmental issue. All sectors of government have initiated greenhouse gas reduction strategies and policies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake tree planting programs as part of greenhouse gases reduction strategy.</li> <li>• Design and manage the parks to minimise greenhouse gas production.</li> </ul>

## 7.13 Resource Allocation and Prioritisation

Issue	Strategy
<p>Council resources for open space management are finite, and are subject to the constraints of the political and economic processes. Management priorities need to be established to ensure that available resources are used effectively and efficiently to the greatest benefit.</p> <p>The parks covered by this plan do not require an extensive commitment to resource input to bring about an improvement in their condition and facilities. Many of the actions recommended in the relevant Management Plans can be implemented in stages, and with community involvement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority ranking of the various management issues and actions needs to be undertaken. The process should be clear and well documented, subject to public consultation/accountability, and incorporate a process of review.</li> <li>• Initiate community consultation process in respect of revised park use and requirement for new recreational facilities.</li> <li>• Identify opportunities for community involvement in the provision and maintenance of park infrastructure.</li> </ul>

## 7.14 Creekline/Stormwater Management

Issue	Strategy
<p>Severe water quality and environmental degradation occurs in the creekline systems in the parks. This adversely impacts on the environmental amenity of the parks, on downstream areas, and on the receiving waters of Middle Harbour. Council also has statutory responsibilities under the Clean Waters Act (1970) and SEPP 19 in respect of water quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiate management strategies designed to reduce the input of nutrients and sediment into the creekline systems.</li> <li>• Initiate appropriate water quality and vegetation management strategies to improve and maintain acceptable quality standards in the creekline system.</li> <li>• Refer to and adopt the strategies and recommendations contained in the <i>Urban Bushland Plan Of Management (1997)</i>, the <i>Strategies for Stormwater Management in the City of Willoughby (1994)</i>, and Council's draft <i>Stormwater Policy</i>.</li> </ul>

## 7.15 Maintenance

Issue	Strategy
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Reduce recurrent resource inputs and costs without compromising the standards of park maintenance.

- Utilise drought tolerant plant species, particularly grasses and ground covers.
- Plant out with trees.
- Simple designs using durable materials for park signage and furniture.
- Adopt environmentally sustainable landscape principles in park design and management.

## 7.16 Equitable Access

Issue	Strategy
<p>Council has obligations for access for all in accordance with the Disability Discrimination Act.</p> <p>Many of the parks also have limited facilities for frail aged and stroller access.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where the requirement is identified, install appropriate infrastructure to allow access to the reserves by people with a disability, frail aged and for stroller access.</li> <li>• Where the requirement is identified install play equipment suitable for use by children with a disability.</li> </ul>

## 7.17 Leases and Licences

Issue	Strategy
<p>There is a finite limit to the amount of accessible open space in the Ward.</p> <p>The <i>Open Space Plan (1996)</i> recommended that existing parkland areas are not to be alienated from the public.</p> <p>Council has statutory responsibilities and obligations under the Local Government Act (1993). Council also has statutory responsibilities and obligations under the Crown Lands Act (1989) in respect of crown reserves under the control of Council.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No new leases on Council owned land to be authorised under this Plan of Management.</li> <li>• Negotiate / renew leases on crown reserves as per the provisions of the Crown Lands Act (1989).</li> </ul>

## 7.18 Ecologically Sustainable Development

Issue	Strategy
<p>The <i>Local Government Amendment (Ecologically Sustainable Development) Act 1997</i> requires that Councils adopt a fully ecologically sustainable focus when carrying out their functions.</p> <p>In accordance with the provisions of the Act, Council is required to properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment of the area for which it is responsible in a manner consistent with and which promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate the principles of ecologically sustainable development in relation to open space planning and management, including;                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* design of open space areas</li> <li>* choice of plant material</li> <li>* mowing &amp; maintenance practices</li> <li>* pest &amp; weed control</li> <li>* bush regeneration methods</li> <li>* habitat protection</li> <li>* water useage</li> <li>* community involvement</li> <li>* design &amp; maintenance of recreational facilities</li> </ul> </li>   <li>• Refer to Appendix 10.2 for general principles of ecologically sustainable development.</li> </ul>





## **8. MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR INDIVIDUAL PARKS**

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## 8.1 Cleland Park

### 8.1.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide specialised sport (tennis) and community facilities in a parkland setting.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a medium size park of 0.7942 ha on gently sloping land, with 'district' useage. The park is a Crown Reserve under the control of Willoughby City Council. It has been intensively developed for sports and community facilities and provides 6 tennis courts, 2 clubhouses, Girl Guides hall, playground, toilets and car parking. The park is surrounded by medium/high density housing.

### 8.1.2 Management Issues

#### Safety

Five separate safety issues were raised in letters or the focus group meetings.

**Bunya pine, danger of falling fruits.** There are 2 Bunya pine trees in the park. This native species from the Bunya Mountains of Queensland produces football sized, solid fruits of up to 10kg. The fruit do not occur every year, but in fruiting years they form on the highest branches and fall in December-January.

Many of these trees have been planted around Australia and the fruits have been known to cause damage to property. The risk to people can be minimised by fencing beyond the canopy line to keep people away from the tree in summer of fruiting years. This would cause inconvenience by blocking the Hampden Road footpath and obstructing the nearest tennis court. The fruit can be removed before they fall but this is a difficult and expensive job because of the height and the very spiky leaves. Tree removal is a total and cost effective answer to the problem. Other more suitable trees should be planted if these trees are removed.

**Playground soft fall and fence.** The playground surface is sand, hard packed soil and tree roots. Sand is an effective and clean soft fall material if it is kept raked under the play equipment, and domestic animals are excluded. Good synthetic soft fall materials are expensive, must be laid skillfully and repaired when damaged.

A playground fence would be advantageous in allowing parents to play tennis without constantly checking that children have not wandered off. A fence would also keep dogs out of the playground.

**Swooping Magpie.** This is only a problem in the nesting season but can be a frightening experience and may discourage children and parents from using this park.

#### Lease Details

There are two (2) leases on this park:

- I. Artarmon District Tennis Club - 3 tennis courts and clubhouse. The lease expires August, 2002
- II. Cleland Tennis Club - 3 courts and a clubroom. The lease expires September, 1999.

The leases are considered an appropriate management arrangement for the public benefit.

The Girl Guides Hall has a separate lease arrangement with the Crown.

**Night Lighting.** This park is in a high population area and many people must walk past on their way to and from the station. It is reasonable that sufficient lighting be provided to walk safely on the footpaths around the edge of the park.

**Dangerous Slope to Hampden Road.** There is a sloping bank from the footpath to busy Hampden Road. The existing fence seems to provide adequate safety for older children and pedestrians on the footpath. Shrub planting on the bank would provide extra safety for young children, and screen the road.

#### Facilities

**BBQ.** There are large numbers of people using this park, many being members of the tennis clubs or Girl Guides. An electric BBQ could be installed, or the groups combine to purchase an efficient gas BBQ which can be moved to whichever area of the park an event is held.

**Playground Equipment.** There is a demand for playground facilities for the children of tennis players, for children before and after tennis lessons, for the Girl Guides and local children. This is a location where playground equipment would be heavily used and appreciated.

**Landscape.** The park landscape is looking a bit shabby and lacks coordinated design. Grass in the north-eastern area is very sparse and the soil dry and hard. Sandstone paths are worn, and many of the trees are just surviving. The carpark is barren with no shade trees. The pine log retaining walls do not match any other construction in the park. The brush box trees do provide shade and are a unifying element, but the lawns around them are threadbare and dissected by pathways.

### 8.1.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To continue to provide specialised sport (tennis) facilities.</li> <li>2. To provide an attractive park setting for the tennis and other community activities.</li> <li>3. To provide a safe park by managing the known safety issues as far as is reasonable.</li> <li>4. To provide a high quality playground.</li> <li>5. To provide or support the provision of facilities which will increase the enjoyment and use of the park by the local community.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Invite the 2 present lease holders as well as Girl Guides, Artarmon School and the Ward committee to work with Council to plan improvements for the park.</li> <li>2. Develop a landscape improvement plan incorporating;                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Siting of the playground</li> <li>• Selection of playground equipment, soft fall and fencing</li> <li>• Screen planting to Hampden Road</li> <li>• Re-alignment of pathways, possibly on the perimeter of the lawn area</li> <li>• Inclusion/removal of the formal steps at the Hampden Road corner</li> <li>• Improvement of the soil and grass</li> <li>• Tree planting at the carpark</li> <li>• Tree planting and surface treatment near the Guides hall.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Develop management strategies to address identified safety issues.</li> <li>4. Renew leases as per the provisions of the Crown Lands Act (1989) and ensuring that high quality facilities continue to be available to the local community.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park improvement planning group is formed.</li> <li>• Landscape design is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Safety issues are dealt with.</li> <li>• Leases are renewed.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Survey of users of the park</li> </ul>

## 8.2 Jersey Road Reserve

### 8.2.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a highly accessible local park which meets the special needs of community child care and the community.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a small park with 'district' useage. It is surrounded by medium/high density housing and industry. The park was 3 residential lots and one of the houses has been retained for use as the 'Kids Cottage', an after school childcare facility run by Council.

The park has an area of 0.2866 ha. Facilities at the park include a fenced playground, an open playground, picnic table, seats, bubbler, carpark, trees and landscaping.

The Jersey Road pavement in front of the cottage is zoned Open Space. Pedestrian links to Buller and Milner Roads were established with adjacent home unit and town house development.

### 8.2.2 Management Issues

#### The Community Building

The focus group recommended that the Kids Cottage activities continue in this park. There would appear to be a need for child care facilities in this high population density area adjacent to an industrial zone. A purpose designed building could be located closer to the carpark or on the present Jersey Road in order to open more of the park for recreation and better relate that space to the building.

Additional tables and seats could be installed, near the playground and in lunchtime summer-shade/winter-sun positions near the carpark.

A toilet at the cottage could have external access for park users.

It is reasonable that people take their rubbish away with them so a bin is not required, but could be installed for the convenience of lunch time users.

A tap should be installed so people can wash their hands.

#### Playgrounds

There are 2 separate playgrounds in this park. The more elaborate one adjoins the cottage and is fenced for use by the supervised after school group. The other is unfenced and available for general use.

This arrangement seems to restrict the ease and maximum use of the playgrounds. It may be possible for the fenced playground to be available for pre-schoolers with mothers group supervision, and for general use on weekends etc.

The stone edge of the unfenced playground may be a danger. The stone could be replaced by timber or recycled rubber edges, or moved out of fall distance from the play equipment.

The playground fence presently meets the northern boundary fence. This divides the park and stops children running around the perimeter.

A childrens bike track could be placed on this site

#### Access and Parking

There are 3 access paths and a road to the park but none of these is signposted. The paths look like private access and the one from Milner Road even has a 'Private' sign. These paths should have signposts to the park, and be shown on a map/pamphlet of parks, walks and bicycle tracks.

A carpark is required for drop off and collection of children attending the cottage. The present carpark in White Street should remain in part, with changes to make it suitable to serve the park. There could be a landscaped threshold at Broughton Road and 15km speed limit in the carpark. Parking time limits could be imposed to stop the area becoming a carpark for surrounding homes.

Car access and parking beside the cottage does not seem necessary. A space could be reserved in the carpark for staff / play supervisors, and a trolley used for deliveries. There is a cliff between White Street and the industrial area. Access to the cliff top is prevented by a chainwire fence along the edge of the road. For the safety of park users Council should ensure this fence is kept in good order and that there is no gap adjacent the Milner Road townhouses.

#### Landscaping and Facilities

All of the Jersey Road pavement should be removed and replaced by grass and trees.

### 8.2.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To incorporate the road closures into the park landscape.</li> <li>To provide suitable facilities for the known range of park visitors.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure the cliff top fence is complete and in good order.</li> <li>Remove all of the Jersey Road pavement. Turf this area and plant quick growing trees.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landscape plan is prepared</li> <li>Works are carried out</li> </ul>

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. To ensure access paths are signposted and clear for use.</li> <li>4. To provide safe playgrounds and a safe environment for children.</li> <li>5. To allow maximum use and least duplication of play equipment.</li> <li>6. To provide a suitable community building.</li> <li>7. To site future buildings and playgrounds to best utilise and enhance the park.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Install 1 additional picnic table, 2 seats and a tap.</li> <li>4. Install signposts at the 4 entrances to the park.</li> <li>5. Include the park and access paths on a map/brochure of recreational facilities.</li> <li>6. Retain a Kids Cottage building in the park.</li> <li>7. Establish the number of car parking spaces required.</li> <li>8. Develop a landscape plan for the park, to include tree planting, children's bike track, enlarged playground, picnic shelter, toilet with access from outside the building, and temporary shade structure for the playground.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspection by Council staff</li> <li>• Survey of users of the park</li> </ul>

## 8.3 Artarmon Park

### 8.3.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

Northern section: To protect the existing native trees, and grow additional trees to screen the freeway. To provide a grassed parkland for general recreation. To provide pedestrian/cycle access to Artarmon Reserve. To manage stormwater.

Southern section: To grow trees as a screen to the freeway. To provide a woodland park with picnic facilities and recreational cycle route from Taylor Lane Reserve to Chelmsford Avenue. To manage stormwater.

#### Description / Value Statement

This park is Crown land under the control of Willoughby City Council.

The park is divided by the freeway into two long narrow sections. The northern section has an area of approximately 1.4 ha, and the southern, 0.7 ha.

The northern section is a 'local' park but is viewed by the many users of the Freeway.

It contains a central band of bush with healthy Turpentine and Eucalyptus trees along a small escarpment. The slope and creek below the bush has been reshaped for freeway embankment and drainage, and planted with Australian native species. There is access along the creek under the railway to Artarmon Reserve. Between the bush and low/medium housing across Parkes Road there is gently sloping parkland with specimen trees and an avenue of date palms.

The southern section has been entirely modified for the freeway and contains surface drainage, cycleway access and earth mounding. The Australian native planting on the mound is growing well. Carparking has been built in the reserve along Punch Street, opposite the industrial area. The remainder of the reserve is fenced off with no public access. There is a radio transmission tower and building near the eastern end. The park has no present recreational use, but is viewed by users of the freeway.

### 8.3.2 Management Issues

#### The Northern Section

#### Recreational use and facilities

The lawn area is used for dog walking, and with easy road access and parking this use could be promoted. A dog loo and/or dog faeces bin should be installed and a tap provided so owners can fill a drinking bowl for their dog.

Some people walk across the Clarke Bridge from the industrial area to lunch in the park and it is used by car travellers because it is visible, easily accessible and offers parking in the shade. Lunch time use would increase if seats were installed and the Hampden Road corner of the park made more attractive. A tap and bubbler would be appreciated, as would a rubbish bin. A sign could advise that toilets are available at Thomson Park and Artarmon Reserve.

The bushland and drainage channel provides play and exploration for older children.

#### Access

The 'experienced cyclists only' commuter cyclepath on the freeway goes past but does not access the park. This means that cyclists from Hampden Road must go back to Reserve Road to enter the freeway.

A recreational walking and cycle path through this park to Artarmon Reserve would also connect the west Artarmon area to Flat Rock Gully.

Bollards have been installed to stop cars driving into the park and to reduce rubbish dumping. There is adequate roadside space so car parking should not be provided in the park and the bollards continued to Cleland Road.

#### Southern Section

#### Maintenance

The bushland should be maintained by bush regeneration methods. Rubbish should be removed from the bushland and the park cleaned regularly. The creek should be cleaned of rubbish from time to time, at least after heavy rain.

There has been a request that no sprays be used in the park. Spraying should be kept to a minimum, the safest available chemicals should be used and warning signs erected during spraying and for the duration of the withholding period, in accordance with Council policy.

#### Landscape Character and Improvements

The lawn area with its avenue of palms creates a traditional parkland appearance. This should be maintained and any improvements should continue the theme. The bushland provides a very effective screen to the freeway. Looking from the freeway the bushland is attractive, and the view will be further improved when the new planting grows.

The gully area could be developed as a rainforest.

The overall appearance of this area from the freeway would be improved if the large advertising sign on the railway embankment was removed.

A landscape plan should be developed to upgrade the Hampden Road corner, locate the route of a walking/cycle path, recommend addition/removal of trees and to set the positions of furniture including a small picnic shelter. The bubbler should be next to the path so it will be convenient to walkers and cyclists.

#### Cycle Path

The recreational cycle path from Flat Rock Gully meets the freeway at the eastern end

### **Access and Facilities**

There seems to be no reason to restrict access to this park now that the freeway and ancillary works are complete. The park could provide much needed lunch time and recreational space adjacent the industrial area. The park is narrow, steep and close to the freeway, but it is open space with a district outlook and view of the sky.

Facilities should include seats, picnic settings and a tap.

The chainwire fence should be removed at the eastern end, and a fence installed within two metres of the freeway kerb. If the fence is kept at the western end, gates should be installed near the underpass and half way down Punch Street. Access should also be made where the park mound meets the Clarke Bridge approach. Access should also be available via the cycle/walkway.

### **Car Parking**

The car spaces on the northern side of Punch Street appear to be on the park, this should be investigated. Although car spaces may be in high demand in the area, this is not the purpose of parkland. If the car spaces do encroach the park, Council should consider the history of the matter and negotiate a resolution entailing the removal of the encroachment.

### **Radio Transmission Tower**

The radio transmission tower and building is an encroachment on the park. It is not an acceptable use of parkland and would not usually meet the expectations of the community. It could be argued that this is not a very attractive park adjacent the freeway, and the structure is hardly noticed beside the light posts, railway and factories, but it is a bad precedent. The owners of the tower should seek an acceptable arrangement with Council to formalise this situation.

of the park. 'Experienced cyclists only' can ride straight onto the freeway while others may continue to Punch Street where the cycleway disappears until the pedestrian tunnel is found under Herbert Street. There needs to be a barrier at the freeway to stop inexperienced riders and pedestrians. The cycleway should extend through this park, under the Clarke Bridge to link with Taylor Lane Reserve.

A shared pedestrian / cycle path should be implemented along the northern side of Punch Street.

### **Rubbish Dumping, and Landscaping at the Eastern End of the Park**

Industrial areas can become the target of rubbish dumping, particularly at night and weekends when the adjacent properties are unoccupied. Removal of the fence may increase the problem of rubbish dumping which presently occurs at the eastern end of the park. Installation of bollards, and growth of grass or ground cover plants for a distance from the road may stop the problem. Alternatively, the present fence may be retained at the western end with access gates installed. The area just inside the gates to be kept as grass or ground cover plants to discourage dumping.

Dumped rubbish should be cleaned up as quickly as possible so that an attitude does not develop in the area that dumping is acceptable. Every effort should be made to keep this park clean and attractive from the time of opening. Nearby property owners and workers could be asked to keep a lookout and assist Council to keep the park clean.

A landscape plan needs to be developed for the eastern end to locate the cycleway, clarify the edge of the road, and to improve conditions so that trees will grow.



### 8.3.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To promote recreational use of the park</li> <li>2. To improve pedestrian and cycle access through the park</li> <li>3. To remove encroachments.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Northern Section</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop a landscape plan for the park including location of the cycleway</li> <li>2. Remove rubbish from the bushland</li> <li>3. Install additional bollards near Cleland Street.</li> </ol> <p><b>Southern Section</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consult with property owners, lessees and workers from the adjacent industrial area</li> <li>2. Develop a landscape improvements plan including location of the cycleway, shared pedestrian/cycle path, and appropriate siting of car parking spaces.</li> <li>3. Remove the chainwire fence and install it within 2 metres of the freeway kerb</li> <li>4. Provide a safety barrier where the cycleway enters the freeway</li> <li>5. Resolve the status of the radio transmission tower located in the reserve in accordance with the provisions of the Crown Lands Act (1989).</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigations and negotiations are carried out</li> <li>• Consultation with adjacent property owners and lessees takes place</li> <li>• Designs are completed</li> <li>• Works are carried out</li> <li>• Survey of users of the park</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff</li> <li>• Status of radio transmission tower resolved.</li> </ul>

## 8.4 Robert Street Park

### 8.4.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a safe, local playground for young children

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a very small, house lot size park of 0.0448 ha owned by Willoughby City Council. It is enclosed on 3 sides by medium/high density housing. The gently sloping land has been benched to provide a level, sand filled play area, and a raised garden wall on the northern side doubles as seating. The park is fully fenced and contains a variety of play equipment for young children. This park is well used as a playground and is a community space for the large population in home units nearby.

### 8.4.2 Management Issues

#### Furniture, Shade, Maintenance, Park Sign

An additional seat could be installed against the fence on the southern side where it will be in winter sun.

The park is shaded in winter by the building on the north and the tree in the north-east (far-left) corner. Council could arrange pruning of this tree to make the park brighter in winter. The park is very hot in summer with no shade from the afternoon sun.

A deciduous tree on the nature strip or just inside the gate would provide this protection.

This park is appealing because of its 'dolls house' appearance. It must be maintained very well to keep this appeal. The fence and equipment must be repainted regularly and repaired quickly if damaged. The gate and latch must work properly, and the gardens must be maintained and preferably kept pretty with some flowers. Nearby residents may be happy to assist with the gardening.

The park does not have a name sign or any indication that it is public space. Some unit blocks have private playgrounds, and in an area with a high proportion of people from non English speaking backgrounds, the park should be clearly identified as public land with free access.

### 8.4.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
1. To maintain the park in very good state of repair and appearance.	1. Develop and carry out a suitable maintenance programme for the park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey of users of the park and adjacent residents.</li> <li>• Recommended maintenance is carried out.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee.</li> </ul>
2. To provide suitable seating and shade.	2. Install a seat near the southern (right hand side) fence.	
3. To involve nearby residents in maintenance of the gardens.	3. Plant a suitable deciduous tree on the nature strip or to the left of the gate.	
4. To identify the park as public space.	4. Invite nearby residents to become 'Friends of the Park' and to assist with gardening, especially the growing of pretty flowers.	
	5. Install a park name sign clearly identifying the park as public space.	

## 8.5 Taylor Lane Reserve

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### 8.5.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### The Basis For Management

To provide a parkland with areas suitable for active recreation, and lunch time picnics. To grow trees and manage stormwater. To be a pleasant, shady park on the cycle/walkway route.

#### Description / Value Statement

A small crown reserve of 0.3432 ha under the control of Willoughby City Council. The western half is level, the eastern half forms a wide, gabion floored drainage channel flowing to the freeway. There are industrial properties to the west and south,

freeway on lower ground at the northern boundary, and the concrete wall of the Hampden Road bridge approach on the east. The site was used as a storage site for concrete pipes and kerbing for the expressway construction.

This is the only park in the Artarmon industrial area between Herbert Street, the freeway, Royal North Shore Hospital and the Pacific Highway. It has an open northerly aspect which will make it a sunny, appealing location in winter. When landscaped, it will provide a much needed park for workers in this area. The park is a link in the Cycle/walkway route which can be connected when the park is opened for public use.

### 8.5.2 Management Issues

#### Recreation

The park has sufficient space, and should provide an area for ball games. Many of the workers in this area will be young and will appreciate a place to be active. A basketball ring would be well used.

Factory hours of work may begin before sunrise in winter so an open sunny area will be welcome at lunch times

#### Landscaping and facilities

The park has no present landscaping.

A landscape improvement plan needs to be developed taking into account; recreation needs, the site conditions and drainage functions, soil conditions for tree planting, access and the cycleway, and the need to exclude vehicles and discourage dumping of rubbish.

The park should have at least 6 seats or picnic tables, set in different areas so individuals and groups can find a spot in their short lunchtime. A roofed picnic area would also be in high demand on rainy days.

There should be a tap and bubbler and rubbish bin.

Car parking should not be provided. The park will serve the nearby industrial area which is in short walking distance, space in the park is too precious to lose, and the narrow access lane would become a traffic block if people drive to the park

#### Barriers, Access and Rubbish Dumping

Two boundaries of the park are narrow access roads to factories. The park will need very robust barriers to keep trucks and cars out, and to absorb vehicle damage without becoming too shabby. It is likely there will be requests to provide additional traffic width or roadside parking on a temporary or permanent basis. The park boundaries to the lanes must be considered as immovable as walls of a building. The fence on the freeway side should be removed and installed within 2 metres of the freeway kerb.

Industrial areas can become the target of rubbish dumping, particularly at night and weekends when the adjacent properties are unoccupied. A fence incorporating access gates may be necessary if rubbish dumping is too frequent. The area just inside the gates to be kept as grass to discourage dumping. Dumped rubbish should be cleaned up as quickly as possible. Every effort should be made to keep this park clean and attractive. Nearby property owners and workers could be asked to assist Council to keep the park clean.

#### Walkway / Cycleway

The combined recreational/commuter path should continue from Artarmon Park (south) through this park to the existing path at Whiting Street to Hotham Parade. The path could come through the Hampden underpass or under the Clarke Bridge, cross the park and continue between the factories and freeway till going under the Reserve Road bridge. The best route to be established as part of the landscape plan.

### 8.5.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide a parkland space in the Artarmon industrial area</li> <li>2. To landscape the park and make it available for public use</li> <li>3. To grow trees to soften views to and from the freeway</li> <li>4. To continue the cycleway/walking path.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consult with owners and workers in adjacent properties</li> <li>2. Consult with the RTA to locate the cycleway/walking path near the freeway</li> <li>3. Develop a landscape improvement plan addressing issues raised above and including seats, picnic tables and shelter, lawn basketball court, barrier fencing.</li> <li>4. Remove fences and install elsewhere as required.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigations / negotiations are carried out.</li> <li>• Designs are completed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Survey of users of the park and adjacent industrial properties.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments prepared by Ward Committee</li> </ul>

## 8.6 White Street Reserve

### 8.6.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a local park with trees and childrens play equipment

#### Description / Value Statement

This small, gently sloping park of 0.2088 ha is owned by Willoughby City Council. It is enclosed on 3 sides by medium/high density housing with detached homes across the road. There is a large Magnolia grandiflora tree, and a Norfolk Island pine tree. The park landscaping includes a sandstone stair and wall feature, a playground, picnic table, 2 seats and gardens.

This is a 'local' park, serving the adjoining and nearby homes with some use by supervised play groups. It provides a quiet, green space in the area between Artarmon Station and the Pacific Highway.

### 8.6.2 Management Issues

#### Playground, Play Equipment and Shade

The playground is a very pleasant setting, but the stone and sand get hot in summer. A deciduous tree planted on the northern side of the playground would allow summer shade and winter sun. A shade cloth on posts over the playground in summer could give protection from the sun for 5 years until the shade tree is large enough.

The stone walls and blocks present a challenge to climb, have interesting texture and are reasonably safe. Woodchip or a synthetic material may be successful under the flying fox. Additional play equipment could be installed and play spaces created around the park. Opportunities will arise to use parts of the garden beds as the trees grow.

This park has been designed to contain the present facilities, it could be spoilt by trying to fit too much in. It may be better to walk to the nearby Kids Cottage for other play activities such as a small bicycle/pedal car track.

#### Furniture and Maintenance

This park is quite well provided with furniture. It may however be appreciated if a table was installed between the Norfolk Island pine tree and the playground where it

would be in afternoon shade in summer. A tap and bubbler could be installed but a rubbish bin is not necessary in this local park.

The gardens and lawns of this park need to be maintained frequently and well for the park to look at its best. It may be possible for nearby residents to form a volunteer group to carry out the gardening required.

#### Access and Road Safety

Access is very good with a path and gently sloping grass from the White Street footpath. The Francis Road Greenpath continues across Buller Road and between the units to the edge of the park where it stops at a 500mm drop. This path should be continued as a gentle ramp into the park and through to the White Street footpath, meandering along the garden edge. There could be a small loop path where it enters the park and another at the northern end of the White Street footpath which would allow this to be used as a childrens bike track. Vegetation should be trimmed on the path between the units and a sign to the park erected at Buller Road.

The White Street vehicle thresholds installed in 1996 provide reasonable safety at the road and allow the area near the road to be used more fully.

### 8.6.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To improve access</li> <li>2. To improve play opportunities</li> <li>3. To provide better shelter from the sun</li> <li>4. To provide suitable facilities</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consult nearby residents and invite them to become 'Friends of the Park' and to assist with maintenance of the gardens.</li> <li>2. Develop a landscape improvement plan addressing issues raised above, including;                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deciduous tree on the northern side of the playground</li> <li>• Temporary shade structure over the playground</li> <li>• Additional play equipment</li> <li>• Additional table between playground and Norfolk Island pine</li> <li>• Tap and bubbler</li> <li>• Continuation of Greenpath from Buller Road to White Street</li> <li>• Small end loops on the Greenpath and footpath for child bike path use</li> <li>• Sign to the park at the Greenpath on Buller Road</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Complete the path from Buller Road to White Street</li> <li>4. Trim vegetation along the Greenpath</li> <li>5. Install a sign to the park at the Buller Road entry to the Greenpath</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey of users of the park and adjacent residents.</li> <li>• Carry out other works as recommended on the landscape plan</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by the 'Friends'/Ward Committee</li> </ul>

## 8.7 Mowbray Road Reserve

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### 8.7.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide an attractive garden corridor to Mowbray Road, for the growth of significant trees, and to be a pleasant transit and resting place for pedestrians.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a very small triangular park of 0.0284 ha owned by Willoughby City Council. It contains a large Camphor Laurel tree, Brush Box tree and Date Palm. The heavy canopy of these trees creates a tiny forest setting which is enhanced by trees in the grounds of St Stephens church rectory opposite. Adjacent properties are detached residential dwellings

### 8.7.2 Management Issues

#### Trees and Landscape Character

The large trees create an atmosphere of cool shade, of protection and enclosure, of the strength and age of nature.

This is especially valuable because the park is seen by the many people who travel on Mowbray Road.

The trees should be cared for to ensure good health and safety.

Planning should consider the location and timing of additional and replacement trees.

The recently planted golden elm is unlikely to grow large enough to be a worthy replacement in this park.

The landscape at ground level should be simple and allow access under the trees.

Most landscape features would look insignificant under the trees and should be avoided.

Some unattractive structures on adjacent properties should be screened with plants.

#### Maintenance

There is no parking on Mowbray Road adjacent the park and no vehicular access.

This would make it difficult for maintenance crews to service the park. Council could investigate the possibility of adjacent residents maintaining the park.

#### Furniture

The park could be a pleasant resting place for pedestrians between Willoughby Road and The Pacific Highway. A seat should be provided.

The park should have a name sign.

#### Traffic on Mowbray Road

The road traffic is noisy and disturbing, particularly the westward lanes which drive straight towards the park. A screen along the nature strip would reduce the effect of traffic but should be low enough for road users to view the park.

#### Relationship with Adjoining Land

The trees throw shadow and drop leaves on adjoining properties, but also provide a wonderful noise screen, physical barrier and air filter to Mowbray Road.

Council could provide a collection service if adjacent residents rake and bag excess leaves which fall on their property

### 8.7.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Action	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To maintain large trees as the dominant feature of the park.</li> <li>2. To promote use and appreciation of the park.</li> <li>3. To reduce the negative impact of traffic on the park.</li> <li>4. To maintain the park in an attractive condition.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Care for the existing trees and inspect annually for health and safety.</li> <li>2. Develop a plan for location and timing of replacement trees. One tree could be planted in the south-western corner of the park.</li> <li>3. Plant a hedge between the footpath and road kerb. The hedge to be kept approximately 0.5 metres high and extend from the driveway of No. 220 Mowbray Road to in front of No. 210 Mowbray Road.</li> <li>4. Plant shrubs along the fence to screen adjacent structures.</li> <li>5. Investigate the purpose of the ditch adjacent the garage of No. 220 Mowbray Road and fill it in if it does not serve a public purpose.</li> <li>6. Remove the Golden Elm tree as this type is of too small a scale for the park.</li> <li>7. Plant shrubs to screen the garage of No. 220 Mowbray Road, and paint the stormwater pipes which are attached to the garage a brick colour.</li> <li>8. Remove the concrete seat base near No. 210 Mowbray Road.</li> <li>9. Install a seat near the brush box tree.</li> <li>10. Install a park name sign.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The park is maintained in an attractive condition.</li> <li>• The park is used for sitting / resting.</li> <li>• The present trees remain in good health.</li> <li>• Tree replacement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Neighbours are pleased with their involvement, and the condition of the park</li> </ul>



## 8.8 Elizabeth Street Reserve

### 8.8.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide an attractive landscape feature by growing plants and trees.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a tiny triangular garden of 0.0107 ha owned by Willoughby City Council. It is adjacent to commercial property on the corner of Elizabeth Street and Tindale Road. The garden contains shrubs and is divided by a path. It is opposite the entry to Artarmon station and though unspectacular, it helps by making the area a little more green and pleasant

### 8.8.2 Management Issues

#### Path

The garden is divided by a path which significantly reduces the area for planting. If the path was removed a larger tree and plants with wider spreading habit could be grown.

#### Plant Selection

The existing plants are interesting, with a range of leaf colour and form, but they do not provide any special impact. The road is wide next to the park and a large, open canopy, spreading tree would give structure, pleasant shade and a feature to the area.

#### Road Closure

There is a road island at the intersection of Elizabeth, Tindale, and Cameron Avenue. If the park could be continued across Cameron Avenue to join the road island, the area would be large enough to create a more effective landscape feature. If a road closure is considered, it may work well if the park extends to the start of the existing island only, and the island is removed to allow a larger turning circle

### 8.8.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To investigate the possibility of increasing the area available for planting.</li> <li>To involve local shop owners and residents in decisions about the park.</li> <li>To select suitable plants for the park, to grow and maintain these well.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the possibility of increasing the area available for planting by closing the end of Cameron Avenue</li> <li>Assess the need for the path through the garden and consider removal of the path.</li> <li>Invite shop owners and local residents to be involved in decisions about the park.</li> <li>Develop a landscape plan including plant species selection.</li> <li>Construct/plant and maintain the park</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey of commuters, adjacent shop owners and local residents.</li> <li>Recommended designs / investigations are completed.</li> <li>Works are carried out.</li> <li>Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee.</li> </ul>

## 8.9 Thomson Park

### 8.9.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide an attractive parkland setting for the local community to enjoy a range of outdoor recreational activities. To increase the landscaped area of trees and retain the maximum area of natural ground surface to improve environmental and visual amenity.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a rectangular park of 1.6099 ha owned by Willoughby City Council with a very high 'local' use. The ground has been cut and filled to create a level playing field. The field has retaining walls on each side and sloping parkland at the ends. The Artarmon Primary School and medium density housing adjoin the eastern side of the park. Roads form the other three boundaries with high density housing to the south.

This is the most important community park in West Artarmon. It is seen from the roads and surrounding residential buildings and many people walk around or through the park on their way to work.

The playground is well used and the park provides an important meeting place for parents and children before and after school. Artarmon School uses the park for sports and games, and the playing field is licensed to sporting groups and schools on a seasonal basis.

The park contains a junior size sportsfield with synthetic wicket, cricket net, basketball ring, play equipment, toilets, seats, paths and fences. The field is not floodlit and there is no off-road parking. There are numerous well established trees on the northern and western boundaries.

### 8.9.2 Management Issues

#### Recreation

The park is already well used for many different types of recreation; active, passive, organised sport, general play and use of the playground. There have been requests for improvements to the playground, installation of exercise equipment, a basketball court and provision of night lighting.

The park should provide as great a range of recreational opportunities as possible, without causing conflict between users and overcrowding of the park.

Some recreational activities such as; walking, reading, meeting with friends, or just watching the world go by, do not need special equipment, but are very important.

#### Recommendations from The *Open Space Plan* (1996)

The *Open Space Plan* made the following recommendations for Thomson Park:- upgrade the childrens playground, plant additional shade trees, make it more like Beauchamp Park, construct kerb ramps. All these recommendations can and should be implemented.

#### Traffic, Surrounding Roads, Safety Fences, Access

Traffic reduction and calming on Reserve Road would be beneficial for the park and the suburb. Landscaped traffic thresholds could be installed at Barton Road and Jersey Road. Both Reserve and Barton Roads could be made 40kph zones.

The existing low fence (where it exists) is adequate to stop children running onto the road, and tree planting makes an effective barrier above the retaining wall along Reserve Road. The appearance of this wall could be improved by filling the voids and planting ground cover or trailing plants.

whole community, not by sporting groups. If lights are installed, the community should set the restrictions on times of use.

The footpath area below this retaining wall should be graded to form a safe walkway. Access onto the oval could be improved from the pedestrian crossing and the path from Jersey Road by installing a ramp.

The park slopes down to the Reserve/Barton Road corner, and this area is not fenced. Safety problems here could be reduced by fences or by locating childrens activities further from the road.

#### Park Facilities

**Playground.** There is strong demand for a better playground, both in equipment provision and the general setting. The playground should be upgraded to be a high quality 'local' facility. This would include creating a playground area that is pleasant, shaded in summer and at least partially fenced. Temporary shade structures may be useful until shade trees grow.

**BBQ.** A picnic area with at least one table under shelter would be well used by parents and for childrens parties.

An electric BBQ may be used by residents from the surrounding home units and for community functions at the park. This could be a local community group project.

**Floodlights.** Floodlights would allow greater use by local children, particularly in winter when athletics or sports training is common. This is a junior size field and part of the appeal of the park is that it seems to be a 'childrens park'. If floodlights were installed on the oval it is likely that groups from outside the area, or adults, would be more likely to use the park. The decision to install floodlights should be made by the

**The Oval.** The playing field is only wide enough for junior games and this is suitable. There should be length on the field for 100 metre running tracks so that the school can

**Rubbish Bins.** Council should monitor the need for bins and frequency of emptying and adjust its service as necessary.

**Bubblers.** It would be suitable to provide a bubbler at the oval perimeter and another in the playground.

**Path Lighting.** Paths in the park should be lit for people walking to and from work. If there was a lit circuit path it would provide for evening strolls.

**Signs on the Paths.** There are signs advising that paths lead only to the school and that there is alternate access around the school. It may be appreciated if the path from Barton Road continued on to the steps back to the oval. It would certainly make a better circuit path if there was access from the corner of the school near Jersey Road, back down to the oval via a ramp along the concrete retaining wall.

**Park Name Sign.** The park should have a name sign so that everyone knows what it is called and can identify with it as their park.

**Toilets.** The toilets are convenient for park users and for motorists. They are a community facility and service to visitors. The toilets should be kept clean and in good order. If the toilets are locked, a sign should inform where alternative public toilets will be found open.

**Parking.** None of the park should be sacrificed to cars. This is a 'local' park and council should promote people travelling to it by foot or bicycle. This will be healthier for park users and surrounding residents, and will reduce local traffic. Parking adjacent the park on Barton and Reserve Roads could be limited to 4 hours between 7am and 7pm, every day of the week

**Park Drainage and Seepage.** Parks constructed by major excavation such as this often have problems with seepage because the natural underground water movements have been disturbed. The problems need to be investigated and remedial work carried out.

hold athletics practise and events.

#### **Landscape and Location of Activities**

- The park would be enhanced by the planting of more trees and the introduction of gardens with flowering shrubs. The trees should be located to provide shade to the playground, picnic and sitting areas, as well as defining different use areas.
- Gardens could be introduced in the area below Jersey Road and between Reserve Road and the proposed basketball court near Barton Road
- Visually, the two ends of the park, particularly near Barton Road, are too open, This would be improved by tree planting and gardens.
- The northern end of the field loses its visual symmetry and looks unattractive because of the cricket net and basketball ring. The basketball ring should be removed when a full court is installed elsewhere in the park. The cricket nets could then be moved closer to the retaining wall.
- The retaining wall and the school block circulation around the eastern side of the park. A full circuit path would be more inviting to walkers. Soil could be built part way up the wall and a path run along this from the central steps to above the existing cricket net.
- The playground is not a well defined area. It would be improved by having a stronger sense of enclosure by trees. Fencing could be provided on the lower side by the Basketball fence. A low fence to Barton Road would make the playground safe while allowing free access to the oval.
- A hard surface basketball court could go near Barton and Reserve Roads. The level of this area would need to be raised, and this would form a bank to the road which could be planted with trees and gardens. A ball fence need only be installed on the lower side and to Barton Road
- A comprehensive landscape plan is needed to locate the desired activities in the park, provide adequate space for each activity, and to integrate the areas in a visually pleasing manner.

### 8.9.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To involve the local community in re-design and management of the park.</li> <li>2. To provide a wide range of recreational activities.</li> <li>3. To make the park visually appealing.</li> <li>4. To increase the community's sense of ownership of this local park.</li> <li>5. To protect and enhance the natural environment of the park.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Invite the local community to be involved in development of the park.</li> <li>2. Investigate seepage and drainage problems and devise solutions</li> <li>3. Develop a comprehensive landscape and recreation plan for the park addressing the issues raised above and including;                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A full size outdoor basketball court with fencing to Reserve and Barton Roads</li> <li>• Removal of the existing Basketball ring</li> <li>• Relocation of the cricket net</li> <li>• Playground with fencing to Barton Road</li> <li>• Temporary shade structure at the playground</li> <li>• Picnic area with shelter structure and tap</li> <li>• Electric BBQ (if there is community demand)</li> <li>• Tree planting and gardens</li> <li>• Connection of the southern public path to the school, to the central steps</li> <li>• Walking ramp from the near the northern corner of the school, along the retaining wall down to oval level near the central steps</li> <li>• Grading of the Reserve Road footpath to make a safe surface</li> <li>• Bubbler beside the oval and at the playground</li> <li>• Installation of a park name sign</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Consult local residents and people associated with the school and invite them to become 'Friends of the Park,' to assist with maintenance of the gardens and development projects.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey of users of the park and adjacent residents.</li> <li>• Recommended designs / investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>

## 8.10 Artarmon Reserve (Not Including The Bushland)

### 8.10.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a sportsfield and specialised outdoor recreational facilities in a bush park setting.

To be a 'district' park for the people of Artarmon and Naremburn, where the community may enjoy a range of outdoor activities.

To protect and extend the surrounding bushland and to control stormwater.

#### Description / Value Statement

A Crown Reserve under the control of Willoughby City Council. This is the largest park in Artarmon and could be a major venue for local people. It has the advantages of isolation, plenty of space, being at the junction of Linkpaths and away or shielded from busy roads. The potential exists to provide high quality facilities and to be enjoyed with pride by local and district residents.

The developed portion of Artarmon Reserve is 3.285 ha of the 9.585 ha total. The North Shore Railway with high embankment lies to the west, and the freeway with its concrete walls to the south. Stormwater control mounds form the south and east

sides of the oval with a flood channel and open area to the freeway. The northern side of the park is bushland with the car entry, playground and Linkpath beside the bowling club. The bush covered hillside to the east is crowned by the Channel 9 television tower.

The reserve contains a fenced sportsfield with floodlighting, toilets and change-rooms, play equipment, BBQs, and picnic tables. There is a large bitumen carpark west of the sportsfield, this and the smaller carpark accommodate approximately 100 cars. Freeway construction separated this park from Naremburn and it remains visually separated though a linkpath under the freeway exists at Chelmsford Avenue.

There are fences which create visually unattractive lines, a large barren carpark, left over roadway and the uncared for area between the oval and Freeway.

This park has lost less to the freeway than many others, and new opportunities have arisen through the screening and isolation created by the freeway. It is now time to use these opportunities to provide specialised facilities, and to create an attractive park.

### 8.10.2 Management Issues

#### Recreational and Social Function of the Park

Community comments recommend that this reserve should have an important role as the 'district' park for Artarmon, with a 'really nice' picnic area and playground.

In order for the park to be popular with district residents it must provide the facilities and also the convenience and atmosphere that will attract them.

The park already provides a district sportsfield but there is no organised Saturday morning sport where the community meets in support of local junior teams.

There is a small playground but no parking beside it, and other, better playgrounds can be easily visited by car.

There are basic picnic and BBQ facilities but no shelter, and a lack of special activities which would keep families at the park long enough to consider planning a meal there.

Ideally there will be pleasant locations for many different activities, and these locations will be linked so that participants feel they are part of the community using the park at that time. The park could have additional appeal if special services were travel.

It is not considered a benefit to create car entry or parking off Chelmsford Avenue. This would bring cars across the Linkpath and vehicles on the steep hill would be

provided such as;

- Fitness instruction
- Child care and organised games
- Sunday morning coffee shop

#### Vehicle Access, Parking and Use

Public comments suggested that the carparking be rethought, and that non-vehicular access be promoted. This would be easier if the community was willing to give up use of cars for local trips. This seems unlikely in the near future, and car travel will continue to be a major factor in night-time use of the park.

Vehicle access presents many problems at this park. There is strong local pressure to reduce the numbers, speed and entry times of cars. The entry boomgate at Burra Road is locked at night to prevent disruptive and destructive behaviour which has occurred in the past.

The entry track is only one car width, with poor visibility. The popular carpark with an outlook above the toilets is also the picnic area with BBQs. The main carpark takes traffic through the picnic area, is distant from the playground and is unattractive when viewed from the picnic area.

The carpark is only filled when the fields are used so car problems could not be reduced without some form of enforcement or by providing alternative methods of

**Recommendations from The *Open Space Plan (1996)* and The *Willoughby Recreation Plan***

more disturbing than on Burra Road. The Elizabeth Street entry is not suitable for car access because of the damage that would be caused to the bushland and creek which are in very good condition. Nor could the length of road required and cost of construction be justified. The Artarmon Road entry near Lucknow Street is not suitable for car access because trees would need to be removed and bushland cleared to make even a small carpark. Unlike many sportsfields, Artarmon Reserve has very poor access for large trucks and machinery. The barricaded road near the playground is useful for small to medium vehicles, but these could also enter the oval from the main carpark. Large machinery could reach the oval via Chelmsford Avenue and the floodway, but this would be restricted if skateboard facilities are built.

### Non-Vehicular Access and Linkage to Other Areas

Non-vehicular access to the park is very good.

- The Artarmon Linkpath arrives at the playground and continues around the field to join the Naremburn cycleway under the freeway.
- The walking track to Elizabeth Street and Artarmon Station starts at the main carpark. The few steps could be remodelled to encompass a cycle ramp.
- There is a pleasant walking track to the Artarmon Road entry near Lucknow Street.
- It is recommended that walking access be made from the end of Chelmsford Avenue, over the steep parkland to Walter Street.
- There is existing access and easy walking under the Freeway and through Olympia Park, but a bridge is needed to connect with Fleming Park.

**Access within the park** needs to be improved to provide :

- Suitable access to toilets for the disabled. With the location of this park on the Linkpaths it is likely that use by disabled people will increase.
- Access from the parking areas to the existing childrens playground. There could be a gentle path from above the toilets down to the cycleway, and a gate near the water tank would allow families to walk from the lower carpark, over the playing field to the cycleway.
- Onto the playing field. There could be additional gates in the playing field perimeter fence, and these be unlocked.
- Around the park. The appeal of the park would be increased if there was a circuit path around the park for cycling, jogging, walking, rollerblading etc. The area near the Freeway would be brought into the park by connection on this pathway.
- Bushwalks. There are existing tracks in the bushland but these should be upgraded. There would be recreational and educational opportunities in extending these tracks to form loop walks starting at the playing field.

activities be catered for and facilities provided:

- A 'really nice' picnic area with electric BBQs
- High quality "district scale" playground with picnic tables and lighting
- Cricket practise nets
- Basketball ring / court
- Rollerblading/BMX area

The *Open Space Plan* recommended that a district scale playground be provided at Artarmon Reserve.

The *Willoughby Recreation Plan* recommended specifically that a rollerblading area be built at Artarmon Reserve and that the pavilion be upgraded.

These recommendation should be implemented, with the exception of the pavilion where only the toilets need to be upgraded at present. Opportunity also exists to fulfil some of the general needs of Naremburn Ward at Artarmon Reserve

### Licence Agreements for Use of the Park

Northern Suburbs Touch Football Association had a 5 year license for use of the playing fields in the Summer and Winter sports seasons, covering the times :  
 Summer : Monday - Thursday, 4-10pm. Winter : Monday - Friday, 6-10pm.  
 The licence expired November, 1996.

Other sporting groups and schools are covered by seasonal licence agreements. These are the preferred arrangement for control of use on this field.

1996 Seasonal licenses :

North Sydney Leagues Baseball. Winter only, Saturday pm.  
 Chatswood Touch Football. Summer only, Sunday 4-6pm.  
 School sports, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday pm.

### Recreation

The park should provide as great a range of recreational opportunities as possible, without causing conflict between users, or over crowding of the park. Some recreation such as; walking, reading, meeting with friends, and just watching the world go by, do not require special equipment, but are very important for physical and social health.

**Current recreational activities** at Artarmon Reserve include :

- Walking for fitness and pleasure
- Dog exercise and play
- Cycling, skateboard riding, rollerblading
- Jogging and fitness exercise
- Competition sports; Touch football, Baseball
- Play, ball games, exploration
- Childrens playground use
- Sitting, reading, resting, watching
- Lunch time rest breaks
- Picnics and BBQs

### Requested Recreation

- Public consultation and previous studies recommend that the following specific *Opportunity* - Promote the use of this park and support activities that use these facilities in order to get maximum community gain from the cost of provision and maintenance, and to avoid unnecessary duplication elsewhere.

### Special opportunities for recreation.

Artarmon Reserve has the following special opportunities and problems:

- *Isolation from surrounding areas by bushland, railway and Freeway.*

*Opportunities* - There is a sense of 'getting away' from home and office but the noise of trains and freeway traffic remove any concern of disturbing the quiet bushland. Allow activities which are noisy and disruptive eg. skateboard ramp, basketball court, adolescent activities, dogs running free, competition sports.

*Problems* - Contact and assistance if there is danger or injury. Fear of going to the park alone or at night. Parents unwilling to let young children use the park without supervision. Use of cars at night for security to and from the sportsfield.

- *Screening from all but a few houses and passing trains.*

*Opportunities* - This helps to reduce self consciousness, people may be more willing to begin a fitness programme or do tai chi if they are not being looked at by adjacent residents. For adolescents there is a sense of freedom and privacy which is important for individual development and peer group activities.

*Problem* - Sense of social responsibility may also be reduced.

- *On the junction of non-vehicular Linkpaths*

*Opportunities* - Provide activities suitable for people likely to use the Linkpaths, eg. children, adolescents, recreational / fitness walkers, people in wheelchairs, skateboard riders, rollerbladers, joggers, dog owners, cyclists. Reduce provision of parking.

- *Poor vehicular access*

*Opportunity* - Promote the use of non-vehicular transport.

*Problem* - Traffic in local streets, pedestrians and vehicles share roads in the park, long distance from parking to playground, difficulty of access for large maintenance machinery, unsuitable for special events requiring large trucks.

- *A variety of background scenery - Freeway, railway, television tower, bushland, factories, distant church steeple*

*Opportunity* - Theme and use of the park is not limited by visual surroundings. This is truly a city park in the bush, where urban infrastructure, culture, and technology meet natural surroundings. Facilities such as a skateboard ramp are more likely to find acceptance here than in other parks.

- *Undeveloped space*

*Opportunity* - There is space to provide new facilities without removing trees and grass, and without reducing existing spaces.

- *Existing expensive infrastructure - Floodlights, toilets, fences, a large playing field with drainage and irrigation*

loses afternoon light early because of the trees and hillside. The playground could spread across the linkpath with equipment of more natural materials positioned among the rock ledges and replanted trees.

The location beside the linkpath should promote visits by foot or bike. There is limited vision at the corner of the bowling club, and a short length of barricade on the

### Directions for recreation planning .

The following directions for planning, and provision of facilities arise from the review of opportunities:

- Promotion of the park for use by local and district residents will be wise management of the investment in this community facility.
- The park has potential to appeal to a wide range of interests and activities.
- The appeal and suitability of the park changes to different user groups depending on the time of day and day of the week, so many uses can be accommodated without conflict.
- There is space and opportunity to provide new facilities.
- Night time use by organised groups of adults is desirable for security and because the demand for childrens activities will be low.
- Organised activities with female participants will increase the sense of security for other females to use the park.
- Noisy new facilities for adolescents could be built on the floodway and barren ground near the Freeway. Houses visible in Chelmsford Avenue will be a reminder of social responsibility.
- The carpark is in low demand early on weekday afternoons, on Saturday and most of Sunday. These are times that children and adolescents are likely to use the park, so activities requiring a hard surface could take place on the main carpark.

### Park Facilities and Location of Activities

There are five main areas of the park:

1. The central sportsfield and lower carpark. This is the largest area and is flat and open with good access.

The four adjacent areas have limitations for recreational use:

2. The present playground area is small and separated from the sportsfield.
3. The BBQ area is shared as carpark and road to the lower carpark.
4. The grassy flat towards Artarmon station is narrow, heavily shaded, and separated from the sportsfield by the carpark.
5. The space between oval and freeway has no outlook and is subject to flooding. The community will need to decide what activities it wishes to promote at the park, where these should be located, and what visual or access links will connect the areas.

### Playground.

The existing playground is located below the Burra Road entrance. This is a pleasant setting, separated from the sportsfield, but small in area for a district playground. It Tree planting and changes to the western fence line and parking would create a more attractive view from the higher carpark.

### Dog Exercise Area

Walking and exercise of dogs seems to be a popular activity at Artarmon Reserve. Dogs are not permitted by law within 10 metres of playgrounds or picnic areas. It would be an advantage to have a dog exercise area that is not also the main sports

playground side of the path would make this area safer.

Alternative location/arrangements for the playground are;

1. In a group of trees planted on the edge of the sportsfield. This location would give direct access to open play space, and could be adjacent a picnic area and carparking. It would be more included with activities on the sportsfield and would share the oval floodlighting.
2. The main playground stay where it is, and a few additional items of play equipment be installed at a family area on the edge of the sportsfield

### **Picnic Area.**

A picnic area with electric BBQ should be developed. It is recommended that at least one wood-fire BBQ be retained so that children and others can enjoy that experience. The picnic area should have shade from trees and there should also be a roofed picnic shelter.

Three locations have merit and there could be facilities in more than one place:

1. At the upper carpark, with suitable landscaping and separation from cars. This location provides a view over the field and the best district outlook.
2. Near/in the existing childrens playground. This would become the main family and community space. It is on the linkpath but is distant from the sportsfield. The area is small and could become overcrowded and use by sport groups may conflict with childrens play.
3. On the edge of the sportsfield, in a setting to be established among trees. This location would allow combination of sports and picnic activities.

### **Sportsfield.**

The existing sportsfield is large enough for 2 full size football fields or 4 touch football/half size fields. The perimeter of the field is fenced, including the mounds on the eastern and southern sides. The flat area for recreation would be increased if the large carpark was reduced in size.

The field is used for sport and dog exercise. Greater use may be made of the field for fitness training and childrens games if dogs were excluded at some times.

If trees were planted on the perimeter of the sportsfield they would create a village green setting with the possibility of picnic/BBQ facilities and/or playground at the edge of the field.

### **Toilets**

The toilets are necessary for a district park such as this. They are a community facility and service to visitors. Access needs to be improved for the disabled, and the toilets upgraded with better lighting. If the toilets are locked, a sign should inform where public toilets will be found open.

### **Parking**

Council should promote travel by foot or bicycle to reduce local traffic, but parking is an important requirement at present for night time use.

Both parking areas could be retained and made more attractive and efficient, with car

field and play area.

Other possibilities for a dog area include the land between the oval and the Expressway.

### **Basketball Ring/Court**

Basketball courts can be marked on the large parking area, for use at times when the car park is not busy.

A court may also be built near the Freeway to provide more of an activities area for adolescents. This court could be on the low ground of the floodway and connected to the skateboard/rollerblade facility in order to extend that area.

### **Rollerblade Skateboard Facility**

A local use facility can be constructed .in the lower carpark area as per the recommendation contained in Council's *Skateboard and Rollerblade Development Plan*

### **Circuit Path**

The linkpath enters the northern side of the park and provides a path around the eastern side to the end of Chelmsford Avenue. A circuit path could be completed around the park for cycling, jogging, walking, rollerblading etc.

The pathway could link along the floodway, the southwest corner, the western side near the carpark, and in front of the pavilion without crossing any vehicle areas.

### **Cricket Practice Net**

This has been requested, but because space is limited on the sportsfield, the need should be further investigated and a suitable location established as part of the detailed landscape plan.

### **Pavilion.**

The pavilion with club room, change rooms and kiosk is only available to the licensed groups, who may be issued with a key. It is not a very attractive building and seems little used. The pavilion should not be upgraded until a definite need is shown, but the present good maintenance should continue.

### **Bubblers**

It would be suitable to provide a bubbler at the western oval perimeter and another in the playground. A tap should be provided at the picnic area.

### **Boundaries, and Responsibility for Care of Land Adjacent Freeway**

The boundaries of the park adjacent and under the Freeway need to be established. If this land is not to become the property of Council then agreements must be made for improvements and maintenance. The closure of Chelmsford Avenue and land between the last house and the Freeway should be included in the park.

### **Landscape Setting and Plan**

The bushland setting should be enhanced by native tree planting between the oval



locations controlled by landscaping and tree planting. The large carpark to have shared use for recreation such as basketball.

#### **Floodlights**

Floodlights exist at the sportsfield and because of the distance from surrounding homes, the lights are not a problem. Organised sport groups use the field because of the lights and the presence of these groups is important for security and use of the park by others. The floodlights should be maintained and upgraded as necessary.

#### **Rubbish Bins**

Council should monitor the need for bins. Bins should not obstruct the most pleasant views.

#### **Furniture**

The park will acquire picnic tables when the picnic area is improved. A few seats with backs could also be provided in pleasant locations. The mounds around the sportsfield are comfortable sitting areas with good aspect for the winter sun.

and Freeway, and at the western side of the field. The SRA should be approached with the intention of planting more trees on the railway embankment. A comprehensive landscape plan should be developed in consultation with the community and sporting groups.

#### **Impacts On Bushland**

The developed portion of the reserve adjoins a large area of bushland. There is the potential for the management and recreational use and facilities of the reserve to adversely impact on the natural systems in the bushland areas.

These impacts are covered in detail in the *Urban Bushland Plan of Management*, and include urban run-off and water quality, nutrification, erosion and sedimentation, boundary management, impacts of site developments, use of appropriate plant material, weed management, recreation use and facilities, access through / into bushland, and other management issues.

The developed portion of the reserve should be managed to reduce / avoid such impacts on the bushland area.

### 8.10.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To involve the local community in re-design and management of the park.</li> <li>2. To provide a wide range of recreational activities including a sportsfield and specialised outdoor facilities for children, adolescents and adults.</li> <li>3. To provide access for all members of the community.</li> <li>4. To make the park visually attractive and safe.</li> <li>5. To increase the community's sense of ownership of this park.</li> <li>6. To protect and enhance the natural environment surrounding the park and to create a bush-like setting within the park.</li> <li>7. To control stormwater.</li> <li>8. To promote non-car travel to the park, and to reduce the problems caused by cars.</li> <li>9. Minimise adverse impacts of park use and management practices on the adjoining bushland section of the reserve.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Invite the local community to be involved in development of the park.</li> <li>2. Establish ownership/agreements for care of land adjacent and under the Freeway.</li> <li>3. Include the closure of Chelmsford Avenue and land between the last house and the Freeway into the park.</li> <li>4. Develop a comprehensive landscape improvement plan and recreational use plan in consultation with the local community and other sportsfield users. This process is recommended to establish the type of outdoor recreational facilities to be provided, and to identify the location of facilities and any changes to existing use of areas.</li> <li>5. Initiate water quality control measures to reduce the impacts of park use on the adjoining bushland systems as per Section 7.14 of this plan.</li> <li>6. Park management strategies to take into account potential adverse impacts on the adjoining natural bushland areas of the reserve and to adopt the relevant polices as per Section 7.11 of this plan and the <i>Urban Bushland Plan of Management</i>.</li> <li>7. Develop detailed plans for the specialised activity areas which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District scale playground</li> <li>• Picnic area with electric BBQs and roofed shelter(s)</li> <li>• Sportsfield</li> <li>• Basketball court/rings</li> <li>• Rollerblade/skateboard facility</li> <li>• Cricket practise net</li> <li>• Park circuit track (paved)</li> <li>• Bush circuit tracks (unpaved)</li> </ul> </li> <li>8. Develop detailed plans for other improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toilets, upgrade and provide access for the disabled.</li> <li>• Pavilion, no upgrade to the pavilion until there is demonstrated need.</li> <li>• Landscaping and reshaping of the 2 existing carparks.</li> <li>• Lighting of access under the Freeway and along the Linkpath.</li> <li>• Land shaping and tree planting between the</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended consultation takes place.</li> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Recommended designs are completed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Survey of users of the park and adjacent residents.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> <li>• Reduced impacts on adjoining natural bushland areas.</li> </ul>

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
	<p>sportsfield and the Freeway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install traffic calming device at Burra Road entry to improve pedestrian / cyclist safety.</li> </ul> <p>9. Approach the SRA re planting trees on the railway embankment.</p> <p>10. Install park name signs at each entry point, and directional signs on the linkpaths and at Artarmon station.</p> <p>11. Future use agreements for the park to be by Seasonal Licence.</p> <p>12. Promote transport to the park by methods other than motor car</p>	

## 8.11 Parkes Road Reserve

### 8.11.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a screen between the freeway and residential buildings, to grow trees, to provide walking/cycle access from Reserve Road to Hampden Road, and to be a woodland adventure playground

#### Description / Value Statement

This 0.5111 ha strip of land owned by Willoughby City Council is land remaining after the construction of the freeway. It has been highly modified by excavation beside the freeway and mound building near the units. Concrete wall sound screens run almost

the full length of the park and access is presently fenced off.

There is a row of 8 established trees near the units and the remainder of the park has been planted with native seedlings which are doing poorly in the shallow soil. This park could provide a walking and cycle link from Reserve Road to Hampden Road, and be a woodland adventure playground to complement the developed parks nearby. The park is adjoined by medium/high density unit dwellings on the northern side, and is likely to have local useage.

### 8.11.2 Management Issues

#### Fences and Access

It is difficult to enter the park due to fences and overgrowth of vegetation. It is also difficult to know what is parkland, private land of the units, and freeway verge. Private fences blocking access should be removed and weed growth cleared. A fence should be installed from near the beginning of the commuter cycle path at Reserve Road to the lower eastern concrete wall. This would define the park and separate it from the freeway.

#### Pathways

When the fences are corrected, the location for pathways will become more obvious. The pathways need not be paved but vegetation should be kept trimmed. It is likely that 2 tracks will develop, one beginning on Reserve Road between the units and the concrete wall and continuing between the next units' weldmesh fence and the wall to Parkes Road. The other path will go from the cycleway ramp, below the concrete wall

and up to Parkes Road at the eastern end.

#### Recreation

When ownership is made clear, access is possible and fencing separates the park from the freeway, it is likely the park will gain some use for adventure play by younger children and as a territorial space for older children.

#### Tree Growing and Maintenance

The soil conditions should be investigated and improved to assist the growth of trees. Weeds should be removed and controlled regularly until the native plants are established enough for the area to be maintained by bush regeneration methods. Vegetation along the path routes should be kept trimmed. The area should be cleaned from time to time and dumped rubbish removed as soon as it is reported. Residents in the nearby units may be willing to assist with maintenance.

### 8.11.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
1. To establish ownership and boundaries of the park	1. Establish the boundaries of the park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>Planned works are carried out.</li> <li>Survey of users of the park and adjacent residents.</li> <li>Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>
2. To arrange fences in order to allow access and provide safety	2. Remove fences where necessary to open the park.	
3. To improve soil conditions and grow trees	3. Install a fence from the cycleway to the lower eastern concrete wall.	
4. To maintain the area as bushland	4. Investigate soil problems /soil improvement program	
5. To have local residents assist with maintenance	5. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.	
6. To provide a space which local children can consider as their own.	6. Plant additional trees.	

## 8.12 Walter Street Reserve

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### 8.12.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a curtain of trees along the freeway, and a visually attractive setting below the Channel 9 tower.

To establish a bushland wildlife refuge, protect the creek and control stormwater

#### Description / Value Statement

This park of approximately 1.7 ha is owned by Willoughby City Council in fee simple. It is steeply sloping land from north of the Freeway to the Channel 9 television tower. The hillside has been excavated beside the freeway, and open concrete stormwater channels have been constructed below Richmond Avenue.

Access to the upper creek area is presently fenced off. This area is undeveloped but badly weed infested. The creek is a local natural area, and regeneration of bushland will recreate natural habitat.

Access is possible, though rough and presently fenced from Artarmon Reserve to Richmond Avenue and Walter Street.

Part of the park beside the Freeway is still zoned proposed county road reservation. The park is adjoined by low density housing at Richmond Avenue and at Walter Street.

This park is important as a natural visual setting below the Channel 9 television tower

### 8.12.2 Management Issues

#### Boundaries

The boundaries of the park need to be established. The planted mound between Walter Street and the Freeway should also be included in the park.

#### Fences and Access

Fences obstruct access at Artarmon Reserve and Richmond Avenue, and the creek area is fenced off. The side of the Freeway is fenced so these other fences are no longer necessary for safety.

A rough track could be constructed from the Artarmon Reserve entry to Richmond Avenue and across the steep slope above the Freeway. This access would reduce the sense of the Freeway as a barrier.

#### Recreation

When ownership is made clear and access is possible, it is likely the park would gain some use for adventure play and exploration by children.

#### Tree Growing and Bush Regeneration

The soil conditions on the cut slope above the Freeway should be investigated and improved to assist the growth of trees. Additional trees should be planted and weeds controlled regularly until native plants are established enough for the area to be maintained by bush regeneration methods.

The creek area is badly infested with weeds. A bush regeneration programme should be implemented here.

#### Wildlife Refuge

When bushland is re-established the park should contain a range of wildlife habitat. If it were fully fenced the area could be cat and dog proof, providing a very effective wildlife refuge.

### 8.12.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To establish and maintain the area as a bushland wildlife refuge.</li> <li>2. To have community assistance with maintenance of the park and refuge</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish the boundaries of the park.</li> <li>2. Investigate soil problems and devise methods to improve tree growth.</li> <li>3. Develop a plan of works and maintenance for the park.</li> <li>4. Invite local residents and wildlife support groups to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>5. Remove unnecessary fences</li> <li>6. Install fences to keep cats, dogs, foxes etc out of the park</li> <li>7. Remove weeds, carry out soil improvement and plant additional trees</li> <li>8. Carry out bush regeneration in the creek area</li> <li>9. Install name signs to identify the park as public land, and information signs advising the wildlife refuge purpose of the park and contacts in order to assist.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planned works are carried out and bushland wildlife refuge is established.</li> <li>• Wildlife sightings and surveys of flora and fauna.</li> <li>• Survey of refuge supporters and adjacent residents.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>

## 8.13 McBurney Street Reserve

### 8.13.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To protect the native heath vegetation and natural sandstone features. To provide a local green space and bush vista in McBurney Street.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a small, square shaped reserve of 0.153 ha, owned by Willoughby City Council. It is located between high density dwellings. It contains native heathland vegetation and sandstone formations in good condition, a grass area, steep path, and a lookout with safety fence. The view of Cammeray is partially obstructed by a unit block. The park is perched above a cliff and McBurney Street frontage is the only legal access. This is a pleasant little park where local people can gain limited solitude and children can play. The bush should be retained.

### 8.13.2 Management Issues

#### Fences, Safety and encroachments

The lookout is fenced but this does not extend along the rest of the cliff top. The most interesting sandstone formations are on the edge of the man-made cliff and present a danger to children.

There is an incomplete fence to No 25a Marks Street and carparking encroaches on the park. The property to the north has dumped building materials and garden maintenance waste on the park.

#### Recreational Use

When the cliff top is fully fenced it is likely the park will gain further use for adventure play and exploration by children.

Play equipment is not considered appropriate or necessary because the Flat Rock Gully Reserve is nearby and a wide range of facilities will be available there.

#### Bush Regeneration

A bush regeneration programme should be implemented here. The bush is in good condition and should not require much work. Nearby residents could be invited to assist. This park should also be recognised as a play area and some damage to vegetation accepted.

#### Furniture and Sign

The park should have a sign to identify it as public parkland. A seat could be installed near McBurney Street.

### 8.13.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make the clifftop area safe.</li> <li>To remove encroachments.</li> <li>To retain the bushland and natural features.</li> <li>To have local residents assist with maintenance.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install a safety fence along the cliff top.</li> <li>Remove dumped material, consult with body corporate of units to avoid future dumping.</li> <li>Consult with body corporate of No 25a Marks Street to stop encroachment of carparking.</li> <li>Invite local residents to be involved in park maintenance.</li> <li>Install a name sign to identify the park as public land</li> <li>Consult with local residents and install a park seat near McBurney Street if there is popular demand.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety fence is constructed.</li> <li>Encroachments are removed and controlled.</li> <li>Bushland is maintained.</li> <li>Survey of users of the park and adjacent residents.</li> <li>Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>

## 8.14 Brook Street Reserves

### 8.14.1 Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To visually extend Flat Rock Gully Reserve along Brook Street, creating the sense of entering that reserve at Grafton Avenue and Adolphus Street.

To provide access through parkland to Flat Rock Gully Reserve from Grafton Avenue and Adolphus Street, and to provide a lookout area.

To grow trees, establish bushland, screen houses from Brook Street, and to control soil erosion and stormwater.

#### Description / Value Statement

These reserves on the east and west of Brook Street were formed by the re-alignment of Brook Street and resumption of land for construction of Flat Rock Drive.

They are owned by Willoughby City Council and have an area on the east of approximately 0.15 ha, and on the west 0.17 ha. The eastern section is gently sloping reshaped land beside the Grafton Avenue tennis courts, becoming steeper towards Flat Rock Gully. There is a good view down the valley to the suspension bridge.

The western section still contains part of the old concrete road pavement, embankment to Brook Street, and below Market Street a park-like gully with a stormwater channel which becomes a creek.

The reserve provides an opportunity to plant trees which will screen houses from the road, create a bushland corridor and path from Adolphus Street and Grafton Avenue to Flat Rock Gully, and to extend the apparent size of Flat Rock Gully Reserve.

### 8.14.2 Management Issues

#### Old Road Pavement and Encroachment

All of the old road pavement should be removed after arrangements are made for alternative access where necessary.

The area should be appropriately landscaped.

#### Access Paths and Signs

There should be a track on the western side from Adolphus and Brook Streets to allow walking to Flat Rock Reserve through the park rather than along the roadside footpath.

The park should have a name sign at the Market Street (west) cul de sac.

#### Landscaping and Tree Planting

Landscaping of the western side should consist of a pathway and planting of bushland screen plants and trees. A landscape improvement plan should be developed to beautify the area with special concern to control soil erosion and screen the road.

Tree planting on the eastern side should keep the view to the suspension bridge in mind and not create screening at that level

### 8.14.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Action	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide walking access through the reserve to Flat Rock Gully.</li> <li>To beautify the area and screen the road.</li> <li>To extend the apparent size of Flat Rock Gully Reserve.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consult with the local community and develop a landscape improvement plan including,                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removal of unnecessary road pavement</li> <li>Grading of the access at Garland Road to be suitable for walking</li> <li>Planting to stabilise banks and the creek area</li> <li>Tree planting</li> <li>Installation of a seat at the lookout area</li> </ul> </li> <li>Establish the park as a created bushland reserve.</li> <li>Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>Install a name sign to identify the park as public land.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommended investigations and negotiations are completed.</li> <li>Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>Works are carried out.</li> <li>Trees grow and the area is beautified.</li> <li>Survey of users of the park and adjacent residents.</li> <li>Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee.</li> </ul>



## 8.15 Fleming Park

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### 8.15.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To grow trees, beautify the Willoughby Road and Freeway area, and provide non-vehicular access. To control soil erosion and stormwater, and to provide specialised park facilities which are suitable for location under the Freeway.

#### Description / Value Statement

This park of approximately 0.07 ha is owned by Willoughby City Council. It is located between the Freeway and Ruth Street and is a remnant of the park that existed before the Freeway. The adjacent proposed county road reservation extends to the stormwater channel and Willoughby Road. There is a pedestrian/cycle path in the park and large trees near Willoughby Road. This is an important pedestrian link to Willoughby Road and provides an opportunity to plant trees which will screen the Freeway.

### 8.15.2 Management Issues

#### Ownership, Zoning and Responsibility for Care

The landscaped area which is zoned 'proposed county road reservation' between the Freeway and Willoughby Road, and the land under the Freeway should be included in the park. If this land is not to be the property of Council then agreements should be made with the RTA for management and maintenance.

#### Access and Signs

There should be a bridge over the stormwater channel to Olympia Park. This would allow walking to Artarmon Reserve through that park rather than along the road/cycleway. Fleming Park is the junction of linkpaths and directional signs should be installed to advise where these go. The park should also have a name sign at Willoughby Road and at Ruth Street.

#### Recreation and Stormwater Channel Safety

At present the park does not appear desirable for recreation other than walking through and possibly sitting to rest. It will however always have some purpose as a place for children to explore and the overhead Freeway creates an interesting atmosphere. There may be special purposes for which the overhead shelter of the Freeway is suitable, and options should be kept open for this.

There is no safety grill under the Willoughby Road bridge to stop anyone in the channel being washed under Flat Rock Reserve. This should be installed regardless of any plans for the channel.

#### 18.4.4 Landscaping and Tree Growing

Stability and soil conditions of the earth mounds should be investigated, and stormwater from the Freeway considered for irrigation of the park. A landscape improvement plan should be developed to beautify the area with special concern to control soil erosion and screen the Freeway.

### 8.15.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To establish suitable ownership of the land under the Freeway and to Willoughby Road</li> <li>2. To provide non-vehicular access</li> <li>3. To beautify the area and screen the Freeway</li> <li>4. To promote specialised activities suited to the location.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Request the RTA transfer ownership to Council for the land under the Freeway and to Willoughby Road</li> <li>2. Investigate soil conditions and devise methods to promote tree growth</li> <li>3. Consult with the local community and develop a landscape improvement plan</li> <li>4. Investigate the possibility of special uses for this park and provide facilities if appropriate</li> <li>5. Design the bridge over the stormwater channel to Olympia Road Park</li> <li>6. Design the safety grill for the stormwater channel under Willoughby Road</li> <li>7. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance</li> <li>8. Install name signs to identify the park as public land, and signs advising access to adjacent areas.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ownership the land under the Freeway and to Willoughby Road is transferred from the RTA to Council.</li> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Trees grow and area is beautified.</li> <li>• Survey of users of the park and adjacent residents.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>

## 8.16 Talus Street Reserve

### 8.16.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide specialised outdoor sport facilities, a lunchtime location for the St Leonards area and general recreation in a parkland setting.

To grow trees, provide wetland habitat, and to control soil erosion and stormwater.

#### Lease Details

The tennis courts were built in 1978 and are managed under lease by the Northern Suburbs Tennis Club Ltd. Courts are available for hire to club members and non members

#### Description And Value Statement

This park of 1.9228 ha is Crown reserve under the control of Willoughby City Council together with a portion owned by Willoughby City Council. Category of the land is sportsground, park and natural area-wetland. The reserve is at the southern headwater of Flat Rock Creek. Together with Ella Street Park and Naremburn Park it provides a half kilometer buffer zone between homes in Naremburn and the industrial and very high density units along the railway.

Growing trees to create a green ridge-top, screen the tall buildings, provide native habitat, control soil erosion and ameliorate climatic conditions is an important function of this park.

The park contains 8 tennis courts, clubhouse, carpark, stormwater retention basin/wetland, native planting, and grass areas.

The southern end of the park presently has access to, and is a few minutes walk from St Leonards station. Greater lunchtime use would be expected with an attractive access and when the park becomes better known.

The park is used for control of stormwater from the units and railway land. The retention basin re-creates a previous swampy area as wetland where rare birds are still seen.

### 8.16.2 Management Issues

#### Tennis Lease

Northern Suburbs Tennis Club Ltd has 8 courts and a clubhouse on lease from Council. The lease expires April 1998.

The lease is considered an appropriate arrangement for the operation of the tennis courts for the public benefit.

The lease does not include any condition giving residents free use of the courts. Courts may be hired by club members and non-members on a casual or regular basis. The courts are often fully booked on Monday to Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. Other times are usually available for casual hire. The lease states "Membership must be open to any resident or ratepayer and they shall have priority for membership."

The lease does include a condition that "Except with the written approval of Council, it (The Club) will allow members of the public to view matches on the premises without charge".

Some opposition to the tennis courts was evident in letters and at the focus group meeting. This should be investigated and if found to be widespread, Council should identify the reasons and attempt to resolve these when renewing the lease.

An informal walking track around the outside of the courts is likely to be well used by locals, and be more pleasant when additional trees grow.

#### Recreational Use

The park is used for tennis, walking, jogging, and for sitting and bird watching.

Organised activities such as tai chi could take place on the grass.

Basketball and volley ball could be available on the courts with some quick-change post fittings.

Lunchtime use is likely to increase as the park becomes known. A few seats could be installed.

#### Access and Signs

The Willoughby LEP 1995 shows access from the southern end of the park to Evans Lane and Herbert Street is blocked by railway land. The public benefit of this park will be greatly reduced if this access is not available. Urgent negotiations should endeavour to obtain public access to Herbert Street by connection to the public road at the Units, and to Evans Lane.

There should be directional signs to the park at Chandos Street and Herbert Street, and a sign at Talus Street advising access through the park. The park should have a name sign at Talus Street making it quite clear that this is a public park.

#### Carparking

The conditions of lease required the tennis club to provide 86 carparking spaces.

### **Landscaping and Trees**

Soil conditions of the earth mound to the units should be investigated and methods devised to make trees grow well. Stormwater from the units may be available to irrigate the park.

A landscape improvement plan should be developed to beautify the area and create native habitat, with special concern to control soil erosion, screen the units and enclose the courts in 'bushland'

### **The Wetland**

The stormwater basin is working well and provides a successful wetland for native birds. Rare birds have been seen and should be promoted by letting the area develop as a reed swamp with thick vegetation surrounding. A fence to keep cats and dogs out may be beneficial, but should not be installed until a need is shown.

There are approximately half that number without counting the lowest rough bitumen area. The tennis club believes that all the existing spaces are needed on competition days. Local residents believe there is more than enough parking. The lowest carpark is a desirable area for tree growing, and the appearance of the reserve could be improved by tree planting in the entry carparks.

There is a problem of carparking by people who are not using the tennis facilities or the park. Limited time parking eg 3 hours could be introduced to stop the area becoming a commuter or domestic carpark.

### **Additional Park Facilities**

There should be no further construction of facilities which require hard surfacing or building outside the tennis club fences. Any requests to expand or build new facilities in the parkland area should be refused.

### 8.16.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To grow trees and provide wetland habitat.</li> <li>2. To control soil erosion and stormwater.</li> <li>3. To provide specialised outdoor sport facilities in a parkland setting.</li> <li>4. To provide non vehicular access from nearby commercial areas.</li> <li>5. To beautify the area, screen the units and ameliorate climatic conditions.</li> <li>6. To promote other recreational activities suited to the location.</li> <li>7. To identify the park as public land.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Negotiate with the SRA to obtain public access from the southern end of the park to Herbert Street and Evans Lane.</li> <li>2. Establish the number of carparking spaces available, and investigate how many are needed for the regular operation of the tennis courts. Reconsider the requirement of 86 car spaces in the lease. If there is excess carparking, use some of the carpark(s) for tree planting.</li> <li>3. Investigate the benefit of limited time carparking and introduce if beneficial.</li> <li>4. Investigate soil conditions and devise methods to promote tree growth on the bank below the home units.</li> <li>5. Consult with the local community and develop a landscape improvement plan which concentrates on tree planting.</li> <li>6. Investigate the possibility of other recreational activities suited to the location.</li> <li>7. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>8. Install name signs to identify the park as public land.</li> <li>9. Install direction signs advising access through the park and to adjacent areas.</li> <li>10. Investigate local community attitude to the tennis courts.</li> <li>11. Negotiate and renew the tennis club lease as per the provisions of the Crown Lands Act (1989) and in accord with the wishes, and for the benefit of the wider community.</li> <li>12. No further facilities or structures which require hard surfacing or building outside the tennis club fences.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended negotiations are completed.</li> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Trees grow and area is beautified.</li> <li>• Wetland attracts and is safe for birds.</li> <li>• Tennis court lease renewed with appropriate conditions.</li> <li>• Survey of users of the park and adjacent residents.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>

## 8.17 Marlow Street Reserve

### 8.17.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a safe local playground and active recreation park with open field and native woodland settings.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a medium size rectangular park of 0.3281 ha owned by Willoughby City Council. It is on sloping land, enclosed by detached homes. The southern half of the park is an open grassed area. There is a steep earth mound at Marlow Street, woodland at the northern end, and native garden along the eastern boundary. The pine trees (*Pinus radiata*) were planted by Council with the intention of harvesting for Christmas trees.

Marlow Street Reserve has no frontage to busy roads. Surrounding homes look onto, and many backyards open into, the park.

The closed section of Shepherd Road has been landscaped at Sydney Street. There is legal access for vehicles from Godfrey Road to 3 properties on the southern side of the Shepherd Road closure.

### 8.17.2 Management Issues

#### Play equipment and recreation

Council has removed play equipment in recent years, but replacement and improvement of equipment was the strongest request in letters and at the focus group meeting.

Marlow Street Reserve is well suited to be an active play area for the following reasons:

- Relatively large open space.
- Landform is gently sloping and physically safe.
- No park frontage to busy roads so traffic is not a danger.
- Overlooked by many homes which provides good security.
- Established trees provide shade.
- There are 3 access points from surrounding streets.

The open grass area is suitable for ball and active play as well as sitting, reading, allowing toddlers to wander etc.

The northern section could provide adventure and learning experiences such as digging holes, making tracks, building temporary structures. The damage or mess of these activities may require infrequent repair by Council, or preferably by children and parents with Council assistance.

The earth mound is steep and large enough to provide challenge. Play structures and a slide could be built onto the slope. Children are likely to form their own climbing and sliding tracks in the dirt as well as playing on the equipment and in the trees. Mountain bikes could use the mound to advantage.

The woodland provides an area for exploration and is best considered as a play resource rather than a conservation area.

In keeping with predominantly local resident use, car parking is not necessary and no part of the reserve should be set aside for cars.

#### Entrances and access

The Sydney Street entrance has been landscaped but is now overgrown and obscures view into the park. There is not a park name sign and the entry area could be mistaken for private property. Once found, there is a ramp and step access.

The Godfrey Road entrance looks like a driveway or private road and gives no indication of access to Marlow Reserve.

The Marlow Road entry has no sign, is unattractive, overgrown, and has an uneven, stepped path at the mound. This short path should be rebuilt as a longer, smooth ramp.

There is no pathway from the pine trees to Marlow Road. A paved path would make crossing the park with a stroller easier, and avoid shoes being wet by dew in the early morning. There does not seem to be strong need for this path and it may not be requested if the grass was kept short. Any pathways in this park would reduce the area of grass for play. If a path is considered necessary in the future, it should be designed primarily for use as a childrens bicycle track

There is good access from the Artarmon Link Path via Godfrey Road. Access to the park by bicycle should be encouraged and the park should be shown on maps of the Artarmon Link Path and bicycle routes.

Gates from the park to backyards could have 'Safety House' signs where appropriate. Unrestricted vehicle access has been available through the park to carry out deliveries and work on adjoining properties. This has caused damage, and stored materials have encroached on the park

#### Furniture

The only seats at present are the two at the Sydney Street entrance. These are in

### **Maintenance**

There appears to be a history of insufficient maintenance of the reserve. If the grass was mown regularly the park would be a more reliable venue for play. Weeds and weed trees should be controlled in the woodland and native garden areas. There is some risk of bushfire, and fuel reduction should be carried out when necessary. This work should not remove all the understorey shrubs and grasses which make the woodland an interesting play area. Vegetation at the Sydney Street and Marlow Road entrances need to be kept trimmed for access and views into the park. Fences on the park boundaries should be repaired and kept in good order. There are no rubbish bins in the park. This seems a reasonable situation, that the predominantly local visitors take any rubbish home with them.

need of repair and the seat in the southern lawn area could probably be removed and not missed.

Seats for the main area of Marlow Reserve have been requested.

Many people who use the park will live nearby or be friends of neighbours and have access to facilities at homes adjacent the park. Others may visit the park for a few hours and for them a bubbler could be installed. A sign should advise visitors that the nearest public toilets are at Artarmon Reserve and Artarmon Railway Station.

### **Dogs**

It is healthy for dogs and their owners to spend time walking, and Shepherd Road / Marlow Street Reserve could be a destination for those living nearby.

A park with no dog poo may be appealing to many parents of young children.

If the park becomes a more popular playground, and dogs become a source of conflict, consideration could be given to making the Shepherd Road section a dog exercise area and Marlow Reserve a 'no dogs' area.

### 8.17.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide a high quality local playground with a range of active, passive and discovery / adventure opportunities.</li> <li>2. To provide a park which is safe for young children.</li> <li>3. To recognise and promote the adjacent residents as stewards of the park.</li> <li>4. To provide suitable furniture and facilities for park visitors.</li> <li>5. To avoid conflict or restriction of park use.</li> <li>6. To provide identification of the park.</li> <li>7. To provide safe access and clearly marked attractive entrances to the park.</li> <li>8. To grow native woodland and forest trees.</li> <li>9. To maintain the reserve so it is attractive, suitable for expected uses, and is not a fire hazard.</li> <li>10. To promote transport to the reserve by foot or bicycle rather than by car.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Invite adjacent residents and regular visitors to become 'Friends of the Park'.</li> <li>2. In consultation with the 'Friends' develop plans for landscape improvements.</li> <li>3. Do not provide any car parking on the reserve.</li> <li>4. Design / select play equipment to suit ages 1-12, in consultation with the 'Friends'. The play equipment to take advantage of the landform, particularly the southern, steep side of the earth mound near Marlow Street.</li> <li>5. Improve the park entrances. At the Marlow Street entry; replace the steel drainage plate with a standard grate, improve the path, trim trees to allow access and plant additional trees on the cul-de-sac nature strip.</li> <li>6. Install a bike/pram entry ramp in the Marlow Street cul-de-sac kerb.</li> <li>7. Install park name signs, at entrances.</li> <li>8. Install a direction sign to the park at the Sydney Street corner of Marlow Street.</li> <li>9. Include the park on brochures/maps of the Artarmon Link Path.</li> <li>10. Install a seat near the Marlow Street earth mound. Future use of this area near the playground may justify additional seats or a table.</li> <li>11. Remove the damaged seat in the southern grass area at Sydney Street entry.</li> <li>12. Install a bubbler.</li> <li>13. Do not provide rubbish bins.</li> <li>14. Clear weeds on the western side of the earth mound and make the brick stormwater pit safe.</li> <li>15. Build a benched path on the western side of the mound to give access from the grass area to the woodland.</li> <li>16. Carry out tree planting to enhance the Shepherd Road closure.</li> <li>17. Install a sign with directions to the nearest available public toilets (Artarmon Reserve and Artarmon Railway Station).</li> <li>18. Investigate the use of the park by dogs, and if there is conflict of use, or restriction of other activities because of dogs or dog faeces, make Marlow Reserve a 'no dogs' area. Allow dogs in the</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Maintenance is suitable.</li> <li>• Survey users of the park.</li> <li>• Survey adjacent residents.</li> <li>• Reports from the 'Friends' of the park.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff</li> </ul>



Objectives	Actions	Assessment
	<p>Shepherd Road closure, and if necessary install a fence at the pine trees and at Marlow Road.</p> <p>19. Investigate the need for private vehicle access to Marlow Reserve and in consultation with adjacent owners ensure that entry is controlled and damage is repaired.</p> <p>20. Advise adjacent residents of repairs necessary to fences.</p> <p>21. Undertake appropriate regular park maintenance, particularly in respect of safety issues and children's play activities.</p> <p>22. Maintain the woodland and native gardens by bush regeneration methods, but accept damage caused by children because these areas are primarily for play rather than conservation.</p>	

## 8.18 Barton Road Reserve

### 8.18.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To examine the suitability of this land for open space use for the community's recreation needs and investigate options for its disposal.

#### Description / Value statement

This is a small, rectangular, south sloping block of 0.189 ha. The land is owned by Willoughby City Council in fee simple. It is undeveloped. Surplus land from the Gore Hill Freeway and the Freeway concrete wall adjoin the land to the west; medium density residential units surround the land to the south and east; there is a lane access to the north; and the cul-de-sac of west Barton Road provides vehicular access. The land is less than 100 metres from Thomson Park. It is not visually accessible, being hidden behind three storey units facing Reserve Road.

### 8.18.2 Management Issues

#### Reasons for Disposal

The land ( Lots 14&15, DP 4639) were zoned for Proposed Open Space under Interim Development Order No 28 in September 1977. Both lots were purchased by the Council before December, 1990 from Section 94 - Precinct 15, Open Space Trust Fund.

The land could be sold in order to purchase more suitable land for open space. Land would be sought elsewhere in the precinct.

The land is less than 100 metres from Thomson Park, and is situated behind

housing where it is not visible to the broader community.

The presence of public housing and high number of adolescents "roaming at loose ends" in this area leads Council to prefer open space that is open in nature, with any activities easily viewed by passing rangers, the police and the community.

Intended linkages would not be lost as the lane could still connect to Milner Road via a Greenpath to be established when that area is redeveloped for higher density housing

### 8.18.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
1. Determine if the land is suitable for a park or for disposal.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate: the Section 94 contributions from Precinct 15 up to December, 1990, being that area bounded by the GoreHill Freeway, Pacific Highway, Mowbray Road, Stanley Street, Artarmon Road and Chelmsford Avenue.</li> <li>Report to Council on any potential nexus between the Precinct 15 developments levied for Section 94 Open Space contributions prior to December, 1990.</li> <li>Investigate alternate sites in Precinct 15 suitable for Open Space in light of any nexus found in 2. above</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The land is found to be suitable for disposal and more suitable land is purchased for the community, or</li> <li>The land is found suitable for a park.</li> </ul>

## 8.19 Waters Road Closure

### 8.19.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

#### Description / Value Statement

To provide a landscaped park for the purposes of street beautification, growth of trees, environmental benefit, recreation and social activity, non-vehicular access.

These are road closure parks at the corners of Waters and Dalleys Roads, and Waters Road and Talus Street. They are owned by Willoughby City Council and have an area of 0.048 ha.

The Talus Street closure extends along the nature strip of Waters Road providing a large lawn area and creating the appearance of a garden suburb.

This lawn has a short steep slope to the road which reduces its value as play space, but would be suitable for a shrub garden display.

### 8.19.2 Management Issues

#### Talus Street

The bank to Waters Road is steep and presents a maintenance problem. This could be edged at the top and planted with ground cover plants or shrubs which would provide a good display from road level.

This is a large open area which could be planted with trees.

#### Dalleys Road.

The trees here are growing well. The grass on the mound could be replaced by mulch to reduce maintenance.

### 8.19.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To involve local residents in future planning of the park.</li> <li>2. To create a pleasant, attractive park.</li> <li>3. To exclude all vehicles from the park area.</li> <li>4. To grow trees.</li> <li>5. To reduce stormwater runoff.</li> <li>6. To provide a local community space for recreation and social activity</li> <li>7. To involve local residents in maintenance of the park.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Investigate soil conditions.</li> <li>2. Consult with local residents and develop a landscape improvement plan for the Talus Street closure.</li> <li>3. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>4. Install a name sign to identify the land as public park.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Vehicles are excluded from the park.</li> <li>• Trees grow and area is beautified.</li> <li>• The park is well maintained.</li> <li>• Local residents are pleased with appearance and use of the park.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee.</li> </ul>

## 8.20 Parkes Street Closure

### 8.20.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a landscaped park for the purposes of beautification, growth of trees, environmental benefit, recreation and non-vehicular access.

#### Description / Value Statement

This park was an unmade road between McBurney Street and Grafton Avenue. It is owned by Willoughby City Council and has an area of 0.048 ha. It provides access for McBurney Street residents to Flat Rock Gully without going along Brook Street. Adjacent residents have planted trees and grass. The soil appears to be very shallow over the sandstone.

### 8.20.2 Management Issues

#### Existing Landscape

Existing trees should be inspected for suitability.

#### Improvements

Possible improvements for access, ease of maintenance, and establishment of an Australian native plant theme should be discussed with the adjacent owners.

### 8.20.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To involve local residents in future planning of the park.</li> <li>2. To provide safe walking and cycle access from McBurney Street to Grafton Avenue</li> <li>3. To create a pleasant, attractive park.</li> <li>4. To exclude all vehicles from the park area.</li> <li>5. To grow trees.</li> <li>6. To reduce stormwater runoff.</li> <li>7. To provide a local community space for recreation and social activity</li> <li>8. To involve local residents in maintenance of the park.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Investigate soil conditions and select/retain trees which will not cause expensive problems with root damage.</li> <li>2. Consult with local residents and develop a landscape improvement plan.</li> <li>3. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>4. Install a name sign to identify the land as public park.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Vehicles excluded from the park.</li> <li>• Trees grow and area is beautified.</li> <li>• The park is well maintained.</li> <li>• Local residents are pleased with appearance and use of the park.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>

## 8.21 Palmer Street Closure

### 8.21.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a landscaped park for the purposes of street beautification, growth of trees, environmental benefit, recreation and social activity, non-vehicular access.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a road closure park at the corner of Palmer Street and The Pacific Highway. It is owned by Willoughby City Council and has an area of 0.112 ha. The road has been closed and a screen of shrubs grown adjacent the Highway footpath. The full road closure as shown on zoning maps has not been carried out.

### 8.21.2 Management Issues

#### Completion of the Road Closure

The road closure should be completed as resolved in order to provide a local park.

A landscape plan for the park should include removal of the road, grassing most of the area, tree planting, one seat, a meandering footpath

### 8.21.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To involve local residents in planning of the park.</li> <li>2. To create a pleasant, attractive park.</li> <li>3. To exclude all vehicles from the park area.</li> <li>4. To grow trees.</li> <li>5. To reduce stormwater runoff.</li> <li>6. To provide a local community space for recreation and social activity</li> <li>7. To involve local residents in maintenance of the park.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consult with local residents and develop a landscape improvement plan including,                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal of the road</li> <li>• Grassing most of the area</li> <li>• Tree planting</li> <li>• Installation of one or more seats</li> <li>• Installation of a meandering footpath</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>3. Install a name sign to identify the land as public park.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Vehicles excluded from the park.</li> <li>• Trees grow and area is beautified.</li> <li>• The park is well maintained.</li> <li>• Local residents are pleased with appearance and use of the park.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee.</li> </ul>

## 8.22 Eric Street Closure

### 8.22.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a landscaped park for the purposes of street beautification, growth of trees, environmental benefit, recreation and social activity, non-vehicular access.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a road closure park at the corner of Eric Street and The Pacific Highway. It is owned by Willoughby City Council and has an area of 0.064 ha. The road has been closed and a screen of shrubs grown adjacent the Highway footpath. This closure has reduced street traffic but has not provided a park.

### 8.22.2 Management Issues

#### Street Closure to Form a Park

There are existing driveways which would need to be maintained. A true park cannot be made until adjacent properties are redeveloped and vehicle access can be excluded.

removal of the road, grassing most of the area, tree planting, one seat, and a meandering footpath.

A landscape plan should be prepared for the future park. This should include

An interim park should be planned on the basis of the existing access requirements and the future plan. As much of the road as possible should be removed and trees planted in their permanent locations.

### 8.22.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To involve local residents in planning of the park.</li> <li>2. To create a pleasant, attractive interim park.</li> <li>3. To exclude all vehicles from the final park area.</li> <li>4. To grow trees.</li> <li>5. To reduce stormwater runoff.</li> <li>6. To provide a local community space for recreation and social activity</li> <li>7. To involve local residents in maintenance of the park.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Investigate vehicle access requirements.</li> <li>2. Consult with local residents and develop an interim plan which should include;                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal of part of the road</li> <li>• Grassing some of the area</li> <li>• Tree planting,</li> <li>• Installation of one or more seats</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>4. Install a name sign to identify the land as public park.</li> <li>5. Develop a landscape proposal for the final park with vehicles excluded</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Suitable Open Space is provided in this area.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Acceptable Vehicle access provided in the interim plan.</li> <li>• Trees grow and the area is beautified.</li> <li>• The park is well maintained.</li> <li>• Local residents are pleased with appearance and use of the park.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee.</li> <li>• Plans for the final street park are completed.</li> </ul>

## 8.23 French Street Closure

### 8.23.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

#### Description / Value Statement

To provide a landscaped park for the purposes of street beautification, growth of trees, environmental benefit, recreation and social activity, non-vehicular access

This is a road closure park at the corner of French Street and Broughton Road. It is owned by Willoughby City Council and has an area of 0.032 ha. The park is very small and contains 2 good size trees and a substation. The road closure has reduced traffic and beautified the street but it does not provide recreational space.

### 8.23.2 Management Issues

#### Enlargement of the Park

The turning circle could be moved back to in front of No 5 with vehicle access to No 3 being over the park. This increased space could fit a seat and additional tree planting.

A landscape plan should be prepared for the park. This should include removal of the road, grassing most of the area, tree planting, and seats.

### 8.23.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To involve local residents in planning of the park.</li> <li>2. To create a pleasant, attractive park.</li> <li>3. To provide a lunch location for nearby workers.</li> <li>4. To exclude vehicles from the park except for access to No 3 French Street.</li> <li>5. To grow trees.</li> <li>6. To reduce stormwater runoff.</li> <li>7. To provide a local community space for recreation and social activity</li> <li>8. To involve local residents and people from the industrial area in maintenance of the park.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Investigate access requirements.</li> <li>2. Consult with local residents and develop a landscape improvement plan including,                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• seats.</li> <li>• Removal of the road</li> <li>• Grassing most of the area</li> <li>• Tree planting,</li> <li>• Installation of one or more seats.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>4. Install a name sign to identify the land as public park.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Vehicles excluded from the park except for access to No 3.</li> <li>• Trees grow and area is beautified.</li> <li>• The park is well maintained.</li> <li>• Local residents are pleased with appearance and use of the park.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>

## 8.24 Milner Road Closure

### 8.24.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a garden area for the purposes of street beautification, growth of trees, environmental benefit, stormwater control.

#### Description / Value Statement

This park is a tiny left over section between the end of the closed road and the Freeway fence. It is owned by Willoughby City Council and has an area of approximately 0.03 ha. Its value will be in growing trees to beautify the end of the street.

### 8.24.2 Management Issues

#### Access to the Freeway Reserve

A locked gate at the Freeway boundary of this park has been opened and there is a worn track to the freeway and on the other side to Marden Street. Pedestrian crossing of the Freeway is not recommended and the RTA should investigate. There is a recommended walking route through the Freeway Reserve to the Highway near Mimmington Street. Suitable access and fencing for that walkway should be arranged with the RTA.

#### Landscape Plan

A landscape plan should be developed to achieve an attractive, low maintenance garden with suitable trees.

### 8.24.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To involve local residents in planning of the park.</li> <li>2. To create a pleasant, attractive garden.</li> <li>3. To grow trees.</li> <li>4. To control stormwater.</li> <li>5. To involve local residents in maintenance of the garden.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Investigate soil conditions and devise methods to promote tree growth.</li> <li>2. Consult with local residents and develop a landscape improvement plan.</li> <li>3. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and garden maintenance.</li> <li>4. Install a name sign to identify the land as public park.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Trees grow and area is beautified.</li> <li>• The park is well maintained.</li> <li>• Local residents are pleased with appearance and use of the area.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>



## 8.25 Abbott Road Closure

### 8.25.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a landscaped park for the purposes of street beautification, growth of trees, environmental benefit, recreation and social activity, non-vehicular access.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a road closure park between McMillan and Barton Roads. It is owned by Willoughby City Council and has an area of approximately 0.112 ha. It is adjacent Artarmon School and provides a green space and an area for the children to gather after school without going onto the road.

### 8.25.2 Management Issues

#### Landscape Improvements

A landscape plan should be prepared for the park. This should include removal of the road, grassing most of the area, tree planting and a meandering footpath.

### 8.25.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives		Actions	Assessment
1.	To involve the school in planning of the park.	1. Investigate the existing road and drainage conditions and ensure problems are not created by the landscaping.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community and school takes place.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Vehicles are excluded from the park.</li> <li>• Trees grow and area is beautified.</li> <li>• The school children think of it as their park.</li> <li>• The park is well maintained.</li> <li>• Local residents are pleased with appearance and use of the park.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>
2.	To create a pleasant, attractive park.	2. Consult with local residents and the school to develop a landscape improvement plan.	
3.	To exclude all vehicles from the park area.	3. Invite the school to be involved in landscape improvements, tree planting and park maintenance.	
4.	To involve the school children with planting trees in the park.	4. Install a name sign to identify the land as public park.	
5.	To grow trees.		
6.	To reduce stormwater runoff.		
7.	To provide a local community space for recreation and social activity.		
8.	To involve school children in maintenance of the park.		

## 8.26 Bongalong Street Closure

### 8.26.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a landscaped park for the purposes of street beautification, growth of trees, environmental benefit, recreation and social activity, non-vehicular access.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a road closure park at the corner of Bongalong Street and Northcote Street. It is owned by Willoughby City Council and has an area of approximately 0.048 ha. It contains grass and young trees. The road closure reduces traffic and creates a small green space.

### 8.26.2 Management Issues

#### Enlargement of the park

The park could be enlarged by moving the turning circle at least 15 metres further up Bongalong Street. The road could also be narrowed, preferably on the northern side so that trees planted there would shade the roadway and not overshadow the houses.

#### Landscaping

A landscape plan should be prepared for the park. This should include further removal of the road, grassing the area, tree planting, shrub screening, one seat.

If there is strong local willingness to create and maintain a garden then this should be accommodated.

A fence could be installed at Northcote Street.

### 8.26.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To involve local residents in planning of the extended park.</li> <li>2. To create a pleasant, attractive park.</li> <li>3. To exclude all vehicles from the park area.</li> <li>4. To grow trees.</li> <li>5. To reduce stormwater runoff.</li> <li>6. To provide a local community space for recreation and social activity</li> <li>7. To involve local residents in maintenance of the park.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Investigate road and drainage conditions to find any restraints on extending the road closure.</li> <li>2. Investigate soil conditions and devise methods to promote tree growth.</li> <li>3. Consult with local residents and develop a landscape improvement plan including,                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further removal of the road</li> <li>• Grassing most of the area</li> <li>• Tree planting,</li> <li>• Installation of one or more seats and a fence at Northcote Street.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>5. Install a name sign to identify the land as public park.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Vehicles excluded from the park.</li> <li>• Trees grow and area is beautified.</li> <li>• The park is well maintained.</li> <li>• Local residents are pleased with appearance and use of the park.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>

## 8.27 Ella Street Closure

### 8.27.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide a landscaped park for the purposes of street beautification, growth of trees, environmental benefit, recreation and social activity, non-vehicular access.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a road closure park at the corner of Ella and Francis Streets. It is owned by Willoughby City Council and has an area of approximately 0.064 ha. It is established with grass, one large tree and bollards to keep cars out. It is an attractive green space and is popular as a lunchtime sitting area. Adjoining land beside the railway to Talus Street is proposed open space. When this is added to Ella Street closure it will form a connection from Talus Street Reserve to Naremburn Park. This is a prominent ridge top location where trees would become significant on the skyline.

### 8.27.2 Management Issues

#### Landscaping

The park would be more pleasant with a low shrub screen along Dalleys Road. This would provide separation from the traffic but not block the winter sun. A few seats should be installed for lunch time use.

Trees should be planted as part of a ridge top planting scheme extending through Talus Street Reserve, Ella Street Closure and the Proposed open space, and Naremburn Park.

A landscape plan should be prepared for the park in combination with the proposed additional land.

#### Possible inclusion of Francis Street

Consideration should be given to closing Ella Street and Francis Street and including these into the park. Vehicles could access Talus Street Reserve via Berry Avenue.

### 8.27.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To involve local residents in future planning of the park.</li> <li>2. To create a pleasant, attractive park.</li> <li>3. To exclude all vehicles from the park area.</li> <li>4. To grow trees as part of a ridgetop planting scheme.</li> <li>5. To reduce stormwater runoff.</li> <li>6. To provide a suitable lunch time picnic and resting area.</li> <li>7. To provide a local community space for recreation and social activity</li> <li>8. To involve local residents in maintenance of the park.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Investigate soil conditions and devise methods to promote tree growth.</li> <li>2. Develop a ridgetop planting scheme extending through Talus Street Reserve, Ella Street Closure and the Proposed open space, and Naremburn Park.</li> <li>3. Consult with local residents and develop a landscape improvement plan.</li> <li>4. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>5. Install a name sign to identify the land as public park.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Ridgetop planting scheme is developed.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Vehicles excluded from the park.</li> <li>• Trees grow and area is beautified.</li> <li>• The park is well maintained.</li> <li>• Local residents are pleased with appearance and use of the park.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>

## 8.28 Artarmon Pathways

### 8.28.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide landscaped corridors for the purpose of non-vehicular access, growth of trees, beautification, environmental benefit, recreation and social activity.

#### Description / Value Statement

The Artarmon Pathways were introduced as a way of providing landscaped space and access between the large unit developments west of Artarmon station.

They are owned by Willoughby City Council and have been largely successful in the greening of the area, with the trees on public land. They appear to be less successful as pathways, possibly due to a complete lack of signs advising that they are public land and where they lead to.

The existing Pathways have a total area of 0.208 ha and are situated:

1. Francis Street to Broughton Road (from near Robert Street)
2. Buller Street to join path 1.
3. Buller Street to White Street Reserve, opposite path 2.
4. Broughton Road to Jersey Road( from opposite path 1 adjacent to the church, to Thomson Park).
5. Buller Road to join path 4.
6. Buller Road to Jersey Road Reserve, opposite path 5.
7. Extension of Jersey Road to Jersey Road Reserve.
8. Milner Road to Jersey Road Reserve.

Pathways 1, 2, 3, part of 4, 6, 7, and 8 have pavement. The remainder of 4, and 5 are unpaved. There is public play equipment along path 5.

### 8.28.2 Management Issues

#### Name and Direction Signs

Signs identifying the paths as public land, and where they lead, should be installed at each entry.

#### Encroachments, Extensions

Pathway 6 from Buller Road to Jersey Road Reserve does not appear to be as large as shown on the zoning map, and Pathway 3 to White Street Reserve may also have encroachments.

There is a passageway from Pathway 5 to Hampden Road, this would form a logical extension of the path.

#### Maintenance

The paths are adjacent home unit blocks and not easily visible from the street. Council could negotiate with the owners of adjacent properties for the body corporate to arrange regular maintenance of the lawn and shrubs as occurs on street frontage. Council should continue to maintain the trees, pavement and other problems such as bad drainage.

### 8.28.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide landscaped, non-vehicular corridors between high density housing.</li> <li>2. To create pleasant, attractive parks and to grow trees.</li> <li>3. To provide a local community space for recreation and social activity</li> <li>4. To involve local residents in maintenance of the park.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Investigate encroachments.</li> <li>2. Consult with the body corporate of adjacent properties re: maintenance.</li> <li>3. Install name and direction signs.</li> <li>4. Investigate possible extensions.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Name and directional signs are installed.</li> <li>• Local residents are involved in park maintenance.</li> <li>• Local residents find the linkpath access convenient and safe, and are pleased with appearance.</li> <li>• Trees grow and the area is beautified.</li> <li>• The park is well maintained.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee.</li> </ul>

## 8.29 Olympia Road Closure

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### 8.29.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To grow trees, screen the Freeway and recreate bushland. To control soil erosion and stormwater. To provide non-vehicular access from Artarmon Reserve to Fleming Park. To provide specialised landscaping, activities or park facilities which are suitable for location under the Freeway.

#### Description / Value Statement

This is a park of 0.416 ha between the Freeway and the Flat Rock Creek channel. It is owned by Willoughby City Council. The land has been reshaped by the Freeway construction and there is now a flat area beside the Freeway and steep slopes to the creek channel. It provides opportunity to plant trees which will screen the Freeway, create a bushland corridor, and with the adjoining 'proposed county road reservation', for a path from Fleming Park to Artarmon Reserve without going onto a road.

### 8.29.2 Management Issues

#### Ownership and Zoning of Adjoining 'Proposed County Road Reservation'

The large areas adjoining the park between the Freeway, Willoughby Road and the houses in Walter Street, between the Freeway and the stormwater channel, and the land under the Freeway are zoned 'proposed county road reservation'. If this land is not to be the property of Council then agreements should be made with the RTA for public access, management and maintenance.

stormwater from the Freeway considered for irrigation of the park. A landscape improvement plan should be developed to beautify the area with special concern to control soil erosion and screen the Freeway

#### Access and Signs

There should be a bridge over the stormwater channel to Fleming Park. This would allow walking to Flat Rock Reserve through that park rather than along the road/cycleway. A compacted earth track would be adequate and local residents reject installation of a paved path. Directional signs should be installed at Artarmon Reserve and the bridge. The park should have a name sign at the bridge, Walter Street entry, and at the Artarmon Reserve end under the Freeway.

#### Recreation and other uses

Like Fleming Park at present, the area does not appear desirable for recreation other than walking through and possibly sitting to rest. It will however always have some purpose as a place for children to explore and the overhead Freeway creates an interesting and enclosed atmosphere. The park could become a wildlife refuge if a short length of fencing and gates are installed to keep dogs and cats out.

#### Landscaping and Tree Growing

Stability and soil conditions of the earth mounds should be investigated, and

Special uses have been suggested for the area under the Freeway, eg. vegetation composting or worm farming. One recreational use that could benefit from the shelter is a BMX track. The earth mounds would not be subject to erosion as they would normally be when out in the rain. The community should be involved in consideration and decisions about such uses. There may well be other special purposes for which the overhead shelter of the Freeway is suitable, and options should be kept open for this.

### 8.29.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide walking access</li> <li>2. To beautify the area and screen the Freeway</li> <li>3. To investigate and provide specialised activities suited to the location.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Negotiate with the RTA in respect of the status and use of the adjoining "proposed County Road Reservation" lands.</li> <li>2. Investigate soil conditions and devise methods to promote tree growth</li> <li>3. Consult with the local community and develop a landscape improvement plan</li> <li>4. Investigate the possibility of special uses for this park such as BMX track under the Freeway and provide facilities if the community finds this appropriate</li> <li>5. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance</li> <li>6. Install name signs to identify the park as public land, and direction signs advising access to adjacent areas</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Trees grow and the area is beautified.</li> <li>• Survey of users of the park and adjacent residents.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee</li> </ul>

## 8.30 Artarmon Link Path (amended Date . . . . .)

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### 8.30.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For management

To provide an off-road access path linking residential areas with parkland.  
To provide landscaping, tree planting and beautification where possible for environmental benefit and recreation.  
To control stormwater.

#### Description / Value Statement

This linear park and drainage reserve runs from Artarmon Reserve beside the bowling club, north-west to Weedon Road. It is owned by Willoughby City Council and has an area of approximately 0.854 ha. It is gently sloping and connects the residential area east of the railway and near Mowbray Road with Artarmon Reserve.  
A cycle path is constructed from Onyx Road to Artarmon Reserve. Access through the park is seen as a way of linking local residents to neighbourhood and district parks.  
The reserve follows the valley floor between residential backyards, with a large stormwater pipe underground.  
There is a wider section at Onyx Road which forms a small local park.  
There is a tennis court built partly on the reserve many years ago, in the section between Smith and Weedon Roads.

### 8.30.2 Management Issues

#### Landscaping and Maintenance

The Onyx Road section of the reserve is very attractive. Other sections are overgrown and require additional maintenance. As the linkpath is completed, Council staff should consult with adjoining property owners and invite their input to landscaping and maintenance. Ideally, gardening along the path would be carried out as a local 'working bee' with residents meeting each other and strengthening 'neighbourhood watch' and 'safety house' arrangements. The park should be developed to achieve a pleasant, green, public space with suitable trees and convenient, safe access.

#### Access

The reserve is to be made accessible for pedestrians and/or bicycles as appropriate.

#### Zoning

The section of the reserve between Smith and Weedon Roads is currently unzoned, and contains part of a tennis court built many years ago by a neighbouring property owner. This section is to be zoned Open Space 6(a).

#### Road Safety and Connection with Other Areas

This linkpath is proposed to cater for local children and families, making it easier to visit local parks and to leave the car at home. It is essential that the road crossings be safe. Pedestrian crossings with vehicle thresholds should be installed at Artarmon, Onyx and Smith Roads. Pedestrian crossing lights should be installed at Mowbray Rd and Devonshire St.  
This linkpath joins the Naremburn cycleway at Artarmon Reserve, giving connection to Flat Rock Gully and the Artarmon/ Naremburn area.  
The City of Willoughby bicycle route revisions recommended by the North Shore Bicycle Group show a proposed route along Shepherd, Tindale and Devonshire Street to Chatswood city centre.

#### Encroachments

A fence was built across the reserve boundary at Smith Road many years ago. Removal of the fence and associated ground shaping to allow public access to the reserve and to control stormwater should be undertaken. Other fences/ walls encroachments within all sections of the reserve should be removed. The section of the reserve between Weedon and Smith Roads is used by locals as a walking link and contains part of a private tennis court. The future management of the court should be negotiated by a lease agreement with the adjoining owner.

### 8.30.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide a linkpath in a pleasant, attractive parkland setting from East Artarmon to Artarmon Reserve.</li> <li>2. To make the path safe by control of vehicles at the road crossings.</li> <li>3. To control stormwater.</li> <li>4. To provide a local community space for recreation and social activity.</li> <li>5. To involve local residents in maintenance of the park.</li> <li>6. To provide a tree/ landscape corridor for wildlife habitat and environmental benefit.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove encroachments blocking access to and within the reserve, and reshape the land to allow public access and control stormwater flows.</li> <li>2. Install traffic control/pedestrian crossings/kerb laybacks at road junctions with reserve.</li> <li>3. Consult with local residents re: landscape / gardening and pathway design.</li> <li>4. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>5. Install park name and directional signs.</li> <li>6. Zone the section of the reserve between Smith and Weedon Rds to Open Space 6(a).</li> <li>7. Negotiate a lease for the tennis court located in the reserve between Smith and Weedon Rds.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public open space is accessible.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Park name and directional signs are installed.</li> <li>• Vehicles are controlled at road crossings.</li> <li>• Local residents are involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>• Local residents find the linkpath access convenient and safe.</li> <li>• Trees grow and the area is beautified.</li> <li>• The park is well maintained.</li> <li>• Adjacent residents are pleased with appearance and use of the park/ linkpath.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee.</li> <li>• All public pathways are constructed in accordance with the recommendations of the Crime Prevention Manual ( NSW Attorney-General's Dept, 1998)</li> </ul>



## 8.31 Muttama, Stafford and Tindale Road Closures

### 8.31.1 Description And Basis For Management

#### Basis For Management

To provide landscaped parks for the purposes of street beautification, growth of trees, environmental benefit, recreation and social activity, with controlled vehicular access.

#### Description / Value Statement

These are adjoining road closures at Mowbray Road. They are owned by Willoughby City Council and have a total area of approximately 0.112 ha. The opportunity exists to landscape these three areas with controlled vehicle access to create an attractive park.

### 8.31.2 Management Issues

#### Landscaping

A landscape plan should be developed to achieve a pleasant public green spaces with suitable trees and convenient, safe vehicle access.

### 8.31.3 Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives	Actions	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To involve local residents in planning of the parks.</li> <li>2. To create pleasant, attractive parks.</li> <li>3. To control vehicles access in the park area.</li> <li>4. To grow trees.</li> <li>5. To reduce stormwater runoff.</li> <li>6. To provide a local community space for recreation and social activity</li> <li>7. To involve local residents in maintenance of the park.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Investigate vehicle access requirements.</li> <li>2. Consult with local residents and develop a landscape improvement plan, including;                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal of the roads</li> <li>• Grassing most of the area</li> <li>• Tree planting</li> <li>• Installation of one or more seats</li> <li>• Installation of suitable vehicle access pavement</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Invite local residents to be involved in tree planting and park maintenance.</li> <li>4. Install a name sign to identify the land as public park and limited vehicle access</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended investigations are completed.</li> <li>• Consultation with the local community takes place.</li> <li>• Landscape improvement plan is developed.</li> <li>• Works are carried out.</li> <li>• Vehicles are controlled in the park.</li> <li>• Local residents find the vehicle access arrangements are convenient and safe.</li> <li>• Trees grow and area is beautified.</li> <li>• The park is well maintained.</li> <li>• Local residents are pleased with appearance and use of the park.</li> <li>• Inspection by Council staff.</li> <li>• Annual 'State of the Park' comments by Ward Committee.</li> </ul>

## **9. APPENDICES**

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### **9.1 Community Consultation Process**

#### **9.1.1 Public Notification**

Letters inviting comment on issues of concern were distributed to residents surrounding the parks.

A notice was placed in the North Shore Times on 13 September 1995, inviting comment from interested parties.

Focus group meetings were held on 12 September, 20 October and 8 November 1995. Twenty people attended the meetings.

17 written responses were received by Council.

3 telephone comments were received by Council.

### 9.1.2 Summary Of Issues Raised By Residents and Other Park Users.

Parks	Issues	No. of Letters	Focus Group	
<b>All Parks in General</b>	• Provide bike track linking parks in the ward	1		
	• Provide a Fun Run circuit	1		
	• All parks should have swings/playground, picnic tables, BBQ facilities, toilets, easy parking (2 hour parking zones), tall shady trees, and be designed primarily for local resident use	1		
	• Bicycle tracks should be more accessible	1		
	• Clean Up Australia Day activities should be at local small parks	1		
	• Provide a beautiful setting-suitable for wedding photos	1		
	• Provide floral display in some parks with seats	1		
	• Provide fencing at a playground for pre-schoolers	1		
	• Establish "Green-Ways" - heavily planted road corridors between parks, with traffic calming raised paved platforms at intersections	1		
	• Match floodlight times with users needs	1		
	• Adjust and control irrigation to save water	1		
	• Prepare "Access Statements" of non-car methods of travel to parks which attract many sports participants.	1		
	• Hiring clubs to distribute this information to reduce car numbers at venues			*
	• Improve access throughout the area			*
	• Need for informal recreational activities, not organised sports			*
	• Provide tennis practice walls			*
	• Request more/better maintenance of parks by Council			*
	• Concern about lack of toilets at parks , but not enough to request more			*
	• Small parks and road closures can be densely planted, but do not block sun to properties			*
	• Bus stops are social meeting places for adults and schoolchildren			*
• Need a significant tree register for streets, parks and private property			*	
• Family Day Care can only use fenced playgrounds			*	
<b>Cleland Park</b>	• Remove Bunya pine tree because of the danger of the large falling fruits	1		
	• Install BBQ facilities	1		
	• Install synthetic soft fall under play equipment so that children can stay reasonably clean	1		
	• Provide more play equipment	1		
	• A swooping magpie causes inconvenience near this park	1		
	• Provide better night lighting	1		
	• Park has a threadbare look, grass is thin			*
	• Stop soil erosion			*
	• Danger of the slope to busy Hampden Road			*
• Playground needs to be fenced, it is mainly used by children while parents are at tennis			*	
<b>Jersey Road Reserve</b>	• Keep the Kids Cottage somewhere on site		*	
	• Play equipment is OK		*	
	• Used at lunchtime by workers from adjacent industrial area, needs more seats, table, bins		*	
	• Stone edge of playground is dangerous		*	
	• Need 2 separate playgrounds so the After School Program can be supervised in a fenced area		*	
	• The trees provide good shade		*	
<b>Artarmon Park</b>	<b>Artarmon Park(north)</b>			
	• Install seats at sunny end of the park. Install comfortable seats, possibly table and seats	1	*	
	• Extra bollards needed near Cleland Road corner	1		

Parks	Issues	No. of Letters	Focus Group
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install dog faeces bin</li> <li>• Don't use pesticide sprays on the park</li> <li>• The area to be a low key passive park</li> </ul>	1 1	*
	<b>Artarmon Park (south)</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a workers lunch area</li> <li>• Should the park be being used for carparking?</li> <li>• Planting by RTA is appropriate</li> <li>• Need to control dumping at eastern end</li> </ul>		*
<b>Taylor Lane Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove concrete pipes and make the park pleasant</li> </ul>		*
<b>White Street Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep the park as is</li> <li>• Many children live in nearby units</li> <li>• Used a lot in school holidays</li> <li>• Sandstone wall and paving is inviting to kids but presents a fall danger</li> <li>• Problem with sand as a soft-fall everywhere, and it gets very hot</li> <li>• Need different soft-fall under the flying fox</li> <li>• Play area needs swings or equipment for imaginative and make believe play</li> <li>• Consider a small bike track</li> <li>• Needs more shade</li> <li>• Needs picnic settings near the large tree</li> <li>• No access to Buller Road as per the planning map</li> </ul>		*
<b>Robert Street Park</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep the park as is.</li> </ul>		*
<b>Mowbray Rd Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install a seat or two</li> <li>• Park serves purpose of green undeveloped space</li> <li>• Park never used</li> </ul>		*
<b>Elizabeth St Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plant out this park</li> </ul>		*
<b>Thomson Park</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a well used park</li> <li>• Provide night lighting</li> <li>• Improve lighting at pedestrian crossing on Reserve Road and on the path across the park</li> <li>• Improve drainage near school wall</li> <li>• Provide additional bins</li> <li>• Toilets are not well maintained</li> <li>• Pathways near school need signposting</li> <li>• Install basketball court or multi use court</li> <li>• Provide facilities for children of nearby flats</li> <li>• Ask results of residents meeting Kerry Chikarovski</li> <li>• Playground area needs a bubbler, shade, seats, picnic settings and maybe a BBQ</li> <li>• Provide exercise equipment around the oval</li> <li>• Busy roads, specialised traffic calming required</li> <li>• Protect park users from traffic with hedging / fencing / more trees, especially at Barton Road</li> </ul>	1   1 2 1 1	*
<b>Artarmon Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Important role as the Artarmon district park</li> <li>• Make a 'really nice' picnic area</li> <li>• Playground used for childrens parties</li> <li>• Prefer lighting near the play area</li> <li>• Provide picnic tables near playground</li> <li>• Improve play equipment standard and variety</li> <li>• Improve stroller access to playground by paving, or reducing steepness</li> <li>• Sand under play equipment may attract cat and dog faeces- use bark chips instead</li> <li>• Prune dangerous branches above playground</li> <li>• Define edge of the BBQ area near the playground</li> </ul>	1 1 1 1 1	*

Parks	Issues	No. of Letters	Focus Group
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wood fire BBQs are a concern re vandalism and fire, consider replacement with electric BBQs</li> </ul>	2	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The cricket nets should be replaced</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install basketball rings on the former carpark</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rethink the car parking entirely</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close gate at 9pm to reduce traffic at night</li> </ul>	2	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce speed of cars in Burra and Cooney Roads</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The park and its access is not suitable for the touch football competition</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant trees on the railway embankment</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install garden boxes/hanging greenery on the expressway concrete walls</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What will RTA do along the old creek area?</li> </ul>		*
<b>Walter Street Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant whole reserve with native shrubs &amp; grasses</li> </ul>	1	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The reserve was a dairy, now part is a swamp</li> </ul>	1	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replace kikuyu grass and exotic trees on the nature strip at the end of Richmond Avenue with native plants and mulch</li> </ul>	1	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of the nature strip at the end of Richmond Avenue is inadequate, especially during Summer</li> </ul>	1	
<b>McBurney St Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The park seems to have no function. It is a flat rocky site.</li> </ul>		*
<b>Fleming Park</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep pedestrian access</li> </ul>		*
<b>Talus Street Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build pedestrian tracks in the reserve and to Evans Lane</li> </ul>	1	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage a mix of recreational activities</li> </ul>	1	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant native trees close to the tennis court fences, and heavily on the lower, south-west side of the car park</li> </ul>	1	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The reserve was a private donation to Council for the use of residents. Remove courts and restore a natural park</li> </ul>		*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant heavily around the courts to give somewhere to stroll</li> </ul>		*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve/develop the 'frog hollow' and promote the Rare birds seen there. This was always a swamp</li> </ul>		*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has been used as a dump by builder and residents</li> </ul>		*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development could include more than tennis</li> </ul>		*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One of the conditions imposed on NSTA by WCC was that residents have free use of the courts outside set hours</li> </ul>		*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is subleasing to 'Love and Deuce' legal and known to council? They maintain the area better than NSTA.</li> </ul>		*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present car parking is more than enough for tennis players</li> </ul>		*
<b>Marlow St Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replace and improve play equipment</li> </ul>	4	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove weed trees from bush regeneration area</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install seat for adults</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve maintenance / Grass cutting frequency</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install a pathway through the park</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not alter or expand facilities</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very occasional teenage drinking and smoking</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to control fire hazard</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve maintenance of Sydney Street entry area and nature strip</li> </ul>	1	*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prune vegetation at Sydney Street to give view into the park</li> </ul>		*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make this a good local playground</li> </ul>		*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pine trees create 'spooky feeling'</li> </ul>		*
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marlow Street approach is visually poor and needs steps or ramp</li> </ul>		*
<b>Parkes St Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance is adequate</li> </ul>	1	
<b>Palmer St Closure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install a seat</li> </ul>		*
<b>Eric St Closure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install a seat.</li> </ul>		*

Parks	Issues	No. of Letters	Focus Group
<b>Abbott Rd Closure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children still fear this is a road. Can it be made more park like?</li> </ul>		*
<b>Olympia Rd Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only vehicle access is from Walter Street</li> <li>• Consider other uses eg; vegetation composting site, worm farm</li> <li>• This has walking access and is a link from Flat Rock to Artarmon Reserve</li> <li>• Accept low useage, low key path, residents have and still reject a paved path</li> <li>• Build an acceptable bridge over the creek channel</li> <li>• Has the 1994 landslip been properly retained? This land was given by RTA to Council</li> </ul>		* * * * * *
<b>Muttama, Stafford &amp; Tindale Park</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make thse areas int parks, local green areas.</li> </ul>		*
<b>Artarmon Pathways</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The link area from playground to church is boggy</li> </ul>		*

### 9.1.3 Summary of Comments Contained in Community Submissions In Response To The Draft Plan of Management

Parks	Comments
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider referencing the pathways from Brand to Raleigh Streets in the Plan of Management although owned by State Rail Authority.</li> <li>Strongly supports the Non-Vehicle Accessways &amp; Greenways, more seating in open space and involvement of local residents in looking after open space areas</li> </ul>
Artarmon Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports the majority of objectives dealing with Artarmon Reserve.</li> <li>Does not support skateboard ramp proposal as the site is isolated. Supports amenities for youth.</li> <li>Does not support skateboarding area if it caters to a wider regional use, rather than local youth. Alternate sites such as Chatswood Oval and Bicentennial Reserve.</li> <li>Supports a broadening of facilities in the Reserve for use by local young people.</li> <li>A circuit track for joggers, etc. should be soft and unpaved.</li> <li>Maintain field size as is with new tree plantings to car park and park perimeters.</li> <li>Concerned about possible fencing the 2 eastern fields.</li> <li>Supports cricket practice nets to be included in the park</li> <li>Concerned about poor drainage on the sportsfield.</li> <li>Existing floodlight posts should be moved to perimeter of the ground.</li> <li>Dog exercise area to be moved off the sportsfield.</li> <li>Against development of facilities which would draw people with poor attitude to community residents and property.</li> <li>Would support a simple skateboard facility with no night-time use.</li> <li>Objects to the proposed skateboard ramp in Artarmon Reserve.</li> <li>Is a Crown reserve. Plan must include Crown land management principles</li> <li>Draft Plan of Management does not incorporate principles of Ecological Sustainable Development (ESD) as required by the Local Government Amendment (ESD) 1997.</li> <li>The Plan of Management should address all issues within the park including the bushland which is addressed in the Generic Bushland P.O.M.</li> <li>Plan of Management should examine whether current zoning of parks are appropriate; what heritage controls exist; whether they reflect the heritage significance of the site. Essential that significant natural areas are recognised and identified in heritage studies and covered by provisions in the Willoughby LEP.</li> <li>Plan of Management should explain that Crown reserve leases must have the consent of the Minister.</li> <li>Considers there to be too many bush tracks in Artarmon Reserve. Any work in the bushland requires consultation with the community and the Bushland Manager.</li> <li>Detailed maps should be provided in the Plans of Management for all parks.</li> <li>Objects strongly to the playground and picnic area extending across to east side of the linkpath.</li> <li>Supports the removal of wood-fired BBQs.</li> <li>Questions the sportsfield being economically and ecologically sustainable. Money would be better spent on passive recreation , landscaping and bush regeneration. Essential that a business plan be prepared.</li> <li>Artificial wetland is required for habitat and water quality.</li> <li>Supports restrictions on dogs running loose.</li> <li>Supports circuit track, but not sealed.</li> <li>Does not support skateboard facility near the freeway. This facility is legitimate and popular and should be incorporated into Bicentennial Reserve.</li> <li>Suggests removal of the derelict sports pavilion on the south western side of the lower car-park.</li> <li>Low sandstone wall around edge of the parking area should be restored.</li> <li>Plan of Management should refer to reinstatement of natural creek lines to drainage in the park.</li> <li>Spraying of chemicals should be kept to a minimum and signs erected during spraying. There should be control on the spread of weed between bushland and recreation areas.</li> <li>Upgrade &amp; seal the track from the station into the park for access by West</li> </ul>

Parks	Comments
	<p>Artarmon residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eliminate the pathlink under the railway line to Parkes Road</li> <li>• Supports a BMX track using existing bushwalk tracks</li> <li>• Supports a children's cycle track for learners.</li> <li>• Supports picnic gazebos in a BBQ area.</li> <li>• Suggests a retaining wall adjacent to bike path, north of the sports field.</li> <li>• Maintain cyclist entrance to reserve from Chelmsford Avenue</li> <li>• Develop a comprehensive landscaping program and on-going maintenance.</li> <li>• Ensure the area around Artarmon Bowling Club is professionally landscaped and maintained.</li> <li>• Supports boxes/hanging greenery on the Expressway. More tree planting needed to screen the sound walls.</li> <li>• Improved drainage of the playing fields.</li> <li>• Questions whether the car parks are ever used at full capacity.</li> <li>• Does not support lights along the linkpath due to disturbance to adjoining residents.</li> <li>• Proposes a small car park off Station Street, Naremburn.</li> <li>• Requests formation of Artarmon Recreational Committee.</li> </ul>
Artarmon Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate pedestrian tunnel connection to Artarmon Reserve</li> <li>• Create footpath along Punch Street boundary</li> <li>• Query if fees paid for occupation of telecommunication tower.</li> <li>• Supports the formation of a pathway at the south boundary of Artarmon Park on Punch Street.</li> <li>• Strongly supports bike path on north side of Punch Street to avoid crossing behind parked cars.</li> </ul>
Olympia Rd Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ownership of the land should have been established before draft plan prepared.</li> <li>• Reserve should be developed as a bushland corridor and planted with species found in Artarmon Reserve.</li> <li>• Walking track along the drain should be formalised and improved.</li> <li>• Bridge needs to be built over the drain as part of the walking track.</li> <li>• More planting required to screen the freeway.</li> <li>• A program to remove/prevent graffiti on noise baffles of freeway is required.</li> <li>• Name of park should omit "Road".</li> </ul>
Artarmon Link Path	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports the drainage reserve being opened for public access</li> <li>• Control of stormwater in the reserve has to be addressed and the feasibility of reinstating the natural creek line.</li> <li>• Supports the completion of the path between Onyx and Smith Rd.</li> <li>• Considers implementation of the route incorporating the linkpath and a signalised pedestrian crossing at Mowbray/Tindale/Devonshire Street a critical connection in the bicycle route network for the City of Willoughby.</li> <li>• Does not support continuation of the Linkpath via the drainage easement to Carlos &amp; Shepherd.</li> <li>• Strongly supports the completion of the linkpath between Onyx &amp; Weedon Road for pedestrians.</li> <li>• Supports the completion of the path between Onyx and Smith Rd.</li> <li>• Opposed to the use of the drainage reserve from Onyx to Carlos Roads, due to safety &amp; security concerns, environmental impact, the cost; impact on real estate values.</li> <li>• Supports implementation of linkpath between Onyx Road and Weedon Roads.</li> <li>• Concerned about poor consultation with residents and lack of notification of the linkpath proposal.</li> <li>• Supports the linkpath being opened from Onyx Road to Weedon Road.</li> <li>• Opposes the linkpath being opened from Onyx Road to Weedon Road.</li> <li>• Opposes the linkpath being opened.</li> <li>• Opposes the linkpath crossing Weedon Road.</li> <li>• Concerned that linkpath users would mistake their driveway for the path continuation.</li> <li>• Were not notified that the drainage reserve adjoining their property had been zoned as 'Open Space' and would have opposed it.</li> <li>• Concerned at potential extension of the linkpath to the adjoining Open Space and</li> </ul>



Parks	Comments
	<p>zoned drainage reserve.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions the purpose of the path as plans for it have changed over the years.</li> <li>• Supports the linkpath being opened from Onyx Rd to Smith Rd.</li> <li>• Pathway should be available and open to members of the local community for their use and enjoyment.</li> <li>• Is committed to assisting in the maintenance of the small park next to residence.</li> <li>• Supports access in the linkpath for cyclists and pedestrians</li> <li>• Requests that, when the embankment at the rear of 11 &amp; 13 Smith Road is removed, the resulting contours do not allow stormwater on to his property (as in the past).</li> <li>• Do not support the linkpath continuing from Weedon Road to Carlos Road.</li> <li>• Supports the use of reserve as walkway and possibly cycleway</li> <li>• Suggests Council funds new and adequate fencing for properties adjacent to the walkway.</li> <li>• Concerned about loss of trees in the reserve with proposed linkpath</li> <li>• The Smith Road crossing would need improving for safety of path users</li> <li>• Concerned about highlighting the path through Council brochures in respect to safety.</li> <li>• Maintenance of the existing pathway in the reserve is really low.</li> <li>• Security to houses abutting the reserve, if opened as a higher profile accessway</li> </ul>
Elizabeth St Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports enlargement of open space to decrease the road width at the junction of Elizabeth, Tindale, Cameron, Burra &amp; Wilkes Roads.</li> </ul>
Ella St Closure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports the closure of Ella Street to improve pedestrian safety on the railway bridge and increase open space.</li> </ul>

### 9.1.4 Respondents

The following people contributed to the process by letter, comment, attendance at meetings, and submissions to the draft plan;

#### Council staff:

Michele Cottle  
Cathy Field  
Colleen Guilfoyle  
Val Dixon  
Berenice Payne  
Julie Whitfield

#### Residents and Community Groups:

John Allen	Loise Bunday
Beryl Batterham	Murray A Butler
Luke Brasch	Jenny Carr
Guido Brandt	Kate Falkingham
Kate Lamb	Deb Gosper
Eric Wilsch	Michael Haynes
Rudy S	Mary Impey
Lesley Stevens	Kathryn Johnston
Mick Nicholls	Margaret Kay
John Reid	Mrs Susan Lang
Brian Crabbe	J D & I R Lizieri
Jane Murray	Mrs A Mazzella
David Logan	William Montgomery
Neil Hosnick	Mr & Mrs N Mulcahy
Peter Atherdone	Mrs K Sills
Kerry Bergan	Mrs Penny Zantos
Ida Brooks	Pieter C Cordia
EJ & M Impey	Neil Irvine & Alethea Morison
Keith & Annette Anderson	J Baikie
John Peacok	Trevor Carr
Ian Ferguson	RW & JT Smith
Paul & Sue Howard	HW Lintott
Jan & Richard Smith	Phil Peterson & Pauline Beckton
Hamish & Danielle Osborn	JA Felton
Margaret & Phil McEwan	Udo & Maris Kolb
Jane Thomson & David Meldrum	Robert James McLachland
Patricia Pearse & David Allen	AP Price
David Jackson	North Shore bicycle Group
City of Willoughby Pedestrians Association	Artarmon Residents Bicycleway Group

Thanks is also due to those people who have contributed to surveys and given comments regarding these areas in the past.

## 9.2 Ecologically Sustainable Development

### 9.2.1 What is Ecologically Sustainable Development?

Ecologically sustainable development (ESD) means an approach to using, conserving and enhancing natural resources so that ecological processes, on which all life depends, are maintained, and the total quality of life, now and in the future, is improved (COAG 1992).

ESD represents our commitment to future generations. The application of ESD principles will help to ensure that we pass on a world with sustainable natural resources and with minimal environmental damage to our children and our children's children. This concept underlies the principle of inter-generational equity which is one of the fundamental principles of ESD.

The long term maintenance of sustainability involves efficient and equitable use of resources and proper management of pollution and waste. Sustainability can only be achieved through cooperation and community support at the local, regional, national and global level.

Ecologically sustainable development goes further by recognising the dependence of all living beings on the maintenance of the complex and dynamic systems of living organisms and their natural environment. The application of ESD principles in Local Government requires a shift in priorities, involving the full integration of ecological considerations into development of community goals, economic policies and decision making in every sphere of activity

### 9.2.2 Principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development

Ecologically sustainable development requires the effective integration of economic and environmental considerations in decision-making processes. Ecologically sustainable development can be achieved through the implementation of the following principles and programs:

- (a) the precautionary principle namely, that if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation. In the application of the precautionary principle, public and private decisions should be guided by:
  - I. careful evaluation to avoid, wherever practicable, serious or irreversible damage to the environment, and
  - II. an assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options,
- (b) inter-generational equity namely, that the present generation should ensure that the health, diversity and productivity of the environment is maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations,
- (c) conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity namely, that conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity should be a fundamental consideration,
- (d) improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms namely, that environmental factors should be included in the valuation of assets and services, such as:
  - I. polluter pays that is, those who generate pollution and waste should bear the cost of containment, avoidance or abatement,
  - II. the users of goods and services should pay prices based on the full life cycle of costs of providing goods and services, including the use of natural resources and assets and the ultimate disposal of any waste,
  - III. environmental goals, having been established, should be pursued in the most cost effective way, by establishing incentive structures, including market mechanisms, that enable those best placed to maximise benefits or minimise costs to develop their own solutions and responses to environmental problems.

(Source: ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES: STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORTING BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROMOTING ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, Department of Local Government Circular 98/29, April, 1998)

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