



J. L. MURPHY RESERVE

J. L. Murphy Reserve
Masterplan Report
September 2010



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A new master plan has been developed for J.L. Murphy Reserve. The master plan will guide development of the reserve over the next twenty years.

Murphy Reserve is the largest council managed reserve within Port Phillip and provides key sport and recreation facilities for the city. The development of the new master plan will ensure that the space continues to be sustainable and meets the needs of the community into the future under changing climate conditions and population.

Consultation activities undertaken include:

- Community reference group: Seven community reference group meetings with representatives from the active user groups, two community members and two councillors.
- Have Your Say page on the council website with a community forum and online survey.
- Two mail outs of letters to local residents notifying them of the master plan process and inviting them to participate in the survey.
- A story board and posters in Murphy Reserve.
- Four community workshops advertised via a mail out to local residents, online, in the local paper and Divercity.
- Internal consultation with council officers and other key stakeholders.

The key priorities for development identified by the user groups, key stakeholders and the community include:

- A walking/jogging track around the perimeter.
- Increase playing capacity of grounds to accommodate predicted increased participation in sports over time.
- Water for irrigation of sports fields to maintain playing surfaces at full capacity.
- Develop a wetland for increased amenity and water security for the reserve.
- Install a synthetic soccer pitch to relieve pressure on the main turf soccer pitch – soccer is predicted to grow beyond the capacity of the grass fields to accommodate training and games.
- Balance the needs of passive and club users.
- More trees for shade and shelter and the right tree in the right place to maximise benefit and minimise impact.
- Improve amenity to attract passive users to the reserve – picnic/barbeque areas, seating, visual amenity, drinking fountains.
- More shelter from rain/sun for passive users and sports supporters.
- Upgrade the playground.
- Rationalise fencing to reduce its impact on the open space.
- Upgrade the pavilion – increased storage, upgraded kitchen, bar, change rooms and community facilities.
- Better pedestrian access to the reserve.

A key recommendation of the master plan is the development of a stormwater harvesting system and wetland to increase the amount of water available for irrigation of key regional and local sports fields and to reduce the reliance on potable water in the future. This would achieve:

- Stormwater supply of approximately 21 ML/year, with a reliability of 75%.
- Allow full irrigation of all sports fields at stage 3a restrictions.
- Council target for alternative sources of 78 ML/yr by 2020 – this project 21 ML/yr would achieve 27% of the 2020 target.
- Council target for reduction in potable use of 70% (360 ML/yr) – this project 21 ML/yr would achieve 6% of the 2020 target.
- 20% of the pollutant load reductions target for a year for total suspended solids and 58% of the target for a year for total nitrogen.



INTRODUCTION

WHY A NEW MASTER PLAN?

A park master plan reflects the goals and aspirations of the current users of the park and the local community. It anticipates changing community needs over time and plans to respond to regional (municipal wide) challenges such as climate change adaptation, population growth and changing community needs.

Over time, master plans need to be reviewed and revised to ensure that the infrastructure and upgrades that were proposed are still relevant and desired by the current community and adequately respond to regional and local changes that have occurred.

Since the last master plan was developed for Murphy Reserve in 1999, we have experienced a severe drought, climate change has become a reality and we have experienced significant population growth. Due to the need to respond to the drought, many of the actions undertaken in Murphy Reserve during the period of 1999-2009 related to supporting continued use of sports ovals under severe water restrictions, the need for which was unanticipated at the time the 1999 master plan was developed.

Balancing community requests

Council receives many requests for works to be undertaken in Murphy Reserve from user groups, community groups and individuals. These requests can often be in conflict with each other (e.g. more fencing for security verses removal of fencing for more open space).

A master plan, developed in partnership with the community, provides a clear vision and principles for future development and sets out a list of priorities which all future requests can be assessed against. The master plan ensures that development of the reserve will not be ad hoc, based on the requests of

a few users, it will be based on a vision and priorities that have been developed by the community for the community.

WHAT DOES THE MASTER PLAN NEED TO ACHIEVE?

It is predicted that by 2035 Port Melbourne's population will have increased from 13,103 in 2006 to 16,550. With an increase in housing density, more people will rely on public open space for activities that have traditionally been undertaken in the back yard, such as barbecues, play and growing fruit and vegetables.

In the future, more people will be using the same amount of public open space for a greater variety of organised and casual activities. Increasing pressure on existing sports infrastructure and other park facilities in Murphy Reserve as well as an increase in conflict between users for space to undertake activities will need to be actively managed and planned for.

Predicted future increases in temperature, reduced rainfall and subsequent water restrictions will also have an impact on public open space. There will be an increasing need to develop long term water security for Murphy Reserve through storm water harvesting and other activities. Increasing shade and shelter in the hotter temperatures will also become more of a priority.

The new master plan needs to:

- ☐ Be strategic (incorporate regional and local priorities).
- ☐ Address current community needs and plan for the future – (higher population and housing density).
- ☐ Balance conflicting community needs.
- ☐ Be inclusive of all users (passive and active).
- ☐ Address sustainability including climate change and water security.
- ☐ Align with the Council Plan, Open Space Strategy, Open Space Water Management Plan and other key strategies and plans.

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

Once a master plan has been completed, the next step is to obtain funding to undertake detailed design and construction of the priorities listed in the master plan. The process is outlined in Figure 1.

Master Plan, development and construction process

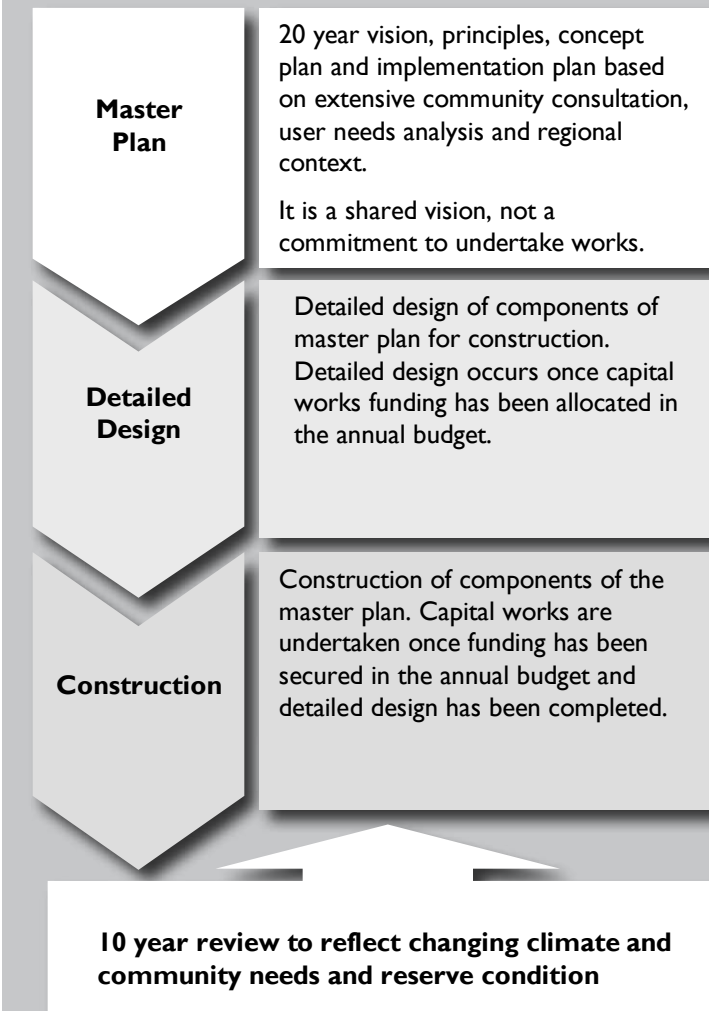


Figure 1. The master plan process

INTRODUCTION

Vision

Murphy Reserve is a vibrant sport and recreation precinct that encourages a diversity of users and use and contributes to the health and well being of the local and wider community.

Objectives

To develop:

- ❑ A long term strategic vision and principles for development of the reserve.
- ❑ A concept plan outlining development and improvements proposed for the next 10 years.
- ❑ An implementation plan detailing proposed development and improvements, next steps and proposed time line.

Key council strategies and policies

Key council strategies and policies that have influenced the development of the master plan include:

- ❑ City of Port Phillip Council Plan 2009-2013
- ❑ Community Plan
- ❑ Open Space Strategy
- ❑ Climate Change Adaptation Plan
- ❑ Open Space Water Management Plan
- ❑ Greening Port Phillip, An urban forest approach
- ❑ The Water Plan
- ❑ Sport and Recreation Strategy
- ❑ Health and Wellbeing Plan

Open Space Strategy

The Open Space Strategy outlines the key principles for development of open space in the City of Port Phillip. These principles are reflected in the vision and development principles that have been developed for Murphy Reserve.

The Open Space principles are:

- ❑ Optimise provision of open space (best use of space for maximum community benefit).
- ❑ Regulate and manage the effects of commercial events in public open space.
- ❑ Consider the interface between new residential development and public open space.
- ❑ Safe access to public open space.
- ❑ Provide access for all (diversity of functions).
- ❑ Streetscapes as public open space.
- ❑ Public open space managed by others.
- ❑ Manage the supply of public open space.
- ❑ Sustainable open spaces.

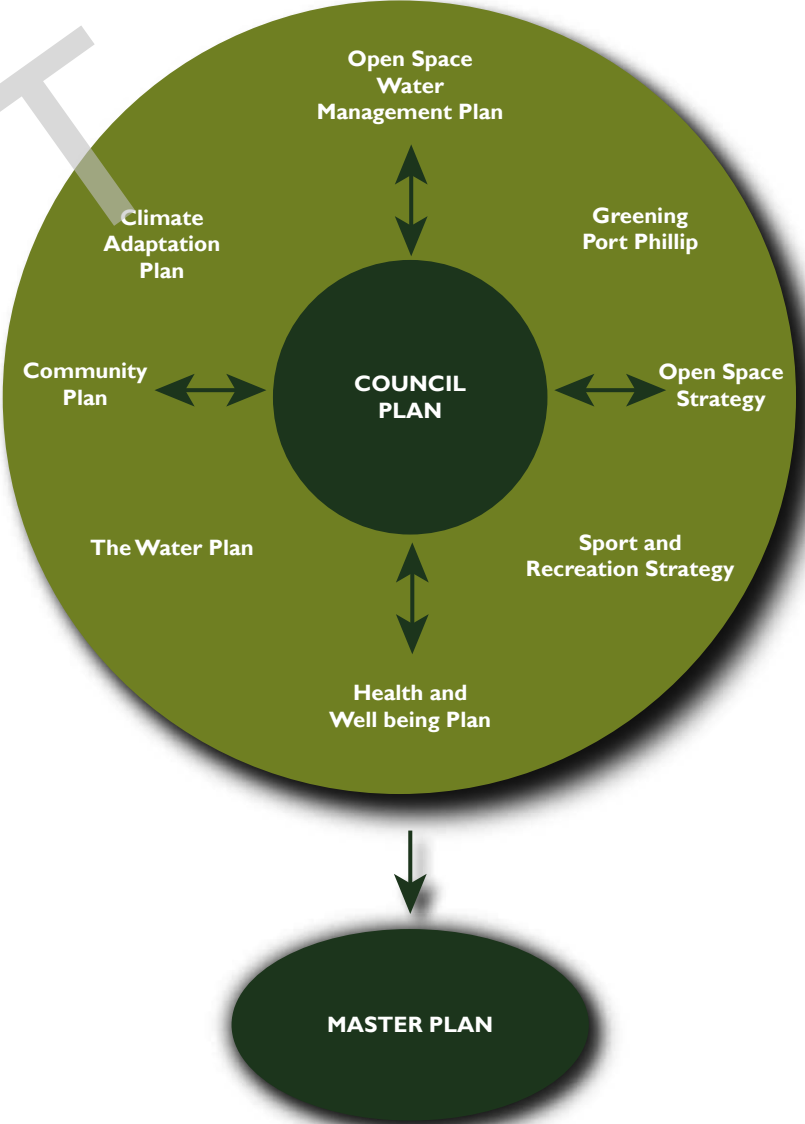


Figure 2. Key Council Strategies and policies

Principle One

Increase the long term sustainability of the reserve through storm water and rainwater harvesting, and use of water sensitive urban design principles, drought tolerant plants and low energy public lighting.

Principle Two

Continue to recognise and develop the reserve as a significant sporting precinct for Port Melbourne and the City of Port Phillip.

Principle Three

Recognise the barriers to accessing the reserve due to high traffic arterial roads creating an 'island effect' and undertake activities to improve accessibility such as the provision of pedestrian crossing infrastructure, appropriate parking, path networks and bike racks.

Principle Four

Develop facilities that encourage and accommodate a diversity of users and activities within the reserve.

Principle Five

Support current active user groups by providing 'fit for purpose' facilities and ongoing support.

Principle Six

Encourage the use of the reserve by casual users into the future by providing appropriate facilities and increasing the amenity of the park.

Principle Seven

Develop strong avenues of trees that will define the open space and create a sense of place.

Principle Eight

Optimise open space by locating facilities sensitively and minimising the footprint of built structures.

CONTEXT

DESCRIPTION

Murphy Reserve is a 12 hectare sport and recreation reserve located on Williamstown Road at the juncture between residential housing and the industrial zone in Port Melbourne. The area was first set aside for sport and recreation in the 1940's and is the largest council managed reserve in Port Phillip.

The reserve is a large flat open space area with two football/cricket ovals, two full size soccer fields, two pavilions, a play ground and a community garden. There are a large number of mature, large canopied trees that are a real feature of the reserve, providing it with a natural open woodlands character in the middle of a highly urbanised area.

Users of the reserve

The reserve is predominantly used for active sport and is an important venue for supporting local clubs to play in community and regional competitions. The reserve is home to soccer, football, cricket and baseball sporting clubs. Murphy Reserve is also host to a community garden, a dog obedience club and a range of informal recreation activities.

The reserve is designated as an off leash area and is a popular location for dog owners to take their dogs for exercise.

Organised community based clubs located at Murphy reserve include:

- ☐ Dig In Community Garden
- ☐ Port Melbourne Soccer Club
- ☐ Port Melbourne Colts Football Club
- ☐ Port Melbourne Cricket Club
- ☐ Port Melbourne Baseball Club
- ☐ MCXX Cricket Club
- ☐ Hobsons Bay Obedience Dog Club

Other users of the reserve include:

- ☐ Personal trainers/exercise groups
- ☐ Walking/jogging
- ☐ Dog walking
- ☐ Cycling
- ☐ Play
- ☐ Commuters – through pedestrian and bicycle traffic
- ☐ Passive recreation – picnics, informal sport

Provision of sports and recreation facilities

The City of Port Phillip is committed to providing sport, leisure and recreation opportunities within the City of Port Phillip that are relevant, flexible, affordable and accessible to the Port Phillip community of all abilities and at all stages of life.

Council facilitates access to sport and physical activity by being:

Provider – of facilities and grounds at the standards required for participation for a range of sports of different levels and types and services and support programs to assist clubs such as workshops and sports club breakfast.

Funder – through grant programs for clubs and individuals activities and through expenditure that improves and maintains sporting infrastructure across the city.

Host – of events that showcase sport and provide access to experiences that build pathways.

The City of Port Phillip Sport and Recreation Guidelines has three main objectives, which guide all sport and recreation related council activities.

Objective One - Increased Participation

- ☐ A 10% increase in active and social sports club participation.
- ☐ Increase the number of females and children participating in sport and recreation, with a target of another 8 women and/or junior teams across the municipality.
- ☐ Increasing the number of people from Culturally and Linguistically Different (CALD) backgrounds to participate in sport and recreation.
- ☐ A 10% increase in participation in the Lifestyles programs.

Objective Two - Continued Good Relationships

- ☐ The excellent relationships with clubs and all relevant agencies will be maintained at an 80% satisfaction rating.
- ☐ Council will continue with existing levels of financial support for Sporting clubs.
- ☐ Improved community health.

Objective Three - Better Infrastructure

- ☐ All (14) Sports fields will be maintained at an agreed standard consistent with the sports ground hierarchy and sport played.
- ☐ 100% of Sport and Recreation facilities will be fit for purpose.
- ☐ Assets that meet current and future community needs.
- ☐ Improved environmental performance of council's sport and recreation land and buildings.
- ☐ Reduced water use and improved water management.

The sports grounds hierarchy

All sports fields in the City of Port Phillip have been graded into a hierarchy of sports facilities (Regional, Municipal and Local) according to the levels of competition and benefit to the local community. The grading of the field determines the type and extent of facilities to be developed and provided by council. Council aims to ensure that every ground has a basic range of infrastructure suitable to the sport played at the level consistent with the grounds hierarchy.

The Port Melbourne Soccer Ground located in Murphy Reserve is classified as a state or regional facility, and the rest of Murphy Reserve is classified as a municipal or local facility. This means that a higher level of facilities provision is required for soccer than for the rest of the reserve, because of its role in facilitating soccer at the regional as well as local level. The other sports clubs based at Murphy Reserve are involved community level competition and as such do not require the same level of facilities.

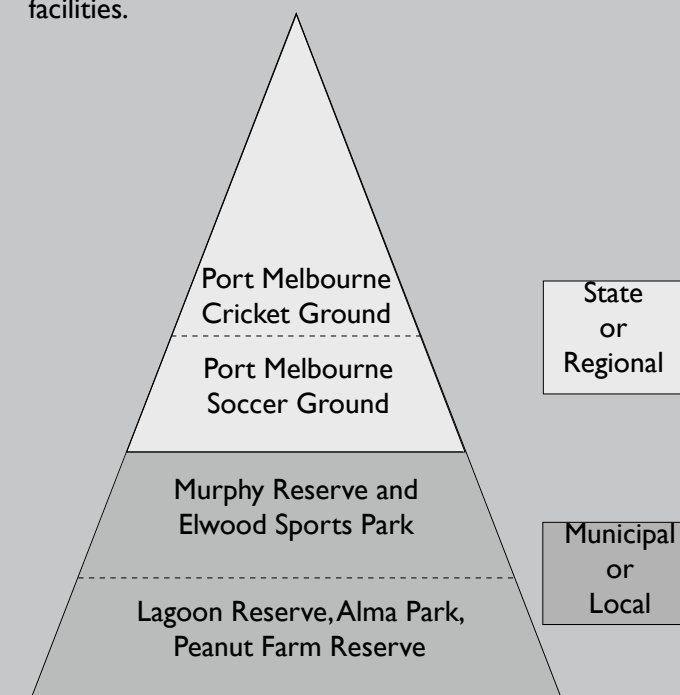


Figure 3. Sports Grounds and Reserves Hierarchy in the City of Port Phillip

CONTEXT

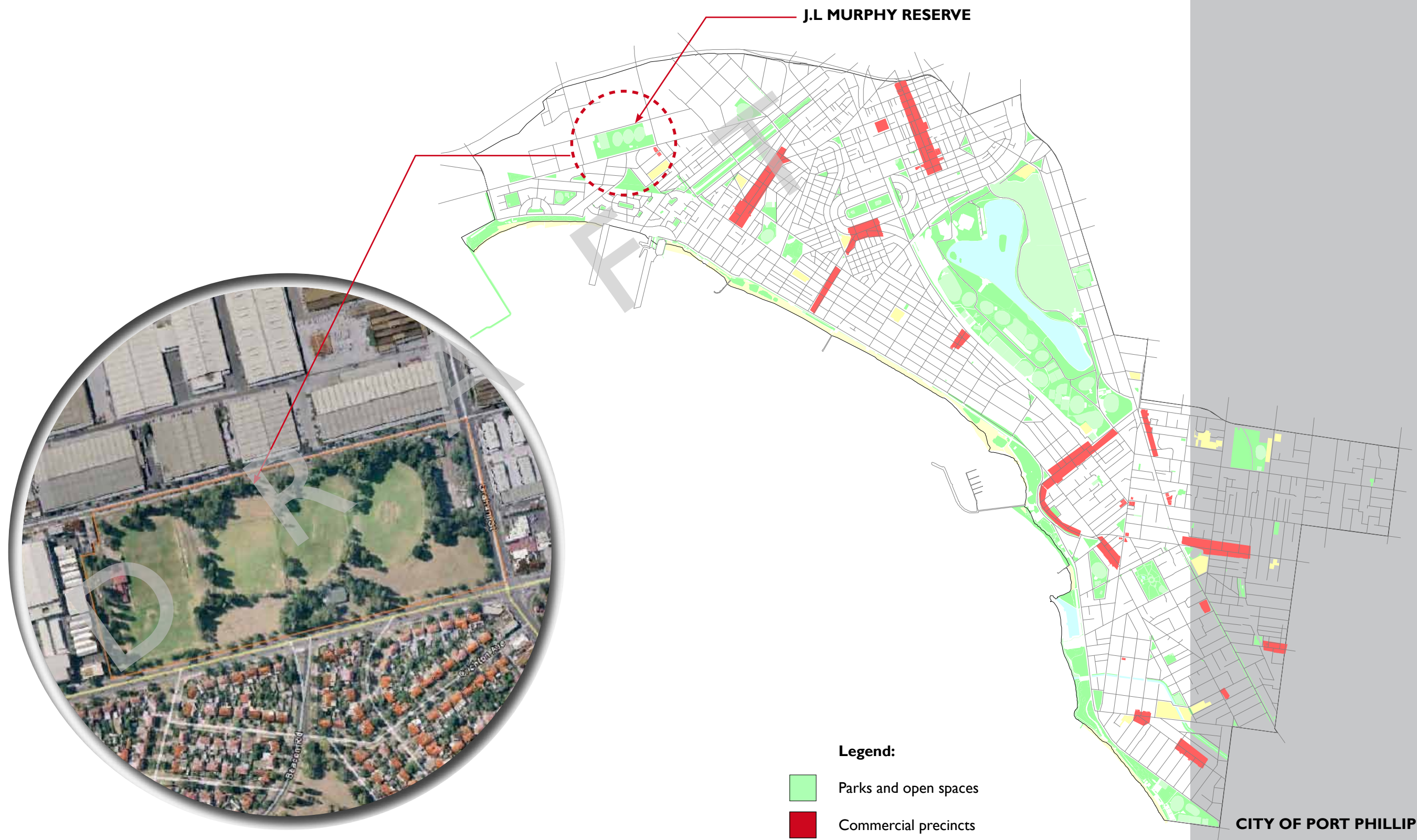


Figure 4. Location of J.L. Murphy Reserve within the City of Port Phillip

HISTORY

Prior to being developed for sport and recreation, the site where Murphy Reserve is now located was undeveloped land used for informal recreation by the local residents. In 1940 a request was submitted to the Victorian Government to reserve the land for recreation, a town hall and garden purposes.

In 1943 the site was used by the American army as a storage base for tanks, planes and other military equipment during the Second World War. In 1947, a master plan sketch was developed for the site, which included a town hall, tennis courts and formal gardens. It wasn't until 1954 that the first oval was constructed, followed by three others. Many of the mature trees in the reserve today were planted at that time.

In 1965 a sports pavilion and caretakers residence was built. In 1990 a master plan identified the need for a second pavilion, specifically for use by the soccer club, which was built in 1993. In 1999 another master plan process was undertaken to update the 1990 plan. This plan led to a series of works and infrastructure development in the reserve, outlined on the next page.

Due to the drought conditions during the 1990's much of the work undertaken in the reserve from 2002 until now has revolved around drought proofing the sports grounds to enable games and training to continue to be played. This has meant that some of the actions listed in the 1999 master plan have not been implemented.

A time line of the key dates and activities for Murphy Reserve are listed on the following page.

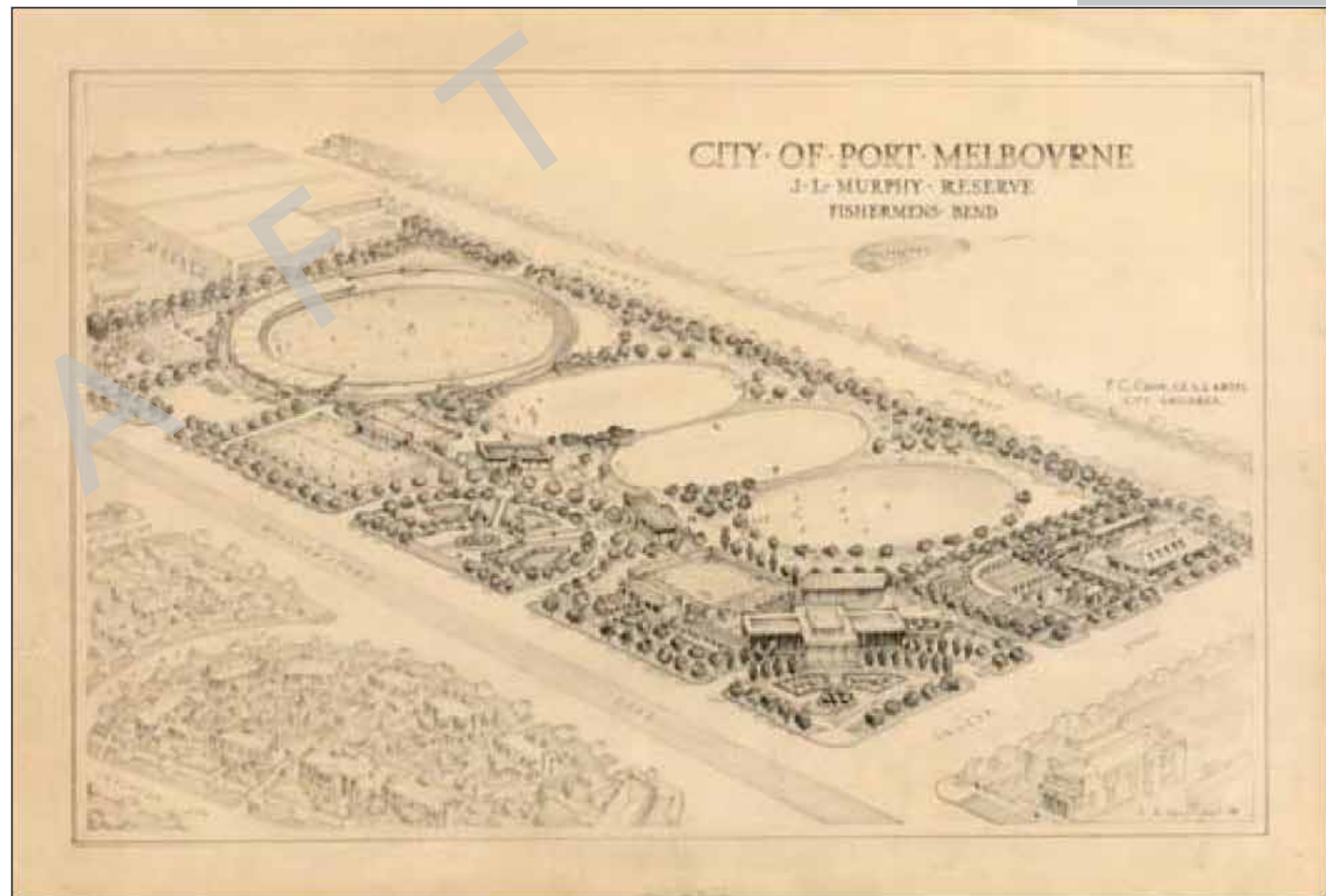


Figure 5. City of Port Melbourne "J.L. Murphy Reserve Fisherman's Bend" sketched map 1948

HISTORY



1931

1945

1963

1976

1989

2008

- 1901-1937 Port Melbourne rifle range on Williamstown Rd – exact site unknown.
- Pre 1940 Undeveloped land used for unofficial rubbish dumping and informal recreation.
- 1940 Request to Victorian Government to reserve land for recreation, town hall and garden purposes.
- 1943 American Army storage base for tanks, planes and other military equipment.
- 1947 Council plan to convert site into ‘tree flanked community play area’ (arenas, tennis courts, croquet lawns and bowling greens)
- 1951 Site subdivided including a Municipal Depot in north east
- 1954 Aanenson Oval constructed first and then three others. Trees planted along Plummer St in the 50s.

- 1963 Depot in use. Four ovals and buildings on site.
- 1965 Sports pavilion and caretakers residence built south of depot.
- 1960's-1990s Site grounds and amenity development.
- 1990 -1993 Master Planning undertaken, new pavilion and social rooms built.
- 1999 Master Plan developed.
- 2002 Renewal of Anderson oval irrigation.
- Renovation of main pavillion.
- 2003 Addition of 4 light towers to Woodruff and Aanenson Oval.
- 2004 Initiation of Barry Brother's water recycling plant.

- 2005-2009 Goal square instant turf replacement at various ovals.
- 2007 Installation of new socreboard on Aanenson oval.
- 2008 Installation of:
 - internal paths and lighting.
 - new perimeter fence on Plummer Street.
 - new practice cricket wicket and bowling run ups .
 - water tank for use at Dig In.
 - water tanks for collection of reclaimed water.
 - recycled water irrigation system in Williams Oval.
 - Fencing, footpath and safety lighting linking Plummer St with public transportation on Williamstown Road.
- 2009 Renewal of irrigation ring main.



PREVIOUS MASTER PLAN

There were 35 recommendations made in the 1999 master plan for Murphy Reserve. 48 % have been completed or partially completed. Table I lists the recommendations from the report and whether the works are complete, partially completed or not complete.

Due to severe drought conditions, many of the activities undertaken in Murphy Reserve during 199-2009 related to supporting continued use of sports oval under water restrictions. These activities were not anticipated in the 1999 master plan.

Milestone	Description	Complete
Sports Facilities		
1. Erect training lights over Woodruff oval (main football/cricket field)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Training lights have been installed at Woodruff Oval.	yes
2. Erect lights over Williams Oval (baseball field)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This still needs to be completed. There are currently no lights over the baseball field. Lights would enable dual use of the ground for soccer training in winter.	no
3. Improve lighting over Anderson Oval (main soccer field)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Complete	yes
4. Provide more seats and shelter around baseball area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Depending on future use of the ground this is yet to be completed.	no
5. Provide spectator seating around Woodruff Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bench seating was recently installed around Woodruff Oval.	yes
6. Provide spectator seating on the terracing - soccer field	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bench seating placed around the perimeter of the ground.	yes
7. Provide safety netting and lights over batting cage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Some safety netting may have been installed over batting cage.	no
8. Repair boundary fence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Repairs made. New fence installed on Plummer St.	yes
I. Sports Landscaping		
2. Install auto irrigation systems in playing fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recently completed at the baseball ground and 2nd soccer pitch.All sporting spaces are served by auto irrigation systems. The last site being the Baseball field which went on line in 2008	yes
3. Extend woodruff oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pending	no
4. Remove trees in field of play - Williams Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Complete	yes
5. Top dress oval annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This is done on an ongoing basis in conjunction with City Wide	yes
6. Provide en-tout -cas bases (baseball field)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ovals are top dressed annually where required to provide smooth playing servicesEn-tout cas bases are installed for use on the Baseball field. Top up of the surfaces happens at season commencement and during the playing season as required.	yes
7. Replace turf species on Woodruff, Anderson and Williams ovals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This is currently in place and maintained by City Wide and the Baseball Club.Both spaces have warm season grass (kikuyu) This grass type is the required surface for both grounds.	yes
8. Remedy drainage problem at front of pavilion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Managed with City Wide.Poor drainage	no

Table I: Murphy Reserve Master Plan 1999 - Actions Status



Lighting poles at Anderson Oval- Soccer field



En-tout-cas bases for Baseball



Scoreboard provided for Woodruff Oval



Pathway added along Plummer St and fencing upgraded

PREVIOUS MASTER PLAN

Milestone	Description	Complete
Buildings		
1. Provide female change rooms and additional storage areas	• Complete	yes
2. Provide additional public toilets	• Public Toilet Strategy 2007-2011 does not identify public toilets as a need in this reserve	no
3. Upgrade pavilions internally to a safe and reasonable standard	• Maintenance is managed on an ongoing basis	no
4. Improve external appearance of main pavilion	• Complete	yes
5. Provide security lighting around pavilion	• Complete	yes
6. Provide scoreboard/ kiosk/timekeeper's box	• Complete	yes
7. Investigate and rectify plumbing problems with football/ cricket/baseball pavilion	• Maintenance is managed on an ongoing basis.	yes
Recreation Facilities		
1. Upgrade security lighting around playground/BBQ area	• Not completed	no
2. Provide more playground equipment	• Not completed – scheduled in the 5 year capital works program	no
3. Investigate possible relocation of playground	• Not complete – to be completed as part of the 2010 master plan process	no
4. Upgrade BBQ	• Not complete	no
5. Provide new picnic/BBQ area on Plummer St side	• Not complete	no
6. New picnic/ BBQ area between soccer pavilion and southern boundary	• Not complete	no
Open Space Landscaping		
1. Improve Williamstown Rd frontage	• Not complete	no
2. Improve turf between pavilion and Aaneson oval	• Not complete	no
3. Prune trees and remove suckers	• The site has a 5 yearly program for inspection and pruning of trees. Trees are removed as they die and pruning is conducted to reduce any branches overhanging boundaries in response to internal or external requests.	yes
4. Plant additional trees in Plummer St woodland	• Not complete	no
5. Remove council depot and landscape area	• No action	no
6. Erect bollard barrier along main access road	• Completed on Plummer St	partial
7. Install perimeter walking track	• Partially completed with track along Plummer St.	no



Infrastructure like picnic tables added



Bicycle racks added to site



Pavillion renovated



Spectator seating added

USER GROUPS

Hobsons Bay Obedience Dog Club

In 2010

Hobsons Bay Obedience Dog Club (HBODC) has been in operation since 1961 and currently has approximately 220 members.

HBODC is a non profit club staffed and administered by volunteer dog lovers. Training is held every Sunday morning from 10am to 11am, weather permitting, in the open space area in the south east corner of the reserve.

HBODC's mission is: "Providing an enjoyable environment where we can develop good canine members of our family and our community".

HBODC provides a valuable service to the community by providing:

- Resources in basic dog obedience and good manners.
- Dog owners with the techniques and confidence to train their own dogs.
- A supportive and safe environment for socialization of dogs of all ages and breeds.
- An enjoyable and informative social network for owners and their dogs throughout the community.
- An environment that encourages inclusion, acceptance and enjoyment of well-behaved dogs and their owners within the wider community.

The Future

The rate of dog ownership in the community is growing, there are currently 5300 dogs registered in the City of Port Phillip but according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, it is likely that there are 20,000 dogs in the municipality. The health and well being benefits of having a dog for a pet include lower stress levels and increased rates of exercise.

HBODC will require more open space in the future to accommodate the increased demand for dog training and related activities.

Dig In Community Garden

In 2010

Dig In Community Garden is located in Murphy Reserve on the north west boundary. The community garden consists of a mix of raised and flat vegetable garden plots and includes wheelchair accessible facilities. Community working bees are held on the 1st Sunday of every month at 11am.

Dig In has been in operation since 2003 and has a membership of approximately 60 with individual plots and a community growing space available within the community garden. There are currently 40 people on the waiting list and new members have an 18 month waiting period to receive a plot due to the demand.

Dig In provides opportunities for social interaction and healthy recreation through the shared enjoyment of gardening. Local people of different ages, backgrounds and abilities can increase their gardening knowledge and experience through visiting the garden, leasing a plot, and tending common garden areas. Dig In encourages principles of co-operative, considerate behaviour for people and environmental sustainability for the land.

The Future

Community gardens are not only fertile places for growing vegies, fruits and flowers but also for creating new social connections and releasing the stresses of everyday life. With many residents living in flats, and one of the lowest ratios of open space to residents in Melbourne, community gardens in the City of Port Phillip are an important community resource.

As the population density in Port Melbourne increases over time, community gardens will play an increasingly important role in the provision of opportunities for community members to grow their own food and make social connections. It will be important to increase the space available for community gardening over time to accommodate current and future demand.



Hobsons Bay Dog Obedience Club



Dig In Community Garden



Members of Dig In Community Garden at a Working Bee

USER GROUPS

Port Melbourne Baseball Club

In 2010

The local Baptist Church formed the Port Melbourne Baseball Club (PMBC) in 1929 as an alternative to league football for the local community that was competitive, family friendly and fun.

In 1999, PMBC embarked on a new era with the introduction of a multi- year Strategic Plan, aimed to build the club from a regular Division 3 participant to a competitive Division 1 Club and to ensure long term stability and growth.

New initiatives since then have included re-branding the Club as the “Mariners”, introducing a Tee ball Program and increased promotion and sponsorship efforts. PMBC currently has 117 members, with 6 men’s and women’s seniors’ teams and three juniors teams. PMBC’s vision is that “The Port Melbourne Baseball Club will be a respected, professional, innovative and honest leader in baseball and local communities, providing family, fun, sportsman-like and friendly recreational and sporting pursuits.”

The Future

Participation in baseball has dropped slightly since 2001. It is estimated that in the future, participation rates for baseball will not rise significantly but will remain at about the same as they are now. These figures indicate that the area designated within Murphy Reserve for baseball will be sufficient to meet the needs of the PMBC in the future.



Port Melbourne Soccer Club

In 2010

Port Melbourne Soccer Club, also known as the Port Melbourne Sharks are based at Murphy Reserve on S.S. Anderson Oval and have a main soccer pitch, practice pitch, a dedicated pavilion and car park.

The Port Melbourne Sharks were formed in 1968/69 by Greek immigrants. The club grew throughout the 1970’s and 1980’s playing in the lower leagues and were finally promoted to the Victorian Premier League in 1994.

Over the years the club has developed and expanded its teams and facilities. Port Melbourne Sharks currently have approximately 400 members, with two senior and two junior teams. In recent years the club has focused on developing their women’s and sub junior teams.

The Port Melbourne Soccer Club is committed to the development of football and developing players of the future.

The Future

Participation in soccer is growing rapidly, with numbers predicted to increase by 53% in 2031. This indicates that soccer will require more facilities in the future to cater for the increased participation rates. Due to limited opportunity for expansion within Murphy Reserve, a synthetic turf may be required to relieve training and playing pressure on the grass soccer fields.



Baseball at Williams Oval



Soccer at Anderson Oval

USER GROUPS

Port Melbourne Colts Football Club

In 2010

The Port Melbourne Colts Football Club was established in 1957. The Colts currently have 208 members, with two senior teams. They are based in Murphy Reserve in the main pavilion on Williamstown Road and predominantly play on J. M. Woodruff Oval. The surface of A. T. Aanenson Oval is in poor condition at the moment, restricting its usefulness for games and training. Both Aanenson and Woodruff Ovals are under sized.

The Port Melbourne Colts Football Club aims to ensure that every player has the opportunity to participate in a safe, friendly, disciplined and well organised club where they can enhance their health and wellbeing.

The Future

Participation in Australian Rules football is growing, with numbers predicted to increase by 43% in 2031. This indicates that football will require more facilities in the future to cater for the increased participation rates. Upgrading Aanenson Oval to enable greater utilisation for training and games will accommodate this increased demand.



Port Melbourne Cricket Club

In 2010

Port Melbourne Cricket Club (PMCC) was established in 1874. It was one of the original teams in Melbourne's District Cricket competition. In 2002/2003, PMCC joined one of the largest metropolitan competitions in the country, the Victorian Turf Cricket Association (VTCA).

PMCC currently have 78 members, with five senior teams. The First and Second teams play at North Port Oval, where the club have their headquarters, which has a great playing surface, facilities and a centre turf wicket. The Third and Fourth teams play at Murphy Reserve on J. M. Woodruff Oval, which has a turf wicket. A. T. Aanenson Oval is also utilised for cricket and has a synthetic wicket, though Aanenson Oval's current condition inhibits its usefulness. Hard wicket training nets are also located at Murphy Reserve.

PMCC is committed to upholding the 'Spirit of Cricket' as defined by our affiliated competition, the Victorian Turf Cricket Association (VTCA). Each player and official is required to embrace the 'Spirit of Cricket' and abide by the VTCA's Code of Behaviour.

The Future

Participation in cricket is growing, with numbers predicted to increase by 26% in 2031. Continued use of Woodruff Oval and upgrading Aanenson Oval to enable greater utilisation for training and games will accommodate this increased demand.



USER GROUPS

MCCX Cricket Club

In 2010
The MCCX Cricket Club was established in the 1980's. They have between 30-40 members and are part of the Mid Week Cricket Association. Murphy Reserve is their home ground and they host competition level cricket on Wednesdays from November to March. Training for the club takes place on Saturdays at several other locations. In 2009, MCCX finished at the top of the Mid Week Cricket Association ladder.

The Future
Whilst participation in cricket is predicted to grow significantly over time, MCCX membership is predicted to increase only slightly due to the midweek nature of the competition. No increase in facilities or space will be required for the club to maintain their participation in the competition, however, an upgrade of current facilities such as the barbeque area and pavilion would enhance the participants experience at Murphy Reserve.

SCHEDULE OF USE

Each sporting club and community group that is active within Murphy Reserve has a lease agreement with Council. The lease agreement outlines the conditions of use and specifies the times that the club has access to specific facilities and ovals within the Reserve. The lease also specifies the amount to be paid by each club and the time period that the lease is valid for. Generally, leases are for 7 years. The current schedule of use for J.L. Murphy Reserve is detailed in Table 2.

SUMMER - October to March							
AANESON OVAL							
	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Club				PM Cricket Club	PM Cricket Club	PM Cricket Club	
Time				5pm - 7pm	5pm - 8.30pm	8.30am - 12pm	
Activity				Jrs Training	Jrs Matches	Jrs Matches	
GS WILLIAMS (BASEBALL)							
	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Club		PM Baseball Club	PM Baseball Club	PM Baseball Club		PM Baseball Club	PM Baseball Club
Time		4pm - 8pm	4pm - 8pm	4pm - 8pm		9am - 7pm	9am - 7pm
Activity		Training	Juniors Training	Training		Matches	Matches
WOODRUFF OVAL							
	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Club				MCCX Cricket Club		PM Cricket Club	
Time				12pm - 8pm		12pm - 6pm	
Activity				Matches		Matches	
ANDERSON OVAL 1 - NOT IN USE							
ANDERSON OVAL 2 - NOT IN USE							
WINTER - April to September							
AANESON OVAL							
	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Club		Port Colts	Port Colts	Port Colts		Port Colts	Port Colts
Time		4pm - 9pm	4pm - 9pm	4pm - 9pm		8am - 6pm	8am - 6pm
Activity		Football	Football	Football		Football	Football
Club			South Melb Dists				
Time			5pm - 7pm				
Activity			Football				
GS WILLIAMS (BASEBALL)- NOT IN USE							
WOODRUFF OVAL							
	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Club		Port Colts	Port Colts	Port Colts		Port Colts	Port Colts
Time		4pm - 9pm	4pm - 9pm	4pm - 9pm		8am - 6pm	8am - 6pm
Activity		Football	Football	Football		Football	Football
ANDERSON OVAL 1							
	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Club	PM Soccer Club	PM Soccer Club	PM Soccer Club	PM Soccer Club	PM Soccer Club	PM Soccer Club	PM Soccer Club
Time	5pm - 10pm	5pm - 10pm	5pm - 10pm	5pm - 10pm	5pm - 10pm	8am-10pm	8am-10pm
Activity	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer
ANDERSON OVAL 2							
	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Club	PM Soccer Club	PM Soccer Club	PM Soccer Club	PM Soccer Club	PM Soccer Club	PM Soccer Club	PM Soccer Club
Time	5pm - 10pm	5pm - 10pm	5pm - 10pm	5pm - 10pm	5pm - 10pm	8am-10pm	8am-10pm
Activity	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer	Soccer

Table 2: J.L. Murphy Reserve Schedule Of Use

CONSULTATION

Introduction

The City of Port Phillip undertook a series of community consultation and engagement sessions from March to July 2010 as part of the development of the master plan for the future planning of J.L. Murphy Reserve.

A community reference group was formed in February 2010 to provide input to the project. The community reference group was made up of users groups of the reserve, residents and community members as well as council representatives and staff.

The Method

In order to ensure that a cross section of individuals, groups and opinions were sufficiently represented, council requested information from the community using three methods: a mailed out and online survey, community consultations and a master-planning exercise, where ideas and comments about the reserve were written on aerial photo maps of the reserve.

102 surveys were completed between the 29th of March and the 30th of April. Consultation sessions were held on the morning and evening of the 1st of April and on the weekend on the 3rd of April at Murphy Reserve to source the opinions of different users of the reserve. Another consultation and mapping exercise was held at Murphy Reserve on the 14th of July.

The extensive consultation was designed to ensure that all members of the community had an opportunity to contribute their ideas and opinions and help in the development of J.L. Murphy Reserve.

The data presented here reflects the views of the community members who participated in the consultations and does not include the views or opinions

of other community members who did not participate. The results of the various community consultation activities have been used by council to inform the development of the new master plan.

Summary of Results

The different methods of information gathering highlighted the broad range of ideas and priorities within the community. However it also highlighted shared community goals and aspirations from both studies

The 3 main priorities identified from the mail-out and online surveys were a need for:

- ☐ Improved landscaping
- ☐ New playgrounds
- ☐ Improved fencing to the site

In the community group meetings and mapping exercise, participants identified their top 3 priorities as:

- ☐ A walking/ running track
- ☐ Expansion of the soccer fields
- ☐ Removal of fencing from the baseball field

The responses and suggestions for improvements which overlapped were:

- ☐ Better pedestrian access, particularly on Williamstown Road
- ☐ Drinking fountains on site
- ☐ Improved BBQ areas
- ☐ Improved picnic areas
- ☐ Increased seating
- ☐ New playground
- ☐ Walking/ running track around the reserve

All of the information collected through the community consultation has been considered in the development of the master plan for the Reserve.

The survey

The survey was mailed out to approximately 400 households and another 150 were hand delivered. The survey was also made available online on the City of Port Phillip website. A total of 121 surveys were returned, 102 were completed and able to be utilised.

The survey consisted of 12 questions; 10 of which related to the site and the final 2 related to correspondence details of the participants. These particular questions were chosen to uncover the current concerns and future needs of the people who use the reserve. A summary of the key results are shown in Figures 6,7 and 8.

Table 3 shows data collected relating to survey question 6, "Do you have suggestions for improvements you would like to see at Murphy Reserve?" Participants were asked to list their priorities from 1-5. For the open ended questions, the answers were grouped according to the theme that was thought to be most relevant. When a suggestion occurred more than once, it was grouped into a theme. If a suggestion occurred only once, it was grouped into the category 'other'. Many participants chose not to respond to this question or did not list all 5 priorities. In that case, their response was counted as 'No Response'. In total 145 items were categorised as 'Other' and 219 as 'No Response'.

