

The demand from different users of public spaces is increasing, along with growth in the number of people living, working and visiting our City. Council needs to manage the sharing of our public spaces to ensure we can respond to the community's diverse needs and make decisions that allocate spaces fairly across different and sometimes competing user groups

What we want to achieve

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (Goal 11), recognise the importance of public spaces in creating sustainable cities and communities, setting the target to "provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities" by 2030.



Flexible, multi-use spaces

We can work to create spaces that support more diverse activities, from Tai Chi, giant board games, natural play spaces and 'pop-up' markets and events, to quiet spaces for reading and meditation.



New and innovative uses

There is potential to plan for new and emerging leisure pursuits; digital role-playing or augmented reality games, frisbee golf, drone racing and dog agility are some of the suggestions so far.



Spaces for all seasons

We need to ensure spaces are attractive and usable all year round. This could include providing moveable shade structures, providing infrastructure that encourages informal sports at any time, or programming events that activate spaces in the winter months.

What Council is already doing

- Creating flexible, multipurpose community buildings as sports pavilions are renewed.
- Ensuring spaces are accessible for people of all ages and abilities through upgrading park furniture, paths and facilities.
- Installing more outdoor fitness stations.
- Undertaking an informal recreation study to better understand how people want to use our public spaces as part of a healthy, active lifestyle.

What are the opportunities?

Ways we can provide public places that support a diverse range of activities include:



Streets can become games arcades as people are seeking to play digital games in public spaces.



Providing enclosed spaces for dogs to safely play off leash and for pet owners to socialise.



Community gardens offer opportunities to participate in urban agriculture and planting, and provide for learning, social connections and access to nature.



Designing flexible pavilion spaces that offer shelter from sun or rain, and can be programmed for community events such as performances, fitness classes and social gatherings.



How do you currently use our public spaces? Do you have other ideas for new and innovative uses?

Which opportunities would you like to see implemented in your neighbourhood and where?

