

19.02-6L**Public open space and foreshore**

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Proposed C203port

Objective

To create an integrated network of accessible public open spaces that support a variety of uses and users and meets existing and future community needs.

Strategies

Ensure all residents are located within a short, easy and safe walking distance to public open space.

Improve linear connectivity between and within existing public open spaces and the foreshore by enhancing pedestrian permeability and wayfinding at key locations.

Improve the legibility, accessibility to and amenity of connections to and within public open space and the foreshore area.

Encourage improved bicycle and pedestrian paths and facilities between and within public open spaces, that contribute to a safe, comprehensive and useable open space network.

Encourage access to public open space and the foreshore via public transport modes by supporting improvements to public transport infrastructure and facilities that serve public open spaces.

Ensure that public open space and the foreshore are designed and managed to offer a diversity of functions and experiences and continues to host a range of leisure, tourism, recreation, cultural, social and sporting activities to meet the needs of all users.

Support co-location of public open spaces and community facilities to encourage shared use.

Policy guideline

Consider as relevant:

- Providing residents with access to high quality public open space within walking distance (200-400 metres, without having to cross major roads or other physical barriers) of their home.

Objective

To ensure the retention, creation and optimum provision of high quality public open space.

Strategies

Preserve land currently used for public open space, unless the available land:

- Is underutilised.
- Offers poor connection to other spaces or streets.
- Is unsafe for users.
- Offers poor accessibility to users.
- Has little potential for improvement as a functional public open space.

Where public open space is repurposed, ensure that:

- Alternative sites of higher quality can be identified for acquisition.
- Net community gain can be guaranteed by an alternative land use.

Repurpose existing restricted public open space, where appropriate, to consider a wider range of public uses.

Strengthen the public open space network by creating new open spaces or expanding existing open spaces, particularly in the following neighbourhoods:

- Balaclava / St Kilda East.
- Elwood / Ripponlea.

- South Melbourne.
- St Kilda Road.
- St Kilda / St Kilda West.

Repurpose road space, where appropriate, to create more usable public open spaces, particularly in areas where there are gaps in the public open space network.

Support activation of underutilised spaces such as vacant lots or parks that need upgrading with temporary parks or activities.

Objective

To protect and enhance the significant environmental, physical and cultural heritage values and attributes of public open space, including the foreshore.

Strategies

Support commercial uses where:

- The use is located in an existing building.
- An existing building is replaced with one of a scale and character that responds to the surrounding landscape or built form.
- The use will enhance the range of facilities available and positively impact all users.
- Environmental issues such as waste management, traffic movement and parking can be managed.

Protect and enhance environmentally sensitive sites (particularly sites that are important habitats for native species), flora and fauna, water quality and ecosystems that make up public open space and the foreshore, including:

- Alma Park East (east of the railway line).
- Elwood Canal Linear Reserve.
- Elwood coastline (including MO Moran Reserve, Elwood Park and Foreshore Reserve).
- Port Melbourne Foreshore.

Retain and enhance established mature trees, significant vegetation and attractive landscape elements of public open spaces.

Ensure buildings and private spaces within new developments that are adjacent to public open space areas, are clearly delineated and do not degrade the values of the existing public open space.

Objective

To achieve a sustainable balance between preserving public open space, including the foreshore, and meeting the needs of users.

Strategies

Support uses that make a positive contribution to the public open space area and offer a net community benefit.

Support land use and development on the foreshore that effectively manages the competing demands of various foreshore users, to preserve the quality and longevity of public open space and Council assets within these spaces.

Support development on the foreshore that is located within existing modified and resilient environments where the demand for development is evident and the impact can be managed.

Objective

To provide sport and recreation facilities within public open space and foreshore areas that meet the needs of the community.

Strategies

Support the provision of innovative and alternative sport and recreation opportunities, including multi-use facilities to ensure the greatest benefit to the community.

Support the provision of informal sport and recreation infrastructure as an alternative to organised sport (such as outdoor fitness equipment, inter-generational playgrounds, multi-sport court areas) to encourage physical exercise in public space.

Support land use and development on the foreshore that maximises opportunities for participation in land and water-based sport and recreation activities and supports lifestyle, adventure and alternative sports.

Support land use and development of existing sport and recreation infrastructure to ensure they are used at optimal levels, remain fit-for-purpose and meet demand.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Foreshore Management Plan* (City of Port Phillip, 2012)
- *Getting Our Community Active - Sport and Recreation Strategy 2015-2024* (City of Port Phillip, 2015)
- *Public Space Strategy* Draft V3 (City of Port Phillip, August 2020)
- *City of Port Phillip Biodiversity Study* (Arcadis, May 2020)