

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	i
1. INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 The Study Area:	1
1.2 Objectives:	2
1.3 Study Process:	2
1.4 Directions from Consultation Processes:	2
2. STRATEGIC CONTEXT	3
2.1 Local Policies and Previous Studies Undertaken by Baw Baw Shire Council	3
2.2 Local Planning Controls:	5
3. SITE ANALYSIS AND ISSUES	7
3.1 Activity and Facility Provision:	7
3.2 Existing Built Facilities – Summary Of Architect’s Assessment	7
3.3 Existing Activity	9
3.4 Potential Uses	12
3.5 Access, Circulation and Parking.....	13
3.6 Landscape Character & Features.....	14
4. MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS	16
4.1 Principles.....	16
4.2 Activity and Facility Provision	16
4.3 Access, Circulation and Parking.....	21
4.4 Landscape Character and Features.....	22
5. IMPLEMENTATION	24
APPENDIX 1: SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY SUBMISSIONS TO THE DRAFT MASTER PLAN	25
APPENDIX 2: BUILDING AUDIT REPORT	26



TRAFALGAR RECREATION PRECINCT MASTER PLAN

Landscape Master Plan Report

Prepared for Baw Baw Shire Council

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Master Plan was commissioned by Baw Baw Shire Council in 2007 as the result of recommendations outlined in previous strategic documents and studies, which identified the need for a detailed master plan for recreation provision in the township.

Accordingly, the Master Plan provides a conceptual layout plan that identifies the range and location of recreation facilities proposed for the Trafalgar Recreation Precinct over the next ten years. In consideration of the existing population growth experienced by the township and the region, it is essential that recreation facilities will meet community needs now and into the future. Therefore, the Master Plan aims to provide a clear guide to assist Council, the Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Steering Committee and the community to plan and implement identified facilities and works.

Key Objectives

The key objectives of the Master Plan are:

- Build upon the recommendations of previous strategic documents to identify the type, number and location for required recreation facilities and associated amenities
- Ensure that facilities will meet community needs into the future
- Encourage a diverse range of recreation provision
- Enhance the landscape setting and precinct presentation
- Provide for diverse passive recreation / informal recreation opportunities
- Provide an implementation plan so that the works may be planned and undertaken

Study Process

In preparation of the plan, the process included strategic context research and analysis, site investigation, architectural assessment and audit of existing buildings, ongoing consultation with the Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Steering Committee and Council officers throughout the design process and consultation with the local community, councillors and key stakeholders. A number of submissions were received from the community, including representative sporting/recreation clubs in response to the Draft Master Plan which have been considered in the development of the Final Master Plan.

Based upon the findings of the process identified above, the plan makes recommendations relating to the following key themes:

- Activity and Facility Provision
- Access, Circulation and Parking
- Landscape Character and Features

Principles

These broad principles outline the overall philosophy and approach that underpins the Master Plan in both its design and its implementation:

- Promote and utilise Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) principals at the reserve, particularly in terms of:
 - Design and materiality
 - Use of green technology
 - Water use: such as Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) techniques, run-off and rain water capture, grey water treatment and recycling
 - Day to day operations (such as rubbish separation and recycling)
 - Education / promotion initiatives
- Provide diverse recreation opportunities that cater to all abilities.
- Provide a Recreation Precinct that is open and accessible for broad community use.



TRAFALGAR RECREATION PRECINCT MASTER PLAN

Landscape Master Plan Report

Prepared for Baw Baw Shire Council

- Initiate and build partnerships between Council, community organisations, schools and the like to develop and manage the reserve.

Master Plan Directions and Recommendations

Activity and Facility Provision

Objectives:

- Upgrade facilities for users.
- Provide a wider range of active recreation facilities to cater to demand and projected future population growth.
- Provide for informal, social recreation uses.
- Provide flexible, multi-use facilities.

Recommendations:

No.	Action	Priority
4.2.1	Undertake a Trafalgar Public Facilities Audit	HIGH
4.2.2	Construct 2 no. soccer fields to accommodate senior level playing, to include the provision of spectator and player shelters	HIGH
4.2.3	Reduce in size and realign Main football oval to a Standard playing size, to include upgrades to oval surfacing.	MEDIUM
4.2.4	Construct one junior size football oval to accommodate junior level football and senior level cricket	MEDIUM
4.2.5	Undertake design of the new Multi-Use Complex: - Either extend and refurbish the existing Pavilion, or construct a new building. To accommodate activities and user needs as identified in the Facilities audit - Include ESD principles	HIGH
4.2.6	Undertake works associated with the new Multi-Use Complex following the design phase: - Either extend and refurbish the existing Pavilion, or construct a new building. - Remove surplus buildings once the new facility is complete	MEDIUM
4.2.7	Undertake design of the new Pedestrian Hub: - Feature pavements, tree planting, furniture, lighting - BBQ / Picnic facilities - Furniture	HIGH
4.2.8	Undertake works associated with the new Pedestrian Hub following the design phase: - Feature pavements, tree planting, furniture, lighting - BBQ / Picnic facilities - Furniture	MEDIUM
4.2.9	Undertake design and works associated with new Equestrian Precinct: - Farm style fencing to perimeter - Provision of new camping facilities, including kitchen / shared use area, toilets and showers - Provision of multi-use equestrian field to accommodate Polocrosse, Campdraft, Show Jumping, Dressage	HIGH
4.2.10	Undertake works to ensure ongoing safe provision of Netball facilities: - Provision of player / spectator shelters, seating	MEDIUM
4.2.11	Undertake design and construction of new Adventure Play Facility	MEDIUM

Access, Circulation and Parking

Objectives:

- Provision of safe and efficient vehicular access into and around the Recreation Precinct
- Provision of safe and efficient pedestrian access into and around the Recreation Precinct
- Provision of parking sufficient to cater to demand, without overly compromising space available for recreation activity
- Provision of shared trail networks to encourage more passive recreation use, that link into key reserve features and (existing/future) external trail networks or key features.



TRAFALGAR RECREATION PRECINCT MASTER PLAN

Landscape Master Plan Report

Prepared for Baw Baw Shire Council

Recommendations:

No.	Action	Priority
4.3.1	Construct new Recreation Precinct entry	HIGH
4.3.2	Construct new Recreation Precinct circulation roads	MEDIUM
4.3.3	Construct new Recreation Precinct parking areas	MEDIUM
4.3.4	Construct Equestrian Precinct gravel access road	HIGH
4.3.5	Construct pedestrian entry path	MEDIUM
4.3.6	Construct shared path networks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through the Open Space reserve - Through the Revegetation Zone / Wetland Reserve - Along the Waterloo Road Frontage 	LOW
4.3.7	Construct boardwalks and smaller trail systems around wetlands and through the Revegetation Zone in association with the programming of 4.3.6	LOW

Landscape Character and Features

Objectives:

- Building upon and strengthening the existing landscape character to enhance the setting of the precinct as a whole
- Protecting existing significant vegetation and mature native trees.
- Utilizing plants that are predominantly native plant species with an emphasis on indigenous plant species, responding to the site.
- Defining the boundaries of the Precinct with a consistent and strong planting of indigenous tree species, creating a uniform and co-ordinated landscape character
- Developing planting themes to help define the various functions of the precinct as a whole
- Using vegetation in a form which responds to topography, microclimate, soil and moisture.
- Utilizing planting to improve the amenity and presentation of the Precinct in its key activity areas
- Establishing a management program to ensure the ongoing management, maintenance and protection of the existing and future plantings within the Reserve, to retain and enhance the amenity and landscape character of the Reserve.

Recommendations:

No.	Action	Priority
4.4.1	Undertake a Landscape Planting plan for the Recreation Precinct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish key planting themes and a plant palette - Provide spatial definition in concert with the intended activity - Unify the precinct and enhance its presentation - Provide visual and physical amenity 	HIGH
4.4.2	Undertake a vegetation assessment of existing vegetation to identify significant species / communities, weed species and to identify a suitable revegetation / weed control regime.	HIGH
4.4.3	Undertake staged revegetation programs within the revegetation zone	MEDIUM
4.4.4	Design and construct wetlands, to include required infrastructure to enable water capture and re-use for irrigation throughout the precinct	HIGH
4.4.5	Undertake Lighting Design for the Recreation Precinct	HIGH
4.4.6	Undertake works associated with the Lighting Plan	MEDIUM
4.4.7	Undertake design and installation of signage	LOW
4.4.8	Undertake selection and installation of furniture	LOW

An implementation plan concludes this master plan report, identifying key works to be undertaken and providing a guide to the timeframe for implementation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Trafalgar Recreation Reserve is located on the western outskirts of Trafalgar's town centre, accommodating a range of recreation facilities including football, netball, cricket and boxing. An Equestrian Park is located to the north of the reserve, catering to five equestrian clubs, some of which are unique in the Municipality.

Following recommendations outlined in the *Trafalgar 2030 Land Use Strategy Plan Review*, the *Baw Baw Recreation Strategy Plan 2005-2015*, the *Baw Baw Equestrian Facilities Plan* and the *Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Strategic Plan 2005-15*, Baw Baw Shire Council acquired approximately 26 hectares of additional land immediately adjoining the existing recreation reserve (see Figure 1). This land has been set aside for development as the Trafalgar Recreation Precinct, and is the focus of this study.

The Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Master Plan was commissioned by Baw Baw Shire Council in 2007. Reflecting the current and future recreation needs of the community, the plan is intended to provide a conceptual layout plan that identifies the type and location of recreational facilities including sports fields and courts, indoor facilities and public open space reserves.

Building upon previous strategic documents, the master plan may be used by Council, the Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Steering Committee and the community to plan and implement the identified facilities and works. While further detailed works will be required in order to construct the works, the plan provides clear directions and an implementation plan to ensure that the Trafalgar Recreation Precinct will become a valued and well-used community asset over the long term.

1.1 The Study Area:

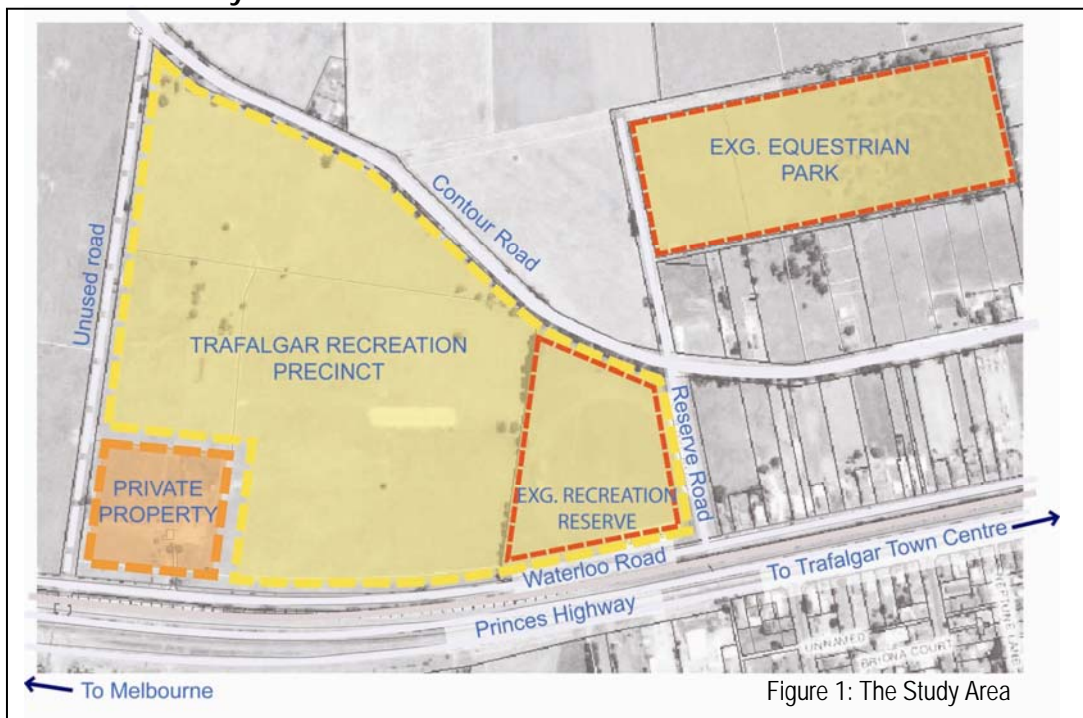


Figure 1: The Study Area

1.2 Objectives:

The key objectives of the Master Plan are:

- Build upon the recommendations of previous strategic documents to identify the type, number and location for required recreation facilities and associated amenities
- Ensure that facilities will meet community needs into the future
- Encourage a diverse range of recreation provision
- Enhance the landscape setting and precinct presentation
- Provide for diverse passive recreation / informal recreation opportunities
- Provide an implementation plan so that the works may be planned and undertaken

1.3 Study Process:

The steps involved in the development of the Master Plan have been as follows:

- Ongoing consultation with Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Steering Committee and Council officers throughout the design process
- Strategic context research and analysis
- Architectural assessment of existing buildings (See Appendix 3)
- Site investigation and analysis
- Consultation with local community, councillors and key stakeholders

The process outlined above identified the key issues, opportunities, community aspirations and expectations for Trafalgar's Recreation Precinct over the long term which have informed the development of this Master Plan.

1.4 Directions from Consultation Processes:

Following the research, analysis and sketch design phases of the project, two draft master plan options were produced and presented to key user groups and the local community at a meeting held in Trafalgar on the 20th August 2008. Following this meeting, the master plan options were placed on public exhibition for six weeks and written submissions were invited as response. A total of nineteen submissions were received, representing the key user groups and a number of local authorities (See Appendix 2: Submissions Summary). An overwhelming majority of these submissions nominated Option B as the preferred Option (12 preferred Option B, 1 preferred Option A and 6 did not nominate a preference).

Consequently, Option B was selected by the Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Steering Committee as the preferred option, and was amended to reflect the feedback received during the consultation process. This Master Plan is the culmination of the study process (See Appendix 2 for the responses and directions adopted in the Final Master Plan).

2. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Master Plan study area is governed by local, regional and state government policies and strategies. Of particular relevance to this Master Plan are a number of existing local strategic plans and studies undertaken by Council, which are outlined below.

2.1 Local Policies and Previous Studies Undertaken by Baw Baw Shire Council

Baw Baw Shire Council Trafalgar 2030 Land Use Strategy Plan Review Maunsell Australia Pty. Ltd on behalf of Baw Baw Shire Council, July 2006

The Land Use Strategy Plan Review provides an assessment of the current provisions of the Baw Baw Planning Scheme as well as an evaluation of recreational needs resulting in recommendations for recreation facility provision in Trafalgar. It articulates the concept of the Recreation Precinct and identifies key recommendations which have guided the development of this master plan. Such recommendations include the provision of:

- Two indoor sports courts (with the ability to be used as a performance / function space)
- One additional cricket / football oval
- Two full size soccer pitches
- Two netball courts upgraded
- A CFA running track
- Associated built facilities (male and female change rooms, social rooms, storage)
- Landscaping, path connections, car parking
- A management and funding plan
- Implementation plan for staged development
- Consider the feasibility of a regional equestrian facility, ensuring that sufficient land is identified to allow for the future development of such a facility

Baw Baw Shire Council Recreation Strategy Plan 2005-2015

The Recreation Strategy Plan provides a coordinated policy for recreation and leisure provision in the municipality, identifying key actions, along with timetabling and funding information for implementation. Its key objective is to provide a broad range of recreation / sporting activities that are readily accessible and able to meet the evolving needs of the community. It adopts a hierarchical approach for each major sport to ensure that there is one regional level facility available in the shire, while providing smaller scale local facilities for townships.

Recommendations that have particular relevance to the Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Master Plan include:

- Development of outdoor facilities at Trafalgar Recreation Reserve (via *this* Master Plan), to include land acquisition, provision of soccer and junior outdoor sports including cricket and football – all of which have been included in this Master Plan
- Upgrade of netball courts, dependent on a full assessment of courts and their use
- Review of Pony Club Facilities across the Shire
- Establishment of a playground at a high profile site in Trafalgar, catering to tourists and locals

- Facility infrastructure improvement, such as road sealing, sports ground drainage, lighting, irrigation and signage strategies
- Monitoring population growth and needs for indoor sports, including feasibility studies for development of indoor sports halls
- Development of recreation trail plans, providing safe and interesting places to walk / cycle and where possible to improve linkages between residential, sporting, educational and recreational facilities.

Baw Baw Shire Council Equestrian Facilities Plan

Smart Connection Company on behalf of Baw Baw Shire Council, April 2007

The Equestrian Facilities Plan provides a municipal-wide plan for the provision of equestrian facilities. Its recommendations are based on a review of participation trends, facilities and venues in the Shire, aiming to balance demands for equestrian facilities in the context of a growing population and understanding where future demands for recreation facilities may lie.

The plan outlines a hierarchy of facilities to cater to participation demand in a way that is resource efficient and sustainable, providing layers of facility standards to accommodate a range of needs and levels of participation:

- **Regional** (One facility servicing two to three Council areas): catering for events and competitions of up to 400 participants and a range of disciplines to a high standard, supported by buildings and amenities that can cater for elite level events, such as State and Zone events, championships, multi-day events. The land area required for such a facility is estimated at 6.6 hectares.
- **Municipal** (One per Council area): catering for events and competitions of up to 200 participants in disciplines that reflect the needs of participants across a Council area, supported by buildings and amenities that can cater for elite level events as outlined above. The land area required for a municipal level facility is estimated at 6.1 hectares.
- **Local** (Several local facilities linked to townships, based on demand / interest): catering for small scale equestrian activities such as riding tuition, dressage and jumping.

In terms of the outlined hierarchy of equestrian facility provision, the plan notes that as Tonimbuk Equestrian Park currently fulfils the role of a regional level facility, Baw Baw Shire should concentrate on providing municipal and local level facilities across the municipality. It notes that although the current Trafalgar Equestrian Park attracts the number of participants associated with a municipal level facility, site condition, buildings and infrastructure at the site do not support such use. The plan does not, however, provide detailed information as to the membership levels and the frequency of activities held by each club, without such information it is difficult to plan appropriately for future facility provision.

Overall, this Master Plan can benefit from the recommendations outlined in the Equestrian Facilities Plan, using it to plan for Equestrian Provision in Trafalgar. These recommendations are outlined in Section 3 – Master Plan Recommendations.

Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Strategic Plan 2005-2015

Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Committee, 2005

This plan, undertaken by the Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Committee, aims to identify and assess the future sporting requirements of clubs that could be accommodated within the Trafalgar Recreation Precinct. The plan includes an audit of existing sporting club activity and facility provision in Trafalgar in order to identify what the needs for recreation facility provision at the Recreation Precinct may be.

While the plan pre-dates the *Trafalgar 2030 Land Use Strategy*, it does provide a useful snapshot of club activity and aspirations that help to provide a fuller picture of what the recreation needs for Trafalgar are. The plan makes recommendations for such provision.

2.2 Local Planning Controls:

The land on which Trafalgar Recreation Precinct is located is affected by numerous land use and development controls stipulated within the Baw Baw Planning Scheme. The strategic purpose of these controls on buildings, works and activities is outlined in the State Planning Policy Framework, the Municipal Strategic Statement and Local Planning Policies.

Zones:

Zones covering the study area include:

Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ)

This zone is applied to the original Trafalgar Recreation Reserve land. The purpose of the PPRZ is to recognise areas set aside for public recreation and open space. Its application may include the protection and conservation of areas of significance and to provide for commercial uses where appropriate.

Public Conservation and Resource Zone (PCRZ)

The PCRZ applies to the land on which the existing Equestrian Park is located. Its application aims to protect and conserve the natural environment and natural processes for their historic, scientific, landscape, habitat or cultural values. In addition, it provides for appropriate resource based uses and encourages the provision of facilities which assist in public education and interpretation of the natural environment that have minimal negative impacts on the natural environment or its processes.

Farming Zone (FZ)

This zone currently affects the new parcel of land acquired by council for the establishment of the Recreation Precinct. Its application provides for the use of land for agricultural purposes, to encourage the retention of productive agricultural land and to ensure that non-agricultural uses do not have a negative impact on the use of the land for agriculture. It also aims to encourage sustainable use and management practices and to protect and enhance natural resources and biodiversity.

Whilst the recreation precinct land is currently zoned Farming Zone, it has been identified on the Trafalgar 2030 Land Use Strategy Plan as future recreation. The Strategy Plan has been adopted by Council and is currently the subject of Planning Scheme Amendment C56, which

proposes to include it in the Baw Baw Planning Scheme. It is anticipated that this amendment will be finalised in early 2009, after which time a further amendment will be prepared to rezone the land to Public Park and Recreation Zone, which is predicted to be finalised before the end of 2009.

Overlays:

The study area is protected by a number of overlays:

Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO1), Clause 42: Schedule 1

Schedule 1 to the ESO, High Quality Agricultural Land, applies to the new parcel of land acquired by council for the establishment of the recreation precinct. It also applies across a significant parcel of the existing equestrian park land. The EOS1 is designed to protect agricultural land of inherent high level productivity, is versatile and remains well consolidated. The overlay recognises its significance as an economic and environmental resource.

Development Contributions Plan Overlay (DCPO)

This overlay applies generally across the township of Trafalgar and its surrounding land. The overlay identifies those areas which require the preparation of a development contributions plan for the purpose of levying contributions for the provision of works, services and facilities before development can commence.

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MASTER PLAN:

The salient points relating to the development of the master plan are as follows:

- Providing sporting and recreation facilities based on the understanding gained from previous detailed studies
- Understanding the level of recreation provision within a region and municipal wide context to ensure efficient use of resources and that provision in Trafalgar can cater to community needs, without providing unnecessary pressure or competition elsewhere.
- Enabling use flexibility and encouraging shared use of facilities.

3. SITE ANALYSIS AND ISSUES

3.1 Activity and Facility Provision:

The recreation reserve is currently predominantly used by three organised sporting groups - Football, Cricket and Netball (note that both Football and Netball are included in the same umbrella organisation as the Trafalgar Football Netball Club). In addition, there is also a boxing gym on the reserve and the Equestrian Park is located nearby to the north of the reserve. There are a number of limited use buildings scattered across the site catering to individual club needs.

3.2 Existing Built Facilities – Summary of Architect’s Assessment

Suters Prior + Cheney Architects were appointed to examine the existing building and playing facilities at the recreation reserve. Their evaluation of the extent and nature of existing facilities, including an opinion on their condition, suitability for use and potential is summarised below (note that the Architectural Assessment concentrated on facilities based at the Recreation Reserve only, and did not include the Equestrian Park facilities):

Main Football Pavilion:

The football pavilion is located on the western side of the oval and provides change, office, storage, covered spectator areas and kiosk facilities at the lower level, with social and indoor spectator areas upstairs. While the building appears to be structurally stable, the building is in need of major refurbishment to bring the facility up to standard. In particular need for improvements are the ground floor areas which currently contravene health and safety standards. In addition, accessibility is an issue, with only staired access provided to the upper level. The pavilion currently only caters for single use by the football club, although it is available for hire. This raises the opportunity for the building to be expanded to become a shared use facility.

Main Oval:

The oval is in good condition and is well aligned as a playing area. However, it is likely that the playing surface loses condition due to over use during the football season. The provision of a second oval could relieve much of this pressure.

Cricket Club Pavilion:

Cricket club buildings are made up of two portable buildings with some infill building between them, which have been converted to suit cricket club use. As with the football pavilion, these temporary buildings are an inefficient use of space, given that they replicate facilities which could be shared within a single building.

Cricket Nets:

There is a two pitch cricket net facility, arranged as a typical practice structure. It appears to be in good condition.

Boxing Gymnasium:

This building, while housing the boxing equipment and enabling indoor football training, is very old and showing signs of deterioration. Its location, age and condition mean that it is not worth improvement or refurbishment. Its retention as a separate building is not supported.

Netball Pavilion:

The netball club utilises two portable buildings to accommodate club needs, including an administration office, uniform shop and storage in one building and unisex toilet in the other. Anecdotally it is suggested that these buildings are on loan to the club.

Netball Courts:

There are two netball courts which are synthetically paved over asphalt, they include full size court markings and adequate run-off areas. The courts are in good condition, refurbished by Council about 5-6 years ago.

Public Toilets:

Male and female public toilets are accommodated in a separate building, located in the north-east corner of the reserve, remote from other buildings and the oval. While it is structurally sound, its location, presentation, issues with the existing septic tank and a lack of access pavement make it inadequate. There is an urgent need for the provision of new public amenities that address all of these issues.

Other buildings:

There are a number of minor buildings scattered around the site, including a galvanised shed used for storage of ground maintenance equipment, a steel shed used by the Lions Club for storage, 'Bay Six and a Half' which provides an elevated, sheltered viewing area including a small blockwork storage room and a scoreboard building. While these buildings all serve minor roles, they are important in the function of the reserve. Consideration should be given to how these functions can be accommodated within the Master Plan.

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MASTER PLAN:

- Consolidate existing buildings into shared use facilities to enable more efficient use of resources and space.
- Consideration of sustainable building techniques / principles, such as orientation, materiality and use of green technologies (e.g. rain water tanks, solar power, water recycling).
- Address accessibility.
- Ensure that buildings meet service standards set by Council or advised by State sporting organisations.
- Ensure that building refurbishments address health and safety requirements.
- Reduce the pressure on the main oval through the provision of a second oval.
- Maintain existing functions of the reserve and associated facilities where appropriate, such as the Scoreboard building, storage, sheltered spectator areas, cricket practice nets.
- Provide public toilet facilities that are more appropriately located and are of adequate standard.
- Maintain and monitor the netball courts and ensure that ancillary facilities are accommodated within the Master Plan.
- Manage staging to ensure that ancillary facilities required by clubs can be provided while the Multi-use Complex is being built.

3.3 Existing Activity

Equestrian Park

The Equestrian Park is located to the north of the Recreation Reserve (see Figure 1: Study Area), accommodating a range of specialist equestrian sports, some of which, such as camp drafting and polocrosse, are not provided for at any other facility in the Shire. As outlined in the *Equestrian Facilities Plan*, the Equestrian Park is considered to have a municipal level catchment.

Park users note that the existing site is inadequate to support ongoing use due to poor surface quality and drainage. In addition, the existing buildings are in need of replacement / upgrade, to include the provision of change rooms, toilets and showers.

The site is affected by an Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO1) as well as areas of significant remnant vegetation, limiting the capacity for development and expansion to occur.

There are five equestrian related clubs that currently share use of the facility:

Trafalgar Equestrian Park

Acts as the management committee for the park, comprising representatives from each of the Trafalgar based equestrian clubs. The committee uses the facility for major events, such as the Annual Rodeo and Ute Muster.

Trafalgar Adult Riding Club

Membership: 9 members

Activity: Monthly rallies
Annual Gymkhana
Training days / riding tuition
Show jumping clinics
Fortnightly 'Twilight Rallies' January-March

Facilities: The Adult Riding Club maintains that the quality of existing facilities restricts membership, with a number of potential members using the facilities at Warragul.

Trafalgar Pony Club

Membership: 20+ members, aged between 6-21 years of age. 75% of membership is female.

Activity: Monthly rallies: show jumping, flat work and theory
Participation in zone events (held elsewhere): show jumping and dressage.
Annual Gymkhana held at Trafalgar
Riding tuition

Facilities: The Club maintains that inadequate existing facilities prevent it from hosting events; periodically there is a need to relocate Rally days due to ground conditions.

Trafalgar Polocrosse Club

Membership: 30 members, sourced from a wide catchment area.

Activity: Victorian polocrosse association competition January – May, three teams from Trafalgar (training held at Trafalgar, events generally held elsewhere)
1 tournament in March / April each year

Facilities: The Club notes that they have significant issues with ground surface quality: uneven, rocky land, drainage issues in winter, compacted / hard ground conditions in summer.
The Club maintains that supporting built facilities are inadequate for use. The Club has aspirations to host State Championships at Trafalgar, which are held annually.

Trafalgar Camp Draft Association

Membership: 280 members, sourced from throughout Gippsland

Activity: 1 major event, followed by horse sales
Up to six horsemanship schools throughout the year
Periodic breaking-in and camp drafting schools
General member use October-May

Facilities: The club notes that a lack of appropriate facilities restricts the level of activity held at the site.

West Gippsland Branch Australian Stockhorse Society

Membership: 350 members

Activity: 7 weekends per year, running shows, training clinics and camps

Facilities: The current camp draft arena is sufficient in size, but technically undersized.
The main issue with the existing facilities is the lack of a separate dressage arena

Trafalgar Football / Netball Club:

Football

Membership: 7 teams in total, with approximately 140-150 members:
4 teams competing in Mid Gippsland Football / Netball league: seniors, reserves, Under 18s and Under 16s, comprising around 70-75 members.
3 junior teams: Under 10s, Under 12s and Under 14s comprising around 70-75 members.

Activity: Training twice weekly
Saturday competitions, some Friday night games.
Junior finals played elsewhere
Seniors periodically host finals events at Trafalgar
Clubrooms / social facilities regularly used by the Football Club and the Pavilion is also available for hire

- Facilities: The Club notes that existing facilities are inadequate to meet the needs of the seven football teams using the reserve:
- The oval comes under extreme pressure during the season, being used by seven teams
 - Built facilities in adequate condition for club purposes for now, however change facilities need upgrading and there are no female change facilities
 - The lack of a second oval excludes Junior finals being held at Trafalgar
 - Lighting is in need of upgrade
 - Concern about the proximity of the goals to the Waterloo Road end of the ground.

Netball

Membership: Approximately 50 players in 6 teams (four senior and two junior teams), competing in the Mid Gippsland Netball Association.

Activity: Use of both courts for competitions and weekly training (3-4 times per week), February – August/September.

Facilities: While court facilities are adequate for current use, the club notes that existing conditions constrain the ability for the club to grow and meet future demand. The club urgently requires female change / toilet / shower facilities. The club has also expressed a desire for its own clubrooms. It currently shares facilities, coaches, umpires and equipment with the Junior Netball Club, which appears to be a healthy relationship.

Trafalgar Junior Netball Club

Membership: 58 members in 7 teams

Activity: Weekly training, currently divided between Trafalgar Recreation Reserve and Trafalgar Primary School. Participation in Moe and District Junior Netball competition. An aspiration to host competitions at Trafalgar.

Facilities: Shares facilities, coaches, umpires and equipment with the Junior Netball Club.

Cricket

Membership: 6 teams: 3 senior, 3 junior, approximately 70-75 members

Activity: Senior teams use both Trafalgar Recreation Reserve and Trafalgar High school for games. The Junior teams use the recreation reserve for games.

Facilities: The club has noted that Trafalgar High school is inadequate for use and is unlikely to be available in the future, therefore an additional oval needs to be found, preferably at the recreation reserve.

The club also notes that the existing practice facilities are in need of repair / upgrade and there is a lack of catering facilities at the recreation reserve. The club has expressed a desire for permanent clubrooms.

Boxing

Membership: Participants aged between 12 – mid forties, sourced from a largely local, but including a broader catchment from Gippsland. Membership numbers are unknown.

Activity: Twice weekly. Ongoing management and operation of the gym is an issue.

Facilities: Well equipped, however the existing building is inadequate for use.

3.4 Potential Uses

Soccer

Membership: Approximately 100 members in 12 teams competing in the Gippsland Soccer Association: seven Under 8 teams, two Under 10 teams, one Under 12 and one Senior team. A tendency to lose players to football at the end of Under 12 due to better facilities and more experienced coaches, however there is a growing demand for soccer in line with state-wide trends.

Activity: Currently using Trafalgar High School for training and games.

Facilities: The club notes that the lack of supporting built facilities at the high school is constraining club growth: The club use portable buildings for canteen and basic change facilities, but there is a lack of showers / toilets: an urgent need for appropriate facilities. The club has a desire for its own clubroom.

Trafalgar Basketball Association

Membership: Senior and junior teams for men and women competing in various competitions in Trafalgar, Moe and Warragul. There is a strong team in Yarragon, with approximately 230 players participating in 32 mixed junior teams.

Activity: Predominantly senior level competitions held twice weekly at the ECA centre at Trafalgar High School. Currently only offering a women's competition consisting of 17 teams in two grades.
Junior teams use the ECA centre weekly for training.

Facilities: The existing facilities at Trafalgar High School are inadequate for use and incapable of meeting demand.
The ECA centre is a ¾ size basketball court, on a concrete floor, limiting use for competition.

Volleyball

Membership: Forty players in six teams, participating in a local competition.
A trend to dwindling participation, with most players aged 30+ and a lack of younger players being attracted to the sport.

Activity: Local competition held at the ECA centre at Trafalgar High School

Facilities: Existing facilities adequate for use and demand.

Community Groups

While it is understood that the Recreation Precinct shall be generally open and accessible for broader community use, there is also the opportunity to encourage further involvement from community groups / organisations in the implementation and management of aspects of the precinct, such as revegetation, weed control initiatives, fundraising for installation of boardwalks, new play facilities, public toilets and the like.

Such community involvement would encourage greater ownership and use of the precinct.

Passive Recreation

While the openness of the reserve enables informal use of the oval for passive recreation purposes, there is no other provision for informal / passive use of the reserve, such as walking/cycle paths, public open space areas or picnic / bbq facilities.

Play Area

A small play area exists, providing limited play facilities for young children. There is the potential for a larger 'Adventure Play' facility to be provided at the Recreation Precinct.

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MASTER PLAN

- The key challenge to the Master Plan is in balancing the needs of all reserve users based on sound Principles, recommendations outlined in previous strategy documents and from a strong understanding of the feasibility of facility provision. A key example is the accommodation of Equestrian activities, characterised by relatively low membership numbers and periodic activity while requiring large land area that is fully fenced and separated from the general public, including other reserve users. The challenge is how to support the growth of equestrian activity while still allowing for the growth of other recreation activities at the reserve and keeping the precinct as accessible and open as possible to the community at large.
- While shared facilities are generally supported by recreation groups, as long as their individual club requirements are catered for, a number of concerns have been raised about how to manage this arrangement, particularly regarding the ability for various clubs to raise revenue through gate fees, catering and the like. While this is a management issue beyond the scope of the Master Plan, the details of managing shared facilities will need to be resolved during the design and implementation phases of the works, in close consultation with user groups.
- Encouraging more 'day-to-day' informal use of the precinct through the provision of Public Open Space areas, and passive recreation opportunities, such as shared trail networks, expanded play areas and pedestrian amenities.

3.5 Access, Circulation and Parking

Vehicular Access

Existing access to the Reserve is via a shared entrance / exit at the corner of Waterloo Road and Reserve Road. The location affords poor visibility and a tendency for congestion on game days. All roads within the reserve are gravel, which is not an ideal surface due to its high

maintenance requirements and tendency to throw up dust. The lack of a formal road surface may also enable vehicle encroachment across the reserve, limiting the ability to undertake improvements to the landscape setting and providing the potential for conflicts with pedestrians.

Access to the Equestrian Park is provided from Contour Road.

Parking

An informal gravel carpark services the existing building and field side parking is available around the oval - an important feature of country football. The lack of formality for parking areas available in the reserve, however, is an inefficient use of space, limiting the potential for informal pedestrian-focussed activity to occur.

A desire for the provision of field-side parking to be made available around the proposed Soccer pitches was expressed during consultation. This does raise the potential for increased risks of vehicle / pedestrian conflicts, and less efficient use of resources and space.

Pedestrian Access

There is currently no formal pedestrian access provided both into and within the reserve. There are also no shared path networks providing passive recreation opportunities.

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MASTER PLAN

- There is a clear need for an improved entrance and circulation system for the Recreation Precinct, which should include separate pedestrian access points away from main vehicular entrances, and a separate entrance for Equestrian activities.
- A need for formalisation of roads, circulation routes and parking areas.
- Consideration of occasional access roads and an additional entry / exist point for use during peak periods to reduce congestion.
- Encourage more pedestrian activity within the precinct while minimising the potential for conflict with vehicles.
- Provision of interesting and safe shared path networks that link into existing and future external systems, key features and the like to encourage broader community use.
- Provision of field-side parking around the Soccer pitches should be managed to ensure that potential conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles are minimised, resourcing can be achieved and that a pedestrian focus for activity is maintained at the centre of the precinct.
- Consideration of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) techniques for the management of runoff from roads and hard paved surfaces.
- With increased use of the reserve and the likelihood for multiple sports playing competitions on the same day, consideration will need to be given for the ability for separate events to charge gate fees for their activity. While this is a management issue that will not be addressed in the Master plan, it is an issue that will need to be resolved in the design phase of the project. Consultation with user groups is crucial.

3.6 Landscape Character & Features

The existing recreation reserve is largely open, with mature existing trees and dense shrub/understorey vegetation concentrated around the site boundaries. The land that has been acquired by council for the recreation precinct is former farm land, featuring cleared land with a

number of mature eucalypts scattered across the site. There is a drainage channel along Contour Road, featuring remnant vegetation, including mature eucalypts.

The land on which the existing Equestrian Park is located features partly cleared land, with mature eucalypts covering the eastern half of the site.

The surrounding landscape is largely rural, with residential areas located to the east. There are views to the Strzelecki Ranges from the reserve.

Council could explore the potential for making land available for offsets in the passive areas of the reserve to help fund revegetation and weed control programs.

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MASTER PLAN

- Develop an overall planting / vegetation layout which responds to the character and various functions of the precinct.
- Protect existing significant vegetation, such as remnant vegetation, mature trees.
- Weed removal and management.
- Enhance the landscape setting and presentation of the precinct.
- Enhance the biodiversity and habitat values of the reserve, particularly adjacent to the Contour Road drain.
- Provide wetland areas to capture and treat run-off for re-use for irrigation purposes.
- Provide additional tree planting / landscaped areas concentrated around key activity areas to enhance the amenity and physical comfort of the precinct.
- Provide areas for passive recreation use, such as picnic areas, informal gathering / activity.
- Explore the potential for offsets, particularly along the northern boundary of the site.

4. MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Principles

These broad principles outline the overall philosophy and approach that underpins the Master Plan in both its design and its implementation:

- Promote and utilise Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) principals at the reserve, particularly in terms of:
 - Design and materiality
 - Use of green technology
 - Water use: such as Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) techniques, run-off and rain water capture, grey water treatment and recycling
 - Day to day operations (such as rubbish separation and recycling)
 - Education / promotion initiatives
- Provide diverse recreation opportunities that cater to all abilities.
- Provide a Recreation Precinct that is open and accessible for broad community use.
- Initiate and build partnerships between Council, community organisations, schools and the like to develop and manage the reserve.

4.2 Activity and Facility Provision

Objectives

- Upgrade facilities for users.
- Provide a wider range of active recreation facilities to cater to demand and projected future population growth.
- Provide for informal, social recreation uses.
- Provide flexible, multi-use facilities.

Multi-Use Complex

The existing built facilities will be inadequate for use as the recreation precinct is developed. In line with recommendations outlined in previous strategy documents, which encourage more flexibility and sharing of facilities, a new Multi-Use complex is planned for the Recreation Precinct. This complex will become the central focus for the reserve, providing upgraded and expanded facilities and amenities for sporting and community use.

In order to ensure the facility's success, its design will follow a Public Facilities Audit undertaken by Council to determine the range of facilities and activities to be accommodated within the complex. However, preliminary recommendations within this master plan note that the complex should include:

- Two multi-use indoor courts catering for netball, basketball and volleyball
- Meeting space
- Club rooms, storage, administration areas
- Public toilets
- Male and Female change and shower facilities
- Kiosk / Canteen
- Function / event space
- Gymnasium, first aid and trainers rooms
- Address accessibility requirements

- Consider the use of sustainable building techniques and use of green technology, such as environmentally sensitive design (including passive-solar orientation, natural ventilation etc), grey water treatment, rainwater harvesting, solar power and the like

It is envisaged that the design and orientation of the building shall enable viewing opportunities to all of the playing areas to promote the complex as a central focus of activity.

In addition, the complex will be surrounded by the 'Pedestrian Activity Hub', described in detail below.

Pedestrian Hub

The Pedestrian Hub will provide concentrations of pedestrian-focussed activity, through the provision of outdoor 'spill out' areas, barbecue facilities, furniture, connections to all of the sporting activities on the reserve, open space areas and path networks.

The pedestrian hub should be subjected to a detail design process and include feature tree planting, formally paved areas and a cohesive approach to finish and furnishings. It should also embrace accessibility as a key principle and make use of sustainable building techniques and green technologies as appropriate.

While there will be a pedestrian focus for the hub, vehicular access for maintenance / emergencies will need to be considered in the design.

Lighting

Lighting needs should be considered in the design phase of the works, to include floodlighting to sports fields as appropriate, pedestrian lighting to key activity areas, access paths and building entrances / exits.

Water Use

Wetlands have been proposed in this Master Plan, located on low points of the site in close proximity to the drain along Contour Road. Situated within the Revegetation Zone, the wetlands have the potential to increase the habitat and biodiversity values of the area. The wetlands may also provide an important source of water for use in irrigation and emergency situations:

- Direct run-off to wetlands for capture and treatment (WSUD)
- Make water available for irrigation purposes

Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) techniques should be included in the design for all buildings and supporting infrastructure, such as roadways and carparking areas. Considerations should include:

- Use of tanks for rainwater harvesting, with the water re-used for irrigation and plumbing purposes
- Grey water capture, treatment and recycling
- Detention and treatment of run-off from hard surfaces employing the use of swales and rain gardens.

Football

Historically, the existing football oval has been the central focus at the recreation reserve. Based upon the recommendations of previous strategy documents, an additional football oval is planned in this master plan. The existing field will be reduced to a Standard size (it is currently larger than required) to accommodate additional parking around the field and to make

better use of available space. The new football field will accommodate junior level playing needs as well as senior cricket. Provision has been made within the layout plan to enable the future expansion to a Standard size field as need arises.

Club facility needs, such as clubrooms, storage, administration offices, canteen/kiosk, change/shower/toilet facilities and the like will be accommodated in the Multi-Use Complex, the details of which shall be confirmed during the Design Phase of the project.

Soccer

Soccer is a growing sport in Trafalgar and is a high priority for development. Two senior-level pitches are planned in this Master Plan. At the time of writing, Council has sought funding to install two grass surfaced soccer pitches and irrigation system. The eventual surface finish of the pitches will be a matter for Council and the community to resolve.

Club facility needs, such as clubrooms, storage, administration offices, canteen/kiosk, change/shower/toilet facilities and the like will be accommodated in the Multi-Use Complex, the details of which shall be confirmed during the Design Phase of the project.

Feedback from the Trafalgar Victory Football Club noted concern about access to change / shower facilities, storage and administration space while the multi-use complex is constructed. While this is a management/operational issue beyond the scope of this master plan, it is important to note such issues so that strategies can be planned during the design phase of the fields.

Netball

While the existing netball courts at the Recreation Reserve are in good condition, the Master Plan makes provision for upgrades to its shelter and viewing facilities, it also recommends that the courts are monitored to ensure the ongoing quality of the playing surface is maintained.

Space for two additional netball courts are planned for inclusion in the Multi-Use Complex. Other Club facility needs, such as clubrooms, storage, administration offices, change/shower/toilet facilities and the like will be accommodated in the Multi-Use Complex, the details of which shall be confirmed during the Design Phase of the project.

Equestrian Reserve

An area of 6.1 hectares has been formally identified as the Equestrian Precinct, following the recommendations outlined in previous strategy documents.

Further, as outlined in the *Equestrian Facilities Plan*, the following facilities should be provided for in the proposed Equestrian Precinct:

- A Pavillion incorporating change facilities, canteen/kitchen, storage, toilets/showers and meeting room.
- A 60 x 80m Sand arena catering to 3 no. dressage arenas
- A General Purpose area accommodating camping, show jumping, camp draft, grassed arena and 3 Polocrosse fields.
- Equipment storage.
- 1.5m high perimeter fencing around the entire Equestrian Precinct to meet safety standards.

- Parking for cars and floats: the number of such parking spaces should be based on the number of members in user clubs. Consideration for casual / temporary parking space requirements to accommodate periodic events with higher levels of participants.
- Holding Yards.
- Ability to overflow into the Casual Use Zone for events.

The Master Plan identifies preferred locations for a multi-use /general purpose equestrian field and an envelope in which built / parking facilities may be located.

Equestrian clubs have expressed the desire for the precinct to be expanded to 12 hectares to enable large events to be hosted at the precinct. It is important to note that this provision would contradict the *Equestrian Facilities Plan*, which nominates the land area required for a municipal level facility to be estimated at 6.1 hectares. Therefore, the Master Plan has identified a 'Casual Use Zone' within the area set aside for future development. This land may be used for periodic events as required for any recreation or community based purpose. The purpose of the Casual Use Zone is further explored below.

Casual Use Zone

A flat graded area of land has been identified within the Future Expansion Zone for casual use. It is understood that from time to time there may be the need for land to be made available for use for occasional or one off events and this area can be targeted to cater for such events without compromising the open and accessible nature of the precinct.

Such an arrangement should enable the needs of the precinct to be assessed and evaluated over time to ensure that demonstrated community needs can be accommodated over the long term.

Adventure Play

In line with the Master Plan objective of providing diverse informal recreation opportunities, there is space for Adventure Play facilities to be accommodated in the Public Open Space area. The size and level of provision will be a matter for further design, however it should address the following:

- Provision for a variety of ages and abilities
- Located within easy access of the key activity areas and amenities
- Suitably sheltered
- Suitably buffered from road ways and sporting activities

Public Open Space

Two hectares of public open space has been nominated in this Master Plan, providing:

- Shared path linkages
- Picnic / bbq facilities
- Adventure Play (see above)
- Access to amenities, such as public toilet facilities
- Links into shared path networks

In addition, a further five hectares of public open space is dedicated to the Revegetation Zone / Wetland reserve, as defined below.

Revegetation Zone / Wetland Reserve

The Revegetation Zone / Wetland Reserve will provide a significant open space asset (approximately five hectares in area) for the precinct with high natural values and enabling a diverse range of passive recreation opportunities to encourage broader community use in the area.

There is the potential for Council to foster community partnerships to help initiate revegetation, weed control projects, or other community-interest projects, such as signage provision.

Actions

Key recommendations relating to Activity and Facility Provision are:

No.	Action	Priority
4.2.1	Undertake a Trafalgar Public Facilities Audit	HIGH
4.2.2	Construct 2 no. soccer fields to accommodate senior level playing, to include the provision of spectator and player shelters	HIGH
4.2.3	Reduce in size and realign Main football oval to a Standard playing size, to include upgrades to oval surfacing.	MEDIUM
4.2.4	Construct one junior size football oval to accommodate junior level football and senior level cricket	MEDIUM
4.2.5	Undertake design of the new Multi-Use Complex: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Either extend and refurbish the existing Pavilion, or construct a new building. To accommodate activities and user needs as indentified in the Facilities audit - Include ESD principles 	HIGH
4.2.6	Undertake works associated with the new Multi-Use Complex following the design phase: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Either extend and refurbish the existing Pavilion, or construct a new building. - Remove surplus buildings once the new facility is complete 	MEDIUM
4.2.7	Undertake design of the new Pedestrian Hub: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feature pavements, tree planting, furniture, lighting - BBQ / Picnic facilities - Furniture 	HIGH
4.2.8	Undertake works associated with the new Pedestrian Hub following the design phase: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feature pavements, tree planting, furniture, lighting - BBQ / Picnic facilities - Furniture 	MEDIUM
4.2.9	Undertake design and works associated with new Equestrian Precinct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farm style fencing to perimeter - Provision of new camping facilities, including kitchen / shared use area, toilets and showers - Provision of multi-use equestrian field to accommodate Polocrosse, Campdraft, Show Jumping, Dressage 	HIGH
4.2.10	Undertake works to ensure ongoing safe provision of Netball facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of player / spectator shelters, seating 	MEDIUM
4.2.11	Undertake design and construction of new Adventure Play Facility	MEDIUM

4.3 Access, Circulation and Parking

Objectives

The objectives relating to access, circulation and parking are:

- Provision of safe and efficient vehicular access into and around the Recreation Precinct
- Provision of safe and efficient pedestrian access into and around the Recreation Precinct
- Provision of parking sufficient to cater to demand, without overly compromising space available for recreation activity
- Provision of shared trail networks to encourage more passive recreation use, that link into key reserve features and (existing/future) external trail networks or key features.

Vehicular Access & Parking

A new main entrance is provided off Waterloo Road, located away from the dangerous intersection with Reserve Road.

There is an alternative entry/exit point nominated from Reserve Road, intended for use during peak times to relieve congestion. This is combined with an occasional use access road to direct traffic from Oval 2 to this exit point as required. It is recommended that at low-use times the Alternative Entry and Occasional use Access Road remain closed.

An Equestrian precinct entry point is provided from the unused road located at the western boundary of the site.

Parking is identified around both ovals, with limited parking available adjacent to Soccer Pitches, as well as close to the Multi-Use Complex and netball Courts. In addition, extensive parking is provided to the north of the main oval, which will provide substantial parking during peak times.

Pedestrian / Cycle Access

A separate pedestrian entry is provided west of the vehicular entrance off Waterloo Road, providing direct pedestrian access to the Recreation Precinct. There are further pedestrian access points provided through the Public Open Space area, and at the northern-western and north eastern boundaries of the site.

Revegetation Zone / Wetland Reserve

A shared trail system has been identified through the revegetation zone that extends along the northern boundary of the precinct. The path links into the key activity areas of the recreation precinct, including the open space area, the multi-use complex and Waterloo Road. There is the further potential for smaller trails to be introduced throughout this area, for example boardwalks around the wetland areas to encourage broader community use and to promote the natural values of the area.

Waterloo Road Frontage

A shared path extends across the southern boundary of the site along Waterloo Road. This path, which connects back into the precinct at various points, will also provide connections into broader networks as they are developed.

Actions

Actions relating to Access, Circulation and Parking are:

No.	Action	Priority
4.3.1	Construct new Recreation Precinct entry	HIGH
4.3.2	Construct new Recreation Precinct circulation roads	MEDIUM
4.3.3	Construct new Recreation Precinct parking areas	MEDIUM
4.3.4	Construct Equestrian Precinct gravel access road	HIGH
4.3.5	Construct pedestrian entry path	MEDIUM
4.3.6	Construct shared path networks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through the Open Space reserve - Through the Revegetation Zone / Wetland Reserve - Along the Waterloo Road Frontage 	LOW
4.3.7	Construct boardwalks and smaller trail systems around wetlands and through the Revegetation Zone in association with the programming of 4.3.6	LOW

4.4 Landscape Character and Features

Landscape Principles

The key principles guiding the planning of the landscape character and features of the Reserve include:

- Building upon and strengthening the existing landscape character to enhance the setting of the precinct as a whole
- Protecting existing significant vegetation and mature native trees.
- Utilizing plants that are predominantly native plant species with an emphasis on indigenous plant species, responding to the site.
- Defining the boundaries of the Precinct with a consistent and strong planting of indigenous tree species, creating a uniform and co-ordinated landscape character
- Developing planting themes to help define the various functions of the precinct as a whole
- Using vegetation in a form which responds to topography, microclimate, soil and moisture.
- Utilizing planting to improve the amenity and presentation of the Precinct in its key activity areas
- Establishing a management program to ensure the ongoing management, maintenance and protection of the existing and future plantings within the Reserve, to retain and enhance the amenity and landscape character of the Reserve.

Landscape Themes

A diverse range of activities and functions are identified across the reserve, to which the landscape should respond accordingly, outlined below:

Public Open Space

The Public Open Space area should combine feature tree planting and concentrations of shrub plantings to provide visual amenity and shelter / shade, as well as to spatially define the park setting of the space and direct views to key features.

Recreation Precinct: Key Activity Areas

A consistent approach to tree and shrub planting will help to unify the precinct. Tree Planting within the key activity areas of the reserve, such as around sporting fields and within the

Pedestrian Hub should aim to provide shelter and shade, as well as to spatially reinforce the layout of activities within the precinct.

Revegetation Zone / Wetland Reserve

The emphasis within this area will be to enhance the natural values of the precinct, providing additional indigenous plantings to build a high-value wildlife corridor along the northern edge of the precinct.

Planting initiatives will need to be undertaken in concert with detailed planning and management to ensure that significant vegetation is protected, weeds are controlled and that new plantings are undertaken based on best practice revegetation methods.

This zone could be further assessed to evaluate its suitability for providing offsets from other developments occurring within the area.

Waterloo Road Frontage

The Waterloo Road Frontage is the face of the precinct, landscape treatment within this area should therefore aim to present a unified space, with views directed into key aspects of the reserve.

Actions

Actions relating to Landscape Character and Features are:

No.	Action	Priority
4.4.1	Undertake a Landscape Planting plan for the Recreation Precinct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish key planting themes and a plant palette - Provide spatial definition in concert with the intended activity - Unify the precinct and enhance its presentation - Provide visual and physical amenity 	HIGH
4.4.2	Undertake a vegetation assessment of existing vegetation to identify significant species / communities, weed species and to identify a suitable revegetation / weed control regime.	HIGH
4.4.3	Undertake staged revegetation programs within the revegetation zone	MEDIUM
4.4.4	Design and construct wetlands, to include required infrastructure to enable water capture and re-use for irrigation throughout the precinct	HIGH
4.4.5	Undertake Lighting Design for the Recreation Precinct	HIGH
4.4.6	Undertake works associated with the Lighting Plan	MEDIUM
4.4.7	Undertake design and installation of signage	LOW
4.4.8	Undertake selection and installation of furniture	LOW

5. IMPLEMENTATION

The Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Master Plan details a number of achievable and realisable projects that could easily be initiated by Council and other project partners. These physical actions would act as a catalyst and provide evidence of commitment to achieving the Trafalgar Recreation Precinct Master plan.

The Implementation Program ranks actions according to short, medium and long-term/ongoing priority.

APPENDIX 1: SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY SUBMISSIONS TO THE DRAFT MASTER PLAN

APPENDIX 2: BUILDING AUDIT REPORT

Suters, Prior + Cheney Architects