Appendix A

BACKGROUND INFORMATION + PROJECT APPROACH
## CONTENTS

1.0 OVERVIEW .................................................. 4

2.0 BARRIERS .................................................. 5

3.0 400M ‘PED-SHED’ – WHY 400M? .................. 6

4.0 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE CLASSIFICATION ........... 7

4.1 MICRO PARKS ............................................. 8

4.2 LOCAL PARKS ............................................. 9

4.3 NEIGHBOURHOOD PARKS ............................ 10

4.4 DISTRICT PARKS ......................................... 11

4.5 GAP ANALYSIS ........................................... 12

5.0 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE FUNCTION .................... 13

6.0 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE SETTING ........................ 14

7.0 KEY DEMOGRAPHIC DATA ............................ 15

8.0 PLANNED FUTURE GROWTH ........................ 16

8.1 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE & POPULATION ............... 17

9.0 KEY STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY CONSULTATION 18

9.1 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT LIST ................ 19

9.2 SURVEYS .................................................. 20

9.3 COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP WORKSHOPS .... 21

10.0 LITERATURE REVIEW ................................. 22
1.0 OVERVIEW

Public Open Space (POS) within the Town of Victoria Park (ToVP) have varying ownership and zoning however, as per this document’s definition of POS, areas that do function as POS for the community have been included for consideration in the Public Open Space Strategy. See Figure 1.

Within the POS reviewed, the following categories are recognised:

- **Town POS**: Areas that are owned and managed by ToVP.
- **Future Town POS**: Spaces that are planned for, but not yet constructed. These include Lathlain Park and Belmont Park.
- **POS (not Town Managed)**: These areas may provide a POS function to the community, however as they are not managed by the Town their use as POS may not be guaranteed into the future.
- **Special Consideration**: Two POS provide recreational or environmental value to the Town and community however have special considerations, these being Miller’s Crossing (1) – not owned by the Town, nor is it zoned as POS and Kent Street Verge (2) - not Town owned but is Town managed.

There are instances within the Public Open Space Strategy (POSS) where the POS are considered holistically, as existing or Town owned POS.

Note: the Town is broken down into Place Areas as shown on Figure 4 for the purpose of the data review. In the Actions section of the Strategy, the Town is categorised into Place Areas.
2.0 Barriers

POS is intended to be predominantly walkable, to and from key destinations, transit nodes and residential locations, and utilised regularly by the community. Whilst the ToVP is well-connected with a trainline and main feeder roads to the CBD, this infrastructure also creates major barriers to pedestrian movement. These barriers can impact community access to open space, especially limiting accessibility for certain communities.

Major Pedestrian Barriers in the ToVP are:
- Shepperton Road;
- Canning Highway;
- Albany Highway;
- Great Eastern Highway;
- Orrong Road; and
- The Trainline
Ensuring POS is within a walkable catchment to the community is important as it increased physical activity and associated health benefits, activates streets, minimise infrastructure required for vehicles and has environmental benefits. Walkable catchments are referred to as ‘ped-sheds’ and are used to map accessibility of spaces throughout a region.

A 400m, or a 5-10 minute, ped-shed is generally accepted as a standard catchment for regularly accessed facilities. Ped-sheds beyond 400m are generally only accepted for destinations that are a significant attractor. Furthermore walking beyond 5-10 minutes can limit access for community members with physical disability, those pushing prams or wheelchairs and for activities that require carrying equipment.

For the purpose of this strategy ped-sheds have been shown ‘as the crow-flies’ however there are obviously other considerations such as short-cuts through parks, physical barriers or feelings of safety which can impact of walking times.

As shown, the Town has a well balanced spread of POS, however there are gaps that have arisen from this analysis. These are within Lathlain, Carlisle, Bentley and a small gap within East Victoria Park. Carlisle experiences the greatest lack of POS within 400m or a 5 minute walk.
4.0 POS CLASSIFICATION HIERARCHY

The size of POS is indicative of the uses it can offer the community. Smaller POS offer day to day passive recreational opportunities, whereas larger spaces provide organised active recreation and events. Due to these differing uses and demands, it is necessary to assess the distribution of these spaces to ensure the population have equitable access to each type of open space.
4.1 **MICRO PARKS**

Key User Group: Resident / Worker/ Visitor

**Size:** <0.4Ha

**Broad Purpose:**

A public ‘backyard’/respite point, designed to function as a small green pocket that allows for green relief; residential size passive spaces (i.e. grass for kids to play, path for children to ride, dog walking) and respite points (i.e. a spot to eat lunch, check your phone). It may be provided through small upgrades to cul-de-sac ends, verges, re-purposed drainage basins, in new development or retrofitting space into existing streetscapes (especially Town Centers).

**Length of Stay:** 30min – 1hr

Bentley lacks any Micro Parks and Carlisle is limited to a single Micro Park, whereas the greatest concentration is central to the ToVP boundaries and within the Burswood precinct.
4.2 LOCAL PARKS

Key User Group: Resident

Size: 0.4Ha – 1Ha

Broad Purpose:

A Local Park is a small space that provides day to day recreation opportunities for the immediate residential population. The space may incorporate areas of natural vegetation to provide both ecological function and the enjoyment of the community.

Length of Stay: 1 – 2hrs

Local Parks in the Town:

There is a well balanced spread of Local POS within ToVP and a high number in comparison to other POS types. Carlisle, East Victoria Park and Sections of Lathlain and Burswood experience significant gaps in Local POS whereas Bentley is without.
4.3 Neighbourhood Parks

Key User Group: Resident, Sporting

Size: 1Ha – 5Ha

Broad Purpose:

Neighbourhood POS provide a passive and active recreational and social space to Town precincts. These POS will have a variety of features and facilities and will reflect the unique characteristics of the precinct. Neighbourhood POS will also serve a function in the area’s broader ecological system.

Length of Stay: 1 – 3hrs

Neighbourhood Parks in the Town:

There is a concentration to the south-east portion of Town. Victoria Park is without any Neighbourhood POS and the most significant gaps are in Burswood, Victoria Park, between Carlisle & East Victoria park and the southern half of Bentley.
4.4 **DISTRICT PARKS**

Key User Group: Resident / Sporting / Visitor (Surrounding Suburbs)

Size: 5Ha – 15Ha

Broad Purpose:
District POS provide space for organised formal sports, large scale Town events and/or significant ecological processes. These spaces serve the ToVP as a whole, reflecting a broader Town character and will be utilised by both residents and visitors.

Length of Stay: 1 – 3hrs

District Parks in the Town:
The highest concentration of District POS is located along the river’s edge within Victoria Park and Burswood. Lathlain, Carlisle and St. James do not have District Parks however the District Parks within the surrounding precincts serve the above mentioned well except for Carlisle which experiences the only true gap of District Parks within the Town.
4.5 GAP ANALYSIS

Overlaying each POS with the appropriate ‘ped-shed’, each with a 400m/5 minute walkable catchment except the Micro Park which have a 200m/3 minute walkable catchment applied, highlights where there are gaps.

The significant gaps within the Town are located at the Lathlain-Victoria Park edge, the south-west corner of Victoria Park, throughout East Victoria Park, within the north corner & central-west portion of Carlisle and a small portion of St. James. These gaps show where there are no POS within a recommended walkable distance.

There are large gaps located within Bentley, however as a predominantly student housing area with a high proportion of private landscape spaces. Similarly, area to the south of Carlisle are Industrial. These factors require a different approach to equitable POS provision compared to residential zones.

The barriers as previously highlighted (the trainline, major roads, level changes) are important to consider when analysing the walkable distances to POS. An allocated ‘ped-shed’ assumes easy walkability whereas these barriers prevent this, most significantly along the trainline where there aren’t clear, accessible crossings.
5.0 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE FUNCTION

The function of POS reflects the way in which the park ‘primarily’ is designed to be utilised. This is particularly important as it will assist in recreational, health and event planning.

Mapping of the Town indicates:

- whilst a majority of the POS are solely passive spaces, POS with an active function covers a much greater physical area;
- a lack of environmental function; and
- formalised event spaces are concentrated to the river.

### PASSIVE

No organised sporting facilities, however may include open turf areas, play spaces and infrastructure to support social gathering.

**G.O. Edwards Park**

### ACTIVE

Has infrastructure to accommodate competitive sport and recreational pursuits such as skateparks.

**Organised Sport**

Kensington Bushland

### ENVIRONMENTAL

Areas worth protection and enhancement due to environmental values. Predominantly vegetated green space with limited open space.

**Fireworks**

### EVENTS

Gathering spaces with opportunity to hold events.

**POS Function**

Note: The Kent Street Sandpit site which forms part of the Jirdarup Bushland Precinct, is mapped as having a passive function. This POS is the subject of Council resolutions committing to a future environmental function.
The setting of POS references the look of the space. This is important to consider as it will provide direction on opportunity to connect ecologically important spaces, along with maintenance approaches.

Mapping of the Town indicates:

- lack of Wetland despite riverside location;
- majority of POS are traditional; and
- Jirdarup Bushland Precinct & Hill View Bushland are important spaces.

### TRADITIONAL
Areas of open turf, trees and garden beds with activity nodes or respite points connected via pathways.

### BUSHLAND
Bushland with a significant conservation value. Remnant vegetation, rehabilitation and resources for flora and fauna.

### WETLAND
Wetland places of conversation value such as waterways, foreshore or remnant wetland vegetation.

---

**Note:** The Kent Street Sandpit site which forms part of the Jirdarup Bushland Precinct, is mapped as having a traditional function. This POS is the subject of Council resolutions committing to a future bushland function.
7.0 **KEY DEMOGRAPHIC DATA**

The Town has a diverse community that are engaged and knowledgeable on all aspects of POS delivery and management. Diversity in a community will mean differences in expectations and uses of POS across the Town. These considerations include perceptions on safety and associated impacts on women using POS, cultural expectations, requirements for elderly with mobility issues, young families need for playgrounds and bike paths or those with English as a second language requiring visual cues as opposed to text on wayfinding and signage. Taking into consideration the needs of the broader population not only provides for more equitable and accessible POS, but it can also assist to alleviate supply issues in areas of higher density if the entire population can utilise a singular space.

Whilst these considerations may be made as broad assumptions on a population there will always be localised community needs that cannot be ascertained through demographic data, which is where community engagement and ongoing involvement is key in delivering community responsive POS. The following data is collected from id.Forecast.

**Age**
- 20 – 39 years old is the dominating age group.
- Predominately a young worker/parent/home builder population.
- These communities are:
  - Likely to be more engaged in active sports than older populations.
  - Likely to have less time to utilise POS due to working hours.
- Forecast increase in people aged 40–44, making up 7.0% of total persons.

**Birthplace**
- 40.0% of people were born overseas (2016).
- Significantly lower proportions of United Kingdom and New Zealand residents, compared to greater Perth region.
- Higher percentage of residents from countries including India, China, Malaysia, Ireland, South Korea, Italy and Indonesia, compared to greater Perth region.
- Culturally diverse population.
- 26.9% of people speak a language other than English at home.

**Household Structure**
- Predominantly single person households, 34.3%, followed closely by couples without dependents 32.3%.
- This population has a high risk of social isolation which has detrimental health outcomes.
- Families make up approximately 32% of the population meaning that demand for services and infrastructure for children will be high.

**Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage**
- Greater Perth has an index of 61.
- Burswood Peninsula has a 98 index indicating a very low level of disadvantage.
- Carlisle and St. James have index ratings of 45 and 42 respectively.

**Assistance**
- 4.7% of the ToVP population require assistance with their core activities due to disability, 0.8% higher than greater Perth.
- This may indicate a demand for accessible infrastructure in POS.
8.0 PLANNED FUTURE GROWTH

The consideration of future population is important in forward planning POS in the Town. The Town is projected to experience a population increase as highlighted in the Central Sub-Regional Framework/D2031 targets set by the State Government. This increase varies greatly as highlighted on the map. The key findings from analysing the current and future population of the ToVP include:

- Burswood is projected to experience very high population growth.
- Bentley, East Victoria Park and Lathlain are predicted to see combined average population growth of 14.2% in 2036.
- Victoria Park and Carlisle are forecast to have a rise in population between 5 and 8%.
- St. James is forecast to experience a very minor population increase.

Long term, the State Government has set a target for the Town to add 18,187 new dwellings by 2050, potentially seeing the population increase to around 77,000 people.
8.1 **PUBLIC OPEN SPACE + POPULATION**

The 10% allocation for POS was originally derived from an assumption of 3.36 hectares per 1,000 population or 33.6m²/person. Utilising this metric, as opposed to a spatial numerator, can assist in gauging supply for increasing density. This metric is used as a guide only.

Based on this metric the ToVP has the following allocation of POS:
- 2018 (Population 36,601) = 3.41Ha/1000person
- 2036 (Population 54,713) = 2.28Ha/1000person
- 2050 (Population 77,000) = 1.62Ha/1000person

This indicates a future undersupply at a Town level. 2018 and 2036 data is available at a Place Area level and is shown in Figure 13 and 14.

**Key Findings:**
- Burswood has a high POS quantity per resident.
- Bentley and East Victoria Park have a supply of POS above the recommended quantity per resident.
- Lathlain and Victoria Park are currently slightly undersupplied with POS per resident.
- Carlisle and St. James are currently undersupplied and are forecast to have an undersupply of POS per resident in 2036.

![Figure 13. 2018 POS Quantity per resident](image1.png)

![Figure 14. 2036 Forecast POS Quantity per resident](image2.png)
9.0 **KEY STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

The project team engaged with a number of people from many different backgrounds on a variety of platforms. The focus of the engagement stage of the POS Strategy was to gauge a clear understanding of how the Town’s Key Stakeholders and community see the Town and what is has to offer.

**Stakeholder Engagement**

An initial Invitation Letter was sent out to Key Stakeholders who are listed overleaf. This letter provided an introduction to the POS Strategy, the intended purpose of the document and invited the Key Stakeholder to share their experiences and knowledge of the ToVP. A point of contact was supplied for feedback to be communicated with the project team.

**Public Engagement Surveys**

The Town facilitated two surveys with the wider public. The first being a survey at the Perth Garden Festival (PGF) where the Town set up an information booth. The booth at PGF introduced the POS Strategy and to gathered qualitative feedback with an open ended question and asking participants to rate a number of POS-related statements.

Another survey was distributed using the Town’s *Your Thoughts* platform. This provided further opportunity for Town residents and visitors to provide feedback on the Town’s POS which was supported by a short video. Refer to Appendix D for a summary of community feedback to the surveys.

**Community Reference Group**

Finally, the Town formed a Community Reference Group (CRG) made of a number of key community members from various groups. The Reference Group was invited to attend two community consultation workshops. Workshop One was based on the opportunities and directions and Workshop Two focused on reaching an ‘agreed direction’ which outlined the Vision and Key Objectives of the POS Strategy. Refer to Appendix E for details of the CRG process.
9.1 Stakeholder Engagement List

The Town has undergone thorough engagement directly with key stakeholders, the ToVP community and the wider public.

The list of the Key Stakeholders contacted are as follows, those highlighted provided response:

- Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
- Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
- Department of Health
- Office of State Government Architect
- Department of Communities
- Department of Education and Training
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
- Department of Jobs, Tourism, Services and Innovation
- Australian Institute of Landscape

Architects – WA Chapter
- Disability Services Commission
- Water Corporation
- National Trust
- Heritage Council
- Curtin University Representative
- WALGA
- Parks and Leisure Australia (PLA)
- Planning Institute of Australia (PIA)
- Perth Stadium
- Council of the Ageing WA
- Heart Foundation
- Burswood Board

Surrounding LGAs:
- City of Perth
- City of South Perth
- City of Canning
- City of Belmont

Schools:
- Victoria Park Christian School
- Regent College
- Kent Street Senior School
- Lathlain Primary School
- East Vic Park Primary School
- Perth Individual College
- Victoria Park Primary School
- Ursula Frayne Catholic College
- Millen Primary School
- Carson Street School
- St Clare’s School
- Carlisle Primary School
- East Victoria Park Ed Support
- Kensington Secondary School

The key outcomes from discussion with Key Stakeholders are incorporated into the Strategy and referenced accordingly.
9.2 SURVEYS

UDLA and the ToVP developed a survey which was distributed at the Perth Garden Festival and through the Towns 'Your Thoughts' website. Feedback was sought from residents with 70 responses gathered at PGF and 47 responded through Your Thoughts. Whilst these responses were too low to be statistically significant there were some clear outcomes of the surveys that can guide the public opinion of the Town’s POS.

See Appendix D: Survey Information and Responses.
9.3 Community Reference Group Workshops

The strategy incorporated two Workshops with approximately 24 people in attendance at each Workshop.

The outcomes of workshop one guided the development of the Vision and Objectives. Workshop Two reviewed the key project approaches and gauged general agreement on suggested approaches. Community feedback has been incorporated into the broad moves. See Appendix E: Workshop Details.

Figure 15. Workshop Approach
Planning and management of POS is guided by a significant number of state and local government guidelines and policy. The following documents were reviewed to inform the POS Strategy and have been crossed referenced into final recommendations:

**State Government Planning Documents:**
- Liveable Neighbourhoods (2009)
- DSR Public Parkland Planning and Design Guide (2014)
- DSR Classification Framework for Public Open Space (2012)
- WALGA Local Government Declaration on Climate Change

**Town of Victoria Park Documents:**
- Land Asset Optimisation Strategy (2013)
- Town of Victoria Park Synthetic Turf Hockey Facility Site Assessment (2017)
- Town of Victoria Park Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)
- Parks Facility Matrix
- Reserve Booking Lists (2018–19)
- Public Open Space Assessment (2015)
- Joint Bike Plan, City of South Perth and Town of Victoria Park (2018)
- Urban Forest Strategy (2018)
- Lathlain Park Precinct (2016)
- GO Edwards Park (2012)
- Lathlain Precinct Redevelopment Project (2017)
- Bentley-Curtin Specialised Activity Centre (2018)
- Belmont Park Racecourse Redevelopment Structure Plan (2013)
- Burswood Peninsula District Structure Plan (2015)
- Curtin Masterplan – The Vision (2013)
- Dieback and Management Procedures and Protocols
- Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (2017–2022)
- Kensington Bushland Management Plan (2018)
- Foreshore Access and Management Plan (2015)
- George Street Reserve, Kensington (2012)
- Safer Neighbourhoods Plan 2013-2016 (2012)
- Town of Victoria Park Strategic Community Plan 2017–2032 (2017)
- Integrated Movement Network Strategy (2013)
- Water Efficiency Action Plan (2016)
- Town of Victoria Park Town Planning Scheme No. 1
- Bush Forever Site 048 ‘Kensington Bushland’