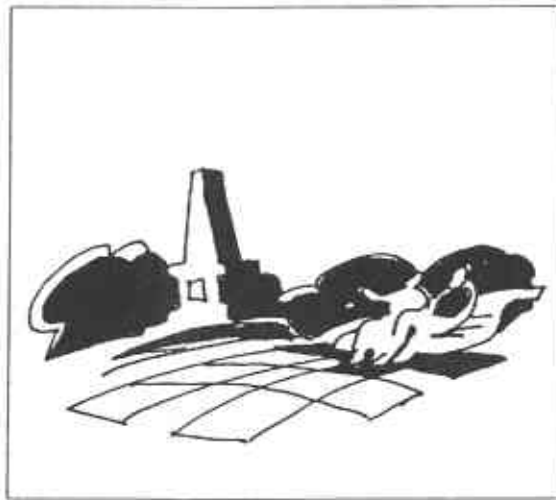


**CIVIC PARKS
GENERIC PLAN OF
MANAGEMENT**



RANDWICK **R** CITY COUNCIL

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Readers,

In June 1994, Randwick City Council began a major program developing open space Plans of Management for all parks, beaches and reserves under its management.

Open space comprises the second largest land use in the City of Randwick and is a public area for which Council has an important responsibility. Our parks and other recreation areas include some of the most valuable assets we have to offer, including large areas of natural vegetation and coastal reserves, a number of sports orientated parks and ovals, informal roadside reserves, pocket and neighbourhood parks. Within these areas you may find rare native vegetation species and even some wildlife.

Civic parks are areas of open space in which a sense of 'civic pride' is portayed. They are places of communal gathering and important commemorative events while also being used as places for relaxation from the busy commercial areas. Many civic parks have important heritage features which have been identified in the recent 'Sculpture, Monuments and Outdoor Cultural Material' (SMOCM) study which should be read in conjunction with this plan.

Public participation featured strongly in the development of this and other generic plans within the COSRPOM due to the public ownership of these areas. This communication and input has enabled meaningful strategies and actions to be developed with the collaborative support of the community and Council. It is hoped that such collaboration will continue in the future.

Thanks go to all those who were involved in the development of this plan. I commend it to you.



Councillor Chris Bastic
MAYOR

CIVIC PARKS GENERIC PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

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GLOSSARY

CR Act	Crown Lands Act, 1989
DLWC	Department of Land and Water Conservation
DUAP	Department of Urban Affairs and Planning
EPA	Environment Protection Agency
EP&A Act	Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979
LG Act	Local Government Act (NSW), 1993



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This plan of management is one in a set of eight *generic* plans of management which, along with a City-wide *Strategic* Plan for open space and recreation, comprise the City Open Space and Recreation Plan of Management (COSRPOM). The civic parks plan addresses issues raised by community representatives, local experts, government authorities and Council's internal steering committee for the COSRPOM.

The plan covers all parks that provide civic open space facilities within the City of Randwick. This includes both Council owned 'community land' under the Local Government Act (1993) (LG Act) and Crown Land. The principal goal of the plan is stated below:

'The provision of safe, diverse and quality recreational opportunities for the residents of and visitors to Randwick City's civic parks'

The primary purpose of civic parks is for relaxation - a temporary escape from the urban environment although located immediately adjacent to it. They vary in size and function; from Alison park which offers a range of formal and informal recreation activities, to small passive parks such as Maroubra Junction civic park on Anzac Parade. They are often the only source of open space within commercial shopping centres and at major road junctions.

Attention to detail and aesthetics is promoted and is seen to be of greater relevance than for any other open space type regardless of visitation and use. Vegetation and landscape design details are essential considerations in creating and maintaining this important setting and avoiding inappropriate activities from occurring. Maintenance programs are more appropriate for individual civic parks than are site specific plans of management. Alison Park however will require a more comprehensive review through the 'concept plan' process.

Permits that are subject to booking and specific conditions are the appropriate form of agreement in certain circumstances such as small scale social activities. Civic parks are also important commemorative locations and places for public social gatherings.

The major recommendations of this plan are as follows:

- * Formal and informal, passive settings are to be created by the use of high quality landscape design features and planted vegetation
- * Recreation activities within civic parks are to be in harmony with the created setting - structured sports activities are generally not catered for
- * Commemorative and social events offering a community focus are encouraged
- * Maintenance within civic parks is to be of a standard that reflects their high profile status and importance within the public arena
- * Access to and within civic parks is to be carefully assessed and have regard for the elderly and others with mobility difficulties

A twenty year time frame is recommended for this plan with annual reviews for recommendations that have cost implications and five year reviews of the entire plan.



COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

The community of the City of Randwick and others who have an interest in Council's future plans for its open space and recreation opportunities throughout the City, are invited to comment upon this draft generic plan of management. This plan will affect the management of civic parks over the next two decades and it is important that members of the community are aware of, and have the opportunity to express their opinion on the strategies recommended.

Any comments that you would like to make in relation to this plan should be put in writing, referring where appropriate, to the specific section concerned, and addressed to:

**The General Manager
Randwick City Council
Administrative Centre
30 Frances Street
RANDWICK NSW 2031**

*marking it to the attention of: Ms Adrienne Jeuda
Strategic Planner - Works Division*



1. INTRODUCTION

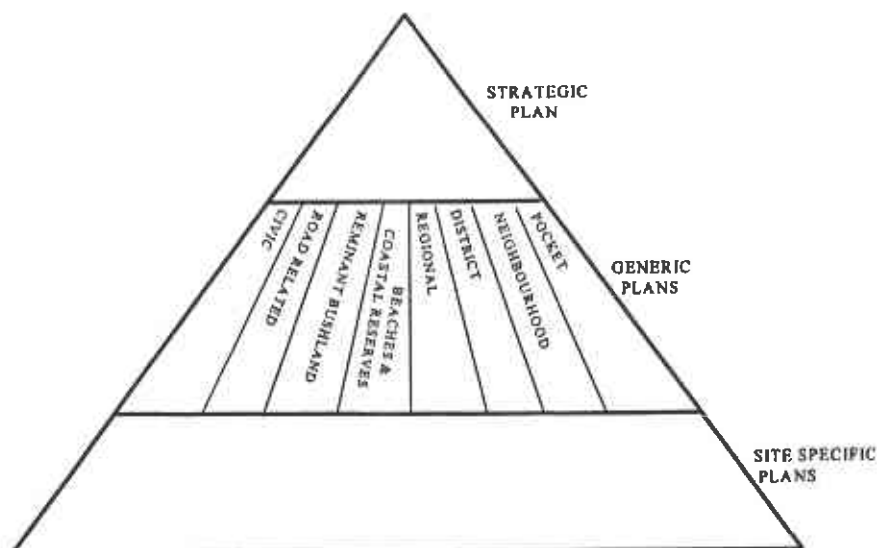
1.1 Aim and Background

Aim of the Civic Parks Generic Plan of Management

'To provide a practical framework and timetable for achieving short, medium and long term management objectives in accordance with the guiding principles for the civic parks within the City of Randwick.'

This generic plan of management for civic parks is one in a series of eight, twenty year generic plans that comprise the Randwick City Open Space and Recreation Plan of Management (COSRPOM). It has been prepared in compliance with the LG Act (1993) and is categorised a 'General Use' under the LG Act and sub-categorised into the 'Civic Park Generic Plan of Management for the COSRPOM. 'Generic' plans are those that incorporate the management of a number of areas comprising the same values and characteristics, in this case civic parks. A Strategic Plan for all open space and recreation opportunities within the City of Randwick links with, and provides direction to the Generic Plans which then feed directly into site specific plans of management, concept plans or maintenance programs. Together, these provide a comprehensive management approach for open space and recreation in the City of Randwick for the next two decades. Figure 1 demonstrates how the generic plans of management relate to the overall structure of the COSRPOM.

Figure 1: *The COSRPOM Plans of Management*



Civic parks offer a degree of solitude from the adjoining urban environment. As such the type of recreation promoted within this park type is generally of a low key, informal nature and may include the provision for people to enjoy sitting on benches, reading, watching the surrounding activity or participating in a commemorative event.

Civic parks also provide a focus of public activity within commercial areas and are therefore utilised as places for social occasions and gathering. Public events such as Anzac Memorial Day and Australia Day commemorations are ideal uses for civic parks in addition to those described above. Their importance as places of community gathering necessitates high quality design and maintenance treatment by Council. This will present civic parks as public areas that reflect a sense of pride within the City of Randwick.

Facilities within civic parks must cater for these informal recreational activities and include seating, landscape works, paving, monuments in some civic parks and artworks such as statues in others. The role of art works and monuments is integral in portraying the localised history of the area and the status of the City of Randwick within its broader state and national setting.

Civic parks within Randwick City are generally located within the commercial centres of the City of Randwick including the suburbs of Randwick, Maroubra Junction, South Maroubra and Malabar Junction. At this stage, the Randwick civic parks and the Maroubra Junction civic open space on Anzac Parade are the only places that are accurately described as civic open space within the Recreation Inventory. A review of the parks within this category requires undertaking whereby the South Maroubra Village Green and the median strip at Malabar where the monument is located within Anzac Parade, would be incorporated into this category for the purposes of the Recreation Inventory. Figure 2 shows where all civic parks that are managed by Council including those under Crown ownership are located.

1.2 Requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act)

The Act sets out Council's duty in respect to preparing plans of management for 'community land'. By July 1993 Council had undertaken an extensive assessment of its public land (land vested in or owned by Council) and classified such land as either 'community' or 'operational'.

The following definition of 'community land' has been summarised from clause 6 (2) of schedule 7 of the Act:

Community Land is land that is owned by Council, and all land, other than Crown and commons, which has been placed, or falls under its care and control (vested in) and may comprise: a public reserve; land subject to a trust for a public reserve; land dedicated as a condition of development consent under Section 94 of the EP & A Act 1979; land reserved, zoned or dedicated for use as open space under a planning instrument; or land that is owned by the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning.

All land that Council resolved to be 'community' must, by July 1st 1996, be used and managed in accordance with plans of management (PoM's). It is intended that these PoM's will aid the effective co-ordination and management of community land within the Council area. Where Council holds a number of community land areas that have similar values and characteristics, 'generic' PoM's may be adopted to provide one comprehensive plan of management. Generic plans must contain a schedule (list) of those



areas included.

The Act requires the following information to be contained within each plan of management:

1. the category or categories of land;
2. objectives and performance targets of the plan with respect to the land;
3. the means by which Council proposes to achieve the plan's objectives;
4. the manner in which Council proposed to assess its performance with respect to the plan's objectives and performance targets;
5. for land categorised as natural area, further categorisation;
6. express authorisation for leasing or licensing (specifying whether or not limited to public purposes), and any other provisions; and
7. provisions applying to the grant of a lease or license or other estate in land.

Community land cannot be sold or otherwise disposed of by councils and there are restrictions on community land use and on the granting of leases and licenses. Where appropriate, Environmental Planning Instruments under the EP&A Act (1979) may impose additional restrictions. There are also additional matters that are required to be addressed where the land is not owned by Council.

1.3 Civic Parks within the City of Randwick

The following lists all open space land within the civic park category and sub-categorises it into the various ownership groups: (see Figure 2 for location points)

Table 1: Regional Parks under Randwick City Council's Management

Parcel of Land	*Recreation Inventory No.	Ownership	Management Body	Reference No. on Fig.2
Captain Cook's Statue	A/7-079-01	Council	Council	1
High Cross Park	A/5-079-02	Council	Council	2
South Maroubra Village Green	A/4-510-01 (incl. Meagher Ave (A/4-510-01) and Malabar Rd (A/4-495-01) reserves)	Council	Council	3
Alison Park	B/7-715-01	Crown	Council	4
Anzac Parade # 9	B/4-031-09	Crown	Council	5
Anzac Parade # 11	B/4-031-11	Crown	Council	6



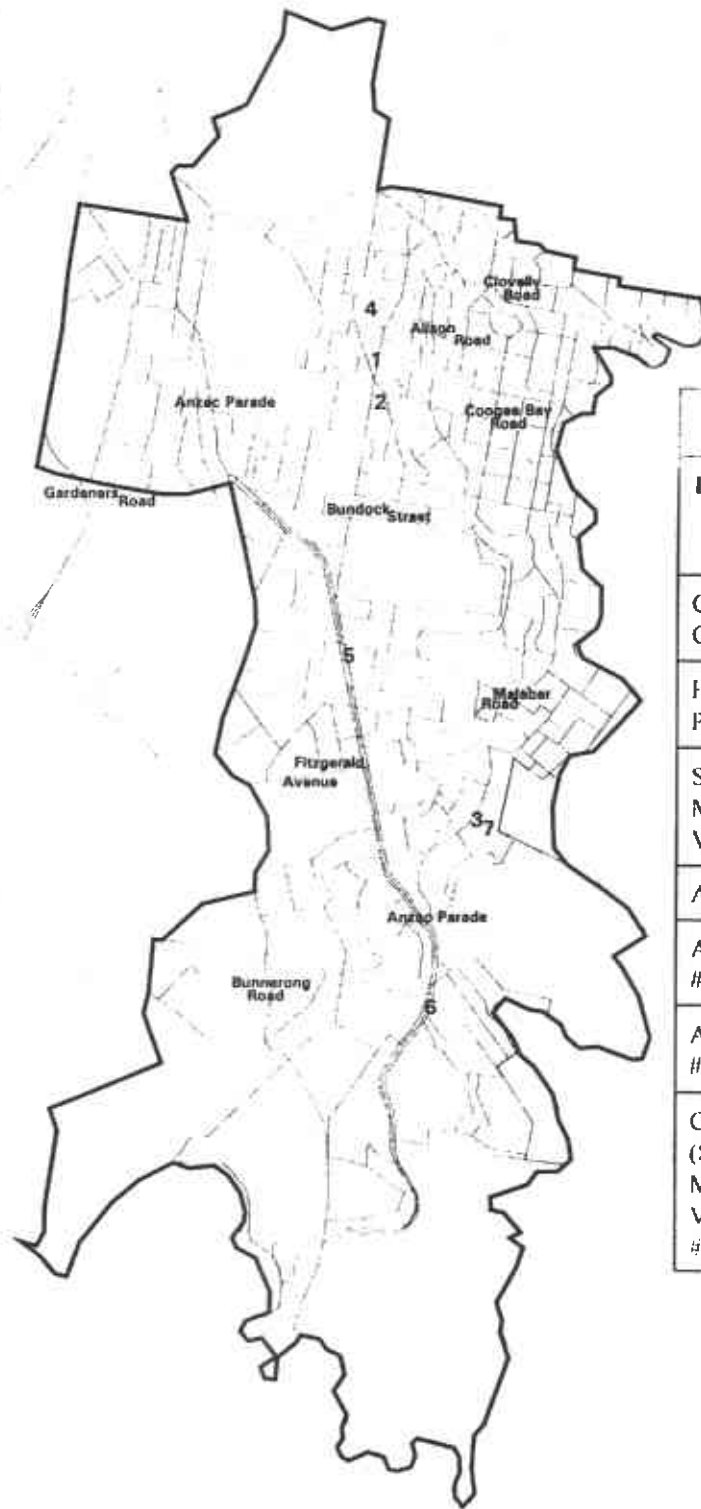
Parcel of Land	*Recreation Inventory No.	Ownership	Management Body	Reference No. on Fig.2
Curtin Cr (South Maroubra Village Green #2)	B/4-211-01	Crown	Council	7

* the recreation inventory is a data base of parks and reserves information and lists all parks and reserves within the City of Randwick using reference numbers such as those shown

Yarra Bay landing site and Goldstein Memorial Reserve are located within the Beach and Coastal reserves generic areas of Yarra Bay and Coogee Beach reeach beach will address the civic function of these reserves and until these site specific plans have been finalised, this plan will cover the management of Yarra Bay landing site and Goldstein Reserve. The Memorial Reserve park at Matraville also has a significant civic heritage component. Its location within the neighbourhood parks generic plan of mangement does not preclude the recommendations within this plan of mangement on its heritage and civic function components. This plan is referred to within the neighbourhood parks plan and both should be cross referenced with it in regard to this site.



Figure 2: Distribution of Civic Parks within the City of Randwick (including Community and Crown land)



LEGEND	
PARK NAME	PARK LOCATION NUMBER
Captain Cook's Statue	1
High Cross Park	2
South Maroubra Village Green	3
Alison Park	4
Anzac Parade # 9	5
Anzac Parade # 11	6
Curtin Cr (South Maroubra Village Green #2)	7



1.4 Using this Plan of Management

As described in Section 1.1, this generic plan is one of a series of eight. All generic plans follow the same format which is derived from the strategic plan. This plan comprises the following sections:

1. *Introduction:*

This component explains the background to the development of the plan of management, the history and function of civic parks in the City of Randwick, how the plan works, community participation and the distribution of this open space type throughout the City.

2. *Management Philosophy:*

This component provides the foundation of management within the plan and its recommendations, including the vision and mission statements, the guiding principles for the management of civic parks in the City of Randwick, the aim of the plan and its relationship with other relevant Council documents.

2. *Management Philosophy and Context:*

This component provides the foundation of management within the plan and its recommendations, including the vision and mission statements, the guiding principles for the management of civic parks in the City of Randwick, the aim of the plan and its relationship with other relevant Council documents.

3. *Issues, Priorities and Implementation:*

The objectives are derived from major issues identified via the management philosophy section and a range of internal and external information sources. The means of implementing the objectives include: statements on priority; proposed year of completion; the department or division within Council that is responsible for implementation; and the performance measures. These are presented in a tabular format. This section also addresses *how* the objectives and performance targets will be achieved and assessed. This is the main way by which the implementation of the plan may be monitored.

4. *Indicative Time Frame for Implementation:*

This determines when the required development works should take place and therefore when funds are required. It is based on the information contained in Section 3 'Management Objectives and Priorities' and will help to link this plan with Council's Management Plan and Section 94 Contributions Plan.

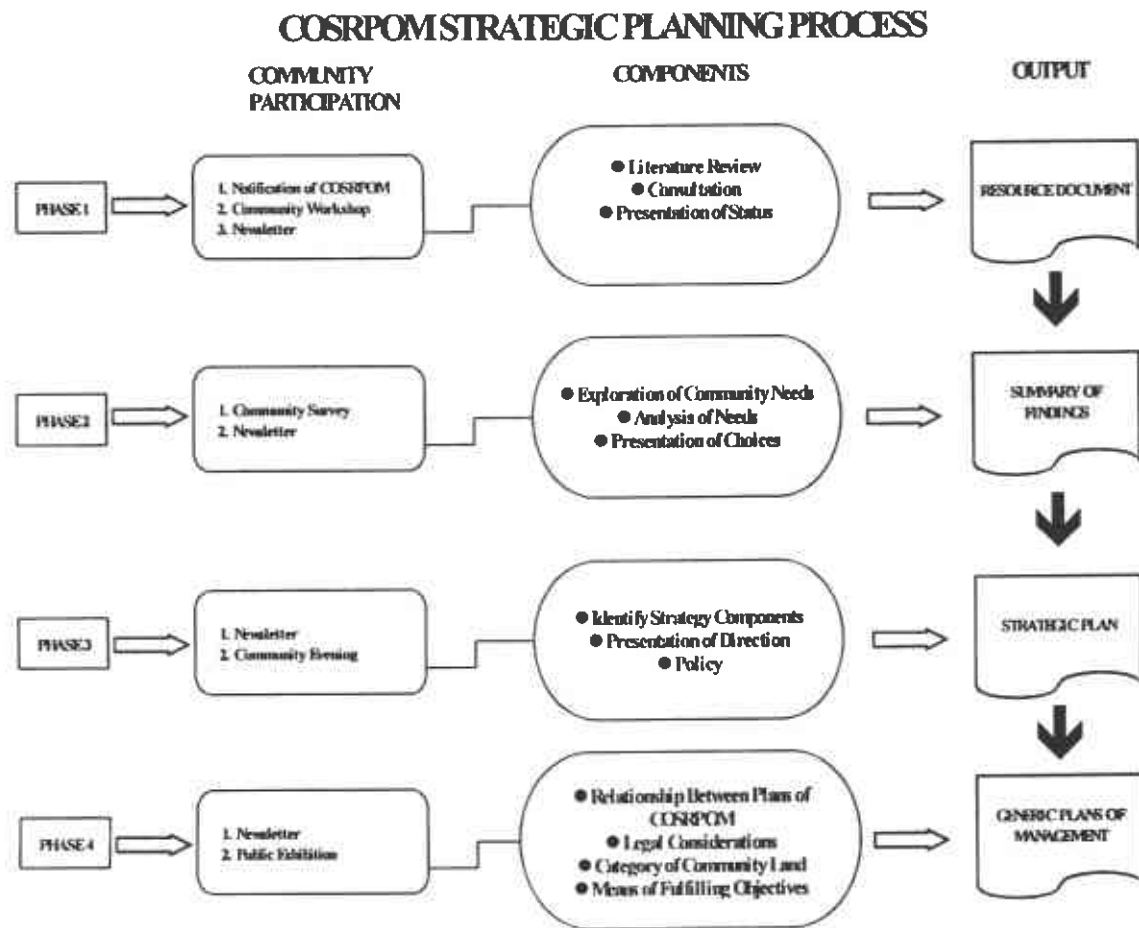


1.5 Community Participation

Community Participation Process

A comprehensive consultative process was undertaken throughout the preparation of the City Open Space and Recreation Plan of Management (COSRPOM). Figure 3 outlines the components of the community participation and consultation process and how it relates to the production of the plans that comprise the COSRPOM.

Figure 3: Community Participation and the COSRPOM Planning Process



Community Participation Components

The COSRPOM *Guiding Principles* which are set out in Section 2 have been derived primarily from the community consultative and participative process. In addition to a survey questionnaire which was completed by over seven hundred residents throughout the City of Randwick. Two rounds of evening participative meetings were held between Council and community members.

The first round of community participation was held between September and October 1994. It addressed open space and recreation provision on a City wide basis via a series of eight workshops which were attended by a total of sixty people. Within these workshops the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities were determined by community representatives. The second round of participation was held in July 1995 and attended by nearly seventy people. It comprised both a community forum and small group discussion evening, whereby community representatives addressed the goals for various open space areas.

Many of the *objectives* that are presented within Section 3 are derived from both the first round of community participation and the *COSRPOM Community Survey*. The survey was distributed to 8,000 residents throughout the City. Refer to Appendix B for the questions and results of the survey.



2. MANAGEMENT PHILOSOPHY AND CONTEXT

2.1 Vision Statement

To enhance the quality of life of those residents and visitors who engage in recreation within the civic parks of the City of Randwick

2.2 Goals

1. To provide appropriate and equitable recreational and open space opportunities as identified through community needs.
2. To provide safe, diverse and quality recreation opportunities for Randwick residents.
3. To ensure access for all including actual and perceived access to recreational resources.

2.3 Guiding Principles

1. Informal and formal passive settings through careful landscape design techniques
2. A focus for the community through gatherings, commemorations and other community activities
3. Easily accessed, non-alienating parks for all members of the community regardless of disability
4. Visual character to be of a high standard and reflect the local natural and cultural heritage
5. High maintenance and safety standards

2.4 Management Context

A number of plans form the context for this generic plan of management. These plans are in addition to the statutory Acts described in Section 1 and include Council and other relevant documents.

COSRPOM Strategic Plan

This document was compiled to provide a 'Strategic Direction' for the open space available for public recreational use throughout the City of Randwick. It therefore covers all different open space types such as the district parks, remnant bushland and pocket parks open space. The strategic plan also addresses the need for rationalisation of open space in certain areas and the acquisition of open space in others and addresses the methods by which this may be undertaken. A recommendation within the Strategic Plan that relates to this generic plan includes increasing the number of civic parks throughout the City of Randwick which will make use of current open space areas that are categorised as either roadside reserves or pocket parks but are more suited to civic park functions and use.



Randwick City Council Management Plan

The Local Government Act, 1993 requires that each council must prepare a Management Plan for at least a three year period, in Randwick City Council's case it is from 1994 to 1997 and aims to make Council more accountable to its residents and sets out how it will achieve a high level of service. Council's Management Plan also contains information of a similar nature so that the community is able to identify what, how and when changes and undertakings will take occur. This generic plan of management is an important component in the overall land management undertakings of Council. It provides clear objectives and means of achieving those objectives over a twenty year period and also includes decisions on priority and costing implications.

Objectives and priorities that are presented in Section 3 of this plan must be reflected in the Management Plan so that funds can be allocated and the recommended works can be implemented. Each relevant department must therefore address the areas of responsibility that are allocated to them within Section 3.2 and convey these responsibilities into the overall management plan beginning in the 1996/97 financial year. It is the Management Plan that will effectively give force to the recommendations and actions within this plan as it is the principle mechanism by which Council priorities are set and resources allocated.

Works programs will be particularly influenced by this and other generic plans of management whereby relevant Council officers will incorporate recommended actions into the financial planning section of the report on an annual basis - this will also provide Council with the opportunity to review targets as time goes on. Council departments and divisions other than the Works - Recreation and Parks and Recreation divisions that have responsibility for particular aspects of the COSRPOM such as Council's Planning Department, Corporate Services, the Plant Nursery, Works Department and Community Services, must incorporate within their divisional/departmental budgets and works programs, the necessary undertakings.



It is recommended that the Management Plan is incorporated under the table; Principal Activity - 'Improvements Recreation Facilities' is as follows:

Table 2: Management Plan Principle Activity 'Improvements - Recreation Facilities'

OBJECTIVES	PERFORMANCE TARGETS	MEANS OF ACHIEVING TARGETS	MEANS OF MEASURING PERFORMANCE
To provide and manage a system of safe, high quality parks and facilities offering a diversity of recreational opportunities suitable for and readily accessible to a wide range of users, in accordance with the City Open Space and Recreation Plan of Management.	Implementation of annual works programs for improvements recommended within the City Open Space and Recreation Generic Plans of Management and associated site specific plans of management	a) Council Staff to prepare and annually review improvements works and programs b) Council staff/consultants to prepare designs, documentation and estimates for the adopted programs	a) recommended works/improvements reviewed or completed by target dates and within budget b) designs prepared with adequate lead time for works to commence on target c) community satisfaction



3. ISSUES, PRIORITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 Major Issues

Issue 1: Maintenance

The high profile locations in which civic parks are found usually determine the appropriate type and frequency of maintenance practice required. Maintenance programs should be individual to each civic park due to their specific site constraints, features and use levels - assessment on a site by site basis is therefore necessary. Civic parks may best be suited to one or more mobile gangs maintaining solely this park type. Each of the maintenance needs within these locations are also subject to funding limitations and staff availability.

In general however, high profile locations require consistent and high intensity maintenance. Litter, graffiti and damaged park furniture should receive immediate attention where feasible. Civic parks are usually the pride of the commercial area and therefore may attract additional planting, detail on finishes and ornate parks furniture, all of which must be maintained efficiently. Moreover, maintenance practice must be in harmony with the overall design intent of the civic parks. Both design and maintenance practice will require regular evaluation.

Issue 2: Design

Civic landscape design is usually at its most prominent within the civic parks of local government areas - Randwick City is no exception. Design should be suitable to the site and should feature high quality, creative and attractive passive settings. Alison Park is able to provide room informal sports activities also but is not designed for high intensity sports use.

Obviously, such public areas are expected to reflect the civic pride of the suburb and should be treated accordingly. Attention to detail and aesthetics is more relevant in these locations than any other open space type whether or not the use is intensive or minimal. Boundaries, parks furniture and paths have a particularly important place within civic parks and the use of planted vegetation is of equal significance. The Draft Urban Design Guidelines, Street Tree Masterplan and other useful documents such as townscape plans should be utilised when improving or reviewing civic park design.

Issue 3: Recreation

Recreational use within civic parks is similar to that of pocket parks: informal; unstructured; and a place primarily for the purpose of relaxation and solace from the surrounding urban environment. This type of recreation is complemented by occasional commemorative events such as Anzac Day, Australia Day and Captain Cook's landing at Botany Bay. Private functions such as weddings, parties and barbecues may be permissible subject to booking arrangements and permit compliance. Formal or structured recreation of any type is inappropriate within these parks. The design of the parks should be such that inappropriate activities would be difficult to perform. An exception to this rule is Alison Park where there is space for both inactive and formal or structured activities.

Issue 4: User Management and Safety

User access to civic parks may be considered on many levels, including physical access, safety and perceived access. Physical access should comply with appropriate standards and Council should consult the Randwick Access Committee prior to making any changes or improvements. The safety of civic



park users is also an important consideration and maintenance practices should run hand in glove with safety and risk management. This will incorporate measures which have respect for the protection of our environment as well as the community's wellbeing. Civic parks should have clear boundaries such as screen planting, low level fences, etc. which protect users from the surrounding roads. Regular monitoring of revised maintenance and safety practices is necessary in order to check any unexpected occurrences that create potentially dangerous situations. In regard to perceived access, civic parks although more formal in their appearance than other open space areas, should be inviting to the user which may mean the use of pedestrian crossings into the parks, clear 'gateway' entrances and a good provision of seating including benches, walls and other informal types of furniture.

An upgraded booking system will allow community groups undertaking activities appropriate to the purpose of this park such as small family gatherings, events and civic functions to book a time slot for the use of any particular civic park and will ensure that any necessary permits are provided and fees collected.



3.2 Action Plan

The key issues that have been presented in Section 3.1 act as an introduction and background to the objectives that have been set out in the following tables and their associated means of achievement, priority level, target implementation date, Council section responsibilities and finally, the means of assessment.

The objectives and related information is presented in a series of tables which are placed under the same headings as those presented in Section 3.1. The table columns are explained as follows:

Table 3: Explanation of Objectives, Priorities and Performance Tables

OBJECTIVE	MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT	PERFORMANCE TARGET	RESPONSIBILITY	MEANS OF ASSESSMENT
<p>A specific aim that Council will strive towards in order to address each area of the key issue identified in Section 3.1</p>	<p>The way or ways in which the objective may be achieved.</p> <p>Each method will have a separate performance target</p>	<p>the financial year period in which this method is to be completed.</p> <p><i>Short term</i> = 1996-2000 <i>Medium term</i> = 2000-2006 and <i>Long Term</i> = 2006-2015 <i>Ongoing</i> = action being carried out throughout the life of this plan of management <i>Undertaken</i> = action already undertaken</p> <p>If funds become available at a time earlier than anticipated eg. through specific grants, performance target dates may be altered via annual budget reviews</p>	<p>The section or department within Council that has the final responsibility for the achievement of this objective by the target dates</p>	<p>The measure by which Council may be accountable to the community - a list of achievements that are ticked as each is fulfilled by its target date</p> <p>Where targets are not achieved, an explanation should be provided within this column</p>



Action Plan

OBJECTIVE	MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT	TARGET PERIOD	RESPONSIBILITY	MEANS OF ASSESSMENT
<p>A) To review and revise the 'civic parks' category within the Recreation Inventory</p>	<p>1. Add the following to the civic parks category: Meagher Ave (A/4-510-01) and Un-Malabar Road - both to be consolidated and take on the Meagher Ave No. Un-Curtin Cres to become a civic park along with the above (all three to comprise South Maroubra Village Green)</p> <p>2. Delete the following from the civic parks category: Alison Road #2 to a pocket park Randwick Plaza to 'operational' land Boyce Rd Closure to 'roadside reserve'</p> <p>3. Update the following names on the civic parks category: Meagher Ave and Malabar Rd to South Maroubra Village Green and Curtin Cr to South Maroubra Village Green #2 (due to its Crown ownership)</p>	<p>short term</p>	<p>Recreation Assets Manager</p>	<p>• inventory updated as required</p>



OBJECTIVE	MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT	TARGET PERIOD	RESPONSIBILITY	MEANS OF ASSESSMENT
B) To develop maintenance programs for each civic park	1. Community feedback concerning litter, graffiti and the additional provision of seating to be considered in drawing up a maintenance program	ongoing	Manager - Parks and Recreation Works - Maintenance	* community needs incorporated into maintenance program * review of maintenance practices undertaken
	2. Assess existing maintenance practices and determine necessary changes	short term		
	3. Maintain historic and other features to a high standard within civic parks	ongoing		



OBJECTIVE	MEANS OF ACHIEVEMENT	TARGET PERIOD	RESPONSIBILITY	MEANS OF ASSESSMENT
<p>C) To provide a focus within each civic park around which all planting and other design works are associated</p>	<p>1. Determine the type of vegetation appropriate to the focus of the park area having regard to any townscape/urban design plans and the Draft Street Tree Masterplan</p> <p>2. Determine the appropriateness of a 'dynamic' or static vegetation setting for each location through the use of annuals and perennials</p> <p>3. A specific feature is to form the focus of the park whether it is a monument or a fountain or place of two paths meeting - planting and finishes to provide symmetry around this focus</p>	<p>medium term</p> <p>medium term</p> <p>medium term</p>	<p>Manager - Parks and Recreation</p>	<p>* appropriate vegetation selected</p> <p>* feature or focus and associated finishes determined and installed</p>
<p>D) To provide suitable facilities and amenities for each civic park</p>	<p>1. Seating and associated shade to be available around the perimeter of each civic park</p> <p>2. A bubbler to be installed for each civic park</p> <p>3. A combination of vegetation and other finishes such as brickwork/paving and stone to be incorporated into the overall design</p>	<p>medium term</p> <p>medium term</p> <p>long term</p>	<p>Manager - Parks and Recreation</p>	<p>* appropriate facilities identified and installed</p>

