

**URBAN
DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY**

**(E)
RECREATIONAL
AREAS
DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY**

Dubbo City Council
Environmental Services Division
Strategic Planning Branch
February 1997

This page has been left blank

DUBBO CITY
INSTITUTIONAL AREAS
DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 1996-2015

Adoption

The Recreational Areas Development Strategy was adopted by Dubbo City Council as the recreational areas policy component of the Urban Development Strategy by Dubbo City Council at its meeting on the 24 February 1997 (refer clause 97/1 Works and Services Committee meeting held 10/2/97).

Application

The plan applies to all land within the Central District as shown on page 15 of the Urban Strategy dated December 1996. The Strategy shall be the basis of all of Council's future decisions on the location and use of recreational land.

Relationship to Other Plans

The Recreational Areas Development Strategy is designed to implement Council's responsibilities under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979. Council's urban recreational regulatory instruments will act as mechanisms to further implement the concepts and direction of the Strategy within the framework of the Urban Structure Plan.


.....
Strategic Planner


.....
Director
Environmental Services Division


.....
General Manager

Review:

This document will be subject to a comprehensive review on a five yearly basis. Reassessment of any element of the Strategy may be undertaken at any time but the outcomes must be reconciled with and integrated into the rest of the Urban Development Strategy document to ensure the consistency and credibility of any resultant policy changes.

This page has been left blank

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	2
RECREATIONAL STUDY	3
RECREATIONAL AREAS STRATEGY.....	3
Definition	3
Purpose.....	4
Recreational Areas Goal	4
DUBBO'S RECREATION SYSTEM.....	4
Creating an Integrated Recreation Network.....	6
Equity of Current Geographic Distribution.....	6
Methodology.....	7
Conclusions.....	7
Structure of the Recreation Areas System	8
REGIONAL RECREATION AREAS	14
DISTRICT RECREATION AREAS	19
NEIGHBOURHOOD RECREATION AREAS	24
OTHER OPEN SPACE	28
Cemeteries	28
APPENDIX	30

This page has been left blank

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

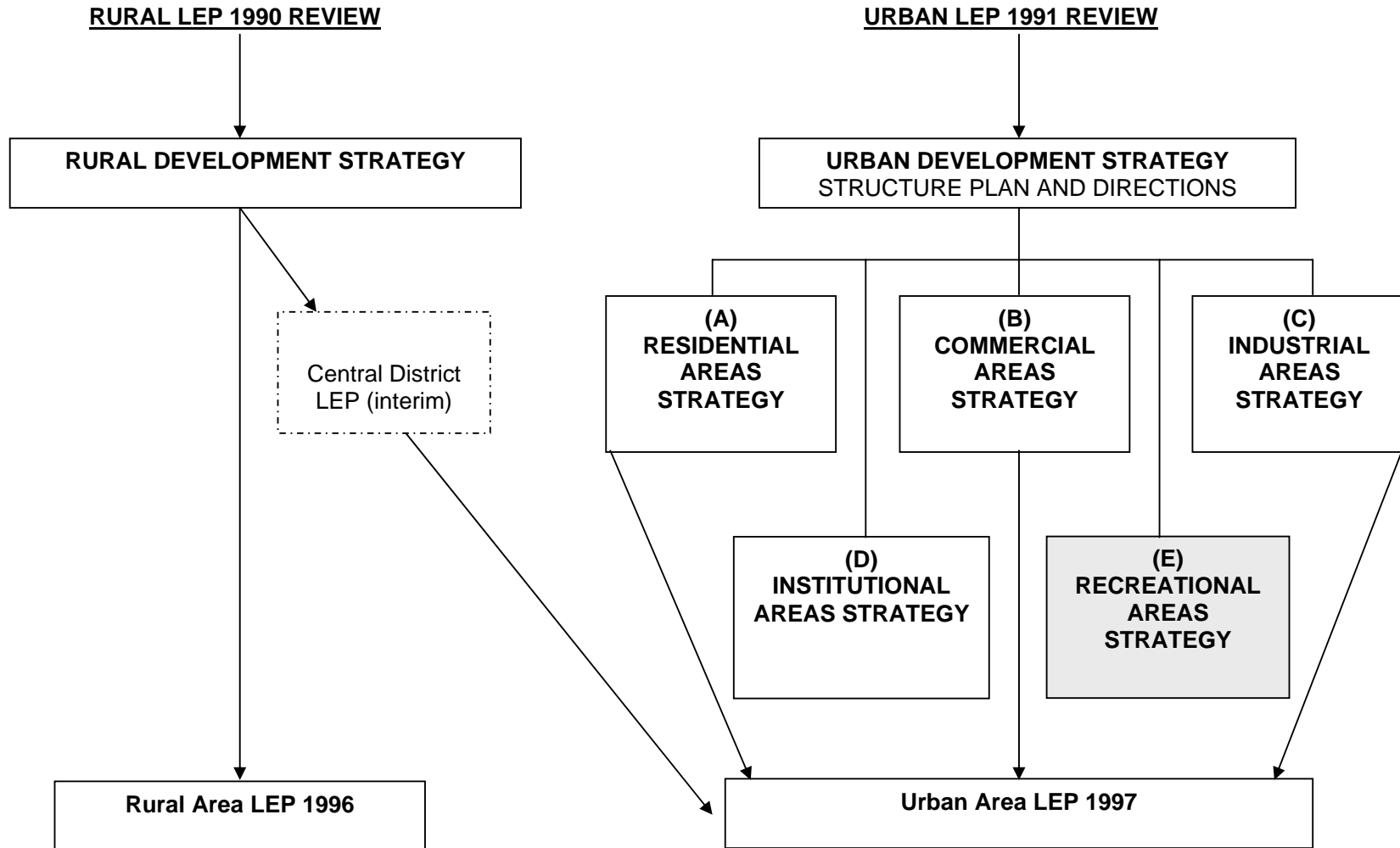
The Urban Strategy - Future Directions	(Dubbo City Council) June 1996
Dubbo CBD Structure Plan 1994 Planning Principles Report Exhibited Structure Plan	(Ratio) (Ratio)
Dubbo 21 Plan	(D Gibb & Partners) 1993
Dubbo Rural Area Development Strategy Central District	(Dubbo City Council) Sept 1995
Parks and Landcare Business Plan	(Dubbo City Council) Sept 1996
Section 94 Plan - Open Space	(Dubbo City Council)
Supporting DCC Recreation Study for Section 94 Plan	(Dubbo City Council)
Recreation Study & Plan	(Charles Sturt Uni) 1995
Community Needs Survey	(Census Applications Pty Ltd) 1995
Recreation and Sport Planning and Design A Guidelines Manual	Jim Daly (Recreation & Sport, SA) 1995
Dubbo City Council Corporate Management Plan	(Dubbo City Council)
Annual Operating Plan	

ABBREVIATIONS/DEFINITIONS USED

CBD	Central Business District
DCC	Dubbo City Council
Open Space	Land and Water in an urban area which is not covered by cars or buildings; or any under developed land in an urban area which has value for parks and recreational purposes, conservation of natural resources or an historic or scenic purpose.

This page has been left blank

STRATEGIC PLANNING REPORTS



This page has been left blank

Overview

The Draft Recreational Areas Strategy is a conceptual plan for the development of an interconnected recreational system around the city. It is envisioned that the system could have a range of purposes as appropriate in each area, namely:

- To provide alternative transport links around the city - eg for pedestrians, horse riding or cycling;
- To provide links between major nodes such as district parks and reserves, the CBD, Zoo and CSU site;
- To provide green belts within and around the city;
- To provide buffers and separation between incompatible land uses;
- To help protect environmentally sensitive land; and
- To beautify the city generally.

The details of the width and form of the corridor is not fixed by this strategy. The corridors are shown wide to provide Council a large area to investigate within which a narrower corridor may ultimately be sought. Indeed the corridors can be considered far wider than shown in the Strategy such that if there is land in the vicinity that is suitable for use as a recreational corridor and that still provides a connection in the wider system then such sites may be considered as alternatives to those mapped (eg a sufficient road reserve verses private land).

Various mechanisms can be considered by Council in implementing this Strategy. These include the following:

- Public resumption;
- Acquisition through voluntary sale and public purchase;
- Zoning as public recreation, environmentally sensitive or private recreation development where compatible;
- Negotiation for public easements or Right of Ways; and
- Tree preservation orders to retain vegetated corridors.

The mechanism chosen by Council and the priorities in pursuit of each element of the Strategy may vary from place to place across the city depending on the value of the site in terms of the overall system, the rate of development, the features or limitations of the site or other circumstances of the case.

RECREATIONAL AREAS - DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

INTRODUCTION

Dubbo City is the centre for services and facilities for a large region. This regional population base provides an opportunity for Dubbo City to develop a range of high standard recreational facilities and so strengthen its role as a regional centre. The benefits of this are not just to the region as a whole, but in the resultant high recreation standard for the city's residents and in the economic benefits of attracting visitors to the city. Indeed Dubbo is already established as a regional centre for many sporting activities. However there is scope for this to be further improved and supplemented by new facilities.

Dubbo City also provides recreation areas at a local scale that contributes to the spectrum of recreational opportunity, and so the quality of life, of its residents. Together these regional and local recreational areas (which can be either open space or built) serve a range of important social, economic and environmental functions.

Well located and developed recreation areas can enhance both the aesthetics and property values of an area, provide for a wide range of both outdoor and indoor activity and help us pursue a satisfying, healthy and varied lifestyle. Recreation areas also provide venues for people to meet, learn and interact with each other and with their environment. All of these benefits can improve Dubbo's ability to attract population growth to the city and the region.

Economic benefits include scope for the operation of commercial recreational enterprises that generate income and employment and incidentally through enhancing the tourist interest and scope of activities available to the visitor. High quality and well placed recreational areas therefore help foster a positive impression of Dubbo as a place to live, work and visit.

Some types of recreational areas also make an environmental contribution by providing habitat, preserving natural drainage networks and protecting areas of floodplain.

As the city continues to grow it is imperative to plan for the development of these areas into an effective network that maximises these benefits as well as anticipates the needs of an expanding population.

DUBBO 21 PLAN AND THE RECREATIONAL AREAS STRATEGY

The Dubbo 21 Plan provides the economic strategy for sustaining Dubbo's growth. The following extracts from the Dubbo 21 Plan place recreational development in the context of the broader economic development of the city.

“STRATEGY 4 - Dubbo is the centre for community and cultural services west of the Great Dividing Range”

By way of:

- Establishing an image of Dubbo as an attractive regional centre which offers a desirable lifestyle.

le (Conclusions and Recommendations)

“The capacity to attract and retain high quality professional, managerial and service staff depends on making Dubbo attractive to their families as a place to live.”

“STRATEGY 5 - Dubbo is recognised as a tourist destination by building attractions and services based on market needs.”

By way of:

- Facilitating increased use of existing sport and recreation facilities eg Apex Oval, Swimming Pool, Showground;
- Developing river based water attractions;
- Developing diversity in minor attractions to add value to existing attractions eg horse riding, farm stay, amusement park, river cruises, canoeing;
- Encouraging the activities of special interest groups; and
- Establishing the capability and expertise to facilitate special events in Dubbo.

Extracts from the Dubbo 21 Plan are attached in the Appendix to show the above statements in their context (see page 41).

RECREATIONAL STUDY

In 1995 Charles Sturt University completed a Recreational Study for Dubbo City. It provides an analysis of recreational needs and outlines the recreational facilities appropriate for Dubbo. The study is relevant to this Strategy because it provides some direction on the likely long term land use requirements for developing of recreational areas.

Its findings as relevant are incorporated into this strategy but for convenience are also summarised in the Appendix (see page 37). It is important to note, however, that this Strategy has a narrower focus than the study but it does constitute the main mechanism to realise one of the studys Mission Statements ie to **“preserve, conserve and provide the physical and environmental resources necessary to enable the recreation plan to be implemented.”** (Page 83).

RECREATIONAL AREAS STRATEGY

This strategy is concerned with the recreational areas of the city. It is concerned with provision of adequate land for recreational purposes within the expanded urban area and effectively integrating these areas into the larger city structure. This document and plan is part of the overall Urban Development Strategy for Dubbo City it should be read in conjunction with the Future Directions document of the Urban Development Strategy.

Definition

The term “recreation” is sometimes used to encompass the full range of activities people can chose to occupy their discretionary/leisure time (ie time left after essential activities have been done).

However for the purpose of this Strategy recreation has a much narrower focus. It does not include the use of cultural facilities (eg theatres, libraries, churches, galleries etc) or tourist attractions (eg the gaol and the zoo which are covered in the Commercial Areas Development Strategy). Nor does this document include urban design matters (ie street presentation, landscaping etc). It is focused on the adequate supply of public rather than private recreational areas as the latter are primarily commercial enterprises which are already covered by the Commercial Areas Development Strategy.

A recreational area is:

- A space used primarily for recreation purposes ie an area or facility that people choose to visit or used that provides an enjoyable way to spend their leisure time;
- Often a community focal point ie used by a number of people at once - multi use;
- Typically associated with the outdoors or with sporting activity;
- Sometimes specialised towards a particular recreational activity or interest group; and
- An area capable of adding to the physical quality of the locality.

The Scope of the Recreational Areas Strategy is potentially:

- Regional recreation areas within the expanded urban area;
- District recreational areas within the expanded urban area;
- Neighbourhood recreational areas within the expanded urban area; and
- Open space corridors that link recreational areas.

Purpose

Council's Recreation Areas Strategy must complement the Recreational Study by identifying and protecting adequate, appropriate land for the range of recreational activities identified in the study. It must recognise the role of, **and the relationships and links between**, the many individual recreation areas and facilities of the city.

The Strategy must provide the spatial picture for an integrated recreational network as well as policies for the protection and adaptation of existing well located and effective facilities, over time. It should also reflect trends in recreational demand identified in the study that complement the future growth patterns of the city.

The purpose of this Strategy is therefore to provide a spatial and policy framework that will facilitate the development of recreation areas that meet the community's present and future needs.

The effect of the strategy should be to:

- Identify, clarify and describe the existing structure or hierarchy of recreational areas in Dubbo;
- Interpret existing and future demand for recreation in terms of the facilities and areas required by the many different groups in the Dubbo region;
- Develop a city wide structure plan and policies for recreation areas that can effectively and efficiently meet that demand;
- Identify existing areas within the urban structure that should be protected for recreational use and design means to do that;
- Ensure new recreational areas are located so as to be accessible ie equity of provision across the city;
- Incorporate and protect natural features and existing movement corridors; and
- Ensure recreational areas are of adequate size for their function and for efficient maintenance and cost effectiveness.

Recreational Areas Goal

- To provide high quality open space for recreation to meet the widest practical range of active and passive recreational needs and expectations of the local and regional community.

DUBBO'S RECREATION SYSTEM

Principles for Recreation Development in Dubbo

Although there are different types of recreational areas which are discussed in greater detail later in the document, there are some principles that apply to all recreation areas. These principles are incorporated into the strategy both as the guiding principles for recreation development and in the philosophy of the policies and action plans.

- **Integration** - the pattern of recreation areas should reflect and integrate with the city structure and future strategic directions for growth;

- Provide an identifiable edge and reinforce the core of the city by developing open space corridors that encircle and dissect the city;
- Recreation areas should be focussed on existing 'community' areas such as the CBD and other nodes where possible; and
- Encourage recreation areas that are within reach of the population ie in new and existing residential areas (particularly in the west to anticipate future westwards residential push);
- **Suitability** - recreation areas should be of adequate size, suitability and character to meet the predicted needs and demands of each segment of the community.
 - Supply, locate and develop, as appropriate, recreation areas for all groups in Dubbo - children, disabled youth, families, aged, individuals and groups, active, passive use etc;
 - Develop facilities for Dubbo to be a regional centre from a variety of recreational activities; and
 - Local parks to reflect the character and needs of the local population.
- **Equity** - recreation areas must be accessible to the user given their location and means of mobility.
 - Ensure an equitable balance of recreational areas throughout the city that reflects the requirements and characteristics of the local population; and
 - Provide recreational areas within normal range for pedestrians and people travelling by other modes of transport be it private vehicles, public transport, tours, bicycles, horses or water craft.
- **Economy** - maximise efficiency of use and cost effectiveness of recreational areas for Council and the community.
 - Encourage a few larger and easier to maintain recreational areas rather than numerous small and isolated areas;
 - Link recreation areas with residential areas (eg via cycleways) to encourage access and maximise use rather than provide additional areas;
 - Provide information on where other recreation facilities are located elsewhere in the network;
 - Design recreational areas to serve a range of functions where possible (eg multi-use regional facilities that also have a neighbourhood function, consider night use etc);
 - Develop low maintenance facilities (eg vandal proof); and
 - Allow for commercial recreation areas eg pedal boats, canoe hire etc.
- **Opportunity** - recreation areas should capitalise on existing natural and built features and infrastructure to enhance their function, appearance and uniqueness.
 - Retain and incorporate the existing well used recreation areas into the network;
 - Identify and consolidate the Macquarie River floodplain, in the urban area, as a key element of the recreational network;
 - Incorporate Troy Gully and other drainage corridors, Mugga and Bourke Hills and other ridgelines and the rail and road transport corridors into the open space network where possible;
 - Purchase, where possible, available vacant land that could form part of a network for development for recreational purposes; and
 - Capitalise on opportunities to educate users (eg by providing information of tree species, history etc).
- **Quality** - recreational areas must be designed and managed to meet or exceed the users' expectations.

- Provide a standard of development (including ancillary facilities, shade and shelter, security etc) that equates with the use proposed; and
- Maintain a high standard of parks and gardens in the tourist areas of the city.
- **Identity** - use recreational areas to help identify distinct localities and encourage a greater sense of community.
 - Locate recreational areas and open space corridors to reinforce identification of distinct localities;
 - Locate recreation areas to encourage a greater sense of community within communities (eg by locating recreation areas with other 'community' facilities to create a community focal point);
 - Design recreational areas to involve as many local residents as possible; and
 - Capitalise on any positive, unique characteristics of the locality to make each recreational area identifiable and 'personal'.
- **Linkages** - recreational areas should provide alternative linkages between major destinations within the city to that provided by the road system.
 - Develop an open space network that provides links (for pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders etc) between schools, shops, residences and other major destinations within the city; and
 - Develop these open space corridors to accommodate a range of passive recreational opportunities/activities.

Creating an Integrated Recreation Network

The provision of recreational areas is expensive so it is important that those areas provided are as useful and efficient as possible. Rather than simply provide isolated parks and reserves it is logical to integrate them into a larger network that makes them more accessible, usable and efficient to maintain.

Such a network should include connecting corridors between the main recreational areas to promote ready access from all residential locations. These corridors should be extended where possible to provide alternative linkages to the road network and between all of the major destinations or urban nodes.

Together recreation areas and their connecting corridors can also function to separate conflicting land uses and reinforce the identity of distinct communities.

A well thought out network of recreational areas should include natural corridors and features and so help define the structure of the city. A series of major open space corridors that encircle and dissect the city could provide a "backdrop" that enhances impressions when entering the city and would help provide an attractive edge to the city proper. It should allow for wildlife movement around the perimeter for the city and within the identified corridors.

Most importantly a series of passive corridors could accommodate a broad range of recreational opportunities for not only the residents in the fringe areas of the city but, by virtue of being part of an interconnected and visible network, would add to the supply of recreation areas for all residents and visitors to the city.

Equity of Current Geographic Distribution

A consequence of developing an integrated recreational system is that it will provide a structure that directs Council as to where future additional recreational facilities should be located. As noted above it is important that such a structure facilitates an equitable distribution of recreation areas not just in the types of recreational opportunities that are provided but in the physical distribution of each level of recreation area - regional, district and neighbourhood.

The need for an equitable distribution of recreational areas is perhaps most important at the neighbourhood level because the users are least likely to be highly mobile whereas for regional recreation areas the users are more likely to be mobile such that travel to the site is not a hindrance. The geographic pattern of recreational areas in Dubbo at present is complex but the following general comments are made:

- The river comprises a significant psychological barrier to the residents to the west;
- Consequently there is an impediment to access the city's core regional recreation areas (an additional facility in West Dubbo may be necessary to provide greater equity in provision of, and access to, high quality regional recreation areas across the city);
- Similarly there is a lack of diversity of district recreational areas of residents of west Dubbo, and also for those residents in Eastridge; and
- There is a relatively even distribution and ease of access between all the residential areas and neighbourhood level parts, however, there are a few instances where such facilities are somewhat distant such as west Dubbo north of Victoria Street, south of the RAAF base and in the CBD.

These patterns are discussed in more detail in each section but the existing geographic patterns are important to consider at this stage. An awareness of existing inequities helps ensure that the system proposed will rectify rather than exacerbate any real problems in the geographic distribution of Dubbo's recreation areas.

Methodology

In developing a plan for logical and effective recreation network the following aspects were considered:

- The location of ridge and drainage lines throughout the city;
- The location of existing recreation areas, population distribution (and any resultant inequities), and proposed expansion areas;
- Interesting pedestrian routes that effectively link urban nodes (eg schools, shops etc) that are within walking distance and that align with natural paths wherever possible; and
- Potential sites for development of other recreational areas along these routes where possible.

Conclusions

The Dubbo's future recreation structure should be based on the following "layers":

- The main corridor or "spine" should capitalise on Troy Gully and the Bourke Hill ridgeline to encircle the main urban areas of the city;
- Another branch of the primary spine should dissect the city by exploiting and enhancing the existing Macquarie River corridor ie that land from Devil's Elbow to Caroline Reserve below the 1 in 100 year flood line (and including part of Schibble's Hill);
- To these could be added "secondary spines" of varying widths that encompass the east and west expansion areas (ie Mugga Hill, Firgrove, Sappa Bulga foothills - Bourke Hill) and major urban nodes such as the CBD, the Zoo/Tourist precinct and the existing residential areas;
- It is appropriate that existing recreational sites within these corridors be protected and that these corridors be consolidated by new recreational areas or, alternatively by other forms of open space; and
- The next layer is a series of smaller corridors designed to link specific areas. Further details on this recreation network are best sought on the Recreation Area Structure Plan.

Structure of the Recreation Areas System

The recreational areas in Dubbo can be described in 3 sub-categories according to their function and scale:

- **Regional Recreation Areas**

Large, high quality and accessible recreation areas that are not common elsewhere in the region that specifically attract visitors from beyond the city. Also includes recreational areas which are often used by tourists as part of the city's tourist attractions.

- **District Recreation Areas**

Generally not as visible, large or well developed as the regional parks whilst bigger, fewer in number but not as conveniently located as neighbourhood parks.

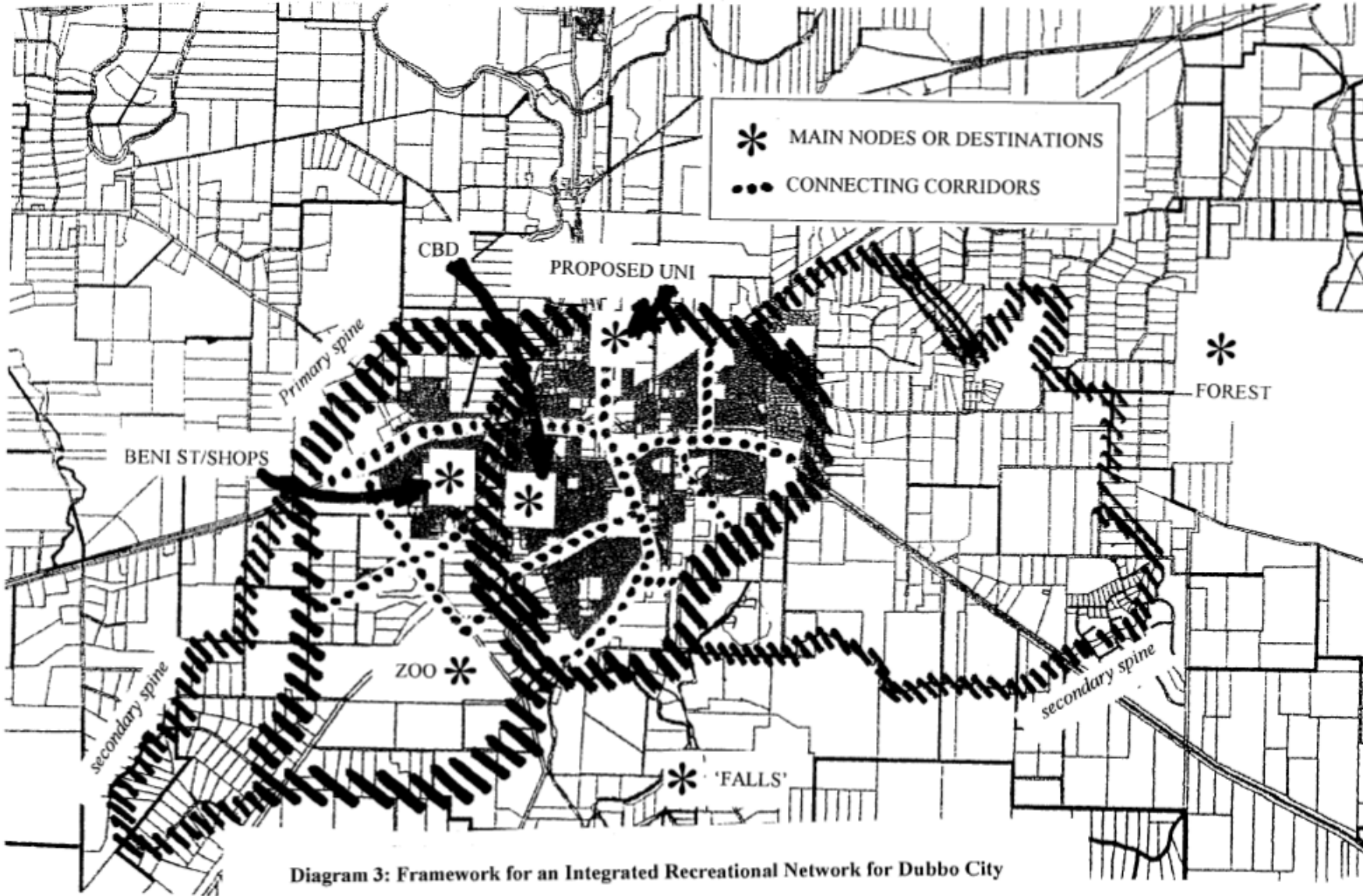
Used primarily by residents of the city (ie rarely known of by visitors) who commute to the site with a specific activity in mind.

- **Neighbourhood Recreation Areas**

Small, multi purpose parks designed to supplement private open space. They occur quite frequently as the intent is that the users should be able to reach the park on foot.

The hierarchy of recreational areas is used to structure the rest of this document and each level is addressed in Sections 3.0, 4.0 and 5.0 respectively. However a recreation area need not be confined to a single use, a homogenous character or a single function. A number of other descriptors are used as shown below. The more diverse recreation areas may serve a number of uses and may not be of uniform character.

CHARACTER/USES	ACTIVE (Recognised sporting activity Individual/team, indoor/outdoors)	PASSIVE (Walking, picnicking, angling)	CULTURAL (Theatre, arts etc)
Natural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmentally sensitive ie recreational use is inappropriate • Conservation area where some access is permitted 		Not covered in this document
Semi Natural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature Reserves where access is encouraged - education function • Informal Parks • Formal Gardens 		
Designed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporting Ovals 		
Constructed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports centres (ie built) • Some Entertainment Centres 		



Objectives

- Dubbo's recreational areas are well patronised;
- Dubbo strengthens its role as a regional centre for recreation;
- The location of recreation areas reflects the developing physical structure of the city;
- Dubbo's geographic pattern of recreation areas is equitable and accessible;
- Recreation areas function as a community focal point;
- A diverse array of recreational opportunities are provided for all residents of Dubbo and the region;
- The recreational opportunities available reflect the characteristics and needs of the population;
- Recreational areas add to the attraction of living in and visiting Dubbo;
- The network of recreation areas facilitates better but more cost effective provision and maintenance;
- Most recreation areas effectively serve more than one recreational function;
- The network better reflects and protects the topographic features of the city;
- Dubbo's recreational areas are of a high standard;
- Passive recreational areas are linked into the bigger network; and
- The frequency of recreational areas across the city reflects residential and business density patterns.

Policies for Developing a Recreational System

Encourage

- Council's Parks and Landcare Division to provide information where relevant especially natural and semi-natural areas, tree species, walks, historical/cultural information where relevant, maps, city guide;
- Council's Parks and Landcare Division to encourage user groups to be involved in maintenance of the areas reserved primarily for their use;

Control*

- Identify and protect by zoning (as existing Open Space or equivalent) any lands within the "spines" that are able to be accessed by the public;
- Identify and protect by zoning (as proposed Open Space or equivalent) any privately owned lands outside the CBD between Devils Elbow and Caroline Reserve that are within the 1 in 100 year flood level;
- Identify and protect by notation in the LEP or DCP sufficient areas of privately owned lands within the proposed recreational spines to ensure a continuous corridor can be created in the long term (eg zone as proposed Open Space (or equivalent) where land may be subject to resubdivision);
- Identify and protect physical pedestrian routes between the CBD parks and other CBD foci on the CBD structure plan;
- Require public access or dedication of land identified as a pedestrian route as a condition of new development where possible and/or otherwise negotiate purchase or right of ways;
- Prohibit uses that may further compromise the development of recreation in the existing and proposed open space zones/notations;
- Mirror the proposed open space structure (spines) in Council's Section 94 Policy and require dedication of adequate and appropriate land as shown in that plan (supplemented by funds if appropriate) as a condition of development of land within the identified spines;
- Maintain strict development control/policy standards to ensure attractive presentation of recreational areas where visible from major tourist routes;

- Design the Open Space zones to provide scope for regular ancillary cultural events that would enhance the recreational use of the site;
- Retain existing timber where possible within the spines;
- Allow for, and encourage diversity of, recreational opportunity within each area rather than dedication to a single use (where different uses are compatible);
- Identify and protect in the LEP/DCP other sites within the spines that are of value for specific recreational uses - eg nature reserves, scenic picnic areas;
- Picnic amenities, parking areas, paths and access roads should not be prohibited in the flood zone area;
- Maintenance and storage areas be located outside the flood zone areas;
- Park furniture to be constructed to a standard capable of withstanding the ravages of flood; and
- All toilets provided for public amenity in the flood zone to incorporate a “sealed” or raised system so as to minimise outflow during times of flood.

***Note** - The policies proposed within this Strategy are intended to indicate Council's **long term** intentions.

However policies may need to be developed and implemented in stages over years, through successive LEP revisions, rather than all at one time.

Indeed this is one of the advantages of a Strategic approach to land use planning and policy making - Council's intentions in the long term can be made clear but the means to realise those intentions (whether that be zoning land or budgeting for land purchases) can be introduced incrementally rather than immediately.

Assist

- Negotiate with landowners to purchase where possible and available, areas of vacant land within the designated spines to provide a continuous public corridor;
- Sustain a commitment to providing more shade and water features throughout Dubbo - shaded picnic and walking areas, active and passive water features - artificial lake, parks with fountains, better access to river - trails, ramps, boat hire etc.

Summary of Major Recreational Corridors (also see Diagram 3, page 20)

- Primary Spines
 - “Encircling Loop”, Bourke Hill/Ridgeline, Rosedale Road/Railway Line, Chapmans Road, Sappa Bulga Road, Camp Road, Obley Road, Macquarie River, Southridge/Keswick, Troy Gully.
 - “North-South Dissecting Spine” - Macquarie River Floodplain, both sides of River from Devils Elbow to Caroline Reserve.
- Secondary Spines
 - “Eastwards Loop” - Troy Gully, Dunedoo Road, Mugga Hill, Richmond Estate, Torwood Road, Firgrove, Eulomogo Creek, Southridge/Boundary Road, Macquarie River.
 - “Westwards Loop” - Sappa Bulga Road/Ascot Park Road area, Lonsdale Road, Sappa Bulga Foothills, Buddens Road, Railway Line.
 - “Tourism Loop” - Macquarie River, Dundullimal, Zoo, Golf Course, Whylandra Street, CBD.
 - “Cross City Spine” - East west railway corridor from East Dubbo to the CBD.

Summary of Nodes

- The Central Business District (CBD) - Central Dubbo;
- Whylandra/Beni/Victoria Street Biddybunge Tourist Area - Central/West Dubbo;
- Proposed University site - North Dubbo; and
- The Zoo - Camp Road Tourist precinct - South West Dubbo.

Summary of Minor Connecting Corridors

- CBD - Zoo Tourist Railway;
- CBD - Victoria Park - Showground - Institutions - University;
- CBD - Victoria Park - Showground - Railway Easement - Industrial Corridor; and
- CBD - Biddybunge - Beni Street Caravan Park - Whylandra/Victoria Street.

REGIONAL RECREATION AREAS

Overview

Regional recreation areas are those often used by visitors to the city who either specifically come to Dubbo to use the facility (eg sports grounds) or by tourists who regard the area as part of the city's tourist facilities relevant to their visit (eg large established parks and gardens with picnic areas).

The main characteristics of regional recreational areas are that they are in a highly visible and/or readily accessible location and are of a high quality with some "extra" features of recreational opportunities that attract people from a wider area. They are usually larger than other parks to cope with a greater number of users at any one time.

Dubbo's regional recreational areas are typically 3 - 4 ha or more in size and they roughly correlate with the "A level" parks category in the Business Plan. As stated in the introduction, Dubbo City is fortunate in that it is already well established as a regional centre for many sporting events because of the high quality venues it provides compared to other centres in the region. But there is scope for this to be further capitalised on by their improvement and by supplementing them with additional regional recreation areas that offer other, as yet untapped, recreational opportunities for the region. High quality picnic areas and areas of cultural or historic interest can also help reinforce Dubbo's regional status.

It should also be noted that in Dubbo there is a bias in the location of these regional recreation areas. Many are close to the CBD or along the main transport corridors: this reflects the fact that most of the larger recreation sites were set aside in the early stages of the city's development and by virtue of their size and the gradual build up of facilities they provide the greatest scope for regional recreation. The other bias of course is the river corridor which due to the flood hazard is of relatively little value for other uses. The luxury of so many large and accessible recreational areas puts Dubbo in a good position to maximise its potential as a regional recreation node. It has also resulted in a relative lack of regional standard recreational areas in the newer post war areas of the city to the west and to the extreme east.

Function

The function of a regional recreation area is to provide an accessible and high quality venue, with the necessary ancillary facilities for a type or scale of recreational activity not commonly provided elsewhere in the region.

Benefits

- Reinforces Dubbo's status as a regional city;
- Generates additional income and expenditure from visitors eg sporting teams - fuel, accommodation etc;
- Facilitates a wider range and standard of recreational activities and events for residents;
- May contribute to extending and enhancing tourists stay;
- Greater cost effectiveness through the economies of scale associated with larger recreation areas; and
- Well presented recreational areas enhance first impressions of the city.

Criteria for Regional Recreation Areas

- Scale - Adequate size/capacity for regional events.
- Facilities - Appropriate facilities for the regional scale activities intended (eg grandstand, lights, change rooms, shelters, BBQs/kiosk as appropriate).
- Location - Must be easy to find and access by motor vehicles and public transport.
- Standard - Sufficient quality of facility to meet the users/visitors expectations.

Issues

- Size - what ultimate capacity should be anticipated, (including space to expand);
- Reconciling the needs of different users;
- Potential conflict with other adjoining uses - public address system, aesthetics etc;
- Adequate and appropriate parking eg for buses, 4WD, car/caravans etc;
- Standards - what standard should be sought - grounds etc, provision of ancillary facilities, change rooms, gardens etc;
- Use - effective (round the clock) use of the area;
- Ability to withstand intensive use;
- Environmental Management;
- Linking existing regional recreation areas into the network; and
- Relief from summer heat.

Opportunities

- Consolidation of the recreation spines for passive regional (and district) recreation;
- Development of recreation areas to offer climatic relief for the region - shade trees and water bodies (Dubbo as an oasis eg with an urban forest and a lake);
- New/upgrade regional venues for organised active recreation (eg cricket, BMX, athletics, archery and soccer);
- Multi-purpose sports field(s); and
- Unique facilities/attractions to capitalise on Year 2000 Olympics (training areas for athletes and/or facilities for increased general interest in Olympic events).

Locations and Roles

Victoria Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passive and active, designed, multi-use; • Dubbo's premier formal park - large, old traditional memorial park, formal gardens; and • Venue for regional sporting activities - ovals, grandstand, tracks.
Elizabeth Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passive, designed, single use; and • Botanical garden.
Wiradjuri Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passive, semi-natural; and • Aboriginal cultural significance - heritage/education role.
Devils Elbow/The Triangle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passive, semi-natural, single use; and • Large informal riverside picnic area.
Macquarie Lions Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passive, built and semi-natural, single use; and • Visitor information centre and picnic area off tourist route.
Bourke Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, single use; and • Venue for regional activity.
Pioneer Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, single use; and • Venue for regional hockey.

Action Plan for Regional Recreation Areas

Encourage

- Identify regional recreation areas creatively but logically to give clues to their location, their regional status and/or use eg north/south, riverside/hill, Orana/Regional/Nature Reserve/Arboretum/Oval/hockey/gardens etc; and
- Provide a directory of regional recreation areas, and their locations and main uses in key visible locations - eg on city maps, visible tourist boards, signposts from main entry routes etc.

Control

- New public and private, passive and non-conflicting, regional recreational areas to be directed to sites within the “primary spine” wherever possible;
- Active and potentially conflicting regional recreational areas to be located outside the spines - if linked to the spines that link should be for passive use only ie avoid trail bike links leading into the spines;
- Allow for private interests to become involved in the provision of regional recreation areas - subject to ensuring public access through the site - where part of the network;
- Identify in the business plan and protect through the LEP/DCP a site to the west of the Macquarie (preferably within the primary spine, or at least with easy access to it and that fits the criteria for regional recreation areas) to address the current imbalance of regional recreation facilities in this area;
- Identify in the business plan and protect through the LEP/DCP a site for a regional standard urban forest within the network (preferably within the primary spine, or at least with easy access to it);
- Identify in the business plan and protect through the LEP/DCP a site for a regional standard artificial lake within the network (preferably within the primary spine, or at least with easy access to it);
- Identify potential links from regional recreation areas to accommodation precincts and where appropriate consider identifying these on the urban structure plan and introducing means to realise those on the ground; and
- Identify exiting recreational areas that can and should be expanded or upgraded to fill a regional function.

Assist

- Where corridors are available, construct cycleways, paths and/or horse trails as appropriate to connect isolated regional recreation areas to the network and other nodes. (Note this includes provision of ancillary facilities such as bike stands etc at the site);
- Consider upgrading existing regional areas to a regional standard where a need has been identified in the recreational study eg cricket etc;
- Develop regional recreation areas to facilitate night use where there is a demand and not in conflict with other adjoining land uses eg noise, glare etc;
- Allow for, and encourage diversity of, recreational opportunity within regional recreation areas rather than dedication to a single use (where different uses are compatible);
- Develop the neighbourhood functions (see Commercial Areas Development Strategy) of the regional recreation areas that are located within walking distance of under serviced residential (or commercial) neighbourhoods;
- Provide high quality ancillary facilities in regional recreation areas appropriate to the use eg elevated seating, change rooms, score boards for sports ovals, shaded picnic tables, toilets, bubblers, BBQs etc; and

- Address the perceived shortfall of large natural (and semi natural) recreation areas and the need for greater climatic relief by developing regional water features, an urban forest, lookouts etc around the city.

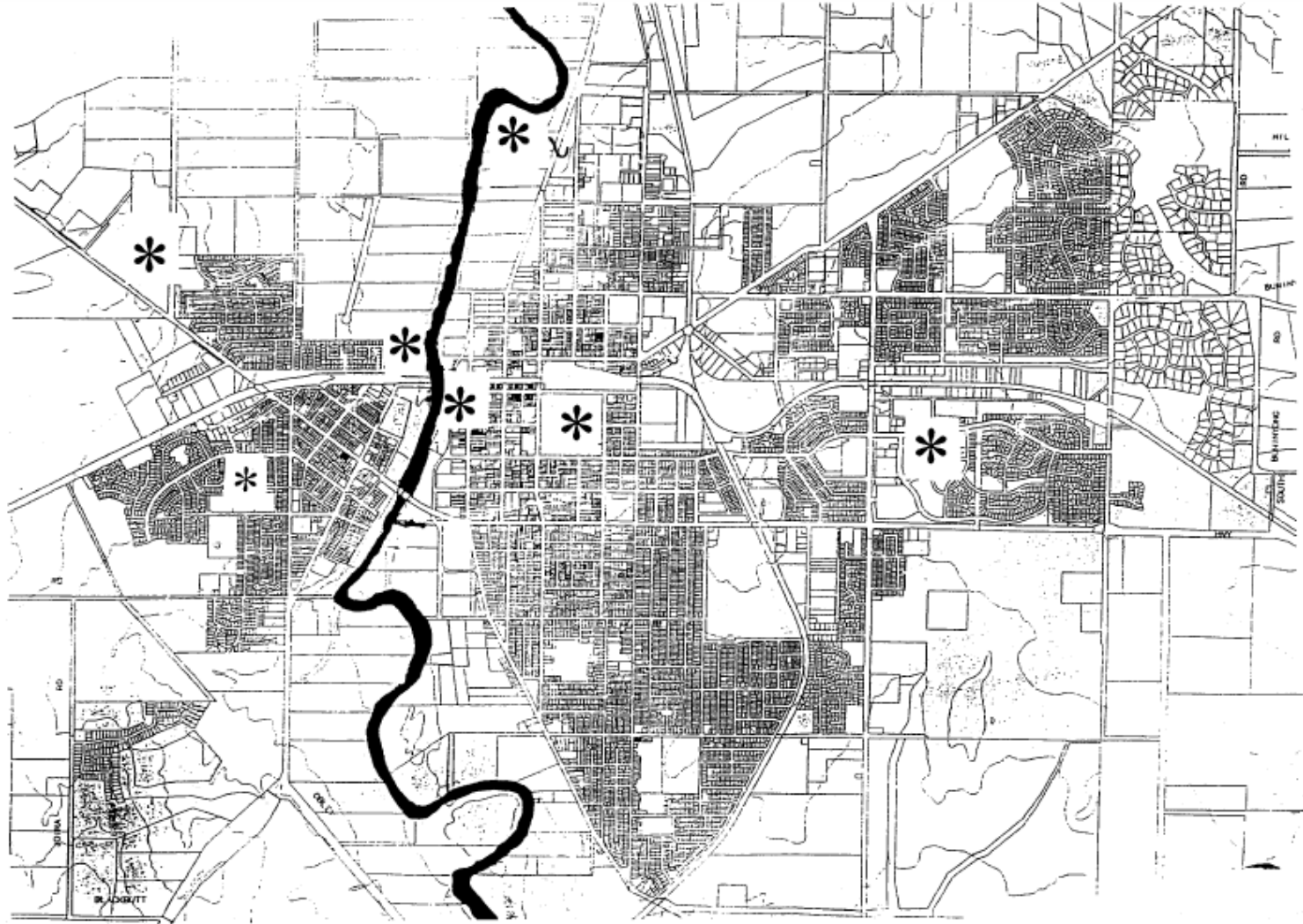


Diagram 4: Location of Existing Public Regional Recreational Areas *
*** includes developed and undeveloped**

DISTRICT RECREATION AREAS

Overview

This category comprises those “suburban” recreational areas that serve large areas of the Dubbo Community ie district parks and ovals and nature reserves and the like. They are used primarily by residents of the city rather than visitors.

The sites are usually 1-3 ha in size and have additional features not offered in the smaller neighbourhood parks eg facilities for local sporting events, picnic sites, river access etc but are not as large and well developed as the regional parks. They roughly correlate with the “B Level” parks category in the Business Plan.

These district parks are usually not as visible as the bigger regional parks and so may not be known to tourist or visitors. District parks are also larger than most neighbourhood parks and fewer in number and so they are not necessarily conveniently located within walking distance of home. Thus use of these parks is characterised by **locals** who **commute** specifically to the park with a specific activity in mind.

The majority of the citys existing District recreational areas are quite logically focussed on the river floodplain corridor. Other opportunities do exist within most of the residential parts of the city such that a district recreational area is usually within say, convenient cycling distance of schools and residential areas. However access to district recreational areas is least convenient for the residents of Eastridge ie the north east sector of the city.

Function

The function of a district recreation area is to provide a greater capacity for, and range of, active and passive recreational activity for the local population than that provided for in a neighbourhood park, but not of a scale or standard needed for a regional area.

Benefits

- Enhances the quality, aesthetic appeal, convenience and recreational opportunity of living in Dubbo;
- Improved state of mind of having open areas/reprieve from a built environment;
- Encourages community interaction; and
- Encourages activity and so may enhance general health.

Criteria

- Location - must be accessible by vehicles, public transport and bicycles, and identifiable (name and location);
- Scale - adequate size to accommodate local user groups and picnickers;
- Facilities - basic facilities as necessary to complement local activities (eg line marking of fields, bubblers, shade, toilets, picnic tables/BBQs); and
- Standard - sufficient quality to attract local residents to use the area.

Issues

- Determining the size necessary - adequate capacity but minimise maintenance;
- Accessible for users and their forms of transport - pedestrians, those with bikes, strollers;
- Provision of appropriate ancillary facilities - playgrounds, seating, bins;
- Reconciling the interests of different users - families, teenagers, workers;
- Potential for conflicts with other adjoining uses - vandalism, noise, transport routes;
- How many are needed; and

- Best location for new district areas.

Opportunities

- Convenient link to other facilities - eg via cycleways;
- More useable water areas (including improvements to the pool eg shade, space, safety fences);
- Sir Roden Cutler Park - could be adapted into an amphitheatre;
- Adventure Playgrounds for children;
- More facilities for West Dubbo eg shortfalls in city of Basketball/netball, cricket, golf, hockey, pool, rugby, stables, skateboard ramp, softball, tennis courts; and
- Request for more local parks - from O/S to neighbourhood parks to nature gardens, playgrounds.

Locations*

Pioneer Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, multi-use; and • Venue for regional sporting activities (fields, pitch, canteen, toilets) and has a neighbourhood function (playground).
Elston Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passive and semi-active, designed, multi-use; and • Formal garden and picnic area with playground.
Apex Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, multi-use; and • Venue for regional sporting activities (fields, grandstand, PA system, canteen).
Bourke Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, single use; and • Venue for regional hockey.
Riverbank Ovals 1 and 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, multi-use.
Riverbank Ovals 6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, multi-use.
Riverbank Oval 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, multi-use.
Riverbank Oval 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, multi-use.
Riverbank Ovals 8-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, multi-use; and • Venue for regional sporting activities - fields, pitch, canteen, toilets.
Ollie Robbins Oval	
Lady Cutler Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, multi-use; and • Venue for regional sporting activities - fields, pitch, canteen, toilets.
Lady Cutler Park/Sandy Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Sir Roden Cutler Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passive, semi natural.
Barden Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, multi-use; and • Venue for regional sporting activities - fields, pitch, athletics, grandstand, canteen, toilets.
Biddybunge Park	
Lions Park West	
Pioneer Oval/Park	
South Dubbo Park/Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active, designed, multi-use (seasonal); and • Venue for regional sporting activities - fields/pitch, canteen, toilets.
Troy Gully	
RSL Jubilee Oval	
East Dubbo Sporting Complex	

Police Paddock (proposed)	
Ballymore Park	
Leash Free Areas	
Cycleway	
Nature Reserve - Douglas Mawson Drive	

*Most of the Regional areas also serve a district function (ie Victoria Park, Devils Elbow/The Triangle, Macquarie Lions Park, Riverbank Park, Wiradjuri Park).

Action Plan for District Recreation Areas

Encourage

- Identify district recreation areas logically to reflect location and use or features - better identity (and signpost accordingly) that give clear direction as to their location and use - eg Riverbank Parks, Troy Gully, Manera Heights Park etc vs “Lady Cutler access via Ian Drake Drive”; and
- Provide a directory of which district recreation areas are which and their locations and permitted uses and provide with rate notices, for new residents, to local sports associations, schools, and in Council’s office and the library or convert this information onto the generally used A3 city map.

Control

- Provide adequate area within district recreational areas for off street parking of vehicles and bikes;
- New district recreational areas to be directed to sites within the primary or secondary spines;
- Identify and protect sites to the west for district recreation areas (preferably within the primary or secondary spines, or at least with easy access to it) to anticipate a future westward residential push;
- Negotiate with landowners to acquire access from existing district recreational areas into the proposed spines;
- Redress the inequitable distribution of district recreation areas throughout Dubbo by allocating areas within or proximate to Eastridge, North West Dubbo, Grangewood, Keswick and South Dubbo where feasible; and
- Locate new district recreational areas close to neighbourhood shopping centres, particularly in new areas of residential development.

Assist

- Develop district recreation areas to meet demands for both active and passive use;
- Develop a range of district recreation areas of varying character to meet the different needs of all sectors of the community - bushland, formal parks, basketball courts etc;
- Provide basic ancillary facilities as appropriate eg BBQs, picnic tables, bubblers, goal posts etc but avoid upgrading and promoting district recreation areas to the extent that they become used primarily for regional recreation;
- Incorporate or connect district recreation areas into the network eg along “leash free” areas or via cycleways (and provide bike stands etc to assist in their use);
- Allow for and encourage diversity of recreational opportunity within district recreation areas rather than dedication to a single use (where different uses are compatible);
- Allow for night use where not in conflict with adjoining land uses;
- Ensure district recreation areas are of adequate size for the use proposed (privacy/maintenance);
- Provide more large natural (and semi natural) district areas (including lookouts); and

- Develop the neighbourhood functions of the district recreational areas that are readily accessed by foot in urban areas.

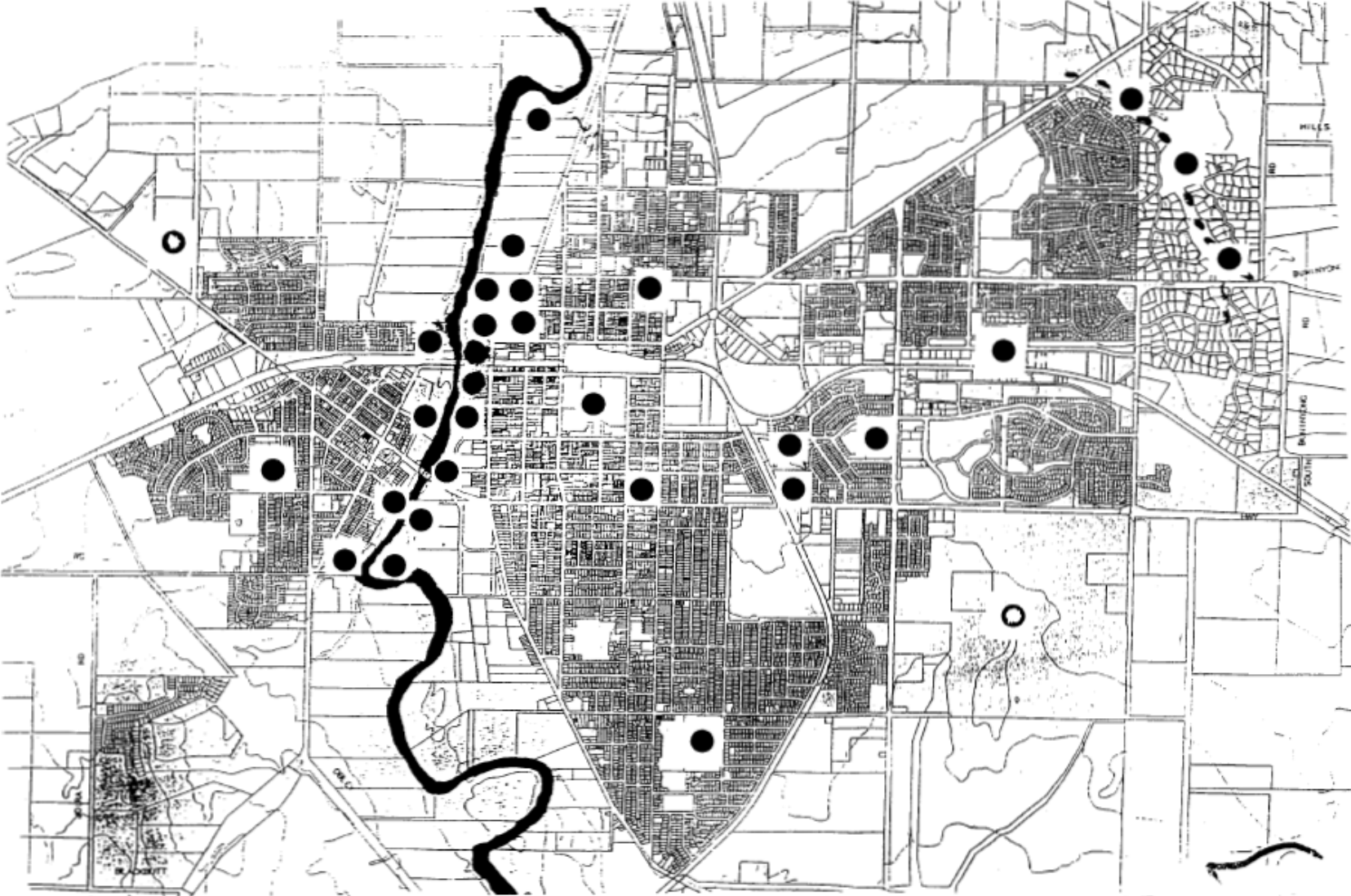


Diagram 5: Location of Existing Public District Recreational Areas *
* includes developed and undeveloped

NEIGHBOURHOOD RECREATION AREAS

Overview

These are the traditional “pocket” parks that are designed to serve the immediate community. They are generally less than 1 hectare and are sometimes as small as a house block and are located frequently between, and centrally within, each subdivision to be within walking distance of most lots. They roughly correlate with the “C Level” parks category in the Business Plan.

As they are small they are usually designed to be multi purpose and meet basic needs of most local residents, particularly the least mobile such as children and the elderly. They often have open areas for general “play” as well as a playground, tables and landscaping.

Neighbourhood recreation areas are fairly evenly distributed throughout the developed urban area of Dubbo. However, there are some relative shortfalls in the east and south east (eg Eyre Street area, Potter Close area, Lovett Avenue, and Goode Street where Cobra Street presents a barrier), and in the west (Alfred Street), and even in the Southern end of the CBD and north east of Erskine Street where there are significant high density residential populations.

Function

The function of a neighbourhood recreation area is to provide compact and highly accessible community space for informal/unstructured (active and passive) recreational activity for all people within the neighbourhood and to provide landscaped relief to the built environment.

Benefits

- Adds to the property value of land in the area;
- Convenience;
- Supervision;
- Aesthetics;
- Compensates for high density living;
- Use of unusable land - drainage easements etc; and
- Greater community interaction.

Criteria

- Location - must be within walking distance of all sites within the neighbourhood it is designed to serve;
- Scale - adequate size to accommodate small scale, informal recreation activity;
- Facilities - range of features to accommodate both active and passive recreational activity that is characteristic of the neighbourhood (gardens, turf, playground);
- Standard - sufficient quality to attract local residents to use the area;
- Pedestrian safety not compromised by abutting busy roads or other hazards; and
- Close to other neighbourhood facilities.

Issues

- Cost effectiveness - isolated parks expensive for Council to establish and maintain;
- Identifying the desired frequency of parks ie how big a catchment;
- How Big? - determining the size necessary - adequate capacity but minimise maintenance;
- Impact on the neighbourhood structure;
- Accessible for users and their forms of transport - ped, bikes, strollers;

- What are appropriate ancillary facilities? - playgrounds, seating, bins;
- Reconciling the interests of different users - families, teenagers, workers;
- Potential for conflicts with other adjoining uses - noise, transport routes;
- Secure and safe for children to use - ideally unsupervised; and
- Vandalism/Loitering.

Opportunities

- Linkages into the wider pedestrian network;
- Better integration with other community functions (shops, schools, child care etc); and
- Community ownership and maintenance.

Locations

Some from the previous lists of regional and district parks (Victoria Park, Western River Park, Lions Park West, Biddybunge Park, Pioneer Park, Elston Park, South Dubbo Park, Barden Park, Wahroonga Park, Spears Drive Park, Lunar Park, Alexander Bell Memorial Park, Troy Gully).

Plus

Algona Street
 Red Hill
 Sherwood Avenue
 Turnberry Park
 Tarlow Avenue
 Muller Park
 Manera Heights Park
 Jubilee Street Park
 The Bullrings
 Sommerlea Park
 Jack Williams Park
 Michael Duffy Park
 Arthur Summons Park (proposed)
 Sovereign/Birch Park
 Montgomery Park
 Kurrajong Estate Park
 Daphne Park

Action Plan for Neighbourhood Recreation Areas

Encourage

- Encourage community ownership/maintenance of neighbourhood parks; and
- Identify neighbourhood recreation areas by name to give them a unique local identity and encourage a greater sense of ownership from the local community (eg reflect vegetation or other features, through a residents' committee).

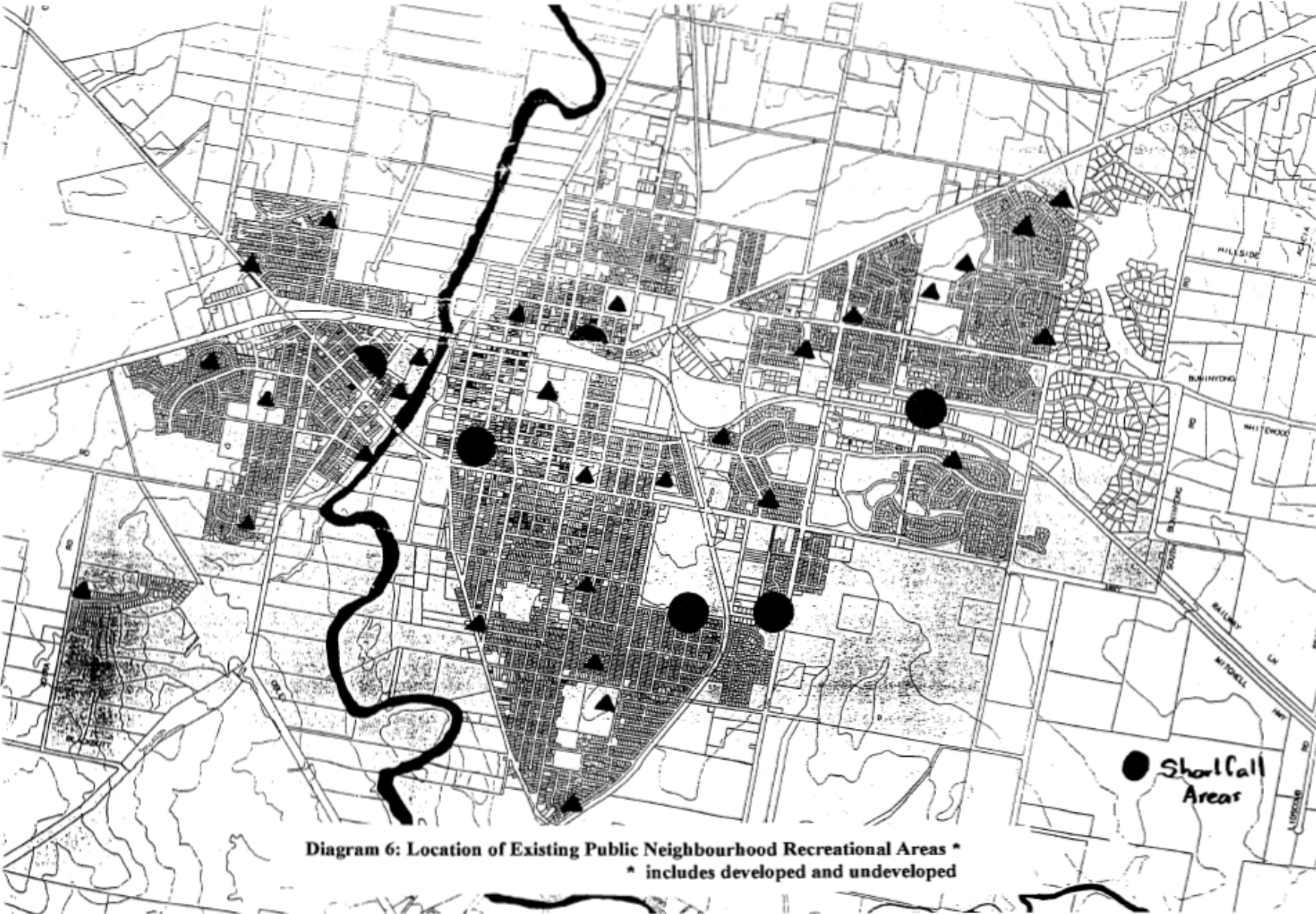
Control

- Incorporate neighbourhood parks at design stage of new residential subdivisions and locate subject to the "criteria" for neighbourhood areas;
- Section 94 Plans to require a monetary contribution for new developments where land (eg in the form a "pocket park") is not of adequate area or cannot be linked effectively into the network;
- All neighbourhood recreation areas to be in public ownership ie private, commercial interests for this level of recreation provision to be avoided;

- Capitalise on existing features of the area wherever possible when determining sites for neighbourhood recreation areas eg waterways, trees, hill etc;
- Design the balance of new residential subdivisions to maximise direct pedestrian links between residences and the recreation area; and
- Locate neighbourhood recreation areas as opened up sections along a cycleway where possible to enhance their connection to the larger network.

Assist

- Develop neighbourhood recreation areas to meet demands for both active and passive use;
- Ensure parts of the neighbourhood recreation areas are well landscaped to add to physical quality of the area (large trees, native gardens);
- Provide climatic relief by developing neighbourhood recreation areas as green and shaded. (Note this is particularly important in the higher density areas where there is likely to be an overall lack of significant greenery and trees);
- Design neighbourhood areas to be visible from residences to ensure easy supervision of children and minimise scope for vandalism etc;
- Consider sale and appropriate rezoning of existing inefficient pocket parks that are too small that can't be linked into the system;
- Regional or district parks within neighbourhoods or adjoining nodes to include an area set aside for neighbourhood facilities (playground etc); and
- Design and provide features to reflect needs and character of the local population eg:
 - elderly - gardens, bird attractors, level paths etc;
 - children - shaded playgrounds and open areas;
 - cultural bias - motifs, monuments; and
 - high density - leash free areas, trees etc



OTHER OPEN SPACE

Aside from the parks and reserves referred to in previous sections these are other areas of open space in the city. Some of these are better dealt with under the other urban strategies (eg unused industrial land, commercial land, rural buffer etc). However, the cemeteries do constitute open space in a sense to which public access is available and so are incorporated into this Strategy.

Cemeteries

Description

Dubbo has 2 operating public cemeteries:

- The Dubbo Lawn Cemetery (north of Cobbora Road); and
- The Old Dubbo Cemetery (south of Cobbora Road, bounded by Myall Street).

as well as a private cemetery:

- The Western Districts Memorial Park (on Boothenba Road) which includes a crematorium; and

a separate Abbey Funeral Home crematorium on Purvis Lane.

Principles

- Large areas of level vacant land;
- Sufficient lands or means to meet the needs of the city for the foreseeable future; and
- Flood free site.

Key Issues

- Compatibility with adjoining uses (odour of industry, traffic noise, residents concerns etc);
- Presentation and maintaining a quiet and appropriate atmosphere;
- Amenity for visitors (shade, shelter, toilets);
- Off street parking;
- Once this is established on a site no alternative uses can be considered;
- Physical constraints of existing sites - spatial, adjoining uses, access;
- Climatic obstacles to better landscape presentation; and
- Relative location of related services - Funeral Services, monumental masons, churches (especially re impressions of the procession route).

Opportunities

- Improve the physical appearance of the existing cemeteries;
- Provide a more diverse regional facility; and
- Adjoining sites may be appropriate for arboretum/gardens.

Objective for the Cemeteries

- To ensure adequate and appropriate areas for cemeteries that integrate with other associated services.

Benefits

- Meet the expectations of the local community to have well presented local cemeteries that are designed and managed to minimise trauma.

Approach

These sites are already committed to these uses. The value of the strategy then is to provide the context and to safeguard and enhance their operating environment.

Interested Parties

- Council, Funeral Directors.

Role

- To meet the long term needs of the City for cemeteries and associated services.

Action Plan/Policies

- Development of a historical record/map/directory/tour, of the older cemeteries reflecting the history of the area;
- Consider allowing for early evening services in daylight saving;
- Lead by example by providing a high quality landscaped environment and shade and shelter, seating, toilets and adequate off street parking areas for the Dubbo City Council controlled cemeteries;
- Embark on a street the planting program around the periphery of the sites; and
- In the absence of the Dubbo Museum, Dubbo City Council to consider providing records (ie family tree information) if there is a market.

APPENDIX

Recreational Study Findings

Bias - higher than proportional response rate from high income earners, older age groups, home owners, overseas born (section 3.3.1).

Suggest current trends in participate should continue (page 78).

Generally oriented towards better use of existing facilities rather than many new ones, better information and promotion and Council co-ordination of facilities and programs (page 19) eg via co-ordinated promotion of events and a brochure of recreational programs and facilities.

General view that there is too heavy an emphasis on sport at the cost of informal meeting and social facilities and cultural facilities (arts, youth service see Appendix J (page 19)).

Residents most value recreation where it offers a clean and safe environment and is accessible. Also that it provides an opportunity to be outdoors, for physical activity, meet people or be independent, and can be done any time at low cost (page 38).

Diversity of activities is important (page 38).

Barriers to greater use, relevant to Council, were a lack of toilets, lack of information on what recreation is available or where to get it or who else is interested in the same activities, cost and a lack of childcare. Specifics included a lack of activities/facilities to match their interest eg a large water body, bushwalking/climbing areas, music bands (page 50).

Unmet demand relevant to land supply (chapter 4) - visiting National Parks and Nature Reserves, walking and bushwalking, visiting Dubbo's parks, boating, horse riding, picnicking, bicycling, swimming, hunting, competitive sports (see page 54).

Vast majority of respondents believed Dubbo's recreation facilities needed to be improved and programs increased.

Desired new facilities relevant to this strategy (see page 57).

- Cross country track;
- Off road cycling track*;
- Ice rink;
- Indoor leisure centre;
- Dog training area*;
- Model aero ground;
- Roller skating rink;
- Roller hockey;
- Lake;
- Multi purpose sports field;
- Camp facility; and
- Storage facilities for recreational equipment etc.

*Underway

Parks - improvements included seating, fitness track, more water areas and shade, toilets, more BBQ and picnic sites (eg riverbank, Elston and Barden Park) and overall more park space (page 71).

More sport and recreational programs for Youth - (direct link to Council - staff member? - permanent drop in centre, evening activities for under 18's (page 72)).

More and/or improved standard of sports facilities accessible within the local area (eg better facilities to exploit opportunities for regional recreation - eg cricket, BMX, athletics, archery and soccer such as upgrading fields, construction of amenities and improving comfort and access (page 73)).

More shaded areas at the pool (page 73).

Sir Roden Cutler Park - could be adapted into an amphitheatre (page 74).

Improve access via improved bicycle and foot paths (page 75).

More Adventure Playgrounds for children (page 75).

Transport assistance for people who are house bound (page 58).

More facilities for West Dubbo - eg address shortfalls in city of basketball/netball, cricket, golf, hockey, pool, rugby, stables, skateboard ramp, softball, tennis courts (page 75).

Most agree there is ample provision of parks and open space. Request for more/improved local parks - from O/S to neighbourhood parks to nature gardens, playgrounds (page 75).

More family oriented programs and events (page 77).

Potential for social segregation may be reduced by recreation that brings elderly into contact with other groups (page 77).

Improved access to recreation for people with children eg ramps for prams, childcare, safety fences and public transport (page 77).

Strong emphasis on shared responsibility, rather than user fees, between user and Council for maintenance of facilities (page 78).

Improved disabled access.

Some agreement that Council should put a high priority on the following:

- Adventure playgrounds;
- Improved park seating;
- Bicycle path;
- Water areas; and
- A walk path (see page 79).

Mission Statement

Council will preserve, conserve and provide the physical and environmental resources necessary to enable the recreation plan to be implemented (page 83).

Recommendations

- Priority should be given to access (including physical ability to enter or do an activity, knowing an activity exists and that one is eligible to participate);
- Second priority should be given to ensure a safe environment (especially for children);
- Third priority should be the provision of basic amenities such as shade and water;
- Fourth priority should be the development of new facilities where they address an imbalance in overall leisure provision and where they can be jointly used by numerous groups/activities; and
- The final priority is the upgrading in the quality and standard of amenities and services.

That in relation to park usage that Council consider:

- Development of a directory or brochure of Dubbo's parks and amenities;
- Provision of desired amenities in the most frequently used/significant parks and ensuring a standardised provision of amenities for all future parks;
- Retention of the current high maintenance standard;
- Maximise park use safety by provision of lighting; and
- Monitoring park usage to guide future decision making.

That in relation to facilities that Council consider:

- The development of a multi purpose pathway system that links significant parks, sports grounds, schools and leisure facilities;
- Provision of facilities for non-sport groups;
- The development of facility standards;
- Monitoring levels and types of use;
- Equity of facility use by groups;
- The ability to respond to spontaneous recreation needs;
- Innovative provision of facilities;
- Specific facility development;
- The use of cost saving measures (volunteers);
- Users maintaining facilities in lieu of charges;
- The continuation of park and facility upgrading and maintenance; and
- That a range of facilities are desired but are not available to or accessible to the whole community.

That in relation to needed parks, facilities and services that Council, through the Recreation Officer, provide a diversity of recreation programs to fulfil the unmet recreation needs identified in the survey.

That in relation to Barriers to participation that Council consider:

- Standardised provision of amenities at popular outdoor venues;
- Subsidised childcare facilities and support;
- Facilities strategically located to maximise usage;
- Review of pricing structures and assistance to people that are financially disadvantaged; and
- Phased provision of the desired recreation facilities and programmes within Council's capability.

That in relation to Requests, Enquiries and ComplaintsN/A.

That in relation to promotion and public relations that Council increase awareness of parks and recreation opportunities, services and facilities through more effective and constant promotion.

That in relation to Social Justice and EquityN/A. (ie recommendations are finance not location oriented).

That recreation development proposals in the flood plain not be abandoned because of the likelihood of flood. The river corridor has been established to facilitate the use and enjoyment of the river resource. The predominant activities involve either direct access to and use of the river or visual enjoyment of the river and river corridor. In order to allow such use to continue, recreation amenities and structures must be located in the floodplain area.

Acknowledging the flood hazards associated with recreation development, and having determined that in most cases no reasonable alternative locations exist that would meet the needs of recreationists that accrue from a river corridor, this plan offers a series of management strategies in areas of known flood hazard.

- Picnic amenities, parking areas, paths and access roads should not be prohibited in the flood zone area;
- That maintenance and storage areas be located outside the flood zone areas;
- That all park furniture be constructed to a standard capable of withstanding the ravages of flood; and
- That all toilets provided for public amenity in the flood zone incorporate a “sealed” or raised system so as to minimise outflow during times of flood.

Inventory of Dubbo's Recreation Areas

		Regional	District	Neighbourhood
1	Victoria Park	*	*	*
2	Bourke Hill	*		
3	Elizabeth Park	*		
4	Devils Elbow	*	*	
5	The Triangle	*	*	
6	Police Paddock			
7	Riverbank Ovals 8-10		*	
8	Riverbank Ovals 6-7		*	
9	Riverbank Oval 5		*	
10	Riverbank Oval 4		*	
11	Macquarie Lions Park	*	*	
12	Riverbank Park	*	*	
13	Ollie Robbins Oval		*	
14	Riverbank Ovals 1-2		*	
15	Lady Cutler Ovals/Park		*	
16	Lady Cutler Park/Sandy Beach		*	
17	Tamworth South Street/ Council's Land			
18	O'Briens Land			
19	Sir Roden Cutler Park		*	
20	Western River Park			*
21	Lions Park West			*
22	Biddybunge Park		*	*
23	Wiradjuri Park	*	*	
24	Pioneer Oval/Park	*	*	*
25	Elston Park		*	*
26	Apex Oval		*	
27	South Dubbo Park/Oval		*	*
28	Barden Park		*	*
29	Wahroonga Park			*
30	Spears Drive			*
31	Joan Flint Park			
32	Lunar Park			*
33	Alexander Bell Memorial Park			*
34	Troy Creek		*	*
35	RSL Jubilee Oval		*	
36	East Dubbo Sporting Complex		*	
37	Brian Dickens Park			
38	Jubilee Street Park			*
39	The Bullrings			*
40	Sommerlea Park			*
41	Bennett's Park			*
42	???			
43	Drift Wells Park			
44	Tarlow Avenue			*
45	Turnberry Park			*
46	Red Hill			*
47	Algona Street			*
48	???			
49	Muller Park			*
50	Powter Park			
51	Terese Maliphant Park			
52	Manera Heights Park			*

		Regional	District	Neighbourhood
53	Arthur Summons Park			U
54	Ballymore Park			
55	Jack Williams Park			*
56	Michael Duffy Park			*
57	???			
58	Sovereign/Birch Park			*
59	Montgomery Park			*
60	Kurrajong Estate			*
61	Daphne Park			*
62	Nature Reserve - Douglas Mawson Drive		*	

U = Undeveloped at the time of writing

