

### 3.6. 2022/23 Capital Works Project Updates

<b>AUTHOR</b>	David Manson, Manager Parks & Reserves
<b>ENDORSED BY</b>	Peter Massey, Acting Director Open Space and Environmental Services
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	Nil
<b>CSP LINK</b>	1. Our Living Environment 1.4 Well utilised open space and recreational facilities

**PURPOSE:**

To inform the Sport and Recreation Reference Group members of the status of the capital works projects within the current financial year 2022/23.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report presents an update on capital works projects that are scheduled to be completed within the current financial year 2022/23.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **THAT** the Sport and Recreation Reference Group receive this report.

## **Background**

As part of Council's Delivery Plan, the following Sport and Recreation projects were scheduled to be undertaken through the current 2022/23 financial year

- St Leonard's Park Masterplan
  - Lighting Upgrade
  - Playground Upgrade
- Coal Loader
  - Tunnel #2 resurfacing
  - Pop Up Bar
- Playgrounds
  - Merret Playground Upgrade
  - Fred Hutley Playground
  - Prior Ave Playground
- Anderson Park Plan of Management Implementation – Sports field and Exercise Equipment projects
- Brennan Park Outdoor Fitness Equipment
- Forsyth Park # 2 – New Cricket Wicket
- Hume Street Park
- 1A Henry Lawson Ave – Return to Parkland
- Gore Cove Reserve Walking Track
- Tunks Park Amenities Block Upgrade

## **Projects Allocated in the 2022/23 Financial Year**

### **St Leonard's Park Masterplan**

#### **Southern Lawn**

Stage 3 of the St Leonards Park Masterplan is now open with the new raised pathway crossing through the much-improved landscape features.

The landscape improvement works on the Southern Lawn area of St Leonards Park provide a wider raised pathway, improved lighting, improved drainage, low level gardens to soften the North Sydney Oval wall, seating, and picnic areas.



### **Playground Upgrade**

On Monday 13 February the senior section of the playground was opened to the public and it has been much enjoyed from day one. The senior section of the playground is a brand-new extension to the refurbished junior playground, which was opened to the public before Christmas 2022.

The exciting new section of the playground offers a great entertainment hub for older children who can enjoy fun and challenging outdoor activities. The playground is fitted out with a combination of climbing, swinging, spinning and balancing play activities. Custom-made monkey bars, climbing sandstone boulder and a 'goofy' balancing beam will keep that age group entertained. An introduction of a sky surfer gives older children a chance to explore new ways of playing, managing space and height of the experience. An innovative zip line proved to be one of the favourites and clearly satisfies the needs and expectations of all children. Elevated 'hang out' baskets located on the top of the climbing structure, 360 degrees basket swing, two picnic settings and ample options for seating make this playground comfortable for all visitors.



The official launch of the new St Leonards Park Playground took place on Sunday 26th February. The event resulted in a fun event featuring a ceremonial ribbon cutting, free face painting, giant bubbles, ice cream and coffee for playground visitors.



### ***Coal Loader***

**Tunnel #2 resurfacing** – The surface of the main public tunnel will be resurfaced to remove any potential hazards that are currently identified. Council was successful in obtaining a grant for \$116,500. Council allocated \$118,500.00 taking the total to \$235,000.00. It is expected that the project will go to tender in May 2023 and construction be completed by the end of the current financial year.

**Pop Up Bar** – Some components of the pop up bar such as plumbing/electrical provision and bi-fold dooring is planned to be installed at the Coal Loader this financial year. Council have allocated \$261,000.00 to this project. It is expected that the project will go to tender during April of this year and construction be completed by the end of the current financial year. There are insufficient funding to complete all of the originally planned design.

### ***Playgrounds***

**Fred Hutley Reserve** - Council have allocated \$282,000.00 to the refurbishment of this playground that is now complete.

The unique custom design play equipment is a response to a beautiful leafy garden setting, within which the play space is located. The playground offers a vast variety of experiences and a pleasant environment for parents and carers with adequate mix of formal and informal seating, new water bubbler and improved site access.



**Prior Ave Reserve** – Council have allocated \$170,000.00 to the refurbishment of this playground. At present the design and community consultation has been completed. The project are out for quotations with construction programmed for May and June 2023.

**Merret Playground** – This project was originally placed on hold due to the status of the Waverton Bowling Club land ownership. A report went to Council in March and now that the outcome of the ownership has been determined Council resolved to proceed with the Merrett Playground upgrade.

New quotations will need to be sought through April with construction to be scheduled for June 2023.

**Hume Street Park** – Crows Nest has an additional 800m<sup>2</sup> of much-needed open space with the creation of a new plaza between Hume Street and Hume Lane. A central grassed area with perimeter planting joins the 400m<sup>2</sup> pedestrian link between the plaza and popular Willoughby Road.

This project was funded by the NSW Government through the Precinct Support Scheme and North Sydney Council.



**Forsyth Park # 2 Cricket Wicket** - The old wicket had a cracked in 2 pieces and the southern end would always hold a significant puddle of water. The new wicket has been installed over the top of the old one and is 28 meters in length (3 meters longer than the old one). It now sits a little higher than the surrounding turf to ensure that any water runs off the pitch itself.



## **Anderson Park Masterplan**

Anderson Park has been closed for use since September 2022 to undertake the reconstruction works identified in the Anderson Park Masterplan. Specifically, the Stage 2 Sports field relocation and upgrade.

This project (along with the fitness stations) benefited from Grant funding of \$782,062.50 through the Greater Cities Sport facility Fund 2020/21.

Works included:

- New LED Sports Field lighting;
- Relocation of the Sports field further west;
- New irrigation system;
- Extensive drainage to the sports field area;
- 2 new synthetic Cricket wickets; and
- New turf surface of Santa Ana Couch.

The field opening has been pushed back a few weeks due to drainage construction delays which has affected the turf recovery rate. There are still a couple of items that need to be finalised, but the field was opened for use as of the Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> of April 2023. Photos below taken from the east and west of the site.

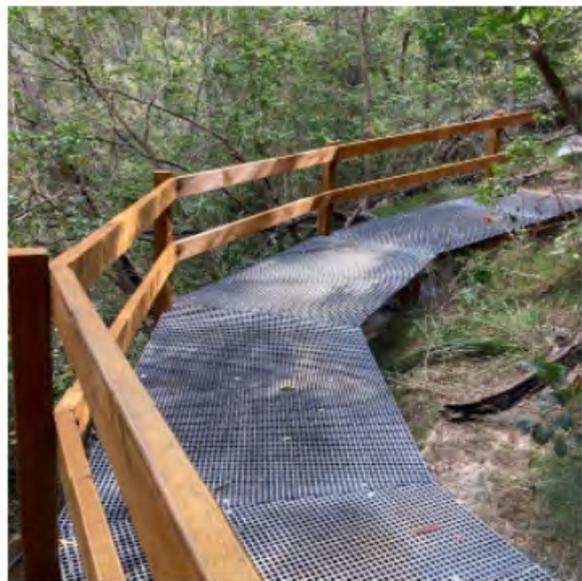


**Exercise Equipment** - Recently installed outdoor gym equipment, along the foreshore of Anderson Park provides an opportunity for more casual exercise enthusiasts who will appreciate the beautiful surrounding while they exercise. This exercise hub offers easy to use equipment which allows for cardio, cross training and strength workouts. Complemented by casual seating and planting, it blends well with the surrounding landscape. This project was funded by Rotary Club of North Sydney Sunrise and it commemorates 100 years of Rotary in Australia.



**Gore Cove Reserve Walking Track** - Last year, Council was successful in obtaining \$179,000 in grant funding from the NSW Government for the purpose of upgrading the Gore Cove track. This funding provides a unique opportunity to upgrade the track using large-dimension sandstone blocks as the primary building material. Apart from being a natural track construction material with aesthetic appeal, the main advantage of using sandstone is the superior longevity it provides (compared to timber) in both wet and dry conditions.

Stage 1 of the upgrade project was completed in late January 2023, delivering over fifty sandstone steps, water-bars, a new raised boardwalk, and a refurbished footbridge (see images below).



Stage 2 of the project will focus on a relatively inaccessible 650 lineal metre section of the track that is north of the track entrance from Shirley Road, Wollstonecraft. Delivering the heavy sandstone block materials to where they are needed along this section of the track, without causing damage and disturbance to bushland vegetation, presented a major challenge to the project. To overcome this issue, Council engaged a specialist aerial operations contractor to deliver the required materials by helicopter.

On the 23 March Helicopter Lifting Services Pty Ltd lifted over forty one-tonne bags of sandstone blocks from Balls Head Reserve carpark and delivering them to four pre-determined drop points along the Gore Cove track.



**Tunks Park Amenity Building Refurbishment-** In October 2022, North Sydney Council successfully completed an upgrade of an existing changeroom located at the western end of Tunks Park.

The refurbished building offers a modern facility for players and their supporters. It provides easy access to shade, shelter and toilets. As part of the upgrade, Council improved configuration of the internal spaces which now offer two separate changerooms making it suitable for male and female participants. An addition of a new canteen assists clubs in fundraising effort through the provision of a new fitted out kitchen, a serving window, an extension of a veranda roof and a concrete slab. The refurbished facility also provides new accessible toilet and shower, generous storeroom, and a water fountain.

This project was funded by the 2021/22 Greater Cities and Regional Sport Facility Fund (\$135,090) in association with North Sydney Council.



**1A Henry Lawson Ave** – This site has recently been transferred to the ownership of North Sydney Council from the NSW Government.

Council will be demolishing the existing building, removing the fences and the site will become public open space, providing the missing link which was dividing the two halves of Henry Lawson Reserve.

Under plans currently being developed, heritage elements including the historic slipways, sandstone walls and former building footprints will be retained and incorporated into the new section of park.

A Development Application will be lodged for the demolition work. Plans will be finalised once demolition works are complete.



**Brennan Park Outdoor Fitness Equipment** – Brennan Park has been allocated \$30,000.00 for the installation of some fitness equipment. This project has yet to begin but is expected to be completed by April 2023

### **Consultation requirements**

Community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Protocol.

### **Financial/Resource Implications**

Funding for these projects is included in the adopted 2022/23 capital works budget.

Existing Council staff were allocated to implement the project management of each of these projects.

### **Legislation**

The legislative requirements were considered and undertaken for all of these projects.