



Artists Impression - Events Space with Pavillions

Provide equitable use of Park space, maximise use and improve safety and access to facilities for all users.

6.3 Proposed Facility Development

Objective

- Provide equitable use of Park space, maximise use and improve safety and access to facilities for all users.

Design Principles

- Ensure new infrastructure and facilities, including new pavilions, are multi purpose and provide for varied age groups, genders and abilities.
- Improve facilities in the proximity of existing high use areas including Sturt Street frontage, sports ovals and VicTrack.
- Prioritise upgrades that will improve park usability by the general public. This includes improved access to toilets, all abilities facilities and the provision of women’s change rooms.
- Upgrades to facilities must be sustainable, durable and underpinned by Ecologically Sustainable Design (ESD) and Healthy by Design principles.
- New custom designed elements such as signage and shelters must be appropriately designed and located to be sympathetic with the Park character.
- New off the shelf furniture items such as drinking fountains, seating, rubbish bins, picnic tables etc. should be in keeping with the City of Ballarat Street and Park Furniture Guidelines.
- Lighting is to be restricted to selected sports facilities and associated car parks only.

Recommendations

Design

- At a minimum, provide basic upgrades including accessible toilets and women’s change rooms to the existing clubrooms. Further consultation with user groups is required to determine the extent of upgrades/replacement in the long term however the provision of toilets and women’s change rooms should be prioritised.
- Provide a new pavilion to service ovals and lakes precinct. This should have publicly accessible toilets and needs of users of all abilities and genders must be considered in the design (refer Organised Sports and Clubs section for more detail).
- Provide new DDA compliant gravel paths connected

to VicTrack with associated furniture, signage, seats and drinking fountains (See Access, Circulation and Connections for more detail).

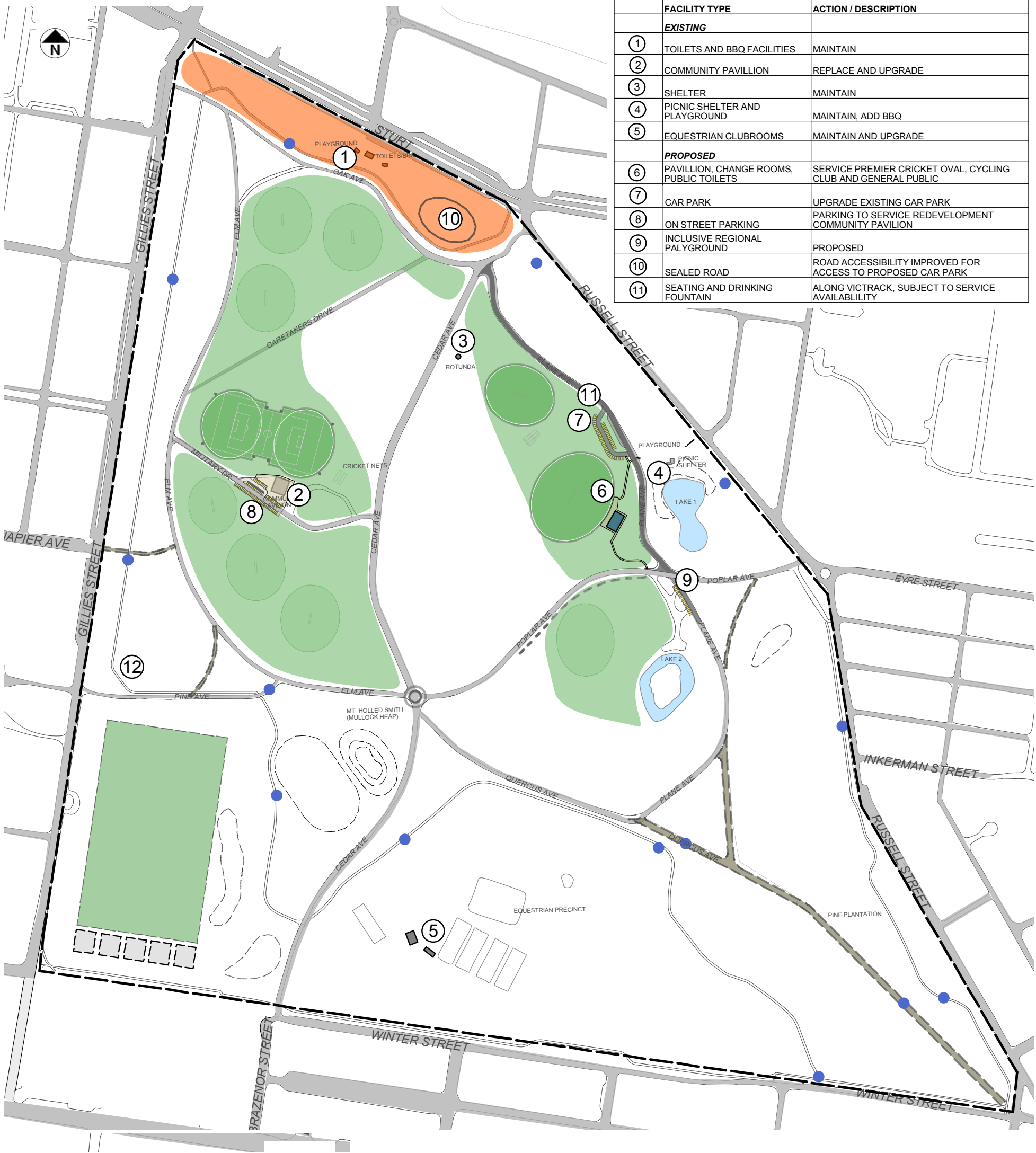
- Implement the construction of the Inclusive Regional playground at the corner of Sturt St and Cedar Ave.
- Improve crossings and pathway connections (See Access, Circulation and Connections for more detail).
- Consider provision of facilities to service new infrastructure including Inclusive Regional playground, and events space.
- Upgrade lighting to competition grade ovals (Ovals 4 and 5 for soccer and oval 10 cricket) and associated facilities. Lighting should be restricted to these areas only.
- Improve path connections including swale crossings (see Circulation, Access and Connections)
- Add a BBQ to the existing shelter and picnic area off Russell St.

Implementation

- Undertake further consultation with user groups to determine the extent of upgrades to existing clubrooms.
- Prepare new concept for redevelopment of existing clubrooms - provision of toilets and women’s change rooms and upgrades to forecourt and car park (See Traffic Management Section for detail).
- Prepare concept design for new pavilion
- Prepare landscape concept plans for upgrades to sports fields and associated access, lighting, shelters, new cricket nets, car park & road upgrades and furniture.



Proposed Facility Development Plan



KEY

VICTORIA PARK PRECINCTS

- ACTIVE EDGE
- SPORTS GROUNDS

FACILITIES

- EXISTING FACILITY - REF. SCHEDULE
- PROPOSED FACILITY - REF. SCHEDULE
- INCLUSIVE REGIONAL PLAYGROUND - REFER SCHEDULE
- PROPOSED SEALING OF ROAD - REFER SCHEDULE
- SEATING ALONG VICTRACK (ESTIMATED LOCATIONS ONLY) - REFER SCHEDULE
- OPEN LAWN EVENTS SPACE

Provide equitable use of Park space, maximise use and improve safety and access to facilities for all users.

6.4 Organised Sports and Clubs

Objective

- Provide facilities that balance the needs of various organised user groups, schools and clubs at different times so as to maximise use and minimise park space required.

Design Principles

- Reduce overall footprint of sports ovals but increase use by improving the quality of surfaces and providing for flexible use.
- Consolidate sports facilities (this will reduce servicing costs) and remove defunct infrastructure.
- Ensure sports facility availability is equitably split between sports users, other user groups and the general public.
- Consider proximity to existing lakes to take advantage of irrigation potential.
- Locate sports ovals in close proximity to active edge to maximise potential for shared facilities in high use areas.
- Locate premium oval within close proximity to St Patrick's to maximise potential for school use and financial input.
- Maintain existing open landscape quality and accessibility by ensuring ovals remain unfenced with the exception of the length of low transparent fencing between the dog off lead area (oval 11) and the criterium course (Poplar Avenue).
- Determine the long term future of the criterium circuit in Victoria Park and address associated conflicts.

Recommendations:

Management

- Undertake a detailed review of existing oval surfacing including sub soil and turf type to optimise playing surfaces.
- Undertake detailed assessment of usage levels, capacities and time allocations of various active sports groups in line with consultation feedback.

Design

- Review condition of ovals 1, 2 and 3 and establish strategy to improve surface. This may include top-dressing, grass species changes and/or minor regrading.
- Ovals 4 and 5 consolidated to create a multipurpose soccer (junior and senior) and cricket field with new lighting and possible irrigation.
- Ovals 6, 7, and 8 remain unchanged.
- Develop two higher priority cricket / football ovals (9 and 10), located near to St Patricks, to be improved in partnership with the School. These ovals will be increased in size and irrigated using water from wetlands, where possible.
- Provide new pavilion incorporating publicly accessible toilets, change rooms, and spectator area adjacent to two irrigated ovals.
- Provide sealed car parks to both existing and new pavilions and restrict car access to grassed areas.
- Establish bus drop off zone on Plane Ave.
- Remove existing defunct cricket nets from grasslands and near existing club rooms and provide new cricket nets closer to the enlarged irrigated ovals (Ovals 9 and 10).
- Define criterion course and modify intersections to improve safety during cycling events.
- Upgrades to facilities in line with Facility Development section of this report.
- If the criterium circuit is to be retained in Victoria Park prepare detailed plans to upgrade the existing course, improve surfaces, install traffic management treatments at intersections, install fencing alongside the dog off leash area, and make the proposed new pavilion adjacent to oval 10 available and suitable for use during training and events.

- If the criterium circuit is to be relocated to another site in Ballarat in the longer term, carry out short term remedial works to improve the road surface and reduce the potential for conflict with the adjoining dog off leash area.
- Retain dog off leash area at oval 11 and install approximately 150-200 metres long low impact transparent fence along Poplar Avenue to keep dogs away from road (if criterium circuit remains). Install dog of leash area signage in the upgraded lakes precinct car park.

Implementation

- Design and documentation of irrigation using recycled water to ovals 9 and 10 (see Hydrology and Lake Improvements).
- Basic surface amelioration works to ovals as required (details to be covered in oval surfacing report).
- Prepare landscape concept plan for sports precinct upgrades (including sports related facilities outlined in previous chapter).
- Remove redundant cricket nets and redevelop new nets in a more appropriate location.



Proposed Organised Sports and Clubs Plan



KEY

VICTORIA PARK PRECINCTS

SPORTS GROUNDS PRECINCT

ORGANISED SPORTS

- PROPOSED IRRIGATED PLAYING FIELD
- EXISTING PLAYING FIELD
- REMOVED PLAYING FIELD
- PROPOSED CRICKET NETS
- LOW FENCE FOR DOG OFF LEASH AREA
- CYCLING CRITERIUM COURSE

OVAL	PROPOSAL
1,2,3	Review condition of playing fields & establish strategy to improve condition that may include topdressing, grass species changes, regrading etc
4 & 5	Ovals consolidated to create a multipurpose soccer (junior & senior) & cricket field with new lighting and possibly irrigated
6,7,8	Ovals remain unchanged
9	Irrigated, enlarged & repositioned with consideration to existing trees
10	Becomes the premier competition standard oval, irrigated, enlarged & repositioned with consideration to existing trees
11	Maintain as dog-off-leash area with partial protective fence
12	Oval removed and area returned to native grassland
13	Oval removed and area returned to native grassland

Provide improved facilities (including sports pavillions) that balance the needs of various organised user groups, schools and clubs at different times so as to maximise use and minimise park space required.



Artists Impression - Premier Oval Upgrade