

MOOROOPNA RECREATION RESERVE **MASTER PLAN**



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Traditional Owners

We, the Greater Shepparton City Council, acknowledge the Yorta Yorta Peoples of the land which now comprises Greater Shepparton. We pay respect to their tribal Elders, we celebrate their continuing culture and we acknowledge the memory of their ancestors.

Climate Change

Greater Shepparton is the food bowl of Victoria and our reliance on agriculture underpinning our social and economic prosperity is just one example of our vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. As a Council we are in a prime position to demonstrate strong leadership and guide our community by reducing our environmental footprint, and driving climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.

Council have a climate adaptation plan and in March 2020, declared a climate emergency. Council also have a 2030 zero emissions target for council operations.

INTRODUCTION

Situated just across the causeway from Shepparton, Mooroopna has an identity all of its own. Known as the Fruit Salad City, Mooroopna is nestled amongst orchards familiar to the region.

The community's vision for Mooroopna as articulated in the Mooroopna Community Plan is for "a safe, vibrant and thriving community where residents are connected and young people are valued and involved. A town that utilises the river and parklands, attracts visitors and has infrastructure, transport and services that match the community's growth and need"

The area has a population of approximately 8,144. There are 1,993 families and the gender split is 48% male and 51% female and the median age is 42. It is projected to grow by around 22% by 2036 and remain fairly stable from an age profile perspective and it is unlikely the demand for facilities at the Recreation Reserve will decline based on demographics, but rather as a minimum remain stable, with potential for increased demand in the future.

The Mooroopna Recreation Reserve is located on Crown Land with the Greater Shepparton City Council the appointed Committee of Management, there are also a number of buildings and facilities that operate under lease arrangements, all of which are with the Council. There is still a very active user-based committee that undertakes a number of capital and maintenance projects at the site.

The Recreation Reserve is extensive and reflects a regional standard space with a trotting track, two ovals, multi-use grass spaces, grass and hard surface tennis courts, lawn bowls, croquet, netball, a fire brigade training area, playground and a number of spectator, toilet and change facilities as well as a functions and event centre.

In addition to a high level of local use, the venue also hosts a number of major events and has capacity to host national standard activities in some disciplines.



BACKGROUND

The Mooroopna Recreation Reserve plays a pivotal role in the provision of open space, sport, recreation, community and event opportunities for the Mooroopna Community and visitors.

A master plan was undertaken in 2008 however requires review.

Factors leading to the decision to review the plan include:

- 1. The need to undertake planning to guide future development across the Mooroopna Recreation Reserve at a holistic level.
- 2. To better respond to changing demographics, needs of residents and visitors (including changing participation trends and demographics) in the future development of the Reserve.
- 3. To better respond to State Sporting Associations in relation to the provision of sport and recreation opportunities, including assessment of current and future needs.
- 4. To address impacts and opportunities from the development of the Mooroopna Recreation Reserve.
- 5. To address the management of the precinct given Council are the Committee of Management.
- 6. The need to address ageing infrastructure in the context of planning for the future.
- 7. The need to develop strategic guidance to Clubs and Associations, visiting organisations and events in terms of effective future development, management and operations that can be of benefit to the Reserve in the future.



CURRENT SITUATION

PRECINCT OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

The Mooroopna Recreation Reserve is located on Crown Land with the Greater Shepparton City Council the appointed Committee of Management, there are also a number of buildings and facilities that operate under lease arrangements, all of which are with the Council.

Facility	Lease Holder	Expiry
Communication Tower	Telstra	
Part of Stadium	Jets Gymnastics	31/01/2023
Bowls Facility	Mooroopna Bowls Club	01/01/2023
Cricket Nets	Mooroopna Cricket Club	30/06/2024
Parsons Cricket Pavilion	Mooroopna Cricket Club	30/06/2024
Croquet Facility	Mooroopna Croquet Club	30/06/2024
Netball Courts	Mooroopna FNC	30/06/2024
Scoreboards	Mooroopna FNC	30/06/2024
Change Rooms in Stadium	Mooroopna FNC	30/06/2024
Canteen on Main Oval	Mooroopna FNC	30/06/2024
Harness Racing Facility	Mooroopna Harness Racing Club	30/06/2024
Sir Ian McLennan Centre	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
Hardcourt Tennis Courts, Pavilion and Toilets	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
Tennis Club BBQ & Shelter	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
Care-Taker Residence	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
Max Connors Pavilion & BBQ	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
AG Harbrow Fire Brigade Judges Building	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
Fire Brigade Pump Shed and Kiosk	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
Junior Sports Pavilion	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
WM reid Memorial Fire Tracks 1 & 2	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
Fire Brigade Track Tower	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
Toilet Block 1 (adjoining Sir Ian McLennan Centre)	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
Toilet Block 2 (adjoining Caretaker)	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
Mooroopna Community Storage Shed	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024
Lawn Courts Machinery Shed and Rainwater Tanks	Mooroopna Committee of Management	30/06/2024

The area as highlighted on the map below is zoned as Public Park and Recreation as well as an Urban Floodway Zone, being the ú'shaped area running through the centre, lower and western areas of the reserve.





PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Heritage Buildings

The Ted Davis stand is identified under the Heritage Overlay and its ongoing conservation is important to Council and the community.

Traffic Management

A key issue identified by Council's Strategic Planning Department is managing traffic and access around the site, especially the main intersection of the Midland Highway and Toolamba Road/Echuca Road and any required upgrades.

Flooding

Parts of the site are within the Urban Floodway Zone and the Floodway Overlay, which will require careful considerations when constructing anything that may alter the flow of water across the land. The Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority will need to be a key stakeholder should any development of these areas be proposed.

TENNANT SPORTS CLUBS

The table below provides an indication of the numbers of people that are participants in the organised sports conducted at the reserve. The numbers are estimates based on team numbers and do not include the significant number of other critical people involved in the facilitating of these clubs such as committee members etc. nor the people who attend events as supporters.

User	Participants	Last 5 Years	Next 5 Years
Jets Gymnastics	1,000+	increased	increase
Mooroopna Bowls Club	60	stable	stable
Mooroopna Cricket Club	120	stable	stable
Mooroopna Croquet Club	25	stable	stable
Mooroopna Football Netball Club - Football	110	stable	stable
Mooroopna Football Netball Club - Netball	50	stable	stable
Mooroopna Harness Racing Club	20	stable	stable
Mooroopna Junior Football Club	110	stable	stable
Mooroopna Lawn Tennis Club	65	increased	stable
Mooroopna Urban Fire Brigade	40	increased	increase
Major Events - Tennis	1,000+		
Community Events - New Years Eve Celebrations	3,000+		

Mooroopna Bowls Club

The Bowls Club use the facility regularly, more than 20 times a year. They have around 60 playing members plus another 20 non-playing members and supporters and around 40 regular volunteers. Their numbers have remained relatively stable over the last five years and they expect it to remain that way for the next five.

Key issues and projects identified by the club relating to the reserve include the connection to raw water for irrigation and the erection of an all-weather roof which they suggest will encourage more new members and school groups to use the facilities.

Mooroopna Cricket Club

The Cricket Club use the facility regularly, more than 20 times a year. They have around 120 playing members plus another 60 or so non-playing members and supporters and around 20 regular volunteers. While their numbers have dropped slightly over the last five years, they have remained relatively strong and are one of the only sides still supporting five sides. They anticipate their numbers remaining relatively stable over the next five years.

Continued development and upgrading of the grounds and the facilities is the key issue identified by the Club. Maintenance of the cricket wickets during the football season is an issue as \$4,000 is required to be spent on turf wickets each year to get them back to a cricket wicket after they have been decimated by the football season and the extensive use of the Mooroopna Recreation Reserve as it is such a great facility. More effort to preserve the turf wickets during the winter so that they are "playable" as soon as the cricket season starts would be desirable. Additional work needs to be done to make the grounds more secure from vehicles and unauthorised use.



Agenda - CM20210720 - Council Meeting - 20 July 2021 Attachments

Mooroopna Croquet Club

The Croquet Club use the facility for competition roughly 10 or so times a year. They have around 25 playing members and around 25 regular volunteers. Their numbers have remained relatively stable over the last five years and they hope to increase them over the next five.

The croquet club did not raise any issues or projects for the facility.

Mooroopna Football Netball Club

The Football Netball Club use the facility regularly, more than 20 times a year. They have around 160 playing members plus well over 150 non-playing members and supporters and around 80 regular volunteers. Their numbers have remained relatively stable over the last five years and they expect it to remain that way for the next five.

They have around 110 footballers across four grades (seniors, reserves, under 18s and under 16s) and around 50 netballers, also across five grades (A and B grade, B reserve, Under 17s and under 15s).

With Cats Junior netball, recently amalgamated with their seniors. There are now over 100 kids, but they play at the Shepparton Netball Association courts in Shepparton, not the recreation reserve. The Club has said that they have tentacles in all facets of the community. Examples provided include players employed in the town, to the local businesses that support the club. The club is part of the Mooroopna community and in many ways such as mental health, reduction of wilful damage type crime (by engaging youth). Local service clubs work with the club and support the developments at the reserve. The committee regularly liaises with the Mooroopna Cricket Club, the Council depot, Council events, Mooroopna Past Players and Officials Inc. and sport/rec team more generally and the Mooroopna Recreation Reserve Committee. They estimate they regularly work with between 50 and 100 community partners running over various segments.

The Football Netball Club stated that they have a great recreation reserve in Mooroopna with lots of open space and generally great facilities. In terms of needs they have stated that toilets are incredibly important and most definitely required. There are really no adequate toilet and shower facilities at the netball area. They have a number of projects in motion or completed in recent months. The next big project is the erection of the coaching boxes, administration and storage area. They have said that this will certainly add to the great common use facilities and create a more professional atmosphere. They have stated that what has already been achieved is outstanding citing examples such as the 500 lux lights and electronic score board and that these show the power of community to raise funds and commit to the club and the town.

Mooroopna Junior Football Club

The Junior Football Club use the facility regularly, more than 20 times a year. They have around 190 playing members ranging from under 10s to under 16s and youth girls. They have more than 200 nonplaying members and supporters and more than 30 regular volunteers. Their numbers have remained relatively stable over the last five years and they expect it to remain that way for the next five. The club have stated that the provision and standard of change-room and toilet facilities is not adequate for current usage, including, junior interleague, finals and other major sporting events hosted by the club and the council. They have recommended that change-toilet facilities on the Bernie Trevaskis oval need to be demolished and replaced with a new facility to service John Gray and surrounding junior sports ovals and that this facility could incorporate male and female and senior women change rooms opening up onto the back ovals and John Gray and that if they included a canteen area with an awning for a BBQ it would save a lot of setting and packing up on junior interleague, SDJFL finals and Council events.

They have also suggested that the existing senior and visitor changeroom provision needs to be looked at in terms of location and standard, questioning if they are in the right location and should they incorporate netball change-rooms as well. Upgrades to wet areas are required to allow for unisex areas.

Mooroopna Harness Racing Club

The Harness Racing Club use the facility regularly for training, more than 20 times a year. They have around 60 members and around 15 regular volunteers and 20 trainers that regularly use the facilities at various times. Their numbers have remained relatively stable over the last five years and they expect they may increase over the next five with more industry involvement.

Their preference is to remain at the Mooroopna facility long term and if that was to occur, they see some opportunities to upgrade facilities and increased use through offering stabling as well as being open to shared use with other sports and activities.

The key issue identified by the club relating to the reserve was security.

Mooroopna Lawn Tennis Club

The Lawn Tennis Club use the facility regularly, more than 20 times a year. They have around 65 playing members plus another 100 non-playing members and supporters. Their numbers have increased by around 5% annually over the last five years and they expect them to at least remain stable if not grow over the next five.

The club's players are made up of around 50 juniors spread across 11 grades and 15 seniors over two grades.

The committee stated that tennis unlike other sports has become a junior sport with low income (low fees, sponsors do not see return from junior tennis players) and high overheads (grass courts), so the club does not have money to put into infrastructure.

Key issues and projects identified by the club relating to the reserve include:

- The development of temporary reserve tennis courts built next to permanent courts so that they can better support Shepparton Lawn during larger tennis events
- Club house and Social Spaces. They currently have a small section in the Sir Ian McLennan Centre

as well as the small 'tea-room' building at the hard courts. The have said that their rooms are regularly used for storage of chairs and tables from the Sir Ian McLennan Centre and that they really do not have room for larger or more regular events without having to book and hire space from the committee or football club. They also stated they often have to clean up after other functions and users. Ultimately, they would like their own facility but are open to discussing alternative arrangements regarding use of the Sir Ian McLennan Centre.

- Hardcourt upgrades needed include lights, which were originally constructed in the 1970s or 1980s and they are having difficulty finding replacement parts. While they would like to keep six courts, they have said they could function with four, if two were marked for multi-use, two for tennis only and improved lighting was incorporated
- Fencing requires upgrades and repair in some sections
- Access to raw water as the town water too expensive
- Large trees in need of removal around tennis courts as they are dropping branches and damaging courts.

They have stated that they have good working relationships with the committee and other users and are open to shared facilities.

Mooroopna Urban Fire Brigade

The Urban Fire Brigade use the facility regularly, more than 20 times a year. They have around 40 firefighters that use the facility for regular training. Their numbers have increased over the last five years and they expect it to remain stable or increase slightly over the next five. In addition to this, neighbouring brigades use the reserve for training when CFA training "pods" are on site, two-three times per year with approximately 100 fire-fighters on each rotation.

Access to toilets has been identified as an issue by the brigade as well as the need for constant maintenance of the running track and surrounds.

Jets Gymnastics

Jets Gymnastics lease the stadium. They have 438 children aged from under to over 12 years old regularly enrolled in their programs. In addition to this they have over 1,000 school and disability group visits and over 2,000 people visit for birthday parties. They have 27 employees. They have seen a steady increase in participation over the last five years which they expect to continue.

Jets have stated that they are outgrowing the facility due to expansion of numbers and also the increase in level of the gymnasts who now need higher grade facilities to cope with increased skill levels. They have suggested there is scope to build an extension to the rear of the building which could include an inground pit, which could be done with minimal disruption to the buildings current structure by the addition of a large shed style building with a walk through. They have also said that they could definitely utilise additional current internal space such as the football club rooms if they had a new pavilion built.

Jets also highlighted a lack of communication with events held at the reserve and security, due to break ins to the football rooms and their back door, along with need of upgrades to the building as other issues.

OTHER USERS

Bookings

In addition to large scale events such as the Softball and Country Week Tennis, there are also many local sporting user groups and also a number of schools use the sporting fields throughout the year.

Between 2015 and 2018 inclusive the average number of bookings for the reserve was 555 with an average of 97 being for Events.

In 2019 there were 630 for bookings with 186 of those being for Events, noting that one booking may include several locations. 392 bookings related to user group sporting bookings and the remainder were a combination of casual use bookings, generally by schools and other sporting groups, and also any GSCC maintenance works.

Events – Sports

As noted, each year the reserve is utilised for around 100 events and these events may use several spaces and bump in and out, requiring separate bookings. These have included:

- Country Week Tennis (1000-1200 approximately users/visitors)
- Softball Victoria Masters Championships (approximately 1000 players/umpires/coaches/supporters)
- Ultimate Victoria Mixed Championships (250 to 300 users/visitors)
- Seniors Tennis Australia Teams and Individual Championships (1000-1200 users/visitors)
- Cricket Australia Country Championships (100 users/visitors)
- CFA Championships (4000 users/visitors)
- Australian Football Skool (1500 users/visitors. Remainder of users for this event use Sports City)
- AFL V/Line Cup (150-180 users/visitors)
- Rotary of Club of Mooroopna New Years' Eve Festival (4000 users)
- Lions of Club Mooroopna Carols by Candlelight (2000 users)



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• Kiwanis Club Monthly Markets - no longer held (400-500 visitors)

These events vary with each calendar year however Council's events team suggest that it is likely use of the reserve for events will remain stable and possibly increase.

Key issues with the reserve from the events perspective include aged infrastructure such as the toilet facilities mean that portables need to be brought in in most instances and in other cases a plumber is often required to attend to a blockage in one of the three ageing toilet facilities. The change room and catering spaces are also limited on the back ovals of the complex.

The toilet facilities located at the Urban Fire Brigade area are particularly problematic and require significant repairs and upgrades.

Events – Activities in The Parks

On average the Healthy Communities Department would schedule two - three free activities as part of the Activities in the Park program annually, these activities typically include kite making, fishing in the lake and group fitness classes, however other programs such as movie nights have been held on occasion.

Group fitness classes usually have approximately 10 participants per session (mix of adults and older adults), Kite Making has approximately 40 participants (children under five, with parents and grandparents), Fishing approximately 35 people (all ages, families) and movie nights approximately 100 people (all ages, families).

The key issues identified by the Healthy Communities Department include public toilet access needs to be improved and the entry into the recreation reserve via the Midland Highway as it presents a safety issue.



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EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

The description of existing facilities is based on a combination of general observation, feedback from stakeholders including Council staff and user groups and lease holders and the condition assessments as undertaken by Council's asset management team during 2019.

BOWLS FACILITY

Home of the Mooroopna Bowls Club and located to the north east of the reserve off Echuca Road, the facility includes a large clubhouse and 2 grass greens and a synthetic green with paths, seating and some shade provision.

Greens

The greens appear to be in excellent condition. The 'members' green has lighting.

Paths, Seating and Shade

All paths, seating and shade structures have been described as good to excellent condition.

Pump Shed

There is a pump shed described as being old and nearing the end of its useful life but is in reasonable condition and still meeting the needs of the club.

Storage Shed

A colour bond storage shed with attached water tank is described as in excellent condition and fit for purpose.

Club House

The club house is rated as being in overall good condition and described as being in excellent overall condition for its age and well maintained.

CROQUET FACILITY

Home of the Mooroopna Croquet Club and located in the north east of the reserve adjacent the Bowls, the facility incorporates a small club house, two grass courts and some additional support infrastructure.

Fields

The fields are in very good condition. A small shelter adjacent the field with a seat is described as being in very good condition.

Club House

The building is rated overall as being in moderate condition and described as an old asbestos building that is in good condition and appears to still be functional and that given the asbestos cement exists consideration should be given to replacing the building in the future.

Storage Shed

There is an old storage shed described as being in good condition but needing a paint to improve aesthetics.

MAIN OVAL

The main oval is the permanent home of the Mooroopna Football Netball Club and Mooroopna Cricket Club and has the capability of hosting varied activities. It is well provided for with surrounding infrastructure.

Field

The field has permanent Australian Rules Football goals and a turf cricket wicket. It is described as in excellent condition.

Player Shelters

Two colourbond shelters with aluminium benches are described as being in excellent condition.

Home Team Coaches Box

Two story steel building described as being old but in good condition.

Away Team Coaches Box

Small brick building in front of the BBQ and Bar, it is described as old but functional and structurally very strong.

Interchange Stewards Shelter

Small steel shelter located in front of the spectator shelter described as showing signs of surface rust but appears to have lasted well.

Main Scoreboard

Building described as being in excellent condition.

Spectator Shelter next to Sir Ian McLennan Centre

The shelter is rated as being in good overall condition and described as having been added to and well maintained over the years and that while it is old it is in good condition with only minor issues of maintenance identified.

Leon Williams Stand

This spectator shelter located behind the stadium is described as old but in very good condition, structurally very good but with limited disabled access.



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BBQ and Bar Shed

Located adjacent the Leon Williams Stand, this steel shed is described as old but appears to be in good condition and fit for purpose. The shed has recently been painted.

Parsons Cricket Pavilion

Brick two story building is rated as being in good condition and described as appearing to be well used and maintained and while showing some signs of wear it is generally in very good condition.

Ted Davis Stand

Located adjacent the Parsons Pavilion, the stand is rated as being in good overall condition and described as an old structure that is in good condition for its age.

Sir Ian McLennan Centre Building

Overall rated as being in good condition and described as being well maintained and in excellent condition for its age and is only showing signs of normal wear and tear.

Lights

The main oval has 500 lux lighting, which is appropriate for elite night sporting matches.

NETBALL FACILITY

Located to the north of the main oval and home to the Mooroopna Football Netball Club, the netball facility comprises two netball courts and some player shelters and storage.

Courts

Two new acrylic courts with lighting are in excellent condition.

Shelters

All netball shelters are described as being relatively new and in excellent condition.

PLAYGROUND

There is a small playground located between the netball courts and the Sir Ian McLennan Centre. The playground and courts appear to be serviced by an additional temporary/portable male toilet located off the back of the Sir Ian McLennan Centre.

TENNIS FACILITY

The tennis facility is located in the north east corner of the Reserve and incorporates six hard courts, 12 lawn courts, a small pavilion and some storage. To the south of the courts is a small BBQ area, toilets and seating.

Courts

There are six concrete hard courts and 12 lawn courts. The lawn courts appear in excellent condition while the concrete courts appear appropriate for local and social standard of play. The bitumen courts have lighting which is ageing and failing and due to their age, the club is having difficulty finding replacement parts.

Small Pavilion

The small brick pavilion located to the north of the hard courts is rated as being in moderate condition and described as being quite old and in need of some maintenance but still in good condition and meeting community needs.

BBQ Area and Seating

A small gas BBQ and aluminium seating is provided for viewing as located to the south of the grass courts adjacent the Sir Ian McLennan Centre. The seating appears in excellent condition while the BBQ is described as being old but in very good condition.

Toilets

A small brick toilet block is located adjacent the Sir Ian McLennan Centre that services the lawn tennis courts as well as the main oval. The building is described as being old but in excellent condition for its age, but with no accessible facilities. The previous master plan recommended the removal of these toilets.

Storage Shed

There is a small storage shed and water tanks adjacent the courts. The shed is described as being old but in good condition.

CARETAKERS HOUSE AND TOILET BLOCK

The caretaker's residence and a separate toilet block are located near the Midland Highway entry to the Reserve.

Caretakers House

The brick caretaker's residence is rated as being in good overall condition and described as being in good condition based on external inspection however the garden is poorly kept.

Toilet Block

The toilet block was recommended for removal in the previous master plan. It is rated as being in good overall condition and described as an older structure that is in good condition but with no disabled facilities.

INDOOR SPORTS STADIUM

The Indoor Sports Stadium is leased to Jets Gymnastics until 2023. It houses an indoor multi-use court as well as a number of smaller meeting spaces, storage and toilets. There is an upstairs seating and mezzanine area.

It is rated as being in good overall condition and described as having significant investment made in the building in recent years to improve its amenity however the outside of the building appears to be in good condition.

JOHN GRAY OVAL

Located in the centre of the Recreation Reserve the John Gray oval is utilised for football and cricket as well as other activities and events. The oval also has a number of shared buildings and infrastructure with the facilities around it.

Oval

The oval appears to be in very good condition. It has a turf cricket pitch in the centre.

Cricket Nets

There are 5 cricket nets with synthetic wickets at the north end of the oval. One of the nets is permanently enclosed with wire fencing while the others can be separated by adjustable netting. The nets and pitches appear to be in good condition.

Players Shelters/Coaches Boxes

There are two brick shelters situated on the eastern boundary. Both of these are rated and described as being in good condition.

Stage/Soundshell

A brick and concrete stage/soundshell is located in the south west corner of the oval. It is described as being in excellent condition.

Scoreboard

A scoreboard is situated near the nets at the north west corner of the oval.

FIRE BRIGADE TRAINING FACILITY

Located in the centre of the Reserve to the west of the John Gray Oval, the Fire Brigade Training Facility is the training base of the Mooroopna Urban Fire Brigade.

Sealed Roads and Training Areas

There are a number of bitumen and concrete surfaces used for various training and staging activities all of which appear to be in quite good condition.

Attachment 13.1.1



Max Connors Pavilion

A brick building located between the training facility and the Leon Heath Oval with toilets and storage. The building can also service the John Gray Oval when the double gates on the Fire Brigade Training Area are opened. The pavilion is rated as being in good overall condition and described as being in good condition for its age but with no universal toilet.

Brick Storage and Pump Buildings

Situated on the western side of the training area at the mid-point of the sealed roadway there are two brick buildings that are used for storage and housing pumps. The Southern most building has a roller window that may allow for it to be used as a canteen at events. The buildings are rated as being in moderate condition overall but described as being in good condition for their age.

Brick Storage and Judging Platform

This building is situated between the training facility and the John Gray Oval which allows it to be used for activities at both facilities. The building is double story, the lower area appears to be equipment storage and the upper story with 360-degree windows provides an area for various sheltered activities on each side. The building is described as being in excellent condition for its age.

COUNCIL DEPOT

The Council have a depot located in the middle of the Recreation Reserve. The fenced area has a number of sheds and staff meeting office area. The previous master plan recommended the re-location of the depot and the space be used for additional car parking.

Council Operations Staff have identified that a number of upgrades are required at the Depot site to meet compliance and operational needs. These upgrades are rated by the Council staff as a low to medium priority in the context of overall precinct planning.

Sheds

The sheds are in varying but generally serviceable condition.

Office/Staff Room

The small brick office building is described as generally being in good condition with some maintenance required on the downpipes.

BERNIE TREVASKIS OVAL

Located to the north of John Gray Oval, the Bernie Trevaskis Oval is a large rectangular grassed multipurpose space. It is serviced by a toilet block with some storage that is located between the oval and the Fire Brigade Training Area.

Toilets – Old Hockey Changerooms

The toilets and changerooms are described as being in good condition with some dated fit out and that it probably does not meet the community standards of buildings of this type due to disability compliance and male and female change room expectations.

GRAEME 'PEE WEE' YOUNG OVAL

The Graeme Pee Wee Young Oval is located in the centre, north east area of the Reserve and comprises a playing field and community storage sheds.

Playing Field

The playing field is rectangle grass with a synthetic cricket wicket. The field and pitch appear in good condition.

Community Storage Sheds

Constructed in 2015, the large sheds provide seven different spaces accessed by roller doors of varying sizes. The building is rated as being in excellent condition.

LEON HEATH OVAL

Located to the west of the Reserve the Leon Heath Oval provides a rectangle grass multi-purpose field with a synthetic cricket wicket. The field and pitch appear in good condition.

TROTTING FACILITY

Home of the Mooroopna Harness Racing Club and located at the western end of the Reserve the trotting facility includes a crushed rock track, stables and sheds. The last master plan recommended the closure and re-location of the trotting facility.

Track

An oval crushed rock track used now for training.

Shed with Observation Tower

A steel shed structure and three-story observation tower with a brick base and steel upper areas, this building is located on the western side of the track. The building is rated as being in moderate overall condition.

Stables

Two open corrugated iron stabling areas with a concrete floor are located in the south west corner of the facility. Both buildings have been described as being rough but in good condition and fit-for-purpose.

Storage Shed

A steel storage shed is located adjacent the stables in the south western corner. The shed is described as being old but appearing sound and fit for purpose based on external inspection only.

IRRIGATION DAM AND BBQ AREA

An irrigation dam is situated to the South of the Reserve and provides irrigation to the site as well as a small open space and BBQ area.

Dam

The irrigation dam holds between 12 and 15 megalitres of water which is used to irrigate the multipurpose fields, John Gray and main ovals. It is filled from the Goulburn River under the management of Goulburn Valley Water. Council staff estimate that they use around 2.5 megalitres a week for watering in summer. A key issue that has been identified is that it takes around a week to fill the dam and due to Goulburn Valley Water using the same infrastructure to fill other water holdings such as Craigmuir Lakes it is only able to be filled every three weeks. Council staff recommend making the dam larger to cater for any future expansion of requirements.

Pump Shed

A small brick pump shed on the northern side of the dam is described as an older structure but in good condition and fit for purpose.

BBQ Area

Situated near the dam and adjacent the Leon Heath Oval a small covered gas BBQ and small drink fountain is provided and described as being in good condition.

ROADWAYS AND PATHS

Entries

There are two main entries to the Recreation Reserve from Echuca Road (Joyce Reid Drive) and the Midland Highway and an entrance to the trotting facility from Elsie Jones Drive.

The two main entries both have ticket boxes, the newer at Midland Highway entrance.

The previous Master Plan recommended upgrade of the Midland Highway entry to include slip lanes and a splitter.

Roadways

The Reserve is well serviced by a combination of sealed and gravel roadways around the whole area.

Car Parks

There are a number of formal and informal car parks located around the Reserve.

Sealed car parks primarily servicing bowls, croquet and tennis and are found on the Echuca Road service road and off Joyce Reid Drive. The main oval has a sealed car park at the Sir Ian McLennan Centre and informal oval facing parking around the ground as well as informal parking in a number of spaces. There is a sealed car park at the indoor sports centre and parking between the John Gray Oval and the Leon Heath, Pee Wee Young and Bernie Trevaskis Ovals. The trotting facility has gravel parking near the stables.

The previous Master Plan identifies new parking to be developed at the current Council Depot site and between the Leon Heath Oval and the trotting facility

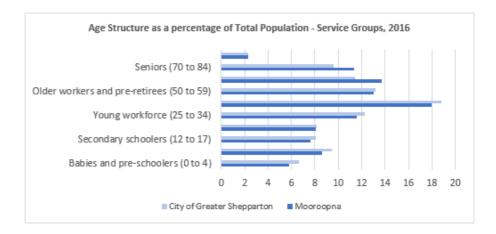
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

DEMOGRAPHICS

Mooroopna Population

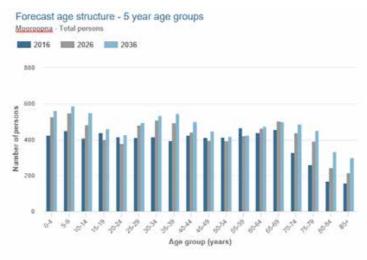
The population of Mooroopna is estimated at 8,144 (2019 ABS). There are approximately 1,993 families and the gender split is 48.2% male and 51.8% female. The median age is 42 (2016 Census).

The 2016 Census data indicates that the population reflects that of the broader City of Greater Shepparton with a slightly higher number of older adults.



The population of Mooroopna is projected to grow by 21.9% to 9,931 by 2036. Generally, the growth will occur across all age groups with particular growth in the 70 years and over cohort.

Apart from reflecting broader changes to facility demand and requirements linked to sport and recreation, it is unlikely the demand for facilities at Mooroopna will decline based on demographics, but rather as a minimum remain stable, with potential for increased demand across activities for all age cohorts in the future should identified growth occur.



Population and household forecaets, 2016 to 2036, prepared by id the population experts, October 2017

PLANS AND STRATEGIES

Greater Shepparton City Council - Council Plan 2017-2021

The Greater Shepparton City Council – Council Plan is the document that will guide the Council's direction and activities during this Council's term of office.

The Plan also incorporates Council's Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan which guides Council's strategic direction and planning around reducing inequalities in health, managing chronic disease and collaborative approaches to health promotion.

The Plan identifies a number of objectives, strategies and actions that are relevant to the provision of facilities and services such as those at Mooroopna, including:

- Increasing the proportion of the population who volunteer for a community group or activity more than once a month
- Reduce the levels of overweight and obesity
- Social and cultural, educational and employment opportunities are created to enable children, young people, individuals and families to actively participate in their communities.
- Public places, open space and community facilities are safe, accessible for all and presented to a high quality
- Quality infrastructure is provided and maintained to acceptable standards
- Assets are well-managed and their renewal is being planned through long-term renewal strategies

Liveability

Liveability is becoming a key framework used nationally and internationally in health policy development. The 'Place, People and Liveability Research Program' undertaken by the Victorian Government in partnership with Melbourne University in 2013's definition of liveability includes it being a place that is safe, attractive, socially cohesive and inclusive with access to public open space, leisure and cultural activities and walking and cycling infrastructure. It also notes the determinants of a liveable community include parks and recreational opportunities and vibrant social interaction.

In the Council Plan, it is stated that:

"Through the development and implementation of a liveability framework, Council will take a lead in providing services, facilities and places of engagement that can positively affect health and wellbeing for individuals and entire communities. Council will continue to work closely with stakeholders to advocate for funding, new services, programs in partnership and to support communities. (p8)"

Greater Shepparton Economic Development, Tourism & Major Events Strategy 2017 – 2021

The Economic Development, Tourism and Events Strategy is aimed at identifying opportunities that will lead to building and diversifying the local economy, assist in building on Council's events portfolio and boosting tourism and overnight stays within the region. The Strategy is intended to provide an achievable, evidence-based plan for the future while responding to the challenges and opportunities presented by the local, regional, and international conditions.

The Strategy states that sporting events are a particular strength of Greater Shepparton and accounted for the largest visitation in 2015/16. It states that due to the quality of sporting infrastructure and strong network of local sporting clubs and groups, Greater Shepparton has the potential to position itself as the prime destination for sporting events in regional Victoria.

Strategy 55 in the report is to "continue to implement a program of investment in Greater Shepparton's sporting infrastructure". This strategy has a corresponding action to develop an infrastructure funding plan for Greater Shepparton's sporting events spaces and specifically identifies the Mooroopna Sports Precinct as one of these spaces.

Strategy 56 in the report is to "ensure Council continue to support the major events annual events calendar". This strategy has a corresponding action to continue to support community and civic events and celebrations as part of the overall events program via grant programs, sponsorship and council operated and run events and specifically identifies the New Year's Eve Festival, traditionally held at the John Gray Oval and the Recreation Reserve as one of these.

Strategy 56 also includes an action to maintain existing service levels and quality infrastructure to support major events subject to annual budget constraints.

The Strategy includes a Major Infrastructure Projects section providing a consolidated list of all major infrastructure projects proposed for Greater Shepparton which identifies an infrastructure funding plan for key sporting infrastructure to support major events including Shepparton Sports Precinct, Aquamoves, BMX Facilities, Deakin Reserve and Mooroopna Sports Precinct as an Existing Major Project.

The Strategy also seeks to secure support to redevelop the Goulburn Valley Equine and Greyhound Racing Precinct and advance the opportunities identified in the Goulburn Valley Equine and Greyhound Racing Precinct Masterplan and Feasibility Study.

Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme – Municipal Strategic Statement 2007

It is expected that the urban areas of Shepparton and Mooroopna along with the four major growth areas will accommodate the majority of new residential development, with remaining growth distributed throughout Tatura, Murchison, Merrigum, Dookie, Congupna, Katandra West, Tallygaroopna, Toolamba and Undera.

Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

The Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy (GS2030) is a blueprint for building sustainable economic activity and maximising the quality of life in the municipality.

Some key inclusions in GS2030 include identification of the following strategies:

- Promote clustering of facilities to enable multi-use and sharing of community facilities, such as the community hubs.
- Encourage flexible design to meet user group needs over the life cycle and changing demographic structures
- Promote healthy lifestyles and the use of recreation and sporting facilities.

Sport 2050 Strategic Plan

Sport 2050 aims to provide a blueprint to support the long-term and sustainable provision of sports and recreation infrastructure and programs.

The plan specifically addresses the provision and distribution of a hierarchy of facilities across the municipality and in particular locations.

The Plan states that Shepparton is the major urban centre of Goulburn Valley and the City of Greater Shepparton. Mooroopna, Tatura and Kialla are the other large centres in the city (approx. population 4,000-7,000). Other small centres include Ardmona, Murchison, Merrigum, Dookie, Kialla West, Tallygaroopna, Toolamba, Shepparton East and Katandra West (mostly 400-1,000 people).

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Shepparton	Mooroopna	Tallygaroopna
	Tatura	Murchison
	Kialla	Merrigum
		Congupna
		Dookie
		Toolamba
		Undera
		Katandra West

The plan then classifies localities by population into three tiers as highlighted below:

The following principles for distribution are identified

- Sports facilities with multiple playing fields/courts and hubbed with other community facilities will be more viable, and more easily able to be maintained to a higher quality than others.
- Where sports that are not currently present in the City are looking to locate in the City, a more rural recreation reserve location (in a tier 3 town location) may provide the opportunity to renew (and increase use of) an existing asset, provide another opportunity for local participation and share possible social and economic benefits of sport and sports events amongst smaller townships.
- The plan then makes the following recommendations relating to distribution:
- In the future, it is desirable that no single playing field sports facility should be provided for competition. Where new facilities are to be provided, they should be added to existing facilities unless the locality is a growth area and not served by existing facilities, such as in the South East).

- Where possible in tier 1 and 2 towns locate sports facilities so that all residents in urban areas have an outdoor playing field (including schools and private facilities) and preferably organised sports competition, within 2 kilometres.
- Ensure sports have a hierarchy of facilities available in the region to enhance player pathways and ensure not all facilities are maintained to the same standard.
- Ensure community plans embrace the principles of this plan to ensure sporting infrastructure can continue to be viable and reflect current changes in demand.

Specifically relating to Mooroopna Recreation Reserve, Sport 2050 recommends that the Reserve continue to be developed in order to service the Mooroopna a district community and highlighted the following potential projects and associated timelines:

Ву 2022	By 2023	After 2032
Install match quality lighting to the main oval.	Upgrade amenities adjacent the north west synthetic green of the Bowls Club in conjunction with the Croquet Club upgrade.	construct an all-weather shelter over north west synthetic green of the Bowls Club.
Construct a new multi-purpose pavilion on the northern boundary of the main oval	Upgrade lighting to John Gray Oval to training quality standard	Re-locate the Council operations depot to an alternative site and re-furbish the building as changerooms and administrative space for netball
Re-locate the Council operations depot to an alternative site and re-furbish the building as changerooms and administrative space for netball		
Decommission the harness racing training complex		
Upgrade the midland highway entrance		
Upgrade the John Gray Oval to accommodate additional winter sports use		

Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050 – Regional City Growth Plan

The Victorian Planning Authority (VPA) in partnership with Greater Shepparton City Council has prepared the Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan (Growth Plan) to guide the sustainable development of the Shepparton-Mooroopna urban area to the year 2050.

The Growth Plan is a high-level and broad strategy that:

- Sets out the future vision for Shepparton and Mooroopna
- Guides sustainable future growth and development over the next 30 years
- Identifies the steps needed to manage growth
- Defines key projects and infrastructure required to support growth
- Provides certainty for public and private investment decision making.

The Plan has no specific recommendations or strategies linked to the Recreation Reserve, however does provide broad guidance for any future developments including strategy 2.3.1 to prepare an audit and funding prioritisation strategy for all Council's open space assets and prepare an open space strategy to direct capital works investment in areas of most need.



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Mooroopna Recreation Reserve Master Plan – 2008

A masterplan for the Mooroopna Recreation Reserve was undertaken previously in 2008. That Plan included gathering information about the tenant clubs and users and the identification of their needs under the guidance of a Project Management Team.

Following is a summary of the key development works identified in the masterplan.	Following is a summar	v of the key developm	nent works identified in the maste	rplan.
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STAG	E 1	
ID	Project	Status
1	New roof over synthetic bowling green	Roof not yet started
2	Extend bowls club house to include toilets and croquet social room	Not yet started
3	Redefine car park adjacent lawn tennis courts	Not yet started
4	Remove croquet clubhouse	Not yet started
5	Construct two new water storage tanks near bowling green	Not yet started
6	Remove toilet block from near Sir Ian McLennan Centre (SIMC)	Not yet started
7	Extend tennis clubrooms in SIMC by adding toilets	Not yet started
8	Construct new home team change rooms on main oval	Partial - Netball complete
9	Two new netball courts	Complete
10	Replace scoreboard and time-keepers box – build into new change rooms	Partial - New scoreboard
11	Remove council depot sheds	Not yet started
12	New public toilet block adjacent existing toilets near council depot	Not yet started
13	New car park next to new netball courts	Not yet started
14	Two new cricket practice nets with training lights	Partially completed
15	New baseball pitch	Not yet started
16	Future court extension to basketball stadium	Not yet started
17	Remove public toilet near stadium	Not yet started
18	Remove existing netball court	Not yet started
19	Realignment of fence between park and ovals	Not yet started
STAG	E 2	
ID	Project	Status
20	New entry from Elsie Jones Drive	Not yet started
21	New car park at the western end of the Reserve	Not yet started
22	New pavilion with change-rooms and public toilets at west- ern end	Not yet started
23	Remove harness racing track and associated buildings	Not yet started
24	Relocate oval 4	Not yet started
25	Two new baseball pitches	Not yet started
26	Slip lanes and splitter to McLennan Street	Complete
27	New rectangle pitches in north west corner	Not yet started
28	Angle car park off Joyce Reid Drive	Not yet started
29	Landscaping works	Not yet started



WB Ferrari Park Master Plan

WB Ferrari Park is identified as the park and open space located in the South East corner of the broader reserve on the Midland Highway and Echuca Road intersection. This area includes the open spaces, craft markets, public toilets and play spaces.

Understanding the linkages between the spaces is of relevance to the Recreation Reserve Master Plan, including differentiating what is incorporated into each area and plan.

Mooroopna Community Plan 2015 incorporating the 2018 Action Plan Update.

The Mooroopna Community Plan was first developed in 2010. Extensive community consultation was undertaken to develop the first Community Plan. Consultation included surveys, focus group sessions, feedback boxes, street talk at community events, art activities, youth surveys and one on one meetings with organisations and service providers.

The Community Plan was developed by the Mooroopna Community for the Mooroopna Community. The identified vision for the plan is:

A safe, vibrant and thriving community where residents are connected and young people are valued and involved. A town that utilises the river and parklands, attracts visitors and has infrastructure, transport and services that match the community's growth and need.

The Plan is overseen and managed by a steering group and regular reviews and updates are undertaken. An Action Plan update in 2018 includes the following projects that either relate specifically to the Recreation Reserve or are of interest:

- Attract major events to the town
- Support the review and implementation of the Mooroopna Recreation Reserve masterplan
- Support the implementation of the Ferrari Park masterplan
- Explore an off-leash area or dog park in Mooroopna.

Play Space Strategy 2020 - 2030

Greater Shepparton City Council owns or manages almost 90 play spaces across the municipality. The Strategy aims to guide the development of these assets and enable Council to ensure equitable distribution of well-designed spaces and opportunities for play throughout Greater Shepparton over the long term.

Asset and Project Management

Greater Shepparton City Council has a strong and formalised program of Asset and Project Management.

Building Condition Audits are undertaken periodically to inform works and maintenance programs as well as long term capital development programs. Audit information specific to Mooroopna Recreation Reserve has been included in facility and building information in the existing infrastructure section of this report.

Greater Shepparton City Council Sport Capacities and Capabilities Assessment

Undertaken in partnership with Sports Marketing Australia (SMA), the assessment was prepared to provide Council with an understanding as to which events can be beneficially re-located to the region in which sporting disciplines and at what level.

The report highlights a number of sports that can host or co-host regional, state and national standard events in the region and that the Recreation Reserve could play a role in supporting. These included bowls, lawn tennis, cricket, soccer, croquet, AFL and netball.



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Greater Shepparton Whole of Sport Plan – Cricket 2017

The Greater Shepparton Whole of Sport Plan Cricket has been developed to provide Council with a vision for supporting cricket at a local and regional level and to guide the development of improved facilities that will meet current and future community need.

The plan states that participation in cricket in Greater Shepparton has been in decline over the last 10 years, however, identifies the opportunity to grow numbers through introduction and support of more women's competition and programming. The plan states that anecdotally there has been a significant increase in participation in cricket by females over the last 2 years and this is a trend that Cricket Victoria expect to continue.

The plan states that Council's priorities include investing in sporting facilities, particularly where:

- Participation is maximised
- Strong partnerships are formed and maintained
- Multi-use and community hub approach will be implemented, and
- Facilities are not used exclusively by clubs
- Specifically relating to cricket, the Plan proposes the following criteria for investing in infrastructure to support cricket:
- Maximised participation: Particularly for participation by females, multi-cultural communities, older adults and junior.
- Multi-use facilities: Clubs who work with other sports and the wider community to improve infrastructure will be supported. Council will actively seek opportunities to partner with the Department of Education and DELWP to improve infrastructure where multi-use outcomes can be achieved that include cricket.
- Sporting infrastructure that meets community need: Council will actively support the development of infrastructure in the right location and of the right standard for the community it serves.
- A baseline of facilities: Sites that support cricket will have a baseline of facilities that are usable, safe, presentable and attractive for participants.

Whole of Sport Tennis - 2015

The Greater Shepparton Whole of Sport Plan Tennis has been developed to provide Council with a vision for supporting tennis at a local and regional level and to guide the development of improved facilities that will meet current and future community need.

The plan states that broadly at a local level there have been significant declines in participation by adults and in competitive tennis:

- The number of players participating in weekend senior competitions delivered through the Shepparton District Tennis Association and the Goulburn Murray Lawn Tennis Association has declined by more than half in the last 10 – 15 years.
- The number of players participating in the Shepparton and District Ladies Midweek Tennis Association has declined by 40 percent since 2005/2006.

It goes on to highlight that there is a significant number of tennis clubs in the Greater Shepparton area who no longer field teams in any of the local associations including Congupna, Dookie, Invergordon, Violet Town, Katandra West, St Marys, Toolamba, St Augustine's, Wesley, St Mels, Kialla West, Tallygaroopna, Baulkamaugh and Currawa.

The report does however provide examples where tennis is experiencing growth in participation, more so where it is linked with more casual and flexible opportunities. These include:

- The Shepparton Lawn Tennis Association has conducted a Wednesday Night Twilight Tennis competition for many years. While this program has still experienced some decline, it has undergone a resurgence in recent years as a consequence of reduced and flexible entry fees (pay as you go), opening up the program to all ages (not just adults), and offering social activities as part of the experience. The program has around 200 participants per week.
- The Dhurringile Tennis Club's Friday night ANZ Hot Shots Tennis program has been running quite successfully for a number of years. Hard work from a number of committed volunteers at the Club has seen the program run successfully.

At a national level, the report states that participation in organised tennis by children up to 14 years of age has remained relatively stable with some decline in the past few years, however this is notably different from what is occurring at the local level with the number of players participating in the Shepparton Junior Tennis Association declining by just under half between 2001/2002 and 2016/2017.

To support and grow participation, the plan states that it is important that tennis clubs and associations have access to the right facilities in the right locations. Reflecting on both Council's and the community's existing priorities and commitment to sporting infrastructure and the priority areas identified by local tennis clubs, the following criteria is proposed for investing in infrastructure to support tennis:

- 1. Multi-use facilities: Clubs who work with other sports and the wider community to improve infrastructure will be supported. Council will actively seek opportunities to partner with the Department of Education and DELWP to improve infrastructure where multi-use outcomes can be achieved that include tennis.
- 2. Sporting infrastructure that meets community need: Council and Tennis Victoria will actively support the development of infrastructure in the right location and of the right standard for the community it serves.
- 3. Maximised participation: Particularly for participation by juniors, multi-cultural communities, and older adults.
- 4. Access to facilities: Historically tennis facilities were open to the public and community members to enjoy a hit of tennis at their leisure. Unfortunately, over time, community access has been restricted due to safety concerns for the facilities. Council and Tennis Victoria will actively encourage clubs to look for solutions that enable better access for all members of the community to be able to enjoy a hit of tennis.

Goulburn Valley Harness and Greyhound Racing Precinct Investigation Area 1 Feasibility Study and Master Plan

Undertaken in 2017, the Plan is focused on the growth and development of the Shepparton site as a regional hub for harness racing activity.

The report states that trends in the harness racing industry highlights that there is likely to be limited growth in the number of starters and races held at Shepparton.

The Shepparton Precinct currently hosts the Mooroopna Club's race meetings as well as training activity and has plans to expand its capacity and quality of training infrastructure.

SPORT STRATEGIES

Netball Victoria

Netball Victoria have undertaken significant works in auditing and reporting against the condition and compliance with established standards of court provision of facilities right across Victoria. They have developed in partnership with the State Government a Netball Court Planning guide providing a number of case studies highlighting different development options as well as indicative costings for various court types.

The Facilities Manual published by Netball Victoria and the Sport and Recreation Victoria includes a hierarchy of facilities that recommends local facilities include:

- 1-3 fully compliant courts
- Courts may be multi-lined
- Courts to be fenced if required
- 2 x team benches per court
- 2 x shelters per court
- 1 officials' bench and shelter per court
- Minimum of 2 x 14m2 unisex player amenities
- Minimum 2 x 20m2 change facilities (based on 14 players using room at one time)

Tennis Australia

Tennis Australia has developed a comprehensive planning framework to support and assist tennis clubs throughout the country. Amongst the frameworks are recommended levels of facilities based on a national hierarchy and indicative costings of upgrades and re-development of courts based on a number of court and surface types. Under the Tennis Australia facility hierarchy Mooroopna would fall into the 'local' category.

A local facility is recommended to have at least 4 courts of which 50% are based on the ITF surface code A (acrylic), F (clay) and H (grass) and 50% courts floodlit to a minimum club competition standard (350 lux).

Australian Football League – Preferred Facility Guidelines (incorporating Addendum Amenities Upgrade for Unisex Use) – 2019

The Guidelines have been developed in order to provide direction for the development of new facilities and/or those being considered for major refurbishment or redevelopment.

For local or regional type facilities the guidelines recommend:

- Avoiding open showers and provide 3 to 4 showers
- Avoid troughs and individual urinals and provide a minimum of 1 ambulant accessible toilet cubicle
- Social/Community spaces should be at least 100m2 and around 150m2
- Appropriate umpires, meeting, administration and storage spaces should be provided

Cricket Australia Community Facility Guidelines - Guidance Note 2 – Outdoor Training Facilities'

Cricket Australia's Guidance Note 2 – Outdoor Training Facilities aim to help guide future cricket net development and/or redevelopment and recommends the following planning principles be considered when determining the most suitable location for cricket net development:

- Training nets and run ups should be positioned off the field of play
- Nets should not be positioned in a location likely to interfere with the match (e.g. behind the bowler's arm causing potential distractions to the batsman)
- Nets should be orientated in a north-south direction
- Nets should be positioned in a location where there is minimal chance of injury to passers-by or damage to property and/or vehicles. This planning consideration is not applicable if training nets are enclosed
- Nets should be positioned as close to the pavilion as possible to minimise distance to transport equipment

Cricket Australia Community Facility Guidelines - Guidance Note 3 – Clubrooms and Change Facilities

This guideline acknowledges how well-designed clubrooms and change facilities can contribute significantly to a successful club, sporting precinct and local community.

Specifically relating to change facilities, the guidelines recommend that:

- A minimum of 3 showers should be provided and that these should be lockable cubicles to better accommodate all users
- A minimum of 3 toilet pans is preferred and should be provided as lockable cubicles. Urinals should be avoided to better accommodate all gender use and at least one ambulant toilet should be provided in accordance with Disability Discrimination Act standards

A regional or club level social facility should have a commercial kitchen and storage of around 25m2 and social, community or multi-purpose room of around 150m2.



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Bowls Australia National Facilities and Retirement Lifestyle Villages Strategy

In 2017 Bowls Australia created a National Facilities and Retirement/Lifestyle Villages Strategy which provides a framework to understand and prioritise its facility needs both now and in the future. The Report states that many clubs are now experiencing rising social participation rates, offset by decreasing membership numbers. This has challenged many clubs to review and reinvent their value proposition and business model, to focus on repeat customer generation rather than membership growth.

Five strategic objectives have been developed:

- 1. Understand the current geographic spread of clubs, facilities and population growth areas.
- 2. Determine the optimal number and location of facilities, which will create a sustainable model for the sport.
- 3. Proactively identify the optimal number and location of facilities, which will create a sustainable model for the sport.
- 4. Grow the presence of bowls as a community, health and wellbeing hub through multipurpose/ shared facilities and greater engagement with LGAs.
- 5. Ensure a mix of traditional, social and retirement/lifestyle village venues that create opportunities for everyone to play bowls all year round.

Harness Racing Victoria Strategic Plan 2017-2020

The Harness Racing Victoria (HRV) Strategic Plan states that consistent with trends across Australia and internationally, harness racing in Victoria has been in decline for a number of years. However, the situation for HRV was fast approaching a critical point with decreasing horse and participant numbers, declining profitability and market share, and legacy debt combining to put at risk the future of the industry in its current form.

Following extensive consultation, HRV developed the plan with key priorities outlined that will address its major challenges and drive growth.

HRV have taken a collaborative approach to developing the strategy and have sought input from all the stakeholders across the industry. Through this process HRV have identified the initiatives and actions that will deliver maximum value and engagement to each of their stakeholder groups. The aim of this tailored framework to ensure that their future successes are achieved and celebrated together.

The Melton and Country Clubs section includes the following strategies:

- Individual plans for each club (strategic, financial, people etc)
- Strengthen HRV and Club relationships via joint responsibility for achieving common strategies
- Training, development and succession plans
- Identify and capitalise on opportunities for joint marketing and club promotions
- Model rules/governance improvements and OHS/Risk Management
- Reduce less profitable race meetings and shift to more races per meeting
- Improve equitability of current club funding model.

Community Sporting Facility Lighting Guide for Australian Rules Football, Football (soccer) and Netball – Victorian Department of Planning and Community Development

The Guide is designed to answer key questions local clubs, organisations and councils may have when undertaking lighting projects for Australian Rules football, football (soccer) and netball. It offers recommendations for planning, design, maintenance and operation of a variety of lighting systems and will assist local sporting clubs, organisations and councils develop facilities for communities to enjoy well into the future.

Activity Description AFL - Amateur Training for a local club 50 100 AFL - Amateur Club competition – practice match AFL - Semi Professional Match practice - VFL 100 AFL - Semi Professional Competition 200 AFL - Professional Match practice 200 AFL - Professional AFL match 500 Football - Amateur Training 50 Football - Amateur Competition 100 Football - Semi-professional Training 100 Football - Semi-professional **Competition - State league** 200 **Outdoor Netball** Training 100 Outdoor Netball Competition 200

The guide includes the following direction relating to standards of lighting for various competitions:

Growing Croquet Facilities Infrastructure Planning Project 2020 – 2030

The Growing Croquet Facilities Infrastructure Planning Project was undertaken to aid future facility planning and has established a hierarchy classification and recommended standards for croquet facilities to help guide future provision and improvement projects. Establishment of the venue hierarchy will help guide future resource and investment priorities for clubs, LGAs and stakeholders as well as support the sustainability and growth of existing clubs.

The plan identifies the Mooroopna facility as a Local facility and the Shepparton facility as the Goulburn Valleys only District facility.

The table below, included in the report highlights the required, desirable and optional components of each of the hierarchy categories:

38 MOOROOPNA RECREATION RESERVE

Required	Facility element required to ensure play can occur at relevant hierarchy level	
Desirable	Play can occur, but may be compromised or user experience lessened without it.	
Optional	Play can occur with little to no impact on user experience	

Facility Component	State	Regional	District	Local
Number of courts	10-12	6+3	4-5	2-34
Court surface	Grass surface with irrigation and drainage.	Grass surface with irrigation and drainage.	Grass surface with irrigation and drainage.	Grass surface with irrigation and drainage.
Grass height (NB: Santa Anna Couch generally preferred)	3mm average (preferred height for competition play)	3-5mm average (3mm preferred height for competition play)	3-8mm average (3mm preferred height for competition play)	3-8mm average (3mm preferred height for competition play)
Player shelters	Combined seat/ shelter for approx. 6 people each – 2 per court.	Combined seat/ shelter for approx. 6 people each – 2 per court.	Combined seat/ shelter for approx. 6 people each – 1 per court	Combined seat/ shelter for approx. 6 people each – 1 per court each – 1 per court
Spectator seating	Combination of permanent and temporary seating.	Combination of permanent and temporary seating	Park / bench seating	Park / bench seating
Flood lighting	150 lux 2-4 courts	150 lux 1-2 courts	150 lux 1-2 courts	150 lux 1-2 courts
Scoreboard	Automated or Manual	Automated or Manual	Manual	Manual
Car parking (including disabled)	Off street and on-street. Min 50 spaces	Off street and on-street. Min 40 spaces	Off street and on-street. Min 30 spaces	Off street and on-street. Min 20 spaces
Change rooms (Two rooms i.e. Male & Female)	Approx. 25-35m ² each.	Approx. 25-35m ² each.	Approx. 20-25m ² each.	Approx. 15m ² each.
Change amenities (showers & toilets)	Approx. 25m ² each	Approx. 20m ² each	Approx. 15m ² each	Approx. 15m ² each
Kiosk / Kitchen	Approx. 25m ² commercial standard	Approx. 20m ² commercial standard	Approx. 10-15m ² kiosk standard	Approx. 10-15m ² kiosk standard
Social area	150m2+	Approx. 80-100m ²	Approx. 60-80m ²	Approx. 20-40m ²
Secure storage – internal	Approx. 10-15m ²	Approx. 10-15m ²	Approx. 5-10m ²	Approx. 5m ²
Secure storage – external	Approx. 30-40m ²	Approx. 20-30m ²	Approx. 15-20m ²	Approx. 10-15m ²
Office / meeting	Approx. 15m ²	Approx. 15m ²	Approx. 15m ²	Approx. 15m ²
Utility / cleaner	Approx. 5m ²	Approx. 5m ²	Approx. 5m ²	Approx. 5m ²

SPORTS PARTICIPATION TRENDS

National Participation

The Australian Sports Commission released the 'AusPlay' participation data for the sport sector report in April 2020. Amongst the key findings were:

- 1. Football, Australian rules, cricket, tennis and gymnastics are all amongst the top 10 activities undertaken by boys;
- 2. Gymnastics, netball, Football and tennis are all amongst the top 10 activities undertaken by girls;
- 3. Football, Australian rules football, tennis and netball are amongst the top 15 sports and physical activities undertaken by adults;
- 4. Tennis is in the top 10 sports activities undertaken by adults and children of both genders;
- 5. Sport is still the strongest form of physical activity undertaken by young people, with over 75% children between the ages of 5 and 14 participating;
- 6. Fun, enjoyment and social reasons and psychological/mental health benefits all followed physical health and fitness as the key reasons why people participate in sport;
- 7. While sports related participation falls off as people get older, their participation in non-sport related physical activity increases and then remains stable;
- 8. Walking and fitness/gym continue to be the most popular forms of exercise for adults.

Netball Participation

Netball Australia reported in April 2019 that netball is still the most popular team sport for women and young girls (based on the AusPlay data). In 2016 they reported that participation in the junior NetSetGo program is increasing and that more focus on social programs such as the 'Fast5' will support further growth in participation as well as encourage male participation.

Australian Rules Football

In 2018 AFL saw a total increase in participation of 6.54% to 1.65m. The increase was across all areas and included:

- Community club participation up by 4.2%
- NAB AFL Auskick up by 2.81%
- School programs and competition up by 8.3%

AFL Female Participation

The AFL have reported a 35% increase in female community club teams in 2018, up to 2,281 with female participation now representing 32% of the total.

The AFL are making a conscious push to support and grow female participation through the introduction of a national elite competition and through funding promotional campaigns as well as both program and facility development all of which are contributing to the growth.

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Football (Soccer) Participation

In February 2019, the Football Federation Australia (FFA) have reported that football continues to grow and based on AusPlay reporting is the team sport with the highest participation rates across Australia.

The FFA have an aggressive 20-year Plan to build on their strong participation and aim to have every community club having women's teams in every age group in every club and grow participation in schools.

Tennis Participation

Tennis remains in the top 10 participated sports for both genders and across both adults and children.

Tennis Australia has a Participation Strategy that aims to have 1 million registered players and 4 million people playing at least once a year and includes a framework of focus on schools, juniors, clubs, junior and competition support.

Cricket Participation

Cricket Australia undertook an Australian Cricket Participation Census for 2018/19 that highlighted:

- Victoria's total participation figure was 448,608 contributing to the national total of 1,650,030, the largest number of participants recorded in the history of the sport.
- The results also demonstrate that cricket continues to be a sport of choice for women and girls as female participation in Victoria grew by nearly 5%. This included an 11.6% increase in the number of new girls' teams taking to the field, driven by the ongoing investment in the national Growing Cricket for Girls Fund.
- Whilst declining participation in organised sport in developed countries is a global trend, Victoria has delivered an increase in Club Cricket with a total of 8,153 teams across junior and senior categories.

Bowls Participation

The 2017 Bowls Census Report indicates that social participation in Victoria has increased by 17.68% since 2013 with playing members decreasing by 4.39%.

In total, there were 200,573 participants in bowls competitions and programs (of at least 4 games duration) in Victoria during 2017. Specifically:

- The greatest participation segment in Victoria was social bowls, with 61.1% of participants
- Male participation makes up 66% of all bowls participation in Victoria
- Participation in country Victoria (145,329) is higher than metropolitan participation (55,244) and the largest regions for bowls participation are Central Victoria, Western Coast, Sand belt and Easter Regional

Croquet Participation

Data from the April 2020 Ausplay report indicates that croquet participation tends to increase with age. Child participation is effectively 0, while generally adult participation starts at 45 and increases up to the 65 and over co-hort. With 0.2% of respondents participating it sits outside the top 50 sport or physical activities undertaken by adults. Harness Racing

The Harness Racing Victoria (HRV) Strategic Plan states that consistent with trends across Australia and internationally, harness racing in Victoria has been in decline for a number of years.

The Victorian Racing Industry Report 2013 provides data that suggests that there were 3,046 participants in harness racing in the Goulburn region, making it the number 1 region in country Victoria and second overall behind only metropolitan Melbourne, which has 3,189 participants. 17% of all Victorian participation was based in the Goulburn region.



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OPPORTUNITY AND ISSUE ANALYSIS

The identification of opportunities and issues has been undertaken through workshops with the project steering group and reserve committee, including user group representatives as well as in consideration of a number of community, sport and recreation plans, frameworks and trends.

SWOT ANALYSIS

Internal Environment Analysis (Strengths and Weaknesses)

Strengths

- Committee
- Volunteers
- Variety of users
- Level of current and projected use
- Good parking and access
- Large open and flexible space
- Two Ovals

Weaknesses

- Access to water for irrigation
- Road access from Midland Highway
- Age of some facilities
- Accessibility of some facilities
- Toilets constantly blocking and not meeting current standards
- Impact of flood zoning on any development
- Parking quality and lack of formal spaces
- Amount of use and wear and tear on main facilities especially during busy periods and around events

External Review (Opportunities and Threats)

Opportunities

- Projected growth of Mooroopna and surrounds
- Option to expand. Utilise space in and around the trotting track.
- Host more events
- Shifting the hard cricket pitches on the multi-purpose fields would allow better configuration of ovals.

Threats

- Access to water for irrigation
- Losing the committee
- Changes to participation
- Potential for some sports or activities to dominate over others.

KEY ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Mooroopna Community

Population is expected to grow by 22% to 2036, generally across all age groups, suggesting it is unlikely demand for facilities at the Reserve will decline based on demographics, but rather remain stable with potential for increase.

Supporting Council and Community Strategy and Activity

The sports and activities at the Reserve assist in the delivery of many of Councils strategic objectives, particularly linked to liveability, social cohesion, volunteering, promoting physical activity and economic development through sports events.

The Mooroopna Town Plan identified the need for an off-leash dog walking area. The Harness Racing Club suggested that the centre of the track could potentially accommodate this use when not in use for training.

Sports Development and Participation

In general terms the current users and state and national sporting organisations suggest that participation levels in those activities may increase or stay stable.

Assets, Infrastructure and Sports Facilities

While well maintained much of the infrastructure is ageing and may need upgrades in the future. Many toilets and change facilities no longer meet todays or disability access standards. Consistent with the previous master plan there may be scope to remove a number of toilet blocks and provide new multi-purpose facilities at various locations. In addition to this existing facilities such as those in the Urban Fire Brigade area need major renovation and upgrades.



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Roofing the Bowls facility may have potential to increase participation

The existing croquet clubrooms are old and have asbestos and are recommended to be removed with the bowls social club facilities expanded to cater for this.

Lack of adequate toilet and change/shower facilities for netball remains an issue.

A new pavilion incorporating change, toilet and kiosk facilities to service multi-purpose fields and replace the old hockey pavilion would ensure more suitable facilities are provided to the west of the Reserve. This could also address Mooroopna Urban Fire Brigade issue with access to toilets. The Harness Racing Club wish to stay in the current location. If this was agreed, they propose that some upgrades to facilities, such as stables may provide for additional use.

Lawn Tennis have issues with access to adequate social facilities to support them to raise revenue and grow participation. The previous master plan identified the extension of tennis facilities in the Sir Ian McLennan Centre by adding toilets.

The hard court lights need replacing/upgrading and it is difficult to find parts due to age. In addition to this the courts are essentially sprayed concrete and may need upgrading in the medium term and their current location makes it hard to use existing social facilities and toilets. Tennis have said that while they like six hard courts they could manage with four and even if two of those were marked for multi-sports (netball). Consider moving hard courts and constructing four new courts to the west of lawn tennis. Two to be marked for netball and tennis and with lighting for coaching. Following this consideration to be given to alternate use for the area where existing courts are located. The committee and project group suggest leaving this space for overflow parking and future use.

Jets Gymnastics state that they have outgrown their facility and have limited capacity to grow. They suggested an interest in taking over spaces utilised by the Mooroopna Football Netball Club if they moved. As per the previous master plan, construction of new changerooms on the northern side of main oval and expansion of the stadium provides a good long-term home for gymnastics/jets.



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The relocation of the Council depot is no longer desired by the committee as they do not see short to medium need for the space and support the location of Council on site.

The previous master plan identified the need to re-define and create additional parking. Some of this has occurred however some yet to occur. Provision of additional formalised parking remains a priority of the working groups.

The Harness Racing Club have stated that they would like to stay at the current location and this was supported by the committee and working group. If they were to remain, they recommended some upgrades to facilities such as stables and believe this would facilitate additional use. The Club were also open to shared use including sports or off-leash dog walking in the centre of the track.

The previous master plan included significant works relating to provision of baseball facilities, however there is no longer an active baseball club. The committee and working group recommend all baseball related projects be removed.

Shifting of the cricket pitches on the Leon Heath and Pee Wee Young ovals would allow for better placement of ovals for junior football.

With the exception of the Sir Ian McLennan Centre and Stadium, all other buildings have bottled gas. Upgrading to natural gas would provide both cost and time saving benefits to users and committees.

Planning

The grandstand is identified in the Heritage Overlay and ongoing conservation is important to the community.

Part of the site is located in Urban Flood Zone and this will need to be considered or may impede on future developments.

Traffic Management

Safety of entry from the Midland Highway remains a concern and should be considered in any future works.

Water Access

Limited access to and capacity to increase supply of raw water may cause ongoing financial stress to some users such as tennis, bowls and croquet as well limit the capacity of expansion of high-quality grass playing surfaces.

Council Depot

Council Operations Staff have identified that a number of upgrades are required at the Depot site to meet complinace and operational needs. These upgrades are rated by the Council staff as a low to medium priority in the context of overall precinct planning.

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DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

The following development priorities at the Reserve have been identified through the workshops.

NO.	PROJECT	PRIORITY
1	Changerooms – New Construct new changerooms for football and netball use on the northern side of the main oval	HIGH
2	Multi-Purpose Change, Toilet and Kiosk Building – New Construct a new multi-purpose building incorporating toilets, change and kiosk facilities to service the multi-purpose fields and John Gray oval in the area near the community storage sheds.	HIGH
3	Upgrade the Sports Stadium Construct additional program space and reconfigure current spaces to suit long term use.	HIGH
4	Raw Water Access Investigate improvements to raw water through new access points and possible increase of capacity of the dam to ensure there is sufficient water for future developments and to service the bowls and lawn tennis facilities.	HIGH
5	Max Connors Pavilion The toilets in the Max Connors Pavilion need upgrading to address constant blocking and accessibility issues	HIGH
6	Upgrade Tennis Social Facilities Upgrade the Sir Ian McLennan Centre to incorporate toilets and enhanced social facilities for the tennis club.	HIGH
7	Upgrade Access to Natural Gas Provide additional access to natural gas for all relevant areas and facilities	HIGH
8	Demolish the Old Hockey Change Rooms Once the new building is constructed, demolish the old building	MEDIUM
9	Roof Bowling Green Construct a roof over the synthetic bowling green.	MEDIUM
10	Demolish Croquet Building Once croquet re-locate to the bowls building the old croquet building, which is aged and has asbestos issues is to be demolished.	MEDIUM
11	Demolish Toilets Located to the East of the Sir Ian McLennan Centre Once new toilets are constructed to service tennis and netball demolish the current toilets located to the east of the building.	MEDIUM
12	Upgrade Toilets Near the Stadium Upgrade the toilets located near the Midland Highway entrance to address accessibility issues.	MEDIUM
13	Provide Off-Leash Dog Walking Area at Harness Racing Facility Upgrade the area in the centre of the track to provide an off-leash dog park.	MEDIUM
14	Shift Hard Cricket Pitches on the Multi-Purpose Fields Re-locate the hard pitches to allow a better fit of ovals on multi-purpose fields.	MEDIUM
15	Additional Formalised Car Parking Continue to develop additional formalised car parking areas.	MEDIUM
16	Upgrade Council Depot Upgrade the Depot to meet compliance and operations requirements.	MEDIUM
17	Upgrade to Harness Facilities – Stables Upgrade the stables at the harness racing facility	LOW
18	Construct New Hard Courts with Lighting Four new courts, at least two of which are to be marked for multi-purpose and have lighting for coaching to be constructed in the area near the two new netball courts and lawn tennis courts.	LOW

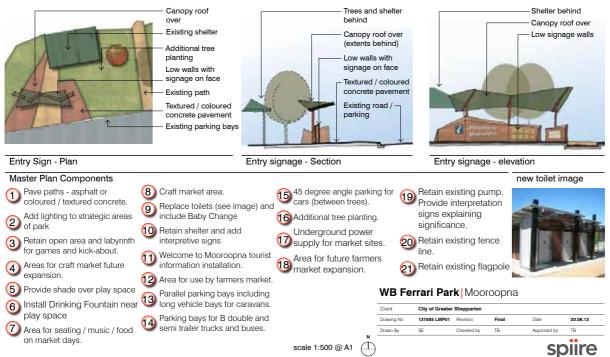




APPENDIX







Landscape Master Plan

nning | Surveying | Landscape Architecture | Urba





