

## STRATEGIC DIRECTION TWO

# ACCESS TO WELL DESIGNED AND MAINTAINED OPEN SPACES AND PLACES

### STRATEGIC OUTCOME:

**Our public open spaces and places support a healthy and connected community and contribute to a more sustainable and vibrant City.**

We will focus on proactively acquiring, developing and unlocking public open spaces and places for our residents to support an active, safe and connected community and contribute to a more sustainable and vibrant City.

### In 2021–22, we:

- acquired three properties in Bentleigh — 15, 17 and 19 Porter Road — to create a new local park. We will undertake community engagement later in the year to create concept designs for this much needed space. We have also negotiated with the State Government on the acquisition of selected properties adjacent to the rail corridor in Carnegie;
- engaged with the community to inform the future design of playgrounds in Packer Park and Centenary Park. We have considered all community feedback from the various community engagements on the concept designs for both parks. Through the feedback and comments received, Council has endorsed both the revised play space concept design for Packer Park and the playground design for Centenary Park;
- progressed our *Great Walking Streets Project*, which aims to identify and remove footpath hazards on our most used streets, to further encourage outdoor exercise and improve physical and mental health. As part of this project, we removed tripping hazards and improved the overall condition of six footpaths across Glen Eira.

## STRATEGIC INDICATORS

Strategic Indicator	Performance Measure	Result
Increased open space provision in accordance with the priorities outlined in the <i>Open Space Strategy</i>	Increased hectares of available public space and/or increase in access to open space owned by others	<p>Land acquisitions for future new open space included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 15, 17 &amp; 19 Porter Road, Bentleigh (1,846 square metres); and</li> <li>- 751 Centre Road, Bentleigh East (600 square metres).</li> </ul> <p>Council negotiated with the State Government, the progressive acquisition of selected properties adjacent to the rail corridor in Carnegie.</p> <p>The new Aileen Avenue Park, Caulfield South (1,500 square metres) was officially opened on 30 March 2022 by Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP and Glen Eira Mayor Cr Jim Magee, joined by Nina Taylor MP and Councillors.</p>
Improved access, quality and safety of our active open space facilities, including our sporting and recreation reserves	Increased utilisation rates of public spaces and facilities	COVID-19 restrictions impacted overall casual booking numbers, however there was a strong demand as people sought to host events and gatherings outdoors. Our sporting clubs continued to grow despite the impacts of COVID-19.
	Community satisfaction with recreation facilities is maintained or increased	Community satisfaction with recreational facilities decreased from 78 per cent in 2021 to 76 per cent in 2022. The metropolitan average result was 73 per cent.
More flexible open spaces and places which cater for passive enjoyment and improve participation in active recreation	Flexible designs enable passive and active components in recreation projects	<p>Community engagement was undertaken and designs have been endorsed for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Centenary Park play and active recreation space</li> <li>- Boyd Park play space</li> <li>- Packer Park play space</li> <li>- Mackie Road Reserve Masterplan which increases casual activity areas.</li> </ul>
	Delivery of active recreation facilities and programs in line with targets set in the <i>Active Recreation Action Plan</i>	<p>An outdoor fitness station was installed at Duncan Mackinnon Reserve, Murrumbeena.</p> <p>The renewal of the Princes Park playspace, Caulfield South commenced.</p> <p>Work began on the multi-purpose courts and active area at Koornang Park, Carnegie and Caulfield Park, Caulfield North.</p>
	Utilisation of multi-function spaces is increased	<p>During community engagement on open space related projects, the community expressed a strong demand for additional multi-purpose and active recreation facilities.</p> <p>The <i>AusPlay 2022 Report</i> noted that as a result of COVID-19, people over 15 years old are increasingly relying on, and using, outdoor fitness equipment and recreation facilities.</p> <p>Participation significantly increased in solo activities where it was easier to socially distance.</p>



## STRATEGIC INDICATORS

Strategic Indicator	Performance Measure	Result
Improved look and feel of our activity centres, including cleanliness, footpath condition, graffiti, waste management, trees, parking, safety and lighting	Community satisfaction with the condition of local streets and footpaths is maintained or increased	Community satisfaction with the condition of local streets and footpaths remained consistent, with a score of 66 per cent. The metropolitan average result was 63 per cent.
	Community perceptions of safety in activity centres are maintained or increased	<p>The community's 'feeling of safety when walking in their local area alone during the day' dropped from 96 per cent in 2021 to 95 per cent in 2022.</p> <p>The community's 'feeling of safety when walking in their local area alone after dark' was consistent with last year's result of 67 per cent.</p>
Improved look and feel of our activity centres, including cleanliness, footpath condition, graffiti, waste management, trees, parking, safety and lighting	Footpath condition ratings meet or exceed intervention levels	<p>We carry out footpath condition rating of our footpath network every four years.</p> <p>During this process we capture defects such as cracks, displacements or unevenness. This rating assists in determining the priority of paths requiring either maintenance or renewal works.</p> <p>The footpath condition rating met intervention levels as per the 2021 Footpath Condition Survey, indicating that the overall condition of the footpath network has improved over the years.</p> <p>We will continue to review our footpath program and make improvements to the network over the next 12 months.</p>
	Delivery of projects and programs that improve the amenity of our activity centres	<p>Our <i>Parklet Program</i> delivered 20 parklets that enhanced the amenity and the vibrancy of our shopping strips.</p> <p>A section of the Godfrey Street car park behind the Centre Road shopping strip was converted into the Bentleigh Urban Living Space; an innovative concept that seeks to bring our diverse community together.</p> <p>A new artwork was installed on the Elsternwick Rail Bridge.</p>
	Increased availability of empathetic parking in all major activity centres and neighbourhood centres	<p>Empathetic parking spaces were provided at 17 public off-street car parks within Glen Eira during 2021–22. Spaces were provided at parks and reserves including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Booran Reserve, Glen Huntly;</li> <li>- Caulfield Park, Caulfield North;</li> <li>- McKinnon Reserve, McKinnon;</li> <li>- Mackie Road Reserve, Bentleigh East;</li> <li>- King George Reserve, Bentleigh East; and</li> <li>- Joyce Park, Ormond.</li> </ul> <p>Other locations where parking spaces were provided include Bentleigh, Bentleigh East, Carnegie, Caulfield North, Elsternwick, McKinnon and Ormond.</p>




## STRATEGIC INDICATORS

Strategic Indicator	Performance Measure	Result
Improved look and feel of our activity centres, including cleanliness, footpath condition, graffiti, waste management, trees, parking, safety and lighting	Increased quantity of trees in activity centres in line with targets set under the <i>Urban Forest Strategy</i>	<p>Work commenced on improving the look and feel of our activity centres and tree planting opportunities in activity centres across Murrumbeena and Carnegie were identified.</p> <p>Tree planting in the activity centres will commence in 2022–23.</p>
New and refurbished multi-purpose spaces and facilities that maximise usage by a diverse range of community members and groups	Delivery targets for agreed capital works projects are achieved	<p>Total capital expenditure at the end of June 2022 was \$54 million against an annual forecast of \$82 million. This was a positive result given a range of construction industry challenges due to COVID-19.</p> <p>Project costs escalated due to inflated prices of timber, concrete and steel. Material and resource supply shortages also contributed to cost escalations and longer lead times.</p> <p>Taking these constraints into account, we will build a prioritised, financially sustainable capital works program for the next 10 years that aligns with the strategic directions of Council and the needs of the community.</p>
	Achieve target utilisation rates for new and refurbished facilities reflective of the Glen Eira population demographics	<p>Capital works projects delivered in 2021– 22 included:</p> <p>The construction of multi-purpose sport facilities at Koornang Park, Carnegie and Caulfield Park, Caulfield North. These facilities extend opportunities for sports club training and for use by the broader community for a range of activities.</p> <p>The construction of a new outdoor fitness facility at Duncan Mackinnon Reserve, Murrumbeena.</p>
Greater access to public spaces and places, managed by others, for example the Caulfield Racecourse Reserve, Level Crossing Removal Authority, education facilities and neighbouring councils	Increased advocacy, partnerships and agreements with other organisations for access by Glen Eira residents	<p>Council adopted an <i>Advocacy Policy</i> and advocacy priorities for the federal election in March 2022. Work to strengthen partnerships and agreements also commenced. The advocacy program was highly successful in the 2022 federal election campaign with Council securing over \$17 million in funding promises, including \$15 million for the redevelopment of the Carnegie Memorial Swimming Pool, which was the highest advocacy priority.</p>



## MAJOR INITIATIVES

Council Plan Commitment	Major Initiative	Progress Updates as at 30 June 2022	Status
We will increase the quantity and quality of public open space for our residents	2.1.1 Actively pursue opportunities to invest in public open space towards our \$26.9 million target over four years	<p>We invested nearly \$12 million during 2021–22 in new open space, which has included the recently acquired three properties in Bentleigh - 15, 17 and 19 Porter Road - to create a new local park.</p> <p>Community engagement will be undertaken in 2022 to create concept designs for this much needed open space located within an identified open space gap area.</p> <p>We negotiated the progressive acquisition of selected properties adjacent to the rail corridor in Carnegie with the State Government.</p> <p>The new Aileen Avenue Park officially opened on 30 March 2022 by Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP and Glen Eira Mayor Cr Jim Magee, joined by Nina Taylor MP and Councillors.</p>	
We will develop, improve and maintain the amenity of our public places and precincts	2.2.4 Commence construction of the <i>Bentleigh Eat Street Precinct</i> project	<p>Stage 1 of construction on the <i>Bentleigh Eat Street Precinct</i> progressed during 2021–22 and is set to continue throughout August 2022. The steel structure for the second shelter was installed and the staircases including handrails completed. The remaining works in Stage 1 include installation of the second shelter, seating, tables and the opening of the Daley Street car park which is anticipated to be open in April 2023.</p> <p>The project is facing challenges with shortage in material and labour due to COVID-19. Stage 2 was scheduled to start at the end of July 2022.</p>	





## ANNUAL COMMITMENTS 2021–22

Strategic Priority	Action	Progress Updates as at 30 June 2022	Status
We will develop, improve and maintain the amenity of our public places and precincts	2.2.1 Consult with the community in developing a masterplan for Mackie Road Reserve, Bentleigh East	<p>Community engagement was undertaken in September 2021 to obtain feedback from the community to inform the development of a draft <i>Mackie Road Reserve Masterplan</i>.</p> <p>Following the community engagement, Council endorsed the final <i>Mackie Road Reserve Masterplan</i> on 28 June 2022.</p>	
	2.2.2 Complete the redevelopment of Lord Reserve Pavilion in Carnegie	<p>The external brickwork façade and window glazing at the Lord Reserve Pavilion was completed and internal works continue to progress.</p> <p>Due to high demand for labour and materials across the construction industry, some internal works have been impacted by delays. The delays are closely monitored and we estimate that the completion date will be beginning of October 2022.</p>	
	2.2.3 Commence the Carnegie Memorial Swimming Pool redevelopment	<p>This project has been on hold while the Heritage Council Victoria considers an application for protection. A Heritage Council hearing was conducted on 17 May 2022 and a decision is expected by 17 August 2022. Assuming a favourable hearing decision, a tender will follow with a view to awarding the contract by the end of the year.</p> <p>An expression of interest to attract suitable builders was advertised, with an evaluation to produce a shortlist for tender candidates underway.</p>	
	2.2.5 Complete the design of the <i>Selwyn Street Cultural Precinct</i> project in Elsternwick	<p>The action was partially delivered.</p> <p>The concept design was completed in March 2022. Community engagement on the concept design took place from 3 May to 12 June 2022. Feedback is being reviewed and a report will be presented to Council on 30 August 2022. The detailed designed phase is scheduled for September to December 2022.</p>	

## ANNUAL COMMITMENTS 2021–22





Strategic Priority	Action	Progress Updates as at 30 June 2022	Status
	<p>2.2.6 Deliver the annual program of works on our footpaths and road assets</p>	<p>The Footpath Program 2021–22 was completed, with \$1.873 million of works delivered. The local road resurfacing program for 2021–22 was also completed.</p> <p>All road reconstruction projects within the 2021–22 program commenced, with a small number of commitments carried forward to the 2022–23 financial year.</p> <p>This includes the Powderham Road, Caulfield North reconstruction which was delayed due to supply and material shortages and will be completed in the first half of 2022–23.</p> <p>Council completed the condition assessment for all roads and footpaths, which is completed on a four-year cycle to develop the works program for 2022–23.</p> <p>Council adopted the <i>Road Management Plan</i> on 26 October 2021 and the 10- year <i>Asset Plan</i> was adopted on 28 June 2022.</p>	
<p>We will develop, improve and maintain the amenity of our public places and precincts</p>	<p>2.2.7 Commence delivery of the <i>Great Walking Streets</i> project</p>	<p>Council successfully secured \$500,000 from the Federal Government and contributed \$200,000 towards projects to improve the condition of our footpaths on high pedestrian streets.</p> <p>The <i>Great Walking Streets Project</i> aims to identify and remove footpath hazards to further encourage outdoor exercise and improve both physical and mental health.</p> <p>Works to remove tripping hazards and improve the overall condition of footpaths were completed on the Great Walking Streets below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patterson Road, between Nepean Highway and Jasper Road;</li> <li>• McKinnon Road, between Thomas Street and Tucker Road;</li> <li>• Koornang Road, between Dandenong Road and North Road;</li> <li>• Glen Huntly Road, between Bambra Road and Truganini Road;</li> <li>• Tucker Road, between North Road and Centre Road and</li> <li>• Neerim Road, between Murrumbeena Road and Poath Road.</li> </ul>	

## ANNUAL COMMITMENTS 2021–22

Strategic Priority	Action	Progress Updates as at 30 June 2022	Status
We will develop, improve and maintain the amenity of our public places and precincts	2.2.8 Consult the community on proposals for the construction of two new multi-storey commuter carparks in Bentleigh and Elsternwick, funded through the Federal Government's Urban Congestion Fund	Feasibility and site due diligence outcomes for the construction of the two new multi-storey carparks were presented to Councillors in May 2022. Community consultation on the outcomes of feasibility was undertaken from 30 May to 30 June 2022.  Community feedback is being reviewed and a report will be presented to Council on 30 August 2022.	
We will provide improved access to a mix of passive and active spaces that are inclusive, fit-for-purpose, flexible and adaptable to meet the needs of our diverse community, now and in the future	2.3.1 Deliver upgrades to the playgrounds at Princes Park, Caulfield South and Rosanna Street Reserve Carnegie	Redevelopment of the play space and social areas at Rosanna Street Reserve, Carnegie was completed and open to the public on 28 February 2022. The official opening was on 30 March 2022.  Redevelopment of Princes Park, Caulfield South play space commenced in December 2021 and will be completed in September 2022. Works have been delayed due to materials supplies, labour shortages and wet weather.	
	2.3.2 Engage with the community to inform the future design of Packer Park, Carnegie and Centenary Park, Bentleigh East Playgrounds	Following the first phase of community engagement on the design of Packer Park in September 2021, a new concept design was produced and a second round of community engagement undertaken from 4 February to 7 March 2022 to gain feedback.  At the 17 May 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council endorsed the revised play space concept design and authorised officers to commence detailed design.  Community engagement on the concept design for the Centenary Park, Bentleigh East upgraded play-space ran from on 1 December 2021 to 31 January 2022. Following this a report was presented at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 15 March 2022, where Council endorsed the playground design and authorised officers to commence detailed design.	
	2.3.3 Construct a new shelter and living garden at Caulfield Park, Caulfield	Installation of the new shelter was completed in early May 2022. The living garden and other associated landscaping works are underway and will be completed in August 2022. Works were delayed due to materials supplies, labour shortages and wet weather.	



## ANNUAL COMMITMENTS 2021–22

Strategic Priority	Action	Progress Updates as at 30 June 2022	Status
We will provide improved access to a mix of passive and active spaces that are inclusive, fit-for-purpose, flexible and adaptable to meet the needs of our diverse community, now and in the future	2.3.4 Deliver a viewing deck adjacent to the lake at Caulfield Park, Caulfield	Works have commenced and are expected to be completed by August 2022. Works have been delayed due to materials supplies, labour shortages and wet weather.	
	2.3.5 Deliver programs to improve the look and feel of our activity centres	To improve the look and feel our activity centres, we: - completed the Round 3 of the <i>Parklet Program</i> , which saw 20 parklets installed across Glen Eira; - converted the Godfrey Street, Bentleigh carpark into the Bentleigh Urban Living Space; and - completed the artwork installation on the Elsternwick Rail Bridge.	
	2.3.6 Prepare an annual report in collaboration with Elsternwick, Bentleigh and Carnegie Traders Association to identify amenity improvement opportunities in the activity centres	This action was partially delivered. An annual report identifying improvement opportunities for the Elsternwick and Carnegie activity centres has been prepared and improvement works have commenced.  The annual report of the Bentleigh activity centre has been delayed and will be prepared in July 2022.	
We will seek innovative approaches to increasing access to open space through partnerships and multipurpose design and find ways to unlock access to open space owned by others.	2.4.1 Increase advocacy, partnerships and agreements with other organisations for access by Glen Eira residents	Council adopted an <i>Advocacy Policy</i> and advocacy priorities for 2022–23 in March 2022. Work to strengthen partnerships and agreements is now underway. The advocacy program produced strong results in the 2022 federal election with Council securing over \$17 million in funding promises, including \$15 million for the redevelopment of the Carnegie Memorial Swimming Pool, which was the highest advocacy priority.	



Achieved



Not achieved



Not achieved due to factors outside of Council's control